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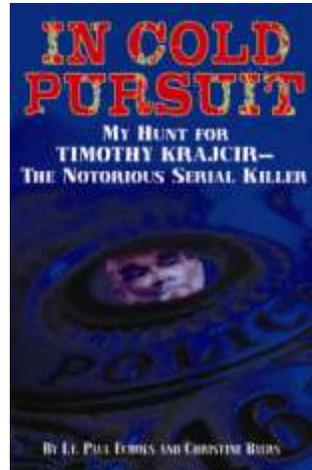
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**DETECTIVE BRINGS JUSTICE TO SERIAL KILLER
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS LATER**

Rookie police officer Paul Echols didn't know when he heard the radio call about the murder scene of twenty-three-year-old college coed Deborah Sheppard on that cold April night that his life was about to change forever. Deborah's unsolved murder case would haunt and lead him on a twenty-five-year chase to identify a brutal serial killer.

IN COLD PURSUIT: *My Hunt for Timothy Krajcir—The Notorious Serial Killer* (New Horizon Press, March 2011) by Lt. Paul Echols and Christine Byers reveals the riveting, firsthand account of Lt. Echols' hunt for Deborah's killer and to bring justice to the victim. Working Deborah Sheppard's cold case for twenty-five year, Lt. Echols followed every lead, hit lots of dead ends and began piecing together a trail of blood and death, not only causing Deborah's death but also claiming victims in four states, which led him to Timothy Wayne Krajcir. Krajcir's victims ranged in age from twenty-one to sixty-five. Some were black; some were

white. Some wealthy; some poor. Some victims were alone while others had their husbands or children present during the attacks. Krajcir robbed or raped some prey and killed others.

Eventually Lt. Echols and his team connected the killer to at least nine murders and many rape, molestation and robbery victims. Gaining the killers confidence, Lt. Echols personally interrogated and garnered confessions from Krajcir and was able to bring the murder cases to court, leading to Krajcir's thirteen life sentences.

Filled with exclusive interviews, photos and never before revealed details, **IN COLD PURSUIT** is the compelling true crime saga that delves deep into the mind of a serial killer and the police officer who brought justice to the families of the victims of an elusive killer's reign of terror.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:

Lt. Paul Echols is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the former Investigations Commander for the Carbondale, Illinois, Police Department. Paul is now a Criminal Justice Instructor at Shawnee Community College near Ullin, Illinois. Paul also teaches aspiring police officers in the Southern Illinois University Administration of Justice Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice. Paul, his wife and two children live in Southern Illinois.

Christine Byers has been a journalist for the *Peoria Journal Star*, *Rockford Register Star*, *Daily Herald* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. She got the first exclusive interview with Tim Krajcir as well as several of his surviving victims. Christine has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois. She lives in St. Louis, Missouri, with her husband.

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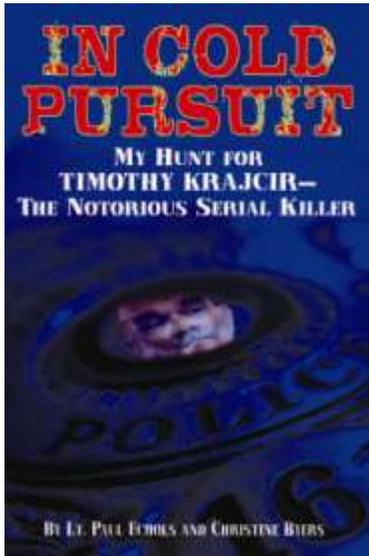
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Q & A

with

Lt. Paul Echols and Christine Byers



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1. Who is Tim Krajcir?

Tim Krajcir is a very complex character who was born in Pennsylvania in 1944. According to him, he exhibited signs of abnormal behavior very early in life. He told me that he began “acting out,” as he puts it, at the age of five by sneaking into the house of a neighbor whom he was mad at and defecating in the neighbor’s living room out of spite. He also started stealing bicycles in early adolescence. In the early 1960s he joined the Navy and was assigned to Great Lakes, Illinois. He committed two rapes and went to prison. When he was paroled, he came to Carbondale, Illinois, to finish his degree at Southern Illinois University. He took a job on the ambulance service and now we know he was also committing murders during those times. He eventually went back to prison for other crimes. He’s now in his sixties, serving multiple consecutive sentences for killing nine women from four states, including Illinois, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Kentucky, between 1977 and 1982. He is also responsible for scores of sexual assaults. He’s being held at the Stateville Prison near Chicago, Illinois.

2. How did you become interested in the Carbondale case that was linked to Tim Krajcir?

I became a police officer for the city of Carbondale, Illinois, in August 1981. Eight months later Tim Krajcir sexually assaulted and murdered Deborah Sheppard, a Southern Illinois University senior. I was working the night it happened and lived only two blocks from her apartment. Deborah’s murder happened during my first year as a Carbondale police officer and I took a special interest. I was the same age as Deborah and took classes at the same time. I never forgot her and worked on her case as often as I could.

3. What was the lynchpin that tied Tim Krajcir to Deborah’s murder?

When DNA came into existence in the early 1990s, I tried to use it to resolve Deborah’s case, but there was a problem. Only a small amount of genetic material was recovered in her case. It could not be profiled. After being promoted to investigations commander, I reopened her case in 2007. I started looking through the evidence we had retained and found a shirt of Deborah’s that had been collected. It was found on her bedroom floor next to her body. The crime scene technicians forgot to collect it before they rolled her body over to photograph her back. We know now that because of this blunder, the shirt was still on the floor in front of her face when they rolled her body. This allowed a small trace of semen to spill from Deborah’s

mouth. Oddly, the person rolling her body was a paramedic who worked with and respected Tim Krajcir. Unwittingly, she helped catch her friend, which subsequently identified a serial killer. Had the shirt been collected per protocol before the body was moved, I'm not sure Tim would have been caught.

4. Deborah is one of Tim Krajcir's nine victims. Did she fit a pattern?

No and that's part of what made Tim Krajcir so difficult for investigators to track and what makes him different from other serial killers. His murder victims ranged in age from twenty-one to sixty-five. Two of them were African-American. The rest were white. Some he strangled. Some he shot. Some he stabbed. And a few he mutilated. Eight of them were attacked in their homes. Two were taken to Carbondale where he assaulted them. One he killed there and took her back and put her body behind a church. Another he killed in a rest area bathroom while taking her back to where he abducted her. He raped one of his victims twice, five years apart. He raped three women in one incident. He raped a mother and then her daughter almost two years apart in the same house. Most of these women had very little in common. Some were students, some were professionals, some were homemakers. Only in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, where Tim Krajcir killed five of his victims, did most live in the same neighborhood. So, he was all over the board.

5. Did Tim Krajcir's name ever surface in any of these murder investigations?

There was only one case, the 1978 murder of Virginia Witte in Marion, Illinois, in which his name came up only briefly. Neighbors who claimed to have seen a strange man in Mrs. Witte's neighborhood on the day of the murder worked with a sketch artist at the time. After seeing the sketch, Tim's parole officer called authorities and told them Tim might be responsible. Investigators considered him but never seriously. On at least one other occasion, police arrived at a burglarized home and Tim was still inside. He fled out the back avoiding capture. Carbondale investigators interviewed Tim about a murder, but as it turns out someone else killed her. One man, named Grover Thompson, was convicted and died in prison for one of Tim's attempted murders. I've dedicated an entire chapter to his story, because I believe he suffered an incredible injustice and his name deserves to be cleared, albeit posthumously.

6. Why did you choose Christine Byers as your co-author?

I met Christine for the first time in December 2007 at the press conference in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, when we announced Tim had been charged with the five Cape murders. Oddly, she said I avoided her that day! I later met with her on several occasions in Carbondale as she wrote related stories for the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* newspaper. I was impressed with the articles she wrote. She went through extraordinary efforts to insure the thoroughness and accuracy of her stories. I was even more impressed with the way she reached out to the surviving victims and, with their cooperation, wrote stories about them and their experiences. She was a true professional. When I was approached about writing a book, I knew I needed someone to help me, so I decided to ask her and she immediately accepted. Christine's talents have added a special touch which complements this book. I think we made a very good team and it made writing fun.

7. Christine, what was it like writing a book with Paul Echols?

It was an honor to be chosen by him for this project. The access to information and personal connections he had to Tim Krajcir as well as several of the victims was fascinating beyond what I ever could have written in a newspaper article. But I knew I didn't feel comfortable, ethically speaking, making a profit from writing a book about these cases, even though I knew this story was crying out to be told. When Paul approached me with the idea of collaborating on a book that would raise money for a law enforcement scholarship, it was a perfect fit. Throughout the process, we had productive creative tension that

ultimately led to a better book. I gained a better appreciation for how difficult police work can be and I think Paul appreciated my insight into what was important to this story.

8. Why did you write this book?

I learned many things during this investigation and wanted to share them with future investigators. In addition, I established a professional rapport with Tim Krajcir and I wanted to share some of my observations and conversations I had with him. I also wanted to chronicle the excellent work done by many dedicated investigators, police officers and crime laboratory experts through the years. Without their efforts, these crimes may not have been solved. These men and women, many whom never lived to see the conclusion, built the foundation and collected the evidence that later allowed us to build the cases against Tim Krajcir.

9. I understand this book is non-profit.

Both Christine and I have agreed to donate our profits toward a memorial scholarship in the Criminology and Criminal Justice Program at Southern Illinois University in honor of all of the victims. Those who will benefit from this scholarship will be future police officers and investigators. We want the families to know their loved ones will never be forgotten and I can't think of a better way of doing that. It will be a little bit of good that comes from something so bad.

10. What are some things that this book reveals for the first time?

For one thing, it is told from my perspective as the case developed, something no one but I can tell. For the first time, we will introduce you to Deborah Sheppard, her family and how Tim Krajcir murdered her on that fateful night. I am proud to say we had the exclusive cooperation of each murder victim's family and will tell you their stories, which have never been told. Christine and I were also able to include more insight into Tim's mind as he was committing these crimes. With the cooperation of some of Tim's relatives, we will reveal more of his personal life. We also set the record straight on many rumors and errors that came out in the media shortly after Tim's identity as a serial killer was revealed. The biggest one was believing Tim studied administrative justice at Southern Illinois University, a major usually reserved for future police officers, for the sole purpose of how to be a better killer. This hypothesis failed as we looked into it. In addition to Tim denying it, we realized he had already murdered seven of his nine victims before taking most of his AJ classes. We know he never took a criminal investigation class. He told us he took AJ and psychology classes "to figure himself out." We have also included several excerpts from letters I received from Tim.

11. And what did he figure out about himself?

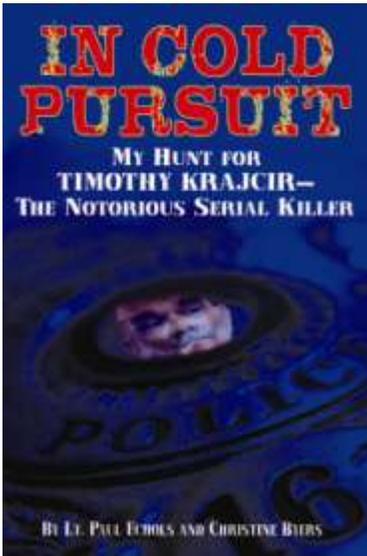
Well, in his words, he didn't do a very good job of it, considering he went on to kill two more women after those classes and sexually assault several others. He told us that he harbored a lot of anger towards his mother, whom he said left him feeling abandoned. At one point, Cape Girardeau Detective Jim Smith, who interviewed Tim with me during his full confession, challenged Tim on it. Jim essentially said he also hadn't had the most supportive parents and yet he was sitting on one side of that table and Tim was on the other. Tim simply couldn't explain why his resentment toward his mother could drive him to such terrible acts.

12. Do you think he's sorry for what he's done?

Maybe in his own way, but I don't think it would equal the same thing most people feel when they are sorry. Tim often describes himself as "twisted," so I am not so sure how sorry he can feel. At one point when I was interviewing him, I asked him if he was sorry and he said, "I don't have big feelings of remorse or anything 'cause if I did, then I wouldn't of done it to begin with." At the same time, he says he does have feelings. He cried during his appearance in Cape Girardeau while trying to apologize to a room full of his victims' families and even some of his surviving sexual assault victims. He has also said he cries while watching some movies. He is different.

13. Why wasn't Tim Krajcir put to death for these murders?

Criminals convicted must be sentenced under guidelines in effect at the time of their crimes. Thus, in Illinois during the murders in Carbondale and Marion the death penalty was not available. It was possible Tim could have been given the death penalty for crimes in Missouri and Pennsylvania, but it would have been a long road getting him there. Cape Girardeau County Prosecutor Morley Swingle was set on seeking the death penalty, but Detective Jimmy Smith, Chief Carl Kinnison and I wanted to negotiate with him and bring closure in all five Cape murders. At the time, there was only one Cape case supported by physical evidence. Finally a deal was struck. Swingle agreed that if the other Cape families would agree to waive the death penalty, he would allow us to negotiate with Tim. During the week of Thanksgiving 2007, the Cape Girardeau murder victims' families agreed to waive the death penalty. It was an ethical dilemma for me, knowing how Bernie Sheppard wanted Tim to be executed. When Detective Smith and I made the deal, Tim also confessed to the murders in Marion, Illinois, Paducah, Kentucky and eventually Temple, Pennsylvania. Everyone agreed to forego the death penalty. As far as we know, Tim has fulfilled his part of the agreement by confessing all. His life was contingent upon it.



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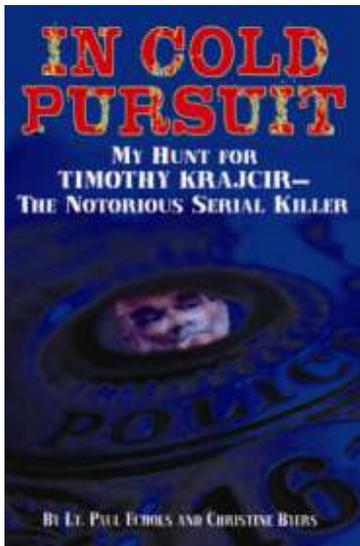
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Fact Sheet



- The term “serial killings” refers to a series of three or more killings. (<http://uscode.house.gov/>)
- Serial killings are rare, comprised of less than 1 percent of all murders committed in any given year. (www.fbi.gov)
- Men make up 90% of serial killers. (www.deathreference.com)
- 76% of serial killers are in the United States. (www.wikipedia.org)
- Serial killers come from all racial groups. (www.fbi.gov)
- Serial killers suffer from a variety of personality disorders, most commonly psychopathic and anti social personality disorders but are not adjudicated as insane under the law. (www.fbi.gov)
- Childhood neglect, abuse and substance abuse leads to increased aggression and violence. (“Child-rearing and child abuse antecedents of criminality” by Jaana Haapasalo and Elina Pokela)



Krajcir Story Gains National Attention

By: Wes Wallace
March 12, 2008

"It's really in memory for the victims, and the victims' family, you want to be sure the facts are accurate, and that the family members are represented as true as possible," said Haubold.

Haubold shares a close connection to Mildred Wallace, one of five of Krajcir's victims in Cape Girardeau. Haubold's father, Mike Stafford, grew up with Mildred Wallace and lived close to other murder victims Margie Call and the Parsh's.

"It was terrible," recalled Stafford. "Nobody knew what was happening and we didn't know what was going on."

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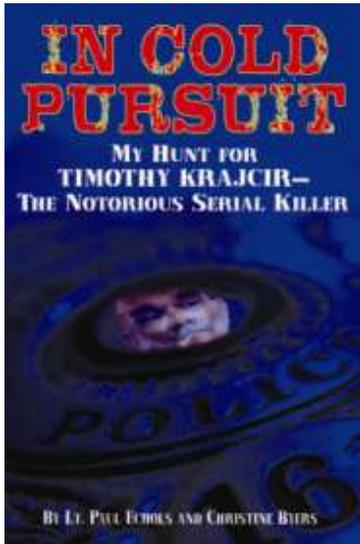
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How serial killer stumped cops for decades

By Ismael Estrada
December 17, 2007

His undoing ultimately was something he could never have anticipated at the time -- DNA technology that would connect him to a murder and rape more than 25 years later.

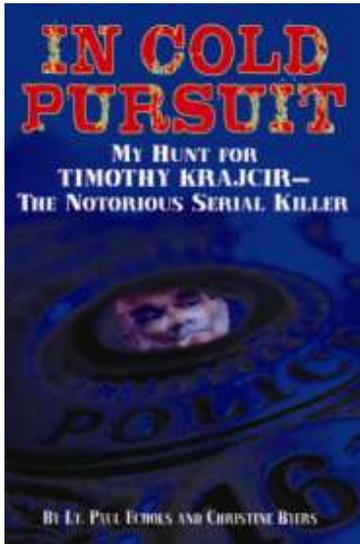
Krajcir, who spent time for rape and other offenses over the years, apparently knew his killing spree eventually would catch up with him.

"I've had conversations with him where he's acknowledged that as the science grew, he knew that at some point this day was going to arrive," Carbondale, Illinois, police Lt. Paul Echols told CNN.

"He was aware of DNA technology and that he was part of that database -- that someday that he would be matched. He knew it was coming."

Police say Krajcir, 63, has confessed to nine murders -- five in Missouri and four others in Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Excerpted from: www.CNN.com



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SEX OFFENDER CONFESSES TO KILLING 9 IN MISSOURI, ILLINOIS AND ELSEWHERE

December 11, 2007
Associated Press

Krajcir, originally from Allentown, Pa., pleaded guilty Monday in Illinois to first-degree murder in the 1982 strangling of a Southern Illinois University student. Later in the day, he was charged here with five counts of murder and three counts of rape.

Cape Girardeau Police Chief Carl Kinnison said Krajcir also admitted to three killings "in other jurisdictions." Police would not elaborate, but Cape Girardeau County prosecutor Morley Swingle said they were not in Illinois or Missouri.

Krajcir was sentenced Monday to 40 years for the Illinois killing. He agreed to admit to the Missouri killings in exchange for a sentence of life in prison without parole, Swingle said.

It is possible Krajcir could face the death penalty elsewhere, Swingle said.

...
Carbondale Police Lt. Paul Echols used DNA evidence to connect Krajcir to the Sheppard killing. Smith then sought DNA evidence to see if it linked Krajcir to the Cape Girardeau cases.

Krajcir confessed to Smith and Echols, police said.

"His description of himself is that he's twisted," Smith said.

Excerpted from: www.FoxNews.com