

# Festival of Trees will be back



Shawn Petriw and Kristen Kindermann of Performers North joined other local talent at the Festival of Trees on Friday and Saturday at the Civic Centre. ROB BIRON/FREE PRESS

**T**he Festival of Trees wasn't the rip-roaring success organizers thought it would be but there are already plans to hold it again for the next five years.

Tom Shand of the Prince George Regional Hospital Foundation says the final attendance totals aren't in but he admits they will fall well short.

"We hoped we would attract about 10,000. It's probably less than half that. We certainly have our work cut out for us next year."

Mr. Shand doubts the festival actually lost money but, either way, he says the Foundation will pay the two main beneficiaries - the Mardi Gras and the Children's Wish Foundation - their guaranteed amounts of money.

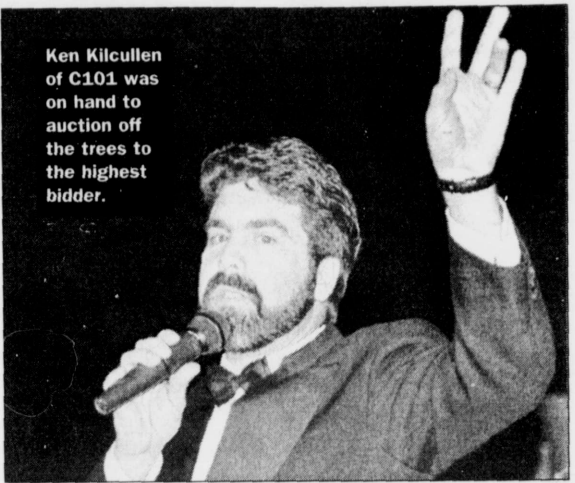
He says next year, they'll make a greater effort to attract people from outside Prince George.

And he says 1995 should automatically be better because people now know what it's all about.

The Festival of Trees is an auction of Christmas trees, decorated by various groups, with the proceeds going towards charity.

Of 40 trees on display this year, 38 sold. The other two were given to non-profit groups.

The trees were decorated by designers throughout the community who donated their time and the decorations for the trees. The auction was held Thursday night.



Ken Kilcullen of C101 was on hand to auction off the trees to the highest bidder.

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