

Police capture man in Prineville stabbing

by Cheryl McDermott

A Prineville man police called a "person of interest" wanted for questioning in connection with a stabbing incident early Tuesday morning is now in custody and charged in the assault, authorities reported.

Lance Bechtel, CCJ photo Lance Bechtel, 22, of northwest Prineville, was first arrested for an unrelated arrest warrant out of Deschutes County, Prineville Police Chief Eric Bush said.

Bechtel was taken into custody at NE Seventh Street near NE Belknap Street, only seven blocks from where 24-year old Cody Ray Flowers received a non-life threatening stab wound to the chest shortly before 3 a.m. January 30.

Following the warrant arrest, officers developed new evidence which resulted in additional charges being filed against Bechtel in connection with the stabbing.

Bechtel was lodged in the Crook County Jail in lieu of \$100,000 bail. He is charged with first-degree assault for the stabbing, in addition to violation of release stemming from the Deschutes County warrant.

The suspect was also allegedly in possession of a vehicle stolen from Deschutes County, the chief said.