

Two charged in attempted murder

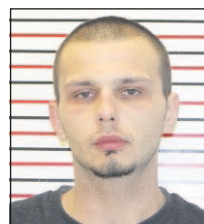
By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Two men were arrested and charged with attempted murder in connection with an incident that occurred about two weeks ago.

On the morning of Feb. 20, officers with the Seaside Police Department responded to Providence Seaside Hospital after receiving a report of a man who had sustained a serious head injury.

The man reported being assaulted with hammers by two other males, according to a news release from the police department. The victim was later transported to a Portland-area hospital. He had been released from the hospital Monday.

The police officers contacted Seaside detectives to investigate the incident. The detectives identified Kevin Michael Burnham, 25, of Seaside, and Joshua Lee Fitch, 23, of Longview, Wash., as the two suspects.



KEVIN MICHAEL BURNHAM



JOSHUA LEE FITCH

Fitch and Burnham were caught and arrested Feb. 27 in Seaside after a week-long investigation, according to police. They were lodged in Clatsop County Jail on charges of attempted murder, conspiracy, robbery I, assault I and theft.

Both suspects appeared in front of Judge Paula Brownhill in Clatsop County Circuit Court March 2. Security was set at \$250,000 for each man, which means they would have to post \$25,000 to be released from jail, according to the Clatsop County District Attorney's Office.

Brownhill appointed each man an at-

torney and set the next arraignment hearing for March 13 to present the outcome of the interim grand jury proceeding.

Seaside detectives believe the two men have been involved in additional criminal activity and possibly other assaults.

"We have yet to receive any tip information, but over the course of the week-long investigation, many people were interviewed, and we believe there may be additional victims unrelated to the current charges that were previously unwilling to report or have not yet reported the circumstances to the police," said Seaside Police Detective Sgt. Jason Goodding.

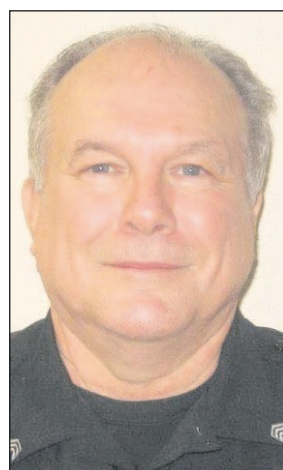
The investigation is ongoing so he could not provide specific details. Anyone with information related to Burnham and Fitch or believed criminal activity should contact Goodding or Detective Gary Welborn. An anonymous tipline also can be used to provide information by calling 503-738-0222.

Steve Barnett promoted to lieutenant

Seaside Police Sgt. Steve Barnett has been promoted to lieutenant.

Barnett has more than 40 years of law enforcement experience, including the past 32 years with the Seaside Police Department. He served as the department's lead criminal detective investigator for 17 years before returning to a patrol sergeant position last summer, according to Police Chief Dave Ham.

Barnett found himself in a lengthy legal dispute about three years ago when he alleged his First and 14th Amendment rights were violated by Clatsop County prosecutors and that the district attorney's office



STEVE BARNETT

intentionally interfered with his employment.

The entire suit was dismissed last April by a U.S. District judge.

The lieutenant position is the patrol division commander and serves as acting police chief in the absence of the chief.

Seaside resident killed in U.S. Highway 26 crash

EO Media Group

A Seaside resident died in a crash Feb. 20 when a 2010 Toyota Camry struck a tree on U.S. Highway 26.

At about 9:30 a.m., the silver Toyota Camry was traveling eastbound on U.S.

Highway 26 near milepost 44.5 in Washington County when it veered off the roadway and into a tree, according to the Oregon State Police.

The cause of the crash is unknown.

The driver and front right

passenger were transported via air ambulance to Oregon Health & Science University Hospital in Portland with serious injuries. The right rear passenger, Terry L. Hidy, 56, Seaside, died at the scene.

Both lanes of travel were

blocked during while the air ambulance landed.

The Oregon State Police were assisted by the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the Banks and Forest Grove fire departments.

Seaside Police Log

Feb. 14

2:43 p.m., U.S. Highway 101 northbound: 911 caller reporting erratic driving. Officer conducted traffic stop and driver denied driving erratically. Complainant did not wish to sign complaint or stop with officer.

9:45 p.m., 1900 block of North Holladay Drive: Officers responded to 911 call about a disturbance. Gentleman left for the evening.

Feb. 15

12:36 a.m., 1000 block of 24th Avenue: Officer assisted Seaside Fire and Rescue with a structure fire.

7:19 p.m., 1200 block of Avenue E: Caller reporting door-to-door salesman in the area. Officer located subjects and advised of the need for permit to sell door to door.

Feb. 16

3:52 a.m., 1600 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Subjects kept calling 911 requesting a tow. Sounded possibly intoxicated, could not understand directions or dial the phone number. Not intoxicated; everything is OK.

2:48 p.m., 1000 South Downing Street: Anonymous caller reporting female cutting up clothing because she was upset about her boyfriend. Officer contacted female inside of her apartment, and she advised she was cutting up her own clothing.

10:34 p.m., 1600 block of South Columbia Street: Report of a verbal disturbance. Officers made contact; subjects warned for disorderly conduct.

Feb. 17

6:41 a.m., 700 block of South Wahanna Road: Officers

responded to a report of an unwanted person. Subject was contacted and advised. He was supposed to be moving on.

10:54 a.m., 2100 Lewis and Clark Road: Caller reporting neighbor banging on her door and screaming obscenities at her in retaliation for having his truck towed. Officer unable to contact subject to advise him to leave neighbor alone. Otherwise, no crime committed.

Feb. 18

6:46 p.m., 300 block of Fourth Avenue: Caller reported domestic argument. Officers responded.

8:21 p.m., 1900 block of Spruce Drive: Caller reported domestic issue.

Feb. 19

3:18 p.m., Avenue F and Roosevelt Drive: Caller reported a physical fight. Officers responded. Subjects fled in vehicle.

10:07 p.m., 200 block of 10th Avenue: Caller reported loud neighbors. Officers contacted subjects, who agreed to take the party inside for the night.

Feb. 20

1:27 p.m., 100 block of North Columbia Street: Caller reporting vehicles parking over time limit after being warned

several times in the past. Officer responded and issued parking citations.

5:22 p.m., 500 block of Beach Drive: Caller reporting intoxicated subject causing a disturbance. Officer responded and advised subject was advised of complaint and would remain inside for the rest of the evening.

Feb. 21

1:48 p.m., North Holladay Drive: Caller reporting possible suicidal male due to messages received. Dispatch was able to locate and make contact with employer to obtain some contact information for subject. Subject was contacted via phone of friends, and subject stated he was fine and not going to hurt himself. He also stated he would contact friends in Washington and advise them he was fine.

Feb. 22

6:05 p.m., U.S. Highway 26: Oregon State Police advised of driving complaint from U.S. Highway 26. Officer conducted traffic stop and advised.

11:42 p.m., Roosevelt Drive and First Avenue: Off-duty officer was almost struck by a vehicle. Officers searched the area but were unable to locate the vehicle in the area.

Feb. 23

8:39 a.m., Seaside area: Public Works employee reported subject had dumped construction debris at recycling center and in garbage cans around town. Local address was obtained and officer made contact with subject, who stated he only dumped plastic at recycling center, thinking it was per-

missible and was not the one responsible for the refuse in the city garbage cans.

9:09 p.m., U.S. Highway 101: Officer assisted with traffic stop/warrant arrest.

Feb. 24

9:07 p.m., U.S. Highway 101: Caller reported hit and run. Officers and other agencies responded. Vehicle unable to be located.

10:42 p.m., 400 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Report of a male subject that was under the influence. He was contacted, uncooperative. Trespassed from Safeway for the night.

Feb. 25

6:18 p.m., Broadway and U.S. Highway 101: Caller reported man tweaking out. Officers contacted subject and he settled right down.

Feb. 26

10:43 a.m., 1900 Spruce Drive: 911 call received, multiple subjects talking at the same time. Determined to be medical. Medix also has difficulty obtaining information. Officers responded.

Feb. 27

10:46 a.m., 300 block of South Roosevelt Drive: Complaint of male subject outside Rite Aid calling names and making verbal threats about a knife. Officer responded and made contact with suspect. Nothing could be verified.

11:24 a.m., 2400 block of U.S. Highway 101: Complaint of possible domestic abuse. Cab driver receives a call requesting a cab, stating she's been beat up. Officer responds to location, distraught woman over death of husband.

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