

College Student Shoots, Kills Home Invader

WSBTV.com EDT May 4, 2009 Updated May 7 2009

<http://www.wsbtv.com/news/19365762/detail.html>

COLLEGE PARK, Ga. -- A group of college students said they are lucky to be alive and they're thanking the quick-thinking of one of their own. Police said a fellow student shot and killed one of two masked men who burst into an apartment.

Channel 2 Action News reporter Tom Jones met with one of the students to talk about the incident. "Apparently, his intent was to rape and murder us all," said student Charles Bailey.

Bailey said he thought it was the end of his life and the lives of the 10 people inside his apartment for a birthday party after two masked men with guns burst in through a patio door. "They just came in and separated the men from the women and said, 'Give me your wallets and cell phones,'" said George Williams of the College Park Police Department.

Bailey said the gunmen started counting bullets. "The other guy asked how many (bullets) he had. He said he had enough," said Bailey.

That's when one student grabbed a gun out of a backpack and shot at the invader who was watching the men. The gunman ran out of the apartment.

The student then ran to the room where the second gunman, identified by police as 23-year-old Calvin Lavant, was holding the women. "Apparently the guy was getting ready to rape his girlfriend. So he told the girls to get down and he started shooting. The guy jumped out of the window," said Bailey.

A neighbor heard the shots and heard someone running nearby. "And I heard someone say, 'Someone help me. Call the police. Somebody call the police,'" said a neighbor. The neighbor said she believes it was Lavant, who was found dead near his apartment, only one building away.

Bailey said he is just thankful one student risked his life to keep others alive. "I think all of us are really cognizant of the fact that we could have all been killed," said Bailey.

One female student was shot several times during the crossfire. She is expected to make a full recovery. Police said they are close to making the arrest of the second suspect.