

Father seeks kidnaped girls in Tijuana

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TJUANA, MEXICO — In streets bustling with tourists looking for bargains, Claude Wise stood alone Wednesday.

"Would you take one, please?" he softly asked all who passed him on the sidewalk, almost pleading.

He held out a full-page handbill imprinted with pictures of two small girls — his kidnaped daughters.

Many Mexicans took the flyer and showed immediate compassion despite a language barrier, but most Americans brushed the sheet aside, hurrying by Wise's outstretched hand.

The circular was a plea for information about the two girls kidnaped from their San Bernardino home, Wise's daughter and step-daughter.

Brandi Jondell Summers, 5, who has cystic fibrosis, and Tiffani Wise, 2, were abducted March 30 after their mother, Beverly Wise, 26, was fatally stabbed at the family's home.

Last weekend, a North Hollywood woman who claims to have extraordinary mental abilities told the family that the girls are alive in Mexico. She said they were close to the border, probably in Mexicali or Tijuana.

Wise, his mother, Donna Howlett

of Santa Clara, and his aunt, Cory Jarienski of Palo Alto, traveled to Tijuana early Wednesday to pass out flyers and talk with anyone who might have seen the girls. They were joined at the border about 11 a.m. by Bea Lydecker, the woman who pointed the search toward Mexico, and two television news crews from Los Angeles and San Diego.

The family passed out more than 1,700 handbills as they canvassed police stations, hospitals, an orphanage, businesses and the city's crowded marketplace.

No leads have developed from their legwork. But they said they felt much better for having done

something tangible — anything — instead of awaiting word at home.

When Howlett and Lydecker met at the border, they embraced. But Lydecker's smile quickly faded.

She told Howlett, who asked her to become involved in the case, that her mental communication with Jondell Wise (the name Brandi answers to) had ceased. She didn't know if the child was unconscious or dead.

The woman said she can tune into another person's thoughts and pick up mental images of what the other person is seeing. She said everyone possesses this latent power, but does not develop it. She also claims to

communicate in a similar way with animals.

Throughout her involvement in the disappearance, Lydecker has maintained that the children are in Mexico with a Spanish speaking woman. She went to Mexicali to search on Sunday, but discovered no leads.

Howlett has been Lydecker's strongest advocate within the family. Wise is skeptical but said he will follow her direction because neither he nor police have any firm indication where the girls might be.

Police have said they will not base



Bea Lydecker
says children in Mexico

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