

Coach gets probation

BURNABY (Staff) — A North Vancouver hockey coach who assaulted a Prince George hockey player was given a conditional discharge in provincial court here Tuesday.

Peter Shmyr, 36, of the Hurry Kings, was charged after Prince George Mohawk player Grant Williams was punched at the Simon Fraser Inn Cabaret in Prince George on April 7.

Williams, an employee of the hotel, was at work at the time of the assault. Shmyr pleaded guilty to the assault charge Sept. 26.

The Hurry Kings were in Prince George to play the Mohawks for the Coy Cup, B.C. Intermediate Hockey championship, which the Prince George team won.

Shmyr was put on probation for two months and ordered to keep the peace and be of good behavior.

Miworth park plan approved

Miworth Community Association has approved in principle a development plan for the community's controversial two-acre park.

However, before the plan receives final approval and is submitted to the regional district, the residents of this community, 16 km west of Prince George, will be polled.

The proposal to develop the two acres on Keppel Road which was given to the community by a land developer sharply divided the residents. Some did not want the park developed. Others had different ideas about the development. The land is owned by the regional district and is being held in trust for the community.

"Every resident of the community will be canvassed about the park," said Ray Miller, community association president. "If the majority are in favor, then the committee will finalize its plan."

The development approved Monday, calls for a skating rink and a tot lot. Equipment and labor for the playground have been offered by the B.C. Tel Pioneers Club. Many members live in Miworth.

"The committee has done well," Miller said, "it's broken a lot of ground and made headway in the situation."

Escapee sentenced

QUESNEL (Staff) — A 60 year old prison escapee, whose two years of freedom ended with an auto theft charge here last week, was sentenced in provincial court Tuesday to nine months in the B.C. Penitentiary.

Hector Homer LaBrecque was charged Oct. 10 with theft in excess of \$200 after he returned to a parked pickup truck Quesnel police were observing. The truck was stolen in Brooks, Alta.

LaBrecque, who pleaded guilty to the theft charge, was serving a four and one-half year term at Agassiz Mountain work camp when he escaped Nov. 5, 1976. The nine month term is consecutive to the remainder of the previous sentence.

Tires, wheels prove costly

Possession of two stolen tires and two mag wheels has cost a 19-year-old Prince George man \$1,500, or, in default, 60 days in jail.

Wesley Henry Van Koughnett was charged with theft in excess of \$200 and possession of stolen property after he sold the stolen wheels and tires to another man for \$250 in February.

The parts had been stolen from a car left for repairs outside a shop.

Judge R.S. Munroe found Van Koughnett guilty Tuesday in provincial court of possession of stolen property.

The theft charges were dismissed.

LSD, marijuana earn stiff fines

A city man has been fined a total of \$2,100 for possession of LSD for the purpose of trafficking, and possession of marijuana.

Kerry Gene Noel, 19, was charged after police seized 100 capsules of LSD and five ounces of marijuana here Jan. 30.

Noel pleaded guilty before provincial court Judge R.S.



Lucky winner

Taking care of Dad's money, Tracy, 8 (left) and Meredith Moffat, 12, get the feel of a \$100,000 Loto Canada cheque. Father Corky won the money on a Loto ticket drawn Oct. 10. Moffat is the brother of Mayor Harold Moffat.

THE HOUSTON SEARCH AFTERMATH

Youngster learns of friend's death

HOUSTON (Staff) — David Crocker cried when he was told that his friend Jamie Baxter was dead.

"We told him about it and he took it very hard," his father, Bruce Crocker, said after he took his five-year-old son home from the hospital in Smithers.

David and Jamie, also five years old, had wandered away from their homes near here last Wednesday and had been the object of a search involving about 1,000 persons until Sunday.

David was found Saturday, suffering from hypothermia, while Jamie was found Sunday.

Jamie Baxter died in hospital and was to be buried in Houston today.

"I told him because the funeral is today," Crocker said.

"I wanted him to hear it while still in hospital, just in case. I told him Jamie had gone to heaven and would not be with us anymore," Crocker added.

Crocker, who is self-employed as a contractor, said his son had told him he could see the helicopters looking for him and he could not understand why they didn't see him.

"So he decided to go look for the helicopters, because they

didn't see him," Crocker said. David had told his father that he and Jamie had gone hunting in the bush near their homes.

"I had taken David out the day before and on Wednesday they left to go hunting for a moose," Crocker said.

The boys always played in the bush and they used sticks as guns pretending to stalk game.

When night fell on Wednesday the boys slept with the Crocker's big dog which had gone with them.

"When David woke up at one point and Jamie and the dog were gone and he thought they

had gone home," Crocker said. Jamie was finally found Sunday about five kilometres from the Crocker home by one of the searchers.

Meanwhile, one of the men participating in the search was fired from his job at Granisle.

Glen Davis, 25, joined the search Friday after he had booked off the job at Noranda Mines Ltd. and stayed on as a search crew chief until Sunday.

Monday he informed his company that he would not go to work because he needed the sleep.

Davis is a member of Local 10, Canadian Association of Industrial, Mechanical and Allied Workers, and the union has filed a grievance over the dismissal.

A company spokesman at Granisle said today Davis was fired because of his all-over work record. Davis was still a probationary employee having completed 25 of his 35 probation shifts.

"We permitted two dozen other mine workers to join the search so I would be surprised if the dismissal related to his taking part," said Wayne Barker, director of industrial relations at Granisle.

Jess Succamore, president of Local 10 called the company's action an "utterly inhumane approach to the issue."

Date set for French TV

by JOHN POPE
Citizen Staff Reporter

French-language television should be on the air in Prince George by "early April" of 1979, to service the 2,000 French-speaking residents here.

Richard Thibodeau, CBC project leader for the Prince George station, made the prediction during a telephone interview from Vancouver today.

He said construction of a building and tower on Gunn Road near Airport Hill should begin sometime in November.

A spokesman for the CBC said Monday that the project was being delayed by H.C. Tel which did not have the communications hardware ready to transmit the signal.

The Prince George station would be re-broadcast the CBC Vancouver French-language television station CBUFT.

Hut Ron Drane, the local public relations officer for B.C. Tel, said today they are ready to supply the signal.

"We're waiting for them to build the tower and building," Drane said in an interview.

"Our contract is for Feb. 1, 1979 and we don't have to have

it (lines) completed until then."

The tower on Airport Hill would also re-broadcast the CBC French-language radio station now being carried on the AM band.

Both French-language services were approved earlier this year by the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission.

The French language television station would be broadcast requiring an aerial to pick it up, initially, although it would eventually be carried on the cable television network.

The off-air broadcast would have 36 watts of radiated power enough to cover the bowl area of Prince George.

When the television is put on Cablevision, it would be carried to subscribers in Quesnel, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House.

Once the French-language radio station is switched from the AM to the FM band, it will mean a better quality signal and a slightly broader range.

The present French-language AM station has a range of about 15-20 miles. But the FM band will increase the range to 25-50 miles and cut out a lot of the interference from other stations during the evenings.

Kelowna and Prince George are the most recent cities in B.C. to get French-language radio service.

MEET DAVE BARRETT

AT THE

CCF REUNION

Friday, 27 October, 2:00
The Alpine Room, Yellowhead Inn

All members and supporters of the CCF before it became the NDP are invited to have coffee with Dave Barrett from 2:00 to 4:00. It's a chance to get together and talk about how Prince George was, and it's the Prince George NDP's way of thanking you for helping the town grow up in more than size.

EXCAVATING RESTRICTED

It's a (w)hole new game

by TOM NIXON
Citizen Staff Reporter

Soil excavators in the city could find themselves without a hole to dig in if they don't register their operations at city hall before Friday.

Deputy city planner Graham Farstad said today only two operators of soil removal businesses have registered at city hall so far.

Registration is required under the bylaw to have such operations designated as soil removal areas.

The bylaw has passed third reading at council and requires only a public hearing to designate soil removal areas, and then final reading to become law.

Under the new bylaw no one will be able to remove more than 400 square-meters of soil or gravel unless within a designated removal area.

Ownership of the land doesn't give the right for excavation, once the bylaw is passed. "I don't think most small operators realize the fact that they won't be able to just dig anywhere they want even if they own the land," Farstad said.

The planning department will be recommending that council designate major gravel pit areas on the bylaw map, but many small operators who now mine soil from their back yards will be prohibited from doing so once the bylaw is passed.

Excavators can apply for designation at the city planning office at city hall before Friday at 5 p.m.

The bylaw is aimed at stopping indiscriminate digging up of natural landscape. Council was especially concerned at ugly scars left along the Hart Highway by uncontrolled soil removal operations.

NOT GETTING NABBED

Drunk driver's chances not that good — RCMP

by JAN-UDO WENZEL
Citizen Staff Reporter

Anyone who thinks he has a one-in-a-hundred chance to escape being caught while driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, should think again, police here say.

Sgt. Ken Craig, in charge of the Prince George RCMP traffic section, said police are aware that not all drinking drivers are caught, but the odds are far shorter.

"We are not catching every speeder, either, but drinking drivers are more likely to be caught than other offenders," Craig said.

His comments were prompted by the results of a survey conducted by the CARNAGE committee, which said that the majority of those surveyed believed drinking drivers have a one-in-one-hundred chance to avoid being caught.

Craig said in 1976 police charged 1,094 drivers with alcohol-related driving offences and there were 203 accidents in which liquor played a role.

In 1977 the same number, 1,094 drivers were charged and there were 394 liquor-related accidents.

To compare these figures with the current year, Craig said that to the end of September police had charged 679 drivers and investigated 274 traffic accidents in which liquor was involved.

Craig said these figures represent more than one per cent of those who drive after drinking.

To combat drinking driving the police are still setting up roadblocks at various points and times and are using the mobile breathalyzer unit, the BATmobile.

"Certainly, a number of those offenders are going to get away with it, because it is a matter of manpower and popu-

The Citizen Local news

lation," Craig said.

He explained that the larger an area is, the more people are living in it and the bigger the chance of remaining undetected.

"But I believe that the enforcement in Prince George is ahead of many places in B.C. and we will continue to enforce the law to the limit when it comes to drinking driving," Craig said.

He believes that the lower number of arrests this year is not a matter of letting drivers get away, but that there are fewer drivers operating while under the influence of alcohol.

"More people seem to realize the danger, more people take taxis home and others frequent the neighborhood pubs where they can walk instead of driving," Craig said.

HUNTING RIGHTS

Judge backs Indian

ALEXIS CREEK, B.C. (CP) — An illegal hunting charge against a Chilcotin Indian was dismissed here because a provincial court judge said he believes Indians have a right to hunt for food.

In finding Francis Haines of the Stone Reserve not guilty of killing a moose in closed season last Feb. 8, Judge C. C. Barnett said conservation officers had denied Indian hunting rights by refusing to issue Haines a sustenance permit.

"I am going to dismiss the charge of hunting the moose out of season without a permit because I believe that your people have a right to hunt for food during all seasons," Judge Barnett told Haines when he gave the judgment last week in this central British Columbia community.

"In the Supreme Court of

Canada, the judges have not said that the Indian people do not have hunting rights," he said. "What they have said is that, assuming the Indian people do have abundant hunting rights, a province can regulate the enjoyment of those rights by requiring Indians to obtain permits.

"That is why, in previous cases, I fined Indians who hunted moose out of season without permits.

"But in my opinion, when the fish and wildlife officers refuse to issue permits to the Indian people, it is they who are wrong, not the Indians who continue to hunt and kill only what they need for food.

A Thought for Today


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