

# Agencies discuss missing women

## Investigators find no leads in late-night disappearances

By Kathy Oechle

**The News-Leader**  
CLINTON — Authorities from several law enforcement agencies met Tuesday to discuss the apparent abductions of three Ozarks women, but so far no link between the cases has been established.

"This was an exchange of information," Clinton Police Detective

Damon Parsons said. "We have nothing concrete that shows that they are in any way connected."

The three women are Trudy Darby, 42, Macks Creek; Cheryl Ann Kenney, 30, Nevada; and Angela M. Hammond, 20, Clinton.

Ralph Rider and Ray Tipton, sheriffs of Camden and Hickory

counties respectively, attended the meeting, as well as members of the Nevada Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Parsons said.

The most recent case involves Hammond, who apparently was abducted about midnight Thursday from an empty supermarket parking lot where she had stopped to call her boyfriend from a pay telephone, police said.

Hammond, who had gotten off work as a night processor at a bank,

described to her boyfriend an old green pickup circling the parking lot. She described the driver as having glasses, a beard and mustache.

Then she screamed and the phone went dead, said her boyfriend, 18-year-old Rob Shafer of Clinton.

Shafer said he rushed to the parking lot. As he approached, he heard Hammond scream at him from a Ford pickup truck, he said.

Authorities are following up on tips, Parsons said, but have no solid leads.

Parsons said he is not optimistic

about Hammond's welfare.

"I'm in hopes that she's alive," he said. "But I have to be somewhat realistic at this point, and I feel doubtful of her being found alive."

Darby was abducted Jan. 19 from a convenience store in Camden County where she worked as a night clerk. Shortly before she disappeared about 10 p.m., she called her son from work, telling him about a suspicious man outside the store.

When her son arrived five minutes later, he found only his mother's purse and an empty cash draw-

er, police said. Authorities found Darby's nude body two days later in the Little Niangua River in Hickory County. She had been shot twice in the head with a shotgun, police said.

Witnesses have reported seeing a man with a beard and mustache parked near the convenience store prior to Darby's abduction.

Kenney, also a convenience store clerk, disappeared Feb. 27, just after closing up for the night about 10 p.m. Her car was discovered the next morning outside the store, but Kenney has not been found.