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# Southern



# Standard



Lacy Garrison photo Alex Delane testifies from the witness stand Friday afternoon. The jury deliberated nine minutes before finding him not guilty.

### Suspect not guilty of rape

#### Jury returns verdict after nine minutes

**BY LACY GARRISON** 

Reporter for the Southern St (McMinnville, Tennessee)

Day two of the rape trial against Alexander Delane continued Friday at the Warren County Courthouse. After only nine minutes of deliberation on Friday afternoon, the jury delivered a verdict of not guilty for aggravated burglary and attempted

Several witnesses affirmed that the alleged incident took place more than two years ago at a cabin in Rock Island. When questioned about the events of that night, they admitted to a night of heavy drinking, marijuana use and socializing, but none of them could testify they witnessed the actual rape.

The alleged victim herself testified on day one she did not remember the rape. She was put to bed by friends because of a high state of intoxication and Delane was later seen lying on top of her in bed.

Witness Jessica Bost, RN and sexual assault nurse, said she examined the victim at Saint Thomas River Park Hospital. According to the medical reports read by Bost, the victim denied vaginal pain at the time of the pelvic exam, her condition was marked "good" and there was no evidence of sexual trauma.

Continued on 3A

# Flipped while fleeing



The Chevy Cavalier of Jason Brown flipped after it made contact with the Nissan Sentra driven by Lola Griffith, sending both to Saint Thomas River Park Hospital on Friday afternoon. Brown was reportedly fleeing from a deputy when the crash took place on Shellsford Road near its intersection with Zera Hillis Road.

#### Brown causes crash on run from deputy

BY JAMES CLARK Editor for the Southern Standard (McMinnville, Tennessee)

A motorist who reportedly tried to encourage a Warren County deputy to chase him crashed and flipped his car

Friday afternoon in the Mt. Leo area. McMinnville resident Jason Brown, 43, is expected to face charges for the wreck that hospitalized him and the female driver of the other car.

"I'm sure we'll be filing some charges against him, but I'm not exactly sure what," said Sheriff Jackie Matheny.

Lola Griffith, 75, also of McMinnville, was transported to Saint Thomas River Park for treatment of her injuries.

According to Sheriff Matheny, deputy Brystol Davis was sitting in the Dollar General parking lot in Mt. Leo when a gold-colored Chevy Cavalier passed him around 2 p.m. The car was driving so erratically, it prompted Davis to turn on his blue lights in an effort to get the driver to

However, Brown ignored the blue lights and instead led the deputy on a chase down several roads in the Mt. Leo area. Matheny said his deputy turned off his lights and decided to stop chasing the suspect but continued to patrol the area.

"He came upon him again sitting at a stop sign. It was like he was at the stop sign waiting on him," Matheny.

It was the same scenario as before with deputy Davis reportedly turning on his blue lights and Brown speeding away refusing to stop. But this time produced different results.

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SHERIFF JACKIE **MATHENY** 

As Brown was traveling west on Shellsford Road, he lost control of his vehicle. That's when he entered the path of Griffith, who was traveling east on Shellsford Road in a silver Nissan Sentra.

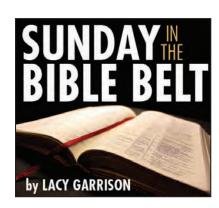
"He lost control of his vehicle and went sideways in a yawl," said state trooper Rodney Whiles, who investigated the crash.

That's when the Brown and Griffith vehicles collided, causing major front-end damage to Griffith's car and causing Brown's car to flip

onto its roof.

"Blood was drawn for an alcohol and drug test and charges are pending," said Whiles in reference to potential legal trouble for Brown.

## Seasons of worship



Walking into the sanctuary of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, you'll see handmade banners in various colors that represent the liturgical seasons. For Lutherans, color plays an important role in worship and complements the message of the seasons and occasions during the church

Pastor David McMinn says the first season is Advent, then Christmas, followed by Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost, which is the longest season of the year.

'We're in the season of Pentecost and the colors are green," said McMinn while gesturing toward the banners displayed at the front of the sanctuary. "You have the



After paying off the mortgage of the church building this year, Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church had a celebratory note burning service. Pictured, from left, are congregational president Michael Twitty and head of elders Paul Cathcart, while pastor David McMinn watches.

net, which is the Word of God, which catches fish, us, and connects us to what Christ did on the cross so that's the symbolism there.'

As a confessional Lutheran Church, the congregation subscribes to the Lutheran Confessions contained in the Book of Concord of 1580 as true exposi-

tions of Holy Scripture, the written Word of God. Since it's a liturgical congregation, they use various orders of service found in the Lutheran Service Book, which is provided in a bulletin that members and visitors can use during worship.

Continued on 7A

#### City to consider **keeping Brock**

**BROCK** 

Reporter for the Southern Standard (McMinnville, Tennessee)

Bill Brock may have another chance at retaining the title of city administrator. McMinnville officials will be discussing that possibili-

ty Tuesday night during the 7 p.m. Board of Mayor and Aldermen meeting. On the agenda is "consider hiring Bill Brock as city administrator, under the line item "unfinished

business." In July, officials amended city code as it pertains

to the city administrator position. They removed, "Minimum qualifications shall include a college degree, and training or experience in municipal management or business administration," and put in

its place, "Minimum qualifications shall include a college degree in business administration, or a college degree in municipal administration, or experience or training in municipal management, or training or experience in business

> That change in the job description was unanimously made as an

administration."

attempt to allow Brock, who has been interim city administrator for four years, to apply for the job when the search for a permanent replacement

begins. He does not meet the minimal qualification of a college degree as required in the prior description.

The city has yet to publicize the position, which is essentially a city manager, as



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