

Hijacking victim tells of anguish

THANDI SKADE

AS HE STARED down the barrel of the gun, two thoughts occupied his mind: never again seeing his four-month-old daughter, and that the trigger would be pulled.

"Get out, get out!" the gun-wielding man shouted at Chris Joubert.

Snapping out of his thoughts, Joubert obeyed. The man jumped into the car and an accomplice got into the passenger seat and they drove off.

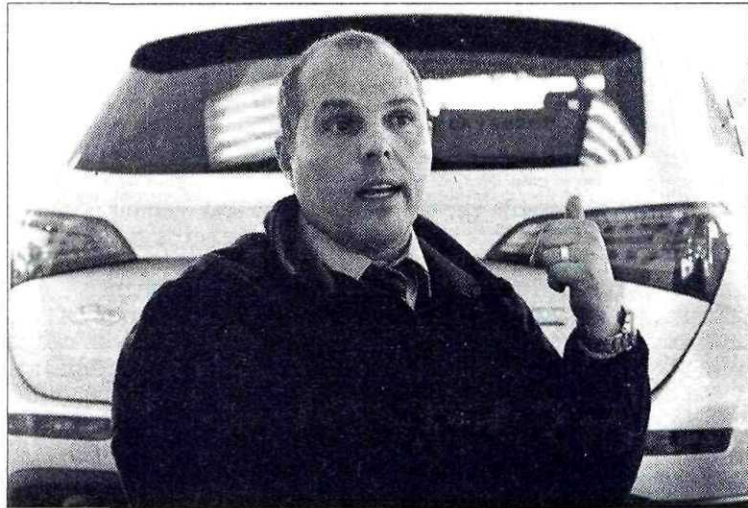
On Wednesday afternoon, Joubert, a Boksburg Audi dealership employee, escaped a hijacking at a petrol station in Boksburg unharmed, but his client's new silver Audi Q5 2.0T had gone.

He had taken the SUV to a petrol station to be filled before it was to be collected by the owner later that day.

"As I was opening the door, a man – on his haunches – approached me. Next thing I saw a gun in my face," Joubert told The Star yesterday.

"All I kept thinking about was my wife, never seeing my daughter, who is exactly four months old today, and waiting for that shot to go off.

"I was so shocked by what had happened. I dropped to my knees



RELIEF: Audi employee Chris Joubert, who was delivering a vehicle when he was hijacked. The car was promptly recovered. PICTURE: DUMISANI SIBEKO

and thanked God for saving my life."

Joubert said he had alerted vehicle tracing firm Tracker, which activated the tracking device that had been installed just that morning.

Police units immediately picked up the signal.

"The vehicle was recovered on the N3 highway travelling north towards the London Road off-ramp in less than 15 minutes,"

said Tracker communications manager Gareth Crocker.

Boksburg police spokeswoman Constable Cathy Meyer confirmed that one man had been arrested on Wednesday and the vehicle recovered.

The suspect – who had been released on bail two weeks ago after being caught in possession of a stolen vehicle in Booyens – was due to appear in the Boksburg Magistrate's Court today.