

# Murder suspect's cell phone calls traced

By LISA CARTWRIGHT

The Champion

On July 2, 1996, David Fiorino and Stephen Andreopoulos were supposed to be on their way to Cornwall to pick up 500 cases of contraband alcohol.

Instead, Mr. Fiorino's cellular phone records show he was heading west, a jury heard Tuesday during an ongoing first-degree murder trial in Superior Court in Milton.

Mr. Fiorino, 27, has been charged in the death of Mr. Andreopoulos, 36, of Barrie.

Cindy Hopper, manager of the fraud and security department at Rogers AT&T Wireless, formerly known as Rogers Cantel, is considered an expert at pinpointing where calls were made.

Tuesday afternoon, Ms Hopper took assistant Crown

attorney Charon Kerr and the jury through the calls Mr. Fiorino made from his cell phone on July 2, 1996.

"It's 95 per cent accurate," she said about figuring out where the calls were made.

Ms Hopper explained to the jury that when they turn on their cell phones and dial a number, a tower closest to their location picks up the call.

The tower transfers information to a machine where it records it on a toll tape or record. A line is opened and the call goes through, she testified.

The toll tape also records details such as the time the person called, the tower he connected to as well as the location in the tower's range. The phone number they called and how long the call was is also recorded, the jury heard.

Using this information, Rogers created a map that detailed the calls Mr. Fiorino made the last day the victim was seen alive.

On Monday, the jury heard from Cosimo Lizzi, owner of La Rose Italian bakery and delicatessen as well as the Derry Road property where the body of Mr. Andreopoulos was discovered.

Mr. Lizzi testified that he didn't know a body was buried on his property until the police interviewed him in February 1998.

The older man told the jury he had been close friends with the Fiorino family for many years. Mr. Fiorino and his father Carmine often did work on the 10-acre property. The father and son were able to go on the property any time.

Defense lawyer Robert Nuttall asked the man whether the John Deere backhoe found on the property and confiscated by police was the one he dumped into the pond on the property. Mr. Lizzi said it was.

He also told the jury that the backhoe didn't work well and it constantly had to be filled with hydraulic fluid.

Joanne Rehill, who rented the Derry Road property with her husband, also testified Monday. Ms Rehill said it wasn't uncommon to see Mr. Fiorino or his

father working a backhoe on the property.

She told the jury when the police interviewed her on February 6, 1998, and asked her if she remembered seeing anything unusual on July 2, two years before. She said she hadn't.

They then showed her a missing person's flyer that included a picture of Mr. Andreopoulos and the U-Haul cube van he had rented.

She said she remembered seeing a vehicle similar to the one in the picture coming up their driveway sometime during the summer months.

The jury heard she saw a driver and a passenger, but wasn't close enough to see the people inside.

The trial continued yesterday.

If you know of something interesting and newsworthy going on, please don't be afraid to call our newsroom at 878-2341, ext. 234.

## Report of creek incident is false

Reports that a Sam Sherratt School student was pushed into Sixteen Mile Creek Tuesday afternoon proved to be false, police told The Champion.

The bogus claim — that a young boy from the school was knocked into the fast-running waterway and didn't come up — was made by a female youth at the school at about 3:30 p.m.

Local police and firefighters attended the scene and began a search of the area before another female witness told them she had seen a group of youngsters in the area but that no student had gone into the creek.

The afternoon report caused minor traffic delays along Derry Road for the better part of an hour.

## CORRECTION NOTICE

An inaccuracy was made in the category of Best Security Systems in the Milton Choice Awards.

The winner should have been **Secur-U**.

The Champion wishes to apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

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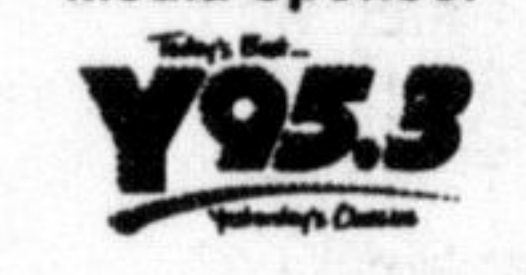
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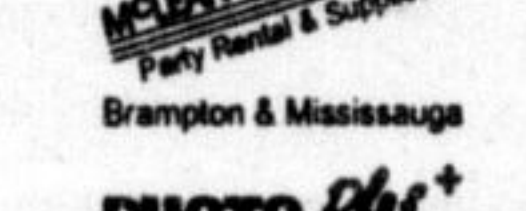
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