

Jurors clear Stacy in attack

Ex-Eagle, girlfriend 'relieved

by Dave Racher

Daily News Staff Writer

Former Eagles top draft pick Siran Stacy dodged an aggravated assault conviction yesterday, then weaved his way past reporters to embrace the woman he was supposed to have battered.

Yesterday's acquittal by a jury that had said it was hopelessly deadlocked on Thursday will remove a legal obstacle that stood in the way of Stacy's negotiating a contract with NFL teams. Defense lawyer Douglas N. Stern had said teams were reluctant to deal with Stacy while the charge was hanging over his head.

"Don't hit her again," said Assistant District Attorney Anthony Baratta when Stacy, 26, walked over and shook his hand after the verdict. During the trial, the prosecutor had told Stacy, "This is not a football field. This is not a football game."

Stacy replied, "The same rules apply," Baratta responded, "Yeah, the same rules apply."

"When he shook my hand after the verdict, he said, 'Same rules apply,' and that was it," the prosecutor said.

"I feel relieved that this is over with," said Stacy, who has returned to the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa, where he starred as a running back before being selected by the Eagles in

1992, and winding up on special teams. He was cut last year.

"My only statement is that the jury has decided, and I have been acquitted of these charges," Stacy said. "As far as I am concerned, this part of my life is over and I can only look for better things to happen."

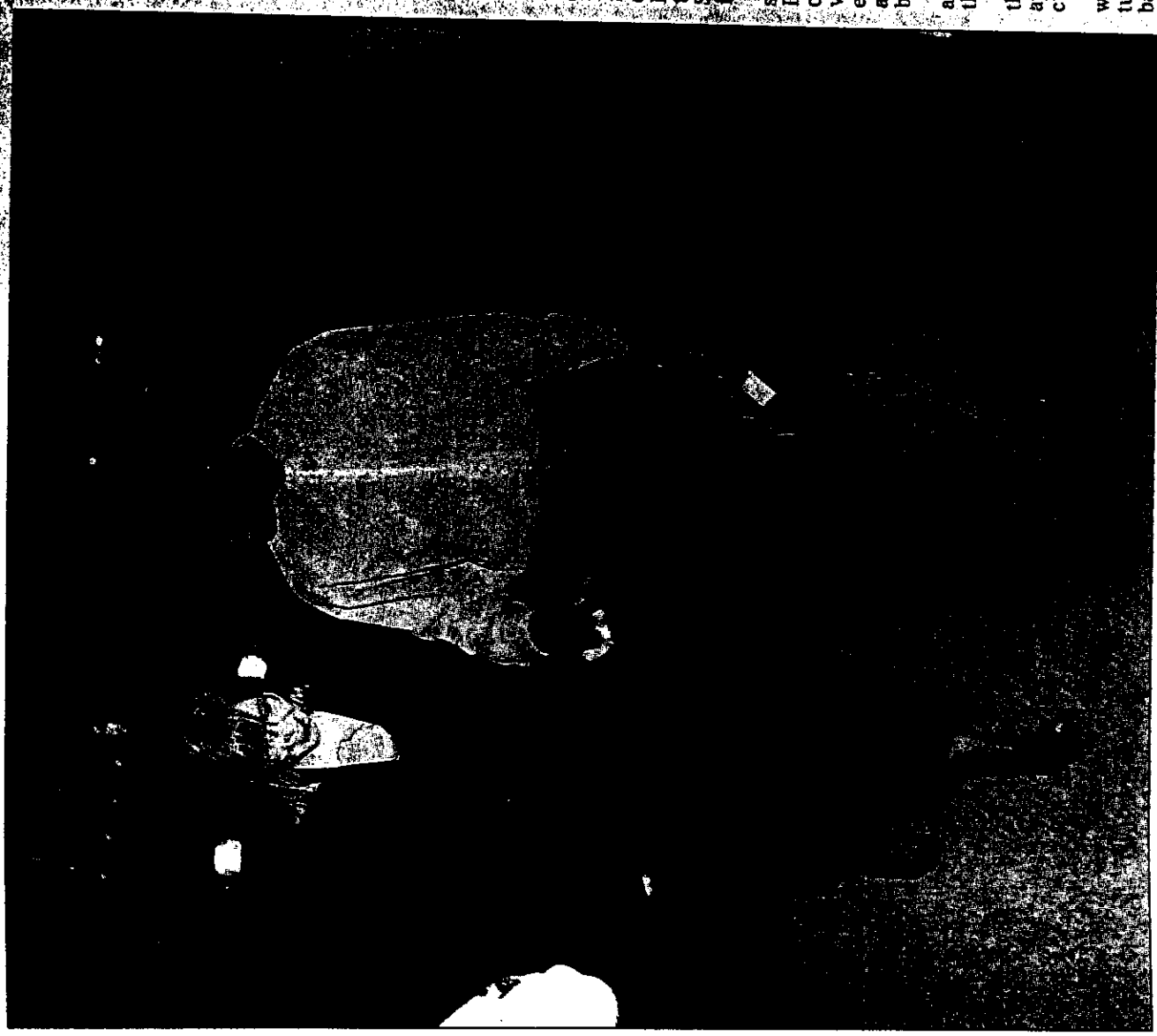
"I'm relieved," said Sharon Chancellor, 27, who had told police that Stacy kicked her so hard on May 6, 1993, while she was living with him in an apartment on 6th Street near Spruce, that she suffered a fractured rib, ruptured spleen and punctured lung.

"She is a bit overwhelmed by the verdict," said Chancellor lawyer, Edward Meehan of the Defender Association. "I think she is very gratified that the jury believed what she told them on the stand, that they believed what Siran told them on the stand."

He said the decision "gives them both an opportunity to live their life the way they want, whether they are together or individually."

Meehan said Chancellor will be studying for a doctorate in sociology at Louisiana State University in January. He said she and Stacy will "always have ties because of their daughter, Sarah."

During the trial, Chancellor appeared as a defense witness, and told the jury she had lied about



Siran Stacy leaves City Hall yesterday with Sharon Chancellor, alleged victim in assault case. E.W. FAIRCLOTH/DAILY NEWS