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BUSINESS

Monday, November 24, 2008

Seven die in auto crashes

From Alemma-Ozioruva Aliu (Benin) and Hendrix Oliomogbe (Asaba)

THE Edo Zonal Command of the Federal Roads Safety Commission (FRSC) has reported the loss of six lives from two road accidents in the area at the weekend.

Also, a ghastly auto crash, which involved some members of Delta State contingent to the National Cultural Festival, has put paid to the participation of the state in the fiesta, tagged: Abuja NAFEST 2008.

A female member of the contingent lost her life in an ill-fated bus, which was conveying them to Abuja while others who sustained different degrees of injuries are currently receiving treatment in different hospitals in the state.

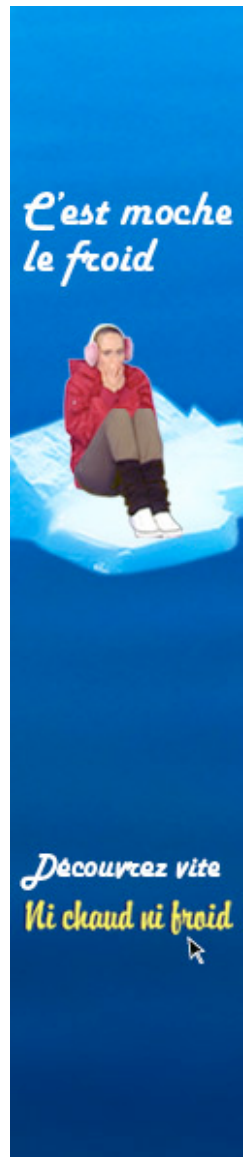
According to FRSC Zonal Commanding Officer, Zakari Ndah, one of the accidents recorded in the zone happened within Asaba Town in Delta State where three persons - a child, a man and a woman - lost their lives. One person was, however, injured in the crash.

He said the accident involved a Mercedes Benz 230 with registration number FE 441 EKY and a Mercedes Benz 911 truck marked AA 512 ASB.

He added that the dead were taken to a nearby mortuary while the injured was being treated at an undisclosed hospital.

The second incident, he said, occurred near Asaba airport. It involved a Toyota Hiace Bus marked XB 364 AGB and a Toyota Camry with registration number CM 987 ABJ.

Ndah said three persons died in the incident while



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seven persons, made up of four males and three females, were injured.

However, a statement by the Chief Press Secretary to Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan, Mr. Sunny Ogefere, explained during the weekend in Asaba that the state decided to pull out of the festival as a result of the fatal accident.

According to the statement: "The state's withdrawal from the festival was sequel to the involvement of its contingent in a ghastly vehicle accident in which a member lost her life".

Ogefere added that the State Executive Council determined last Thursday at its meeting that the decision, though painful, was strictly to honour the memory of the dead.

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