

## **Drowning in Elk River**

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge  
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### **Divers today are searching fervently for a 16-year-old drowning victim in Avery County.**

Nicholas Chad Hicks of Roan Mountain is believed to have drowned yesterday afternoon in Elk River. According to Sheriff Kevin Frye.

Hicks was swimming with a friend when he failed to resurface. The friend could not locate Hicks, Frye said.

Avery County Sheriff's Office does not believe drugs or alcohol were involved. Over forty people have been involved in the search. A body has yet to be found.