



- Home
- Local News
- Business
- Prep Sports
- Sports
- Opinion
- Obituaries
- Paid
- Obituaries
- Milestones
- Living
- Entertain.
- Women's
- Journal
- Site Map
- Search
- Archive

- World News
- MoneyWire

- Mytown
- Classifieds
- Special
- Features

- Traffic
- Weather
- Lotto
- Crossword
- Dilbert
- Horoscope
- Movies
- Komo TV
- TV Listings

- Home Delivery
- Advertising
- Jobs with Us
- Print with Us
- About Us
- Contact Us



Guilty plea entered in crash that killed man: Prosecutor to recommend 5 1/2-year prison sentence

2006-05-11
by [Noel S. Brady](#)
Journal Reporter

BELLEVUE -- A 21-year-old man pleaded guilty as charged Wednesday for getting drunk and causing a grisly traffic accident here that killed 20-year-old Robert Vasen and injured at least four other young men.

Vasen was from Beaux Arts, a lakefront village between Bellevue and Lake Washington.

In a Seattle courtroom, Jarrod Wayne Bandy of Sequim repeated "guilty" as a judge read each of his three original charges -- vehicular homicide and two counts of vehicular assault for two men who survived serious injuries in the March 25 crash.

Sentencing is scheduled for May 26. Senior Deputy Prosecutor Amy Freedheim said she'll recommend a judge sentence Bandy to 5½ years in prison, the top of the standard range. Freedheim said she based her recommendation on Bandy's flagrant recklessness and the seriousness of the crash.

"There was some pretty bad driving that (Bandy) had been doing all night until this accident," Freedheim said outside the courtroom. "And several kids were hurt."

At least two of the five passengers in Bandy's 1993 Jeep Cherokee told police Bandy had been "acting weird" and driving recklessly the night of the accident, charging papers say. At one point, Bandy turned up the volume on his car stereo and started dancing in his seat as he drove, witnesses said.

It was about 11:30 p.m., and Bandy was driving about 50 mph up a hill on Northeast Second Street in Bellevue, when a traffic light at the approaching intersection of 108th Avenue Northeast turned yellow. He accelerated to race the light.

According to witnesses, the light was red when Bandy entered the intersection and slammed into the rear driver's side door of a BMW, driven by 22-year-old Ryan Kellogg. There were four passengers in the BMW, including Vasen in the back seat.

After the accident, Bandy admitted to running the light. He also said he had had some beer and vodka to drink.

Both Kellogg and Bandy were arrested at the scene for investigation of vehicular assault. A blood draw revealed Bandy's blood-alcohol level was 0.16, twice the legal limit of 0.08, charging papers state. Kellogg's test showed low levels of alcohol, so prosecutors did not charge him.

Kellogg, Vasen and three other passengers in the BMW were taken to local hospitals. Neither Bandy nor any of his five passengers were seriously injured.

Vasen died from his severe head and neck injuries a few hours later. He was a 2003 graduate of Bellevue High School, where he excelled at basketball and soccer. At the time of his death, Vasen was studying business and marketing at the University of Washington.



Ads by Google



Eastside:
King County Journal
11400 S.E. 8th St.
Suite 450
Bellevue, WA 98004
Phone: (425) 455-2222
Fax: (425) 453-4193

South County:
King County Journal
600 Washington Ave. South
Kent, WA 98032
Phone: 253-872-6600
Fax: 253-854-1006

All materials Copyright © 2006 Horvitz Newspapers, Inc.
Any questions? See our [contact page](#).