Suspect At-large After Pursuit—

During the early morning hours on November 11th, our officers responded to the Owatonna Hometown Credit Union for an ATM alarm. When the first officers arrived on scene, he observed that the drive-up ATM machine had been tipped on its side. He also observed tire tracks in the grass leading him to believe that a vehicle had been used to pull the ATM from the base. While the first responding officer was in route to the alarm, he observed a lone vehicle in the area. He radioed that information to another officer who met the vehicle—a Dodge pickup on Bridge Street. The officer followed the pickup northbound on the interstate awaiting a backup car to assist him with a traffic stop. The pickup was followed to Medford before a Steele County Sheriff’s Deputy arrived to assist. The pickup took the Medford exit and accelerated rapidly away from the officers through the City of Medford and then north on County Rd 45—at one point it was estimated the fleeing vehicle was traveling in excess of 120 miles per hour. North of Medford, the pickup turned onto a gravel road and because of dust being kicked up, the officers lost sight of it and the pursuit ended. Though the pickup hasn’t been recovered, it was learned to be stolen from Winona. This case remains under investigation.

Things Aren’t Always as They Seem—

The 1200 block of N. Elm Ave. was the scene of a one vehicle crash on Tuesday morning. When officers arrived, they found two apparent females pushing a truck that had hit a utility pole. An officer made contact with the females and much to his surprise, learned one of the females was actually a male dressed as a female. When he tried identifying the male, he was given some name that did not match the spelling—the male was also confused as to whether he was 27 or 31 years old. The other dressed female was asked the male’s name and she provided another name—his real name. It was learned the male was wanted on Olmsted and Mower County warrants and was placed under arrest. At the time of his arrest, the male was carrying a pink purse—a search of the purse revealed a number of loose pills identified as Trazadone, a Schedule IV controlled substance. Justin T. Hoag, age 29, was formally charged with Providing a False Name to a Police Officer—a misdemeanor and 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substances. The driver of the vehicle, Sonia V. Macias, age 38, was charged by citation with Careless Driving.

Suspected Car Prowler Arrested—

On November 22nd in the early evening hours, our officers were called to the 500 block of 24th Street NE for the report of two males breaking into a vehicle. As an officer arrived, he observed a male partially inside the back seat of a car parked on the street and another standing beside the vehicle. As the officer approached, he observed the vehicle window had been broken out. The officer identified the male inside as Jordan Lindeman and knew he had an active warrant for his arrest—he was placed under arrest without incident. In an interview, Lindeman admitted to using a wrench to break the window on the car because he wanted some property that was stolen from him. This case remains under investigation.

In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, police records and administration will be closed on Thursday, November 26th & Friday, November 27th. Regular & emergency police services will continue during the holiday.