By Jan Schultz
The Imperial Republican

Emilee Fish was moved to Madonna Rehabilitation Center Monday after several days in a Lincoln hospital, where she was air-lifted last Thursday following a one-vehicle accident.

Fish, 19, a 2008 Chase County Schools graduate, sustained multiple injuries when the 2000 Ford Expedition she was driving left the road about three and a half miles west of Imperial at 6:55 a.m.

State Patrolman Dan Thompson said Fish apparently fell asleep at the wheel as she traveled east on the highway. She was driving home to Imperial after working a 12-hour shift at Melissa Memorial Hospital in Holyoke, Colo.

Her vehicle crossed the west-bound lane, went into the ditch on the north side of the road, through a fence and rolled multiple times, coming to rest on its top in a field. Thompson said.

Fish was not wearing a seat belt, Thompson said, and was ejected. No one actually witnessed the accident, he added, but passers-by stopped, and she was conscious, not far from the vehicle.

They called 911, and she was transferred by Imperial EMS to Chase County Community Hospital. After initial treatment, she was air-lifted to Bryan LGH West in Lincoln.

Her mother, Kathy Christensen, said Emilee fractured her right shoulder, pelvis, a couple of ribs and her right ankle. However, surgery was not required.

She was uncertain how long her daughter would be rehabilitating at Madonna.

Thompson said there were no roadway or weather factors relating to the accident.

Imperial Police Chief Larry Browning was at the scene first, as Thompson was working north of Palisade when summoned about the accident. The Imperial Volunteer Fire Department also assisted.

Cards will reach Emilee Fish at: Madonna Rehabilitation Center, 5401 South St., Lincoln NE 68506.