

Hwy. 97 police chase leads to DUII arrest

by Cheryl McDermott

A Texas driver who sped at near 80-mph through a construction zone at the Sunriver Junction on Highway 97 and led officers on a five-mile chase toward Bend Friday night was ultimately arrested for drunk driving and other charges, Oregon State Police (OSP) reported.

About 10:30 p.m., Trooper April Lang was working in the 45-mph construction zone when she clocked a 1983 Ford Escort speeding by at 79-mph, troopers wrote in an OSP news release.

Kevin C. McGregor â€“ OSP photo

The driver, later identified as 39-year old Kevin C. McGregor of Panhandle, Texas, ignored the patrol carâ€™s emergency lights as he continued traveling north toward Bend for about five miles, repeatedly veering into the oncoming lanes while traveling in the mid 70-mph range, troopers said.

As McGregor continued heading toward Bend, Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s deputies, Bend Police officers, and additional OSP troopers set up at various locations along the highway, positioning themselves to spike-strip the carâ€™s tires and decrease danger to other drivers.

After a ten-minute chase, McGregor ultimately yielded to emergency vehicles and voluntarily stopped southeast of Bend, on Knott Road near 15th Street, troopers said.

McGregor was taken into custody and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail. He is charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) and felony attempt to elude a police officer.

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