

Bend child, 5, returned unharmed after kidnap

by Cheryl McDermott

BEND, Ore. -- Police say they don't know why the ex-boyfriend of a Bend woman kidnapped her five-year-old son early Monday morning, but were happy to announce the boy's safe return to his mother after the suspect was arrested on Highway 22 east of Salem, Oregon less than two hours later.

Bend Police were dispatched to the Super-8 Motel at 1275 S. Highway 97 about 5:20 a.m., March 10, Lt. Ken Stenkamp said. The suspect, 28-year old George Allan Loop of Portland has no biological relationship to the boy, and had been staying at the motel while he visited with the mother and child.

Believing that the suspect was headed back to Portland, an inter-agency law enforcement alert was issued for Loop and his tan 2003 Chevrolet pickup.

About 7 a.m., Oregon State Police troopers and Marion County Sheriff's deputies located and stopped the vehicle on Highway 22 just east of Salem, taking Loop into custody without incident, the lieutenant said.

• The child was unharmed, Lt. Stenkamp said, and safely returned to his mother.

Loop was transported to Bend and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail in lieu of \$10,000 bail. According to a news release, he is charged with second-degree kidnapping.

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