



# LOUISIANA DRUG GUARD

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## Feds indict 17 members of heroin network

NEW ORLEANS—Capping a six-month undercover investigation, Federal Law enforcement officials announced the indictments of 17 members of an alleged extensive heroin trafficking network.

While the investigation focused initially on illegal drug activity in the St. Thomas public housing complex, the defendants, indicted on conspiracy to distribute heroin charges, come from elsewhere, including Metairie,

Gentilly, Pigeon Town, Uptown and New Orleans east.

The case, which netted more than 117 grams of heroin, was based largely on undercover operations and infiltration by the FBI and Drug Enforcement Administration, and sweeps by the 6th District Police Narcotics and Task Force officers.

Officials claim the recent increase in murders in the city has been fueled by drug trafficking and drug gangs.

The 17 suspects were described by the U.S. Attorney, Eddie Jordan, as part of an extensive heroin trafficking network.

*1st Sgt. Wayne Herrin, Staff Sgt. Melissa Vosburg, Tech Sgt. Ana DeZarn, Staff Sgt. Kenny Delagdo, Senior Master Sgt. John Harris, Sgt. Patrick Roche, Staff Sgt. Mike Upshaw, Spec. Json Prieto and Senior Ann Craig Juan support DEA/New Orleans*

## After-hours club raid nets drugs and arrests

HAMMOND---Local police found assorted drugs and paraphernalia in an after-hours nightclub raid.

The alcohol-free nightclub, that is frequented by teenagers, was closed for an hour while police searched it and its patrons. Two people were arrested for drug possession.

The undercover operation at the nightclub was in response to public complaints. Officials with the Hammond Police Department wanted to make the public aware that this is the kind of place parents are letting their children go to at night.

While officials had no search war-

rant, they were able to search the club because it is a public place. The officers only frisked patrons and did not check pockets.

Police did seize close to 2 liters of GHB, three tablets of Ecstasy, a small envelope of cocaine and close to an ounce of marijuana.

All were found discarded inside the club, the GHB was found in four water bottles. GHB is a clear liquid and a central nervous system depressant that has been linked to comas, seizures and death.

Police also found discarded inhalers and decongestants used to enhance the highs of Ecstasy.

About nine police officers blocked exits and bathroom doors while police sent each patron outside the club to be searched one at a time.

Two 15-year-olds were cited for curfew violation and released to the custody of their parents.

The club is owned by a father and son, on weekends it stays open until 6 a.m., and sells water and soda, but no alcohol. They said the club has a dance license and is not regulated by the Alcohol Beverage Control Board.

*Staff Sgt. Ron Mays supports the Hammond Police Department*

## State Roundup

JENNINGS—Marijuana was discovered in the trunk of a Chevy impala after a narcotics detector canine alerted on the car. The driver, a native of Pennsylvania, was on his way back to his state from Texas when he was pulled over on Interstate 10 by a Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Deputy for a traffic violation. The total amount of marijuana discovered in a duffel bag was 37 pounds. **Sgt. Brad Lavergne supports Jefferson Davis S/O**

LAFAYETTE—More than 500 pounds of marijuana were discovered in the bed of a pickup truck hidden under panels of sheetrock. The drugs were concealed in burlap sacks mixed with coffee grounds. The Texas driver was on his way to Atlanta from Houston. He claimed he was delivering a load of sheetrock to Georgia when the Louisiana State Police pulled him over for a traffic violation. **Staff Sgt. Leo Davis supports LSP West District Narcotics**

KENNER—Members of the Kenner Narcotics Division executed a search warrant that resulted in the arrest of a couple for intent to distribute 92 tabs of MDMA, 14.5 grams of cocaine, 11 grams of marijuana, 21 tabs of alpraxolam and a hit of LSD. **Sgt. Paul Hooper supports Kenner PD**

## Eradication down in the parish profitable

LAFOURCHE---Major marijuana crops with a street value of more than \$350,000 were confiscated after a week-long eradication mission using multiple agencies.

The crops were located growing in the marches and wooded areas of Lafourche Parish.

The Louisiana National Guard Counter Drug Task Force, Lafourche Parish Drug Task Force, Louisiana State Police, Terrebonne Parish Nar-

cotics Unit and the Civil Air Patrol combined forces to locate and destroy 250 marijuana plants in 25 separate plots throughout the parish.

The weeds ranged in size from seedlings to plants that were over ten feet tall.

No arrests have been made but the investigation is continuing.

**Cpl. Sean Redd supports Lafourche PSO and Staff Sgt. John Fos supports Terrebonne PSO**

## No license plate leads to drugs

ST. TAMMANY—A deputy on routine patrol discovered four ounces of powder cocaine during a traffic stop.

Shortly after 10 p.m., the deputy observed a 1991 Maxima traveling eastbound on I-12 near the Goodbee exit.

The car had no license plate so the deputy initiated a traffic stop. Both the driver and passenger appeared extremely nervous, gave conflicting stories about their travels and would not make eye contact with each other.

The deputy requested and received consent to search the vehicle.

Beneath the hood, tucked to the side of the engine, was a golf-style shirt. When the deputy unwrapped the frock, he discovered four ounces of powder cocaine in four plastic bags and a small scale.

The driver and passenger were both from Georgia. They were taken into custody and booked.

**Staff Sgt. Paul Tullier supports St. Tammany PSO**

## Pill pusher popped in parish

GONZALES—Agents with the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office received information from an anonymous source that a young man had a large quantity of valium and was selling to anyone and everyone.

The source also advised the officers to where the drugs were hidden in the target's car.

An agent contacted the suspect and made arrangements to buy drugs from him.

During the drug transaction, agents

identified themselves and obtained a consent to search the vehicle from the suspect.

The officers located a crown royal bag that contained 700 tabs of valium in the exact spot the informant told them it would be. The pills were packaged in cellophane bags of one hundred each. Also seized from the car was a handgun.

The suspect was subsequently arrested and the drugs seized.

**Sgt. 1st Class Michael La Place supports Ascension PSO**