

Suspect's condition upgraded to fair

THE REGISTER'S IOWA NEWS SERVICE

Menlo, Ia. — A Colorado man who was shot Monday in a scuffle with an Iowa State Patrol trooper was upgraded Tuesday from serious to fair condition.

Joseph Ewig, 27, of Fort Collins tried to flee from the trooper after a traffic stop on



Interstate Highway 80 about 45 miles west of Des Moines.

Authorities said Ewig drove the wrong way down the interstate and, after being run off an exit ramp near Menlo, wrestled with trooper Ken Haas over his gun.

Ewig was airlifted to Des Moines with a gunshot wound to the stomach.

Colorado authorities said Ewig was driving a truck that was reported stolen Sunday.

Charges in the Iowa incident are pending.

Coloradan sentenced in attack on trooper

A Colorado man who tried to kill an Iowa State Patrol trooper during a car chase that ended near Menlo has been sentenced to no more than 25 years in prison.

Joseph Alan Ewig, 27, of Fort Collins was pulled over on Interstate Highway 80 west of Des Moines in January for speeding and not wearing a seat belt. The pickup truck he was driving had been reported stolen in Fort Collins.

Trooper Ken Haas was trying to handcuff Ewig in the front seat of his patrol car when Ewig reached for the trooper's gun. One shot was fired in the struggle and Ewig was wounded in the abdomen.

In exchange for Ewig pleading guilty of attempted murder, other charges, including first-degree theft, were dropped.

Ewig, 27, was ordered to pay court costs.