

Woman charged with fabricating rape

Corl Keith told police she was raped by a masked man on March 3 at Innovation Park.

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

After police say she lied about being bound and raped near Innovation Park, a woman faces two misdemeanor charges of false

reports to law enforcement officials.

Corl Keith, 22, reported to the Penn State Police Department that at about 8:30 p.m. on March 3, a man who appeared to be having car trouble lured her to his vehicle in the parking lot outside of the Lubert Building at Innovation Park, police said.

Wearing a black ski mask, dark clothing and tan boots, the man forced her to the ground and raped her in a snowbank, Keith, of

227 Ash Circle, Centre Hall, told police.

Keith told police the man struck her several times and tied a rope around her neck, according to court documents. The man threatened her life and tore her clothing during the incident, she told officers.

Keith was taken to Mount Nittany Medical Center for treatment, where she received a forensic medical exam conducted by a certified Sexual Assault Nurse

Examiner, according to court documents.

But physical evidence didn't match up, and police detected several inconsistencies in Keith's multiple versions of the attack, according to court documents.

When she was brought back in for questioning, Keith "essentially retracted" her story, Deputy Director Tyrone Parham said.

Before Keith acknowledged she made up the rape, Penn State offi-

cials believed the assault to be the second in only a month at Innovation Park, sparking what some university officials called an unfortunate panic across the Penn State community.

Security was increased at Innovation Park, and ComRadio members were encouraged to watch out for one another and stay in groups when working at the building late at night.

To e-mail reporter: lcn5019@psu.edu



Collegian file photo

Students pass a broken lamppost through a crowd on Beaver Avenue and away from police spraying pepper spray during the riot after Penn State beat The Ohio State University in football in October 2008.

Student receives probation

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

A Penn State student was sentenced to three years probation in connection to the 2008 downtown riot that ended with over 20 arrests.

Garrick Stafford, 20, was charged with felony counts of riot, theft by unlawful taking and receiving stolen property after police said he took a streetlight from Beaver Canyon when students flooded the area Oct. 25, 2008 after the Penn State's football victory over the Ohio State University. Stafford entered a plea agreement and received probation instead of incarceration, attorney Anthony De Boef said.

De Boef emphasized that

"He was only minorly involved."

Anthony De Boef
Stafford's attorney

Stafford received his particular sentence because he did not actually cause any property damage during the riot. Stafford was sober at the scene and picked up the streetlight after someone else had knocked it down, De Boef said.

"He was only minorly involved," De Boef said.

When a photograph of the incident surfaced, Stafford did identify himself as the individual carrying the streetlight but said he was not the one responsible for uprooting it. However, he did

bring the \$3,512 streetlight back to his dorm room before throwing it into a dumpster, according to court documents.

After the riot ended, police reports said students left six cars damaged, including one police car, and tore down at least two parking meters and two lampposts.

More than 20 students were charged in connection to the riot. Stafford could not be reached for comment.

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GPS seized in Perryman case

By Laura Nichols
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Police seized a Penn State student's GPS system last week to see if the facts about the night he said he accidentally shot his girlfriend match up.

Authorities continue to investigate Troy R. Tierney in connection with the Oct. 24 shooting of his girlfriend Racheal Lynn Perryman, who was embroiled in a 2009 rape case against another man at the time.

Police searched Tierney's red Ford Taurus, the car he was driving the night he told police he accidentally shot his girlfriend with a rifle after he mistook her for a deer while hunting in the dark just 30 minutes off campus, according to court documents.

A search warrant filed by Pennsylvania State Police said officers are examining the device in order to confirm whether Tierney's recollection of the events matches the actual course he took that evening with Perryman, according to the search warrant.

Tierney told police the incident occurred at around 3 p.m. on Oct. 24, after he traveled from Port Matilda to Railroad St. in Milesburg and secured his firearm. He and Perryman then ventured into the woods, according to court documents.

Since the Oct. 25 incident, police have contained the

"Her case is no less important now than when she was alive."

Stacy Parks Miller
District Attorney

vehicle in a secure parking according to the search warrant.

Tierney denied consuming any alcohol prior to the incident, but told police he did take prescription medication, according to court documents.

In another case, Centre County District Attorney Stacy Parks Miller said she'll continue her efforts to take to trial the March 18 testimony Perryman gave against accused rapist Kyle Lingle of Milesburg.

In February, Parks Miller said Perryman's testimony was crucial without it, there is no case against Lingle.

"Her case is no less important now than when she was alive," Parks Miller wrote in an e-mail. "It is important that a jury gets to hear her testimony and make a decision for themselves."

During a hearing March 9 in Centre County Court, Parks Miller said her office will not abandon the case just because of Perryman's "tragic and untimely death."

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