

ROSE FIGHTS AGAINST RAPE ALLEGATION IN CIVIL LAWSUIT

LOS ANGELES: A woman who says Derrick Rose and two friends gang-raped her wept quietly in court as her lawyer provided jurors with lurid descriptions but the NBA star's defense fired back by portraying the encounter as something from a porn film, not a horror movie.

Opening statements began Wednesday in the woman's \$21.5 million federal court lawsuit, which claims she was either drugged or had drunkenly passed out before the sexual encounters at her apartment in August 2013. She was the victim of a "classic gang rape" by a man - Rose - who has never shown remorse and told New York Knicks President Phil Jackson that he'd lost no sleep over the matter, attorney Waukeen McCoy said.

Rose, 28, didn't appear for the start of trial - he was in Houston a day earlier for the Knicks' preseason opener - but he was expected in court Thursday. The six women and two men empaneled as jurors on Wednesday found themselves listening to play-by-play descriptions of the encounter. But they had pained expressions as the woman's lawyer provided a graphic description of what he described as a callous assault as she faded in and out of consciousness.

"The plaintiff will tell you all three men were in the bedroom at the same time," McCoy said. "Each of them took turns raping her, they don't even know who went first." As he spoke, the 30-year-old woman leaned forward so her long dark hair covered her face and dabbed at her eyes with tissues. The Associated Press is not naming her because it generally does identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault.

No criminal charges have been filed against Rose but Los Angeles police continue to investigate. In sharp contrast to McCoy's statement, defense lawyers doubled down on their assertions that the accuser willingly had sex with the trio at Rose's mansion in Beverly Hills. They said the woman gave lap dances earlier under a sky full of stars by the side of Rose's pool overlooking city lights, performed oral sex on Rose and had sex with his two friends before inviting them back to her apartment.

Rape still being questioned

"There was no gang rape," attorney Mike Monico said. "There was no rape at all." McCoy said the story about her having sex earlier in the night was falsely concocted to try to show she was insatiable and wanted to have sex with the men later that night. Jurors will have to rely primarily on her word against that of Rose and the other two men, Ryan Allen and Randall Hampton. There is no physical evidence because the woman was not examined by a doctor afterward and did not report the rape to police for two years - after filing the \$21 million suit. McCoy said the woman was too embarrassed to initially report the incident. After sex, Rose took his condom, put it back in the wrapper and took it with him "like he was never there," McCoy said. NBA players are instructed to flush their condoms down the toilet or take them so women can't use the sperm to impregnate themselves, Rose's lawyer said.

Rose was traded to the New York Knicks this season after spending his previous seven years in his native Chicago with the Bulls. He's in the final year of a five-year deal that will pay him \$21.3 million, almost identical to what the plaintiff is seeking.—AP



NEW YORK: In this June 24, 2016, file photo, Derrick Rose speaks during a news conference at Madison Square Garden. — AP



PITTSBURG: Pittsburgh Penguins's Patric Hornqvist, right, collides with Detroit Red Wings goalie Jared Coreau (31) in the second period of an NHL preseason hockey game. — AP

RED WINGS BEAT PENGUINS, ISLANDERS GO PAST DEVILS

PITTSBURGH: Martin Frk and Brendan Smith scored late in the second period to lead the Detroit Red Wings to a 4-2 exhibition victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Wednesday night. Gustav Nyquist had a goal and two assists, Tyler Bertuzzi had a goal and an assist, and Jared Coreau finished with 30 saves for Detroit.

Carter Rowney and Kris Letang scored earlier in the second period for the defending champion Penguins to tie the score. Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 25 shots. With about 6 seconds left on Chris Kunitz's penalty for hooking, Frk took a pass from Bertuzzi across the front of the goal and, while falling to a knee, fired it past Fleury to give Detroit a 3-2 lead with 4:49 left in the second. Smith's wrist 2:13 later made it a two-goal game, and Steve Ott's short-handed empty-netter with 17 seconds remaining capped the scoring. Nyquist and Bertuzzi scored in the first to give Detroit a 2-0 lead.

Beauviller lifts islanders

At Newark, New Jersey, Anthony Beauviller scored the tiebreaking goal with 6:40 left in the New York Islanders' 3-2 victory over the New Jersey Devils. Andrew Ladd and Alan Quine also scored for the Islanders, and Thomas Greiss stopped 19 shots to beat the Devils for the second time in three nights.

Ben Lovejoy and Adam Henrique had goals for New Jersey, and Cory Schneider finished with 30 saves. Quine got the Islanders on the scoreboard first,

snapping a shot past Schneider with 4:42 left in the opening period. Lovejoy tied it 2:20 later, and Henrique's third of the preseason put the Devils ahead at 8:25 of the second. Ladd, who signed with New York in the offseason, got his second on the power play to tie it with about 8 1/2 minutes remaining in the middle period.

Capitals beat Blues

At Kansas City, Missouri, TJ Oshie and Christian Thomas scored two goals each to lead the Washington Capitals to a 4-2 victory over the St. Louis Blues. Daniel Winnik had two assists for the Capitals, who have won three straight. Vladimir Tarasenko and Dmitrij Jaskin scored for the Blues. Thomas scored the tiebreaking goal off a pass from Winnik with about 3 1/2 minutes left in the first period. Oshie made it 3-1 at 7:38 of the second, and Thomas gave Washington a three-goal lead near midway through the third off another pass from Winnik. Jaskin pulled the Blues within two in the final minute.

Avalanche stay perfect

At Dallas, Andreas Martinsen scored the only goal and Calvin Pickard had 28 saves to lead the Colorado Avalanche to a 1-0 victory over the Stars. Martinsen scored off a pass from Ben Smith at 8:25 of the opening period, and the Avalanche improved to 5-0 in the preseason to remain the only unbeaten team. Colorado visits the Los Angeles Kings in its final game before the season opener at home against the Stars on Oct

15. Kari Lehtonen finished with 19 saves for Dallas.

Skinner lifts Hurricanes

At Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Jeff Skinner scored the lone goal in a shootout to give the Carolina Hurricanes a 3-2 victory over the Buffalo Sabres. Roland McKeown and Elias Lindholm gave Carolina a 2-0 lead in regulation. Evander Kane pulled Buffalo within one in the second period and Justin Bailey tied it with a short-handed goal in the third. Eddie Lack made 20 saves for Carolina.

Sabres center Ryan O'Reilly left because of lower-body injury in the first period. He was making his preseason debut with Buffalo after helping Canada win the World Cup of Hockey. The Sabres announced he was held out of the rest of the game for precautionary reasons. The teams also played Tuesday night in Marquette, Michigan, with Buffalo winning 2-0.

Tkachuk stars for flames

At Calgary, Alberta, 18-year-old Matthew Tkachuk scored in regulation and added the shootout winner in the Calgary Flames' 2-1 victory over the Arizona Coyotes. Tkachuk, the sixth overall pick in the June draft, was the only shooter to score in the shootout, zipping a shot into the top corner on Mike Smith. Christian Dvorak scored for Arizona at 6:12 of the first period, and Tkachuk tied it 29 seconds later. Brian Elliott stopped 22 shots for the Flames, and Smith made 36 saves. — AP