

Daily Edition

Serving Loudon, Monroe and Surrounding Counties

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Man assaults family when wife seek medical attention for child

I can't go to prison...



Christopher Arwood

Christopher Arwood, 31, Hartsook Drive Lenoir City, was charged with Domestic Assault. Officer Morgan was dispatched to Jim Hartsook Dr. Lenoir City, TN 37771 for a domestic. Upon arriving on scene Officer was met by the girlfriend/victim who stated that she was going to take her daughter to the hospi-

(see Assault pg. 2)



Thomas Cofer

Thomas Cofer, 22, Windswept Lane Kingston, was charged with Driving on Revoked/Suspended License, Leaving the Scene of Accident, Failure to show proof of INS., and Immediate Notice of Accident. Deputy A. Parton LCSO, received a report of a motor vehicle accident on I-40 Westbound at Mile Marker 364. Upon ar-

see Wreck pg. 3

Eatons teacher Mrs. Haneline awarded teacher of the week

Vote for Mrs Haneline for teacher of the month award from WBIR



Telena Haneline 1st grade

See Teacher P.5

Stolen car and stolen plates



Berniece West

See Stolen p.4

Physician owner of HNC and wife sentenced for health care fraud offenses involving prescription opiate pain medication

On March 14, 2018, Dr. Abdelrahman Mohamed, 64, and Cecilia Manacsa, 59, both of Morristown, Tennessee, were sentenced by the Honorable J. Ronnie Greer, U.S. District Judge, to serve 36 months and 16 months respectively in federal prison. In addition to his prison sentence,

Mohamed also paid \$730,000 in restitution.

Mohamed and Manacsa both pleaded guilty in September 2017, to an 11-count information charging them with one count of conspiracy to commit health care fraud and 10 counts of health care fraud.

(see Fraud pg. 4)



Verse of the Day

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. — Psalm 23:1-3

Obituaries

None reported

Wazzup

Hope everyone had a wonderful and relaxing Spring Break.

Weather

Today: Morning snow. High of 42F.

Tonight: Rain. Low of 28F.

Thursday: Sunny. High of 53F.

Thursday night: Clear. Low of 34F.

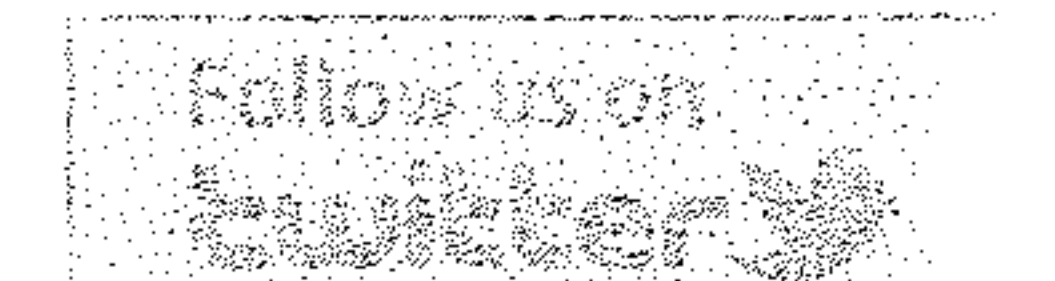
Horoscopes

Pisces 2/19-3/20

Although your current thinking may not be very practical,

people enjoy being around you because you can be so inspiring when you dream out loud. However, attempts to turn your thoughts into concrete plans could be a study in frustration today. Sometimes its a gift to be able to free

(Continued on page 6)



Assault

tal for falling off the bed. Her husband Christopher Michael Arwood blocked her from getting to her daughter, she asked him to move and pushed by him, that's when Mr. Arwood attacked her pushing her

on the bed holding her down. At that point she was in fear for her and her children's safety. She threw her phone to her son at which point Mr. Arwood got up and went for the phone saying she was not going to call 911, her son was trying to defend his mother and bit his father

Mr. Arwood two times causing Arwood to push him into the wall and pinning him to the window in the bedroom. Mr. Arwood then went back for victim pinning her down again trying to get her phone

and keys to the car. Before leaving he broke her cell phone were she would not be able to call for help. He then left the residence in an unknown direction. This did happen in Lenoir City / Loudon County.

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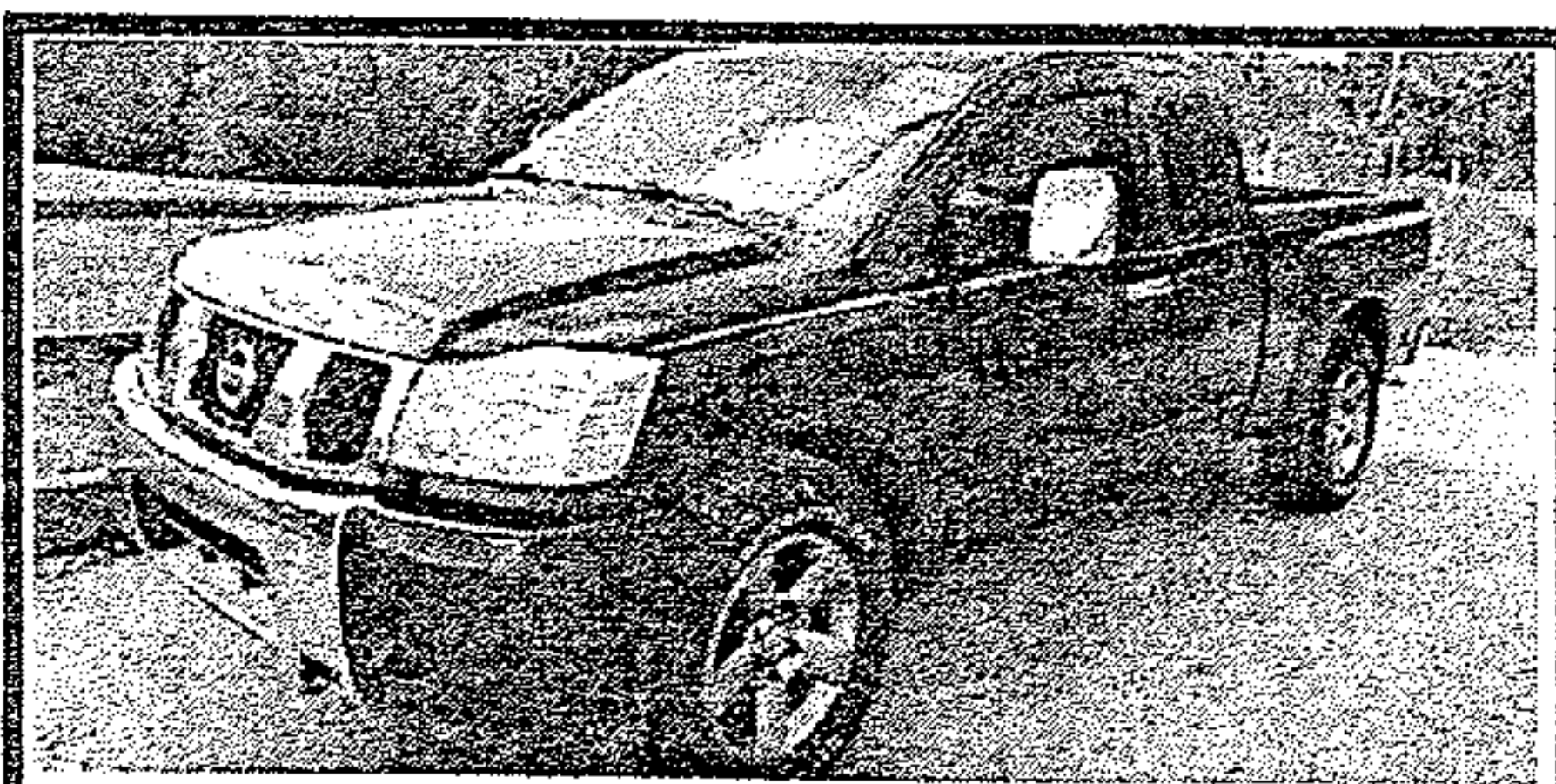
2013 Nissan Rogue AWD, PW, PL, PS, Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, V6, Luggage Rack



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!



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Wreck

rival Deputy spoke to complainant who stated that she was driving down the road when a white Nissan Maxima sped by her and started to hydroplane. The vehicle then lost control and crashed into the ditch on I-40 West. Complainant then stopped to check on the driver and called Loudon County Dispatch. She stated that the driver then asked her for a ride and she refused. He then made the statement that he could not go to prison and took off running from the scene heading toward the Lenoir City / Melton Hill Exit. She described the driver as a white male, wearing a green hoodie, with blue jeans. Lenoir City located the subject at the Love's Truck Stop inside the McDonalds. Depu-

ty then called complainant and requested that she come to the scene to identify the male. While speaking with him Deputy identified him as Thomas Cofer and could smell the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from his breath. Deputy then placed him into custody and read him his Miranda rights. Complainant then arrived on scene and identified Thomas Cofer as the driver of the wrecked vehicle. Deputy then transported Mr. Cofer to Loudon County Justice Center with no further incident. Once Deputy was on scene at the jail he read Mr. Cofer's Miranda Rights to him again and asked him to perform field sobriety. After seeing the lack of clues on the field sobriety Dep-

see Wreck ctd. pg. 7

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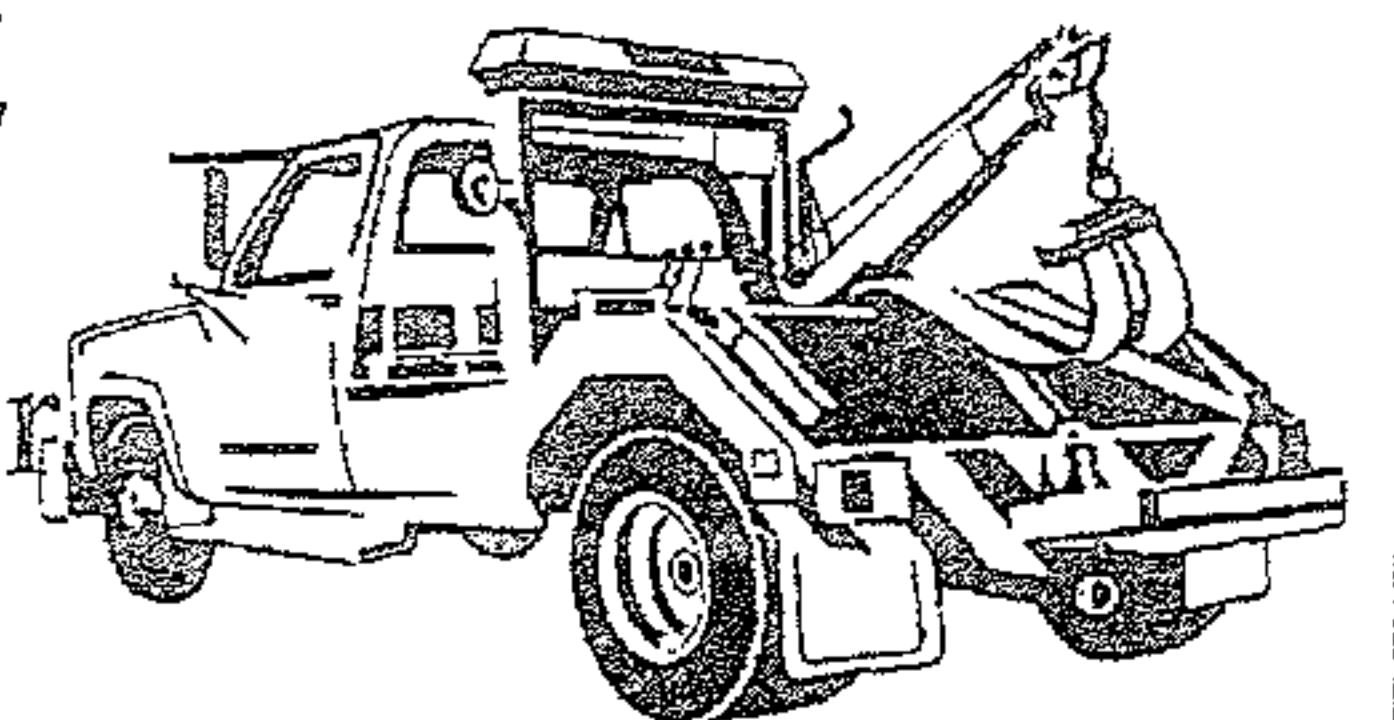
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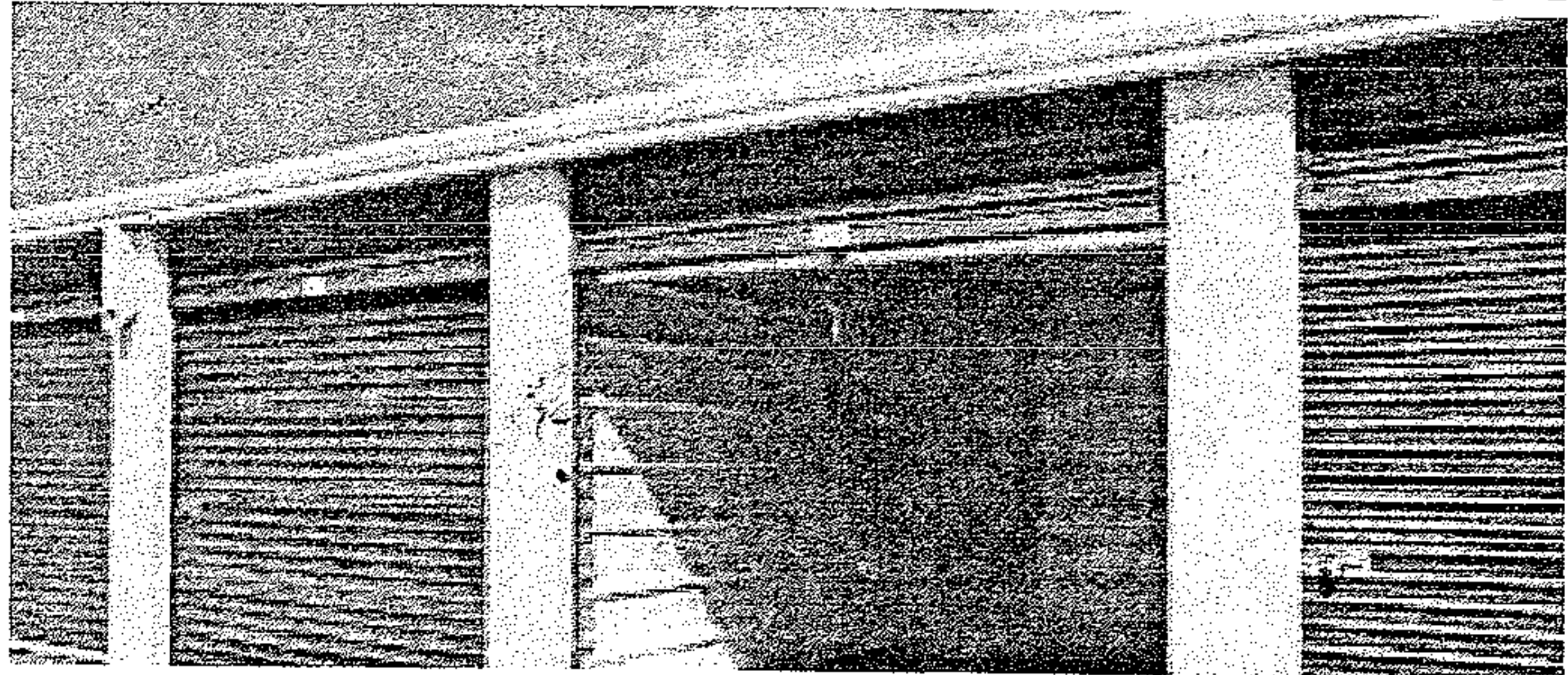
*note: the "Rotation List" is a list of wrecker services that provide service for wrecks, DUI's, breakdowns, etc. and are on an on-call basis for service. This list is approved by the Sheriff.

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Stolen

Berniece West, 29, Reed Springs Road Philadelphia, was charged with Theft of Property x2, Driving on Revoked / Suspended License, and Contraband in a Penal Institution. Trooper Rodney Best HP, received a LPR hit on a stolen license plate while sitting on the shoulder of 75 north at the 69 mm. After catching the vehicle Trooper confirmed with dispatch the plate was stolen. After stopping the vehicle Trooper made contact with the driver Berniece West. West stated the vehicle belonged to her brother, and did not have a registration. After running the VIN through dispatch it came back stolen out of Sweetwater. West was placed under arrest.

Fraud

Mohamed was the owner and operator of Hamblen Neuroscience Center (HNC), a neurology and pain management facility located in Morristown, Tennessee. Manacska, his wife, worked at HNC as a supervisor of various employees, including the employee responsible for submitting bills to Medicare and Medicaid (known as TennCare in the state of Tennessee). A detailed account of their offenses is included in the information and plea agreements on file with the U.S. District Court.

Mohamed, who was the only physician on staff at HNC, provided medical treatment to a variety of patients, most of whom sought treatment for chronic pain and had health insurance provided by TennCare or Medicare. Between January 2012 and September 2016 Mohamed and Manacska developed a scheme to schedule far more patients per day than could be attended to by Mohamed. On average, they scheduled between 40 and 60 pain management patients per day, during the estimated six-hour period that Mohamed worked. To deal with the high volume, on many occasions staff members were instructed to line up the patients in the hallway outside of Mohamed's office, escort the first patient into the office for a one to two minute open-door meeting, then hand Mohamed a partially completed prescription for an opiate pain management medication, which he signed and gave to the patient. This process was repeated until all waiting patients had received a prescription for a controlled substance. Each patient was then scheduled for another appointment the following month at which time the process was repeated. Mohamed admitted that during the fraud he issued thousands of prescriptions for opiate controlled substances and frequently did so on a recurring monthly basis, often for years. He also admitted that when he issued such prescriptions he was doing so outside of the scope of ordinary medical prac-

tice. After these visits, Mohamed and Manacska instructed HNC staff members to submit fraudulent bills to TennCare and Medicare claiming that they were owed approximately \$1,538,000 for services they had not actually provided to these patients. This fraud resulted in Medicare and TennCare paying approximately \$733,000 to HNC.

"This case sends a clear message to physicians and other health care providers in the Eastern District of Tennessee that investigating and prosecuting health-care fraud related to prescription opioids is a top priority for the Department of Justice as well as the U.S. Attorney's Office," said J. Douglas Overbey, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee. "Our district's participation in the Opioid Fraud and Abuse Detection Unit will provide us with the resources necessary to effectively investigate and prosecute medical providers, such as Mohamed

see Fraud ctd. pg. 7

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Teacher

On March 6th Eatons Elementary voted Mrs. Telena Haneline teacher of the week. Mrs. Haneline has been teaching for the last 19 years. She has a M.A. from Colorado Christian University and a B.A. from Drury University.

Mrs. Haneline stated her favorite thing about Eatons is that "I have an incredible school family. I am blessed beyond measure by my amazing students, their caring families, and my encouraging colleagues." "Each and every single staff member at Eaton should be recognized for their outstanding talents." Mrs. Haneline is in the running to be teacher of the month for the state of Tennessee sponsored by WBIR. We asked Mrs.

Haneline what was the best part of being a teacher? "

It is a blessing and honor to share my days with precious first graders. The world needs more of their pure hearts full of love and kindness. I truly have the best job ever! I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve as a teacher."

Please go to WBIR and vote for the wonderful Mrs. Haneline.

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Come Out and See What Everyone Is Talking About

Wreck con. from pg. 3

uty asked him if he would provide breath or blood for testing. Mr. Cofer then provided a breath sample with a BAC. result of .000. Deputy asked Mr. Cofer why he left the scene and he stated that he didn't know what Deputy was talking about. Deputy then asked him if he had insurance on his vehicle and he didn't answer. Dep. Lewis 952. requested Money Makers to the scene of the crash. While on scene he could not recover a valid insurance card. Mr. Cofer was suspended on 11-27-2017 for failure to show proof of insurance. This did occur in Loudon County.

Fraud con. from pg. 4

and Manaca, who are contributing to this epidemic by unlawfully diverting or dispensing opioids outside the scope of acceptable professional practice," added U.S. Attorney Overbey.

"These defendants enriched themselves at the expense of taxpayers by defrauding Medicare and TennCare," said Derrick L. Jackson, Special Agent in Charge at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General. "Their actions risked the health and safety of patients by prescribing opioids without a comprehensive physical exam. This sentence sends a

strong message that this type of behavior will be dealt with seriously," added Jackson.

This case was investigated by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Health and Human Services – Office of the Inspector General. Assistance was provided by the Tennessee Department of Health as well as District Attorney General Dan Armstrong and the District Attorney's Office for the Third Judicial District. Assistant U.S. Attorney T.J. Harker represented the United States.

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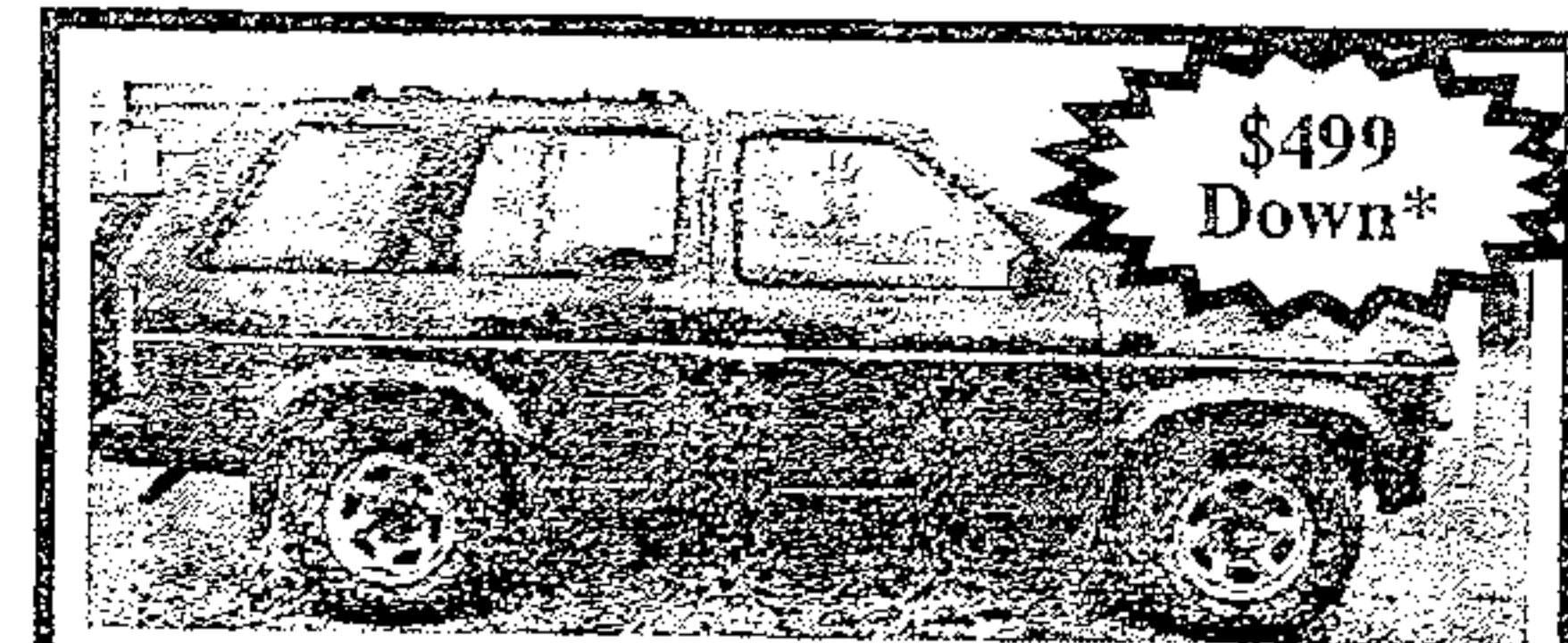
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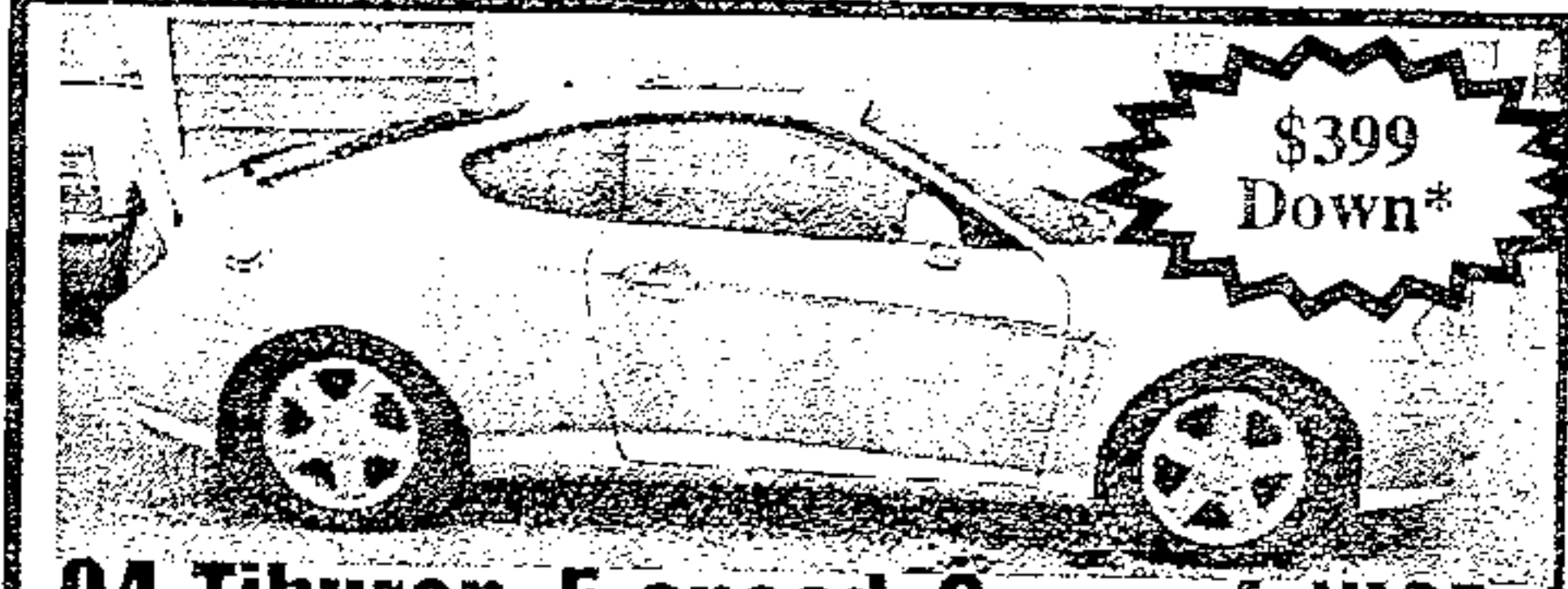
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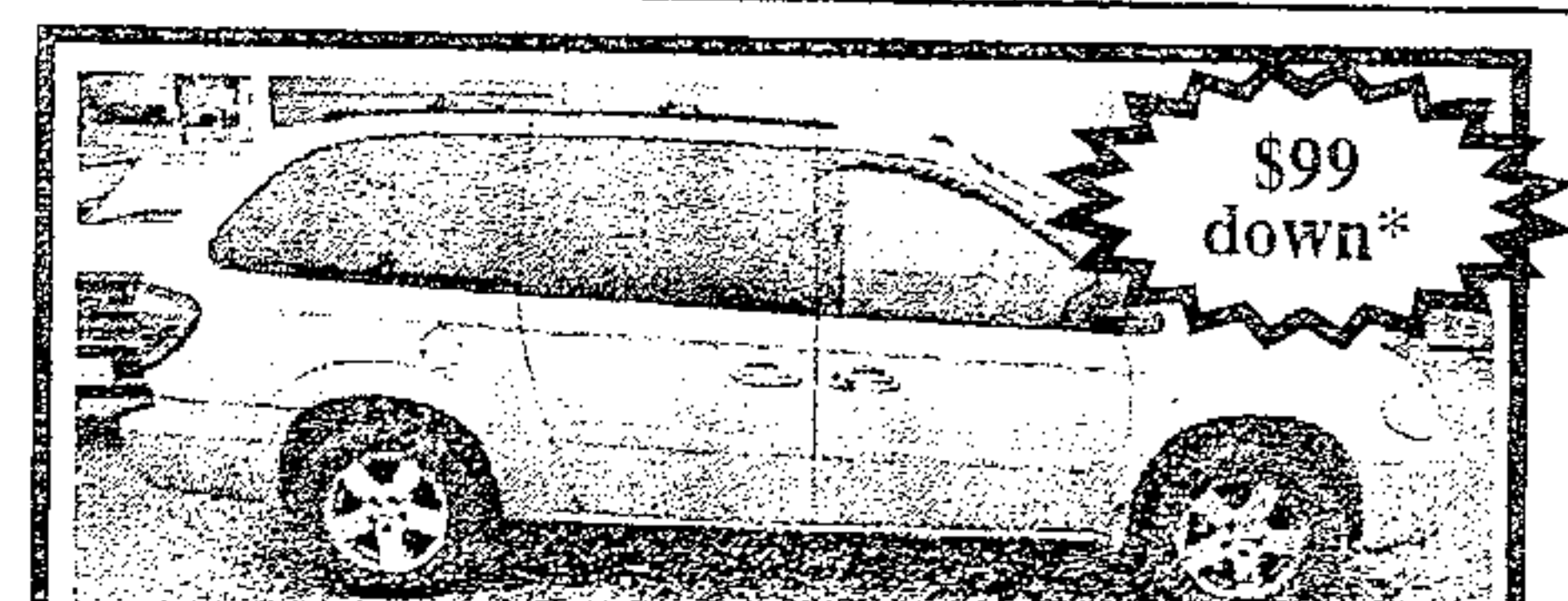
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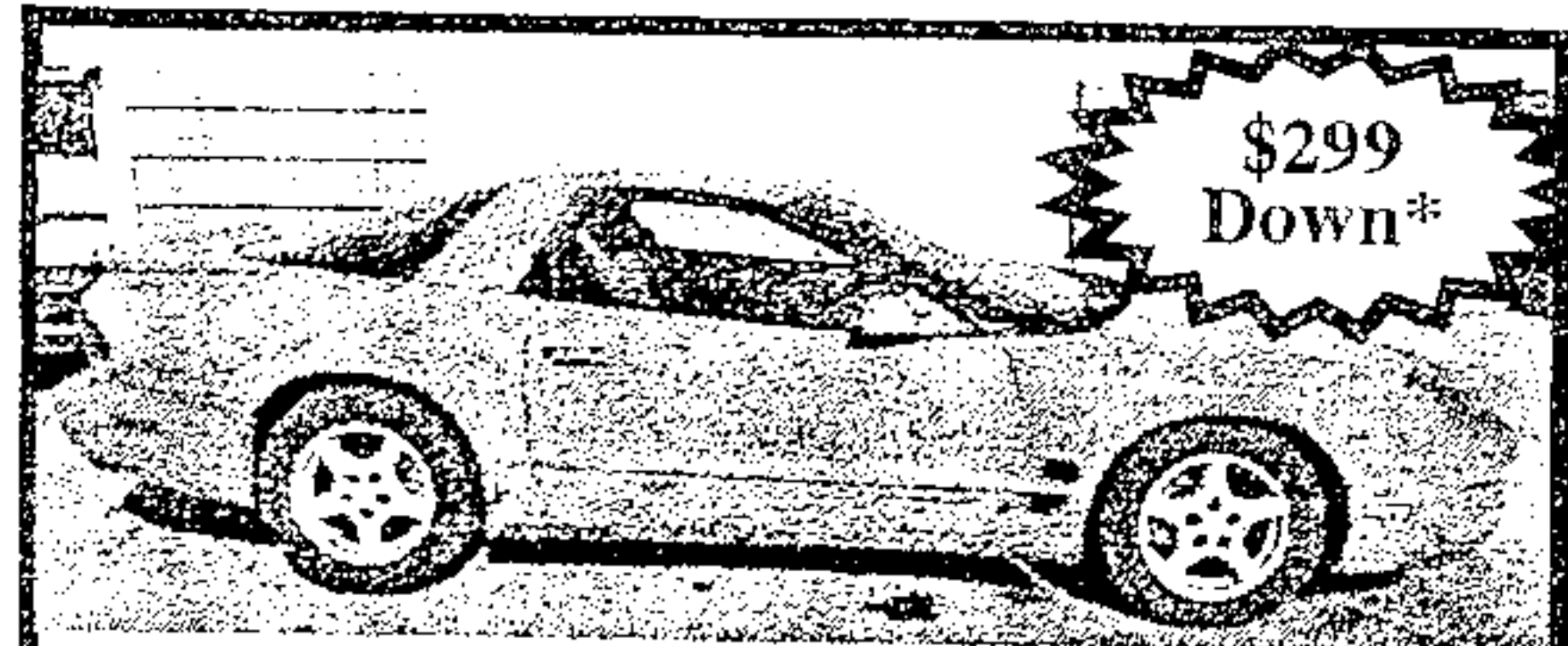
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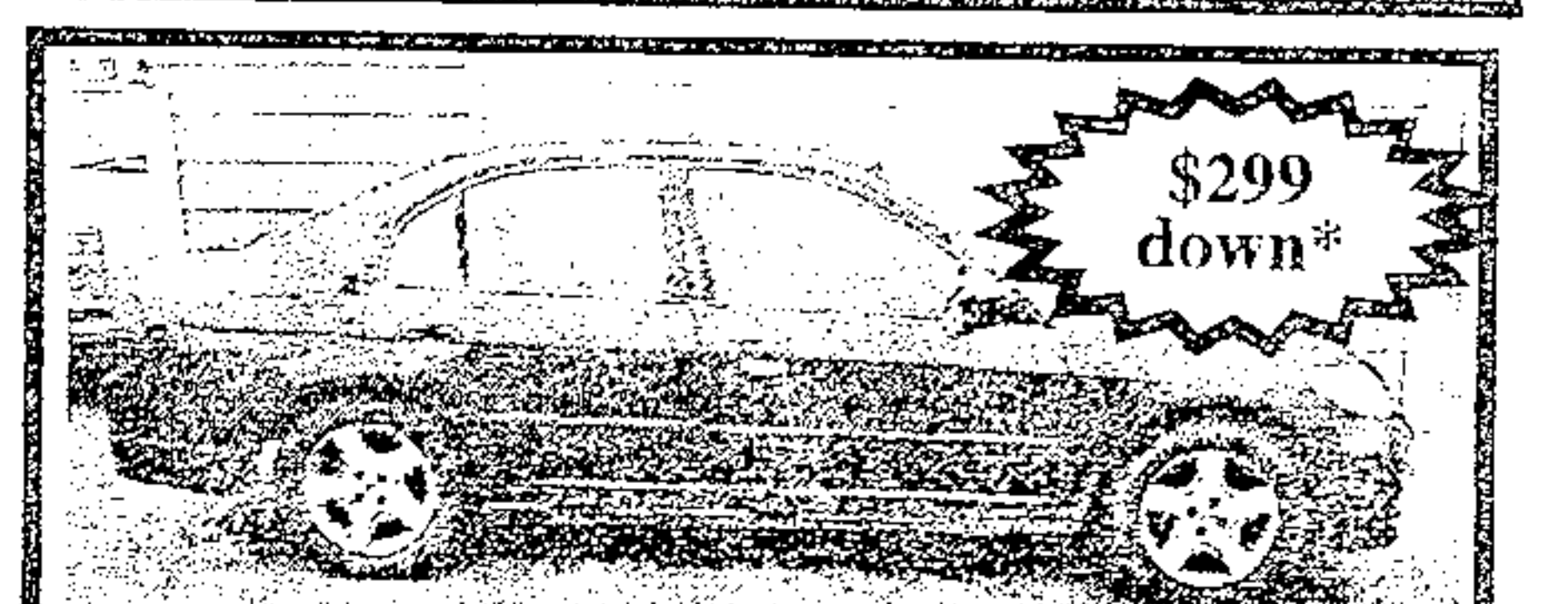
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