



Medicine Hat News

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Weather

Sunny
30% chance
of rain
Friday
High 34
Low 16
Map Page 23

Hopes rise with dollar

The Canadian Press
The Canadian dollar burst through the 76-cent U.S. mark on foreign exchange markets Wednesday, fuelling speculation of another decline in the Bank of Canada rate and sparking hopes that the worst may be over for the ailing currency.

"I think the Canadian dollar is out of the woods — at least until U.S. primes (lending rates) go up," one trader said.

The currency closed on foreign exchange markets at 76.24 cents U.S., up almost half a cent from Tuesday's close of 75.78 cents.

Carpenter nails lottery

NEW YORK (AP) — A retired carpenter beat odds of 3.5 million to one and today claimed a \$20-million New York state Lotto jackpot, described by state officials as the largest individual lottery prize in the world.

Venero Pagano, 63, of the Bronx presented his winning ticket at the lottery offices in the World Trade Centre in Manhattan.

Lottery spokesman Bill Knowlton quoted Pagano as saying he watched Wednesday night's televised drawing "and I checked and I checked and I checked and I checked."

Pagano, who has a wife, two sons and a 4½-year-old granddaughter, will collect about \$952,000 a year for 21 years, minus taxes.

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Turner pressed on patronage

OTTAWA (CP) — Conservative Leader Brian Mulroney says Prime Minister Turner showed a lack of leadership in allowing a raft of political appointments demanded by former prime minister Pierre Trudeau.

During the sharpest exchange in Wednesday's nationally televised debate among the three party leaders, Turner tersely replied "I had no option" when Mulroney pressed his attack on the patronage issue.

"You had an option, sir," Mulroney snapped back, pointing an accusatory

finger at Turner. "You could have said: 'I am not going to do it. This is wrong for Canada and I'm not going to ask Canadians to pay the price.'"

Mulroney triggered the exchange by referring to the appointments of 17 Liberal MPs as a repudiation of Turner's claim to bringing newness to his party.

But Turner counterattacked with a reference to Mulroney's own position on patronage, which the Tory leader says has changed drastically since last spring's Conservative leadership race

when he told party audiences that no Liberals or New Democrats would land appointments under a Conservative government until every "living, breathing" Tory was taken care of.

"On the basis of what you've talked about with respect to getting your nose in the public trough," Turner said, "... you wouldn't offer Canadians any newness in the style of government. The style that you've been preaching to your party reminds me of the old Union Nationale. It reminds me of patronage at its best."

During Tuesday's French-language debate, Mulroney said he was so outraged with the final round of Liberal plums that he now would now like to see a parliamentary committee study top appointments.

Turner said that as justice minister he allowed the Canadian Bar Association to screen judicial appointees and he suggested that "a more public process" where names were presented, screened and rejected might force some "better candidates" to shy away from applying.



Sam Stewart drew a bead on the batter this morning as he flipped a pancake aboard Ralston's entry in the Stampede parade. Stewart, as well as his son Brian (rear left) and Gene Ostrowski celebrated the day on a float called Ralston Salutes the Cowboy. This year's parade was a colorful event which drew 267 entries and entertained the thousands of spectators who lined city sidewalks to watch the action.

Parade spurs Stampede fun

PAUL STRICKLAND
and SHERI MURPHY
Of The News

Thousands fought for spots along busy city streets this morning to witness the dazzle and brilliance of this year's Stampede parade.

Every bit as creative and colorful as previous parades, the 267 entries combined to make the event a morning of fun-filled entertainment for cowboys and cowgirls.

Parade Marshal Graham Black had his work cut out for him organizing floats, bands and marchers into the right categories, but everything went off right as the procession of cars, trucks, floats and horses waited for the fly-by to signal the start of the parade.

Cpt. George Bacon of British Army Training Unit Suffield, scattered the pigeons on the old city hall as he began the first of three passes in The Beaver, 200 feet above lawn chairs and cowboy hats lining the streets below.

Lined up as early as 7 a.m. to prepare for the judges, hundreds of participants sought shaded areas.

The good spectator spots, on the shady south side of the parade route, were claimed by 9 a.m.

Led by honorary parade marshal and former Canadian bull riding champion Gid Garstad, the parade left the Arena Convention Centre at 9:30 a.m., heading for the First Street S.E. underpass and the crowds.

An eight-metre Sleepy Bear on the Travelodge float had to be deflated to make it under the bridge, but to the delight of many young spectators it was soon enough restored to original height.

Miss Rodeo Canada, Susan Hargrave and Mayor Kaye Osgood of Redcliff in his 1958 Ford, were among the first dignitaries cheered by the crowd.

Soon to follow were bands of all descriptions, dancing girls, cowboys on horses and clowns on foot.

Seniors from the Veiner Centre delighted everyone with their Bird Dance float — four couples dressed from head to toe like chickens dancing in the sweltering heat.

"It was worth it," said one of the seniors, pointing to the first place trophy won in the Senior Organizations class.

Parade organizers Pearl Black

and Laurie Brower were impressed by all of the entries this year as they recorded the first, second and third-prize trophy winners in 16 different categories.

Ryan Elle, of Seven Persons, captured top spot in the Shelland pony event, while Tracy Linden and Angie Linden dominated, respectively, the junior cowgirls and senior cowgirls portions of the parade. Blair Stubber won the Junior Cowboys event and Kevin Friemark, of Irvine, won the senior cowboys division.

Frank Belohlavek and Lisa Peters won respective honors in men's and ladies' categories of the western glamor competition. Sean Grover was named the best junior entrant in the glamor class.

Cindy Doane was awarded first-place honors in the glamor-other-than-western category of the parade.

Judges declared the Southalta Morgan and Saddlebred Association as the best western riding group.

Funniest entry in the comic open category belonged to The Carlson while the funniest float in the comic float category belonged to Alberta Government Telephones.

Edmonton's Klondike Days scored the No. 1 position in the commercial floats category.

The senior citizens dressed as dancing chickens captured judges' eyes in the senior organizations class.

Medicine Hat's First Assembly of God won top spot in the junior organization class.

Blackfalds, Alberta was named the best community float while Bill Prentice of Brooks had the best entry in the special ranch class.

Medicine Hat's 4-H Light Horse Club was judged the top 4-H club in the parade. Norman Stearns was bestowed top honors in the oldtimer group category.

Court backs English

OTTAWA (CP) — The Supreme Court of Canada ruled today that children of Canadians educated anywhere in the country have the constitutional right to an English-language education in Quebec.

The ruling overturns two clauses of the province's Charter of the French Language that restricted Quebec English schools to the offspring of Quebecers educated in the province.

The court said in its ruling that the Constitution's so-called Canada clause, which guarantees minority language education across the country, is "incompatible" with the Quebec language charter, known as Bill 101 and that the Quebec language law's restrictions on English-language education are "inoperable."

Freight rate under attack

YORKTON, Sask. (CP) — Saskatchewan Premier Grant Devine and Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed said Wednesday they want the federal government to scrap a planned 33-per-cent increase on grain freight rates set for Aug. 1.

The federal plan would cost Prairie farmers \$60 million a year, said the two premiers in separate announcements in Yorkton and Edmonton.

In letters to Prime Minister John Turner and federal Transport Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Devine said the scheduled in-

crease is both unwise and unfair.

"Farmers have been badly stricken by drought this year in the midst of falling grain prices," he said.

In Edmonton, Lougheed said extreme drought conditions and the decline in farmers' cashflow have made it impossible for farmers to meet the predicted volume for the crop year starting Aug. 1.

"Hence there would be overpayment by the farmers and although the amount would be repaid sometime later it is not fair for farmers facing a difficult

cash flow position to have to make an obvious overpayment," he said.

Lougheed is also concerned about the railways' decision to reduce the amount they will spend on upgrading and expansion of rail capacity, saying that "the legislation does not provide for an immediate corresponding cost reduction for farmers."

The Alberta premier said he hopes the new federal government will reassess the Western Grain Transportation Act. He echoed federal Tory Leader Brian Mulroney's call for a freeze on freight rates.

Oilman urges government change

CALGARY (CP) — While other speakers voiced support Wednesday for an elected Senate, a former president of Dome Petroleum told a legislative committee how to improve the whole federal government.

Jack Gallagher said limiting a prime minister's term of office to eight years would end stale government and give leaders a chance to groom their successor.

Governments should also be allowed a minimum two-year term, elimi-

nating spending on elections caused by minority governments, said Gallagher, who quit Dome when the company appeared destined for bankruptcy.

He was joined by prominent Calgary oilman Jim Gray and spokesmen for the separatist Western Canada Concept party in endorsing proposals for an elected rather than an appointed Senate.

Gray, vice-president of Canadian Hunter Exploration Ltd., said an elected Senate would provide fair regional representation.

The committee looking into Senate reform spoke to bureaucrats and politicians in Washington, D.C., and several provinces before beginning public hearings in Alberta this month.

A final report to the Alberta legislature is expected next spring.

Gray is a member of the Calgary-based Triple E Committee, which is lobbying for Senate reforms which include full elections and equal representation across Canada.

The Senate now has 104 members appointed by the prime minister. Newfoundland has six senators, the three Maritime provinces 24, Quebec 24, Ontario 24, the four western provinces 24, the Yukon one and the Northwest Territories one.

Bill Deacon and Rob Logan of the Western Canada Concept recommended that the Senate be reduced to 39 members, three elected from each province

and nine from the territories.

Voters could recall senators they become dissatisfied with, they said. The Senate would also have the right to review Supreme Court decisions and use its veto power to block legislation and force national referendums.

Gallagher and Gray said western separatist sentiments, which resulted in 15 per cent of Alberta voters supporting the WCC in the 1980 provincial election, have not died.

A failure to resolve regional injustices through Senate reform will quickly revive separatist thoughts, they said.

The committee ends its Calgary hearings today.



GALLAGHER

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