

2 Cousins Fall Through Ice, Drown in Quarry

Two cousins fell through ice and drowned Saturday afternoon in an abandoned sand quarry north of Conshohocken.

The victims were Gregory Gallagher, 8, of 4035 LaFrance rd., Lafayette Hill, and Alan Wylie, 7, of 1330 Midland rd., Plymouth township.

The quarry, a favorite play area for children, is in a wooded area at Ridge pike and Colwell lane.

Police said the cousins had been missing since 3 P. M. when they left the Wylie home to play.

FOOTPRINTS SEEN

The boys were reported missing at 5 P. M. Sgt. Hugh Byrne, of Plymouth township police, checked the quarry, a half mile from the Wylie home.

He saw footprints etched in the snow-tinged ice. They led to a hole about eight feet from shore.

More than 100 police and volunteers from five area fire companies were called to the scene.

They launched two rowboats and began grappling operations. About 7:30 P. M., Gregory's body was recovered. Searchers pulled out Alan's body at 10 P. M.

WORK UNDER LIGHTS

The operations were conducted in the glare of searchlights from fire trucks.

The quarry is rimmed by dead trees and thick underbrush. The children apparently reached the quarry by a dirt road from Colwell lane.

Footprints Lead Police to Tragedy As Two Boys Drown in Quarry

CONSHOHOCKEN, (AP) — Sgt. Hugh Byrne of Plymouth township police found a clue Saturday in his search for two missing boys — footprints in the snow. The footprints led to tragedy.

The boys, Gregory Gallagher,



Montgomery Hospital

Norristown

Admitted: James Roberts, Conshohocken, medical; Erick Davis, Bridgeport, medical; Don Fox, Royersford, surgical; Keith Greger, Graterford, surgical.



Sacred Heart Hospital

Norristown

Admitted: Charlotte Todd, Wayne, surgical; Anthony Ser-marini, Collegeville surgical.

eight, and Alan Wylie, seven, were cousins. Gregory had been visiting Alan, and at 3 p. m. They decided to play in a wooded area near the Wylie home.

When they didn't return by 5 p. m., one of the parents phoned Byrne, who, with Sgt. Charles Young of Whitemarsh township police, began a search

Byrne came across the footprints and hopefully followed them. They led across snow-encrusted ice in an abandoned sand quarry about a half-mile from the Wylie house and about one mile from here.

About eight feet from the Quarry's edge the footprints ended. Byrne saw a hole in the ice.

Searchers recovered Gregory's body from eight feet of water at 7:30 p. m. An hour later Alan's body was found.

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