

Charges of Rape Are Dismissed

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Rape charges were dismissed today against two Syracuse University basketball players when the woman who had made the charges said she would refuse to testify against them in Hartford Superior Court.

Andre Hawkins, 19, of Malverne, L.I., and Ronald Payton, 23, of Syracuse had been charged with first degree sexual assault and unlawful restraint after allegedly raping Maureen Sullivan, then a student at Villanova University, in a Hartford hotel in March 1982.

Hawkins was a freshman and Payton a senior at the time.

In court today, under questioning by State Prosecutor John Bailey, Miss Sullivan, 21, said she was attempting to rebuild her life and did not wish to relive the experience.

Bailey said the prosecution did not intend to press its case, and Judge John D. Brennan then granted a motion for dismissal of the charges.

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