Car emissions are worse than smoking

Let's put things into perspective regarding secondhand smoke from a cigarette when a person is outdoors ("Council appears ready to snuff smoking," March 27).

It's one thing to not like the smell of cigarettes, but to say that a person smoking outdoors is causing cancer in another person is, in my opinion, political hype. Being fairly close to a fired-up barbecue should be more of a concern than a cigarette.

However, I am much more concerned with vehicle motors.

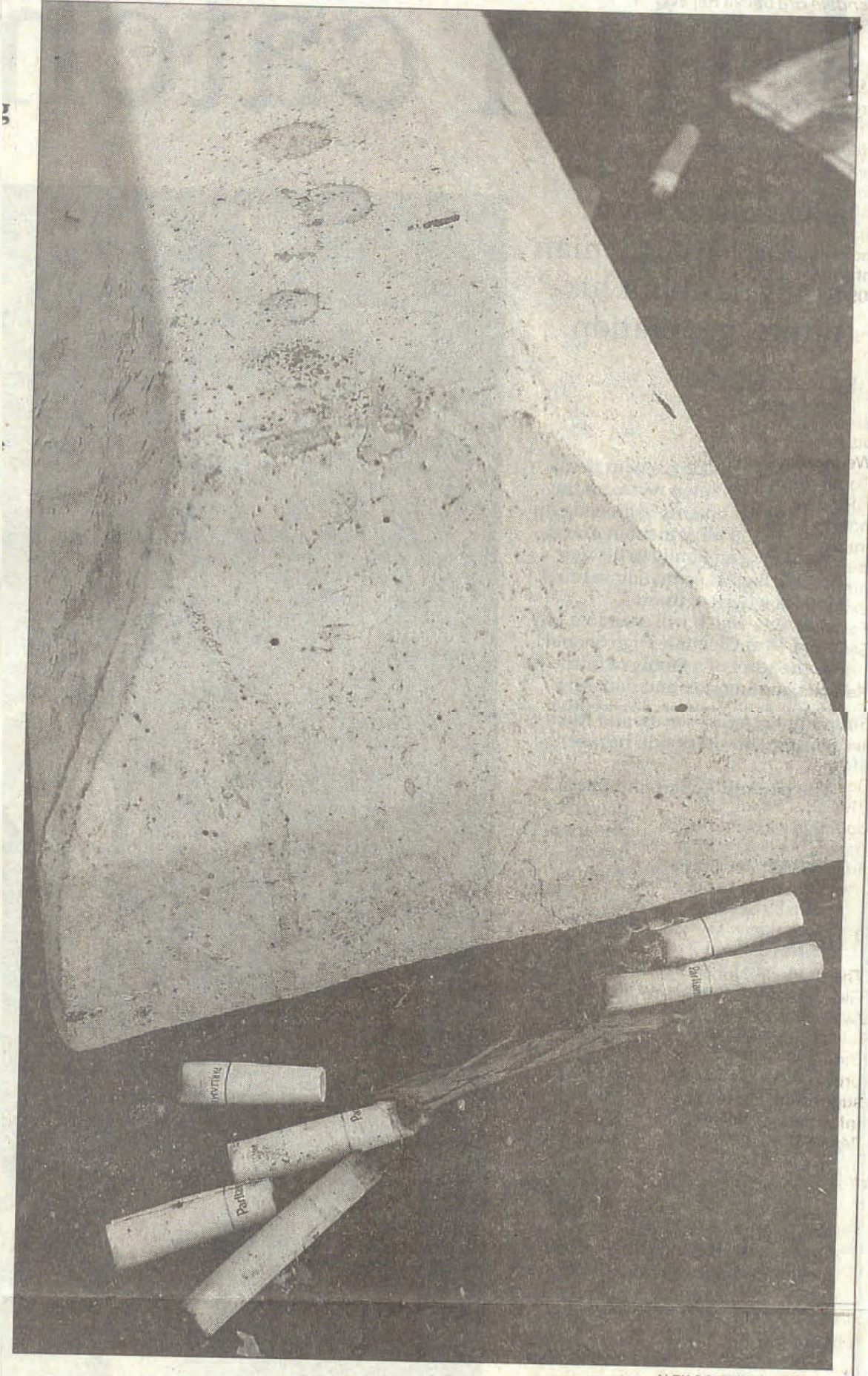
According to an article published Sunday on an ABC-TV Minneapolis website, it was written that "Vehicle motors release particulate matter, dirt, nitrous oxides, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide into the air.

This is regardless of measures taken by the automobile manufacturer to prevent pollution. The article goes on to state, "These chemicals are linked to increased rates of cancer, heart disease, lung disease, asthma and are the major source of human-caused climate change." I must say I am not yet convinced about the latter.

Additionally, the article states, "Children are especially vulnerable to vehicle air pollution because their lungs are still developing, and they inhale more pounds of pollution per pound of body weight than adults do."

I think, by far, the culprit is the automobile.

MARLENE WALKER
Glendale



ALEX COLLINS *News-Press*

A reader writes that the harms of smoking pale in comparison to vehicle emissions.