

# February 2009

## 73 Arrested In Cockfighting Bust

### Many of them were illegal aliens

ThePiedmontChannel.com

RAMSEUR, N.C. - Randolph County sheriff's deputies arrested 73 people Saturday in what they call the largest cockfighting bust in county history.

Deputies received a tip that led them to discover crate after crate of chickens at the cockfighting ring at 5254 Riverside Road in Ramseur, N.C.

The Randolph Emergency Response Team swarmed the building, and 125 people dropped everything and ran.

"This is the largest in Randolph County that I know of, and maybe in North Carolina," said Sheriff Maynard Reid.

"This was a huge operation."

Deputies caught and arrested 73 people, and said many of them were illegal aliens.

"Several illegal aliens in the bunch, a detainee will be placed on them and they will be deported," Reid said.

Animal control officers seized 130 roosters used in the fights.

Deputies said that this was no small-town bust. According to police, people came from as far away as Vermont and bet tens of thousands of dollars inside the ring.

At the time of the bust, police said \$40,000 was on the line.

**Lucio Pastor Avila**, 44, is wanted by the Guilford County Sheriff's Office on charges of first-degree rape of a child, first-degree sex offense and indecent liberties with a child.

Deputies say Avila sexually assaulted a child multiple times in the McConnell Road area over an extended time period over the past few years.

Avila is described as a Hispanic man, 5 feet 10 inches tall, 210 pounds. He has brown hair, brown eyes, a heavy build and a foreign accent.

Avila also goes by the alias "Rigoberto Avila" and deputies believe he may be attempting to flee to Mexico.

His last known address is 4613 Sue Ellen Court in Greensboro.

**Marcelo Ysrael Perez**, 23, is wanted by Greensboro police on an attempted first-degree murder charge.

Perez, a validated member of the Latin Kings gang, is one of three people charged in connection with the April 4 shooting of Rojelio Lopez, 25.

Lopez was shot in the right arm and right chest with a shotgun, police say.

Police say Perez; Samuel Velaquez, 19; and Silvia Lopez-Lugo, 18, shot Lopez at Maplewood Apartments in southwest Greensboro.

Velaquez and Lopez-Lugo have been arrested.

Police don't know Perez's address, but say he has connections in Greensboro, Hickory and Charlotte.

Perez is described as Hispanic, 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighing 160 pounds. He has black hair, brown eyes and a large mole on his right cheek.

## **Teenager abducted during robbery**

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Joe Killian

Jun. 19--MADISON -- Rockingham County deputies are looking for a teenage boy kidnapped at knifepoint early Wednesday after a home invasion robbery in Madison.

An Amber Alert was issued for William Alexander Benitez, 17.

Benitez is 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighs 162 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes, according to the alert. Benitez was last seen wearing a blue-striped shirt and jeans.

"We have no idea for a motive," said Dean Venable, spokesman for the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office.

"We do not know where he's at. We do not know whether he's in harm's way, although we assume that he is, given the nature of the way that he was taken," Venable said.

The Amber Alert said the suspects and Benitez may be headed to Houston.

According to the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office, deputies were called to 151 Stephanie Lane at 1:09 a.m. Wednesday after several people forced their way into the home through a rear door.

One robber got a knife from the kitchen and threatened Benitez.

The robbers left in a red vehicle of unknown make and a black 1993 Honda Civic, forcing Benitez to go with them, officials said.

Later Wednesday, the Civic was involved in a traffic accident in Guilford County.

The Rockingham sheriff's office said the suspects left the scene of the crash on foot.

The sheriff's deputies have identified one suspect, Antonio Dejesus Granado.

Granado, 18, is described as a Hispanic man 5 feet 6 inches tall, with brown hair and brown eyes, weighing about 138 pounds.

Officials believe Granado may be driving the red vehicle.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Dana Taylor at the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office at 634-3238 or Crime Stoppers at 349-9683

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## **ICE arrests 10 gang suspects**

By Steve Lyttle

slyttle@charlotteobserver.com

Posted: Thursday, Feb. 19, 2009

Federal agents have arrested 10 foreign-born gang members with ties to Charlotte-area street gangs, according to federal officials.

The arrests took place Wednesday in the Charlotte area, according to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

ICE agents were supported by Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police, North Carolina's Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) agency, the N.C. Department of Crime Control, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

ICE officials say the operation targeted members and associates of the MS-13, Surenos, Brown Pride, SUR-13 and Latin King street gangs. Those arrested were in the United States illegally, authorities say, and they are in federal custody. But authorities say four suspects were referred to the U.S. Attorney's office for possible additional charges, including possession of marijuana, possession of a firearm, and re-entering the United States after deportation.

"We will continue teaming with our law enforcement partners to target those terrorizing our communities," said Joan Nash-Scavazon, acting assistant special agent in charge of ICE's operations in the Charlotte area.

## **Mother, Daughter Arrested on Drug Charges**

February 20, 2009

Three Sanford residents -- including a mother and daughter -- have been charged with trafficking in prescription pills.

Breanna Michelle Black, 19, and Ruben Serrano, 18, were arrested Tuesday in the parking lot of the Kangaroo convenience store in Vass, according to a news release from the Moore County Sheriff's Office.

Officers with the narcotics unit seized 125 dosage units of Lortab prescription pills and \$630, the release said. The pills had an estimated street value of \$1,000.

The third person, Anna Michelle Rosales, was arrested Wednesday at the Sheriff's Office.

Rosales, 49, was charged with four counts each of trafficking in opium and conspiracy to traffic in opium, and one count each of possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver a controlled substance, selling a controlled substance, delivering a controlled substance, and conspiracy to sell or deliver a controlled substance. She was released on a \$30,000 bond.

Black, who is Rosales' daughter, was charged with four counts each of trafficking in opium and conspiracy to traffic in opium, and one count each of possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver a controlled substance, delivering a controlled substance, and conspiracy to sell or deliver a controlled substance. She was jailed with bail set at \$25,000.

Serrano was charged with four counts each of trafficking in opium and conspiracy to traffic in opium, and one count each of conspiracy to sell or deliver a controlled substance, possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver a controlled substance, selling a controlled substance and delivering a controlled substance. His bail was set at \$100,000.

### **Search Underway For Accused Child Rapist Who Skipped Court Appearance**

Law enforcement authorities are searching for an accused child rapist who failed to show up for a court hearing last week. Thirty-one year-old **Elder Cortez** of Smithfield was released on \$600,000 bond after his arrest in August 2007. Cortez reportedly randomly abducted a 12 year-old girl at knifepoint from her home, raped the victim in his home, then blindfolded and dumped the little girl alongside I-40 in the Cleveland community. While wondering down the interstate, a state trooper located the victim and summoned help. Cortez was initially held under a \$2 million bond but was able to post bail when it was reduced to \$600,000. Cortez, who is facing multiple charges including first-degree rape, kidnapping, and taking indecent liberties with a minor was suppose to be in a Johnston County Courtroom last week for a pre-trial hearing. Court officials said he never showed up. A warrant for his arrest had been issued. Once located, he will be held without bond.

### **3 Men Chased Down, Assaulted, Robbed**

Selma Police are looking for four suspects who assaulted and robbed three men Sunday night after they left a convenience store. Officers said the three victims were leaving Han-Dee Hugo's BP on US70 around 10:15pm, when **four Hispanic males** began chasing them. The suspects caught the victims in the parking lot of a nearby motel. After assaulting the victim, they robbed them then fled in three different cars. None of the victims' injuries were serious.

### **Man Charged With Shoplifting Women's Undergarments**

A Four Oaks man is accused of shoplifting women's undergarments from Smithfield's Wal-Mart. Security officers at Wal-Mart told police they were tipped off about the suspect and reportedly watched as he stuffed female underclothes and bras into his pockets. **Jose Eosmendez Rodriguez**, 22, of Devil's Racetrack Road was charged with the larceny of \$51 in merchandise, all of which was recovered.

## DWI Suspect Passes Out In Patrol Car

A 41 year-old man is facing drunk driving charges after failing to pull over for officers. Selma Police said they attempted to stop a car traveling 5mph down the middle of Noble Street around 4am Sunday, but the driver would not stop. The driver, identified by police as **Santoa Aguilar** of Selma, drove through several intersections and stop signs without stopping. Finally, a quarter mile later, he pulled over in the driveway of a home. Police said Aguilar was so impaired he passed out in the backseat of their patrol car, and was reportedly so inebriated he could not take a Breathalyzer test. In addition to the DWI charge, Aguilar was also cited for driving without a license and resisting arrest. He was released on \$3,500 bail.

## Man Charged With Lying To Officers, Attempted Break-In

A 36 year-old man arrested for attempting to break into a home in the TraLee Subdivision Wednesday told deputies he was a construction worker and may have gone to the wrong house. However authorities checked with his employer and found out he wasn't working when the crime occurred. **Jose Luis Valle**, of Trailer Park Road, Four Oaks was arrested during a traffic stop near the scene of the incident. Valle reportedly went to the home of Nathaniel Banks and attempted to gain entry by trying to lift the garage door and several windows. Valle is also accused of giving deputies two fictitious names before finally revealing his true identity.

## Man Indicted For Raping 13 Year-Old Neighbor

A Johnston County Grand Jury has returned a True Bill of Indictment against a 23 year-old Smithfield man for allegedly raping his neighbor. **Horacio Melchor Lopez** was arrested in January after he allegedly raping a 13 year-old girl in Blackmon's Mobile Home Park on Galilee Road. The victim's parents found out about the alleged incident and contacted authorities who arrested Lopez following an investigation.

## Police: 17-year-old shot to death in Durham

Posted: Today at 5:28 a.m.  
Updated: 54 minutes ago

**DURHAM, N.C.** — Durham police officers are investigating their first homicide of the year, a shooting that left a 17-year-old boy dead Thursday night.

**Alejandro Emir Denis-Terron**, of Camellia Drive, was shot around 11 p.m. at a house at 119 Herbert St., according to police.

Denis-Terron was standing in the yard with a group of other men when the shooting happened, police said. Investigators said they don't know what the motive was.

Anyone with information is asked to call Investigator Soucie at 919-560-4440, ext. 274, or Crime Stoppers at 919-683-1200.

## **MAN CHARGED WITH IMPERSONATING OFFICER**

Posted: Today at 11:57 a.m.

Updated: Today at 11:57 a.m.

**SANFORD, N.C.** — Police have charged a Durham man with impersonating a police officer and pulling over a driver on N.C. Highway 87.

Arquimedes Rodriguez, of Clarendon Street, was arrested this week after a driver told police a car with flashing lights pulled him over on the highway Tuesday afternoon, said Sgt. Harold Layton of the Sanford Police Department.

The man inside the car with the flashing lights also was blowing the car's horn and then held what appeared to be a law enforcement badge out of the car's window, the driver told police.

The man never got out of the car, and the driver left, Layton said. The driver later caught up with the car that had pulled him over, wrote down the tag number and called police, Layton said.

Investigators located Rodriguez and found a badge for the International Federation of Chaplains when they questioned him, Layton said.

## **Princeton High Students Charged In Affray**

Several coaches at Princeton High School broke up an affray in the lobby in front of the gymnasium Wednesday. School resource officers said the early morning fight resulted in two arrests. Santiago Solis Carvajal, 17, of Princeton and Michael Adam Moore, 16, of Smithfield were both charged with simple affray. In addition to the criminal charges, both students could face disciplinary action from the school system.

## **Second Arrest Made In Stalking Of 14 Year-Old**

A second person has been arrested for their involvement in the stalking of a 14 year-old girl last year. Marco Ortuno Hernandez, 21, of Buffalo Road, Selma was arrested Tuesday and charged as an accessory after the fact. Sheriff's Detective Lt. Chris Strickland said an investigation revealed Hernandez assisted 20 year-old Mauricio Damian Mariano in his alleged efforts to stalk the young victim. The victim's parents told sheriff's deputies Mariano met their young daughter at a soccer game in July 2008. Since that time, authorities said Mariano repeatedly called the victim, went by her home

near Clayton multiple times, and even called the teen's friends to determine her whereabouts.

## Agencies make cocaine arrest

The Daily Reflector

Friday, February 27, 2009

Greenville police arrested a man Monday in connection with cocaine trafficking charges following an investigation, a police official said Thursday.

**Ediel Omar Lopez-Dominguez**, 31, of Arrowhead Drive was charged with 12 counts of trafficking cocaine, Greenville police Sgt. Ken Hadnott said.

Members of the Greenville Drug Task Force seized more than three kilograms of powder cocaine from Lopez-Dominguez, with a street value of \$300,000, Hadnott said.

Participating local investigative agencies included the police departments of Greenville, Winterville and Farmville and the Pitt County Sheriff's Office. Other agencies included the State Bureau of Investigation, the N.C. National Guard, the Lenoir and Wayne county sheriff's offices and the Kinston Police Department.

Lopez-Dominguez was held at the Pitt County Detention Center on \$4 million secured bond, Hadnott said.

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Dunn Police Reports

### Crime Reports

Irrael Trochez Delcid, 30, of Mason Street in Erwin was arrested after a witness called police and said he had been involved in a wreck and left the scene.

The witness' description led officers to the vehicle, which eventually pulled over after the patrol car's lights and siren were activated.

The car reportedly showed signs of being in an accident and had red paint on it, the color of the other vehicle that had been involved in the wreck. When the officer made Mr. Delcid get into his patrol car, Mr. Delcid reportedly "passed out in the seat."

He blew more than twice the legal limit four times, twice at the scene and twice at the police station where he reportedly passed out again.

Mr. Delcid was charged with driving while impaired, failure to report an accident and driving with a revoked license. He was held at the Harnett County Jail under \$1,000 bond.

## **Feb. 22 Lillington District Court**

- **Javier Alejandro Mares Alvarez** (DWI-Refused)
- **Ruben Rafael Molina** pleaded guilty to larceny and received 45 days suspended sentence, 12 months unsupervised probation, remain off premises and away from victim and ordered to pay fine plus court cost

**Andres Hernandez** pleaded guilty to driving while impaired, Level 5 and received 60 days suspended sentence, 12 months probation, pay \$100 fine and serve 24 hours in Harnett County Jail.

## **Pitt County Grand Jury**

**Alex Ruiz Artis**, 16, 2302 Slate Lane, felonious possession of stolen goods, breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, larceny of a firearm, injury to real property for Oct. 20-21 offenses.

**Jeremias Rodriguez Bravo**, 28, 1942 Longleaf Drive, felony hit and run and driving while impaired for Jan. 24 offense.

**Jose Luis Flores-Lopez**, 37, 2809 Briery Swamp Road, Stokes, possession of a firearm by a felon.

**Ruben Cupil Sanches** was arrested just over an hour after the assault allegedly occurred, and charged with felony assault by strangulation and misdemeanor assault on a female. The victim had minor injuries.

## **Durham Police Looking For Four Murder Suspects**



By The Raleigh Telegram 08.MAR.09

DURHAM - Durham Police Department investigators are still looking for four murder suspects in a shooting that left a teenager standing next to a street dead.

The Durham Police say that the case involved the February 26th shooting death of Alejandro Emir Denis-Terron, age 17, on Herbert Street in Durham.

"Denis-Terron was standing in the yard at 119 Herbert Street with a group of males when the shooting occurred around 11pm," said Kammie Michaels of the Durham Police Department.

Already the police have arrested one person in the case. The department said they arrested Erick Calderon, age 17, of Meriwether Drive a week ago and charged him with murder and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury. He is still in Durham County Jail where he is being held without bond.



The police department says they are still looking for four other suspects in the case, who are facing charges of murder and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury:

- Carlos "Carlitos" Mendoza, age 16, of Hoover Road and Belmont Street,
- Ricardo Cruz Perez, age 20, of East Lavender Street,
- Rodrigo "Morro" Villegas, age 19, of North Hoover Road
- Jose Martin "Pepe" Luviano, age 16, of Ruby Ridge Road and Ivy Street.

The Durham Police are asking that anyone with information on these suspects is asked to call Investigator Soucie at 560-4440, ext. 274 or CrimeStoppers at 683-1200.