Lansing State Journal

LOCAL

Police: Body of man found Saturday was missing kayaker



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Lansing State Journal

Published 3:55 p.m. ET March 12, 2018 | Updated 4:42 p.m. ET March 12, 2018

LANSING - Police have confirmed that a body found Saturday in the Grand River was that of a kayaker who went missing on Feb. 27.

Devon Jefferey Christmas, 24, of Bath Township, was last seen when his kayak capsized in the river near the Brenke Fish Ladder in the Old Town district.

The Capital Area Dive Team recovered his body after someone spotted something along the banks of the river on Saturday morning in the 100 block of Willow Avenue, at Washington Avenue.

The Ingham County Medical Examiner listed drowning as the cause of death, Lansing police said in a news release Monday afternoon.

Family members were on the scene Saturday morning when his body was recovered.

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Rescuers began searching on the evening of Feb. 27 after being told that a kayak had capsized and its occupant went into the water near the fish ladder.

Prior to Saturday, searchers had located only a kayak and paddle.

Police have said high waters following excessive rain and flooding in late February made the search along the Grand River challenging and dangerous.

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