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Bloodhound Trails

Lost Girl Scholar

A large group of Boy Scouts yesterday joined in the search for 20-year-old Sylvia Plath, brilliant Smith College senior who mysteriously vanished Monday after leaving her Elmwood st., Wellesley, home.

Aided by a State Police bloodhound, police and nearly 100 volunteers concentrated their search for the literary scholar in a wooded area near her home and in the vicinity of Lake Waban and Morse's Pond, Wellesley.

The girl disappeared after leaving her mother, Mrs. Aurelia S. Plath, a Boston University professor [professor], a note which read: "am going for a hike and will be back tomorrow."

The bloodhound, brought from the State Police barracks in Andover [Andover], was hampered in picking up the girl's trail due to the heavy rains that fell Monday night.

State Police said a bottle containing [containing] about 50 sleeping pills was missing from the girl's room and it was believed she may have taken them with her when she left home.

Among relatives and volunteers taking part in the hunt for the student, who topped her class scholastically last year, was a close family friend, Col. Rex Gary, a former Army Intelligence officer.

The missing student, daughter of the late B.U. Prof. Otto Plath, had been under a doctor's care for several months due to a nervous [nervous] condition induced by her intense [intense] application to literary work. She won two college poetry awards and had stories and poems published in several top magazines [magazines].

Transcribed by Peter K. Steinberg, 11 September 2016.