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Monday & Tuesday, February 15 & 16, 2010

THP nabs alleged career pill pushers

Troopers arrested three man on felony drug and other charges after stopping the vehicle they were in for driving erratically along I-40 and finding numerous prescription pills in their possession. During interviews, it was learned the group had traveled to Florida where all had doctor's visits.

Curtis Ray Adair, 29, Old Sevierville Road. (see Nabbed pg. 3)







Pills and DUI make | January Revenues for bad day



(see Cull pg. 6)

NASHVILLE - Tennessee sales tax collections continue to be a concern for the state's general fund. Negative growth in sales tax collections continued in January, with overall January revenues coming in at \$947.4 million, which is \$16.1 million less than the state budgeted.

"January is the 20th consecutive month in which sales taxes have recorded negative growth." Finance and Administration Commissioner Dave Goetz said. "January collections rep-

(see Revenues pg. 4)

Simpson seeks road job

Eddie Simpson of Lenoir City has announced his candidacy for Loudon County Road Superintendent. Eddie is married to Carrie Simpson and they have one daughter, Stacie Ruth, who is married to Brian Ruth, and has one grandson, Blaine, 7. Eddie is a life long resident of Loudon County, raised in the West Hills area and graduated from Lenoir City High School and worked as Maintenance Supervisor and was awarded a



(see Candidate pg. 7)

Verse of the day

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for 20s. his sake;

Philippians 1:29

Obituaries

Weather:

Today: Snow showers. Highs in the low 30s.

Tonight: Lows in the low one!!

Tuesday: Snow showers Aquarius at times. Highs in the low 30s and lows in the mid 20s

Wazzup

Happy Birthday, Wendi Selvidge! Hope it's a great

Horoscopes

(Jan 21-Feb 19)

Excitement builds throughout the day, and you should

be able to infect others with your enthusiasm. All that good energy has to be put to good use, so get out there and stir things up!

(see Horoscopes pg. 2)



Friedman

Newport was charged with driving on suspended, felony possession of schedule II (oxycodone) and (hydrocodone) for resale and felony possession of schedule IV (lorazepam) for resale.

Ricky Wayne Turner, 30, Marvin Shafer Way, Knoxville, was charged with felony possession of schedule II (oxycodone) and (hydrocodone) for resale and felony

possession of schedule IV (lorazepam) for resale.

Timothy Roby Brown, 46, Pinev Mountain Road, Newport, was charged with felony possession of legend drug without a prescrip-

According to reports, Mr. Adair was driving a maroon Chevy van owned by Ricky Turner when he was stopped on Interstate 40 for erratic driving. Turner was a

passenger in the front seat and Adair was driving. It was learned Mr. Adair's drivers license are suspended for numerous failure to satisfy citations and one DUI.

Consent to search the van was given by Turner and numerous pill bottles were recovered.

After being read Miranda warnings, Mr. Adair reportedly stated Mr. Turner had paid all his expenses for a doctors visit in return for 50% of Mr. Adair's medication.

Mr. Adair's medicine was found in a shaving kit that belonged

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to Mr. Turner. There was also three medications prescribed to Mr. Turner in the same shaving kit. Turner reportedly admitted to the allegations.

Another passenger in the van, Mr. Brown was given Miranda warnings and then interviewed. He reportedly gave verbal consent to search his belongings. Inside a prescription medication bottle labeled carisoprodol was one blue pill identified as valium, one purple pill identified as morphine and one half of a green pill identified as alprazolam, along with sixty pills of carisoprodol.

Mr. Brown had no prescription for the three other types of pills. He stated he purchased the pills without a prescription.

There were two other individuals in the van, a man and a woman, who were not charged. The woman stated the group had been in Florida, where all occupants had doctor visits.

Trooper Daniel Morton, THP, made the arrests Sunday.

Police Beat

Randall Patrick Bellury, 41, Sutherland Avenue, Knoxville, was charged with failure to pay.

Patrolman Jason Felts, LCPD made the arrest.

Kendra Nicole Martin, 21, South Main Street, Sweetwater was charged with violation of probation.

Deputy Craig Brewer. LCSO made the arrest.

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Revenues

esent December noliday sales, which brought reports of positive growth at the national level, so it's very disappointing that we didn't have a similar experience in Tennessee.

"Despite the severe national recession, the state will continue to monitor spending in order to end the fiscal year with a balanced budget as required by the state's constitution," Goetz said.

On an accrual basis, January is the sixth month in the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

The general fund was under collected by \$5.2 million and the four other funds were under collected by \$10.9 million.

Sales tax collections were \$20.4 million less than the estimate for January. The January growth rate was negative 1.86%. For six months revenues are under collected by \$159.0 million. The year-to-date growth rate for six months was negative 5.72 %.

Franchise and excise taxes combined were \$11.3 million above the budgeted estimate of \$128.5 million. For six months revenues are over collected by \$5.9 million.

Gasoline and motor fuel collections for January increased by 5.77 % but were \$4.2 million below the budgeted estimate of \$71.2 million. For six months revenues are under collected by \$14.1 million.

Tobacco tax collections were \$451,000 above the budgeted estimate of \$21.9 million, and for six months they are \$4.3 million over the budgeted estimate.

Inheritance and estate taxes were over collected by \$1.8 million for the month.

All other taxes were under collected by a net of \$5.1 million.

Year-to-date collections for six months were \$185.1 million less than the budgeted estimate. The general fund was under collected by \$152.3 million and the four other funds were under collected by \$32.8 million.

The budgeted revenue estimates for 2009-2010 are based on the State Funding Board's consensus recommendation adopted by the first session of the 106th General Assembly in May of 2009, and are available on the state's Web site at http://www. tn.gov/finance/bud/ budget.html.

The State Funding Board met again on December 18, 2009 and adopted revised revenue ranges for 2009-2010. The revised ranges reflect growth rates ranging from -1.50 % to -0.25 % in total taxes, and -2.35% to -0.85% in general fund taxes.

Based on the funding board's consensus recommendation, the official budgeted estimates for 2009-2010 were revised in late December. The revised estimates are reflected

on pages A-70 and A-72 in the 2010-2011 Budget Document. The revised estimates assume an under collection in total taxes in the amount of \$161.3 million, and an under collection of \$153.2 million in the general fund.

Police Beat

Cory Shane Bright, 19. Dry Valley Road. Loudon, was charged with failure to appear (violation of probation).

Deputy John Wilson, LCSO, made the arrest.

Wade Allen Watson. 23. Vonore Road. Loudon was charged. with violation of protection order.

Deputy Craig Brewer, LCSO, made the arrest.

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Cull

LCPD officers charged a young Maryville man with driving and drug offenses after finding him passed out behind the wheel with numerous pills in his possession following an accident.

Jameson T. Cull, 21, North Point Road, Sweetwater was charged with DUI 2nd offense, driving on revoked and possession of schedule II.

The report states Patrolman Jeremy Dishner, LCPD was dispatched to a drunk driver in the area of Suntrust Bank on Highway 321, Tuesday and found a white Audi that fit the description of the vehicle he was looking for.

The driver, Jameson Cull was passed out behind the wheel.

After waking him, Officer Dishner asked him to exit the vehicle and Cull attempted to hide a white baggie with 11 white pills and 2 blue pills believed to be methadone and roxicodone in the

center console area of the vehicle. Mr. Cull advised he bought the pills in Knoxville and did not have a prescription.

Cull was extremely unsteady on his feet and had slurred speech. No field sobriety tasks were given due to injuries from

a car accident that had just occurred.

A check of Mr. Cull's drivers license through NCIC came back revoked for

Cull consented to a BAC/ Drug Screen at Fort Loudoun ER and was transported by EMS.

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Candidate

National Achievement Award for organization of that department. In 1977 Eddie moved his workplace to Lenoir City Schools and worked 15 years as maintenance supervisor, purchasing agent and bus coordinator.

Eddie is a co-owner of several businesses in Loudon County

for 30 years. Eddie stated "I am pleased to have served as a Councilman for 10 years in Lenoir City and am excited about giving back to our community county wide. I have been blessed in so many ways, including from the people of our city and county."

Simpson lists his qualifications as a li-

censed contractor for 20 years; build roads for 2 new schools (clerk of works) includina extendina and widening Harrison Ln.; built all roads in Little Mountain Vista Subdivision. Executive Meadows Subdivision, Emerald Court and off Happy Hollow Road, called Green Meadows Lane.: Currently Chairman of Lenoir City Transportation Committee, Lenoir City Planning Commission and BZA: previously served on the Loudon County Planning Commission:

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currently Vice-Chairman of the Lenoir City Purchasing; currently a member of LCEDA, past Vice-Chairman: currently a member of the Lenoir City Budget Committee with an 8 million dollar budget.

Simpson concluded "if elected I pledge to be honest, hard-working, with an open door policy about concerns of our roads. I will improve our roads with less maintenance cost to our future tax payers. Being a people person is one of my given traits."

Police beat

Juan Luis Gallardo. 20, of Webb Drive. Loudon was charged with driving on revoked license.

According to the report, Officer April Farmer, LPD observed a vehicle pass a stopped school bus and stopped the offending vehicle.

The driver was identified as, Mr. Gallardo. who was found to have a revoked license for DUI.

Officer April Farmer, LPD made the arrest.

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Police Beat

Ora Lynn Long, 41, Hollings Head, Tellico Plains was charged with public intoxication.

The report states, Ms. Long was a passenger alone in a green Dodge truck sitting on the shoulder of Interstate 75. According to his report, it took Trooper Carey Hixson, THP 5 minutes to wake Ms. Long up after knocking on the window and rocking the vehicle from side to

Long was very belligerent and cursing the officer. Ms. Long did not know where she was or who was with her and she was very unsteady on her feet.