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50 cents

Area state senators set to tackle budget, economic issues

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Todd Fuqua

Reporter

It should come as no surprise that State Senator Tim Jennings believes the budget is the biggest issue facing the legislature at this year's 60-day session, which begins Jan. 18 in Santa Fe.

Somewhat more surprising is his willingness to let the "will of the people" decide what direction the budget should take.

"I have a little different management style than some other elected officials," said Jennings, whose 32nd district includes the Hondo Valley. "I



try not to use my political influence to put pressure on people to get things done. The will of the people and the will of the Senate are more important.

I'm not sure my voice

would necessarily be the dominant voice," he added. "I don't think twisting arms to get things done is the way to do it."

That's quite the statement from a man who's represented his district in the State Senate since 1979 as a member of the majority Democratic Party, and who has served as the Senate President Pro Tempore the past two sessions.

Jennings serves as a Democrat in a heavily Republican area of the state, and with Republican Susana Martinez now in the Governor's office, he

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Zero-based budgeting could get a hearing

By Todd Fuqua

Reporter

Republican State Senator Rod Adair has always advocated a "zero-based" budgeting standpoint. This year, he might see it happen with the New Mexico state budget.

As the state legislative session start date of Jan. 18 approaches, the budget is on everyone's mind. While Adair reports the finding of some funds to help mitigate the situation, the budget is still a



very serious situation.

"When you lose \$1 billion in the general fund in

See ADAIR, pg. 5

New mom to be new face of Ruidoso

By Leslie Ackerman

Lifestyles Editor

Audrey Gochenour will represent Ruidoso at the Mrs. New Mexico pageant in Albuquerque, March 13. Gochenour won the title of Mrs. Ruidoso following submission of an application, biographical information and photographs in November.

Audrey Gochenour, wife and mother of six children ranging in ages from 17 to four months, "is the complete package," said husband, Brendan Gochenour. The couple has been married five and a half years, with each having children from a previous marriage. "We have his, hers and ours," Audrey said.

"We've known each other for 10 years and Audrey's always surprising me," Brendan said. "She has the most amazing personality and sense of humor."

For instance, "I'll probably do my housework in high heels to prepare for the pageant," Audrey said, "It's been a while since I've worn four inch heels.

If they did have a talent section, my talent would be diaper changing."

On a more serious note, Audrey would like to "get the message out there that you can be married, have six children, go to school and still manage to put your family first. This is the one life you have to live, so live it!"

In addition to being wife and mother of six, she is studying for her RN degree in Alamogordo. With only three semesters remaining, she maintains a 4.0 GPA. The Gochenour children (Sarah, 17, Brianna, 14, Jacob, 13, Aidan, nine, Jude, two, and Sadie, four months) of school-age are all honor roll students as well as being involved in choir, band and the arts.

"Audrey represents the modern woman and theirs' is the modern family," said mother-in-law, Jo Gochenour. "She's a real role model for those children and for the community."

Audrey Gochenour, formerly Moore, was born and raised

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Coach happy with Warriors progress,

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Concert for Santa Elena

A piano concert by Romayne Wheeler will be given Saturday, Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Rd. The concert benefits the Santa Elena School near Creel in Mexico, which serves the Tarahumara tribe.

Prior to the concert, a video detailing Wheeler's life among the Tarahumara will be shown starting at 6:30 p.m. The concert is sponsored by Community United Methodist Church, which has supported the Santa Elena School for many years.

Christmas tree recycle

Take your trees to be recycled to Schoolhouse Park now until Jan. 15. There will be an orange fence around the place to put them. For more information, call 378-4697 or visit www.greentreeswa.org.

Red Feather production

The Red Feather Theatre Company presents a classic play, Oscar Wilde's "The Importance of Being Earnest," Jan. 14-15 and 21-22 at the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center at 125 Warrior Dr. Curtain is at 7 p.m., and English-tea will be served 30 minutes prior to curtain. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased in advance at the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Humane Society cookbook

You can help your Lincoln County Humane Society by sending your favorite recipes of any category. The society is compiling a cookbook of your favorites for a fundraiser. Include your name and a story to go with the recipe, if it has one. Submit recipes to Lindabl65@gmail.com.

Challenge to get fit

Kick off the new year with the 2011 fitness challenge starting Jan. 24 at the Community Youth Center Warehouse at 200 Church Dr. This marks the beginning of a seven-week fitness challenge, which encourages Lincoln County residents to get healthy with more physical activity and eating right.

You can sign up as an individual for \$10 or create a team for \$25 and can sign up for youth, adult, family or individual divisions.

Sign up at the Warehouse between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Jan. 24. For more information, contact Aimee Bennett at 258-3252, Ext. 6720.

Mescalero tournament

An open basketball tournament to benefit the 2011 Women's Wellness Conference will be held Jan. 28-30 at the Mescalero Gymnasium. Sixteen men's and eight women's teams are needed to fill out the brackets, with no more than 10 players per roster. There is a \$200 nonrefundable entry fee, due Jan. 21.

For more information, contact Gleda Little at 464-3188 or Beckie Martinez at 937-3496.

Silent auction

Come join the fun Jan. 29 when the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers' Program (SADSP) hosts the 25th annual silent auction at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Convention Center from 6-9 p.m. The Ruidoso community has always supported this important fundraising event so come out and feel good about buying cool stuff. A \$1 cover charge purchases a chance at numerous door prizes awarded during the evening. A cash bar, hamburgers and hot dogs are available from IMG catering.

Donations may be made by calling the SADSP office at 464-3193 or 808-1441.

Sacramento Mountain Village is a network of older adults in Ruidoso and surrounding communities who support independent living by offering services and activities that keep seniors healthy and happy in their own homes. Benefits of membership include art and yoga classes, weekly walking and discussion groups, social functions and monthly member breakfasts at Cree Meadows Country Club, on the last Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Membership is open to any Lincoln County resident 55

years or older. For more information, call 258-2120 or visit www.sacmntvillage.org.

Ruidoso Masonic Lodge No. 73 meets first Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m. If the first Monday is a national holiday, the meeting will be held on the second Monday. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call 973-0953.

Al Anon of Ruidoso meets at Cornerstone Center, 1216 Mechem at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets at Cornerstone Center, 1216 Mechem at 7:30 a.m., noon, 5:15 p.m. and 8 p.m. daily.

Altrusa Club International meets at 5 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month at First Christian Church, 1211 Hull Road.

Daughters of the American Revolution meet at 11 a.m. on the third Thursday of every month at the Ruidoso Library.

The Kiwanis Club of Ruidoso meets every Tuesday at noon at K-

Bobs.

Ruidoso Evening Lions Club meets each Tuesday at 7 p.m. at 106 S. Overlook.

The Ruidoso Noon Lions meet at 11:30 a.m.w each Tuesday at Cree Meadows Country Club. The Smokey Bear Capitan Lions Club meets each Thursday at 5 p.m. at the Capitan Village Hall.

The Lincoln County Regulators, members of the Single Action Shooters Society, hold matches the second Saturday of every month at the Ruidoso Gun Range located on Hale Lake Road. Registration is at 9 a.m., matches start at 10 a.m. The public is welcome to participate or watch the action. During the shooting matches, all other shooting is suspended. For more information, call Avery (AKA Rowdy Lane) at 937-9297.

Optimist Club meets at noon every Wednesday at K-Bobs in Ruidoso.

Rotary Club of Ruidoso meets at Cree Meadows Country Club noon every Tuesday.

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WEATHER SEVEN DAY FORECAST

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TUESDAY

37

WEDNESDAY

33

Flurries

THURSDAY

40

FRIDAY

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SATURDAY

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15 Watch

SUNDAY

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TUESDAY

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SUNRISE: 7:07

SUNSET: 5:13



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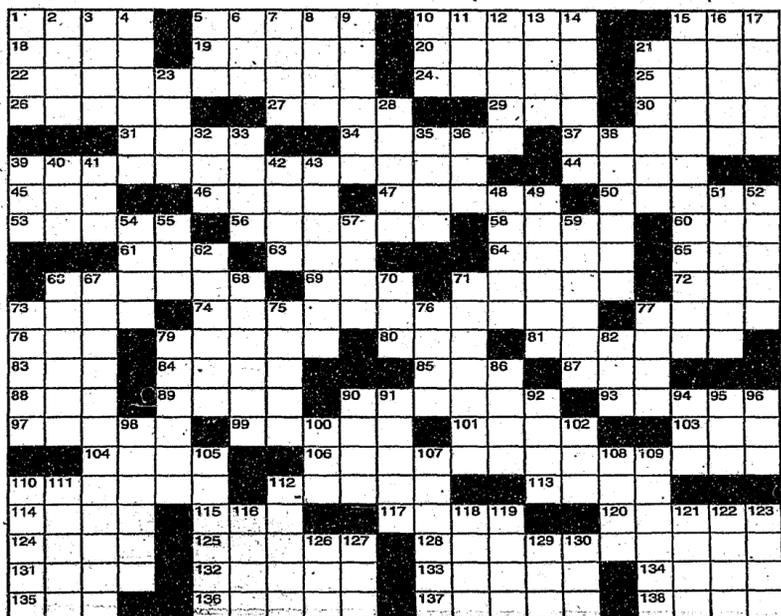
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- ACROSS**
 1 Enjoys an enchilada
 5 Cargo crane
 10 Circus employes
 15 Hilarious Howard
 18 What you used to be
 19 Meri-onite group
 20 Cheer
 21 Planted
 22 Bovine jazzman?
 24 Famed fabulist
 25 Geometric figure
 26 Chrissie of The Pretenders
 27 Warts and all
 29 Actress Munson
 30 "May I interrupt?"
 31 Certain Sermite
 34 Rocker Cassidy
 37 Pay
 39 Bovine auto racer?
 44 Fit
 45 Crony
 46 Director Ferrara
 47 Rock's — Trick
 50 Yellowish brown
 53 Chasm
- 56 Adams or Astor
 58 Couch
 60 Maris of "Nurses"
 61 LAX letters
 63 Kimono closer
 64 Jab
 65 Noisy rack-et
 66 Mystical
 69 German city
 71 Electronic device
 72 Say please
 73 "Beat It"
 74 Bovine
 77 Saffate
 78 — Aviv
 79 Free-for-all
 80 Word with sister or story
 81 Costume
 83 Actor Kjellin
 84 Learn fast?
 85 Spare tire
 87 Johnny Yuma, for one
 88 Mythical bird
 89 Periodic table abbr.
 90 Gave someone a smack
 93 Writer Runyon
 97 Rise
 99 Go in
 101 Beholds
- 103 Southern constella-tion
 104 Sue of "Lolita"
 106 Bovine actress?
 110 "Cat —" ('65 film)
 112 Exodus edible
 113 Prudish one
 114 Melville work
 115 "— Day Now"
 117 To be, to Baudelaire
 120 Entangle
 124 Puzzle
 125 Chutzpah
 128 Bovine publisher?
 131 Ages
 132 Church law
 133 Brinks
 134 Banana-rama, e.g.
 135 Actress Susan
 136 Endangered animal
 137 Adjust a watch
 138 Time to evolve?
- DOWN**
 1 Decorate glass
 2 Nautical cry
 3 Wilder's "Our —"
 4 Dairy treat
 5 Smidgen
 6 Internists' org.
 7 Jet-setter's need
 8 Egyptian deity
 9 Religious belief
 10 Bristol brew
 11 Bristol brew
 12 Jocular Jackie
 13 School founded in 1440
 14 Meal
 15 Bovine boxer?
 16 Proprietor
 17 "— Mine" ('85 film)
 21 Justice Antonin
 23 St-to-be
 28 Astound
 32 Chicken — king
 33 Iceberg's kin
 35 '68 US Open winner
 36 Exploit
 38 Small mall
 39 Hydro-therapy site
 40 Actor Hunter
 41 TV Tarzan
 42 Franco of "Camelot"
 43 Drop
 48 Salad type
 49 Spongelike
 51 Bright inventor?
 52 Like Lincoln
 54 Splinter group
 55 Alphabet sequence
 57 Ingratiating
 58 Silo stuff
 62 Victoria's husband
 66 It's spotted at zoos
 67 Bovine band-leader?
 68 Louisiana university
 70 Geographi-cal abbr.
 71 "Clair de Lune" composer
 73 Celebrities
 75 Car bomb?
 76 Grabs all the goodies
 77 Neighbor of Hispaniola
 79 Bob of basketball
 82 Proof letters
 86 Rock hound?
 90 Eager
 91 Castle or Cara
 92 "How — Is Your Love" ('77 hit)
 94 Deface
 95 Supper scrap
 96 Slangy denial
 98 Stockings
 100 TV listing abbr.
 102 Big —, CA
 105 Shade of meaning
 107 Ecclesiasti-cal title
 108 Sage
 109 Put the match to
 110 Portended
 111 "That's —" ('53 tune)
 112 Loy or Blyth
 116 "A Face in the Crowd" actress
 118 Discourteous
 119 They're often beaten
 121 Curly coil
 122 Equine accessory
 123 Aphrodite's son
 126 — Ryan's Express" ('65 film)
 127 Remnant
 129 TV's "— Haw"
 130 Presidential monogram



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 Solution on pg. 8

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JENNINGS

From page 1

seems ready to work with Republicans in tackling the state budget.

The nation has suffered a recession, and New Mexico has not been an exception. However, Jennings believes he sees an end to the financial troubles.

He also thinks he sees a good way out of it all.

"Texas seems to have been hit far less than New Mexico, and I'm wondering why," Jennings said. "The thing I keep coming back to is that Texas has a much friendlier business climate. We need to do the same here. I'll have some bills in there about that."

While balancing the state's budget in light of a shortfall of funds is a daunting task, Jennings relishes the challenge.

"I'm really looking forward to this session," Jennings said. "I sense the economy is really turning in New Mexico and the areas I represent. I saw people buying up this Christmas, spending a lot, and I think that was a wonderful sign.

"We'll balance the budget, it just depends what kinds of cuts we have to make to get it," he added. "I think we're real close, and things are looking up."

PAGEANT

From page 1

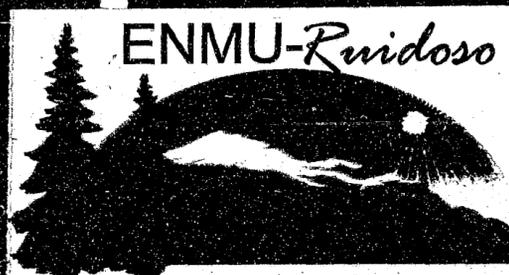
in Ruidoso and this will be her first beauty pageant. Her mother-in-law, Jo Goche-nour, saw an advertisement to enter the Mrs. Ruidoso pageant and thought, "Oh, this will be perfect for Audrey."

"This is the coolest thing in the world to me because I love Ruidoso and I'm very proud to represent my town," said Audrey. "My family is very supportive and loving. They make me feel like a beauty queen already."

The Mrs. New Mexico pageant is a three-day event. Day one is orientation for husbands and wives, interviews will be the second day and the third and final day is for the pageant itself. Contestants will be evaluated in three categories - gowns, swimsuits and interviews by the judges, which carry the most points.

Audrey is looking for sponsorship from local businesses which will give her the opportunity to "show off" her town. Sponsors receive a special mention in the pageant program and are listed next to the picture of the contestant. "We are working on fundraising, finding sponsors and buying a dress," said Audrey. "We estimate the costs for the gown, lodging, travel and pageant expenses to be around \$3,000."

"When they first had the Mrs. America pageant, the actual talent section used to be housework," said Audrey. "We've come a long way since then and I want to get the message out there that to be a whole person you should be able to do everything that makes you happy whether that's home, family, career, school - don't give up on your dreams."

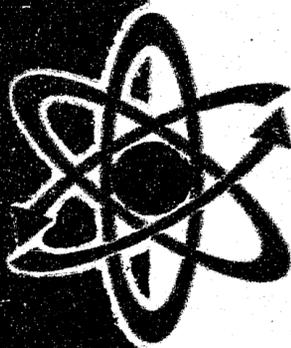


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NEA will host candidates forum

By Leslie Ackerman

Lifestyles Editor

The National Education Association – New Mexico (NEA-NM) is sponsoring a school board candidates' forum, Jan. 27 at 6 p.m. in the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center at the Ruidoso High School. NEA-NM president, Brian Brown, said high school students will play an active role in the public Q & A session, as will the public.

"We want the students to be involved in moderating, being part of the panel and asking the candidates questions that will affect them (the students)," said Brown. "While guests of the event are being offered refreshments, they'll have the opportunity to write questions on 3 x 5 index cards for individual candidates."

Issues such as high turnover, consistency, fiscal accountability and transparency have plagued school districts in the region for quite some time, causing parents to either move their children to other schools or to remove them from the public school system altogether.

Cecil M. Davis, a Ruidoso school board candidate pointed out, "The administrative function of the district should focus on the kids rather than the adults. Right now, it's the kids who are paying the price of executive power plays."

Candidate Curt Temple believes he can make a difference by bringing consistency and a higher level of accountability to the school board.

NEA-NM sent 40 sample questions to ask school board candidates, 10-15 of which can be chosen based on specific local needs. Due to the high number of candidates registered for the Feb. 1 elections, questions will be limited to approximately two or three each and time limits will be administered.

NEA-NM was founded as the Territorial Education Association in 1886 to advocate for better learning conditions for children and better working conditions for teachers and other school employees across the state. The Association is more than 8,000 members working through collective bargaining and other advocacy mechanisms in communities throughout New Mexico.

Military brings economic opportunity to Ruidoso

By Eugene Heathman

Reporter

Ruidoso's Military Appreciation Weekend (MAW) group hosted a business-military round table at the convention center Friday. The goal was to inform business owners and individuals in Lincoln County of the effect of the military influx on the community which is expected to provide long-term economic diversity to Lincoln County.

Retired Brig. Gen. Jack R. Fox, Department of Military Affairs senior advisor to the adjutant general, moderated the round table which included presentations from representatives of Fort Bliss, Holloman AFB and White Sands Missile Range.

"Soldiers fly into Fort Bliss and Holloman AFB directly to and from the battlefield. They need time to reacquaint with their families and places to recreate, and they love Ruidoso," Fox said.

George Mendoza of Fort Bliss presented anticipated troop increases during the next several years in El Paso.

"In 2005, there were anywhere from nine to 12,000 military families at Fort Bliss. In 2012, there will be approximately 34,000 permanent troops which amount to 48,900 military families. This includes soldiers of all ranks and ethnicities," Mendoza said.

The MAW effort begins its third year of providing activities for military families, tourists and locals but regional officers and commanders are looking for much more from Lincoln County than the scheduled events.

"We want Ruidoso and Lincoln County to become an organized and permanent solution for regional military personnel and their families," Mendoza said.

Bob Moroney, owner of BuyRuidoso.com and White Mountain Management attended the round table and sees an extraordinary opportunity to serve the military in this capacity and the effort should be taken seriously.

"I can't think of a better way to thank these men and women who sacrifice so much for us than to treat them like royalty when they arrive here for their R & R. We've been presented with a unique opportunity for Ruidoso's business and civic communities to work together to really create something special," Moroney said.

In addition to the presentations, officers and commanders offered Lincoln County business owners and government officials some helpful advice.

"The military will provide the community with people wanting to stay and do things but it's up to Ruidoso to take action by first establishing itself with the US General Services Administration and aligning with government lodging and per-diem rates and procedures. It's a small step but a very important one in the organizational process," Fox said.

Just five municipalities in New Mexico are registered with GSA. Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, Santa Fe and Taos have committed to the establishment of uniform lodging and per-diem rates for military and government travellers.

Moroney believes military tourism can lead to full time residents and sustainable support of Lincoln County businesses. "I was very impressed with the military's commitment to work with our community. They are really stepping up to do their part and we need to fulfill ours by making certain our armed services' members have exceptional visits here," Moroney said.

The 2011 Military Appreciation Weekend will be held April 29 and 30 at the Sierra Blanca regional Airport.

ADAIR

From page 1

one year, that means you have to take a serious look at expenditures," Adair said.

Adair's vision of "zero-based" budgeting entails making every single program and line item on the budget justified, something that has not been done in the past.

Adair said there's some support in the Department of Finance Authority for that approach.

"Whether they have the time for it is another question," Adair said. "There needs to be the kind of scrutiny that some of us have been calling for, for many years. With the new administration, that scrutiny should be applied."

The new administration of Republican Governor Susana Martinez – as well as the increase of Republicans in the State House – gives Adair some hope things will change in the way the legislature does business.

"The Speaker of the House (Democrat Ben Lujan) is facing an enormous gain of Republicans in the house," Adair said. "The Senate didn't stand for election, but they're not oblivious to what's happening in the state or the nation."

"There will be an attitudinal shift coming out of the 2010 elections, and I would be shocked if we went in there and the majority acted the way it's always acted," he added. "They've always done whatever they wanted without referring to anybody. I think people will be much more circumspect than ever before."

Beyond the state budget, Adair has two pieces of legislation he's particularly interested in, including a bill that ensures victims of domestic violence are notified when the perpetrator is released from prison.

The other is a potentially controversial bill that would amend the state constitution to ensure Muslim Sharia law is never imposed in New Mexico.

Adair said he was motivated to write the bill based on a case elsewhere in the United States in which a man accused of repeatedly raping his wife was acquitted due to his invoking of Sharia law in the home.

"There's no reason for us to even allow that to get any consideration," Adair said. "I don't want us to get to that point. Those of us who see this as a clear and present danger are correct."

While Sharia law is connected to the Muslim faith, Adair said he has no intentions of violating the constitutional protection of the first amendment. He cited author Mark Steyn and his book *America Alone*, which states Islam is not actually a religion, but a political ideology masquerading as a religion.

"That idea is getting an increasing amount of attention," Adair said. "There are some serious points he (Steyn) made, and there's a good possibility that that may be true."

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OPINION

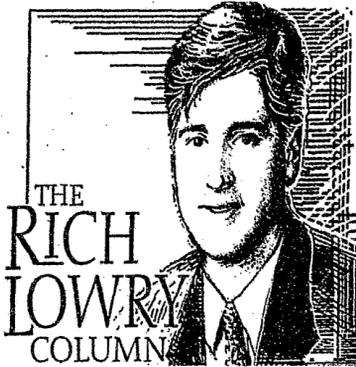
It's time for Congress' post binge diet

By Rich Lowry

President Barack Obama's first two years in office were for the ages: Rarely has so much been spent so wantonly with so little discernible public benefit.

Nondefense discretionary spending accounted for \$434 billion of the federal budget in 2008, without widespread deprivation or riots in the streets. This was the year that then-candidate Obama promised to scour the budget line by line for wastefulness and said in one of the presidential debates that his program would be a net spending cut.

In 2010, such spending was \$537 billion of the budget, a 24 percent increase. Throw in the stimulus and its \$259 billion of discretionary spending -- a category that excludes entitlements -- and the run-up is much higher. Most departments saw double-digit in-



creases, and some saw triple-digit increases. For the federal government, 2008-2010 were the fat years.

Congress passed bills without knowing what was in them, and took the recession as warrant to spend with no serious regard to merit or consequences. The resulting bursting-at-the-seams federal behemoth is about to have its turn on "The Biggest Loser."

The election of 2010 wasn't about the two parties getting along, although all things being equal many people would prefer that they did; it wasn't about defeating incumbents, although many of them lost; it was about a simple three-word slogan that captured the essence of the Republican program: "Stop the Spending."

Since the end of the Bush administration, the Democratic plaint has been that Republicans are shameless budget poseurs. They talk like fiscal hawks, but they never deliver. The Tea Party opposes government only in theory. This line of argument will soon be abandoned in favor of the charge that Republicans are waging an unprecedentedly cruel assault on the federal budget.

This is not Tom DeLay's Republican Congress, fat and happy in Washington. It is fired with an ardor to de-

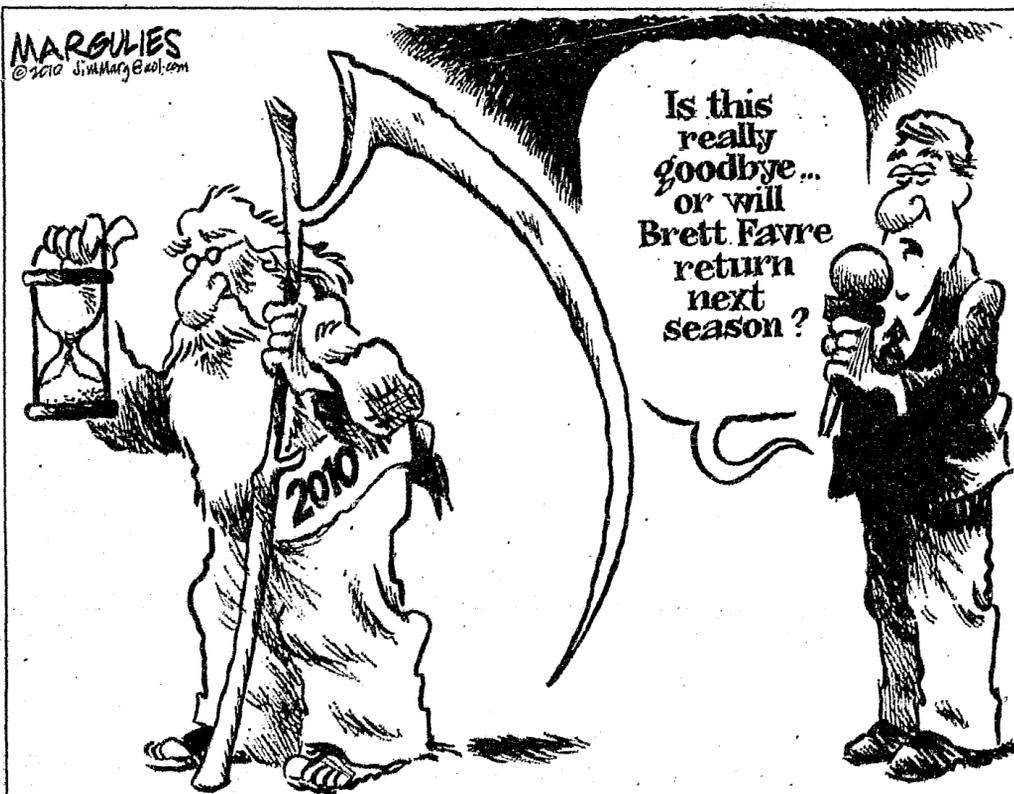
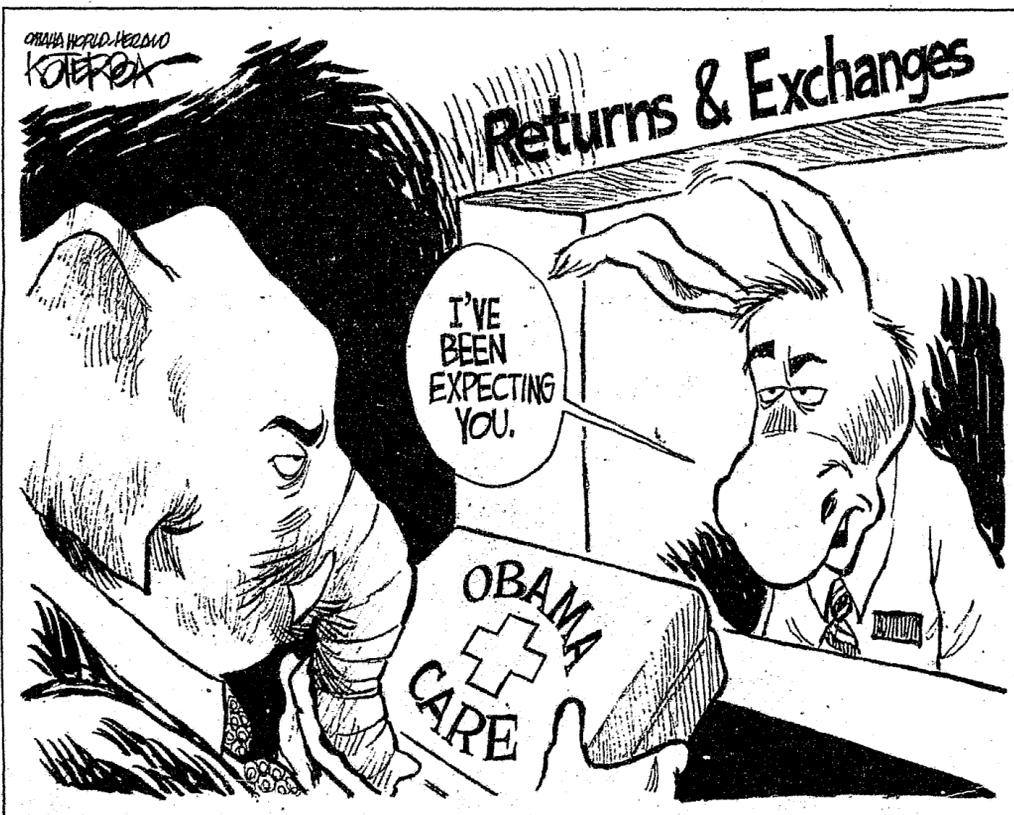
liver on its promise to limit government. Nearly 90 members of the Republican caucus are freshmen, shaped in the crucible of the Tea Party. In the context of the House Republican caucus, Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan -- who has a far-reaching plan to reform taxes and entitlements -- is practically the establishment.

The first order of business is to take nondefense discretionary spending back to 2008 levels. A two-year rollback doesn't sound overly ambitious, even though it would represent more than a 20 percent cut in spending. This would be a spectacular feat, less like turning an ocean liner around than throwing it in reverse and backing it up. Every inertial force in Washington will resist this change.

House Republicans will have to match their zeal with strategic canny. The larger argument over the size of government in this country is far from settled. The Republican political goal must be to make a government-cutting agenda seem reasonable and practicable rather than the obverse of Obama's spending recklessness.

After a carnival of spending, it is the Lenten season. It is time to reflect on and repent of our excess. The question is no longer how much more, it's how much less. The binge is over.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

History is subjective

Dear Editor,

Fortunately for the children and Sheriff Brady's descendants, Governor Richardson didn't pardon the iconic legend, Billy the Kid.

The Old West's myths and legends, like the "Kid", are based largely on eyewitness accounts, newspaper articles, dime novels and confabulation.

Per Henry Ford, "History is bunk,"

Per Teddy Roosevelt, "Most historical events are uninteresting; therefore, if historians didn't embellish history, no one would be interested in it."

A retired historian said that over the years, he had learned that history isn't necessarily what happened -- it's often what people thought or wished and said happened. Additionally, he said that he had interviewed people who had observed the same events and he usually received conflicting accounts from the eyewitnesses. He also said that some eyewitnesses unintentionally gave false reports, while others knowingly lied about the events. Finally, he said that people have a tendency to exaggerate and when oral history is relayed, the more times that it's relayed, the more inaccurate it becomes.

"The biggest reason for miscarriage of justice in our courts is unintentional, false testimonies by eyewitnesses."

Many historians not only receive their information from unreliable eyewitnesses, they also receive their information from newspaper articles. During our nation's "Old West" era, numerous newspaper articles were incorrect due to sensationalistic journalism. In the 1800s, sensationalistic journalism was so rampant that it was referred to as "Yellow Journalism." The term was derived from the "Yellow Kid," comic strips of the day. Most people have a tendency to believe everything they read and the bigger the print, the more likely the readers are to believe it.

We humans are subject to confabulation. In the minds of people, fantasy often becomes fact. Historians often knowingly or unknowingly pass off fantasy as fact.

Revisionist history usually isn't any more accurate than the original version.

Franklin L Boren
Tinnie, N.M.

Letters to the editor policy:

Letters should be 300 words or less and signed with a name and phone number. Letters are accepted via email, regular postage or in person at our office.

jeff@ruidosofreepress.com;
1086 Mechem Drive at the MTD Radio location.

The Lincoln County Rattlesnake connection

By Ray Pawley

Arabela resident

(Editor's note: Ray Pawley is a zoologist of considerable note who retired to the Hondo Valley. Following is the third of an eight part series detailing his journey to deliver Lincoln County rattlesnakes to the Moscow Zoo.)

So what do Diamondback rattlers from Lincoln County have to do with our invitation to visit the Zoo-park in Moscow? Everything. We need to begin 50 years back when the United States and Russia were in the Cold War.

In 1957, when I was a student at Michigan State University, I helped support my college expenses by exchanging animals from other countries. My first exchange with the Soviets took place while I was working at the University's Natural History Museum. While a student, I had met a famous Russian fisheries professor,

Dr. Ovchenek, who had some years before in the USSR, developed a successful plan to restore the North Sea fishing industry. Shortly afterward, he had fled the USSR and came to MSU to teach in the fisheries department. With Dr. Ovchenek's guidance, I was able to embark on the first successful live animal exchange between our countries in more than 40 years. That transaction consisted of exchanging two large Lincoln County Diamondback rattlesnakes collected on the Smoot Ranch, (formerly the Purcella Ranch), for four giant Lebetine Vipers from Turkmenistan. Of course, there were those individuals, governmental and otherwise, on both sides of the Iron Curtain that found the irony of the exchange between two Cold War protagonists most amusing—a gift of big rattlesnakes in exchange for a gift of giant vipers—how fitting.

The logistics of the exchange, however, were peculiar. Because of Cold War prohibitions against

commerce, these live animals (venomous snakes) needed to transit through at least five countries, both coming and going, to reach their ultimate destination. Moreover, all animals sent to me were delivered by the US Postal Service, which was expressly forbidden to accept any live snakes—especially venomous.

Furthermore, instead of a need for special permits, only two documents were needed to send reptiles from the United States to the USSR—an airway bill and an invoice. But this would not last. As relations between the two countries improved, the number of transit countries decreased until shipments could be sent directly between Moscow and the United States. As the Cold War waned, the list of required animal transport documents increased almost to the level required between the United States and its friendliest of neighbors. And the USPS was finally able to side step their live reptile delivery assignment for good.

LINCOLN COUNTY SHERIFF'S CALL LOG

Dec. 27
 12:54 p.m., Capitan, Farm Road 56, larceny
 1:53 p.m., Capitan, Highway 48, Mile Marker 15, animal call
 2:03 p.m., Carrizozo, 400 block of Aspen, warrant service
 5:29 p.m., Ruidoso Down, 100 block of Downs Drive, welfare check
 6:04 p.m., Alto, Hwy. 48, accident
 8:35 p.m., Alto, 1100 block of Little Big Horn, information report

Dec. 28
 8:38 a.m., Alto, 100 block of Alta Vista Circle, suspicious activity
 9:56 a.m., Alto, 1200 block of Mechem, civil dispute
 12:03 p.m., Fort Stanton, 400 block of Fort Stanton Road, animal call
 2:46 p.m., Alto, TRs Market, civil dispute
 4:03 p.m., Capitan, 100 block of Marjorie Drive, animal call
 6:09 p.m., Palo Verde, 600 block of Reynolds Drive, CYFD referral
 7:30 p.m., Alto, 100 block of Goldenrod, welfare check

Dec. 29
 10:41 a.m., Carrizozo, 300 block of Central Avenue, civil dispute
 10:56 a.m., Alto, 100 block of Badger, fire
 1:41 p.m., Carrizozo, 500 block of Hangar Lane, warrant service
 3:35 p.m., Carrizozo, 200 block of Birch, suspicious activity
 6:59 p.m., Capitan, 100 block of Randle Road, suspicious activity
 7:30 p.m., San Patricio, Highway 70, domestic battery
 7:35 p.m., Arabela, 1600 block of Arabela Road, fire
 8:09 p.m., Alto, 100 block of Wood-pine Court, fire alarm

8:33 p.m., Carrizozo, Highway 54 Mile Post 96-102, traffic offenses
 8:52 p.m., Carrizozo, 300 block of Central, alarm

Dec. 30
 8:35 a.m., Ruidoso, Gavilan Road, accident
 8:47 a.m., Alto, Sun Valley Road, welfare check
 9:15 a.m., Alto, Ski Run Road, agency assist
 9:55 a.m., Alto, Gavilan Canyon Road, motorist assist
 10:25 a.m., Alto, 100 block of Whispering Pine, suspicious activity
 11:17 a.m., Alto, 100 block of Sun Valley Road, larceny
 1:45 p.m., Alto, 1300 block of High Mesa Road, animal call
 3:03 p.m., Gavilan/Eagle Creek Road, traffic hazard
 4:17 p.m., Alpine Village Road, traffic hazard
 7:18 p.m., Alto, 1000 block of Highway 48, 911 open line
 8:43 p.m., Warrior Drive, traffic hazard

Dec. 31
 9:24 a.m., Alto, unknown trouble call
 4:42 p.m., Rancho Ruidoso, 200 block of Wyatt Earp Court, animal call
 5:08 p.m., 100 block of Santiago Circle, burglary
 5:29 p.m., San Patricio, 100 block of John West Lane, alarm
 8:03 p.m., Carrizozo, 300 block of 14th Street, suspicious activity
 10:12 p.m., Alto, 100 block of St. Andrews Court, alarm
 10:46 p.m., Ruidoso, 100 block of Jarratt Loop, alarm

Jan. 1
 12:08 a.m., Alto, 100 block of Broadmoor, accident

7:05 a.m., Alto, Buena Vista, unknown trouble
 8:28 a.m., Alto, TR's Market, hazardous materials
 8:34 a.m., Alto, 1400 block of High Mesa, abandoned vehicle
 10:58 a.m., Alto, Alpine Village, accident
 11:13 a.m., Alto, Barney Luck/Gavilan Canyon, abandoned vehicle
 11:39 a.m., Alto, 1200 block of High Mesa, domestic battery
 3:37 p.m., Corona, Great House Road, criminal damage to property
 4:45 p.m., Alto, Wapiti Way, shots fired

4:54 p.m., Monjeau Road, suspicious activity

Jan. 2
 9:51 a.m., Alto, French Drive, accident
 5:04 p.m., Alto, Ski Run Road, accident
 5:13 p.m., Glencoe, 27000 block of Buckhorn Loop, fire
 5:21 p.m., Alto, 100 block of Antler Drive, suspicious activity
 6:11 p.m., Alto, 100 block of Red Hawk Lane, 911 hang up

Jan. 3
 8:31 a.m., Alto, Rio Felix, larceny

Aaron Robert Gillespie
is announcing his engagement to
Natalie Lewis Moncilovich

Aaron is the son of Jack and Terrie Gillespie, of Ruidoso. Natalie is the daughter of Hollie and Bill Moncilovich, from Willoughby, Ohio. Aaron is a 1999 graduate of Ruidoso High School, and a 2003 graduate of New Mexico State University. He currently is the Operations Manager of the Grand Hotel in Denver, Colorado. Natalie is a graduate of The Art Institute of Colorado and currently works for Denver Health Medical Center as a Public Relations and Marketing Assistant as a Graphic Designer. They will be married in Denver, Colorado on February 5, 2011. They will enjoy their honeymoon in Ireland.

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EDUCATION

Community group assists in defining district needs

By Bea Etta Harris

Ed.D, Superintendent.

The Public School Facility Authority monitors school facilities around the state of New Mexico, and requires every school district develop a five-year plan called a Facility Master Plan (FMP). The plans must include maintenance, growth and adequacy projections and are reviewed annually and updated every five years with current assessments.

Ruidoso Municipal School District (RMSD) completed its first FMP in 2005 before the 2006 GO Bond election, and it was that plan that identified the

need for a new middle school.

In 2009, the Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC), a committee made up of community members, began the process of reviewing and updating the FMP. To assist in this very in-depth task, the Ruidoso School Board contracted with Greer Stafford, an architectural specialty firm that focuses on meeting the needs of educational, government, institutional, civic and community-based clients. Greer Stafford worked with each school site and the Blue Ribbon Committee to determine needs at each school, and then facilitated the process to prioritize those

the performing arts center.

In addition, the Blue Ribbon Committee is committed to finishing the middle school projects that were not completed due to the steep rise in construction costs after Hurricane Katrina. The completion will include landscaping the site, finishing a play field, and building a road for a second egress at a cost of approximately \$3 million.

The science wing at Ruidoso High School also must be renovated to address equipment and safety upgrades at a cost of \$4 million.

The remaining critical projects within the district include:

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| District Technology | \$1.2-million |
| Sierra Vista Roof | \$1 million |
| Nob Hill Planning | \$1 million |
| Horton Complex Demolition | \$900,000 |
| White Mountain Playground | \$500,000 |
| Horton Stadium Repair | \$200,000 |

The Blue Ribbon Committee is committed to building a new kindergarten "wing" at the White Mountain Complex to replace Nob Hill. The BRC has agreed that RMSD should reconfigure schools to a Pre-K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

During the next four years, RMSD will contract with an architectural firm to design an addition to Sierra Vista to house the Pre-K and K programs. The planning phase for this project would be paid for with funds from the 2011 GO Bond, and construction funded from the 2015 GO Bond election.

Ensuring an optimal learning environment for the students in RMSD is paramount to quality education.

To provide that quality learning environment, the Blue Ribbon Committee has determined that completing existing projects and maintaining RMSD facilities are investments in the community's infrastructure that cannot be delayed.

The Blue Ribbon Committee identified approximately \$64 million of total needs for the district. After much discussion, the committee fully agreed that it was absolutely unwilling to raise taxes for the community. However, it also believed that RMSD could not wait any longer to begin addressing the repair needs at some facilities.

First and foremost, RMSD is obligated to repay the \$1.5 million loan that was made to the district after the devastating flood of 2008. Those funds were used to construct comprehensive storm drainage at the high school site and protect the track, gyms, main building, and

Super Crossword Answers

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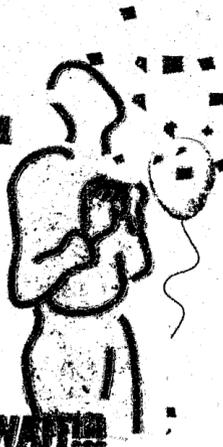
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**RUIDOSO DOWNS
POLICE BRIEFS**

Warrant arrest
Ruidoso Downs Police arrested Skylar Reed, 18, on an outstanding warrant after being stopped, Dec. 29, on Highway 70. During the stop, it was also found that the driver of the vehicle, Lanay Aragon, did not have a valid drivers license or insurance. She was issued citations, while Reed was taken to the police department for booking. After being given a copy of the warrant, he was later transported to the Lincoln County Detention Center.

Don't wreck
Police investigating an automobile collision, Dec 29, in the parking lot of a business on the 1800 block of Highway 70 found one of the drivers, John Taylor, had a suspended driver's license, no insurance and expired registration. Taylor also had two warrants for his arrest.

He was booked at RDPD and transported to the LCDC.

Friends and family celebrate the life of local musician, author, publisher and teacher

By Eugene Heathman

Reporter

A large crowd gathered at Mountain Annie's Sunday to celebrate the life of local musician and artistic 'renaissance man,' Mickey Cochran.

Cochran died Jan. 5, at his home in Alto.

Several musicians who played with or influenced Cochran, including his sons Nathan and Aaron, took the stage playing many of Cochran's favorite songs.

The spirited western song, "Winds of Change" not only describes the heritage and landscape of the region but punctuated the value of his legacy for those who attended the celebration. "Last week, Mickey was pickin' a guitar, right now he is front chair, strum-

ming a harp," said Annie Snow.

Phyllis Ann and Jim Strathmann, founders of Mountain Annie's, attended the celebration of Mickey's life and Phyllis spoke of her last conversation with Mickey.

"It was late in the night when Mickey called. I answered the phone and it was Mickey. He asked me what I was doing and I said, 'well, I guess I am trying to go to sleep!' He told me he had not been feeling that well lately but said, I am a very happy man and I replied; thank God Mickey, you are a beautiful person with a beautiful life and family," Phyllis said.

Members of the Flying J Wranglers played "Song of New Mexico," and the celebration continued with close friends performing a flute, fiddle and acoustic medley of Mickey's



favorite song, "Summertime."

While the musicians played, one of Mickey's bands, The Riversong Ramblers were filmed playing on the garden patio of Mountain Annie's and shown on the projection screen behind the performers. Mickey's fingers graced the neck of guitars, a banjo and mandolin with ease, as if he were there playing alongside his friends.

RUIDOSO POLICE BRIEFS

Break and enter
Police responded to a call on the 200 block of Camelot, Dec. 25, in reference to a breaking and entering call. A door to the residence was found open and the door frame damaged. There was no one in the residence and nothing appeared missing.

Later that day, the resident contacted police and stated they were out of town for the Christmas vacation, and stated nothing appeared to be missing when the scene was described to him. The door was secured.

Winch lifted
A winch on the front of a vehicle parked on the 600 block of Highway 70 was reported stolen Jan. 4.

Vehicle damage
A truck parked on the 100 block of Chaparral

Drive was reported damaged by what appeared to be a rock approximately two weeks before Jan. 3.

Dangerous dog
Police investigating the report of a vicious animal responded to the 200 block of Hemlock, Dec. 24, after a dog was found attacking and killing a neighbor's dog.

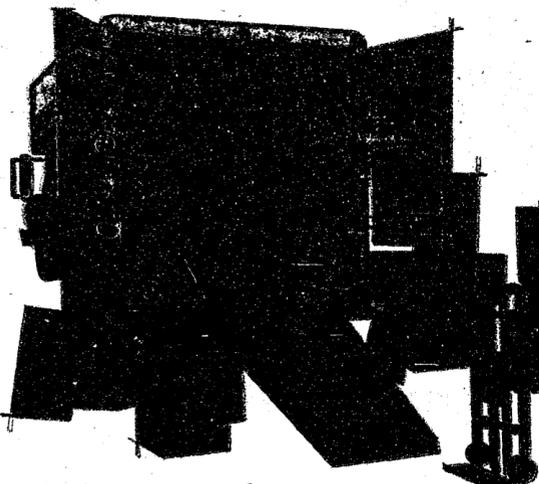
The attacking dog's owner, Jennifer Williams, 25, of Ruidoso was herself attacked when she tried to intervene, as was a man who came to assist. The dogs were taken to the Ruidoso Humane Society for quarantine and Williams was cited for vicious animal and animal at large.

Another dangerous dog
On Dec. 25, officers responded to the 200 block

of Lower Terrace to find a dog that reportedly attacked a cat in the area. The owner of the dog, J.T. Olvera of Ruidoso, was cited for animal at large.

You swerve, you're served
Ruidoso police stopped a vehicle driven by Mario Jinzo, 46, of Ruidoso after observing the car crossing the solid white line on Mechem Drive, Jan. 3. Once he was stopped, Jinzo refused to identify himself and was placed under arrest for concealing his identity. Police were able to find that Jinzo was driving on a revoked license and was further charged for driving on that revoked license.

Jinzo was taken to the Ruidoso Police Department, where he was booked and posted the \$1,500 bond before being released.



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BUSINESS

'Twas the season for business

By Todd Fuqua
Reporter

Those who work in the service industry in Ruidoso know all about the Christmas-to-New Years week. Restaurant managers, pizza delivery drivers and hotel desk clerks know it as "hell week," but there's nothing hellish about making lots of money.

There was some concern this year with the relative lack of snow and economic uncertainty, but all those on the retail frontlines reported things were as good or better than last year.

"I think it was comparable to last year," said Michelle Ament, owner of Log Cabin Restaurant. "People come here as a tradition, no matter what the snow is like."

Sandi Aguilar, director of Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce, said there were very few rooms, cabins or condominiums available in the village during the week.

"It's a resort destination, and families and groups come up and spend the week here regardless of the snow," Aguilar said. "We are, however, down for the month from last year because of the lack of snow."

Cindi Clayton-Davis, owner of Condotel, said the volume of business is still high.

"This year, we weren't expecting a lot of pre-Christmas business, but as soon as kids let out for school Dec. 18, they all started coming up," Clayton-Davis said. "I don't know why that was, but I'm OK with it. There was a significant amount of increase in business. But when you're sold out, you're sold out — there's nowhere to go from there."

One business that increased precipitously was Domino's Pizza, which set a record in sales for the week. James Matise, general manager, said the week's sales went a long way to restoring the store's bottom line.

"Earlier in the month, we were hurting," Matise

said. "The influx of tourists definitely helped."

Aguilar said the higher occupancy rate and record weeks at some restaurants was a bit surprising, as Christmas and New Year's Day fell on Saturdays.

"Ideally, we want those days to fall in the middle of the week, like they did last year," Aguilar said. "This year, Christmas was on a Saturday, and people might just take the weekend off instead of the entire week."

The snow that fell in the middle of that week also helped, as several tourists came up as soon as they saw the weather report to ski at Ski Apache.

"I went up on Sunday, and it was interesting to see how many people came up after the snow," Aguilar said. "It's interesting to see how people perceive the ski area. There's snow on the slopes, because they've been making it. But I spoke to a lot of people from the El Paso area who wouldn't have been there if it hadn't snowed that week."

New year bringing more new businesses

By Eugene Heathman
Reporter

The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well in Ruidoso, as new business owners see opportunity in the abundance of available commercial space. From Ruidoso Downs to Ski Run Road, several new businesses have already opened or will be opening soon.

Fox Creek Furniture will open in February in the old Waldrop Furniture Store at 26143 HWY 70 in Ruidoso Downs. Mark and Mary Waldrop, who own the building that has been vacant more than a year, will offer a traditional line of name-brand, mountain lodge-style furniture.

"The Waldrop family has been in the furniture business since 1971. We opened our first store in Roswell and are excited by the opportunity to get this store up and running," Mark Waldrop said.

Ruidoso's midtown occupancy is growing with the addition of Twisted Pines Cigars & Pipes, opening at 2316 Sudderth Drive, next to Brunell's, and Presley Printing and Mailing, located at 2825 Sudderth Drive, Ste. F, in the Boulder Plaza behind Sacred Grounds. Gerald Champion Regional Medical celebrated the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of a new sleep center & medical complex at 101 5th St., Jan. 6.

"This facility allows us to bring our services to you. We have an excellent working partnership with Lincoln County Medical Center and look forward to serving the community," said Jim Heckert, CEO of Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center.

A new auto service center just opened at 1021 Mechem Drive. KiKi Auto and Tire is owned operated by Philbert Candelaria of San Patricio. "We are ready to provide a variety

of automotive services with six full service bays to include oil changes, minor repairs and tire service. This is a great facility to operate from and believe we will stay pretty busy," Candelaria said.

Other businesses have grown or relocated recently such as; Head to Toe Beauty Salon, now at 2815 Sudderth Drive. Postal Annex moved from their location in the building occupied by Schlotzky's to 1703 Sudderth Drive, next to The Wild Herb Market and Domino's Pizza. Local retail developer Mark Marquez said, "Business is picking up, I have added at least three new tenants in the last three months and the expansion of another." Marquez attributes the increase in calls to people seeking new business opportunities with affordable lease rates and incentives provided by property owners.



Eugene Heathman/Ruidoso Free Press

Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center CEO, Jim Heckert and Cardio Pulmonary Director, Thane Poore celebrate the grand opening of the GCRMC Sleep and Medical Center on Thursday.

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NEW MEDICAL SPA OPENS IN RUIDOSO

High tech treatments available in the mountains

By Leslie Ackerman

Reporter

Fusion Medical Spa joined the ever increasing list of new businesses opening in Ruidoso Monday, Dec. 27. The spa offers many non-surgical services and in the words of aesthetician Morgan Ingram, "We are an innovative spa combining a little bit of everything from alternative to traditional medicine."

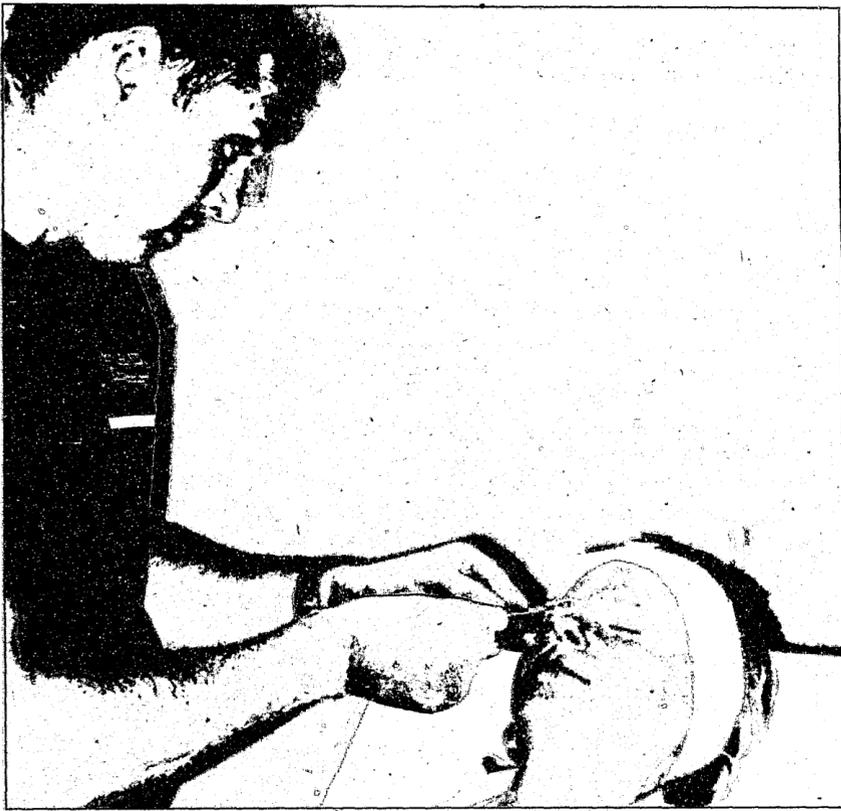
Services include physician supervised weight loss, laser hair reduction, scar and stretchmark reduction, microdermabrasion, photo rejuvenation, chemical peels, vein therapy, Restylane™, JUVEDERM®, and Botox™ injections, as well as high end skin care products.

The Visia Complexion Analysis System is free to anyone who wants to know how their skin ranks compared to others of the same age, gender and skin type. The analysis is divided into eight categories — spots, wrinkles, texture, pores, UV spots, brown spots, red areas and porphyrins (enzyme deficiency in the skin). The results are generated into a report with percentiles and photos that become a baseline for recommended services or products.

"I was not fully prepared for what I saw in the analysis," said patient Lorie Godard, "and that's why it's so important to protect your skin from an early age."

Another hi-tech piece of equipment is the Palomar StarLux 500 laser and intense pulsed light (IPL) platform which is used for a variety of cosmetic and aesthetic procedures. "Scar and stretchmark therapy is very new," said Steve Rath, owner of Fusion Medical Spa and a medical doctor. "We are the only office in Southern New Mexico to have it [Palomar StarLux 500]. I'm very excited about being able to offer all our services to this community."

The IPL laser goes through a filter to the scar tissue. Tiny micro-beams penetrate, making pinpoint marks similar to the marks a person would get if they pressed a hairbrush against the skin. Some of the abnormal cells are killed where col-



Leslie Ackerman/Ruidoso Free Press
Steve Rath, owner of Fusion Medical Spa, gives Lorie Godard injections to smooth and rejuvenate her skin.

lagen deposits have created a scar, but a large amount of the skin surface remains untouched. What this means to the patient is less pain and less downtime — approximately 12 hours, versus four to six weeks with the ablative process.

Fusion Medical Spa is the only place in the region to offer the hCG (Human chorionic gonadotropin) weight loss program. HCG, produced naturally in the body at low levels, recruits adipose (fat) tissue from unwanted areas, causing less hunger discomfort, while assisting with keeping energy at a more constant and consistent level.

"Physician 'managed' weight loss is certainly a term that's out there, but physician 'supervised' is more accurate for what we do," said Rath. "We want people to be involved in their weight loss, so they need to be the ones who are managing that. We do a screening which includes a physical exam, body mass index (BMI) work up and laboratory studies. Of course we want to work closely with our patients' primary care physicians to determine the best way to meet their weight loss goals."

Behavioral studies have shown "it takes three weeks to break a bad habit and develop a new (healthier) one," said Rath. "We offer our weight loss program as an alternative to the more invasive gastric bypass or lap band surgeries."

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the United States

has experienced a dramatic increase in obesity during the past 20 years. The CDC also claims New Mexico has an obesity rate of 25 percent.

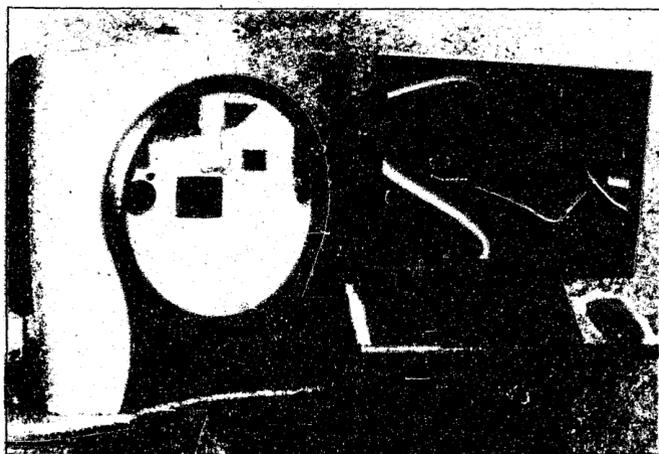
Nurse Janet Henley said, "Fusion Medical Spa is upscale and long overdue. Clients seeking comparable services would have to travel three hours to get what we can now offer here."

In addition to the many services, the spa offers products such as Jane Iredale cosmetics and Epicuren and Results Rx skincare products.

"I'm excited about offering treatments that I could not otherwise offer," said aesthetician Heidi Johnson. "We have it all and there's been a definite increase in the number of walk-ins since we put out the 'Now Open' sign. People let us know how they heard about us, which is extremely helpful."

Fusion Medical Spa offers CareCredit® which works like a credit card (without interest or finance charges) to spread the expense of products and services over a manageable period of time. A decision is made immediately as to whether patients qualify and co-signers are also welcome.

Not only has Fusion Medical Spa created jobs in Ruidoso, but the owners are conscientious about giving back to the community. The spa is part-sponsor of the Spencer Theater's *Lord of the Dance*, Jan. 31 at 7 p.m. and has donated gifts to the Ski Apache Disabled Skiers' Program (SADSP) Silent Auction Jan. 29 from 6-9 p.m. at the Inn of the Mountain Gods.



Leslie Ackerman/Ruidoso Free Press

The Visia Complexion Analysis system is the first step to optimum complexion health and vitality — identifying patients' skin condition both topically and subsurface.

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On the Town

Let's make crab cakes!

Dining

When I want to cook something special for my family or friends, there is nothing better to cook than crab cakes. They are very quick and easy to make and they taste like a million bucks which will surely impress whoever you're cooking them for. If you're trying to figure out something to cook for the super bowl party, this is a perfect party-time treat!



Brendan Gochenour



There are a few things you need to know before you make crab cakes. First, you need to start with some really high quality crab meat. There are a lot of types of crab out there to choose from. The two most popular crabs on the east coast are the Blue and Stone.

Blue crabs are found in the Atlantic coast and into the Gulf of Mexico. A male Blue crab is called a jimmy and a female is called a sook. You can tell them apart by their underside apron; the male or jimmy will have a t-shaped apron and the sook will have a more rounded apron. Also, the jimmy's claws will be all blue and the sook's claw tips will have a little red at the end. An immature female is called a sally and their apron will be in the shape of a triangle.

Stone Crabs, for the most part, are found in Miami and Key West. When harvested, only the claws are removed and the crab is thrown back in the water. The crab will grow another claw in about 18 months. The claws are cooked immediately on the boat and chilled.

On the West Coast, the two most popular crabs are Dungeness and King. Dungeness Crab is a lot like Blue crab and is the most popular on the west coast, while King crab is found in the northern arctic waters and is way out of most people's price range to make crab cake out of. Another crab type you

will see is the Snow crab.

This crab was given this name for ease of marketing – their real name is the Spider Crab.

I like to use fresh Blue crab that has been pasteurized and comes in a can. Yes, it's fresh AND it's in a can. Most of the time those two words are never seen together, and this is only recipe of mine that you will ever see that needs a can opener. Besides, I'm not going to cook 22 Blue crabs just to get the same amount I'll get out of this 1 pound can. Remember, I said this recipe is easy. When I make crab cakes, I pick up a can at Mario's Market. I get the Gumbo lump, and yes, it is expensive. I paid \$25.95 for one can. Mario also has claw meat in the can and it runs \$12.95 a can and is just as good. One can will make about 10 cakes.

Next let's talk about the binder. You want to use just enough to hold it together and not overwhelm the sweet taste of the crab. You're not making hockey pucks, so you want them to be flaky. Every ingredient should take a back seat to the crab.

Mixing is another thing that you don't want to overdo. You want to have some big pieces of crab in the cakes, so it's best to mix the ingredients separately from the crab meat, then fold in the

crab meat, very carefully so you don't shred the tender crab meat.

So, let's make some crab cakes!

Crab Cakes with Chipotle Mayo

Ingredients

1 lb. crab meat in the can
 ¼ cup diced yellow onion
 1 tablespoon fresh parsley chopped very fine
 2 eggs
 ¼ cup mayo
 ½ cup Panko bread crumbs
 Dash of Tabasco sauce
 ¼ cup diced red bell pepper
 ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
 ¼ teaspoon red chili powder
 Chipotle mayo
 1 chipotle
 ¼ cup mayo
 ¼ cup scallions
 1 tablespoon lemon juice
 1 tablespoon adobo sauce from the canned chipotles

Directions

In medium size bowl, mix by hand all the ingredients and ¼ cup Panko bread crumbs, but don't add the crab meat and save ¼ cup Panko bread crumbs. Drain the crab meat of any excess water and mix very carefully so not to break up or shred the crab meat. Next,

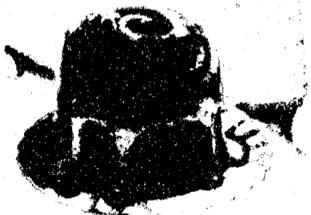
you need to shape the cakes. I like to use a 2 ½ inch cookie cutter. Loosely pack the mixture into the cookie cutter and place the cake on a clean cookie sheet; you will get about 9 to 10 cakes. Once they are made, place them in the refrigerator for about 30 minutes. While you wait for the cakes to cool you can make the Chipotle Mayo dipping sauce. To do this, place all of the Chipotle mayo ingredients in a good processor and blend until it is very smooth! I like to put mine in a squeeze bottle. After you have chilled the crab cakes, dip them into the remaining Panko bread crumbs so that the top and bottom are lightly coated. You just want enough to add a little texture. Now place a large skillet over medium heat add a little butter. Once the pan is hot, place the cakes on the skillet, cooking on one side for about 3 minutes, just until it becomes golden brown. Flip and repeat.

To serve, paint a design on a plate with a little of the chipotle mayo and place the cake on top. Garnish with a lemon and lime slice, and watch the faces of your family or friends light up when they see them coming.

I hope you enjoy this recipe as much as I enjoy getting them to you every week! I also enjoy getting your emails at askchefbrendan@gmail.com and comments on my Chef Brendan page on facebook. Thank you for all of your support and Happy Cooking!

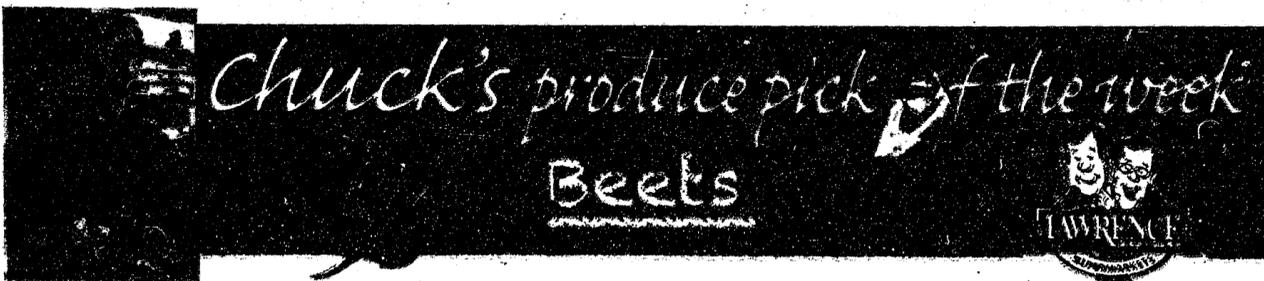
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Did you know that one third of the world's sugar supply comes not from sugar cane, but from a special variety of beets known as sugar beets?

Beets also have the distinction of being very rich in red pigment, and they'll stain your hands if you're not careful.

Beets are both sweet and earthy-tasting and pair well with other root vegetables. They also go well with tangy, sweet fruits like pineapples.

While most beets are red in color, there are

a number of beet varieties that range in color from white to yellow to red.

Beet soup

A gorgeous, healthy, and very tasty beet that's also simple to make. Beets and sautéed onions and garlic simmer in beef broth before being finished with a swirl of cream.

Preparation time is 20 minutes. Cooking time is 40 minutes. This recipe serves four.

Ingredients

3 tablespoons olive oil
 1 medium onion, chopped
 3 cloves of garlic
 6 medium beets, peeled and chopped
 2 cups beef stock

salt and freshly ground pepper
 heavy cream

Directions

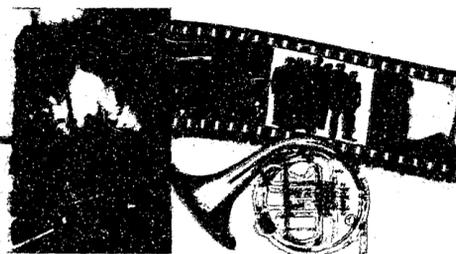
Warm olive oil in a large sauce pan over medium heat. Stir in onions and garlic. Cook until soft but not browned, about five minutes. Stir in beets and cook for one minute.

Stir in stock and season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, cover and simmer until the beets are tender – about 20-30 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to cool slightly.

In batches, add soup to a food processor and pulse until liquefied. Return soup to sauce pan and gently heat through. Ladle soup into bowls and garnish with a swirl of cream.

On the Town

entertainment calendar



**TUESDAY
JANUARY 11**

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 12**

Farmer's Market at SBS Wood Shavings in Glencoe from 9 to 11 a.m.

Karaoke With DJ Pete at Lucy's Mexicali Restaurant in Midtown from 9:30 p.m. to close.

The Sterilizers perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 6 to 9 p.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**THURSDAY
JANUARY 13**

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**FRIDAY
JANUARY 14**

Christmas Tree Recycle at Schoolhouse Park, Ruidoso. Take your trees to be recycled to the park. There will be an orange fence

around the place to put them. Saturday Jan. 15 is the last day to bring your tree for recycling. More Info: 575-378-4697 Web: www.greentreeswa.org/

Cantina Night at Laughing Sheep Farm, 1 mile west of Lincoln, Hwy 380, mm 96, from 5 to 9 p.m. Live music with guitar and fiddle playing Western Swing.

Mike Sanjku performs in Wendell's Restaurant at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 10 p.m.

Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest, RHS Performing Arts Theatre Center, 7 p.m. Tickets can be bought from any Red Feather Theatre cast member or at the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce at 720 Sudderth Dr. More Info: Georgene Inks Drama Dept. Instructor - RHS E-mail: inksg@ruidososchool.org

Marshall Tucker Band Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino, 8 p.m. Enjoy their signature American Southern Rock that they have been performing since the 1970's. With over 20 singles throughout the Band's career, they have plenty of crowd-favorite songs to sing along to. More Info: 575-464-7777 Web: www.innofthemoun-

taingods.com

2 Days Walk performs at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Tomas Vigil performs at Landlocked Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 6 to 9 p.m.

Michael Beyer performs older songs and jazz at Kokopeli Country Club in Alto from 7 to 10 p.m.

Karaoke at The Elks Lodge on Highway 70, next to the Ruidoso Emporium, at 7 p.m. with All For Fun Karaoke.

Los Mustangs perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

Aaron R. Lacombe and Company perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 9 to 10:30 p.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 15**

Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest, RHS Performing Arts Theatre Center, 7 p.m. Tickets can be bought from any Red Feather Theatre cast member or at the Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce at 720 Sudderth Dr. More Info: Georgene Inks Drama Dept. Instructor - RHS E-mail: inksg@ruidososchool.org

Doug Fuqua performs in Wendell's

Lounge at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 11 p.m.

Mike Sanjku performs in Wendell's Restaurant at the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort & Casino from 5 to 10 p.m.

Tomas Vigil performs at Landlocked Restaurant & Bar on Mechem from 6 to 9 p.m.

2 Days Walk performs at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Los Mustangs perform at Casa Blanca Restaurant on Mechem Drive from 7 to 10 p.m.

Aaron LaCombe Band performs at Casa Blanca Restaurant and Cantina on Mechem Drive from 9 to 10 p.m.

Michael Beyer performs older songs and jazz at Kokopeli Country Club in Alto from 7 to 10 p.m.

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**SUNDAY
JANUARY 16**

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

**MONDAY
JANUARY 17**

Live Music at WPS in Midtown Ruidoso from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m.

Things to do every day

Ruidoso River Museum open at 101 Mechem Drive in the building which previously housed Rush Ski Shop. The museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Monday. Admission is \$5 for Adults and \$2 for Children.

Smokey Bear Park is open in Capitan. The Smokey Bear Historical Park is located on highway 380 (better known as 118 Smokey Bear Blvd.) in the heart of the Village of Capitan and is open everyday of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's day. Entrance fees into the park are \$2 for adults, \$1 for children 7-12. Children 6 and under are free. Smokey Bear Historical Park is operated by EMNRD-Forestry Division.

Simulcast Horse Racing at Billy the Kid's Race Book at Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino. Simulcast races are shown live from across the country and betting windows are open to place your wager. Billy's Race Book also serves delicious food and has a full bar. If you love horse racing, it is the place to go every day.



EDITOR'S NOTE: DVDs reviewed in this column will be available in stores the week of Jan. 25, 2011.

PICKS OF THE WEEK

Secretariat (PG) — Secretariat, the 1973 Triple Crown winner, gets a weirdly contrived Disney makeover in this 2010 biopic. Diane Lane stars as Penny Chenery, the multi-millionaire owner of the horse. Penny is portrayed as some sort of ragtag underdog who must somehow beat the odds — despite being a ridiculously wealthy woman who owns the greatest thoroughbred ever born. But thanks to prayer and John Malkovich, she succeeds!

Red (PG-13) — This movie was a heckuva lot more fun than I thought it would be. Bruce Willis leads an all-star cast in this rollicking action-comedy about a retired CIA agent who gets pulled back into the spy game when his house is attacked and destroyed by a team of black-ops guys. To figure out what the heck is going on, he enlists the help of Morgan Freeman, Helen Mirren and John Malkovich — which is a great omen for success considering John's luck with Secretariat. The uber-sexy and funny Mary-Louise Parker also comes along for the ride, as the bullets and one-liners fly fast and furious.

Saw 3D: The Final Chapter (R) — John Malkovich isn't in this movie.

Nowhere Boy (R) — "Kick-Ass" star Aaron

Johnson stars as a 15-year-old John Lennon in this beautifully poetic and touching look at Lennon's teen years, the formation of The Beatles, and most of all, his brief relationship with his mother (Ann-Marie Duff). Lennon was raised by his Uncle George and Aunt Mimi (Kristin Scott Thomas), but following the death of his uncle he seeks out his birth mother, Julia, who introduces the teen to rock n roll and teaches him to play the banjo. Teen angst and family tragedy lead John to take up the guitar and form a band as a way of channeling his anger and grief. The rest, as they say, is history, for young John Winston Lennon grew up to become one of the greatest rock stars of the 20th century — a feat made even more impressive as he did it without the help of John Malkovich.

TV SERIES

- Glee Season 2, Volume 1
- Matlock Sixth Season
- Agatha Christie Hour Set Two
- Zorro The Complete Series
- Webster Season One
- She-Ra The Complete Series
- Wish Me Luck Series Two
- Mi-5 Volume 8
- Pie in the Sky Series Four



Top 10 Video Rentals

1. Salt(PG-13)
2. The Town(R)
3. The Other Guys(PG-13)
4. Inception(PG-13)
5. Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps(PG-13)
6. Despicable Me(PG)
7. The A-Team(PG-13)
8. Easy A(PG-13)
9. Knight and Day(PG-13)
10. Devil(PG-13)

Top 10 DVD Sales

1. The Twilight Saga: Eclipse(PG-13) (Summit)
2. Inception(PG-13) (Warner Bros.)
3. Shrek Forever After(PG) (DreamWorks)
4. Shrek Forever After/Donkey's Christmas Shrektacular(PG) (DreamWorks)
5. Toy Story 3(G) (Disney)
6. The Search for Santa Paws(G) (Disney)
7. The Sorcerer's Apprentice (2010)(PG) (Disney)
8. Christmas Classics Gift Set(PG) (Vivendi)
9. The Expendables(R) (Lionsgate)
10. Disney's A Christmas Carol(PG) (Disney)

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By JoAnn Derson

Remove mineral deposits - from shower fixtures by removing them and boiling them in straight white vinegar for 15 minutes. Allow it to cool and then scrub with a brush. Rinse and reattach.

Make a paste of cream of tartar and hydrogen peroxide to remove rust stains from sinks or bathtubs.

"To keep my preschooler organized when it comes time to get dressed, I fold outfits together and store them that

way in his dresser. I use stickers on the drawers to show what kind of outfits it contains. For instance, long sleeves and pants are in the "snowflake" drawer, and regular jeans and T-shirts are in another drawer. Pajamas are in a drawer with big Z's and a moon." — P.C. in Oregon

Recycle milk cartons by filling a couple with sand and storing them in your car. You can use this to add traction if you get stuck in the snow.

"Spritz the heels and toes of your

panty hose with hairspray to help them last longer and have less runs. This has worked for me for 30 years." — L.B. in Georgia

"Rid carpets of static cling by mixing eight ounces of water and three tablespoons of liquid fabric softener in a spray bottle. Spray as needed." -- E.M. in Pennsylvania

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475 or e-mail JoAnn at heresatip@yahoo.com.

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PREP RESULTS

Jan. 4

Boys basketball

Socorro 85, Ruidoso 55
Hondo 54, Capitan 52

Girls basketball

Hondo 43, Capitan 35

Jan. 6

Boys basketball

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan**

Mescalero 60, Reserve 41
Carrizozo 52, Cloudcroft 49
Hagerman 83, Hondo 44
Capitan 83, Corona 12

Girls basketball

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan**

Hagerman 45, Carrizozo 24
Mescalero 43, Hondo 38
Capitan 55, Corona 16
Cloudcroft 52, Reserve 27

Jan. 7

Boys basketball

Ruidoso 61, Dexter 54

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan**

Hondo 64, Cloudcroft 54
Mescalero 67, Corona 31
Hagerman 90, Carrizozo 23
Reserve 50, Capitan 45

Girls basketball

Ruidoso 78, Socorro 45

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan**

Hondo 46, Reserve 43
Cloudcroft 45, Mescalero 40
Carrizozo 49, Corona 29
Hagerman 54, Capitan 33

Jan. 8

Boys basketball

Goddard 72, Ruidoso 60

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan
Third Place**

Capitan 56, Carrizozo 42

Fifth Place

Hondo 76, Mescalero 59

Seventh Place

Cloudcroft 52, Corona 17

Girls basketball

Ruidoso 56, Silver 34

**Smokey Bear Tournament
at Capitan
Third Place**

Mescalero 38, Cloudcroft 31

Fifth Place

Carrizozo 44, Hondo 33

Seventh Place

Reserve 52, Corona 26

PREPS THIS WEEK

Jan. 11

Boys basketball

Ruidoso at Hot Springs, 7:30 p.m.

Capitan at Carrizozo, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball

Silver at Ruidoso, 5:30 p.m.

Capitan at Carrizozo, 6 p.m.

Wrestling

Ruidoso at Hobbs triangular, 3 p.m.

Jan. 13

Boys basketball

Carrizozo at Mescalero, 6 p.m.

Ruidoso at Goddard, 7:30 p.m.

Elida at Hondo, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball

Carrizozo at Mescalero, 4 p.m.

Elida at Hondo, 5 p.m.

Jan. 14

Boys basketball

Corona at Carrizozo, 7 p.m.

Girls basketball

Corona at Carrizozo, 5 p.m.

Ruidoso at Tularosa, 7 p.m.

Jan. 15

Boys basketball

Hot Springs at Ruidoso, 7:30 p.m.

Hondo at Clovis Christian, 7:30 p.m.

Girls basketball

Hondo at Clovis Christian, 5 p.m.

Week a mixed bag for Ruidoso

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

The Ruidoso boys basketball team bookended its week with a pair of losses, but coach Dennis Davis could honestly say he saw continued improvement in his team.

The Warriors started with a big 85-55 loss at Socorro Jan. 4, then defeated a strong Dexter team at home Jan. 7, 60-54.

Ruidoso (5-7) followed that victory up with a 72-60 loss to a very good Goddard team Jan. 8.

Despite that last loss, Davis was happy with his team's progress.

"I think we were much more competitive in this game than in some recent contests," Davis said of the Warriors' loss to Goddard. "This shows we can compete with just about anyone."

Goddard—coming off a strong victory over Lovington the night before—found itself tied at 13-all after the first quarter and were leading by just six at the half. The third quarter enabled the Rockets to extend the lead beyond Ruidoso's reach.

"We played some pretty good defense on the day, but we did turn the ball over and gave them some easy scoring opportunities," Davis said. "On offense, missed shots were our problem."

Outlasting Dexter

At the very beginning and near the very end, it looked as though Dexter was going to do something it had never done as a member of District 4-3A—beat Ruidoso.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Ruidoso forward Ismail Cook, center, is surrounded by Dexter's Bryan Mireles (25) and Tyler Miles as he shoots a layup Jan. 7 at RHS.

idoso.

The Demons came out firing on all cylinders Friday, taking a 9-4 lead to begin, only to see Ruidoso take the lead for the majority of the game. The Warriors almost literally threw the game away near the end, as Dexter got to within one point with 41 seconds left before finally succumbing, 60-54.

Ruidoso spotted the Demons their big lead before waking up to tie things up at 11-all by the end of the first quarter.

The Warriors (5-6) then used their pressure defense to get steals and create baskets on the other end. But for all the frenetic activity on the court, Ruidoso

See WARRIORS, pg. 19

Bench comes through for Lady Warriors

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

The Ruidoso girls are on a mini-roll, having won four games in a row to up their record to 10-4. Their latest victory was on the road at Silver Jan. 8, as the Lady Warriors earned a 56-34 win.

Ruidoso coach Julie Montoya was happy with the adjustments her girls made after leading scorers Sydney Gonzales and Britannie Vega got into foul trouble early and had to sit on the bench the entire second quarter.

"We had to slow things down a little bit," Montoya said. "We didn't start off in a press or really aggressive, we just had to adjust to the way they were calling it. I was really happy to see how the girls responded."

The Lady Warriors are used to running and gunning, using a press to create turnovers and layups in transition. But the early foul trouble against Silver forced them to go to a more deliberate half-court offense.

Ruidoso used its size advantage inside to end up with the win. Center Abriana Herrera had 19 points to lead the Lady Warriors, while Claudia Morales and Lyndsey Saenz each had eight.

"We needed that contribution from the bench," Montoya said of the work by Morales. "If we can be deeper on the bench, that will be critical down the stretch."

War of the Warriors

The Lady Warriors almost learned the hard way that you can't take any team for granted, even one you'd already beaten by 30 points.

Ruidoso welcomed Socorro to the house Jan. 7 and won by an even larger margin—78-45—but there was a point early in the game that the S-Warriors were thinking upset.

Socorro scored 10 unanswered points at the end of the first quarter and beginning of the second to get within one point of their hosts, but once Ruidoso settled down, they took control and rolled to the victory.

"We started playing their game, just taking the ball to the

See GIRLS, pg. 19



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press

Ruidoso guard Sydney Gonzales, right, prepares to make a layup past Socorro's Marisa Marquez Jan. 7 at RHS.

Hagerman teams dominate Smokey Bear

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

CAPITAN – As just about everyone predicted, the Hagerman boys and girls teams won the championships at this year's Smokey Bear Tournament, but the stories of the five local schools in the brackets were just as compelling.

The Hagerman Bobcats dominated Reserve 81-27 in the title game, while the Lady Bobcats squeaked past Cloudfcroft, 37-32.

The Hagerman boys got to the title game with an 83-44 win over Hondo Jan. 6 and a 90-23 victory over Carrizozo Jan. 7.

The Bobcats simply overpowered the Eagles with their inside game Thursday, getting the ball to center Michael Garcia, who poured in 27 points on the night. Isaac Bejarano added 21 points, while Edward Montoya had 14 and Ryan Gomez 10 for the Bobcats.

"We didn't have an answer for their size, and we wore ourselves out defending (Garcia)," said Hondo coach Brad Holland. "They turned the heat up on us in the second half, and they're a good team."

The Eagles did their best with their running game, and Luis Montano had 15 points for Hondo, all but two of them in the first half.

Hondo rebounded the following day with a 64-54 victory over Cloudfcroft in the consolation bracket, then streaked past Mescalero, 76-59, in the



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press
Carrizozo forward Mark Vigil, right, puts up a three-point shot as Cloudfcroft's Johnathan Navarette defends Jan. 7 at the Smokey Bear Tournament in Capitan. Vigil had a three-pointer as time ran out to win the game for the Grizzlies.

fifth-place game.

"We jumped on them real quick," Holland said of the game against the Chiefs. "The boys came out and played hard for four quarters. Overall, I felt it was a good tournament for my guys. There was three games of improvement."

The Chiefs got to the fifth place game after falling to Reserve, 60-41, on

the first day, then defeated Corona 67-31 in the consolation bracket.

Vigil comes through

Carrizozo had the most exciting start to the tournament, downing Cloudfcroft on a last-second shot by Mark Vigil.

"I'm real happy with how he came

through for us," said Carrizozo coach Billy Page of Vigil's performance on the day. "He had the hot hand, so we had to get the ball to him."

The Grizzlies took their first lead of the game with 6:20 left in the fourth quarter on a layup by Tavi Nash, and Carrizozo and Bears then traded leads the rest of the way.

Vigil – who finished with a game-high 27 points – tied things up at 49-all with 32 seconds left, then stole the ball and sent it ahead to Marshall Ventura for the layup.

But the ball wouldn't fall through the hoop, and Vigil had to steal the ball again to give his team a chance at the win.

Page called time out with four seconds left to set up the play, and the Grizzlies executed it to perfection. The ball was inbounded on a long pass to Vigil at half court, who turned, dribbled a few steps and took a shot from way outside.

The ball was true, and Carrizozo had the thrilling victory.

"It was a one-time thing," Vigil said of the shot. "I practice threes all the time. It's all about focus. It felt great when it left my hand."

The Grizzlies finished fourth after a 56-42 loss to Lincoln County rival Capitan in the third place game. The Tigers opened with a huge 83-12 victory over Corona, then lost a close 50-45 decision to Reserve. The Corona Cardinals ended up winless, falling to Cloudfcroft 52-17 in the seventh place game.

Mescalero girls third at Capitan

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

CAPITAN – Mescalero girls coach Nate Raynor was a little mystified as to what happened to his team against Cloudfcroft in the second round of the Smokey Bear Tournament.

After winning decisively over Hondo, 43-38, in the first round Jan. 7, the Lady Chiefs dropped a 45-40 decision to the Lady Bears.

"That was the worst game I'd seen them play," Raynor said. "My girls just didn't have it in them to win."

The Lady Chiefs responded with a 38-31 win over Capitan in the third place game, but the Lady Tigers still threatened with an upset.

"If you play lazy, teams will beat you, and that almost happened against Capitan," Raynor said. "But we're pretty happy with how we finished the tournament."

Capitan coach John Devine was also concerned about his team's performance. The Lady Tigers thrashed Corona in the first round, 55-16, then lost to Hagerman 54-33 in the second round.

"It's always the same story. We played good defense, but didn't make shots in the second half," Devine said of his team's loss to Mescalero. "We were also 0-13 from the free throw line, and we don't win games if we do that."

After losing to Mescalero in the first round, Hondo narrowly defeated Reserve 46-43 in the consolation bracket,

et, then fell to Carrizozo, 44-33, in the fifth place game.

The Hondo-Zozo matchup was almost a replay of the teams' game at the Mescalero tournament a month before, as the Lady Eagles held a 7-6 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

But Carrizozo held their opponents to just one basket in the second quarter and had a 25-9 lead at halftime.

"Our depth got us a little bit," said Hondo coach Brad Holland. "We got some fouls on us and they went on a run."

Hondo was able to get within 10

points near the end, but several shots that would have brought them even closer simply wouldn't fall.

Carrizozo opened with a 45-24 loss to Hagerman, then defeated Corona 49-29 in the consolation bracket.

"I don't think we were focused enough," said Carrizozo coach Billy Page of the team's first-round loss. "This game was a good wake-up call for us."

Corona ended up without a win in the tournament, falling to Reserve, 52-26, in the seventh place game.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press
Mescalero's Valerie Garcia, left, drives the baseline as Hondo's Selena Chavez defends Thursday during the first round of the Smokey Bear Tournament at Capitan.

Bowling

RUIDOSO BOWLING CENTER

Senior team standings, week 17 of 32

| Name | Won | Lost | Avg | Hdcp |
|-----------------|-----|------|-----|------|
| Larry Larry's | 3 | 1 | 661 | 160 |
| Twisted Sisters | 3 | 1 | 644 | 175 |
| The Who? | 2 | 2 | 603 | 212 |
| Misfit Bowlers | 2 | 2 | 596 | 217 |
| Sus Amigos | 2 | 2 | 608 | 207 |
| Old Timers | 2 | 2 | 538 | 270 |
| Serious Not | 0 | 4 | 599 | 218 |

Season high scores

Handicap series – Misfit Bowlers 2718, Serious Not 2702, Sus Amigos 2672.
Handicap game – Larry Larry's 952, The Who? 947, Twisted Sisters 940.
Men's handicap series – Jim Clements 781, Tom Douglas 746, Richard Dixon 741.
Men's handicap game – Richard Dixon 299, Wayne Viitanan 284, Jim Clements, Larry Caywood 281.
Women's handicap series – Rose Bivens 713, Lucy Servies 712, Donna Vitanen 697.
Women's handicap game – Ursula Eckersley 295, Lucy Servies 274, Donna Vitanen 264.

Individual high averages

Men – Tom Douglas 213.76, Gene Nitz 202.29, Harry Allweih 181.98. Women – Lucy Servies 158.55, Donna Vitanen 153.15, Rose Bivens 146.94.

Most improved average

Men – Larry Hindes +20.35, Jim Clements +17.49, Richard Dixon +15.19. Women – Rose Bivens +16.94, Donna Vitanen +11.15, Jan Wilson +9.62.

Mixed team standings, week 17 of 32

| Name | Won | Lost | Avg | Hdcp |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|------|
| Homies | 4 | 0 | 585 | 228 |
| Knight Riders | 4 | 0 | 533 | 275 |
| Living Energies | 3 | 1 | 570 | 241 |
| Old Farts & A Kid | 2 | 2 | 730 | 98 |
| Energy 2 Spare | 2 | 2 | 592 | 221 |
| Rhino Rose | 1 | 3 | 623 | 194 |
| Pioneer Bank | 0 | 4 | 522 | 285 |
| Wild Ride | 0 | 4 | 463 | 338 |

Season high scores

Handicap series – Old Farts & A Kid 2688, Energy 2 Spare 2628, Pioneer Bank 2591.
Handicap game – Living Energies 997, Knight Riders 973, Rhino Rose 933.
Men's handicap series – Tom Douglas 733, Etienne Turner 730, Ronnie Wright 727.
Men's handicap game – Gene Nitz 279, Gabriel 270, George Hellman 270.
Women's handicap series – Diane Willoughby 700, Millie Cimaron 690, Lucy Servies 659.
Women's handicap game – Patti Kim 286, Pam Bernard 284, Brianna Velasquez 274.

Individual high averages

Men – Tom Douglas 210.29, Gene Nitz 200.64, Ronnie Wright 197.02. Women – Pam Bernard 171.86, Lucy Servies 157, Irene Pawloski 133.23.

Most improved average

Men – Tom Douglas +16.29, Steve Boeger +8.22, Ronnie Wright +8.02. Women – Millie Cimaron +5.37, Diane Willoughby +4, Pam Bernard +3.86.

GIRLS

hole instead of finding the better shot," Montoya said. "We've also got take better care of the ball when we have a lead."

Once Socorro got within a point, the Ruidoso Warriors began to pull away with pressure defense and steady scoring, going on an 18-2 run to take a commanding lead.

Socorro threatened to make a comeback in the third quarter when Theresa Chavez and Jaden Jones scored two straight three pointers, but the Ruidoso train kept rolling.

Abriana Herrera was a force for Ruidoso inside, scoring 18 points and hauling in nine rebounds to stake out the lane as R-Warrior territory. Marjanel Vigil, Sydney Gonzales and Lyndsey Saenz each added 14 points.

Jones was the big player for Socorro, putting in 21 points and tallying four rebounds and two steals to lead the way.

Ruidoso had the intensity Montoya would like to see every night from her team. Now it's just a matter of combining that enthusiasm with control. Still, the coach was happy to see how dedicated her girls were.

"I liked seeing two starters late in the game sprinting down the court following a turnover," Montoya said. "It shows our refuse to lose attitude."

Ruidoso 78, Socorro 45
Socorro (3-9)
 Shaina Lopez 0 0-0 0, Marissa Marquez 2 0-0 5, Jaden Jones 9 2-6 21, Jasmyne Jaraillo 0 0-0 0, Samantha Sedillo 2 1-2 5, Cassie Bustamante 1 0-0 3, Dezirae Armijo 0 3-4 3, Darrien Torres 0 0-0 0, Thersa Chavez 2 0-2 5, Kristen Cline 0 0-0 0, Ashton Monette 0 0-0 0, Makayla Jacobs 1

1-2 3, Magra Acosta 0 0-2 0. Totals 17 7-18 45.
Ruidoso (9-4 after Friday)
 Claudia Morales 0 0-0 0, Sydney Gonzales 6 2-2 14, Brittanié Vega 3 3 1-2 8, Madigan Gonzales 0 0-0 0, Abriana Herrera 8 2-6 18, Lyndsey Saenz 5 1-2 14, Lorely Enriquez 0 0-0 0, Audrina Ward 3 0-0 7, Catherine Landrey 0 1-2 1, Daisy Cuevas 1 0-0 2, Marjanel Vigil 6 2-4 14. Totals 33 9-18 78.

Socorro 16 7 15 7 - 45
Ruidoso 19 20 21 18 - 78
 Three point goals - Soc 4 (Marquez, Jones, Bustamante, Chavez), Rui 5 (Saenz 3, Vega, Ward). Fouled out - None. Rebounds - Soc 24 (Jones 4), Rui 41 (Herrera 9). Steals - Soc 4 (Jones 2), Rui 3 (Herrera, Vega, Saenz). Blocks - Rui 2 (Morales, Herrera). Turnovers - Soc 24, Rui 21. Total fouls - Soc 15, Rui 19.

From page 17

Ruidoso wrestlers improve

By Todd Fuqua

Sports Editor

Ruidoso wrestling coach David Shriver's goal is simple, to improve every week.

The Warriors didn't exactly light up the leader board at the Cavern City Classic at Carlsbad over the weekend, but a pair of Ruidoso wrestlers were able to place and a number of others got further than they had before.

"We were more aggressive than we had been," Shriver said. "Some guys didn't go as far as I would have liked, but they still improved, and I'm happy about that."

Oscar Magana defeated Carlsbad's Drew Bagwell for third place at 152 pounds, while Armando Baca finished fourth at 145 pounds.

As a team, the Warriors were 7th overall.

Magana and Baca had to reach their final matches by fighting their way through the consolation brackets, meaning a number of extra matches.

"I was happy with their conditioning, they were strong to the end,"

Shriver said. "We have a young team, and I'm still expecting good things from them. We've improved every meet."

Ruidoso hits the mat again today at Hobbs in a triangular against the Eagles and Roswell High starting at 3 p.m. The three teams will have one dual against each of the other schools, meaning every wrestler in each class will have two matches on the day.

The Warriors have seen plenty of Roswell's athletes at the few tournaments they've been at this year, but Shriver doesn't know that much about Hobbs. It doesn't matter that much, anyway - he's just glad to get the experience.

"The more you wrestle, the better you get," Shriver said. "I just want us to get more matches in and get better at this."

Next weekend Ruidoso fans will get to see the Warriors in action when they host the Sierra Blanca tournament. Roswell, Goddard, Hobbs, Las Cruces, Mayfield, Wingate and Tucumcari are scheduled to compete.



Todd Fuqua/Ruidoso Free Press
 Ruidoso's Terence Shields, right, drives past Dexter's Steven Marquez Jan. 7 during the Warriors' win at RHS.

WARRIORS

From page 17

was never that far ahead, and Dexter was always in striking distance.

The Demons finally struck in the final period, getting balanced scoring from Steven Marquez, Tyler Miles and Bryan Mireles to threaten Ruidoso's lead.

But the Warriors buckled down and got key steals by Forrest Sanchez - which turned into either Demon fouls or layups by Daniel Salazar.

In fact, Salazar's only four points of the night turned out to be the most important. A putback at 1:30 and layup with 41 seconds gave his team a 3-point lead each time.

Sanchez free throws gave Ruidoso its final margin of victory.

"Our aggressiveness helped us in the end," Davis said. "We got better scoring opportunities at the end and weren't turning the ball over. Sometimes we were excited at making a good play and the adrenaline was too much."

Ismail Cook had a game-high 16 points to lead the Warriors, while Sanchez had 10. The Demons got 13 points from Miles and 10 points from Mireles.

The week began with the big loss to Socorro, in the Warriors' first game since Dec. 18.

"Socorro is a pretty good team, but we were out of synch," Davis said. "In the second and fourth quarters, they (Socorro) did very well and we couldn't

match it."
 Ruidoso was actually close to their opponents throughout the first quarter and part of the second, but an S-Warrior streak near the end of the first half essentially put the game out of reach.

"We missed some scoring opportunities and couldn't stay focused after that," Davis said.

Terence Shields had 14 points and Ismail Cook 11 as the only two Warriors in double digits on the night.

Warriors 60, Demons 54
Dexter (5-7)
 Miguel Barrientos 0 0-0 0, Clay Garnett 4 0-0 8, Josh Hernandez 0 0-0 0, Kevin Paez 1 0-0 3, Amador Amaya 0 0-0 0, Steven Marquez 4 0-0 12, Bryan Mireles 4 2-3 10, Tyler Miles 4 5-5 13, Justin Salas 2 1-2 6, Kevin Bonner 0 0-0 0, Misael Barrientos 1 0-4 2, Adrian Zambrano 0 0-0 0. Totals 20 8-14 54.

Ruidoso (5-6)
 Terence Shields 8 0-0 16, Forrest Sanchez 2 6-7 10, Dennis Quintana 2 0-0 4, Jordan Padilla 0 0-0 0, Sawyer Miller 0 0-0 0, Joe Marquez 0 0-0 0, Wambli Little Spotted Horse 0 0-0 0, Ismael Cook 6 2-2 16, Tito Montoya 2 0-0 5, Brandon Lewis 0 0-0 0, Ryan Williams 0 0-0 0, Zach Dotson 0 0-0 0, Jared Davis 1 3-3 5, Daniel Salazar 2 0-2 4. Totals 23 11-12 60.

Dexter 11 14 11 18 - 54
Ruidoso 11 21 8 20 - 60
 Three point goals - Dex 6 (Marquez 4, Paez, Salas), Rui 3 (Cook 2, Montoya). Fouled out - Ruidoso (Little Spotted Horse). Rebounds - Dex 31 (Miles 6), Rui 27 (Salazar 9). Steals - Dex 1 (Miles), Rui 7 (Sanchez). Blocks - Dex 2 (Carnett, Marquez), Rui 2 (Montoya, Salazar). Turnovers - Dex 16, Rui 14. Total fouls - Dex 17, Rui 19.

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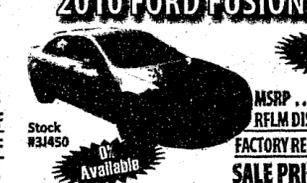
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