

Pot seized in multi-state effort

A one-month multi-agency, multi-state investigation led to three S.W. Oregon locations and the seizure of more than 225 pounds of marijuana with ties to the Oregon Medical Marijuana Program (OMMP).

The seized marijuana has an estimated value of more than \$750,000.

Three people were arrested, and additional arrests are pending in the continuing investigation involving federal, state, city and county investigators from Oregon and Minnesota.

According to OSP Drug Enforcement Section Sgt. Jim Johnson, approximately one month ago the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension contacted Oregon authorities regarding a marijuana investigation that had links to S.W. Oregon. The continuing investigation involved:

- *OSP Drug Enforcement Section.
- *Rogue Area Drug Enforcement (RADE) Team.
- * Medford Area Drug & Gang Enforcement (MADGE) Team.
- *Drug Enforcement Ad-

ministration.

- *OSP Patrol and Criminal Divisions, along with OSP Arson & Explosives Section.
- *Medford Police Dept. detectives.
- *Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety detectives.
- *Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

On Thursday, Dec. 17 an undercover officer purchased 65 pounds of marijuana from two people on a restaurant parking lot in Grants Pass. That led to the execution of three search warrants in Josephine and Jackson counties as part of the investigation. All three locations are connected with OMMP.

At the first location in the 100 block of Sheraton Drive in Williams, investigators searched a residence and seized approximately 11 pounds of marijuana. Evidence associated with marijuana distribution also was seized. One person, identified as Robert Bell, 46, was arrested on drug-related charges.

The other two locations were located in the 2500 block of Eastside Road in Jacksonville. At one of the

residences investigators seized approximately 131 pounds of marijuana, three firearms and other evidence. One person, identified as Pedro Gavaliz, 49, was arrested on drug-related charges.

At the second residence, investigators discovered a sophisticated indoor marijuana-growing operation. Seized were 48 mature marijuana plants, approximately 20 pounds of processed and packaged marijuana, six firearms (including two assault rifles), miscellaneous items of evidence and cash. One person leaving the residence when investigators arrived was arrested:

Jacob Thompson, 26, was found in possession of 6 ounces of marijuana and a firearm. Additional arrests are pending associated with both Eastside Road locations.

“This is an excellent example of law enforcement agencies, inside and outside Oregon, combining resources to aggressively identify and arrest those responsible for the distribution of illegal narcotics in our local communities,” said Johnson.



Mounds of construction debris and household refuse have been discarded by thoughtless persons in a wetland area off Golf Club

Drive in the undeveloped part of Laurel Pines subdivision. (Photo by Michelle Binker, Illinois Valley News)

DOJ hiring domestic violence prosecutor

Attorney General John Kroger announced that he will use federal grant money to hire a domestic violence prosecutor, and that applications are being accepted.

“The rash of domestic-related violence demonstrates the overwhelming need to combat this problem,” said Kroger. “It’s crucial that we work together as a state to reduce family abuse.”

Since the beginning of November, six women and three children have been killed in a rash of family-related abuse. The Dept. of Justice is seeking applicants for an assistant attorney general to serve as the new domestic violence prosecutor in

the Criminal Justice Division.

“The Dept. of Justice has an essential role to play in the coordinated community response to the public health and safety crisis posed by domestic violence in our state,” said Sybil Hebb, director of legislative advocacy for

the Oregon Law Center.

“We are thrilled that the new domestic violence prosecutor will be able to lead the state’s best practice prosecution response to this epidemic. Victim advocates look forward to working with the new position.”

Child Support services gain tech funds

Two federal grants and additional matching funds totaling \$550,000 will allow the Oregon Dept. of Justice to make major technological improvements in its Child Support Program, said Attorney General John Kroger.

“The federal funds will make it significantly easier for Oregon businesses to collect child support from their employees,” he said. “This will not only be a boost to businesses, but aid our efforts to improve child support collection.”

A \$157,000 grant from the U.S. Office of Child Support Enforcement will allow

the Division of Child Support to acquire technology that will improve the process of collecting child support withheld by employers. The new system will be more efficient for businesses and free Child Support staff to spend more time collecting child support for Oregon families.

An \$88,000 grant will be used to purchase an interactive messaging system to remind customers about hearings, late payments, payment options and other matters. The system is equipped to provide bilingual services.

The federal grants will contribute towards one of Kroger’s primary goals: mak-

ing the Oregon Child Support Program one of the most effective in the nation. The grants also will help Kroger meet his goal of improving the business climate in Oregon by reducing red tape.

The Oregon Child Support Program collects and distributes nearly \$175 million each year for the benefit of nearly 250,000 children. For some parents, child support is crucial to providing food and shelter.

Child support services, provided by the Oregon Dept. of Justice Division of Child Support and county district attorney offices, are free to all Oregon families.

Good judgment comes from experience and experience comes from bad judgment.

~ Fred Brooks ~

Tales from the Police Blotter

(Editor’s Note: Factual information for ‘Blotter’ is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)
* * *

Thursday, Dec. 17

*A caller stated that he had been followed around Downtown Cave Junction by another man. He felt that the behavior was suspicious.

*From N. Sawyer Avenue a caller complained that someone in a black trench

coat was out front staring at his residence.

*A Rockydale Road resident reported theft of cash from his home.

*Darby Daniel Guido, 38, was cited on a charge of speeding (60 mph in a 45 mph zone) on S. Redwood Hwy. at 7:25 p.m. At 7:37 p.m. Guido again was warned for speeding, this time on Redwood Hwy. in Kerby.

*David R. Skilling, 61, was cited on a charge of no operator’s permit on Deer Creek Road at 10:23 p.m.

*Quinton Lee Bracken, 41, was cited on a charge of speeding (73 mph in a 55 mph zone) at mile 21 on Redwood Hwy. at 10:54 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18

*A Ken Rose Drive resident complained that her neighbor had shot her dog’s head. The neighbor admitted to deputies that he did so to protect his ducks. It was determined that no crime had been committed, as “feathers and other evidence” indicated that ducks had been mauled.

*Michael J. Sullivan, 25, was cited on a charge of open container (of alcoholic beverage) following a traffic stop on Redwood Hwy. at Pinewood Way at 5:17 p.m.

*Theft of a pump and pressure tank from a residence in the 500 block of Caves Hwy. was reported.

*A caller claimed that poker machine redemption codes were stolen from her while she was at a Downtown Cave Junction restaurant.

*Elizabeth Ashley Patterson, 24, was cited at 9:57 p.m. on a charge of speeding (62 mph in a 45 mph zone) on Redwood Hwy. at mile 31.

*William Edgar Morton, 39, was cited on a charge of speeding (62 mph in a 45 mph zone) on Redwood Hwy at Pinewood Way at 10 p.m.

*A pipe in the drinking fountain at Jubilee Park burst, and water was reported shooting some 30 feet into the air at 11:14 p.m. A city of Cave Junction employee responded to stem the flow.

Saturday, Dec. 19

*At 3:46 a.m. a caller stated that she’d gotten turned around after taking the back roads from Selma to Caves Hwy. and was confused. She called back when she realized where she was.

*Four or five large dogs were said to be running loose on Hanby Lane at 12:42 p.m.

*Someone entered a residence on Illinois River Road and removed a wood stove valued at \$400, a caller stated.

*A large boulder had fallen onto the fog line about 3.6 miles up Happy Camp Road. Due to concern that it could interfere with snowplows, Josephine County Public Works was notified.

*Norbert Emileo Croft, 46, was cited on a charge of no operator’s permit on N. Kerby Avenue at 5:17 p.m.

*An Iron Way resident phoned around 9 p.m. to report a possible burglary at his neighbor’s residence. Some people were contacted at the site, and a bag containing 7.7 ounces of marijuana was found, but no one would claim ownership. And the home owner declined to press charges.

Sunday, Dec. 20

*A visiting bird appar-

ently caused an intruder alarm to sound at Illinois Valley Building Supply around 10:30 a.m.

Monday, Dec. 21

*Four new tires with rims, valued at \$1,000 overall, were reported stolen from a Kerby residence.

*Ten storage units on S. Caves Avenue were reported as broken into.

*John Earl Borland, 61, was cited on a charge of speeding (70 mph in a 55 mph zone) on Redwood Hwy. at Lakeshore Drive at 7:08 p.m.

*Becky Quarles Swinney, 53, was cited on a charge of driving with a suspended license (DWS) on Redwood Hwy. at Caves Hwy. at 7:25 p.m.

*Sam M. Taylor, 41, was cited on charges of DWS and driving uninsured around 9 p.m. His vehicle was impounded. The location was not listed.

*A deputy’s interest was piqued at 9:31 p.m. after he witnessed the passenger of a parked vehicle urinate on the side of a Downtown CJ store. Daniel Moline Wylie, 33, was cited on charges of DWS, driving uninsured and open container. The passenger, Jason Allen Estep, 26, was cited for an open container “for the open, spilled Busch beer between his legs on the floor.” The vehicle was impounded.

Tuesday, Dec. 22

*Sometime during the

past two weeks a residence in the 7000 block of Deer Creek Road was ransacked, according to a complainant.

*Some 24 feet of white vinyl fencing on Idlewild Drive was damaged by an unknown driver overnight, a caller stated.

*Someone in Cave Junction said that a young boy had come to his residence to say that someone was beating his mother. Subsequently, Nathan Ira Paige, 31, was lodged in Josephine County Jail on charges of third-degree assault, fourth-degree domestic assault, domestic menacing, strangulation and interfering with making a report.

*A Pinewood Way resident reported that someone had kicked in a door to gain entry to the house. It was not immediately known what might have been taken.

*A possible prowler was reported on Briar Lane around 9 p.m.

*5:55 a.m., M.A., 5000 block Takilma Road

*6:14 a.m., Flue Fire, Forks Park

*8:50 a.m., Open Burn, 200 Aries Lane

*1:18 p.m., M.V.A., 2300 block Redwood Hwy.

*6:45 p.m., M.A., 8000 block Caves Hwy.

*10:39 p.m., M.V.A., 7000 block Holland Loop Road

Friday, Dec. 25

*2:53 p.m., M.A., 900 block Caves Hwy.

*3:45 p.m., Assist the Public - tree on powerline, 6000 block Deer Creek Road

*8:31 p.m., M.A., 300 block Kerby Avenue

Saturday, Dec. 26

*10:28 p.m., M.A., 2000 block Holland Loop Road

Sunday, Dec. 27

*6:51 p.m., M.A., 100 block Hogue Drive

Elementary School Lunch Menu Sponsored by

HOMETOWNE INTERIORS

592-2413

THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Winter Break
No Classes

FRIDAY, JAN. 1

Winter Break
No Classes

MONDAY, JAN. 4

Chicken nuggets, cheeseburger, cheesy bean burrito, totally turkey sandwich, garden salad

TUESDAY, JAN. 5

Brunch for lunch, Rib-B-Q sandwich, pepperoni or cheese pizza, super duper sub, chef or garden salad

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6

Cheesy macaroni, big beef taco, hamburger, turkey & cheese wrap, garden or popcorn chicken salad

- IVHS School Menu - Sponsored by



SISKIYOU COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
25647 Redwood Hwy.
Cave Junction
592-4111

THURSDAY, DEC. 31

Winter Break
No Classes

FRIDAY, JAN. 1

Winter Break
No Classes

MONDAY, JAN. 4

Beef soft tacos, chicken strips, spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, cheese, vegetarian or sausage pizza; ham & cheese or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad

TUESDAY, JAN. 5

Chicken fajitas, BBQ chicken sandwich, chicken burger, cheeseburger; pepperoni, cheese or Hawaiian pizza; Italian or turkey & cheese sandwich, spicy chicken wrap; chef, antipasto or garden salad

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6

Taco salad, sweet & sour chicken rice bowl, spicy chicken burger, hamburger; pepperoni, sausage, cheese or Italian griller pizza; veggie or turkey & cheese sandwich, turkey wrap; chef, garden or Mandarin chicken salad

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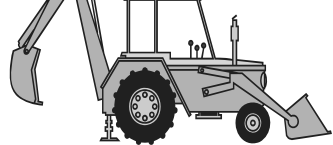
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