

Woman pleads to Burger King theft charges

BY CARRIE J. SIDENER
csidener@newsadvance.com
(434) 385-5539

A Madison Heights woman pleaded guilty Monday to embezzling thousands of dollars from a Lynchburg Burger King where she worked as a shift manager.

Mary Noel Smith could face up to 20 years in prison when she is sentenced in August.

Smith, a shift manager at the Boonsboro Road restaurant, was accused of stealing an estimated \$20,000 by daily overcharging customers and pocketing the difference over the course of a year and a half, said Lynchburg Deputy Commonwealth's Attorney Chuck Felmlee.

Management of the local Burger Kings reported the embezzlement in January after a review of their December records revealed thefts totaling \$4,341, Felmlee said. Further review showed thefts dating back to November 2007.

The investigation showed that Smith would ring up a phony refund and then give the money to herself, Felmlee said. Smith would also ring up a customer's order but wouldn't place the money in the cash register. If a customer made a \$5 purchase, Smith would ring it up as a \$2 purchase. Then if the customer paid with a \$10 bill, she would give \$5 in

See **THEFT**, Page A6