

Deputies chase pickup tied to Madras shooting

by Cheryl McDermott

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies gave chase to a suspect vehicle they spotted on Highway 97 that was tied to an earlier shooting of a man in Madras, but lost sight of the pickup in dust when it drove onto a dirt road. The vehicle was located about three hours later, abandoned, on a logging road.

Salomon Albarran, 35, of Madras, suffered "several gunshot wounds" and was found lying in the middle of M Street west of Highway 97 about 10:40 p.m. Tuesday, Madras Police Sergeant Steve Webb reported in a news release.

Albarran was transported by ground ambulance to Mountain View Hospital in Madras, then air-lifted to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

About two hours later, near 12:30 a.m., Wednesday, a deputy saw the 2006 pickup associated with that shooting traveling south on Highway 97 near milepost 175, Deschutes County Sheriff's deputy Lt. Shane Nelson said.

The pickup failed to yield to the police vehicle's lights and siren, and continued driving for four-to-five miles at speeds between 40 and 60 mph before it turned off onto a paved US Forest Service Road. When the pickup later turned onto a dirt road, the deputy lost sight of the vehicle in the dust, the lieutenant said.

Additional deputies from Deschutes and Klamath County responded to assist in the search, as did Oregon State Police (OSP) troopers.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Joe DeLuca located the abandoned pickup on a logging road about 3:25 a.m. The scene was secured and eventually turned over to the Klamath County Sheriff's Office, the Madras Police Department, and OSP.

According to the owner of Jackpot Chevron at 3405 N. Highway 97 in Bend, on Tuesday before the shooting in Madras, two men in the suspect vehicle including Albarran purchased gas allegedly using a counterfeit \$100 bill. Officers confiscated the fake bill, interviewed the young station attendant on duty at the time, and obtained surveillance video footage of the men, the station owner said.

Deputies chase pickup tied to Madras shooting by Cheryl McDermott