Police find pot; eight arrested

Teens taken into custody during investigation

By Paige E. Wassel
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While investigating a break-in at a Greenwood home where a man took items just a few feet away from where a child slept, police discovered several teens smoking marijuana at another home.

Eight teens were arrested after county sheriff's officers visited 3801 Southwind Terrace, southwest of State Road 135 and Fairview Road, in the Center Grove area. The teens reportedly admitted they were smoking marijuana, according to a Johnson County Sheriff's Office report.

Five men were arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance and released on $1,000 bond from the Johnson County jail:

- Eric Lowell Spearing, 19, 4236 Woodland Streams Drive, Greenwood
- Nolan Lyle Davis, 19, 234 Pennswood Drive, Greenwood
- Ian Stuart Judd, 19, 938 Briarwood Drive, Greenwood
- Patrick Aubrey Darlington, 19, 840 Sable Creek Lane, Greenwood
- Nicholas Daniel Barkhaus, 18, 2929 Buckskin Drive, Vincennes

Matthew Mark Hallett, 18, 1512 Thames Drive, Greenwood, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana/hashish, visiting a common nuisance and possession of paraphernalia. He was released on $3,000 bond.

Blake Andrew Couch, 19, 812 Sable Ridge Drive, Greenwood, was arrested on charges of possession of marijuana/hashish and visiting a common nuisance. He was released on $2,000 bond.

A 17-year-old boy who was hosting the party was taken to the Johnson County Juvenile Detention Center.

Sheriff's officers were trying to locate Barkhaus at the home because his parents said he might have information about a break-in that happened at their house Saturday morning.

Barkhaus' mother said she had awakened at 5:20 a.m. to banging sounds in her 8-year-old son's upstairs bedroom, the report said.

A man she didn't know ran out the front door, dropping a black bag that had CDs, DVDs and a portable DVD player in it. At the bottom of the stairs, the man also dropped an X-box video game system, DVDs and other games, the report said.

The woman told police that her son might be at a friend's house.

Barkhaus and several other teens tried to run out the back door when officers called Barkhaus on his cell phone and asked him to come out of the home, the report said.

As officers stopped the men, they could smell marijuana, the report said.

Officers found a fake identification card on Crouch and a plastic bag of marijuana in his pants pocket, the report said.

Hallett had marijuana rolled in a cigarette paper in a blue container in his pants pocket, the report said.

In the Southwind subdivision home, officers found three small tins of marijuana, a glass water pipe, two glass smoking pipes, a large cloth bag that had marijuana residue inside, a metal sifter with marijuana residue, razor blades, scrapers, digital scale instructions, a small plastic bag, an ashtray and an urn with burned marijuana cigarettes inside, the report said.

STAFF PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERSON/sroberson@thejournalnet.com

Franklin firefighters investigate the scene of a Mauxferry Road house fire on Wednesday afternoon. Department spokesman Eddie Daugherty said the blaze was caused by a problem with the home's wood-burning stove.

Women elude knife-wielding abductors

By Michael W. Hoskins
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Two women escaped a robbery in Greenwood early Wednesday after two men held a knife to their throats, forced them into a car and demanded money, police said.

No money was taken, but the men got away and have not been found, said Greenwood police Detective Matt Fillenwarth.

The incident happened about 1:20 a.m. Wednesday outside Pepper's at 299 State Road 135, according to a police report.

The women, ages 33 and 25, were walking outside to their car when a heavyset man approached, put a knife to the throat of one of the women and threatened to kill her, the report said. She told police he was wearing dark jeans and a dark hooded sweat shirt.

He forced the women into the car, and another man approached and got in the driver's seat, the report said.

One of the men asked for money, and the woman in the front said she did not have any but could get some, the report said.

Before the man could start the car and drive away, one woman hit the unlock button, and the two escaped and ran screaming toward Pepper's, the report said.

One of the men followed, but then they ran north through the parking lot, the report said.

The women later told police that the knife appeared to be a hunting knife with jagged edges on both sides, the report said.

Anyone with information can contact the Greenwood Police Department at 882-9191.

CAN YOU HELP?

Were you in the area of Pepper's, 299 State Road 135 in the Center Grove area, about 1:20 p.m. Wednesday? Did you see two men running north from the restaurant? If so, call Greenwood police at 882-9191.

Man escapes house fire without injury

By Jo Ellen Werking Weedman
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Neighbors alerted an elderly Franklin man that his house was burning on Wednesday.

Jerry Relken, 68, was taken out of his house by neighbors after they noticed flames shooting through the roof of the two-story home.

Franklin firefighters responded to a call at 2:14 p.m. about a fire at 1645 Mauxferry Road.

Firefighters did not hear any smoke detectors when they arrived and will investigate whether the home had working smoke detectors, department spokesman Eddie Daugherty said.

Relken said he was trying to light a fire in a wood-burning stove and the house filled with smoke. He said he turned off the smoke detectors and turned on fans to clear out the house.

Neighbors noticed the flames coming out of the house and came over to alert Relken.

Relken, who has rented the house for 35 years, was not injured in the fire. Gene Wilham owns the house, which is more than 100 years old.

Investigators determined the fire was a result of a problem with the wood-burning stove. The house was a total loss, Daugherty said.

Relken told fire department personnel he didn't need any help with emergency housing.

Franklin called the Trafalgar Fire Department for help putting the fire out, and other departments were on call at Franklin stations, Daugherty said.

Daily Journal photographer Scott Roberson contributed to this report.

ON THE RECORD

Police/fire

Franklin

Thefts

- 1900 block of Puller Place: A woman reported that someone stole a ladder from her backyard between Saturday evening and Tuesday morning.
- 3100 block of Compass Drive: A woman reported that she discovered her car doors unlocked and her trunk open about 5 p.m. Monday. Someone entered the vehicle and stole a planner containing ID cards, credit cards, a checkbook and $20 in cash.
- 600 block of East Jefferson Street: A woman reported that someone broke a window out of her car and stole a leather bag between 12:30 p.m. Tuesday and 7:40 a.m. Wednesday.

Property-damage accidents

- 3:28 p.m. Tuesday — Dollar Tree parking lot
- 4:52 p.m. Monday — U.S. 31 and Commerce Drive
- 2:30 p.m. Monday — U.S. 31 and South Street

Greenwood

Theft

- 1500 block of Peck Street: A man reported Tuesday that someone broke into a mobile home within the past month and stole a computer modem and several bottles of cologne and coats.

Criminal mischief

- 800 block of West Smith Valley Road: A man reported at 12:37 a.m. Wednesday that someone broke the rear windows out of three vehicles in his driveway. He reported hearing a loud noise about midnight.

Personal-injury accidents

- 5:50 p.m. Tuesday — Honey Creek Road and Dryer Boulevard: Bradley Scott Gonterman, 18, New Whiteland. Gonterman complained of shoulder or upper arm pain.
- 2:32 p.m. Tuesday — Madison Avenue, south of County Line Road: Jason A. Smith, 29, English; Sandra G. Herrin, 39, Greenwood. Herrin complained of neck pain.

Johnson County

Burglary

- South State Road 135 and County Road 700N, White River Township: A construction employee reported Tuesday morning that someone used a backhoe to move a trailer and break into it. Nothing appeared to have been stolen.

Jail bookings

The following people recently were arrested and booked into the Johnson County jail:

Michael Kelly Gaddy, 30, 18645 Bowman Road, Spring Hill, Fla.; arrested on a charge of driving without ever having a license; released on $1,000 bond.

Sean Christopher Byrd, 24, 1881 S. Meridian St., Greenwood; arrested on a charge of driving without ever having a license; released on $2,000 bond.

Adam James Bivens, 23, 407 N. State St., Indianapolis; arrested on charges of possession of marijuana/hashish and being a habitual traffic violator; held on $12,000 bond.

Victoria Gonzalez Ovalle, 34, 7248 W. Stones Crossing Road, Lot 112, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of driving without ever having a license; released on $2,000 bond.

Stephen V. Black, 43, 2462 Mann Drive, Beech Grove; arrested on a charge of public intoxication; held on $1,000 bond.

Jennifer L. Schott, 37, 6936 Governors Point Drive, Indianapolis; arrested on charges of contempt and auto theft or receiving stolen parts; held on $3,250 bond.

Erica J. Riordan, 26, 515 N. Meridian St., Greenwood; arrested on a warrant for violation of probation; held without bond.

Blake Andrew Couch, 19, 812 Sable Ridge Drive, Greenwood; arrested on charges of possession of marijuana/hashish and visiting a common nuisance; released on $2,000 bond.

Ian Stuart Judd, 19, 938 Briarwood Drive, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance; released on $1,000 bond.

Nicholas Daniel Barkhaus, 18, 2929 Buckskin Drive, Vincennes; arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance; released on $1,000 bond.

Eric Lowell Spearing, 19, 4236 Woodland Streams Drive, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance; released on $1,000 bond.

Nolan Lyle Davis, 19, 234 Pennswood Drive, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance; released on $1,000 bond.

Patrick Aubrey Darlington, 19, 840 Sable Creek Lane, Greenwood; arrested on a charge of visiting a common nuisance; released on $1,000 bond.

Matthew Mark Hallett, 18, 1512 Thames Drive, Greenwood; arrested on charges of possession of marijuana/hashish, visiting a common nuisance and possession of paraphernalia; released on $3,000 bond.

David G. Wagers, 25, 1653 Crescent St., Franklin; arrested on a warrant for violation of probation; held without bond.

Elzar Hargis Jr. v. Kerry Hargis

Dissolutions of marriage

Greg Collins v. Pam Collins
Melissa Brooks v. Aaron Brooks
Meranda Tennell v. Michael Tennell
Jamie Ambrose v. Paul Ambrose
Michelle Seibert v. Jason Seibert
Betty Sutton v. Earl Sutton
Luana Reed v. Omar Reed
Timothy Woodcock v. Nikki Woodcock
Kimberly Mason v. Gregory Hommel
Patsy Krauskopf v. Thomas Krauskopf
Cathy Alvey v. Douglas Alvey
Melony Shonk v. Robert Shonk
Dennis Knapp v. Deborah Knapp
Stacey Harmon v. Edwin Harmon
Jimmy Hart II v. Joanne Hart
Linda Bacor v. Michael Bacor
Thomas Evans Jr. v. Kimberly Evans
Roseann Strouse v. Samuel Strouse
Christian Ballast v. Pamela Ballast
Michaele Hatfield v. Fikret Sekeroz
Janet Moran v. Jeffrey Moran
Larry Herald v. Mattie Herald
Elizabeth Adkins v. Joseph Adkins
Donald Mackenzie v. Karen Mackenzie
Esther Moore v. Jerry Moore
Andre Raper v. Alana Raper
Tonya Matthews v. Teddy Matthews
Nanette Cook v. John Hines Jr.
James Burk v. Tammera Burke
David Critser v. Wilma Critser
Carrie Devos v. James Devos
Tricia Perez v. Ricardo Perez-Garcia
Kathryn Bogard v. Stephen Bogard
George Hammon v. Denise Hammon
Lillie McCarty v. Johnny McCarty
Daniel Taylor v. Debra Taylor
Brett Wagner v. Heather Wagner
Andrea Maness v. Bryan Webb
Robert Zajdel v. Victoria Zajdel
Kimberly Hacker v. Robert Hacker Jr.
Maria Hartman v. Charles Hartman
Tyna Cole v. Patrick Cole
Kristi Kerner v. Kevin Kerner
Troy Watters v. Teresa Watters
Ernest Early v. Cynthia Early
Lonnie Mansfield v. Shannon Mansfield
Justin Reeves v. Sarah Reeves
Lisa Cheek v. Steven Cheek II
Torrie Brown v. Andy Brown
Christopher Strong v. Kathleen Strong
Doreen Muench v. William Muench
Terri Creek v. Edward Creek Jr.
Brian Syra v. Angela Syra
Timothy Smith v. Ruthie Smith
Crystal Johnson v. Mitchell Johnson
Crystel Waltz v. Brent Waltz
Pamela Harris v. Michael Harris
Daniel McTarsney v. Tommi McTarsney
Robin Melton v. Kenneth Melton
Lisa Squier v. Brian Squier
Stephen Giuliana v. Barbara Giuliano
David Farahan v. Victoria Farahan
Nicole Long v. Christopher Long
Larry Holler v. Melita Holler
Nicholas Wiegand v. Heidi Wiegand
Jeremy Summers v. Angela Summers
Leeanna Fenner v. Mark Fenner

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