

Latest disappearance offers a lead to women's cases

Continued from B-1

husband, an ailing father she visited every day and her car. Kenney also had only about \$6 when she vanished.

■ Trudy Darby, 42, Darby disappeared Jan. 19 from the Camden County convenience store where she worked. In a brief telephone conversation with her son that evening she told of a suspicious-looking man outside. The store was found unlocked and the cash drawer empty.

Darby was found shot to death in the Little Niangua River two days later.

Investigators have said there

might be a link between Darby's abduction and killing and an attempted kidnapping 90 minutes earlier in Sedalia.

As for the search for Hammond on Sunday, there were no developments, Parsons said.

About 250 volunteers searched the woods and fields of Clinton and Henry County, looking for any sign of Hammond or the man she described, but they came across nothing.

"I just want to find her," said Hammond's 18-year-old fiancé, Rob Shafer. "I haven't lost hope."

Friends and relatives described Hammond as an outgoing, personable young woman who "loved

to have fun." Hammond usually worked nights at a Clinton bank but did not work the night she disappeared.

Hammond's best friend, Kyla Engeman, said she and Hammond had been cruising the town square when they split up about 11:15 p.m. Hammond, who did not have a telephone, stopped by the parking lot booth to call Shafer.

Shafer said they talked for about 30 minutes. During that conversation Hammond told of a man who used a telephone next to her, left in a pickup truck, then returned and circled the parking lot. A moment later, Shafer heard Hammond scream.

Shafer said he drove toward the supermarket, only a few blocks from his house. As he approached he saw a yellow or green pickup coming toward him and heard Hammond scream his name. Although he did not see her, he turned around and tried to follow the truck. He lost it when his truck stalled.

As the searchers fanned out Sunday afternoon, Hammond's mother, Marsha Cook of nearby Montrose, expressed amazement at the support.

"You never know how many friends you have until something like this happens," Cook said. "It's absolutely wonderful."

Cook also echoed a feeling shared by many throughout this community: "Things like this just don't happen in places like Clinton, Mo. She didn't know enough to be afraid."

Chris Hammond, staying in Clinton, could not be reached Sunday night.

Darlene McFeters, assistant manager at a convenience store two blocks from where Angela Hammond disappeared, said the event had made her more careful.

"You move to a small town thinking you're getting away from that," McFeters said. "I don't know how anybody could not be more cautious now."