Just the Facts

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Fire Damages the Chuck Fuller Field Stadium—

On Tuesday evening, our officers and the Owatonna Fire Department were called to Dartt’s Park for a fire at the Chuck Fuller Field. Arriving officers and fire personnel found a storage unit under the baseball stands fully engulfed in flames. Fire personnel extinguished the fire, but not before the storage shelter was destroyed and caused extensive damage to the bleacher seating structure. Witnesses identified two male juveniles leaving the area on scooters. An 8-year-old and 10-year-old juvenile matching the description provided by the witnesses were located in Forest Hills Cemetery; both juveniles gave statements to their involvement in starting the fire. Both juveniles were released to the custody of family members. The Owatonna Fire Department and State Fire Marshal’s Office is assisting with this investigation.

The Unwanted is Really Wanted—

Late last Saturday evening, our officers were called to the Kwik Trip store on Mineral Springs Road for a wanted person—the person was reported to have stolen a donation box at the store about a year ago. Our responding officers found the male in the restroom and immediately identified him from past contacts and knew he had outstanding warrants. The subject was placed under arrest and a subsequent search uncovered presumptive positive methamphetamine. In addition to his warrant issues, Jake Karow, age 33 of Owatonna, faces felony 5th Degree Possession of Controlled Substance charges.

Identity Deception Fail—

In another case of a wanted person, a subject with a warrant was spotted in the parking lot at the Owatonna Public Library. An officer confronted the male and he surprisingly offered a false name despite his real name tattooed on his forearm. The male was arrested and during a search, officers came across hypodermic needles, methamphetamine and other drug paraphernalia. Jose Garcia, age 21 of Owatonna, was charged with 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance and Offering a False Name to a Peace Officer.

Jail Search Uncovers the Unexpected—

Also on Saturday evening, our officers were called to the Executive Inn for an assault. The victim reported she was seated in her car when a male came up to her vehicle and hit her vehicle with a wooden handle of an ice scraper and punched her in the face—the assault was corroborated by a witness. The victim suffered a cut on her cheek and a swollen lip. Officers located the suspect nearby in the Cash Wise parking lot where he was arrested on an Apprehension & Detention order issued by a probation agent. A subsequent search of the suspect at the jail uncovered presumptive positive marijuana and methamphetamine that had been concealed in the suspect’s genital area. Lorenzo Cook Jr., age 28 of Owatonna, has been charged with 5th Degree Assault and 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance—both felonies and 4th Degree Damage to Property. The assault was enhanced to a felony due to two previous assault convictions.