

Police Pursuit Suspect Popped In Powhattan

(KNZA)--A Holton man is in custody, arrested around 24-hours after authorities say he was involved in a Wednesday evening police pursuit west of Holton.

Jackson County Sheriff Tim Morse identifies the suspect as 19-year-old Taft Merriman, who was arrested around 9:00 Thursday night in the Brown County community of Powhattan.

It was there Brown County authorities spotted him as a passenger in a vehicle. A traffic stop was made and Merriman was arrested.

Morse says the pursuit that led to his arrest began around 9:00 Wednesday night when Merriman failed to stop for a traffic infraction on K. Road, south of K-16. Instead he fled west on 222nd Road to I. Road where Jackson County authorities called off the pursuit due to extreme dusty road conditions.

The search continued with the assistance of Potawatomi Tribal Police and a Kansas Highway Patrol helicopter. That investigation later led authorities to learn Merriman was staying in Powhattan, and to his arrest, which was assisted by the Kickapoo Tribal Police Department.

Merriman was booked into the Jackson County Jail on charges including felony fleeing and eluding a law enforcement officer, reckless driving, driving while suspended, possession of methamphetamine, possession of drug paraphernalia, and trafficking contraband into a correctional facility.

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