

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Sixteen-year-old Diana D. Benitez of Imperial was involved in a one-vehicle accident Saturday morning, northwest of Champion.

According to a report from the State Patrol, Benitez's 1997 Toyota pickup left the road and hit a tree near the intersection of Road 736 and Avenue 324 about 11 a.m. Saturday.

Two troopers from the Nebraska State Patrol investigated the accident.

Trooper Justin Koch, a State Patrol carrier enforcement officer, was in the area working and actually came up on the accident. He then called in Trooper Neil Golden of McCook, who was also in the area and was on the scene within 15 minutes.

Benitez was transported by Imperial EMS ambulance to Chase County Community Hospital. The extent of her injuries was unknown.

Benitez was cited for having no operator's license.

The Imperial Volunteer Fire Department was also called to the scene to assist.