

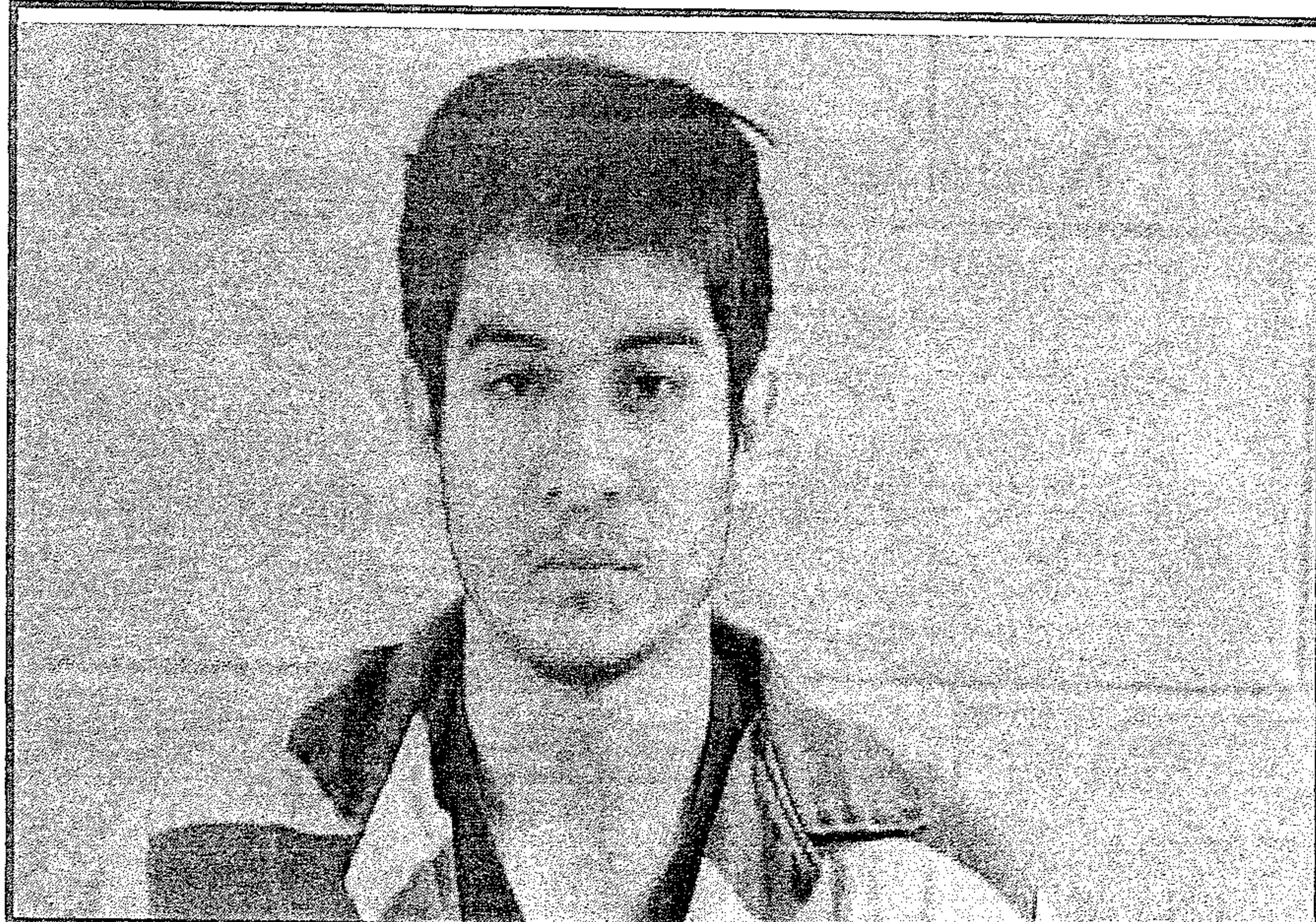
The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Thursday, March 10, 2016

Teen nabbed while eating the weed!



Jose Cortes

(see weed pg. 2)

Lottery Fraud

Scammers Target the Elderly

The telephone call came from out of the blue. The man on the line told the 83-year-old retired schoolteacher she had won a substantial lottery prize. All that was required to claim the windfall was to pay taxes and other fees.

Before it was over, the victim—a Virginia resident who had meticulously saved for her retirement—was out more than \$500,000 in a scam that has become all too familiar among the elderly.

The criminals behind these lottery frauds and other telemarketing scams

(see fraud pg. 7)

GOODSHEPHERD CENTER DINNER AND AUCTION

The Good Shepherd Center of Monroe County will hold its annual fund raising Dinner and Auction on April 2, 2016.

The location will be at the Tellico West Conference Center, 121 Grand Vista, Vonore TN 37885.

The silent auction will begin at 5:30 PM and the catered dinner will be at 6:30 PM.

(see GS pg. 5)

Verse of the Day Wazzup

When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
— Colossians 3:4

Obituaries

see inside

LCPD is working a big time Click it or Ticket Drive so be sure to buckle up or you WILL get stopped in Lenoir City!

Weather

Today: Partly cloudy skies. High 77F.

Tonight: Cloudy with showers. Thunder possible. Low near 60F.

Friday Cloudy. High 73F.

Friday Night Cloudy

Low near 55F.

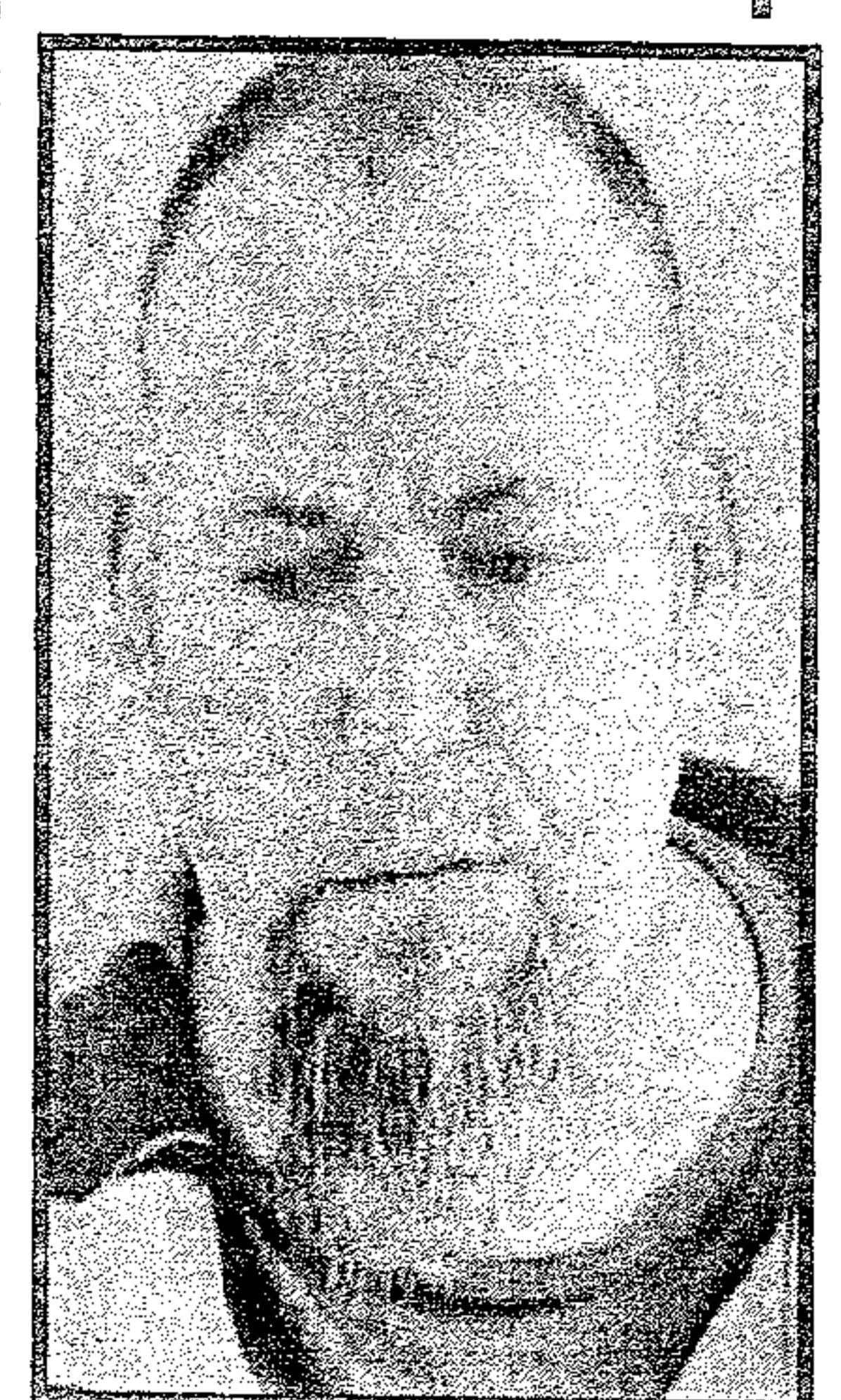
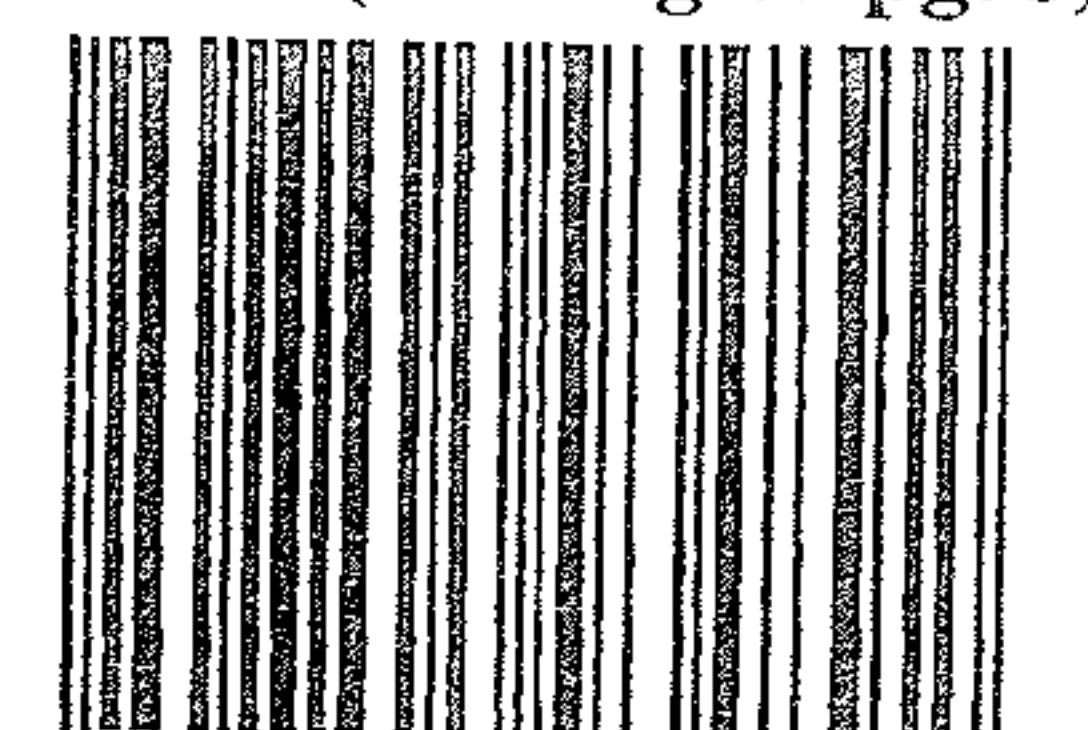
Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19–3/20

Taking a long hard look at your finances is top priority now, but unfortunately this isn't just about bal-

(Continued on page 6)

(see Legion pg. 3)



Jack Christian



Amanda Windham
(see couple pg. 5)



(L to R) Vic Vickery, American Legion Commander, Post 256; Edward W. Reinhold, FBI Special Agent in Charge of Knoxville Division; Pat Brooks, Vice Commander Post 256 (photo by James Patterson)

weed

Jose Cortes, 18, Ivy Avenue Lenoir City, was charged with Resisting Arrest, Tampering/Fabricating with Evidence, Evading Arrest, Man/Sell/Poss of Controlled Substance, and Poss. of Drug Para. Sgt. Mike Newman and Officer Bryan Blakney LPD, made contact with Jose Lopez after

a brief pursuit where Jose finally stopped in the parking lot of Paul's Tires. While Officer approached the vehicle Officer observed Jose stuffing something in his mouth in an attempt to conceal or destroy something. After making contact with Jose Officer observed it to be a green leafy substance believed to

(see weed ctd. pg. 4)

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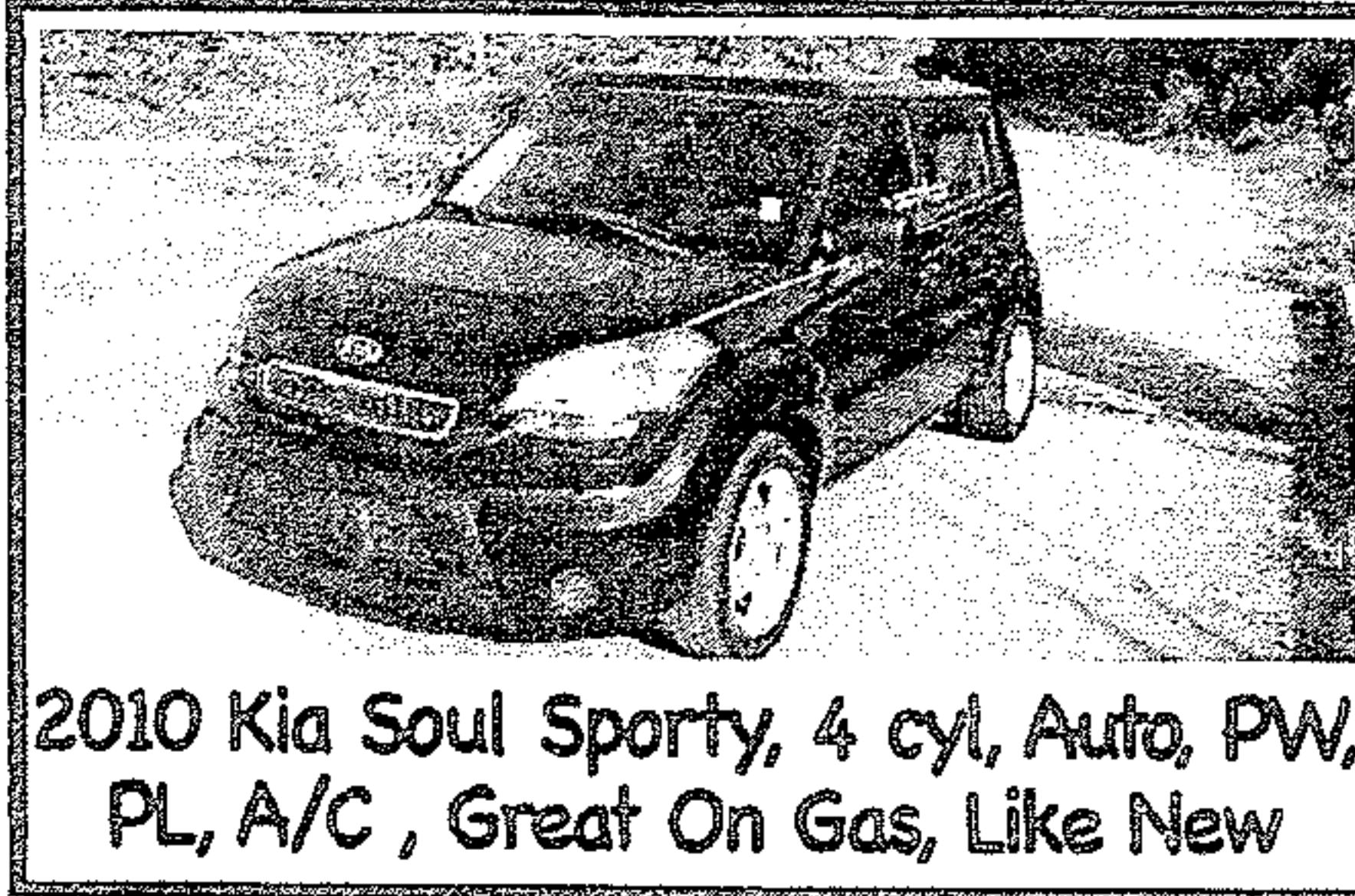
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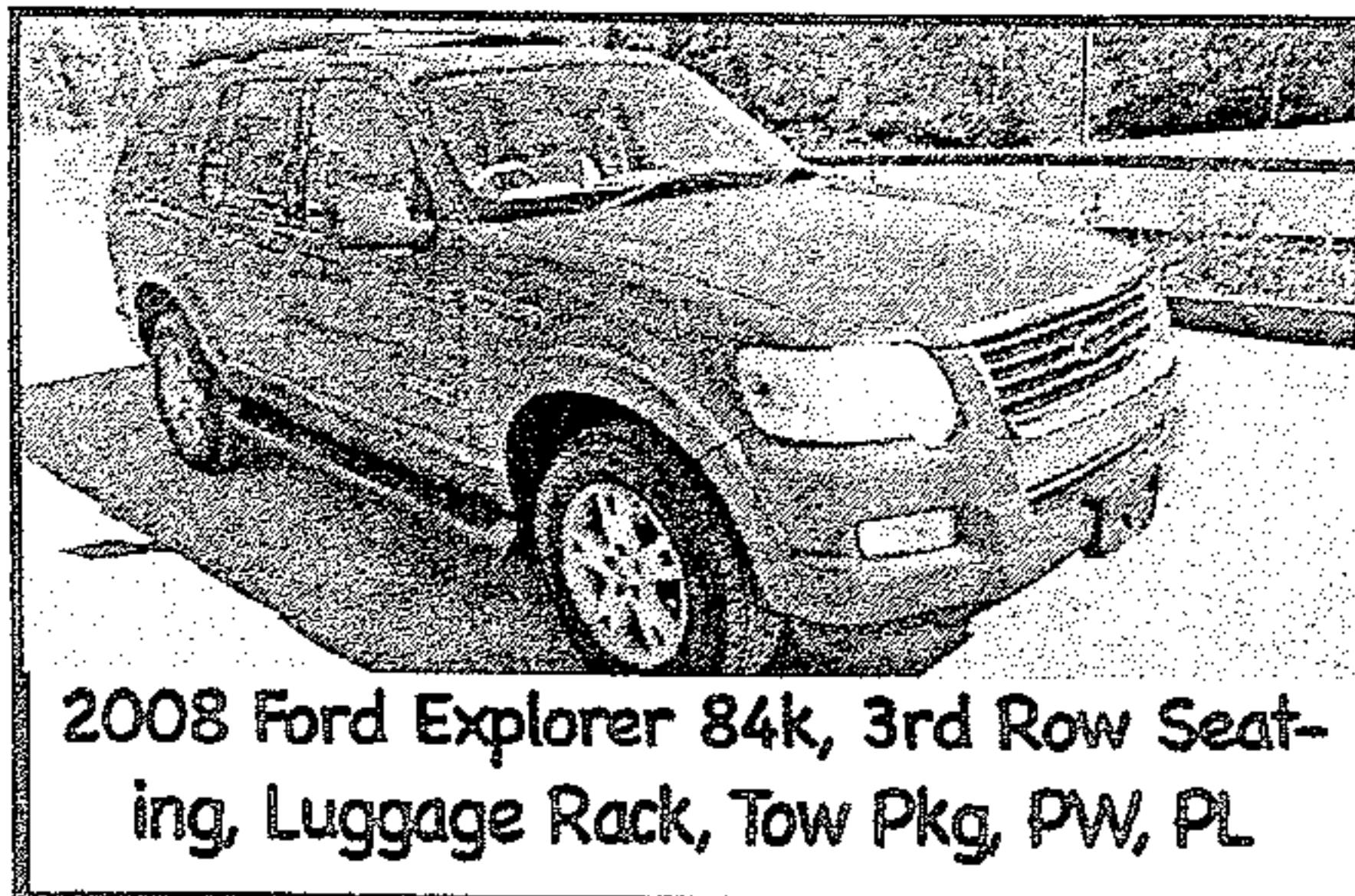
2010 Kia Soul Sporty, 4 cyl, Auto, PW, PL, A/C, Great On Gas, Like New



2010 Ford Escape Limited Leather, Alloy Wheels, Heat, A/C, Luggage Rack, 79K,



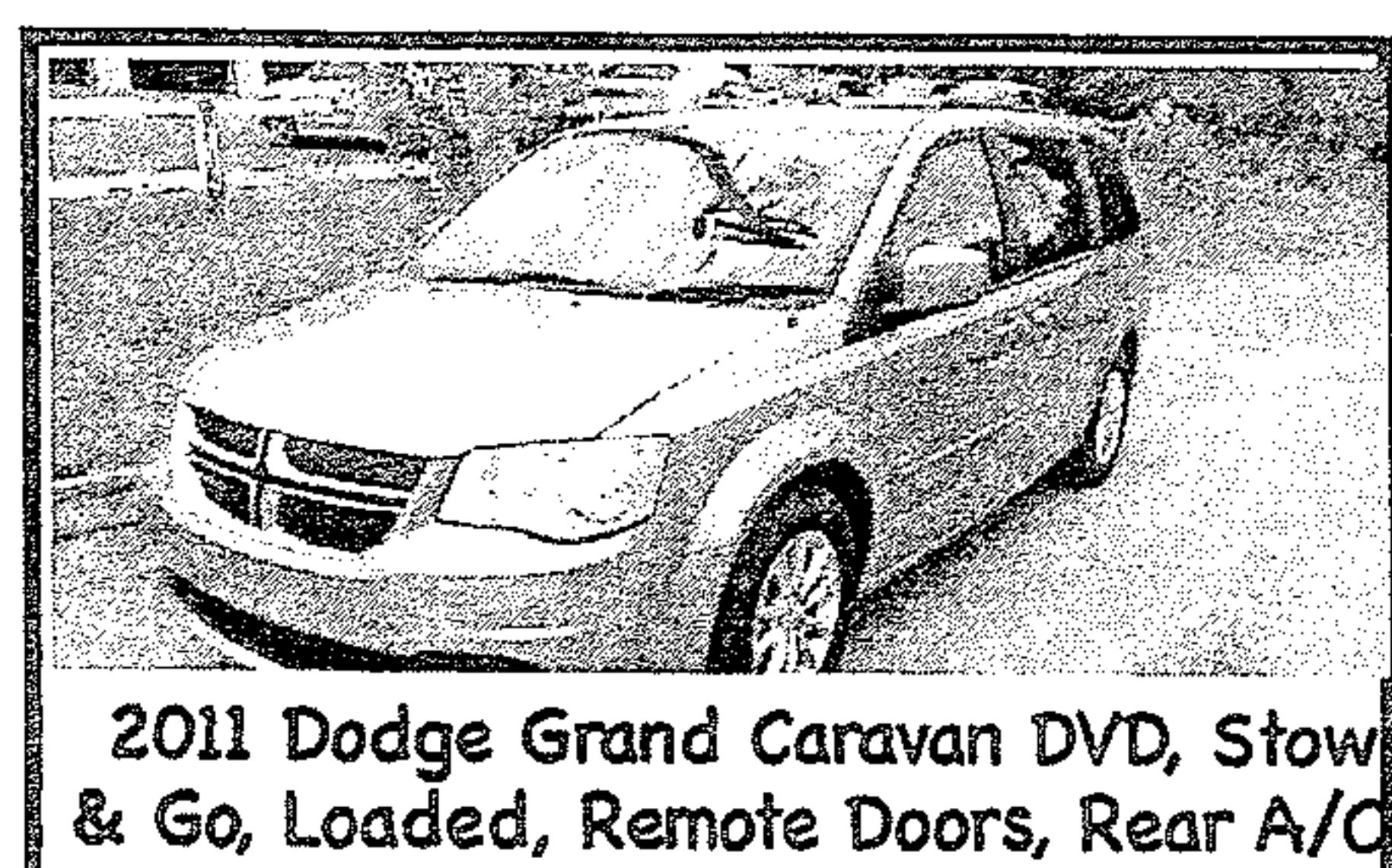
2007 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab, Thunder Road PKG, 20 in. Wheels, Low Miles, Hemi



2008 Ford Explorer 84k, 3rd Row Seating, Luggage Rack, Tow Pkg, PW, PL



2011 Ford Ranger Low Miles, Tow Pkg, New Tires, A/C, Heat, Bed Liner.



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legion

Edward W. Reinhold, Special Agent in Charge of Knoxville Division recently met with members of American Legion Tellico Lake Post 256. As guest speaker, Mr.

Reinhold discussed many of today's challenges for the FBI, from cyber security to concerns with more people joining militias and "Patriot groups". Special Agent Reinhold was also in charge of the investigation of the fatal shootings at the Navy reserve facility in Chattanooga, Tennessee in July 2015. That event as quoted by the Director of the FBI, was "mo-

tivated by foreign terrorist Commander Vic Vickery, organization propaganda". 423.884.6476 and visit the For more information about Post 256 website: www.telli-the American Legion contact colakepost256.org

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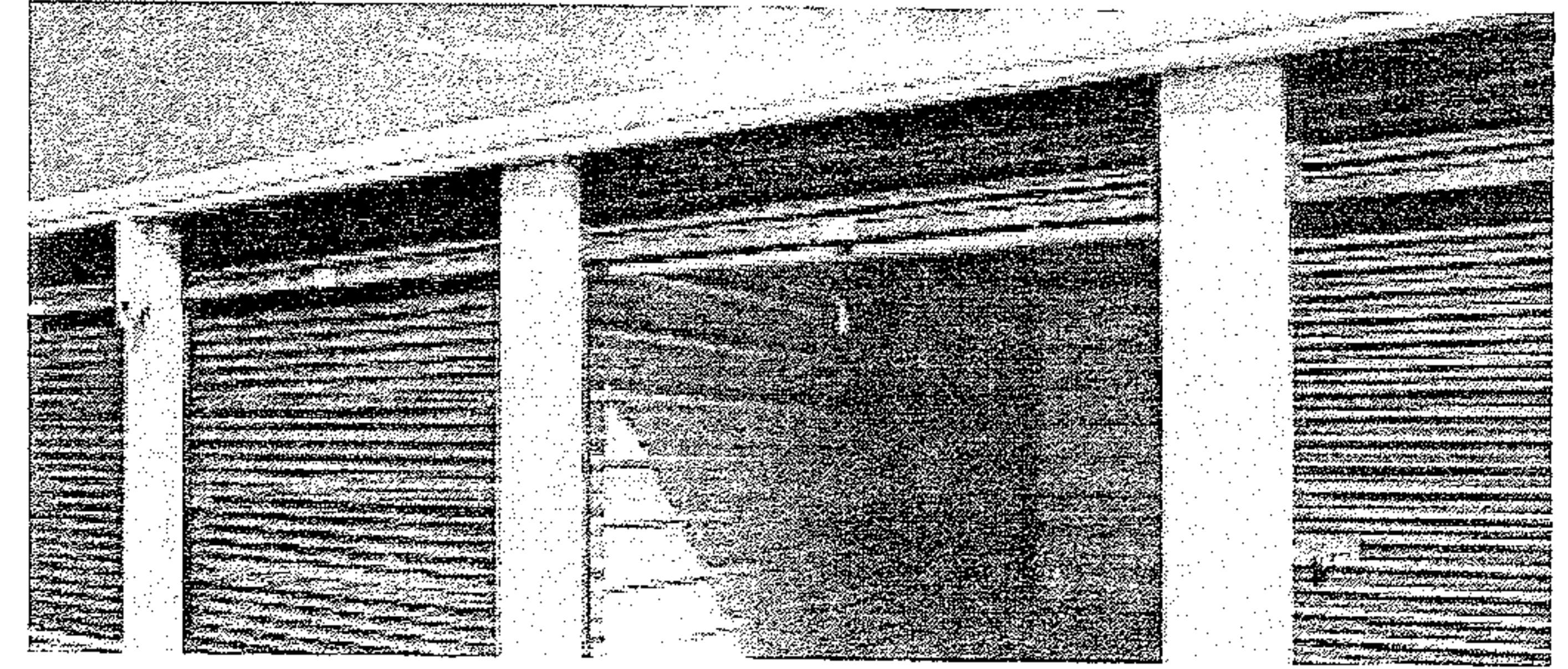
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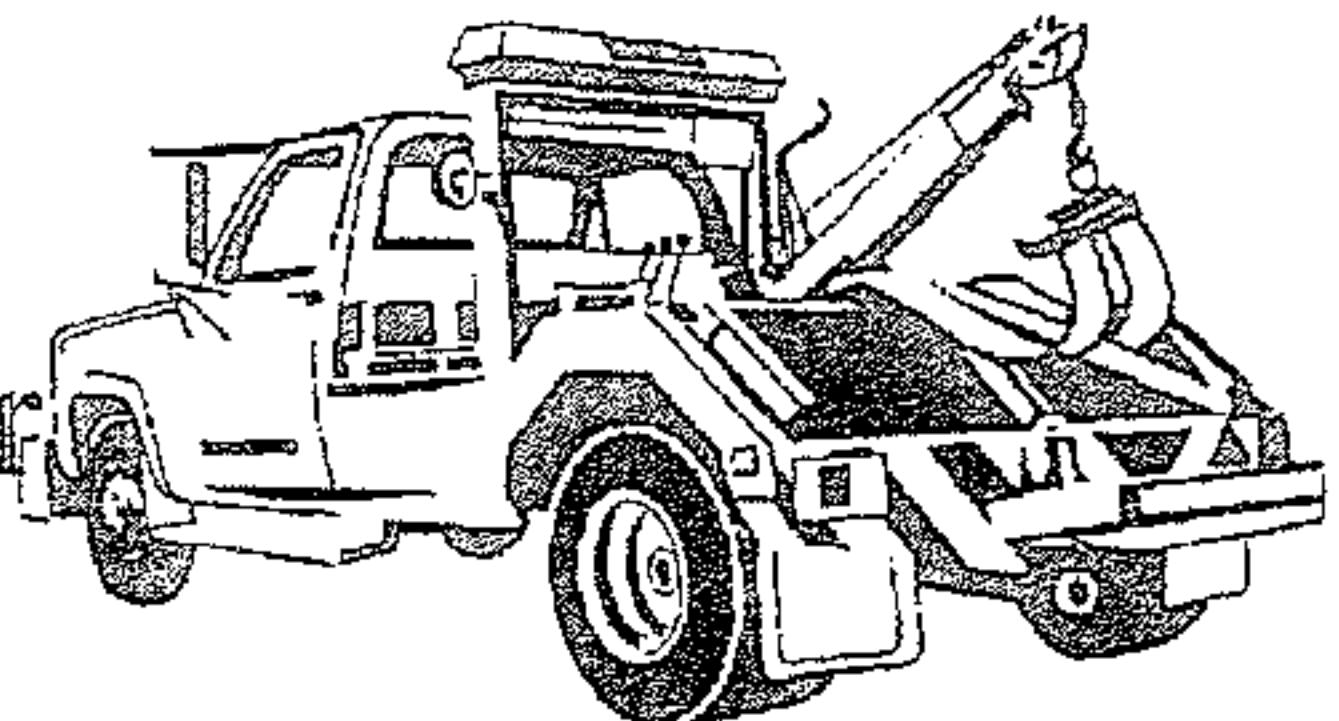
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weed ctd. from pg. 2

be marijuana. Jose was ordered to get out of the vehicle and spit out the substance several times but failed to do so. Jose was removed from the vehicle while removing him Jose reached in his pocket and tried to stuff the remaining Marijuana in his mouth. Jose was told to spit it out which he refused again, while

Sgt. Newman placed hands on Jose to place him in custody. Jose jerk away and turned towards Officer in an aggressive manner. Jose was taken to the ground and continued to try to stuff the substance in his mouth and resist Officers. To gain control of the situation Officer deployed a dry stun from the taser and Jose quit resisting. Jose (see weed ctd. pg. 5)

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couple

Amana Windham, 33, Caldwell Road Loudon, was charged with DUI by Consent, and Simple Possession.

Jack Chriatian, 45, Caldwell Road Loudon, was charged with DUI, Driving on Revoked License, and Violation of Implied Consent.

Deputy Robbie Lane LCSO, observed a sil-

ver truck traveling east on Fork Creek Road. The truck crossed over the center yellow line and white fog line several times. Deputy conducted a traffic stop on Fork Creek @ Steekee Creek Road. Deputy made contact with the driver Jack Christian, who had red watery eyes, slurred speech and a strong odor of alcoholic beverage coming from inside the vehicle.

Jack exited the vehicle and was unsteady on his feet and could not perform sobriety test. Jack was placed under arrest. The passenger and owner of the vehicle Amanda Windham, had red watery eyes, slurred speech and a strong odor of alcoholic beverage coming from her person. Amanda allowed Jack to drive the vehicle knowing he was under the influence.

Amanda was ask if she had anything on her person that was illegal, Amanda stated she had some marijuana in a plastic wrapper in her front pocket. Amanda was placed under arrest. Deputy Robbie Lane LCSO, made the arrest.

GS

Entertainment will be the dynamic singing duo known as Vocal Point.

Tickets are \$40 each,

of which 20 dollars is income tax deductible. For those who wish to support the Good Shepherd but are unable to attend this function, there are Feed a Family tickets available, also \$40 each.

Tickets may be purchased at The Good Shepherd Center, The Monroe County Chamber of Commerce, the Kahite Club House and individual Good Shepherd volunteers.

The Good Shepherd Center is a 501©3 organization.

Some of the things The Good Shepherd Center provides are food to over 2,100 men, women and children every month, personal care items as requested, clothing to each person per household, miscellaneous items each month, transportation via ETHRA for medical appointments, emergency housing for fire victims, layette sets for newborn babies and utility vouchers.

The Good Shepherd Center is supported financially by churches, local businesses, and individuals. Additional funds are provided through grants, auxiliary groups, Monroe County governmental agencies and fundraising events such as this Dinner/Auction event.

weed ctd. from pg. 4

was taken in to custody. A search of the vehicle revealed several small baggies throughout the vehicle and some baggies in the glove box that contained a green leafy substance that were packaged consistent for resale, 2 packs of rolling papers were also found. officer Bryan Blakney LPD, made the arrest.

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fraud

prey on senior citizens for a variety of reasons, according to Special Agent John Gardner, who investigated the woman's case out of the FBI's Washington Field Office and eventually helped put the Jamaican man who victimized her behind bars.

"The first thing to know is that lottery scammers have no empathy for the elderly," Gardner said. "For them, it's all about the money." Seniors can be lured into the scam because they have financial difficulties, or they might have enough for themselves but want to leave a legacy for their children. Some may be suffering from mental decline or dementia. "Others are so lonely, they just want someone to talk

to," Gardner explained. "Some scammers become 'best friends' with their victims."

There is also the issue of technology. The criminals—many who carry out their crimes from Jamaica—use Internet tools to mask their calls so they appear to be coming from U.S. numbers with particular area codes, such as Las Vegas.

"Elderly people grew up at a time when people weren't defrauding people over the phone," Gardner said. "They are not aware of these Internet masking technologies and are generally not suspicious when the tele-

phone rings."

The fraudsters are as persuasive as they are sophisticated. "The Jamaican lottery scammers are like an organized cyber crime group," Gardner said. "They are closely knit, highly structured, and have U.S. associates—money mules—who help launder their money."

The scammers who make the calls speak excellent English and use well-practiced scripts complete with rebuttals. They are experienced and extremely manipulative. To target victims of a certain age, they buy lead lists that are widely available online.

Gardner received the Virginia woman's complaint in 2011. The ensuing investigation eventually resulted in the identification of seven subjects, all of whom

were charged in connection with the lottery scheme. Six of those individuals have been convicted, and one is a fugitive. The ringleader, Paul Laing, 31, of Sandy Bay, Jamaica, was sentenced last month to 10 years in prison for his leadership role in the scheme.

Laing pled guilty in October 2015, admitting that he defrauded numerous elderly victims, including the woman from Virginia who lost her life savings. Laing instructed victims to send funds through wire transfers, the U.S. mail, and other means directly to him in Jamaica or to co-conspirators in the U.S. Those co-conspirators—the money mules—kept a portion of the proceeds and transferred the rest to Laing. The illicit funds ran to hundreds of thousands of dollars from

more than 23 known victims, Gardner said, adding that there were likely many more victims who never came forward.

Don't Fall Victim to Lottery Scams

The Federal Trade Commission—the nation's consumer protection agency—offers the following advice to avoid falling victim to lottery scams and other telemarketing frauds:

- Don't pay money to collect supposed lottery or sweepstakes winnings. If you have to pay to collect, you are not winning, you are buying. Legitimate sweepstakes don't require you to pay insurance, taxes, or shipping and handling fees to collect your prize.

- Scammers pressure people to wire money through commercial

see fraud conc. pg. 8

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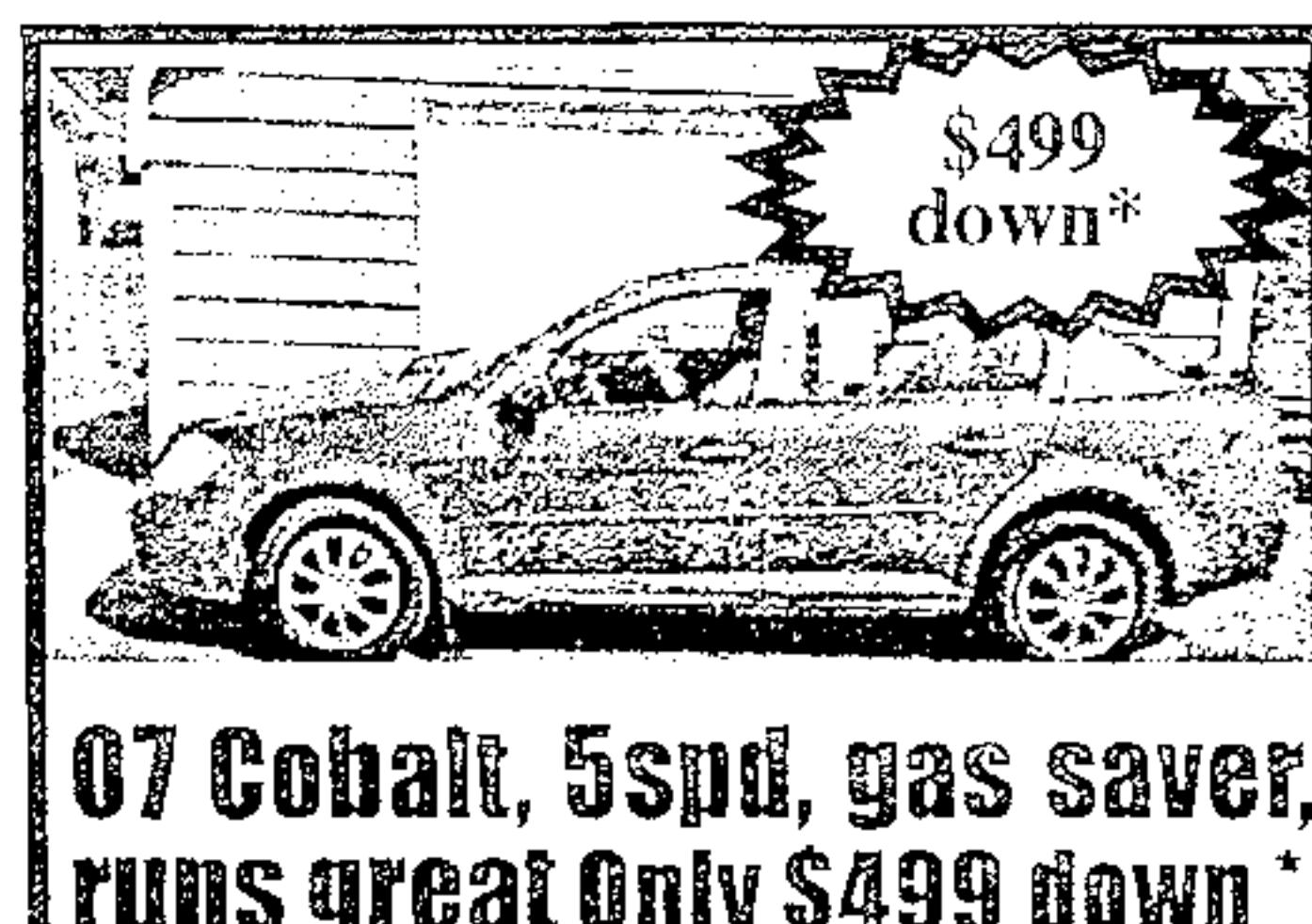
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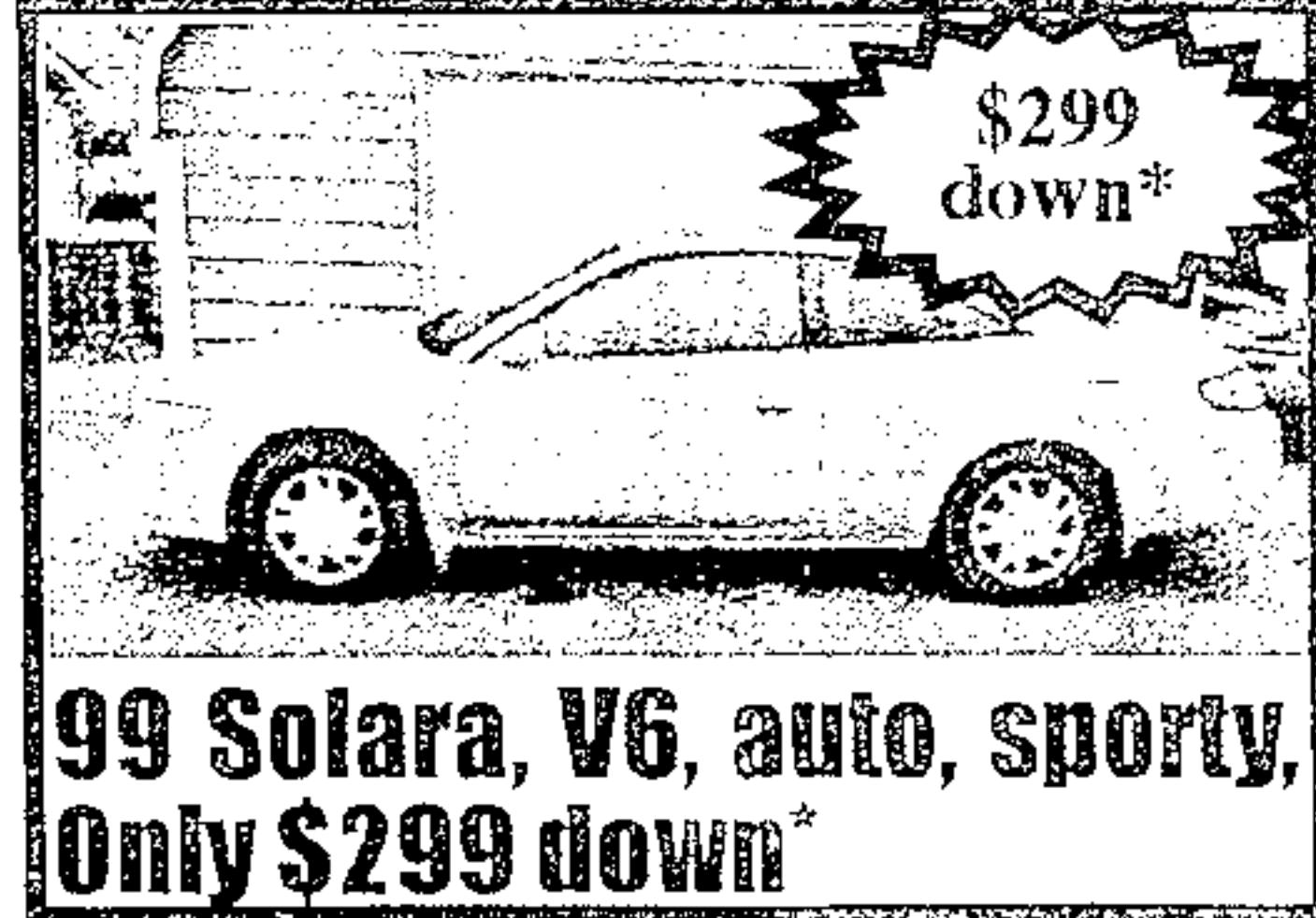
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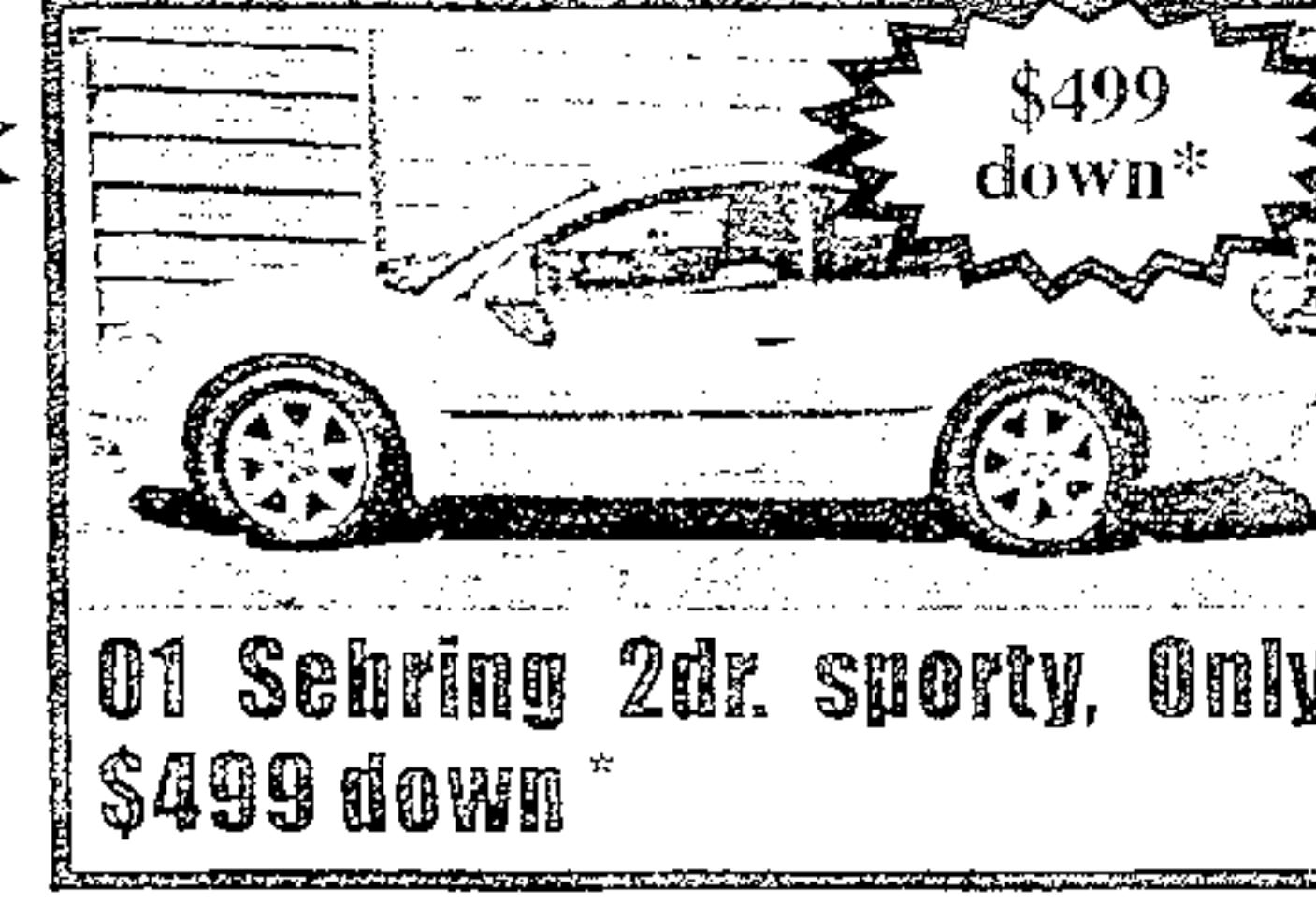
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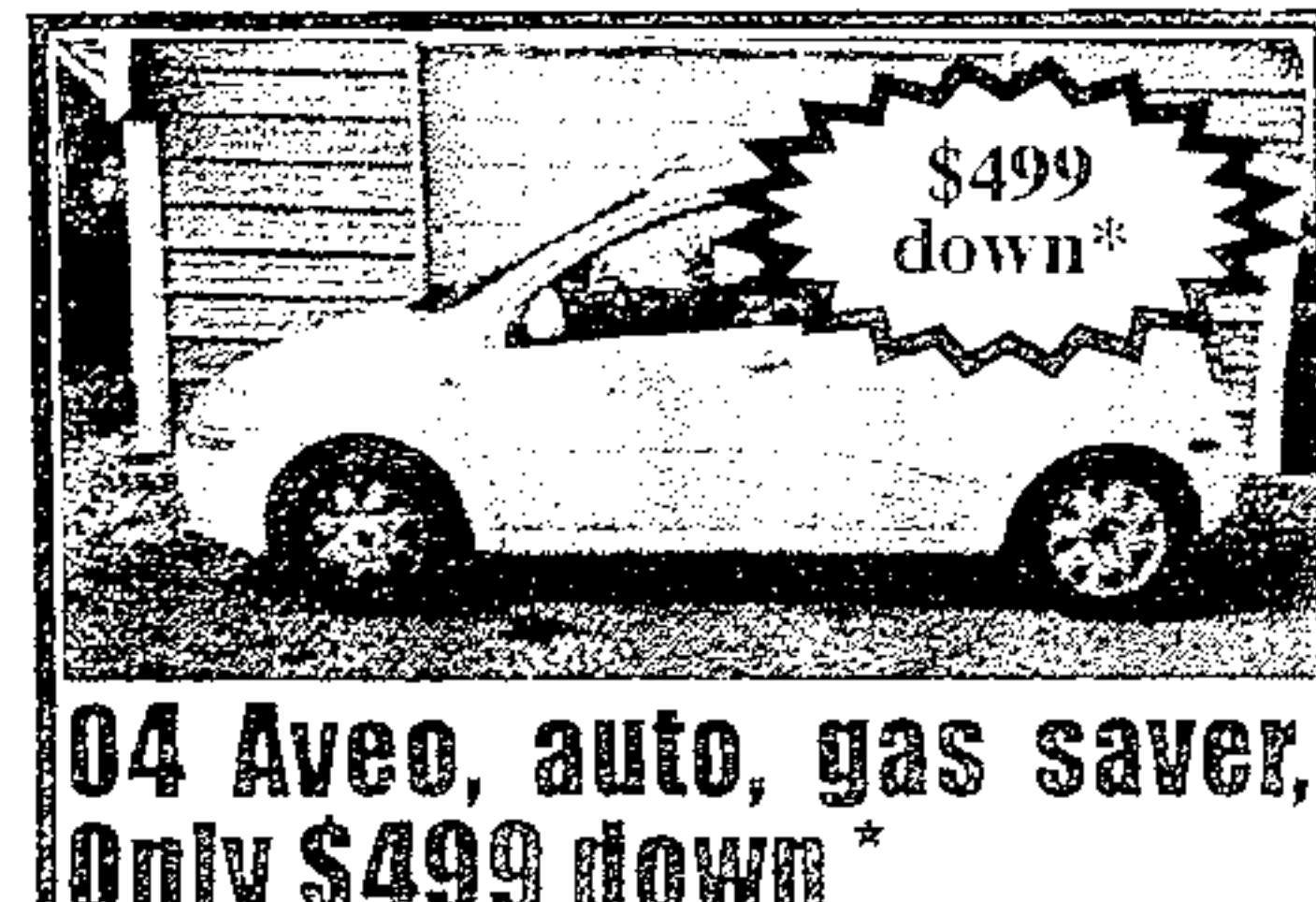
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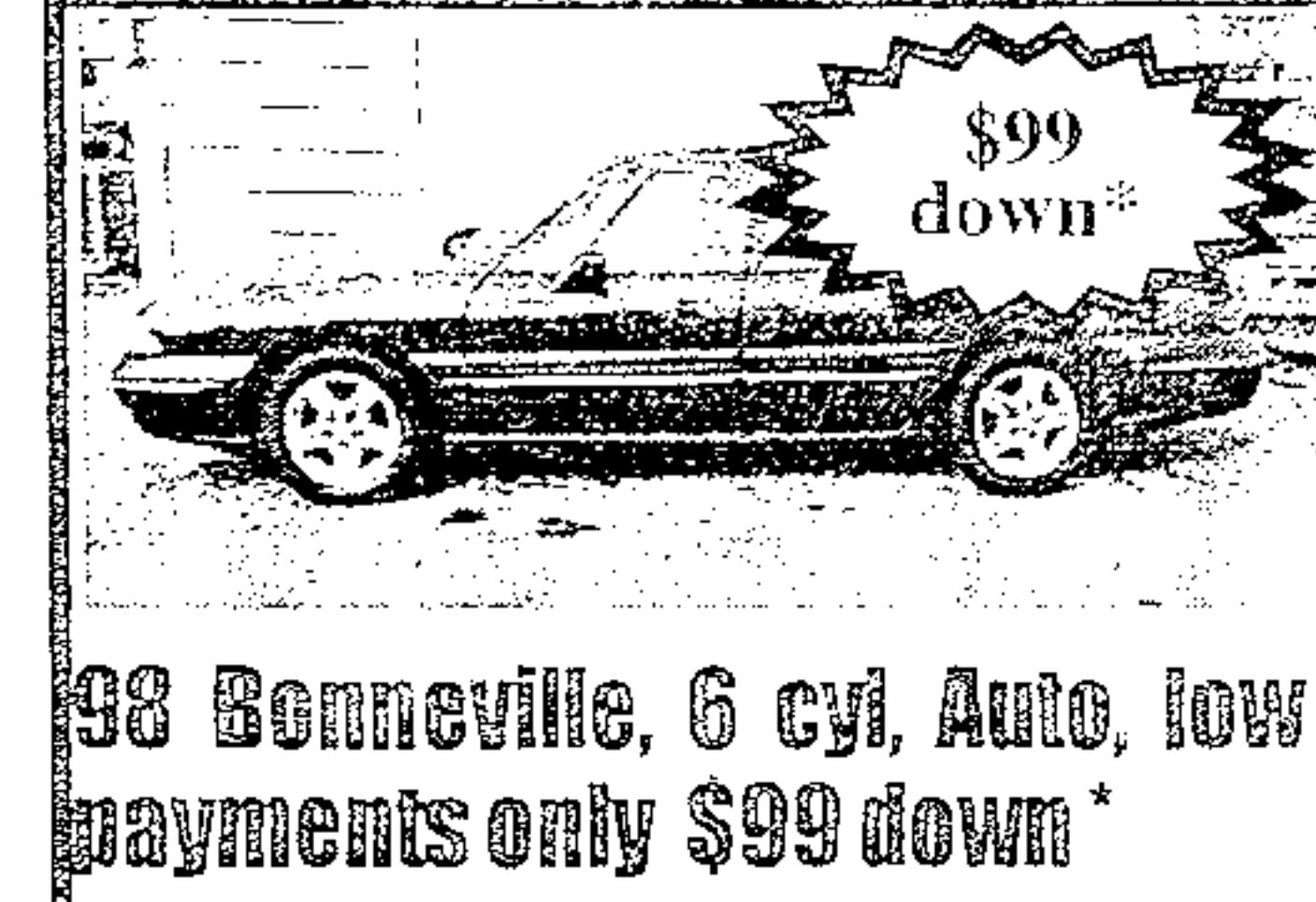
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FBI ctd. from pg. 7

money transfer companies because wiring money is the same as sending cash. When the money's been sent, there's very little chance of recovery. Likewise, resist any push to send a check or money order by overnight delivery or courier. Con artists recommend these services so they can get their hands on your money before you realize you've been cheated.

- Remember that phone numbers can deceive. Internet technology allows scammers to disguise their area code so it looks like they're calling from your local area, but they could be calling from anywhere in the world.

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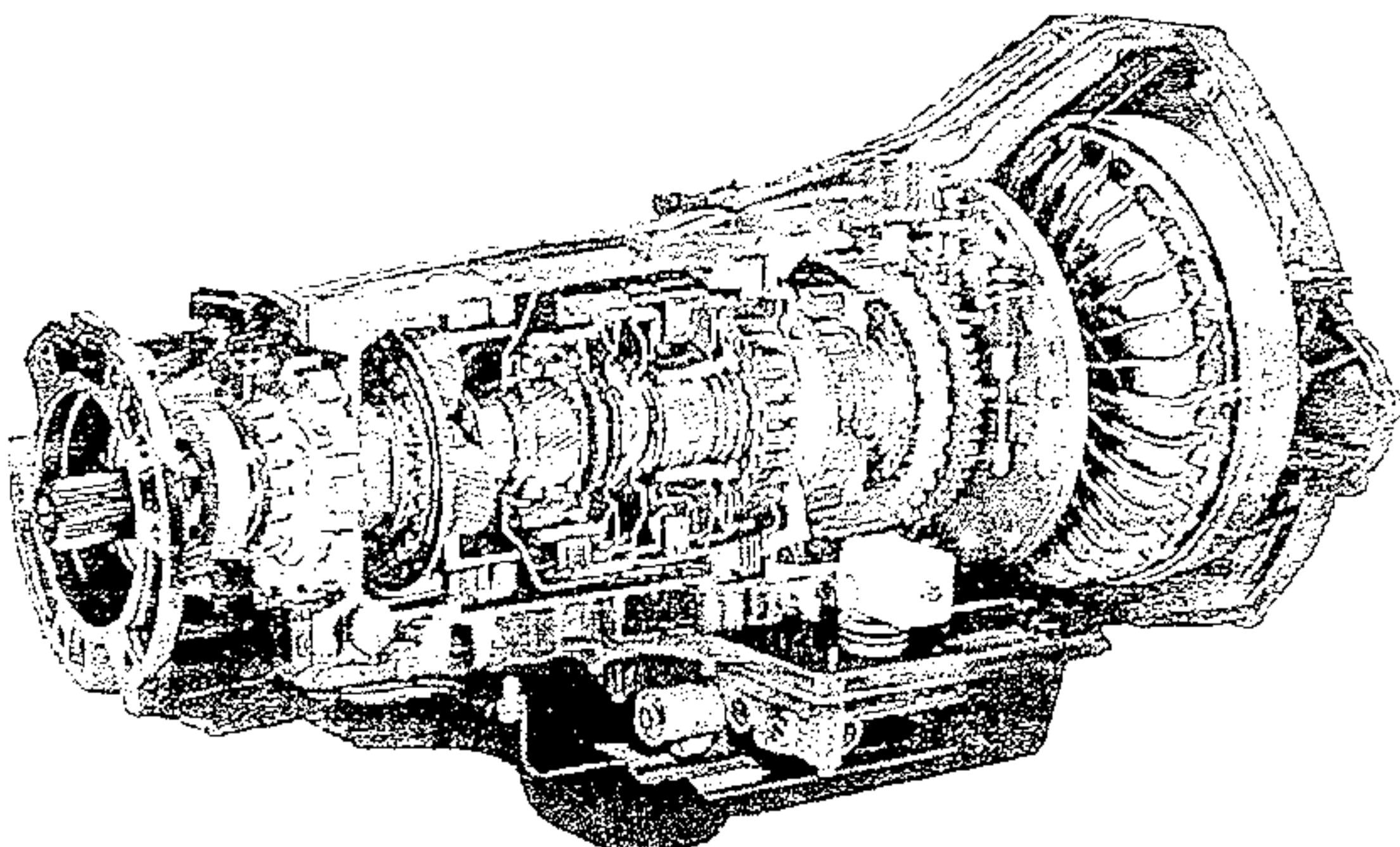
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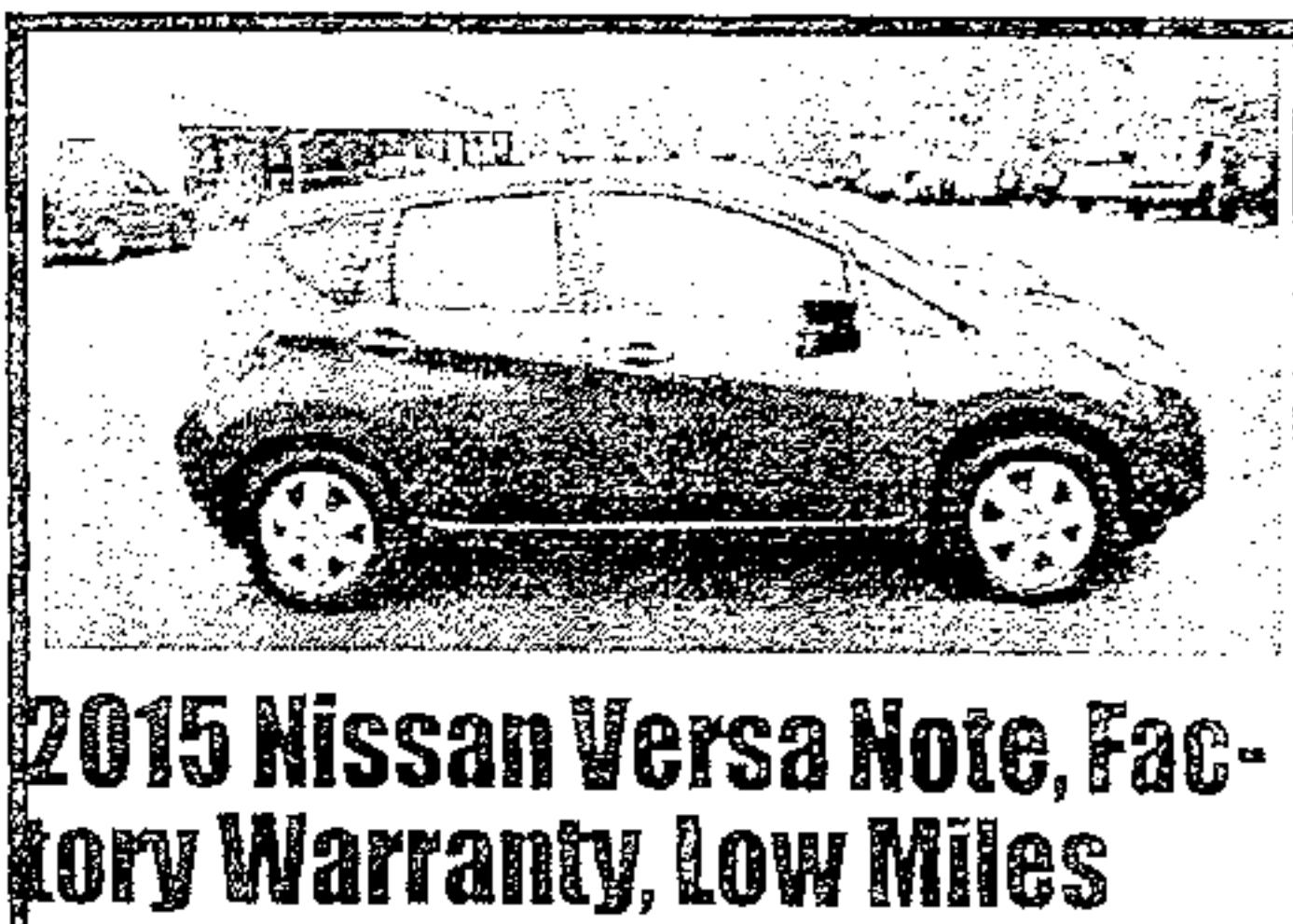
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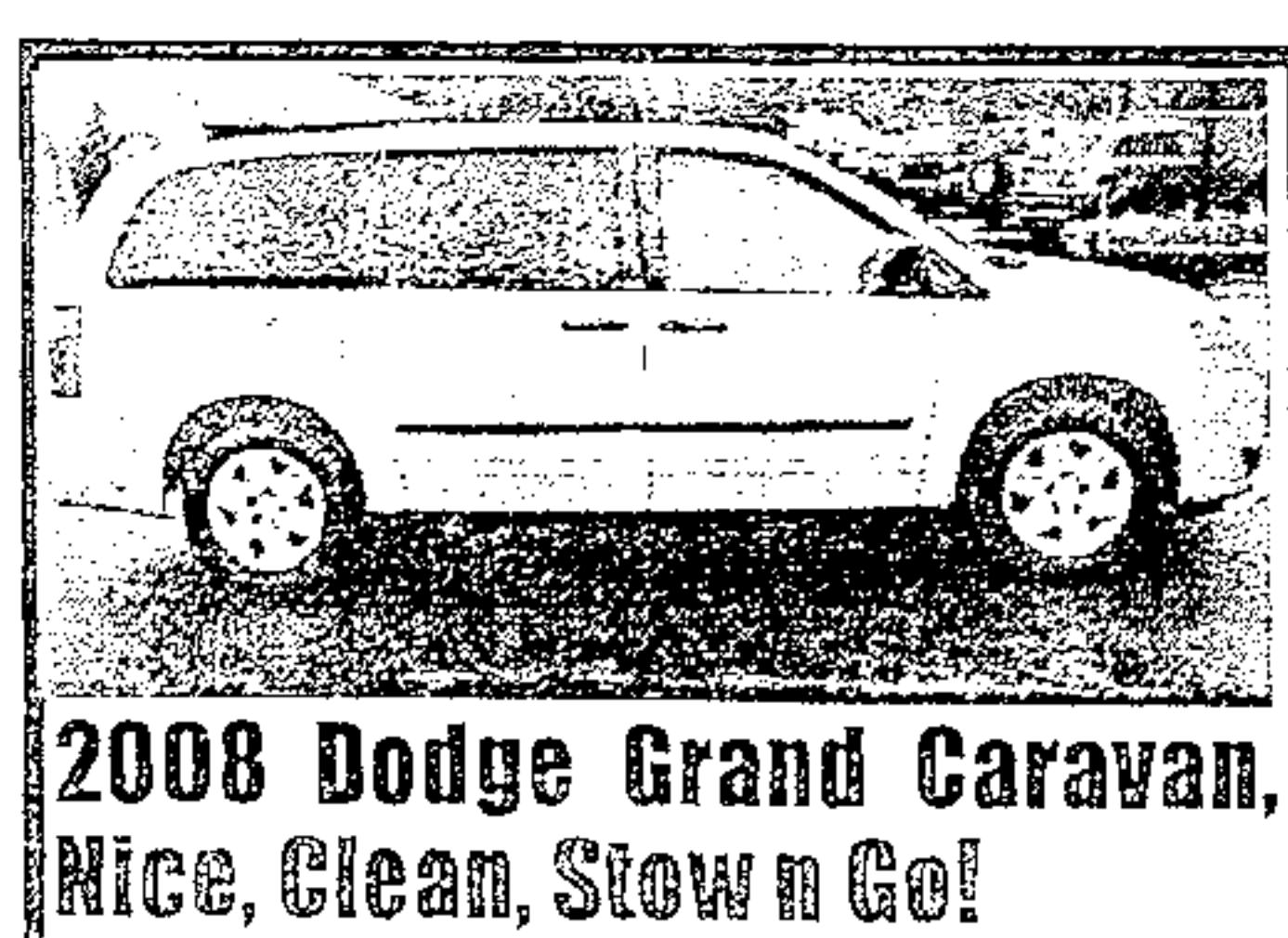
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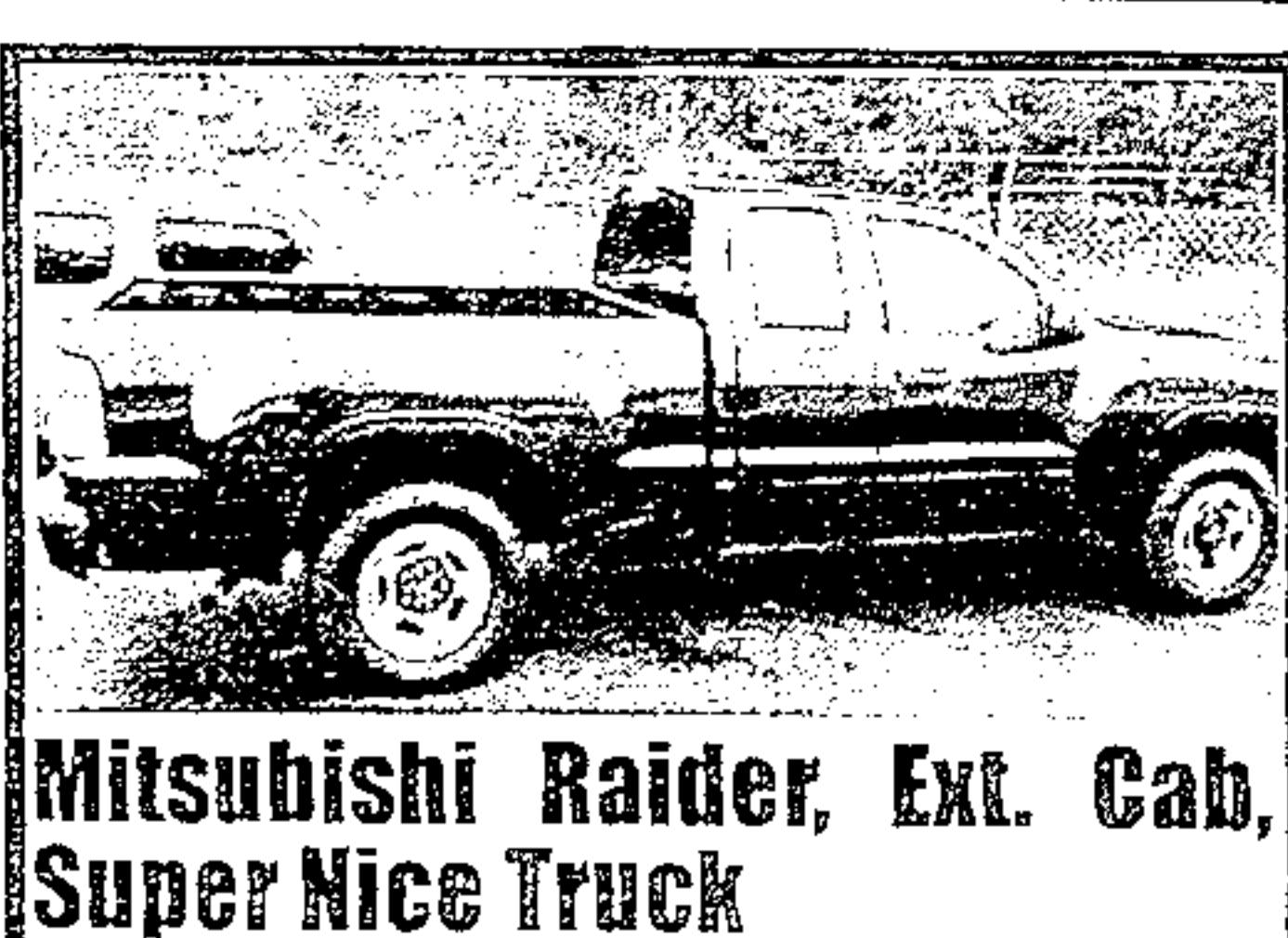
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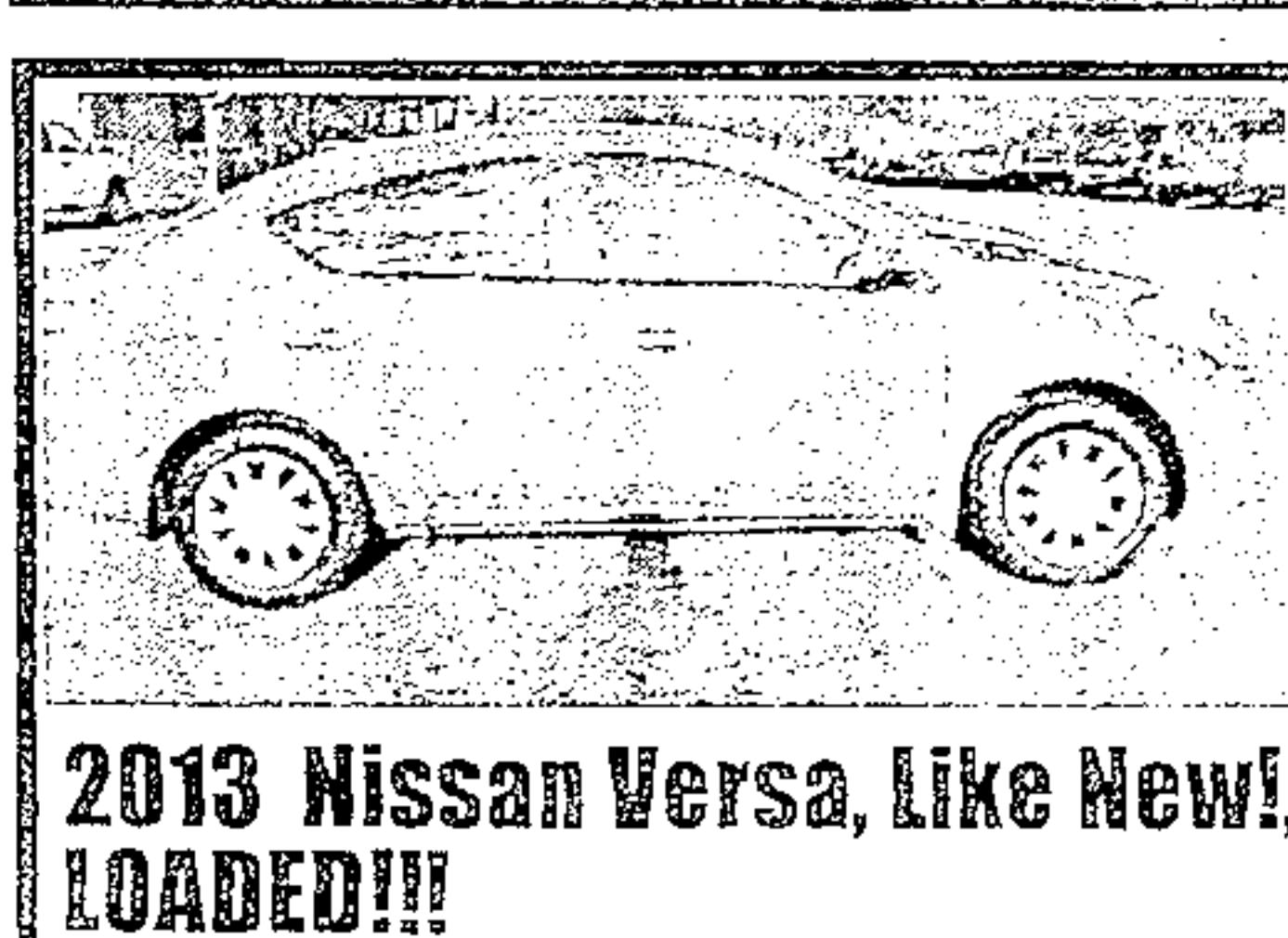
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