



Department of Justice

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Former Minot State Football Player Sentenced for Drug Conspiracy

BISMARCK - United States Attorney Drew H. Wrigley announced that on July 13, 2009, **Thomas M. Scher**, 20, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, was sentenced before United States District Court Chief Judge Daniel L. Hovland on a charge of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance. **Scher** pleaded guilty to the charge on April 9, 2009.

Judge Hovland sentenced **Scher** to serve one year and one day in federal prison, to be followed by three years of supervised release. **Scher** was ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment to the Crime Victim's Fund.

From January through November 2008, **Scher** and another Minot State University student purchased approximately 20 handguns in the Minot, North Dakota area. They transported the handguns to the Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, area where they traded them for cash and the controlled substance ecstasy. During this time period, they sold approximately 1,800 tablets of ecstasy in the Minot area.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Assistant United States Attorney David Hagler prosecuted the case.

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