

Testimony heard on missing girls

By TINA MAY
Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — The wife of an Idaho man charged in the 1977 murder of a San Bernardino woman and the kidnapping of her two young daughters knew about

the crimes, had the children in her home and talked often about the girls in the last three years.

That's what Rebecca Boyer, a neighbor of Michael and Juanita Iwakiri, said at Mr. Iwakiri's preliminary hearing here Tuesday in

Municipal Court.

But, in responding to questions posed by Judge Donald E. Van Luven, Boyer said Juanita Iwakiri never mentioned to her that Michael Iwakiri knew about the girls' background or his wife's intention to adopt them.

Michael Iwakiri, 31, of Boise, is charged with accessory to kidnapping and murder in connection with the March 30, 1977, stabbing death of Beverly Wise and the abduction of Brandi Jondell Summers, then 5 years old, and Tiffani Wise, then 2. The children have never been found.

He also faces perjury charges stemming from testimony he gave last month before the San Bernardino County Grand Jury. His bail is \$100,000.

(Juanita, 27, has been charged in Boise with what would be the equivalent in California of felony child concealment. She is out of custody on her own recognizance).

Boyer's statements Tuesday about what somebody else said — hearsay — were only to be considered for purposes of a bail reduction request and not as evidence toward binding Michael

Iwakiri over for trial, Van Luven said Tuesday.

Most of Boyer's testimony was about Juanita's actions and not those of Michael, but she is ex-

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April Fool weather

By LOVAE PRAY
Sun Staff Writer

The weather fooled around in the Inland Empire on the first day of April.

The mountains were sprinkled with snow, the valley area had rain, thunder, hail and wind and the lower desert was hit with light sprinkles, blowing sand and strong winds.

Rialto had a covering of hail north of Base Line near Pepper Avenue and passersby were convinced it was snow.

Weathermen said the brief but intense unexpected storm that swept across Southern California lowered the snow level to 3,500 feet in some areas and caused a variety of weather from bright

blue skies to powdery snow.

It developed around 2 a.m. directly over the Southland as an upper level disturbance caused by a flow of cold air from around the Gulf of Alaska or the Bering Sea.

Generally clear, cool and windy weather is expected today with temperatures in the mid- to upper 60s.

Early-waking residents were greeted with pea-sized hail plunking noisily on rooftops and window panes around 5 a.m.

Hail was so bad in San Timoteo Canyon that motorists heading for work were slowed to a crawl to avoid sliding around on the marble-sized hailstones covering

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Appeal on

By ALAN ASHBY
Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — The on-again, off-again appeal of San Bernardino Valley College trustee Jim Ballard's 1977 misdemeanor conviction for illegal campaign practices was on Tuesday before the Fourth District Court of Appeal.

A decision — which could affect the validity of Ballard's re-election last November to a four-year term on the SBVC Board of Trustees — may come within days or weeks.

The case has been at issue for more than two years before a court that prides itself on being current, so an early ruling is likely. The appellate court's decision in