

S.K.I.D. scenario as real as possible in hopes it won't happen

The following is based on a dramatization of S.K.I.D., Stop Kids Intoxicated Drinking presented at Vernonia High School on April 25.

On Saturday, May 5, before going to the Prom at Vernonia High School (VHS), Nandi Van Meter, a student at VHS, went out with friends Joreigh Landers, Dylan Vaughn and Caleb Rice. Each of them has dreams and plans for the future; — families, jobs, school, etc.

Nandi, Joreigh, Dylan and Caleb went to a party with other Vernonia classmates. In 45 minutes, Joreigh, Dylan and Caleb drank a case of beer and smoked marijuana with their friends. Nandi didn't drink or drug.

When they leave the party, Joreigh ends up driving, Nandi is in the front passenger seat without a seatbelt. Dylan and Caleb are in the back seat. Their vehicle is approached from the opposite direction by a vehicle driven by Brittny Lindauer with her father, Terry, in the passenger seat.

Joreigh is driving about 60 mph, when she swerved into the lane of oncoming traffic.

NOTHING WILL EVER BE THE SAME AGAIN.

SKID...CRASH!!!

The other car was traveling about 45 mph. The vehicles collide head-on with an impact speed of 105 mph.

The news report read:

There was a serious auto accident on Hwy 47 at McDonald Road on May 5, at 7:45 p.m. Two vehicles were involved. Nandi Van Meter, a passenger in one of the cars, was ejected through the windshield and was killed. She was not wearing a seatbelt. It is reported that her friend Joreigh Landers, who was driving, swerved into oncoming traffic and hit another car head-on. Landers received minor injuries, as did the other two passengers in the vehicle,

Dylan Vaughn and Caleb Rice. The two people in the other vehicle, Brittany and Terry Lindauer, were critically injured, one was life-flighted out. No information on those two victims' condition was available at press time.

According to the Vernonia Police Department, drugs and alcohol were a factor in the collision.

If convicted of Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI) and Involuntary Manslaughter, Joreigh Landers could face years in prison. A prison sentence is nothing compared with living with the fact that her actions caused Nandi Van Meter's death.

The S.K.I.D. program brings almost \$4 million in personnel

and equipment to schools in an effort to stop people from dying. The program has reached 53,000 people in the nine years it has been going. Here are the people who made it possible: Vernonia Police Department; Vernonia Fire Department; Life Flight Network Helicopter; Metro West Ambulance; Columbia County 911 Dispatchers; R&R Towing; Tom Jacobs; Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home; and the staff and students at Vernonia Middle School, Vernonia High School, and Jewell School.

The problem of drinking and driving is a critical one to our society. There is no instant cure for the problem of drunk driv-

ers. PLEASE DON'T DRINK OR USE DRUGS. If you see someone who is drinking or using drugs, don't let them drive.

The events related in this article are fictional. Don't make this scenario real by drinking and driving.



Above; Brooke Van Meter, on the left, gave a dramatically powerful performance as the mother of the deceased. Other pictures show additional scenes from the presentation.



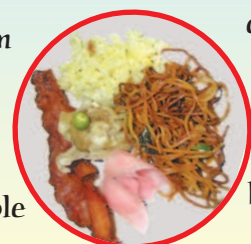
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