

Summers calls murder victim disloyal wife, unfit mother

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CHINO — Murder victim Beverly Wise was a disloyal wife, an unfit mother and a drug dealer, said Roy Summers, the man accused of slaying Wise and kidnapping two of her children from their San Bernardino home in 1977.

On his second and last day on the witness stand, Summers offered what he considered to be factors in Wise's lifestlye that explain why someone else would want the 26-year-old woman dead.

Summers' explanation came when he was asked about his interest in details of the crime during the investigation.

"I wanted to know if her husband or some lover found her in bed with another guy and went nuts and killed her? Or, if she had burned some drug dealer for some drugs again?" Summers said in a burst of emotion.

Summers for the most part has maintained his composure throughout the 16-week trial. Monday, he told the jury of his innocence and showed little if any reaction to the daylong questioning.

However, his demeanor changed late Tuesday morning during questioning from the prosecutor who is attempting to prove that Summers killed his former wife out of hate and kidnapped her children because they witnessed the slaying.

When Deputy District Attorney Michael Smith asked Summers what he first said at the news of the Wise murder and the kidnap of her children, Summers shot back, "That stupid little bitch."

"If a woman wants to to mess with Charles Manson freaks, that's one thing. But to have her children kidnapped, that's another thing."

"Maybe they (the children) are buried in the backyard of her home, I don't know. I do know this — the military police have been after Claude Wise (Beverly's husband) for years for smuggling dope on Air Force planes. And that he never did tell the police who he sold dope to or who he bought it from," Summers said.

Summers' attorney, Timothy Guhin, interrupted Summers in the middle of the rambling.

"I object, your honor, on the grounds that this is hearsay," he said to Superior Court Judge William Pitt Hyde.

Hyde agreed, saying he was about to tell Summers to end his remarks before Guhin raised his objection. Hyde instructed the jury to disregard Summers' inflammatory statements about the

(Please see Summers, B-3)

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