

Trips great for some, but it's home sweet home for me

If I could go anywhere I wanted for a vacation, I'd have a tough time deciding. I'd have a harder time deciding if I even wanted to go.

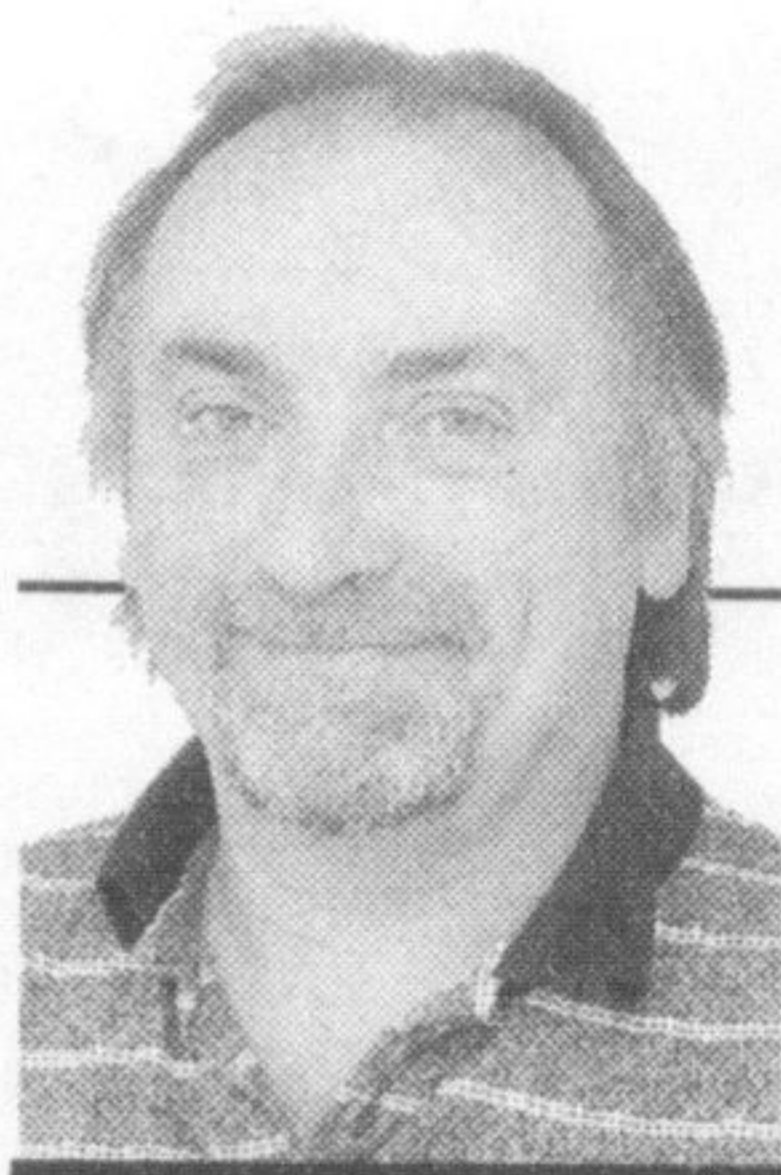
I like being home. I'm a homebody, a person who likes being home, and when I'm not, I'm glad when I finally get there. It's not as if I don't like going places, I just like it better when I'm back home. I don't have any phobias or anything about it. Not like some people I've known. I have one family acquaintance, who was very nice and very sociable, but who didn't leave her apartment for 10 years. Honestly. This person had even bought a nice house, which sat empty for the whole 10 years. She recently left that apartment, so good for her.

A friend of mine while growing up used to leave parties and bars and not tell anybody. The first couple times we looked everywhere for him, even in the back seats of cars in the parking lot. Whenever

he decided he'd want to go, he'd just go. We got used to it after a while.

I only went on one vacation of any note as an adult, and only one time out of North America. I went to Venezuela about 20 years ago and had a great time. But I've never had any burning desire to go back or any burning desire to go anywhere.

Then there's the dilemma about when to go even if I wanted to. Most people wouldn't complain about a trip to a warm southern



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location during the winter. But I like winter. I like the snow and I like it when it's cold. And this time of year I wouldn't want to go because spring weather is coming and I don't want to miss it.

I certainly wouldn't want to go in the summer because that would seem a waste to go somewhere warm when it's already warm here. And I enjoy the fall so I wouldn't want to go then, either.

I guess if I had to pin it down, maybe I'd go between March 1 and March 8. That's at the end of the winter and before spring.

Mind you, this is the first winter in about 20 years that I wasn't busy working with hockey. You don't take winter vacations when hockey is your main source of income. This year, of course, there was no NHL hockey, but because there was no hockey there was also no income from hockey which meant no winter vacation for

• see NO on page B11

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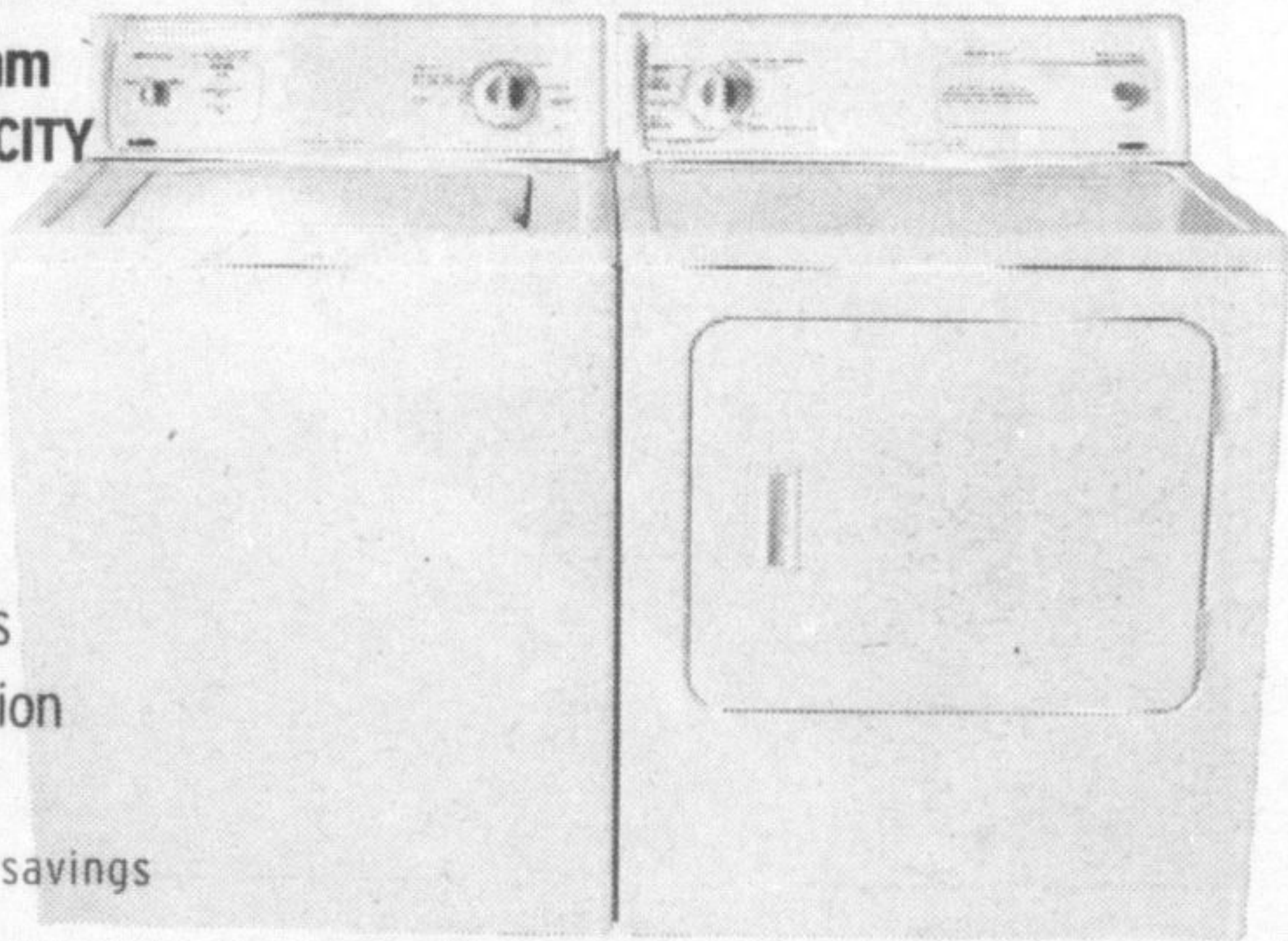
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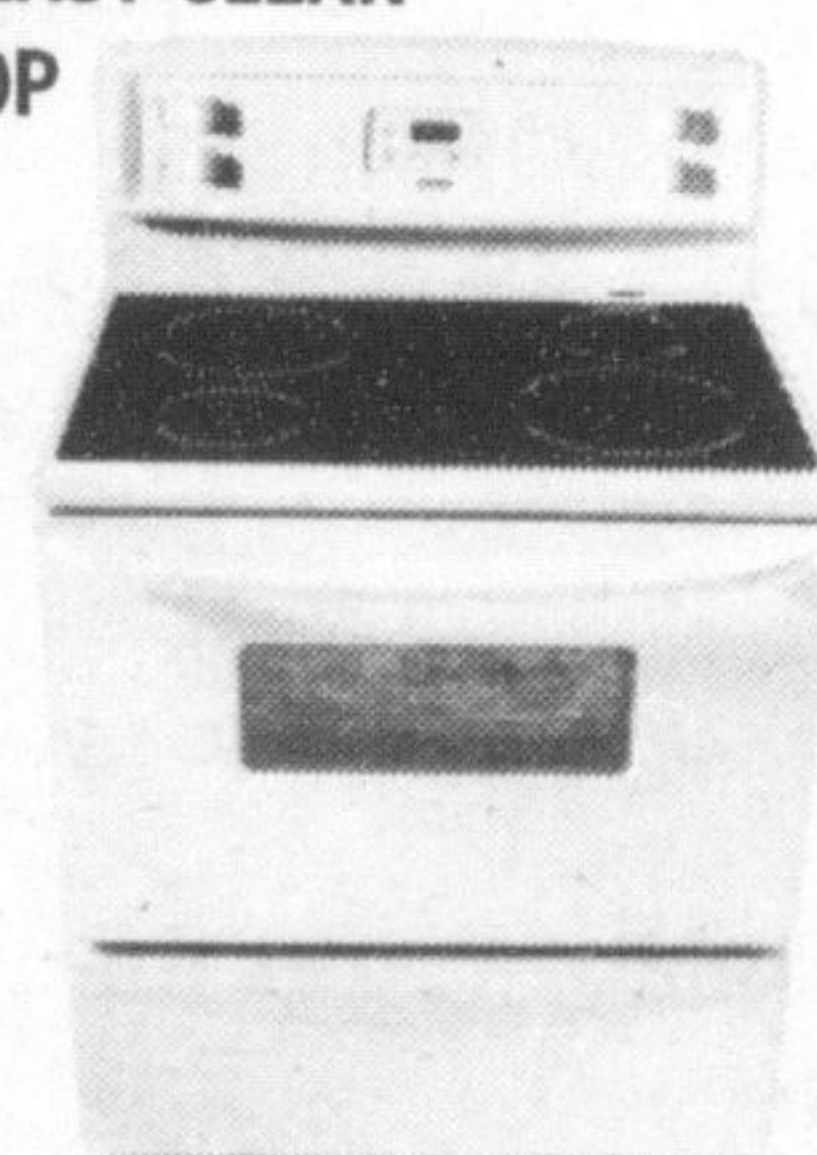
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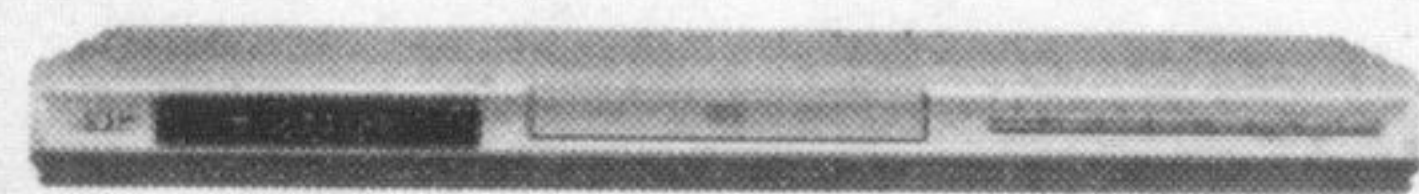
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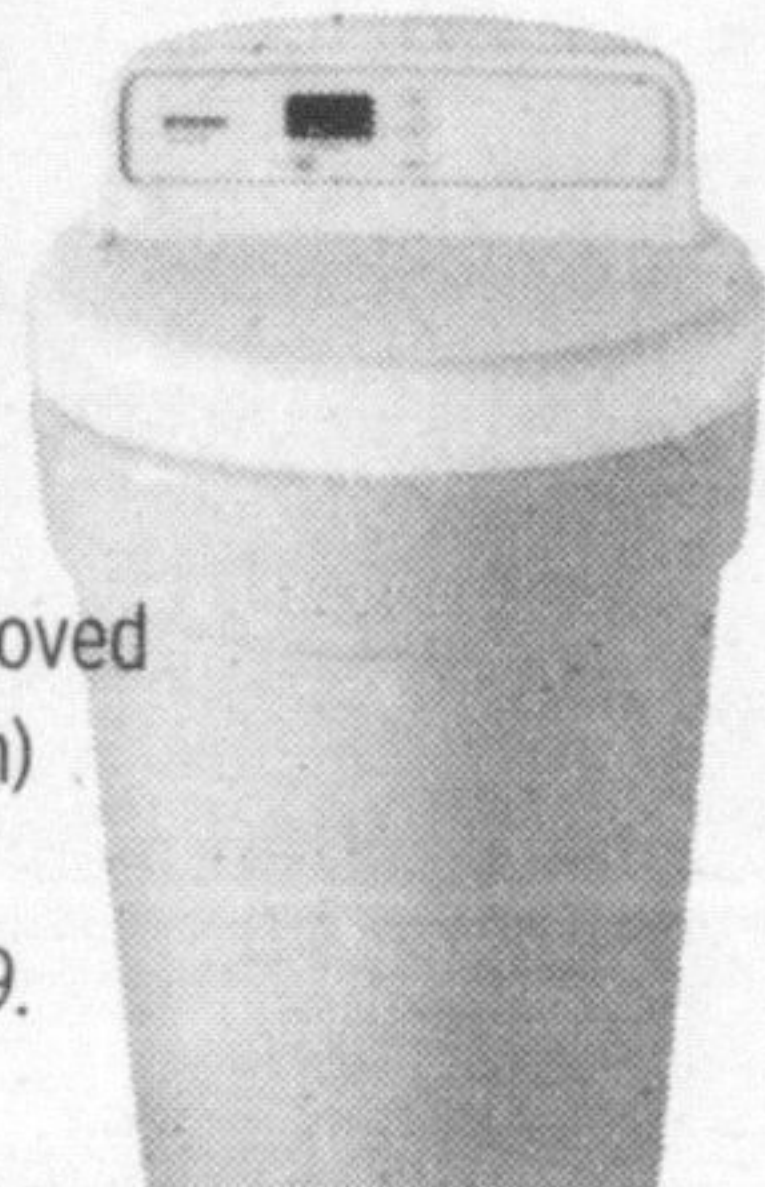
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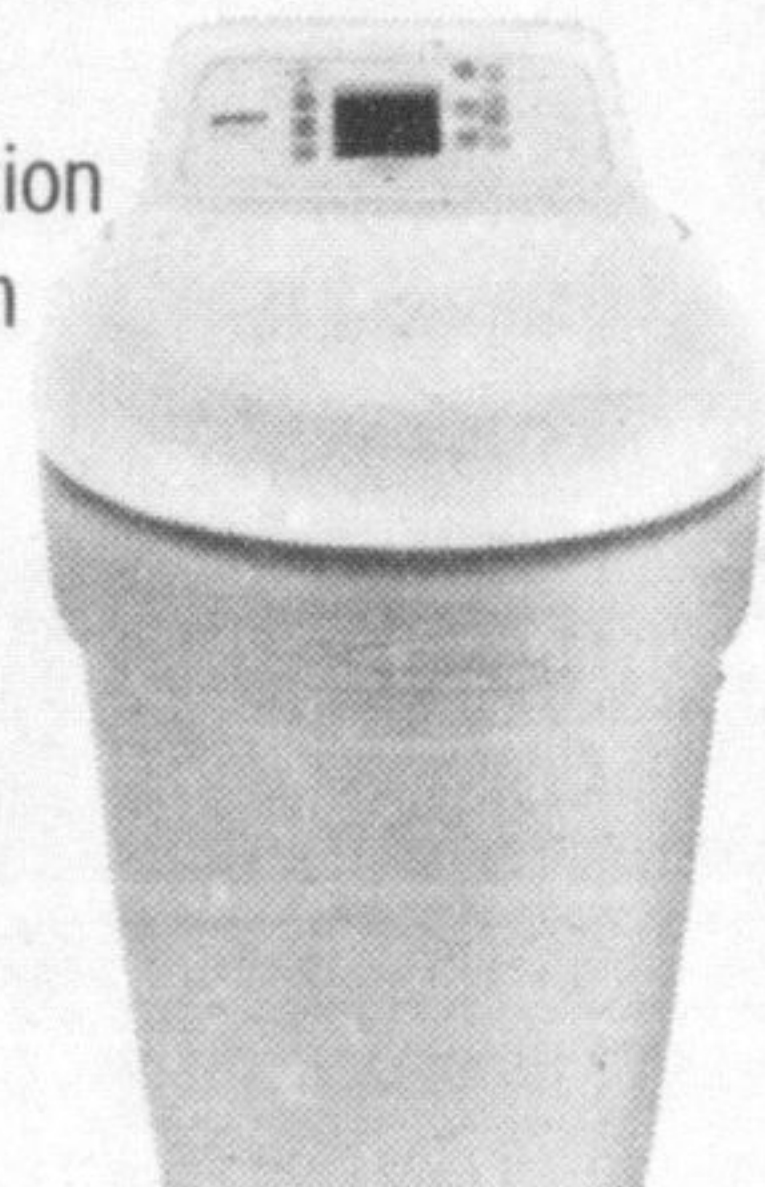
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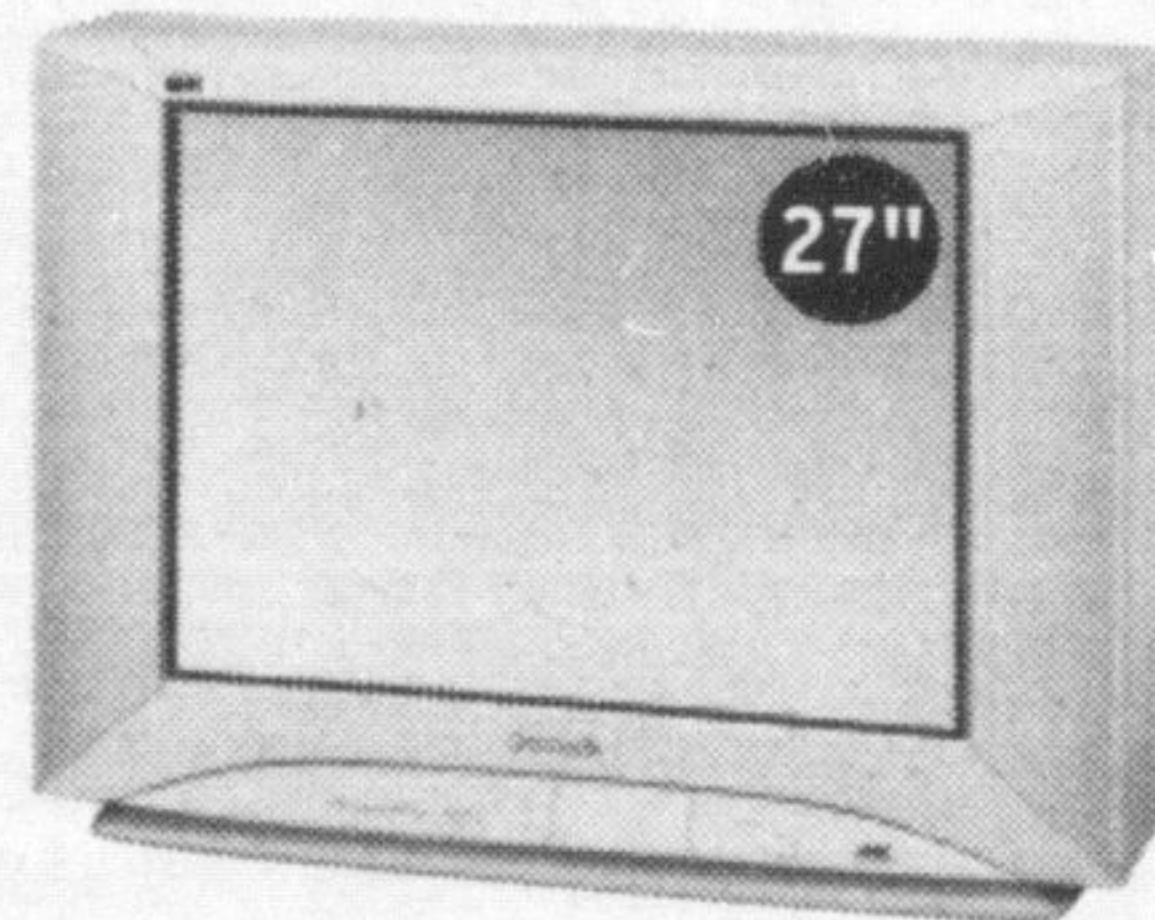
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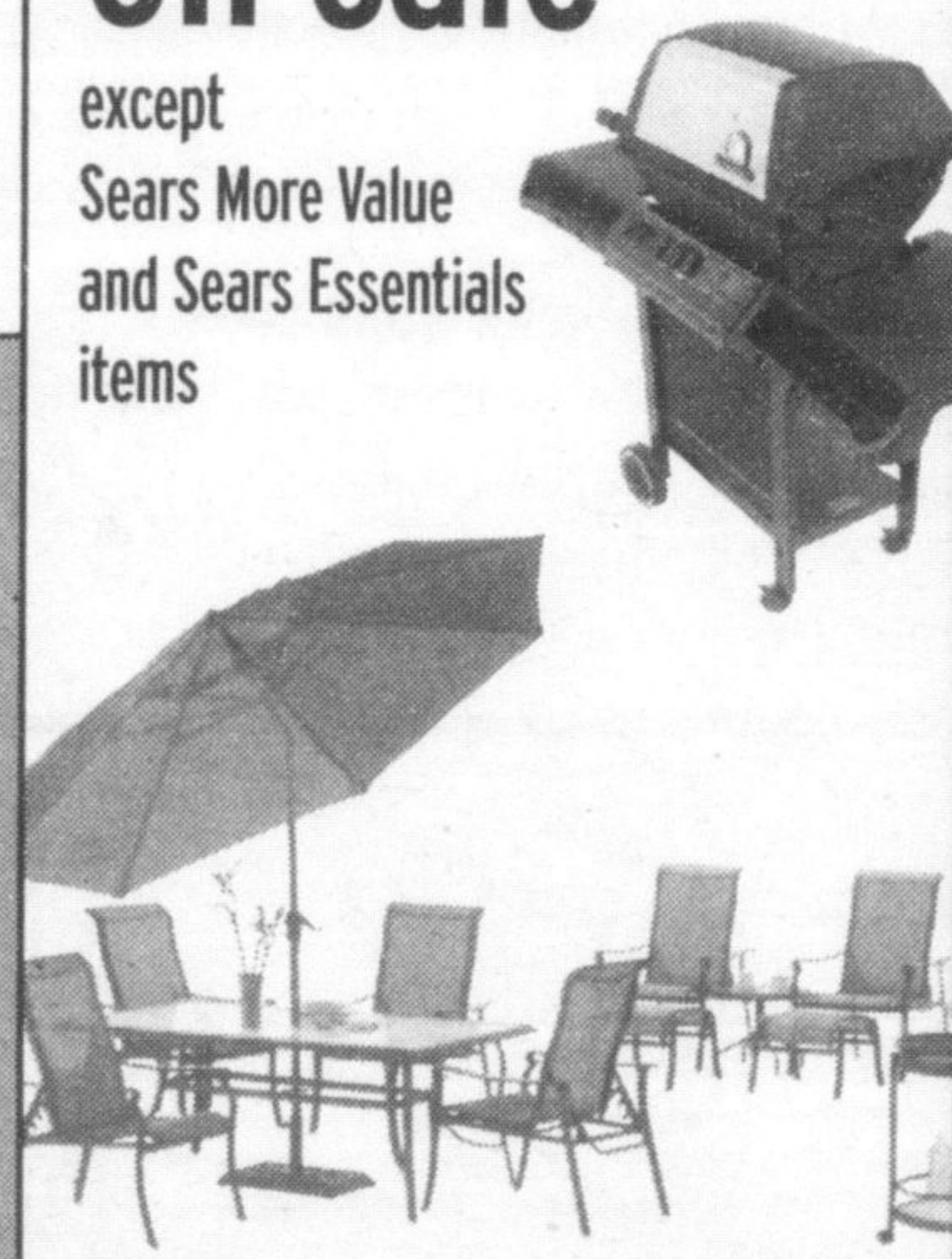


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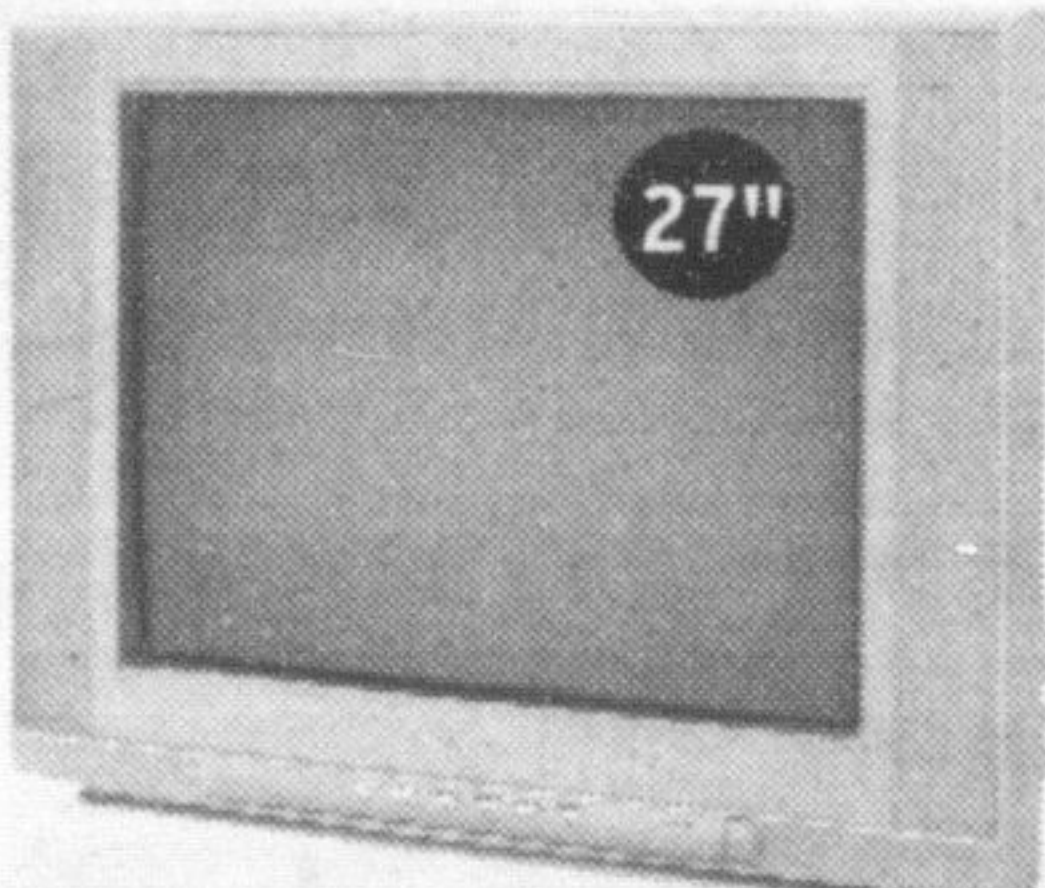
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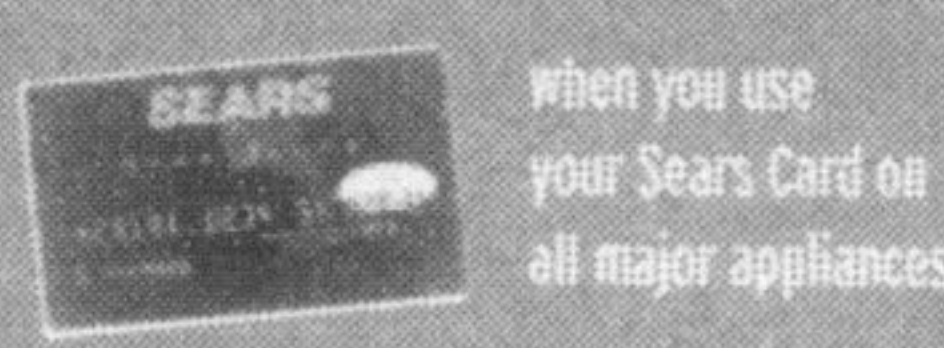


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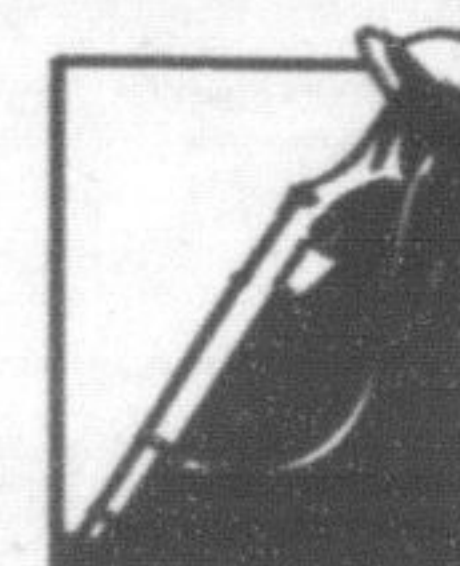
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