

Arrests waited until jail up, running

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KEARNEY — Alleged drug distributors got something of a break, thanks in part to Buffalo County's old jail.

Friday, police arrested at least 14 suspected Kearney area drug dealers. The arrests could've been made earlier in the month, but because the old jail operated at, or over its 75-inmate capacity limit, the arrests were postponed until the new jail was up and running, Sheriff Neil Miller said.

Wednesday, Buffalo County officials opened the new facility and moved inmates from one location to the other.

Had the arrests been made while the old jail was still in use, the county would have been forced to pay Dawson County to house overflow inmates.

Buffalo County has paid Dawson County to house inmates from time to time in the last few years.

The new jail can hold up to 143 inmates.