

Darkness Halts Search for Youth

Charles Malone, 18, Missing in River

News-Journal Bureau

MILTON—Darkness temporarily halted the search Monday night for Charles Malone, 18, of Milton who was reported missing in Blackwater River Sunday afternoon and presumed drowned.

Malone's 12-foot, shallow draft outboard boat was found Monday morning where it had run hard ashore near the mouth of Cooper's Basin, about two miles north of here.

The search began for the youth, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Malone of Milton, began Sunday when O'Neal Watford of Milton reported him missing.

Santa Rosa Sheriff Wade Cobb Sr. said Watford reported he and

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Malone were racing their boats in the river, with Malone trailing, when Malone disappeared about 2:30 p.m.

The youths had been working on their boats in preparation for a local July Fourth race, Cobb said.

Aiding Santa Rosa volunteers in the search Monday were personnel from the Milton Fire Department, skindivers from Escambia County Search and Rescue and Okaloosa County Search and Rescue, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, the Navy's Whiting Field and the Santa Rosa Sheriff's Posse which patrolled the shore.

The search will resume Tuesday, Cobb said.

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