

**Search of Morning Report submittals of Incidents**

From Morning Report on: Tuesday, December 28, 2004

**Gulf Islands National Seashore (FL,MS)  
Assault on Rangers**

Ranger Ryan Parr stopped a GMC pickup in the park on the evening of December 13th and warned the driver about speeding. When Parr asked him if he had any guns, alcohol or drugs in the truck, the driver told him that his passenger had some beer with him. Parr asked the man – later identified as Ryan Rome – for identification, but Rome replied that he had none. Ranger Jay Drinkwater, who'd joined Parr, asked Rome for his name and date of birth so that an identification check could be made. The name and DOB that Rome provided came back from dispatch as not on file, at which point Rome admitted that he had lied about his identity. When Parr attempted to arrest him, Rome fled. He ran behind a bank and attempted to jump over a fence, but Drinkwater caught up with him and pulled him off the fence. Parr saw Rome reach his right hand into his waistband and struck him on his right thigh with his expandable baton. All three men then fell to the ground. Rome reached up and grabbed Parr's baton, but Parr twisted it from his grip and threw it out of reach. Rome's hand then returned to his waistband despite repeated commands to stop resisting. Parr and Drinkwater employed a number of control techniques to remove Rome's hands from his waistband and handcuff him. Both Parr and Drinkwater were injured during the fight, but x-rays revealed no broken bones and both were released from the hospital that same night. Rome was eventually identified through AFIS (automated fingerprint identification system) and found to have an outstanding felony warrant against him from Louisiana. He had also just escaped from prison in Mississippi. Rome was charged with aggravated battery on law enforcement officers, resisting officers with violence, obstruction, false information, depriving an officer of a weapon, possession of a controlled substance and possession of cocaine. It appears that Rome was reaching toward his waistband in an effort to find and dispose of a prescription drug container, but the container had fallen out during the chase. [Submitted by J.D. Lee, Chief Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, December 15, 2004

**Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (AZ)  
Man Sentenced For Role In Killing Of Kris Eggle**

A report on the sentencing of Dionicio Ramirez López for his role in the killing of ranger Kris Eggle appeared in yesterday's Arizona Daily Star. The first paragraphs of that story follow; for the full text, click on "More Information" below.

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The only man to be charged in the killing of park ranger Kris Eggle was sentenced Monday in U.S. District Court to 15 1/2 years in prison. Dionicio Ramírez López appeared before Judge Frank R. Zapata to be sentenced for aiding and abetting the transportation of a stolen vehicle, aiding and abetting assault with a dangerous weapon and firing a weapon during a violent crime.

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From Morning Report on: Tuesday, December 07, 2004

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Conviction for DUI, Assault on Federal Officer**

On February 26, 2003, rangers Michael Nash and DeAnn Shults were working with park maintenance personnel on the Foothills Parkway "Spur" clearing trees and directing traffic due to heavy rain and high winds. Nash was positioned about a half mile before the portion of the Spur that was temporarily closed when Andrew Puskas, who was traveling at least 60 mph, nearly struck him. Nash had to dive onto the road shoulder to avoid being hit by Puskas' vehicle. Puskas continued driving on the Spur, then almost struck Shults. Shults and Nash pursued Puskas to the nearby town of Pigeon Forge and stopped him. Puskas was placed under arrest on DUI (his blood alcohol level registered .19%) and other charges. At a later date, after conferring with the assistant U.S. attorney, Puskas was indicted under 18 USC 111 (assault on a federal officer). Puskas subsequently pled guilty to the felony charge and the DUI charge. On November 30th, he was sentenced to seven months confinement, three years of supervised release, and 150 hours of community service. [Submitted by Jeff Carlisle, Special Agent]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, September 29, 2004

**Yellowstone National Park (ID,MT,WY)  
Assault on Rangers**

Canyon Subdistrict rangers were called to a concession employee dorm at 1 a.m. on September 7th to deal with a man who was attempting to start fights with various people. When rangers Ryan Adrian and Sara Cavallaro arrived at the dorm, they came upon a man – subsequently identified as James Haverland – who was visibly drunk and arguing with concession managers. They handcuffed him and continued their investigation. A second man jumped into the scene from a second floor balcony and challenged the rangers to arrest him. As the incident evolved, Haverland broke free, charged Adrian and attempted to head-butt him. Adrian deflected the assault, but was still struck and knocked backward several steps. While the rangers were struggling with Haverland and attempting to move him to their patrol vehicle, the second man began shouting and throwing sticks to instigate other employees in the dorm to help obstruct the arrest. A crowd of about 30 people gathered and surrounded the rangers, who put out a radio call for help. Five of the primary instigators yelled obscenities and threats and challenged the rangers from a distance of less than two feet, continually refusing orders to back away. In order to motivate members of the crowd to disperse, the ranger drew their tasers, removed the air

cartridges, switched the safeties off, and used them to make spark displays – all the while still fighting to control Haverland. The spark display proved sufficient to back up the crowd about 15 feet. Six additional rangers from the Canyon and Lake areas soon arrived on scene; with this show of force, it proved possible to get the still combative Haverland into a patrol car. The rangers also moved into what remained of the crowd, seeking the primary troublemakers. Three of them were ultimately arrested, as their interference had seriously threatened the safety of Adrian and Cavallaro. On September 8th, Haverland appeared before the federal magistrate and pled guilty to misdemeanor charges of assault against a ranger, public intoxication, and resisting arrest. He was sentenced to 14 days in jail and an additional 31 days of suspended time, banned from the park for two years, placed on two years probation, ordered to pay a \$400 fine, and remanded to the custody of a US Marshal. Three other defendants pled guilty to various charges.[Submitted by Brian Smith, Supervisory Special Agent]

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From Morning Report on: Thursday, August 26, 2004

**United States Park Police**  
**USPP Officer Shoots Assailant**

Shortly before 2:30 p.m. on the afternoon of August 23rd, a United States Park Police officer approached and engaged in conversation the passenger of a blue Chevrolet Suburban in the area of North Capitol and K Streets Northeast. At some point, the passenger rolled up his window and trapped the officer's arm. The operator of the Suburban then sped off at a high rate of speed on North Capitol Street, dragging the officer. The officer, who was dragged for about a block and a half, continuously ordered the driver to stop the vehicle, but was forced to fire his service weapon in defense of his life. He fired several rounds into the interior of the speeding vehicle before he was thrown clear. The Suburban continued traveling at a high rate of speed onto L Street and struck several vehicles. It was found a short time later in the 500 block of Oklahoma Avenue, occupied by a male passenger suffering from a gunshot wound to his body. The driver had fled, but was apprehended shortly thereafter when police searching the area discovered him hiding under a motor vehicle in a nearby alley. The officer was taken to an area hospital, where he was treated for several abrasions and a sprained ankle and released. His identity is being withheld because he is considered to be a witness in the case. The wounded man, identified as 54-year-old Robert W. Hawkins, was taken to Howard University Hospital and admitted in undetermined condition. Both Hawkins and the driver, identified as 27-year-old Kelvin L. Martin, have been charged with assault on a police officer. Martin has also been charged with assault with intent to kill and fleeing from a law enforcement officer.[Submitted by Washington Metro PD, via Scott Fear, PIO, USPP]

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From Morning Report on: Monday, August 02, 2004

**Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (AZ,UT)  
Assault on Ranger, Navajo Officer**

Park dispatch received a 911 call reporting shots fired from Lone Rock beach at 1:15 a.m. on Saturday, July 17th. The caller reported hearing a loud gunshot, then a voice yelling "I will shoot anyone who comes near me." Rangers Kenny Barend, Brendon Voss, Amy Mowat, Jared St.Clair and Navajo Nation canine officer Rob Williams responded. The camp was located on the far south end of the beach. All of the 15 or so people within were ordered onto the ground, then checked for weapons. Barend and Voss found Douglas Jones hiding with his girlfriend in a tent within the camp and ordered them out. As Jones was coming out, the rangers saw a Remington 700 22/250 rifle in plain view. Jones was handcuffed and his rifle was retrieved. Jones admitted that he'd fired the rifle into the air and that he'd also threatened two men in the next camp. As other tents were being checked and cleared, Williams came into contact with Casey Quarnberg. Quarnberg's wife left the tent, as ordered, but he became combative and struck Williams twice in the upper torso with a closed fist. Williams responded by spraying him with pepper spray. St. Clair joined Williams, at which time Quarnberg began swinging at and hitting both men. Williams and St. Clair used their expandable batons to strike Quarnberg several times on the arms, legs and back; although he continued to resist, they were able to get him into handcuffs. According to witnesses, the incident began when Rodrick Nez and a companion from the next camp were drinking with people at the Jones/Quarnberg camp. When Nez and his companion were asked to leave, they declined to do so. Nez instead became angry and struck one of the campers in the head, causing a brief loss of consciousness. Jones then retrieved his rifle, fired a shot in the air, and threatened to shoot Nez if he did not leave. Nez was located in his camp and arrested for assault; Jones was arrested for use of a weapon that endangers the public, disorderly conduct, and minor in possession of alcohol; Quarnberg was arrested for two counts of assault on a peace officer and transported by park ambulance to Page Hospital for treatment of injuries incurred during his arrest. One other man was cited and released on scene for a weapons violation. St.Clair and Williams sustained only minor injuries during the altercation with Quarnberg and were treated by paramedics on scene. The case is being prosecuted by both Kane County Sheriffs Office and the National Park Service.[Submitted by Mike Mayer, Chief Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Tuesday, July 27, 2004

**Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (AZ)  
Follow-up on Eggle Homicide**

On July 7th, pursuant to a plea agreement Dionicio Ramirez-Lopez, a Mexican national, entered a plea of guilty to one count of aggravated assault (18 U.S.C. § 113 (a) (3)), one count of discharge of a firearm during and in relation to a crime of violence (18 U.S.C. § 924(c)), one count of interstate transportation of a stolen motor vehicle (19 U.S.C. §2312), and one count of aiding and abetting (18 U.S.C. § 2). Ramirez-Lopez was arrested on August 9, 2002, in connection with the murder of ranger Kristopher Eggle. The sentencing is set for September 13th, and the sentencing range is ten to twenty years.

Ramirez –Lopez was not charged with Eggle's murder because he had abandoned his weapon and was in custody prior to the homicide.[Submitted by Susan Morton, Special Agent]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, July 21, 2004

**Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area (WA)  
Assault on Ranger**

Ranger Chris Rugel stopped a car for a seatbelt violation in Fort Spokane campground just before 10 p.m. on July 2nd. The driver said he had neither a license nor identification. Ranger Adam Kelsey obtained the driver's name and date of birth and checked them; two arrest warrants for assault/domestic violence came back on him. Kelsey approached the vehicle and told the driver to place both hands on the steering wheel, but he instead immediately took off, making a quick U-turn. In so doing, he ran over Kelsey's foot and hit his left knee. A high speed pursuit ensued onto the Spokane Indian Reservation, where the driver bailed out near a tribal campground. A brief foot chase followed, but was called off due to darkness. A 911 medical call came in for the man the next morning. He was flown to Spokane, where he assaulted a male nurse while in the hospital. He told Spokane PD officers that he'd swallowed an "eight ball" of methamphetamine during the vehicle pursuit. The man is currently in custody on the outstanding warrants and for the assault on the nurse. A felony warrant was obtained for an assault on a federal officer, with a grand jury indictment pending. The man, who has a history of methamphetamine use, was recently arrested by BIA for possession of a stolen AK-47 and had threatened to kill another BIA officer. A digital scale and a 10-inch knife were found inside the vehicle during the search. The man had just been released from jail two days prior to the incident.

[Submitted by Chris Rugel, District Ranger, Fort Spokane District]

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From Morning Report on: Monday, July 12, 2004

**Redwood National and State Parks (CA)  
Followup on Assault on Park Biologists**

Three NPS biologists in a park vehicle were returning to the park's South Operations Center just before midnight on May 3rd following an evening of owl monitoring in the Bald Hills area of the park. They saw an SUV that appeared to be broken down, so stopped to see if the operator needed any assistance. As they approached, the driver began firing at them with a high-powered rifle, breaking out the back window and striking the vehicle numerous times. Once the biologists realized what was happening, they crouched down in their vehicle and sped off downhill. No one was hurt. The same man had been involved in a shooting with CHP officers earlier that day. In late June, the Eureka Times-Standard carried a report that summed up what happened thereafter:

“In a scene reminiscent of a Western movie, the man suspected of opening fire on numerous police officers in Del Norte and Humboldt counties last month was taken into custody after a shoot-out with Mexican authorities in a brothel.

“The Humboldt County Sheriff’s Department said Francisco Medina Loya, 29, is in custody in the state of Michoacan in west-central Mexico.

“The Crescent City Police Department said Loya was arrested in the city of Apatcingan.

“Mexican authorities were alerted to Loya when someone saw a gun in his waistband while he was in a brothel’s bar. When police tried to arrest him, a shoot-out ensued and two officers were wounded. Loya eventually ran out of ammunition and was arrested.

“Police learned that Loya was wanted on four homicide arrest warrants in Mexico. He is also a suspect in 13 other homicides in Mexico.

“The Sheriff’s Department said another man arrested with Loya, whose name was not released, is the suspected head of a Mexican drug cartel.

“Local investigators have known Loya was in Mexico since a couple of days after the North Coast shootings and have been working with the FBI and Mexican officials.

“‘I am ecstatic over this news,’ said Crescent City Police Chief Douglas Plack. ‘As promised to the citizens of Crescent City, their police department was not going to let this investigation fall to the wayside.’

“Loya was living in Crescent City on May 3 when he allegedly opened fire on police officers from the California Highway Patrol, the Hoopa Tribal Police Department, the Sheriff’s Department and National Park Service biologists over a 14-hour period.

“The Sheriff’s Department said Loya will be held to answer to the homicide charges in Mexico. It is not clear if he will be returned to the United States to face 13 counts of attempted homicide.”

[Submitted by Scott Wanek, Regional Chief Ranger, Pacific West Region]

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From Morning Report on: Thursday, July 01, 2004

**National Park of American Samoa (AS)  
Armed Assault on NPS Employees**

A research team comprised of NPS, USGS and Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resource personnel was conducting coral disease research at several locations around Tutuila Island on June 15th. While the divers were in the water and about 100 yards from shore, the NPS boat operator heard a car honking on shore. He noticed a man standing next to a white pickup/truck making gestures as though he wanted the researches to leave

the area. Since the divers were due to surface within the next ten minutes, the boat operator did not want to move the boat from his position to determine what the person on shore was trying to communicate. He continued to focus on the dive operation, when a few minutes later he noticed the same individual walk from a house with what was later determined to be a shotgun. The individual walked down to the shore, pointed the shotgun at the boat, and fired. The boat operator recalled the divers, got them on board, approached and conversed in Samoan with the individual, then departed the area. The Department of Public Safety, Criminal Investigation & Intelligence Bureau, is investigating the incident with assistance from NPS special agents. [Submitted by Doug Neighbor, Superintendent]

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From Morning Report on: Thursday, June 17, 2004

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Sentencing for Assault on Ranger**

On June 24, 2003, ranger Joe Pond stopped a car in the park for traffic violations. The driver, David Harper, 37, was acting suspiciously, so Pond attempted to frisk him. Harper resisted the frisk and ended up struggling with Pond, who took Harper to the ground. Harper continued to resist and attempted to remove Pond's pistol from its holster. Pond sprayed Harper several times with OC spray. Harper continued his resistance and knocked the OC from Pond's hand before Pond gained control and handcuffed him. Harper was treated for OC exposure. The entire incident was recorded on the patrol vehicle's in-car video system. A search of his car led to the discovery of marijuana and a number of firearms in the trunk. Investigation revealed that Harper was a convicted felon who was wanted in Tennessee on four counts of attempted murder. The attempted murder charges stemmed from a shooting incident that occurred several days before Pond stopped Harper's vehicle. On August 4, 2003, Harper was indicted for assaulting, resisting and opposing a federal officer, drug possession, and weapons possession by a convicted felon. On April 29th, Harper was sentenced to a total of six years and two months active time to be followed by five years of supervised probation for all three charges in the indictment. The state of Tennessee is pursuing their prosecution of Harper on four counts of attempted first degree murder and one count of reckless endangerment stemming from the shooting incident that occurred in Tennessee. One of the weapons that ranger Pond secured from Harper at the scene is expected to be a key piece of evidence in the Tennessee case due to its being ballistically matched to the Tennessee crime scene, and it was a key evidence item that enhanced Harper's federal sentence.[Submitted by Walt West, Supervisory Park Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, June 16, 2004

**Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (IN)  
Sentencing in Assault on Ranger**

On June 24, 2003, ranger Rich Eshenaur contacted Matthew Semernezski, 20, of Portage,

Indiana, and two companions in a secluded area of West Beach. During the contact, a small amount of marijuana was found on Semernezski. All three individuals became uncooperative and refused to comply with Eshenaur. While he was waiting for backup, the trio fled on foot through the dunes. Eshenaur pursued Semernezki and caught up with him as he attempted to climb a chain link fence. Semernezki then charged Eshenaur and struck him in the face with his forearm. A struggle ensued in which they ended up on the ground in thick vegetation. Eshenaur sprayed Semernezki with his OC; although it had little effect on him, Eshenaur was nonetheless able to take him into custody after a struggle. Semernezski was charged with assault on a federal officer. After failing to appear for a pre-trial hearing, a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was located in Indianapolis by the U.S. Marshals Service and was placed in jail until trial. On April 20th, Semernezski appeared before a federal magistrate and pled guilty to simple assault on a federal officer. During sentencing, the magistrate took into consideration the time Semernezski spent in jail prior to trial and sentenced him to two years probation, with mandatory participation in a substance abuse treatment program and \$602 in restitution for Eshenaur's medical bills.[Submitted by J.D. Swed, Chief Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Tuesday, June 15, 2004

**Gulf Islands National Seashore (FL,MS)**  
**Assault on Ranger**

Ranger Jay Drinkwater contacted the driver of a vehicle for a parking violation on Monday, June 7th. The driver admitted that his license was suspended, and a computer check revealed that it had been revoked. Drinkwater accordingly attempted to place him under arrest, ordering him to turn around. The man refused, so Drinkwater employed pepper spray – but without effect. The man refused to comply with any orders, and picked up a handful of rocks. Drinkwater ordered him to drop the rocks at gunpoint. The man instead through the rocks at him, then fled on foot. Drinkwater pursued. The man eventually stumbled and fell to the ground. When Drinkwater approached, he attempted to kick him. Drinkwater struck him with his baton and finally got him cuffed. The man was charged with assault and battery on a law enforcement officer, resisting an officer with violence, carrying a concealed weapon, and driving on a revoked license.  
[Submitted by John Bandurski, Supervisory Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, June 09, 2004

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park**  
**Follow-up on Confrontation with Murderer**

Additional details have been released regarding the manhunt for and death of John Peck, 27, who was a suspect in the June 4th shooting death of his former girlfriend, Christen Naujoks, 22. The FBI, working with the New Hanover County Sheriff's Office and other state and local law enforcement agencies, pursued a series of leads that indicated that



Peck was heading into western North Carolina. They accordingly released a BOLO (be on the lookout message) to area enforcement agencies, alerting them about Peck. The BOLO described Peck's vehicle – a dark green 2000 Toyota Four Runner – and provided the license plate number. It also emphasized that Peck was reportedly armed with an SKS assault rifle and described him as armed and extremely dangerous. A ranger approached Peck at Newfound Gap, on the Tennessee/North Carolina state line, and had a brief conversation with him at 11:16 p.m. on Monday evening. The ranger then reported that he'd been in contact with Peck. Meanwhile, Peck headed southbound on Newfound Gap Road (US Route 441). Rangers established two roadblocks – one at the junction of Newfound Gap Road and Clingmans Dome Road to prevent Peck from traveling north into Tennessee and the other, established with the assistance of Cherokee Police Department, along Newfound Gap Road around the Collins Creek area, ten miles south of Newfound Gap. Tire spikes were employed at the latter. Peck approached this roadblock but then turned around and began heading northbound on Newfound Gap Road at a high rate of speed. Peck fired towards the officers and the gunfire was returned. Rangers and Cherokee PD officers pursued Peck for about four miles, at which point the vehicle's lights disappeared. They approached using spotlights and were able to confirm that the vehicle had rolled down a steep, 60-foot embankment before coming to rest in a creek. Peck's body and vehicle were removed from the scene around 3:30 p.m. to allow law enforcement officials adequate time to conduct a thorough investigation of the scene. A rifle was recovered at the site. The Swain County medical examiner was at the scene to collect and gather evidence to help determine the cause of death. The body has been taken to Chapel Hill, where the state medical examiner will perform an autopsy that will determine the cause of death and will also validate the victim's identity. Said chief ranger Jim Northup: "We are very impressed with and grateful for the dedication and professionalism of our own rangers and the Cherokee Police Department officers. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of the FBI, who helped locate Peck's whereabouts, as well as helping to document the crime scene. It's hard to overemphasize the courage and discipline it takes to approach an armed and dangerous subject in pitch darkness and in the woods. Their willingness to secure the scene under these conditions is a tribute to their concern over public safety. A lot of good decisions were made to allow us to bring this to a conclusion so quickly and without injury to law enforcement personnel." [Submitted by Bob Miller, Public Affairs]

### **Yellowstone National Park (ID,MT,WY) Assault on Rangers**

Mammoth Subdistrict rangers were called to a concession dormitory just before midnight on June 2nd to deal with an intoxicated underage employee. The rangers cited him and appeared to have resolved the situation, but park dispatch received a call 90 minutes later reporting that he was again staggering around the dorm. The responding ranger found him even more intoxicated and summoned assistance. While they were en route, the man fled. Although caught by the ranger, he made numerous efforts to break free and kicked and hit the ranger. The ranger used his taser to stun him, which proved effective. Since backup rangers were having trouble finding him, the ranger attempted to control and

handcuff the man. He resisted and again attempted to flee, so the ranger shocked him once more, this time disabling him until help arrived. Four rangers and a backboard were needed to move the man to a patrol vehicle. At Mammoth jail, he again assaulted the first responding ranger, shoving him into a wall and door jamb. He remains in custody. Numerous charges have been filed against him, including several accounts of assault on a federal officer. SA Chris Fors is the case agent.  
[Submitted by Brian Smith, Supervisory Special Agent]

**Yellowstone National Park (ID,MT,WY)  
Rangers Assaulted During Arrest**

A Mammoth Subdistrict ranger was flagged down by a man on the evening of May 23rd and told that he'd been assaulted and injured by another man. The ranger called for backup, then searched for and found the reputed assailant seated in a nearby car. The man said that he wouldn't get out of his vehicle and challenged rangers to try and remove him. When they did so, he actively resisted, and it took three rangers to get him cuffed and into a patrol vehicle. During the struggle, he repeatedly attempted to kick one of the rangers in the groin and made numerous death threats against them. It took four rangers to get him into a cell at Mammoth. He was charged with a misdemeanor count of assaulting/resisting/impeding officers and numerous counts of being under the influence and disorderly.  
[Submitted by Brian Smith, Supervisory Special Agent]

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From Morning Report on: Friday, June 04, 2004

**Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (MI)  
Sentencing for Assault on Rangers**

On July 27, 2003, a woman later identified as Nan Ealy, 45, of Traverse City, Michigan, arrived at D.H. Day Campground demanding a campsite. When told that the campground was full, Ealy began acting irrationally. She saw a 16-year-old boy at the campground office and asked him if she could share his campsite, then followed him to the site. Ranger Patrick Schad responded. Ealy's antics had by that time drawn a crowd at the campground. She immediately confronted Schad, yelling obscenities at him as she attempted to engage the crowd in her defense. Ealy also attempted to use her large dog as a barrier. Rangers Nate Mazurek, Dianne Johnson, and Chris Johnson also responded. They isolated Ealy and her dog from the crowd, then took her into custody – but not before she'd taken a swing at one ranger and kicked the others in the chest and legs. She also managed to urinate on Schad; in the ensuing struggle, all the rangers were exposed to Ealy's body fluids. During booking, Ealy revealed she was positive for hepatitis C, so the rangers underwent precautionary testing for HIV and hepatitis B and C. Ealy was issued several violation notices and later indicted on three counts of simple assault on a federal officer. She pled guilty to all three counts. On May 11th, Ealy appeared before a federal magistrate and was sentenced to six months imprisonment, with credit for time served;

fined \$75 for court costs; and ordered to pay \$1,009 in restitution to the park for the damage she inflicted on a park law enforcement vehicle. [Submitted by Larry Johnson, Chief Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, June 02, 2004

**Manassas National Battlefield Park (VA)  
Driver Arrested Following Extended Pursuit**

Rangers Sarah Davis-Reynolds and Darryl Trowbridge were on patrol on the afternoon of May 22nd when they saw a man – subsequently identified as James Fewell – driving the wrong way on a one-way road within the park and pulled him over. While they were talking with Fewell, he suddenly drove off, almost hitting the patrol vehicle and two visitors. He then drove his vehicle off-road down a handicapped accessible trail for about a half mile and turned onto state road, with the rangers in pursuit. Due to traffic congestion, Ferrell had to slow down at one point, making it possible for Davis-Reynolds to approach him on foot. When Ferrell saw her, he put his vehicle in reverse, forcing Davis-Reynolds to take evasive action to avoid being hit. The rangers then resumed the pursuit, following Ferrell out of the park. County officers joined the chase, which continued for about ten miles along an interstate and state highways and secondary roads. During the pursuit, Ferrell repeatedly braked hard in an effort to cause a rear-end collision with his pursuers. Ferrell was finally stopped and arrested. Neither the rangers nor the county officers were injured, but one county patrol vehicle was damaged when Ferrell deliberately rammed it. Numerous charges have been filed against him, including assault on an officer, eluding and driving while intoxicated. [Submitted by Gil Goodrich, Chief Ranger]

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Indictment For Assault on Federal Officer**

In the early morning hours of February 27th, rangers Michael Nash and Deann Shults were providing traffic control for maintenance workers who were removing trees from the Foothills Parkway spur following a storm. Around 1 a.m., Nash saw a vehicle heading directly at them at a high rate of speed and realized it was not going to slow down. Nash jumped onto the road shoulder to avoid being hit, but was able to obtain a partial tag and vehicle description and radio it to Shults along with a warning to watch out. Shults was about 300 yards down the road and around a bend with two maintenance workers, and all three also had to take evasive action in order to avoid being hit. Shults quickly returned to her vehicle and pursued, stopping it in nearby Pigeon Forge. Investigation revealed that the driver, Andrew Puskas, was under the influence (.19 BAC) and driving on a suspended license. Puskas failed to appear in court, so a warrant was issued for his arrest. He was picked up in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, and indicted in federal court in Tennessee on May 18th on charges of assault on a federal officer. He remains in federal custody. The trial will be scheduled in the near future.

[Submitted by Rick Brown, District Ranger]

**Coronado National Memorial (AZ)  
Sentencing on Assault Charge**

On May 18th, Victor Martinez-Figuero, 31, was sentenced in federal court to two years in prison and three years' supervised probation for assaulting a federal officer. Martinez-Figuero was arrested by rangers last November during a drug smuggling operation in which his confederates fled the scene. He refused to comply with orders to drop to the ground and instead picked up a jagged, two-and-a-half pound rock and made attempts to throw it at a ranger. The ranger drew his weapon and ordered Martinez-Figuero to get on the ground four times before he complied. Martinez-Figuero is believed to be one of several drug scouts who were in the area prior to the eventual seizure of over 2,400 pounds of marijuana in one of the drug corridors passing through the park.

[Submitted by Robert E. Stinson, Acting Chief Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Wednesday, April 14, 2004

**Golden Gate National Recreation Area (CA)  
Assault on Ranger**

Rangers were on foot patrol of Ocean Beach on the night of April 13th when they came upon a group of 20 people standing around an illegal campfire in the beach dunes. Ranger Albert Faria attempted to stop three of them as they walked away. One of the trio became verbally abusive, shouting profanity; when Faria attempted to detain her and calm her down, she instead became combative. While Faria attempted to handcuff her, ranger Shannon Jay and field training ranger Jessie Jordan kept her boyfriend from interfering by pulling their OC spray and ordering him to sit down. The woman attacked Faria, clawing at his face, but was finally subdued when Faria and field training ranger Jack Hoeflich grabbed her arms and pulled her to the ground. She was arrested and charged with interfering and assault on a federal officer. Her boyfriend was also cited for interfering. Faria was treated for his injuries. The United States Attorney's Office is handling the case.

[Submitted by Kim Coast, Supervisory Park Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Tuesday, March 30, 2004

**Valley Forge National Historical Park (PA)  
Follow-up on Assault on Ranger**

On March 25th, Matthew Harris, who had previously been indicted for an assault on ranger Paula Risell, appeared in federal court to change his plea to guilty to the first count of the indictment – assault on a federal officer resulting in bodily injury. In April, 2003,

Harris escaped from a juvenile detention facility adjacent to the park. An altercation arose between Risell and Harris while Risell was attempting to take him into custody. Risell suffered a broken finger during the struggle. Sentencing is scheduled for June 17th.  
[Submitted by Chief Ranger's Office]

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From Morning Report on: Tuesday, March 16, 2004

**Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (AZ)  
Conviction for Drug Smuggling and Assault**

Last June, Floyd Webb, 32, a fugitive from justice from the North Carolina Bureau of Prisons and the Kentucky State Police, illegally entered the U.S. from Mexico in a Mercury Cougar with 164 pounds of marijuana in hidden compartments. Webb was stopped by rangers and Border Patrol agents at a checkpoint on Route 85. When asked to get out of his car, Webb stepped on the gas, dragging a federal officer about ten feet. He then fled south into oncoming traffic. Rangers and agents pursued him at speeds of 100 mph for 14 miles before Webb ran off the road. He was arrested at gunpoint while an Arizona Army National Guard helicopter hovered overhead. On February 20th, Webb pled guilty to assaulting a federal officer and to possession with intent to distribute. He was sentenced to 92 months in federal prison, and still faces charges in Kentucky and North Carolina.

[Submitted by Bo Stone, Park Ranger]

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From Morning Report on: Friday, February 27, 2004

**National Capital Parks-East (DC)  
Car Theft Suspect Shot, Arrested**

A Park Police officer spotted a stolen Jeep Cherokee in the area of Fort Dupont Park in southeast Washington around 7 p.m. on February 15th. A short pursuit ensued, with the driver eventually stopping, bailing out, and fleeing into an alley. The officer attempted to capture him. A scuffle ensued and the man was shot. He then fled the area and entered park woods. A Park Police canine officer arrived on the scene and searched the woods, finding the injured man. He was arrested and transported to a local hospital, where he was treated and released into the custody of the Park Police. The man was charged with numerous violations, including assault on a police officer and unauthorized use of a vehicle (stolen car). The investigation is ongoing.

[Submitted by Sergeant Scott R. Fear, USPP]

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From Morning Report on: Friday, February 13, 2004

**Valley Forge National Historical Park (PA)  
Follow-up on Assault on Ranger**

On the afternoon of April, 19, 2003, rangers received a call from a local juvenile detention facility that borders the park reporting that three of their inmates had just escaped from the facility and were believed to be in the park. A hasty search was conducted and the three men were found near a highly-used scenic trail. Ranger Paula Risell was the first to make contact. When she attempted to handcuff one of them, all three began resisting. Risell suffered a broken finger in the scuffle, and all three men fled. Two were found several miles from that point and were returned to the facility. The third, later identified as Matthew Harris, had just turned 18; attempts to locate him were unsuccessful, so a warrant was issued for his arrest. A tip from an informant led to the identification of his whereabouts on January 2nd. Harris was found and arrested with assistance from the FBI's fugitive task force. On January 27th, he was indicted in federal court for aggravated assault on a federal officer (18 USC 111(a) and (b)). A pretrial detention was granted, and Harris is accordingly being held until his trial. The date has not yet been set. Ranger John Waterman is the case agent.  
[Submitted by Chief Rangers Office]

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From Morning Report on: Friday, January 16, 2004

**National Capital Parks**  
**Carjacking, Assault on USPP Officers**

On the evening of January 8th, a woman who had just gotten into her 2001 Mercedes S430 at White Flint Mall in Maryland was grabbed by a man who dragged her to the ground, threatened to kill her, and demanded her car keys. The woman threw her keys at him and fled. Police were notified and a description of the vehicle was broadcast throughout the area. The car was equipped with Tele Aid, a communications and navigation system which was employed to assist police in tracking it. Park Police officer John Cox located the Mercedes in southeast Washington and stopped it. Cox ordered the driver out at gunpoint, but he instead hit Cox with the car. Cox sustained only minor injuries and was able to pursue. A Park Police helicopter responded and assisted in keeping tabs on the vehicle. During the chase, several cars, including one driven by USPP officer Cory Houghton, were hit by the Mercedes. Houghton sustained minor injuries. The car finally stopped after a tire blew out; the driver bailed out, but was caught by a Prince George County PD officer and USPP officer Sheldon Thorpe. Darran Frazier, 34, was arrested and charged with carjacking, auto theft, theft over \$500, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, and second-degree assault. He's currently being held without bond.

[Submitted by Sgt. Scott Fear, Public Information Officer]

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