

DETROIT MAN IS CHARGED IN 19 RAPES ON EAST SIDE

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Author: MARGARET TRIMER Free Press Staff Writer , RYL FEARS Free Press Staff Writer

A Detroit man was charged Tuesday in connection with 19 rapes involving nine women on Detroit's east side since July.

Samson Fee Koger, 19, is charged with assaulting the women, ages 16-40, as they got in or out of cars in an area bounded by Jefferson, Vernor, McDougall and Chene, said police Lt. James Arthurs.

Some of the women were raped more than once, Arthurs said.

"We don't nab this kind of individual very often," Arthurs said. "He's similar to a serial murderer. . . . By getting him, we've probably saved dozens of women."

In addition to 19 counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, Koger faces six counts of armed robbery and three counts of using a firearm in a felony. He was ordered held in lieu of \$2.5 million bond pending a Feb. 24 preliminary examination.

The rapes occurred from July 5, 1987, to Feb. 2, Arthurs said.

"He watched and waited for an opportunity when any woman was alone, not paying attention or somehow vulnerable," Arthurs said. "He raped and robbed them of everything -- even if they had only a dollar."

Victims told police that their attacker wore a scarf around his head, gloves, and said, "don't look at me" before he shoved them into a car, drove away and raped them.

The attacker would return the women to the place from which he took them, Arthurs said.

One woman, an acquaintance of a victim, said fear of rape in her neighborhood, in the Lafayette Park area, grew intense last year.

"I was scared to go out of my own house. Everybody in the neighborhood had knives and guns," the woman said. "My son gave me a gun. He said, 'Hey, you might have to use it.' "

Koger was arrested Saturday night at E. Lafayette and St. Florians after an off-duty officer recognized him from a composite drawing.

Arthurs said sex crimes investigators noticed a pattern to the rapes in November. "That's when the rapes started happening more frequently and regularly," he said.

Caption: Map

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CORRECTION RAN February 18, 1988

getting it straight

* A Wednesday article incorrectly reported the number of rape charges against **Samson Koger** . He was arraigned on 25 charges of rape.

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