



“Hell yeah it's fast”:

Motorized lounge chair set for auction

A small town police department in Minnesota will put a motorized lounge chair up for auction next week after it was seized in a drunk driving incident.

The black and blue leather lounge chair comes complete with stereo, footrest, cup-holders, headlights, a nitrous oxide power boost system, drag racing-style steering wheel and a parachute.

Built on top of a riding lawnmower engine, the chair is decorated with stickers proclaiming “hell yeah it's fast” and “I smoked your (expletive),” and can get up to speeds of around 24 kmph.

It was seized on Aug. 31, 2008 after Dennis LeRoy Anderson, 62, smashed it into a parked car on his way back from a local bar in Proctor, Minnesota.

Anderson told police the only reason he hit the car was because a girl jumped up on the chair.

“We cannot confirm or deny the story,” police chief Walter Wobig told AFP.

“The bottom line is it doesn't get him off

driving while **intoxicated.**”

Anderson, who Wobig called “a very nice guy,” had a blood alcohol level of 0.29 — more than three times the legal limit. And it wasn't his first drunk driving arrest.

State law allows police to seize vehicles in drunk driving cases and either use them for official use or sell them once a **conviction** is obtained.

Wobig, who had seen Anderson driving the chair around town for a year or two prior to his arrest, decided it was only fair to treat the chair the same way he would treat a Corvette.

So he stuck it in his garage while Anderson's case made its way through the courts.

Anderson pleaded guilty and the paperwork to transfer **ownership** to the police department should be completed soon, said Wobig, who plans to list the chair on eBay.

He's not going to set a reserve price and won't even hazard a guess at what the chair will bring in for his department. (AFP)

Left and below: Undated photos of a motorized La-Z-Boy lounge chair seized by police following a drunk driving incident in Proctor, Minnesota.

PHOTOS: AP/PROCTOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Left inset: An undated photo provided by the Proctor Police Department via the *Duluth News Tribune*, shows Dennis Anderson, who pleaded guilty to driving his motorized La-Z-Boy chair while drunk.

PHOTO: AFP/PROCTOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

左圖及下圖：這些日期不明的照片中，是明尼蘇達州普羅克托一起酒駕事件後，警方所扣押的La-Z-Boy電動休閒椅。

照片：美聯社／普羅克托警察局

左嵌圖：普羅克托警察局提供給《德盧斯論壇報》的未註明日期照片中，是坦承酒駕La-Z-Boy電動休閒椅的丹尼斯·安德森。

照片：法新社／普羅克托警察局

電動休閒椅將拍賣

明尼蘇達州某小鎮警局下週將拍賣一張電動休閒椅，這張休閒椅因物主酒駕而遭警方扣押。

這張藍黑相間的休閒皮椅配備了立體音響、置腳踏板、杯架、頭燈、氧化亞氮動力輔助系統、拉桿式賽車方向盤和一副降落傘。

裝設在可坐式除草機上的這張椅子，椅身貼有寫著：「快到見鬼啦」和「我吸你的XX」的貼紙，其時速能高達每小時二十四公里左右。

二〇〇八年八月三十一日在明尼蘇達州普羅克托，六十二歲的丹尼斯·理洛伊·安德森駕著它從酒吧回家的路上，撞上停在路邊的一輛車，警方隨後扣押了這張椅子。

安德森對警方表示，他之所以撞上那輛車，是因為一位女子突然跳上椅子。

警局局長華特·沃畢格對法新社表示：「對於事發經過，我們不置可否。」

「重點是，這個理由也無法為他酒駕的事實

脫罪。」

沃畢格形容安德森是一個「非常好的人」，當時他血液中的酒精濃度達0.29，是法定標準的三倍之多。而且這並非他第一次酒駕被捕。

該州法律賦予警方扣押酒駕車輛之權力，一旦駕駛被定罪，警方得將車輛移作公務車用或變賣。

安德森被捕前，沃畢格就看著他駕著這張椅子在市區趴趴走了一兩年；他認為，唯有以處理一台雪佛蘭跑車的標準來處理這張椅子才是公平的。

因此，在法院審理安德森的官司期間，他把這張椅子暫放在他家車庫。

沃畢格說，安德森在法庭上認罪，該物件所有權轉移給警方的書面作業應會在短時間內完成；他計畫將它放上eBay拍賣。

他將不設定底標，也不願猜測這張椅子會替警局帶來多少收益。(法新社／翻譯：袁星塵)

1. **intoxicated** /ɪn'tɒksə,ketɪd/ adj.

喝醉的 (he1 zui4 de5)

例：Recently there have been several high-profile cases of celebrities driving while intoxicated.

(最近有好幾起名人酒駕的案件受到社會高度關注。)

2. **conviction** /kən'vɪkʃən/ n.

定罪 (ding4 zui4)

例：Our client will appeal his conviction for fraud.

(我們的客戶將對他詐欺案的判決結果提出上訴。)

3. **ownership** /'ɒnəʃɪp/ n.

所有權 (suo2 you3 quan2)

例：The police are still trying to establish when Mr Lee took ownership of the vehicle.

(警方還在努力查證李先生是何時擁有這部車的所有權。)

