

OREGON IN BRIEF

From wire reports

Wildlife authorities plan to kill cougar near Bend

BEND — Wildlife authorities say they’re planning to kill a mountain lion that’s been deemed a threat to public safety in Bend.

The Bend Bulletin reports cougar activity has been reported five times near homes and businesses in southwest Bend since February. The Department of Fish and Wildlife said that in the last two weeks, a cougar was spotted along a canal near a Fred Meyer store, and a deer kill was discovered along the Deschutes River canyon.

That’s worrisome, especially after a hiker was mauled to death in the Mt. Hood National Forest in September.

Department spokeswoman Michelle Dennehy said authorities hoped the cougar would have moved on by now. The department says it’s clear the cougar is hunting in the area and comfortable around humans, and the longer it stays the more likely an attack on people becomes.

Small earthquake hits Oregon’s Pacific coast; no damage

ROSE LODGE — The U.S. Geological Survey said a magnitude 3.7 earthquake hit along Oregon’s Pacific coast.

The agency said the earthquake struck a spot 1.3 miles southwest of Rose Lodge, a town of about 1,900 people, at 9:23 a.m. Sunday. The earthquake had a depth of 29 miles.

The Oregonian/OregonLive.com reported that minor shaking was detected along the coast from Waldport to Cloverdale, with scattered reports further inland. No damage was reported.

Woman stops to check skid marks, finds badly injured man

PORTLAND — An Oregon woman likely saved a man’s life when she stopped to investigate skid marks on a mountain road and spotted an SUV crashed below, emergency responders said.

Laurie Bowers of Happy Camp on Saturday morning stopped to look over a cliff on Grayback Road, a circuitous route in the Siskiyou Mountains of southwest Oregon. Bowers spotted a red Jeep about 50 feet below, The Oregonian/OregonLive reported.

A single tree held the SUV from sliding down a roughly 40-degree slope, said Ned Booth, public information officer at the Illinois Valley Fire District. The vehicle otherwise likely would have plunged another 1,000 feet, Booth said.

“It’s a good thing she was traveling by,” Booth said.

Emergency responders found the driver suffering from hypothermia. He had a badly fractured leg and internal bleeding. He was airlifted to Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center in Medford.

The extraction of the driver on the steep mountainside was perilous, Booth said.

The driver’s name has not yet been released. Booth said the man was in his 30s or early 40s.

The driver told rescuers he crashed at around 2 a.m.

Saturday. Rescuers were dispatched shortly after 10 a.m.

Search and rescue crews often take some time to reach rural parts of the Siskiyou Mountains. However, a team of paramedics and rescue personnel were conducting a routine exercise in Cave Junction and were able to respond quickly, Booth said.

“Everything just worked out real nice,” he said.

Two Portland police officers, driver, injured in crash

PORTLAND — Two Portland police officers were treated for injuries after a vehicle crashed into their patrol car and pushed it into them.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reported the crash occurred at around 2:30 a.m. Sunday.

The officers were responding to an assault.

They were outside their patrol car on Southeast McLoughlin Boulevard when a vehicle traveling north struck their patrol car.

The impact sent the patrol vehicle into both officers.

The officers and the driver were taken to a hospital. Police describe their injuries as non-life threatening.

At least two injured in shooting at southeast Portland venue

PORTLAND — Police in Portland say at least two people were shot at an event venue in southeast Portland.

KOIN-television reported police took a call on the shooting shortly after 12:30 a.m. Sunday in the 200 block of southeast Madison Street.

Emergency responders found two people wounded and rushed them by ambulance to hospitals.

Police said others may have been hurt.

Witnesses told officers others may have been taken to hospitals in private cars.

Names of the injured were not immediately available.

Police did not release suspect information immedi-

ately but asked witnesses to call them.

Woman gets three years for giving infant nearly fatal methadone dose

CORVALLIS — An Albany woman arrested for giving her infant a nearly fatal dose of methadone has been sentenced to more than three years in prison.

The Gazette-Times reported 34-year-old Magan McDermott was sentenced in Benton County Circuit Court Friday.

McDermott pleaded guilty to charges of causing another to ingest a controlled substance and assault in the third degree.

As part of a plea deal, prosecutors dropped charges of delivery of methadone to a minor and applying a schedule I/II controlled substance to the body of a minor.

Prosecutor Matt Ipson said McDermott in November gave her 4-month-old boy methadone to get him to sleep but that the baby

stopped breathing.

Ipson said McDermott fled from the home before first responders arrived but texted

her sister who told first responders about the methadone. He was treated and taken to a children’s hospital.

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