



LINDA VEGTER endured the icy water of the Rock River last week when she was among those who rescued her sister Sharon, 3, and Bobby Anderson, 4. The Enterprise found Linda warm, dry and smiling in the office of Johannesen-Farrar, Inc., where she is employed.

(Delavan Enterprise photo)

Delavan, Janesville Children Rescued From Rock River

Two Delavan youngsters and a Janesville child were saved from the icy water of the Rock River last week by joint efforts of several adults. Involved in the rescue work were two sisters of one of the Delavan children.

Quick thinking and prompt action were credited with saving the three young lives.

Rescued from the water were Sharon Vegter, 3, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vegter, Theatre road, Delavan; Bobby Anderson, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Anderson, Delmar, Delavan Lake, and Mark Tschetter, 7, son of Mr. and Mrs.

Elgin Tschetter, S. Osborne street, Janesville.

The children fell into the water shortly after 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19 about 35 feet from the shore of Riverside Park, Janesville.

Families of the children were visiting in the home of the Daryl Vesterfelts, 1110 Hamilton street, Wednesday.

Involved in the rescue operations were Linda Vegter, 19; Mr. and Mrs. Vesterfelt and Tschetter. Daryl, 23, is the son of the Rev. Walter Vesterfelt, who formerly served as pastor

Rescue...

of the East Delavan Baptist church, and Mrs. Vesterfelt. Linda, 19, and Mrs. Vesterfelt (Diane), 22, are the daughters of the Henry Vegters.

Somehow Mark managed to escape from the water and came

running into the house, wet and hysterical. He was incoherent and the adults were unable to understand him, but they realized something was wrong, Mrs. Vegter told the Enterprise. Linda and Dianne ran outdoors immediately.

They saw their sister, Sharon, floating face down in the water and Bobby clinging onto the ice.

Linda and Dianne crawled out on the ice and reached the children before the ice beneath them gave away. Submerged in the water, they managed to pass Sharon to Daryl, Mrs. Vegter said.

Sharon had stopped breathing

and was turning blue. Daryl immediately applied mouth to mouth resuscitation and Sharon was revived.

The young women got Bobby out of the water, then they were pulled out by Mark's father.

The three children were taken to Mercy hospital for examination and released.

The heroes and heroines were lauded for their efforts in a Janesville Gazette editorial Monday.

The children had been playing in the yard and none of the adults were aware they had wandered off.