



## He likes the oil prices

Addressing the U.N. General Assembly today, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Chiao Kuan-hua hailed the Arab oil price increases as an

'historic pioneering action' against 'imperialist plunder and exploitation. Both the U.S. and Russia were criticized. (UPI)

# Arrest made in stabbing

By BILL O'NEAL  
Columbian Staff Writer

A 21-year-old Camas woman was raped and stabbed five times with a knife Tuesday evening, after she thought she was going to pose as a photographer's model, according to Sheriff Gene Cotton.

He said the rape and assault occurred in the eastern part of Lacamas Park north of Camas. The victim was reported recovering today at St. Joseph Community Hospital, and was listed in good condition. Cotton said the knife wounds were superficial, apparently inflicted with a small knife.

Working with little more than a description of the woman's assailant and the van he was driving, detectives of the sheriff's department arrested a suspect early Wednesday. He was

taken into custody at his home, and held in connection with the incident, Cotton said. He was identified as Warren L. Forrest, 25, 209 S. 18th Ave., Battle Ground. Bail was to be set after formal charges have been filed.

The sheriff said the victim was approached by a man in Portland at SW 1st and Taylor streets when she was offered \$10 an hour to pose as a photographer's model. She told detectives she was to do the modeling in Washington Park in Portland. After getting in the van, the woman recounted that she was strangled into unconsciousness.

When she regained consciousness, she said she realized she was somewhere in the vicinity of Lacamas Lake. She told detectives she was raped in the van and stabbed, then choked

again, until she became unconscious. She came to in a pile of logs, and discovered she was covered with brush and leaves, and apparently left for dead.

The young woman managed to walk out of the wooded area to Crown Road, where a passing motorist spotted her and summoned the Camas first aid car at about 6:30 p.m.

Despite a considerable loss of blood and suffering from shock, the woman was able to tell detectives at the hospital of the incident, and to describe her attacker. The vehicle was traced, a search warrant was obtained and the suspect was arrested.

Cotton was highly commendatory of the work of the detectives in making such a rapid arrest.

Picture on page 11

## Citations issued

# Nets dunked

SEATTLE (AP) — More than 100 gillnet boats illegally dropped nets into the choppy waters of Puget Sound Tuesday night, the state Department of Fisheries said.

A department patrol office spokesman said he estimated 40 citations were issued to fishermen who took part in the fish-in to protest a pro-Indian court ruling that slashed their

fishing season to four days this year.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the gillnetters association said he understood more protest fishing was planned for Wednesday night and that some purse seiners were expected to join the protest.

"We have to do something to defend our rights," said one gillnetter.

"No buyers will be willing to stick

poachers, about 50 fishing boats left Shilshole Bay at Seattle Wednesday.

"This is a good night for fishing," Olaf Schroder, 57, said as he nosed his 38-foot boat to a favorite fishing spot. "If it was legal to fish, there'd be so damn many boats out here, there wouldn't be any room to set nets."

Gillnetters were protesting U.S. District Court Judge George Boldt's

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# Four judges disqualified from murder case A

Crime - murder

A former Battle Ground man pleaded innocent Tuesday to a first-degree murder charge and learned that all four of Clark County's superior court judges have been disqualified from hearing his case, an unprecedented development.

OCT 25 1978

Warren L. Forrest, 29, entered the pleas of "not guilty" and "not guilty by reason of insanity" before Judge Thomas Lodge. He appeared with his attorney, Don Greig of the county Public Defender's Office.

Forrest, appearing for the second time before Lodge, entered the plea to charges he killed 20-year-old Krista Kay Blake of Vancouver on July 11, 1974, 19 days before she was reported missing.

Miss Blake's body was found, almost exactly two years later, in the Tukes Mountain area east of Battle Ground. Last seen July 11 getting into a van at the corner of 29th and K Streets in Vancouver, she was found with her hands tied behind her back when her body was dug up.

Forrest has been committed to Western State Hospital since early 1975, when he was acquitted, by reason of insanity, of unrelated charges of rape, assault and robbery.

In entering the plea to the murder charge, however, Greig told Lodge he is "not alleging Mr. Forrest is presently insane or (mentally) incompetent."

Greig told Lodge Forrest has become sane, and capable of defending himself against the charge, since his committal to the state institution.

The four judges — Lodge, J. Dean Morgan, Robert McMullen and John Skimas — were disqualified by Lodge after Greig argued that none of the four rightfully could preside at a trial because each had previous involvement with Forrest or his case.

Lodge and McMullen cannot hear the case, Greig said, because both judges were part of recent, secret inquiries that touched on Forrest's case.

Morgan cannot hear the case, Greig said, because as public defender he represented Forrest in the case for which Forrest was committed to the institution. Skimas

was the judge in that case, heard in 1974 and 1975, which found Forrest innocent by reason of insanity.

Skimas agreed not to hear the case, Greig said, because Skimas also authorized a controversial search warrant demanding the state hospital turn over records to the lawyers for the new trial. Greig and the state Attorney General's office are expected to fight admission of those records as trial evidence on grounds they are privileged information.

OCT 25 1978

Lodge said he doubts that a state law prohibiting a special inquiry judge from hearing a case resulting from an inquiry applies in his case, "but I don't think we ought to tread new ground finding out."

Lodge agreed to ask the state court administrator's staff to schedule an outside judge to hear the case, thus ruling out any of the local judges from a trial.

The disqualification of all four judges from a case has not happened since the county obtained a fourth superior court judge in 1971, said Clark County Clerk Wilma Schmidt.

"As far as I recall, it's a precedent," Miss Schmidt said.

A trial date has not been set for Forrest's new case. Lodge said Herbert Weiland, a Pacific County Superior Court judge, will hear further preliminary motions in the case after he arrives next week to hear a Pacific County case transferred here.

Disqualification of the four Clark County judges raised the possibility that Forrest's trial will be moved elsewhere, though Greig has not requested that.

Greig said King and Thurston counties have been discussed as possible locations.

# 'Modus operandi' in murder trial

## Case similarities to be shown

By BILL DIETRICH  
Columbian Staff Writer

"Modus operandi" is a Latin term attorneys use to describe a similar method used by one person to commit several crimes. It means method of operation.

A Clark County 12-person jury is likely to hear that term often as it tries to decide if Warren Leslie Forrest, 29, formerly of Battle Ground, is guilty of a first-degree murder no eyewitness saw him commit.

Prosecution and defense gave their opening statements Monday in Forrest's trial in connection with the death of Krista Kay Blake of Vancouver, who was 20 when she disappeared in 1974.

The reason the trial is expected to be the most lengthy in county history became evident when Deputy Prosecutor Dennis Hunter set out his complex case, and defense attorney Don Greig unfolded a 12-foot chart explaining how he will try to refute it.

In essence, the prosecution is arguing that a rape, stabbing and abduction Forrest has admitted to committing on Oct. 1, 1974, of [redacted] is similar to the abduction on July 17, 1974, of [redacted] Ridgefield, now Mrs. [redacted].

And the prosecution says the [redacted] abduction is in turn similar to the suspected July 11, 1974, killing of Miss Blake.

Greig said the defense's job will be to poke enough holes in those similarities to produce at least a "reasonable doubt" that Forrest is guilty of the murder of Miss Blake. Hunter took time to describe the brutality involved in

all three incidents, while Greig took care to describe Forrest as a husband, father, successful Army veteran, former county parks employee for two years, an honor student at Battle Ground High School and captain of the school track team.

Hunter outlined the prosecution's case without theatrics Monday, speaking in a slow, deliberate voice of a list of witnesses who will in turn describe three crimes.

"The defendant was engaged in an ongoing, recurring modus operandi," Hunter told the jury. "The jury can conclude (after the evidence is presented) that the common author of all three incidents was the defendant (Forrest)."

But Greig told the jury that the circumstantial evidence the prosecution is offering will not hold up under close examination as the trial develops.

Hunter said the prosecution's case begins on July 11, 1974, when then-Portland residents James T. Mcardle and Pete O'Donnell discovered a brown shoe sticking up from forest humus while on a mushroom and wildflower expedition on Tukes Mountain a mile east of Battle Ground. Mcardle said Monday in testimony that the shoe was about 500 feet from a county parks maintenance center near 219th Street.

When they pulled on the shoe, they found a skeletal leg attached.

Hunter said Monday that discovery of Miss Blake's body was exactly two years after she is reported to have disappeared from Vancouver.

But Greig said he will present testimony indicating Miss Blake may have been seen a day or two after July 11, 1974 — and that Forrest can be shown to have been at Long Beach, Wash., on July 13 and 14.

That, and the reliability of later identifications by Mrs. [redacted], appear likely to be subjects of conflicting testimony.

After describing the excavation and identification of Miss Blake's body, found with her hands and feet tied behind her back, Hunter led the jury through descriptions of two other crimes — the abduction of Mrs. [redacted] when she was 15 years old and the rape of Miss [redacted] which Forrest had admitted.

Hunter said testimony will show similarities in the

alleged crimes: for example, the proximity in timing, the age of the women, that a blue van was used in all three, that some of the methods of tying victims were similar, that a dart gun found in connection with the [redacted] case could have been used in the Blake killing (though cause of death is unknown) and so forth.

Forrest was found "innocent by reason of insanity" of the [redacted] rape and stabbing at Lacamas Park, which means he admitted to the crime but instead of being jailed was committed to Western State Hospital, where he was under treatment for four years until being brought to Clark County for the present trial.

Defense attorney Greig called the [redacted] rape and stabbing "a terrible, horrible incident" — but asked the jury not to let it color its judgment of whether Forrest is guilty of what he will argue is an unrelated murder.

"There is a great danger of Mr. Forrest's right to a fair trial on the Blake case if you let this prejudice your thinking," Greig stressed.

The defense attorney said he will stress the "dissimilarities" in the three incidents to show that the prosecution has not made its case.

That, he said, will include variations in the supposed blue van, Forrest's reported appearance, the timing of the incidents, weapons, differences in bondage methods, the absence of rape in the [redacted] incident and discrepancies in later identifications of Forrest or his photograph.

Because of the conflicting nature of some of the evidence, it appeared Monday that the case may hinge in part on the ability of the opposing attorneys to be convincing in their presentations.

Another name that came up several times Monday was that of Sheriff Frank Kanekoa. In 1974, he was a detective assigned to the [redacted] abduction case. Kanekoa's performance in the investigation almost became a campaign issue last year until Prosecutor Jim Cartry squelched campaign comment on the case.

Kanekoa, along with several other deputies involved in the case, probably will be called to testify.

And the jury, Hunter said, probably will be taken to Tukes Mountain and Lacamas Lake to see the scene of the three alleged crimes.

The trial continued today.

JAN 23 1979

JAN 23 1979

# Witness says Krista Blake met suspect

By BILL DIETRICH  
Columbian Staff Writer

Suspected murder victim Krista Kay Blake met the man accused of killing her, Warren Leslie Forrest, on at least one occasion a few months before she disappeared in 1974, a witness told a Clark County jury Wednesday.

Cindy Birrer, 3220 Edgewood Drive, identified Forrest as one of a group of men Miss Blake met at Lewisville Park in the Spring of 1974.

Asked by attorneys how she remembered Forrest, she explained, "I just thought he was kind of cute."

Forrest, 29, formerly of Battle Ground, had pleaded innocent to a charge of first-degree murder in the death of Miss Blake of Vancouver, whose body was found in 1976. Birrer is the first witness to link Forrest to the alleged victim.

In other developments, Del Schleichert, assistant parks director for Clark County, identified Forrest as a former park employee who had keys giving him access to the Tokes Mountain park facility near which Miss Blake's remains were found.

And Coroner Arch Hamilton said, "It is my opinion she died of a homicide. The probable cause of death was strangulation."

Hamilton said he believed strangulation occurred because examination of the remains showed no signs of a knife or bullet and because a bullet tiny enough to make a small hole in Miss Blake's T-shirt would not kill the victim quickly.

Prosecuting attorney Dennis Hunter said he will offer evidence later that Forrest choked two other women. Defense attorney Greig has tried to show death could have occurred by a firearm or by other means unrelated to murder.

Miss Birrer testified that she was a high school student when she accompanied Miss Blake and Blake's baby in a car to Lewisville Park one spring afternoon. Miss Birrer said her friend searched for a blue van without explaining why, and, after finding it, got out to talk for about 10 minutes to two men among a group of several.

One of those two men, Birrer said, was Forrest. The defendant was later identified by Schleichert as driving a blue van at the time Miss Blake disappeared.

Miss Birrer's reliability as a witness was challenged by Greig, who questioned her extensively.

How, he asked, could she remember seeing Forrest in 1974 when police did not ask her about the incident until after Miss Blake's body was found, more than two years later?

"I can usually remember somebody who is really cute," Miss Birrer replied.

Greig asked Miss Birrer to describe in detail the blue van.

"I didn't really get a good look at that van," she replied.

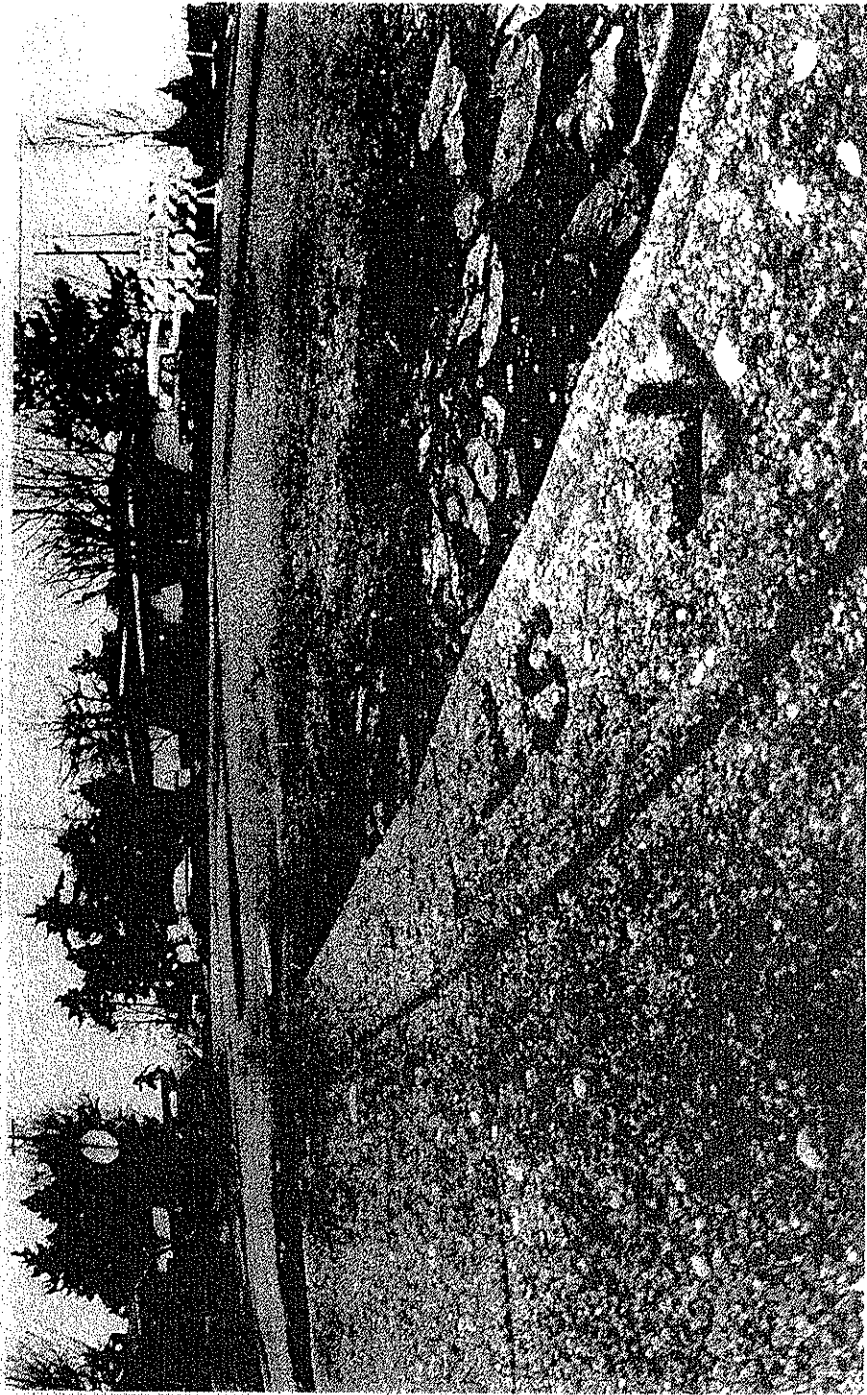
"But you did get a good look at Mr. Forrest, didn't you," Greig asked with a note of sarcasm.

Still later, Greig attempted to show that Miss Birrer did not remember statements she made to police about the incident as recently as Dec. 20, 1978.

But Miss Birrer said she did see the same van in front of Miss Blake's house during a party before the trip to the park.

Greig also asked Miss Birrer and Blake's former boyfriend, Fred E. Saddusaw of Battle Ground, to pick the blue van they remembered seeing from pictures of 14 vans. Each pointed to different vans. Neither was Forrest's, Greig told a reporter later.

But Schleichert's description of Forrest's van was close to that of both the other witnesses, except he described it as light blue, and Saddusaw said the van he saw was dark blue. Witnesses also differed on the age of the vehicle. A picture of Krista Kay Blake also began to emerge Wednesday as her mother, Saddusaw and Miss Birrer



This corner — East 29th and K streets in Vancouver — is where the prosecution says Krista Kay Blake was picked up by the defendant. (Staff photo by Jerry Coughlan)

In fact, Greig tried to explore the victim's background further but was successfully blocked by the prosecution, which argued Miss Blake's character and life were irrelevant to Forrest's guilt or innocence.

The jury did learn that Miss Blake was born in Wyoming, the seventh of 12 children. She was raised in California and came to Vancouver at age 18 to stay with her sister, two years before she disappeared.

She lived with Saddusaw for about 1 1/2 years, the jury was told. The couple had a baby who, by the time Miss Blake was last seen, was in a foster home.

Miss Blake was said to have no car, hitchhiked frequently, and was undergoing psychiatric counseling at the

county's mental health and family services center for about six weeks before she disappeared.

Saddusaw said she wore three rings on one hand and a dollar bill encased in plastic from her neck.

The prosecution believes Saddusaw was the last to see Miss Blake in Vancouver, before Forrest. Saddusaw testified she came to his home at that time in Vancouver on July 11, 1974, after the two had split up. She talked about their child, and then he offered her a ride to 29th and K streets, where she said she was going to catch a ride to Portland.

"She said someone owed her money in Portland," Saddusaw related.

He told the jury a dark blue van pulled up to the corner, and Miss Blake hopped in. Saddusaw said he could see the back of the driver's head through the rear windows, and that he appeared to be a young man with moderately long hair.

Saddusaw said he never saw the driver's face and Miss Blake volunteered nothing about the man, she was meeting, in the early evening, the van pulled away.

Two months later, Krista's mother, Colleen Blake, arrived from California for a three-day personal search for her daughter. But she learned nothing about the body was found in 1976.

COLUMBIAN  
**RIVER**  
COUNTRY

Clark County has turned a critical eye on its use of cars in an attempt to prevent any abuse and cut the size of its fleet.

The county commissioners and Prosecutor Jim Carthy issued a joint news release today saying Carthy is evaluating the use of at least 180 vehicles by all county employees, including elected officials.

Board Chairman Conne Kearney said an alternative to the current system might be a countywide motor pool. Carthy said his investigation will be finished in 30 days. The commissioners said they hope to adopt a vehicle policy by April.

Jan Rosholt, executive administrative assistant to the board, said the investigation was launched after periodic complaints by the public.

"We often get calls about county vehicles parked at restaurants or grocery stores, or in somebody's driveway," Rosholt said.

# Woman identifies Forrest as her abductor

By BILL DIETRICH  
Columbian Staff Writer

A Vancouver woman identified Warren Leslie Forrest Thursday as the man who abducted her and left her hogtied between two trees on Tukes Mountain six days after suspected murder victim Krista Kay Blake disappeared.

"Is the man who abducted you in this courtroom?" prosecuting attorney asked Mrs. [redacted] of 800 N.E. Highland Way, Vancouver.

"He is the defendant," Mrs. [redacted] replied, pointing at Forrest. The 29-year-old former Battle Ground resident, who has pleaded innocent to a charge of first-degree murder in Miss Blake's death, did not change expression. Since the trial began, Forrest has kept busy taking notes. He has remained calm and talkative and has occasionally smiled.

The prosecution delivered a one-two punch Thursday by following Mrs. [redacted] testimony with Portland psychiatrist Guy Parvareh, who interviewed Forrest in the Clark County jail after he was arrested for a rape and slapping in October 1974.

Parvareh said he does not personally remember what Forrest said on Nov. 9, 1974, but he did offer his notes of the conversation summarizing what Forrest was saying. The portion admitted as evidence read:

"Ridgefield after work to fix fence — girl was found hogtied to a tree. It looks like a dream, becomes very vague, disorganized, looks as if I was there the night before. I'm not sure."

Under cross-examination by defense attorney Don Greig, Parvareh described Forrest as "simple schizophrenic" when the psychiatrist conducted the interview. When asked if Forrest's words were the product of suggestion, Parvareh replied, "probably not."

Mrs. [redacted] was 15-year-old [redacted] of Ridgefield when she was abducted on July 17, 1974. Speaking in a steady manner Thursday to a 12-person jury in the

residence, Clark County maintenance officials said things can just appear in a matter of hours.

County and city street maintenance officials said crews are at work daily making temporary patches in holes in streets caused by this month's extreme cold weather. Estimates of the cost will run in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, they said, and the repair work may go on into the summer.

That, officials said, is because ice still is thawing from street and road beds. Officials said contraction of ice results in road foundations and creation of subsurface voids spilt in pavement cracking when roads are subjected to heavy vehicle weight.

"We're doing our best to keep the traffic flowing and keep the holes filled," said Roy Stenmetz, Vancouver city street foreman, adding that the repairs "will go on for months."

Officials said after thawing is over, crews probably will

damages, officials said. Clark County placed weight restrictions on all but 29 road sections, allowing only trucks carrying perishable foods or garbage, emergency vehicles or those carrying other essential goods to travel over restricted roads.

Vancouver, Camas and Washougal did not impose weight restrictions. Hugh James, Vancouver city engineer, said Vancouver city streets are built to take heavier loads than county roads.

Weight restrictions, James said, would close industrial areas such as Fruit Valley. The economic effect of that, James said, "would cost more than the cost of repairing the street damage."

The county's weight restrictions placed limits up to 3,000 pounds per tire on trucks, with graduated limits below that limit for smaller tires.

Badly damaged roads include Northeast 152nd Avenue

North Fork of the Lewis river

More road damage could occur in those areas when thawing continues, he said.

Residents can report chuckholes on county roads by calling 689-2454. Vancouver residents should call 696-8177. Camas residents should call 834-3451. Washougal chuckholes should be reported at 835-8581.

Officials said they can have crews at a hazardous damage site in as little as two hours, depending on the extent of the damage.

Repairs to other, less hazardous holes may take longer, they said.

"This is real textbook stuff," said James of the road surface damage. "This is like the tests you run in college on asphalt samples. If they make it through this in tests, you've really got a super pavement."

Mrs. [redacted] later identified Forrest's photograph in 1976 with her new glasses on.

According to Mrs. [redacted], she met Forrest about 4:30 p.m. on July 17, 1974, while sitting by the side of Highway 501, which leads out of Ridgefield.

She said she accepted a ride from a stranger in a light blue van and drove with him 30 minutes. Then he parked in a field after she said it was time for her to be home.

Mrs. [redacted] said the driver, Forrest, then grabbed her and put a knife he had used to clean his fingernails to her

throat, forcing her to the back of the van, he allegedly hogtied her, cut off her bra for use as a gag and fondled her breasts.

Hunter stressed that brief sexual contact as a link to a later rape of another woman Forrest has admitted. Mrs. [redacted] said Forrest then drove off with her tied in back, crying. She said he told her at one point she would provide "entertainment" at a party of men. At another time, Mrs. [redacted] testified, he said, "He liked my looks, and if I was real good, he would take me to Texas to live with him."

Mrs. [redacted] said Forrest stopped several times, slapping her at one point, and then arrived at the county parks complex of maintenance sheds at Tukes Mountain, a mile east of Battle Ground. She said she was carried, still bound, into the trees.

Her head was tied to one tree and her legs to another. She said she was hit in the eye and "almost passed out."

Mrs. [redacted] said Forrest left, saying he would return while he was gone she used her teeth to chew through the twine binding her head to the tree, and, when her head fell loose, struggled out of a loop holding her to the other tree. Then, hands and ankles still tied, she hopped away through the woods.

After a long night, halting at one point because she thought she heard noises from where she had been tied, Mrs. [redacted] said, she made a loop through woods and pasture land, hopping and falling, and came back to the maintenance center after dawn. An employee found her there, still tied and crying, her face battered. The employee cut her loose.

Mrs. [redacted] told her story to sheriff's deputies and later identified the van as a 1972 to 1974 Ford Econoline colored "wind blue." Forrest had a 1973 Ford van the same color.

But Mrs. [redacted] did not replace her glasses immediately. She told a reporter she had to wait because of the expense; optometrist Winkelman said he suspected she was a typical teen-ager interested in boys and reluctant to wear glasses.

In October 1974, investigating detective Frank Kanekoa asked her to examine Forrest's van and a line-up of suspects that included Forrest, even though deputies knew she did not have glasses. Forrest had been arrested for the rape and stabbing of Darla Wightman.

Mrs. [redacted] could not positively identify Forrest with her impaired vision.

In July 1976, Miss Blake's body was found. Mrs. [redacted] was asked to look at pictures of suspects, including Forrest, who was in a treatment program at Western State Hospital for the Wightman incident. She picked Forrest.

"Since the 1976 photo laydown, are you positive in your identification?" Hunter asked.

"Yes, Mrs. [redacted] replied.

The jury was expected to tour the Tukes Mountain site of Blake's burial and [redacted] bondage today.