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Three Are Held On Attempted Murder Charge

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DARNESTOWN — Shotgun blasts into a house here Tuesday night by three Landover youths, described by police as "pagans," resulted in assault with attempt to murder and conspiracy charges.

"Pagan" is the name given their group by a notorious motorcycle gang active in the Virginia-Maryland area.

A Maryland State Police spokesman said that Stephen Alvin Markle, 22, James Charles Jackson, 21, and Gordon Weatherton, 20, all of Landover, had been taken before a police magistrate in Rockville and ordered

held in the detention center under \$25,000 bond on the assault with attempt to murder charge, and \$15,000 bond on the conspiracy charge.

Montgomery County Police reported that they were called to the Donald Wagner residence on Route 28 here at 5:30 p.m.

Police said that Markle had gone to the Wagner home and "shot two shots from a shotgun into the house of Wagner," one through a window and one shot through a TV. He was then reported as having taken an axe and smashed another window as well as a kitchen table. Total damages were estimated at \$250.

Montgomery County Police reported that the victim was reluctant to get a warrant for the arrest of the suspects.

The county police said they received another call back at the house at 11:30 p.m. "for suspects shooting" and found Markle, Jackson and Weatherton there.

The county officers reported that the state police officers were on the scene at the second incident and that they carried through with the warrant and arrest procedures.

Markle was taken by police before the Silver Spring People's Court Wednesday and had his case set Sept. 4 and his bond continued. Weatherton and Jackson are set for appearance before the Rockville People's Court today.