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Major Accident Closes Highway 80, One Careflighted with Critical Injuries

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Post Editor

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At approximately 3:00 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, a major accident occurred on Highway 80 that shut down the eastbound lanes for over an hour and sent one man with critical injuries to an area hospital by careflight.

One witness emailed and said, "I was just seconds in front of where the truck that hit the SUV. I was going east on Highway 80 to 548 and a white truck was going west and ran across the highway on to the east bound side. He was going about 80 miles per hour or more. I'm so worried about the people in the SUV he hit, it looked as if it was folded in half."

Police on the scene confirmed the witnesses report, and said the truck appears to have been heading westbound and came across the median, through the cable wiring, directly into eastbound traffic near Premier Sports.

The truck hit a Chevrolet Trailblazer head on, ejecting the male driver of Trailblazer. The man was careflighted by helicopter, and police on the scene said he is in critical condition. Police say the ejection may have saved his life. If he had not been ejected, the steering wheel may have crushed his body.

The condition of the occupants in the other vehicles is not known at this time.

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Traffic is diverted off of Highway 80 at Pinson Rd., in front of Dairy Queen at 4:15 p.m.



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