Four Die in Vehicle Crash near Government Camp

by Bend Weekly Sources

Four people died in a motor vehicle crash on Highway 26 near Government Camp on the afternoon of Sunday May 7, 2006. The crash occurred at approximately 1:20 PM on Highway 26 near milepost 64 (eight miles east of Government Camp, Oregon). A black 1999 BMW operated by Andrey Blashishin age 22 of Portland, Oregon had been eastbound on Highway 26 when it crossed the centerline and struck a silver 2004 Dodge Intrepid operated by Gary Dean Matlick age 55 of Bend, Oregon that had been traveling westbound. One male and two female passengers in the black BMW, Diana Timofieya age 19 (Unknown address), Buga Ruvimbuga age 16 (Unknown address) and Nataliya Blashishin age 23 (Unknown address) died at the scene of the crash. A female passenger in the silver Dodge Intrepid, Jaqueline Matlick age 56 of Boise, Idaho also died at the scene of the crash. Both driver's were transported to Emanuel Hospital in Portland, Oregon for treatment of serious injuries. Traffic on Highway 26 was restricted to one lane of travel for approximately 5 1/2 hours while the crash was investigated and the roadway cleared. At one point travel in both directions was blocked for approximately 1 hour to allow for the extrication of victims and the movement of emergency vehicles. Oregon State Police troopers were assisted at the scene by firefighters from the Hoodland Fire Department and the Oregon Department of Transportation. Investigation into the cause of the collision is continuing.