

Prineville man injured in Crook County crash

by Cheryl McDermott

A Prineville man was injured and transported to the hospital by AirLife this morning after his speeding car failed to negotiate a corner on SE Juniper Canyon Road about 20 miles southeast of Prineville, ran off the road and rolled twice, ejecting the driver.

The area marked "End" on the map above shows the approximate location of the single-vehicle crash that injured Samuel Christian Zurcher of Prineville Tuesday morning. Crook County Sheriff's deputies and Oregon State Police troopers responded to the accident scene about 9:45 a.m. May 15, reported Deputy Dave Dethman.

Investigation determined that a 1977 Trans Am driven by Samuel Christian Zurcher, 31, was observed traveling at a high rate of speed prior to the accident near milepost 11 on SE Juniper Canyon Road near SE Golden Eagle Drive, the deputy said.

Zurcher, the sole occupant of the vehicle, was found lying on the side of the road after having been ejected from the car as it rolled twice after crossing the oncoming lane of traffic on a curve. Emergency responders from Crook County Fire & Rescue transported the injured man to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Prineville, and he was later flown by Airlife to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend. The extent of his injuries was not readily available.

The accident is under investigation, Deputy Dethman said.

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