Written by Marty Randall
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An Austin man has been charged in Scott Superior Court with two counts of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and one count of failure to stop after an accident on Sunday, October 14.

William D. Riley, 21, was charged with the three misdemeanors on Monday, October 15.

According to the accident report released by the Sheriff's Department, Riley was behind the wheel of his 2000 Mustang when it struck a sign advertising a small grocery store on Rural Street in Austin. The car continued on hitting and tearing down a section of privacy fence to the west of the grocery. Riley then allegedly left the scene of the accident.

When Deputy James Shelton and Austin officer Robert Gudgel caught up with Riley, the man allegedly admitted to hitting the sign and fence. Riley provided a statement to Deputy Shelton, saying he had been driving east on Rural St. when he
"...stomped on the accelerator..." He then reportedly lost control of the Mustang, which spun around. The car traveled west through the grocery store's parking lot, striking the sign and fence.

The accident, which occurred just before 3:30 a.m., caused an estimated $50,000 in property damage.

Riley filed a $500 cash bond on Wednesday, October 17, and was released from the Scott County Security Center in Scottsburg.

He was ordered to appear Thursday, October 18, for his initial court hearing before Judge Marsha Owens Howser. At that hearing, he was expected to enter a not guilty plea to the charges and be assigned a jury trial date.