

Dallas man accused of abusing student

Four charges involve a girl at KVCS

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — A Dallas man is facing four sex abuse charges in incidents involving a student at Kings Valley Charter School (KVCS).



South

The school and its sponsor, the Philomath School District, also were recently named in a lawsuit stemming from the incidents. Axel South, 19, was indicted in July on charges of second-degree encouraging child sexual abuse and three counts of first-degree sex abuse. He was originally arrested on seven charges, but three were dropped after the grand jury heard evidence in the case.

According to a probable cause statement filed with Polk County Circuit Court, the abuse occurred while the suspect and victim — a teenaged girl — were riding on the bus between Dallas and the charter school last spring. Both the suspect and victim live in Dallas.

Polk County Chief Deputy District Attorney Jayme Kimberly said South was not a student at the time of the incidents, but an employee or

volunteer at the school. The incidents were first reported to Dallas police by the victim's father after he found explicit videos on his daughter's cell phone. The pair used Vine, a video sharing site, to exchange short videos.

Kimberly said the first-degree sex abuse charges are Measure 11 offenses carrying a mandatory sentence of 75 months each, if South is convicted. With no prior convictions, South would serve probation on the encouraging child abuse charge.

South's attorney, Martin Habekost, has requested South undergo a "psychosexual" assessment, a series of interviews, review of the charges, a polygraph test and other evaluations to determine his "threat level" of reoffending. The assessment could conclude if South would benefit from treatment or if his risk is high enough to recommend incarceration, Kimberly said.

The *Corvallis Gazette-Times* reported last week that both the school and Philomath School District have been notified they have been named in a lawsuit filed by the victim's family. Calls to the family's attorney were not returned by press time.

South was scheduled for a pretrial conference in Polk County Circuit Court on Tuesday after the *Itemizer-Observer's* press time.

Trying it on for size



JOLENE GUZMAN/Itemizer-Observer

Faith Christian School fifth-grader Jessica Stoddard, second from right, tries on a military helmet Friday at a veteran's celebration and brunch at the Dallas school. Veterans gave presentations, including teaching the students how to properly salute, answered students' questions and were treated to brunch at the school.

Flu shot clinics continue Friday

Itemizer-Observer staff report

DALLAS — The flu season has arrived. The Polk County Public Health Department will sponsor a flu shot clinics on Friday. This year's flu vaccine is \$26.

Payments may be made by cash or check. Oregon Health Plan and Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oregon, non-Medicare, is accepted. No one

will be turned away for inability to pay.

Pneumonia vaccines also are available. The flu vaccine is recommended for those 6 months of age and older, according to the public health department. This year's vaccination is the quadrivalent flu vaccine, which protects against four strains of flu in-

stead of the three strains offered in previous years. This year's vaccine should be more effective in covering the strains that are most prevalent during flu season.

The schedule is:
• **Friday:** 1 to 4 p.m., Polk County Public Health, Suite 302, Academy Building, 182 SW Academy St., Dallas.

• **Walk-ins:** welcome Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Polk County Public Health Department, while supplies last, 182 SW Academy St., Suite 302, Dallas.

For more information on flu vaccine clinics in Polk County: Polk County Public Health Information Line, 503-623-8176.

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WEBSITE

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* website, www.polkio.com, is updated each week by Wednesday afternoon. There, you will find nearly every story that appears in the print version of the newspaper, as well as some items, including additional photos, that do not appear in print due to space limitations.

The *Itemizer-Observer* is also on Facebook and Twitter. Watch for breaking news, links to stories, sports scores updates and more.

DEADLINES

NEWS DEADLINES
For inclusion in the Wednesday edition of the *Itemizer-Observer*:
Social news (weddings, engagements, anniversaries, births, milestones) — 5 p.m. on Thursday.
Community events — Noon on Friday for both the Community Notebook and Community Calendar.
Letters to the editor — 10 a.m. on Monday.
Obituaries — 4 p.m. on Monday.

ADVERTISING DEADLINES
Retail display ads — 3 p.m. Friday.
Classified display ads — 11 a.m. on Monday.
Classified line ads — Noon on Monday. Classified ads are updated daily on www.polkio.com.
Public notices — Noon on Friday.

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CORRECTIONS

The *Polk County Itemizer-Observer* is committed to publishing accurate news, feature and sports reports. If you see anything that requires a correction or clarification, call the newsroom at 503-623-2373 or send an e-mail to nadams@polkio.com.

WEATHER

RECORDED	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Nov. 3	59	37	.00
Nov. 4	53	34	.00
Nov. 5	53	46	.44
Nov. 6	64	41	.00
Nov. 7	55	41	.71
Nov. 8	55	44	.04

Rainfall during Nov. — 1.19 in.
Rain through Nov. 8 — 21.98 in.

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LOOK WHAT'S COMING UP!

Holiday Gift Guide Publishes Nov. 25th	Last Minute Gift Ideas Publishes Dec. 16th	RESERVE BY NOV. 10TH! ITEMIZER-OBSERVER 503-623-2373
Full Color Pick-up Ads Publishes Dec. 2nd & 9th	Holiday Greetings Publishes Dec. 23rd	
Gifts From A-Z Only 26 spots! Publishes Dec. 9th	Who's Who in Polk County Publishes Jan. 20th	