

# Spencer police knew man arrested in PCP ring case

By Frederick A. Smock  
Staff Reporter

**SPENCER** — A local man charged by federal officials with distributing the drug PCP had long been suspected of drug-related activities, according to a source within the Spencer Police Department who asked not to be named.

Allan Woodman, 38, of 15 North St., had no local arrest record, the source said, but had been under investigation by the multi-town DELTA Drug Task Force in which Spencer participates. DELTA turned the investigation over to federal officials when it was determined that it involved people beyond the immediate area.

Woodman and Christopher Yaskoski, 31, of Holland were arrested by federal agents and charged with conspiracy to violate federal narcotics laws — distribution of PCP. The two Central Massachusetts residents were among

four people arrested in Massachusetts and Rhode Island in connection with an alleged PCP distribution ring operating across the United States, Canada and Australia. Two more suspects are still being sought, agents said. The ring has been active since the 1970s, federal officials said.

A spokesman for the federal Drug Enforcement Administration said agents seized or purchased materials for 1.5 million pills with a street value of about \$10 million. The seizure has been described as the largest in New England history.

At a press conference yesterday in Providence, the DEA announced that, armed with a search warrant, agents had searched a building at 72 Carmen St., Cranston, R.I., and seized a tablet-making machine "with dies and additional quantities of PCP."

In response yesterday to questions about the location in Brookfield where DEA agents seized

PCP, a DEA spokesman would not say where the material was found. He said it was a probably a site where PCP was made and was also a "stash location," a place where PCP was stored.

Woodman's occupation is listed as "chemical sales" in the town of Spencer street list for 1990. He lives in a small, two-story house on the north end of North Street, a short street between Main Street and Lake Street. A town-owned cemetery known as the Old Cemetery takes up most of the west side of the street. There are three single-family homes on the other side of the street.

Local officials in Brookfield and Spencer confirmed yesterday that Woodman was involved in two housing project proposals presented in 1989. One involved his property in Spencer and the other was for some family-owned land in Brookfield.