Armed, dangerous man eludes police

by Cheryl McDermott

Officials have released few details into the ongoing investigation of an â€œarmed and dangerousâ€• man who sped off when a deputy attempted to stop his pickup for a traffic violation last night. Deputies say the driver sped away, leading deputies and police officers on a vehicle pursuit throughout north Bend before he ran off the road into an embankment, then fled on foot through the woods armed with a rifle.

According to a news release issued by Deschutes County Sheriffâ€™s Office Sgt. Joe DeLuca and Deputy Randall Zilk, a deputy stopped a silver pickup at Butler Market Road and 27th Street shortly before 10:30 p.m., June 5, and the driver accelerated and sped away, quickly pursued by the deputy.

Bend Police officers in the area joined in the chase, following the vehicle west on Butler Market Road, then north on Boyd Acres Road, then north on 18th Street. At the corner of 18th St. and Cooley Road, the deputies say the driver failed to negotiate the 90-degree corner, drove off the road and crashed into a dirt embankment.

The suspect was seen running north into nearby woods, armed with a rifle.

Deputies and officers, including a K-9 dog with Bend Police, searched the area extensively for over two hours without success.

Sgt. DeLuca said nearby residences were alerted to the presence of an â€œarmed and dangerousâ€• man by the Emergency Preparedness Network (EPN). Citizens were urged to call 911 if they noticed anything suspicious.

The investigation is continuing.

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