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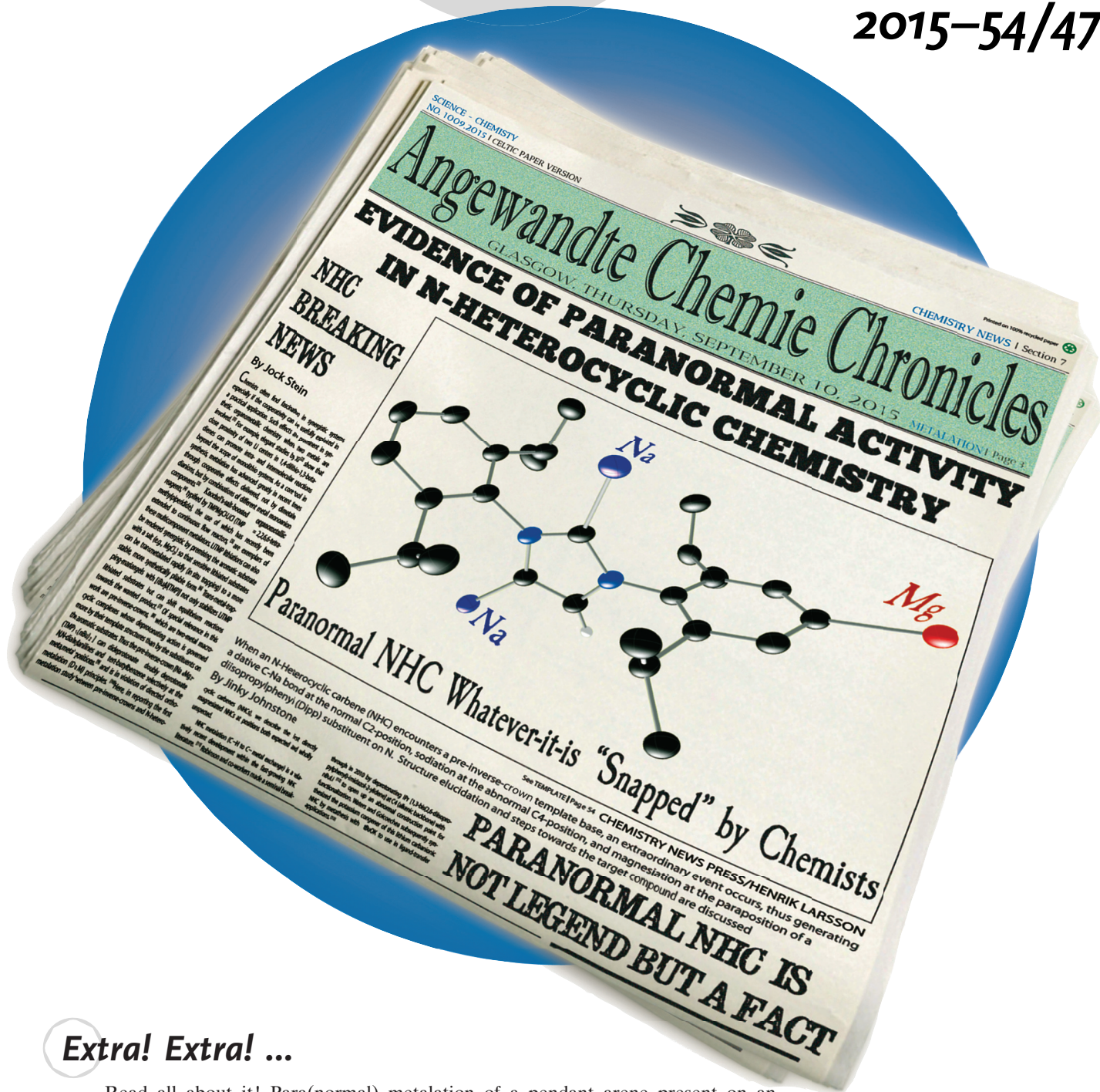
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Extra! Extra! ...

... Read all about it! Para(normal) metalation of a pendant arene present on an N-heterocyclic carbene has been observed. In their Communication on page 14075 ff., R. E. Mulvey et al. show that reaction of the NHC with a pre-inverse-crown template base induces three metal–ligand contacts: a normal Na–C dative bond, an abnormal Na–C bond, and a “paranormal” Mg–C bond at the *para* position of the pendant arene.

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