

Police arrest girlfriend of hit-and-run suspect

A tip led to the arrest Wednesday of the girlfriend of a man charged in the hit-and-run death of a bicyclist Sept. 8 in Puyallup.

Christina Ripple, 20, is believed to have helped her boyfriend, Blair Jensen, hide from police before he turned himself in, Puyallup police Lt. Dave McDonald said.

Jensen is charged with vehicular homicide and failure to remain at the scene of an accident in the death of John "Chip" McRae III.

McRae, 51, was cycling with a friend along East Main Avenue when he was struck and killed by a silver Cadillac STS. Jensen owns the Cadillac that struck McRae, police said.

Police issued a bulletin looking for Jensen and Ripple shortly after the incident occurred. Jensen turned himself in to police Friday.

A tipster told police Ripple was seen at an apartment complex in Puyallup. Officers didn't find her there, but spotted her in a car a few minutes later, McDonald said. Police conducted a traffic stop and arrested Ripple.

She wasn't in her own car and wasn't driving.

Ripple was arrested on a Pierce County Superior Court warrant for rendering criminal assistance in the first-degree.

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