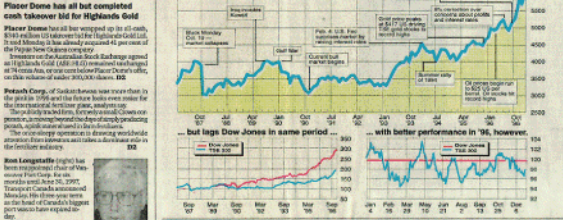


TSE 300's record-breaking run



WHO TO WATCH IN BUSINESS '97

CAI president and chief executive officer Kevin Benson and CAW president Buzz Hargrove.

Benson, although new to the top job, ultimately won the support of most employees for his (modified) restructuring plan. The plan, which aims to save Western Canada's ailing airline will be implemented through the year. Someone, and something, to watch.

Hargrove, who held out longest against a 10 per cent wage cut despite enormous pressure from inside and outside the union, will continue his crusade against aggressive corporate downsizing. Through his efforts he also got Transport Minister David Anderson to agree to setting up a committee to examine air industry issues. Watch for some fancy footwork on this one.

Retail sales slump in snow

Burnaby megastore manager says he can't keep enough snow removal equipment in stock.

Shed and salt sales soared and toy companies had more business than they could handle last week, but retailers say they are still in a lull. The weather was the main reason for the slump, but some retailers say they are still in a lull.

Fugitive stood to gain from DiamondWorks

Top recordings give more insight into the rough and tumble world of junior capital financing.

Stock market analyst Robert Hargrove says that a recent report on the state of the junior capital market is a good example of the rough and tumble world of junior capital financing.

netWORKS

Northern Telecom, latest entry

Northern Telecom and other network providers are looking for ways to expand their services in the new year.



MARK VAN MANEN / Vancouver Sun
shy moat.

in snow

...st 50 per cent due to the weather is probably the least affected but you went, the more impact the said.

...d only half of Future Shop's head made it to work on Monday.

...er, manager of the Roots store at ard, said sales dropped by about tomers have been forced to dodge at near the fashion outlet.

...retty quiet and we were one of the down here," she said. "For sure it biggest days."

...business improved Monday as customer mobile but sales are still be-

...unday, sales are good today [Mon

Please see Retail, D8

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Architect and developer Stanley Kwok, who spearheaded the early redevelopment of the former Expo site for Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka-shing, has a mega-project of his own in 1997.

Kwok's Vancouver-based Amara International Investment Corp. plans to build a \$200-million, multi-use development — Crystal Square — in Burnaby's Metrotown area.

The 70,000-square-metre complex is to include a hotel and conference centre, a condominium tower, restaurants, office and retail space, cinemas, public open space and an adult community facility.

Joe Houssian, chair and chief executive of Vancouver-based Intrawest Corporation capped off a huge 1996 by stick-handling a \$260 million deal that saw Intrawest acquire the ski resort operations of Whistler Mountain in B.C. and Copper Mountain in Colorado.

The company, now ranked as one of top three ski resort firms in North America, is still in an active acquisition mode and more U.S. purchases are likely in 1997.

Developer and media mogul Thomas Fung, the Hong Kong-born tycoon who says he prefers being a millionaire living in Canada rather than a billionaire living in Asia, has a busy

Please see Watch, D8

WATCH from page D1
\$60-million plan for Aberdeen Mall

1997 ahead of him.

The president of Vancouver-based Fairchild Group plans to spend \$60 million to double the size of his highly-successful Aberdeen Centre mall in Richmond. Next year will also see him making use of a new FM broadcasting licence in Vancouver, a second FM licence in Calgary and a new AM licence in Toronto that were awarded this year by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission to another company he is involved with.

Fung, whose family recently sold their interest in the securities, merchant banking and China trading arm of Sun Hung Kai — one of Hong Kong's largest companies co-founded by his father, also plans to explore other joint ventures in Canada and Asia.

Snow-removal

day] but they're not where we anticipated," she said. "That's not too bad considering the weather."

Sales at Home Depot megastores also dropped throughout the Lower Mainland. But Harry Gill, assistant manager of the company's Burnaby store, said he can't keep enough snow-removal equipment in stock.

"We have sold tons [of shovels and salt]," he said. "We have brought some in and sold out every day."

Taxis were also in huge demand as many pedestrians, put off by the sight of slushy sidewalks, opted for the comfort of an automobile. A Black Top dispatcher advised customers they could wait anywhere from five minutes to two hours.