

Alleged getaway revealed

Lawyer says suspect knew girl died

By [KEVIN MARTIN](#), SUN MEDIA

Calgarian Colin Jones' actions after he ran down a pedestrian in a crosswalk show he knew he'd fatally struck someone and fled, a prosecutor said yesterday.

Crown lawyer David Torske said Jones' conduct, which included a cross-country voyage which was about to go international, suggested he was trying to make a getaway.

"It is quite a series of coincidences and weird occurrences," said Torske of the events which included a second car accident a police witness said was staged.

Torske said the crash of Jones' SUV into a parked truck in Carstairs the day after Lindsay Giacomelli was killed shows the accused was covering his tracks.

And Torske suggested Jones was on his way to England two days later to perhaps say goodbye to relatives before scurrying off to an unknown destination.

Police "searched his luggage and found bathing suits, warm weather clothing," Torske said of the investigation following Jones' March 20, 2005, arrest at Toronto.

Officers nabbed the city man on a plane awaiting take-off to London.

But defence lawyer Balfour Der said if his client was fleeing possible arrest and prosecution, he had better options.

Der noted Jones' friend, Norm Starnes, had offered him a trip to Thailand.

"If he was attempting to flee from a crime, one would have expected him to accept Mr. Starnes offer," Der told Justice Allen Sulatycky.

Jones is charged with knowingly leaving the scene of a fatal crash in connection with the March 17, 2005, collision on Bonaventure Dr. S.E., which took the life of Giacomelli, 20.

Der said evidence from four doctors supports the defence theory Jones did not know he had struck Giacomelli with his SUV when he drove off.

Sulatycky will hand down a verdict April 11.