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Monday, 29th September 2008

Man admits sex attack charges

Published Date: 08 April 2008

A man has admitted to a series of sex attacks dating back to the 1990s.

Derek Young pleaded guilty to rape, attempted rape and indecent assault when he appeared before Southampton Crown Court yesterday.

His first victim was a 19-year-old woman who he targeted in October 1990 as she walked home from a nightclub in Southsea.

He stabbed her in the leg and attempted to rape her before she managed to break free.

Three years later, in November 1993, Young struck again and indecently assaulted a woman.

A year after that he targeted a 14-year-old girl who was walking across Southampton Sports Centre's cricket pitch.

He forced to the ground by putting a knife to her throat he threatened to kill her and then raped her before running off.

Young, 52, of Middle Street, Southsea, was eventually traced through advanced DNA and forensic work when detectives reopened the case last year.

Detective Chief Inspector Rachel Farrell said: 'We are really pleased for the victims and their families that Derek Young has pleaded guilty.'

Young will be sentenced next month.

Page 1 of 1

- **Last Updated:** 08 April 2008 12:59 PM
- **Source:** n/a
- **Location:** Portsmouth

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