



LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

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Ecstasy Lab discovered in student's apartment

Lab reported to be the first of its kind uncovered in state

A 21-year-old student at the University of Louisiana was discovered attempting to manufacture the club drug Ecstasy in his Lafayette apartment.

Members of the Drug Enforcement Administration Task Force discovered a lab and precursor chemicals in the one bedroom apartment located just a few miles from the university.

This was the first Ecstasy Lab discovered in Louisiana.

The task force was notified from an overseas location when inquiries for pricing information on Sassafras

oil was being sent from an email address originating in South Louisiana.

Over a period of months, the request increased along with the shipments.

Sassafras Oil contains a Saffrole content of 96 percent, which is considered a list chemical. Saffrole is a precursor chemical commonly used in the clandestine manufacture of MDMA (Ecstasy), MDA and MDA. Sassafras Oil is routinely encountered in clandestine MDMA laboratories in the United States and

Europe.

U.S. importers, exporters, manufacturers, distributors and retailers who handle saffrole and or pure sassafras oil, are subject to acquiring a registration for importation in accordance to Federal laws.

It was discovered the suspect has set up a mailbox using a fictitious name to receive the packages.

Surveillance was conducted to determine where



photo by Sgt. Nintendo Do

the precursor chemicals were going.

A search warrant was issued and when agents entered the man's apartment, the elaborate lab was set up in several closets and the chemicals were discovered throughout the residence.

He was arrested and charged through the Western District of Louisiana on Federal charges of attempted manufacture of illicit drugs.

Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot, 159th Fighter Wing, supports the DEA Task Force, Lafayette Post of Duty



photo by Sgt. Nintendo Do



Police find \$1 million in drugs

KENNER (AP) - Kenner police have seized 22 pounds of cocaine with a street value of about \$1 million from a retrofitted gas tank. Authorities arrested five men who investigators say were bringing the drugs from Texas to sell in the New Orleans area.

The five men were booked with possession with intent to distribute cocaine. Kenner detectives discovered 10 bricks of pure cocaine, weighing 2.2 pounds each, hidden in a compartment in the gas tank of the Chevrolet Suburban the men were driving. Kenner police were working with officials from a federal drug task force and the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office on the case.

The amount of cocaine suggest the men are part of a large drug-smuggling ring.

Besides the cocaine and the vehicle, police also seized a pickup truck thought to have been driven by the other two suspects, \$10, 255 in cash from the truck, a .40-caliber semi-automatic pistol and one gram of marijuana that was also found in the gas tank.

The case began to unfold when officials from the Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, a federally supported, multi-agency program that had been investigating the men, asked Kenner detectives to step in. **Spec. Greg Kiley**, 199th Leadership Regiment, supports the Kenner PD

Congratulations

Staff Sgt. Barbara Pelham and Sgt. First Class Gonzalo Rocha Jr., were married on June 5. Rocha was once a member of the CDTF and was assigned to Customs/ HIDTA in New Orleans. He is now AGR with the 415th MI Bn. and is currently deployed to Kosovo. Pelham Rocha is a current member of the CDTF and is assigned to the DEA, Baton Rouge office. She is also a member of the 415th MI Bn. Best of luck to the Rocha's and may you be together again soon.

Showing support for our deployed members, Adjutant General Bennett C. Landreneau and Command Sgt. Major Morrow visit SFC Leah Didier, SFC John Groth, Staff Sgt. Heidilind Davis, Staff Sgt. Meagan Bennet and Staff Sgt. Leo Davis while deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Highway stop uncovers cocaine

A Louisiana State Police Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 1995 Dodge Neon out of North Carolina on Interstate 10 in St. Martin Parish. The driver and registered owner of the vehicle claimed to be returning to North Carolina from Houston. A consensual search of the vehicle revealed 11 pounds of cocaine hidden inside the vehicle's rocker panels. The subject was arrested and the cocaine and vehicle seized. **Staff Sgt. Leo Davis III**, 415th MI, and **Sgt. Nintendo Do**, HHC 2/156th INF, supports the LSP Narcotics in Lafayette.

Pineville man arrested on drug, gun charges

A Pineville man was arrested on suspicion of distributing drugs and having an altered assault rifle. Agents with the parish-wide drug task force arrested the man after an undercover operation. When agents served a search warrant on the man's residence, they found Xanax and Hydrocodone. They also found a SKS assault rifle that was altered to be an automatic weapon. **Sgt. First Class Yolanda Neal**, 165QM POL BN, supports Rapides Parish Narcotic Task Force

The La. Drug Guard is brought to you by Tech. Sgt. Suzanne Chaillot, DEA Lafayette POD, 337-262-6744 or Shyobro@aol.com