BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
MEDIA RELEASE

JERRY W. SMITH
SHERIFF-CORONER

DATE	**:**	**11/24/10**
RELEASED BY	**:**	**Sergeant Greg Reeves**
CONTACT #	**:**	**(530)538-7321**

On 11/24/10, about 3:30 am, deputies responded to an address on East Lassen Avenue, in Chico, as a result of a resident's phone call to investigate a prowling and possible attempted burglary. Deputies Aaron Staup and Brian Laginja arrested Michael Wemus, DOB, 4/10/76, at gunpoint for prowling, brandishing a knife, assault and battery and possession of prescription medications without a prescription. The resident and victim called the Butte County Sheriff's Office after fighting with the suspect, later identified as Michael Wemus, in his own back yard. The resident said that he was sitting inside his home when he heard someone trying to open the front door, and then try to open each window in succession around the house until he reached the sliding glass door at the back of the house. The resident approached the sliding glass door from inside the house and turned on the light in the back yard and saw Wemus attempt to hide. When the resident confronted Wemus a fight ensued. Wemus pulled a knife out and the two struggled briefly over the knife. Wemus escaped from the resident and fled. No one was injured in this incident. The responding deputies found Wemus walking on East Lassen Avenue near the residence within minutes of the crime having occurred. Michael Wemus will be held in the Butte County Jail on $19,000 bail. If you have any further information regarding this crime, please contact Sergeant Greg Reeves or the watch commander at (530) 538-7321 or 891-2711.