Male Arrested on Suspicion of Assault—

On Monday evening, Owatonna officers were called the area N. Elm Ave. and Broadway St. for the report of a male hitting another male with a bat. Responding officers found a 52-year-old victim whose head was covered in blood and an apparent broken ankle. The suspect was found walking in the area and was observed throwing a bat into the bushes near the Josten’s building. When interviewed, the witness indicated a discussion with the suspect over $5. He told the suspect he’d deal with it later and walked away. The next thing the victim knew, someone was cracking him over the head. The victim was transported by ambulance to the Owatonna Hospital and later airlifted to St. Mary’s Hospital in Rochester. Witness in the area also reported observing the suspect striking the victim with a bat. Video evidence also recovered in the area displayed the suspect walking with a bat in his hand and later discarding it in the bushes near Josten’s.

James A. Olson, age 59, was arrested and jailed. Olson was formally charged with 2nd Degree Assault with a Dangerous Weapon and 3rd Degree Assault Inflicting Substantial Bodily Harm—both felonies. When interviewed, the suspect denied any knowledge or involvement in the assault.

Dispute Sends One to Jail—

Owatonna officers were called to a residence on Cherry Street early Monday morning for the report of a fight. When officers arrived and approaching the residence, they could hear female crying and pleading for someone to “stop”. Officers approached the home and observed an adult male around an 18-year-old male victim and the suspect antagonizing the victim—the victim was yelling to be let go. Officers were let inside the residence and observed the suspect holding onto the victim. When interviewing the victim, he alleged a verbal argument took place between he and his mother that lead to a physical confrontation with the suspect. The suspect was alleged to have struck the victim on the head, threatened to beat the male if he didn’t start respecting his mother and that he threw a pair of binoculars at the victim. Juan R. Carrasco was arrested and later charged with two counts of domestic assault and 5th Degree Assault—all felonies.

Department News—

Back in August, Sergeant Laddie Bata left the department to take a position with the Moorhead Police Department; Laddie’s departure left us with a void to fill in our supervisory ranks. We are proud to announce that after a competitive promotional process, Jason R. Matejecik has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Jason began his career with the Owatonna Police Department in 1997. Over the next 18 years, he has served out community as a patrol officer, investigator, a SWAT tactical officer, bike patrol officer, and a field training officer. Jason will begin his supervisory career on September 23rd assigned to the Patrol Division. Congratulations to Jay on this deserving promotion!!