Md. boy, 12, drowns in gravel pit

PRINCESS ANNE, Md.—A 12-year-old boy drowned yesterday while swimming in an abandoned gravel pit approximately 2,000 feet east of Maryland State College.

State police said the boy, Coston David Cottman of Princess Anne, went swimming with three other companions earlier in the afternoon. They said the trio had been swimming for sometime when Cottman decided to swim the length of the pit, approximately 200 feet long.

Police said the boy reached about the half-way mark when he suddenly went under. The companions ran to notify Princess Anne Police, who in turn notified state police.

The body was recovered in about 8 feet of water by Franklin Nelson, a scuba diver and supervisor of Maryland's Marine Police. Police said the boy was pronounced dead at 5 p.m. and listed the death as accidental drowning.

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