

Redmond police pursuit leads to arrest

by Cheryl McDermott

REDMOND, Ore. -- A 24-year old man was arrested and charged with several crimes after he led police on a car chase Wednesday morning, speeding through parking lots and a new bypass highway under construction before his vehicle ended up in a grove of trees.

Bradley Hemm - DCJ photo According to a Redmond Police news release prepared by Captain Dave Tarbet, an officer spotted Bradley Hemm behind the wheel of a vehicle shortly before 10 a.m. The officer knew Hemm was a possible unlicensed driver, Tarbet said, and as he turned to follow Hemm's vehicle, the suspect sped away through business parking lots "replacing persons in danger".

Hemm failed to stop for the police car's lights and siren, activated when the officer observed traffic violations, and accelerated away, turning onto a dirt access road and bridge and onto a new highway bypass under construction near NW Canal and NW Dogwood.

In an attempt to exit the bypass, Hemm instead ended up in a small grove of trees and was taken into custody without incident, Tarbet said.

A small amount of drugs and a set of brass knuckles were allegedly found in the suspect vehicle, and Hemm was lodged in the Deschutes County Jail in lieu of \$20,500 bail. He was charged with attempt to elude, felon in possession of a restricted weapon (brass knuckles), first-degree criminal mischief, second-degree trespassing and reckless driving, the news release stated.

The shoulder of the new bypass was damaged in two areas, Tarbet reported.

Any witness to the incident who has not yet spoken with police is asked to contact Officer C. Chambers at 541.504.3400.

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