

James Case Of Bunceton Injured

The driver of one of three cars involved in an accident was admitted to St. Joseph Hospital Wednesday for treatment of injuries, according to the Highway Patrol.

The Patrol listed the injured driver as James Case, 19, of Bunceton, adding that Case had sustained a punctured lung and fractured ribs. The hospital reported this noon that Case "spent a fair night".

The accident occurred, the Patrol said, about 5:30 p.m. on Highway 5 in Cooper County, about seven miles south of Interstate 70, near the Billingsville bridge.

The drivers of the other vehicles, William Patrick Fitzgerald, 37, of Columbia and Charles Henry Fischer, 30, of Clarksburg, were not injured, the Patrol said.

The accident occurred as Case had stopped his northbound car on the pavement at the south end of the bridge. Fitzgerald's car, also northbound, was some distance behind the Case car. The Patrol said Fitzgerald's car came up over a hill, the driver applying the brakes and losing control of the vehicle. The car slid into the southbound lane of traffic.

Fischer's truck, the report added, was southbound and struck Case's car headon. The two cars were forced into the ditch on the right side of the road.

The Patrol said no citations have been issued, but investigation of the accident is still in progress.

They estimated damage to the Case car at \$2,000, damage to the Fitzgerald car at \$350 and \$750 damage to the Fischer truck.

In a second accident reported by the Patrol, vehicles driven by Buddy Mirl Hamilton, 29, of New Franklin and Erwin Lee Vaughan, 39, of Columbia collided about 6:15 p.m. Wednesday on U.S. 40 in Howard County seven and one-half miles west of the Boone County line.

The Patrol reported total estimated damages of \$10 to both trucks involved.