

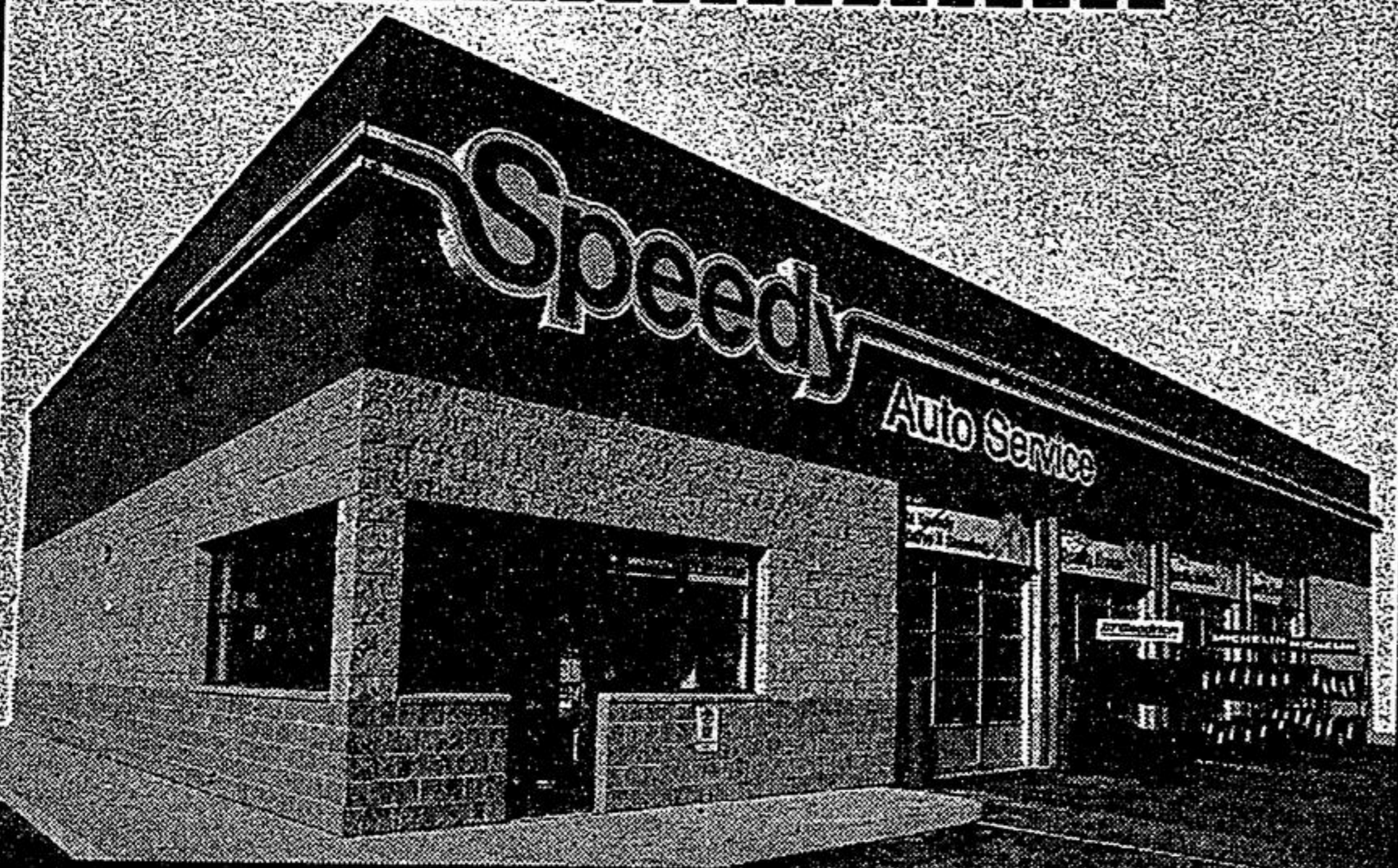
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CRIME WATCH

Naked fugitive spotted on weekend

A wanted man who escaped naked from the York Regional Police station in Markham Wednesday night was seen at a Thornhill plaza on the weekend, York Regional Police reported.

A man matching the description of Chaher Chahrouh was at a John Street and Bayview Avenue plaza wearing a blue sweatshirt, tattered gray sweatpants and running shoes.

Weekend sightings were also reported in downtown Toronto, but we've yet to grab him, Det. Sgt. Wayne Kalinski said yesterday.

The Richmond Hill man, described as white with a dark complexion, 135 pounds and about five-foot-10-inches tall with brown eyes and dyed blond, curly, shoulder-length hair, is considered dangerous.

While being arrested at a John Street fast food restaurant in Thornhill last Wednesday, Chahrouh soiled himself. Allowed to shower at the Markham station, he seized an opportunity to run outside and eluded police.

Missing girl back at home

A nine-year-old girl who went missing shortly after 5 p.m. Friday was found hiding in the bushes of a nearby school the following day, a York Region officer said yesterday.

"She was out all night," Det. Sgt. Al Low said.

The girl was dropped off from camp earlier Friday afternoon and was seen entering her home by the bus driver who dropped her off.

She was reported missing by her mother, who returned home around 8 p.m. that night.

Low said police called in the helicopter and canine units but the girl was not spotted.

A ground search in the immediate and surrounding areas of the girl's home also came up empty.

Suspicious blazes investigated

A series of small suspicious fires were reported Saturday in Markham.

Police are treating a blaze in a Randall Public School portable at 11 a.m. as an arson. Fire damage was approximately \$15,000.

"It's definitely a vandalism/arson fire," acting

Fire Chief Bob Miles said, adding most furniture and equipment inside had been stored elsewhere.

Police want to speak to anyone with information about two children seen running away from the scene of another suspicious fire on Kenborough Court, not far from the Randall Avenue school.

The Kenborough Court fire was set in the passenger side of a 1986 Honda Prelude, causing \$3,000 in damage.

Police said a boy of nine to 11 years, four-foot-nine-inches tall, and a girl of 12 or 13 years wearing a striped shirt, four-foot-11-inches tall, were seen running east.

The Markham Fire Department also responded to fires set in two garbage containers on the same day in the same area.

Anyone with information is asked to call Det. Const. Keith Freemantle at 881-1221, ext. 7541.

Man with machine gun holds up gas bar

York Regional Police are investigating after a machine gun-toting bandit held up the Petro Canada gas bar at Bayview and Steeles avenues early Monday morning.

According to Det. Const. Graham Beverly, at approximately 12:30 a.m. a masked bandit armed with a machine gun-type rifle entered the gas bar kiosk. There were no other customers on the lot.

The attendant, a 47-year-old male, complied with demands to hand over money. Anyone with information about the robbery is asked to call the hold-up squad at 881-1221, ext. 7873, or Crime Stoppers at 222-TIPS.

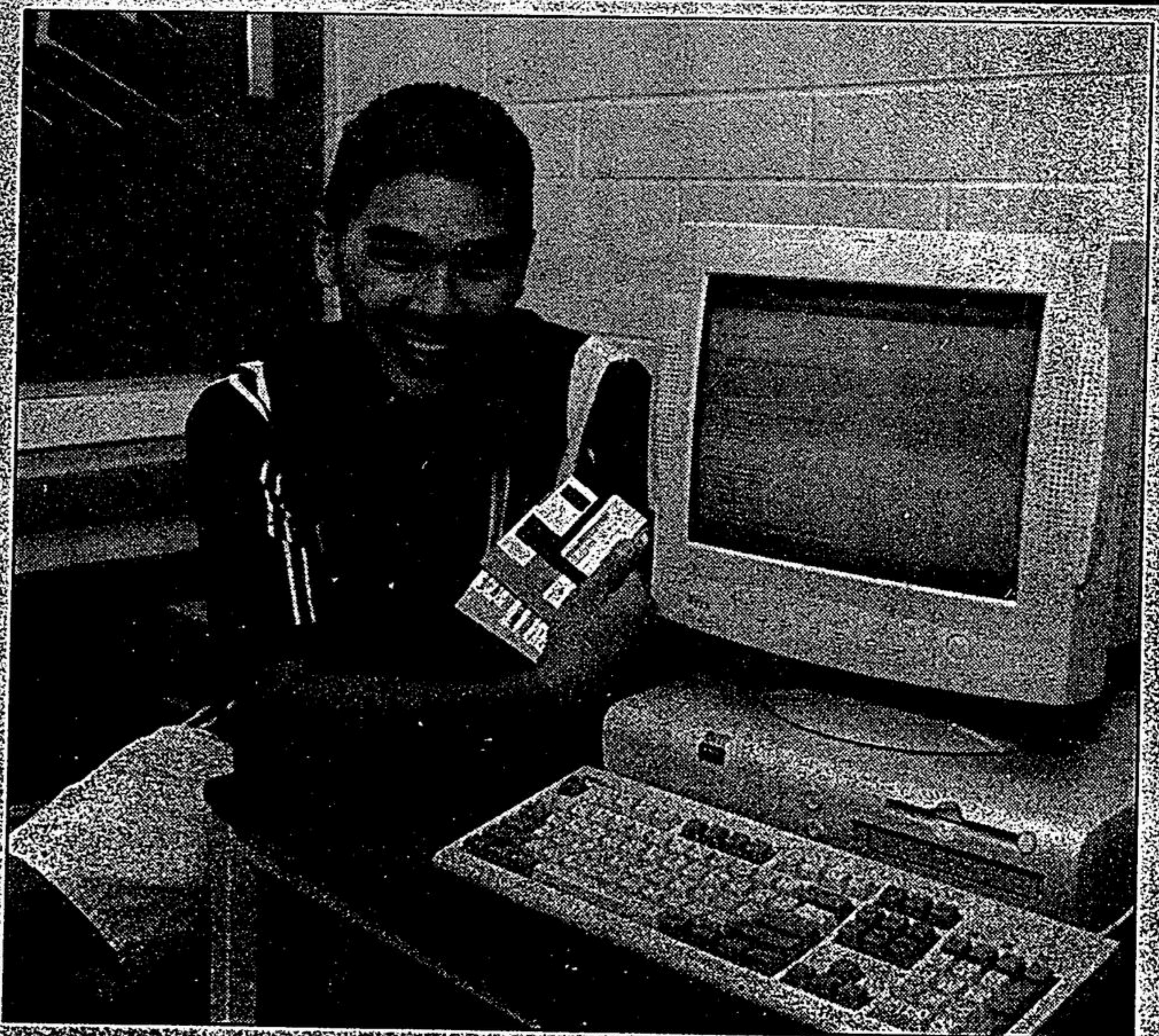
Arrest in assault

Police have arrested a male youth in connection with a baseball bat attack last month that left another male teen with a broken forearm.

The incident took place June 18 near Middlefield Road and Steeles Avenue in Markham.

Police said the 17-year-old victim is a former acquaintance of the second youth, who was arrested and charged Friday with assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm and threatening death.

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Angus was one of 13 students across Canada who were partnered with Royal Bank.

Working with Claudia Nevery at Royal Bank, Angus helped prepare an electronic catalogue of self-study course schedules and resources for employees.

Royal Bank, as Shad Valley's first national partner and sponsor, would like to thank Shad Valley for putting our donation to such good use.

For more information on the Shad Valley student or partner opportunity, visit the Shad Valley website at www.shad.ca or call (519) 884-8844.

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