

OSP finds marijuana at I-5 crash

Oregon State Police troopers arrested three men Saturday night, July 15 after responding to a roll-over crash near Rogue River and finding more than 13 pounds of marijuana with a street value of some \$40,000.

Preliminary investigation indicated that a 2002 Ford Explorer driven by Scott Firkus, 35, was northbound on Interstate 5 when it drifted into the center median and rolled several times.

Firkus was accompanied by passengers identified as Matthew Kehoe, 23, and William Walker, 34, all from the Portland area.

The three were eventually lodged at the Jackson County Jail, each on a charge of felony unlawful possession and distribution of marijuana.

All were using safety restraints in the approximately 6:30 p.m. crash. OSP Sgt. Mark Byrd and Senior Trooper Greg Costanzo, with his drug dog “Cookie” responded.

Firkus was not injured. Walker suffered minor scrapes and bruises, but was not transported for treatment. Kehoe was transported to Three Rivers Community Hospital in Grants Pass where he was treated and released for minor injuries.

“Cookie” and the troopers detected an odor of marijuana coming from a large duffel bag.

They subsequently discovered approximately 13.5 pounds of marijuana with an estimated street value of \$40,000.

Hot topics bandied about at CJ Security Council meet

(Continued from page 1)

Krauss related that he asked at least twice if an ambulance was needed for Bockstiegel. He said that a person with the injured man told him that she was medically trained and that an ambulance was not needed. The deputy said he offered other help, but that it was refused.

He added that two women with the victim gave different stories. One said, he recalled, that Bockstiegel, because of intoxication, fell and injured his head. Another, Krauss reported, told him that the man had been assaulted. The deputy also stated that he did not see the “puddle of blood” described by some.

After a considerable amount of commentary by

Jumper strikes rocks, dies

A transient who reportedly said, “Everybody hates me,” before jumping from a small bridge over Illinois River, died of his injuries Saturday night, July 15, said Josephine County Sheriff’s Office (JCSO).

The victim, identified as Steven Doyle Pope, 44, was said to have jumped feet-first from a bridge estimated at no more than 15-feet tall near Six Mile Campground out Illinois River Road.

He fell into an extremely shallow area, said Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD) and suffered a large hole in the back of his head after landing, IVFD said.

Some persons on scene administered CPR and other first aid to no avail.

A five-member IVFD rescue team, plus command staff, answered an alarm with American Medical Response (AMR) at approximately 10:12 p.m.

Daniel exits county race due to health

Citing unforeseen medical issues, candidate Dave Daniel has filed the paperwork with the county clerk’s office to withdraw from the race for a seat on the Josephine County Board of Commissioners.

Daniel, somber-faced and wearing civilian clothes while speaking from notes, made the emotional announcement Tuesday morning, July 18 in the foyer of the county courthouse in Grants Pass. In a brief statement, and surrounded by family members, Daniel expressed his apologies to those who might feel let down by his decision.

His immediate plans, he said, are to finish his second term as top officer with the Josephine County Sheriff’s Office. The term will expire at the end of December.

Asked if he had any reflections, Daniel stated that he has been in law enforcement since 1971. He added that his crowning moment occurred when the sheriff’s office became one of only three to be accredited in Oregon. He hopes that the accreditation



Sheriff Dave Daniel at his announcement of withdrawing from the county commissioner race, accompanied by his wife, Gayle, (center) and his campaign chairman, Cheri Adkins. He was later also joined by his mother and two sisters. (Photo by Bryan Harley)

will serve as his legacy.

In response to a question, Daniel said that he could not support any other commissioner candidates at this time.

The small crowd at the announcement, with newspaper and television reporters, included all three current county commissioners. Daniel said he did not want to provide details of his medical situation.

He was to face Illinois

Valley resident Dave Toler in the Nov. 7 general election after they emerged as the top two candidates in the May primary election.

Selma resident James Rafferty this week announced that he is running as a write-in candidate for the county board. He was a candidate in the primary.

(IVN Staff Writer Bryan Harley and other IVN staffers contributed to this story)

Insomnia complaints cause eye-opening data

Here are some eye-opening numbers: Insomnia affects more than 70 million Americans and is one of the most common complaints doctors hear from their patients.

In the 2005 Sleep in America poll, the National Sleep Foundation found that 75 percent of adults reported having at least one symptom of a sleep problem a few

nights a week or more within the past year. There are many options consumers can try.

For instance, studies show that cognitive-behavioral therapy, which addresses the anxiety-producing beliefs about sleep and sleep loss, can be as effective as prescription drugs for short-term treatment of insomnia.

Another alternative to medication is to use a calming produce like Insomnia, from the “Spray” line of sublingual sprays. A combination of natural remedies, it can relieve the anxiety and stress that make falling asleep difficult.

For information, phone (866) 412-7827 or visit www.thespray.com. (NU)

Curiosity kills cat in Kerby

Astonished to find a mountain lion nosing its way into his camper Thursday morning, July 13, a Kerby resident said that he shot the curious cat with a .22-caliber revolver.

Dave Thelander, who resides on property at the end of Holton Creek Road in the 2000 block, said he was reading when he saw an animal enter his camper.

“I didn’t have my glasses on,” he said. “I thought it was a large dog.”

The cat didn’t growl, but was just sniffing around. When Thelander realized what was in the small space with him, he reacted. Taking up his revolver, he shot the cat, which fled into the woods.

Thelander notified Oregon State Police wildlife officers, who helped track the animal. The cat’s body was discovered two days later, some 70 yards from the scene of the shooting.

“I wish now I hadn’t shot him, as he was beautiful,” Thelander said.

He guessed the animal might have weighed 150 pounds. “I don’t know for sure, but I saw the teeth -- they were very big.”

OSP Fish & Game has the animal’s body.

- Michelle Binker

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