

# The Daily Edition 50¢

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Monday, October 14, 2024

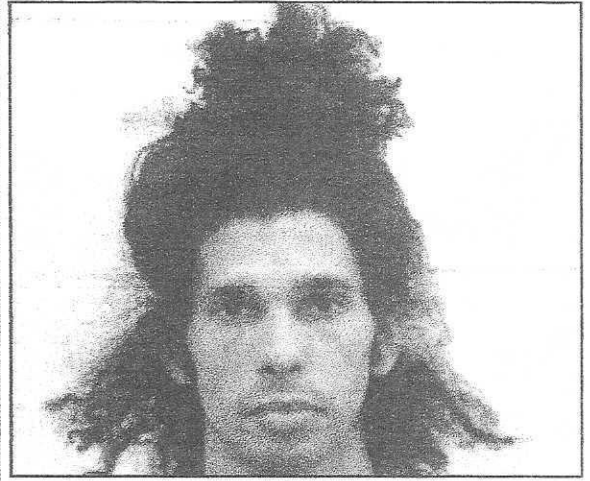
## Vehicle Used in Aggravated Assault in Philly!



Tyler Merchant

(see Agg. Assault pg. 2)

## Unwanted Guest Call Leads to Multiple Charges



Claiborne White Jr.

see Charged pg. 4

## Speeding 68mph in a 45mph zone and No License



Ernesto Amaro

see No License pg. 3

## Investigation Details Numerous Issues within Rhea County Sheriff's Department

An investigation by the Tennessee Comptroller's Office, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, includes several findings and deficiencies that led to improper or questionable activities within the Rhea County Sheriff's Department.

The report covers actions that took place between Jan-

uary 2017 and May 2024. The results of the investigation were communicated to the Office of the District Attorney General of the 6th Judicial District, which was appointed as Pro Tem in this matter.

Some of the findings include:

The sheriff and jail staff improperly released inmates from jail without court officer approval.

Two department em-

ployees performed work for the sheriff and his son while being paid by the department.

Three department employees misappropriated at least \$20,678.58 by receiving compensation for time not worked.

The sheriff authorized the animal shelter administrator to

see Rhea Co. pg. 5

### Verse of the Day

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.

—1 Corinthians 10:13

### Wazzup

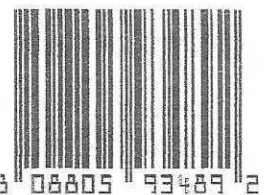
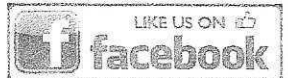
Time to Give! Daniel "Hamp" Hampton is taking up donations of winter gear and more in Loudon! Check out the story on our facebook page!

### Weather

Today: Sunny. High of 66F.  
Tonight: Clear. Low of 42F.  
Tuesday: Partly cloudy. High of 62F.  
Tuesday night: Overcast. Low 35F.

### Horoscope

Libra 9/23-10/22  
There is some likelihood that you will be haunted by thoughts of your love life today, Libra. Perhaps you're intrigued by the idea of exploring certain



### Agg. Assault

Tyler Merchant, 23, Sunnyside Road Philadelphia, was charged with, Aggravated Assault.

Deputy Frye LCSO, responded to Reed Springs Baptist Church in reference

to Vandalism. Upon arrival, the deputy made contact with Tyler Merchant, a male and female. Tyler stated that the victim got out of his vehicle to move some logs, when the victim "came at him" saying, "I will f&^% you up." Tyler stated that Jason continued to

come at him when he ran to his vehicle. The female was recording the incident at this time. Tyler then gets in his vehicle, and says, "I will run you the f&% over." The female then says, "No, no we are not running him over" and screams "No Tyler!" The deputy observed the victim walking up towards the vehicle very agitated. When in his vehicle, Tyler accelerated and drove at the victim. The victim stated that at this point, he was pinned against the vehicle and the older model van when the stick struck Tyler's vehicle

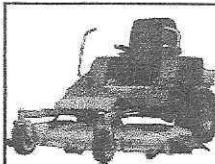
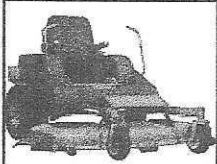
and caused a mark on the victim arm where the stick was pushed against it. The victim stated that he went outside due to hearing Tyler's father, the male's vehicle rev up the driveway, and when Tyler came down, he was asking them to slow down or there would be a problem. This is when Tyler got in his car and attempted to run the victim over. The male followed behind Tyler in which his passenger mirror struck the victim left hand. Due to Tyler attempting to run Jason over, he is being charged with Ag-

See Agg. Assault ctd. pg. 3

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**Agg. Assault ctd. from pg. 2**

gravated Assault (TCA 39-13-102). The deputy then placed Tyler into custody and transported him to the Loudon County Detention Facility in Loudon County, TN. No further incident did occur.

Images of the vehicle damage and marks from the wood hitting the victim are below in the Attachments Tab.

The deputy has video footage that was recorded by the female. It was not uploaded due to the video being large.

**No License**

Ernesto Amaro, 52, Bob Gray Road Knoxville, was charged with No Driver License, and Speeding.

Officer Kelley LPD, was on routine patrol driving

West on Highway 72 when a black Honda sedan in front of him started driving at a high rate of speed. Using his patrol vehicle, Officer Kelley paced the black sedan traveling speeds at 68mph in a 45mph zone on Highway 72. The black sedan also crossed the right-side white line on 2 different occasions. Officer Kelley conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle at 10090 Highway 72 N. The driver later identified as Ernesto Martinez Amaro does not have a valid driver license. Ernesto was placed under arrest by Loudon City Police Department for no license and his speed. Ernesto was transported to the Loudon County Jail. The said actions above occurred in Loudon County TN.

**Public Notice**

The Loudon County Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Map of Loudon County, TN to rezone Tax Map 070L, Group B, Parcels 007.00, 008.00, 009.00 & 010.0, Located at Maple Street, Located in the 3rd Legislative District, from R-1 Suburban Residential District to C-2 General Commercial District

**Public Notice**

The Loudon County Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Map of Loudon County, TN to rezone Tax Map 036, Parcel 158.00, Located at 270 Kiser Station Rd, Located in the 3rd Legislative District, from A-1/R-E/F-1 Agriculture-Forestry District/Single Family Exclusive Overlay District/Floodway District to A-3/R-E/F-1, Developing Agriculture District/Single Family Exclusive Overlay District/Floodway District for 1.796 acres only.

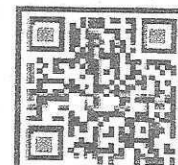
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**Charged**

Claiborne White Jr., 32, Homeless Loudon, was charged with, Simple Possession x3, Poss. of Drug Para x2., Tampering/Fabricating with Evidence, and Contraband in Penal Institution.

Deputy K. Palmer LCSO, was dispatched to Norwood Street for an unwanted guest. Upon arrival, the deputy spoke with the complainant, who informed him that her child's father, Mr. Claiborne James Jodie White, was at the residence and was found passed out between the cars in the driveway. The complainant had asked him to leave. She showed the deputy a picture of Mr. White in the driveway and mentioned that he had walked toward the Icon Superstore. The complainant also stated that Mr. White appeared to be under the influence of something and might have illegal substances on him.

The deputy located Mr. White at the Icon Superstore at West Hills Drive and noticed that he seemed to be under the influence. When asked, Mr. White admitted to smoking Delta 10 and marijuana. Upon searching him, the deputy found approximately 1.3 grams of a green leafy substance believed to be marijuana, a glass pipe typically used for smoking meth, half a peach-colored round pill with a partial imprint of 4 75 later identified as Buprenorphine hydrochloride, and naloxone hydrochloride 8mg base 2mg base (a Schedule 3 narcotic), and a white oblong pill with a partial imprint of 65 later identified as Acetaminophen and hydrocodone bitartrate 325mg/5mg (a Schedule 2 narcotic). Additionally, the deputy found a marijuana pipe in Mr. White's backpack.

Mr. White was placed under arrest and put in the back of his patrol car. While in his patrol


vehicle, the deputy observed Mr. White moving around, and at one point, he appeared to be trying to retrieve something from his crotch area with his hands cuffed behind his back. The deputy removed Mr. White from the vehicle and searched Mr. White's hands and the back of his patrol car before placing him back in the vehicle. The deputy advised Mr. White that he would be charged with introduction to a penal facility if he took anything illegal into the jail.

When we arrived at the jail, Mr. White was found in possession of a baggy and expressed concern about getting in trouble for having it. The deputy asked Mr. White where the baggy came from, at which time the deputy observed Mr. White appeared to have ingested something. He later admitted to consuming cocaine to correction officer L. Gault. Upon reviewing the in-car video, the deputy witnessed

Mr. White ingesting a baggy containing suspected illegal narcotics.

The deputy returned to the jail to speak with Mr. White. As he was being removed from the holding cell, correction officers noticed a baggy containing 2.74 grams of a white crystal substance, later identified as methamphetamine. Mr. White was read his Miranda rights and, when questioned, stated to me he consumed mushrooms while in his patrol vehicle. A body scan at the jail revealed the presence of what appeared to be a foreign object in Mr. White's stomach.

Mr. White is charged with simple possession of Schedule 2, 3, and 6 substances, possession of drug paraphernalia, tampering with or fabricating evidence, and introduction into a penal facility. This incident did occur in Loudon County, TN.



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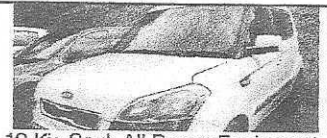
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**Rhea Co.**

perform questionable duties and assigned her a weapon. The administrator was not P.O.S.T. certified.

The Rhea County Angel Tree Toy Drive, which is operated by the sheriff's department, made questionable expenditures totaling at least \$12,124.22.

Comptroller investigators also identified several operational deficiencies, some of which contributed to the investigative findings. For example, the department failed to maintain timesheets for all employees and did not always document compensatory time earned by staff.

"The Rhea County Sheriff must hold employees accountable for the pervasive issues in his department's operations," said Comptroller Mumpower. "Not only did employees violate the department's policies and pro-

cedures, but some of these violations also benefited the sheriff and others at the expense of the department. The sheriff should ensure all actions within the department align with the code of ethics and policies."

To view the investigative report, go to [tncot.cc/doireports](http://tncot.cc/doireports).

**Police beat**

Gina Mathena, 58, Carding Machine Road Loudon, was charged with, Domestic Assault.

Officer J. Martin LPD, was made aware by Officer Valletto that there was two individuals in the lobby at the Loudon Police Department who looked to be in an argument. The officer then made contact with the two individuals identified as the victim and Gina Mathena. After they separated both parties The officer spoke to the vic-

tim who stated that his wife Gina Mathena had been gambling all of their money online and he stated to Gina that he wanted a divorce. The victim also stated that when he said he wanted a divorce to Mrs. Mathena she began scratching his face and arms. The victim stated that he was also in fear for his safety because it had been occurring for two years. The victim did have scratch marks on his face and arms. Officers on scene were made

aware that there had been domestics previously at their residence (Carding Machine RD). Gina Mathena stated to Officer Valletto and Officer Harrig that while she was attempting to leave the victim attacked her in her car. Mrs. Mathena had no visible bruises or marks. Mrs. Mathena was then placed under arrest and transported to the Loudon County Jail without any further incident. All the above did occur in Loudon TN.

**Public Notice**

**Request for Bids**

Loudon County Government is soliciting sealed bids for a New ¾-ton Truck. Bid Opening is October 18, 2024, at 2:30 PM. Interested bidders should contact Matt Kleinschmidt at 865-458-4663. Loudon County Government will not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, national origin, creed, age, marital status, or disability.

**Bad Credit**

**Divorce**

**Fixed Income**

**Repos**

**Bankruptcy**

**No Credit**

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### Horoscopes

secret realms of your relationship, yet you aren't sure how to communicate this to your mate. Perhaps you're still testing the waters, waiting until you know how you feel.

Scorpio 10/23-11/21

Today, more than ever, you will yearn to escape the daily routine, Scorpio. You thirst for new sights and sounds, new faces and new places, but you know you must juggle your desires with professional and domestic obligations.

Sagittarius 11/22-12/21

You're finally on the mend, Sagittarius. The minor ailments that may have dragged you down lately are beginning to disappear. You're about to regain all of your physical energy. If you over-indulge, your energy level is likely to plummet once again. Capricorn 12/22-01/19

Do you feel a little under the weather today, Capricorn?

It's quite possible, considering all the emotional turmoil you've been through lately. It takes time to recover from such storms. As you know, the work itself isn't what gets you down. It's worry about the future that drains your energy.

Aquarius 1/20-2/18

There is some likelihood that the mood at home is fraught with tension. Did you have some intellectual disagreement? In any case, it looks as though your self-confidence is stronger than ever right now. Go ahead and express any complaints or opinions you may have been keeping to yourself, Aquarius.

Pisces 2/19-3/20

It seems that your sensitivity is in slight conflict with your actions, Pisces. You continue to go through the daily motions and do what you planned on doing, but it seems as though your heart is no longer in it.

Aries 3/21-4/19

You may have been spending or saving too much money, Aries. It's clear that a rebal-

ancing is in order if you're to find pleasure rather than frustration. It's a curious phenomenon, as though you've lost contact with your body.

Taurus 4/20-5/20

Perhaps you've been impatiently waiting for the moment to jump into new adventures after your meditation during the last few months. Know that the moment has almost arrived! You now have the strategy, objective, and means at your disposal to succeed. Just a bit more work remains to be done.

Gemini 5/21-6/20

If you find yourself tired and irritable at the moment, Gemini, you should know that this is normal. You may have had a few weeks that were a little too studious. Would you like to continue on the same path? Be careful that your ambitions don't lead you to serious physical exhaustion, Gemini.

Cancer 6/21-7/22

This is going to be a good moment to look elsewhere, Cancer. You should do just as the artist does when he has

worked too long on a painting, which is to take a step back. You need to clear your head. Go for a walk. Call a mentor.

Leo 7/23-8/22

This is the right moment to extricate yourself from relationships that have seen their day, Leo. This won't be easy, but you must. In your professional and private lives, you're too hesitant to get out of distasteful situations or obligations. You're afraid of hurting people or making them mad. But in the end, you're hurting yourself.

Virgo 8/23-9/22

You took off like a bullet a few days ago, making great progress in a short amount of time. Now you're grappling with doubts that are undermining all of your energy. Reflecting on the events of the past few days, it's obvious that you were somewhat reckless in your headlong pursuit of your goals. Don't give up, Virgo. Rethink your strategy.

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Electors for **Kamala D. Harris** for President and **Tim Walz** for Vice President  
*Democratic Party Nominee*

Electors for **Jay J Bowman** for President and **De D Bowman** for Vice President  
*Independent Candidate*

Electors for **Claudia De la Cruz** for President and **Karina Garcia** for Vice President  
*Independent Candidate*

Electors for **Rachele Fruit** for President and **Dennis Richter** for Vice President  
*Independent Candidate*

Electors for **Robert F. Kennedy Jr.** for President and **Nicole Shanahan** for Vice President  
*Independent Candidate*

Electors for **Jill Stein** for President and **Samson LeBeau Kpadenou** for Vice President  
*Independent Candidate*

Write-in

**United States Senate  
Vote for One (1)**

**Marsha Blackburn**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

**Gloria Johnson**  
*Democratic Party Nominee*

**Tharon Chandler**  
*Independent Candidate*

**Pamela Jeanine "P." Moses**  
*Independent Candidate*

**Hastina Robinson**  
*Independent Candidate*

Write-in

**United States House of Representatives  
District 2  
Vote for One (1)**

**Tim Burchett**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

**Jane George**  
*Democratic Party Nominee*

Write-in

**Tennessee House of Representatives  
District 21  
Vote for One (1)**

**Lowell Russell**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

**Kenneth R. Moore**  
*Democratic Party Nominee*

Write-in

**Tennessee House of Representatives  
District 32  
Vote for One (1)**

**Monty G. Fritts**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

Write-in

**CITY OF GREENBACK**

**Mayor  
Vote for One (1)**

**Dewayne Birchfield**

Write-in

**Alderman  
Vote for Four (4)**

**Tina Sue Baker**

**Linda S Black**

**Delmar L Davis**

**Derrick Doehler**

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

**CITY OF LENOIR**

**Mayor  
Vote for One (1)**

**Tony R Aikens**

**Wayne Collins**

Write-in

**Councilman  
Vote for Three (3)**

**Trevor Branson**

**Mike Henline**

**James R. Laney**

**Robin McNabb**

**Eddie Simpson**

**Jennifer L Wampler**

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

**Recorder/Treasurer  
Vote for One (1)**

**James W Wilburn III**

Write-in

**School Board  
Vote for Three (3)**

**Rick L Chadwick**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

**Mitch Ledbetter**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

**Tammy Powell**  
*Republican Party Nominee*

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

**CITY OF LOUDON**

**Councilman  
Vote for Two (2)**

**Brendan DeBoer**

**Mitch Miller**

**Eric Newman**

**Kenny Ridings**

Write-in

Write-in

**CITY OF PHILADELPHIA**

**Mayor  
Vote for One (1)**

**Damian Crawford**

Write-in

**Alderman  
Vote for Four (4)**

**Cynthia Crawford**

**April K. Miller**

**Will Miller**

**Dewayne Presley**

**Macy Presley**

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in

Write-in



**November 5, 2024**

**Early Voting**

**October 16-31, 2024**

**Locations and hours:**

**Roane State Community College  
100 W Broadway Street, Lenoir City, TN 37771**

**Loudon County Election Commission Office  
100 River Road, Suite 108, Loudon, TN 37774**

Wednesday, October 16, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Thursday, October 17, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Friday, October 18, 2024 - 10 A.M.-6 P.M.  
Saturday, October 19, 2024 - 9 A.M.-12 Noon

Monday, October 21, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Wednesday, October 23, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Thursday, October 24, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Friday, October 25, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Saturday, October 26, 2024 - 9 A.M.- 12 Noon

Monday, October 28, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Tuesday, October 29, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Wednesday, October 30, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Thursday, October 31, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tellico Village  
Community Church at Tellico Village  
130 Chota Center, Loudon, TN 37774**

Tuesday, October 22, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Wednesday, October 23, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Thursday, October 24, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.  
Friday, October 25, 2024 - 10 A.M.- 6 P.M.

**A registered voter in Loudon County can vote at any of the above locations during the early voting period.**



**Obituaries**

**Neal Forrester** age 53 of Lenoir City passed away October 9, 2024. He was a graduate of Lenoir City High School. Neal was a veteran of the U. S. Army. He loved cars and was a talented mechanic with the ability to diagnosis the most complex issues. Neal enjoyed music, especially playing guitar with this friends. He was preceded in death by his father, John E. Forrester; paternal grandparents, John D. Forrester and Haline (Treece) Forrester; maternal grandparents, William Loren Reed

and Mary A. Reed. He is survived by his daughter, Loren Rose Forrester who he dearly loved; devoted mother, Gail Reed Forrester; sister, Hale-na Forrester and several life-long friends. The family will receive friends from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 12th at Click Funeral Home in Lenoir City. Memorial services will follow at 3 p.m. with Pastor Don Hawkins officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to your local animal shelter. Click Funeral Home, 109 Walnut Street, Lenoir City is in charge of arrangements.

**Public Notice**

The Loudon County Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Map of Loudon County, TN to rezone Tax Map 072, Parcel 058.08, Located at 8475 Erie Rd, Located in the 4th Legislative District, from A-1 Agriculture Forestry District to A-3, Developing Agriculture District for 1 acre only.

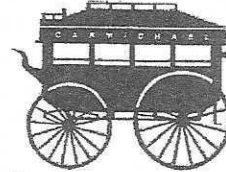
**Public Notice**

The Loudon County Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Map of Loudon County, TN to rezone Tax Map 076, Parcel 055.00, Located at 15101 Sunnyside Rd, Located in the 4th Legislative District, from A-1 Agriculture Forestry District to A-2 Rural Residential District for 3 acres only.

**Public Notice**

The Loudon County Commission will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2024, in the Loudon County Courthouse Annex to receive public comments regarding amending the Zoning Map of Loudon County, TN to rezone Tax Map 077, Parcel 008.00, Located at Mayo Rd, Located in the 4th Legislative District, from A 2, Rural Residential District, to A-3, Developing Agriculture District for 2 acres only.

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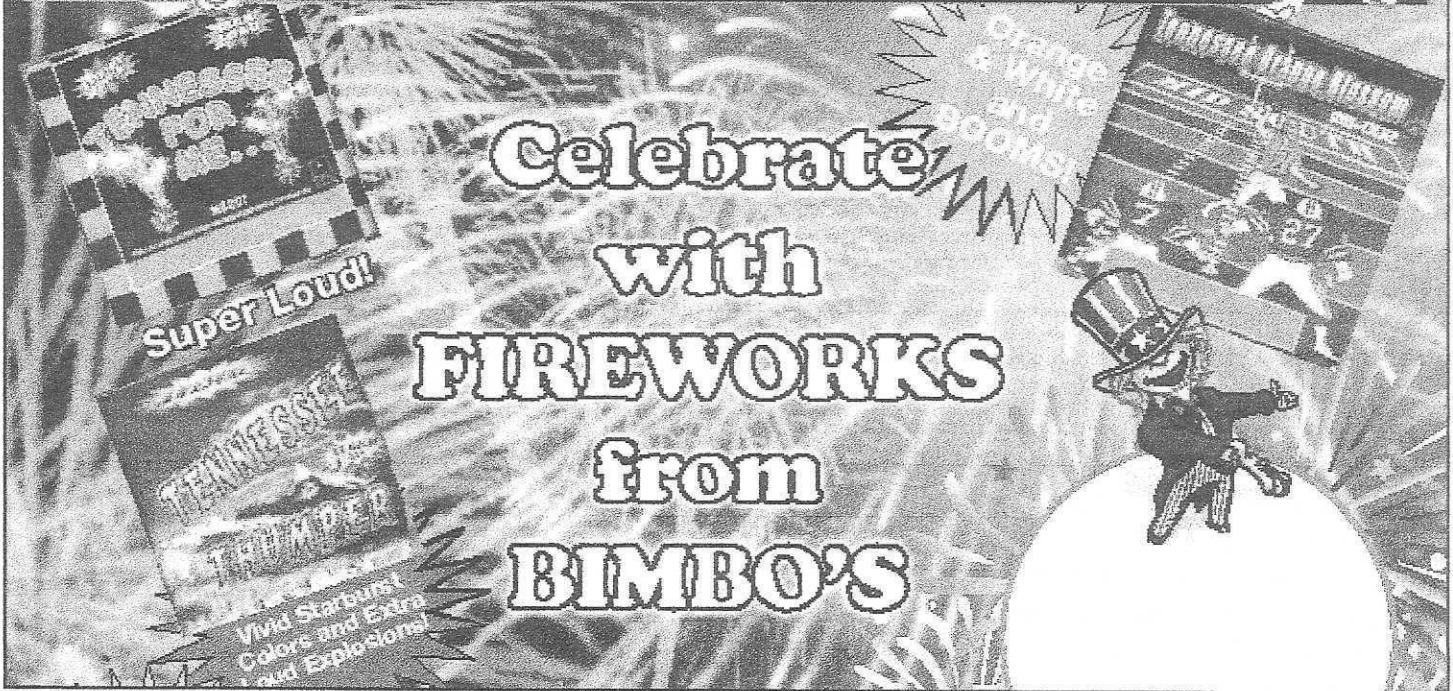


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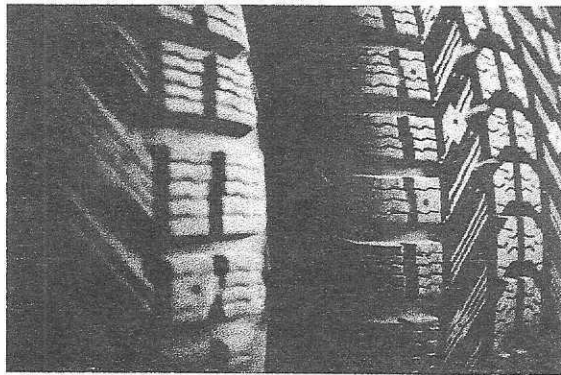
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