Drowns in Abandoned Quarry Pond Friends' Efforts Fail to Save Boy, 12

By MARY JONES

A 12-year-old boy drowned in an abandoned quarry pond in Trumbull north of Beardsley park yesterday afternoon despite the attempts of his companions to rescue him.

Dead is Caesar Lewis, 12 son of Mrs. Carrie Lewis, of 178 Yaremich drive.

One of the boy's friends, Jose Reyes, 12, of 145 Yaremich drive, was treated for immersion and released at St. Vincent's hospital yesterday.

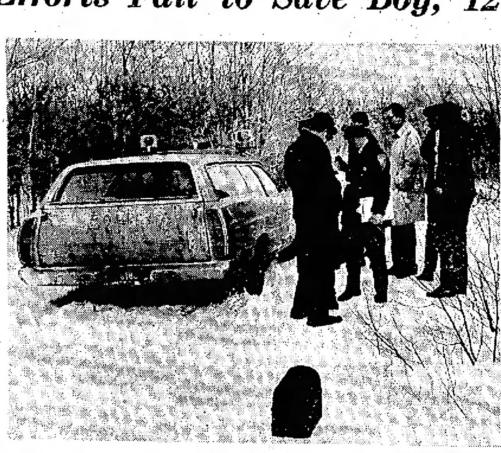
After seeing his friend fall through the ice, young Reyesremoved his belt and tried to reach the victim with it but instead crashed through the thin ice himself. Reyes, however, managed to h a u1 himself to safety.

Another companion, D a v i d Clemmens, 12, of 138 Yaremich drive, ran for help: After alerting someone in the Old Town road neighborhood who called authorities, Bridgeport liremen arrived and eventually recovered the body. Trumbul and Bridgeport ambulances also responded to the call plus a Trumbull police cruiser.

Tried To Cross Pond

Authorities said the boys were hiking through the slate-owned construction area of Route 25 and attempted to walk across

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GATHERING FACTS AT DROWNING SCENE — Trumbuli police and Trumbuli medical examiner, standing behind his black bag, compile information on the drowning death of Caesar Lewis, 12, yesterday in a quarry pond north of Beardsley park.

1972 Feb 12 year old drowns in quarry pond

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Friends' Efforts
Fail to Save Boy,
12, Who Drowns
(Continued from Page One)
the frozen pond around 2 p.m., when the tragedy took place. Bridgeport Fire Department
Bridgeport Fire Department Lieut, Joseph De Carlo and Pa- trohnan Jack Watcke recovered the body.
After the Reyes youth's lutile rescue attempt, he too fled to bring help. He attracted the at-
turn flaged down the approach- ing Trumbull ambulance. Am-
bulance personnel took the wet, shivering youth to St. Vincent's hospital while the Trumbuli pol-
ice cruiser carried the body of his friend to the town morgue at the Mullins and Redgate
Long Hill funeral home. "Till never go back to that place again," the Reyes youth
ater told a reporter. Young Jose said he and the drowning victim, his friend for
three years, often went to the pond during the summer to hunt for frags. They hiked there yes-
terday to see how it looked after a winter's snow and "to see if there were any frogs left," he said.
When the ice gave way beneath Cansar Lewis he sow
it was only about a half inch thick. He knell about a foot away from the struggling youth and threw him his helt "because
it was the only thing to do," he said. After falling in himself be
and supported himself by tree limbs near the surface of the
water, he said. The ice kept breaking while he clung to it but he gradually
worked his way back to the shore and climbed out to run for help.
While in the hospital his par- ents asked him how he felt and he said he was sorry but they
old him it was okay. He had ried, they said. The Lewis boy's body was to
Consid Isaac, Jr., funeral come, \$55 Stratford avenue.
which is in charge of arrange- ments, Both State and Trumbull police are investigating,
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