

You've Got To Wonder...

Police Arrest Nude Man Stuck in Chimney

HAYWARD, Calif. (AP)—A man who spent five hours naked and stuck in the chimney of his stepmother's home was arrested on suspicion of being under the influence of drugs, police said.

Police say Michael Urbano, 23, locked himself out of the house early Saturday morning and decided to get in on a cable TV wire through the chimney.

But the wire broke and Urbano fell, getting stuck about three-quarters of the way down. He was freed when a firefighter pushed him to safety.

"We get him up, and he's naked as a jaybird," said Hayward police Lt. Gary Branson. "He tells us he took his clothes off because there would be less friction going down the chute. We did find his clothes. So that part checked out."

Authorities were called about 6:15 a.m. Saturday. A neighbor heard "faint, distressing" calls since about 2:30 a.m. and decided to call police.

Police say it probably wasn't a comfortable few hours for Urbano. "He's not fat," Branson said, "but he used to play football. He's not that little."

Cops Arrest Woman Hiding in Clothes Dryer

GRAND FORKS, N.D. (AP) -- A woman wanted on a drug-related warrant was arrested after she was found hiding in a clothes dryer, authorities said.

Tamara Jean Rysavy, 34, had failed to comply with requirements for her bond on drug charges, so a judge ordered her taken into custody, Grand Forks Sheriff's Maj. Mike Fonder said.

When deputies arrived at her mobile home Tuesday night, Fonder said, they were told Rysavy had just gone inside. They knocked, but the door was locked and windows closed. She did not respond when they asked her to surrender.

Officers went inside but their first search turned up no one, Fonder said. With the doors and windows locked from the inside, they were suspicious, and searched again—this time moving around the clothes in the dryer.

Rysavy, who is 5-foot-5 and 130 pounds, crawled out of the dryer and was taken to the jail, Fonder said.

Authorities said Rysavy had been out on bond after being charged with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, possession of marijuana with intent to deliver and possession of paraphernalia related to methamphetamine and marijuana.

Suspect's Dog Bites Him in Police Chase

CEDAR CITY, Utah (AP)—A police pursuit ended when the suspect's dog, not happy about being bounced around in the car, bit its owner on the face.

Iron County sheriff's officers approached Nicholas T. Galanis, 47, of Salt Lake City to talk to him about some stolen property.

Galanis got in his car and fled with his dog.

The chase went southbound on Gold Springs Road, a windy, bumpy dirt road about five miles northwest of Modena, at around 5:38 p.m. Monday, said sheriff's detective Jody Edwards.

"Deputies could see the dog in the passenger seat getting slammed into the window," he said.

The dog, which is partly pit bull, "became so agitated that he bit his owner in the face," Edwards said. "And this is what ended the chase."

The bite removed part of Galanis' nose and he stopped.

Galanis was taken to Valley View Medical Center before being booked into Iron County Jail.

Agencies Waiting For New and Improved Video-Capable Tasers

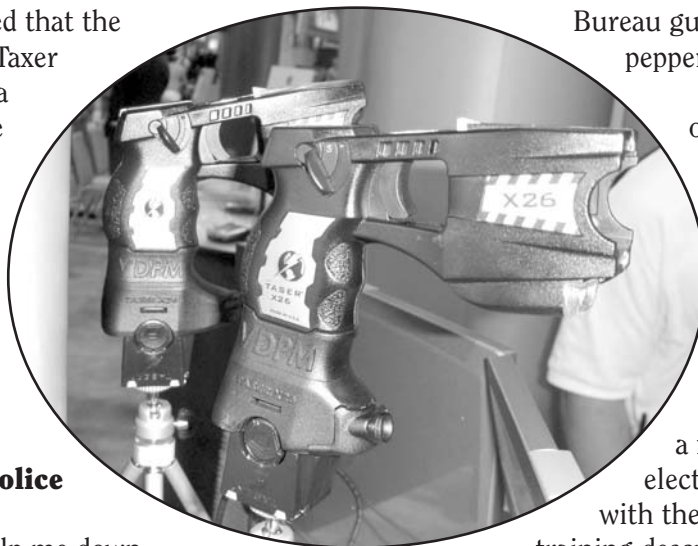
At the Sheboygan and Plymouth Police Departments in Wisconsin, the money is in the budget to buy Tasers. But spokespersons for both agencies say they are going to wait a couple of months so they can buy the stun-guns that come equipped with video cameras.

Taser International announced that the cameras will be available for the Taser X-26 by April and that the camera will add an additional \$400 to the cost of each weapon.

The cameras, mounted to the Tasers, are designed to record a suspect's behavior prior to and during the time the Taser is being used.

"Our main reason for waiting was that the camera feature wasn't going to be ready until March or so," **Plymouth Police Chief Donn Davis** said.

"If it's something that will help me down the line with a complaint for using the Taser in the first place, to me that's beneficial. It's just like having cameras in the cars."



Both agencies are in the process of writing policies concerning the use of the weapon—policies based on recommended guidelines from the state and other agencies who are already using Tasers.

The State of Wisconsin Training and Standards Bureau guidelines classify a Taser gun and pepper spray as the same level of force.

The guidelines first call for an officer to try to orally persuade a suspect to give up, then escort the suspect or use a handhold to get the suspect to comply. If a suspect is still resisting, then an officer can use a stun gun or pepper spray.

A Taser fires two barbed prongs into a person and delivers a five-second, 50,000 volt burst of electricity. Officers who have been shot

with the Taser gun as part of their training describe the experience as painful and incapacitating, but they are unharmed after the jolt of electricity has ended. ■

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