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## River search: No sign of woman's car

By Shelly Whitehead  
Post staff reporter

Three humps that showed up on the Ohio River's bottom through the use last week of sonar equipment ultimately failed to yield any signs of a slain Boone County woman's Pinto. The car reportedly had been dumped near Anderson Ferry after she was killed in 1981.

Boone County Water Rescue divers began searching the area last week after police say William Major told investigators he shot and killed his wife, then dumped her body in a Verona sinkhole, the murder weapon in a farm pond and her 1972 Pinto in the river.

Last week the Boone County Sheriff's Department began searching the area where Major reportedly told investigators he had left the car.

Police on Friday said that as many as three cars could be buried in the area under mounds of soil and debris at the river's bottom after three large humps showed up on sonar monitors.

Crime Bureau Commander Maj. Jack Banks said that the mounds turned out to be just that -- big lumps of dirt and debris. Banks said an auto bumper was pulled from the area, but not one belonging to a Pinto.

William Major stands trial May 28 in Boone County for his wife's killing and faces a possible life sentence if convicted.

Helen Marleen Major was last seen Oct. 10, 1980, at the trailer home she shared with Major, their two children and another man in Verona. Her body has never been located, but a hunter found what was later verified through DNA tests to be her skull on Nov. 30, 1981, about a mile from the trailer.

Major was arrested in 2001 after police received a call from his father, who said his son told him he killed his wife.

On the way back to Kentucky after his arrest in New England, investigators said Major told them he killed his wife after she pulled a gun on him and threatened to leave him.

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