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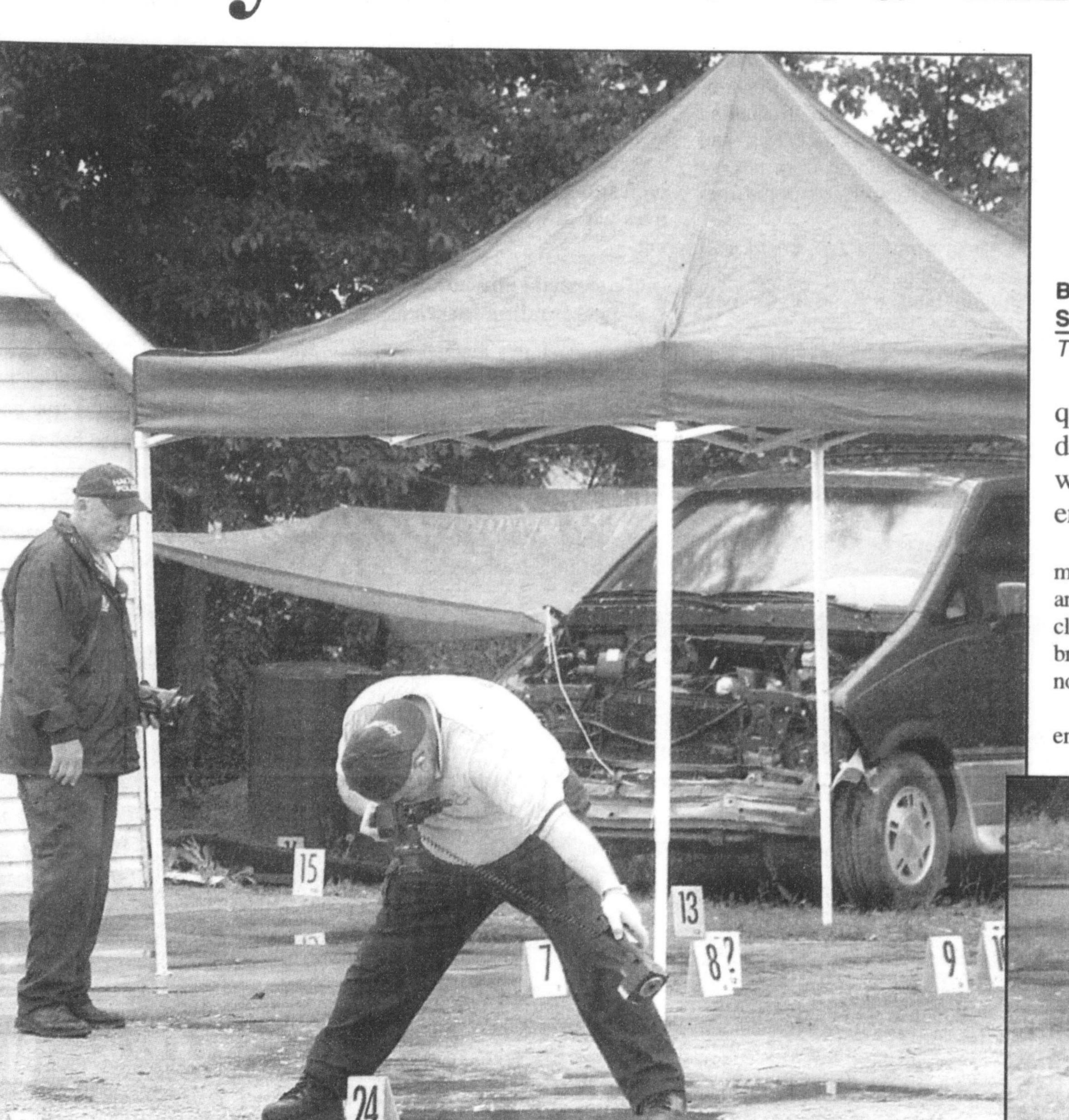
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Body discovered in burnt-out car



Death being treated as suspicious

By MELANIE HENNESSEY and STEPHANIE THIESSEN

The Champion

What started as a vehicle fire quickly became a suspicious death early yesterday morning when a man's body was discovered in the charred shell of the car.

At about 12:20 a.m., two passing motorists alerted Halton Regional Police and the Milton Fire Department to a vehicle on fire at the rear of Traffix, a freight brokerage firm, on Regional Road 25, north of Hwy. 401.

When they arrived, the vehicle was fully engulfed. Once it was extinguished, a

deceased man was found inside the car.

Halton police's major crime unit, along with the forensic identification bureau, are investigating the death as suspicious.

Halton Regional Police spokesperson Sgt. Jeff Corey said a second location, several hundred metres from the fire scene at the east side of the Traffix building, is also under investigation after a pool of blood was found.

He added police believe both scenes are linked, but that hasn't been confirmed.

Due to the heavy rain during the investigation, Mr. Corey said police had to cover the scenes with tenting to protect evidence.

The body hadn't been identified at press time yesterday. It was taken to Hamilton General Hospital for a forensic post mortem, which Mr. Corey said was being conducted yesterday afternoon.

"The body was badly burned in the fire, so identification is not complete yet," he

Halton Regional Police is asking anyone with information about the incident to contact police at (905) 825-4777 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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Photos by GRAHAM PAINE

Halton Regional Police forensic identification officers photograph and videotape evidence at the secondary scene, just east of the site where a man's body was found by firefighters in a car.



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