

Man, girl dead in apparent drownings

Police investigating separate incidents

**By Janice Morse
and Jim Hannah**

The Cincinnati Enquirer

A Warren County girl and an unidentified fisherman died Saturday in separate apparent drownings.

Linda Marie Rutherford, 12, died Saturday afternoon after swimming with friends in her family's above-ground pool in the 4600 block of Todd Road, Franklin Township.

About 5:22 p.m., her father, Brian Rutherford, saw that she had gone under the water, officials said.

He and a neighbor tried to revive her, and she was pronounced dead on arriv-

al at Middletown Regional Hospital, according to the Warren County Sheriff's Office, which is continuing to investigate.

Late Saturday night, crews recovered the body of a 29-year-old man from Butler, Ky., who drowned apparently while fishing in a lake near Alexandria in Campbell County.

A preliminary investigation indicated the victim was intoxicated, officials said.

He is the sixth person to drown in the Tristate in 10 days.

After about two hours of searching the 200-acre fishing lake at A.J. Jolly Park, authorities con-

firmed they had found the man's body about 10:50 p.m.

Campbell County Police said they received a report of a possible drowning at 8:50 p.m.

Authorities said the man had disappeared under the water's surface, according to a companion who was fishing with him.

But campers said they had seen some people swimming in the lake, which is against posted regulations.

On June 6, two girls, their father and another man who tried to rescue them drowned in a quarry near Camden in Preble County.

2001 Jun multiple fatalities at quarry OH

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Divers find 3 bodies in quarry pond

Associated Press

CAMDEN, Ohio - Divers recovered the bodies of two young sisters and a man from a quarry pond near this western Ohio town.

The girls' father remained missing early Friday. Investigators said he and the three others on Wednesday were swept into the waters of the abandoned gravel quarry after wading into a creek that fed the pond.

"We have recovered three of the bodies," Preble County Sheriff Tom Hayes said.

He said the bodies were close together in the middle of the quarry in about 12 feet of water. They were found 80 to 100 feet from where they disappeared beneath the surface.

Hayes identified the victims as Tara Wood, 11, and her sister, Josey, 9, and Russell Hileman, 37, all from the Camden area.

Authorities continued to look for the girls' father, Jim Wood Jr., for several hours. They called off the search temporarily late Thursday afternoon to rest the divers and clear the water of human scent so dogs could be used again in the search Friday.

The quarry is owned by Wy-song Gravel, but hasn't been used to mine gravel for years.

Investigators said the girls were fishing from the bank of the quarry about 5 p.m. Wednesday when they were pulled into the water by the current.

Their father went after them and also was pulled in.

Hileman was fishing nearby and jumped in to try to rescue the family.

But the Rev. Marvin Hocker of Higher Heights Church of God and Christian School, where the sisters were enrolled, said the girls' 12-year-old brother indicated that Josey jumped into the water to pull on his fishing line when she got swept under the water by the current.

Tara jumped in to rescue Josey but also was caught in the current, Rev. Hocker said the boy told him.

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