

Man Drowns After Refusing To Leave Off-Limits Lake

The body of Daniel J. Marchand, 19, of St. Louis, was recovered Saturday from a lake at an abandoned brick manufacturing site in Edwardsville. He was the second person to drown there since June 23.

Marchand, of 433 Fork Drive, drowned about 6 p.m. Saturday when he was unable to swim across the lake called "The Shale Pit" in the Forest Lake subdivision. Three friends who were with Marchand told police they tried to help him when he began to have trouble, but could not save him.

Police were on their way to the scene to order the swimmers out of the lake,

which is private property, when Marchand drowned, according to Bennett W. Dickmann, director of police.

The subdivision manager had called police after the swimmers refused to leave when he told them to.

Police said charges against the three other men are pending a decision on filing a complaint by the property owner.

Marchand's body was recovered after a one-hour search by the Bubblemasters Underwater Recovery Team of Madison County.

Charles Patrick Tretter, 23, of

Edwardsville, drowned in the lake June 23. He had been attending a party at the Forest Lake apartment complex when he decided to go swimming, authorities said.

Dickmann said swimmers are urged to stay away from the lake because it is private property and they could be arrested. The lake is spring-fed and fills the quarry used by the former Banner Brick Co., he said.

"The water is treacherous and extremely cold. I think it's a little exaggerated, but some rumors say it's as much as 100 feet deep in some places," he said.

Dickmann said swimming at the lake had decreased recently, after the property became private and the area was developed into a subdivision. He said having the subdivision manager living there and being willing to call police and sign complaints against trespassers seemed to be helping.

"But we had to chase four more people off the property while we were recovering the body Saturday," Dickmann said.

A 17-year-old youth from Florissant drowned in the lake in July 1977. In 1974, a young man drowned there and police were never able to learn his identity.

1979 Jun Dan Marchand drowns in MO quarry

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