## **Guardrail impales SUV in crash**

**Driver taken to hospital with severe leg injury was in critical condition** By Dennis Yusko Updated 9:28 pm, Thursday, April 3, 2014

## Bethlehem

A 31-year-old driver who survived a collision with a guardrail that went through his vehicle early Thursday was arrested for driving while intoxicated, Bethlehem police said.

Bradley Howell of Slingerlands was traveling south on Route 85 near Albany at around 3:44 a.m. when he veered off the road and struck the front of an elevated guardrail, police said. A section of the railing entered the vehicle near the driver's side front headlight, passed through the interior of the Chevrolet Yukon and exited near the passenger's side taillight, Lt. Thomas Heffernan Jr. said. The sport-utility vehicle was towed with part of the guardrail still in it, he said.

"He's lucky it didn't impale him," Heffernan said. He said speed contributed to the crash.

Slingerlands firefighters removed Howell from the full-size SUV. He suffered a severe leg injury and was taken to Albany Medical Center Hospital in critical but stable condition, Heffernan said. The southbound lane was closed for about 90 minutes.

Howell was charged with misdemeanor DWI and ticketed for failure to use a designated lane.

He is scheduled to appear in Bethlehem Town Court at 4 p.m. Tuesday.

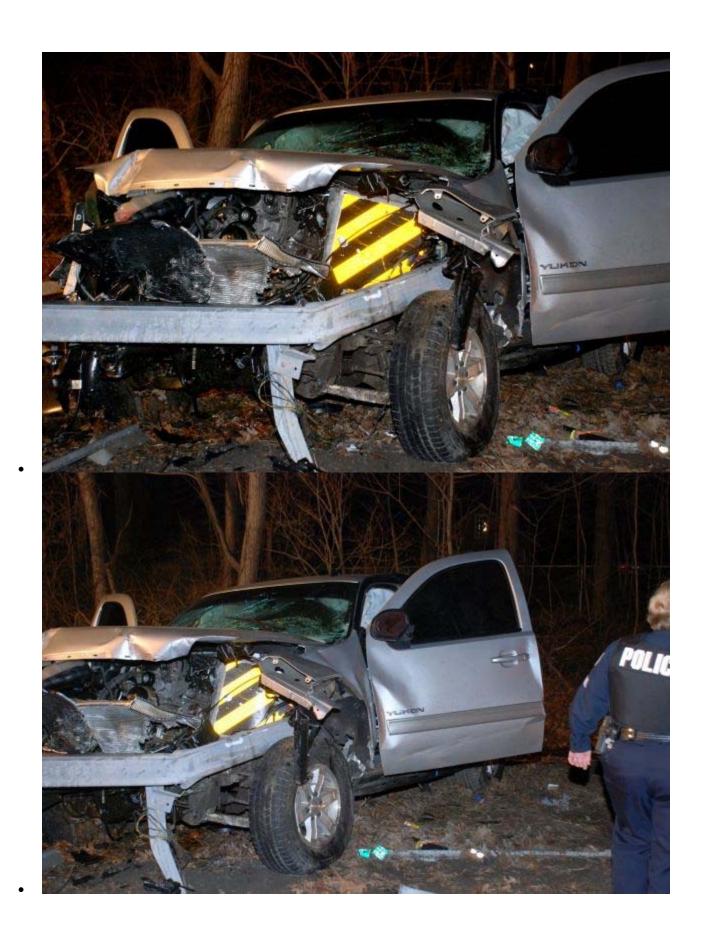
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A driver whose car was impaled by a guard rail after veering off the Slingerlands Bypass just before 4 a.m. Thursday was later charged with drunken driving, Bethlehem police said. (Thomas Heffernan Sr. / Special to the Times Union)







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## New York State Department of Motor Vehicles POLICE ACCIDENT REPORT MV-104A (3/04)

☐ AMENDED REPORT

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