

Police arrest youth in mall gun incident

RICHMOND HILL — Running around Richmond Heights Plaza, waving a B.B. pistol at pedestrians and cars, resulted in the arrest of an Aurora youth last week.

Charged with possession of a dangerous weapon was Douglas Lyon, 17, of Spruce Street, who was apprehended by an off-duty policeman following the incident.

Marijuana, too
Marijuana was also very much in the air, police making several arrests in that department.

One of the most unlikely spots for its consumption took place atop the roof of

a senior citizens' home on Rupert Street in Whitchurch-Stouffville April 2.

Police charged a 14-year-old juvenile with possession of marijuana. James Noble, 18, of Westlawn Crescent, faces a charge of consuming liquor in a place other than a dwelling.

Police also carried out a search of a home in Markham the same day, and confiscated 15 pounds of marijuana, packaged in kilos and assorted weights, stored in Royal Mail sacks.

Facing charges of possession of marijuana for purposes of trafficking, are Ken Wilson, 26, Terry Jones, 26, both of Concession 9, Markham.



(Photo by Hogg)

Two sentenced after brutal robbery here

TORONTO — Two youths who robbed and stabbed a Richmond Hill man and left him for dead last summer have been sentenced to prison and reformitory terms after pleading guilty to robbery.

Leslie Graham Page, 18, of King City, and Ian William Rooks, 17, formerly of Richmond Hill, robbed Gary William Bettridge, 29, after he gave the youths a ride in his car July 3.

Mr. Justice John O'Driscoll sentenced Page to four years in penitentiary and one year consecutive for an earlier robbery at a milk store.

He sentenced Rooks to two years less a day definite and two years less a day indeterminate in an Ontario reformitory.

After the youths pleaded guilty to robbery with violence, charges of attempted murder and kidnapping against them were dropped.

Bettridge said they held a knife to his throat, robbed him of \$32, stabbed him twice and left him for dead in a Richmond Hill swamp.

He said the youths called themselves devil worshippers.

Kids find skeleton

RICHMOND HILL — The badly decomposed body of a man found by three children in some bushes Saturday in Whitchurch-Stouffville, has been

tentatively identified as that of a man who disappeared from his Richmond Hill home three years ago.

York Regional Deputy Police Chief Wally Harkness said the body is thought to have been that of Ross Wells Saunders, who was 46 at the time of his disappearance from his Markham Road residence.

However, checks of his teeth have to be carried out before positive identification can be made.

No foul play was suspected in the matter.

Harkness said police would also like to get in touch with Mrs. Elizabeth Saunders, also known as Betty Taylor, formerly of 444 Markham Rd., "in connection with an urgent family matter".

The children discovered the body while playing just south of Davis Drive, between Concessions 5 and 6.

Tories meet

NEWMARKET — Two of the also-rans in the recent Progressive Conservative federal leadership race will be on hand for the party's York-Simcoe association annual meeting here tonight (Wednesday).

John Fraser, Vancouver South MP, will be guest speaker, and York Simcoe MP Sinclair Stevens will give a report.

The meeting, also to include election of 1976 officers, will be held at the Newmarket Community Centre at 8 p.m.

Neighboring Conservatives in the federal York North riding, meanwhile, have announced postponement of their annual meeting scheduled for Monday. A new date will be announced soon.

Sunshine and syrup

China has a New Year, New Orleans a Mardi Gras — and Maple, Ontario has a syrup festival. This year's, the sixth annual, was held Saturday and attracted the biggest crowd ever. The Lions Club-sponsored event had arts and crafts sales, puppet shows, musical entertainment and, most of all, pancakes and syrup and a sunny day to make it all the more enjoyable. Shown having a tasty sample is Ed Willmot of Ryder Road, Maple.

Catholic school expenses soar

RICHMOND HILL — An expected 20 per cent increase will result in a York Region Separate School Board budget of about \$6.6 million this year.

Education Director John Zupancic said about three-fourths of the increase reflects continued growth of the separate school system.

The remainder of the increase will go to meet higher costs in virtually all areas, including salaries of teaching and non-teaching staff.

The board's 1975 budget was \$5.4 million, and this year will be the first time it has passed the \$6 million mark.

Enrolment in the separate schools was 6,758 last September and is expected to climb to at least 7,030 by next September.

Budget estimates have been prepared by administrative staff but not yet made official by the board.

Concert Sunday

RICHMOND HILL — A musical program for Palm Sunday is being presented at 7:30 p.m. Sunday in Richmond Hill Presbyterian church by the combined choirs of Richmond Hill and Woodbridge Presbyterian churches.

The major selection will be the cantata, The Seven Words of Christ, by Dubois.

Board still debating Salinger 'profanity'

AURORA — Chairman Douglas Allen of Richmond Hill had to cast the deciding vote when York County Board of Education found itself deadlocked last week on whether to admit J. D. Salinger's *Nine Stories* to area high schools.

As a result, the stories by the author of the famed *Catcher in the Rye* will be part of the secondary schools' English reading requirements.

Opposing the motion was Trustee Donald Cameron of Vaughan, who said the stories provided an "easy way for an English teacher to teach English."

He said he opposed censorship, but as a Christian he found the language, which occasionally took the Lord's name in vain, offensive.

Trustee Craig Oribar of Newmarket, himself a Presbyterian minister, commended Cameron for his stand, but added he couldn't support it.

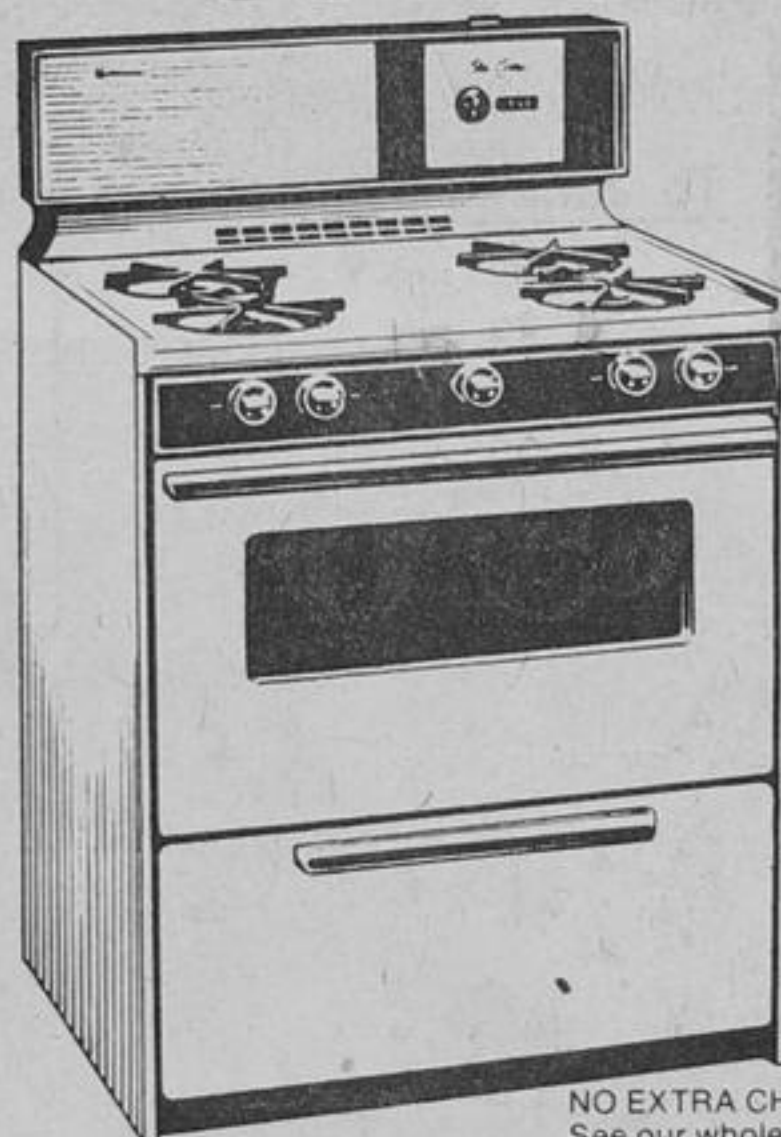
The way to learn good English is to be exposed to some bad, too, Cribar said. "Salinger's writing has lots of other benefits," he said.

Trustee Donald Sim of Markham said it wasn't the board's job to read every book and say: "Is this the kind of book we'd approve? Our duty is to look at this and say, could any reasonable person approve it?"

He said he agreed with much Cameron said; it wasn't a book he would have chosen. However, it wasn't bad by contemporary standards; also, the one who used the offensive language was never the hero.

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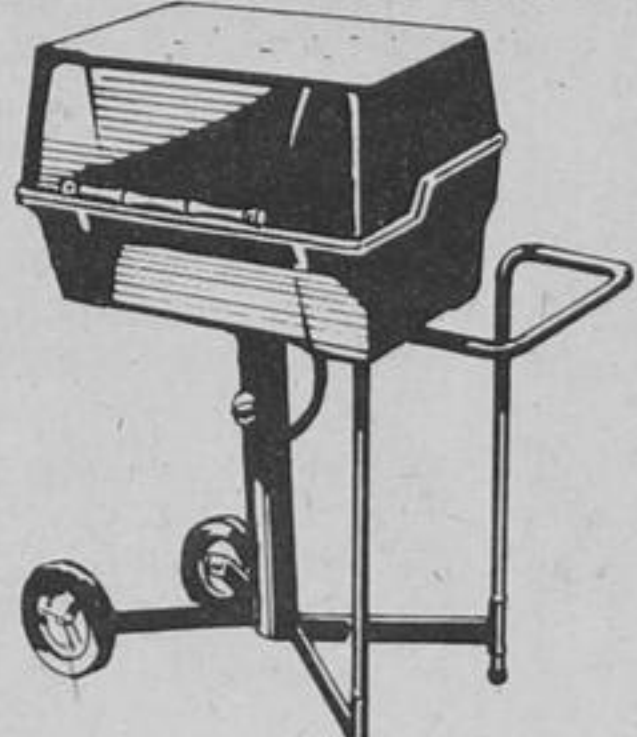
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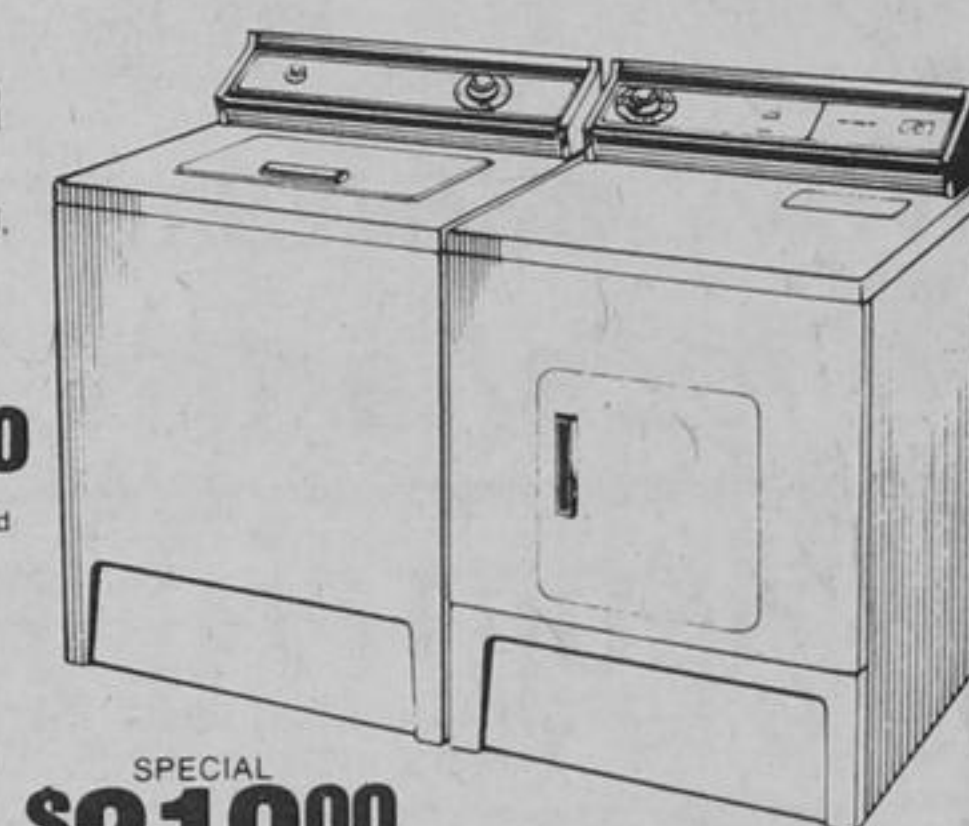
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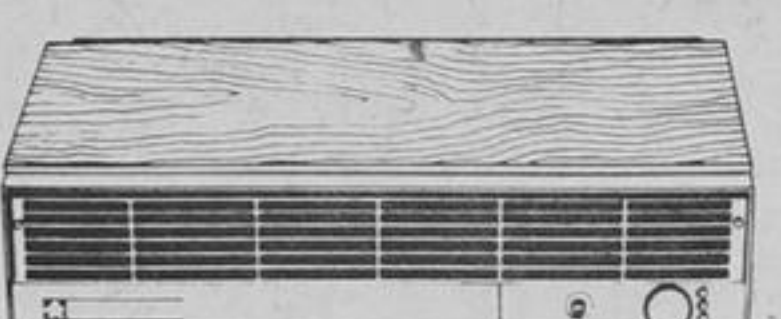
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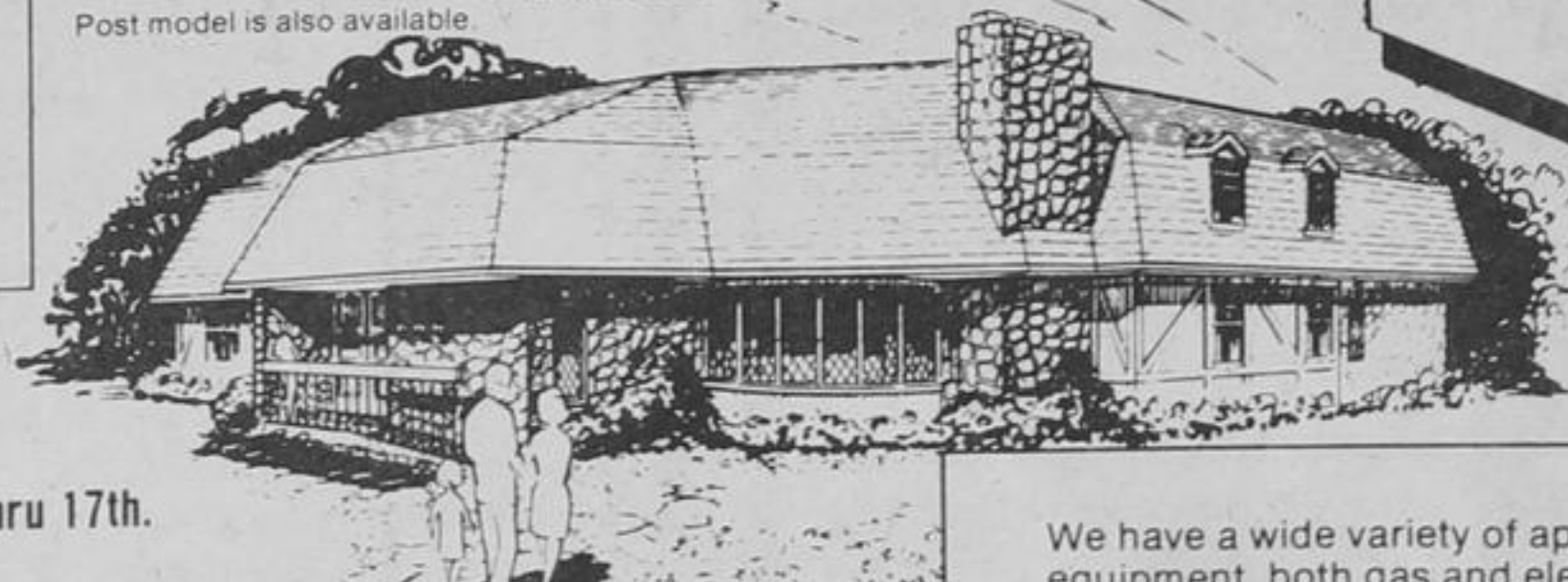
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