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Breaking News

Alcohol overdose suspected in UI student's death

July 13, 2010, 11:08 am

A University of Idaho senior student was pronounced dead at Gritman Medical Center after a reported alcohol overdose.

Benjamin M. Harris, 21, originally from Burley, Idaho, was reportedly celebrating his 21st birthday Monday night, said Assistant Chief David Duke.

Emergency personnel responded to the Sigma Nu fraternity on Elm Street at 2:42 a.m. after friends reportedly found Harris unconscious.

Duke said Harris may have had as many as 15 shots in two and a half hours.

Officers located the male in his room on the third floor of the fraternity and began CPR, Duke said.

He was pronounced dead upon arrival on Gritman.


Preliminary investigation indicated the death was a result of a respiratory arrest caused by alcohol poisoning. The exact cause of death will be determined by the medical examiner after review of the toxicology reports.

No criminal charges are being considered at this time.

Harris is listed in the UI's directory as an architecture and interior design major.

For more on this story, see Wednesday's edition of the Daily News or DNews.com

Comment Section:

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