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Mauckport man, 18, drowns in quarry

The C-J Southern Indiana Bureau

An 18-year-old man drowned while swimming at a southern Harrison County quarry with friends Sunday afternoon, authorities said.

The body of Eric Jason Bowles of Mauckport was recovered at 5:30 p.m. after Indiana State Police and Indiana Conservation divers searched the Lucas Corp. quarry on Lopp Circle Road in Mauckport.

Bowles and four friends apparently were trespassing on the quarry property, said Mac Spainhour, a conservation officer and department spokesman.

The men were swimming across a

150-yard span about 2:15 p.m. when Bowles tired and began to struggle, Spainhour said. Friends tried to help him, but Bowles began to pull them under. Eventually, Bowles sank and couldn't be found in the murky water, Spainhour said.

His companions contacted police, and a search began shortly after 3 p.m.

Results of an autopsy were expected today, said Paul Cesar, Harrison County coroner. Accidental drowning, however, appeared to be the cause of death, Cesar said.

The death was the second drowning in the area in just two weeks. A New Albany man, 21-year-old Mar-

shall Alexander, drowned in the Blue River in the Harrison-Crawford State Forest June 17.

Bowles was a native of New Albany.

His survivors include his mother, Janet King Bowles; two brothers, Robert Hammons and Samuel Bowles; a sister, Brenda Wachholz; and a grandmother, Bonnie King.

The funeral will be at 2 p.m. tomorrow at Seabrook Dieckmann & Nashville Market Street Funeral Home in New Albany, with burial at Graceland Memorial Park.

Visitation will be from 3-9 p.m. today and after 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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