

← Back

# Pro gridder's wife beaten in Skokie office of agent

---

*By Art Petacque March 17, 1987 Publication: Chicago Sun-Times Page: 22 Word Count: 339*

A hulking, masked intruder yesterday beat the wife of Canadian League football player Tom Clements into unconsciousness in the Skokie office where she works for attorney and pro sports agent Steven Zucker. Kathy Clements, 32, was at her desk at 5225 Old Orchard Rd. yesterday morning, Skokie police Sgt. Philip O'Keefe told us, when she found herself confronted by a hulking, ski-masked man over 6 feet tall..

Clements, whose husband is a former Notre Dame quarterback and an attorney here in the off-season, said the man began hitting her without saying a word.

She struggled and tried to work her way to a washroom to get away, Clements told police. But the man continued pummeling her until she fell unconscious to a hallway floor. O'Keefe said she was unconscious for 15 minutes.

Clements was treated at Skokie Valley Community Hospital.

Because of the intruder's build, investigators are considering the possibility that he is an athlete and that the attack may have been related to reports of friction between Zucker and competitors in the lucrative business of representing professional athletes.

O'Keefe said Kathy Clements recently received a threatening phone call from a man purporting

to be a business rival of Zucker. Skokie detectives also found a clipping, which they believe came from a New York City newspaper, about the rivalry between Zucker and an agent located there.

We called Zucker in Palm Springs, Calif., where he has a second home. He said he was packing for a return to Chicago to see Clements, whom he called his "top honcho."

O'Keefe said that Clements could tell her assailant was white because of skin showing through eye slits on the ski mask, but that no attempt would be made to draw a composite sketch unless detectives can find a witness who may have seen the man without the mask.

Essee Kupcinet, wife of Chicago Sun-Times columnist Irv Kupcinet, told us she called the office looking for Zucker shortly after the beating took place. She said she was hoping to line up Bears quarterback Jim McMahon, a Zucker client, for a charity event. Zucker said McMahon has a prior commitment.

---

**Chicago Sun-Times**

**Date:** March 17, 1987

**Page:** 22

Copyright 1987, 1996 Chicago Sun-Times, Inc.