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THE BUFFALO NEWS

Driver gets 1-3 years in death of bicyclist

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A Pine Street man was sentenced Thursday to one to three years in prison for killing a bicyclist while driving drunk early on Jan. 1, 2006.

Grady Dowell, 23, was sentenced in the death of Oneal Martinez, 33, who was run down at Pearl and West Mohawk streets at about 4 a.m. He pleaded guilty Jan. 29 to criminally negligent homicide and misdemeanor drunken driving.

Thursday, he told State Supreme Court Justice Christopher J. Burns he wanted to apologize to Martinez's family and insisted the death "was really an accident."

Burns also revoked Dowell's driver's license and fined him \$685 on the misdemeanor DWI charge.

Prosecutor Jeffrey J. Hagen said Martinez, of Pearl Street, was hit while collecting pop cans for deposit money. He was pronounced dead in Buffalo General Hospital, the prosecutor said.



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