

Rescue unit responds to truck fire, rollover

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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Gothenburg's Volunteer Fire and Rescue Crew was busy June 9 with a truck fire and car roll over.

The crew provided mutual aid for a semi trailer truck fire that shut down I-80 for more than an hour early Sunday morning.

Fire chief Mark Ballmer said the truck fire was about eight miles west of Gothenburg and near the Brady interchange.

Nebraska State Patrol officials said the fire could have been caused by a spark in the brake area.

The driver escaped without injury, officials said.

Ballmer said the department was also called to a one-vehicle rollover about three miles west of Gothenburg on I-80 at 2:30 p.m. on June 9.

Five women, from towns in Nebraska, were taken to Gothenburg Memorial Hospital with non life-threatening injuries and treated and released, he said.

"Seat belts were in use," he said.

Nebraska State Patrol trooper Ken Moody said the driver of the 2005 Chrysler Sebring, 23-year-old Stefani Lloyd of Lincoln, was eastbound.

Lloyd was passing a 2011 Chevy Silverado, driven by 80-year-old Robert Karre of Hayes

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Center, when she drove onto the left shoulder and started to veer into the median.

Moody said she then over corrected and struck the pickup and rolled twice.

Ballmer said the women involved were sorority sisters returning from a wedding.

Moody said the Sebring was totalled and the pickup had minor damage.