

15th March 1996

Girl who cried rape was lying

A TEENAGE girl who cried rape showed no remorse yesterday. Tracey McManus walked free from court after admitting lying to police that a friend had raped her.

McManus, 18, of Kersiebank Avenue, Grangemouth, was sentenced to a maximum 240 hours' community service.

As she walked from Falkirk Sheriff Court, she said: "I was forced into it. He constantly harassed me."

McManus, a care assistant in an old folk's home, admitted that she had slept once with Mr Lawrence Kelly, 29, of Portal Road, Grangemouth.

Her lawyer, Mr Douglas Robertson, told the court: "He took advantage of a young girl 10 years his junior."

Mr Robertson said that Mr Kelly had told McManus that his wife was out and had invited her over to his house.

Mr Robertson said: "Intercourse did take place that night. Some time later the allegation was made by her because she wanted to get away from his continuing attentions. She wanted him to leave her alone.

"She wanted the police to give him a warning. But, after making the allegation, she wouldn't agree to undergo a medical examination."

The lawyer said that McManus went back and told detectives that she had made up the story.

The court heard that police wasted 30 hours investigating the lie.

After the hearing, McManus said: ``I slept with him once but never saw him again. I was driven to it because he was constantly harassing me."

She said that she was now planning to marry her fiance, Mr Raymond Haxton, 20.

Mr Kelly said: ``Her story was all a pack of lies. I was questioned for two hours by police but I was confident they would know that I was innocent.

``I don't bear any grudges. I always knew my name would be cleared because I was innocent."

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