

Connor County Chronicle

CRIME WATCH:

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**ARRESTS REPORTED FOR THE WEEKEND
OF MAY 2-4, 2008:**

Local Smoothie Store Worker in a "Whirled" of Trouble

Connor County police have arrested an employee of Herb World in connection with its robbery. Herb World, Connor County's only herbal remedy health store and smoothie store, is owned by Avery Lawson and has been in business since January 2006. Lawson claims that \$2,700.00 was stolen on the evening of May 3, 2008.

Herb World manager Nic Atwell, a relative of Lawson's, claims that Atwell's co-worker, Jessie Chandler, age 19, a resident of Branton, robbed the store shortly after Chandler's shift ended at 11:00 pm. According to Atwell, Chandler showed Atwell a pistol, demanded the code to the safe, and then bound Atwell and customer Amari Wilson with electrical tape before Chandler left. Amari Wilson later identified Chandler as the gun-wielding robber and gave a statement to police.

Chandler and Wilson both had formerly been employed by Café of Dreams, a local coffee shop that was closed two years ago after police discovered ongoing illegal drug sales on the premises. Herb World has also been rumored to be a source of illegal drugs in the community, and Wilson has since been arrested for illegal use and possession of hydrocodone.

Chandler stated to police that Chandler left Herb World shortly after 11:00 pm. One unconfirmed source claims Chandler took only wages and reimbursement for the purchase of supplies for the store. Police searched Chandler's home and car but have not recovered a weapon.

Neither Avery Lawson nor Chandler could be reached for comment. Chandler remains at Connor County Correctional pending arraignment later in the week on the charge of aggravated robbery.