

Man trapped in woman killed



HUMBOLDT, Neb. (AP) — A woman who posed as a man and dated women was found shot to death with two other people two weeks after residents of this rural area learned her true identity.

Two men accused of sexually assaulting Teena Brandon were arrested for investigation of murder.

Friends said Brandon, 21, had posed for two months as a man named Brandon Teena and had told various stories of having an incomplete sex-change operation or of being a hermaphrodite.

"She said she felt like a man inside, but she was a female outside," said Michelle Lotter, a friend of Brandon's and the sister of one of the men arrested.

The bodies of Brandon, Lisa Lambert, 23, and an Iowa man whose name was not released were found Friday in a farmhouse about three miles south of Humboldt, a southeast Nebraska town of 1,000 residents.

John Lotter, 22, and Marvin Nissen, 21, both of Falls City, were arrested for investigation of murder and held in the county jail. They also have been charged with kidnapping and sexually assaulting Brandon on Christmas Day, said Richardson County Attorney Douglas Merz.

Authorities had been investigating the kidnapping and assault allegations, but did not issue an arrest warrant on them until after the bodies were found, Merz said Saturday.

Brandon had lived with Lambert for about three months, but their relationship was unclear, Merz said. Her friends said she moved to the area from Lincoln about three months ago and went by the name Brandon Teena.

Among the women she dated was 19-year-old Lana Tisdell of Falls City.

The two dated for about a week, and Tisdell said she thought she was going out with a man until Brandon was arrested about two weeks ago on alcohol and forgery charges.

After authorities referred to Brandon as a woman Tisdell said she confronted her.

"She told me that she had a sex change, and it's not all done," Tisdell said.

Brandon told others she was a hermaphrodite. Karen Garrett, owner of Big Mike's Tavern in Humboldt, said Brandon came in a few times to play pool.

In a photo taken in December, the slightly built Brandon looks like an adolescent boy, and Garrett said she demanded identification. She said Brandon produced a driver's license with the name "Brandon Ray Tenna."

Private Island' remains so for wedding

LANAI CITY, Hawaii (AP) — "The Private Island" stayed that way New Year's Day for Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates' wedding to Melinda French.

Gates, one of the nation's richest men, hired his own security force to keep reporters and photographers away while he and French exchanged vows on the 17th hole of The Challenge golf course.

Gates bought out all of the available rooms at the 250-room Manele Bay Hotel to make sure no unwanted visitors mingled among the 130 wedding guests staying there. The *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* reported that he hired every helicopter on Maui to keep photographers out of them.

Katharine Graham, former publisher of *The Washington Post*, told *The Herald* of Everett earli-

er this week that Gates and French "really want a private, human wedding, and they really don't want publicity, and they don't want people with cameras and notebooks."

The guest list offered an eclectic mix. Besides Graham's name there was billionaire businessman Warren Buffett, rock musician Alice Cooper, country western star Willie Nelson and Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen.

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