

Seven injured in Hwy. 20 crash near Sisters

by Cheryl McDermott

Seven people were injured in a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of Highway 20 West and Barclay Drive near Sisters Saturday evening when a van ran a stop sign and collided with a pickup, authorities reported.

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies responded to the accident scene about 5:20 p.m., said Sgt. Chad Davis. Although few details have been released, the initial investigation determined that a 2002 Dodge Caravan was traveling southbound on Barclay Drive and approaching Highway 20 West when, for unknown reasons, the driver failed to stop at a stop sign.

A 1992 Ford pickup westbound on Highway 20 attempted to avoid the crash but collided with the van, right front-end to left front-end. The van then crossed the highway, crashed through a fence, and stopped in front of the Sisters Inn at 540 W. Highway 20.

The pickup rolled after impact and came to rest on its left side near the fog-line of the east lane of the highway. Both vehicles sustained major damage, said the sergeant, and the van's airbag deployed.

All seven occupants of the vehicles were injured - four in the Dodge and three in the Ford, said Sgt. Davis. The driver of the Caravan was transported by AirLife to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, and the other six occupants were taken by ground ambulance to the same facility.

Other agencies assisting at the scene included Oregon State Police, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, United States Forest Service Law Enforcement, Black Butte Ranch Police, Oregon Department of Transportation, and emergency medical units from Sisters and Black Butte Ranch, said Sgt. Davis.

The investigation is continuing.

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