

Speeding motorcyclist caught, charged with meth possession

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A high speed chase on Wednesday, March 18, in Scottsburg and Scott County ended with the arrest of a motorcyclist in eastern Washington County on drug and other charges.

Scottsburg Police Department Patrolman Steven Herald was contacted by dispatchers who had received a report from a motorist on Interstate 65 that a motorcyclist had wrecked on the highway. The motorist said the cyclist got back on his bike and headed south toward the Scottsburg exit.

Ptl. Herald went to the Scottsburg interchange and said he saw a motorcycle matching the description he had received. He said the cycle crossed the center line twice and then took the westbound Scottsburg exit sharply.

He stopped the motorcycle, but as soon as he had gotten out of his patrol car, the cyclist took off west on State Road 56. The vehicle did not stop for the traffic light at S.R. 56 and Lake Road but rather continued on at a high rate of speed, estimated in excess of 90 miles per hour. The motorcycle also passed a truck in a no passing zone, the officer stated.

He followed in his patrol car, observing the bike turn onto the property of Temple Baptist Church, which is just west of the Scott/Washington County line. The motorcycle went between the church and a residence, but Ptl. Herald was able to cut off the cycle. The rider then "dropped" the motorcycle. He ran from the bike after Ptl. Herald said he saw the man removed an item from the cycle's saddle bag.

Patrolman Trevis Burr and Ptl. Herald captured the suspect in a woods. Ten feet from where the officers had stopped the man, identified as Sonny Hoskins, 43, Charlestown, they said they found a black leather bag that contained a prescription bottle with three types of pills in it. The medication included Alprazolam, Promethazine and Cardiprodol, all controlled substances.

Additionally, the officers reported that they recovered eight baggies, all of which field tested positively for methamphetamine (meth). Seven of the baggies weighed over .5 grams while the eighth contained residue from the same illegal substance. Total weight of the meth was listed at 4.5 grams.

Hoskins also allegedly had in his possession four glass pipes, a spoon, a straw, an empty syringe and 50 empty baggies. The material is considered drug paraphernalia.

Hoskins was transported to the Scott County Security Center in Scottsburg.

On March 19, he appeared in Scott Circuit Court before Judge Roger Duvall for an initial hearing. His charges include a Class A felony count of possession of methamphetamine, a Class C felony charge of possession of meth and Class D felonies of possession of a controlled substance, possession of a legend drug and fleeing law enforcement. Misdemeanor charges included possession of paraphernalia and reckless driving.

Bail was set at \$75,000 corporate surety or full cash.

Following his not guilty plea, Hoskins was assigned a jury trial date of August 3. He has been provided with the services of a public defender.