

# Shooting: Brief, deadly confrontation

Continued from Page 1A

In the interview, Davidson said neither officer saw Ferry's gun since he never took his hands out of his pocket. Davidson was not sure the Taser would work since Ferry was wearing a thick coat, but when he fell to the ground, the officers thought he was subdued.

Davidson heard the bang and tried to yell "Gun." He saw Goodding hunch down, start to walk backward and fall down. He tried to keep talking to Goodding, but he was not getting any response.

At the end of the body camera video, an acquaintance of Ferry, Daniel Ginther, is heard saying to Davidson, "Don't kill him, Uncle Phil." Ginther was never charged with any crime.

Davidson said he remembers Ginther came and put his hands on his shoulders after the incident and said it wasn't his fault. Davidson rhetorically asked, "Why is just carrying a gun worth killing someone over?" Ginther said he did not know.

The investigation concluded that Davidson was legally and morally justified in shooting and killing Ferry in the incident outside the Pig 'N Pancake on Broadway Feb. 5.

An autopsy conducted by Oregon State Medical Exam-



Flowers and gifts honored Sgt. Jason Goodding outside the Pig 'N Pancake in Seaside.

iner Karen Gunson determined Goodding's injuries were immediate and fatal.

Davidson fired several rounds from his service weapon, according to the investigation, striking Ferry in the hand, arm and buttocks. The shots that struck Ferry appeared less serious at the scene.

Ferry was transferred by ambulance to Columbia Memorial Hospital, where emergency doctors worked on him for about half an hour before pronouncing him dead. Ferry's toxicology report revealed a high level of methamphetamine, a blood alcohol



Phillip Max Ferry

content of 0.11 and an active ingredient in marijuana.

Goodding was transported to Providence Seaside Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

In any case involving the use of deadly force, regional law enforcement must collaborate in an investigation. Oregon State Police, the lead agency, had investigators attend the autopsies and review and gather evidence.

Ferry, 55, had an extensive criminal history that included 17 felony and 21 misdemeanor convictions since 1983. He had been in and out



Jason Goodding

of the Clatsop County Jail 41 times.

Almost every law enforcement agency in Clatsop County had dealt with Ferry at some point. Clatsop County Sheriff Tom Bergin said even he wrestled with Ferry, and said Ferry should have been in prison.

As a felon, Ferry was not allowed to possess a firearm.

Jamie Lee Jones, 44, a former Nevada resident who was living in Seaside, was indicted in March on federal charges in connection with the gun used in Goodding's death. Authorities allege that a pistol tied to Jones was used by Ferry.

Goodding is survived by his wife, Amy, and two daughters. A memorial in the fallen officer's honor at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center in February drew police and firefighters from across the nation.

# Camp: Escamilla's career has coincided with a period of great change in his field

Continued from Page 1A

During his senior year at CSF, Escamilla took a vacation in Maui, and met his future wife — a nursing student from Portland. The two courted through the U.S. mail, and after graduation, Escamilla moved to Oregon to be with his bride. In 1982, he started working for Clark County's juvenile justice system.

"I worked my way from a detention officer to probation counselor to management level," Escamilla said. In 2008, he was promoted to Juvenile Court administrator.

## An evolving approach

Escamilla's career has coincided with a period of great change in his field. In the early years, he said, detention workers usually didn't have specialized training or skills. Kids in "the system" were treated with a one-size-fits-all approach that usually emphasized punishment, rather than rehabilitation.

"I think people are getting smarter with crime," Escamilla said. He is proud that during the last 20 years, Clark County has embraced a progressive philosophy called "restorative justice."

"In a restorative approach you want to hold youth accountable in a meaningful way, make amends, and build skills," Escamilla said. "We do want to acknowledge the victim and the community — we want to make sure the young people have an opportunity to redeem themselves to the community."

People in law enforcement and social services now have a better understanding of how mental illness, poverty, addiction and trauma affect young people, and they are using a growing body of research to guide their decisions, Escamilla said. Today, young offenders are more likely to receive individualized treatment for issues, such as truancy or difficulty dealing with anger. The goal is to equip offenders to find employment and stability after release.

"We know so much more about adolescent brain development now," Escamilla said.

## Escamilla in the spotlight

Escamilla has been involved in a variety of respected initiatives, and has been active in industry groups and community outreach efforts, but he has occasionally received criticism for his work, too.

According to the Vancouver Columbian, staffing shortages in the juvenile detention facility in 2014 led his administration to spend heavily on overtime pay. In spring 2015, the county's Juvenile Detention Officers' Guild criticized Escamilla for not hiring fast enough, and gave him and his management colleagues a vote of no confidence. Escamilla said the shortages were temporary, and occurred as the result of a "perfect storm" of employee leave, policy changes and a scarcity of qualified applicants.

In 2016, Escamilla was one of several people named in a lawsuit from a former employee who alleged that she was the victim of gender discrimination and retaliation tactics. The county settled the suit out of court. Escamilla said all the parties signed agreements that prohibit them from discussing the suit or settlement.

## A passion for juvenile justice

Those upsets don't characterize his time in

Clark County, Escamilla said, adding that he still feels a lot of passion for his work.

"I feel really good about my 33 years in the juvenile court. But there was still some kind of fire in the belly. There were still things I wanted to do, outside of that court process," Escamilla said.

Even though the Youth Camp isn't officially a "restorative justice" program, he felt that it was a place where staff are doing the right things to help residents. For example, he said, the camp's Department of Natural Resources firefighting and forestry training program gives participants real skills, and a chance to meaningfully contribute to society.

After careful consideration, Escamilla felt a sense of "total peace" about coming to Naselle.

"I really wanted to be energized, and that's where I'm at now," he said.

Escamilla, who has two adult children, is staying in temporary housing, but he and his wife are hoping to buy property in Ilwaco.

Escamilla said he "learned a ton" during his first week, while learning how the 24/365 operation works. Escamilla's first priority will be getting to know the staff, residents and community. Then he wants to evaluate operations, to make sure things are running efficiently.

## Plans for the camp

In the past, budget-woes have led legislators and Social and Health Services officials to seriously consider closing. Escamilla said DSHS officials told him the camp is staying open for the foreseeable future.

"I've asked that question," Escamilla said. "The answer I'm getting is, 'Right now, there's no discussion to close this campus.' That's important to me." He pointed out that years ago, Naselle Youth Camp was one of seven or eight state juvenile facilities. Now it is one of just three surviving programs, and is the only one that has the occupational programs.

"People here value that — certainly the community does. That is one reason why I think people came and said, 'We can't close this campus.'"

With that in mind, Escamilla plans to advocate for money to improve the aging facilities.

"I know this is an older campus, and I tell you, the maintenance people can do amazing things. But somehow, there has to be increased capital to get things where they should be," he said.

One of his top long-term priorities is to address any racial and ethnic disparities at the camp — state data shows that minority youths are badly overrepresented in the court system. According to state social services, youth of color make up about 39 percent of Washington's general population, but 55 percent of the population in Juvenile Rehabilitation programs.

"We do have a disproportionate amount of black kids and brown kids (incarcerated at the camp)," Escamilla said. "I'm not talking about free passes. But is there a way to even the playing field?" And of course, he wants to make sure residents continue to receive interventions that give them a real shot at thriving on The Outside.

"We want you to be a better citizen exiting Naselle than when you came in," Escamilla said.

# Fishing: California is helping fund new technology

Continued from Page 1A

of "Col. Bogey's March" from the movie "The Bridge on the River Kwai" started emanating from biologist Bill Newcomb's laptop inside the Siliqua. The tune was the signal to bring the two vessels even and tighten the net around their young catch, which instinctively swam out the open end of the net and past a phalanx of antennas, which count the salmon implanted with grain-sized Passive Integrated Transponder tags that transfer their travel history into one of Newcomb's computers.

"Five for 23," Newcomb called out to Jeff Scroup, the operator of the Siliqua, noting five tagged salmon counted during the pass and 23 for the day.

Never catching anything, the crews and their open-ended pair-trawling operation are tasked with analyzing the survival and migration characteristics of several species of endangered salmon and steelhead traveling through or transported around the federal hydroelectric system on their way out to sea. Their research goes into a biological opinion every four years by NOAA, which advises the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bonneville Power Administration about how to make the hydroelectric system more fish-friendly.

## Catching a fraction

"Fish start in April ... but we really pick up in May," said fisheries biologist Matthew Morris with Ocean Associates Inc., a federal contractor providing researchers and boat crews for NOAA.

With seasonal crews for the spring and summer, including students in Clatsop Community College's maritime program, researchers can spend more than 900 hours a year trawling on up to two 12-hour shifts a day. The major salmon species counted are coho, Chinook and sockeye, along with steelhead and cutthroat trout. A special focus is on steelhead and yearling Chinook. Researchers record their counts onboard and email the information to NOAA's offices, where reports are compiled in the off-season.

Morris estimated the pair-trawl project counts between 15,000 and 20,000 fish a year. Of those, he said, about 2 to 3 percent are salmon detected at Bonneville Dam, the last hydroelectric hurdle for salmon going downriver.

"That's only 15 percent, roughly, of our total detection, are fish previously detected at Bonneville," he said. "It's those fish we're able to determine survival estimates with.



Photos by Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

The Siliqua and Quinnat, two research vessels, use a use a net to push juvenile salmon through a matrix of antennas as Paul Bentley, an ecologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, looks on. More photos at DailyAstorian.com



The Siliqua and Quinnat, two NOAA vessels, use a net to push juvenile salmon through a matrix of antennas in order to help track numbers, migration patterns, and survival rates of the salmon.

And the other 85 percent, we're able to do analyses of transportation versus in-river (transportation), and then other timing analyses."

The survival estimates over the past 20 years point to salmon's struggles in drought years, with 2015 the hardest on salmon migration since a previous drought in 2001. Lower flows also lead to a slower, more constricted channel in which researchers tend to detect higher number of salmon and steelhead.

## Tracking transit

Ecologist Paul Bentley is the lone NOAA employee from the Point Adams Research Facility on the project, working closely with the researchers and boat crews of Ocean Associates.

"The biological opinion is a legal document that is written to kind of manage the hydrosystem," Bentley said. "NOAA's part of this biological opinion is the listed salmonids."

Bentley joined the project in 2013 following Dick Ledgerwood, who retired last August and is largely responsible for developing the pair-trawl project system.

"An evaluation of fish transportation — that's really why

fish tags were brought into the Columbia River Basin," said Ledgerwood, who lives near Brownsmead and still volunteers with NOAA.

Fisheries managers started transporting fish around dams in the late 1970s to increase their survival, he said, but nobody knew what happened after they were dumped from barges below the Bonneville Dam.

Before the pair-trawl project system started in 1995, Ledgerwood said researchers would use purse seine nets, a more unwieldy and time-consuming method to count young salmon. "With the trawl, and by not catching anything and letting them go through the system, you fish continually," he said.

## A more flexible model

Bentley estimated the crews and equipment in the pair-trawling project costs about \$2 million annually, split between the Corps and Bonneville Power Administration. He said a new biological opinion in 2018 will help decide whether the project is still needed to help managers increase the survival rates of salmon.

But the researchers are developing and testing flexi-

ble antenna arrays that could eliminate the net, cut costs and expand the number and species of fish counted on the Lower Columbia.

The flexible strands of antenna encased in plastic tubing, which Bentley equated to a "pile of spaghetti," are towed by boat, but do not require a net to count fish. The technology was introduced in 2011 as a stationary array installed on a pile dike near the confluence of the Driscoll Slough with the Columbia River.

"Another advantage of this system is it's not (constrained) by species," Bentley said, adding the array picks up juvenile salmon, sturgeon, pike minnows and possibly lamprey — any fish tagged and swimming by an array.

"Within the Columbia, I think almost every tributary could use the flexible system," he said.

Morris said the state of California is helping fund the new technology, hoping to better track salmonids in the Sacramento River delta.

Even Ledgerwood is intrigued by the evolution of his trawl project to the newer, flexible antenna system that can expand fish-monitoring. "Give them five years, and I bet they'll be doing it."