

Brian Sandoval
Governor



February 7, 2011

Gail Powell
Public Information Officer
Nevada Department of Public Safety
gpowell@dps.state.nv.us
775-687-0325

Media Release

Troopers Make Several Arrests over Super Bowl Weekend

Troopers from the Nevada Highway Patrol-Northern Command arrested 32 people in the Reno-Sparks area this past weekend. From approximately 6:00 pm Friday evening through 6:00 am this morning, 15 motorists were arrested for DUI, another 9 were taken into custody for active warrants and 8 others were booked for traffic-related offenses such as driving with a suspended or revoked driver's license to reckless driving.

One of the events that happened over the weekend involved two teenagers who were involved a speeding contest on US 395 that resulted in one of those vehicles to crash. At approximately 5:10 pm yesterday afternoon, our agency began receiving several phone calls concerning two vehicles racing southbound and driving recklessly on US 395, near the Golden Valley interchange. Soon after troopers were alerted to the call, which detailed the descriptions of both involved vehicles, we were further updated that one of the speeding cars had crashed into a section of guardrail bordering the south bound travel lanes near the Panther Valley interchange.

18-year-old Adam J. Swank of Reno told troopers that the hood of his black Mitsubishi sedan became unlatched and flipped upward obscuring his view. He applied the brakes and subsequently crashed into a section of guardrail bordering the freeway. He was not injured. Several witnesses to the crash who had stopped to render aid stated that Swank had tossed a beer bottle out of his car after crashing and a second unopened bottle of beer was located inside his vehicle. Swank also had not registered his car after acquiring it in December. He was placed under arrest for those charges which included reckless driving. The driver of the vehicle he was racing briefly stopped to check on Swank and then fled the crash scene as witnesses were continuing to provide location updates. An officer from the Reno Police Department spotted the vehicle on Oddie Blvd near Sutro Street and detained the driver. That driver was identified as 18-year-old Reno resident Brian C. Sewell. Sewell was arrested by our agency and charged with reckless driving and also taken to jail.

In a separate event around 5:37 this morning, troopers were dispatched to a call involving a wrong-way vehicle on Interstate 80 near the E. McCarran interchange. It all started when 21-year-old Christa L. Casci of Carson City had attempted to enter Interstate 80 by using the westbound off ramp that connects the freeway to E. McCarran Blvd. She had driven up the off ramp the wrong way and stopped her BMW coupe near the west bound travel lanes of the Interstate. An officer from the Sparks Police Department who was traveling westbound near the interchange stopped his patrol vehicle and made contact with the driver just prior to our arrival. Casci was found sleeping behind the steering wheel with the vehicle running, and in gear, with her foot on the brake pedal.

Casci displayed signs of drug use and she subsequently failed all field sobriety tests. Several hypodermic needles and other paraphernalia, to include a small balloon filled with a brown liquid substance consistent with heroine use, were located in her purse. She was transported to the Washoe County jail and booked on the following charges:

- DUI Drugs
- Disobey highway signs (wrong-way on freeway)
- Possession of controlled substance-heroin-personal use
- Being under the influence of a controlled substance
- Possession of drug paraphernalia

XXX