

# Driver in fatal crash was drunk

**Associated Press**

**FORT COLLINS** — The blood-alcohol level of a man suspected of causing a head-on accident that killed him and two other people was three times higher than the legal limit, according to a coroner's report.

Investigators and firefighters said the accident scene was the worst they had ever seen in the city limits. Fort Collins police believed it was the first triple fatality in the city's history.

The accident occurred at 11:40 p.m. Tuesday when a 1965 Ford Thunderbird traveling at more than 70 mph in a 35 mph zone collided head-on with a northbound compact car. Police said the Thunderbird was going down the wrong side of the street.

Police investigator Jeff Groves said the impact of the crash drove back the compact car 250 feet.

"This is absolutely the worst

wreck I have ever seen in town," police Sgt. Greg With said. "It's hard to imagine the amount of force involved."

Thomas Jeffrey Travnick, 21, who was driving the Thunderbird, and the two occupants of the other car, Bobbie A. Pfeiffer, 22, and Robert Wallace Baker, 21, all died at the scene, authorities said. Police said all three were CSU students.

Two dogs in the compact car also were killed.

Travnick's blood-alcohol level was 0.309 percent, according to a coroner's report. Persons with a blood-alcohol level of 0.10 percent or higher are considered to be under the influence in Colorado.

"At this point, we really don't know why he was driving on the wrong side of the road and at such a high rate of speed," said Groves. "His speed was excessive. There's no doubt about that."