

Driver eluding police dies in crash

by Cheryl McDermott

A 26-year old North Bend man was killed in a single-vehicle crash while attempting to elude police after his vehicle left the road and slammed into a tree along Little Nestucca River Road in Tillamook County early Saturday morning.

Michael Aaron Geisler of North Bend, Oregon was killed in a single-vehicle crash while attempting to elude police early Saturday morning - OSP photo According to a news release issued by Oregon State Police (OSP), a Lincoln City police officer tried to stop a 1989 Mercury Cougar about 1:10 a.m. May 12 for a traffic violation. The driver sped off northbound on Highway 101 at a high rate of speed, and an OSP trooper joined in the pursuit about 1:15 a.m.

The vehicle continued north into Tillamook County until turning east onto Little Nestucca River Road near milepost 91, troopers said. Officers lost sight of the car as it drove through a very curvy section about five miles from Highway 101.

As the Lincoln City and OSP patrol vehicles continued east, a trailing Tillamook County deputy backtracked and found the vehicle crashed broadside into a tree off the side of the road.

The driver was pronounced dead at the scene. He was later identified through a fingerprint check as Michael Aaron Geisler, 26. According to troopers, Geisler had an outstanding felony warrant for his arrest from Montgomery County, Texas for parole violation on earlier drug, auto theft, and evading police charges.

An OSP crash reconstructionist is leading the continuing investigation.

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