

Drug Arrest Made At Road Check

Drug Arrest Made At Road Check On Friday, March 28 deputies with the Echols County Sheriff's Office were conducting a road check on Hwy 94 near mile marker seven. While conducting the road check, deputies made contact with Johnnie Varnum, 18 of Valdosta, GA who appeared to show a nervous demeanor. While speaking with Varnum, he advised deputies of a quantity of marijuana in his pocket. A short time later, deputies discovered Varnum had a warrant for his arrest for violation of probation. Upon a subsequent search of the vehicle, approximately four ounces of marijuana was found underneath the passenger seat along with two firearms in the trunk of the vehicle, one of which was stolen out of Lowndes County, GA. The passenger of the vehicle, Christopher Rikard, 25, of Valdosta, GA, along with Varnum were transported to the Lowndes County Jail where each subject was booked on charges of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, possession of a firearm during the commission of a crime, and theft by receiving stolen property.