

Summers' lawyer gets access to computer

By KAREN PARKER
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ONTARIO — To expedite what seems as an endless series of pretrial motions in the case of Roy Summers, accused of the 1977 murder of his ex-wife and the abduction of her two daughters from their San Bernardino home, a Superior Court judge on Monday granted the defense access to the sheriff's department computer.

In a six-hour hearing, Judge William P. Hyde granted defense attorney Timothy Guhin and defense investigator Jerry Williams on use of the computer to help them locate possible witnesses in the complex case.

Deputy District Attorney Michael Smith told the judge he had no objection as long as the computer use is confined to locating witnesses.

Williamson said he has a list of about 10 key witnesses and others spread among 22 states that he needs to locate.

A defense motion for a change of venue was postponed to a Nov. 2 hearing. Guhin argued that because of the emotional nature and extensive media coverage of the case, Summers cannot get an unbiased trial in San Bernardino County.

Beverly Wise, 26, was found stabbed to death in her home in March 1977. Her children, Brandi Jondell Summers, then 5, and Tifani Wise, then 2, were missing. Brandi, fathered by Summers, had cystic fibrosis and physicians said she could not survive for more than a few weeks without medication.

The children have never been located although there are reports they were seen in Northern California, Idaho and Nevada after the abduction in 1977 and when the case was reopened in 1979.

Summers was extradited to San Bernardino from Oregon after he was arrested there in connection with the attempted murder of his

seventh wife and his mother.

In Monday's hearing, Guhin questioned recently retired San Bernardino Police Chief B. Warren Cocke about why the case was reopened in 1979. Cocke said detectives reviewing the case had recommended such action.

Cocke said he had been approached by one of the detectives who asked permission to write a book on the case. Cocke said he didn't give permission but told the detective all material would have to be cleared before it could be published. He said he has heard no more about the book since then.

Guhin said he wants to establish whether the case was reopened for the personal gain of the officer.

Also in the hearing, Smith gave the defense more police department memos involving the case, as was ordered by Judge Hyde in a June hearing. In that hearing, the judge also ordered a complete review of the transcripts of about 190 hours of taped police interviews with witnesses. That information is expected to be available in the Nov. 2 hearing.

Summers remains in San Bernardino County Jail. His bail has been set at \$250,000.

Rolling Ridge hearing delayed

SAN BERNARDINO — The county Planning Commission has announced it intends to delay until 9 a.m. next Tuesday a hearing that was scheduled for Thursday on plans for the huge Rolling Ridge Estates project in the Chino Hills.

Tuesday's hearing will be on zone changes and preliminary development plans for the 3,486 homes, apartments and townhouses proposed by Bramalea Inc. on some 1,200 acres west of Highway 71 and south of the Pomona Freeway.