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Wed July 9, 2008

Two Sooner Quarterbacks Arrested for Intent to Distribute Cocaine

By Jake Trotter
OU Insider

Police responding to reports of a loud party Tuesday night near Elmwood Drive and South Pickard in Norman discovered a large bag of what was later identified as cocaine. The three suspects arrested at the site included two Sooner quarterbacks, stand-out sophomore Sam Bradford and promising freshman Landry Jones.

Norman police spokesperson Captain Jeffrey Becker said Wednesday that the quantity of cocaine involved would lead to a charge of Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine and Possession with Intent to Distribute Cocaine Base (Crack Cocaine).

The defendants allegedly possessed with intent to distribute in excess of 5 kilograms of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of cocaine, a Schedule II Controlled Substance. They were also charged with possessing with intent to distribute in excess of 5 grams of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of Cocaine Base (crack cocaine), a Schedule II Controlled Substance.

Sooner head coach Bob Stoops was unable for comment, but the office of athletic director Joe Castiglione said athletic department policy is not to comment on ongoing criminal investigations.

Bradford, a star QB from Putnam City North high school, was expected to appear in court today, according to a member of his family who requested they not be identified.

The attorney representing Landry Jones said that a motion had been filed to allow his family to arrive from Artesia, NM tomorrow.

If Bradford and Jones are unable to complete next fall, it would leave senior Joey Hazle as the likely starter. This would place immense pressure on the offensive staff.

This is the fourth arrest of Sooner athletes in the last month. Senior Manuel Johnson was arrested in June after witnesses saw him carry a concealed handgun to a rally at Coolidge Elementary school. Reserve senior defensive lineman Alan Davis and Cory Bennett were also arrested after an alleged capacking incident at Lake Thunderbird over the July 4th holiday weekend.

Under Bob Stoops the Sooners have had a number of high-profile athletes arrested. Normally the matters are handled internally by the coaching staff. Criticism has been voiced by watchdog groups that claim arresting officers were later given season ticket packages to Sooner football in exchange for altered testimony. These allegations have been denied by all sides.

Normally success on the field has been followed by arrests off it for the Sooners. Booster groups expressed hope that these incidents were an indication that the team was going to have an excellent year.

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The OU quarterback crew in the spring included, left to right: Keith Nichol, Joey Hazle, Sam Bradford and Landry Jones. Because Nichol has transferred to Michigan State and Hazle will be gone after next season, the Sooners would love to add another quarterback to prepare for the future. BY STEVE SISNEY, THE OKLAHOMAN

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▶ Never hurts to have 3 solid choices given our history of losing QB's to injury, transfer, stupidity, and car dealerships.
CCCL, EncinRas - Jul 8, 2008 11:27 PM
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▶ The reason we need extras is obvious if you look at all the gunslingers we lost for stupid reasons: Bomar, Grady & Rawls come to mind.
Shepard, APO AP - Jul 7, 2008 11:52 PM
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▶ We already have a top QB. Landry Jones. I say we stick with him as the redshirt gun, bring him out if Sam gets hurt or when Joey graduates, either and go ahead and get a another freshman for 09. The most you can expect at QB at a top school like OU or SC is 2 years playing time max. I agree with francisco to a point. But 09 would be a lack of depth. In a headline format 7/08