



Police had no trouble tracking down a Pennsylvania robbery suspect who had posed for a photo with his victims shortly before stealing their handbags.

The suspect, Andre Smith, struck up a conversation with a group of women at a bachelorette party at the Bensalem township Bar early Sunday morning, the township's public safety director, Fred Harran, said.

The women were taking photos of each other when Smith jumped in front of the camera, Harran said.

Smith later was ejected from the bar for allegedly harassing customers.

When two women in the group left the bar to go to a nearby convenience store, Smith robbed them of their purses, Harran said.

The women recognised Smith - who apparently did not recognise them - and gave investigators a copy of their photo, Harran said.

Later that day, a detective went to a local apartment complex looking for Smith and spotted him, Harran said.

Smith was arrested on robbery and theft charges and was being held on \$US50,000 (\$A53,000) bail,



Harran said.

Some Australian orchids mimic female wasps and seduce male wasps into wasting valuable sperm, researchers have reported.

Some of the most exotic orchids are known to have evolved their convoluted shapes to attract insects, who unwittingly collect and transfer pollen as they try to mate with the flowers.

"The effect of deception on pollinators has been considered negligible, but we show that pollinators may suffer considerable costs," Anne Gaskett of Macquarie University in Sydney and colleagues reported.

"Insects pollinating Australian tongue orchids (*Cryptostylis* species) frequently ejaculate and waste copious sperm," they reported.

It is not harmless to the wasps, who may suffer no more than an inconvenience.

"Male pollinators can prefer orchids to real females, prematurely end a copulation with a real female to visit an orchid, or be unable to find real female mates among false orchid signals," the researchers wrote.

"Unquestionably, producing sperm, ejaculate, or seminal fluids is costly for many animals. The energetic demands of sperm production can result in reduced body mass, a shortened life span, or limited lifetime sperm production," they added.

However, Gaskett's team examined flowers after wasps visited them and found the hoodwinked males did eventually learn their lesson.

"With experience, male *Lissopimpla excelsa* wasps become less likely to copulate with and pollinate sexually deceptive *Cryptostylis* orchids," they wrote.