

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Monday, December 18, 2017

Three charged in reckless driver stop in Loudon

(see Reckless pg. 2)

Bright lights lead to DUI charge for local man



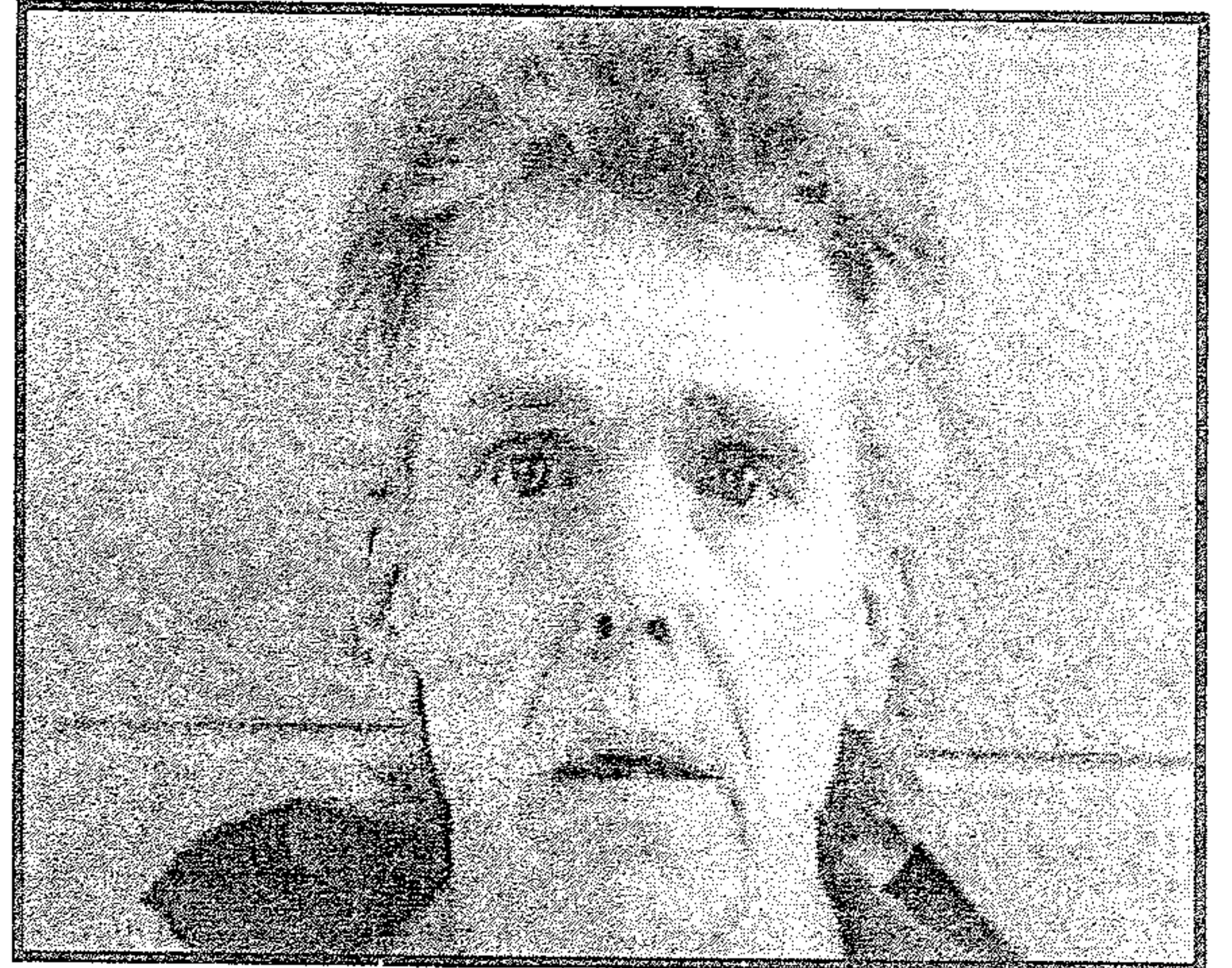
Ashley Pegram



Jason Clevenger



Roseanna Forsythe



see DUI pg. 3

Tyler Harris

Fight turns violent; car wrecked in process

This is who you asked to take your daughter to the doctor?

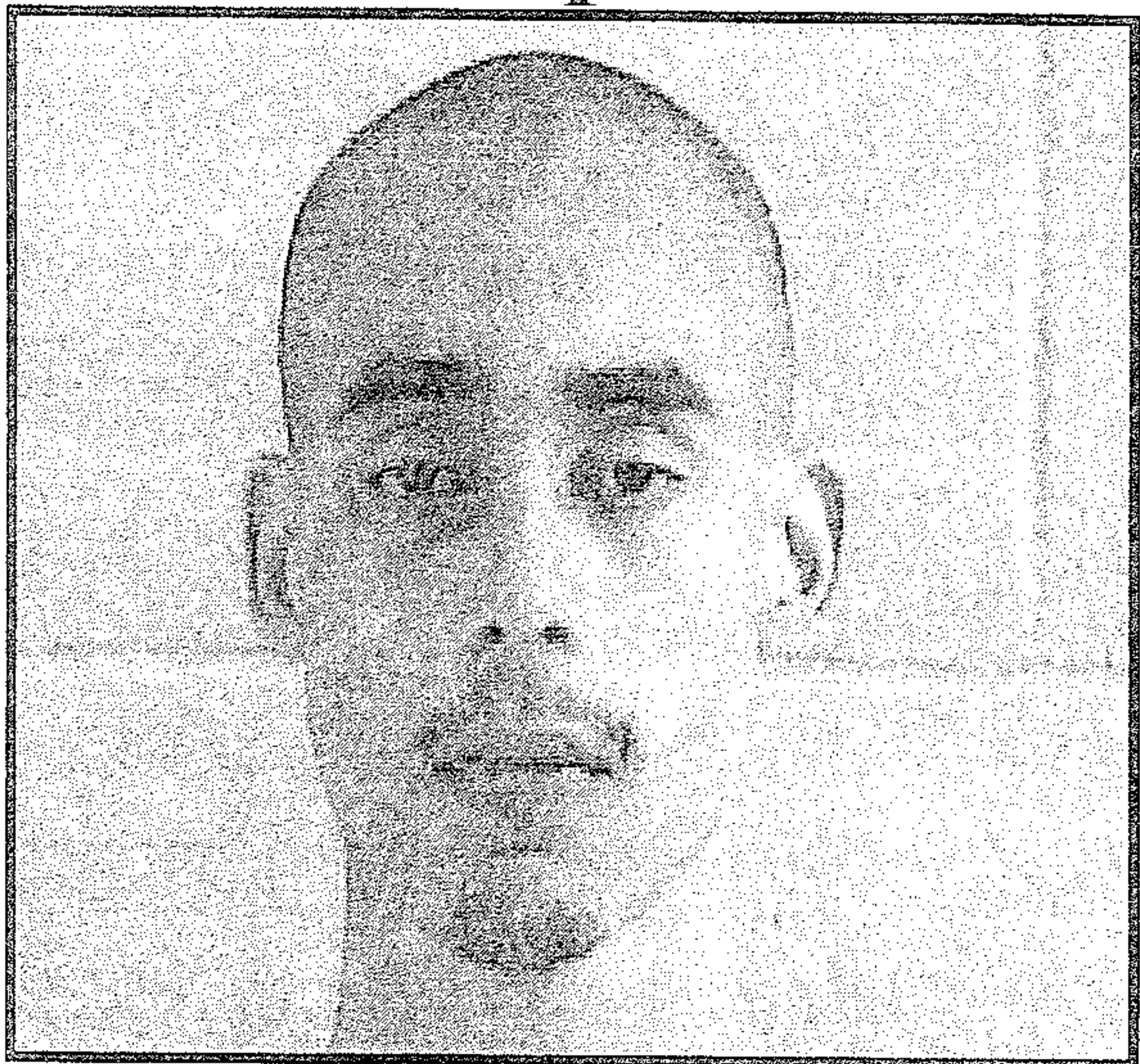
Former Humphreys County Volunteer Fire Chief Stole Thousands

The Tennessee Comptroller's Office, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, has released an investigation that has resulted in the indictment of Michael Simpson, the former fire chief of the Humphreys County District 2 Volunteer Fire Department.

Investigators found that Simpson used \$47,692.58 of the fire

department's funds for personal purposes. The money was used to pay for a variety of items such as Simpson's home satellite system, credit cards bills, and Apple iTunes purchases. Other purchases were made at Walmart, convenience stores, Amazon.com, grocery stores, auto parts stores, fuel outlets, hardware stores, and other businesses.

(see Fire pg. 4)



Dylan Burns

see Wreck pg. 5



Melissa Williams

see Dangerous pg. 7



Follow us on

Verse of the Day

...but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life. — John 4:14

Obituaries

see inside

Wazzup

Last minute crazy Christmas Shopping all this week! Please be safe on the roadways and watch before

you pull out on the roadway!

Weather

Today: cloudy. High of 56F.
Tonight: cloudy. low of 40F.
Tuesday: Overcast with

afternoon showers. High of 57F.

Tuesday night: Rain showers. Low of 46F.

Horoscopes

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21

Its all too easy for your thoughts to get so far ahead
(Continued on page 6)



Reckless

Ashley Pegram, 34, Sweetwater Vonore Road Sweetwater, was charged with Criminal Impersonation, Poss. of Drug Para., and Assisting other Agency.

Jason Clevenger, 44, East Broadway Lenoir City, was charged with Poss. of Drug

Para.

Roseanna Forsythe, 33, Trudy Lane Philadelphia, was charged with Poss. of Drug Para.

Deputy Cody Fritts LCSO, observed a suspicious White Pontiac Sunfire on Steekee Creek Road. The vehicle was traveling in reverse towards the intersection of Fork Creek

Road and Steekee Creek Road. The driver then put the vehicle in drive and started traveling forward. Upon stopping the vehicle the driver was identified as Roseanna Forsythe. The rear passenger was identified as Jason Clevenger. The front seat passenger gave

the name and date of birth of A Kirkman 1972 and a social security number. The female was later identified as Ashley Pegram. Ms. Pegram gave the false name, DOB, and social security number in attempt to hide her true identity because see Reckless ctd. pg. 4

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2013 Nissan Rogue AWD, PW, PL, PS, Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, V6, Luggage Rack



2009 Ford F150 Crew Cab, XLT, V8, Auto, Tow Pkg, Bed Liner, AC, PW, PL, Alloy Wheels



2011 Buick Lucerne, Immaculate condition, Like new, Only 69k, Alloy Wheels, PS, PW, PL, 27 MPG!



2005 Nissan Titan Ext Cab, V8, Auto, Like New, Low Miles, AC, PW, PL, Tow PKG, Bed Liner



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DUI

Tyler Harris, 54, Loudon Ridge Road Lenoir City, was charged with DUI, and Violation of Implied Consent.

Deputy Kevin Dailey observed a 2007 silver Hyundai Sonata on Browder Hollow Rd at Oakland Rd with its bright lights on, Deputy observed the vehicle travel into the opposite lane of travel. Deputy turned around on the vehicle where he caught up to the vehicle at Highway 11 and Industrial Park Dr, as Deputy followed the vehicle he drove off the road where he attempted traffic stop at Industrial Park Dr and Riverview Rd. Contact was made with the driver Tyler Harris who initially appeared to be slurring his see DUI ctd. pg. 5

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Help Wanted

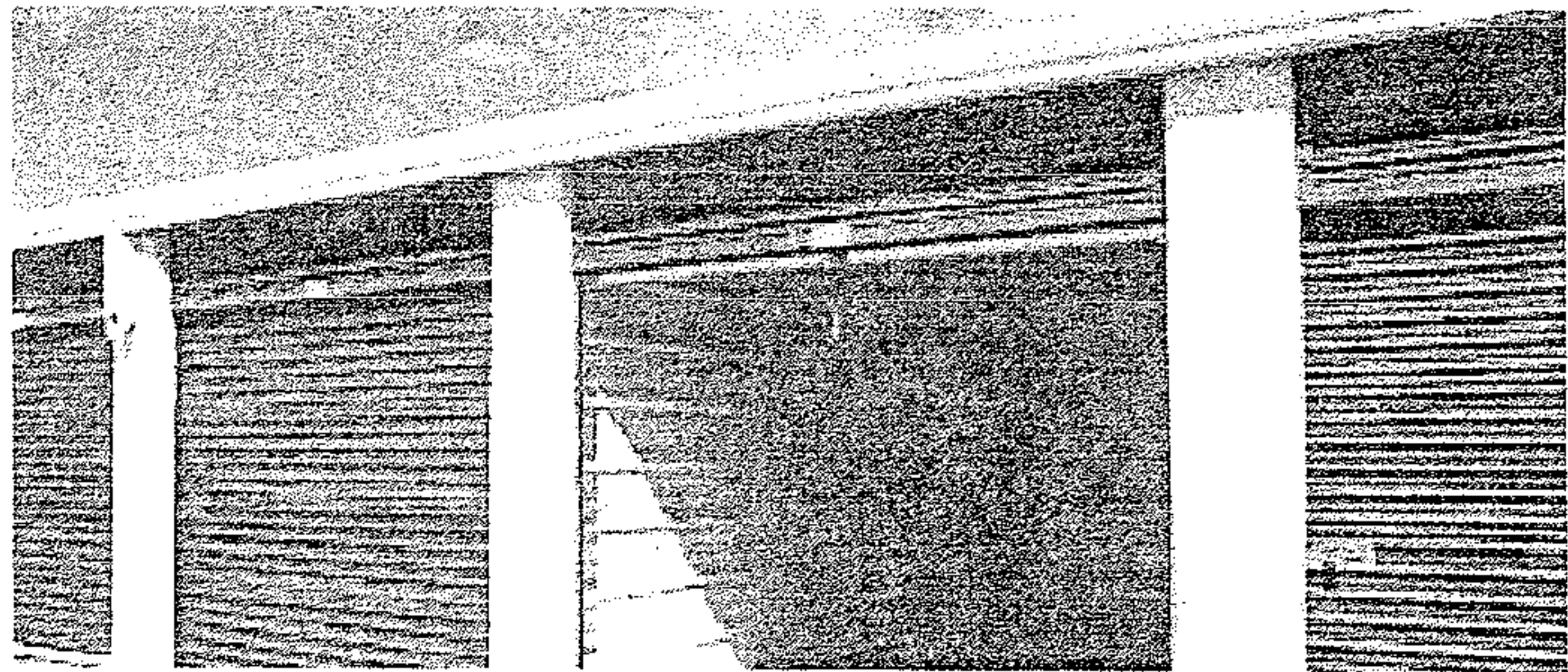
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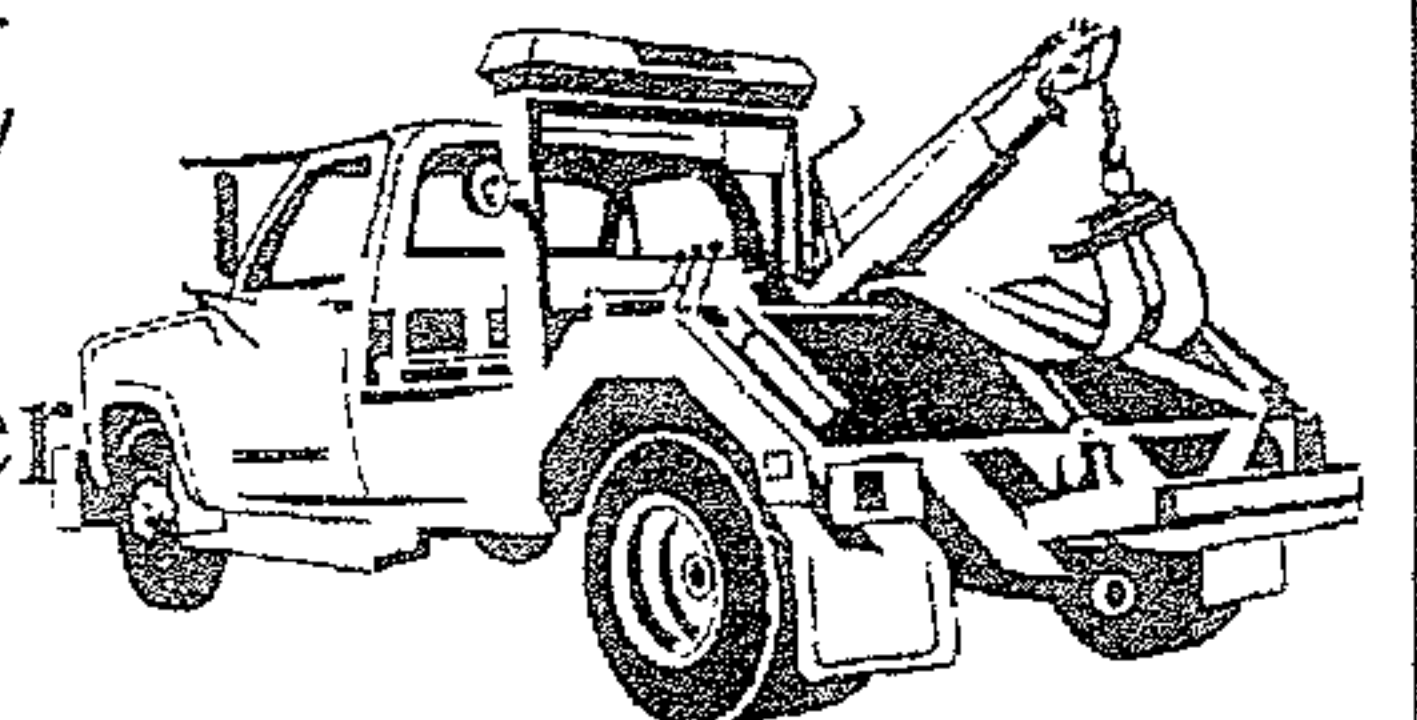
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*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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Fire

One of Simpson's schemes involved soliciting firefighters from District 2, other volunteer firefighter districts, and their families to participate in a cell phone plan offered to local governments under the name of the Humphreys County Fire Department. The plan was not authorized by the Humphreys County government.

Simpson arranged for all of the participants' bills to be mailed to his personal home address, and he would text each participant each month telling him or her how much they owed. Simpson was then responsible for paying the cell phone provider.

Investigators determined Simpson often charged the District 2 firefighters and others an inflated monthly fee of \$45 per line; however, in most instances, the cell phone provider only charged \$23 per month. Investigators noted several months where Simpson did not make any monthly payments to the cell phone provider. The average outstanding bill to the cell phone provider was \$17,775 during the investigative period.

The investigation also revealed that Simpson installed county purchased auto parts on his personal vehicle on five different occasions. These auto parts cost the county \$392.19.

Investigators are also questioning how an additional \$10,394.27 of District 2 money was spent. This included payments totaling \$8,894.50 for soft drink products for the firehouse. Numerous firefighters told investigators that Simpson ordered large amounts of soft drinks for his personal use with these funds. District 2 officials should determine if all of this money was used properly.

On July 1, 2016, Michael Simpson's employment was terminated from Humphrey's County. On December 4, 2017, Simpson was indicted by the Humphrey's County Grand Jury, and was charged with

Class B felony theft.

"As we've often pointed out, it is absolutely essential that more than one person be involved in the money-handling process," said Justin P. Wilson. "In this case, the former fire chief had complete control over financial transactions, and no one was looking over his shoulder. This is an invitation for fraud and abuse."

To view the investigation online, go to: <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/ia/>

If you suspect fraud, waste or abuse of public money in Tennessee, call the Comptroller's toll-free hotline at (800) 232-5454, or file a report online at: www.comptroller.tn.gov/hotline. Follow us on twitter @TNCOT

Reckless ctd. from pg. 2

she had a warrant out of McMinn County.

Deputy asked the owner of the vehicle Ms. Forsythe if he could search her vehicle and

she agreed. Found under the center console change holder was a hypodermic syringe used for intravenous drug use.

Found in Ms. Pegram purse was a hypodermic syringe used for intravenous drug use. Found between the back seat where Mr. Clevenger was sitting was a Hypodermic Syringe used for intravenous drug use. Roseanna Forsythe, Jason Clevenger, and Ashley Pegram were taken into custody and transported to the Loudon County Jail. This did happen in Loudon County.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Time Change for Lenoir City Council Meetings
Lenoir City Council will be changing the beginning time of their meetings to 6:00 P.M. effective January 2018. The meetings will still be held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The first meeting of the year will be held on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

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Wreck

Dylan Burns, 21, Hines Valley Road Lenoir City, was charged with Criminal Impersonation, and Driving on Revoked Suspended License.

Cpl. Chris Jenkins LCSO responded to said location Hines Valley Rd. to a possible wreck with injury or a possible domestic dispute. Deputy arrived on scene and found a black male and a white female standing outside of the vehicle. Deputy then made contact with 2 witnesses and they gave verbal and written statements that the male and female was outside the vehicle arguing and the male was kicking her clothes. The male got into the drivers seat of the vehicle and when the female attempted to get in the vehicle the male almost drug her. Witnesses also stated that the male was driving when the vehicle wrecked. Deputy made contact with the female and identified her.

Deputy then made contact with the male and tried to identify him. He wrote on a piece of paper the

name of Mr. Ward and a date of birth. The male could not provide a social security number or any other identifying information. Deputy then found a social security card and ran the social that came back to Mr. Dylan Thomas Burns. Mr. Burns identification was sent to Deputy phone and was identified as Mr. Burns. Mr. Burns did give false information to this officer to hide his true identity. A run if Mr. Burns license through NCIC showed Mr. Burns to have a revoked license in Tennessee for failure to satisfy 2-2017. Mr. Burns was then placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon Co., jail. The vehicle was towed by Moneymakers due to vehicle and private property damage. Private property victims and restitution are on report. End of report. This did happen in Loudon Co., Tn.

DUI ctd. from pg. 3

speech, Deputy also noticed the subject to have his shirt unbuttoned with his pants hanging on his hips with it being 37 degrees outside. Mr. Harris was asked to step out of

the vehicle where he stumbled upon exit, in his floorboard was his prescription of Clonazepam where he just had it filled on 12-2-17 with 60 pills however only had 5 in the bottle. He did state he leaves the rest at his mother's residence, due to someone stealing his medica-

tion. He was asked to perform Field Sobriety where he only attempted Walk and Turn, Mr. Harris was unable to follow any directions clearly without having problems. Continued to state he was disabled with multiple ailments including needing knee replacements, eye


problems, rib problems, along with brain problems. Due to his driving, along with his actions Mr. Harris was taken into custody for Driving Under the Influence where he subsequently refused Implied Consent.

This all did occur in Loudon County, TN.


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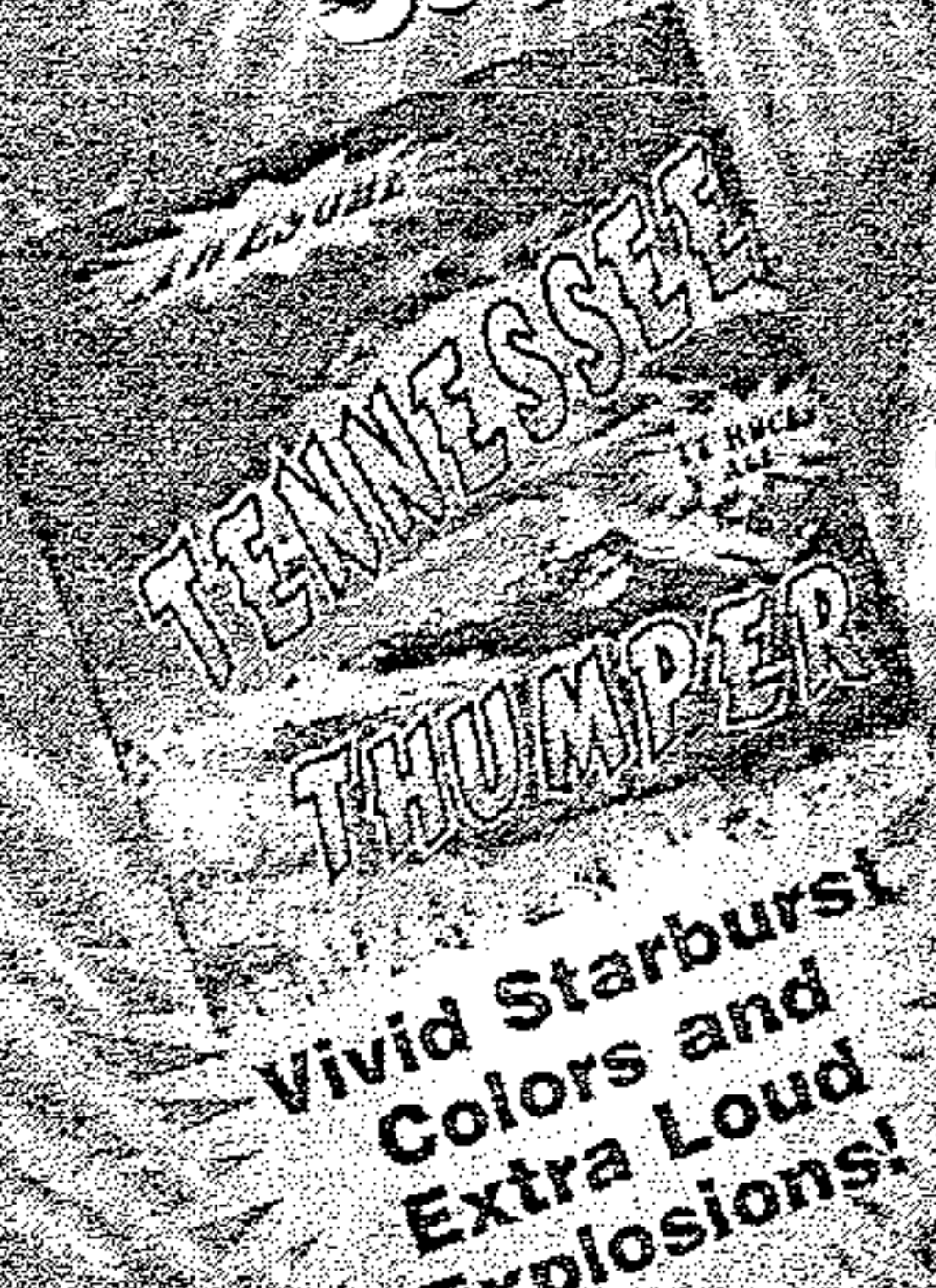


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Dangerous

Melissa Williams, 39, Dunlap Road Friendsville, was charged with DUI, Evading Arrest, Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Reckless Endangerment, and Domestic Assault.

Officer Green LCPD, was Dispatched to a Reckless Driver in a White Nissan Pathfinder traveling on 321 from Greenback en route to Lenoir City. The complainant, was the daughter of the passenger in the vehicle. She stated her mother, requested Melissa Williams to drive her to her doctors appointment at Fort Loudon Medical Center. Victim called her mother after she observed Ms. Williams driving erratically, making statements that she thought the car was on fire. Victim stated she believed Ms. Williams was under the

influence of a narcotic. Officer arrived at BB&T awaiting the described vehicle. Officer observed a vehicle matching the description of the Nissan Pathfinder which was occupied by two females. Dispatch notified Officer this was the vehicle. Officer initiated a traffic stop at the Ford Dealership on Hwy 321 and the vehicle refused to stop. Once the vehicle approached the

intersection of Hwy 321 and Town Creek Officer observed the driver and passenger of the vehicle involved in some type of physical altercation. As this took place Officer exited his vehicle and rushed the driver side of the subjects vehicle issuing commands for the driver to shut the vehicle off.

The driver appeared dazed and confused. Offi-

cer took Ms. Williams into custody and placed her in the back of his patrol car. Dispatch then notified him, Ms. Williams Driver's License was revoked. Officer marandized Ms. Williams which stated she did not wish the answer any questions. Officer then read Ms. Williams implied consent which she stated she would consent

to a blood draw. While transporting Ms. Williams to Fort Loudon Medical she voluntarily made the statement she did consume drugs. Deputy arrived on scene at the hospital where he observed RN draw both vile's of blood. Officer then transported Ms. Williams to Loudon County Jail without incident.

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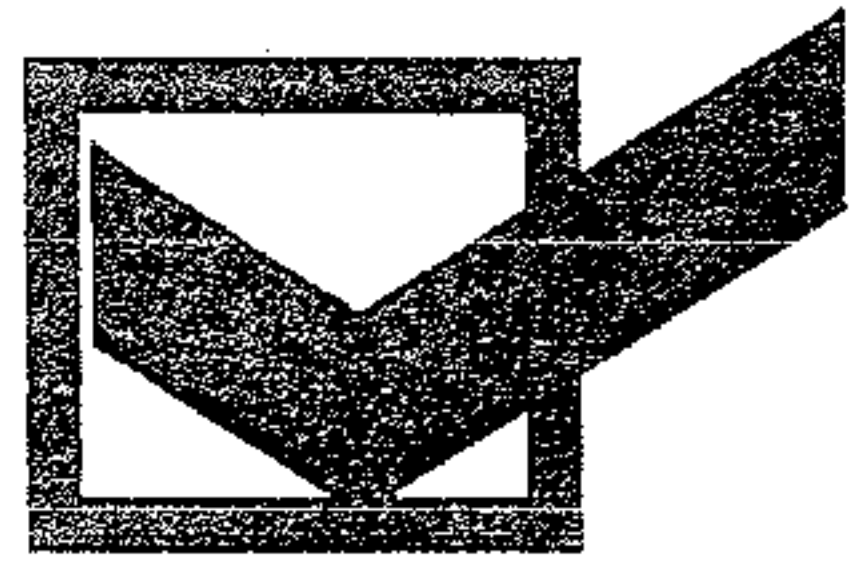
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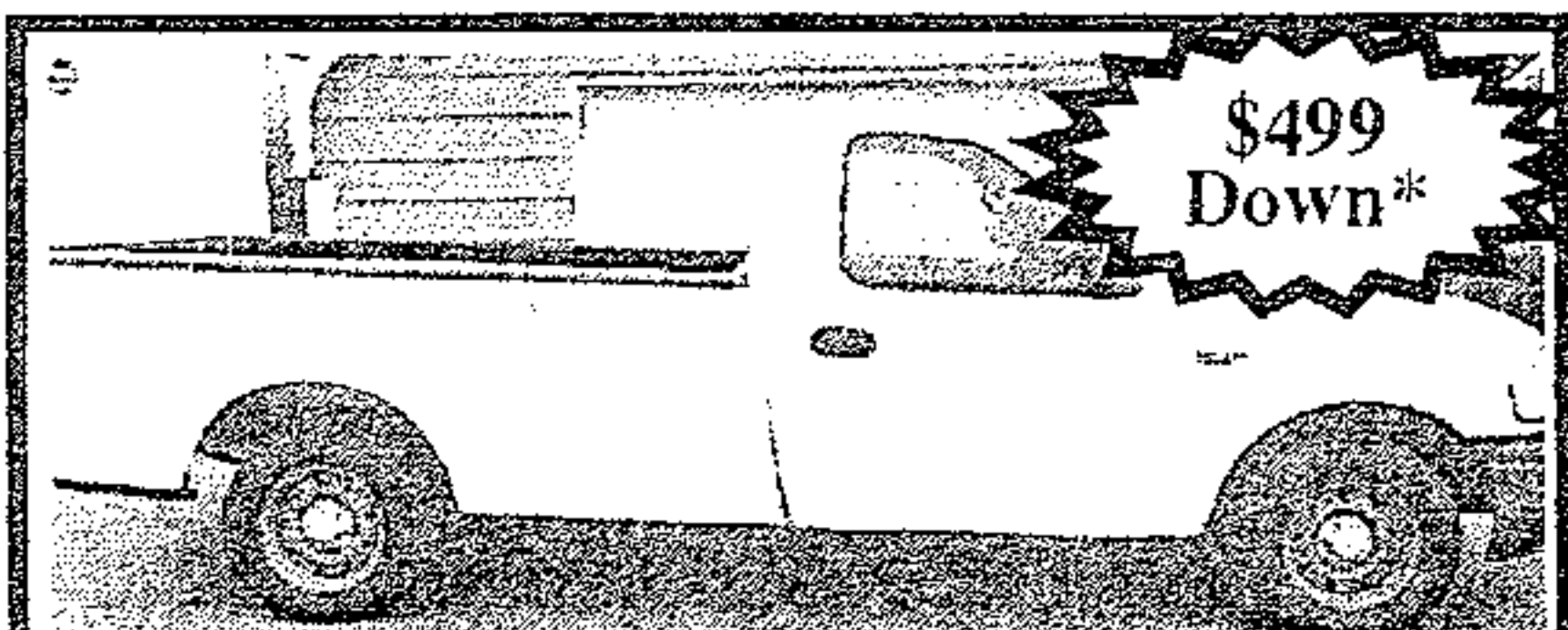
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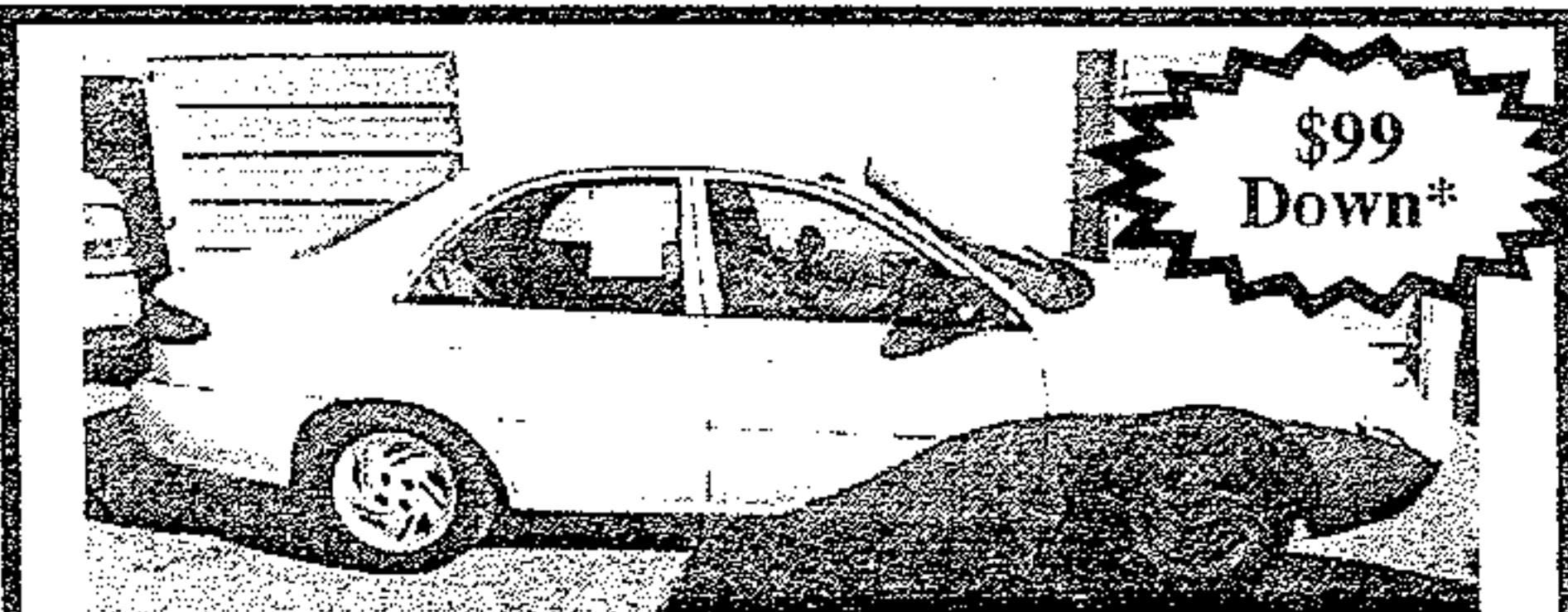
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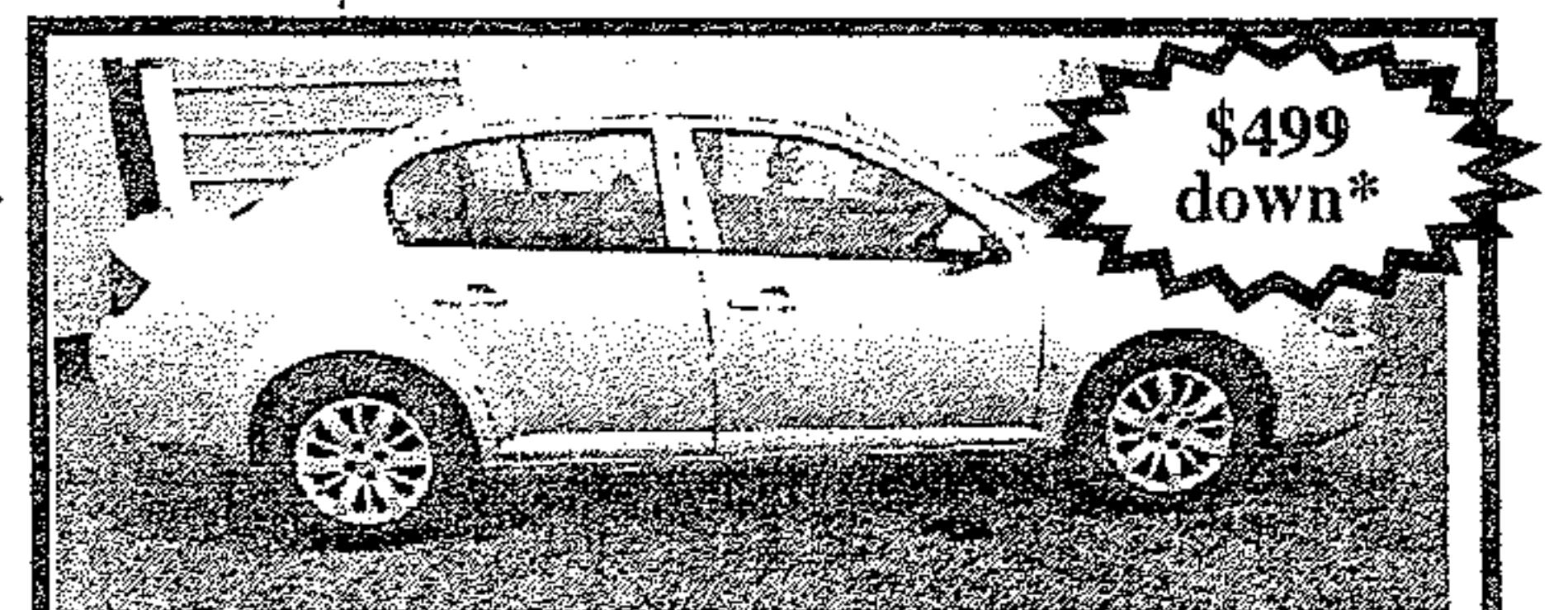
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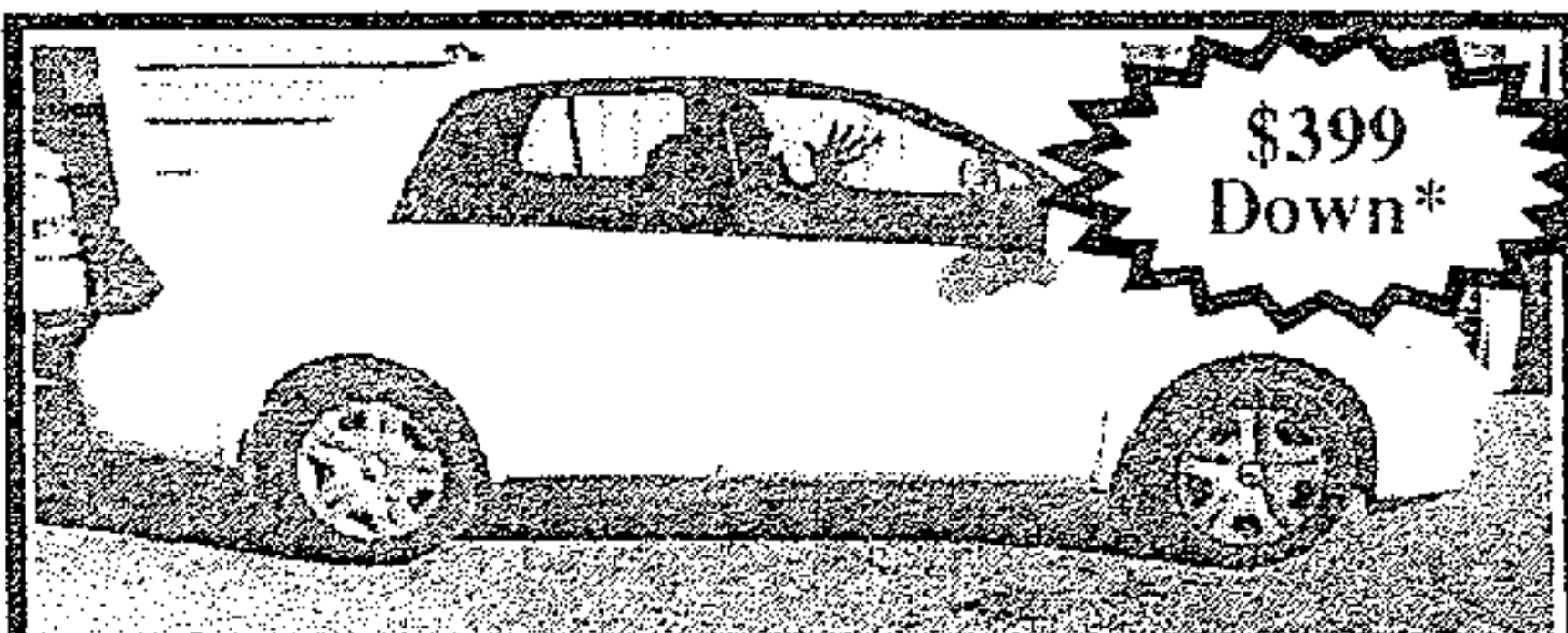
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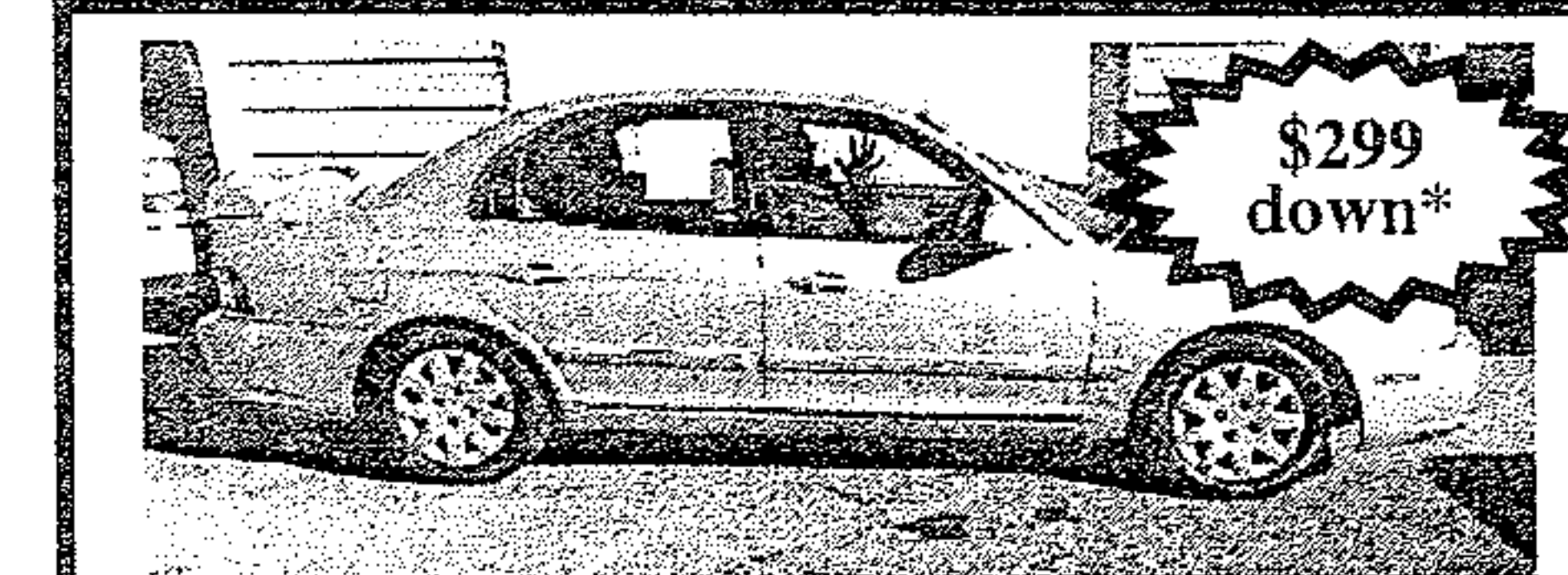
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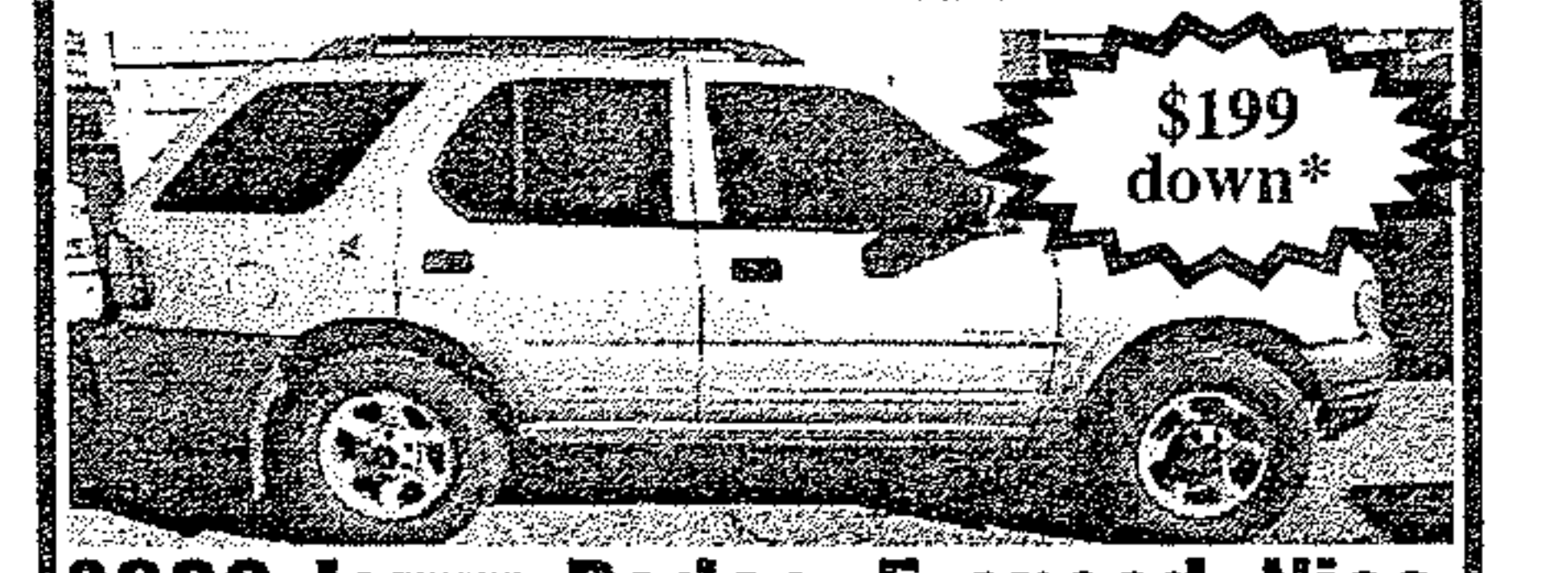
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