

## Several motorists injured in sliding vehicle crashes since start of February

Written by Administrator

Wednesday, 12 February 2014 00:00 -

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Several motorists – and at least one passenger – were injured when their vehicles skidded or went out of control on county or state roads since February 4.

The first such incident was investigated by Sgt. Brian Hall of the Scottsburg Police Department on that Tuesday at 5:19 p.m.

The mishap was a one-vehicle accident on U.S. Highway 31 about 350 feet north of its intersection with State Road 356, the Scottsburg officer related in his report. Felicia L. Daughtery, 18, Scottsburg, was driving a 2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse north on the state highway when she said the car began pulling to the right.

She lost control, and the vehicle left the road and entered a deep roadside ditch.

The car was partially submerged in icy water.

Daughtery told the officer she had pain in the area of her knee/lower leg/foot, but no medical assistance was requested at the scene. Property damage was estimated at up to \$2,500 by Sgt. Hall.

Just after 6 p.m., Deputy Shawn Mayer of the Sheriff's Department was dispatched to the 26.5 mile marker of northbound Interstate 65 to another one-vehicle accident.

There he found 21-year-old Kristen K. Yamaoka Los of Elmhurst, Ill., by her overturned 2011 Honda Civic.

The woman said she had the car on cruise control at approximately 50 mph when it began to "fishtail" on a snowy/slushy surface. She tried to take the car off cruise control by tapping her brakes, but the action apparently made the car spin. It then went off the east side of the

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highway and down an embankment, rolling onto its top and coming to a rest.

Yamaoka Los experienced head pain and was assisted at the scene by Scott County EMS technicians.

The car was severely damaged, with property damage estimated at up to \$25,000 by Deputy Mayer. He was assisted at the scene by Indiana State Police Trooper Tracy Spencer.

On Friday, February 7, an injury accident happened at 10:45 a.m. on Leota Road about 300 feet from its T intersection with Hancock Road.

Natasha M. Williams, 32, Scottsburg, was driving a 2006 Dodge Caravan east on Leota Road when the mini-van began sliding on ice. She apparently over-corrected her steering and that caused the van to slide off the road and strike a privately-owned fence and mailbox.

No injuries were listed for the woman, but her passenger, eight-year-old Shelby Williams, suffered a possible shoulder/upper arm injury. Chief Deputy Don Campbell's report did not indicate medical assistance at the scene.

Property damage was listed at up to \$10,000. Deputy Jeremy Arnold assisted at the scene.

The last two injury accidents occurred on Sunday morning, February 9.

A 1999 Chevy Blazer driven by Laura A. Buhse, 23, Scottsburg, was headed south on Interstate 65 just after 7 a.m. when sleet and freezing rain was falling. Buhse said an unidentified truck also headed south abruptly changed lanes in front of her. To avoid a collision, Buhse said she braked, causing the Blazer to begin sliding.

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The SUV went into the snow- and ice-covered median and began rolling. No one could tell Deputy Mayer just how many times it rolled, but the SUV came to rest on the northbound side of the median, back on its wheels. The truck which was a factor in this accident did not stop, but several other motorists did and provided witness statements.

Buhse's injuries were not detailed, except that she suffered severe bleeding. She was transported by ambulance to Scott Memorial Hospital. Her condition is unknown.

Deputy Mayer was assisted at the scene by Deputy Justin Cheatham.

Property damage was estimated at up to \$10,000.

A woman traveling east on Little York Road at 9:15 a.m. Sunday lost control on the road's icy surface. The 2002 Suzuki Grand Vitar that Luann C. Caudell, 48, Scottsburg, was driving went out of control, swerving into a south side ditch and landing on its side. Caudell was trapped inside the vehicle.

Deputy Cheatham was lead investigator with Deputy Mayer assisting him at the scene, which was 300 feet east of Finley Firehouse Road.

Emergency equipment pulled the vehicle out, with Caudell being freed and assisted by Scott County EMS. She was transported to Scott Memorial Hospital. Her injuries were not specified.

Property damage was listed at up to \$10,000.