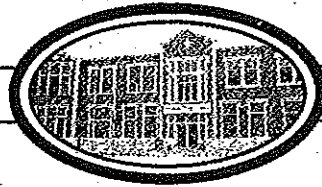


Fightin' Chicks beat Owls
- See page 1B



Pioneer announces 2nd & 3rd grade spelling bee winners
- See page 6A

OSU to offer pecan management course
- See page 4A



The Express-Star

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Dismissed deputy has former record

BY DEBI DeSILVER
Managing Editor

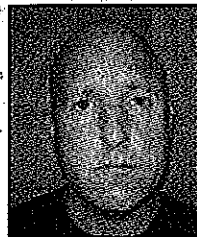
A Grady County deputy who said he was fired Tuesday for exposing department misconduct was charged in Florida in 2009 with one felony count of illegal interception of communication.

Christopher Ryan Lake, 39, was interviewed by Oklahoma City News 9 and information published on the news station

website said Lake claimed to have been fired for being a whistleblower.

The claim stems from Lake's allegation that Grady County Sheriff Art Kell did not notify neighboring departments that murder suspect George Rouse was on the run for (recently) killing his friend and was suicidal, the website stated.

A photocopy of what was believed to be an internal e-mail



CHRISTOPHER RYAN LAKE

Photo courtesy of Monroe County, Fla. Sheriff's Office arrest record



McClain County Sheriff Campaign Photo courtesy of cityofblanchard.com

exchange from the sheriff's

office and dispatch was brought into the *Express-Star* office and shown to staff by a man who identified himself as a former deputy (not Lake). He claimed instructions were given by the sheriff's office not to share information that Rouse was suicidal, which could endanger officers from other agencies.

Kell said the photocopy in question was from an internal mobile cop communication.

Assistance had already been requested from the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Marshals Service. Rouse's general location was already known and it wasn't necessary to share information with additional law enforcement agencies.

"We had reliable information that he (Rouse) had left Grady County immediately after this (the death of Danny Ray Frank-

See LAKE, continued on page 3A