

Same-day wrecks on 78 kill one, injure another

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Emergency personnel worked back-to-back major accidents on State Highway 78 west of Leonard Thursday afternoon. The wrecks claimed the life of an expectant young mother and severely injured another man.

Police and First Responders were dispatched to State Highway 78 near County Road 5012 in Nobility before 2 p.m. for a one-vehicle accident. The vehicle, a black Ford Fusion, left the roadway and slammed into a tree. The driver, 20-year-old Lynsi Johnson, was reportedly killed on impact. She attended Leonard schools and was a member of the Class of 2010. She leaves behind two young children, her parents, and four siblings, and was expecting a third child. Assisting at the scene of this accident was Leonard Police Department, Leonard Fire Department, Leonard ISD Police Department, Trenton Police Department, Trenton Fire Department, Fannin County Sheriff's Office and Texas Department of Public Safety.

The roadway remained shut down in Nobility for an investigation until just before 4 p.m. when the majority of the officers and emergency personnel responded to the first S curve west of Leonard after a one-rider motorcycle accident had occurred. The driver, a Blue Ridge man reportedly in his 30s, left the roadway, slid through a traffic post and tangled in a barbed wire fence. He was not wearing his helmet. Air Evac transported the man, who was conscious and talking to emergency workers, to an area hospital for treatment. He had reportedly left a home on College Street in Leonard a few minutes prior to the accident.