

# Criminals cop a fair spray

Kay Dibben  
Crime

CRAIG Careswell has had a machete held to his throat and been dragged from a store during an armed hold-up.

In a bid to prevent his staff enduring a similar ordeal, Mr Careswell, 33, (pictured) owner of an IGA store at Runcorn, has installed a criminal marking system to deter would-be robbers and help catch criminals. Robbers are sprayed with a DNA-encoded mist, staining skin and clothing and forensically linking them to the crime scene.

Manufacturers say the spray, with each store's unique code, can be seen under UV light on skin and clothes for weeks.

Mr Careswell's supermarket had been held up three times in the five years before he installed the system six months ago. It has not been targeted since.

There have been many robberies in the area and last weekend a pizza takeaway three shops away was robbed.

A robber who was sprayed with the mist at the Amcal pharmacy at Nobbys Beach in December 2009 was recently jailed for three years.

Pharmacy manager Angela Hoy described the spray as brilliant.

"They cover their face, cover their fingerprints, but the DNA is just for our shop, so it will show up weeks later," Ms Hoy said.

dibbenk@qnp.newsltd.com.au



# Intruder attacks woman

Bianca Sullivan

A WOMAN has told police of a terrifying ordeal at the hands of a knife-wielding man in her Brisbane home yesterday.

The woman, 20, said the man broke into her home at Sunnybank, on Brisbane's southside, and tried to force her into a bedroom.

Police allege a man, 50, broke into the Ryhill Rd house shortly before noon and held a knife to the woman's throat as she sat in her lounge room.

The woman struggled free and ran from the house. Two members of the public came to her aid and pursued the man into nearby Bradman St before police arrived.

The man allegedly threatened officers before dropping the knife when a Taser was presented. The man struggled with police before being restrained and handcuffed.

A Sunnybank Hills man will face eight charges, including deprivation of liberty, and will appear at the Richlands Magistrates Court tomorrow.

The woman, who said she did not know her alleged attacker, was treated for minor cuts to her mouth.