## Missing final-year varsity student found dead in Edo

Idahosa Moses | Benin

missing final year student of Microbiology at the Ambrose Alli University, Ekpoma, Edo State, has been found dead in Ekpoma, the headquarters of Esan West Local Government Area of Edo State.

The deceased, identified simply as Blessing according to reports, was allegedly declared missing by a close friend (name with-

held ) at the university.

According to sources, Blessing, who was last seen on Sunday, missed her examination scheduled for later that day.

It was learnt that messages allegedly sent from her phone claimed she had been kidnapped and that a ransom was being demanded.

Suspicion grew when Blessing's close friend, who initially raised the alarm, allegedly refused to let concerned univer-

sity students search her residence for the missing Blessing.

It was further gathered that acting on a tip-off, the police in Ekpoma reportedly discovered Blessing's decomposing body within the compound of her friend.

The Public Relations Officer of the state police command, Moses Yamu, confirmed the incident, saying that the command has commenced a preliminary investigation