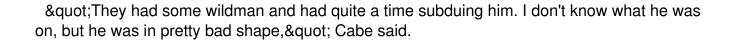
A deputy responding to a man in the middle of the road in Wilkes County got more than he bargained for yesterday.

The deputy saw a vehicle parked to the side of N.C. Highway 18 South and a man laying in the middle of the roadway just before midnight. When he stopped to help the man up, a struggle ensued, Captain Steve Cabe says.



According to Cabe, the suspect actually kicked a deputy in the leg.

Eventually, the suspect was transported to Wilkes Medical Center, where he was heavily sedated, so much so, that he was later transported to Frye Regional Medical Center.

That suspect, 25-year-old Paul Douglas Absher Jr. from Alexander County, was charged with assault on a government employee and will likely face further charges.

The deputy declined medical treatment.