

3-vehicle crash injures 2

Wednesday, 25 September 2013 13:23



Seward County Sheriff Bill McBryde stands at the rear of the black Charger that was driven by Jude Aragon, 65, while authorities investigate the crash scene Tuesday afternoon. The white pickup in foreground was hit by the Charger and forced into the rear axels of the semi tanker truck in the middle of the scene, which then hit the Charger in the passenger side. The driver of the pickup, 53-year-old David Hayes, was taken to Southwest Medical Center for treatment. L&T photo/Robert Pierce

By LARRY PHILLIPS

• Leader & Times

Two men were hospitalized after one failed to stop before entering U.S. Highway 83 Bypass Tuesday afternoon in Liberal.

Jude M. Aragon, 65, of Liberal, was westbound on National Drive, leaving National Beef, according to the Kansas Highway Patrol report, where he failed to stop at the stop sign and struck the passenger side of a pickup.

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Aragon's 2007 black Dodge Charger hit a southbound white 2012 Ford pickup driven by David D. Hayes, 53, of Fowler, in the passenger side of the pickup. This then forced the pickup into the rear axels of a 2006 Peterbilt semi tanker truck driven by William Anthony Kniest, 54, of Booker, Okla.

According to the report, the Charger spun 180 degrees and slammed into the pickup again and then was hit by the semi in its passenger side forcing it back off the east side on the bypass.

Aragon was taken to Southwest Medical Center and then transported to Wesley Medical Center in Wichita, according to KHP.

Hayes was also hospitalized at Southwest Medical Center, and Kniest was not injured in the incident.

Traffic was halted and diverted for nearly an hour while clean up proceeded at the scene.