



Release of Public Information

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larry Campbell

Sheriff

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Update: Leon County Sheriff's Deputies Solve Fort Braden Baseball Field Burglary and Vandalism

On Friday May 30, 2008, and then again on Sunday June 1, 2008, vandals struck the Fort Braden baseball fields, located at 15100 Blountstown Hwy. During these burglaries the subjects broke into the baseball concession stands and bathrooms, damaging plumbing, the stadium light electronics system, the sprinkler system, spray painted graffiti and bent the flag pole. The total damage and theft caused during these burglaries was estimated at \$80,000 and took weeks to repair.

At the time Sheriff Larry Campbell said "this type of senseless criminal activity will not be tolerated. The Leon County Sheriff Office is committed to protecting the citizens' property and we will vigorously pursue those involved".

Yesterday, Traffic Investigator Deputy Lonnie Seay was interviewing Jonathan Paradis and Kaylor Vause in reference to a hit and run which occurred on Friday July 5, 2008 on Forest Road 301. In the crash, a 1999 Ford Truck struck the rear of a 1990 Chevrolet and left the scene. Earlier that night Deputy John Hale had observed Vause parked behind the Gas Mart at 8021 Blountstown Highway. Deputy Hale interviewed Vause who stated he was waiting on Paradis. Vause was driving a 1999 Mitsubishi, but Deputy Hale also documented an unoccupied 1999 Ford Truck being at the store during his contact with Vause. Later when Deputy Hale responded to the hit and run on Forest Road 301, he remembered the encounter with Vause and provided that information to Deputy Seay.

During an interview with Deputy Seay, Paradis admitted to the hit and run. Paradis and Vause also implicated themselves in the Fort Braden Baseball Field burglaries and criminal mischief. Leon County Sheriff's Office Burglary Detectives Shannon Black and Damon Sullivan interviewed Paradis and Vause, who stated on the May 30th burglary they used a tire iron and car jack to pry open the concession stand steel roll-up door and stole drinks and snacks. Paradis and Vause returned on June 1st and used red, white and black spray paint to paint graffiti on the rest room walls, the outside walls and on the side walk. One of the statements painted was "I'll kill you the first day of school". Vause stated he was the one who painted that statement in hopes of the first day of school being canceled. The pair stated they used a tire iron to damage electronics and to break toilets, sinks and mirrors in the restrooms.

Paradis and Vause also admitted to burglarizing McGuffey's Towing and Auto parts located at 5601 Blountstown Highway four times over the last two months. During these burglaries Paradis and Vause stole car stereos and vehicle parts. The pair also admitted to breaking into LP's Music Store located at 2887 West Tharpe Street on July 5, 2008. In this burglary they broke out the front window with a tire iron and stole the cash register. On the same night the pair broke into the Parts House located at 7329 West Tennessee Street but fled before taking anything when the alarm was activated.

Paradis and Vause are also suspects in other crimes being investigated by the Tallahassee Police Department. Sheriff's Detectives are working with the Tallahassee Police Department to assist them in their investigation of Paradis and Vause. Detectives are also exploring other people of interest in some of these crimes which may lead to more arrests.

Sheriff Larry Campbell said "This case is a great example of how good basic police work can solve major crimes. Here an observant deputy made contact with a person acting suspiciously behind a gas station. The deputy made good observations and took notes, which led to the suspects. When an investigator talked to the suspects he also kept in mind the many burglaries in the area and was mindful to question the suspects, which ultimately led investigators to the information they needed to solve these crimes. At the end of the day good communication and team work took these criminals off our streets."

Arrested:

Jonathan J. Paradis (Adult)
DOB: 11/19/1989

Charges:

- (5) Counts of Burglary**
- (2) Counts of Felony Criminal Mischief**
- (1) Count of Grand Theft**
- (3) Counts of Petit Theft**
- (1) Count of Leaving Scene of a Crash with Injury**



Kaylor Vause (Juvenile) (No Photo Available)
DOB: 11/27/1990

Charges:

- (5) Counts of Burglary**
- (2) Counts of Felony Criminal Mischief**
- (1) Count of Grand Theft**
- (3) Counts of Petit Theft**



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