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Special Sections

Probation in WRHS beating incident

Worcester teen quietly given court hearing

**BY MELISSA MCKEON MMCKEON@
HOLDENLANDMARK.COM**

HOLDEN — A high profile case of an after-school beating near Wachusett Regional High School last April has ended, not with a bang but with a whimper, as the only student of the four charged in the case as an adult quietly received two years of probation and 50 hours of community service.

Brendan M. Simpson, 17, of 47 Katahdin St., Worcester, was charged with assault and battery, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (metal pipe) and conspiracy. He was giving probation in Leominster District Court in September.

Simpson and three other teens, including two WRHS students, were charged after a widely viewed cell phone recording of the incident hit the Internet — and then television. The video showed the students beating a WRHS teen from Sterling, and then another Sterling student who came to his aid, while a crowd of students watched and recorded the events on their cell phones.

The fight appears to have been pre-arranged and took place on Sunnyside Avenue near the railroad tracks down the hill from the school.

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WRHS on the school choice program, was also expelled and will not be allowed back. A third teen, a 16-year-old from Worcester, was not a student at WRHS. The court records of those juveniles are not public.

Karen Mann contributed to this story



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