

Fairmount jockey drowns

ALTON (AP) — An afternoon of swimming turned to tragedy when a 21-year-old Oklahoma native died after diving 180 feet into an abandoned quarry.

Curtis E. Hale was swimming with friends Saturday when he climbed a 180-foot bluff and jumped feet first into the water-filled quarry, said Sam Smith, director of news services for Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Smith said today that Madison County officials have ruled the death a drowning.

Hale, a jockey who lived near Collinsville's Fairmount Park race track, was making his first appearance as a rider at the track this year. He had a record of 11 wins, eight seconds and 12 thirds in 108 mounts, track officials said.

1982 Jul Curtis Hale drowns at quarry IL

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