



Charges Dropped Against Stony Brook Basketball Player

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HAUPPAUGE, N.Y. (AP) — Charges were dismissed Wednesday against a popular university basketball player who last month was accused of raping a woman on campus.

The Suffolk County district attorney's office said it had determined that Quincy Brandon Troupe, 22, who is black, had not attacked the 20-year-old white woman.

His arrest had triggered demonstrations on campus at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in which protesters alleged the arrest was racially motivated.

The victim had picked Troupe out of two police line-ups and identified him from a yearbook picture.

Troupe, a Harlem resident who had been free in \$10,000 bail, maintained that he was with friends in Manhattan at the time of the March 24 attack.

Assistant District Attorney Michael Ahearn told Suffolk County District Court Judge Edward Green that a "long and exhaustive investigation" showed the evidence against Troupe was weak and insufficient.

He said there was no physical evidence against Troupe, his alibi witnesses were strong and the victim decided not to appear before a grand jury.

Troupe smiled broadly and hugged his parents, Margaret and Quincy Troupe Sr., and his lawyer, C. Vernon Mason, when the judge dropped the case.

John Williams, spokesman for the district attorney's office, said outside the courtroom that the decision to drop charges did not mean the victim was lying. "This means that we do not believe that he (Troupe) did it," said Williams.

"I knew I wasn't guilty," Troupe told reporters. "I felt it was just a matter of time."

Of the victim, Troupe said, "I hope in her case that justice will be done, because if the rape occurred, then there's still a guy running around out there."

Troupe, a popular senior engineering student and starting guard on the basketball team, was initially suspended by the school after his arrest April 1. A week later he was granted unrestricted access to the campus.

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