

***By Russ Pankonin***

***The Imperial Republican***

A rural Champion man was arrested Sunday, April 28, for being in possession of a trailer that had been reported stolen.

Daniel Schilke, 41, was taken into custody by the Imperial Police Department (IPD) and remains in the Chase County jail on a \$50,000 bond.

He is being charged with possession of stolen property, a Class 3 felony.

Sheriff Kevin Mueller said Noble Energy reported on April 19 that a 2008 Hillsboro gooseneck trailer, a 2000 Case backhoe on the trailer and some pipe had been taken from a site near Lamar. Total value of the items was just shy of \$40,000.

On Sunday, a Noble employee saw a trailer being pulled through Imperial that looked like the one they were missing.

He called the Chase County dispatcher, who notified the IPD right away. They stopped Schilke, who was pulling a trailer behind his pickup.

Mueller said the VIN numbers on the trailer had been ground off but they found other identifying numbers that proved the trailer belonged to Noble Energy.

Mueller said the backhoe and pipe has not yet been recovered.