

Teacher, boyfriend charged with unlawful transaction with a minor

Continued from Page 1

Torsteinson's citation states that in Sept. of 2018, he contacted a female juvenile through Facebook Messenger in an unsuccessful attempt to have sex.

The citation adds that Torsteinson made contact with the student by having a relationship with the teacher. Torsteinson reportedly told the female to delete the messages between them in an attempt to destroy evidence of their communication.

KSP said that Torsteinson, a single male, is a native of Honduras, and he is currently in the United States on a work visa. However, validation of the man's work visa is pending an investigation.

Torsteinson was lodged in Three Forks Regional Detention Center. As of press time, he had not posted a bond.

He was scheduled to appear in Estill District Court on Monday, but his court date

is being rescheduled.

Bail for Torsteinson has been set at \$10,000 cash.

Supt. Saylor said he met with the teacher, Sherry Murphy, a Spanish teacher at the high school, on Wednesday morning, and she was given an opportunity to respond.

She resigned from her position as teacher at the high school.

Murphy, 39, of the same address as Torsteinson, was arrested by KSP on Thursday afternoon. Her citation states that she is a married woman.

Murphy was charged with unlawful transaction with a minor, first, tampering with physical evidence, and failure to report child or dependent neglect, abuse, first degree.

Murphy's citation states that she knew of Torsteinson's communication with the juvenile but did not report it.

It adds that she also knew of at least three other students who had been contacted by Torsteinson but did not report that either.

State police say that during the course of the investigation, Murphy deleted conversations between herself and Torsteinson in an attempt to conceal information from KSP.

Due to a fractured back, Murphy was unable to be lodged in the Three Forks Regional Detention Center. Acquaintances say that Murphy had fractured her back in a four-wheeler accident.

Murphy was released on a \$10,000 unsecured bond. She was placed on home incarceration and will be arraigned in Estill District Court on April 24.

"The Estill County School District strives to provide a safe and supportive environment for our school community," stated Supt. Saylor. "If anyone knows of a situation that may put the safety of our

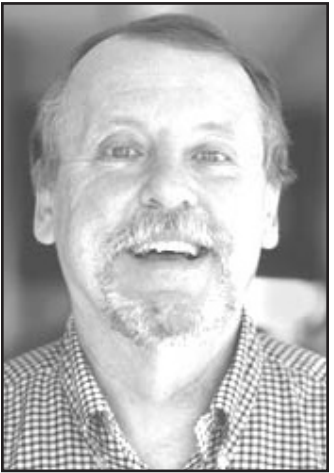
students or staff at risk, please report it immediately. One of the primary responsibilities we have as an employee of this district is to protect our students and provide a safe school environment, and we take that responsibility very seriously."

When students returned to school on Monday after spring break, Saylor said they would be reaching out to other students who may have been impacted either directly or indirectly by this situation.

"Our goal is to provide these students and their parents with the support they will need in the coming weeks or months," he added.

KSP is also asking if there are other students involved in this situation to reach out to the school district or call the Richmond state police post (859) 623-2404. This investigation is ongoing.

UK Softball Outfielder Has Been A Surprise



Larry Vaught

Coach Rachel Lawson doesn't want to say that freshman outfielder Kayla Kowalik of Texas has been a surprise this year with the role she's played offensively and in center field.

"She was obviously a very big recruit for us. We know that she is super talented and incredibly strong. I don't think her play has come as a surprise because of that," Lawson said. "It's been nice that it has come a little bit quicker than most freshmen can do it but she is an exceptional talent."

The Kentucky freshman wears No. 99, something she started doing in travel ball at age 8.

"They asked what number I wanted and I said 100. You can only have two numbers (on your jersey)

and 99 was the next best. I just stuck with it. It works for me," Kowalik said.

Her fraternal twin, Gabbie, now plays at St. Louis. Both twins have been their conference player of the week this season.

"We don't look alike. She is 27 seconds younger than me," the UK freshman said. "Both of us always played softball. We picked up other sports, but softball was just kind of the thing we always came back to. I was a catcher and she pitched when we were growing up but decided pitching wasn't for her and now she enjoys the outfield."

Like most twins, they grew up doing everything together.

"This is our first time truly being apart and so far we are taking it well. I am having no problems but when we were young we definitely dressed alike and played the role of twins," Kayla said. "As we got older we got our own personality and own sense of style. She is at St. Louis University that is not too terribly far from here. We are actually closer to each other than we are from home."

"I always knew I wanted to get out of Texas. I didn't exactly know where but when I visited this campus

it just felt like home. I have been dealing with 18 hours away from home, but it's not that bad."

She's become a starter on a team stacked with seniors. She admits starting surprised her some but she took that as a reward for the hard work she's always

done.

"The coaches here are willing to give us a shot. I am very grateful for the chance they have given me," she said. "If there is a role that I can fill, then I am happy to do whatever that might be and right now that is in center field."



Kentucky freshman Kayla Kowalik, left, and her twin sister Gabbie, who plays for St. Louis, had never really been apart until this season. Both are now starting outfielders for their teams.

Ravenna Council

Continued from Page 1

Broders concluded by saying that she would like the council to write up their terms and conditions and put the job out for bid and get this wrapped up in the next couple of months.

Some discussion about the Charlie Van Huss account was initiated by Van Cleve. He said that to his knowledge there was approximately \$279,000 that was left to the city after Van Huss passed away and the financial statement was only showing \$142,000 in that account.

City Clerk Ashley Moore said she was not aware of the original balance, only what was there when she took the position of clerk. Moore added that \$100,000 of the money was currently in a CD.

Mayor Estine Tipton said that some electrical and plumbing work had been done at the park and funds from that account were used.

Moore informed the council that the auditors are very close to completing the audit for the fiscal year 2016/2017. She said they had been waiting on documents from the IRS and as soon as they had them in their possession, the auditors would be able to close that audit and would release the \$34,000 that the city has been waiting on for the MAR fund.

"Things weren't done right before so it's been a long process trying to right all the wrong things that were done," stated Moore.

Sherry Stokes-Kraus, a native of Ravenna, spoke to the council about the funds that were left to the city by Arthur Long. Kraus said that she splits her time between Ravenna and New York and that the population of Ravenna is dwindling in part because there is not enough revenue to maintain the community. The funds left to the city by Long were designated to help needy seniors and needy youth.

IRVINE COUNCIL

Continued from Page 1

Work will begin in downtown Irvine soon to prepare for the Mushroom Festival.

Fire Chief Tony Murphy said that the fire department would be out washing streets in the evenings.

Mayor Gross said that he had finally heard back from the company who had painted the streets last year.

He said their fee had increased by \$2,200 and he felt like it would be better if the city purchased the paint from Meade's and allowed the city workers to do the work. He said they would be getting some overtime, but it would not cost near as much as the company was asking to do the job.

Police Chief Brad Smith said that the Irvine Police Department was fully staffed after the hiring of an officer with ten years of experience. He said the officer was completing some training at the academy and would be ready to go out on his own in a couple of weeks. He was identified as Stuart Morris.

IPD Capt. John Sturmiolo recounted the episode of coming in contact with heroin during a drug bust a few weeks back. He said that now all officers have Narcan that they carry with them. He added that most of the drugs that they are finding now is heroin and meth, and they are hurting the dealers financially by not only taking their drugs, but also their firearms, cash, and vehicles.

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Local Police Dept. Activity Report

Adam Wade Allman, 41, of Richmond was arrested April for receiving stolen property (firearm) and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess.

Irvine Officer Jason Conrad was dispatched to Price Less. When he arrived, he said Allman was inside a running vehicle. While Allman was attempting to retrieve his documents, the officer stated he saw a firearm with a hammer cocked back.

The citation states the man also had a loaded firearm in his waistband. It adds that when Conrad ran the serial number of firearm located in the glove box through NCIC, the number came back for a stolen weapon.

The officer stated he also found two glass pipes used for smoking methamphetamine inside the vehicle.

Betty A. Moore, 36, of Stacy Lane, Irvine was arrested on April 6 by Officer Stuart Morris. She was charged with driving under the influence, first offense (aggravating circumstances) and failure to notify DOT of address change.

The citation states that Moore was involved in a motor vehicle collision on River Drive. She was reportedly given and failed field sobriety tests by Capt. John Sturmiolo.

Dellie Shuler Jr., 40, of Fitchburg Road, Ravenna was arrested April 1 by Chief Brad Smith on charges of possession of a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and prescrip-

tion of controlled substance, not in proper container, first offense.

While patrolling, the chief said he noticed a man leaving an area of suspected drug activity. The citation states the chief received consent to search the man's person.

He said he located a white oblong pill identified by Poison Control as hydrocodone. The pill was in an unmarked container.

Shuler was released from custody on a \$5,000 surety bond. Shuler is scheduled to appear in Estill District Court on April 24.

Logan Biggs, 18, of Booneville was arrested on Broadway on April 1 by Officer Jason Conrad. Biggs was charged with rear license not illuminated, drug paraphernalia - buy/possess, and no operators - moped license.

Conrad conducted a traffic stop on Biggs' vehicle. He stated that he did not have a driver's license. The citation states the officer located three clear pipes which are usually used for methamphetamine.

An Owsley County arrest warrant was also served on Biggs which charged him with theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

The warrant states he went to the home of Phyllis Taylor on March 11 and asked for food. While she was fixing him food, he allegedly took a Samsung Galaxy tablet valued at \$275 and \$20 cash from her residence.

Skylar Paige Reese, 19, of Beattyville, was charged April 1 with carrying a concealed weapon by Officer Conrad.

Reese was a front seat passenger in Biggs' vehicle. During a search of the vehicle, Conrad said he found a sawed-off shotgun inside a black bag. The bag also had five live rounds inside it, and the shotgun had one live round inside the chamber.

The bag was located in the passenger floorboard under the edge of the seat.

A bench warrant from Estill Circuit Court was served on **James Newman**, 54, of Lincoln Ave., Irvine on April 4 by Officer Russell Morris.

The warrant says that Newman failed to appear in court on charges of trafficking in a controlled substance, first degree and first offense, and trafficking in a controlled substance within 1,000 feet of a school.

Dale Conrad, 43, of N. Madison Ave., Irvine charged April 4 with alcohol intoxication in a public place (first and second offense).

Officer Conrad was dispatched to Dale Conrad's residence, where he found him standing outside the residence. He said the arrested man was unsteady on his feet and had slurred speech and a strong odor of alcohol.

Trenton Ray Hall, 21, of Blue Run Road, Irvine, was charged April 2 by Sheriff Chris Flynn with possession of a controlled substance, first offense.

Flynn stated he initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle that had been reported as used unlawfully, and Hall was a passenger in that vehicle.

The citation states that when Flynn activated his blue lights, Hall exited the vehicle and went toward a pop machine.

The sheriff searched Hall, and reported that he found a small plastic bag in Hall's pocket. Flynn said it field tested positive for methamphetamine.

Hall made bail by posting 10 percent of a \$2,500 bail bond. His first court appearance is set for May 22 in Estill District Court.

Byron James Johnson, 24, of Bowling Green, KY, was charged April 7 with alcohol intoxication in a public place by Sheriff Flynn.

Wayne Scott Cornett, 51, of Crabtree Lane, Irvine, was charged April 1 by Deputy Chris Coffey with alcohol intoxication, possession of a controlled substance, third degree, theft by unlawful taking - shoplifting, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Raymond Lee Estes, 37, of Glynn Court, Irvine, was charged with fourth degree assault on April 1 by Sheriff Flynn with assault fourth degree (domestic violence).

On April 2, **Dustin Dean Reynolds** was charged with unauthorized use of motor vehicle and drug paraphernalia - buy/possess by Sheriff Flynn.