

# Dhaka Day by Day

## Wonder Years of Adolescence

by Tulip Chowdhuri

If you have a teen-age son or daughter at home, you may well be heading for a sea of new experiences. The adolescence is the most difficult part of the growing years. The physical and the emotional changes which take place during these years do not always march smoothly down the life's highway at the same pace. In fact, it is often said that heredity is what sets the parents of a teenager wondering about each other.

In the process of growing, at ten years of age they are children, at twenty they have been transformed into adult men and women. During this ten years period they have marched from dependent children to independent adulthood and these years are marked by physical and emotional change.

The truth of these words were becoming evident when my chubby-faced little boy reached his teenage. It seems as though all of a sudden he became the possessor of a deep voice and a beard that required shaving. His bedroom filled up with posters. There were hanging from the ceiling, pasted on the walls and piled up on the floor. Once you entered his room, well-known actors, actresses singers and players would be staring down at you. And your eyes would be gaping at rich sayings like "Love brings peace", "Love your world", "I can do anything for love", and there are many more. Audio and video cassettes line up beside his books. His bed may always be rumpled, his shoes threw about but his posters, cassettes and C D players are always well kept.

Now coming to clothes, be it a boy or a girl, they seem to opt for too loose or too tight fitting clothes. They have very strong hang-overs on what is the fashion of the day. The fashion of their clothes change in colours and designs overnight. As one teenage girl put it, "What we wear now should be something foolish, something gay."

These days it's not only the teen-age daughter who asks for fashion jewellery. The

teen-age son may come up and say "Mum may I have one of your ear rings please? It is fashionable these days with our pony-tails."

You may be staring at his glittering necklace and wonder if we are stepping back to the 16th century when men and women used laces and frills alike.

The food habits of these teenagers are strange too. They feast on burgers, pizzas, pastries and soft drinks. Fast foods and soft drinks are the music of their soul.

The teenagers' interest in clothes, books or music may be short-lived but thanks to the world of chewing gums and bubble gums. Somehow they manage to keep one steadily in their mouths, even while they talk, read or write.

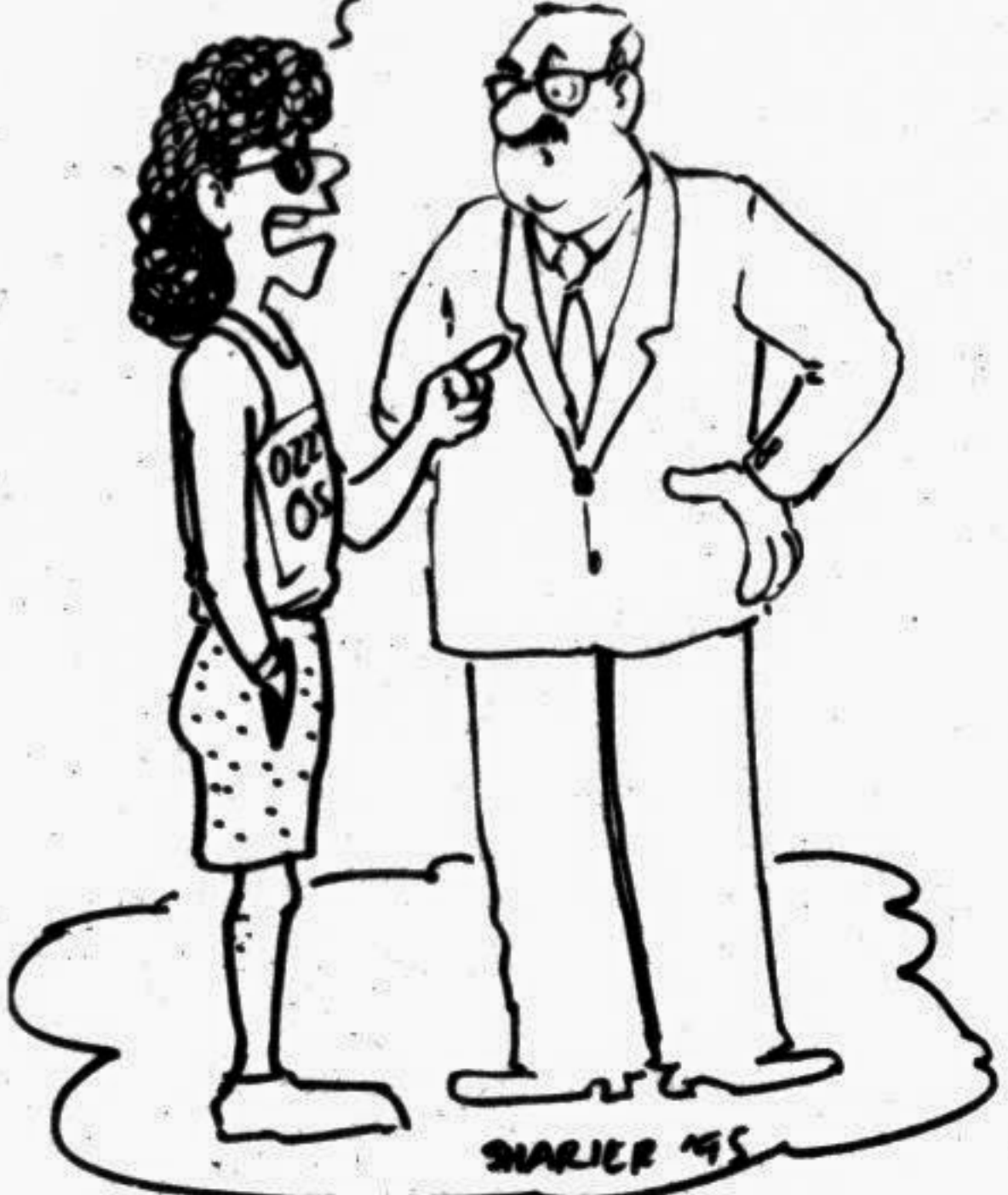
These young people have tendencies to hang on to telephones and televisions. How they love channel surfing, fifteen minutes or half an hour of each channel. And telephones? Oh, they'll be talking for long hours even though they might have just met that friend on the other end. You can hear

them using similar vocabularies like "Gush", "Heavy", "Great Scott", and "boo-boo" for "mistakes", "cabbage-leaves for money" and hundreds of other words seem to adorn the teenagers' vocabulary.

But these adolescents are also the ones who may help you out from first to the last whenever you are in trouble. As parents and guardians, it is our duty to help them over a smooth and healthy adulthood. With all our "Dos" and "Don'ts" we can always remember that we were once in a similar situation. And as a poet says,

"A Father sees a son nearing manhood. What shall he tell his son? Tell him too much money has killed men and left them dead years before burial. Tell him time as a stuff can be wasted. / Tell him to be a fool every so often / and to have no shame over having been a fool / Yet learning something out of every folly."

YOU ARE WEARING SUIT IN THIS HOT SUMMER & CALLING ME A FREAK ? YOUR GENERATION HAS GONE TO THE DOGS!



## Prof Yunus receives RCMD award today

Dr Mohammad Yunus, founder of the Grameen Bank, will receive the RCMD Foundation award at a function today for his original and outstanding contributions to economic development, reports UNB.

The award, the first of its kind in Bangladesh, has been introduced by the Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka (RCMD) to honour those whose work in the fields of science, education and economic development has benefited the country.

The award carries a prize money of Tk one lakh, a gold medal and a citation.

Dr Yunus, winner of a number of national and international prizes for his innovative Grameen Bank concept, will be the first recipient of the RCMD Foundation Award-1995.

The award will be given every year for original and outstanding contributions to science, education and economic development in Bangladesh.

## Templeton Prize laureate Novak to visit Dhaka

Michael Novak, the noted American religious philosopher who received the Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion in 1994, will visit Bangladesh August 20-24, says a USIS press release.

Novak, a former US ambassador who holds the George Frederick Jewett Chair in religion and public policy at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, will dedicate the new library at the Notre Dame College on August 21.

When Michael Novak received the Templeton Prize in 1994, he announced his intention to donate a portion of the \$1,000,000 prize money to Notre Dame College to honour his brother, Holy Cross Father Richard Novak, a missionary, who was killed in Bangladesh during communal disturbances in 1964 while teaching at Notre Dame College.

During his visit to Bangladesh, he will also speak on human rights, on democracy and capitalism, and on dialogue among faiths in programmes sponsored by the US Information Service.

## VOA call in show

The Voice of America has announced the coming topics for the international radio call-in programme "Talk To America," on its worldwide English frequencies at 11pm. (local time) from Monday through Friday, says a USIS special release.

The topics are New Findings on Tobacco Dangers — on August 1; Academia Crowns Elvis a Cultural Icon — August 2; Violence on Television — August 3; Nuclear Wastelands: A Global Guide to Nuclear Weapons Production and Its Health and Environmental Effects — August 4.

The telephone number for "Talk To America" is (202) 619-3111. The internet address is TALK followed by @VOA.GOV and the fax number is 202-260-8572.

Frequencies to Bangladesh/South Asia are: 6.11, 7.125, 7.215, 9.645, 9.7, 15.295, and 15.395 megahertz in the 49.41.31 and 19 meter bands shortwave.

## 'Breast-feeding can save Tk 300cr annually'

By Staff Correspondent

The nation could save around Taka 300 crore annually spent on the import of breast-milk substitutes, such as powdered milk and infant formula, only if more and more mothers were given the opportunity to breast-feed their infants for the first couple of years.

This was disclosed at a press conference held on the eve of the World Breast-feeding Day and Week which begins today.

A majority of the 28 lakh or so babies born every years in this country were denied their birthright because of the obstacles faced by their mothers in breast-feeding them. Prof MQ-K Talukder, Chairman of the Campaign for Protection and Promotion of Breastfeeding (CPPBF) told

the conference, held yesterday at the Jatiya Press Club in the city.

Elaborating on this year's theme of "Breast-feeding: Empowering Women," Prof Talukder said the aim was to remove the social obstacles and misconceptions and related health problems that often prevent mothers from nursing their infants. This could be done through mass awareness and training.

The conference was also addressed by Dr Sufia Begum, Director, IPHN and Dr Rukhsana Haider, Chairperson, working women sub-committee.

The speaker, called for more trained personnel in hospitals to encourage new mothers to breastfeed.

## Weather

### Thundershower likely

Moderate to moderately heavy rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at many places over Dhaka, Chittagong and Barisal divisions during the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office said light to moderate rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Khulna and Rajshahi divisions during the period.

Yesterday's highest temperature 33.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Srimangar and the lowest 24.3 degrees at Faridpur.

Sun sets today at 6.42 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.28 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in Percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.2	24.5	82	71
Chittagong	30.3	25.2	86	89
Rajshahi	31.0	25.1	97	90
Khulna	33.2	26.0	-	72
Barisal	30.5	25.0	92	82
Sylhet	33.5	25.0	85	78
Cox's Bazar	31.0	25.2	87	85

## Nepalese minister meets Mostafiz

The visiting Finance Minister of Nepal Bharat Mohan Adhikari called on Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman at his residence here yesterday, reports BSS.

During the discussion the foreign minister said Bangladesh and Nepal have been endeavouring to uphold the ideals of democracy in their own countries and both have been trying to develop their economic condition.

Foreign minister said Bangladesh is willing to harness the vast potentiality of water resources of the region jointly with Nepal and India. He said, Bangladesh believes that through such joint harnessing of waters, the countries of this region could be benefitted in the field of better water management, flood control, irrigation and generation of energy.

## Nazrul Academy to set up Fine Arts University

Nazrul Academy will set up the first university of fine arts in the country, named 'Nazrul University of Fine Arts', on the occasion of the birth centenary of poet Nazrul, says a press release.

## What's on today . . .

**IUBAT seminar on software:** International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) will host a seminar on "Software Industry for Bangladesh". Venue: The conference room of Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar. Time: 4 pm. Chief guest, State Minister for Science and Technology Prof M A Mannan.

**Chinese arts & crafts show:** A fortnight-long exhibition and sale of Chinese arts and crafts will begin. Venue: 18, Sonargaon Road, 1st floor, Hatirpool. The show will run from 10 am to 9 pm everyday till August 15.

**Rotary Club of Dhaka New City:** The weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Hotel Sonargaon. Time: 5.30 pm.

**Rotary Club of Ramna:** The regular weekly meeting will be held. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 5.30 pm. A discussion on 'OIC's Role in Bosnia' will follow.

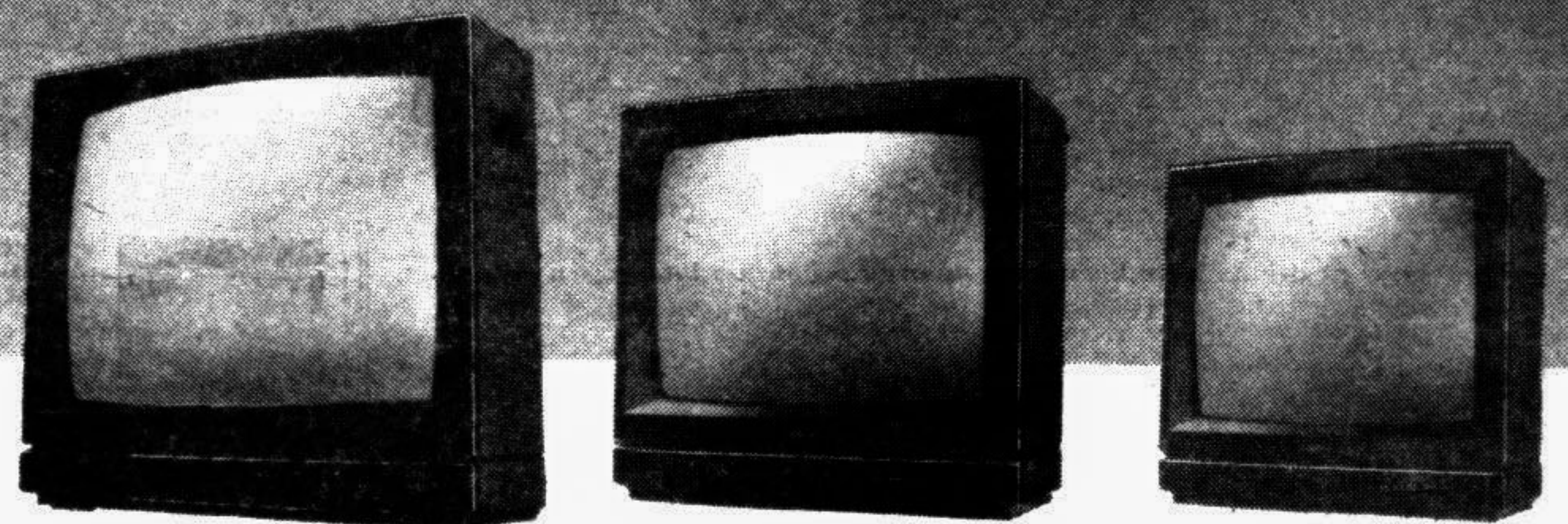
**Solidarity:** The meeting of the human rights body will be held. Venue: 111 Naya Paltan. Time: 11:30 am.

**Joybangla Sangskritik Oikyajote:** The Jote has arranged a rally of cultural activists, discussion, cultural function and procession demanding trial of killers of Bangabandhu. Venue: Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 4 pm.

**Memorial meet on Aminul Haq:** Muktiyoddha Chhatra command will hold a memorial meeting on Attorney General Aminul Haq. Venue: DU TSC auditorium. Time: 4:30 pm.

**Jalalabad Association, Dhaka:** A cultural function and get together of the association will be held. Venue: Engineers' Institution. Time: 4:30 pm.

# Singer slashes prices on colour TV sets in tune with Government Duty Restructuring



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- ★ Auto off
- and many more

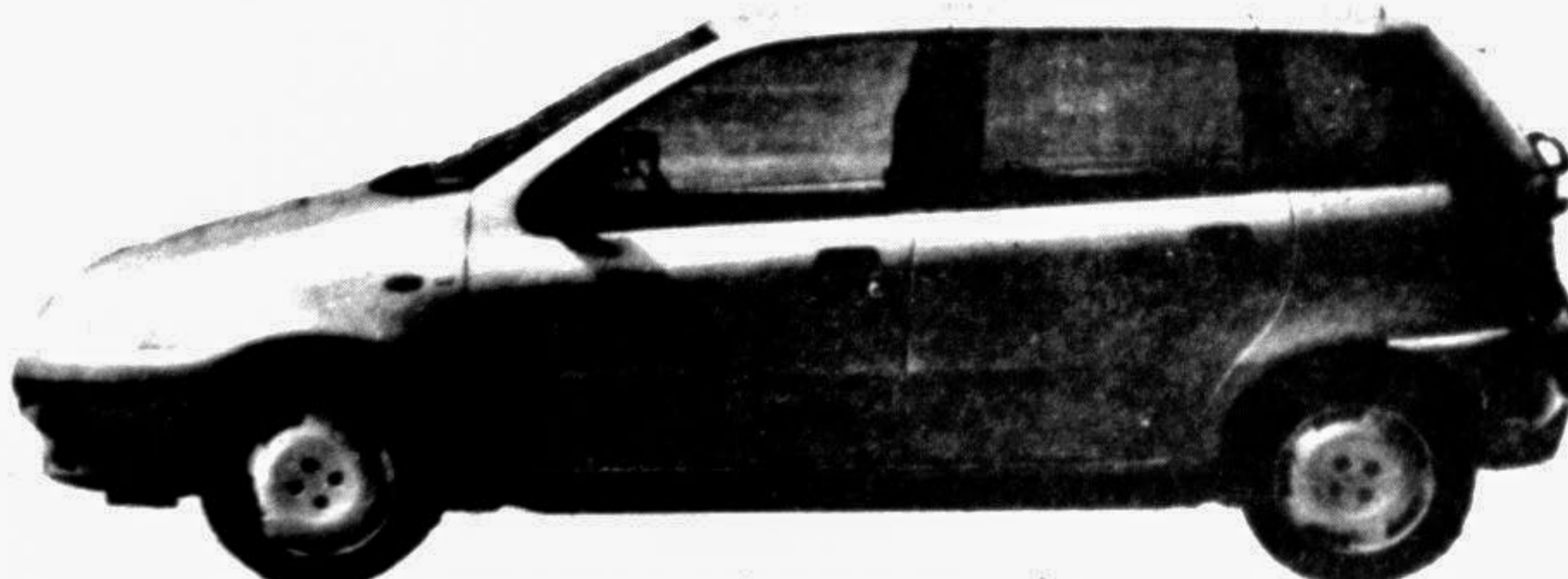


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