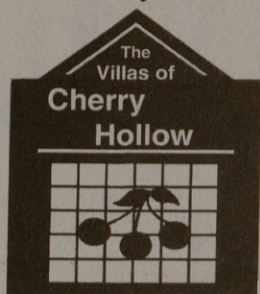


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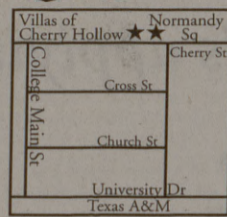
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Shuttle

Continued from page 1

killed the seven astronauts. Hubbard said after Monday's test: "I think foam hitting the wing leading edge of the orbiter at 500 mph is the direct cause."

The board plans to release its final report by the end of this month. Much of the report "is going to deal with the other types of causes, contributing causes and other elements of the orbiter program over the last 20 years," Hubbard said.

One month ago, another carbon shuttle wing panel — smaller and farther inboard — was cracked by the impact, along with an adjoining seal. This time, the entire 11 1/2-inch width of the foam chunk — rather than just a corner during previous testing — hit the wing, putting maximum stress on the suspect area.

The five other previous tests in recent weeks involved fiberglass wing

pieces taken from the shuttle prototype Enterprise, housed at the Smithsonian Institution. Those, too, were damaged.

Hubbard said it is questionable whether the best set of cameras trained on the shuttle during liftoff would have detected such a large hole, if they had been in focus, and they were not. He declined to say whether spy satellites would have observed such damage, but he noted that it was a black hole in a black piece of reinforced carbon.

During Columbia's flight, shuttle managers rejected engineers' request for spy satellite images to ascertain the extent of damage to the left wing.

Among the board's preliminary recommendations to NASA: improve launch photography, use take spy satellites to check out orbiting spaceships, conduct better testing of wing panels, and devise an inspection and repair plan for astronauts in orbit. Monday's test cost \$3.4 million.

Teens

Continued from page 1

But he said he never saw Matthew Lovett teased to his face because he was intimidating — and he was sometimes armed with a bat. Oaklyn teenagers also say he also practiced martial arts and had compiled a list of his enemies since elementary school.

Authorities would not confirm the existence of a list, but Camden County Prosecutor Vincent P. Sarubbi said three people believed to be intended victims were notified Sunday of the plot. He declined to identify them, but Oaklyn Police Chief Chris Ferrari indicated they were students.

People who know the teen say Matthew Lovett not only liked the science fiction movie "The Matrix," but also dressed the part, often wearing all-black clothing and slicking back his hair.

He sometimes referred to himself as The Mystic, The One or Neo in homage to Keanu Reeves' character in the "Matrix" films — high-tech thrillers where the real world is merely a facade for a darker, grimmer world where a computer hacker leads humanity in a revolt against the machines that have taken over

the world.

Lovett was also such an avid player of role-playing video games that he and his friends called themselves the Warriors of Freedom after one of them.

"He wouldn't even talk," said Chris Brown, who graduated last month from Collingswood High School, as did the older Lovett. "He was just by himself."

The three teens were arrested after attempting a carjacking in this Philadelphia suburb, authorities said. They had several guns including rifles, a shotgun, several handguns, swords and 2,000 rounds of ammunition.

The father, Ron Lovett, issued a statement through a family member Monday, apologizing for his son's behavior.

"I'd like to apologize to the town and the people of Oaklyn for what my son has done," Lovett said. "I'd like to ask everyone to say a prayer for Matthew. I hope he can receive the counseling he needs."

All three were charged with offenses including conspiracy to commit murder.

Authorities have not identified the two boys, ages 14 and 15. They were held Monday at a youth detention center.



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Volume 1
Pra

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By Nata THE BA

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By Mat THE ASSOCIA

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By Ma THE ASSO

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