

Accused feared jailed husband

By PAM DOUGLAS
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A woman who admits she killed her two preschool children and then attempted suicide was sleep-deprived, in a state of terror, and afraid someone was going to kill her at the time of the crime, a jury has heard.

Ingrid Mathison, 37, of Etobicoke has pleaded not guilty to second degree murder charges in connection with

the August 22, 1994 smothering deaths of her sons William, 4, and John, 2. The two youngsters were found with plastic bags and pillows over their heads in the beds in room 106 at the 7 and 7 Motel on Highway 7 near Goreway Drive in Brampton.

Mathison has admitted killing the youngsters, but defence attorney Joseph Neuberger says her state of mind at the time is the key element in the case.

Neuberger told the four-woman, eight-man jury that Mathison's state of mind rendered her incapable of "forming the intent" to commit murder.

Mathison was afraid her husband, Bob, was going to reach out beyond his jail cell to harm her, and her fears that someone was going to kill her became all-consuming, Neuberger said in his opening address to the jury Thurs-

Please see page 6