

# Wreck takes one life

By Mike Stephens

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A head-on collision four miles west of Long Island, in Phillips County, claimed the life of a Nebraska man on Wednesday morning.

The accident occurred at approximately 8:35 a.m. Austin R. Shaw, 20, of Stamford, Neb., was pronounced dead at the scene and Jessica L. Eshbaugh, 22, of Logan was seriously injured and was airlifted to Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney, Neb., according to the Kansas Highway Patrol.

Shaw was traveling northbound and Eshbaugh was southbound on W 1500 Rd. when their vehicles collided head-on. Both vehicles were left of center, according to the Patrol's accident report.

Shaw's 1990 Oldsmobile Delta 88 rolled into the east ditch and Eshbaugh's 2001 Chevrolet Silverado came to a stop in the roadway. Shaw was not wearing his seatbelt.

Shaw was recently hired at the Norton Correctional Facility as a Corrections Officer I. He began work there in December and had just completed officer basic training a few weeks earlier, according to the Kansas Department of Corrections.

"We are shocked and saddened by the news of Officer Shaw's death," said Warden Jay Shelton. "We can't begin to express our sympathy for Officer Shaw's family and friends."

News of Shaw's death quickly spread throughout the corrections community.

"A loss like this is felt by the entire agency," said Corrections Secretary Ray Roberts. "For anyone, especially such a young person, to lose their life is tragic. We extend our condolences to the family of Officer Shaw and all of those who knew him."

No further information on Eshbaugh's condition was available at time of publication.