

NEWSTRACK

Missing teen case from 2001 still open

By Elizabeth Kutter
News correspondent

Q. Is there any new information on Erin Pospisil, the Cedar Rapids teenager who went missing almost seven years ago?

A. Billboards and fliers have made Pospisil a familiar face in Cedar Rapids, but the efforts of her family and law enforcement have not led to her return.

Erin was 15 on June 3, 2001, when she was last seen getting into a black Chevrolet Cavalier in the 100 block of 12th Street SE.

Her friends said they did not recognize the vehicle but Erin seemed to know the people inside and went with them willingly.

Neither family members, friends at Metro High School nor police have had any contact with Erin since that evening.

No leads resulted from police efforts, posters and billboards or news stories.

Her stepmother, Carolyn Minney of Cedar Rapids, said at the time they hoped Erin was a runaway. It is better than the alternative, Minney said. She suspected

Erin might have been heading for Chicago since she had friends at Metro who had come from Chicago.



Erin Pospisil
Last seen June
3, 2001

Efforts to find her there also were unsuccessful. Most first-time runaways stay within 300 miles of home, but as time passes, they may head toward larger cities where they can blend into the streets, according to the National Runaway Switchboard.

At the time she left, Erin was 5 feet 2 inches tall and weighed 125 pounds. She had brown eyes and dark brown hair with red highlights.

The case remains open, said Sgt. Cristy Hamblin of the Cedar Rapids Police Department. In June she will have been missing for seven years.

Family and friends continue to hold events in Erin's honor hoping to keep her in the minds of those who knew her and let those who have any information on her whereabouts know that she is still missing.

Anyone who may have seen Erin or has information about her, should call Cedar Rapids police at (319) 286-5378.

The National Runaway Switchboard takes toll-free calls from runaways and relays messages from missing young people to their families. That number is 1-(800) 786-2929, 1-(800) RUNAWAY.

Background

Erin Pospisil was last seen June 3, 2001, climbing into a black Chevrolet Cavalier in the 100 block of 12th St. SE, Cedar Rapids. Friends did not know who was driving the car but they said Erin climbed in willingly. Despite the efforts of her family and police, the then-15-year-old Metro High School student has not been located, nor has she contacted her family.

For more information see:

<http://HelpFindaChild.org>