

## Cambridge man, 23, drowns in quarry

The body of a 23-year-old Cambridge man was pulled from an abandoned quarry in Lexington early yesterday morning after he drowned while swimming with a friend.

John J. Carrol of River street, was pronounced dead at the scene by a medical examiner. Lexington police said Carrol and a friend, 22-year-old Thomas Matthews of Blossom street, Arlington, went swimming in the quarry about 3:35 a.m.

According to police, Matthews said he heard a gasp and then lost sight of Carrol. Alarmed, Matthews drove to the Caldor Mall in Burlington and called the police for assistance.

Lexington police dispatcher Paul Jenkins said the quarry — called the North Street Pits — “has an extreme drop-off and is extremely deep.” Jenkins said no one knows how deep the quarry is, but said it is fed by an underground spring.

“There is no beach area there, it’s back in the woods,” Jenkins said. “We like to keep people out of there. We’re always requesting that people leave the area and not swim there.”

Jenkins said he knows of no other drowning at the quarry, but added, “It’s a likely place for such a thing. You have no footing when you get in the water. That’s why we always get people out of there.”