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Police: Darien Man, 32, Charged with DUI at 8:28 AM on Memorial Day

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An intoxicated 32-year-old Darien man got into a single-car accident on West Avenue sometime before 8:28 a.m. on Memorial Day, ran off, stumbling, then ran again when a police officer first spotted him, Darien police said.

Police described what happened with this account, including accusations not proven in court:

Christopher Ozer of Henry Street (nearby) was driving a white Audi Q5 when the sport utility vehicle got into the accident. A caller told police that the vehicle drove into a bush. Police arriving at the scene saw the SUV, damaged, at [325 West Ave.](#), at the corner of West Avenue and Patton Drive.

The witness told police that the driver left the car and was headed toward Joseph Street, across West Avenue from the accident. (Oxer was later charged with leaving the scene of an accident and failure to stop at a stop sign.)

As an officer checked the area, a driver flagged him down to tell him that he saw the driver run, stumbling, behind a house on Charles Street (a block to the east).

The officer checked behind the house and saw Oxer. Oxer also saw the police officer and began running away. (Oxer was later charged with interfering with a police investigation.) The officer ordered him to stop, and Oxer immediately complied. He was taken into custody.

Oxer didn't have a wallet or cell phone on him, and he indicated that he may have lost them while he ran from the accident. Asked why he ran, Oxer said he didn't know, and he repeatedly said he didn't remember anything about the accident.

He found it difficult to keep his balance, and the officer could smell an alcoholic drink coming from him. Oxer took field sobriety tests and couldn't perform them to a satisfactory standard, then he was arrested. One of the charges against him is driving while under the influence.

He was taken to Darien Police Headquarters, where he refused a breath test. At 9:47 a.m., he was released after posting a \$1,000 bond. He is scheduled to appear June 7 in state Superior Court in Stamford. His driver's license was seized for 24 hours, a standard procedure in Connecticut.