

High speed chase ends in arrest of two on multiple charges

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 23 May 2013 17:54 -



Deputy Dave Ridlen, left, and Police Officer Kyle Hansen gather information from brothers Boone and Kody Huff, who were handcuffed after their vehicle slid off the highway Sunday following a high-speed chase in southeast Imperial. (Imperial Republican photo)

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

In a heavy downpour Sunday afternoon, passers-by got an eye-full at the Highway 6/61 intersection at the east edge of Imperial.

Lying in the rain in handcuffs next to their overturned vehicle, two brothers were being arrested on multiple charges by local officers, and were eventually hauled off to the Chase County Jail.

A female, who was in the vehicle with her two young children, was also cited for possessing

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drug paraphernalia during the ordeal.

County Sheriff Kevin Mueller said the series of events started when his office received a report of a suspicious vehicle in rural Chase County early Sunday afternoon.

In Imperial shortly after 2 p.m., Deputy Dave Ridlen spotted what he believed to be the vehicle, a white 2001 Chevy Blazer, and began to follow it to get a license plate number, Mueller said.

Apparently seeing he was being followed, Boone Huff, 22, the driver, ran a stop sign at the 5th and Park Sts. intersection, then headed east on 5th Street at a high rate of speed.

Ridlen initiated chase, following the Blazer on East 5th, where Huff ran the stop sign at the Highway 61 intersection, and turned south.

It was estimated Huff was traveling at 75 m.p.h. Ridlen turned on his cruiser lights in an attempt to pull the vehicle over and called in for assistance. Another deputy, Justin Mueller, and Imperial Police Officers Kyle Hansen and Spencer Rowley responded.

At the junction near Bart's Corner, the vehicle had moved into the north-bound lane, apparently trying to cut across that corner, Mueller said.

There, he lost control of the vehicle, Mueller said, then it turned onto its side, sliding sideways several feet coming to a stop in the ditch south of Bart's Corner.

On orders from the law officers, the three adults climbed out on their own from the Blazer, and the two men were arrested.

Huff, who did not have a license on him at the time, was charged with flight to avoid arrest, child

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endangerment, no operator's license, possession of drug paraphernalia and stop sign violation.

His brother, Kody Huff, 25, was a front seat passenger whose license had a Sterling, Colo. address.

Mueller said Kody Huff was charged with obstruction of a police officer and possession of drug paraphernalia.

It was discovered that Kody Huff was also wanted on a Chase County warrant for failure to appear on a DUI charge more than a year ago, Mueller added.

The female in the back seat, Brenna Hernandez, 23, was detained for a time, then cited for possession of drug paraphernalia. She and the two children were taken by ambulance to Chase County Community Hospital for examination, with no injuries reported, Mueller said.

Passers-by assisted with the children as the adults were questioned, Mueller added.

The Blazer was registered to Hernandez and had a Spearville, Kan., address.

The Huffs indicated they were living here, Mueller said, and gave a rural Enders address as their home. Their mother reportedly lives in the area, he said.

Bond of \$10,000 was set for Boone Huff. For his brother, bond was set at \$5,000 for the recent charges with another \$7,000 bond for the Chase County failure-to-appear warrant.

Boone Huff was expected to face arraignment Wednesday this week, and remains in jail.

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Mueller said Kody Huff bonded out on Tuesday by posting 10 percent of his bond, and will face arraignment in early June.

The Imperial EMS had two ambulances at the scene. The Imperial Volunteer Fire Department was also called for possible jaws of life use and helped with traffic control.