

From the Tuesday, March 8, 2011 edition of the Kankakee Journal:

A University Park man has been charged with driving under the influence of cannabis in connection with a fatal auto crash Sunday. Velar Mayfield, 23, of 707 Wright Road, University Park, was charged with DUI/cannabis by the Will County Sheriff's Office on Monday, following further investigation. As for more serious charges being filed, "the case is still under review" by the office of State's Attorney James Glasgow, spokesman Chuck Pelkie said Monday. Sarah Shepard, 21, of Park Forest, and Cheyenne Cardosi, 21, of Cedar Lake, Ind., died as a result of the crash at 12:05 p.m. Sunday in the 3000 block of East Beems Road, southeast of Crete and near the state line. Mayfield was driving east on Bemes Road when he lost control of his vehicle on the icy road and hit a tree. Shepard was thrown from the vehicle and died at the scene. Cardosi died at St. Margaret's Hospital in Dyer, Ind. Mayfield was taken to St. James Hospital in Olympia Fields, where he was listed in good condition.

From the Monday, March 7, 2011 edition of the Chicago Tribune:

Two women die in Will County traffic accident Two women were killed Sunday afternoon in a traffic crash in south suburban Crete Township near the Illinois-Indiana border, authorities said. The one-vehicle crash occurred just after noon in the 3000 block of East Bemes Road, officials said. The two 21-year-old women were passengers in a vehicle traveling east on Bemes, when the driver apparently lost control and veered off the road, striking a tree, Will County sheriff's spokesman Ken Kaupas said. The Will County Coroner's Office said one woman was identified as Sarah C. Shepard, 21, of Park Forest. She was pronounced on the scene at 2 p.m. An autopsy is scheduled for Monday. The second woman, identified by the Lake County, Indiana coroner's office as Cheyenne Cardosi, was pronounced at St. Margaret Mercy Hospital in Dyer, Ind. Cardosi, of the 12600 block of Alexander Street in Cedar Lake, appeared to have suffered blunt force trauma in the accident, the coroner's office said. The driver, described as a man in his early 20s, was taken to St. James Hospital in Olympia Fields, where he was listed in good condition. Authorities believe the area's "hilly" surface may have contributed to the accident but hadn't ruled out icy road conditions. Neither alcohol nor drugs were suspected to be a factor in the crash and eyewitnesses said the driver didn't appear to be speeding, Kaupas said.

From the Monday, March 7, 2011 edition of the Kankakee Journal:

Will County: 2 women die after car hits tree CRETE - Two women in their early 20s are dead after the car they were riding in crashed into a tree in Will County. Sheriff's office spokesman Ken Kaupas say deputies were called to the crash scene just after noon on Sunday. Authorities aren't releasing their names pending notification of their families, but according to the Will County Coroner's office, they women were from Park Forest and Cedar Lake, Ind. Witnesses have told authorities that the car's driver appeared to lose control of the vehicle as it crested a hill. The car then hit a tree. One female passenger was pronounced dead at the scene. The second later died at an Indiana hospital. The male driver is in good condition at a suburban Chicago hospital. The cause of the crash is under investigation. Kaupas says there's no indication alcohol was a factor in the accident.