

Killer slashes two San Jose girls to death

By JOHN STANTON

SAN JOSE — Two teen-age girls, each stabbed more than 50 times, were found dead Sunday evening under a cluster of oak trees on a peaceful hillside near their home.

Police searched rugged underbrush around the knoll—near New Almaden — today for clues to the slayings, which detectives admitted shocked them with its brutality and apparent senselessness.

They were Deborah Gaye Furlong, 14, of 697 Briarcliff Drive, and Kathy Reyne Snoozy, 15, of 748 Azule Ave., San Jose.

Their battered bodies were spotted about 8:20 p.m. by a passing horseback rider.

Barton L. Collins, chief of detectives, said the girls were fully clothed.

"Both of them were stabbed more than 50 times with a pocket knife in the throat, chest and back. They were not sexually molested. You tell me the motive," Collins said.

This morning 14 officers combed the area at the end of Calahan Avenue, where the bodies were found, looking for some clue. They found footprints and made plaster casts of them.

Police are also making a

house-to-house canvass of the neighborhood to see if they can find anyone who might have seen the girls before they were slain.

Apparently the girls were killed somewhere else in the hilltop area and dumped at the spot their bodies were found, Collins said.

The girls, both students at Oak Grove High School, had had left their South San Jose homes about noon to take a picnic. They took sandwiches and a Thermos jug of a fruit drink with them and headed toward a 200-foot hill near their subdivision homes.

When they failed to return by 6 p.m., Deborah's father, Glen Furlong, and Kathy's parents, Wilfred and Elna Snoozy, began looking for them.

Furlong, 38, a senior associate engineer at IBM, said he found their bicycles locked by chain to a fence at the bottom of the hill.

As Furlong and the Snoozy couple were searching for their daughters, they heard of the discovery of the bodies and went to the scene, about two blocks west of Calahan Avenue and three-quarters of a mile south of Blossom Hill Road.



KATHY SNOOZY



DEBORAH FURLONG

The parents identified the victims as their daughters.

Collins said a horseback rider who spotted the bodies had told a motorcyclist to call police.

The hill area is a popular spot with cyclists and horsemen, Collins said.

The picnic jug carried by the girls was found about 25

feet from their bodies. Also nearby was a pair of sandals worn by one of the girls.

Collins said the girls were apparently killed between 2 and 4 p.m.

The spot where their bodies were found is out of view of the closest homes in the neighborhood where the girls lived.