

Recovery effort over- body found

Written by Lauren Ohnesorge
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It's official- yesterday evening Avery County Sheriff Kevin Frye announced the body of 16-year-old Nicholas "Chad" Hicks had been located.

Hicks was found at approximately 1:45 p.m. yesterday. Hicks and a friend had been swimming Sunday when Hicks went under the water and did not resurface.

Hicks is survived by his father, Teddy Wayne Hicks, mother Deborah Ann Whicker, four sisters and a brother.

In a statement yesterday, Frye encouraged those with the jurisdiction to do so to make the Elk River Falls area off limits for swimmers.

Several teams assisted in the recovery effort, including area fire and rescue departments and dive teams from as far away as Asheville.