

Two charged following Avalon burglary spree



Schlachter

BY MAEGEN SWEAT
FOR THE CHRONICLE

Donovan John Schlachter, 19, of 4800 Block of Southgate Parkway, has been charged with six counts of breaking into a motor vehicle, one count of grand larceny over \$5,000 and

one count of petty larceny, according to arrest warrants.

A second person was also arrested, but that person's identity is being withheld because the suspect is a juvenile.

The arrests come following a string of break-ins that occurred between May 1 and May

2, according to warrants, and police reports obtained by the Carolina Forest Chronicle.

According to warrants, the suspect confessed to breaking into all of the vehicles that night and stealing items.

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Avalon: Security officer helped apprehend burglary suspect

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During the same night a 2005 Dodge Durango was stolen from 7004 Birnamwood Ct., near where all of the other breaking and enterings occurred.

The vehicle was recovered on River Oaks Drive and found flipped upside down. The suspect told a jail official that he was involved in taking the vehicle, the warrant said.

Other items stolen during the break-ins include: a GPS, sunglasses, iPods, cash, radar detectors, one credit card and binoculars. Schlachter was also driving under a suspended license and was in possession of marijuana.

Two other charges occurred around May 11, according to warrants.

Schlachter was charged with stealing a 32 caliber Keltic pistol that the warrant said was recovered at his residence.

The warrant also said the suspect stole a surveillance camera from the Walkers Woods clubhouse. He was identified on the camera before he was able to cut the wires, the warrant said.

According to online jail records, Schlachter's bond has been set at \$41,720 for all charges. He remained jailed as of press time, records show.

The recent arrest isn't Schlachter's only brush with the law.

On Oct. 27, 2009, Schlachter was charged with damaging or tamper-



COURTESY PHOTO

Avalon HOA president Ed Stapleton (not pictured) credits Lt. Mike Wear with Excalibur Security (above) with helping to lead police to a suspect from a recent string of burglaries and automobile break-ins.

hBreakingNews

The Carolina Forest Chronicle broke this story online May 25 at 12:20 p.m. Visit the Chronicle's website at www.thecarolinaforestchronicle.com.

ing with a vehicle, jail records show.

Ed Stapleton, president of the Avalon HOA, says the arrest was made with help from Excalibur Security, the subdivision's hired security force.

"The Excalibur Security is the one that developed true community policing, who the suspects were and were able to coordinate

with the police who were able to make the arrest," Stapleton said. "The real credit should go to Lt. Mike Wear. Through community policing he was able to come up with names and descriptions of the suspects.

Stapleton said residents in the Avalon community were very concerned with the break-ins. "You're talk-

ing about a dozen break-ins that occurred around 4 a.m. in an hour or so period. People didn't know if it was a theft ring or if the crimes were committed by professionals."

Stapleton said the break-ins were originally thought to have been committed with Slim Jim wrappers, however that was not the case after all.

"They were just going around looking for open car doors," Stapleton said.

The majority of the items stolen were recovered and have been returned to the rightful owners.