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Gay man alleges detectives bashed him

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Mortimer said Detective Sergeant Frazer had taken him to the fingerprint room where he had been pushed over and kicked in the back.

He said Detective Sergeant Frazer had asked him a number of questions, including whether he was a homosexual, to which he had replied "yes".

He said he had been taken later taken to the detectives' room where he had made his statement.

While in the room he said Detective Strizic told him: "Bumper Farrell breaks arms; do the right thing."

Mortimer said he was charged with behaving in an offensive manner and released.

He said he went home and then went to Prince of Wales Hospital that night. He went to the Sydney Hospital the next morning where his injuries had been recorded.

He said about a month later a specialist had diagnosed several fractured ribs on the left side of his chest.

A cook at the Taxi Club, Christine Caddie, and one of Mortimer's companions, Michael Walsh, also identified Detective Sergeant Frazer and Detective Strizic in court as two of the men who had allegedly attempted to forcibly remove Mortimer from the club.

Under cross examination by Mr Tim Wilson, for Mortimer, Detective Strizic said

both he and Detective Sergeant Frazer had drunk one or two scotches at the club.

Detective Sergeant Frazer said he and detective Strizic had approached Mortimer and he had said: "We are detectives from Darlinghurst Police Station making inquiries into the death of Wendy Wayne (a drag queen). You might have heard about it."

Detective Sergeant Frazer said he had asked Mortimer to answer some questions outside. Mortimer had then gone downstairs into Flinders Street where he had sworn at them then and run off, he said.

The hearing was adjourned to a date to be set.

Gay man alleges police bashing

By LOUISE WILLIAMS

Two plain-clothed policemen bashed a homosexual man in Darlinghurst Police Station after chasing him from a nearby club to the station, the Castlereagh Street Court has been told. Paul Mortimer, a 25-year-old registered nurse from Surry Hills, made the allegation on Tuesday while facing a charge of behaving in an offensive manner. Mortimer said while at the station he had received extensive bruising to the left side of his chest, to his back and upper arms and scratches to his neck. He had made a statement under threat of further violence, he said. Giving evidence before the magistrate, Mr Rex Butler, Detective Sergeant Grahame Frazer and Detective Mato Strizic of Darlinghurst Police denied Mortimer's claims. The two policemen, in their individual evidence, told the court they had been at the Taxi Club making investigations into the murder of a drag queen. Mortimer, they said, had been asked several questions after being seen with a drag queen at the bar. They said Mortimer had told them it was none of their business. He had sworn at them on two occasions before being arrested and taken to Darlinghurst Police Station, the detectives said. Mortimer told the court he had gone to the Grosvenor Club, commonly known as the Taxi Club, in

Flinders Street, with three friends on his birthday on May 5. He said he had been approached several times and threatened by a man who had been drinking at the club with four other men. He said the man had asked him: "Have you got a beef with me, do you know who I am?" . He said the man had then said: "I think you'd better come downstairs and we'll straighten this out." Mortimer said he had not replied and about 10 minutes later the same man had approached him again saying: "Hey, do you want to be fixed, you're going to be fixed." He described the man as under the influence of alcohol. He said this man and one or two of his friends had then tried to force him out of the club but he had broken away and run to Darlinghurst Police Station. In court he identified Detective **Sergeant Frazer** as the man he said had threatened him at the club and chased him outside and Detective Strizic as one of two other men he said had chased him to the station. Mortimer told the court that the men came into the station behind him and that he had been stunned after being grabbed by Detective Strizic and a third man. He said he had then been hit in the abdomen several times, causing him to urinate in his pants, before being put in the dock. Detective **Sergeant Frazer** had taken him out and slapped him around the head, then punched him in the abdomen, he alleged. Continued Page 10