

Search on in region for more than \$200,000 in stolen watches

By **KATHLEEN GRIFFIN**
Staff Reporter

York Region police are asking the public to keep an eye out for close to 3,000 Lorus watches - worth in excess of \$200,000 - stolen from a Markham warehouse last December.

At least 13 different styles of timepieces were stolen, including four Mickey and one Minnie Mouse model, two sports styles with alarms and memory capabilities, as well as men's and women's dress models.

More than 1,000 units of one type of Mickey Mouse dress watch, valued at \$89.95 each, totals for a whopping \$94,000 value.

"A total of 2,921 watches, most still in their boxes and brand new, were stolen," said Det. Bisson Ramdewar. "The total theft value is \$202,933.95."

Suspects smashed out the panel of an overhead bay door, then used bolt cutters to break the lock at the Idema Rd. factory.

They used a small forklift to ram through the fencing surrounding the secure shipping and receiving area, then loaded the watches into a waiting van.

The van, a 1995 green Plymouth Voyager, was stolen about the same time, 9 p.m. on Dec. 12, from the Frankie Tomatoes parking lot near the industrial plaza in the Woodbine and Steeles Aves area.

It was recovered, abandoned, in a deserted parking lot in downtown Montreal Jan. 6. While Montreal police conducted forensic testing on the van, looking for fingerprints and other evidence, results were

negative, Ramdewar said. The watches may be here or in Montreal, he said. York Region police are checking flea

markets across the region for the watches, as are police in Montreal. Ramdewar warns those running booths at flea

markets to beware when buying watches from suppliers - they may be stolen. Anyone with information

about either the watches or the stolen van is asked to York Regional Police at 881-1221 or CrimeStoppers at 222-TIPS.



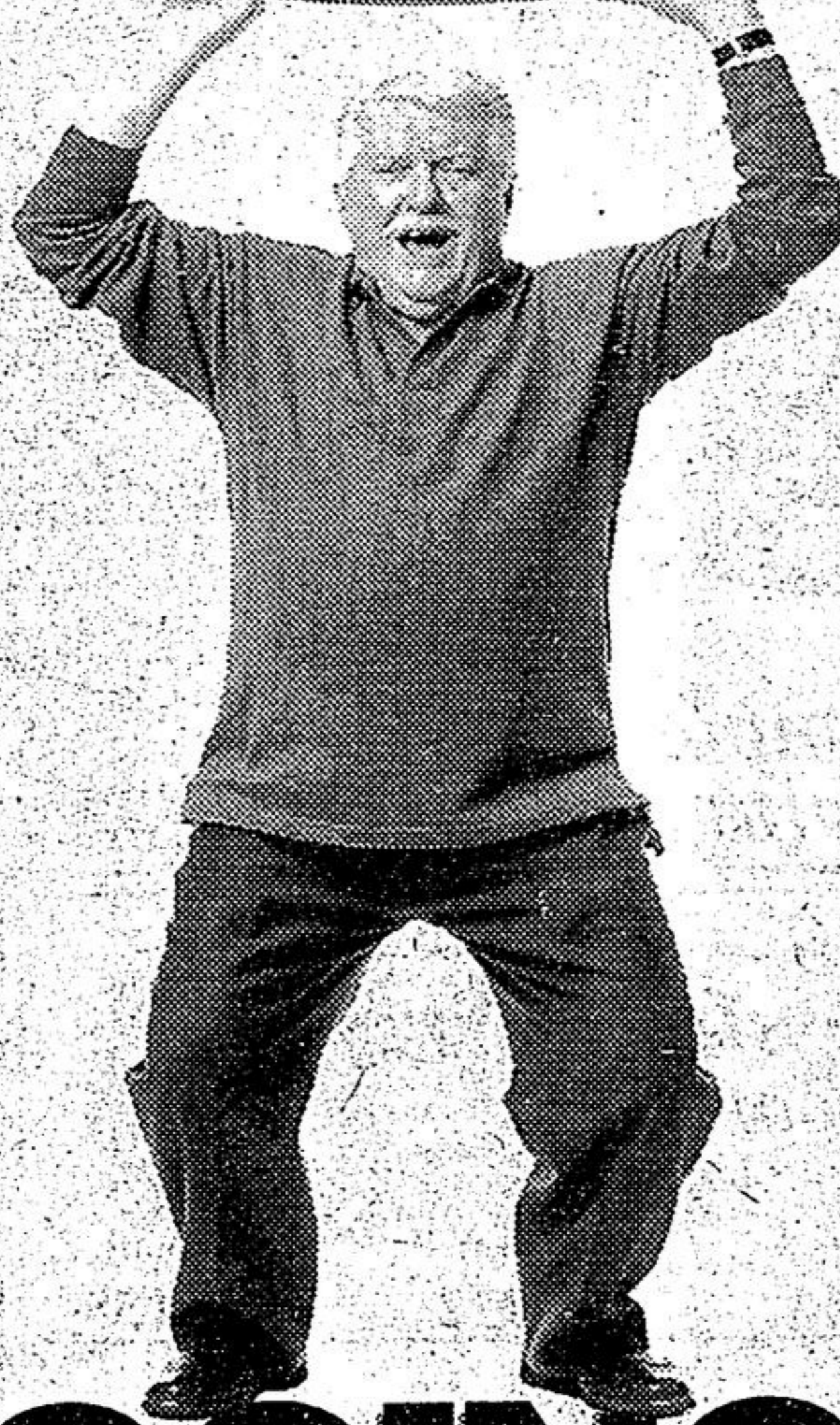
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*Like all good things, this sale doesn't last very long, and there are a few things we just couldn't include: cosmetics, fragrances, Bath and Body, clearance books, concessions and services, Easy Spirit shoes, Eaton Gift Certificates, all Jockey and Calvin Klein apparel, Liz Claiborne and Guess fashion accessories, men's and women's designer collections, Mont Blanc accessories, Prospector footwear, Panasonic GA00 TVs, computers, pre-recorded videos, CDs & tapes, Royal Velvet towels, Eaton Home towels, Sunglass Hut, watch straps, sale priced merchandise in fine jewellery and Gucci watches. These discount offers cannot be combined together or with any other tax savings offer with Home Payment Options. †Eaton's will deduct an amount equivalent to the GST from the total price of your purchase. Be sure to bring some ID with you (since you probably don't look 65).
And if you're not sure about anything, just ask a Sales Associate.

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ADVERTISING CORRECTION
In our Spring Fashion/Home insert, included in this newspaper this week. Please note the following: Page 69 - "Eloquence" from Wamsutta offer is incorrectly described. Copy should read: "100% combed cotton sheets." Copy for these offers is incorrect and should read: Page 57 - All regular priced bedroom furniture on sale. Pages 58, 59, 60, 61 - \$100 off all regular priced sofas; \$50 off all regular priced tables, \$50 off all regular priced chairs. Pages 62, 63 - up to \$200 off all regular priced leather. Page 64 - up to \$100 off all regular priced sofas.

Inadvertently, the errors listed appeared in our advertising. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or confusion to our customers.

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