



Friends and loved ones comfort Peggy Jewell, in foreground, Monday evening as they watch volunteer firemen drag the Licking River below the Robinson Dam for her son, Larry Adams. The boy drowned in a

swimming accident, and reportedly became the third drowning victim claimed by the dam area in recent years.

Photo by Herb Brock

# Youth drowns at dam

By HERB BROCK

Larry Adams, 16, of Rt. 6, drowned Monday afternoon in the Licking River after he apparently got caught in a turbulent undertow below the Robinson Dam.

Adams had mounted a plastic raft, which reportedly was not inflated, and was whisked over the dam in a fast-rushing current which plunged him into the foamy waters below.

The accident occurred at about 5:10 p.m. Authorities set the time of drowning at 5:20 p.m. Adams' body was discovered at 8:15 p.m. at which time the youth was pronounced dead.

He was employed at Kentucky Fried Chicken and was a student at Harrison County High School.

Adams was the son of Peggy Jewell and Welborn Adams Jr.

Larry Douglas Adams is also survived by a brother, David Earl Adams, Berry; half-brother, Welborn Adams III, Berry; half-sister, Julie Adams, also of Berry; and step-sisters Rosemary Price and Donna Gail Jewell.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m., Thursday at Woodhead and Son Funeral Home in Berry with visitation on Wednesday, from 3 to 9 p.m. (Kentucky Fried Chicken will be closed for the funeral Thursday.)

Burial will be in the Pythian Grove Cemetery in Berry.

The Cynthiana Democrat and State Trooper Larry Carey pieced together the following details from interviews with eyewitnesses at the scene:

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## Larry D. Adams drowns at Robinson dam

(From front page.)

Adams, dressed in cut-off shorts, was swimming with three other young men, Teddy Selin, Harvey G. Hamm and Ronald C. Hamm. They got out of the water and dried off, but Adams decided to return to the river.

His swimming pals saw Adams stand on the dam, get on the limp raft and then spill over the dam. But they couldn't tell that anything had gone wrong.

At about that time, Alex Lyons, of Robinson, was driving across the Robinson Bridge on his motorcycle.

Lyons, who is familiar with the

dam and river, spotted the raft in the water and then yelled to Adams and then to Adams' friends on the river bank.

"He (Lyons) knew something might be wrong because the water rushes by real fast here," said an observer.

Adams apparently neither yelled nor motioned for help. His friends made a futile attempt to rescue Adams.

Trooper Carey was notified at 5:20 p.m. and some 10 to 12 Harrison County volunteer firemen arrived on the scene, using three motorboats to drag the area right

below the dam, which is 18 to 12 ft. deep.

Meanwhile, the youth's family gathered on a stone ledge near the dam to watch the grim proceedings. More than 50 persons lined the bridge to view the two and a half hour dragging operations.

Chris Crysler found the body at 8:15 p.m. in the foamy waters just below the dam and towed it to shore.

It reportedly was the third drowning at the popular swimming spot in recent years.