



Prize winners at the B.C. Bus Roadeo. Kneeling, left to right: Randy Johnson, Trail; Ron Fleming, Victoria Transit Centre; Walt Giesbrecht, Oakridge Transit Centre; Mirk Kolisnyk, North Vancouver Transit Centre. Standing: Richard Kotecki, Cascade Lines; Randy Peck, Penticton; Ron Brown, Victoria Transit Centre; Russ Patience, Oakridge Transit Centre; Brian Jones, I.S.L.; Ray Amann, Greyhound; Al Jackart, West Vancouver; Steve Dion, Port Coquitlam Transit Centre; Jim Norgren, Van. Tours & Transit.

Oakridge operator repeats championship win at BC Bus Roadeo

Walt Giesbrecht, an Oakridge Transit Centre operator, has been named Grand Champion at the BC Bus Roadeo for the second time. On June 4 he repeated his 1986 victory by once again topping a field of 55 champion drivers from around the province, at Burnaby Transit Centre.

Walt will represent BC Transit at the North American Championships (APTA Roadeo) in Georgia this coming October. We congratulate him and wish him continued success.

Second, third and fourth places in the City Category went to Mirk Kolisnyk of North Vancouver Transit Centre, Steve Dion of Port Coquitlam Transit Centre and Ron Brown of Victoria.



Members of the media accepted the challenge to test their skills manoeuvring a 40-foot city bus. Harry Karl of CJVB was named "Fastest foot in the West" and received a mounted bus brake pedal. Beth Wilson of CKWX won the "Most careful driver" award. Pictured left to right are: Stu Lawson, Roadeo Master; Diane Gendron, BC Transit Media Relations Officer; Beth Wilson; John Hadley, CFUN; Harry Karl; Anne Rachelle Griffith, Burnaby News; Robert Prince, Delta Optimist; Dave Watson, Georgia Strait.

Those who say you can't take it with you, don't know how to pack a car for a vacation trip.

Half a dollar bill not fare

An operator informed BC Transit Security that a regular passenger appeared to be depositing halves of dollar bills in the farebox.

Two mobile patrol investigators rode the bus and saw a man deposit what appeared to be a rolled up dollar bill. Investigation determined that it was in fact half of a dollar bill and the man was charged with Obtaining Transportation by Fraud.

In Surrey Provincial Court the man pleaded guilty, was given a suspended sentence and placed on supervised probation for nine months. He was also ordered to perform 50 hours of community service within six months.

Patience is something you admire in the driver behind you and scorn in the one ahead.

ODDS & ENDS

"Explore the World Daycamp" for 6-11 year olds begins July 4 at Kensington Community Centre. Weekdays (except holidays) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info: 327-9401 < Over 150 artists will show and sell their art at the 16th Annual Arnold

Mikelson Festival of Arts, July 8,9,15,16. 13743-16th Ave., White Rock. < Nine dancers and six musicians will propel a full evening of new work, Tues-Sun, July 18-30, 8 p.m., Firehall Arts Centre. RSV: 689-0926 < 12th Annual Folk Music Festival, July 14-16 at Jericho Beach Park. Over 200 performers from 18 countries. Ticket info: 879-2931 < Beginning July 1, GVRD Parks will offer the popular "Walk on Water" canoe programs at Burnaby Lake Regional Park. Beginners welcome. All equipment and instruction provided. Advance registration required plus a small fee to cover costs. Phone 420-3031, daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. < Sea Festival Seniors' Dance with music by the Dal Richards Orchestra, July 17, 7:30 p.m., West End Community Centre. Tickets \$5. Info: 689-0571 < Canada Day on Deas Island: B.C. Highland Games and Delta Celebrations < Delta Community Arts Council summer art classes. July or August series \$40. Youth \$30. Phone 946-0525 < Free guided tours of Seymour Demonstration Forest will leave the parking lot at noon and 2 p.m., July 2, 9, 16 and 30. Info: 432-6287 < Burnaby Art Gallery presents a series of 20 coloured etchings by British contemporary artist David Hockney < Vancouver Art Gallery presents an exhibition of paintings by Vancouver artist Robert Young, paintings, etchings and mixed media drawings by the late Charles Hepburn Scott, and feminist videotapes circulated by the National Gallery of Canada < Surrey Arts Centre is accepting registrations from local artists and craftspeople who wish to show their work in Bear Creek Park, Sundays. Info: 596-7461 < Surrey Arts Centre offers a Children's Arts Camp, July 4 - Aug 25. Children 5-12 can learn new art techniques, such as papermaking, claywork and puppetry. Info: 596-7461 < Yes Canada offers a free 12-week program of academic upgrading, pre-employment skills training and motivation for 16-24 year olds who are out of school and out of work. The next cycle begins July 18. Phone 435-1937 < The AIDS Memorial Quilt, the largest piece of folk art in the world, comes to the Vancouver Art Gallery July 12-16 < North Burnaby Alcohol and Drug Counselling Services (Family Services of Greater Vancouver) present a free weekly summer series of videotapes and discussions, Wednesdays 10-11:30 a.m., July 5 - Aug 23, Cameron Recreation Centre, 9523 Cameron St. < The Community Arts Council of Vancouver presents Gallerie: Women's Art, featuring a display of painting, sculpture and drawing by 17 women artists. 837 Davie. Adm free < Britannia Community Services Centre presents a summer program for children 6-12 who have physical and/or mental disabilities. Grandview Park, Mon-Fri, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., July 4 - Aug 18. Info: 253-4391 < Dancing every Wed throughout the summer at Edmonds Community Centre for the Retired, 7282 Kingsway, Burnaby. Live music. 7-10 p.m. Non-members \$3 < 411 Seniors' Centre presents "Healthy Aging", a program sponsored by St. John Ambulance. Eight one-hour sessions beginning July 10. \$10 per person. Registration: 684-8171, local 7 < Dark Horse Theatre presents Rough Crossing, set in the world of 1920's musical theatre, July 6-30 at Waterfront Theatre, Granville Island. RSV: 685-6217 < Computer Art & Prints by Theo Goldberg, July 6-17 at Richmond Art Gallery < Watercolours by Jack Falls at Gateway Gallery, 6500 Gilbert Rd., Richmond < Presentation House presents My Three Angels on stage, Wed-Sat, all July 22. \$10. Students/seniors \$7. RSV: 986-1351 < New summer hours at Science World, effective July 1. Open daily 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Info: 687-7832 < Coquitlam Public Library Book Sale at the Poirier Branch, 575 Poirier, July 7 and 8 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

COMING EVENTS

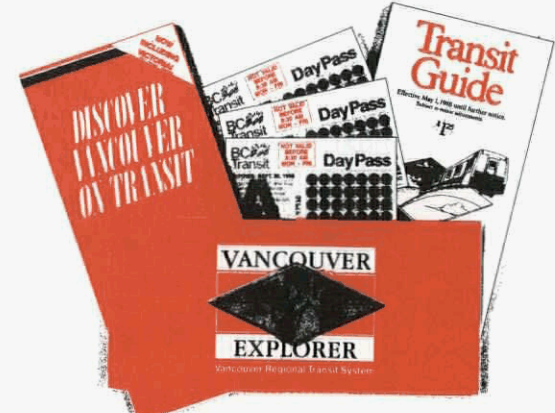
July 15 - Bon Odori, Japanese dancing, displays, food fair, Powell & Jackson, 3 - 8 p.m.
July 7-11 - Canadian National Baton Twirling Championships, Richmond Arena, Minoron Gate.

July 22 - 28th Avenue Flea Market, presented by University Hospital Foundation at the Hospital's Shaughnessy site parking lot, 28th & Heather. Registration fee for vendors is \$10, or goods can be donated to the Foundation's booth. Info: 875-2220

The Buzzer

Transit ridership rises
(INSIDE)
Service increases planned

All you need to explore Vancouver on transit



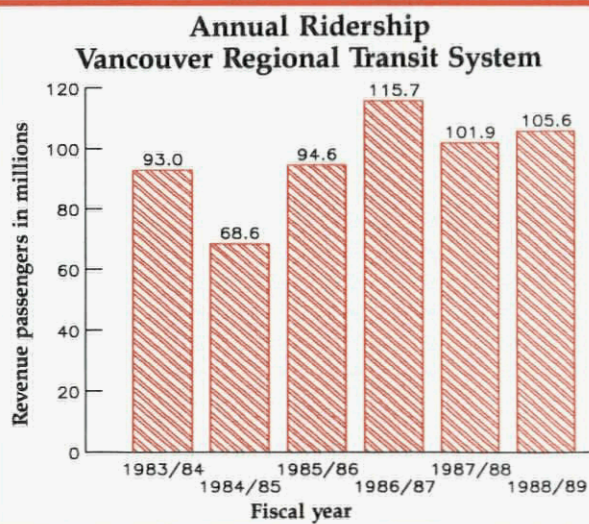
Pick up an Explorer Pack and save

The Pack contains three DayPasses, a Guidebook that features many of Vancouver's most popular arts, entertainment, recreation, education and amusement destinations, and a Transit Guide that includes a comprehensive regional route map.

Available at FareDealers throughout the Lower Mainland.

Ridership continues to increase

With the exception of Expo year when circumstances were unique, ridership on the Vancouver Regional Transit System reached its highest total in over forty years during the year ending March 31, 1989. A total of 105.6 million revenue passengers used the unique tri-modal system. This was a 3.6 per cent increase over the previous year (1987/88) and over 2.1 million more passengers than originally forecast. Transit planners say the large increase was due to an expanding regional economy, increased tourist ridership and the extension of transit service into Langley. The largest increase was recorded on SkyTrain (over nine per cent). This can be attributed to increased residential and commercial development along the line and a greater degree of bus integration. Ridership on the Vancouver Regional Transit System is among the highest for cities of its size in North America. In fact, Seattle, which serves a larger area and population attracts only 65 million passengers per year.



Commission approves increased fall service levels

At its June meeting, the Vancouver Regional Transit Commission approved fall service levels that will be considerably higher than previously proposed. The increase was necessary to meet the higher than projected ridership experienced in the last half of 1988 and the first half of 1989.

Planned major improvements include:

- Increased service to the Montecito, Greystone and Forest Grove areas of North Burnaby.
- A new route serving the Forest Hills area in North Burnaby.
- Increased service to SFU including new service to Surrey (Scott Rd. Park-Ride) and Coquitlam (Lougheed Park-Ride).
- Extension of the 9 Boundary/Alma service to UBC, Monday through Friday.
- A new route into Eagle Ridge and Noon's Creek in Coquitlam-Port Moody.
- Increased Sunday service on the #3 Main/Robson route.
- Increased Saturday service on the #319 and #351 routes.
- Increased peak-period service on the #151, #160 and #163 routes.
- Increased peak-period service on the #351 route.
- Introduction of a 15-minute peak-period frequency between Phibbs Exchange and Capilano College.
- Introduction of a 15-minute service along 152 Street to SkyTrain, by extending the #330 service to Fleetwood.

The fall changes that will come into effect early in September are expected to increase the hours of transit service provided annually by over 43,000.

Timetable adjustment

Since June 26, the first three morning trips of the 354 White Rock South leave five minutes later than shown in the current timetable. 354 Vancouver trips leave White Rock Centre at 6:16, 6:39 and 7:09 a.m., arriving in Vancouver at 7:19, 7:47 and 8:22 a.m. respectively.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.
Eleanor Roosevelt

Massey Tunnel:

Northbound bus lane scheduled for Mid-September.

Commuters who use the Massey Tunnel during morning rush hours will be pleased to know that a bus lane is being developed. The special lane will allow buses to bypass car line-ups between Highway #17 and the entrance to the Tunnel, speeding up bus travel times by as much as 10 minutes. The lane will also be available during evening rush hours, when the reversible lane scheme is scheduled to go into effect.

The lane, which is being developed by the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, is expected to open mid-September.

Routes #310, 311, 351, 352, 354, 404, 405, 601, 602, 603, 604 & 608 will utilize the new bus lane.

Commission approves one-year trial of Student Pass.

At the June meeting of the Vancouver Regional Transit Commission, a one-year trial of an all-day, one-zone fare for post-secondary students was approved.

Eligible students will be issued a "Fast Trax" multi-zone sticker for their student cards. With the "Fast Trax" sticker and a one-zone FareCard, the post-secondary student will have the right to travel one, two or three zones at all times. The stickers will be available on campus for a small one-time charge, through the Student Union, starting this September.

When man learned that he couldn't live by bread alone, he invented the sandwich.

New buses set exhaust emission standard

The first of 50 new buses with special high tech environmental protection controls has gone into service in the Vancouver region.

The MCI "Classics", costing about \$180,000 each, are equipped with advanced, fully electronic exhaust emission controls that set the highest standard in the North American transit industry.

When introducing the new buses the Honorable Rita M. Johnston, minister responsible, said they will not only provide better and more reliable service, but will assist BC Transit to meet a major objective: protection of the environment. "Between 50 and 60 per cent of transit commuters to downtown Vancouver travel on SkyTrain and on trolley buses powered by clean electricity", she continued, "perhaps this latest reduction in emissions will encourage more people to consider the environment and use transit as an alternative means of travel."

Other features of the new Classics, built in St. Eustache, Quebec, include:

- Computer controlled engine and transmission.
- Detroit Diesel 6V 92 turbo-charged engine that improves hill climbing capability.
- Brake retarders that decrease overall wear and tear on brakes.
- Wide-access doorway that facilitates rapid passenger boarding.
- Redesigned driver compartment which has a more comfortable seat and a solid, darkened partition behind the driver. Colour coded controls keep the driver in touch with bus functions at a glance.
- a bus frame that has been modified to allow for the installation of wheelchair lifts at a later date.

The 50 Classics, arriving between now and August 1989, are part of BC Transit's plan to update the diesel bus fleet in the Vancouver region. As many as 85 additional buses are in the process of being ordered for delivery early in 1990. These 85 will come equipped with wheelchair lifts for passengers who have special needs.