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3, No. 6 February 11, 1985

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Jon Kimura Parker... "the phone rings a whole lot"

A little craziness helps

... a world-class pianist
 ... times has trouble honoring his
 ... home town
 ... specially, at his name is Jon
 ... Kimura Parker and his home town is
 ... kids
 ... rker, who made musical history
 ... the first Canadian to

Leeds, England. And he caught the eye of the international press when he kissed the Duchess of Kent on the cheek when she gave him the award.
 Back home in Canada, he's been getting a lot of attention, too — maybe a little too much.
 "There have been four different television crews in the house, one for eight hours," he says. "And the phone rings a whole lot."

For the most part, though, the fame hasn't bothered Parker or his family, because it's been positive. And Parker thrives on the support of the people who love his music. On

in a practice room and live "Beethoven all day long."
 "Music is definitely my life, but I don't have that kind of tunnel vision. I couldn't do it and I don't think it's right, either."
 Parker says he has acquired an interest in the visual arts since living in New York, and dabbles in photography. He hopes to devote the many hours of travel he now must endure — he has concert engagements through 1987 — to reading.
 He admits he is not as "irresponsible" as he was in his University of B.C. days in the late 1970s, when he

anything especially neurotic, like wearing gloves all the time. If I did, I wouldn't be enjoying myself."
 Does he still play pool?
 "Can't," he says. "I took my cue to New York, but the pool halls there are too dangerous."
 Parker says he is glad he didn't pursue his studies in New York as soon as he graduated from high school, that he clung through adolescence to the comfort of home and the relaxed atmosphere and natural beauty of Vancouver. He says musicians who have spent too much time in New York have a "cut-

Victoria 'out' of mall brawl

Burnaby MLA Elwood Veitch says the provincial government won't intervene in the brawl brewing between municipal council and Edmonton super mall developers.
 Victoria is taking a "hands off" approach, Veitch said from his Victoria

By DAVID SPANER
 office last week. "The government will not interfere with zoning in Burnaby."
 Veitch's comments follow speculation the government might go over the municipal council's head to impose the supermall and "fantasyland" that Edmonton's Triple Five Corp. wants to build at Boundary Road and Lougheed Highway.
 But the proposal is far from dead. Closed-door discussions are still continuing over a deal between B.C. Hydro and Triple Five to offer Crown-owned land for sale to the developer. Half the sought-after site belongs to B.C. Transit, which dealt with the matter in-camera two weeks

ago. So far, Transit board members, including Burnaby Mayor Bill Lewarne, have refused to release details of the discussions.
 Even without council support or government intervention, Triple Five could purchase the 60-acre site and sit on it in hope of eventual rezoning.
 Municipal council earlier rejected the mall proposal by reaffirming that Burnaby's commercial core would be built in Metrotown along Kingsway.
 Lewarne said the mall at Lougheed and Boundary would cause traffic problems and obliterate Metrotown and other commercial areas.
 Lewarne welcomed Veitch's reassurances, adding that he sent a letter to Victoria last week outlining the municipality's concerns about the mall.
 Triple Five earlier submitted a supermall proposal to the government's cabinet committee on economic development.
 Veitch said the mall is a "very im-

pressive concept." But, he added, both he and committee chairman Bob McLelland agreed: "Burnaby must handle Burnaby's problems."
 "I'm not sticking my nose in the fight between municipal council and Triple Five," Veitch said.
 Instead of the mall, Lewarne supports a movie studio the B.C. film industry is proposing for the site.
 He said talk of the supermall has put the studio and other Burnaby developments on hold.
 "As long as they (Triple Five) have a willing player with B.C. Hydro, yes, that's the case," Lewarne said.
 The mayor said the Edmonton proposal is also putting the brakes on Daon Developments' commercial project at Metrotown because department stores are hesitant to sign up while rumors of an impending mega-mall continue.
 "With the uncertainty caused by Triple Five, the anchor tenants just aren't signing," Lewarne said.

Transit driver charged

A Metro Transit bus driver charged with stabbing a passenger to death in Burnaby Wednesday was once hospitalized after being attacked on the job, the transit union says.
 David Gordon Harris, 33, was charged Thursday with second degree murder in the stabbing death of Eric John Rodstrom, 24, of Vancouver.

Burnaby RCMP said an "altercation" occurred about 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, at Kingsway and McKay. A hunting knife was produced during the fight and the passenger "ended up being stabbed."
 Rodstrom was pronounced dead on arrival at Burnaby Hospital.
 An Independent Canadian Transit Union spokesman said Harris, who has been a Metro operator for six years, once spent 10 days in hospital after an attack and was subsequently off work for almost a month.
 Colin Kelly, president of the union, said the incident underlined growing concern over bus-driver safety. He said drivers were "running scared" because of lack of protection from attacks.
 "Buses should possibly be equipped with two-way radios, Kelly said.
 Harris was in Burnaby provincial court briefly Thursday afternoon to hear formal charges. Witnesses said his left eye was badly puffed up. He is being held in Oakalla and is scheduled to appear in court again next Friday.

Film folk dig in for fight

B.C.'s fledgling film industry is digging in for the fight of its life against a giant Edmonton corporation intent on building a massive mall on Burnaby land the movie companies want for a studio.
 "Let's play David and Goliath," film industry spokesman Sandy Flanagan said. "Our stone is economic impact and value to this province."
 Last week, the film industry anxiously awaited word whether B.C. Transit would endorse an agreement giving Edmonton's Triple Five Corp. control of the site at Lougheed and Boundary for the mall.
 B.C. Hydro worked out the deal with Triple Five, which owns the huge West Edmonton mall.
 The agreement to purchase would give the Edmonton developers the option of buying the 60-acre site now owned by Transit and Hydro.
 Triple Five can't build the mall because municipal council won't rezone the area, but it could kill the studio by going ahead with the purchase and sitting on the land in hopes of a council which will favor the mall.
 "We don't seem to get anywhere with negotiations while this mall's still impending," Flanagan said.
 He said the film industry's quest to turn Burnaby into Hollywood North won't be deterred by the powerful Alberta corporation.

Bridge building, formerly used to build bridge spans, including those on the Lions Gate and San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge.
 "It's one of the largest available free-standing buildings in the world," Flanagan said.
 He said the studio, which would occupy 4.5 acres, could stimulate a \$1.2 billion impact on B.C.'s economy in the next 10 years.
 Flanagan said the proposed mall would hurt other commercial areas in Burnaby.
 "There's enough shopping malls around," he said. "I don't know what the value of that is going to be. The film industry will not have an adverse effect on anybody."
 He commended municipal council for its support of the studio.
 "It's about time somebody took a stand and did what's right. What's right is a studio at that site," Flanagan said.
 Tegra spokesperson Frances Henning said the film industry has been frustrated by the government's lack of response to its proposal.
 "We'd love to be engaged in negotiations with them. We've bought the ring but they won't hold it over their finger," she said.
 Henning conceded that Triple Five is tough competition.
 "They are a very powerful group," she said. "We don't want to compete with that sort of an enterprise."
 But Henning is convinced public opinion is behind the studio and in the end — in true Hollywood style — the white-bat of Hollywood will prove victorious.
 "I like to think the good guys win now and then," Henning said.

The site is uniquely valuable to the industry because it contains the 63-foot-high by 750-foot-long Dominion