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## Crash victim was cook, student

### Body, car found in creek off Amsterdam Road

*By Jim Hannah  
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**CRESCENT SPRINGS** - A former longtime employee of the Ludlow Bromley Yacht Club was found dead in a vehicle pulled from a Northern Kentucky creek Monday morning.

Joshua George Smith, 28, of Ludlow was driving toward his home on Amsterdam Road when he wrecked late Sunday or early Monday. A passerby spotted the SUV in the water at about 9 a.m. Monday. The wreck happened in the 1900 block of the hilly and curvy road.

"It is a bad curve on that road," said Smith's father, Garry Smith of Burlington. "The best investigators could tell is my son missed the curve. I'm sure it is not the first car to go off the road there."

There was no guard rail where the Blazer is suspected of going off the road, Erlanger police spokesman Lt. Kevin Gilpin said. The cause of the crash remains under investigation. A medical examiner conducted an autopsy Monday, but toxicology results will not be available for several weeks.

The elder Smith said his son was familiar with that section of the road, but said investigators didn't give him any indication what might have led to the fatal crash.

Garry Smith said his son had worked alongside his mother at the yacht club for years. The younger Smith had most recently earned his general equivalency diploma, enrolled at Gateway Community and Technical College and got a job as a cook at Dollar Bill Tavern in Florence.

Joshua Smith aspired to be an electrician for Duke Energy, his father said.

The elder Smith said a Boone County sheriff's deputy came to his door about 9:45 a.m. Monday to say they had found his son's Blazer in a creek.

The father didn't know his son was in the SUV until authorities contacted him about 15 minutes later to report the driver was found still buckled up. The father said authorities apparently didn't know there was a body in the SUV until a water rescue team arrived on the scene.

Ronald B Jones Funeral Home in Ludlow is handling the arrangements.

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