



The City of Palo Alto  
Public Information Office

250 Hamilton Ave  
Palo Alto, CA 94301

08/18/2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #081808

**Subject :**       **Arrest Made In Attempted Robbery**

**Contact :**       Agent Dan Ryan, Palo Alto Police Department   408-406-1330



**Palo Alto, CA** - Police today arrested the suspect in an armed robbery that occurred Saturday evening at the Stanford Shopping Center.

On August 16th, police responded to the Stanford Shopping Center at 6:10 p.m., on a report of an attempted armed robbery. The female victim was loading packages into her car when a male subject accosted her from behind. The suspect grabbed her arm and demanded that the victim give him her wedding ring. When the victim struggled, the robber threatened to cut the ring from her finger. He pulled a large kitchen knife from his clothes and brandished it, and he actually cut the victim's hand during their struggle.

Several passersbys heard and saw the struggle, and intervened, shouting at the man to free the victim. The suspect was frightened off, and he ran to a waiting SUV and fled from the scene.

Witnesses described the suspect and the vehicle, and Palo Alto Police officers conducted extensive follow-up over the weekend. They identified a suspect, and located him tonight, in the same suspect vehicle seen on Saturday evening. Arrested without incident was Jonathan Edward BLEKIS, 22 years old, from Santa Clara (see photo above).

BLEKIS is charged with one count of assault with a deadly weapon and one count of attempted armed robbery. BLEKIS was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail in San Jose.

###