

NWS

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Suicide try by murder suspect

JACKSON -- A man convicted in the assault and rape of an elderly woman and facing **murder** charges in the slayings of two other women apparently tried to hang himself in his jail cell

Jackson County Sheriff Hank Zavislak said Monday that Michael Harris made a noose from strips torn from a mattress cover Saturday and tied it to the top horizontal bar of his cell door, the day after his conviction **by** a Circuit Court jury.

Officers, alerted **by** the shouts of inmates, found Harris semi-conscious on the floor of his cell, said Zavislak. Apparently the knot could not hold Harris' weight, the sheriff said. He now is under round-the-clock surveillance.

Harris, 20, formerly of Muskegon Heights, faces **murder** charges in Ingham County in the slaying of two Lansing women and also is a **suspect** in the **murders** of elderly women in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Lansing and in the attacks on others in Lansing and Muskegon Heights.

He was found guilty Friday in the Dec. 4 assault of a 68 -year-old woman in her home.

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