

## Two arrested in restaurant robberies

by Cheryl McDermott

A Portland-area couple, both admitted heroin users, are being held without bail after being charged in connection with four recent robberies at Subway, Denny's, and Shari's restaurants in the region, Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies reported.

Steven Michael Stroud, 38, and Heather Nicole Pruitt, 25, were arrested Thursday about 1 p.m. and lodged in the Clackamas County Jail, Sheriff's detective Jim Strovink said.

Steven Michael Stroud, Heather Nicole Pruitt "CCSO photos

A joint investigation by the Clackamas County Sheriff's office, Portland Police Bureau, and Salem Police Department led to the identification of the two suspects in connection with a number of robberies; including two at Subway (10713 SE 82nd Street, Happy Valley), one at Denny's Restaurant (12101 SE 82nd Street), and one at Shari's Restaurant (Wilsonville).

Portland Police conducted a traffic stop on a Ford Escort driven by Stroud as he was leaving a SE Roeth Road address in Milwaukie, Strovink said. Pruitt and her two unidentified children were passengers in the vehicle.

Investigators interviewed both suspects, who openly admitted to a combined heroin habit costing \$90 per day, Strovink said.

Stroud and Pruitt are scheduled for arraignment at 3 p.m. today, the detective said, adding that due to Measure 11 they will be held without bail.

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