

The Daily Edition

50¢

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

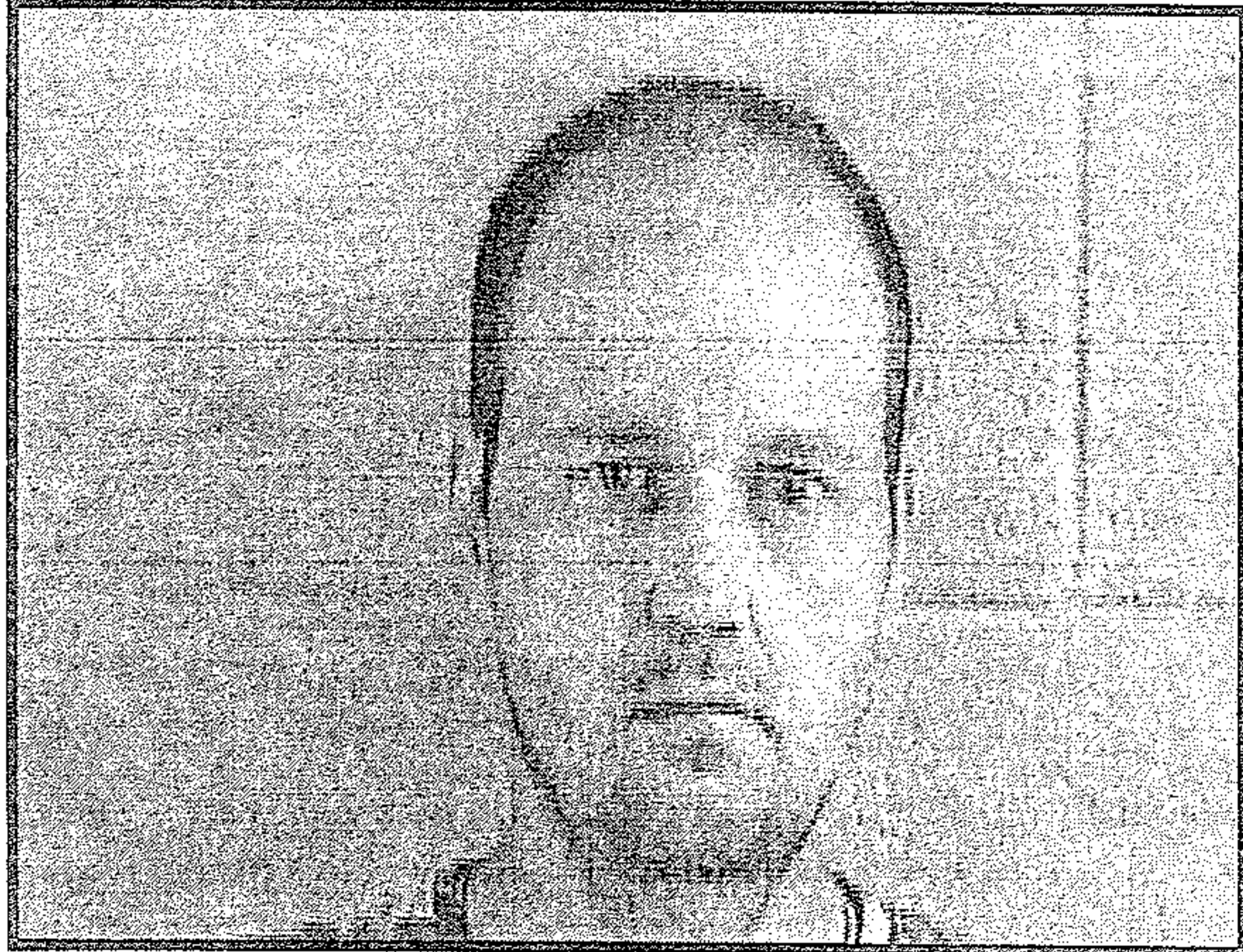
Wednesday, August 16, 2017

9th DTF along with LCPD respond to drug call and charge one

Justin Kelley, 34, Hwy 321 n Lenoir City, was charged with Man/Sell/Poss. of Controlled Substance, and Poss. of Drug Para.

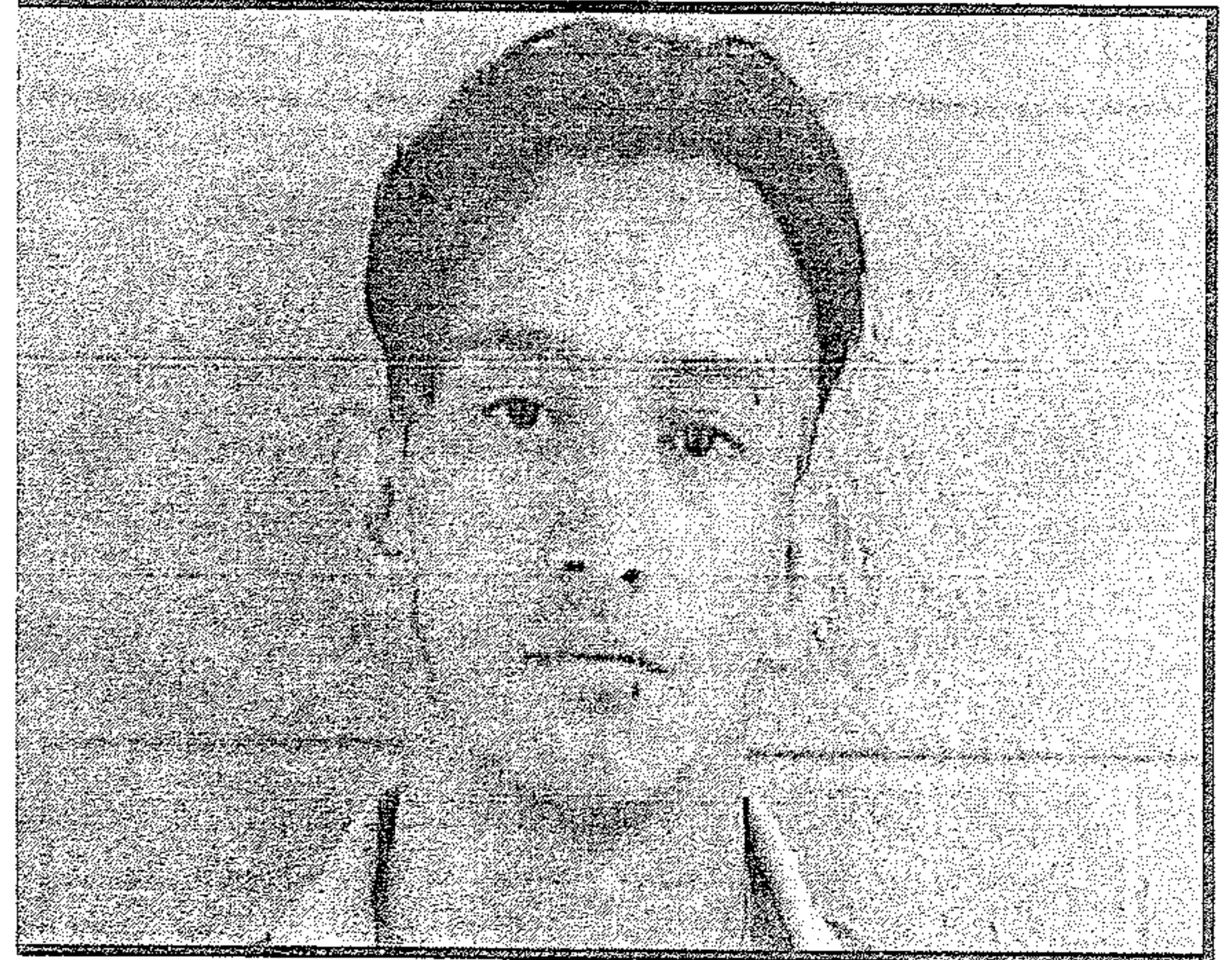
Agents from the 9th Judicial Drug Task Force assisted officers from the Lenoir City Police Department on a call for possible drug activity at the Kings

(see 9th DTF pg. 2)



Justin Kelley

Meth found after stop involving 2 juveniles; one charged



Julian Navarette

see meth pg. 3

Speeding and registration lights out lead to stop

DUI for LC man in ditch



Sylvestre Velasquez

see stop pg. 5



Carlos Merino-Perez

see LC pg. 7

Stopping a Violent Burglary Ring

Jewelry Store Heist Began with Kidnaping Recovered Jewelry Stolen in 2013 Connecticut Robbery Watches and jewelry stolen during a 2013 Fairfield, Connecticut robbery and kidnaping were recovered from the residence of one of the thieves in the robbery crew.

Timothy Forbes was

a career criminal who specialized in robbing jewelry stores. He and his crew had progressed from smash-and-grab thefts to what they considered a more reliable method: kidnap store employees and force them to provide after-hours access to the jewels.

In the spring of 2013, members of the

(see Ring pg. 4)



Follow us on

Verse of the Day

...those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. —

Romans 8:14
Obituaries

see inside

Wazzup

Can you believe it? JB is gonna be 22? Where does time go? Happy Birthday Son!

Weather

Today: Partly cloudy. A stray shower or thunder-

storm is possible. High 89F.

Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy skies with scattered thunderstorms before midnight. Low 72F.

Thursday Cloudy early with partial sunshine ex-

pected late. A stray shower or thunderstorm is possible. High 89F.

Thursday Night Partial cloudiness early with scattered showers and thunderstorms later

(Continued on page 6)



9th DTF

Inn at Hwy 321 North. Upon arrival officers made contact with Justin Kelly in the back parking lot of the hotel. Sgt. Range noticed, during his encounter with Kelley, that he had dropped a bag containing 3 small bags, with amounts written on them, with a crystal like substance in them that

later tested positive for the presence of methamphetamine. Kelley also had several individual empty baggies commonly used for the resale of narcotics. In speaking with Kelley, post miranda, he stated that he does sell methamphetamine and that the drugs found were for resale. This incident occurred in the County of Loudon.

Police beat

Ray Hensley, 52, Red Pond Road Lenoir City, was charged with DUI, and Driving on Revoked/Suspended License. Deputy TJ Scarbrough LCSO, was dis-

patched to a suspicious vehicle at Old Hwy 95. On arrival Deputy observed a vehicle sitting in the parking lot at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church slumped over the wheel. The

(see PB ctd. pg. 3)

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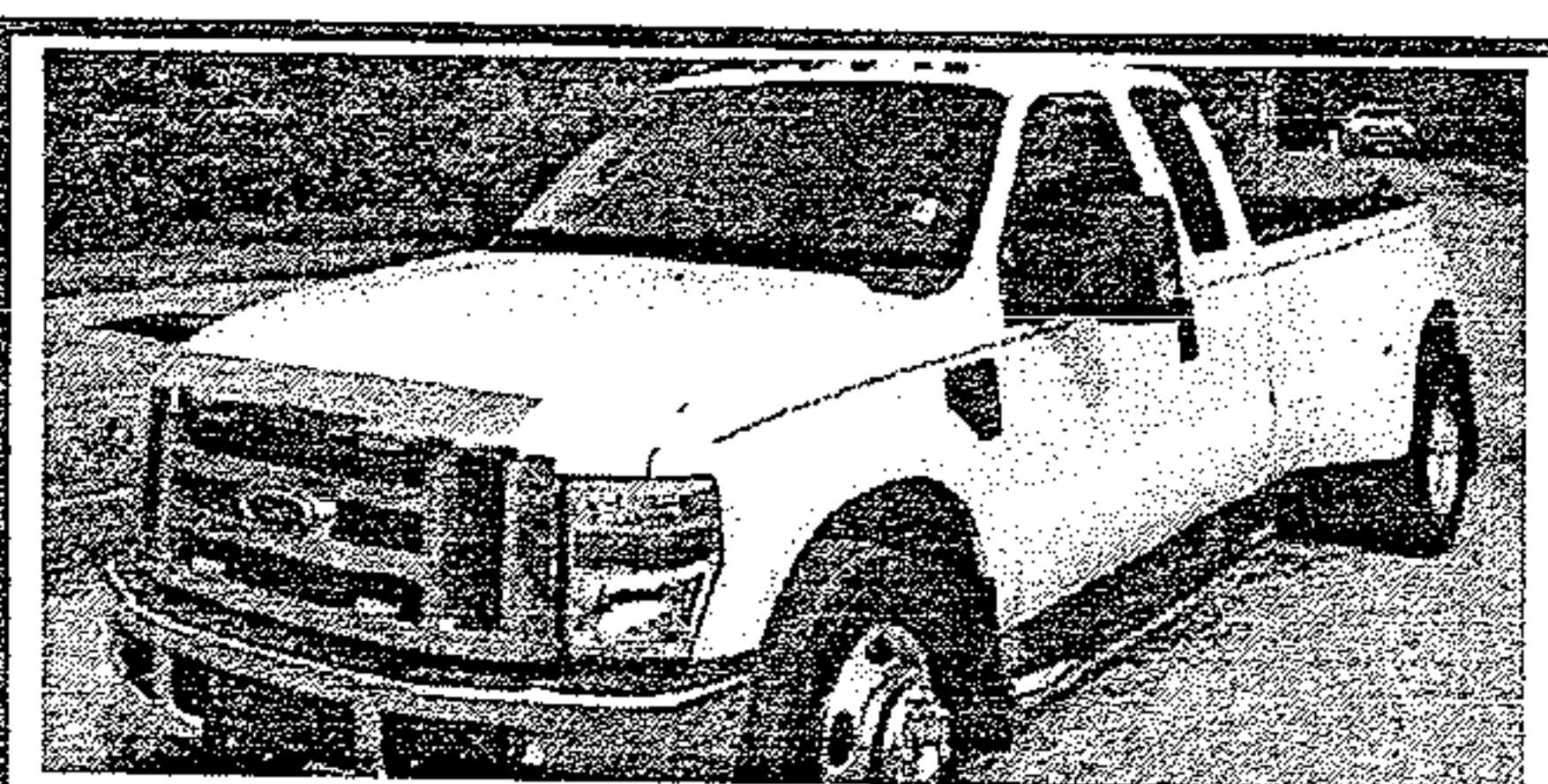
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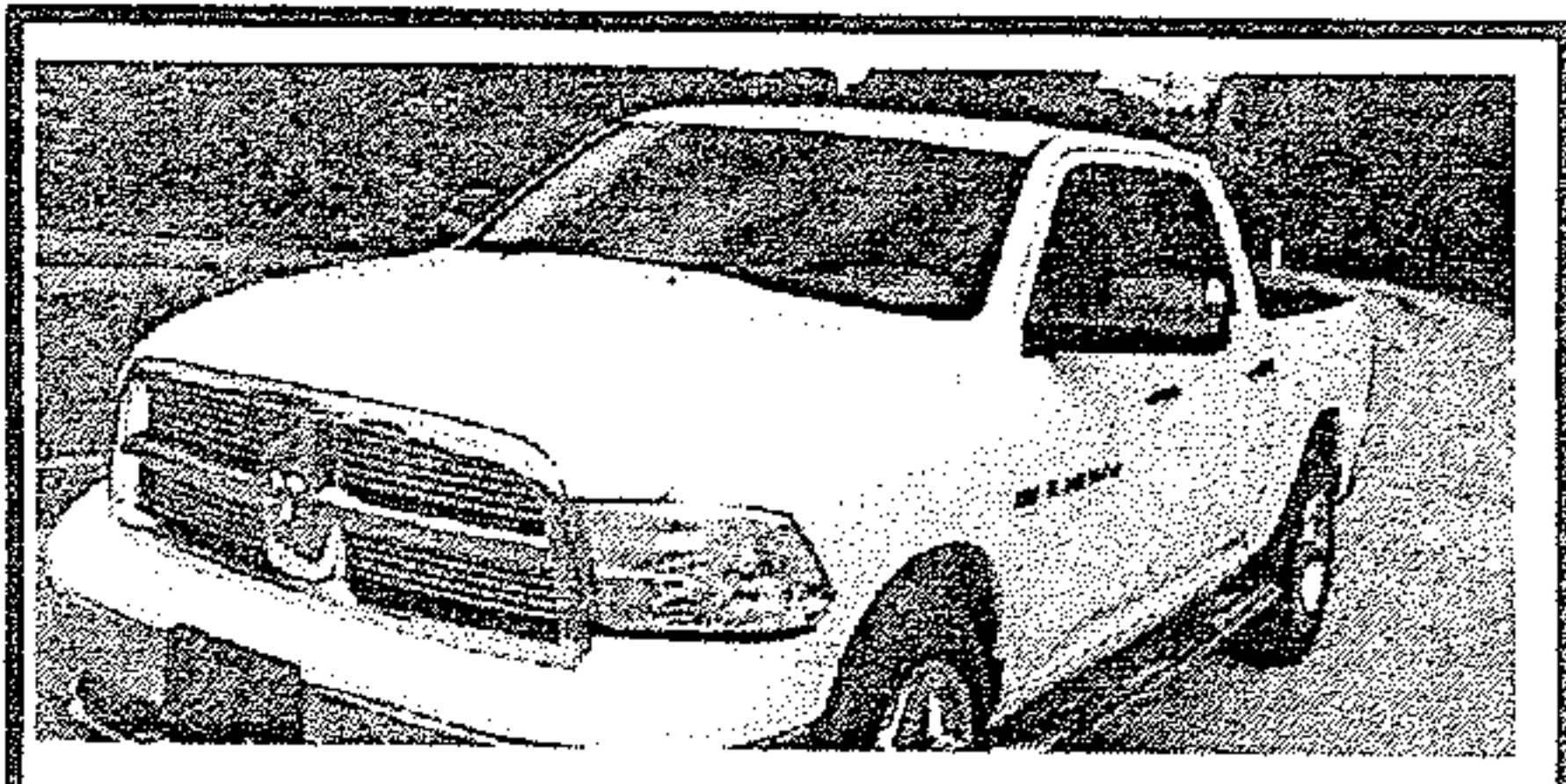
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2008 Ford F350 V10, Auto, Dually, Leather, Heated & Cooled Seats, 5th Wheel Compatible, PW, PL



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Meth

Julian Navarrete, 19, Blair Street Loudon, was charged with DUI, Contributing to the Delinquency of a Minor x2, Simple Possession, and Poss. of Drug Para.

Officer Jonathan Yates LPD, while on routine patrol, encountered a car parked in the 800 block of Vale St. The car was on the left hand side of the road and passenger side door was open. Officer stopped to check it and immediately detected the odor of marijuana. There were three occupants. The driver was Julian Navarrete. The keys were in the ignition. The other two

occupants were juveniles (16 and 17 year old).

One occupant stated that they had just smoked a joint when asked about the odor of

PB ctd. from pg. 2

vehicle was running and the gear shift was in drive. The driver was identified as Ray Hensley. Deputies tried to wake Hensley and the vehicle started rolling forward and over a curb and into the grassy field. Hensley had slurred speech, red blood shot eyes, and was very unsteady on his feet. Hensley could not perform sobriety test. Hensley license were revoked for prior DUI.

marijuana. Officer removed all occupants and searched the car while Officer Bennie Houser had Navarrate perform field sobriety tasks. Navarrate showed signs of impairment to include slow lethargic behavior and did poorly on field sobriety tasks. He was advised of his rights and admitted to just smoking marijuana with the two juveniles. Officer un-

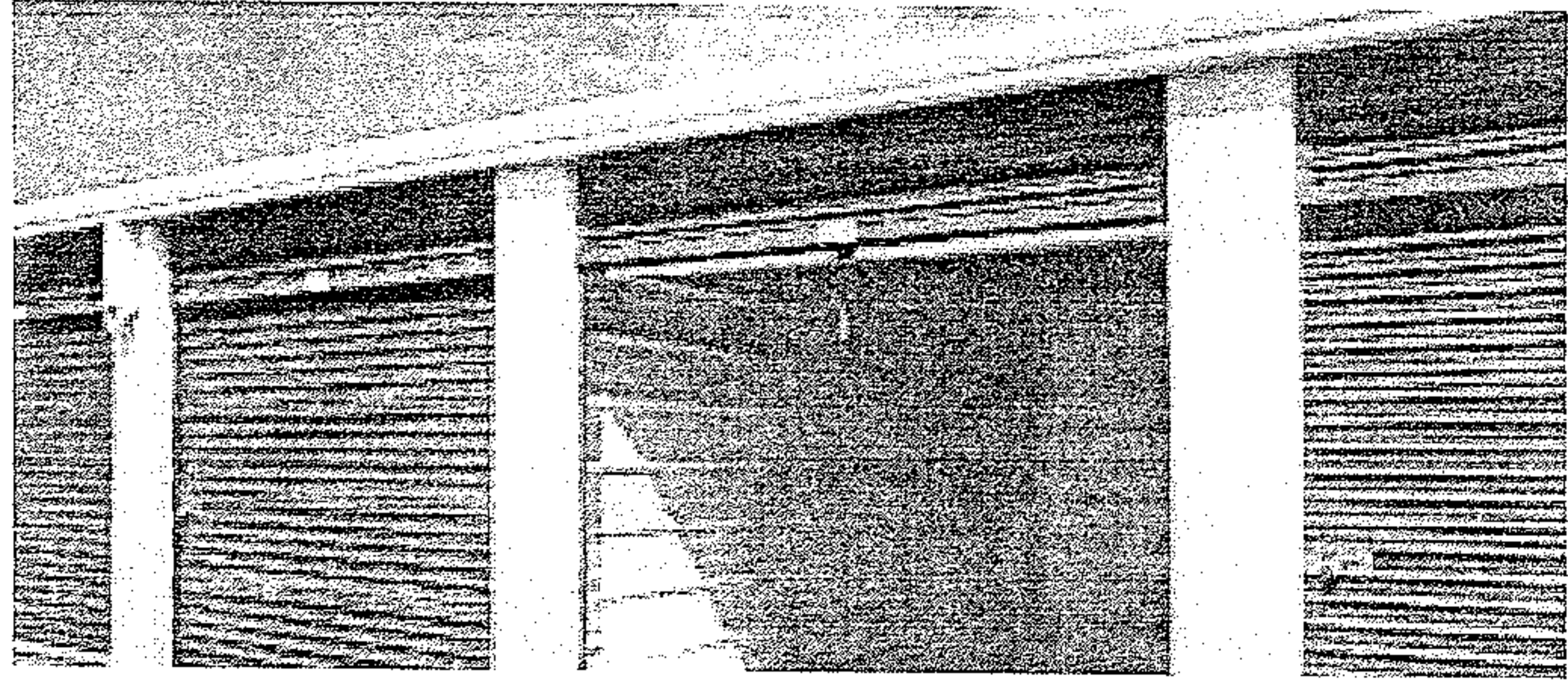
covered a green plastic box in the car that contained approximately one gram of a crystal like substance believed to be methamphetamine. Navarrete stated it was meth. Officer found a car stereo in the back seat that the face came off of. Inside the stereo were items of drug paraphernalia (set of scales and empty bag with

see meth ctd. pg. 5

Public Notice

The Loudon County Commission will have a special called meeting Monday August 21, 2017 at the Annex immediately following the workshop to discuss Poplar Springs Landfill. The Loudon County Commission workshop will also be held at the Annex.

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Ring
burglary ring conducted surveillance on employees at a Fairfield, Connecticut jewelry store, going so far as to attach a GPS tracking device under one of their cars to learn where they lived.

Around 9 p.m. on April 11, 2013, three of Forbes' crew, wearing masks and gloves, forced their way into an apartment in Meriden, Connecticut, brandishing handguns. The terrified victims—two of whom worked at the Fairfield jewelry store—were bound with duct tape, and their heads were covered with pillowcases, towels, and jackets. The kidnapers then forced the jewelry store employees into a vehicle and drove them to the store while a remaining kidnapper stayed behind to guard the other victims.

Forbes arrived at the store in a separate vehicle, and the thieves proceeded to steal jewels, watches, and loose diamonds estimated to be worth more than \$3 million. After the robbery,

Forbes notified his associate at the apartment, and the victims there and at the store were left bound as the criminals made their getaway and fled the state.

The kidnapping and robbery had gone off without a hitch, and Forbes thought he had considered all the angles. What he failed to anticipate, though, was how an alert neighbor and strong law enforcement partnerships would undo his careful plan.

When the victims were able to free themselves, they called the police. Meriden Police Department officers conducted interviews and did an initial neighborhood canvass the night of the robbery. A resident came forward with information he wasn't sure was relevant but that "broke the case open," said Special Agent Jennifer Berry, who worked the investigation from the FBI's New Haven Division.

The neighbor told police that one night nearly two weeks before the kidnapping,

he noticed a suspicious silver car on the block with out-of-state license plates. One man was sitting in the driver's seat, and another man was on the ground next to what turned out to be the vehicle of one of the victims. The neighbor dialed 911 but hung up when the suspicious car drove away.

When the car returned 30 minutes later, the neighbor used a pair of binoculars to write down the New Jersey license plate number. He thought maybe the men in the car were buying or selling drugs. It was later learned that Forbes and one of his crew had been trying to remove the GPS tracking device from the victim's car.

Investigators quickly identified the silver car as a rental vehicle, and with that information identified the woman who rented the car. Through the phone number she used on the rental application, investigators were able to tie Forbes and his crew to the robbery and kidnapping.

"Through detailed analysis of cellular phone records," Berry said, "we knew exact-

ly when Forbes was in the parking lot where the neighbor spotted him and dialed 911. Eventually we were able to show where all the thieves were before, during, and after the robbery based on calls that were made. That evidence was compelling."

Forbes had been on something of a robbery

spree. He had been involved in at least three other similar jewelry store robberies, including a 2012 theft in York, Pennsylvania in which a jewelry store owner was shot and permanently disabled. (Forbes was sentenced in 2016 to 14 years in prison for his role in that robbery.)

see Ring ctd. pg. 5



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Stop Sylvestre Velasquez, 23, Cornith Road Loudon, was charged with DUI, and Driving on Revoked/Suspended License. Deputy Kevin Dailey LCSO, observed a silver vehicle at Steekee Road and Hwy 72 where the registration lights were not working properly, as Deputy paced the vehicle it was going 38 in a 30 mph zone. Traffic stop

was initiated at Grove Street, where Deputy came in contact with the driver Sylvestre Velasquez, who had an odor of alcoholic beverage coming from the vehicle. Velasquez exited the vehicle and the odor of alcohol was coming from his person as well. Velasquez did poorly on sobriety test, and refused implied consent. Velasquez was placed under arrest.

Meth ctd. from pg. 3

unknown residue). The bag had a large portion of one corner cut out of it. Mr. Navarrete was arrested and agreed to submit blood for drug screen which was done at the Ft. Loudon E.R. He was then transported to jail. He is charged with DUI, simple possession schedule II (meth), possession of paraphernalia and two counts of contributing to delinquency of a minor. Said happened in Loudon, Tn.

Ring ctd. from pg. 4

Within six weeks of the Connecticut kidnapping and robbery, Forbes and his four associates were arrested. "The concerned neighbor who wrote down the license plate saved us months of work," Berry said, "and who knows how many more robberies the ring would have done during that time?"

"This case is a great example of partnership," Berry explained. "The local police departments in Fairfield and Meriden conduct-

ed victim interviews, the Connecticut State Police helped process crime scenes, and the U.S. Marshals Service assisted us with the extensive cell phone analysis. Everybody worked well together."

Of the more than \$3 million in stolen jewels, Berry said, "very little was recovered." Forbes and his crew—who had all grown up together in Allentown, Pennsylvania—were fond of gambling and high living.

In January 2017, Forbes pleaded guilty to kidnapping, robbery, and the use of a firearm during the Connecticut robbery. Last month, a federal judge sentenced the 35-year-old to 19 years in prison. His crew had been previously sentenced to prison terms ranging from seven to nearly 15 years for their roles in the kidnapping and robbery.

"This was a really good case," Berry said, "because we were able to get a lot of bad guys off the streets. We couldn't have done it without this great partnership and the help of a concerned citizen."

Public Notice

On August 24, 2017, 6 PM at the Courthouse Annex in Loudon Tennessee, Loudon County Commission will consider appropriating funds to the following organizations to provide assistance in continuing their respective services for the citizens of Loudon County for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017:

Agency	Amount
Philadelphia Fire Department	30,000
Greenback Fire Department	30,000
Tellico Village Fire Department	35,000
Loudon County Fire Rescue	120,000
Loudon County Emergency Communications District	540,000
Rarity Bay First Responders	1,500
Adult Community Training	2,500
Loudon County Soil Conservation District	2,000
Sweetwater Creek Water Shed District	2,000
Loudon County Visitors Bureau	127,600
(or an amount equal to 29% Hotel/Motel Tax)	
Loudon County Economic Development Agency	162,545
Loudon County Veteran's Honor Guard	1,800
Loudon County Health Improvement Council	2,500
Child Advocacy Center of the 9th Judicial District	37,500
Little Tennessee Valley Educational Coop	3,000
Loudon County Community Channel	6,100
Iva's Place Crisis Center for Women	8,000
Good Samaritan Center of Loudon County	12,000
Sr. Citizens Home Assistance	2,000
Loudon County Library Board	10,000

(or an amount sufficient to meet MOE)

Public Notice of Lien
vin: 2GTEC19K-SI562805, 1995 GMC, David Langenbach, 560 Anchor Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37771. A certified letter has also been sent.

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LC
 Carlos Merino, 30, Old Hwy 95 Lenoir City, was charged with DUI.

Officer Shannon Runyan LCPD, while on routine patrol drove up on a vehicle in a ditch with the driver still in the vehicle. Driver was

Electrician/helper FT, local work, 1 yr exp. req. valid DL must have own tools. Pay DOE. Call 865-317-1094

identified as Carlos Merino, who was very intoxicated, unsteady on his feet, and had a strong odor of alcoholic beverage emitting from his person, and did not speak English.

Officer had a Spanish speaking Deputy assist. Deputy had Merino perform sobriety test which he did poorly on. Merino was placed under arrest.

Police beat

Laci Davidson, 29, Highland Ave Lenoir City, was charged with Illegal Possession/Fraudulent use of Credit Card. Laci Davidson did knowingly and without the owners consent use a credit card issued to victim at the Walgreen on Hwy 321 in an attempt to charge the card in the amount of \$204.95. The transaction was denied. One minute later she attempted to use the card a second time it was denied again.

Ray Hensley, 52, Red Pond Road Lenoir City, was charged with DUI, and Driving on Revoked/Suspended License. Deputy TJ Scarbrough LCSO, was dispatched to a suspicious vehicle at Old Hwy 95. On arrival Deputy observed a vehicle sitting in the parking lot at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church slumped over the wheel. The vehicle was running and the gear shift was in drive. The driver was identified as Ray Hensley. Deputies tried to wake Hensley and the vehicle started rolling forward and over a curb and into the grassy field. Hensley had slurred speech, red blood shot eyes, and was very unsteady on his feet. Hensley could not perform sobriety test. Hensley license were revoked for prior DUI.



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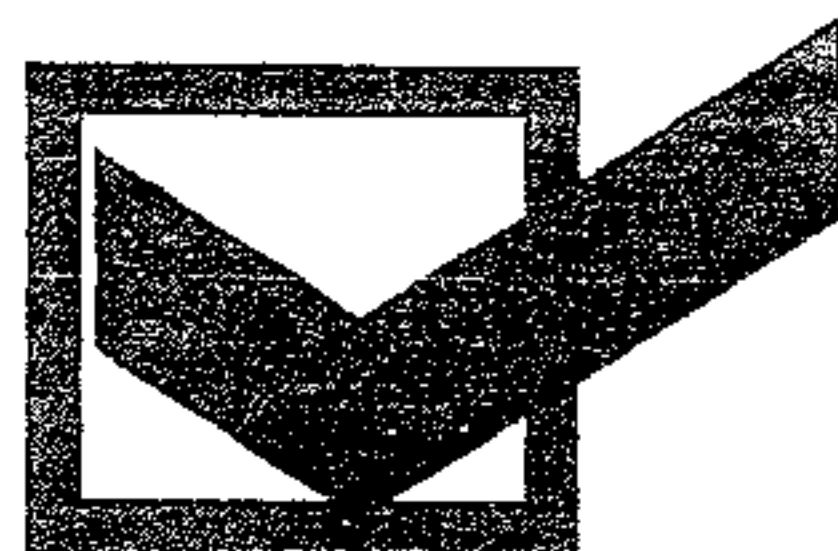


Laci Davidson

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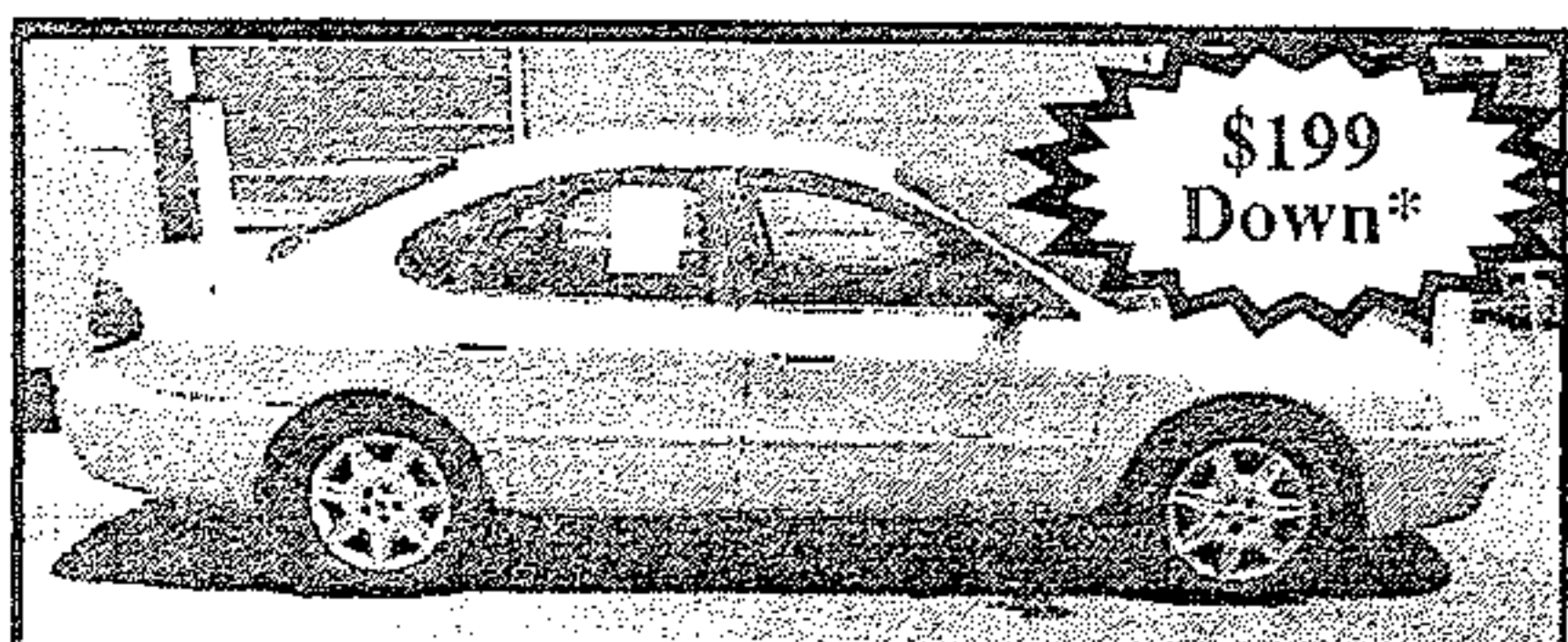
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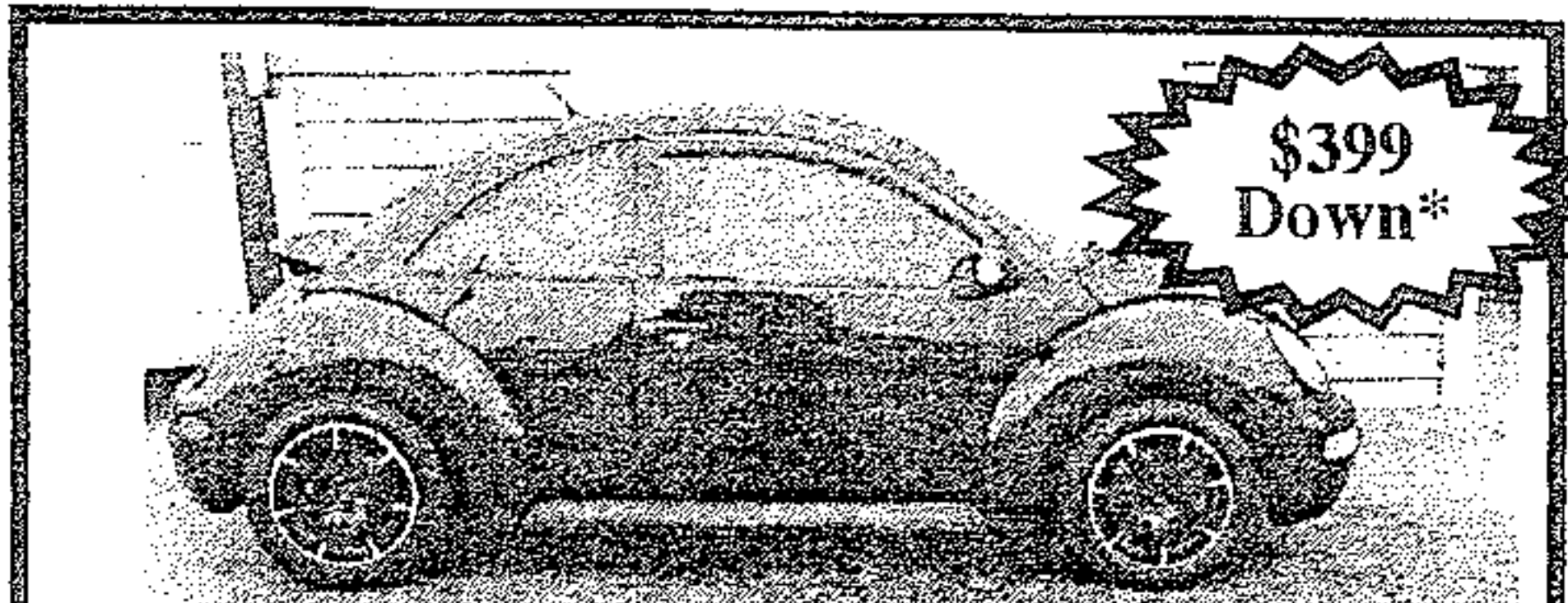
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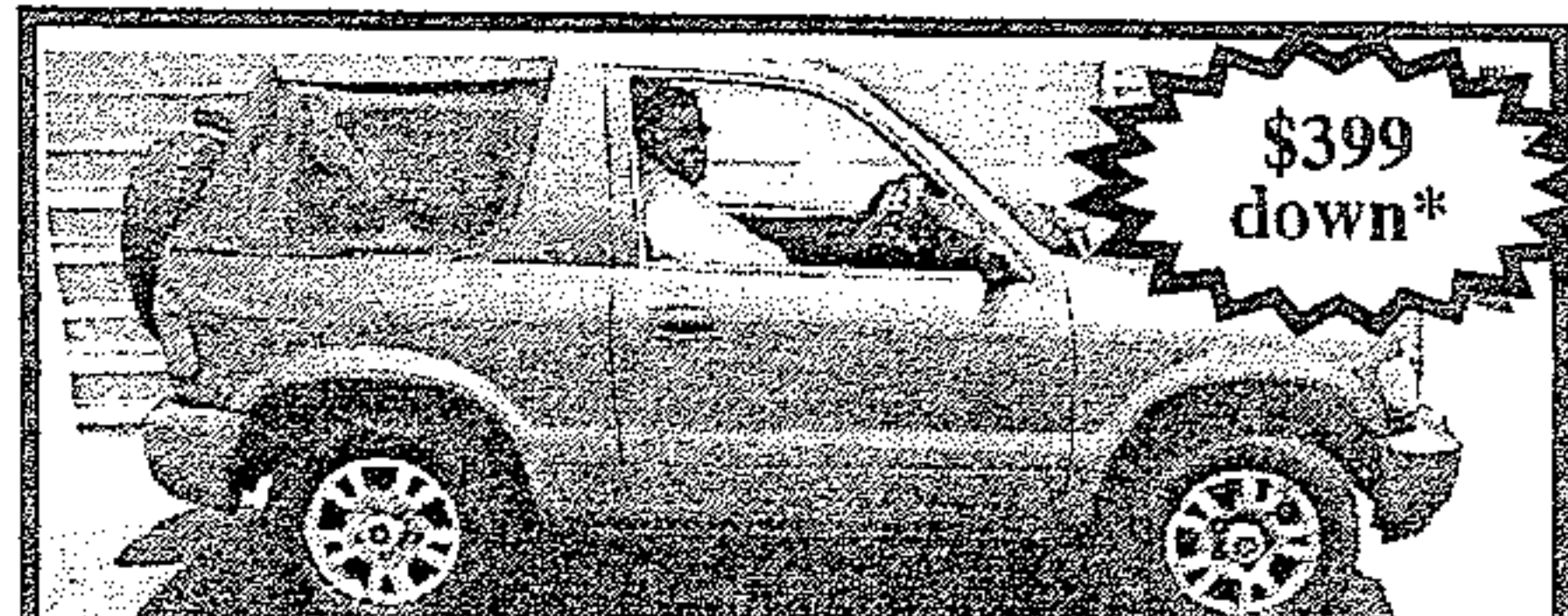
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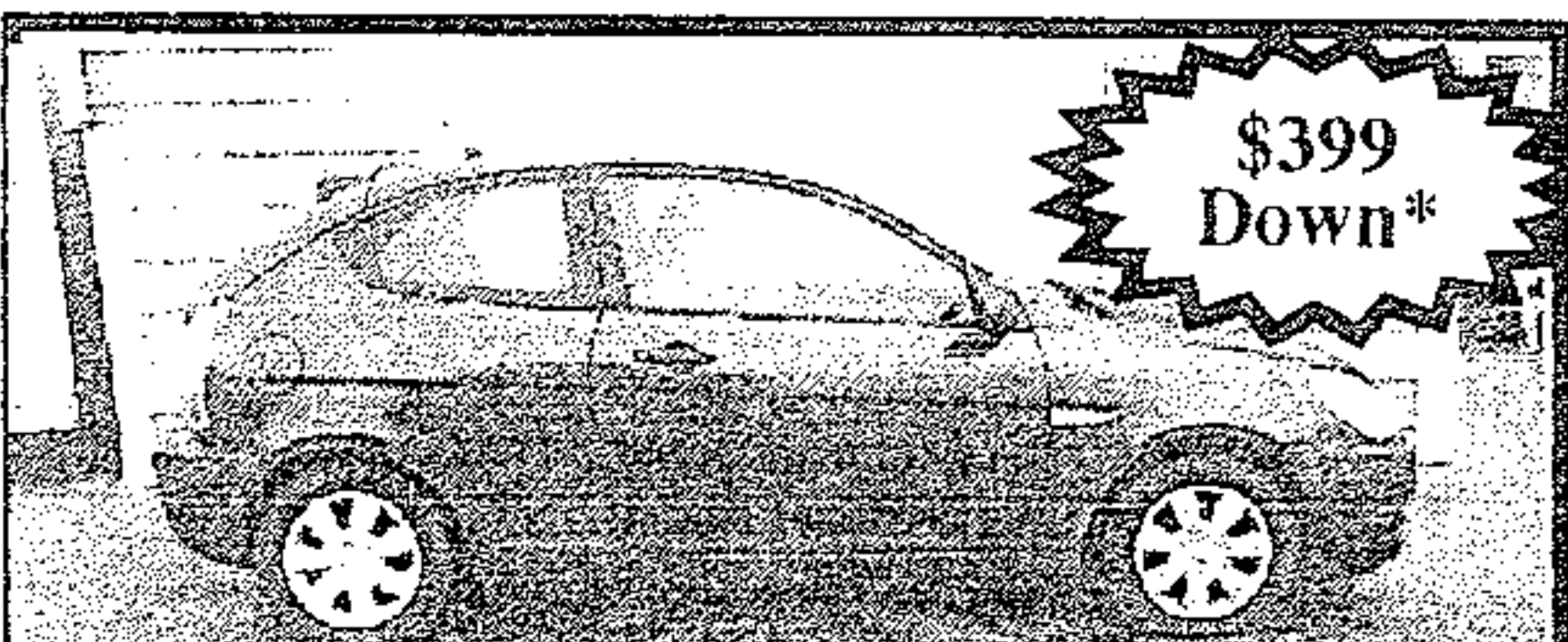
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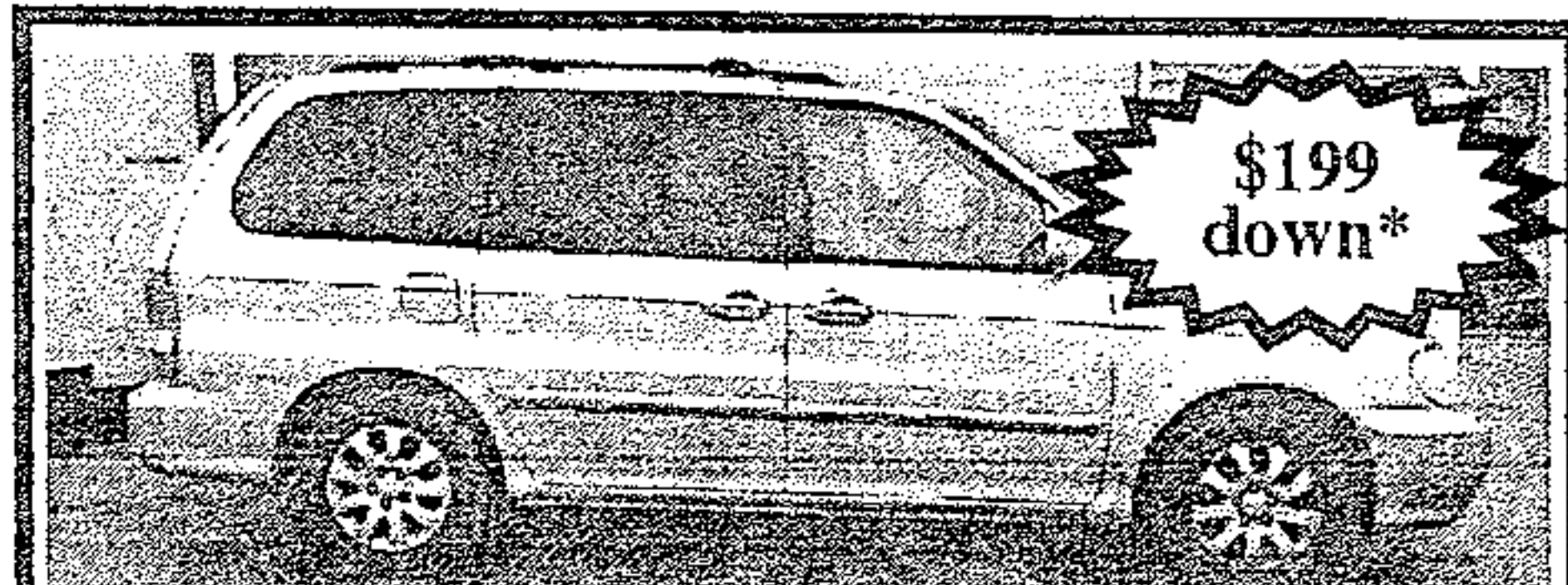
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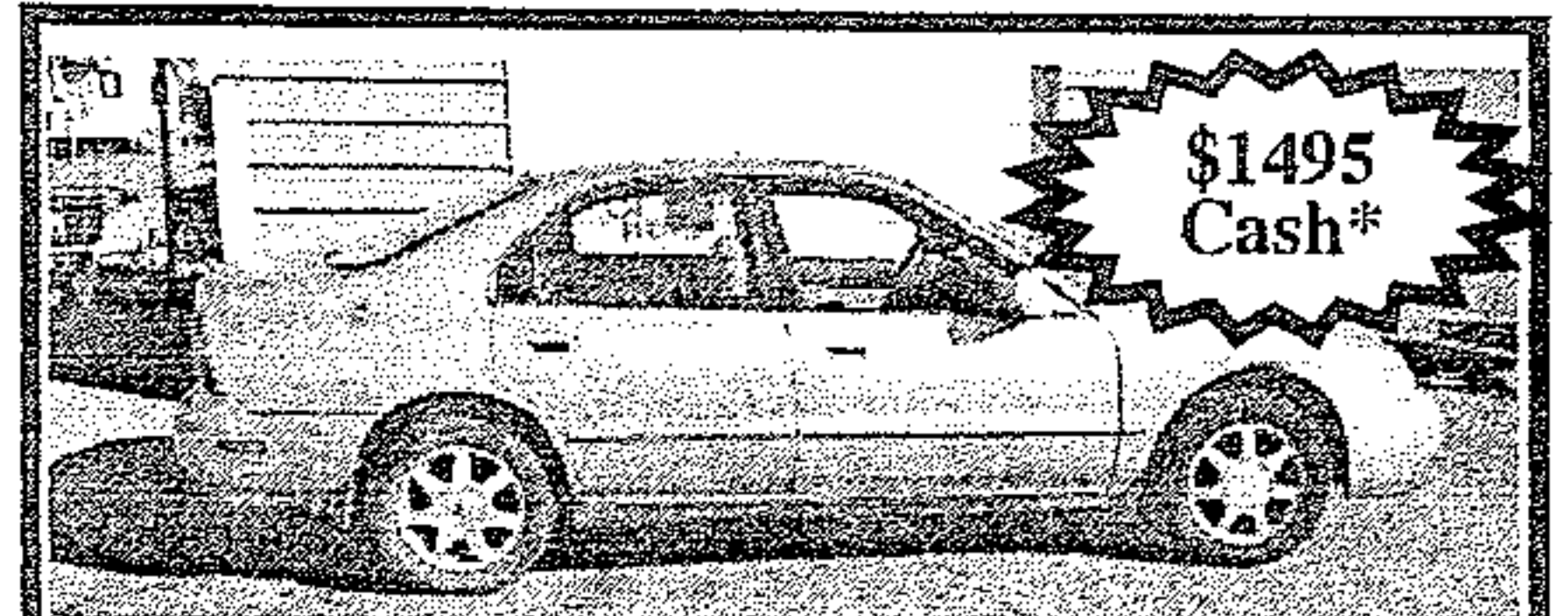
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