

- The X Factor: Eoghan jets home 121 comments
- Bus crash victim named43 comments
- Consumers paying `too much` for oil12 comments

LOCAL NEWS



Michael McIlveen

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Friend admits hating those `involved in murder`

The trial of murder victim Mickey-Bo McIIveen has heard a friend of murdered schoolboy Mickey-Bo McIIveen admitted hating those accused of involvement in his killing.

However he denied he was out for retribution for the May 2006 attack.

The teenager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, also admitted that he partly blames himself for the death of his 15-year-old friend, but rejected suggestions he`d fallen into the temptation of sharing that blame with the accused.

"They did enough for themselves," he told Antrim Crown Court where five of six young Ballymena youths are on trial for the murder of the schoolboy.

He died from head injuries on May 8 2006, the day after he was chased and attacked in an alleyway.

Defence QC Brian McCartney suggested to the teen that his evidence of Mickey-Bo being kicked up to 70 times was not bourne out by the evidence which he had linked to his "desire for retribution for these young men in the dock."

"No sir," replied the teen who initially expressed his dislike for the defendants when pressed by their legal team.

When asked again: "Do you hate them?" the teenager admitted: "I would say so ves."

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