

Man sentenced for assaulting girlfriend with Starbucks bottle

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian



Richard Wayne Sanders

The Astoria man who assaulted his girlfriend with a Starbucks Coffee Frappuccino bottle was sentenced Thursday in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

Richard Wayne Sanders, 46, was sentenced to four years probation. If he violates the probation, he will face 70 months, or nearly six years, in prison.

The sentence came after Sanders decided to plead no contest Thursday to second-degree assault for the Starbucks bottle incident and fourth-degree assault for another incident of domestic violence against the woman.

The assault with the Starbucks bottle, commonly found in grocery stores, occurred in June. Prosecutor Dawn Buzzard said the woman needed four staples in the back of her head after being hit with the glass bottle.

Sanders claims he was falling backwards and the assault was an accident.

"It just did not make any sense, physically, that he could hit her that hard falling away," Buzzard said.

The other abuse happened last November. The woman suffered a cracked rib from that abuse, Buzzard said.

Judge Paula Brownhill ordered Sanders to take part in a Batterers' Intervention Pro-

gram to deal with his issues against women. She also ordered him to have no contact with the victim.

"The way you treat women is deplorable," Brownhill said. "It is not acceptable in our society to hit women or threaten them."

Before sentencing, Buzzard described Sanders' extensive criminal history that has caused him to be in and out of prison for the past 26 years.

He was convicted of first-degree sodomy in Multnomah County 1988. While he was in prison he was convicted of criminal conspiracy for supplying contraband.

In 2010, he was convicted of first-degree burglary in Clatsop County. Last year, he was convicted in Clatsop County for reckless driving, reckless endangering and giving false information.

Costs of healthcare divide Pacific Power, electrical union

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 125 and PacifiCorp, which operates Pacific Power, have now been negotiating for nearly a year on a new contract.

Employees are crying foul over the company's attempt to increase medical cost sharing. They picketed outside Pacific Power's Portland headquarters Wednesday and in front of the company's Warrenton offices in early June.

Local 125 represents 330 employees at Pacific Power, a subsidiary of PacifiCorp providing power in Oregon, Washington state and California.

Marcia Grail, an assistant business manager with Local 125, said Pacific Power wants employees to pay 25 percent of their medical cost share, without offsetting the amount via wages, retirement contributions or other means. Grail said the current medical cost share is 22 percent, which the union proposes to continue. She added the average cost share in Local 125's area is 10 to 15 percent.

Differing perspectives

Pacific Power sent a statement Tuesday from spokesman Ry Schwark that referenced a long history of successful bargaining. "Pacific Power and the IBEW have a long relationship going back many years, and have a long history of successful bargaining and working together to serve our customers," he said.

But Grail said since Berk-



Submitted Photo

Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 125 employed by Pacific Power picketed outside the company's headquarters in Portland Wednesday.

shire Hathaway, an investment firm led by Warren Buffett, bought PacifiCorp in 2005, there has been a steady negative trend of takeaways in contract negotiations.

Grail said there is a high demand for journeymen. Over

the last three years, she said, 60 union members have resigned from Pacific Power to accept work elsewhere, and numerous exempt employees such as engineers have also left.

"Safety and reliability are our concern," Grail said.

"Without a total compensation package that is reflective of regional industry standards, it is impossible to attract and retain skilled workers."

Grail said Local 125 is waiting for dates from Pacific Power to resume negotiations.

Seaside man sentenced for baton attack, burglary

By KYLE SPURR
The Daily Astorian

A Seaside man who attacked another man with a baton in May and burglarized a home last fall was sentenced Thursday in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

Cameron Lee Lambert, 28, will serve five years probation. If the probation is violated, he will face five years in prison.

Lambert pleaded guilty to attempted second-degree assault and no contest to second-degree burglary. He pleaded Thursday as part of an agreement to avoid trial next week. Other charges of

theft and criminal mischief were dropped.

At the hearing Thursday, Lambert described the baton attack to Judge Paula Brownhill as self-defense.

"I struck a man with a weapon. He previously pulled a firearm out at me. It wasn't like I planned it. It just happened. I happened to come across his path," he said.

The burglary occurred in October at a house being remodeled on North Wahanna Road in Seaside, according to Prosecutor Dawn Buzzard.

After breaking into the home,

Buzzard said, Lambert reportedly stole more than \$1,000 worth of tools, steaks from a refrigerator, appliances and furniture.

"He did not have permission," Buzzard said.

Lambert's defense lawyer Mary Ann Murk told the court her client plans to use his time on probation to make positive changes in his life. Lambert admitted to Judge Brownhill that he has a drug problem. "He

assures me he will do his probation."

Judge Brownhill warned Lambert that many other people are unable to complete probation sentences and end up in prison.

"The chances are slim that you are going to successfully complete probation, but I hope you do," she said. "I hope you can get clean and sober and stay out of jail."

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