

Wreck Involving Tractor Trailer Shuts Down 421N

Written by Ashley Wilson/Steve Frank
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Three injuries—a trucker and two women hurt—one woman pinned in the wreckage of an SUV struck in the side by a tractor trailer in a crash Thursday morning in Vilas. The crash occurred at about 11:20am on US 321-421 near the NC 194 intersection, with all three vehicles ending up off of the highway on the lot of Brown's Used Cars—with four trucks on the car lot also struck. Watauga Medics rushed Rominger Road resident Martha Ward Davis, 59, from her '97 Toyota, the car partially crushed underneath the trailer, then Elizabeth Eggers Hicks, 51, of Linville Creek Road, after she was freed from the wreckage of her Chevy Tahoe. Hampton's Body Shop had to be called in emergency traffic to pull the tractor trailer off the Tahoe, smashed by the impact, while Watauga Rescue and Cove Creek fire cut the top off of the SUV to reach Hicks, who was taken to a landing zone where WINGS Air Rescue landed to fly to her to the Johnson City Medical Center. The highway was blocked for most of an hour before traffic was directed through one lane. A third ambulance rushed to the scene to transport trucker David Anthony Seiber 45. Trooper Alexander said that Seiber, of Rinehardt, Tennessee, reported he looked down to check gauges for the load of frozen food he was hauling, and looked up to find Davis' Toyota stopped to turn into Brown's Used Cars. He swerved, slamming into the Tahoe, striking the driver's door, the bumper of his truck landing right on top of Hicks.