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2008**

Teen escapes serious injury



Photo by Charles Mattox

Nicholas County Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Personnel responded rapidly to a single vehicle accident Friday afternoon when Jessica Berry, 18, lost control of her Ford Mustang, which left Old Pais Pike Road, clipped a telephone pole and overturned in a swollen stream. Berry was wearing a seat belt and was able to extract herself from the wreckage moments before responders arrived.

By Charles Mattox
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A Carlisle teen escaped serious injury during a single-vehicle accident on Old Pais Pike Friday afternoon. Emergency responders, including Nicholas County Firefighters, EMS personnel and Nicholas County Sheriff Dick Garrett, rushed to the scene at approximately 2 p.m. when Jessica Berry, 18, lost control of her 2003 Ford Mustang, which left the roadway, smashed through a utility pole, careened over an embankment, flipped and finally came to rest on its top in a swollen tributary of Big Brushy Creek.

Berry was able to extract herself from her overturned vehicle as water poured into the driver's compartment as rescuers arrived. EMS personnel quickly went to work assessing Berry's injuries and securing her for transportation to prevent additional injuries. Firefighters extended a ladder across the tributary of Big Brushy Creek as the waters continued rising due to recent heavy rains. They then passed Berry across the stream and carried her to an ambulance where she was then rushed to the Nicholas County Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. She was later released. "Everyone worked very well together and did a great job in helping Miss Berry," Garrett said. "I'm glad she was wearing her seat belt."

Shots fired; man stunned

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A Carlisle Police Officer had to subdue a man after he allegedly fired two shots at a Carlisle woman early Saturday morning. Carlisle Police Officer Kenneth Brockman arrested James B. "Brad" Glass, 35, at 1:41 a.m. Saturday morning, following a shoot-incident at Nicholas Square Apartments. Glass, formerly of Nicholas County, but who recently listed Mt. Sterling as part of his address, did not surrender peacefully.

Brockman was then able to handcuff Glass. He also found the pistol alleged to have been used by Glass. He also found empty shell casings that initial investigations matched to the pistol. Police say witnesses at the scene provided relevant information to officers during and after the arrest. Carlisle Chief of Police William Denton praised Officer Brockman's actions. "It was the first deployment of our Tasers and Officer Brockman used the taser effectively," Chief Denton said.

According to the three-page arrest citation issued against Glass, Brockman chased Glass through the apartment complex and eventually had to use his Taser gun against Glass when he would not surrender and refused to comply with police instruction.

Glass still did not comply after having been arrested and Brockman wrote on his citation that he appeared to be under the influence of alcohol and had a strong odor of alcohol on his person. His citation notes that once at the Carlisle Police Department, Glass "stomped and spit" and "ripped" Officer Brockman's O.C. holster from his side.

Police sources say that Glass fired two shots at a woman who after being chased by him had fallen down a flight of steps. The woman was not struck by either of the two shots fired at her according to police.

Glass was charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, wanton endangerment, resisting arrest, alcohol intoxication in a public place, menacing, defacing a firearm and possession of a defaced firearm. Glass is scheduled to be arraigned on the charges in Nicholas County District Court April 2. He is currently lodged in the Montgomery County Jail on \$5,000 cash, according to jail officials.

New cash crop discussed

Could the key to future economic stability for Nicholas County be something as simple as a blackberry? Approximately 25 area farmers joined former Governor Martha Layne Collins at the UK Extension Office in Carlisle, Friday to learn about a diversified agricultural project that could pump hundreds of thousands of dollars into the local economy and provide small farmers throughout northeastern Kentucky with a much needed cash crop.

Paige Shumate Short, CEO of Four Tapers LLC, spoke about the financial opportunities awaiting Nicholas County farmers if they chose to grow black berries. Short has been working diligently with farmers, scientists and educators on WindStone Farm to produce a blackberry that not only tastes delicious, but, one that could help cure cancer. "I feel good about this and I want Kentucky to be the leader," Gov. Collins said. "I'm very supportive of this program and I'm working as hard as I can. This will not be

like green peppers. You will have a market for your product." And according to Short, that market would be strong. "We need 13,500 acres worth of blackberries," she said while describing the wide range of products the berries and their extract are being used for. Short said the days of producing jams and jellies, as her father did, were being replaced with cutting-edge pharmaceutical uses developed from blackberry extracts.

Blackberries are rich in potent antioxidants and have strong anti-oxidant properties that are being used to stop the progression in certain cancers, according to Short. She described the process by which properties contained within the blackberries are extracted, condensed, and used for health care products. As the uses for the berries have expanded so has the need to produce them. "We're going to need a lot of

black berries," Short said. Blackberry extracts have also been used as feed supplements for livestock where the demand for that market alone would keep hundreds of local farmers busy. Short is asking all Nicholas countians to attend an April 8 meeting at the Extension Office when more finalized marketing and growing plans will be discussed.

She was quick to point out that though the market did fluctuate, farmers last year earned \$2.50 a pound for the berries. She also added that the berries could be grown on less fertile land than tobacco required, with an average yield of 2,000 pounds per acre and more.

Black berry growers would see no yields the first year and plants are currently priced at 1,000 plants for \$1,500, according to Short. Agriculture agent Mike Phillips, with the University of Kentucky Extension Office, said he believed in the financial future of the berries and

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Arson under investigation
Investigators have made no arrests in the wake of the bizarre incident that happened Feb. 25, during and alleged late night home invasion, arson and shooting on South Walnut Street, of time now before we have that left a Carlisle woman shot and investigators searching for two men who said perpetrated the crime. "I'm very limited in what I can say at this point," lead investigator into the case Kentucky State Police Detective Clinton Graves said
See ARSON Page 2

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