

## Man hits tree, dies after cop pursuit

*May 13, 2007*

A man died in a single-car crash early Saturday while attempting to elude police north of Lincoln City, state police said.

The man, who has not been identified, crashed his 1989 Mercury Cougar into a tree along Little Nestucca River Road in Tillamook County about 1:30 a.m., said Oregon State Police Lt. Gregg Hastings. The lone occupant died at the scene.

—The crash ended a pursuit that started about 1:10 a.m. in Lincoln City. Police attempted to stop the Mercury's driver for a traffic violation, but he fled north on Highway 101 at a high rate of speed, Hastings said.

The vehicle continued north into Tillamook County until turning east onto Little Nestucca River Road, or Highway 130. Officers then lost sight of it. A Tillamook County deputy backtracked and discovered the Mercury off the road, crashed into a tree.

Oregon State Police are investigating.

-- Eunice Kim

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