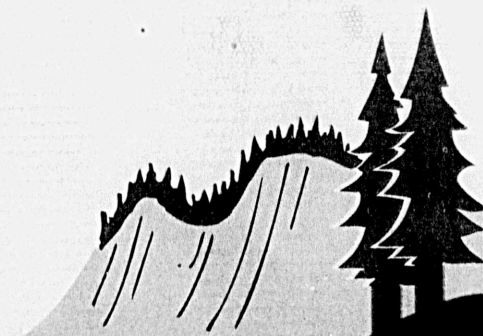




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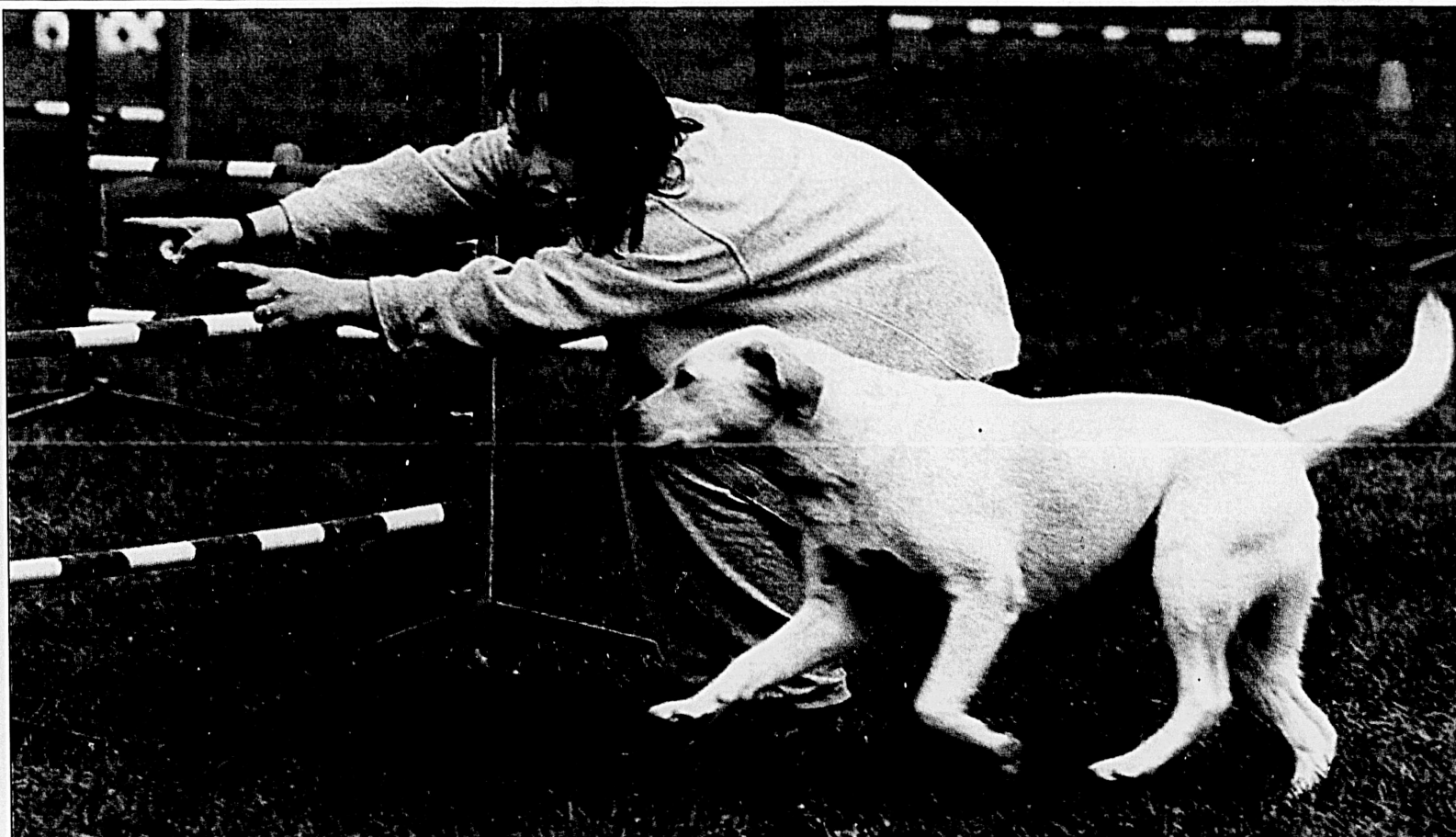
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Citizen photo by Dave Milne

DOG DAY AFTERNOON — Kim Montgomery makes it very clear to her yellow lab, Bailey, where she wants him to go at the Top Dog Agility, Obedience and Flyball Association trials at Joe Martin Field on Saturday. The event which ran Friday, Saturday and Sunday attracted dog owners from Edmonton, Calgary, Kamloops, Vancouver, Nanaimo and Prince George.

PGX-cellent!

by **PAUL STRICKLAND**
Citizen staff

Attendance figures for the Prince George Exhibition this year were up over 1999, Sandy Switzer, general manager, said Sunday.

"Afternoons were very busy," said PGX 2000 president Nancy Loreth.

Absolute figures were not available by press time. But weather generally co-operated to make the 88th annual fall fair a big success.

"Interest in the agricultural portion of this exhibition has been beyond our expectations," Loreth said Sunday afternoon. "Our beef entries were just wonderful."

Light horse breed displays were very popular, and light horse demonstrations Saturday were a first for the exhibition, Loreth said.

"There had been requests from the general public to see more horses, and we brought this event in," she said.

The stands were packed for the 15th Annual Silver Stetson Heavy Horse Pulling Competition early Sunday afternoon, Loreth said. Pat Ebert's team took first place in the draft horse pulling competition. The

prize was a team harness.

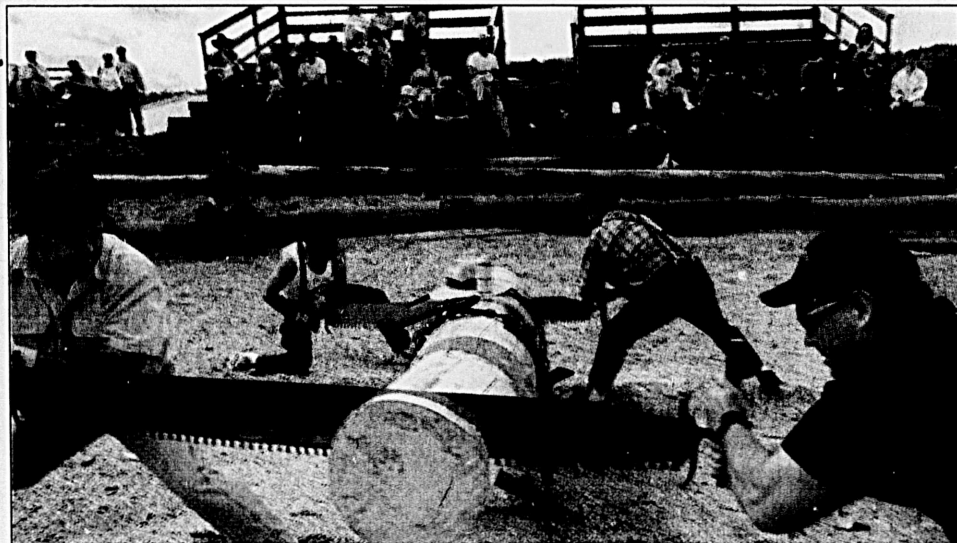
Gemini, a Yorkshire cross pig, was declared the grand champion in that category of livestock Sunday afternoon.

The animal had been entered in competition by Marisa Panter, 14, of the Buckhorn 4-H Club.

She's been raising pigs for the five years she has been in 4-H, but this was the first year she had an animal achieve grand champion status.

"Sheep shearing demonstrations and milking demonstrations held twice a day went over very well," Loreth said. "The general public showed a lot of interest in this."

Local entertainment on the main stage under the big tent Sunday included Frontier Follies, dancing and singing performances by



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

Darrel Cunningham, left, and teammate Ron Bramble compete in the cross-cut competition in the loggers sports against Brent Cunningham and John Cunningham in the background. Brent and John won handily.

Excilibur Performing Arts of Prince George, directed by Bonnie Matthews. Shows continued until 4:30.

"The circus tent has been full at each and every show of the Mexican

International Circus," Loreth said. "They were brought in with the mid-way."

Ladies' events were among the best attended of the logger sports competitions Sunday, she said.

Student saves slice of city's history



Citizen photo by Dave Milne

University of Northern B.C. student Kerri Reid poses at the Prince George Public Library with the display of Prince George mayors which she researched.

by **BERNICE TRICK**
Citizen staff

The history of Prince George's 17 mayors, dating back to 1915, is being preserved for posterity at the public library this summer.

Kerri Reid, a University of Northern B.C. Bachelor of Arts student, has spent the past several months researching information about the city leaders and having extra copies made of their photographs.

"Up to now the only pictures of the mayors were those on the wall at city hall. Officials were concerned if they were ever destroyed, we'd lose a very important part of Prince George history," Reid said.

The project is on display along the staircase of the library until the end of the month.

The city's first mayor, William George Gillett, took office in 1915.

He was the only mayor in the history of the province to personally sign a bank note for a loan necessary to administer the city.

That first election, May 20, 1915, contained a plebiscite to decide on a name for the community.

"Prince George got 153 votes while Fort George garnered only 13 votes," Reid said.

Alex Patterson has the distinction of holding the office for the longest period, from 1927 to 1944, while Garvin Dezell is the only one to serve

as mayor during two different periods.

Carrie Jane Gray has the honour of being the only female mayor (1958 and 1959) and was the second woman in B.C. to be elected to that office.

Those viewing the display will see how the mayors are remembered today through subdivisions, parks and streets bearing their name — like Perry, Bryant, Alward, Carney and Nicholson.

Viewers will learn that the mayors made their living as businessmen, realtors, architects, contractors and dentists, to name a few.

Only two former mayors are still living: Harold Moffat (1969 to 1979) and John Backhouse (1986-1996).

When Reid learned about the project, she said, "This job was made for me," because of her keen interest in history.

She wasn't disappointed and has enjoyed the research and writing of the biographies.

Her other jobs have included a history project on the downtown streets dating to 1937, and creation of a flyer and web site, called Past Perfect, for the library, which will be launched in September.

She earns \$8.80 an hour, which is paid 50% by the Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions and matched by the library.

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