



News-Press photo by Len Wood

SHERIFF'S DETECTIVES examine photos taken at the scene of a double murder discovered yesterday in Goleta.

## Goleta Valley doctor, woman found slain

A Goleta Valley orthopedic surgeon and a Santa Maria clinical psychologist believed to be his girlfriend were found murdered yesterday in his condominium on Avenida Pequena, sheriff's deputies reported.

Dr. Robert J. Offerman, 41, and Debra (Dee) Alexandria Manning, 35, were found dead at 11:19 a.m. in the bedroom of Offerman's residence at 767 Avenida Pequena, detectives said.

Detective William Baker said that both victims had been shot to death. Time of death was tentatively set at about 3 a.m. Sunday. Neighbors had heard shots, Baker said, but didn't report them, thinking they were holiday firecrackers.

No motive has yet been established, but murder-suicide has been ruled out, Baker said.

The murders were discovered by a friend who came to Offerman's residence to keep a ten-

nis date, Baker said.

Offerman, who had been in practice here since 1968, had medical offices at 231 W. Pueblo St. and 5333 Hollister Ave. He was in the process of a divorce, officers said.

Ms. Manning was granted a final divorce Friday from her husband, Dr. Brian J. Kinlry, also an orthopedic surgeon, of Santa Maria. She had moved to Santa Maria four years ago, and had practiced clinical psychology at 504 E. Plaza Drive for the past three years, officers in Santa Maria said today.

Detectives declined to release any information on the type of gun used in the murders, or the number of gunshot wounds.

A special recorded telephone hot line has been set up, Baker said. Persons with information on the killings were asked to call either the detective office at the Sheriff's Department, or the hot line, 964-2588, and leave a message.