

Man arrested after drug raid, traffic stop

By **SEAN HART**
East Oregonian

A felon with a history of arrests is behind bars following an early morning drug raid Thursday, July 30, in Hermiston.

At about 5:30 a.m., the Oregon State Police SWAT team executed a search warrant for the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team at 563 E. Hurlburt Ave., Hermiston, according to a press release from Hermiston Police Chief Jason Edmiston.

The 31-year-old occupant of the residence, Jose Edgar Salvador Cervantes, was not present when the warrant was executed, but he was located on a traffic stop at about 9 a.m.

The narcotics team is comprised of law enforcement personnel from a variety of local agencies, including the state police and Hermiston and Pendleton police departments.

Pendleton police chief Stuart Roberts said no one was at the residence when the search warrant for the delivery of controlled substances was executed. Officers continued to search for Cervantes, which resulted in the traffic stop and eventual



Salvador

three-quarters of an ounce of methamphetamine, along with a few oxydone pills prescribed to someone else.

Cervantes was charged with possession and delivery of the drugs, felon in possession of a firearm and frequenting or maintaining a place where controlled substances are used. He was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Roberts said a tactical team is only deployed in conjunction with a search warrant when an individual poses an imminent threat. He said the narcotics team uses confidential informants to provide the information necessary to obtain a warrant.

“We generally make multiple buys before the search warrant,” he said.

Edmiston said Cervantes has an extensive criminal history with 14 arrests and 73 charges. He said he is hopeful the combination of commer-

cial quantities of controlled substances and a firearm will lead to Cervantes’ incarceration.

“Mr. Cervantes is very well known to all law enforcement in Umatilla County,” Edmiston said. “He has a history of being involved in numerous investigations of extreme violence to include attempted murder.”

In 2007, Cervantes was charged with attempted murder and assault following a brawl in which he stabbed Kevin Verwey at an apartment complex on Dogwood Avenue in Hermiston. During the trial, Cervantes claimed he used his pocket knife in self defense, and the state argued he intended to kill Verwey. The jury convicted Cervantes of second-degree assault in a 10-2 vote but unanimously agreed he was innocent of attempted murder after a two-day trial.

The prosecuting attorney representing the state argued for a Measure 11 sentence of 70 months, but the Circuit Court judge downgraded the sentence to five years of probation and 180 hours of community service each of those years.

Methamphetamine; sentenced to 42 months probation, 30 sanction units, \$750 fine, \$1,750 fine-suspended and 6 months driver’s license suspension, plus court costs and fees.

•Rogelio F. Almonte, 20, Boardman, pleaded guilty to Burglary I; sentenced to 5 years probation, \$940 fine and 2,000 fine-suspended, plus court costs and fees; pleaded guilty to Coercion; sentenced to \$140 fine plus court assessment.

•Valentin Morfin Paniagua, 38, Pasco, Wash., pleaded guilty to Delivery of Methamphetamine; sentenced to 21 months Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 3 years post-prison supervision, \$440 fine, \$2,000 fine-suspended and 6 months driver’s license suspension, plus court costs and fees; pleaded guilty to Unauthorized Use of Motor Vehicle; sentenced to 6 months Oregon Dept. of Corrections, 1 year post-prison supervision, \$140 fine, \$2,300 fine-suspended and 1 year driver’s license suspension, plus court assessment.

MISDEMEANOR

•Juan Luis Ayala Garduno, 33, Boardman, pleaded guilty to Failure to Carry/Present Operator’s License; sentenced to 15 days jail-suspended, 1 year probation, 10 hours community service, \$190 fine and \$250 fine-suspended, plus court costs and fees.

•Edgar Javier Ibarra, 27, Stanfield, pleaded no contest to Unlawful Purchase of Firearm; sentenced to \$940 fine plus court assessment.

•Baxter Richard Solmonson, 29, Pendleton, pleaded guilty to Physical Harassment; sentenced to 20 days jail, 90 days jail-suspended, 5 years probation, 240 hours community service and \$440 fine, plus

COURTS

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•Green & Sons Agency Inc. dba Outsource Receivables Management Inc. vs. Benjamin S. Colvin; judgment for \$1,237.04 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Ted Ruffy; judgment for \$2,579.44 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Bonnevillle Billing & Collections vs. Deborah Portenier; judgment for \$469 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Capital One Bank vs. Vickie Umbarger; judgment for \$2,370.75 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Discover Bank vs. Darlene R. Payne; judgment for \$1,321.20 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Discover Bank vs. Raymond E. Clair; judgment for \$11,605.87 plus interest, costs and fees.

•First National Bank of Omaha vs. Diane R. Witchey; judgment for \$8,691.81 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Midland Funding LLC vs. Elisea Rodriguez; judgment for \$791.19 plus interest, costs and fees.

•Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC vs. Kristine Grimes; judgment for \$893.80 plus interest, costs and fees.

Sentences

The following sentences have been imposed in Umatilla County courts:

FELONY

•Jesus Lopez Hernandez, 52, Hermiston, pleaded guilty to Possession of

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Wednesday Service.....7:00 pm
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1 Pet. 5:7*

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THURSDAY.....Spanish 6:00 pm
SATURDAY:.....English 5:00 pm
.....Spanish 7:00 am
SUNDAY:.....English 9:00 am
.....Bilingual 11:00 am
OFFICE.....Spanish 1:00 pm
.....567-5812

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PUBLIC SAFETY LOG

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

- A caller reported hearing voices upstairs and outside a residence on Diagonal Road. He said he saw strange things outside, such as two guns lying on a chair.
- An American flag was reportedly stolen from a residence on Northwest Overlook Drive.
- Someone reportedly stole furniture, extension cords and tools from the back yard of a residence on East Beebe Avenue.
- Someone reportedly threatened a male at a business on North First Street and mentioned a gun.
- A purse was reportedly stolen from an unlocked vehicle on North First Street.
- A female reported several boys directed a pit bull to charge her and an 8-year-old on Southwest 13th Place.
- A male reportedly assaulted another male on Southeast Seventh Street.
- A maroon vehicle was reportedly stolen on East Punkin Center Road.
- A caller reported her neighbor was driving a combine toward her and then sped up and ran her off the road on Lewis Road.
- A caller reported a male driving a four-door sport utility vehicle ran into a fence at the Echo Cemetery on Thielson Road and drove away toward Stanfield. The caller said the driver left another male at the cemetery who was requesting medical assistance. The caller said he believed both were doing drugs.
- A caller reported someone poached a deer on Riverside Avenue in Umatilla.
- A caller reported there was a decapitated, skinned animal near the grain elevator on Bud Draper Road in Umatilla.
- A caller reported 12 cows were on the lam near Power City Road in Umatilla.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 2

- A caller reported a male was knocking on the window and door of a residence on East Jennie Avenue.
- A caller reported a cow was loose in the area of Northeast Fourth Street and East Elm Avenue.
- A confrontation was reported at a strip club on Sixth Street in Umatilla.
- A caller reported three people with flashlights and a dog were snooping around Umatilla High School on Seventh Street.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

- A caller reported hearing a gunshot followed by two more on West Highland Avenue.
- A stereo was reportedly stolen from a vehicle on Northeast Third Street.
- A caller reported exiting a business on North First Street and discovering his green Subaru was missing.
- An employee reported a male broke into a room through a window and locked the dead bolt at a hotel on Southeast Fourth Street.
- A hospital employee reported an elderly male shot and killed a dog that bit him on Northwest Geer Road.
- An employee reported someone slashed the tires of a guest's vehicle at a hotel on Sixth Street in Umatilla.
- Someone reportedly stole two air conditioners from a residence

FRIDAY, JULY 31

- A caller reported a male with gray hair and a beard had his pants around his ankles near a business on North First Street. The caller said it was not the first time he saw the male with his pants down at the location.
- A caller reported a male who had just been fired from a business on West Hermiston Avenue stole a cell phone and a white Ford cargo van with the business name on the side.
- A tool box and generator were reportedly stolen from an unlocked container on South Highway 395.
- A caller reported a female was crying after her boyfriend assaulted her and kicked her out of a vehicle on West Tamarack Avenue.
- Several cows were reportedly blocking traffic on Northeast 10th Street.
- A caller reported her grandson was locked inside a vehicle with the keys in front of a business on South Highway 395 in Stanfield.
- Someone reportedly threw a rock at a vehicle windshield on Fifth Street in Umatilla.
- A caller reportedly threatened to shoot a male who had been threatening him and vandalizing vehicles on Fifth Street in Umatilla.
- Three males reportedly urinated on the side of a building on Willamette Avenue in Umatilla.
- A caller reported a horse was loose in West Park on Third Street in Umatilla.

THURSDAY, JULY 30

- A caller reported a short man with blonde hair walking with a stick and headphones on tried to get into her residence on Lorraine Avenue.
- On South Highway 395, \$100 was reportedly stolen from a vehicle.
- A male reported a vehicle ran into him while he was riding a bicycle on Wednesday on North First Street.
- A black 1997 Subaru Legacy was reportedly stolen on West Ridgeway Avenue after a purse containing the keys turned up missing.
- On North First Street, a female reported someone forged her name on a Department of Justice document to change her child's name.
- A caller reported a male entered a restaurant on South Highway 395 and threatened to kill the caller's family.
- On West Hermiston Avenue, a female reported her ex-boyfriend was trying to sell her dogs.
- A caller reported a younger "gangster" male with tattoos was threatening to hurt a male on South Main Street in Stanfield.
- A caller reported her vehicle got stuck on Leezor Avenue in Echo, and as she and her father were pulling the vehicle out, a neighbor started yelling and waving a gun.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29

- A caller reported someone driving a dark-colored four-door sedan was looking in all of the mailboxes on Diagonal Road. The caller said this was the third time she witnessed this in two weeks.
- A female was reportedly trying to kill her husband with a gun on West Hensel Road.
- A caller reported his ex from Hermiston was sending death

on Stanfield Meadows Road in Stanfield.

threats via text message and Facebook.

- Someone reportedly stole an American flag on East Gladys Avenue.
- A minivan window was reportedly broken on Northwest Eucalyptus Drive but nothing was taken from the vehicle.
- An American flag was reportedly stolen on Northwest Overlook Drive.
- A caller reported the occupants of a white van parked on Northeast Eighth Street were passing out Jesus pamphlets and selling soap products.
- A male with a gun was reported on West Coe Avenue in Stanfield.
- People were reportedly throwing rocks at a chocolate Lab on Radar Road in Umatilla.

TUESDAY, JULY 28

- A caller reported someone was driving slowly on Southwest 11th Street in an older two-door red sedan and people were walking around looking into cars.
- An officer reported a flag was stolen on Northwest Overlook Drive.
- Someone reportedly stole several cases of soda and alcohol from a cooler on a patio on West Marie Avenue.
- On Southeast Sixth Street, a female reported someone was making illegal Social Security cards.
- A caller reported he was bitten by a dog on West Beech Avenue.
- A caller reported someone threw a rock at his vehicle on Seventh Street in Umatilla.

ARRESTS

- Angel Marie Hernandez, 39: failure to appear, Hermiston Municipal Court warrant — failure to appear.
- Jesus Munoz Escalante, 44: failure to pay fines, failure to carry proof of insurance, driving while license suspended or revoked.
- Tyson Ferral Jones, 36: Hermiston Municipal Court warrant — failure to pay fines.
- Wilfrido Mendoza Garay, 25: Hermiston Municipal court warrant — failure to pay fines.
- Heriberto Pinto Ramirez, 36: failure to pay fines.
- Victor Martin Saucedo Aguilar, 36: Hermiston Municipal Court warrant — failure to pay fines.
- Neal Anthony Correa, 37: third-degree theft.
- Donald Kent Blevins, 44: probation violation.
- Demonymka Deprise Caro, 22: failure to pay fines, driving while licensed suspended or revoked, driving uninsured.
- David Ullices Ponce, 22: Hermiston Municipal Court warrants — failure to appear, failure to pay fines.
- Randall Mark Bush, 53: Hermiston Municipal Court warrant — failure to appear.
- Maria Mendoza Navarro, 25: fourth-degree assault.
- Darcy Scott Carrick, 23: second-degree theft.
- Derrick Donovan Dix, 22: Hermiston Municipal Court warrant — failure to appear.
- Jose Luis Gaeta, 37: probation violation, failure to report as a sex offender.
- Andrew Lewis Williams, 23: harassment.
- Liliana Orozco Perez, 39: failure to appear, giving false information to an officer.

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