Bitter cold traps man in car wash

Officer pays for a wash to free him

By Scott Williams

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Wisconsin residents are finding themselves in the grips of a bitter cold winter this year — some more than others.

A Shawano man was at a

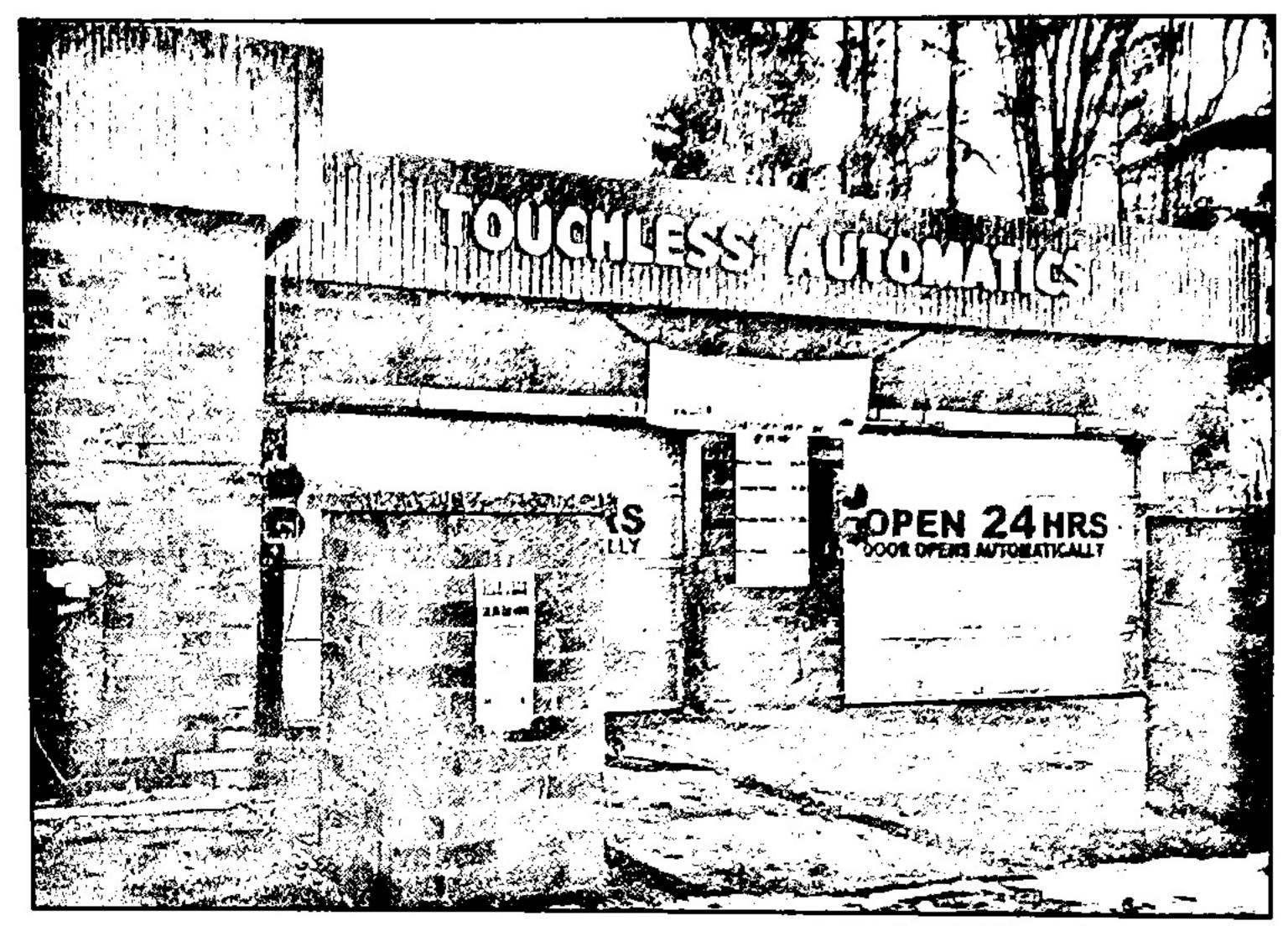


ERIC HUTTER

drive-through car wash last week when the combination of frigid temperatures and spraying water caused the doors to freeze shut on the car wash chamber, with the man and his vehicle

still inside.

Eric Hutter, 29, could not help but chuckle when he called the Shawano Police Department on his cellphone from inside the frozen Best Wash car



LEADER PHOTO BY SCOTT WILLIAMS

Best Wash, 1348 E. Green Bay St., sometimes closes down on winter days with sub-freezing temperatures, but it was open last week when the doors froze shut with a customer inside.

wash, 1348 E. Green Bay St.

"Could you send an officer?" he told the dispatcher. "I went in the car wash, and it trapped me inside."

A police officer was able to free Hutter by paying \$4 for

another car wash, causing the automated entry door to slide open and allowing Hutter to back out with his 2013 Ford Fusion.