

BRIEFLY

Book prize goes to Thomson

Canadian Press

LONDON

The late British author David Thomson has been named winner of the inaugural NCR Book Award for non-fiction, worth \$115,000 (Cdn.).

Canadian Michael Ignatieff, author of *The Russian Album*, was among four runners-up who collected about \$2,300 each. The contest attracted 195 entrants from around the world.

Thomson, who died in February, was the unanimous choice of the judges for *Naim in Darkness and Light*, a mixture of history and personal memories about growing up in the small Scottish town where his grandparents lived. His widow accepted the award.

The new prize, sponsored by computer manufacturers NCR Ltd., offers the largest cash prize among major British literary competitions.

Winner of the Governor-General's Award for best non-fiction work of 1987, Ignatieff's *The Russian Album* tells the tale of his family from the time his grandfather served as the last education minister in Czarist Russia through revolution, civil war, and settlement in Canada.

Montreal premiere set for Pope's film

Canadian Press

MONTREAL

The Jeweller's Shop, the \$3-million film version of a play written by Pope John Paul in 1960, will have its international premiere at this summer's Montreal World Film Festival, distributor Victor Loewy said on Wednesday.

And the Pope, who wrote the play when he was Cardinal Karol Wojtyla of Krakow, Poland, may have a few words to say by satellite to mark the film's opening during the festival, which runs Aug. 24-Sept. 4, said Loewy of Alliance-Vivafilm.

Shot in Poland and Montreal, the movie is directed by Canadian Michael Anderson (*Around the World in 80 Days*, *The Shoes of the Fisherman*) and stars Burt Lancaster as a jeweler who advises a young couple buying a wedding ring.

The film was shot under the supervision of Vatican authorities. The actors, director and producers were all checked to make sure they did not have questionable backgrounds.

The movie's couple is portrayed by Olivia Hussey (*Juliet in Franco Zeffirelli's Romeo and Juliet*) and Ben Cross (*Chariots of Fire*). Cana-

dian actor Jonathan Crombie, son of former federal Tory minister David Crombie, also appears.

A co-production of Canada, Italy and France, *The Jeweller's Shop* was filmed in English; work is continuing on a French dubbed version. The original play was translated into 20 languages and sold millions of copies worldwide.

The film was to have its premiere in Rome last Christmas with the Pope in attendance, but that was put off because of production delays.

Mitchell, America get taxes back

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES

A judge has ordered a California agency to return about \$800,000 in state sales taxes he said were wrongfully imposed on singer-songwriter **Joni Mitchell** and the rock group America.

A lawyer for Mitchell and America said the decision by Superior Court Judge Aurelio Munoz could open the way for recoveries by other recording artists.

The state had assessed the 6 per cent sales tax on the theory that artists "sell" their master recordings to record companies in exchange for royalties. The state called the master recordings "tangible personal property."

Lawyers for the artists had argued that they were paid not for their master recordings but rather for personal services and are thus not subject to a sales tax.

The state Board of Equalization began applying the sales tax to recording artists in the early 1970s.

State legislation prohibited the practice in regard to records issued after Jan. 1, 1976, but the board continued to tax artists on recordings made before that date.

School expels Jagger's daughter

Associated Press

LONDON

Jade Jagger, the 16-year-old daughter of rock singer Mick Jagger and his ex-wife Bianca, was expelled from her English boarding school for allegedly sneaking off for a night-time meeting with her boy friend.

Mavis Hunter, deputy headmistress of St. Mary's School at Calne, said Jade and another 16-year-old at the all-girls school were reported missing from their dormitory in the early hours of Wednesday.

Police were called to the school but the two returned a short time

later, Hunter said. "They have been expelled for a flagrant breach of rules," she said.