



The first of B.C. Ferries' new Super C-class vessels will be passing through the Panama Canal tomorrow, a few days behind schedule due to heavy canal traffic. The Coastal Renaissance is expected to arrive in B.C. Dec. 15.

SOURCE: NEWS1130.COM

Axe-attackers seek mercy

By **ANDREW FIFIELD**
for Metro Vancouver

Lawyers for three young men convicted of a brutal axe attack that left a teenager paralyzed argued against a Crown request to sentence them as adults yesterday.

Michael Levy, then 17, was attending a dance at Surrey's Tynehead Hall on Oct. 28, 2006 when he was punched, pepper sprayed and struck three times in the back of the head with a hatchet.

The attack, which severed Levy's spinal cord, left him clinging to life and permanently paralyzed.

Outside Surrey Provincial Court yesterday, Craig Sicott, a lawyer for one of the convicted teens said that a more lenient sentence of two years would be sufficient for his client.

The three could serve up to 14 years each if sentenced as



ANDREW FIFIELD/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Defence lawyer Craig Sicott answers media questions outside Surrey Provincial Court yesterday. He argued against a Crown request to sentence his client, convicted in a 2006 axe attack, as an adult.

adults.

"Psychiatric and psychological examiners have stated that he has shown remorse for his actions," Sicott said, while acknowledging that the heinous nature of the crime

will likely influence the judge's decision.

It could take until the New Year for sentences to be handed down, as one of the men is looking for a new lawyer.

As young offenders, the three convicts cannot be named.

what do you think?

» Let us know at vancouverletters@metronews.ca

letters

Deportation order called wrong

Re: "Activist deported."

On Oct. 31

I attended the sentencing hearing for Alison Bodine, the young Colorado citizen, UBC grad and articulate peace activist who was sentenced to denial of entry into Canada for two years. The adjudicator, in objectively reviewing the evidence, made it very clear that Bodine should not have been denied entry but that he did not possess the authority to reverse the border guard's decision. Another gross injustice has occurred and the federal court must intervene. Canada would do well to encourage articulate, principled and committed young people like

Alison Bodine to contribute to our society and not bind them in red tape.

-FRED MUZIN/BURNABY

Support for Matasi pours in

Re: "Matasi remembered."

I would like to express my utter support and condolences for Lee Matasi's family. The gun violence will never end if a killer can make bail and be under house arrest only. If our city wants to end this violence, the first step is harsher punishment and consequences for carrying a gun as well as taking someone's life. Or else it will never end as we can see from all the recent slayings.

-FARAH JAMIL/VIA E-MAIL

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