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Drivers try eluding police

Ukiah Daily Journal Staff

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Drivers led authorities on two separate high-speed chases that culminated in arrests Thursday night, according to Sgt. Braden Moffett of the California Highway Patrol.

The first began at 5:50 p.m., when a CHP officer responded to a report of a horse in the road at Lake Mendocino Drive and East Side Calpella Road. A store owner there reported that a possibly intoxicated man in a red pickup had just pulled out of the parking lot.

An officer spotted the driver, identified as Robert Patrick Vosgrau, 57, of Santa Rosa, on North State Street at Carousel Lane and tried to stop him. Vosgrau did a U-turn and sped away headed south on North State Street, according to Moffett.

The driver turned east on Parducci Road, then did another U-turn at Aldo Lane and headed back to North State Street, where he allegedly ran a stop sign and turned south, according to Moffett.

Vosgrau allegedly ran a red light at Lake Mendocino Drive, where he turned west and continued at speeds up to 70 mph, according to Moffett. The driver stopped at a mobile home park in the 800 block of Lake Mendocino Drive, got out of the truck and ran toward the officer with his fists clenched, Moffett said. The officer took him to the ground and handcuffed him. There were no injuries, according to Moffett.

Vosgrau was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence, evading arrest and violating his parole.

The same day, at 7:30 p.m., a CHP officer caught on radar a motorcycle rider, identified

as Randy Hughes Raney, 52, of Ukiah, headed west at 73 mph on Highway 20 near Potter Valley, where the speed limit is 55 mph, according to Moffett.

The rider allegedly accelerated when the officer turned on his overhead lights, reaching 85 mph, according to Moffett, then slowed when traffic pulled over for the officer near the Redwood Valley exit.

Raney then allegedly sped away onto the Redwood Valley exit and headed south on East Side Calpella Road. Raney turned on Milani Drive and followed its right-angle bend back to East Side Calpella Road. He crossed a private driveway and a front yard, then backtracked north on East Side Calpella Road at speeds between 55 and 60 mph, according to Moffett.

Raney lost control of the motorcycle and laid it on its right side near Marina Drive, injuring his right knee and hand, according to Moffett. He said Raney refused medical aid and was taken by CHP to Ukiah Valley Medical Center and treated for the wounds.

Raney was arrested on suspicion of evading arrest and driving with a suspended license.

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