

BREAKING BAD

Gallup, Sept. 4

McKinley County Sheriff's Deputy Jeremy Shirley called over the radio about 8:30 pm to report that he was conducting a welfare check on a motor home near the intersection of Williams Acres and State Highway 118. Shirley said that the vehicle was coming back stolen, and that someone was moving inside the vehicle. Deputy Brandon Salazar drove to the scene to help Shirley out.

While Salazar was driving to the location, Shirley told him that the vehicle had begun to flee from him. According to Salazar's report, Gallup Police Officers were able to deploy some spike strips, which stopped the vehicle when both the front and rear driver's side tires were damaged.

The driver kept going though, and took the vehicle throughout the west side of Gallup before getting on to I-40 and heading west. Shirley estimated that the vehicle was still going about 40-60 mph despite the deflated tires.

The vehicle finally stopped near the 2.5-mile marker on I-40. When Salazar arrived at the scene, Shirley was conducting a traffic stop. According to his report, Salazar showed the man inside the vehicle, who was later identified as Jeremy Batson, his K-9 so that he would not try to run away.

Weekly Police Activity Reports

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The officers handcuffed Batson, 35, and placed him in the backseat of Shirley's patrol car.

They then began to clear the motor home to ensure that no one else was inside the vehicle. As Shirley was entering the vehicle he stated that he "did not like the smell inside of the R.V." and he stepped back out.

According to his report, Salazar believed that Shirley had been exposed to burning narcotics. He requested an ambulance for Shirley, and stayed with him until the medical help arrived.

Batson was arrested for possession of a stolen motor vehicle, resisting/evading law enforcement, and reckless driving. His first court appearance was on Sept. 6.

Staff Reports