

Citizen Sadrack



...undecided

Low tonight: 7
High Saturday: 20

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The Prince George

INCLUDES
TV
TIMES

Citizen

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 1988

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Jimmy Carter asked in 7

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Hay crop

Dale Wood cuts a swath through a lush crop of hay in the Buckhorn area. Wet, cloudy weather has forced local farmers to cut and bale their hay sporadically this year, between rainfalls. Woods was at work on his father-in-law's property, which covers about 130 acres.

Citizen photo by Lisa Murdoch

BINGO TRIAL ORDERED

SMITHERS (CP) — The chief of the Gitwank Indian band was ordered Thursday to stand trial on gambling charges. Glen Williams pleaded not guilty in provincial court to operating a bingo game without a licence. If convicted he could face up to two years in prison. The charges stem from a bingo held last year on the Gitwank reserve near this northwestern British Columbia community. The band has refused to get permits from the provincial Gaming Commission because it doesn't recognize the government's jurisdiction on the reserve. Williams is the first native leader in the province to be charged with holding an unlicensed bingo. The trial is set to start Aug. 24.

Gov't sells gambling ship line

by Canadian Press
VICTORIA — A Vancouver-Victoria run is in next year's plans for the Stena Line, the Swedish company that bought the British Columbia Steamship Co., a spokesman said Thursday. Lars Nilsson, who will head the Victoria-based company that will take over the ferries, announced plans for the run after Finance Minister Mel Couvelier said the Crown corporation had been sold for \$6 million. The company operates the Princess Marguerite and Vancouver Island Princess cruise ships between here and Seattle. Calling the sale the first major initiative in the government's privatization program, Couvelier said Stena will receive 70 per cent of the ferries' gambling revenues and the government will take 30 per cent. Public accounts figures for 1986-87 show B.C. Steamships with assets of \$4.4 million, annual revenue of \$7.7 million and annual losses of \$1.1 million. Nilsson said the company will start year-round harbor-to-harbor service between Vancouver and Victoria next year. The company plans one crossing a day each way, Nilsson said. He expected the service would attract 200,000 passengers in the first year, climbing to 300,000 by 1991. The company intends to move the 153-metre, Finnish-built ship Scandinavica to B.C. to operate on the Seattle-Victoria route, Nilsson said. The vessel can carry about 1,200 passengers and 320 compact cars, has three restaurants, bars, a duty-free shop, swimming pool and casino. Nilsson said the Scandinavica will be renamed the Crown Princess Victoria for its new duties. Stena intends to keep the headquarters of the company in Victoria. The Stena group of companies operates a large fleet of ferries, tankers and bulk carriers. It also owns hotels and markets package tours. Gordon Hansen, an NDP mem-

ber of the legislature for Victoria, said after the sale was announced that he does not feel the government received a large enough share of the ferries' gambling revenues. "It looks like we got taken at the card table," he said while saying Stena got the ferries for a "fire sale" price.

B.C. Tel told to cut rates

VANCOUVER (CP) — Federal regulators have rapped B.C. Tel's knuckles for selling telephone equipment in competitive markets at a loss. And the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission has ordered the company to reduce long-distance rates by 7.2 per cent in compensation. The reduction will save consumers and cost BC Tel shareholders \$10 million in 1988, the CRTC said in a statement released in Vancouver.

The decision stemmed from applications filed with the CRTC by two groups last spring — the Association of Competitive Telecommunications Suppliers (ACTS) and CNCP Telecommunications.

Both accused B.C. and Bell Canada of selling competitive multiline and data terminal equipment at a loss and asked the CRTC to order the telephone companies to raise those rates on an interim basis.

"The CRTC has agreed with us that there has been a loss," ACTS president Don Braden said in an interview from Toronto.

B.C. Tel spokesman Jim Cameron said it's good that long-distance rates are closer to cost.

"However, one area where we differ from the CRTC is that we feel our competitive service is properly priced."

Inflation rate: 3.9% for year

OTTAWA (CP) — Consumer prices rose by 0.1 per cent between May and June mainly because of a 0.9-per-cent increase in the price of food, Statistics Canada said today. Overall, prices for various goods are 3.9 per cent higher than in June of last year. That's a drop from the 4.1-per-cent increase registered in May, but continues fluctuations in recent months around the four-per-cent level. Tobacco products and alcoholic beverages went up 0.3 per cent, housing was up 0.1 per cent and clothing 0.2 per cent. Consumers paid higher prices for fresh fruit, beef, pork, soft drinks, bakery products and breakfast cereals, the federal agency said. The rise in fresh fruit prices was largely due to seasonal changes in prices "although a sharp jump in banana prices appeared to have resulted from a disruption in regular supplies."

Higher demand for beef in the summer barbecue season was partly responsible for driving up those prices. But shoppers were paying lower prices for salad vegetables, prepared and ready-cooked meat, sugar, coffee and tea. Liquor prices rose the most in Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. There was only a marginal increase of 0.1 per cent in housing prices, after an increase of 0.5 per cent in May.

Teamsters pick new president

WASHINGTON (AP) — William McCarthy, the Teamsters union's top man in New England for two decades, was named president of North America's largest union today, succeeding the late Jackie Presser. The Teamsters' 17-member general executive board picked McCarthy, 69, of Boston over secretary treasurer Weldon Mathis, whom Presser had named acting president May 4.

City trails in job contest

Prince George's competition with Kamloops in the Casual Job Competition for students is having mixed results, according to the supervisor of the Canada Employment Centre for Students. Although Prince George has only had 45 casual jobs and Kamloops has 157 since the competition started July 11, "it's not as bad as it looks," said Laurie Lee. There have also been 75 "regular" jobs registered since the competition started. These jobs last longer than five days so they aren't considered part of the competition, but are better

jobs for the students, she said. The Casual Job Competition is directed at the home owner who could use a little extra help catching up on yard or house work. Last year, Prince George won the competition. During the first day about 35 people called in with jobs around the house, Lee said. Prince George finished the contest with 273 odd-job placements, while Kamloops had 182. Students cut lawns, weed flower beds, clean windows, paint fences or any other odd jobs. "We recommend home owners pay \$4.50 (per hour), which is the

minimum wage, for jobs like weeding the garden or mowing the lawn and \$5 for hard labor," she said. The job centre, located in the log cabin at the College of New Caledonia, gathers the information and sends students to the jobs. "Usually it is a student who lives in the neighborhood," Lee said. The city has competed with Kamloops for four years and 1987 was the first year Prince George won the competition. The competition ends July 20. Prince George residents who could hire a student for an odd job are asked to contact the centre at 564-9090.

EASTERN PULP FIRMS

Unfair subsidies cited

Citizen news services
Eastern pulp companies got an unfair \$542-million advantage from the federal and provincial governments through an unnecessary subsidy, according to the Economic Council of Canada. "The program didn't apply in Western Canada. I understand in B.C. the industry had already modernized," Paul Gorecki, author of a new report on subsidies, told The Citizen today. "The companies received \$293 million from the federal government and \$249 million from provincial governments in a pulp and paper modernization program between 1979 and 1984," Gorecki said in a telephone interview from Ottawa.

protect vulnerable Canadian industries. "Some of the federal subsidy programs for the shipbuilding and pulp and paper industries have also been costly, have delayed adjustment to foreign competition and have failed to meet their objectives," the report adds. It says the shipbuilding assistance program, launched in 1975, failed because the industry still depends largely on a single client — the federal government. The report on subsidies also says Canadians are paying dearly to protect jobs in the clothing industry — up to \$4 for every dollar

earned in those jobs. "Costs of quotas have been similarly high in the auto and footwear industries," a summary of the report states. It says the cost of protecting a \$30,000-a-year job in the car industry through restraints on Japanese imports has been as high as \$226,000. But, the report says, there have been some successes. The cost of protecting the footwear industry was high, it says, but was temporary and the industry used the time to make itself competitive.

Sex Cases: Teachers fight back

VANCOUVER (CP) — Teachers will start fighting back against malicious allegations of sexual misconduct that can destroy their reputations, a spokesman for a group representing male Ontario teachers said Thursday. "Our teacher organization has examined this quite intently during the past year," said David Lennox of the Ontario Public School Teachers Association. "We've had several examples where there has been some malicious intent by a group of children to get even with a teacher. "Our teachers are asking us to study very carefully what route they have to respond to that malicious action." He made the comments at the annual meeting of the Canadian Teachers Federation, where delegates passed a policy resolution dealing with child abuse and teachers' rights. Lennox said his association, representing 14,000 male elementary school teachers in Ontario, will look at its own motion in August that would provide teachers with

protection and recourse. "The parents or children may end up being sued in situations where we can clearly identify a malicious intent," he said in an interview. "We believe that as a teacher organization we should provide the financial resource and the technical-legal expertise to assist them." The policy approved Thursday by the national federation, which represents 220,000 teachers, says that teachers suspected or accused of child abuse should be entitled to the full protection of the law and their professional organizations, confidentiality to protect their reputation and a quick, thorough and impartial investigation of the allegations. The policy passed by the 83 delegates also said the federation opposes school boards transferring or retiring teachers as a means of dealing with allegations of child abuse. It also set out children's rights to education and said protection of children from abuse, neglect or ex-

ploitation should be a public priority. Teachers should work to prevent, detect and report child abuse and teacher groups must support their members in doing so, it said. Lennox said the national policy provides for teacher organizations to give financial backing to teachers who have been falsely accused. "We had a classic case of this in a court in Ottawa," Lennox said. "One of our members was charged. He was very badly damaged in a career way. The allegation was a fabrication." In late 1987, Michael Brakenbury was suspended with pay from his job as an Ottawa elementary school teacher after he was charged with six counts of sexual assault. He was acquitted but later said the ordeal had left him shattered. During his trial, three students testified the complainant was angry that Brakenbury had given her a failing grade. "We're going to fight back if we can find the singular case to fight back on," said Lennox. "In 99 per

cent of the cases what you're going to find is there is some grey area there that that child must have the right to come forward and to have the situation examined. But there will be an individual case in the next several years." The case of homosexual pedophile Robert Noyes, a former school principal who sexually abused 19 children in five British Columbia communities over a period of 15 years, focused public attention on the issue of child abuse, particularly within the school system. Noyes was sentenced in 1986 to an indefinite prison term after being declared a dangerous offender. While sexual abuse by teachers is thought to be rare — Statistics Canada doesn't keep figures categorized by profession — the Noyes case prompted many school boards and teacher groups to examine the issue and take steps to protect against it. Measures taken included better screening of teachers' backgrounds and registries of abusers.

HERMAN'S

"Yes, yes, I know you were excited. But read it yourself. It says, 'Head man wanted for branch office.'"

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