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# Four perish in tragic accident

By Charles Mattox  
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A young Carlisle man and three family members from Ohio, including a pregnant 18-year-old woman, lost their lives in a tragic two-vehicle accident along Lake Road two miles north of Carlisle, Friday, just as darkness descended upon the landscape.

William Robert Hughes, 20, of Carlisle, died as a result of injuries sustained in the accident, as did Jerome Hicks, 43, Charles Hicks, 18, and Charles Hicks' pregnant girlfriend, Mary N. Willcutt, 18, all of Cincinnati.

Carlisle Police Officers Ron Allison, Mark Snodgrass and Sgt. Darrel Layne, were dispatched to the scene after the Carlisle Dispatch Office received a call from Kentucky State Police Dry Ridge Post regarding the accident.

All 911 calls are automatically directed to the Dry Ridge Post regarding the accident.

Those on the scene say Hughes and Boone were ejected from the Hughes' vehicle following the collision. The Hughes' vehicle then caught

fire after coming to rest over 50 feet from the point of impact. EMS personnel worked feverishly to save the lives of those involved and dispatched two helicopters from the University of Kentucky Medical Center.

Other emergency responders coordinated efforts to close the road and assist at the scene. "It was the worst sight you can possibly imagine," one veteran emergency responder said of the scene.

Nicholas County Coroner Bill Clark, who pronounced each of the four accident victims dead at the scene, called the collision a "terrible, terrible tragedy."

Clark spent a sleepless night on the scene and transported the bodies to Frankfort for autopsies later the next morning.

He commented briefly upon his return. "The accident was very bad," he said in an exhausted voice laced with sadness and stress. "So very, very, very bad."

Only one occupant of the two vehicles survived the collision. Dylan Boone, 20, of Carlisle, remains hospitalized at the University of Kentucky Medical Center. "Dylan's healing and he's out of the intensive care unit

hours, Kentucky State Police, Carlisle Police Department, Nicholas County Sheriff, EMS and Fire Department responded to a two-vehicle accident in Carlisle. Mr. William Robert Hughes, 20 years of age, of Carlisle was driving a 1996 Chevy Camaro. Mr. Hughes was traveling northbound on Lake Road approximately 2.5 miles from Carlisle when he struck a 1999 Honda Accord traveling southbound. The Honda was driven by Mr. Jerome B. Hicks, 43 years of age, of Cincinnati. Mr. Hughes was attempting to pass a pickup truck and struck Mr. Hicks traveling in the opposite direction. Mr. Hicks, along with his two passengers, 19-year-old Mr. Charles L. Hicks, and 18-year-old Ms. Mary N. Willcutt, who was approximately seven months pregnant, all from Cincinnati were pronounced dead at the scene by the Nicholas County Coroner, Billy Clark. Mr. Robert Hughes was also pronounced dead at the scene. Mr. Hughes's passenger, Dylan Boone, 20 years of age, of Carlisle was transported to UK Medical Center and is now in stable condition. The accident remains under investigation by Trooper Chad Mills.

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partment. Through April 26, preliminary statistics provided by the Kentucky State Police indicate that 220 people have lost their lives on Kentucky roadways during 2009. This is three fewer than reported for the same time period in 2008. Of the 189 motor vehicle fatalities, 107 victims were not wearing seat belts. Thirteen pedestrians have been killed. Sixteen fatalities involved a motorcycle and two fatalities involved an ATV.

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Photo Courtesy of the Hughes Family  
William Robert "W.R." Hughes, 20, was an avid outdoor enthusiast who loved hunting, fishing and spending time in the woods.



Photo by Charles Mattox  
Flowers mark the spot where four lives were lost during a tragic accident April 24, along Lake Road, just north of Carlisle.



## 2009 Prom Candidates



Britanie Sosby



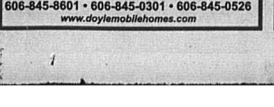
Jen Marcum



Jessica Gilkerson



Meghan Barnett



Chad Ockerman



Scott Clark



Tyler Hunt



Shane Sweet

Shane Sweet  
Shane is the 18 year old son of Jim and Carlette Sweet. He has been a member of the football team three years, and the basketball team for one year. He has also been involved in FFA for four years, and TSA for two years. After high school, Shane plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Scott Clark  
Scott Clark is the 18 year old son of Bill and Cathy Clark. He has attended Nicholas County High School for four years. Scott has been a part of the basketball team for three years and golf for one year. After graduation Scott plans to start an apprenticeship at Fayette Electric and earn his electrical license.

Chad Ockerman  
Chad Ockerman is the 18 year old son of Michael and Stephanie Sowell. He has been a member of the Student Technology Leadership Program, the Academic Team, the Chess Club, the Debate Club, Student Council, GATE, the Y-Club, the Principal's Club, National Honor Society, Football.

Britanie Sosby  
Britanie is the daughter of Jim and Carlette Sosby. She is currently attending Nicholas County High School. She plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Jen Marcum  
Jen Marcum is the daughter of Jim and Carlette Marcum. She is currently attending Nicholas County High School. She plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Jessica Gilkerson  
Jessica Gilkerson is the daughter of Jim and Carlette Gilkerson. She is currently attending Nicholas County High School. She plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Meghan Barnett  
Meghan Barnett is the daughter of Jim and Carlette Barnett. She is currently attending Nicholas County High School. She plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Chad Ockerman  
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Scott Clark  
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Tyler Hunt  
Tyler Hunt is the son of Jim and Carlette Hunt. He is currently attending Nicholas County High School. He plans to attend Mayville Community College with a major in Power Plant Technology.

Shane Sweet  
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## Lady Jackets capture Bluegrass Conference championship



Nicholas County defeated Model 12-2 on Saturday for the Bluegrass Conference Championship. Before defeating Model for the championship, Nicholas County posted wins over Berea, Burgin. The Lady Jackets also defeated Model in an earlier tournament game. More on Nicholas County's trek to the conference title follows.

Nicholas County 10, Berea 0. Shelby Brown pitched a five-inning shutout against Berea, allowing only two hits. Brown struck out only two batters.

The Nicholas County pitcher, however, kept Berea off balance the entire night, changing speeds and working on location. Morgan Kelly led a 14-hit Nicholas County offensive attack with three hits.

Shelby Sooby, Brittanee Sooby and Jessica Gilkerson had two hits apiece for the Lady Jackets.

Christian Dunn delivered an inside-the-park home run for Nicholas County. "Every starter in our lineup had a hit, which I was very proud of," Nicholas County Coach Barry Bretz noted.

Nicholas County 13, Burgin 2. In the semifinals on Saturday morning, Nicholas County jumped on Burgin early, scoring four runs in the bottom half of the fifth inning and four more in the second and third innings. Shelby Brown went the complete five innings for the Lady Jackets.

Morgan Kelly had three hits for Nicholas County. Shelby Sooby and Brittanee Sooby each collected two hits in the win. "We worked on some defensive adjustments during the game to ensure everyone was on the same page for our upcoming game

against Model," Bretz confided. "We cannot make some of the mistakes that we did in this game against Model and hope to win." Nicholas County 6, Model 5. "In our program talk to the team, I told the girls we were going up against the 11th Region Class 'A' champs who already have their ticket punched for Louisville," Bretz said following Nicholas County's championship victory. "This game would be a tough one and we had to stay focused, play hard, and be mentally tough." Model struck first, scoring a run in the first inning and would have had more, but a perfect relay strike from Brittanee Sooby to Jessica Gilkerson to Morgan Kelly got the runner going home to end the inning. Shelby Sooby led off the second inning with a walk and Petrea Mitchell was on deck. See CHAMPS Page 6

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