

Reaction

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leaving her boyfriend's apartment at 332 N. 22nd St. shortly before midnight. She was on her way to her home at 61st and Vine streets, but she never arrived. She was reported missing the next day.

Lori Mortenson, a freshman pre-nursing major, said she was frightened and upset by the news that Harms' body had been found.

"I felt how the parents were feeling, and the boyfriend," Mortenson said. "I was disgusted."

Some students said the reality of such violence occurring in Lincoln was unsettling.

Jodi Jabs, a junior education and English major, said she thought the whole community was relieved but discouraged.

"It's really scary," Jabs said. "You wouldn't think things would happen like this in Lincoln."

Harms' body was found after one of two suspects arrested for armed robbery told police that he and a friend had abducted and kidnapped Harms the night of her disappearance.

Kim Stock, a sophomore psychology major, said she expected to hear that Harms had been found.

"I was glad they found her (but) upset she wasn't alive," she said.

“... It's real important that we not let ourselves and other women forget this.”

--Kriss
director of Women's Center

Stock said she was angered that the suspects apparently had sat by and watched as the community searched for Harms.

"It makes me mad," she said. "How could they not feel guilty for what they did?"

Judith Kriss, director of the UNL Women's Center, said Harms' death was troubling.

"I hate to be reminded that this type of violence is going on," she said.

"... It's real important that we not let ourselves and other women forget this," she said. "That it happened close to home is really not unusual; it's not a bizarre occurrence."

Kriss said she had talked to James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, about a memorial service for Harms at UNL, but nothing had been planned yet.

"There is a real need for closure," she said, "for some way to live with it."



Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey answers questions about the Candice Harms case at a press conference Monday morning. Others pictured from left are Lincoln Police Department Capt. Frank Rowe, Chief Allen Curtis and Lancaster County Sheriff Tom Casady.

Family

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disappearance, they said her death would leave a large void in their lives.

"Candi and her sister had started to develop a close relationship," Stan Harms said.

"My oldest daughter doesn't have her sister to grow up with now," he said. "There is no reason why anyone should rob (Candi and her sister) of that."

The Harms said they did not know the men allegedly responsible for their daughter's death. They said they were

more concerned about their daughter than with the prosecution of the two suspects.

"We have placed it in God's hands," Stan Harms said.

Pat Harms said, "I can't care very much for them. I care about my Candi."

Harms

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commit a felony and two counts of theft by receiving stolen property.

The men were arrested in connection with a string of armed robberies throughout Lincoln over the past several weeks.

Lacey said Barney admitted to his attorney that he and Bjorklund abducted and murdered Harms, then took her body to a site southeast of Lincoln.

Lancaster County Sheriff Tom Casady said Harms' body was found about 500 yards west of 134th Street and 800 feet south of Yankee Hill Road.

Harms' body had been buried in a shallow grave, but was partially exposed, probably because snow and rain washed away the earth that covered it, Lacey said.

As of Monday, neither of the men had been charged in connection with the Harms' case. Lacey said such action probably would be taken within the next week.

Lacey would not comment on whether Barney offered the information in a plea-bargaining attempt.

He said authorities would continue to search for evidence at the site where the body was found, as well as at 84th Street and Havelock Avenue.

Lacey said Barney had indicated that some of the circumstances "resulting in the death of Candice Harms" occurred at the Havelock site, but Lacey would not specify what those circumstances were.

He said the search for evidence at 84th and Havelock would begin as soon as snow at the site was removed.

Lincoln Police Capt. Frank Rowe said authorities had no reason to believe any connection existed between the Harms case and the murder of 17-year-old Kenyatta Bush in Omaha two months ago.

“Under the circumstances... they're taking it all as well as can be expected. They're a marvelous family, and they've been very courageous and very cooperative.”

--Casady
Lancaster County Sheriff

Location of events in Harms investigation

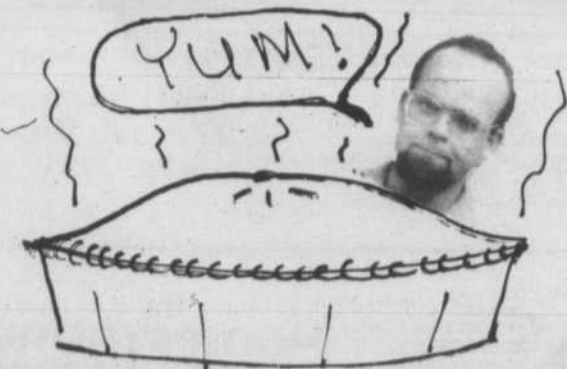
- 1 332 North 22nd Street: Todd Sears apartment
- 2 61st and Vine streets: Harm's home
- 3 North 27th Street and Bluff Road: Harm's blue 1987 Chevrolet Corsica found at edge of milo field about two miles north of Lincoln
- 4 134th Street and Yankee Hill Road: Candice Harm's body found in shallow grave
- 5 84th Street and Havelock Avenue: search for evidence in Harms' death continues



Scott Maurer/DN

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