

After two years Kanorado man faces alleged charges for drug possession

By Kathryn Burke

More than two years since a Kanorado man was arrested for allegedly having a methamphetamine lab at his business, lawyers for both sides brought the case before District Judge Jack Burr who bound the case over on all counts at a preliminary hearing Wednesday.

Scott Baumfalk, 38, was taken into custody in St. Francis Thursday, Dec. 19, 2002, after members of the Quad County Drug Task Force, Sherman County Sheriff's Department and the Kansas Bureau of Investigations executed a warrant to search Scotty's Motors Co., 209 Main, Kanorado.

Wednesday Baumfalk pled not guilty and was released on his own recognizance.

Baumfalk spent time in the Bastille after investigators found what they said was an alleged meth lab. He was charged with manufacturing meth, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of amphetamine and possession of ammonia.

On the same weekend, Baumfalk's wife, Crystal, 29, was arrested and charged with manufacturing methamphetamines.

The drug charges on both were dismissed and refiled in November, and Scott didn't have his first appearance until Wednesday. Crystal had a first appearance after the

charges were refiled and she waived the preliminary hearing. The two are being tried separately.

Wednesday morning bureau agents testified about the warrant and what they found inside the Kanorado business.

The examination began with Sherman County Attorney Bonnie Selby asking Doug Murphy, coordinator for the drug task force, about the 15-month investigation of the Baumfalk residence and business.

Although upon cross examination by the defendant's attorney Michael S. Holland, Russell, Murphy revealed he hadn't made any logs or video tapes of the surveillance, he told the court he regularly visited the business and home of the Baumfalks.

Murphy testified he wasn't present for the execution of the search warrant because he was in St. Francis awaiting word to go ahead with the arrest.

Baumfalk was on trial with Rell Zimbelman in St. Francis for two misdemeanor charges. While he was in court, officers raided his business.

After arresting and taking Baumfalk to the Bastille, Murphy visited the motor shop. He said officers searched the basement and ground floor of the shop, collecting the most evidence underground.

"I observed a number of glass con-

tainers with substances in them," he said adding lab results from the bureau of investigations revealed that all chemicals necessary for the manufacture of meth had been present in the lab. "Through the course of the investigation, I found that the defendant had 'cooked' methamphetamines on Dec. 8."

Murphy testified that a number of weapons and gun cases were found along with books on chemistry and the manufacture of methamphetamines. He said one of the weapons was an illegal shotgun with a 13 and three-fourths inch barrel.

Holland asked Murphy if he had seen Baumfalk at the residence on the day of the search or the days before. Murphy said he was in Kanorado on Dec. 17, and witnessed the defendant in the shop, but had not observed the shop again on the day before the search.

The prosecution, called in Sherman County Sheriff Kevin Butts who described a visit with Baumfalk while he was in jail. Butts said the defendant, an old friend, asked for him while in the Bastille. Butts was serving as undersheriff for the county.

He said the familiarity between the two started in 2000 when Baumfalk worked for Virgil Baumfalk at McB's Motor Company. Butts took his vehicles to Scotty's Motor company in Kanorado for work.

"I considered him a friend," Butts said.

He visited the jail after Baumfalk sent him a note asking to talk. Butts said it seemed Baumfalk was trying to justify manufacturing drugs.

"I said that meth kills," Butts said he wrote in the incident report he filed after talking with the defendant. "He said, 'not the stuff I make, it's the best and the safest around.'"

Butts testified he was patrolling in Kanorado on Dec. 14, 2002, when he noticed smoke coming from Baumfalk's shop. He said the smoke moved along the ground instead of lifting in the air and it had an unusual odor.

"I really can't describe what it smelled like," he said. "It was an odor I was unfamiliar with."

The prosecution brought bureau of investigations Special Agent Chris Baumgartner up for testimony next.

Baumgartner was one of the agents on the scene when the warrant was executed.

As a special agent, he told the court he was trained to process a methamphetamine crime scene.

The prosecution took Baumgartner through a series of photographs taken at the scene and described the items.

He said they found several liquids in jars including an orangish pink liquid with a white funnel lined in a coffee filter on top. He told he court officers found white chunky powder he feels is consistent with binder material, starches or sugar in pills to keep them together that is extracted when making methamphetamines.

Although the agents did register evidence of ammonia in the air, upon cross examination by Holland, Baumgartner said they can't test for the presence of anhydrous ammonia, a chemical necessary for some processes of making meth.

Another bureau special agent, Robert Conde, told the court although agents lifted fingerprints, the lab said none could be identified.

Judge Jack Burr set a pre-trial hearing for 9 a.m. on Monday, April 18, where a date will be set for the trial.



Mr. and Mrs. Randy Partch

Couple says vows

Katie Suzanne Krutsinger and Randy Dale Partch of McCook, Neb., were united in marriage Sept. 4, 2004, in a country garden ceremony at the Ted Partch residence in Bird City.

The bride is the daughter of Bobby and Joan Krutsinger, and the granddaughter of Leon and Josephine Schrader of Benkelman, Neb., and the late Louis and Doris Krutsinger.

The groom is the son of Ted and Carol Partch and the grandson of Rodney and Bette Partch, all of Bird City, and Bob and June Sharp of Oklahoma City, Okla.

The bride wore an elegant ivory matte-satin gown, accented by a champagne ribbon border at the top and bottom hem. Her strapless, A-line gown had a corset-style lace-up back and a sweep train. Her headpiece was a beautiful antique rhinestone headband dating from the 1920s. The cathedral veil with scattered pearls and pencil edging trailed her dress. She wore elbow-length gloves and carried a round bouquet of fresh soft pink roses and calla lilies.

Molly Horner, sister of the bride, and Jill Partch, sister of the groom, served as matron and maid of honor. They wore flirty chocolate brown strapless dresses, and carried bouquets of fresh roses and calla lilies in various shades of pink with kermis mum accents. Mariah Phipps was Katie's personal attendant.

Kevin Partch, brother of the groom and Luke Linin served as best men. Tyler, Bobby and Jesse Schneide and Trevor Horner escorted guests to the outdoor setting.

The charming ceremony began as the bridal party proceeded down the garden aisle to "Goin' to the Chapel" by the Dixie Cups. Ring bearer Corbin Horner was drawn down the aisle in a white wagon by Kameron Krutsinger. Rose petals were scattered by flower girl Adalene Krutsinger in preparation for the bride.

The bride's arrival was announced by the revving of her father's 63 Chevy Impala convertible. Her father escorted her to the gazebo where he groom awaited. The ceremony was officiated by Reverend Doug Mason as a refreshing sprinkle of rain fell from the evening sky.

A dinner and dance celebration followed under white canopies lit with white sparkling lights. Katie and Randy honeymooned in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Central Community College a Hastings with associate degrees in culinary arts and restaurant management.

The groom is a 2002 graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College in Goodland with an associate degree in electrical technology.

Beecher Island News

By Bessie Dent



There were 48 at Sunday school with Jo Dickson giving the special number and Larry Allen giving his birthday offering.

The Beecher Island Helping Hand Club met with Mary Jane Allen Wednesday. They had election of officers. Boni Osmus is the new president, if you need to get a hold of anyone. Next hostess will be Crystal Zion on Feb. 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus's dinner guests Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ekberg, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Chad Towns and boys and Laurie Jones, Megan and Ben.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Willard's Sunday dinner guests were Mr. and Mrs. Greg Allen and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Osmus and Jacob, Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shively and Doris Whomble.

Jeri Lynn Armstrong and Patum,

Jeff's sister of Johnson, were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Hurlburt and family.

Nelson Ekberg spent Thursday to Monday with home folks.

Violet Brown visited Nettie May Welton Sunday afternoon.

Trudi and Katie Wieser were Saturday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Strangways.

Judy Shively and Beulah Soehner went to Denver Thursday for doctor appointments which came out great.

Mr. and Mrs. George Davis were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Allen. Mr. and Mrs. Pete Osmus had lunch Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Tempy Bowman and family. Pete's took Perk Salvador out for supper that same day.

Doris Whomble spent Saturday and Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Rowe Shively.

Monte Mansfield had lunch with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Mansfield Saturday. Gary Mansfield was a visitor earlier in the week.

Paul and Bessie Dent spent Saturday with Manley and Doris Chase in Westminster.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Simmons hosted a birthday party Saturday in honor of Richard Wall's 85th birthday. Other guests were Laura Pearl Wall, Mr. and Mrs. Randy Perila, Laura and Madison, Quentin Simmons, Mr. and Mrs. Duane Wall, Wendy and Blaine Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Dusty Wall, Sidney and Gracie, Mr. and Mrs. Don Harford, Mr. and Mrs. Royal Woods, Betty Finn, Betty Lee Green and Polly Thringer.

UNDER \$9,000

- '90 Ford Crown Vic, brown, 61,852 miles, cloth, cass.
- '92 Buick LeSabre, beige, 104,504 miles, 4 dr., 3.8, CC, PW, PDL
- '91 Chevy C-1500, blue/white, 132,850 miles, Ext. Cab, 2 WD, 1SC Diesel, 6.2, CC, PW, PDL, cass.
- '93 Chevy K-2500, red/silver, 121,824 miles, reg. cab, 4 WD, 1SC Diesel, 6.5, 5 spd.
- '96 Chevy K-2500, silver/blue, 214,000 miles, HD, reg. cab, 350, cass./CD, hail
- '97 Cadillac DeVille, dark cherry, 86,278 miles, leather, PS, tilt, CC, PW, PDL, cass.
- '00 Pontiac Grand Am, black, 83,190 miles, 2 dr., GT, CC, PW, PDL, CD, leather
- '99 Chevy Suburban, pewter, 159, 784 miles, cloth, CD, PS, PDL, PW, tilt, CC

UNDER \$15,000

- '02 Pontiac Grand Am, white, 88,022 miles, 4 dr., GT, CC, PW, PDL, CD
- '97 Cadillac Seville, silver, 99,123 miles, 4 dr., STS Northstar, CCC, CD/cass., leather
- '99 Chevy Suburban, white/pewter, 95,326 miles, LT, CC, PW, PDL, CD/cass., leather/heat
- '97 Ford F150, red/silver, 77,471 miles, 4.6, tilt, CC, PW, PDL, cass.
- '00 Chrysler Sebring, gold, 24,296 miles, 2 dr., leather, CD, PS, PW, PDL, tilt, CC
- '01 Chevy Blazer, pewter, 58,336 miles, cloth, CD/cass., 4 WD, PS, PW, PDL, CC
- '99 GMC Yukon, white, 78,487 miles, SLE, 350, CC, CD/cass., 4 WD
- '02 Buick LeSabre, pewter, 71,881 miles, 4 dr., Limited, leather/heat, CD
- '03 Chevy Malibu, red, 28,191 miles, LS, 4 dr., CD, PW, PDL
- '03 Olds Alero, red, 25,634 miles, 4 dr., V6, PS, PW, CC
- '01 Buick Park Ave., silver, 55,894 miles, 4 dr., CC, PW, PDL, cass., leather

UNDER \$23,000

- '00 Ford Expedition, maroon, 74,618 miles, XLT, V8, CC, cass./6 CD, buckets, hitch, 3rd seat
- '03 Chevy Venture, red, 22,714 miles, FWD, ext. LS, 6G, CC
- '02 Buick Park Ave., white, 30,585 miles, 4 dr., 3.8, leather/heat, CD
- '04 Buick Century, beige, 12,896 miles, 4 dr., custom, V6, PS, PW,mm CC
- '94 Chevy Corvette, black rose, 24,674 miles, 350, auto., new tires
- '02 Chevy TrailBlazer, pewter, 65,411 miles, 4 dr., LS, I-6 4200, CC, CD, receiver hitch
- '04 Chevy Impala, tan, 25,072 miles, LS, 4 dr., CD, V6
- '05 Buick Century, steel mist, 16,880 miles, PS, CD, custom keyless-remote
- '03 Chevy TrailBlazer, black, 30,102 miles, LS, 4 WD, 6G, PW, CCC
- '00 Cadillac DeVille, silver, 45,507 Miles, 4 dr., Northstar, CC, CD, leather/heat/mem.
- '04 Chevy Express, white, 13,521 miles, 2500, 12 passenger, PW, PDL

OVER \$23,000

- '02 GMC TK25753, pewter, 77,110 miles, ext. cab, SLE, 6.0, cruise, PW, PDL, CD
- '01 Chevy K-2500, white, 71,347 miles, crew, long box, HD, LS, 6.0, cruise, CD, bedliner
- '03 Buick Park Ave., silver, 29,554 miles, 4 dr., CD, PW, PDL, tilt, CC, leather
- '01 Chevy K-2500, gray, 79,110 miles, ext. cab, long box, LS, diesel, cruise, PW, PDL, liner
- '02 GMC K-2500, white, 56,700 miles, ext. cab, long box, SLE, 6.0, cruise, PW, PDL, CD

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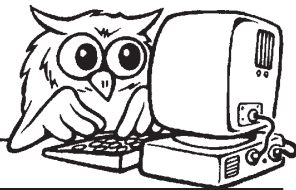


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Congratulations St. Francis Students for attaining the Standard of Excellence on the 2004 Kansas State Assessments!



STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE: Top row, l to r - Matthew Tygart, Isaac Schiltz, Christina Schoenrogge, Jodie Hilt, Lisa Holzwarth (teacher), Brooks Hobrock, Christine Hilt, Mikaela Grace, Aubree Schlepp, Shayla Hilt, Alyson Marin, Lynette Nolan (teacher); front row - Logan Whitmore, Cody Sherlock, Caitlin Northrup, Brock Zweggardt, Ross Nicklos, Tye Zweggardt, Brendan Finley, Alyssa Lee. Not pictured: grade school - Ashlynn Lambert, Brett Lampe; junior high - Sidnee Crabtree, Courtney Douthit, Elizabeth Gienger, Cara Hunt, Taryn Richard, Samuel Sowers, Matthew Whitmore, Heather Hnizdil, Holly Keller, Lauren Zweggardt, Jenice Hartman, Chance Hobrock, Katelyn Jones, Dara Loyd; high school - Ashley Dowgwillo, Heath Owens, John Stephens, Ale Tygart, Gabe Walz, Chelsey Weeden, Hailey Crabtree, Kelsey Dunn, Andrew Feikert, Megan Ford, Gabe Gienger, Amy Grace, Rachel Hnizdil, Amanda Jones, Brooke Lucas, Amy Nicklos, Derek Ross, Kali Rueb, Josh Walters.

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