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THE FOREST STANDARD, WE
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STOLEN CAR RECOVERED

Police chase leads car to camp property

Police are investigating the latest incident of criminal activity with a tie to occupants in the former Camp Ipperwash.

A police chase early Saturday morning, that involved speeds of up to 130 kilometres per hour, resulted in a stolen car being found at the former army base several hours later.

Officers from the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Police along with North Lambton OPP undertook the 10 minute pursuit after a car was spotted driving "in an erratic manner" at Kettle and Stony Point about 3 a.m.

Police laid a spike belt along Army Camp Road to slow the vehicle down, but it kept on driving, eventually entering the base with two flat tires. Police pursuit was terminated when the car entered the former base.

The car, a 1986 Olds Calais, was reported stolen from Samia. At 9 a.m. Saturday the vehicle was at the entrance of Camp Ipperwash, after

being returned with the assistance of some of the camp occupants.

While the car was found, there was no indication of who the perpetrator or perpetrators were.

Kettle and Stony Point Chief Miles Bressette said his department is still investigating the incident along with North Lambton OPP.

While the base remains the responsibility of the OPP until it changes back to First Nation control, he said the Kettle and Stony Point police are involved since the chase began on the reserve.

He said it was lucky the chase happened early in the morning, given the

high speeds involved. With the early hour of the chase, he said officers in pursuit were unable to tell how many occupants were in the car due to the darkness.

Saturday's occurrence is the latest in a list of controversial criminal activity associated with the former army base. OPP, seeking to avoid a confrontation similar to last fall outside Ipperwash Provincial Park, have orders from up top not to enter the base unless there's a life or death situation. That policy has angered local residents who feel the status of the camp allows individuals to commit crimes with impunity, by escaping back into the property.