

THE FREE PRESS STYLE

SECTION **B**

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Community NOTEBOOK

► Bow Wow!

Rapper extraordinaire Snoop Dogg will soon be rolling into Prince George in his Cadillac Snoop De Ville.

After a successful summer touring with the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Snoop Dogg has decided to take a bite out of the big city Sunday December 7 at the Multiplex.

Ticket prices are \$44.50 for general admission on the floor, and \$39.50 for reserved seating.

► Cormier in concert

The Prince George Theatre Workshop presents J.P. Cormier in concert November 24 at the Playhouse.

Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door and are available at the Playhouse office.

Call 563-8401 for more information, or check out the web site at www.pgtw.bc.ca.

► Kris Kringle luncheon

The Child Development Centre and 99.3 The Drive present the 16th Annual Kris Kringle Luncheon, Friday December 5, 11:30 at the Coast Inn of the North. The luncheon is the CDC's way of saying "thank you" to Prince George for its continued support.

The event's menu is a traditional smorgasbord that features poached salmon and halibut medallions, turkey, roast beef and a black forest ham. Door prizes include a 14-karat gold diamond ring, a luxury spa basket and an art piece. Tickets are \$25, call 563-7168 to reserve.

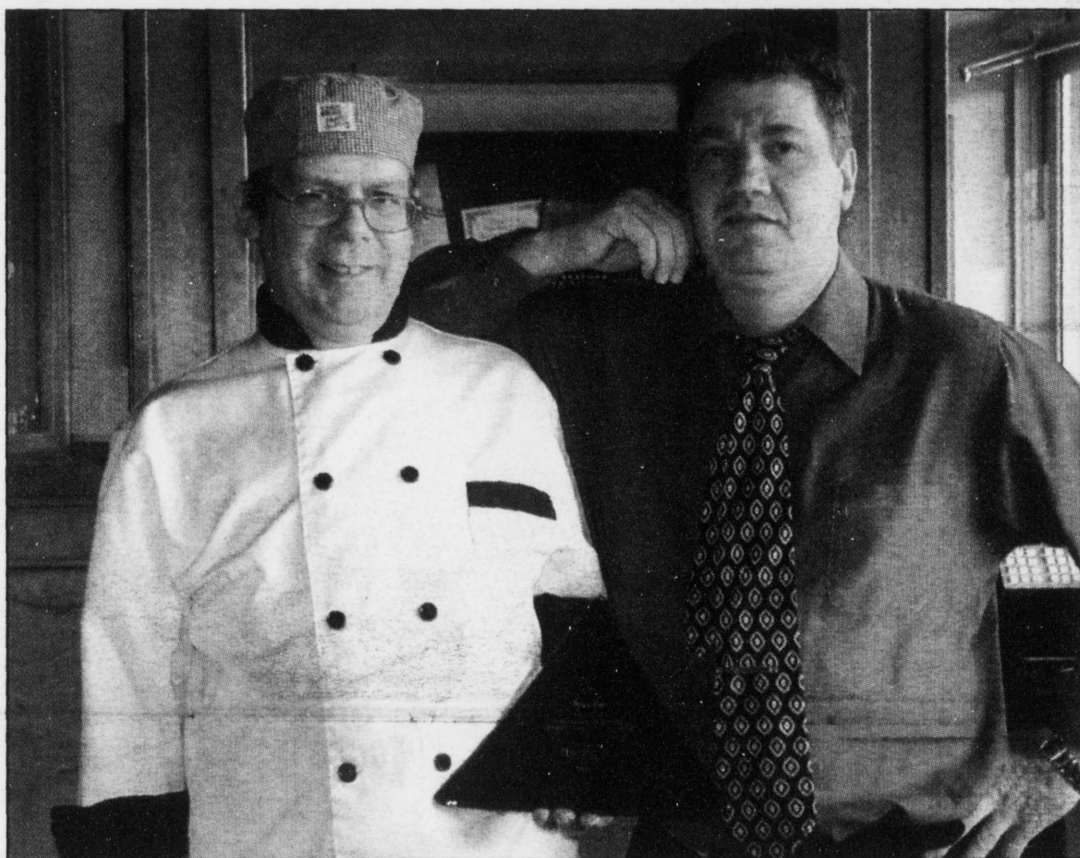
► Book Clubs

The Prince George Public Library is holding a tweens and teens book club Thursday, Nov. 27 at 7 p.m. The book is *The house of the scorpion*, by Nancy Farmer.

The library also has book sets for any group wanting to start their very own book club. Call 563-9251 for further information.

► Weaving and spinning

The Prince George weavers and spinners monthly meeting will be held on Nov. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Guild room of Studio 2880. Anyone interested in fibre arts is welcome to attend. For more information call Linda at 963-9399.



Ric's Grill's Steve Matthews and Rick Cormier won B.C.'s casual Restaurateur of the Year. JEFF HODSON/FREE PRESS

Ric's Grill and Chop House **on top**

By JEFF HODSON

Free Press staff writer

It's the kind of news story that really whets the appetite.

Ric's Grill Steak Seafood and Chop House was awarded the Restaurateur of the Year for casual and family dining by the British Columbia Restaurant and Food Services Association.

"It's not Rick Cormier that really won it," said co-founder Steve Matthews. "It's the staff that won it, and the customers coming in. If they weren't

coming in, we wouldn't have won."

The annual provincial competition is broken into various categories - fine dining, casual, fast service, best restaurant as selected by the media.

The award is not the first for Ric's Grill. The group received the award for best customer service in Prince George in 2000.

Rick Cormier and Matthews founded Ric's Grill five years ago in Prince George.

The restaurant now has eight locations in B.C. and Alberta. Cormier credits "the quality of our food and our service" as keys to the business' success.

"We have a great staff," Cormier said.

Mary Jarbek, president of the North Central BCRFA, said the night was a coup for Prince George.

"It's a very big deal," Jarbek said. "To have the restaurateur of the year award on your wall or in your resume is pretty high up there - it's like the

Emmys of the hospitality industry."

Both Cormier and Matthews attended the 25th annual BCRFA gala awards night held at the Sheraton Wall Centre in Vancouver. It was a big night with up to 300 people in attendance.

Ric's Grill celebrates its fifth anniversary November 13.

Also nominated in the category was Ginger Stearns of Amigo's Tacos.

Val and Dean O'Connor, owners of local McDonalds, won the Quick Service award.

The Friends of the Prince George Public Library



Bob Harkins Branch
Prince George Public Library

BOOK SALE

887 Dominion Street



Saturday, Nov. 15th, 10:00am-4:00pm
Sunday, Nov. 16th, 1:00pm-4:00pm

Great bargains on used books for all ages! All proceeds to the Friends of the Prince George Public Library Society.

For information, call the Public Library at 563-9251