

Accident kills two, injures another

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

Poor visibility led to the death of two people Wednesday, Dec. 19 five miles north of Holyoke on Highway 385.

Manuel F. Hernandez, 31, of Ovid, was driving a 1999 Chevy S-10 southbound on the highway at 11:20 a.m. when he collided head-on with Byron D. Fox, 57 of Stapleton, Neb.

Fox was traveling northbound in a 1999 International 9300 semi truck. The two vehicles collided head-on and both went off the west side of the roadway.

Hernandez and passenger Wesley T. Prottzman, 34, of Venango, Neb., were killed in the accident and pronounced dead at the scene. Fox received minor injuries and was taken to Melissa Memorial Hospital, according to the Colorado State Patrol report.

With very poor visibility due to high winds and blowing snow, Hernandez's vehicle was traveling south in the northbound lane at the time of the accident.

Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department responded to the scene and performed extrication on the pickup to remove Hernandez and Prottzman. They also helped with traffic control.

Highway 385 was shut down following the accident and reopened around 2:40 p.m., according to the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Randy Pierce of the CSP investigated the accident.

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