

WEDNESDAY EDITION
RICHMOND NEWS
 MARCH 31, 1993 ■ NEWSSTAND PRICE 25¢ ■ 28 PAGES

Health at home
 Minister of Health Elizabeth Cull says the government is trying to bring health care closer to home. /4

Shots fired at teens
 By MIKE HOWELL
News Reporter

Three male Stouffville Senior Secondary students, one was shot at with a handgun and took away from school Friday afternoon, police said.

Stouffville police reported the incident on the west of Cedar Street and Colborne Drive at 3:30 p.m. The students were in a room at the school when a handgun was fired at them. The students were taken to the hospital and one was shot in the leg. The other two were not hurt. The police are looking for a suspect who is believed to be a member of the Black Panther Party.

Lively lion
 The Hon Hsing Athletic Association added a lot of energy to the opening of Parker Place with their Lion Dance. The event attracted hundreds of spectators, including a few movie stars from Hong Kong. See story on page 9.

One-room school torched
 By MIKE HOWELL
News Reporter

A one-room school once used to teach students in the early 1900s was destroyed by a fire on Monday night.

The wooden building at 4300 Bridgeway Rd. was the last of its kind in the area. It was built in 1905 and was used for 80 years.

Four firefighters were called to the scene about 10 p.m. and the fire was extinguished by 11:30 p.m. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

A change of ownership had been announced for the building, but it was still under construction.

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Two men were treated for knife wounds following a late night brawl.
 Spend money on learning, not buildings, reader tells the News.
 Woodies stays on top in Canada-wide field lacrosse play.

THE VOICE OF RICHMOND

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Buddha lends his grace to Parker Place opening

By **BILL LAM**
News Reporter

Using a mixture of uncooked rice, cinnabar powder and rum, a visiting professor from Berkeley, California blessed the four-faced Buddha at Richmond's newest shopping plaza Sunday.

While VIPs and a crowd of 600 watched, professor Lin Yun performed the ritual by walking around the statue, tossing handfuls of the mixture into the air and around the statue located on the south side of Parker Place, 4380 No. 3 Road.

"The rice is scattered to feed the roaming spirits so they'll go away satisfied without disturbing

the site," explained Crystal Chien-lih Chu, professor Lin's special assistant who took part in the ceremony along with other followers. By sprinkling the items, he plants seeds of prosperity so businesses and the community will prosper, she added.

Present at the grand opening in one of his rare public appearances was developer Thomas Fung, whose \$30 million Parker Place is an extension of his neighboring Aberdeen Centre and Fairchild Square complex on Hazelbridge Way.

Touted as the first-ever strata-enclosed shopping mall in western Canada, the centre consists of 105 stores, 70 per cent of

which have opened. The rest are under construction. Phase two is under way with room for another 50 stores that will be connected to the present site.

"We wondered how successful such an operation would be," mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt said.

Following the ceremony, visitors -- including Hong Kong movie stars -- paid their respects, offering incense to the Buddha.

Besides being gracious, the Buddha is said to possess such qualities as compassion, kindness, benevolence, and fairness.

"Those who make their wishes wholeheartedly can have their wishes come true," one of Lin's followers said.