

Two injured in head-on crash north of Bend

by Cheryl McDermott

Two Central Oregon men received non-life threatening injuries and another was unharmed in a head-on crash about four miles north of Bend last night, an accident that deputies believe may have been caused by fatigue.

Deschutes County Sheriff's deputies responded to the accident scene at Deschutes Market Road just north of Dale Road about 10:20 p.m. May 16, Sgt. Vance Lawrence said.

Two Central Oregon men were injured in a head-on crash about four miles north of Bend on Wednesday night. Preliminary investigation determined that a 1996 Pontiac Grand Am driven by Jose Mercado-Gomez, 31, of Bend, crossed the centerline as it traveled south on Deschutes Market Road and struck an oncoming 2001 Mitsubishi Gallant.

The Mitsubishi was occupied by two men: 24-year old Sean Christopher Wool of Bend and his passenger Michael Brian Detta, 21, of Redmond.

Gomez and Detta were transported to St. Charles Medical Center with what the sergeant described as non-life threatening injuries. Wool was checked at the scene for possible injuries and went home with relatives.

Sgt. Lawrence estimated that both vehicles were traveling about 40-45 miles per hour, and that alcohol was not involved. "Fatigue may have been a factor in this crash," he said.

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