February 1939

Married & Divorced

TRUE LOVE

Testifying in her divorce suit in Cleveland, Ohio, Miss Louise Lenardic tells the presiding judge that a stranger sitting next to her at a game

four years earlier (1935), introduces himself as a first

and she hadn't seen him since.

Divorce **G**ranted To Feminine Fan As Player Flunks

Lenardic is granted a divorce from the defendant, who is listed in the court records as William Shoemaker.

baseman for a Minneapolis baseball team. They marry later that same day, but the next morning her husband of less than one day leaves for "spring training"

Ten years earlier, Lenardic, a native of Yugoslavia, had given birth to a son Richard (the father was later identified as George Anderson, a Cleveland Heights, Ohio police officer who was also known as an alcoholic) and leaves him at St. Ann's Hospital in Cleveland.

Lenardic never signs official adoption papers which prohibits Richard from being adopted. In a report by Cleveland's Children Aid Society, Louise Lenardic is described as being "stubborn, difficult to deal with and slow in thought."

Richard Lenardic changes his name to Richard Eberling and is later convicted for a 1984 murder. Lenardic is later accused by the son of Dr. Sam Sheppard of killing Sheppard's wife, the crime that inspired "The Fugitive."