

# Controversy, violence trail student's death

**A** CONTROVERSY is trailing the death of a final year student of the Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu (ESUT), Mr. Lucky Enovwu.

The father of two died at a police check-point in Warri, Delta State. There were speculations that he was killed by the police over a N20 bribe.

The incident sparked off violence. Cars were set ablaze and two policemen-Corporals, Monday Omodigie and Emmanuel Okeim, were severely beaten by a mob. They are on danger list at an undisclosed hospital.

However, Mr. Chris Okoro, Divisional Police Officer in charge of Warri, whose officers are at the centre of the controversy, debunked reports that the part-time commercial motorcyclist was killed by

**From Shola O'Neil, Warri**

the police.

Contrary to reports that Enovwu was killed by the police, Okoro said the deceased slumped at a spot near the checkpoint, adding that the presence of the police at the scene was merely to revive him.

Okoro urged interested bodies, including human rights groups to investigate the cause

of death, assuring that the result would vindicate his men.

"I wonder where the report {that he was shot} came from because there is no sign of any physical wound either bullet or cut on his body. The remains are still at the mortuary, anybody can go there and see for himself and verify if this is true or not.

"After the incident, people even came to the station to make report on it. There were three persons who confirmed

that the man slumped at a distance away from the check-point and two of them were okada riders", he said.

Okoro stated that the police had not carried out tests and examinations to unravel the cause of death. He said this is to allow the family and other interested bodies to participate to assure transparency.

Okoro blamed "miscreants" for the mayhem which enveloped parts of the city last weekend.

## Shell, Edo sign BAPs pacts

**From Shola O'Neil, Warri**

**T**HE Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) will today sign Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) agreements with the Edo State government to save the 80-year old Gilli-Gilli and Urhonigbe Forest Reserves.

Experts say the initiative is a major boost for forest preservation and protection of endangered plant and animal specie in the country.

The initiative is aimed at a biodiversity census of

specie status and creation of core buffer and transitional zones as well as ensure the protection of identified plants, animal and other living organisms in the reserves through a joint effort between the company and the communities around the reserve.