

*Drowns in Ore Pit*



**JOSEPH GRUTT**  
... was court all-star

**BOY DROWNS  
AFTER DIVING  
INTO QUARRY**

**Joe Grutt, Ontario  
School Athlete,  
Swim Victim**

Joseph Grutt, Union Hill 18-year-old Ontario High School athlete, drowned late yesterday afternoon in an abandoned water-filled iron ore bed near the Ridge Road in the Town of Ontario.

Members of the West Webster Volunteer Fire Department worked over the youth with an inhalator for more than an hour. He had been in the water 40 minutes before the body was recovered by Gerald Sotherland, 28, Union Hill, who was working in a nearby field.

Grutt, who had been named on the Democrat and Chronicle's Wayne County All-Star basketball team for the last two years, had gone to the ore bed, north of the Ridge Road and east of Town Line Road, with his brother, Louis, 24, and his cousin, Samuel Amico, 13, for a swim.

Grutt dived in, came to the surface and then disappeared, his companions told Trooper W. C. Japf of Williamson. Frightened, they and four other youngsters, Richard Barge, 13; John Starch, 11; Eugene Elke, 10, and Clarence Van Grove, 14, all of Union Hill, started seeking help. One of the boys summoned Sotherland while another ran to the Woodam farm.

The boy told Mrs. Ralph Witmer, wife of Ralph Witmer, Webster welfare officer, a visitor there, what had happened. She telephoned her husband and he in turn call the West Webster emergency squad under Assistant Chief Earl Slagel.

Coroner Arthur Bessemer, Marion, issued a certificate of accidental death by drowning. Two Rochesterians drowned in the 10 to 20 feet deep water of the bed last year.

Though known in Ontario and Northern Wayne County as Joe Grutt, the athlete's family name is Gruttaeaurio. He was graduated from Ontario High School in the class of 1940 and had been awarded the service letter for three years of competition in basketball and baseball by the school.

He leaves, besides his brother, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Gruttaeaurio, Union Hill, and two sisters.

**BOY HIT BY CAR  
IN STREET DASH**

A 5-year-old, curly-haired boy was critically injured yesterday noon when felled by a car as he chased a bounding ball near his home at 82 Anthony St.

Rushed to St. Mary's Hospital by a passing motorist, the youngster, Jewett Stoddard, later was reported in fair condition. Attendants said the lad suffered a fractured skull, arm, and face lacerations.

The boy according to police, was playing with a ball near his home when it rolled into Post Avenue. As he darted from behind a parked car, he was struck by a southbound car driven by Charles Fantauzzo, 49, of 503 Thurston Rd., police said.

An unidentified motorist carried the unconscious youngster to the hospital.

**TWO BECOME CADETS**

Alston L. Brown, son of Col. and Mrs. Carey H. Brown, 202 Vassar St. and Milan D. Barnes, son of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Barnes, 279 Grand Ave. have been sworn in as West Point Cadets, Barnes being assigned to the Fourth Co. and Brown to the Fifth.