Car Thieves Arrested Near La Pine Following High-speed Chase

by Richard Burton

Two alleged car thieves were arrested by Oregon State Police troopers Tuesday morning near La Pine after leading officers on a ten minute car chase on Highways 97 and 31, often at speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. One suspect fled on foot only to be found hiding in an area residential neighborhood two hours later, said authorities.

At about 10 a.m. November 7, Oregon State Police (OSP) Trooper David MacKenzie attempted to stop a 1997 Toyota Camry for speeding on US Highway 97, approximately four miles north of La Pine. The car, reported stolen out of Corvallis, stopped briefly on the northbound shoulder then abruptly made a u-turn and sped off southbound.

(L) Christopher Childers, (R) Breana Dinsmore - DCJ Photos According to an OSP news release, during the next ten minutes the stolen car and its two occupants led troopers on a chase that reached speeds in excess of 100 miles per hour. The suspects turned east on Highway 31 and eventually stopped at a home in Sun Forest Estates.

The driver, later identified as 32-year old Albany resident Christopher Michael Childers, fled on foot.

Troopers and assisting Deschutes and Klamath County deputies took the passenger, 20-year old Breana Jo Dinsmore of Albany, into custody without incident.

Two hours later, Childers was located in Sun Forest Estates by troopers and placed under arrest.

Both suspects were lodged in the Deschutes County jail, said the news release.

Dinsmore will face one charge of unauthorized use of a motor vehicle.

Childersâ€™ charges include reckless driving, recklessly endangering another person, felony attempt to elude in a vehicle, misdemeanor attempt to elude on foot, unauthorized use of a motor vehicle, and three outstanding felony warrants related to burglary offenses in Linn County.

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