

# Daily Edition

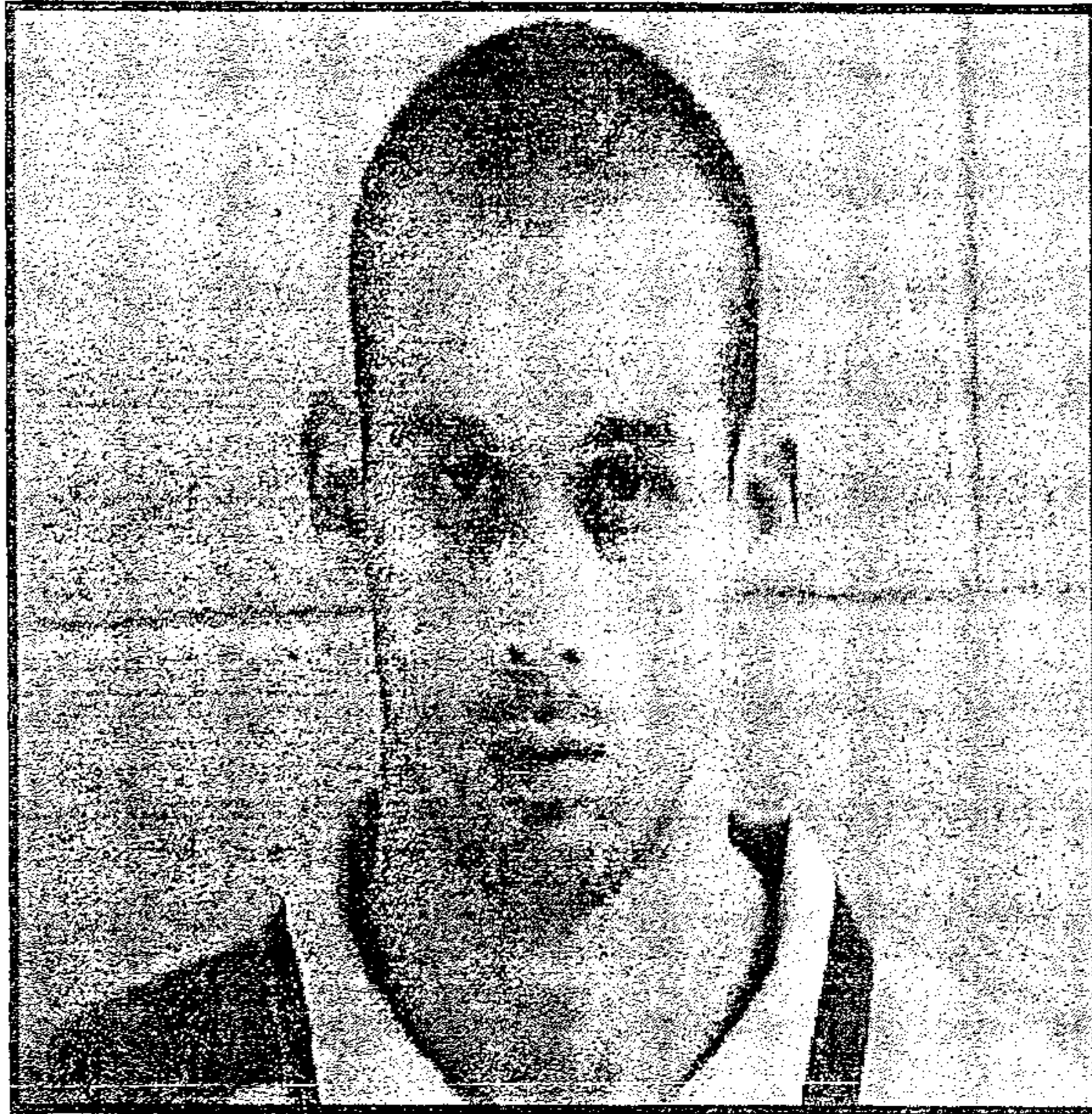
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Friday, May 27, 2016

## Loudon County Sex Offender Gets Sentenced to 18 Years in Prison

District Attorney General Russell Johnson announced that on Wednesday in Loudon County Criminal Court a defendant, Joseph Leslie Slusher (29 year old, W/M) formerly of Hotchkiss Valley Road in Loudon, pled guilty to two counts of aggravated sexual battery, Class B felonies. The case involved Slusher sexually molesting a young male child who was 8 years old at the time of the offenses.

(see sentenced pg. 2)



Joseph Slusher

## All over the road in Loudon a BAD idea!



Hai Ta

(see DUI pg. 5)

## This is the reason the drinking age is 21!



Katherine Fincher

(see underage pg. 3)

## Wanted woman located in Loudon by LPD and LCSO



Kristy Jaynes

(see wanted pg. 5)

## Civil Rights and Law Enforcement

Director Speaks About Race and Law Enforcement at Birmingham Conference

It was September 15, 1963 when a bomb exploded inside the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, killing four young girls and injuring countless others before Sunday worship.

The racially charged attack at the African-American church

(see Law pg. 4)

### Verse of the Day

I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. — John 5:25

### Obituaries

see inside **Wazzup**

Mike Newman may be the older Newman brother but he is definitely also the slimmer Newman. Shout out to Scotty! Get

them pounds off boy!

### Weather

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 89F.

Tonight: Partly cloudy in the evening. Increasing clouds with periods of

showers after midnight.

Low around 65F  
Saturday Partly cloudy. High 89F.

Saturday Night Mostly clear skies. Low 63F.

Sunday Sunshine in the morning followed by

(Continued on page 6)



**sentenced**

The young victim lived in the home of Slusher in Lenoir City during a time frame of October 2012 through October 2013. The abuse was later disclosed to authorities in Arkansas where the victim had moved with his mother.

Upon his plea Slusher was sentenced by Judge Jeff Wicks to serve eighteen years

in the custody of the Tennessee Department of Corrections. Additionally, upon his release, he will be placed on the Sex Offender Registry and be subject to Community Supervision for Life, which is an enhanced form of probation for violent sex offenders. Though he will receive credit for the approximately two years that he has been in custody, because he was

convicted of a violent sexual offense, he will be required to serve eighty-five percent of his prison sentence before becoming parole eligible.

Assistant District Attorney Alyson Kennedy of the (see sentenced ctd. pg. 7)

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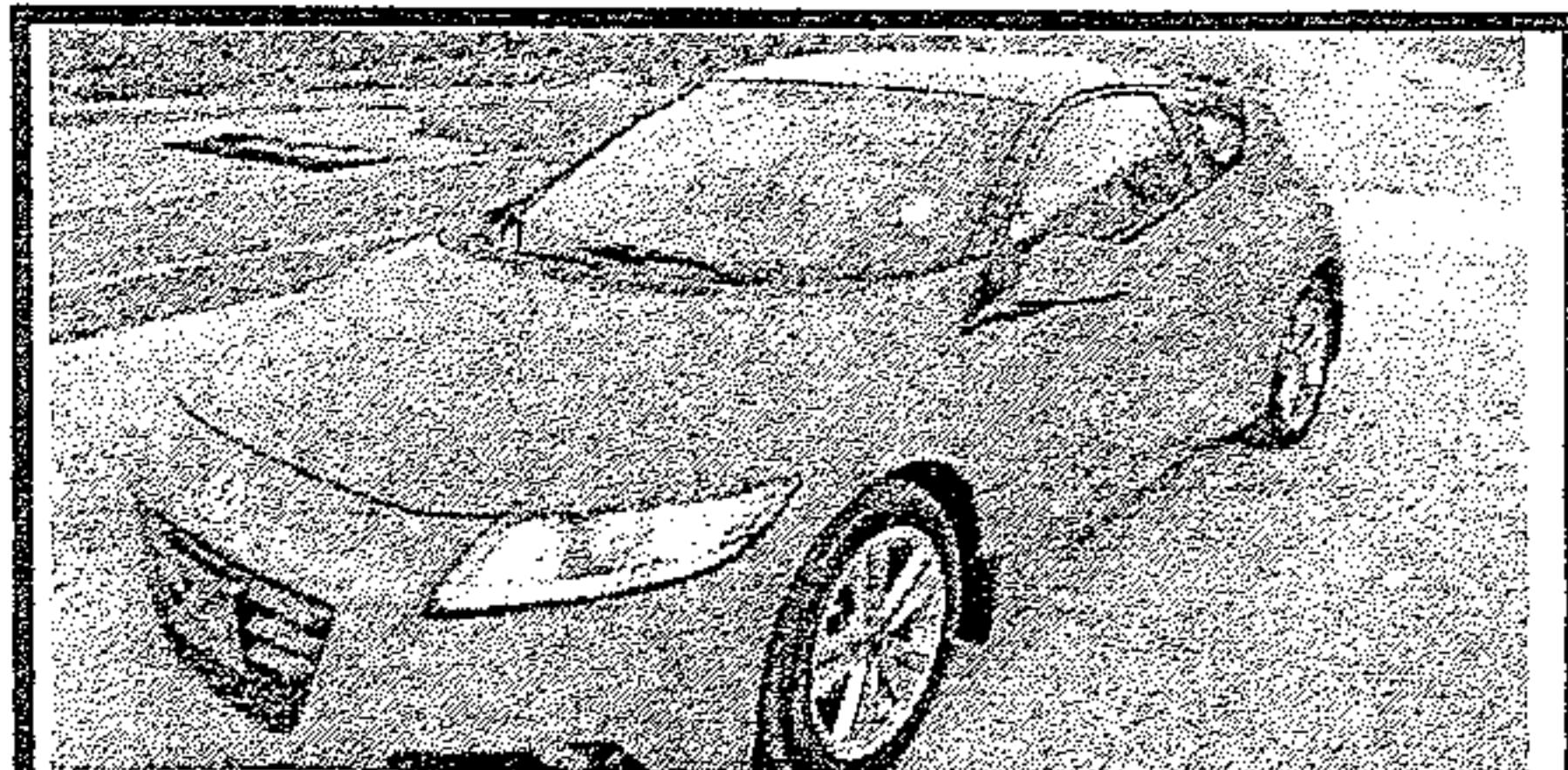
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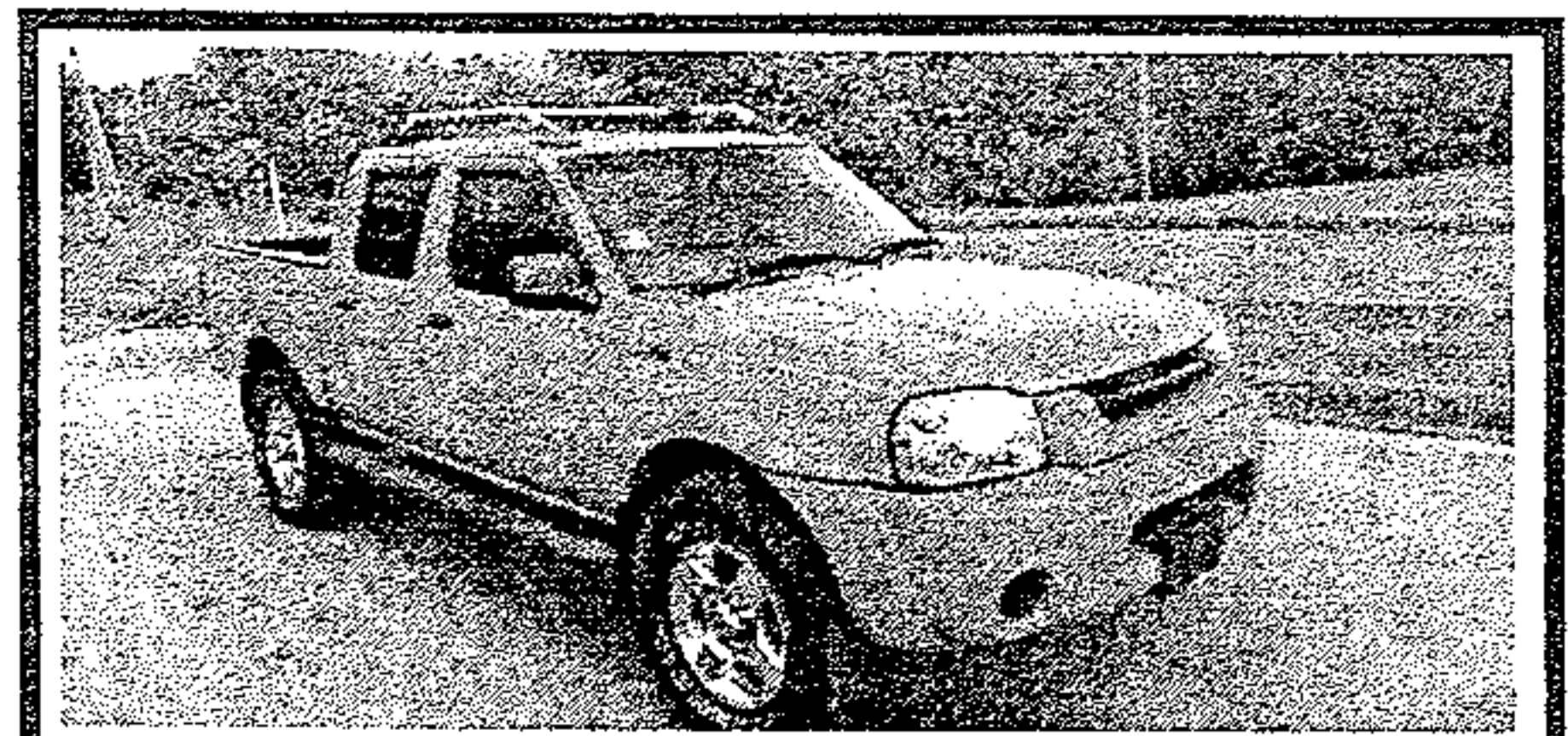
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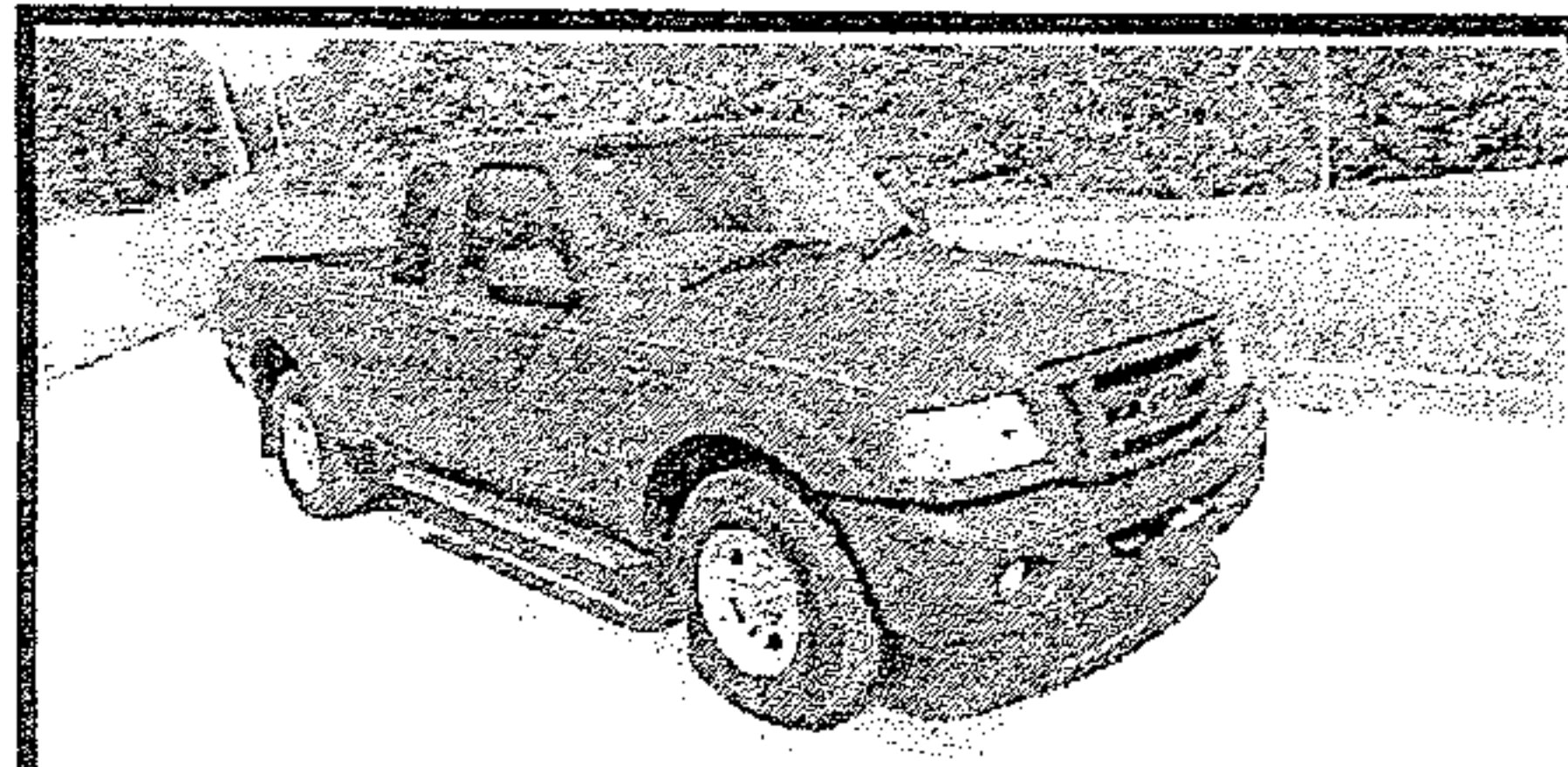
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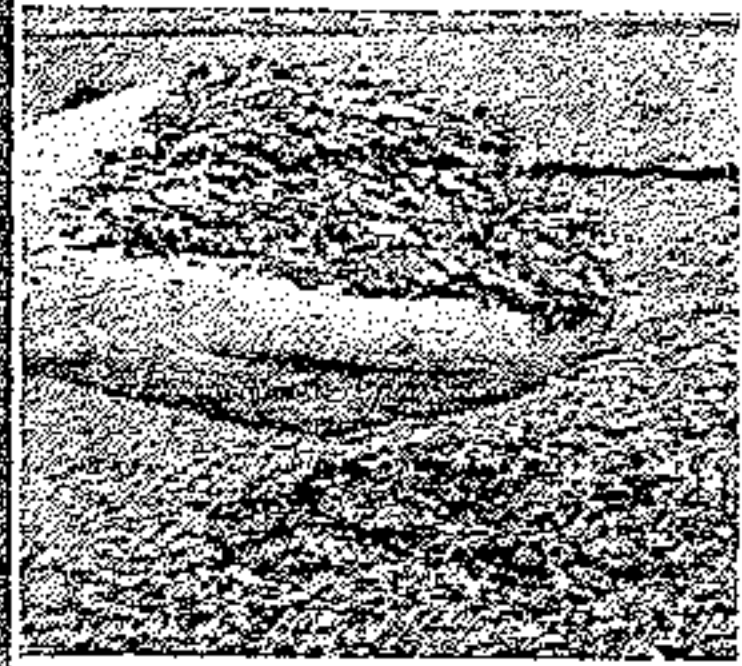
**underage**

Edward Churnetski, 20, West Hill Ave Knoxville, was charged with Underage Consumption.

According to the report,

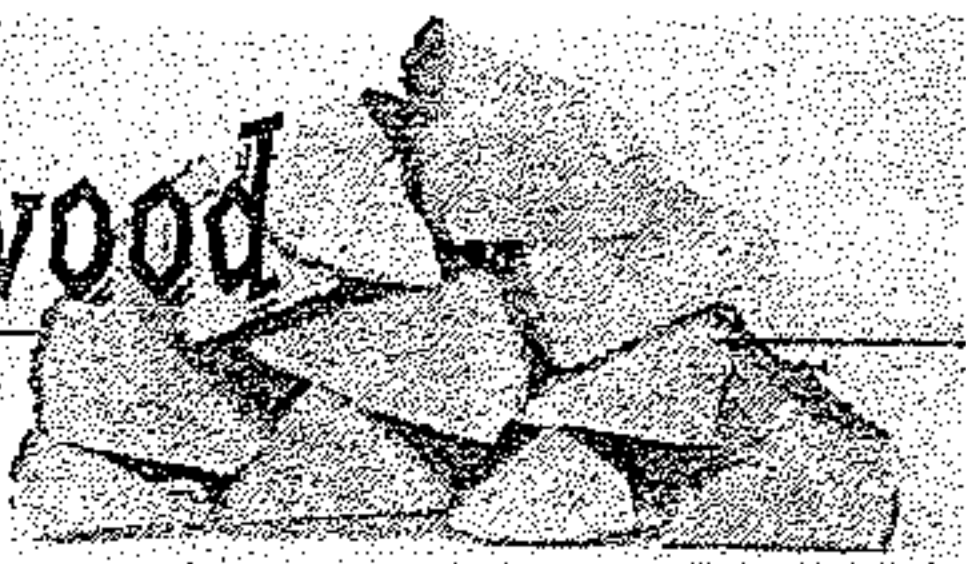
Officer Jonathan Yates LPD, while on routine patrol, came across a male passed out on the sidewalk of a closed business (Marathon). Officer woke the male and identified him as Edward Churnetski. Edward had a strong odor of intoxicating beverage about his person. Edward was intoxicated and a harm to himself if left in public. Officer Jonathan Yates LPD, made the arrest.

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law drew national attention and marked a major turning point in the civil rights movement. It was this act of violence and numerous other atrocities that ultimately led to the passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provided the FBI with new federal laws to investigate civil rights violations.

Decades later, on the hallowed ground of the historic church, FBI Director James B. Comey recalled the discrimination African-Americans in Birmingham have faced during a speech today at the annual FBI and Birmingham Civil Rights Institute (BCRI) conference on law enforcement and civil rights.

"Too many have forgotten what it was like for men and women of color—for black people—in this city 50 years ago. But many of you here today remember, because many of you and your relatives lived it. Sep-

arate schools. Separate neighborhoods. Separate lives," said Comey. "You fought against racism and inequality and the tremendous inertia of the status quo."

Comey's speech ended the two-day conference, which focused on the need to bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community, particularly in communities of color. As violent crimes increase in many parts of the country—including Birmingham, where 2015 brought on 88 homicides—Comey discussed how the lines between citizens and police are moving further apart. To change this trend, the FBI Director stressed the importance of developing a deeper understanding and a stronger connection.

"It is hard to hate up

close," Comey said. "It is hard to hate someone you know, someone whose life you have come to understand. And only by getting close to each other can we begin to arc those lines back together."

Comey outlined several strategies to improve communication between the community and law enforcement, calling for better transparency, accountability, and partnerships. Birmingham, he said, is a good example of how the FBI works side-by-side with mu-

nicipal organizations to stem violent crime.

For decades, the FBI's Birmingham Field Office has worked closely with partner agencies on task forces to investigate cases, protect citizens, and train fellow law enforcement officials.

"The FBI has been a vital partner here in Birmingham," said Don Lupo, director of citizen assistance for the Birmingham mayor's office. "The local field office has been completely supportive

of everything that we have attempted to do in the city. The strong working relationship between our police and sheriff's department has been vital to the protection of our citizens."

Along with its enterprise with the city police, the FBI has partnered since 2006 with BCRI to educate law enforcement officials and the community on the history of the civil rights movement as well as current issues impacting

(see law ctd. pg. 7)

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**DUI**

Hai Van Ta, 47, Ellis Street Vonore, was charged with DUI. Officer Benny Houser LPD, was dispatched to a possible drunk driver I75 in a silver vehicle. Officer made contact with the vehicle and observed it cross the center line numerous times, would slow down then

speed up. After stopping the vehicle Officer made contact with the driver Hai Ta, Officer had Hai Ta perform sobriety tesrt which he did poorly on and was placed under arrest. While Officer was inventorying the vehicle he noticed the half the front end grill was broken and there was fresh grass in the front

license plate holder. Officer Benny Houser LPD, made the arrest.

wanted

Kristy Jaynes, 36, Ferry Street Loudon, was charged with Violation of Probation and Assisting other Agency.

Deputy Garland, was advised by Officer Yates LPD that the above said defendant, Kristy Jaynes, had a

warrant for violation of probation (#5393897). After confirming the warrant, Deputy, Officer Yates, and Officer Harrison, went to the Country Inn and Suites in Loudon to attempt to locate the defendant. We made contact with the defendant in room where she was taken into custody. The above said defendant was then transported to the Loudon County Jail without further in-

cident. All the above did occur in Loudon County, TN.

**Obituaries**

Mrs. Reba Cathcart, born June 16, 1924 to Mack and Mamie Watson, passed away May 25, 2016, at home. Preceded in death by her parents; her husband, C.R. Cathcart; brothers, Francis, Verlon, Bernard, Raymond and Freddy Watson. She is survived by brothers, Glen, Roy (Betty), and Jerry (Vickie) Watson, all of Lenoir City; sisters, Lois (Zirkle) Holder, and Jan Cole, of Cleveland, Trula Zecco of Nashville, Annette Morgan, and Brenda (Ronnie) Starritt, of Loudon. Special Thanks to U.T. Hospice, Louise and Ed McGill, Amanda Stinnett, Becky Brown, and special friends, Wanda and Freeman Kirkland, for all their care, love and support. Funeral service will be 7:00 pm, Friday, Loudon Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Jon Henson officiating. Family and Friends will meet at 11:00 am, Saturday, at Loudon County Memorial Gardens for graveside service. The family will receive friends 5:00 - 7:00 pm, Friday, at Loudon Funeral Home. [www.loudonfuneral-home.net](http://www.loudonfuneral-home.net)

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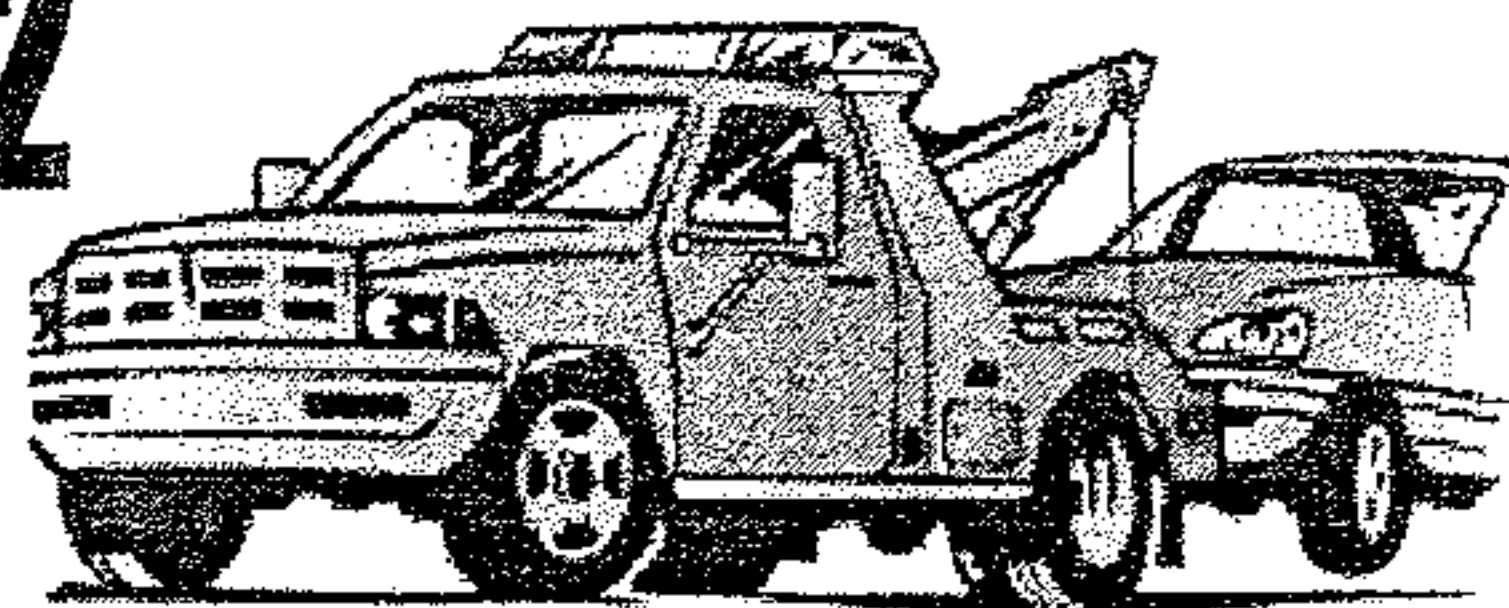
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law ctd. from pg. 4

neighborhoods across the country. Through the FBI and BCRI's annual conferences, the two agencies have built upon previous years' discussions to maintain an open dialogue between law enforcement agencies, their personnel, and the communities they serve.

"We believe that these conferences build ongoing and lasting relationships," said Priscilla Hancock Cooper, BCRI's vice president of institutional programs. "Not only do we want to continue to engage law enforcement and

community members in Birmingham, but I think we have something to offer to the rest of the country. Through our relationship with the FBI, we'll look for ways to spread this effective law enforcement partnership with other cities."

As Comey concluded his speech in front of a packed crowd at the historic Baptist church, he recalled the stories of every day people living in Birmingham during the civil rights movement who risked their lives to take a stand for racial equality—people like Bishop Calvin Woods, sitting in the audience today, who was determined to

speak out against segregation despite being sentenced to hard labor.

"He said he kept marching, kept peacefully protesting because of his fellow citizens," Comey said. "Because despite the beatings, the jailings, and the bombings, the spirit and determination of the black people of Birmingham could not be destroyed."

As the FBI continues to root out hate crimes and color of law violations and protect civil rights, Comey stressed the importance of citizens and law enforcement working together.

"It will take all

of us—every single member of every community—to fight for and deliver change. To fight for equality and fairness. To stop driving around the problem. To be agitators and insiders, in the best way—in the way Dr. King taught us," said Comey.

sentenced ctd. from pg. 2

9th District Attorney General's Office Sex Crimes Unit prosecuted the case. Kennedy stated that "Justice has been served in this case," and noted that, by the young victim being willing and prepared to testify against the 'perpetrator of his abuse' this "went a long

way towards bringing about successful result". She explained that the key to conviction in most child sex abuse cases is having a victim strong enough to face the person who committed the abuse in an open courtroom. She credited LCPD Captain Kevin Condee who investigated the case for his tremendous support and rapport with the victim in this regard.

Slusher was represented by Public Defender Kim Nelson's Office.

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