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Victim's final moments recalled

By [NADIA MOHARIB](#), CALGARY SUN

Lindsay Giacomelli was dying alone in the dark when she was found abandoned after being struck by a hit-and-run driver, court heard yesterday.

Brian Young found the 20-year-old woman motionless in the road, bleeding badly from the head.

He testified yesterday at Court of Queen's Bench in the trial of Colin Jones, who has pleaded not guilty in Giacomelli's death.

More than two dozen people filled the courtroom to support Giacomelli's parents as they listened to gut-wrenching details of their daughter's final moments on March 17, 2005.

Young became curious after hearing a loud noise while driving near a crosswalk on Bonaventure Dr.

"I heard a sound which was kind of an unusual sound," he told court.

"It was like if you had a large bag of laundry and threw it down the staircase -- a loud, thud noise."

A few seconds later he saw the headlights of a vehicle leaving, but focused on finding the noise's source.

Leaving his vehicle, he went towards the crosswalk where Lindsay was thrown after being struck while walking to Southcentre mall to buy her boyfriend a gift.

"I thought maybe it was a person ... Oh my God, it is a person and nobody is with the person," Young testified.

Young said he worried a motorist would hit her and rushed to her side to find her badly bleeding from her head, motionless.

Another witness, Christopher Patterson, testified seeing "a girl flying through the air" and hearing tires screeching before seeing an SUV come to a full stop in the road near Giacomelli.

"It's a little blurry, but for sure he stopped for a bit and drove around her," he told court.

"He went around and just drove off nonchalantly."

He also testified hearing a "loud thud" in the seconds before learning a pedestrian had been struck.

Crown attorney David Torske told court the circumstances of the case are both tragic and criminal.

"While Lindsay Giacomelli was taken by ambulance to the emergency room, the accused was at his residence eating pizza and watching a movie," he said.

Jones was arrested later in Toronto on a one-way flight to England.

Defence lawyer Balfour Der said the case for his client centres around the "essential element of in-tent."

Der said Jones has been clinically depressed for a number of years and did not have knowledge of the accident.

The trial resumes today.