

# Police investigate cause of accident

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believed to have been driven by Laura Pinta, 31, of Birmingham. Pinta was reported in stable condition Wednesday at Botford General Hospital in Farmington Hills.

Vanessa Carloni was declared dead on arrival at Botford Sunday morning, according to a hospital spokesman. Lara Carloni was dead on arrival at Southfield's Providence Hospital.

ONE OTHER passenger in Smith's car, Michael Altman, 16, of Southfield was in critical condition Wednesday at Botford.

Charles Siris, 34, of Southfield, a passenger in the Pinta car, was treated at Botford for a broken arm and discharged, the hospital spokesman said.

Accident reconstruction investigators from the Michigan State Police began their investigation Tuesday.

Farmington Hills police handle approximately 85 percent of the traffic accidents on their own and request State Police assistance when additional expertise is needed, Lt. Miller said.

STATE POLICE investigations vary in length, depending on the accident's circumstances, he said.

"We don't know everything right

away. We won't know too much else until we get the accident reconstruction in." Autopsy results on the two dead girls also won't be available for a couple of weeks, he said.

The Farmington Hills police are requesting that anyone with knowledge of the accident contact police by calling the traffic division, 474-6181.

"At this point, we have no witnesses," Miller said. "That place is not particularly busy at that time.

"If anyone has seen anything, we'd appreciate being contacted."



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

This is the car the Carloni sisters were passengers in when it collided head-on with another car.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Mercy students gathered to remember their classmates.

## Mercy High students gather to remember their friends

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"And so we grieve and we hope. We hope in the promise of life forever. Someday, Vanessa and Lara and you and I are going to be together again. We're going to be together in a way we can't experience right now."

Juan Carloni, the girls' father, thanked the students for sharing the family's sorrow.

"We had many happy moments for which we are giving thanks to God now," he told the assembly.

"We loved them so much and will continue to love them, with the help of God."

SEVERAL FRIENDS of the girls also spoke to the assembly.

"Remember them always, remember their smiling faces," Jeff Clamps said.

"Be careful, respect your lives because you never know when they're going to end."

Sophomore and junior class officers presented roses at the assembly and then lighted a candle for the Carloni girls. The candle was presented to the Carloni family.

Funeral services for Lara and Vanessa were held Wednesday at St. Regis Catholic Church, Birmingham.

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