

By AARON COUNCIL

Ledger Staff Writer

An 11-year-old boy drowned early Sunday afternoon after falling into the Limestone College quarry while fishing with his older brother and cousin.

A college security guard, Frank Pittman, 53, who pulled one of the boys from the water, died of an apparent heart attack about an hour after the incident.

The body of Peair Hicks, of Apartment 42, Connecticut Village, was pulled from the water at 5:37 p.m.

Police said Hicks slipped into the water at about 12:25 p.m., but his 12-year-old cousin, Triston Rodgers, and brother Teair, also 12, were unable to save him.

Pittman said he saw the three boys playing around the quarry earlier and warned them about getting too close to the water.

Pittman said just minutes later he saw the boys at another area of the quarry, and two of them were in the water. He said he got there in time to pull Rodgers, who went in after his cousin, from the water with a long two-by-four that was lying nearby. By that time Peair Hicks had already gone under, he said.

Pittman, of 266 Old Bridge Road, was checked by Emergency Preparedness and EMS personnel following the incident and said then that he was fine. He then aided the recovery effort by showing officers and firefighters the area in the water where the victim was last seen.

Pittman collapsed in Stephenson Dining Hall after sitting down to rest. He was transported to Upstate Carolina Medical Center at about 2 p.m. and died a short time later.