

THE HAYS DAILY NEWS

Today: travel and tourism special edition

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Testimony suggests other OKC bombing suspects

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — A motorist who watched as Timothy McVeigh was arrested after the Oklahoma City bombing testified that he also saw a man in a pickup truck back up near McVeigh's car.

Scott Gregory was one of nine defense witnesses who testified Friday at the murder trial of bombing conspirator Terry Nichols. Several witnesses recalled seeing McVeigh with other people in the days before the deadly federal building explosion.

McVeigh's contacts, including the enigmatic dark-skinned suspect known as John Doe No. 2,

are the key to Nichols' defense. His attorneys allege that others helped McVeigh plan and execute the bombing and that Nichols was set up to take the blame.

Gregory testified he saw McVeigh being arrested along Interstate 35 north of Oklahoma City about an hour after the April 19, 1995, bombing.

At the same time, a truck driven by a man wearing a red and white baseball cap backed up near McVeigh's 1977 Mercury Marquis, Gregory said.

"I thought that was so odd," Gregory said. "I thought, 'What an idiot. Why are you stopping to talk to that police officer when he's obviously in a high-stress situation?'"