

## Three Hurt in Watauga Weekend Wrecks

Written by Steve Frank  
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A Watauga County man was injured early Sunday morning when his vehicle left the road and slammed into at least three trees. The wreck was reported at 3:40am as occurring on Payne Branch Road, but trooper Alexander said it actually occurred on Middle Fork Road, and said that Tristin Daniel Royal Rattler was the driver of the 2004 Chevy Trailblazer that ran off of the road to the left and into the trees. Alexander said that Rattler suffered head cuts in the crash, and that Watauga Medics transported him to Watauga Medical Center, where the George Triplett Road man was treated—then cited—for both Left of Center and Driving While Impaired.

Trooper Alexander also reported on a Florida Family, running off of US 321 North near Skateworld late Saturday morning, their 2008 Nissan Altima going airborne as it left the road. The crash was at about 11:05 Saturday morning in the 2200 block of US 321 North, and occurred as a woman tried to take a curve too fast, her vehicle running off of the road, off the embankment, then slamming nose-first after flying through the air a short distance. Alexander said that the vehicle nearly flipped after the nose-dive, but just barely missed that, landing back on its wheels. Alexander said that the woman had three children and two dogs in the car, and although the wreck was called in as no injury, two from the wreck, including at least one child, were taken by Watauga Medics to Watauga Medical Center after injuries were determined by arriving law enforcement. Both were treated and released, according to Alexander.