

## Authorities pursue stolen pickup through downtown Lakeport

Contributed by Harold LaBonte and Elizabeth Larson  
Wednesday, 11 June 2008  
Last Updated Wednesday, 11 June 2008

THIS STORY HAS BEEN UPDATED REGARDING OWNERSHIP OF THE PICKUP.

LAKEPORT &ndash; Officials were searching for a subject who led the California Highway Patrol, Lakeport Police and sheriff's deputies on a high-speed chase through downtown Lakeport Tuesday night.

The chase reached speeds of as high as 120 miles per hour, according to a CHP officer at the scene.

It ended on Martin Street when a woman and at least one other person &ndash; possibly another female &ndash; ditched a stolen pickup truck they were driving.

At about 9:30 p.m. the CHP was in pursuit of the woman on Highway 29 heading northbound toward Upper Lake. The pickup was speeding, which the CHP reported was the reason for trying to pull it over initially.

The woman reportedly was driving a late model white Dodge Ram pickup that had a First Choice Abbey Carpet sign on it, but did not belong to that company. CHP reported the vehicle was stolen out of Napa, and had license plates stolen out of Vallejo.

The pursuing CHP officer at one point reported objects were being thrown from the vehicle, and that the driver appeared to be preparing to veer into oncoming traffic on the highway. The officer put a request out to other law enforcement in the area to attempt to find the items thrown on the highway.

The pickup then got off of the highway and onto Park Way, and headed back into Lakeport along Lakeshore Boulevard. A call was put out for spike strips to be put out on Lakeshore at Rainbow, but the pursuit moved through the area too quickly.

The high-speed pursuit continued through downtown Lakeport and along Main Street, with Lakeport Police and Lake County Sheriff's deputies joining CHP in the attempt to stop the vehicle.

The chase ended on Martin Street near the car wash, where the pickup was abandoned and the pickup's occupants escaped on foot, officials reported.

The pickup was left with both front doors open, and had nearly hit a tree at the corner of Martin and Forbes, but was undamaged.

Officials were examining at least three women's handbags found in the pickup.

CHP was joined by Lakeport Police and Lake County Sheriff's deputies, who continued looking for the suspects late into the night.

E-mail Elizabeth Larson at [el Larson@lakeconews.com](mailto:el Larson@lakeconews.com).

{mos\_sb\_discuss:2}