

Bend men arrested in three area robberies

by Cheryl McDermott

Two Bend men have been arrested and charged in connection with three area robberies that took place in late May and early July at a bank, a convenience store, and a fireworks stand, Bend Police announced.

Matthew Donaldson (left) and Anthony Reeser (right) - DCJ photos Matthew Douglas Donaldson, 26, and Anthony Joseph Reeser, 37, were arrested and lodged in the Deschutes County Jail, Sgt. Paul Kansky said.

On May 21, the two men are suspected of holding up the US Bank inside the Albertsons grocery store in south Bend at gunpoint.

On July 1, the US Market convenience store was robbed at gunpoint by one man, and on July 3, a shot was fired during the robbery of the TNT Fireworks stand in the Safeway parking lot.

Kansky said that an investigation by detectives and officers determined that Donaldson was a suspect in the robberies, and on July 9 located him at the Pinewood Apartments. CERT (Central Oregon Emergency Response Team), the area's version of SWAT, negotiated by cell phone with Donaldson and convinced him to turn himself in. Donaldson was arrested without incident outside the apartment building on four unrelated outstanding warrants, Kansky said. Then, on July 11 additional charges of first-degree robbery, two counts of first-degree conspiracy to commit robbery, three counts of first-degree theft, and unlawful use of a weapon were added.

The second suspect investigators identified, Reeser, was arrested during a traffic stop at NE 27th Street and NE Neff Avenue about 4:30 p.m. on July 10. Reeser had a gun in his vehicle at the time of his arrest, Kansky reported. He was lodged in the Deschutes County Jail following an interview at the Bend Police station, and is charged with three counts each of first-degree robbery, first-degree theft, and unlawful use of a weapon.

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