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Grieving dad boycotts Alliance YOA forum

*Father of slain boy
avoids political arena*

BY LISA QUEEN
Staff Writer

The father of a slain Calgary teen is boycotting a Newmarket forum on the Young Offenders Act organized by local Canadian Alliance party officials, claiming they're trying to politicize his campaign to toughen the legislation.

"We've decided to pull away from this because we felt we were being drawn into a political arena," said Bruce McGloan, now in the Greater Toronto Area as part of his cross-Canada Journey for Justice trip.

Jack Hurst, past-president of the York North Alliance riding association, has apologized but insisted the problem is the result of a misunderstanding.

McGloan, whose 17-year-old son Clayton was beaten to death two years ago, is working with Newmarket's Joe Wamback, whose son Jonathan was beaten into a coma last summer, to collect signatures lobbying the federal government to change the Young Offenders Act.

Both McGloan and Wamback are furious with an advertisement placed by the Alliance in Sunday's Era-Banner inviting residents to a public meeting Thursday night.

The ad says the Alliance is presenting Journey for Justice. While

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YORK POLICE TRIBUNAL RULES COP DID SLOPPY INVESTIGATION INTO BABY'S TRAGIC DEATH

Officer guilty of misconduct

BY KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
Staff Writer

A York Regional Police officer accused of conducting a shoddy investigation into the accidental death of baby Zachary Morrison and of lying to Crown attorneys was found guilty of discreditable conduct Monday.

"His conduct during this investigation was highly unprofessional

and far below the standards expected from a police officer," said adjudicator Deputy Chief Terence Kelly.

Const. Neil Orr will be sentenced Sept. 20 and his penalty could range from a reprimand to dismissal.

Zachary was seven months old when he was found hanging by the straps of his car seat at the home of his babysitter, Cynthia Taylor, in

April 1997.

Taylor had left the car seat on a wing chair in an upstairs bedroom of her Mount Albert home. The baby died 16 days later.

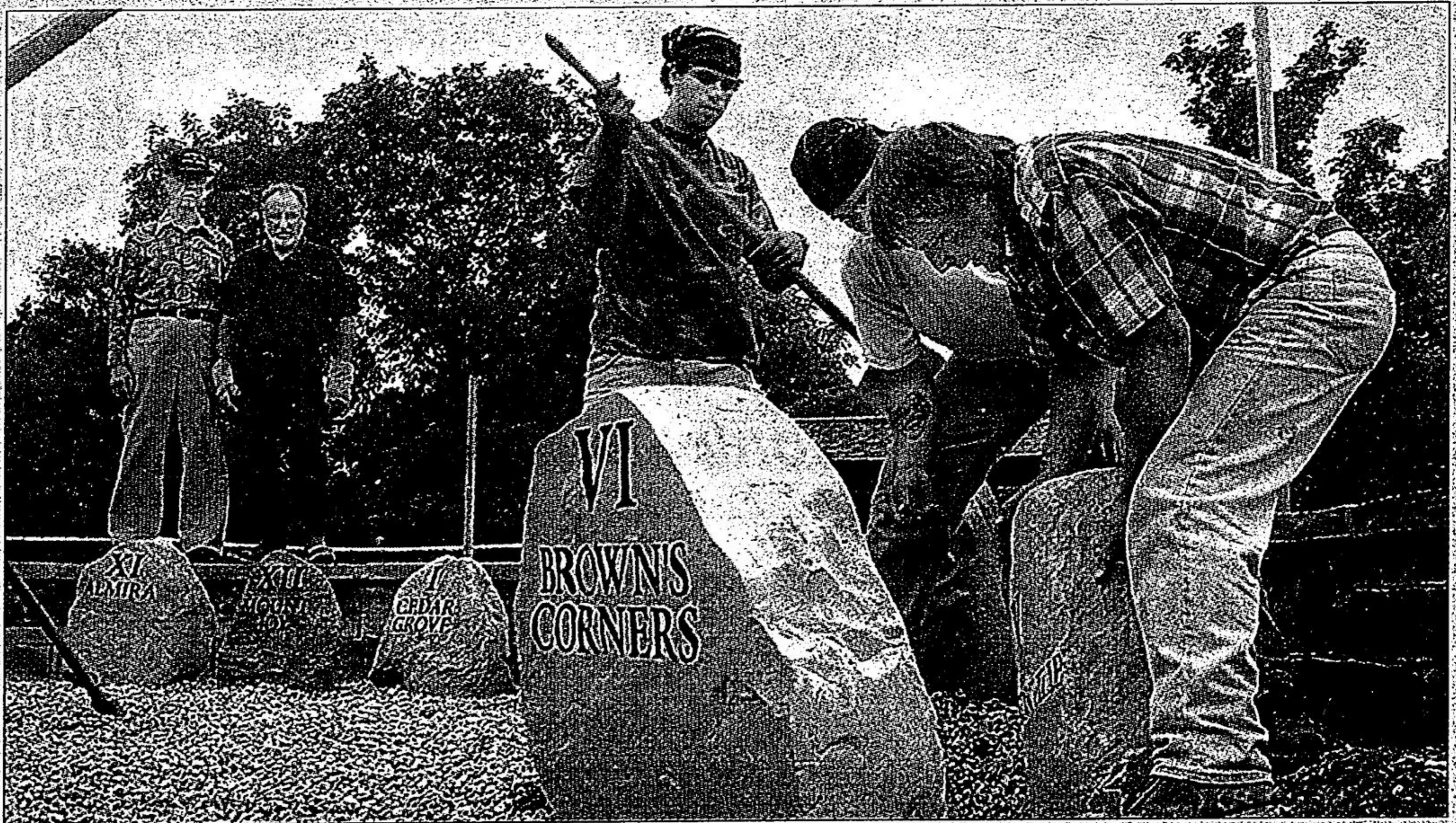
Orr conducted the initial investigation and told Crown attorney Harold Dale he felt the tragedy was a freak accident. As a result, no criminal charges were laid.

In preparation for an inquest

into the baby's death, Dale and senior Crown Bob Ash repeatedly asked Orr to check Taylor's background, including whether she had a criminal record.

Orr told them several times Taylor's record was clean, despite the fact that in January, 1998, he accessed and printed off six inci-

See PROSECUTORS, page 5.



TELLING TIME

Sundial designer Jim Beierl (left) and Markham horologist Raymond Fugeman watch workers from The Granite Works (Andrea Tramonti, Chris Clark and Dave van Nostrand) install the hour stones for the millennium sundial at the Markham Museum Friday.

Ross Dixon
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