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Southwest Michigan

Local News

Girl dies in crash on icy I-94

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Ву



John Madill / H-P staff Van involved in an accident Friday morning on I94 westbound near exit 27. Dec. 12, 2008

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ST. JOSEPH - The icy roadway was blamed for a crash on Interstate 94 Friday that killed a suburban Chicago girl and injured her mother, police said.

State Police Sgt. Ken High at the Bridgman post said Aimee Lorang, 17, was dead at the scene of massive head trauma. Her mother, Ann Lorang, was taken to Lakeland Regional Medical Center, St. Joseph. High said Friday afternoon that the mother's injuries were not life threatening, and she would probably be treated and released. Police did not know the woman's age.

High said Aimee Lorang was riding in the front seat of a van driven by her mother, who lost control of the vehicle on westbound I-94 between the Scottdale Road and Niles Avenue exits just before 11 a.m. The van rolled over and was struck by a westbound car driven by Michael Workman, 22, of Muskegon. He was taken to Lakeland with injuries that were not life threatening, High said.

High said three younger children of the family who were riding in the Lorang van were not injured. They were supervised by St. Joseph Township police at Lakeland until their father arrived in St. Joseph from the family's home in the village of Homer Glen, III., a suburb southwest of Chicago.

High said the road was icy at the time of the accident, and the driver of the car that hit the overturned van does not appear to have been at fault. He said all the people involved were wearing seat belts.

Two of the three westbound lanes of I-94 were closed for almost four hours while police investigated and cleaned up the crash.

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