

# Jacksboro HERALD-GAZETTE

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## Two JHS grads killed in wreck

*Pair remembered  
fondly by teachers*

**By Brian Smith**

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Two 2019 graduates of Jacksboro High School were killed Thursday evening near the town of Morgan's Mill, north of Stephenville.

According to DPS reports, a 2015 Nissan Altima, driven by Destiny Ann Thompson, 18, was northbound on U.S. Highway 281 when she pulled over to the shoulder in an attempt to make a U-Turn. While trying to turn around and head south, the vehicle was struck by a 2007 Peterbilt tractor-trailer pulling a trailer driven by Robert C. Terrell, 59, of Oklahoma City.

Thompson and her passenger, Alyssa Gayle Green, 18, were pronounced dead at the scene. Terrell was taken to a Stephenville hospital where he was treated and released.

Green and Thompson were both members of several organizations, including FCCLA. FCCLA sponsor Rebecca Sell had fond memories of both.

"They were both great girls with a bright future," Sell stated. "I spent lots of time with both of them working on different FCCLA projects over the years and traveled many miles across the state and country with them as they competed at a high level. They were both driven and determined. It is another sad day having young people taken so soon."

Thompson's softball

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## Wreck

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coach, John Bennett, said she "was one of a kind".

"She always had a great attitude, very dependable ..... always somebody that you could county on," Bennett stated. "Her personality/sense of humor made her one of those people you always wanted to be around. My heart goes out to all of her family. She will be missed greatly."

The pair both had AVID instructor Hillary Deffebach as their teacher. She spoke fondly of both young ladies.

"It is hard to talk about one of these girls without including the other," Deffebach said. "Their lives were so intertwined. They were classmates, cousins, friends, roommates, and often co-conspirators. These girls spent an extraordinary amount of time together, so I was not surprised when they chose the same college and decided to live together. They were set to attend

Tarleton State with classes starting this week. They defied all the odds stacked against them, and their families are so proud of them.

"Alyssa had such a beautiful soul. She cared deeply for others, especially her two younger brothers. She had plans to be a nurse and talked about working in pediatrics. She would have been amazing. Her sweet smile paired with those freckles could have put any child at ease. She loved to read. Alyssa knew more about young adult novels than anyone, and she loved sharing them with the people around her. Alyssa was someone who would have changed her own stars. She refused to be limited by her circumstances and that type of ambition is what made her special.

"Destiny had an unmistakable light that shined from within her. She was a ray of sunshine-in my classroom, on the field, and in her home. She loved sunflowers, softball, and most of all

people. She was such a joy to be around, and her contagious smile and positive outlook on life will be missed. People always loved being around her because of the way she made them feel. I wanted her to become a teacher and a coach. Anyone who is that positive all the time should be around children. Destiny was lovable, humble, and had a great sense of humor.

These girls were loved: by their families, friends, faculty of Jacksboro, and this community. They leave behind a legacy of love and we were lucky to have known them.

The community has come out in force to support the families of the two girls. A Memorial Service is scheduled for 2 p.m. Wednesday at JHS Gym. A number of fundraisers will include an FCCLA sponsored spaghetti dinner 5-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 29 inside the JHS Cafeteria. Donations are welcome with all proceeds benefiting the Thompson and Green families.