



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Real barn burner

A No. 5 Sideroad barn fire called in shortly after 7:30 a.m. yesterday was still burning at mid-morning. Firefighters battled the stubborn blaze for hours. No one was hurt. The barn was reportedly empty. The cause wasn't known at press time.

Lots of pot to go up in smoke after raid of 15 hidden crops

By KAREN SMITH

The Champion

Police say they've taken \$1.5 million from the pockets of pot producers after seizing more than 1,500 pounds of marijuana and arresting two people last week.

In an intense two-day, helicopter-assisted drug crackdown, police sniffed out a total of 15 marijuana crops growing in rural Halton.

Seven of the sites were discovered in Milton while the others were found in Burlington and Halton Hills.

The biggest bust, at Sixth Line and Derry Road Wednesday, ended with two arrests near a field in which police say pot growers had set up camp to tend their soon-to-be harvested \$400,000 crop.

Fencing and rat poison to deter animals from indulging in the bumper crop were found at the scene.

"We've ruined these people," said Det. Bruce Mitchell of the drug and morality

bureau. "This would have been their livelihood."

A 24-year-old Hamilton man and 25-year-old Mississauga man were arrested after a jogger pointed police in the direction of two people running from a field as the helicopter hovered overhead. The suspects face drug and weapons charges.

Police are crediting the use of the newly-purchased chopper as well as the help of officers from Waterloo Regional Police and the Goderich OPP for the crackdown's success.

Experts in locating marijuana crops from the air, the officers showed Halton police how to spot the pot — only detectable by a trained eye.

"The helicopter easily spotted the grow-
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Cops say 'stupidity' caused 401 car crash

By KAREN SMITH

The Champion

The OPP says "stupidity on the road" Saturday is to blame for a serious Hwy. 401 crash in which two Brampton men face criminal charges.

Witnesses to the 4 p.m. crash on the eastbound lanes near Kelso Lake told police a red Chevrolet Camaro and a black BMW were speeding and cutting in and out of traffic just before the Camaro collided with a Suzuki in the left lane.

Both vehicles spun out of control and struck the centre median. The Suzuki then rolled over several times, coming to a rest on its roof.

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NEWSLINES

Volunteers needed

The Canadian Mental Health Association has volunteer opportunities available in Milton and Georgetown.

The organization needs people to assist adults with social recreational activities.

If you can spare an hour or two each week to take someone on a walk or go for a cup of coffee, please call Ellen at (905) 693-4270.

TUESDAY INSERTS

- Biway • White Rose* • Zellers
- Milton Fall Fair Guide •
- Pizza Hut* • Business Depot*
- Future Shop* • M&M Meats*
- Plumbing Warehouse*

*Selected areas only

TIP OF THE MONTH

If dogs could talk, helping them remain active family members would be a lot easier, they can't tell us if they are stiff after exercise or if they simply hurt. They are counting on you to recognize the signs of pain and decreased mobility and bring them to your veterinarian's attention. Numerous dogs suffer from the pain of arthritis. However, many go undiagnosed because owners attribute the subtle changes in their pet to "old age". An arthritic dog may exhibit one or more of the following signs: stiffness and lameness while walking, occasional whining and/or whimpering pain if an affected joint is touched, a relaxed position preferred over a standing position, slow or difficulty in rising, trouble climbing stairs, reluctance to run or jump.

DOGS CAN'T TELL YOUR VETERINARIAN THEY HAVE ARTHRITIS BUT YOU CAN IF YOU KNOW THE SIGNS.

TO IMPROVE YOUR DOG'S MOBILITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE COME AND SEE US FOR THE LATEST INNOVATIONS IN RELIEVING ARTHRITIC PAIN AND INFLAMMATION.

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