# Two gold medals for Mississauga's Margaret

By ROCKY GRIMMER
Times staff writer

Two weeks ago Margaret Nicholson was taking it easy and her training consisted of lifting a few weights and swimming in her back yard pool. But she managed to rouse herself last weekend to win two gold medals at the Ontario Games for the Physically Disabled at Sault Ste. Marie.

Three weeks ago Nicholson returned to Mississauga from Arnhem in the Netherlands where she picked up silver and bronze swimming medals in the Olympics for the Physically Disabled.

She admits the Ontario Games looked anti-climactic after the Olympics. Yet her competitive drive enabled her to overcome her indolence to win the 200 metres individual medley in 3:22 and the 100 metres freestyle in 1:20. Both events were in the single above-the-knee amputee class.

"I like competition no matter what level it is," said Nicholson, who is entering grade 12 at Cawthra Park Secondary School this fall. "The competition (at the Ontario Games) wasn't as hard as the Olympics, but I still got nervous."

The sixteen-year-old's times were well off her personal bests she set at the Olympics. She attributes this to her lack of serious training.

"I swam because I wanted to keep in shape for (the forthcoming) international exhibition meets," said Nicholson, who will swim for Canada in these meets. "But I didn't take it easy in the races though."

Nicholson's competitive career spans three years. She started swimming competitively with the Mississauga Aquatic Club (TOMAC) after amputee sports president John Gibson thought she had enough talent to "give it a try."

Nicholson took a silver medal in the Windsor provincial games in '78 and followed that up with a gold in the 100 free at the National Games in Newfoundland the same year.

# Crusaders lose championship bid

Mississauga Crusaders juniors' bid for their third consecutive Ontario junior Rugby Championship was foiled last weekend at Barrie.

Crusaders qualified for last weekend's championship by edging Stoney Creek 13-11 in the final of the Niagara Rugby Championship the week before.

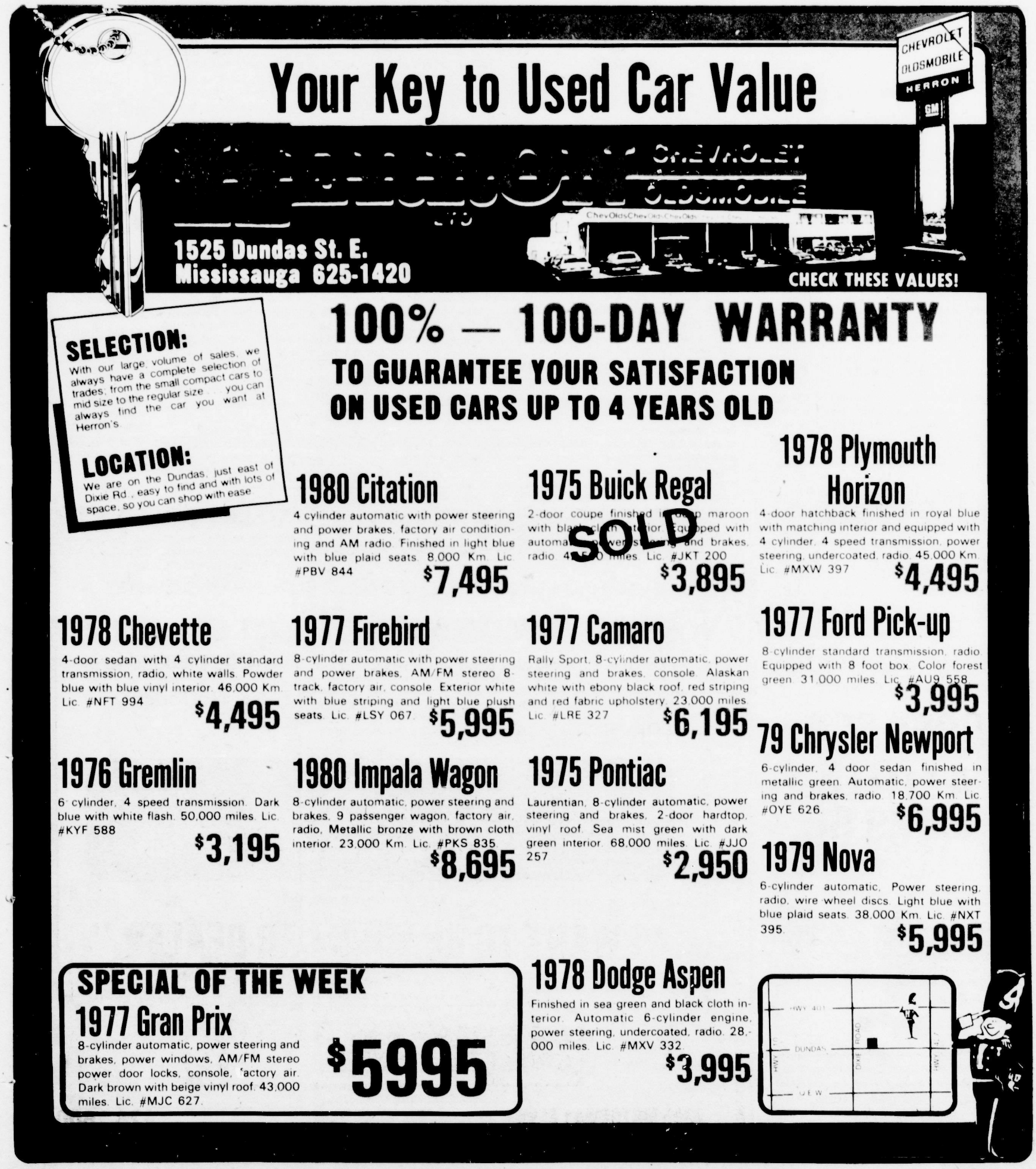
In last Saturday's preliminary games, Crusaders didn't overpower their opponents, but still looked a good bet to take the championship. Crusaders edged Balmy Beach 6-4 and Ottawa 9-3 in those games.

But in the championship final Sunday, Toronto Scottish kept their errors to a minimum to defeat the Crusaders 19-4.

"They (Toronto) played very well indeed," said Crusader coach Bob Nye. "They did all the basics right throughout the game. We forgot the basics from time to time and let them score."

This was only Crusaders' third loss in 25 games this season. "The standard of Crusaders' play in the tournament was lower (than in previous years)," said Nye, "but the boys did give one hundred per cent in the tournament."

Crusaders' Centre Brian Watts went through for a try for his team's only score. A try and a convert by Toronto 10 minutes from the end put the game out of Crusaders' reach.

Against Balmy Beach, John Beemer scored a try and kicked the convert.

Chris Quitsberg led Crusaders with a try against the Ottawa Irish.