Body of missing woman found

BRIAN BRIDGEFORD CWN NEWS SERVICE

BARABOO — A body discovered Tuesday about 1 1/2 miles east of Baraboo has been identified as Baraboo resident Lisa Hohl. She had been missing since a boating accident Sunday.

The body of the 36-yearold woman was spotted by a
person walking along the
river at about 4 p.m., said
Sauk County Conservation
Warden Scott Bowe. She
was located across from the
Double K-D Ranch
Campground on Highway
W, lodged in some trees on
the north riverbank.

The missing woman was last seen Sunday about 5:25 p.m. when the fishing boat she was riding in came too close to the Glenville Dam's backwash and was swamped, according to Sauk County Sheriff Randy Stammen. Her brother, Ronald Koffarnus, 41, of Baraboo, who also in the boat, was able to escape the turbulence with minor injuries.

Hohl's death was the second one at the same location during the weekend. At about 5:49 p.m. Saturday, deputies and rescue personnel were dispatched after a woman riding a kayak tried to cross the dam going



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Sauk County Sheriff Randy Stammen removes his gloves as he leaves the scene along the Baraboo River where the body of Lisa Hohl was found Tuesday afternoon. Hohl drowned in a boating accident Sunday near the Glenville Dam.

downstream and was caught in turbulence at the foot of the dam. Prairie du Sac resident Erin Swieringa, 35, was later pronounced dead from drowning despite the efforts of

both her traveling companion, Kirk W. Johnson, 34, of Prairie du Sac, and rescuers to resuscitate her.

Bowe said he had been putting a boat in the water to continue the search for Hohl just as news came her body had been located. The warden, Prairie du Sac volunteer firefighter Chris McPhee and deputy sheriff Mark Rabata went to retrieve the body.

The body was taken to the county morgue where an official identification was made.

Sunday's accident, and the fact Hohl had not been found despite more than two days of searching, brought a strong response from the area community.

At the Highway 113 bridge overlooking the Glenview Dam around noon Tuesday, an ever-changing vigil of people watched the roiling water of the dam's spillway for signs of the missing Baraboo woman.

Among them was Baraboo fire inspector Tom Clark who said he was a friend of Hohl. He said a variety of family and friends had been coming to the dam in hopes of finding resolution of the situation.

"I'd like to get it over with," he said as he watched the water. "Tm just here to look at the water, maybe I'll see her," said Scott Hennings of Baraboo. He said he did not know Hohl, but was regularly on the water to fish. He said he understood how much people would like to see her body recovered.

"It would put a lot of people at ease," said Hennings.

According to a family member who did not want his name used, Hohl's brother and other family members were spending time together at his home Tuesday evening. They did not want to make a statement to the media at this time and asked their privacy be respected, he said.

Bowe said the drowning deaths are a tragic demonstration of how care must be taken anywhere near the upstream or downstream side of dams.

"You can't emphasize enough dams can be extremely dangerous," said Bowe.

An improvised line of buoys will be left in place at the Glenview Dam as a warning to boaters.

A contractor working for the Department of Natural Resources is scheduled to begin removing the 100year-old structure in early October.