

**B.C. IN BRIEF**

SURREY

**Man, 60, dies after head-on car crash**

A man died after a head-on smash in south Surrey yesterday involving a C-Fox 99.3 FM promotion car.

A police spokesman said the accident occurred at 5 p.m. on 16th Avenue, just west of 184 Avenue.

The man who died was in his 60s and driving a Chrysler sedan that spun into a ditch after the smash. The C-Fox promotion vehicle remained on the road. Both vehicles were heavily damaged. The female driver of the C-Fox car and female passenger in the Chrysler were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

VANCOUVER

**Mystery blaze**

A suspicious fire broke out in Stanley Park yesterday. The fire rating in the park is low and it was raining at 5 p.m. when the fire was reported. "That makes it . . . suspicious," said fire Capt. Rob Jones-Cook. The fire began in a stump in an area of the park north of Lost Lagoon that was heavily damaged during last winter's storms. Jones-Cook said the fire was put out before it spread to fallen trees.

COQUIHALLA

**Safer lane lines**

Highly reflective lane lines will be installed on two dangerous sections of the Coquihalla Highway. The lines will be applied on an 18-kilometre stretch between Larson Hill and Juliet Bridge and three kilometres between the Zopkios rest area and Great Bear Snowshed. The lines are more effective at night and during rain than traditional white lines.

VANCOUVER

**Woman mugged**

A 25-year-old woman is recovering from a broken arm after a purse-snatching in east Vancouver on Friday night. The woman was approached by a man in a car near Franklin and Salisbury. He grabbed her purse, throwing her to the ground and breaking her arm, then fled in the car. Police later arrested the man and he is facing a robbery charge.

VANCOUVER

**Hatchet attack**

A 49-year-old man was hit over the head with a hatchet in a fight in the Cobalt Hotel on Friday. A 26-year-old man is in custody and charged with assault with a weapon. The victim was taken to hospital with minor injuries.

— Staff Reporters

# Hit-run driver arrested again

**VANCOUVER:** Man who killed pedestrian collared for allegedly stealing wallet and cellphoneBY LAURA PAYTON  
STAFF REPORTER

A man who served only four months in jail for killing a pedestrian in a hit-and-run has been arrested again.

Xiao Zhang, a 21-year-old autistic man with borderline mental abilities, was released on parole just over two weeks ago after serving one third of his sentence.

Zhang struck and killed Dr. David Higgins of New Zealand on June 27, 2006, before speeding off. He was released on parole Aug. 28.

On Friday afternoon, a soccer team at Andy Livingstone Park in Vancouver allegedly caught him with a stolen wallet and cellphone

belonging to team members.

Police arrested him and are looking for a revocation of his parole, said Vancouver Police Department spokesman Const. Tim Fanning yesterday.

Higgins' sister, Margaret Higgins Chang, said she is glad to see him back in custody. But she isn't hopeful his parole will be revoked.

"We feel that he was let out far too early," said Chang, a Washington state lawyer.

"We're resigned to the fact that the Canadian justice system does not seem to be in the business of justice.

"I'm sure with everything else that's happened all down the line since David was killed,

he will be released immediately once again."

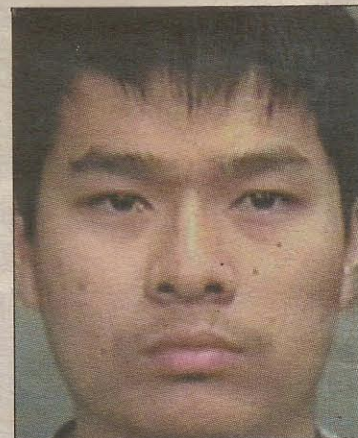
Zhang was sentenced to 11 months in jail in the hit-and-run. It was Zhang's second hit-and-run, although he was not charged for the first one, in which the victim wasn't badly hurt.

A psychological report entered as evidence in his sentencing said Zhang has borderline mental retardation and was barely capable of independent living.

Zhang pleaded guilty, but while awaiting sentencing for the hit-and-run, he fled to Toronto.

When he was arrested there, he had rented a car and was trying to rent an apartment.

At his parole hearing, board



XIAO ZHANG

members heard that Zhang is "very immature and very manipulative." They noted that he is "pampered."

Zhang was to serve the full length of his sentence in the community until it was completed in March.

The conditions imposed on him include living with his father and checking in with a parole officer weekly.

Once his sentence was completed, he would have begun two years of probation, including a 6 p.m. curfew and 50 hours of community service.

Zhang was also banned from driving for five years.

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American activist Alison Bodine, pictured speaking at an anti-war conference, was arrested and held overnight in a Surrey jail last week. LES BAZSO — THE PROVINCE

## U.S. anti-war activist faces immigration hearing today

BY KENT SPENCER  
STAFF REPORTER

An American anti-war activist, who was jailed overnight in Surrey, faces a hearing today that could ban her from Canada for two years.

Alison Bodine, 22, believes she was arrested by the Canada Border Services Agency because she was carrying publications opposing Canadian military actions in Afghanistan.

"[Canada's border guards] identified me as a political activist," she said yesterday. "I haven't done anything illegal. I've been a student at UBC for four years and crossed the border dozens of times."

Bodine was released by border guards Friday night after a radio interview with her was broadcast from jail earlier in the day and a demonstration held on her behalf.

The immigration hearing is slated for 2 p.m. at 300 West Georgia. Vancouver immigration lawyer Gabriel Chand said the hearing will determine if Bodine should be banned from Canada.

"They believe she misrepresented herself [entering the country last Monday]," he said. "I don't believe she did."

Chand said the case is unusual because Bodine was on her way out of Canada on Thursday when she was

arrested on a Canada-wide immigration warrant.

"I was surprised. Usually they wouldn't pursue the matter because she was leaving," he said.

Bodine believes the episode is meant to "intimidate" others who are opposed to what she called Canada's "war" in Afghanistan.

"I never expected to be jailed for my beliefs," she said. "Being in the Surrey lockup was alarming."

"My release from jail was a victory but I want all allegations against me dropped."

The Canada Border Service Agency refused comment.

Bodine said four bags of items that officials seized include a book of Ansel Adams's nature photos.

Seventy-one Canadians have died since Canada's military mission to Afghanistan began soon after terrorist attacks on the U.S. in 2001.

According to Foreign Affairs, Canada has allocated \$616.5 million for aid, covering 2001 to 2009. Foreign Affairs says Canada has helped clear about one-third of the country's 10 million to 15 million mines. Some 2,500 Canadian troops are committed to remain until 2009.

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