

STATES-ITEM

## Complainant Fails to Show; Marcello Free

Assault charges against Joseph C. Marcello, 26, son of rackets figure Carlos Marcello, were dropped today after the complainant, Jake Graffagnini, 820 Poland, failed to appear in court.

Marcello, manager of the Town and Country Motel, 1225 Airline hwy., entered a plea of not guilty, and testimony from arresting officer Dick Beebe was taken prior to dismissal.

The Municipal Court summons was issued after Graffagnini told police two men got out of a car in the 600 block of Iberville, opened the door of the Graffagnini vehicle, and beat him with their fists about 11 p. m. Tuesday. The attack followed a traffic incident, police were told.

Police were supplied the license number of the car occupied by the assailants, and police reported the car registered to Carlos Marcello, 1225 Airline hwy.

Police said they found the vehicle in the 200 block of N. Rampart Wednesday afternoon, and while they were in the process of impounding it, Marcello and attorney Frank D'Amico asked the officers not to impound the car, terming the charge "unfounded." Marcello agreed to surrender at First District headquarters yester-

day.

Marcello, of 827 E. William David pky., surrendered himself at the police station as promised yesterday morning, said Beebe.

Judge W. Blair Lancaster Jr. dismissed the charge after a search of the courtroom and corridors failed to produce Graffagnini.