Afternoon Chase Leads to Arrest—

During the early afternoon hours on Monday, an Owatonna officer was conducting a traffic detail near the intersection of Richway Lane and Sunlight Avenue. The officer observed a vehicle pass his location being driven by a male party known to have a revoked driver's license. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle, but it sped off at a high rate of speed and failed to stop for a stop sign. The officer pursued the vehicle to 18th Street SW and Truman Avenue where the vehicle came to a stop—the driver and two occupants were taken into custody. While searching the vehicle, officers found a pipe that tested positive for methamphetamine and a Tupperware container of marijuana. The arresting officer also noted the driver appeared impaired and admitted to recent methamphetamine use. The driver, Mark K. Buskovick, age 39, was arrested and brought to the Steele County Jail. Buskovick was later formally charged in District Court with several charges, including, Fleeing in a Motor Vehicle, 4th Degree DWI—Operating Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance, Driving After Revocation and Failure to Stop for a Stop Sign.

Abducted Child Located in Owatonna—

On Sunday, March 9th at approximately 3:00 PM, the Owatonna Police Department received information from the Scott County Sheriff's Office that the suspect in a reported child abduction case was believed to be traveling in the Owatonna—Steele County area. Owatonna officers, along with Steele County sheriff deputies and the Minnesota State Patrol began checking the area for the suspect vehicle. During the search, an Owatonna officer located the suspect vehicle traveling on County Road 45 and South Cedar Avenue as it entered the city. A traffic stop was made shortly thereafter in a residential area of Owatonna. The suspect was taken into custody without incident and held for the Scott County Sheriff's Office. The child was taken into protective custody and released to Scott County investigators.

Two Wild Rides Result in Ride to Jail—

On Tuesday morning at approximately 5:41 AM, Owatonna officers were called to the area of Bridge Street and Franklin Avenue for the report of a vehicle that struck a house. Responding officers located the crash and noted the involved vehicle was the same one as found in the I-35 median approximately 20 minutes earlier. At that time, the driver showed no signs of impairment; his vehicle was towed from the median and the driver released. When officer had contact with the driver the second time, they observed him reaching under the seat and found cans of compressed air in the passenger compartment. The driver himself showed signs of disorientation and was slow to react to questions. Paramedics who responded to the scene indicated the driver was consistent with huffing (breathing in) the compressed air. The driver was arrested for DWI—Under the Influence of a Hazardous Substance. In a later interview, the driver admitted to huffing the compressed air after work. Eric C. Berg, age 26, was formally charged with 2nd Degree DWI and Careless Driving.