

## ... grip is tighter

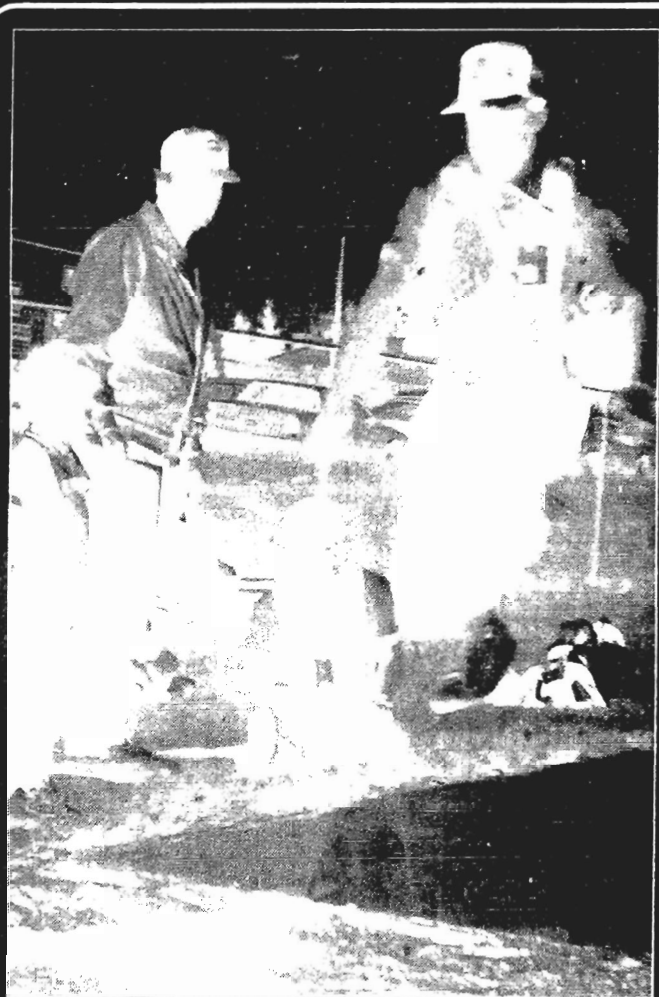
Although we criticize the methods of the Conservative Government in Saskatchewan, it does appear accurate they have made gains in finding a way to hold the line on government spending.

It is not firm grip, but at least they've got themselves entrenched that a reversal in the system is necessary.

But, with that grip the

government requires some method of explanation to the public to coincide with the steps as they finally reach the surface of the system. One without the other is simply half measure and takes away confidence in the methods of operation.

The people of Saskatchewan want that tighter grip, but they want it handled properly, too.



## Athletes gave from the heart

Swift Current was honored Friday and Saturday with the presence of over 200 athletes competing in the Provincial Special Olympic Games.

It was heart-warming to see and hear these athletes, dressed in an array of zone colors, compete with such intensity and spirit in each of the events.

They demonstrated to us all that what comes from the heart can be the finest of everything.

We salute all those athletes and give a special bouquet to the diligent work of the organizers who made the games such a tremendous success. Swift Current was left a much better city by it all.

## SASK BUDGET

### Reaction here neutral

The two major items that affect the business community are the increase in sales tax from five to seven per cent and the fuel tax of seven cents a litre, says the president of the Swift Current Chamber of Commerce.

Garth Knakoske said he canvassed about half a dozen members and said reaction from businesses was pretty

neutral but said the service stations he called were not sure how things would work.

In Finance Minister Gary Lane's budget Wednesday, it said that there would be a fuel tax of seven cents a litre imposed on gasoline, diesel fuel and motor fuel with full rebates to Saskatchewan residents in 1988.

### Applause and comp

Garth Whyte of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business applauded Lane's assault on the deficit, but Al Johnston of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce complained it wasn't enough.

"There wasn't a lot of concrete plans in there," he said. "We still have a huge deficit carried over from previous years."

"For years to come, June 17, 1987, will be remembered by the people of Saskatchewan as... the day that our great province was thrown in a tail-spin by one of the most senseless and destructive budgets in our history," said NDP finance critic Ed Tchorzewski.

Liberal leader Ralph Goodale said Lane's 23-page speech had no vision for the future.

One program, the farm purchase program, was cut. About 6,000 farmers

### More staff?

Service stations may have to add staff to accommodate the new gas rebate brought down in Wednesday's budget.

The provincial budget announced a seven cent per litre fuel tax on gasoline, diesel fuel and other motor fuels but also offered a full rebate to Saskatchewan residents in 1988.

"It could mean additional time and paper work to us," said Joe MacIssac, service station superintendent for the Pioneer Co-op Friday.

He said it will possibly mean an additional staff person at their Wheatland Mall location because it is a high volume outlet.

"They may have to put on another till or another person. We will have to play it by ear," he said.

He said prior to the new rebate they only made out invoices for cash purchases at the customers request and said now people will demand invoices for every purchase.

### On diesel fuel

A tax on locomotive diesel fuel will increase to 15 cents a litre from 13.6 cents and the tax on aviation fuel will more than double to seven cents a litre from 2.9.

The fuel-tax increases are expected to bring in \$110.4 million.

Also retroactive to Jan. 1, the corporate capital tax is extended to include trust and loan companies, a change which will raise \$2.2 million.

Lane dissolved the province's farm purchase program, set up in 1983 when interest rates were high and land prices averaged \$400 an acre - to help young farmers start out. About 6,000 people took advantage of the program, which reduced interest rates on farm mortgages to eight per cent, to get into the farming business. Land prices and interest rates have since dropped.

## Bygone

### 50 years of

#### THREE YEARS AGO

● Bob Moore was honored by the Swift Current Kiwanis for his 50 years of service to the club.

● The separate school board passed a motion to conduct a study to determine the future needs of the separate school system.

● Bill Jackson and Linda Harvey were vying for a seat on the public school board during a June 20 byelection.

#### FIVE YEARS AGO

● Development of retail space on the east side of Highway 4 across from the Wheatland Mall received city council's approval.

● The city detachment of the RCMP were preparing to move into a new facility on Railway East.

● Permanent bleachers were installed at the Swift Current Aquatic Centre. The bleachers would provide 192 seats for a total cost of \$11,315.25.

#### TEN YEARS AGO

● Maureen Volk, a Swift Current girl, graduated with a Master of Music degree from New York's Juilliard School and received one of the institute's top scholarships.

● The Swift Current figure skating pair of Padget Riediger and Melanie Cowan were selected to attend the National Dance Training Camp in London, Ontario.

#### FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

● A study of property transactions in southern Saskatchewan indicated that United States citizens owned only a small proportion of the farm land. Americans owned 2.34 per cent of the

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