

LOCAL NEWS

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Two Shafter siblings killed in Newhall area wreck

The Bakersfield Californian | Tuesday, Aug 5 2008 4:53 PM

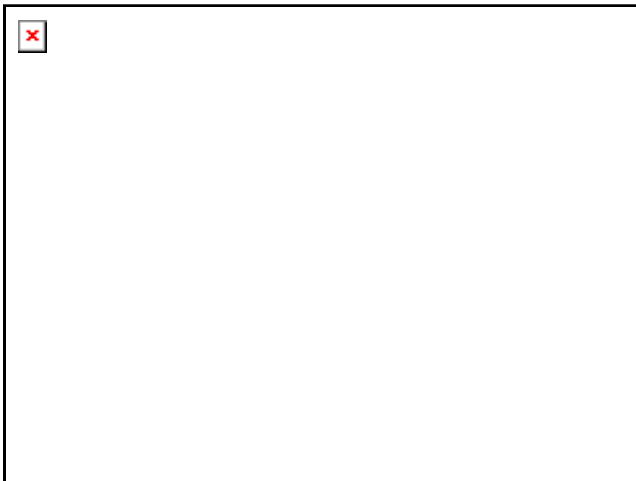
Last Updated: Wednesday, Aug 6 2008 7:18 AM

The two victims of Monday's double fatal collision on Interstate 5 just north of the Balboa Boulevard over crossing were identified as siblings from Shafter.

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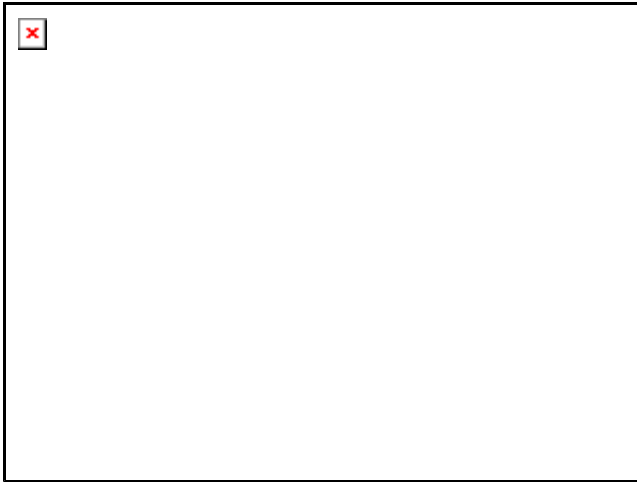
Lindsay Poggio (*Handout photo*)

A Ford pickup truck crashed into 22-year-old Lindsay Poggio's car in the Newhall area while she was stopped in a northbound lane with hazard lights flashing, according a release from the California Highway Patrol. Ronald Benedetti, 50, was unable to slow or stop his truck, which hit the car at about 65 mph.

Benedetti's truck pushed the car into 23-year-old Alan Poggio, who was standing in front of his sister's vehicle next to his Kawasaki motorcycle.

Benedetti's truck and Lindsay Poggio's car crossed over a raised median and crashed into a concrete barrier.

The siblings were pronounced dead on the scene from blunt force trauma.



Alan Poggio holding son Julius (*Handout photo*)

Angie Brandon, their older sister, said Lindsay and Alan Poggio were close-knit. Brandon, 27, said her brother was a devoted father to his 3-year-old son Julius, and her sister was studying animation at California State University, Northridge.

"She was finishing school and taking her last class this summer," Brandon said. "She was a very happy person and very outgoing."

Benedetti was taken to Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital with minor injuries and released Monday.

The crash was determined not to be alcohol-related.

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