

# Mistrial in cops' assault case

## Pair cleared of charges for beating man during arrest

By TONY BLAIS  
Court Bureau

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Then, on the landing at the top of the stairs, Nguyen said he saw McIntyre, 33, kneeling on Chambers's back while trying to put handcuffs on him and Pearce hitting the parolee's head into a metal doorway.

In cross-examination, Nguyen agreed that he said in his statement to city police internal affairs that McIntyre was the one who struck Chambers going up the stairs and stated he wasn't sure which of the two cops delivered that blow.

Based on that testimony, Calgary Crown prosecutor Peter Mackenzie yesterday asked Red Deer Judge Thomas Schollie to dismiss the charge against McIntyre.

The judge agreed and then noted there was a legal problem with the way the Crown had handled the case.

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when the two officers first appeared in provincial docket court.

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As a result, the judge declared a mistrial.

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After court, Mackenzie explained that the Crown can no longer proceed with the charges.

"It's over," said the veteran prosecutor, adding it's the first time such a thing has ever happened to him.

Neither officer wished to comment.

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The 39-year-old said he received three stitches to his head and suffered two black eyes and a swollen cheek.

Chambers admitted he has a lengthy criminal record and has been a heroin addict. He also said he has hired a civil lawyer and is planning to sue the two police officers.

Court heard that Chambers was agitated, verbally abusive to staff, punching and kicking walls and threatening suicide.

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It's hard to believe that these same people will one day be screaming bloody murder in the stands while their sons attempt to commit it on the ice. After a season of watching the pros and Ryan's Double-A Midget team, it's good to know the roots of our game are still healthy.

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April 3/03

## Man injured during arrest at halfway house

# Officers charged

By KEVIN CONNOR

Staff Writer

Two city cops have been charged with assault causing bodily harm after arresting a resident of an inner-city halfway house who was sent to hospital with head injuries in 2001.

At around 11 p.m. on June 29, 2001, two downtown division constables were dispatched to Independence Apartments halfway house, at 106 Street and 106 Avenue, following a call to police from a staff member about a resident who had violated the conditions of his parole.

"The constables arrived and were told that a 37-year-old man had returned to the residence in a drunken state and had been

come violent," said police spokesman Sgt. Chris Hayden.

"A struggle occurred during the arrest and the man sustained a swollen cheek and cut to his head. He was taken to hospital for treatment and released back into police custody."

The next day, a complaint was submitted to police by a staff supervisor at the halfway house who questioned the actions of police after reading an incident report from a staff member that was present during the arrest. Both constables have been with Edmonton police for five years and remain on active duty.

"The chief (Bob Wasylyshen) and the legal affairs superintendent determine if there

is any risk to the public when officers are charged with offences. In this case, they determined there wasn't," Hayden said.

Both of the constables are well liked and respected for their work on the streets, said Sgt. Glen Dennis, vice-president of the Edmonton Police Association.

"There are no concerns about them being on the street. These are allegations. I know them both from the training section. They are innocent until proven guilty."

Residents of the halfway house are on day parole from federal institutions and would have served more than two years, said Maureen Collins, executive director of the John Howard Society, which runs the halfway house.

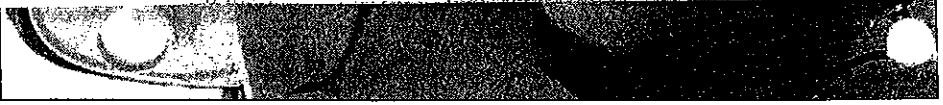
It took more than a year to lay charges against the officers because Edmonton police had to complete an internal review and send the findings to Calgary police. The Calgary cops then determine whether charges should be laid to avoid the perception of local bias.

Collins said she isn't familiar with police operations and wouldn't comment on the length of time it took for charges.

"The resident involved has long since left Independence Apartments," she said.

Charged with assault causing bodily harm are Bradley Pearce, 32, and Derek McIntyre, 32. The constables are scheduled to appear in court on Oct. 1.

# Pilot. Psychiatrist



# Officers accused of beatings

## Charges filed year after incident

TOM BARRETT  
Journal Staff Writer  
EDMONTON

A bloody struggle between city police officers and a drunken day parole violator has resulted in criminal charges against two constables.

The two men were charged Wednesday with assault causing bodily harm for their role in

the arrest of a 37-year-old halfway house resident 15 months ago. Both officers remain on active duty.

"A struggle occurred during the arrest and the man sustained a swollen cheek and a cut to his head," says a police press release. "He was taken to hospital for treatment and released back in to police custody."

Police officials declined to say how badly the man was cut or whether he received stitches for his wounds. And they didn't reveal how the injuries occurred.

"The complaint was launched because we felt it had merit."

Maureen Collins, executive director of the Edmonton John Howard Society

The investigation arose following a complaint from the Edmonton John Howard Society, which operates the halfway house for federal prisoners at 10637 106th St. A staff member called for police help at around 11 p.m., June 29, 2001, after a resident showed up drunk and

became violent, police say.

A John Howard staff member who witnessed the incident wrote an internal report about the police conduct he witnessed. That led a senior supervisor to contact police the next day, said Maureen Collins, executive director of the Edmonton John

EDMONTON JOURNAL

B3

# man on parole

Howard Society.

"The complaint was launched because we felt it had merit," Collins said. She declined to provide further information, because the matter is before the courts.

Most convicts on day parole work outside their halfway house during the day, and sleep there at night. Many are released on specific conditions, such as that they abstain from drugs and alcohol, and keep the peace.

Edmonton Police Sgt. Chris Hayden said the decision to lay

charges took a long time because of the procedures which had to be followed.

"The information first comes to internal investigations and then goes to a Calgary Crown prosecutor, and that's where a decision is made." An external body then reviews the case.

Constables Bradley Pearse and Derek McIntyre are scheduled to appear in provincial court Oct. 1.

Both are 32 years old and have been with the Edmonton Police Service for five years.

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## Officers charged in halfway house assault

Edmonton. Two Edmonton police men have been charged with assault causing bodily harm in connection with a June, 2001, arrest in which a resident at a halfway house was injured. The three struggled during the arrest, leaving the resident with a swollen cheek and cut head. The constables remain on duty. *Jill Mahoney*

# Public invited to add their gems to green map

## Notable sites could end up in regional atlas

By L. MAM  
Journal Staff Writer  
EDMONTON

Edmonton-area resident Sean Nowell plotted a map of the Capital Region showing where the really important landmarks are — the natural and historical gems that make their neighbourhood special.

A project aiming to find that atlas or groups, create maps showing places like forgotten old coal mines, local skating rinks, dirt-filled welder shops or other sites not shown on conventional maps is now on the web.

The Centennial Atlas Project for the Alberta Capital Region website, now up and running, allows participants to create their own "green maps."

The goal is to eventually create a green map of the entire region on the web and by the end of this year, on a printed atlas as a centennial gift to the province, said project co-ordinator Bob Gerlock.

Visitors to the website [www.cemrmap.fanweb.ca/centpull-down](http://www.cemrmap.fanweb.ca/centpull-down) can create a template map of their area and plunk down icons — a pair of footprints indicates a good hike, for example — and describe the spot in a brief blurb.

Our intents is to include this in one success phase that people can go to to see the assets of their whole capital region," Gerlock said. "The other things to have people participating in this is to build in community ownership and training what's important to them."

The project is a collaboration of Alberta's Community Development, the City of Edmonton, Federation of Alberta Naturalists, Area Councils Edmonton Society and the International Green Map System.

The group has also produced an interactive, educational CD-ROM for students in grades 4 to 7 to help them map environmental, cultural and historical things important to them.

"The CD-ROM is to get children to explore and discover the area they live in instead of sitting around and playing with their Game Boys," Gerlock said. [brad@thejournal.com/webk.com](mailto:brad@thejournal.com/webk.com)



### BACKGROUND

See story about the first Edmonton Green Map in 2003. [www.edmontonjournal.com](http://www.edmontonjournal.com), 206-606-6107 or the website.

# Assault complaint against police officers dropped when alleged victim can't be found

Journal Staff  
EDMONTON

An Alberta Law Enforcement Review Board panel Tuesday dismissed a complaint against two Edmonton police officers accused of assaulting a drunk en parolee at a halfway house because the alleged victim can't be found.

A hearing Tuesday the panel heard that Lyndon Chambers has made no effort to contact his lawyer, Tom Engel, since Oct. 29, 2003. Engel had asked the panel to postpone the hearing for two months so he could try to find Chambers and see if he wished to continue with his complaint.

The officers' lawyer Robbe Davidson, opposed a further postponement. He said it was unethical and unfair to further delay the process given the fact that Chambers has clearly lost interest in

pursuing the matter.

Chambers made his complaint to the LERB after a criminal trial for assault against constables Derek McIntyre and Bradley Pearce was declared a mistrial on a technicality in April 2003.

Chambers conceded during the trial that he had drunk the night before and can't remember what happened on the night of June 29, 2001. Police were called to the halfway house after Chambers became unruly.

A halfway house worker testified he saw one of the officers strike Chambers on the head, smashing it into a steel door frame, opening a gash in his head that required hospital care. Chambers also had two black eyes and a swollen cheek.

The hearing panel heard that Engel also can't find the halfway house work-

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April 3/03



Police *April 3/03*

# Assault case killed by technicality

## GROWN DROPS CASE FRODO JUDGE CALLS FOR AMISHAL

THE WAY FRODO GROWS ABOUT THE  
SHEEPHOLE. THE PROSECUTOR  
WAS DROPPED AT THE AMISHAL  
JURY.

APPROVED BY THE PROSECUTOR  
AFTER A MISDEMEANOR  
THE CASE OF FRODO GROWN  
THE OTHERS ACCUSED OF  
A DRUNKEN PROSECUTOR  
HOUSE.

BECAUSE OF A TECHNICALITY AND  
SOME EVIDENCE, A PROSECUTOR  
WAS DROPPED AT THE AMISHAL  
JURY.

A DAY EARLIER, THE PROSECUTOR  
HAD THE ALLEGED TECHNICALITY  
BEING DROPPED AT THE AMISHAL  
JURY.

### My gut feeling is it sounds like the evidence is really weak

*Simon, Lord of the Rings*

DAY 2 of the trial began with  
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EDMONTON

# Injuries inflicted in struggle with police

Apulz103

POLITIC

## Victim testifies in officer assault case

HANNEKE BROOYMANS  
Journal Staff Writer  
EDMONTON

A man testified Tuesday that a drunken struggle with two Edmonton police officers left him with two black eyes, a swollen cheek and a gash on his scalp.

Constables Bradley Pearce and Derek McIntyre were charged with assault causing bodily harm following an incident at a halfway house on the night of June 29, 2001.

Lyndon Chambers admitted he violated his parole conditions by drinking eight beers. But he could remember nothing between the time his brother dropped him off at the halfway house where he was staying, and the moment he came to with blood dripping from his head.

The halfway house, at 10637 106th St., is run by the Edmonton John Howard Society.

Jennifer Roles, who worked there at the time, testified that Chambers started swearing at the staff once he admitted to them that he had been drinking.

When he started slamming doors and kicking walls, Roles called police. However, by the time they arrived, Chambers had gone downstairs.

No one witnessed what happened between the two officers and Chambers when they went downstairs to get him.

But Tam Nguyen, another employee at the house, said he heard

Chambers shout, "You're a real tough guy for hitting a guy in handcuffs."

Nguyen said he believed he heard one of the officers say, "Bring it on, tough guy."

This was followed by Chambers saying, "I'm not stupid enough to fight a cop."

Nguyen said he could not tell whether Chambers was in handcuffs when he was brought up the stairs.

When they brought him to the landing, Nguyen said he saw the officers pin Chambers face down on the floor and try to bring his hands behind his back so they could slip the cuffs on him.

Nguyen testified he then saw one of the constables strike Chambers on the head, which then struck the frame of the front door, causing a gash to the head. The officers then took him to get medical attention.

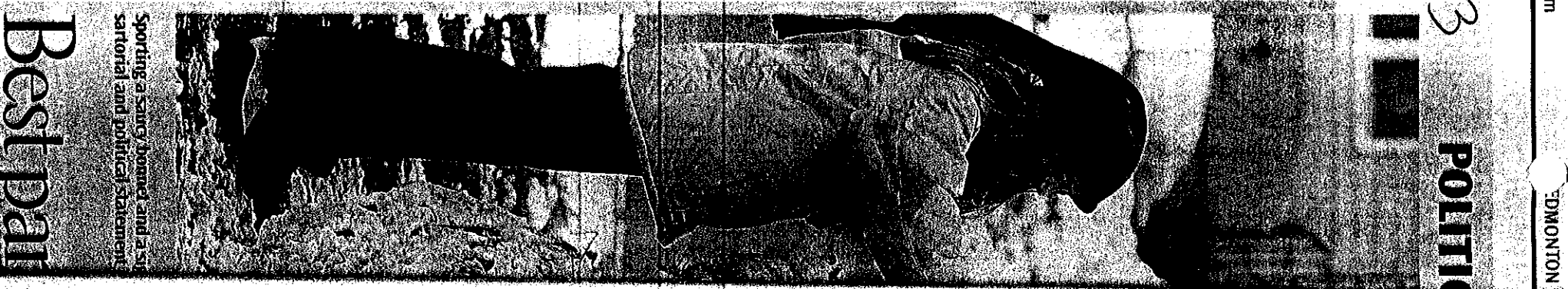
Defence lawyer Robbie Davidson, who represents Pearce, brought up Chamber's criminal record, which included fraud-related offences.

Both Davidson and McIntyre's lawyer, Alex Pringle, asked Chambers whether he remembered kicking walls, slamming doors and swearing at the employees and the officers.

Chambers repeatedly said he recalls nothing from the drunken hour he spent raging in the hallway house.

Pringle asked him: "You're not fabricating that just to avoid talking about some of the bad things you did that night, are you?"

The trial continues today.



Sporting a saucy, donned, and a sartorial and political statement.

Best Bar

14 NEWS The Edmonton Sun, Wednesday, April 2, 2003

# Witness saw cops hit drunk parolee's 'head hit metal part of front entrance'

By TONY BLAIS  
Court Bureau

A drunk parolee had his head knocked into a metal doorway when a city cop hit him while another officer was kneeling on the man's back, court heard yesterday.

Tam Nguyen, a caseworker at an inner-city halfway house, testified about the alleged attack during the assault causing bodily harm trial of Const. Bradley Pearce and Const. Derek McIntyre in provincial court.

Nguyen said the two beat cops had gone to the basement of Independence Apartments, 10637 106 St., on June 29, 2001, to arrest Lyndon Chambers for violating his parole.

After partially hearing a verbal altercation between the three men, Nguyen testified he saw the officers dragging Chambers up the stairs and Pearce, 33, strike the parolee in the head with an open hand.

Then, on the landing at the top of the stairs, Nguyen said he saw McIntyre, 33, kneeling on Chambers trying to put handcuffs on him.

Chambers was screaming, "Please stop, you're going to break my arm," said Nguyen. "Then I saw contact with Pearce's hand and (Chambers') head and his head hitting the metal part of the front entrance by the door," said Nguyen.

The caseworker said Chambers had blood on his face, some swelling on his cheek and above his eye, and a large gash on his head.

Under cross-examination, Nguyen agreed that in his statement to city police internal affairs he said McIntyre was the one who struck Chambers and then said he wasn't sure which of the two officers delivered the blow.

Chambers, 39, testified he was fairly drunk after having eight beers on the evening of the alleged assault and said he blacked out and doesn't remember much.

"Basically, I remember waking up bleeding and then they took me out the front door," said Chambers, adding he received three stitches to the head in the hospital and suffered two black eyes and a swollen cheek.

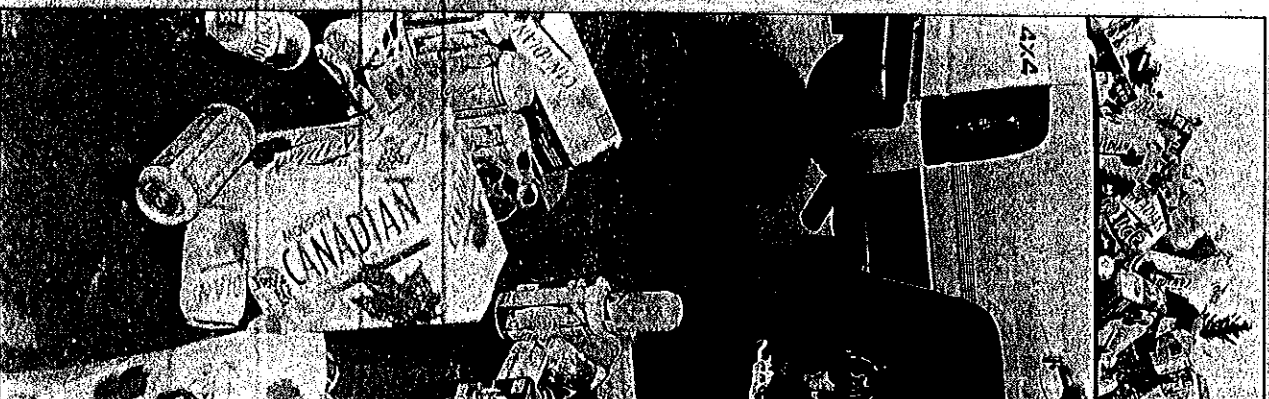
Chambers admitted he has a lengthy criminal record and has been a heroin addict. He also said he has hired a civil lawyer and is planning to sue the two police officers.

Caseworker Jennifer Roles testified Chambers returned intoxicated to the halfway house about 10 p.m. and after admitting he was drunk, he became agitated and was verbally abusive towards staff and threatening suicide.

Roles said Chambers also punched and kicked the walls, and she called police because he was getting angrier.

Edmonton Police Service spokesman Dean Parthenis said Pearce and McIntyre remain on active duty. The pair have been with the force for about six years. The trial continues today.

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## Suds!

Chris Fayant picks up busted cars for their food, destined for the 139 truck as they rounded the traffic. Somewhat surprisingly, only

14 Ph: 14



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April 3/03



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EDMONTON

# Injuries inflicted in struggle with police

*Apulz 103*

POLITIC

## Victim testifies in officer assault case

HANNEKE BROOYMAN'S  
Journal Staff Writer  
EDMONTON

A man testified Tuesday that a drunken struggle with two Edmonton police officers left him with two black eyes, a swollen cheek and a gash on his scalp.

Constables Bradley Pearce and Derek McIntyre were charged with assault causing bodily harm following an incident at a halfway house on the night of June 29, 2001.

Lyndon Chambers admitted he violated his parole conditions by drinking eight beers. But he could remember nothing between the time his brother dropped him off at the halfway house where he was staying, and the moment he came to with blood dripping from his head.

The halfway house, at 10637 106th St., is run by the Edmonton John Howard Society.

Jennifer Roles, who worked there at the time, testified that Chambers started swearing at the staff once he admitted to them that he had been drinking.

When he started slamming doors and kicking walls, Roles called police. However, by the time they arrived, Chambers had gone downstairs.

No one witnessed what happened between the two officers and Chambers when they went downstairs to get him. But Tam Nguyen, another em-

Chambers shout, "You're a real tough guy for hitting a guy in handcuffs."

Nguyen said he believed he heard one of the officers say, "Bring it on, tough guy."

This was followed by Chambers saying, "I'm not stupid enough to fight a cop."

Nguyen said he could not tell whether Chambers was in handcuffs when he was brought up the stairs.

When they brought him to the landing, Nguyen said he saw the officers pin Chambers face down on the floor and try to bring his hands behind his back so they could slip the cuffs on him.

Nguyen testified he then saw one of the constables strike Chambers on the head, which then struck the frame of the front door, causing a gash to the head.

The officers then took him to get medical attention.

Defence lawyer Robbie Davidson, who represents Pearce, brought up Chamber's criminal record, which included fraud-related offences.

Both Davidson and McIntyre's lawyer, Alex Pringle, asked Chambers whether he remembered kicking walls, slamming doors and swearing at the employees and the officers.

Chambers repeatedly said he recalls nothing from the drunken hour he spent raging in the halfway house.

Pringle asked him: "You're not fabricating that just to avoid talking about some of the bad things you did that night, are you?" The trial continues today.



Sporting a saucy bonnet and a sartorial and political statement

Rest man

14 NEWS The Edmonton Sun, Wednesday, April 2, 2003

# Witness saw cops hit drunk parolee's 'head hit metal part of front entrance'

By TONY BLAIS  
Court Bureau

A drunk parolee had his head knocked into a metal doorway when a city cop hit him while another officer was kneeling on the man's back, court heard yesterday.

Tam Nguyen, a caseworker at an inner-city halfway house, testified about the alleged attack during the assault causing bodily harm trial of Const. Bradley Pearce and Const. Derek McIntyre in provincial court.

Nguyen said the two beat cops had gone to the basement of Independence Apartments, 10637 106 St., on June 29, 2001, to arrest Lyndon Chambers for violating his parole.

After partially hearing a verbal altercation between the three men, Nguyen testified he saw the officers dragging Chambers up the stairs and Pearce, 33, strike the parolee in the head with an open hand.

Then, on the landing at the top of the stairs, Nguyen said he saw McIntyre, 33, kneeling on Chambers trying to put handcuffs on him.

Chambers was screaming, "Please stop, you're going to break my arm," said Nguyen.

"Then I saw contact with Pearce's hand and (Chambers') head and his head hitting the metal part of the front entrance by the door," said Nguyen.

The caseworker said Chambers had blood on his face, some swelling on his cheek and above his eye, and a large gash on his head.

Under cross-examination, Nguyen agreed that in his statement to city police internal affairs he said McIntyre was the one who struck Chambers and then said he wasn't sure which of the two officers delivered the blow.

Chambers, 39, testified he was fairly drunk after having eight beers on the evening of the alleged assault and said he blacked out and doesn't remember much.

"Basically, I remember waking up bleeding and then they took me out the front door," said Chambers, adding he received three stitches to the head in the hospital and suffered two black eyes and a swollen cheek.

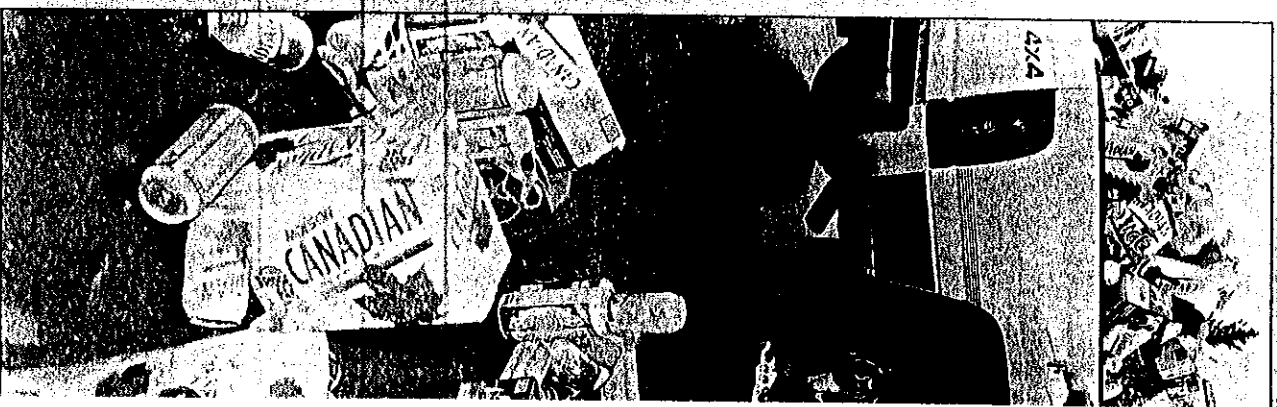
Chambers admitted he has a lengthy criminal record and has been a heroin addict. He also said he has hired a civil lawyer and is planning to sue the two police officers.

Caseworker Jennifer Roles testified Chambers returned intoxicated to the halfway house about 10 p.m. and after admitting he was drunk, he became agitated and was verbally abusive towards staff and threatening suicide.

Roles said Chambers also punched and kicked the walls, and she called police because he was getting angrier.

Edmonton Police Service spokesman Dean Parthenis said Pearce and McIntyre remain on active duty. The pair have been with the force for about six years. The trial continues today.

tony.blais@edn.sunpub.com



Chris Fayant picks up busted cas  
ter their load, destined for the 19t  
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**Suds i**

1+1 Ph-1-f

# Mistrial in cops' assault case

## Pair cleared of charges for beating man during arrest

By TONY BLAIS  
Court Bureau

A rarely seen legal technicality and an unsure eyewitness has resulted in two Edmonton police officers being cleared of assault charges arising from the arrest of a drunk parolee.

Const. Bradley Pearce and Const. Derek McIntyre were in provincial court yesterday accused of assault causing bodily harm for allegedly hitting Lyndon Chambers while arresting him on June 29, 2001, for violating his parole.

On Tuesday, Tam Nguyen, a case worker at Independence Apartments halfway house, 10637 106 St., testified he saw the officers dragging Chambers up the stairs and Pearce, 33, strike the parolee in the head with an open hand.

Then, on the landing at the top of the stairs, Nguyen said he saw McIntyre, 33, kneeling on Chambers's back while trying to put handcuffs on him and Pearce hitting the parolee's head into a metal doorway.

In cross-examination, Nguyen agreed that he said in his statement to city police internal affairs that McIntyre was the one who struck Chambers going up the stairs and stated he wasn't sure which of the two cops delivered that blow.

Based on that testimony, Calgary Crown prosecutor Peter Mackenzie yesterday asked Red Deer Judge Thomas Schollie to dismiss the charge against McIntyre.

The judge agreed and then noted there was a legal problem with the way the Crown had handled the case.

Court heard the initial prosecutor proceeded summarily, rather than by indictment, a less serious route

when the two officers first appeared in provincial docket court.

And, because the pair were not charged for more than six months after the alleged incident due to an internal city police review being followed by a second review by Calgary police, the Crown could only proceed that way with the consent of the accused or their lawyers.

A recording of the original proceedings played in court yesterday revealed that no such consent was given.

As a result, the judge declared a mistrial.

"I regard it as a nullity and the information as a nullity because of the time limitations," said Schollie.

After court, Mackenzie explained that the Crown can no longer proceed with the charges.

"It's over," said the veteran prosecutor, adding it's the first time such a thing has ever happened to him.

Neither officer wished to comment.

On Tuesday, Chambers testified he was fairly drunk after having eight beers on the evening of the alleged assault and said he blacked out and doesn't remember much.

The 39-year-old said he received three stitches to his head and suffered two black eyes and a swollen cheek.

Chambers admitted he has a lengthy criminal record and has been a heroin addict. He also said he has hired a civil lawyer and is planning to sue the two police officers.

Court heard that Chambers was agitated, verbally abusive to staff, punching and kicking walls and threatening suicide.

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"Each team represents a country," says chairperson Trudy Holt. "We wanted an educational component, but the kids have a tonne of fun. It's just an awesome event."

The game took me back to Ryan's first year of hockey, when just staying upright was an accomplishment worthy of an ice cream cone on the way home. There's no crying in baseball, but there was skipping in soccer. "Ryan. STOP THAT!"

Riley's mom Jodie and grammas Sharon and Jeanette were waiting for the game to start when I arrived. Dad Terry was tying skates in the dressing room.

"What is this?" I inquired, unsure if it was Tom Thumb or Micro Mite.

"It's hockey," Sharon said.

It couldn't be. There was no swearing and nobody yelling insults at the referee.

But there was plenty of screaming from moms. Allow me to point something out for you newcomers to the game. THEY CAN'T HEAR YOU! Even if they can, they won't pay any attention to you.

The ref dropped the puck. And Turkey scored.

The ref dropped the puck. And Turkey scored.

Then a dad from the Portugal team, clearly fed up, fired the puck the length of the ice. And Turkey scored.

At one point, Riley actually touched the puck. Even if it was just to trip over it. It was his job to patrol the red line.

Back and forth, back and forth. He's up, he's down ...

"That was his best game yet," his proud father said later.

When Portugal finally did score, the applause was thunderous. And that was just the parents from the other team. Ah, sportsmanship.

It's hard to believe that these same people will one day be screaming bloody murder in the stands while their sons attempt to commit it on the ice. After a season of watching the pros and Ryan's Double-A Midget team, it's good to know the roots of our game are still healthy.

Portugal's youngest player was three-year-old Chelsea Dalheim. What she lacked in speed she made up for in cuteness. Chelsea would have to be the first star, just because. Joseph Bohaychuk was the second star. So he allowed 17 goals during his time in net. He saved another 105.

The Turks would be bound for the championship game, I'm sure, if there was one. Everybody into the corner. Everybody fall down. It reminded me more of bowling than hockey.

The important thing is that everybody's a winner at the Timbit Tournament. Every volunteer, every parent, ever, coach and every player. For kids like Riley and Chelsea, these are the good old days.

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EDMONTON |

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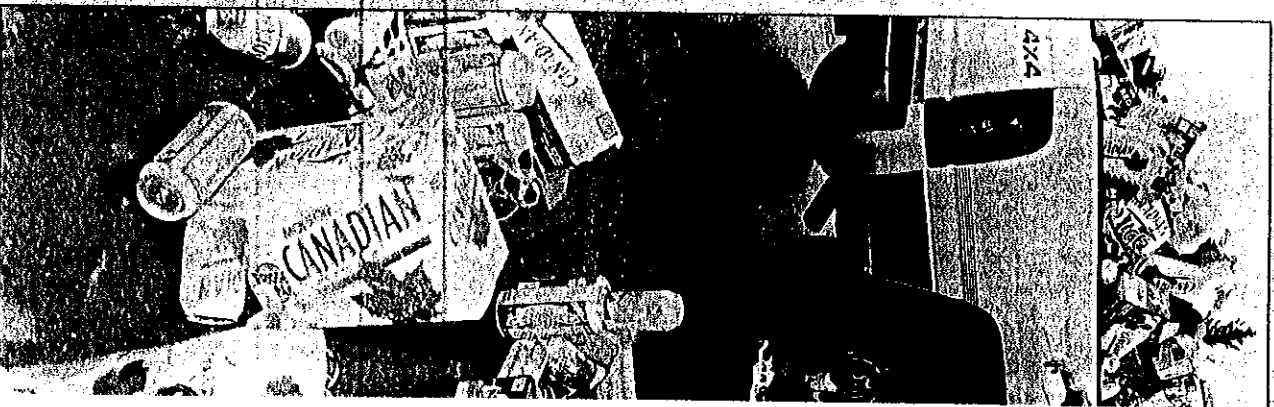
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- Tony Blais @edn.sunpub.com



**Suds**  
Chris Foyant picks up busted caser truck as they rounded the traffic day. Somewhat surprisingly, only

# Officers accused of beating man on parole

## Charges filed year after incident

TOM BARRETT  
Journal Staff Writer  
EDMONTON

A bloody struggle between city police officers and a drunk day parole violator has resulted in criminal charges against two constables.

The two men were charged Wednesday with assault causing bodily harm for their role in

the arrest of a 37-year-old halfway house resident 15 months ago. Both officers remain on active duty.

"A struggle occurred during the arrest and the man sustained a swollen cheek and a cut to his head," says a police press release. "He was taken to hospital for treatment and released back into police custody."

Police officials declined to say how badly the man was cut or whether he received stitches for his wounds. And they didn't reveal how the injuries occurred.

"The complaint was launched because we felt it had merit."

Maureen Collins, executive director of the Edmonton John Howard Society

The investigation arose following a complaint from the Edmonton John Howard Society, which operates the halfway house for federal prisoners at 10637 106th St. A staff member called for police help at a round 11 p.m., June 29, 2001, after a resident showed up drunk and

became violent, police say.

A John Howard staff member who witnessed the incident wrote an internal report about the police conduct he witnessed. That led a senior supervisor to contact police the next day, said Maureen Collins, executive director of the Edmonton John

Howard Society.

"The complaint was launched because we felt it had merit," Collins said. She declined to provide further information, because the matter is before the courts.

Most convicts on day parole work outside their halfway house during the day and sleep there at night. Many are released on specific conditions, such as that they abstain from drugs and alcohol, and keep the peace.

Edmonton Police Sgt. Chris Hayden said the decision to lay

charges took a long time because of the procedures which had to be followed.

"The information first comes to internal investigations and then goes to a Calgary Crown prosecutor, and that's where a decision is made." An external body then reviews the case.

Constables Bradley Pearce and Derek Vicenty are scheduled to appear in provincial court Oct. 1.

Both are 32 years old and have been with the Edmonton Police Service for five years.

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# Pilot, Psychiatrist

It took more than a year to lay charges against the officers because Baltimore police had to complete an internal review and send the findings to Carter police. The Carter cops then determine whether charges should be laid to avoid the perception of favoritism.

Collins said she felt familiar with police operations and wouldn't comment on the length of time it took for charges. "The incident involved a long stage for (Independent Apartment), she said. (Charged with assault causing bodily harm are Bradley, Lewis, 32, and Derek McNeil, 32.)

"The incident was a sad case for me. The constant as a person is a common one."

Both of the constables are well liked and respected for their work on the streets, said Sgt. Glen Dennis, vice president of the Baltimore Police Association.

"There are no charges about them being on the street. These are the officers I know them best from the training section. They are innocent until proven guilty."

Residents of the halfway house are on day parole and must report to police every day. They have served more than two years and would have served more than two years, said Margaret Collins, executive director of the John Howard Society, which runs the halfway house.

**Man injured during arrest at halfway house**

# Officers charged

APRIL 2001 - BALTIMORE - THE WOODRUFF NETWORK

CHAMBERS

APRIL 2001 - BALTIMORE - THE WOODRUFF NETWORK

come violent," said police spokesman Sgt. Chris Hepler.

"A struggle occurred during the arrest and the man sustained a swollen cheek and cut to his head. He was taken to hospital for treatment and released back to police officers."

"The next day a complaint was submitted by a police officer who was on duty at the halfway house who questioned the incident. It was a most unfortunate incident for a police member that was present during the incident. Both constables have been with Baltimore police for five years and remain on active duty."

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BY KIM CONNOR

Sarah Williams

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