

Pedestrian hit, killed Saturday

By April Reynolds

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A pedestrian was injured and later died Saturday after being hit by a vehicle while standing in a roadway, according to Ruston Police Chief Steve Rogers.

Victim Jessie Bradford, 53, of Ruston, was struck at approximately 7:17 p.m. Saturday on South Farmerville Street near Martin Luther King Drive.

Rogers said a preliminary investigation found that Mwalimu Imani Dean, 29, of Ruston, was driving a 1998 Chevrolet Tahoe, traveling north-bound on Farmerville Street at the East Side Mini Mart, when he struck Bradford, who was standing in the lane of travel.

Rogers said Bradford suffered severe injuries and was transported to the Northern Louisiana Medical Center Emergency Room. Bradford was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

According to Rogers, Dean said he was unable to avoid hitting Bradford at the time of the accident.

Officials have not yet determined whether alcohol consumption was a contributing factor for the driver or the pedestrian. Alcohol tests are pending.

Rogers said it is not known at this time why Bradford was in the middle of the roadway.

The accident is under investigation by RPD.