# Drunk driver arrested in wrong-way double fatality

*by Cheryl McDermott*

A 26-year old Salem woman is in custody and charged with drunk driving and the deaths of two women in a vehicle crash caused when she allegedly drove the wrong way on Interstate-5 near Albany, Oregon State Police reported.

Fivea Sharipoff was driving south in the northbound lanes of I-5 near milepost 233 about 10:53 p.m. Sunday Feb. 11 when her 1996 Nissan Sentra struck another vehicle -- a 1993 Saturn with three occupants -- in the passenger side, troopers said.

Fivea Sharipoff is charged with drunk driving and the deaths of two women in Sundayâ€™s crash. She allegedly drove the wrong way on I-5, crashing into this 1993 Saturn. OSP photos.

The Saturnâ€™s driver, Kjersten J. Oquist, 36, of Wood Village, and one of her passengers, Angela J. Svendsen, 31, of Vancouver, Washington, were pronounced dead at the scene.

The second passenger in the Saturn, 28-year old Kelly M. Gronli of southeast Portland, and Sharipoff were both transported by ambulance to Samaritan Albany General Hospital where they were reportedly treated and released.

After her release from the hospital, OSP troopers took Sharipoff into custody. She is lodged in Linn County Jail and is charged with two counts of first-degree manslaughter, one count of second-degree assault, and driving under the influence of intoxicants. Her bail is set at $155,850.

All three occupants of the Saturn were members of the Eugene Symphony who had attended a rehearsal for an upcoming program and were returning home when the crash occurred, troopers said.

Everyone involved in the accident was wearing safety restraints, troopers reported, and the airbag in Sharipoffâ€™s vehicle deployed.

OSP troopers from the Albany Area Command office are continuing the investigation with the assistance of the Linn County District Attorney's Office. The Linn County Sheriff's Office, Albany Fire Department, Oregon Department of Transportation, and the Multi Agency Traffic Team (MATT) assisted at the scene.

Northbound traffic was diverted off I-5 at the Highway 34 interchange until 3 a.m., when the highway reopened.

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