

## **Teen Testifies of sexual assault by school security guard**

By Lonnie Mack

Staff Writer

Middlesex County: A former New Brunswick High School student described to a jury yesterday how a school security officer sexually assaulted her in the janitor's office when she was a 16-year-old freshman.

Henry Solares, 31, of Franklin, who worked at the school as a security guard for five years, is on trial in Superior Court, New Brunswick, charged with second-degree sexual assault and second-degree official misconduct. He is facing up to 10 years in prison on each of the charges.

The woman, now 18 and a student at the adult learning school, said the incident occurred on June 19, 2003, after she agreed to meet with Solares after school.

She said she met Solares in front of her locker about 2:30 p.m. at his request, followed him into the boiler room and then into a small office off the boiler room where he began kissing and fondling her.

The accuser said she complained to Solares when he started to have sexual intercourse and told him she had to go home, but he insisted and she gave in and let him continue.

The woman said the two of them left school about 3 p.m. and Solares dropped her off near her home.

Under cross-examination by South Orange defense attorney Timothy Smith, the woman said she did not remember if Solares used a condom and replied, "What does that mean?" when Smith asked if the man who attacked her "ejaculated."

After explaining, the woman said she did not know.

The accusers said she had met Solares early in the school year and would exchange greetings in the hallway. She said beginning in December, he started to become flirtatious, making comments about her appearance and her anatomy, and that she came to like what he said.

The woman said prior to June 19 incident, they would meet in the school and he would touch her, put his arms around her and sometimes kiss her.

The June 19, 2003, incident was not reported until 2004 when the teen was called in by a guidance counselor after rumors started circulation thought the student body that she and Solares were having sex.

The woman said she initially denied the relationship and the incident before she told the truth and the matter was reported to the police.

Solares was arrested on June 15, 2004. Assistant Prosecutor Lori Kaniper said, Solares, acknowledged that he knew and sometimes spoke with the girl but denied having a relationship with her.

Smith, in his opening statements called the woman's accusations false and said he would present a witness that would put his client working his second job at the Middlesex County Juvenile Detention Center in North Brunswick at 3p.m. the day the incident was alleged to have occurred between 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Judge Philip Paley denied Smith's to present testimony to attempt to show that the teen had a relationship with another security officer at the school after the 2003 incident and falsely accused his client to protect the other security officer.

Two of the teen's cousins who attended a July 4, 2003, fireworks show with her told the jury how she told them "Henry" had sex with her in the boiler room about a month earlier.