

Cactus University, New Mexico
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OLYMPIC HOPEFUL INJURED, ONE DEAD

By Morgan Small

Cactus U. track star Tracy White was critically injured, and teammate Pat Sommerhall was killed, when their Harley motorcycle skidded out of control and crashed into an oncoming truck on Yucca Highway near the campus late last night.

The two student-athletes were driving back from the El Chico River where they were tubing and drinking at a Fourth of July party -- an Independence Day tradition for CSU students.

White is in stable condition in the intensive care unit at Saint Helen's Hospital. No further comment is available, but chances are that the Olympic hopeful's ability to compete is in serious doubt.

White was charged with involuntary manslaughter and controlling a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Police declined to comment further on the investigation.

White is a native of Marshall City, Marshall, and came to the national spotlight during the track season last year by setting two U.S. outdoor track records.

A Business and Marketing major, White was recently featured in a Sports Illustrated article, "America's Top 20 College Athletes You Don't Know About Yet," and was listed as a probable member of the U.S. Olympic track team.

Cactus University track coach Neal Scroggins told this reporter, "We lost two fine athletes in this senseless incident. What were they thinking -- tubing and drinking all day, then speeding on Yucca Highway in the middle of the night? This university has to

go to a zero tolerance policy for student drinking."