

2004 rape and beating draws 46 years to life

The victim, hit with a rock and left for dead, is still recovering from the attack.

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

By LARRY WELBORN

SANTA ANA * A slender young woman rose on unsteady legs and told a judge through quivering lips Friday that the man who sexually assaulted her, beat her with a rock and left her for dead should be put away for the rest of his life.

The 23-year-old Massachusetts woman – identified in court as Jane Doe – cannot remember anything about being chased down a dirt path in Trabuco Canyon in June 2004, or about being attacked amid scrub brush and cacti. She agreed to have her picture taken but did not want her name published.



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SURVIVOR: Jane Doe, who gave the Register permission to use her photo but not her name, and her mother after the trial.

She told Orange County Superior Court Judge David A. Hoffer that because of her ordeal, she is no longer confident in life and is still recovering from the injuries.



REVIN SULLIVAN, THE REGISTE
ROSECUTOR: Senior Deputy District Attorney Mike Fell of the Sexual Assault Unit, answers reporters' questions after the senncing of Raul Marin, who raped and beat a 20-year-old female drifter in Trabuco Canyon in 2004.

And then she sat back in the courtroom gallery, where she was comforted by her mother, as Hoffer sentenced Raul Salvador Martin, 33, to 46-years-to-life in prison.

Marin, a day laborer who admitted the attack, sat quietly a few feet away listening to the proceeding through a Spanish-speaking interpreter.

He did not comment. Hoffer said the beating demonstrated a "high degree of cruelty and viciousness," and that Marin would be a "very old man" if he ever became eligible for parole.

And while the victim made unwise choices when she decided to spend the afternoon drinking beer in Trabuco Canyon with group of day laborers, she did not invite what happened to her, Hoffer added.

The woman, who is still recovering from, brain injuries, said she had never before heard details of the assault.

Before he summarized the case for the judge, Deputy District Attorney Michael Fell leaned over asked her if she wanted to remain in the courtroom. As her mother

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draped an arm over her shoulder, the woman stayed and listened.

Fell said that when the victim decided to leave the beer drinking party, Martin followed, and soon the victim was running for her life. After a 100-yard pursuit, Martin caught up, tackled her into the scrub brush and began his attack.

The woman was sexually assaulted, choked, beaten with a 6-pound rock and dirt and debris was jammed into her throat

The beating was so severe, that paramedics at first could not determine her race or age because of the bruising and swelling.

One of those paramedics was in the courtroom Friday. Craig Covey Fire Department captain said he wanted to meet the woman whose life he helped save. After the sentencing, he gave her a brief hug.

Fell said the victim was left semi-nude in the scrub brush, and that her body temperature dipped to less than 85 degrees before she was found the next day.

Marin "went home and while he slept in his warm bed, the victim froze amid dirt and rock," Fell said.

She remained in a coma for several days after she was found. She was in an Orange County hospital for more than nine weeks. Her mother said she suffered brain damage and is still undergoing treatment.

Marin will be eligible for parole in 2047, when he is 70 years old.

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