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VCF Crime and Criminals 1990 -

Man arrested in Aptos on charge of kidnapping

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Santa Cruz police arrested an Aptos man on suspicion of kidnapping Thursday night after a Watsonville woman told police she was attacked in a Santa Cruz parking lot and dragged by the hair to a dark area nearby, police said.

Ernest Craft, 44, a chainsaw repairman, was arrested close to the

scene of the alleged kidnap attempt after the woman identified him as her attacker, police said.

The woman told police she had been unable to park in the gym's well-lighted parking lot, and when she returned from the gym to her car she saw a man standing in front of a car, police said.

She began to walk faster, and saw him walking toward her, and as she was trying to open her door, he grabbed her hair and shoulder from behind, police said.

The man dragged her into a darker area, and pulled her up against a wall, where she succeeded in breaking his hold on her hair and fleeing, police said.

Police are seeking a Latino man who was seen sitting in a care in the parking lot who may have witnessed the alleged attack, police said.

Bail for Craft was set at \$10,000, the County Sheriff reported.

The alleged kidnapping took place around 7:30 p.m., police said.