

Appeal for licences by cab company owner is denied

Rainbow Taxi owner isn't on waiting list

A last-minute plea by local cab company Rainbow Taxi's lawyer for his client to be granted two taxi-cab owner's licences for disabled-friendly vehicles failed to sway Milton council last Tuesday.

Solicitor William Perras came before council to request that it not follow the appeal committee's March 21 direction to uphold staff's decision and deny the licences.

The licences were refused because Rainbow Taxi owner Sarbjit Kaur Brar isn't on the taxi plate waiting list, which holds prospective taxi brokers in the

order in which applications are reviewed by the Town.

"We're asking you to either grant the appeal and, if not, please find a way to make it work," Mr. Perras said. "My clients are the ones ready, willing and able to provide this service."

Mr. Perras also presented letters of support for the service from Vanier Centre for Women, Community Living North Halton and Allendale to council.

He noted Rainbow Taxi would certainly prefer even getting one licence, but it's believed there's a need for two.

Staff previously suggested that the two accessible vehicles be used to replace older vehicles in Rainbow Taxi's fleet.

The appeal committee's decision was upheld by council. Ward 3 Councillor Cindy Lunau then brought forward a motion calling for the accessibility advisory committee and the transit advisory committee to look at the need for an accessible taxi service in Milton and comment to Town staff.

The motion, which carried, also directed the Town clerk to consider the issue and report back to council.

Roadwork is about to begin

With the soon-to-be warm weather comes several road construction projects throughout Milton.

Town council approved awarding tenders and the temporary closing of parts of Pearl, Court, Bruce, Miles and Bowes streets during certain periods between April 18 and July 15.

The Miles and Bowes streets project, which is slated to cost nearly \$600,000, includes reconstructing the roadways to include storm sewers and sidewalks.



The Pearl, Bruce and Court streets work will involve revamping and widening existing sidewalks, installing curbs and laying new asphalt for about \$710,000.

An approximate \$1-million tender was also awarded for culvert replacement of two bridges on Sixth Line. The long-awaited project was first designed and tendered in 2003, but was put off twice because all bids received exceeded construction budgets. The bridges were originally constructed in 1940 and 1945.

"Both bridges have been identified in the 'now' category for reconstruction in the Town's municipal structures improvement priority program due to their condition and substandard deck width," a report from Engineering Services Director Paul Cripps said.


The temporary closure of Sixth Line between no. 5 and no. 15 sideroads from June 13 to October 31 for the reconstruction was also authorized by council.

Local access will be provided for residents during all of the projects.

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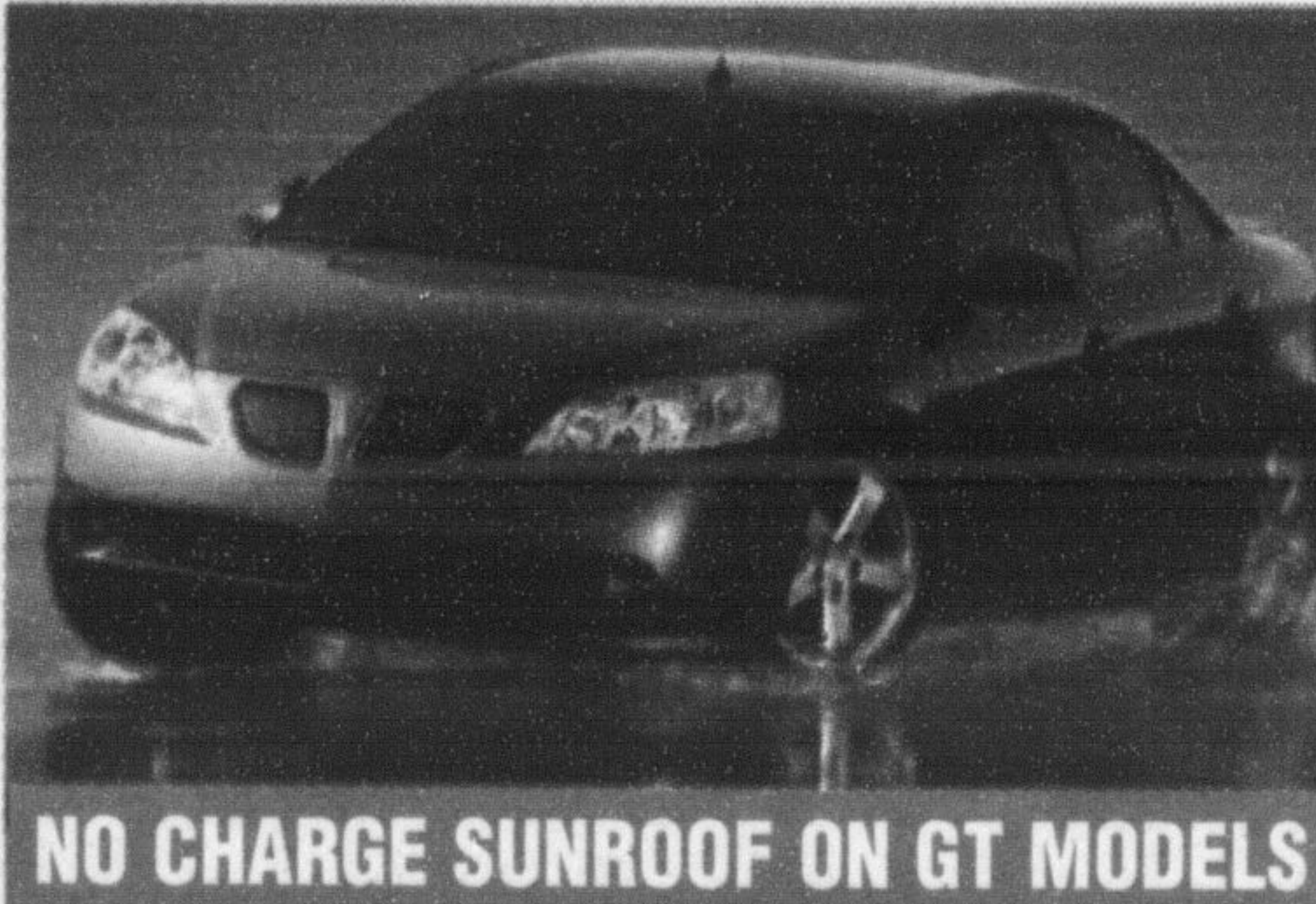


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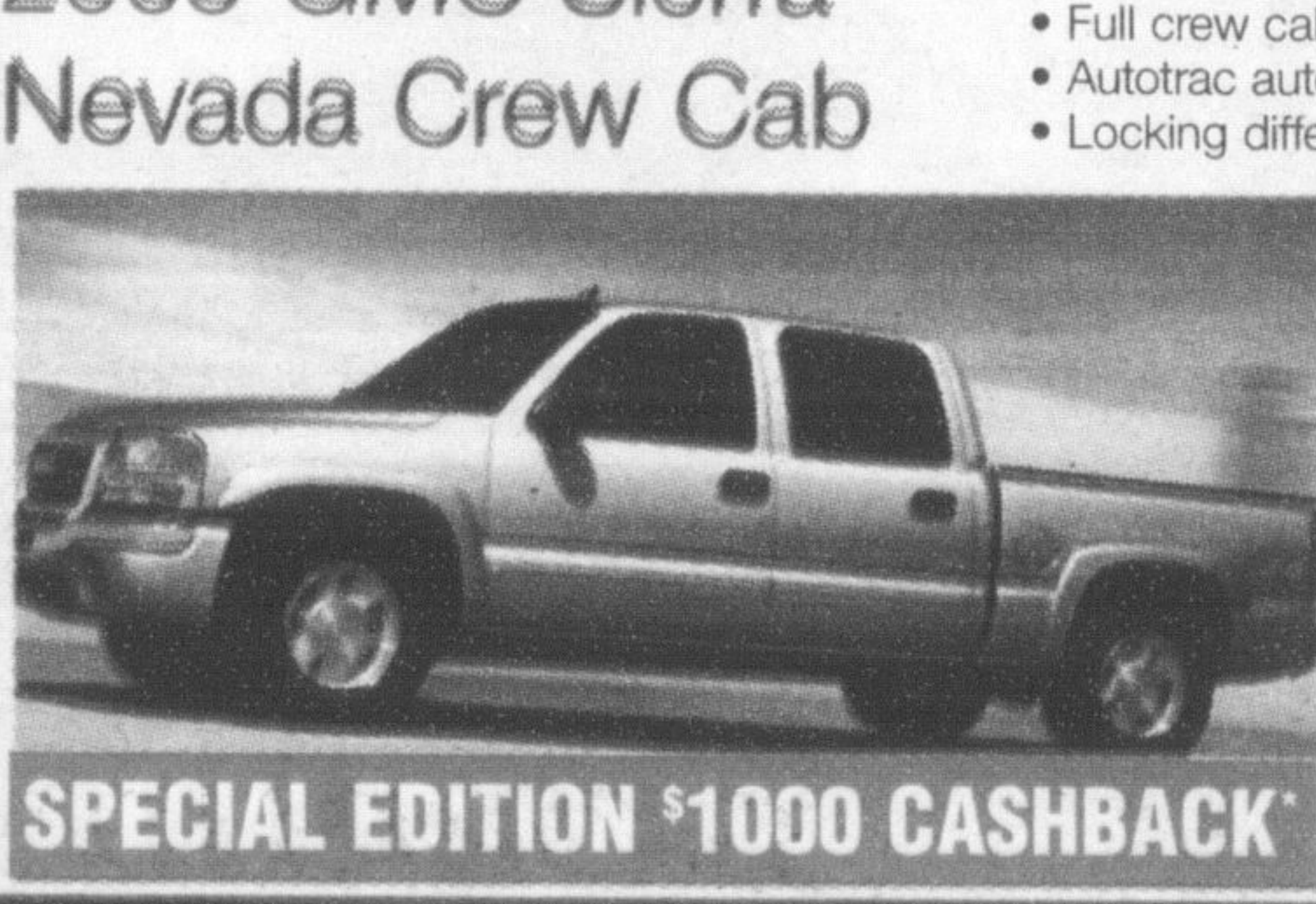


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