



Contact: Lt. T.H. Coleman
Telephone: (919) 554-6156
Email: tcoleman@wakeforestnc.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIGH SPEED CHASE LEADS TO ARREST

WAKE FOREST, NC – February 9, 2009 – A 27-year-old Durham woman is expected to make her first court appearance today following an early-morning high-speed chase that ended when police used stop sticks to puncture her tires.

The chase started when April Rene Pleasants, who was driving with a revoked driver's license, attempted to avoid a driver's license checkpoint along Wait Avenue near the entrance to Bishop's Grant. The 45-minute pursuit hit speeds of 90 miles per hour as Pleasants and officers traveled through Wake Forest and Rolesville before stopping in Nash County.

No one was injured in the chase, including Pleasants' four-year-old son who police discovered securely fastened in a rear passenger child safety seat once the pursuit had ended.

Pleasants was arrested and charged with felony speeding to elude arrest, speeding, driving while license revoked, careless and reckless driving, and child abuse.



The incident began at 1:55 am Monday when Wake Forest Police saw Pleasants stop abruptly in the east-bound travel lane, turn around, and begin traveling west of the driver's license checkpoint to avoid entering the screening area. Pleasants' action was a traffic violation, so police began to pursue her 1995 Nissan Maxima unaware that the child was a passenger in the vehicle.

Pleasants failed to yield for police flashing lights and sirens, which resulted in the 45-minute pursuit through portions of Wake, Franklin and Nash Counties and a request for assistance from the Rolesville Police Department and the Nash County Sheriff's Department.

Following the incident, Pleasants' mother arrived at the Wake Forest Police Department to pick up and care for the child. Wake County Social Services will be contacted on Monday as a result of the child abuse charge.

Pleasants is being held at the Wake County Public Safety Center under \$10,000 secured bond.

The Wake Forest Police Department is not releasing any additional information at this time.

###

For more information on the [Town of Wake Forest](#), contact Public Information Officer [Bill Crabtree](#) at (919) 554-6196.