

# 'Unimaginable journey' ends for York cop's family

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Swarmed by reporters one last time outside the Newmarket courthouse yesterday, Sonja Plunkett's voice was firm.

She had just finished listening to Justice Michelle Fuerst sentence Nadeem Jiwa, the man convicted of killing her husband, York Regional Police Det.-Const. Robert Plunkett, to 12 years behind bars.

It was the day she and her three children could finally close the door on the judicial system, she

said, but expressed regret another policing family has just walked through one of its own.

## 12-YEAR SENTENCE

"Our family has been taken on a very long and unimaginable journey, one that no family — let alone a police family — should ever have to endure," Mrs. Plunkett said, flanked by family, friends and the highest ranking officers of her husband's police force. "It could have all been so easily avoided."

In passing sentence on Mr. Jiwa, 23, of Scarborough, who was con-

victed by a jury of manslaughter in April, Justice Fuerst gave him credit for nearly four years he spent in pre-sentence custody at a two-for-one value, which means he will spend another four years and two months in federal prison.

Justice Fuerst told the court she rejected his claim he did not know he was surrounded by police officers trying to arrest him just before 5 a.m. Aug. 2, 2007 on Ascot Crescent in Markham.

In an effort to avoid arrest, Mr. Jiwa continued to drive the stolen

Honda he used to commit airbag thefts, even after Det.-Const. Plunkett was crushed against a tree and his aorta fatally severed, Justice Fuerst said.

## THOUGHTS FOR STYLES FAMILY

It was only when he realized he was trapped by other officers that Mr. Jiwa gave up the chase, she ruled. Det.-Const. Plunkett was clinging to the Honda's door while attempting to arrest Mr. Jiwa when it began reversing. The car was stopped after being rammed by another officer.

Along with the prison sentence, Justice Fuerst ordered Mr. Jiwa to provide a DNA sample and banned him from driving for a decade and from possessing weapons for life.

Mrs. Plunkett also expressed condolences to the family of Const. Garrett Styles, killed Tuesday morning while conducting a traffic stop in East Gwillimbury.

"Another journey has just begun," she said.

For more on this story, go to [yorkregion.com](http://yorkregion.com)

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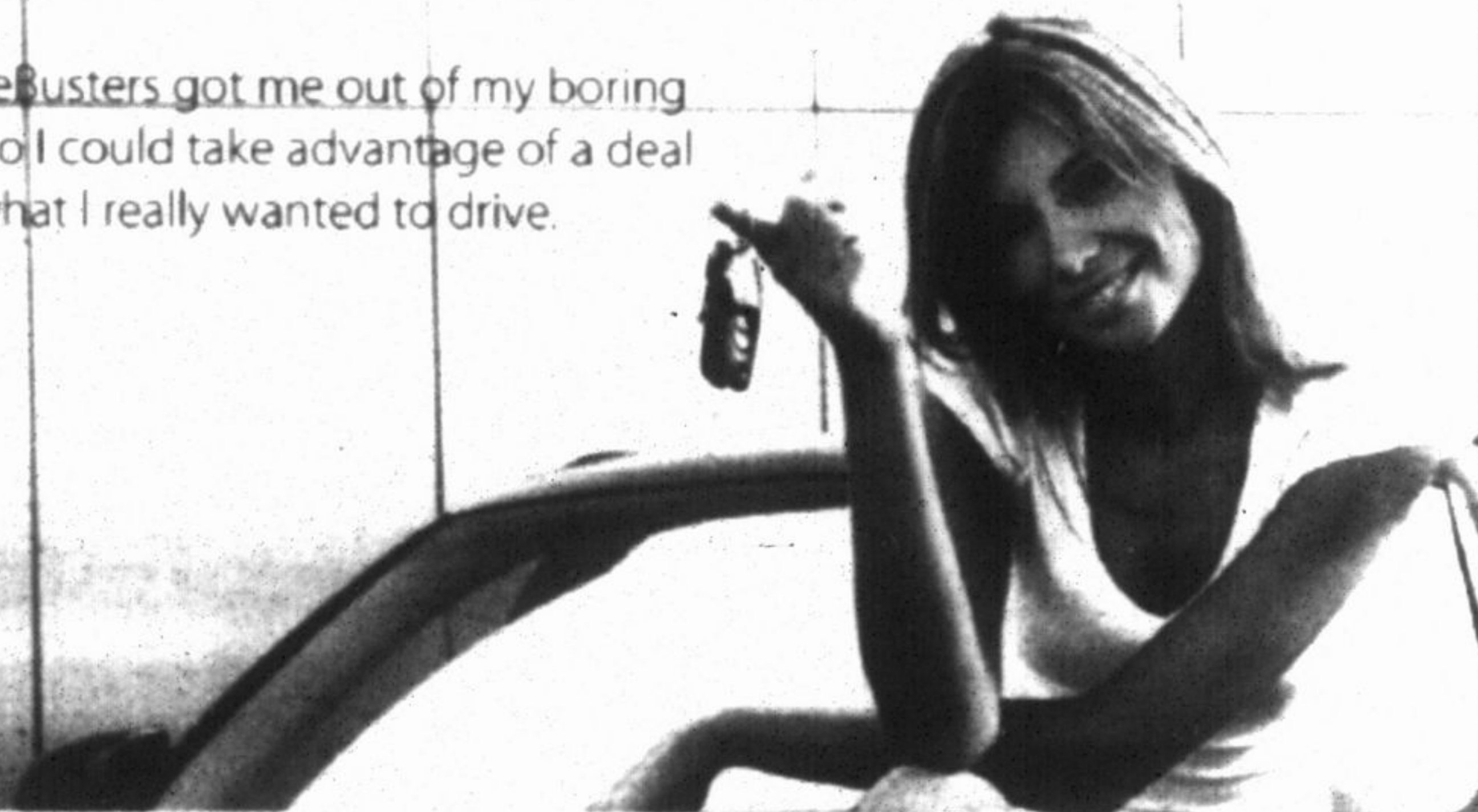
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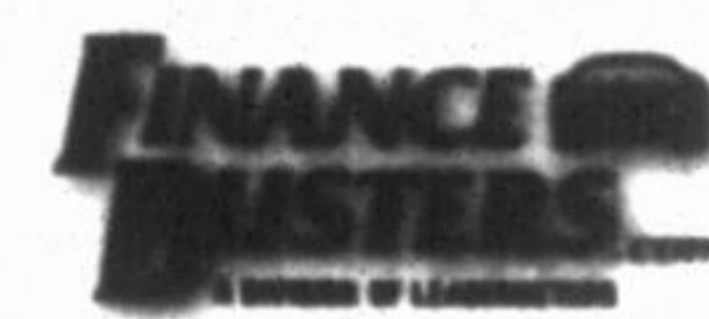


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