

Kenwood News, August 27, 1985

A driver is hospitalized in serious condition after an accident that sheared off a 70-foot utility pole, sent his car hurtling another 40 feet into a tree and its engine still further down the road.

Nearly 2,000 customers of Pacific Gas & Electric Company in Sonoma Valley were without electricity for three hours.

Richard Madariaga, just 18, a resident of nearby Frey Road, is in intensive care at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital with multiple injuries. Rescuers from Kenwood Fire Protection District worked for nearly an hour and a half with extrication jaws to free him, said Chief Ed Geib.

His car struck the utility pole, then soared top-first into a eucalyptus.