

Sch'dy rape allegedly fabricated

By **TIM McGLONE**
Gazette Reporter

SCHENECTADY — A Front Street woman who said she was raped three times over the past three years was indicted Wednesday on a perjury charge that alleges she fabricated the story of her last rape, authorities said.

Valerie Adams, 34, was charged with first-degree perjury, a felony, for allegedly lying to a grand jury about being brutally raped at knife-point in May, said District Attorney Robert M. Carney.

Her testimony and her statements to police led to the indictment of an innocent man who spent six months in the Schenectady County Jail awaiting trial, said Carney.

Keith A. Rummer, 44, whose last

See WOMAN, Page B12

Woman faces perjury charge

Continued from Page B1

known address was on Jay Street, had charges of first-degree rape, second- and third-degree assault and three counts of first-degree sexual abuse dismissed in County Court Wednesday.

He was released from jail Nov. 18 as soon as prosecutors obtained a statement from Adams that said the rape was fabricated.

Investigators began to suspect that Adams made up the story when they used a computer to check for similar unsolved rapes in the area.

What they found were two rape complaints from Adams in which her descriptions of the rapists were identical to the description she gave police of the rapist she said attacked her in May, said Carney.

"When they read the two of them, there were some uncanny similarities," said Carney.

Her first rape complaint was filed in 1989 in the city and the second was filed with Rotterdam police in 1990, he said.

The jewelry and clothing the rapists wore, the language and threats they used and the physical descriptions of all three were nearly identical, said Carney.

"By themselves, they're pretty compelling stories of rape," he said. "When she came in to testify before

the grand jury, the story was very, very compelling. The grand jury, or some of the members, were in tears."

On May 3 at about 11 p.m., Adams called the rape crisis hot line in a hysterical condition saying she had just been raped outside her home, police said. She was taken to St. Clare's Hospital where a rape test was performed and she was treated for injuries.

She had scrapes on her buttocks and a cut from her navel to her lower abdomen, Carney said. The injuries were consistent with her description of the alleged attack, but it is not known how she suffered the injuries, he said.

Carney said he did not have available the results of the rape test, but he said the woman did have sexual intercourse that night. It is not known and she would not tell authorities with whom she had sex that night, said Carney.

When investigators confronted Adams about their suspicions that the three rapes were fabricated, Adams allegedly admitted making them up, authorities said.

"I don't know why someone would go out three years in a row and report violent rapes. These were violent, violent rapes," said Assistant District Attorney Karen Drago, who prosecutes sex crimes for the county.

Carney said he believes Adams has a history of undergoing psychiatric treatment for a mental disorder, but he could not provide further details.

Adams' grand jury testimony consisted of explicit details about being raped at knifepoint and a complete description of the rapist, including what clothing and jewelry he was wearing.

She then said she identified Rumer as the rapist by a police photo and by viewing him through a one-way window in an interrogation room.

Adams also reported to police three days after the alleged rape that her apartment was burglarized and the burglar scrawled a threat on her mirror, police said.

The threat, scrawled in lipstick, said, "once more [expletive]," police said.

Drago said she believes the burglary and the scrawled threat were also fabricated, but Adams has maintained that they are true.

No arrest was made in the burglary. No arrests were made in the prior two rapes she reported, said Carney.

Carney said he will not pursue misdemeanor charges against Adams for falsely reporting an incident for the prior rapes.