Newspapers

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Summers gets one year jail sentence for assault

By TINA MAY

Sun Staff Writer

Roy Summers, charged in the 1977 murder of his ex-wife in San Bernardino and the abduction of her two children, was sentenced Wednesday to a year in an Oregon jail for attacking his seventh wife there last fall.

Meanwhile in San Bernardino, Police Homicide Lt. Don Levan said Wednesday that detectives will go to Oregon next Tuesday to pick up Summers and bring him to San Bernardino for a formal arraignment in the three-year-old murder-kidnap.

The Oregon attack victim, Connie Kohler — who has since obtained a divorce and assumed her maiden name — has been told by doctors that she must have her right arm amputated for injuries she suffered during the assault. She is right-handed.

"What's an arm worth? A year in county jail," Kohler told a reporter Wednesday. "It never healed from day one. Even before I had surgery they didn't give me much of a chance. It just about takes my life. I've got nothing to live for."

Kohler said Wednesday that she had delayed the amputation because she wanted to attend the sentencing hearing.

Summers, 39, was charged with breaking her arm in eight places during a struggle at their home in which he twisted her arm and 'What's an arm worth? A year in county jail . . . It just about takes my life. I've got nothing to live for.'

— Connie Summers, whose arm was broken in eight places and must be amputated

choked her unconscious.

When she awoke, she found herself under a car Summers had placed on jacks in the garage, she said. She believed it was going to be dropped on her and the pair struggled some more before Summers suddenly let her go, she told police last fall.

At his sentencing hearing

Wednesday, Summers said he was anxious to come to California as soon as possible to prove his innocence of charges in the March 30, 1977, stabbing death of Beverly Wise, 26, and the abduction of Brandi Jondell Summers, then 5 years old, and Tiffani Wise, then 2, from their San Bernardino home. The sisters have not been found.

Brandi is Roy Summers' daughter, but she had lived with Wise and her husband, Claude, since 10 months of age. Investigators have always been particularly concerned for Brandi's welfare because she suffers from cystic fibrosis and needs medication to digest her food properly. Without it, she would die.

Jim Harvey, Deschutes County deputy district attorney, who handled Summers' prosecution in Oregon, said Wednesday his office decided to allow Summers to face charges in San Bernardino before

(Continued on A-4, column 1)

index

(Four news sections)

Direction of the control of the cont
Business A14-17
Classified D7-14
Comics D6
Crossword C2
Editorial B14
Inside C1-18
Metro B1-10
Obituaries B6
Sports D1-5
TV-Theater B11-13
Vital Records D7