



Spokane County
— Sheriff —
Ozzie Knezovich
News Release

Sgt. Dave Reagan
477-6612
Pager 477-4209 #0348

March 5, 2010

Fleeing Driver Fails To Elude Deputies

A 20-year-old Spokane County man was arrested Thursday night after he attempted to elude deputies who were investigating his reckless driving in the Northpoint area of Spokane.

Deputies Todd Kusler and Rob Satake were on Hawthorne Road at the Newport Highway when they saw a red Honda about 10 p.m. The car was eastbound at an estimated 55-to-60 mph in the posted 35 mph zone.

The two attempted to stop the Honda which had turned into the Safeway parking lot. It accelerated between Pet Smart and the Target store. The deputies lost sight of it, but picked it up again as it was eastbound on Hawthorne turning southbound on Market.

The deputies activated their emergency lights to stop the car when it passed another southbound car on a double-yellow “no pass” zone, still traveling at high speed. The Honda’s driver did not stop, but went east on Francis nearly hitting another car. Just east of the long bridge, the car made a U-turn and went west on Francis.

It turned north on Market travelling in the southbound lanes. Deputy Daryl Smith positioned “Stop Sticks” at Market and Freya, and the Honda ran over them with all four tires, but continued northbound at high speed.

The pursuit was terminated and all the involved deputies discontinued the chase. Minutes later, they began searching for the car to ensure it had not crashed due to the flattened tires.

They found the car abandoned and unoccupied near Mt. Spokane-Park Drive and Market. An SPD K-9 unit attempted a track of the driver, but was unsuccessful.

Running the license plate, the deputies learned that the car had been purchased Bryce Kottke who lives in the 17800 block of N. Michael Drive in Colbert. Familiar with Kottke, Deputy Marc Melville went to the home and lurked in the shadows briefly before seeing the suspect jump a fence from a neighbor's yard into his own.

He detained Kottke and noted that his shoes matched the footprints of the fleeing driver. The suspect also had Honda keys in his pockets that had an electric fob that opened the red Honda's doors.

Satake and Kusler arrested Kottke for Reckless Driving and Attempting to Elude a Police Vehicle and booked him into the Spokane County Jail. The Honda was impounded.

rdr