

POLICE SAY CLAY MAN AT FAULT IN FATAL WRECK

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State police have determined that a Clay County man was at fault in a fiery collision in which four people died Sunday on the Daniel Boone Parkway.

Based on physical evidence at the scene of the wreck 8.5 miles west of Manchester and interviews with witnesses, police concluded that Clyde Smith, 33, of Lockard's Creek was driving his car at an "apparent high rate of speed" and was traveling in the wrong lane of the parkway, said trooper Gilbert Acciardo Jr., public affairs officer for the London state police post.

Acciardo said police determined that Smith was traveling east in the westbound lane when his car collided head-on with a station wagon driven by Alaphair Dillard, 40, of Greenwood, Ind.

Smith and Bonnie Stoney, 31, of Lockard's Creek, who was a passenger in his car, died in the accident, as did Mrs. Dillard and her mother-in-law, Lucendia Barger, 56.

Smith's son Theodore, 8, and Mrs. Stoney's children, John Stoney Jr., 7, and Natasha Stoney, 2, were passengers in the Smith vehicle and were injured. All three remained in critical condition yesterday.

Mrs. Dillard's daughter Danielle, 8, also was injured in the crash and was in serious condition yesterday.

Drug-treatment program to continue:

Possibilities Unlimited, a drug-treatment program in Lexington, will continue to operate despite financial problems, a board member said last night.

Earlier in the month, two board members said that the program might have to shut down because of a drop in enrollment.

In a trial in Fayette District Court last month, program founder George Ross was cleared of unlawful-imprisonment charges brought by three people who said they had been held in the program against their wills.

Ross and several board members said publicity surrounding the trial deterred potential clients.

But at a meeting last night to decide the program's future, "The board was unanimous and firmly behind the program," Vice Chairman Joe Hawkins said.

He said the organization had good prospects of raising the needed money.

Man arrested on marijuana charges:

Police raided an apartment at 235 South Limestone Street and arrested a Lexington man yesterday after a police officer spotted marijuana growing on the building's back porch.

Henry L. Wallace, 31, was charged with possession of marijuana, cultivation of marijuana, possession of codeine, possession of Valium and possession of hashish, officer J.R. Dixon said.

Several hundred unidentified pills were also confiscated at the house, detective Ray Debolt said.

Wallace was in the Fayette County Detention Center last night in lieu of \$5,000 bond.

Woman charged with child abuse:

A Lexington woman has been charged in connection with the alleged abuse of two of her three children, police said yesterday.

Annette Clay, 22, of 839 Charles Street was accused of bruising her son and daughter when she allegedly spanked them with a high-heeled shoe, detective Dell Jones said.

She was charged with third-degree criminal abuse.

All three of her children, ranging in age from 1 to 6 years old, were taken into protective custody, he said.

Ms. Clay was in the Fayette County Detention Center in lieu of \$2,000 bond.

Plane crash injures 3 in Letcher:

Three members of a Wake Forest, N.C., family were injured yesterday when their small airplane crashed in Letcher County.

State police said Warren Ray Ward, 46, suffered a broken back when the single-engine Piper Cherokee he was piloting crashed on a hillside 1,000 feet off U.S. 119 in the Payne Gap area, 10 miles north of Whitesburg.

Ward's wife, Janice, 42, and his 20-year-old son, Kendall, received minor injuries in the crash, which occurred at 3 p.m.

The plane was on its way from Illinois to North Carolina when it went down. The cause of the accident was not known yesterday.

State police dispatcher Sue Allen said the Wards were taken to Jenkins Community Hospital and were then transferred to a hospital in Kingsport, Tenn.

The Federal Aviation Administration was notified of the crash and will investigate.

Senator's wedding delayed:

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell and Pam Schultz have postponed their wedding, an aide to the Republican senator from Kentucky said.

The ceremony had been scheduled for Dec. 28.

Janet Mullins said the two were still engaged, but she declined to give any other details.

McConnell, 43, and Miss Schultz, 30, announced their engagement in May.

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