

Saw Tiffani Wise, Idaho woman says

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CHINO — A Boise, Idaho, woman testified here Monday that sometime during 1979 she met one of two children that Roy Summers is charged with kidnapping.

Laura Lee told Deputy District Attorney Mike Smith that she met Tiffani Wise in the home of Juanita Iwakiri, who ran a day-care center.

Testifying during the trial of Summers, who is accused of murdering his ex-wife, Beverly Wise, and kidnapping two of her children from their San Bernardino home, Lee said she went to Iwakiri's home to pick up her children and encountered a little girl in Iwakiri's entryway.

"I reached down and touched her hair and said, 'Where'd you get the cute little redhead?' and Tiny (Iwakiri) said, 'Oh, this is Tiffani'."

Shown photographs of the two girls, who are still missing, Lee identified a picture of Tiffani Wise as the girl she met at Iwakiri's home.

Her testimony contradicted statements by Iwakiri, who last week testified that she was not certain she had cared for either Tiffani or Brandi Jondell Summers. Iwakiri admitted that she had previously said she had cared for the children, but said those statements were lies. She said she lied because her life was boring and it was exciting to be involved in a kidnapping investigation.

Iwakiri was tried in Boise and convicted of second-degree kidnapping, the Idaho equivalent of felony child concealment in California. She served 120 days of a five-year sentence before being released on probation in November 1981. Her case is being appealed.

Lee said she saw Tiffani only once. However, on Feb. 4, 1980, the day after Iwakiri was interviewed by a Boise police detective about the missing girls, Iwakiri talked to Lee about them, Lee testified.

Lee said Iwakiri told her that she didn't babysit Brandi very often because the girl was attending a church school in Garden City, a town near Boise. Iwakiri also said she hadn't seen the girls since the fall of 1979, Lee said.

Iwakiri last week testified that she had lied during that conversation.

Also during Monday's proceedings, Boise Police Detective Hugh McNichols said he showed Iwakiri photographs of the missing girls during an interview with her on Feb. 3, 1980.

He said after studying the photographs, Iwakiri said she was "sure" one of them was Tiffani and said that she had babysat the youngster from time to time in 1979. She was "not so sure" about identifying Brandi, Summers' daughter, and said she had cared for that child less often, McNichols said.