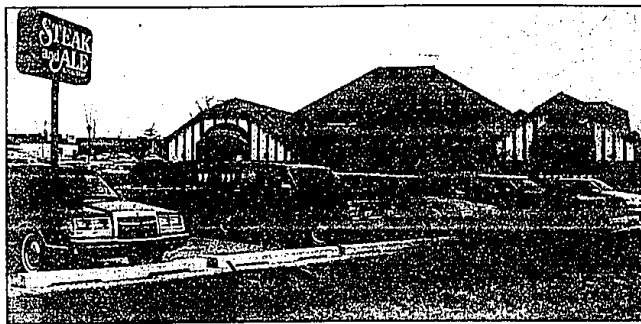


Reward posted in restaurant shooting



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

The Steak and Ale Restaurant, scene of a Sunday night shooting, opened in May 1976.

Continued from Page 1

check. The bullet exited below the right cheek, police said. As Pechauer awaited jaw surgery scheduled for Wednesday, Steak and Ale General Manager Ron French said: "We're praying for him and giving him our support."

POLICE CONTINUE to hunt for the gunman — described only as black, age 20-30, 5-10 in height and wearing a dark jacket.

"We're still interviewing employees and others in the area at the time of the shooting," said Sgt. Dennis Rochford of the Farmington Hills Police Department. "We're trying to develop some concrete leads."

As with any Oakland County felony, a \$1,000 reward will be paid for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the gunman through the Oakland County Chamber of Commerce's Silent Observer Reward Program. Call tips to Farmington Hills Police at 474-4181. Say you would like to be part of the program. Tipsters can remain anonymous.

Pechauer was alert and his spirits were high following the shooting. "He feels real lucky to be alive," French said.

Characterizing Pechauer as good-humored and talkative, French said: "I commend the man for taking it so well."

Pechauer's co-manager characterized him as a "dynamite guy." "Jeff's really well liked," Grinnell said. "He's real aggressive and has a lot of energy. He's a real positive addition to our staff."

THE SHOOTING occurred at 10:20 p.m. Sunday, in the darkened lobby of the Steak and Ale. It was the first shooting since the popular dining spot opened in May 1976.

"Jeff was making his final rounds — shutting the heat and lights, making sure no one was missed," Grinnell said.

Shortly before the shooting, Pechauer let the last three employees out and locked the door behind him. He then went upstairs. When he returned to the main level, he entered the men's restroom, police said.

After leaving the restroom, he saw the silhouette of a man who appar-

ently had entered the restaurant before closing. Nothing was said before Pechauer saw a muzzle flash and heard a shot, driving him to the floor face down, police said.

The gunman then rolled Pechauer over and demanded his keys. A second shot, the shot police believe hit Pechauer, then was fired. Bullet holes were found in the lobby wall and in the restroom. Two .38-caliber bullets were recovered, police said.

Police aren't certain what the gunman did after taking the keys, which were recovered near an unlocked cash drawer in a restaurant office. No money was taken.

PECHAUER GOT up, meanwhile, and ran out the bar door. It's not known if the gunman was still inside when Pechauer left.

Firefighters and paramedics treated Pechauer at the Mobil station before taking him to Botsford.

The three employees he had let out earlier were in the lot waiting for their car windows to defrost, but none witnessed the shooting, police said.

A Michigan State University graduate, Pechauer is engaged to be married this spring.

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