

Story originally printed in the Winona Daily News or online at www.winonadailynews.com

Published - Thursday, February 28, 2008

Winona man charged in drug-related car crash

By Kevin Behr | Winona Daily News

A Winona man was high on marijuana when he rolled his car in October, injuring two passengers, Winona County District Court documents allege.

Lonnie Alexander Sigmon, 22, was charged Tuesday

with two counts of gross misdemeanor criminal vehicular operation causing injury. Two of the charges claim he was driving negligently while under the influence of a controlled substance.

According to the criminal complaint and the police report, Sigmon was driving a Ford Explorer on East Burns Valley Road about a mile south of the Winona city limits on Oct. 1, 2007. He approached a curve going between 55 and 60 mph and began skidding sideways. The car slid into the ditch and rolled several times.

Winona County sheriff's deputies were called to the accident at 10:41 a.m. and found Sigmon with bloodshot eyes and could smell marijuana on him, the complaint states. Sigmon admitted to officers he had "smoked a bowl" of marijuana at about 9 a.m., that morning, according to the complaint.

Sigmon's passengers were transported to Community Memorial Hospital with minor injuries. A female passenger told officers Sigmon was driving recklessly and very fast.

Deputies arrested Sigmon, who was uninjured, and brought him to the hospital where he agreed to take a blood test. According to the complaint, the test came up positive for the presence of marijuana and cocaine.

Sigmon was later released and has been summoned to appear in court March 25.

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