

Woman charged for falsely crying rape

By STACIE OULTON
Staff Writer

COLFAX — A 24-year-old Clarkston woman was charged this week with the felony of malicious prosecution for allegedly accusing her stepfather of raping her and then recanting the story.

After a Washington State Patrol trooper stopped Holly R. Turner last November for allegedly driving erratically, she told a trooper that she had been raped in Asotin and was fleeing the scene. The trooper could see scratches and other marks on her neck, and she was taken to Pullman Memorial Hospital, where she underwent a examination for rape. That examination revealed scratches in her pubic area as well.

But those injuries turned out to be self-inflicted, said Chief Deputy Prosecutor Ron Shirley. The sheriff's office proceeded with an investigation and her stepfather was arrested, Shirley said. But two days after the traffic stop on Nov. 13 south of Pullman, she recanted the alleged rape.

stolen video camera, battery and case.

Sonnevil's guilty pleas to delivery and possession of marijuana and stolen property possession were part of a plea bargain agreement. The prosecutor told Sonnevil he would be charged with more drug counts if he took the case to trial. He faces up to a year in jail at his sentencing hearing set for May.

In another case, a former Pullman man pleaded guilty to reduced assault charges for overdisciplining his two children, and he was given a year's suspended sentence.

Albert Wade, 35, had punished his son and daughter by hitting them with a television cable last October while living in Pullman, and the prosecutor's office charged him with two counts of felony third-degree assault.

But prosecutor Shirley said he reduced the charges to allow the state's Child Protective Services to solve the discipline problem.

The two children, 10 and 11

Shirley also has charged her with the gross misdemeanors of tampering with physical evidence and driving while intoxicated and the misdemeanor of obstructing a public servant.

In an unrelated case, a former Pullman man pleaded guilty to two felony drug charges and to possession of stolen property at his arraignment today in Whitman County Superior Court.

John D. Sonnevil, 24, was a target of a six-month Pullman Police investigation and was arrested last March. A search warrant of his NW True Street apartment turned up about a quarter pound of marijuana, police said.

In a separate incident, a Whitman County Sheriff's deputy arrested Sonnevil in February 1990 (for possessing a

years old, are in foster care, and Wade is scheduled to take parenting classes.

Judge Wallis Friel followed Shirley's recommendations on the reduced charges and the sentence. "Although the discipline was too severe, he was trying to do the right thing," Friel said as he sentenced Wade.

When arrested, Wade complained of unfair treatment because he was Black. Today, he said the reduction to misdemeanor fourth-degree assault was fair. But he still believes that the state's Child Protective Services mistreated him and it has not allowed him to see his children on visits, as he was promised. Wade said he was not seen his children in six months, but was originally told he could visit with them within three weeks of his arrest.