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The Carlisle Mercury

Vol. 142 No. 12 The Nicholas County News Since 1867 Wednesday, March 19, 2008

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**Mar
19
2008**

**By Charles Mattox
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Carlisle Chief of Police William Denton was shot Friday morning, as were several of his fellow officers. They were shot by special electric projectiles, which were fired from Taser guns.

It was part of some shocking training, in both the figurative and literal sense, for the lawmen that will soon be carrying the new weapons. Several of the officers volunteered to be shot with the Tasers so they could better understand the impact it had and so they could testify more accurately in any future court cases in which they may have to use the weapon.

The officers readily agreed on one point of their training and use of the weapon. "No one wants to be shot with a Taser gun. "It hurt worse than a gunshot," Police Sgt. Darrell Layne said while shaking his head from side to side during a break in the training. "When I got hit... Oh my God... I had no muscle control. My muscles tightened up until it felt like my bones were breaking."

Layne had been shot in 2002 with a .380 caliber pistol round that struck his arm. He said the Taser projectile was much more painful than the pistol projectile.

The Taser projectiles emit electrical shocks at a rate of 19 pulses per second. When the officer pulls the trigger, an electrical shock lasts for five seconds.

Regardless of how strong an individual may be, and regardless of what alcohol, narcotic or illegal substance the individual may be under the influence of, the results for everyone struck with the Taser projectiles are the same.

The electrical pulses cause the muscles in the body to tense and the subject to be totally incapacitated. The subject has absolutely no control of their body for five seconds that the Taser trigger is pulled.

"It was a long five seconds. Probably the longest five seconds of my life. I feel sorry for anyone we might have to Tase," said Carlisle Police Officer Mike Kiskaden after he was struck.

Others expressed their experience. "It seemed like it was slow motion. It was a burning sen-

sation and I couldn't move," fellow Carlisle Police Officer Kenneth Brockman said. The training was conducted by two officers with the Kentucky State Police Special Response Team (SRT) and involved several local lawmen, most with the Carlisle Police Department.

The standard cartridge can be fired effectively for 21 feet," said Sgt. Jeremy Slinker, when discussing the maximum range of the two projectiles that are fired from the Taser gun's minimum range cartridge. "These are very good less lethal tools for the police to use. This is not a cure all, but it does give the police officer an extra tool. Every situation an officer encounters is different."

KSP Trooper Tom Fyzik explained the technical applications of the new technology to the officers and described the various parts of the Taser gun. "No officer should ever consider the Taser as a replacement for deadly force," Slinker said and explained why voluntarily being shot with a Taser projectile is an asset for the officers. "It helps the officer com-

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Photo by Charles Mattox

'YOU TALKIN' TO ME?' Carlisle Chief of Police William Denton, far right, seems to ask, as fellow officers from R-1, Kenneth Brockman, Darrell Layne, Mike Kiskaden and Brad Weaver look on while receiving training last week from Kentucky State Police officers on Taser guns. With the appearance of a ray gun and an impact described as "decidedly worse than a bullet," Carlisle Police officers, who will soon be armed with the new weapons, say they believe the weapons will make the community safer.

Felony indictments returned

**By Charles Mattox
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Members of the Nicholas County Grand Jury met March 17 and returned felony indictments against two men and three women for drug trafficking charges. They also returned indictments against a woman for burglary and theft charges, and additionally indicted two brothers for burglary charges. The grand jury also returned "no true bill" against a man accused of wanton endangerment, who allegedly fired several shots from a rifle at the two brothers indicted for burglary. The grand jury also found a "no true bill" against a woman accused of rape.

Fernando Lopez, 36, of Miller's Station Road, Carlisle, was indicted on the charges of trafficking in a controlled substance, (cocaine) first degree, and trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces.

A codefendant in the case, Angie Sexton, 36, was also indicted on the charges of trafficking in a controlled substance, (cocaine) first degree, trafficking in marijuana, more than eight ounces but less than five pounds, and

trafficking in marijuana, less than eight ounces. Lopez was arrested Jan. 18, after a combined investigation spearheaded by agents with the Buffalo Trace Narcotics Task Force, Kentucky State Police from the Rifle Post and officers with Kentucky State Police Drug Enforcement Special Investigations.

A third codefendant in the case, Cecilio Navarro, 30, was indicted on charges of trafficking in a controlled substance (cocaine), first degree, and trafficking in marijuana, more than eight ounces, but less than five pounds. According to the indictments against Lopez, Sexton and Navarro, Detective Anthony Anderson, a veteran KSP detective who works with DSEI, testified to the grand jury regarding the two cases.

Indictments against the trio state that the charges allegedly occurred on Jan. 17 of this year in Nicholas County. Kathy Berry, 42, was indicted on the charges of trafficking in a controlled substance (hydrocodone), second degree, and trafficking in a controlled substance (alprazolam), third degree.

The alleged offenses occurred on Dec. 4, 2007, according to the grand jury indictment. Carlisle Police Officer Michael Kiskaden was the only witness called to testify to the grand jury in the case.

Joni Rose Middleton, 33, was indicted on the charges of burglary, first degree, and theft by unlawful taking, over \$300.

The alleged offenses occurred on Dec. 22, 2007, according to the indictment. Kentucky State Police Detective Clinton Graves was called to testify to the grand jury, according to the indictments.

Two Carlisle brothers: Brian Kimes, 18, and his brother Clayton Thomas Kimes, 21, were indicted for allegedly committing the offense of burglary, second degree, when they "knowingly entered or remained unlawfully in the dwelling of James Robert Williams" on Jan. 15, 2008, according to the indictments.

Nicholas County Deputy Sheriff Bennie Backler testified to the grand jury regarding the Kimes charges. Members of the grand jury failed, however, to return an indictment against Marlon Kearns, a neighbor of Williams' who allegedly fired several rounds from a rifle at the Kimes brothers during

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N.C.H.S. Site Based addresses controversy

**By Charles Mattox
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Great leaders understand sacrifice, but at what price should leadership among high school students come? A controversy that has been brewing in the halls of Nicholas County High School for several weeks was addressed in an open meeting of the Nicholas County High School-Based Decision Making Council (SBDMC) on March 13.

The subject concerned individual contracts between the school and those seeking to be class officers.

Contracts between the school and student officer nominees, which were signed by students at the beginning of the year, included stipulations that all class officers had to attend prom and the Senior Trip, or lose their position.

Students have been pushing for a revision of those contracts. "Under this system, it is mandated that senior class officers participate in Senior Trip, and that junior class officers attend prom. Without understanding the need for requiring student officers to be involved in class activities, we do not believe that seniors who want to lead their class should be forced to attend any event that requires them to pay a large sum of money," a letter to the members of the site based council dated March 4, and signed by The Executive Committee of the Student Council reads in part.

Student Council President Dustin Robinson was present at the meeting to answer any questions council members might have about the seven-page letter.

Robinson adamantly opposed the old policy as would be adopted by the council for next year and expounded upon the highly inflated costs of several senior activities and the embarrassment that would be caused to any officer in the future that

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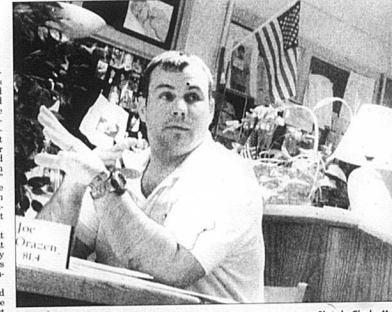


Photo by Charles Mattox

Joe Ozaen, Nicholas County High School Principal and Chairperson of the school's SBDMC, discusses a controversial class officer policy during last week's meeting of the school.

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