

## CALGARY HERALD

### Suspect in accident granted bail: Lawyer denies that his client is a flight risk

Calgary Herald  
Friday, March 25, 2005  
Page: B3  
Section: City & Region  
Byline: Daryl Slade  
Source: Calgary Herald

A city man charged with hit and run in the death of 20-year-old Lindsay

**Giacomelli** on St. Patrick's Day was granted bail on Thursday, despite his arrest in Toronto trying to board a flight to England.

Provincial court Judge Sandra Hamilton ordered Colin Jones, 48, to be released on \$5,000 bail or \$10,000 non-cash assets, to surrender his passport to city police immediately and abide by an 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew.

Defence lawyer Balfour Der said outside court that his client is "maintaining his innocence at this point and time -- definitely."

He said Jones, who was born and raised in England and moved to Canada 25 years ago, has a very responsible job and has lived in the city for a number of years.

"He's not a flight risk, in terms of background," said Der.

"He's a construction manager for a large firm, has worked at that for a number of years, and apparently does very well at it.

"I can understand why the Crown would think he's a flight risk," Der said.

"My client was arrested in Toronto, but there can be a number of legitimate reasons why he would be there, such as visiting family in the United Kingdom, where he's from."

Earlier, Jones sat in the prisoner's dock in dark blue Calgary Remand Centre coveralls, either expressionless or with his head down, as Crown prosecutor Rob Bassett strenuously argued against his release from custody.

Details of the case cannot be reported because of a publication ban.

Calgary police said Jones was arrested by Peel Regional Police just before midnight on Monday, then charged with fleeing the scene of an accident and escorted back to Calgary on Wednesday.

**Giacomelli** was struck by an eastbound sport utility vehicle on

March 17 while crossing the street in a crosswalk in the 10900 block of Bonaventure Drive near Fairmount Drive S.E.

The vehicle slowed down initially, then quickly left the scene.

**Giacomelli**, a University of Calgary student known for her love of dance and Disney, died at 6:34 p.m. the following day and her funeral was held on Wednesday at Southwood United Church.

Jones, aside from his work, also was involved in the Calgary rugby community. Rugby officials declined any comment on the case.

He will be back in court on April 14, when it is expected he will make his plea and declare in which level of court he intends to have his trial heard.

dslade@theherald.canwest.com

Illustration:

- Colour Photo: Colin Jones

Idnumber: 200503250159

Edition: Final

Story Type: Crime

Length: 408 words

Keywords: CRIME; CALGARY; HIT & RUN

Illustration Type: Colour Photo