

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Possible burglary thwarted by deputy after traffic stop



Donald Ruff

(see stop pg. 2)



Kenneth Carter



Nicole Fritts

Governor Haslam, Commissioner Boyd Announce TeamHealth to Expand Headquarters in Knox County

Healthcare solutions company to invest \$6.7 million, create approximately 250 new jobs

Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam and Economic and Community Development Commissioner Randy Boyd along with TeamHealth officials announced today the company will expand its current headquarters in Knoxville. The healthcare solutions company will invest \$6.7 million to construct additional space adjacent to its current headquarters location in Knoxville. This expansion comes as a result of anticipated growth over the next three to five

(see jobs pg. 7)

US Settles false claims act allegations against TVA Contractor Bartlett Holdings, Inc.

The United States, on behalf of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), reached a settlement on April 22, 2016, with TVA contractor Bartlett Holdings, Inc. (Bartlett), d.b.a. BHI Energy/Sun Technical Services. Bartlett was alleged to have violated the False Claims Act by knowingly con-

(see TVA pg. 4)

Update: 3rd person charged in BIG Bag bust



Anthony Harris

(see Update pg. 5)

DRIVER SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS IN PRISON FOR SECOND DEGREE MURDER OF PASSENGER IN GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK CAR CRASH

On May 6, 2016, Corey Bruce Patrick, 35, of Camden, Tenn., was sentenced by the Honorable Thomas A. Varlan, Chief U.S. District Judge, to serve 15 years in federal prison for second degree murder for a car wreck that resulted in the death of Heather Nicole Hendrix.

Upon his release from prison, Patrick will be supervised by the U.S. Probation Office for five years. He was also ordered to pay restitution to the victim's family in the amount of \$15,989.77 for funeral and burial related expenses and the value of Hendrix's car.

(see Murder pg. 3)

Verse of the Day

Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless. — Ecclesiastes 5:10

Obituaries

see inside

Wazzup

Be sure to drive safely all this week during the Highway 11 sale which starts tomorrow From Miss to Virginia!

Weather

Today: Variable clouds

with scattered thunderstorms. High 82F.

Tonight: Partly cloudy skies early. Scattered thunderstorms developing later at night. Low 62F.

Thursday Partly cloudy in the morning followed

by scattered thunderstorms in the afternoon. High 87F.

Thursday Night Scattered thunderstorms in the evening, then mainly cloudy overnight with thunderstorms likely. Low 63F.

(Continued on page 6)

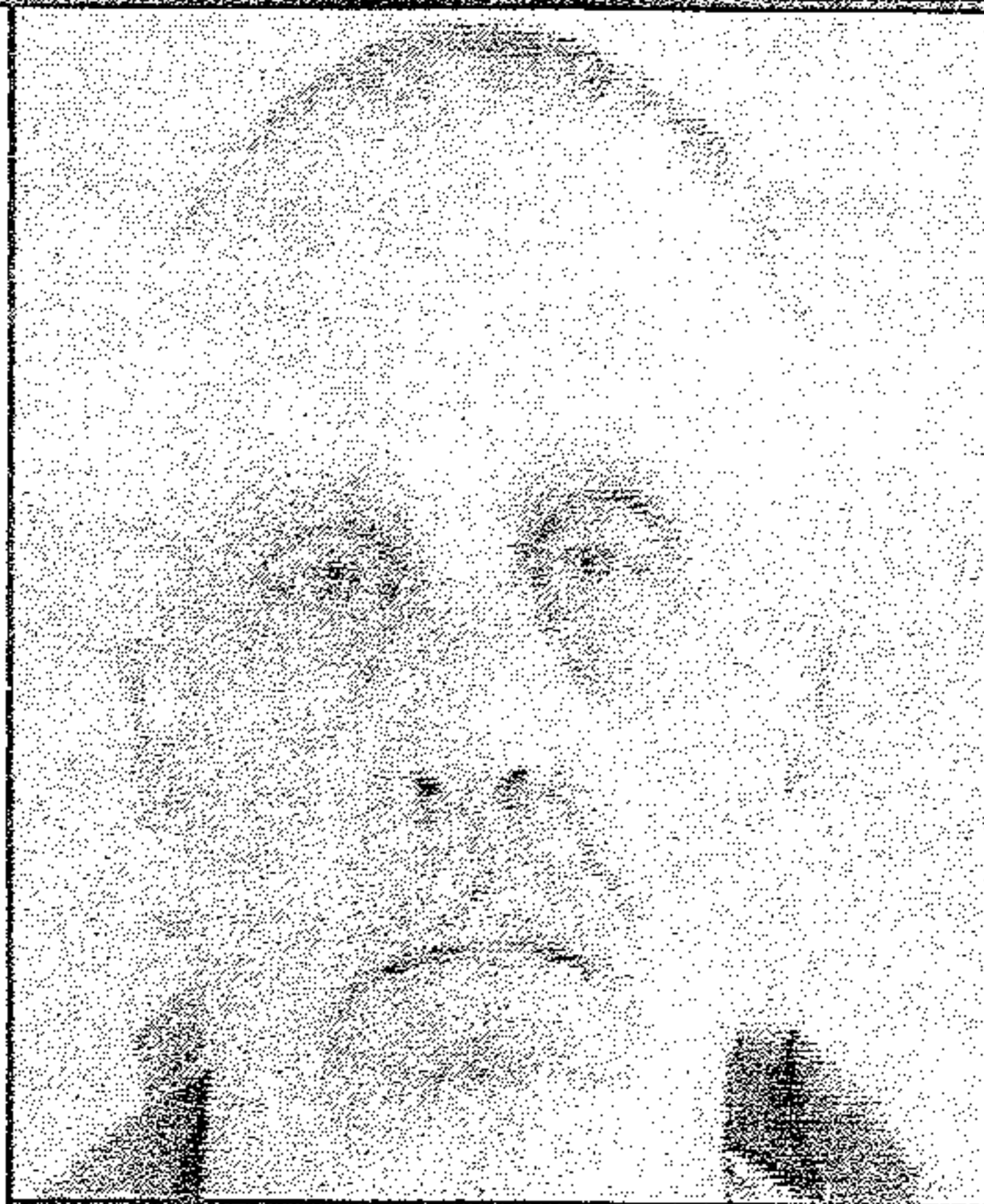


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stop

Nicole Fritts Johnson, 36, Azalea Street Sweetwater, was charged with Driving on Revoked License, Simple Possession, and Poss. of Burglary Tools.

Kenneth Carter, 45, Cedar Valley Road Sweetwater, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para., Poss. of Burglary Tools, Simple Possession x2, and Assisting other Agency.



Tim Shope, 48, Fortners Chapel Road Sweetwater, was charged with Poss. of Burglary Tools, and Simple Possession.

Donald Ruff, 33, Browder Street Sweetwater, was charged with Simple Posses-

sion, and Poss. of Burglary Tools.

Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, observed a blue Buick Century on Highway 11 passing Spring St that appeared to have illegal tint,

(see stop ctd. pg. 4)

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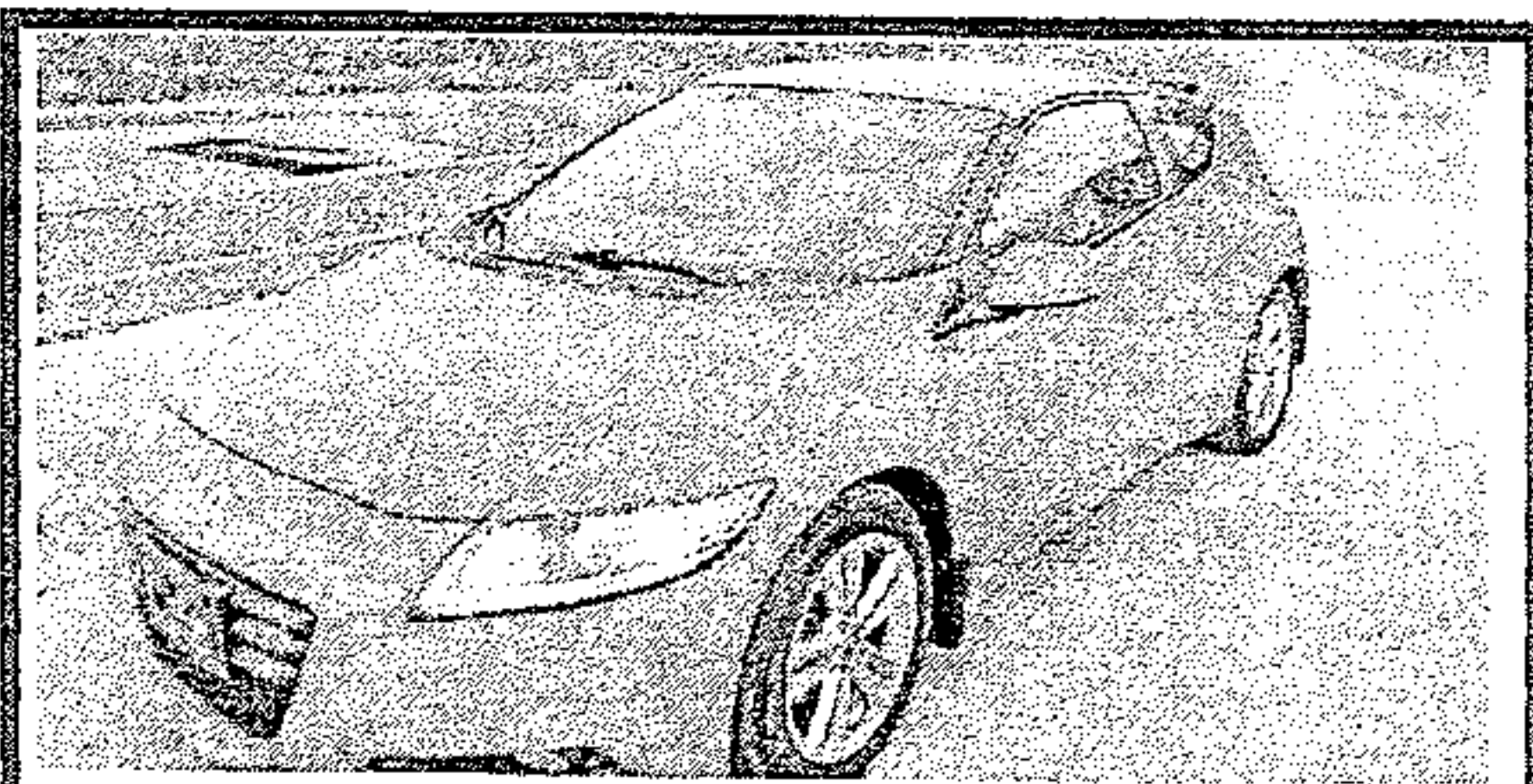
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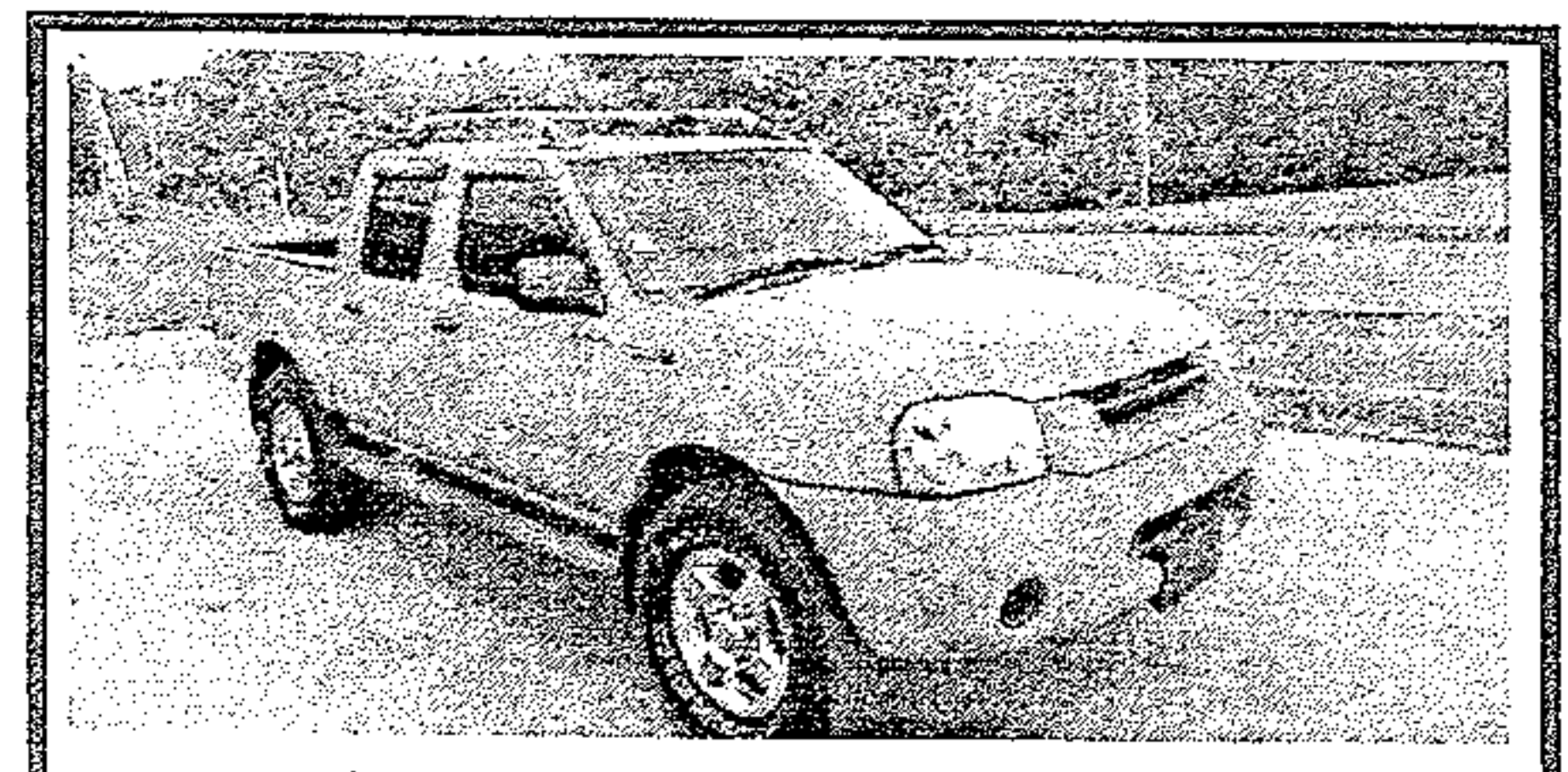
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murder

In April 2015, Patrick pleaded guilty to the offense described above. According to documents on file with U.S. District Court, in Oc-

tober 2014, after drinking alcohol and using drugs, Patrick crashed the victim's car while driving at a high rate of speed within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. One minute before the crash, Hendrix sent a text message that Patrick was "driving fast and crazy." Patrick's blood alcohol level was .193, more than twice the legal limit in Tennessee. At the time of the crash, Hendrix, the only passenger, suffered multiple blunt force injuries causing her to die at age 37. Hendrix was survived in death by her

mother, three children, and a grandson, who was born two weeks after her death.

by the National Park Service. Assistant U.S. Attorney Brooklyn Sawyers represented the United States.

The case was investigated

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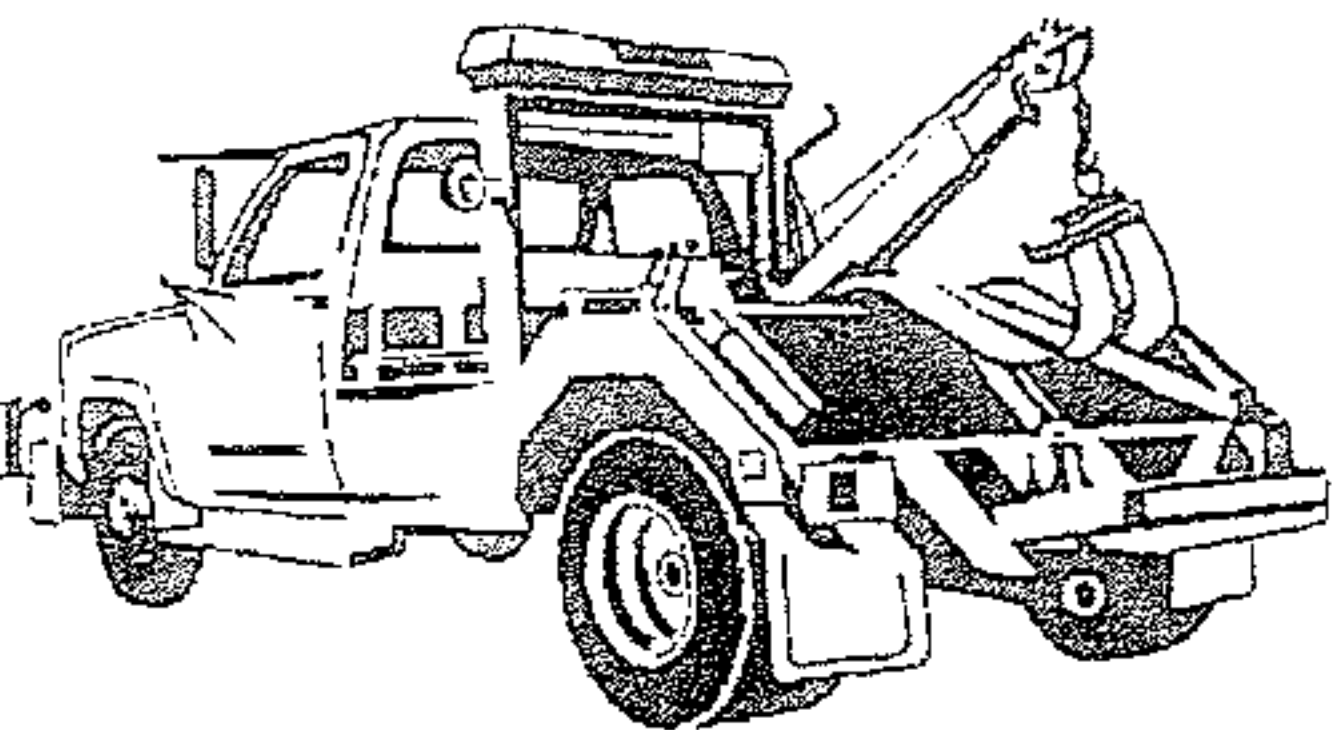
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TVA cealing or knowingly and improperly avoiding an obligation to refund overpayments received from TVA for work performed on the project to complete the construction of Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2. Under the terms of the settlement, Bartlett agreed to pay the United States \$2.8 million.

In January 2008 Bartlett entered into a subcontract with Bechtel Power Corporation, TVA's engineering, procurement and construction contractor on the Watts Bar Unit 2 project, to furnish qualified personnel to Bechtel for the project. Bartlett's subcontract, which was funded by TVA, provided for Bartlett to be reimbursed its actual costs for wages and related expenses, including payroll taxes and insurance incurred for employees working on the project. However, the United States

alleged that Bartlett received payments from TVA in excess of actual costs for payroll taxes and insurance and knowingly failed to timely identify, report and refund those overpayments to TVA as required under the subcontract.

"The issue of losing public funds through fraud, waste and abuse is all too well known," said Acting U.S. Attorney Nancy Harr. "Since these losses usually result in increased costs to the public, parties that contract with the government or its agencies must be held to the terms of their contract. The U.S. Attorney's office remains committed to recovering funds lost when a contractor departs from its contractual obligations," added Harr.

This settlement resulted from a joint, comprehensive investigation conducted by the U.S. Attorney's

Office and the TVA Office of Inspector General (TVA-OIG). In January 2014, the TVA-OIG Audit Division initiated an audit of payments to Bartlett under its subcontract. The U.S. Attorney's office and TVA-OIG Investigations Division subsequently joined the investigation following the filing of a qui tam or whistleblower complaint in May 2014.

Acting U.S. Attorney Harr commended the

cooperative efforts of TVA Inspector General Richard Moore and his staff who participated in this complex investigation, including counsel to the Inspector General Charles Kandt, who was assigned to the matter as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney (SAUSA). SAUSA Kandt

and Assistant U.S. Attorney Rob McConkey represented the United States' interests in this case.

Members of the public should be reminded that the claims settled by this agreement are allegations only and there has been no determination of liability.

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Update

Anthony Harris, 32, Sundale Ave Ohio, was charged with Man/Sell/Del/Resale SCH. II.

Sgt. Jerramie Bowen LCSO, clocked a vehicle on I-75 near the 72 mile marker at 77 mph in a 65mph zone. Deputy then made a traffic stop on the vehicle at Hwy 321 at the Sprint store just off exit 81 of I-75 north. Deputy then made contact with

the driver later identified as Anthony Harris. When Mr. Harris rolled down the window Deputy could smell a strong odor of Marijuana coming from the vehicle. Deputy then asked Mr. Harris where he was heading to and he stated he was on his way to Cincinnati Ohio and that he had been to Atlanta Georgia. He stated that he had arrived in Georgia on Saturday and left this

morning. Deputy then spoke to the back seat passenger later identified as Deante Childress. Mr. Childress stated that he was also en route to Cincinnati and that they had went to Atlanta on Friday. He stated his girlfriend had rented the vehicle for him.

As Mr. Childress was walking toward Deputy patrol unit he did notice a large bulge in his

pants. Deputy did ask to pat him down and when he did he asked him what was in his pants he stated it was marijuana as Deputy went to detain him to retrieve the bag he took off running and threw the bag and Deputy could not locate the bag. Deputy Everett did take Mr. Childress into custody after a brief foot pursuit. Deputy

then notified Lt. Paul Curtis. During the search of the vehicle Deputy did find a large amount, approximately 248 grams, of a white powder substance believed to be cocaine in the back floorboard behind the drivers seat. A further search of the vehicle Deputy did locate a shoe in a black bag in the trunk area. Deputy did find a small round container with white powder substance believed to be cocaine.

Investigator Ezell with the narcotics unit did field test this powder and it did test positive for cocaine. the subjects in the vehicle stated they did not know anything about this.

Mr. Childress did have approx \$701.00 that was seized for Manufacture sell and Delivery of a controlled substance (cocaine). Mr. Thomason also had approx. \$250.00 that was seized for the same charge.

All subjects were transported to the Loudon County Jail. This did occur in Loudon County. Sgt. Jerramie Bowen LCSO, made the arrest.

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stop ctd. from pg. 2

once Deputy ran the registration it came to a Mercury. Upon traffic stop at Elm St Deputy came in contact with the driver Nichole Fritts Johnson, Kenneth Carter, Clayton Ruff, and Tim Shope whom all appeared to be anxious. Mrs. Johnson's license came back to be suspended through dispatch, she then gave consent to search the vehicle where Deputy came across a black box with marijuana (1.9 grams), spoon, and needles under the drivers seat which belonged to Mr. Carter. Deputy then located another bag of marijuana (3.1 grams) under the front seat which was differ-

ent from the previous marijuana. Inside the vehicle contents recovered were 2 duffle bags, 2 walkie talkies, camo mask, 3 pry bars, headlight, shears, 3 black gloves, 2 camo gloves, and a black handkerchief. All subjects were charged with Possession of Burglary Tools, and Simple Possession. Mr. Carter is charged in addition to with Possession of Drug Paraphernalia and a second charge of Simple Possession due to the marijuana being in different items. Mrs. Johnson was additionally charged with Driving on Suspended. All subjects were transported to Loudon County Justice Center without incident with.

Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, made the arrest.

Jobs

years. "It always means a great deal when a company like TeamHealth, with a great history in our state, chooses to continue growing here," Haslam said. "We want to thank TeamHealth for continuing to invest in our state and creating approximately 250 new jobs in Knox County over the next three to five years. Today's announcement is great news for our East Tennessee communities and brings us another step closer toward our goal to make Tennessee the No. 1 location in the Southeast for high quality jobs."

"More than 341,500 Tennesseans are employed in the healthcare and medical device industry, and we are grateful that

TeamHealth is growing this sector and positioning the organization for future growth in Tennessee," Boyd said. "This is the second announcement in two years for TeamHealth in Tennessee, and I want to thank them for choosing to expand in Knoxville and for further strengthening Team Tennessee."

TeamHealth is one of the largest physician services companies, providing staffing services for hospitals in the U.S. for multiple service lines, including anesthesia, emergency medicine and hospital medicine. The company is committed to a patient-centric model of healthcare delivery in partnership with hospitals and physician groups.

"In order to continue providing best-in-class service and support to our clinician community across the nation, we are expanding our home office in Knox-

ville," President and CEO of TeamHealth Michael D. Snow said. "The building adjacent to our existing home office will house our growing nonclinical team members that serve our more than 18,000 clinicians that provide care in approximately 3,400 acute and post-acute facilities and physician groups across the country."

TeamHealth is growing exponentially and is expanding its Knoxville presence to keep up with this anticipated growth. The company is renovating a 62,000 square foot facility located adjacent to its current Knoxville headquarters. Renovations are set to be finalized in the third quarter of 2016.

Local leaders and partners expressed gratitude to TeamHealth for choosing to expand in Knoxville.

see jobs ctd pg. 8

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jobs ctd. from pg. 7

“TeamHealth is one of our region’s largest employers, and their choice to expand their corporate headquarters in Knoxville is going to have a tremendous economic impact,” Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero said. “The expected payroll will pump \$13.75 million annually into our economy. Competition for economic development wins like this is fierce, and I am so grateful this Fortune 1000 company chose to continue their growth in Knoxville.”

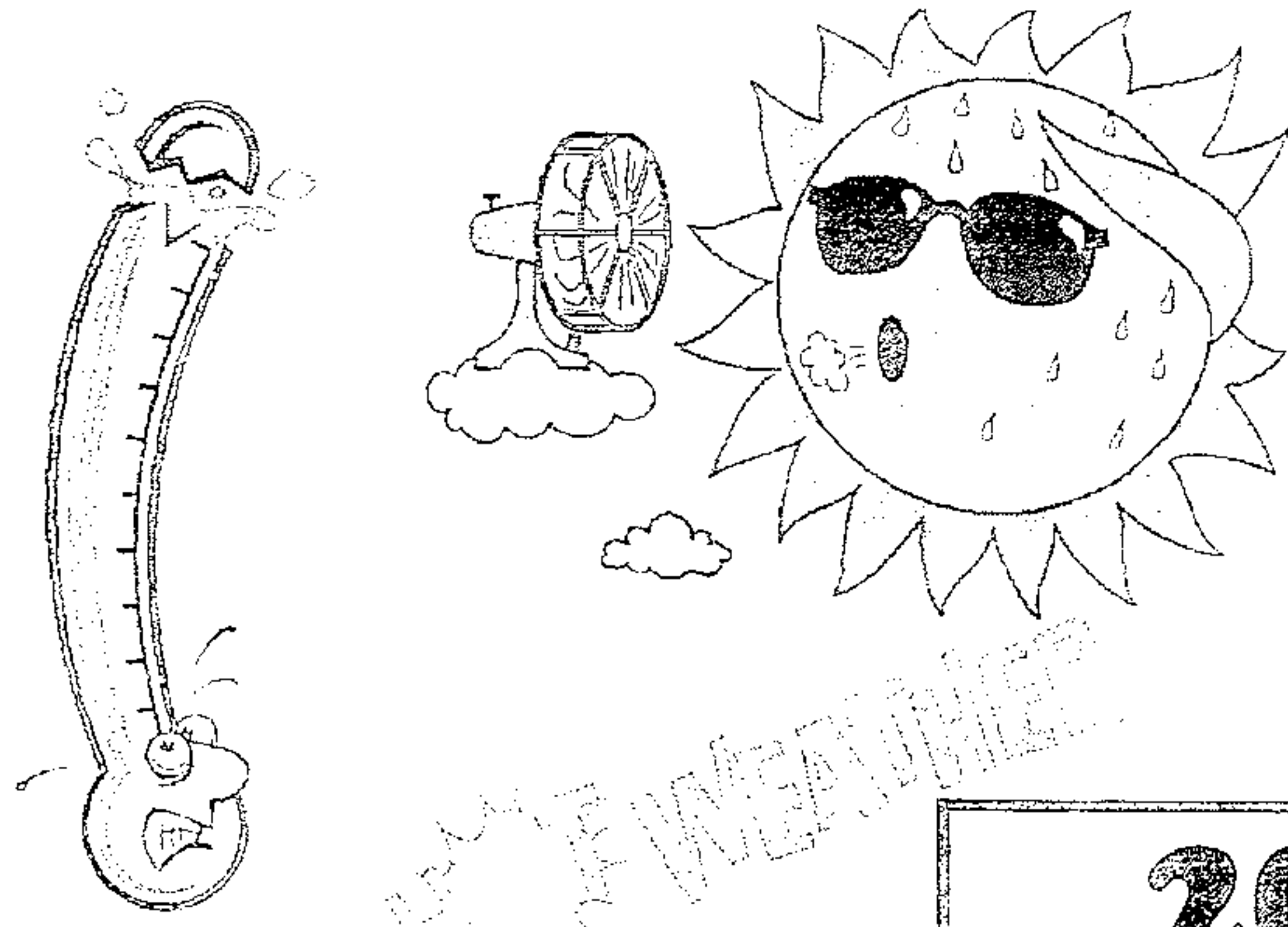
“As one of the nation’s leading healthcare physician services companies, TeamHealth’s corporate headquarters expansion right here in Knoxville gives all of us reason to be proud and grateful for their continued success and growth,” Chairman of The Industrial Development Board of the City of Knoxville John Craig said. “Knoxville’s Industrial Development Board is es-

pecially delighted to be able to help facilitate the on-going, local growth of a homegrown success like TeamHealth, which began in Knoxville in 1979.”

“TVA and the local power companies congratulate TeamHealth on its latest announcement to expand and create new job opportunities in Knoxville,” TVA Senior Vice President of Economic Development John Bradley said. “We are pleased to partner with Knoxville Area Chamber Partnership and the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development to support existing business and industry growth in the Valley.”

TeamHealth will begin hiring management and office positions starting in December 2016 and will continue filling these positions over the next three to five years. To apply for these jobs, applicants can visit the TeamHealth website.

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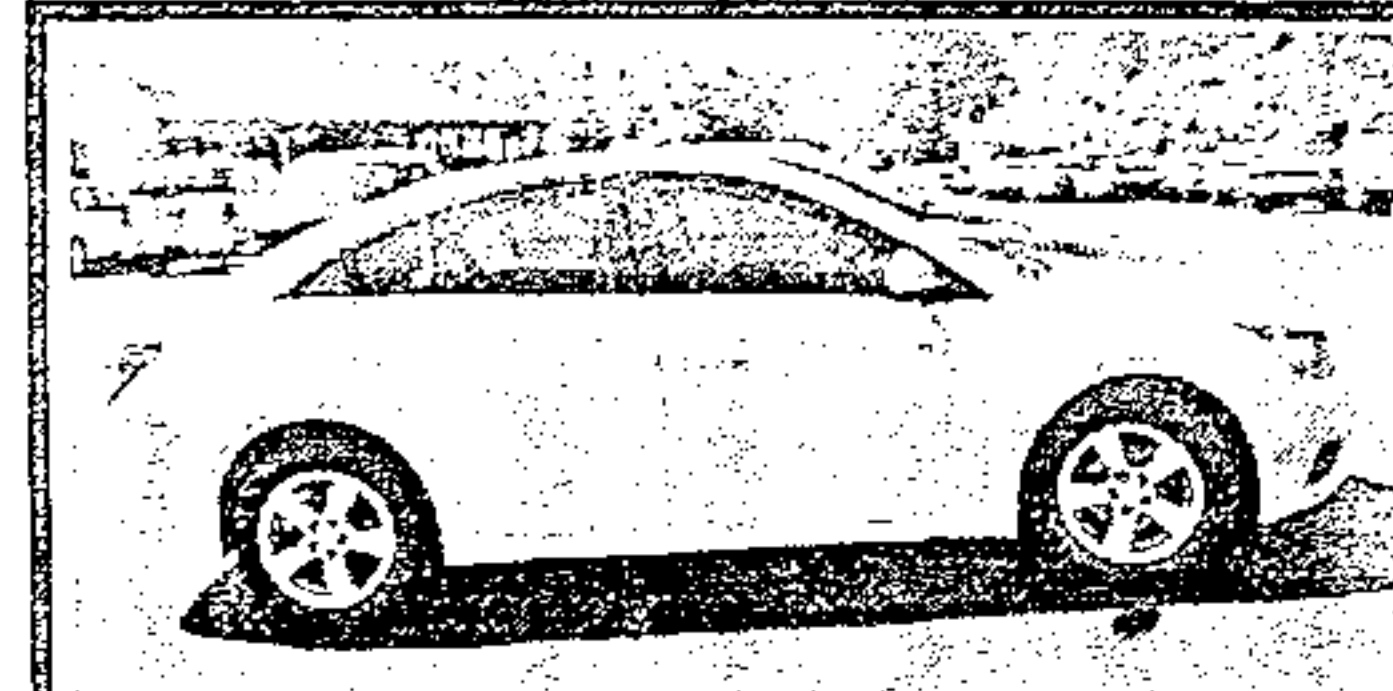
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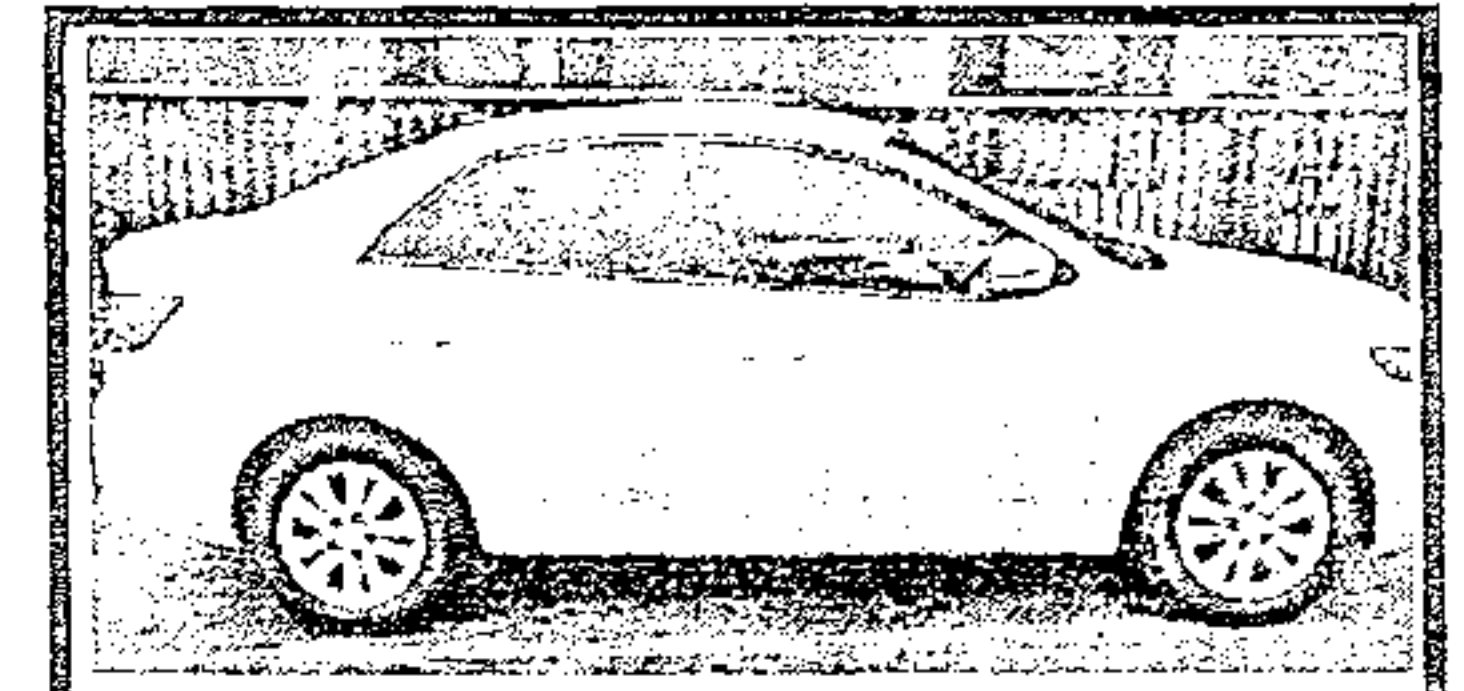
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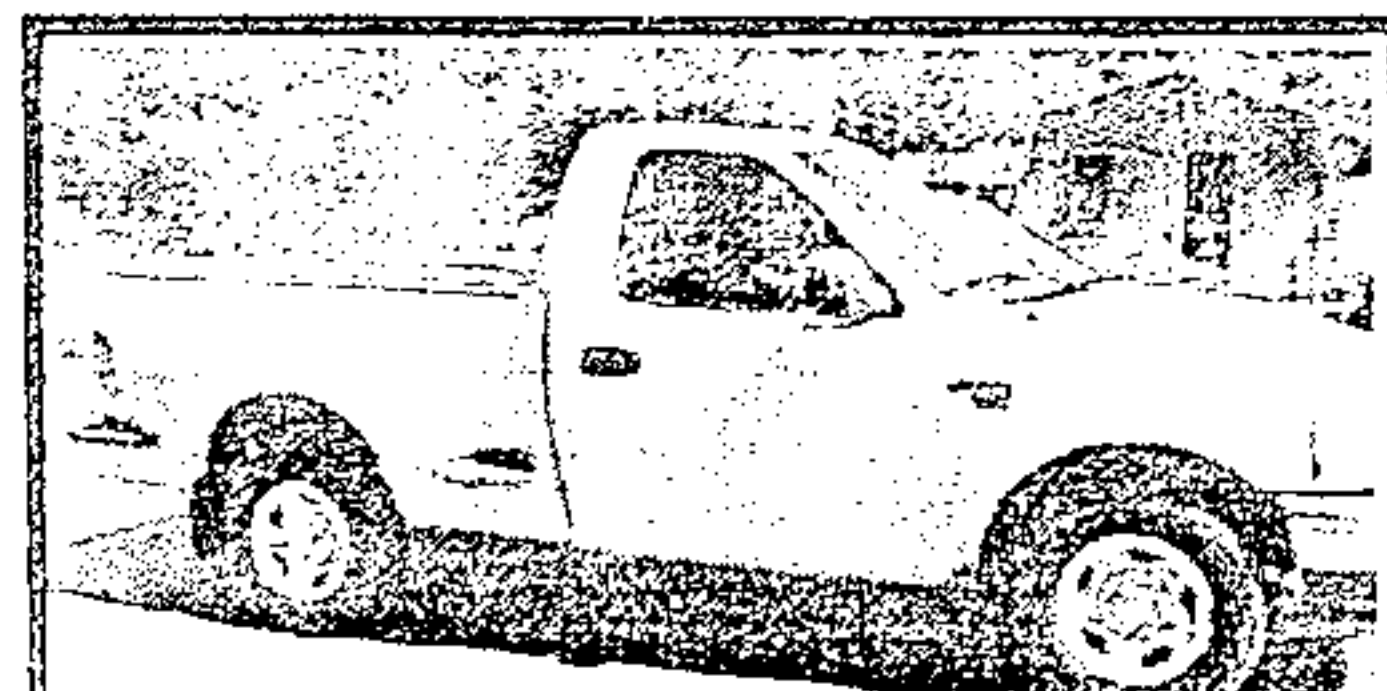
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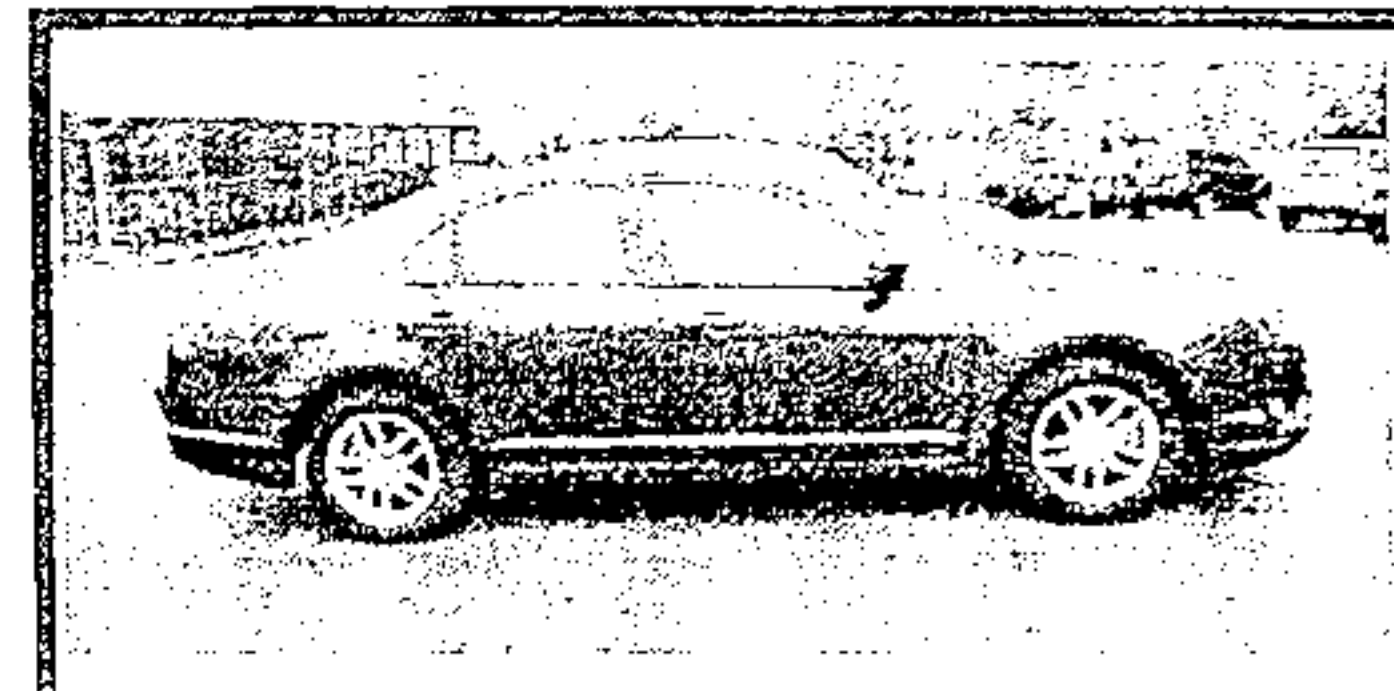
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