

6A MATH WHIZ KID

13-year-old Josh Valcarcel is about 5 years ahead of his time



13A ROUG.

After manhandling Bloomfield, the Warrior hoopsters fall hard in Taos.

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11, 2002 • OUR 56TH YEAR, No. 57

50 cents

CHAMPIONS!



TODD FUQUA STAFF

Hordes of fans packed the stadium with the victory of the Warriors and fans during the Class 3A state championship Saturday. Sizeable crowds of fans packed both ends of the stadium and made for a carnival-like atmosphere at Greyhound Stadium.

Ruidoso's fourth quarter rally nets a state title

BY TODD FUQUA

BLACKWATER DRAW Turnabout is fair play.

A full 11 years after losing a state title to Portales in their last post-season meeting with the Rams, and after having been kept from the playoffs the last two years by that same team, the Ruidoso Warriors got their just desserts Saturday with a stunning come-from-behind 26-22 victory at Greyhound Stadium to take home the blue trophy in Class 3A.

It marks Ruidoso's first state title in football since 1985, and is their sixth overall back to 1950.

The win was in doubt until a final mad dash by quarterback Josh Adams, from 28 yards out with 47 seconds left in the game put the Warriors up for good.

"It was supposed to be a pass, we were going to throw a fade route to (Chance) Hooper," said Ruidoso coach Ridge Bowden. "But they had double coverage on him, and Josh did what he does best, he tucked the ball and ran."

"I just wanted to get what I could, I'm not one to throw the ball away," Adams said. "I like to try to make something happen out of nothing, I was just running

until I got tackled."

Adams wasn't taken down until he was in the Portales end zone, capping a 14-point scoring burst by the Warriors (8-5) which erased a 22-12 deficit with 3:26 left in the game.

Even then, the Ruidoso faithful couldn't breathe easy. Following the next kickoff, Portales had the ball at their own 37-yard line with 41 seconds left and got to the Ruidoso 27-yard line with four seconds left — the beneficiary of a 15-yard penalty on Ruidoso.

Clabaugh heaved the ball into the endzone, but the Ruidoso secondary was too much for the Portales receivers, and the ball fell incomplete — end of game.

Portales took their 10-point lead after an interception by

Tyler Rutherford took the Rams (8-5) to the Ruidoso four-yard line, setting up a touchdown rush by Les Long. After quarterback Seth Clabaugh ran in the two-point conversion, the Warriors needed two scores to at least tie the game.

Ruidoso got those two scores in fairly short order. The Warriors took the ensuing kickoff to their own 43-yard line, overcame a 4th-and-4 situation at the Portales 24-yard line, then got to within three points on an 11-yard run by Adams with 2:17 left in the game.

The Warriors tried an inside kick, but Portales recovered, and needed only to make a first and run out the clock for the state title.

But first downs were hard to

come by for the Rams in this game. This was a team that had made it to this point by controlling the ball and clock, grinding out yards en route to a win.

Portales struggled to the Ruidoso 43 in three plays, and were going for it on 4th-and-1, but a motion penalty forced the Rams back five yards and into a

punting situation.

"I knew we needed a big play," Bowden said. "They tried to draw us off and we were ready for that. When they got the penalty, that really hurt them."

"You can't say enough about our defense," he added. "They played lights out and had more stops on Portales than I think we

had all year."

Obviously, their stop on Portales with just over a minute left was the biggest of the season. The Rams' Tyler Johnson tried to angle his punt to the sidelines, but the angle was too sharp. When the ball did go out on the

See WARRIORS, page 2

RUIDOSO STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS	
1950	— Class C Champions
1955	— Ruidoso 23, Kirtland 7, Class C
1957	— Ruidoso 12, McCurdy 7, Class C
1972	— Ruidoso 12, Jal 6, Class 2A
1985	— Ruidoso 21, Silver 19, Class 3A
2002	— Ruidoso 26, Portales 22, Class 3A



TODD FUQUA STAFF

The triumphant Warriors hoist the Class 3A blue trophy aloft after the conclusion to Saturday's state championship game at Greyhound Stadium.

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Time to put cell phones in park while driving

Ned Cantwell/4A



FRIDAY

How one Nogal resident went from circus performer to Reiki master

Carrizozo carries on luminaria tradition

Lincoln County/7A

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DECEMBER 11 2002

Former firefighters file lawsuit against Downs

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

■ Don Smith and Jimmy Smith say they were wrongly tried by the village earlier this year.

Two former Ruidoso Downs firemen filed a lawsuit Friday in U.S. District Court, claiming that the village of Ruidoso Downs, its mayor and board of trustees violated their civil rights.

Filed by attorney J. Robert Beauvais on behalf of Don Smith and Jimmy Smith, the suit accuses the defendants of malicious prosecution and retaliation. The plaintiffs are asking for real and punitive damages to be decided at trial.

Ruidoso Downs attorney Dan Bryant said Tuesday he had not seen the suit and could not comment.

The suit states that after an election

in March 2000, the two men became concerned about the new policies and practices of the administration regarding the use of fire equipment restrictions and the curtailment of fire response in and around Ruidoso Downs, and other issues "which were of vital public concern."

They attempted to bring their concerns to the board about those issues and the suspension of two full-time fire employees during a public meeting, but were rebuffed, the suit states.

"As a direct and proximate result of plaintiffs engaging in protected speech, petitioning for redress of grievances and association, plaintiff Don Smith was removed as the ranking officer in the

volunteer fire department," the suit declares.

A termination proceeding was started against Jimmy Smith without probable cause, according to the suit.

"Defendants in violation of plaintiffs' rights and in a deliberate attempt to chill and retaliate against plaintiffs for exercising constitutional rights lodged or facilitated unfounded criminal and civil allegations that plaintiffs received payment for services not rendered," the suit states.

The two men last month were acquitted or received a directed verdict in their favor on all criminal counts lodged against them.

The suit also claims violation of liber-

ty interest in that information regarding the charges and intention to discharge Jim Smith was publicly disseminated and "stigmatized his good name, reputation, honor and integrity and foreclosed future employment opportunities and (resulted in) loss of income from the family business."

The suit contends the allegations against Jimmy Smith were made with malice or harmful intent, and violated his constitutional liberty interest in his good name and reputation. It contends that Don Smith also suffered from his reputation being maligned when he was acting as spokesperson for the volunteer firefighters and was appointed to speak at public meetings in their behalf.

County will keep an eye on state-mandated well limits in Otero

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Worried about Lincoln County's underground water supply, local officials are watching what's happening to their neighbors in Otero County.

State Engineer Tom Turney announced Friday that he issued an order declaring the La Luz/Fresnel and Loborita Canyon watersheds as a Critical Management Area.

The designation declares that the State Engineer no longer will allow new groundwater appropriations for non-domestic purposes from within the watershed area and will limit diversions from new domestic wells to 0.30 acre-feet per year.

Turney also specified that all permits for domestic wells issued in the future will require metering.

A public meeting to discuss

the designation is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today at the Otero County Courthouse in Alamogordo. The area of critical concern falls within that county.

The order affects the headwaters of the areas of the two watersheds, except for the Mescalero Apache Reservation, and ends about at the east side of the basin fill.

"This area has been facing a severe drought and, unfortunately, both the surface and subsurface flows have diminished tremendously," Turney said.

Commenting on the decision by Turney, Lincoln County

Commission Chairman Rex Wilson said the timing is interesting because Turney will be replaced Jan. 1 when gubernatorial Bill Richardson, a Democrat, is sworn into office.

"It's probably a sign of the future," Wilson said. "High-growth areas have to look at the big picture."

The county commission wouldn't be critical of a decision to reduce the amount of water pumped annually from domestic wells. The board previously asked Turney to look at decreasing the amount of water allowed for domestic wells statewide, contending that the allowed 3 acre feet per

year is too much. An acre foot translates to about 325,000 gallons of water.

"I think that it's better to do something now than discover you have a problem when you don't have any water," said Lincoln County Manager Tom Stewart. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, if the State Engineer feels this is appropriate."

County Planner Patsy Sanchez said, "This has been a long time coming. It's the best news I've heard all year."

Bill Midkiff with The Water Network, a group that aims to coordinate and act as a clearinghouse for water informa-

tion, said Monday, "I applaud the State Engineer's decision to declare Fresnel Canyon a critical water management area. Eagle Creek should also be designated a critical water management area."

"In my opinion, each critical

water management area should have its sustainable yield defined. A water budget should be established that protects water availability to existing users and that prevents the sustainable yield from being exceeded. It's critical."

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State Insect - Tarantula Hawk Wasp.

CONGRATULATIONS TODD FUQUA!!

Ruidoso News EMPLOYEE of the MONTH!

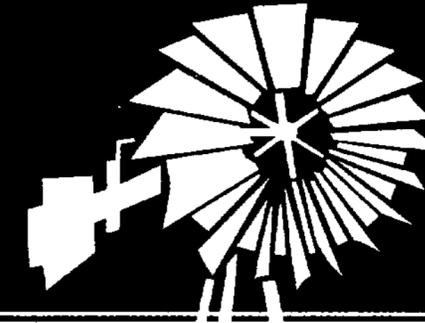


The Ruidoso News Employee of the Month for December is: **TODD FUQUA!!**

Todd is our Sports Editor & has been with the Ruidoso News for about 10 months. In whatever spare time Todd manages to squeeze out of his busy schedule, he enjoys playing piano, reading (voraciously), bowling & watching old movies. Todd's parents (Larry & Cindi) and his aunt & uncle (Doug & Susie) live in Ruidoso, and he has a brother who lives in Dallas.

Among the reasons we gave for giving Todd our votes are: he's "done such a GREAT job covering sports events by himself with a broken ankle"; and he's "helpful & makes me laugh"! Todd, we truly appreciate the super job you've done since you've been here. Way to Go!

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BRAD L. TREPTOW PUBLISHER, EXT. 3
btrep@ruidosonews.com

WES SCHWENGELS EDITOR, EXT. 18
wess@ruidosonews.com

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NEWSROOM

KEITH GREEN EDITORIAL ADVISER, EXT. 19
kgreen@ruidosonews.com

Dianne Stallings County reporter, Ext. 22
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Sandy Suggitt Education, Vamonos reporter, Ext. 15
ssuggitt@ruidosonews.com

Todd Fuqua Sports editor, Ext. 5
todd@ruidosonews.com

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Pearce visits, hears concerns about wastewater plant

DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Officials from Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs were looking for some help on a federal level Tuesday for a \$21 million problem they face.

During a community gathering meeting called by Congressman-elect Steve Pearce, they said they would like to see the requirements for phosphorus removal reduced at the wastewater treatment plant they share, the date intended for compliance with standards included on their new operation permit, and money to pay for the improvements.

They told the Republican who will represent New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District that the latest dilemma with the regional wastewater treatment plant is a perfect example of unfunded federal mandates that can devastate small towns.

"It's a federal mandate from the Environmental Protection Agency in the form of unique standards for phosphorus treatment," said John Waters, Ruidoso Downs city manager. "Disinfection algae above and below the treatment plant allowed the new requirements, he said.

"We don't know if the standards placed are permanent or if there are other options," Waters said, "but we're stuck with it because it is on our permit."

"The population of Ruidoso Downs doubled in the last 10 years. We both (towns) realized we had to expand the plant."

The cost of expansion is estimated at about \$12 million, "and we accept that because of the tourism and growth," he said. "What we didn't expect was another \$8.5 million more to treat phosphorus down to a measurement lower than any other city in the nation."

"There's no way the plant can be designed in time (to meet a January 2004 deadline)," Waters said. "But the Clean Water Act provides for fines of \$25,000 a day for non-compliance and we would face 2 1/2 years of that before the plant is finally constructed."

"If we're forced to go through with this, we're asking Congress to help with money,

and if they could delay the deadline date so we do not incur fines and cost the taxpayer money better used to correct the situation."

He pointed out that the small population of the area can't support a \$21 million debt.

"There's no way the plant can be designed in time (to meet a January 2004 deadline)."

John Waters
Ruidoso Downs
city administrator

The new standards were imposed with no money to help the two towns, he said. That situation is just one in a string of mandates that cost the towns money, including the stiff new state regulations forcing the closing of landfills nearby. A regional landfill now used is 20 miles south of Alamogordo, driving up the cost of hauling garbage, he said.

As another example, he noted that juvenile offenders can no longer be detained locally and are shipped all over the state at a cost to the county, he said.

Water is another problem

for Ruidoso Downs, Waters said.

"Our sole source is a spring that has declined by 30 percent in the last three years while the population has doubled in the last 10 years," he said. "It's an alarming trend. We've made numerous efforts with the state (for money) to increase storage and 'acquire water rights' to provide an alternate source if the spring fails."

"Any help you can provide would be appreciated," Waters said.

Ruidoso Councilor Deborah Marcum-Byars echoed Waters' remarks about the wastewater treatment plant, saying the standards being imposed are "a thousand times higher than normal."

Lorri McKnight, Ruidoso village manager, said compliance would pose an extreme burden on the village.

"I don't know where the money would come from if we have to comply with the standard," she said. "We're meeting with state Environment Department officials Friday to discuss the situation. In Ruidoso, we have a year-around population of about 7,500, but our infrastructure has to support up to 40,000 people in the summer, so although we are small, the

needs we have to meet are huge - streets, water and sewer, police, fire and emergency medical services.

"It would be a huge burden on taxpayers and we have limited bonding capacities. We'd like you to look at alternatives or help with the money. We'd like to look at pollution control programs as an alternative, such as help provide sewer connections to those on septic tanks."

Byars said the village has moved forward to help itself when it comes to better forest health and fire hazard reductions by adopting ordinances spelling out new construction and landscaping standards, thinning trees on its own property and helping secure money to cost share with private landowners who want to remove trees.

"But the time may come when we need to ask for aid," she said.

She also reminded Pearce that with federal money helping Alamogordo design a pilot desalination program to provide more potable water, at some point the federal government may be asked to mediate an agreement to keep water from Bonito Lake inside its basin, instead of shipping the water to Otero County.

Pearce noted that the federal government probably would have to become involved because of Holloman Air Force Base's claim on some of the Bonito water.

Ruidoso attorney John Underwood thanked Pearce for providing a point man who can act as intermediary and direct locals to the right people in Washington D.C.

Ruidoso Downs voters pass GRT increase

WES SCHWENGLS

Ruidoso Downs voters those who showed up at least passed a measure to increase the city's gross receipts tax by one-eighth of a cent Tuesday by a two-to-one ratio.

Sixty-six of the 99 voters who cast ballots voted for the measure in the special election, according to the city clerk's office. Results were unofficial at press time, but will be made so this afternoon.

Funds from the higher GRT will go to improve the city's water and wastewater systems, according to city administrator

John Waters.

Had the measure failed, rate increases likely would have been implemented to raise the necessary funding.

"It's very important that Ruidoso Downs citizens realize the urgency of our water and wastewater issues," Waters said prior to the election.

Local couple pleads nation-wide insurance issue

DIANNE STALLINGS

Glen and Anna Remington fought a major community problem down to individual human terms Tuesday as they asked for help from Congressman-elect Steve Pearce.

A family history of heart problems resulted in insurance companies refusing to cover his wife, Remington said.

Pearce, the new Republican representative from the 2nd Congressional District, was in Ruidoso listening to five hours of requests for funding and legislative support, complaints about issues such as unfunded state and federal mandates and compliments about his choice of a town hall meeting venue.

"But abstracts boiled down to a personal dilemma for the Remingtons when it was their chance to talk to the newly elected official during a public forum section of the session."

"I can't buy her health insurance because of problems that arose from her yearly examination," Remington told the congressman-elect. "She has a family history of heart disease and her physician suggested a stress test, which came out inconclusive, but the insurance companies are using it as a reason to deny coverage."

Although the Ruidoso man said he was aware that Pearce doesn't favor universal health care, "We at least need some mechanism where insurance companies can't refuse coverage. If she becomes seriously

ill, we'd have to sell the house or she would have to divorce me to be eligible for Medicaid."

"Too many good people have to decide between health care and paying rent."

Pearce said he has watched the three-year struggle of a friend who faced a similar situation.

"You're right. I do not support universal health insurance, but that doesn't mean we can't find remedies," Pearce said, referring the Remington information to assistant Glenda Carter.

Remington said during Pearce's campaign, the newly-elected official referred to "lib-

erals" as an opposing position. But when he looked the term up in the dictionary, "I didn't see anything wrong with it. Under the word liberty, it even refers the word to the word 'liberal,'" he said.

Pearce said calling someone a liberal doesn't mean there's anything wrong with them. Liberals and conservative have different plans for how to build a house and that will affect how the structure looks when it is finished, he said as an example. The outcomes as to how the liberal and conservative approaches work for society will be completely different, he said.

Pearce named assistant whip

DIANNE STALLINGS

While conducting a community meeting in Ruidoso Tuesday, Congressman-elect Steve Pearce learned he was appointed as an Assistant Majority Whip for the 108th Congress of the United States.

He was appointed by Majority Whip-elect Roy Blunt from Missouri. Pearce, a Republican representing New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District, will be one of a handful of assistants in their first terms in Congress. The job entails finding votes for key issues.

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DECEMBER 11 2002

OPINION

RUIDOSO NEWS

Brad L. Treptow, publisher
Wes Schwengels, editor

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OUR OPINION

Those traveling Warriors bring home the gold

The RHS football team wins a state title on the road

When the 2002 New Mexico prep football campaign started, little was said about a state championship around Ruidoso.

As the season progressed, and the Warriors' regular season 5-5 win-loss record got them into the playoffs by virtue of a second-place finish, occasioned by a loss to Portales and a huge win over Lovington, local fans were a bit hopeful, but not terribly excited.

Then came that spectacular quarterfinal playoff game on the road in Santa Fe, when the St. Michael's Horsemen led practically all the way until a desperation tie in the fourth quarter — that followed by four (count 'em, four) overtimes before a 62-56 win on a 10-yard dash by Warrior quarterback Josh Adams.

That's when Ruidoso fans began to get excited, and when

Josh Adams suddenly was getting some of the local cachet of Lovington's Brian Uriacher.

On the road again, to the 3A semifinal match with Hot Springs High in Truth or Consequences. Again, it was a game of who could score the most often, and again that "who" was Adams, who did something of everything for a 59-45 win — no overtime required.

Then the season was at 7-5, and only the Portales Rams, playing before a huge home crowd in ENMU's Greyhound Stadium, stood in the way of a state championship. The Rams led most of the way, but two quick touchdowns by Josh Adams with under four minutes to play turned the tide and gave these 2002 Road Warriors, coach Ridge Bowden, and all of Ruidoso, the thrill of victory.

Thank you, Warriors!

Ramping up the rollout on the #@%! cell phone

Santa Fe has it right. She is the only New Mexico city thus far to ban cell phone use by drivers.

Driving and cell phone usage don't mix even though I personally mix them often.

Responsible motorists use their cell phones while driving only when it is absolutely necessary. Your typical driver cell phone conversation goes something like this:

"So I'm, like, what are you doing tonight? And she's, like, are you going to take me to the show? And I'm, like, WHOOOO OAAAA, IT'S A CLIIIIIFFFFFF!"

Santa Fe, being the leader she is, will no doubt prompt other cities to pass similar laws. Suggestion? Don't stop with cell phones. Truck drivers, who apparently spend a lot of time gazing from their lofty perches into our front seats — a disturbing notion at best — report all kinds of activity on our highways.

One New Mexico trucker said it is common to see drivers with open computers in front of them. Drivers are also watching television and surfing the net. With an alarming increase of blinking distractions, cell phones may seem tame.

Nonetheless, banning cell phone use by drivers makes sense. While we are at it, how about federal legislation making it a felony to use the cell phone to pump up your self-importance at airports and on airplanes?

This is a guy thing, no doubt about it. Fifteen years minimum, no parole, for the guy in the Delta ticket line who yells loudly enough into his hands-free microphone so that people in the Southwest ticket line can clearly hear him.

"I TOLD HIM TO HAVE THAT REPORT ON MY DESK BY NOON OR ELSE!" Oh, please.

Not long ago I was sitting in an airplane at the Seattle airport waiting for departure. Across the aisle was a 40ish lout who was berating his seatmate, obviously an underling. "I don't mind making you guys millionaires but you are going to have to carry the ball once in awhile."

He boasted he was going to "ramp up the rollout" six months early. I am no hotshot businessman, but I don't think you "ramp up a rollout" without having done enough "networking" to make sure it is not "undertooled." I think you might then "repackage" and "budget flush" the project. But what do I know? I made a living selling newspapers at 50 cents a copy.

Here is how important my fellow passenger was: The guy takes out his cell phone and calls his wife: "They've got me scheduled for two or three appointments tonight," he says. "Listen, I'll call you when we get to... (puzzled pause) ...just a minute... (turning to his seatmate)...where's this plane going?"

Where's this plane going? Other than stoned rock stars, I always figured anyone who climbed on a plane knew where it was going.

All the way to Phoenix I got to listen to self-important ranting. Where's a terrorist when you need one? There oughta be a law.

Ned Cantwell - ncantwell@charter.net - is a retired newspaperman living in Ruidoso. He often speaks loudly into a cell phone even when there is no one on the other end of the line.

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YOUR OPINION

R. D. Hubbard thanks the community for its support

To the editor:

On behalf of the entire Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino family, I would like to personally thank those in the Ruidoso community who assisted us in hearings before the New Mexico Gaming Control Board. Your support was overwhelming.

Nearly 400 letters of support, including a letter and editorial from the Ruidoso News, were submitted to the Gaming Control Board on our behalf from businesses, community leaders, employees and simulcast players throughout this wonderful community. And many citizens made the long trip to Albuquerque for the hearing to the point that the Chairwoman commented on the number of supporters. There is no question that such support had a significant impact on the decision to renew our license by the Board.

As most of you know, for many years now Joan Dale and I have considered Ruidoso our "home away from home." We love the community and the many great friends we have made there. This outpouring of support confirms our feelings about Ruidoso.

I wish I could thank each of you individually and I know the employees of the Ruidoso Downs Race Track & Casino thank you as well. Happy holidays to all of you.

Congratulations to RHS state champion football Warriors

To the editor:

I would like to congratulate the Ruidoso High School football team for an outstanding season and playoffs.

Winning the state (3A) championship showed tenacity, heart and a never-give-up attitude.

The Warriors never quit, even in the face of defeat, and it ultimately paid off in the end. Not only did the Warriors win, but they also won or lost (this season) with class and dignity. This is a

tribute to the parents and coaches of these young men.

The teamwork and lessons displayed throughout the season will carry these young men far into their adult lives.

I think I speak for the entire community when I say that we are very proud of our players and coaches and wish them the best of luck in the future.

Thanks again for making Ruidoso proud.

Manny Guardiola
Ruidoso

Yellow-line-crossing drivers are only dodging potholes

To the editor:

Village police were recently diligent in citing a driver for crossing the yellow centerline, the assumption being that the driver was intoxicated. When there is no oncoming traffic, I often cross the centerline in order to avoid driving into the numerous potholes, sewer lids and otherwise damaged pavement areas.

Everyone who drives in Ruidoso knows most of these by heart, since they seldom get repaired. If I drove while intoxicated, I'd probably be less stressed by my local driving experiences!

Also, as a regular bicyclist on Ruidoso's narrow streets, I wish to take this opportunity to thank all the motorists who slow down and swerve out and over the centerline when overtaking to pass me. I am endangered by those who don't move left when passing, since I can't ride any farther to the right on Ruidoso's shoulderless streets.

On another note, I notice that many of the accidents occurring lately are one-vehicle SUV rollovers when one of those vehicles slides off any icy roadway. Further proof, if any is needed that SUVs are "unsafe at any speed" when they get sideways.

Something to keep in mind for those who think their SUV offers superior winter driving safety.

J. L. Schuller
Ruidoso

A question of faith

To the editor:

I was once a Christian, and then I saw the dark — the suffering of the world's children. I've come to believe that a so-called God no longer controls our planet. If a benevolent God controlled earthly events, he wouldn't allow innocent babies to suffer, now would he?

I've heard adult survivors of catastrophes say, "I wasn't hurt, because the good Lord was looking after me." I must ask, "Why did the ... adult survivors feel that in the eyes of God that they were better than the innocent, young victims and what did the juvenile victims do to anger God?" The survivors probably would answer, "God moves in mysterious ways," or they would give other answers which would also evade the above questions.

Today I'm a so-called lost soul and an agnostic who leans towards deism. As an agnostic, I'm sure that no one can prove whether or not God exists. As for deism, I believe that someone or something probably created the universe; however, after the creation, they gave up total control over the Earth. I feel that the world's events occur naturally and randomly.

Finally, I believe that there is no afterlife. The dead simply cease to exist in any form or fashion.

Today, we are amazed by the ancient people's religious beliefs. If we consider history, tomorrow people will be amazed by our current religious beliefs.

Happy holidays, and please leave no child behind this coming holiday season.

Franklin L. Boren
Tinnie



LETTERS POLICY

The Ruidoso News encourages letters to the editor, especially about local topics and issues. Each letter must be signed and must include the writer's daytime telephone number and mail address. The phone number and mailing address will not be printed; the hometown will be. The telephone number will be used to verify authorship. No letter will be printed without the writer's name.

Letters should be no more than 300 words in length, of public interest, and free of libel; editing will be for length, grammar or spelling. Shorter letters are preferred and generally receive greater readership. The Ruidoso News reserves the right to reject any letter. Longer by-lined "Guest Commentary" articles will be considered; call the editor at (505) 257-4001.

Letters may be delivered to the Ruidoso News office at 104 Park Avenue, mailed to P.O. Box 125, Ruidoso, NM 88365; faxed to 257-7053; or sent by e-mail to ruidosonews@zianet.com.

Water Task Force member stresses weather patterns

Taking advantage of wet stretches could make the dry ones easier to get through.

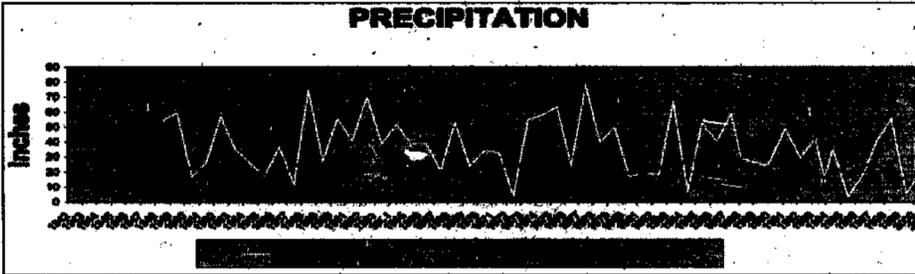
BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Uniquely positioned to join historical data with first-hand experience and current research, Frank Potter says Ruidoso's weather follows a pattern. Knowing how to manage the water system is the key to securing optimum benefits from those peaks to help ride through the valleys, he said.

Former Ruidoso village manager, Ruidoso councilor and Lincoln County manager, Potter is an appointed member of the village Water Task Force, assigned to review rates and conservation measures.

After assembling a chart of the area's snowfall and total precipitation, reviewing the water rate schedule and how the water system is managed, he offered the following observations:

- The council, which he said seems headed in the right direction, must balance existing land, maximum ability to deliver water and allowed density.
- "They should set policies to ensure that densities are not increased," he said. That includes annexations.
- "Ruidoso ultimately has to match the units it has with the maximum peak demand it



COURTESY FRANK POTTER

Frank Potter, of the village's Water Task Force, compiled the above chart showing the peaks and valleys of Ruidoso's precipitation. Data was collected from the National Climate Center, the National Weather Service and local readings.

can serve," he said. "I think Ruidoso used pretty good planning in the past and those numbers should match, but I would hope we never have to get into a situation where either one drastically affects the other."

- Ruidoso's current water rates don't encourage conservation.

"The city is seriously looking at conservation now and never really did in the past," Potter said. "It could be the most important element, and rates should encourage conservation. I looked at whether water use is increasing and if drought or growth is driving any increased use, and then turned in three pages of recommendations on how to encourage conservation to the task force chairman."

- Stiff water use restrictions should be enforced every summer, even when a crisis doesn't exist to prepare for the years when drought hits.

"If we're really going to get

serious, that means the whole town, tourists, elected officials and residents must participate," Potter said.

Along that same line, residents should be encouraged to capture water from their gutters during the winter and the summer rainy season to irrigate lawns and for other non-potable uses.

- Although it appears, to be doing a good job now, for the previous four to five years, Ruidoso was not diverting enough water from the Grindstone Reservoir.

"We have a short recapture period in Ruidoso. When the snowpack warms up, it melts rapidly with our intense sun. By May, it's gone," Potter said. "I believe they were relying too heavily on the wells at

Eagle Creek. Wells should be allowed to rest six months out of the year for recharge, if possible. You have to manage the system. It's a delicate balance."

- With time and turnover, the village doesn't have anyone with an overall knowledge of the system, he said. Hiring consultants is fine, but when they leave, the technicians left behind must run the system.

Potter assembled a chart covering snow and total precipitation from 1942 to 2001, using figures from the National Climate Data Center in North Carolina, the National Weather Service and other sources.

"What's so interesting to me is when you look at the chart, you can see the trends," he said. "If you look at the cycle for Ruidoso, they seem to run 11 to 13 years roughly."

Knowing those cycles, planning for them, knowing when

to divert river water and rest wells, and adopting a rate schedule and tougher summer water use restrictions that encourage conservation are keys steps to managing the resource, he said.

From looking at the chart, he concluded that:

- In each year of significant floods around Ruidoso, the area received at least 30 inches of precipitation and experienced a substantial snowfall.

Big snow spikes were registered in 1941 when flood waters ripped through town along the river, in 1965, when a motor grader was washed away near Fox Cave on U.S. 70, and in 1978. Lesser floods occurred in 1984 and in 1988, each with 30 inches of precipitation.

"Roy Parker (manager of Ski Apache) called (in 1978) in December and said we're in serious trouble because it snowed like crazy and now it was raining up there and if it continues at this rate, there'll be flooding," Potter said. "Thank heavens he called, the Ruidoso River was rising a foot an hour. The river flow usually per second at that time of the year, but it reached 2,500 cfs."

- After the 1941 flood, the river took more than 30 years to repair itself, and currently is doing the same after the 1978 flood, he said.

- The drought that most people in New Mexico remember occurred from 1952 to 1955.

"I remember that one," Potter said. "The chart flattened even though we maintained the 12 inches average for precipitation. The snow

line also was on a downside. We did all right compared to eastern New Mexico, which only received four to five inches for three or four years. It was pretty rough."

- In 1970, the Ruidoso River went dry.

"We learned in those years we had to develop a water system in Ruidoso that you could totally reverse (pumping from lower wells to areas at higher elevations) when problems occurred," Potter said. "We started working on it."

"We had another real drought from 1987 to 1989. It was more serious than people realized. I was city manager and remember standing on the porch of my house trying to figure how we could get out of this thing. A spring rain started. It was timed beautifully and went through the summer like there never was a drought."

"The last real dip in precipitation was from 1991 to 1993. It's been kind of a straight line from 1999 to 2001."

Potter is optimistic about the chances for heavier precipitation this year.

"Right now the subtropical jet stream is set for El Niño (a warm ocean phenomenon that usually brings moistures to New Mexico)," he said. "The best chance for recharge is when the snowpack melts as it sits, and saturates into the ground."

FACT

In 1957

Buddy Holly records "Peggy Sue" at Normandy Petty Studio in Clovis, New Mexico.

Rate increase not by choice, Zia says

Natural gas suppliers raised prices, forcing Zia to do the same, according to the company.

BY P. BLAKE MARTIN
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

A recent rate increase was not the preferred choice of Zia Natural Gas, according to a company spokeswoman.

"We're rate-neutral. In other words, what we're charged is what the customer is charged," says Debbie J. Haines of Zia Natural Gas, referring to the cost of natural gas. She points out that Zia is a public company, and the base charge for maintenance and meter reading seldom change, while transmission and distribution system fees are tied to the cost of the natural gas.

According to a press release, the cost of gas is purely a pass-through cost for Zia's customers. Zia seeks the lowest-cost supply in order to save its customers money and effectively compete with higher-cost propane and electricity, said Haines.

Zia Natural Gas is an operating division of Natural Gas

Processing Co. (NGP). Since 1998, when NGP acquired Ruidoso Natural Gas Company in Lincoln County, it has increased its customer base from 2,000 to 9,000 current customers. Zia provides service to customers from north of Capitan to Alto, Ruidoso, Ruidoso Downs, and the Inn of the Mountain Gods.

Like other commodities, natural gas prices and demand fall as supply and demand change. Supplies of natural gas are temporarily tight, and this causes the price to rise. To keep consumer costs down, customers can conserve energy, replace aging appliances, and check out bill-paying options.

Special assistance is also available through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), fuel fund assistance, and other programs.

Natural gas is touted as America's natural wonder. Its use has increased by 35 percent over the last decade, and is projected to grow by 45 percent by 2015.

Ninety-nine percent of the natural gas used in the United States comes from North America. And it is the cleanest

and most efficient fossil fuel.

In a snapshot of current natural gas market conditions for the winter 2002-2003, the American Gas Association has confidence that supplies will be adequate to meet customers' needs.

Approximately 3.1 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) was held in storage at the traditional Nov. 1 start date of the winter heating season. That's 5.2 percent higher than the five-year average. About 20 percent of winter natural gas supplies come from underground storage.

As of December 2000, Zia had approximately 20,000 customers in New Mexico and generated \$13.9 million in revenues, with \$69,000 in gross receipts taxes. It employs 45 people in its Hobbs, Lincoln County and Maxwell divisions.

In addition to awarding yearly scholarships totaling \$15,000 to graduating seniors and non-traditional students interested in pursuing higher education in engineering, business and science, "Zia donations include youth activities, civic organizations, and community projects that directly benefit our customers," Haynes said.

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DECEMBER 11, 2002

EDUCATION

EDUCATION BRIEFS

Bilingual advisory group plans potluck

The Ruidoso Municipal School District Bilingual Parent Advisory committee will have a potluck meeting at Sierra Vista Primary School Cafeteria at 5:45 p.m. today, Dec. 11. Parents of bilingual students, grades K-12, are invited to attend. For more information, call your child's teacher or Patty White at 257-4051.

Cadet Hawthorne rates at West Point

Cadet Justin Edward Hawthorne, son of Richard Hawthorne of Ruidoso, was named to the dean's list at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. To qualify for the dean's list, a cadet must maintain a 3.0 grade point average.

Hawthorne graduated from New Mexico Military Institute in 1998. He is concentrating his studies in mechanical and civil engineering and plans to graduate in 2003 from West Point and be commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Founded March 16, 1802, the academy celebrates its bicentennial this year.

The mission of the U.S. Military Academy is to educate, train and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of duty, honor, country; professional growth throughout a career as an officer in the United States Army; and a lifetime of selfless service to the nation.

Host family sought

A new host family is needed to host an exchange student from Germany for the remain-

der of this school year.

The family will provide a home and share this unique experience with her. The host family will provide a bed, meals, friendship, understanding and a genuine desire to share the American way of life with this girl from Germany.

She speaks English, is covered by medical insurance, has spending money for personal expenses and is presently enrolled at Ruidoso High School and hopes to remain there for the rest of the year.

She is 16 years old, active on the school soccer team, enjoys music, athletics and children and is willing to attend church services with her new host family.

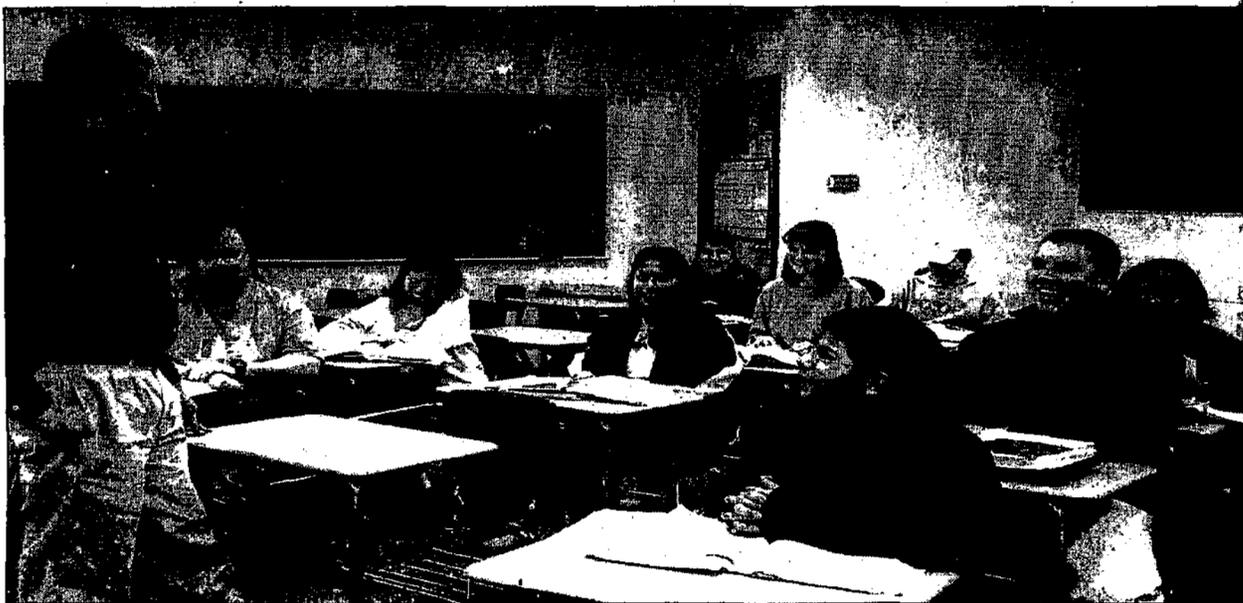
Interested families may preview the student's application and can also be sent information about the SHARE! program.

The SHARE! High School Exchange Program is sponsored by ERDT, a nonprofit educational foundation. For more information, please call Samantha Wagoner at (505) 624-5388 or the SHARE! Southwest Office at (800) 941-3738.

ENMU-Roswell commencement set

ROS WELL - A group of about 80 graduates will participate in Eastern New Mexico University - Roswell's 38th Commencement Convocation set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 12 at the ENMU-Roswell Physical Education Center.

The featured speakers will be William C. Kuehl, general manager, International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), Roswell, along with Vien Le, a business administration student who will be receiving his associate degree with honors that night.



Ray Fleischmann, standing, teaches all the math classes at Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso, and 13-year-old Josh Valcarcel, foreground, is the youngest student in his college algebra class.

College algebra suits this 13-year-old

Josh Valcarcel is one of some 70 younger students taking college courses at ENMU-Ruidoso

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Josh Valcarcel started college when he was 12 — taking intermediate algebra (Math 107). Now he's taking the next class, Math 110, college algebra, and his teacher says he's doing fine.

Although there are a couple of other high school students in his Wednesday night class, Josh is by far the youngest, said Ray Fleischmann, who taught math at Southwestern Oklahoma State University for 21 years before "retiring" to Ruidoso, and teaching all the math classes at

"If I had no sight, it would be difficult to tell (his age), because he fits in like all the other students ... does the same work, asks the same questions..."

Ray Fleischmann
College math teacher

Eastern New Mexico University-Ruidoso since 1991.

Fleischmann said Josh did well in Math 107 and is doing well this semester, too.

"If I had no sight, it would be difficult to tell, because he fits in like all the other students and does the same work, asks the same questions and has the same requirements," he said. "In the classroom, he is mature like all the adult students."

Jim Miller, director of

ENMU-Ruidoso, said this semester there are between 60 and 70 younger students taking classes at the college — primarily from Ruidoso, Mescalero and Capitan, and some home schoolers.

"There have been a number of 12- or 13-year-olds taking classes," Miller said. "We take 12- to 16-year-olds for concurrent enrollment or dual credit with secondary school or home-schoolers, after the parents and kids meet with me."

During this required interview, Miller explains the differences between high school and college. The pace is much faster; classes will finish an entire book in 16 weeks, compared with public schools' 150- to 170-day school year. Another difference is that after the initial interview with Miller, parents are outside the loop of their child's education at ENMU, just as they would be for any other college student.

Some college faculty members express concerns about such young students' attendance, homework or maturity problems, Miller said. "But in general, because we've set up the expectation ahead of time that they're going to treat you like anybody else in class, students usually do quite well. If they're missing class in public school, they're going to miss class here, too."

"Josh's attendance is excellent," Miller said. "He works

hard, does his homework and is a good student. We're glad to have him."

In fifth grade, Josh tested as being gifted in math, and he jumped from fifth-grade math to an upper sixth-grade/lower seventh-grade class — and made straight A's. In sixth grade, he followed that class to lower eighth-grade/upper seventh-grade.

"It was good," he said. "I didn't have a whole lot of problems. I didn't like the way the math book went, but there's not a whole lot you can do about that."

Then his parents took him to ENMU-Ruidoso to be tested for placement in a college math class. He also sat in on the beginning algebra class, Math 101, as well as the intermediate algebra class, Math 107, which he tested for. After an interview with Miller, Josh registered for the class last winter.

"I thought it was cool," Josh said. "There was a lot less work — 50 problems whereas kids at public school have 150 problems a week. I'd have to say it's quite a bit harder than the stuff at the school. It wasn't terribly hard, some of the stuff was real easy, but some of the stuff I have to sit down and think about for a really long time."

Josh plans to take college English and continue with math classes at ENMU, although he may take Math 110 again "to make sure I don't forget this stuff," he said.

CARRIZOZO CHARACTER



COURTESY JULIE CARTER

Carrizozo schools' Character Counts honorees for November include, front row, 4th grade, Josh Burd, Marshall Wilson, Jordan Hill, Destiny Dutchover, Stephanie Zamora, Michelle Shivers; second row, 4th grade Justin Garcia, Joel Ferguson, Patricia Greenlaw, Chelsea LaMay, Lauren Smith, Roper Webb; third row, 5th grade, Mariah Vallejos, Ashley Ventura, Allison Comstock, Tessa Hendricks, Alexa Borowski, Scott Barela; back row, 5th grade, Lena Reyes, Maria Tate, Aron Vallejos, Matthew Vega, Carlos Samora, Kinsey Vega.



COURTESY JULIE CARTER

More Carrizozo honorees, front row, kindergarten, Fantasia Dennis, Jacie Thornton, Branson Vega, Tiffany Vega, Jacob Porter, Zhane Vega, Gene Gore, Lisa Ventura, Caleb Ventura; second row, 1st grade, Callie Amador, Shayna Ventura, Rylah Zamora, Mackenzie Moore, Dalton Vega, Sarah Ferguson, Shayna Gallacher, Bo Dauster, Jace Hill, Mason Huston, Shantia Boyd (K); third row, 2nd grade, Anallicia Beltran, Brittany Simmons, Shayna Zamora, Arturo Najera, Sergio Ramirez, Devon Zamora, and 1st grade, Isaac Vega, Jeremy Sedillo, Zachary Zamora; back row, 3rd grade, Lane Carter, Sara McNatt. Not pictured, Jamie McCarthy, Catalena Vega.

SCHOOL MENUS

Capitan

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Ham bar, cereal, fruit or juice
Lunch: Choice of *chicken patty, chopped steak, tossed salad, fruit, bread and pudding
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: Peanut butter and Jelly sandwich, fruit or juice
Lunch: Choice of *roast pork, steak fingers, corn dog, mashed potatoes, gravy, mixed veggies, fruit and bread
Friday Dec. 13 — Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, cereal, fruit or juice
Lunch: Choice of *grilled ham and cheese sandwich, chicken salad sandwich, bean and bean burrito, lettuce, tomato, pickles, seasoned potatoes, fruit
Monday, Dec. 16 — Breakfast: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich, fruit or juice
Lunch: Choice of *chili cheese dog, meat loaf, corn dog, tossed salad, fruit, pinto beans, crackers
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Breakfast: Boiled eggs, cereal, juice or fruit
Lunch: Choice of *chicken patty, baked ham and pineapple sauce, sliced turkey, potato salad, green beans, bread, fruit
Carrizozo
Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, wheat toast with jelly
Lunch: Frito pie, flour tortilla, corn, applesauce
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: Quesadilla
Lunch: Beef burrito, Spanish rice, pinto beans, pears
Friday Dec. 13 — Breakfast: Pancakes with syrup
Lunch: Beef stew, cracker, celery stick, mixed fruit
Monday, Dec. 16 — Breakfast: Wheat toast with jelly
Lunch: Tacos, tossed salad, corn, pineapple
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Breakfast: Bagel with jelly
Lunch: Nachos, pinto beans, garden salad, peaches

Hondo Valley School

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Pancakes, juice
Lunch: Lasagna, corn, roll, pears
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, juice
Lunch: Meat burrito, mixed vegetables, peaches
Monday, Dec. 16 — Breakfast: Ham with tortilla
Lunch: Red enchiladas, rice, salad, crackers
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Breakfast: Sausage with tortilla
Lunch: Turkey/ham sandwiches, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese, mixed fruit

Ruidoso elementary

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Waffle sticks
Lunch: Chicken nuggets, mashed potatoes with gravy, corn, roll, diced pears
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito
Lunch: Lasagna, roll, corn, tossed salad, Orange Smiles
Friday Dec. 13 — Breakfast: Toast and peanut butter cups
Lunch: Hamburger, French fries, hamburger fixings, applesauce
Monday, Dec. 16 — Breakfast: Cheese omelet
Lunch: Barbecue chicken, roll, green beans, tossed salad, Orange Smiles
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Breakfast: Breakfast pizza
Lunch: Corn dog, French fries, mixed vegetables, diced pears, December birthday party

Ruidoso High School

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Toast and peanut butter
Lunch: Pork roast, mashed potatoes, carrots, roll, tossed salad, fruit
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: Scrambled eggs with ham and toast
Lunch: Hot ham and cheese sandwich, mixed fruit, Jell-O
Friday Dec. 13 — Breakfast: Cinnamon toast
Lunch: Frito pie, corn, salad, fruit
Monday, Dec. 16 — Breakfast: Cinnamon toast
Lunch: Baked ham, mixed potatoes with gravy, green beans, roll, diced pears
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Breakfast: Ham, egg and cheese biscuit
Lunch: Chili dog, potatoes, pulled pork and beans, apple halves

Ruidoso Middle School

Wednesday, Dec. 11 — Breakfast: Cinnamon toast
Lunch: Beef taco, pinto beans, Spanish rice, taco fixings, mixed fruit
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Breakfast: French toast sticks
Lunch: Chicken fajitas, corn, tossed salad, Orange Smiles

Lighting the way on Christmas Eve

Volunteers needed for luminaria project, marking its 10th anniversary in Carrizozo

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Spanish colonial history dates luminarias (bonfires) back to the first Christmas Eve and the need for shepherds to keep warm and keep predators away. Early New Mexicans piled wood along the religious procession route on Christmas Eve, La Noche Buena. The bonfires illuminated the way for walking worshippers.

The modern luminaria came to New Mexico when Anglo braders brought paper bags with them over the Santa Fe Trail. The humble lights are a New Mexico tradition.

In this 10th year of the luminaria project in Carrizozo, volunteers will again fold sacks, fill with sand and carefully place the candles to be lit on Christmas Eve.

A newly formed Luminaria Committee is overseeing the project. Committee members are Cynthia Brazeal, Barbara Spencer, Van Shamblin, Mary Ann Bingerman, Fran Altieri, Kay Cochran and Cynthia Culbertson. This year the project will see 5,000 sacks placed along highways 54 and 380, 12th Street, and Birch Street.

The original idea of the lumi-

naria project belongs to Eileen Lovelace, Carrizozo town trustee. It quickly became a community effort with volunteers coming from all areas: residents, fire department, police department, chamber of commerce, and city employees. The entire community is responsible for the success of the display.

Saturday, Dec. 14, will be the community workday to fold sacks, fill them with sand and place candles. All interested persons, young or old, are encouraged to come to the fire department at 9 a.m. and join in the fun.

An adult, for supervision and safety, must accompany all children. Coffee, hot chocolate and donuts will be provided in the morning and the fire department volunteers will serve lunch.

The project is in need of flatbed trailers to fill with the bags and be stored until Dec. 24 when the sacks are placed along the streets. At dusk, volunteers will light the luminarias.

Police Chief Angelo Vega and his officers will patrol the work areas. Officers will also greet motorists at the town's entrances, asking drivers to dim their headlights and drive slowly through town.



FILE PHOTO

Luminarias have a long tradition in New Mexico.

Early Christmas morning, the luminarias must be picked up for disposal. The Carrizozo Yacht Club has volunteered its services for the job. For further information or to volunteer, call 648-2158. Volunteers are needed.

Holidays less harrowing with these diabetes tips

With all the treats, sweets, and other temptations that face us during the holiday season, this can be a particularly challenging and stressful time of the year for diabetics.

Here are some tips that can help you make it through another year of parties and holiday pressures.

1. **Dash through the snow or deck the malls.** The weather and hectic schedule of the season can sabotage a regular exercise plan, so get in exercise where you can. Winter sports such as cross-country skiing and ice skating are great exercise, but even shoveling snow can be a calorie-burning experience. And of course, walking is a great way to fit exercise and holiday shopping in.

2. **Snack smart.** When you're out on long shopping excursions, bring some healthy snacks along and avoid the food court. Small, frequent meals are best for keeping your energy and blood sugar in a comfortable zone.

3. **Give the gift of healthy food.**

Treat your host or hostess to a tasty low-fat or sugar-free dish at the next holiday party you attend. Chances are more than one health-conscious guest will appreciate your healthy contributions.

4. Holiday travels

If you're planning any travel this holiday season, plan to stay healthy. Airlines, trains, and ships typically offer special meal options for those with health conditions such as diabetes. Phone ahead to make sure your dietary needs are taken care of on the road. Bring along snacks and medication in case of unforeseen delays during your travels.

Here are some ideas for holiday presents for people with diabetes:

- A cookbook. The Diabetes Association publishes many cookbooks. Visit <http://store.diabetes.org> or call 1-800-232-6733 to ask for a catalog of books.

- A book with diabetes information. The ADA also has books on topics such as eating in restaurants, exercise, travel, and information for parents of children with diabetes.

- A gift of time. Offer rides to the doctor or drugstore to a person who no longer drives. Offer to exercise with a person who is having difficulties getting started.

- An electric grill. A grill is a healthy, low-fat way to cook meat, fish, poultry and vegetables.

Adapted from *Diabetes Forecast*



Hints for the Home
BY MARSHA PALMER

LINCOLN COUNTY
EXTENSION AGENT -
HOME ECONOMICS

Carrizozo Schools to fill with holiday sounds

On top of the music program, a "Festival of Trees," decorated by school kids, is planned.

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Carrizozo Schools will present a program of winter celebration music Thursday

at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium. The public is invited and there is no admission charge.

The preschool through fifth grade, the drum line and the Girls' Glee Club will participate amidst a "Festival of Trees" setting. Cissy Gore, parent and bus driver, has asked hard to procure donations to create this wonderland setting for the program.

Ten live trees decorated by individual classes are the stage sets for the winter music program.

The trees will be judged by the attending audience and prizes given to first, second and third place. The trees, complete with decorations, will be donated to needy families after the completion of the music program.

Corona students keeping busy as break approaches

A Christmas program and basketball tournament are on the slate.

BY JULIE CARTER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The Corona Schools Christmas program will be Thursday, Dec. 12, at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

Grades K-12 will take part in the presentation and the public is invited.

The basketball teams, boys and girls varsity, will head to Estancia for the BVC Tournaments Dec. 1, 13 and

14. For game times, contact the school.

School will be dismissed for the Christmas and New Year Holidays at 1 p.m. on Dec. 19. Classes will resume Jan. 7.

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Happy Birthday JESUS Party

Date: Thursday, December 12th
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Place: First Baptist Church
420 Mechem Dr.

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Historical society holds 2003 membership drive

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A non-profit group actively striving to preserve and protect the history of Lincoln County is looking for new members to sign up and for others to renew their memberships.

"The Lincoln County Historical Society has no source of income other than memberships and generosity when it comes to donations, and because we are doing so much more than ever before, we need to turn to our members for assistance," said vice president Lynda Sanchez. "So this year when you send in those renewals, please add a bit extra if you can."

"The society has literally 'roared' into the 21st Century and with our new Web site, programs and volunteers on board, nothing can stop us now."

Memberships run from January to December.

"The Society board, headed by president Hollis Fuchs, is excited about the coming year and wants to share our accomplishments and goals as we continue to development programs, field trips, archival training and preservation of the incredible history of the region," she said.

"We are also very proud of LCHS's tradition of representing the entire spectrum of individuals who reside in Lincoln County."

The society has amassed an impressive collection of documents and maintains a headquarters in Carrizozo.

Individual or family memberships are \$20 per year, a life membership is \$250 and a student membership for those under 18 is \$10. Specific projects seeking donations are the Johnson Sterns Reading Room and the LCHS Web site project, or specify a desired use.

Sends checks to the Lincoln County Historical Society, P.O. Box 579, Carrizozo, NM 88301.

LITTLE JOURNALISTS



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

The Head Start class of Sandra Reynolds and Julia Bustamante toured the Ruidoso News Dec. 6 to expand their career horizons.

Reduced number of storage units approved for Hansen Drive resident

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A Ruidoso man received approval earlier this week to build six storage units for his private vehicles.

John Obermiller, who lives on Heath Drive, wants to construct the units on Hansen Drive in Town and Country Estates off Mechem Drive. The quarter-acre tract is zoned community commercial, but a variance would be required if Obermiller decided later to rent the storage units, village planner Darrell Bremner said Tuesday.

The village Planning and Commission granted a conditional use on the land and approved the commercial site development.

Because the zoning is not being changed, the use would not vary from the village's comprehensive plan, Bremner noted. The lot will be landscaped on the Hansen Road side and one driveway will be closed to comply with village rules on separation of access points.

Although mini-warehouse standards require a minimum of one acre, the commission has granted variances in the past for smaller lots,

the planner said.

To comply with the village restriction against metal buildings in commercial districts, the walls must have a non-metal facade and if a metal roof is used, it must be enameled.

The previous owner of the land had received approval for 24 commercial units and a neighbor testified that he's pleased that Obermiller proposed fewer units and for personal use only.

"This man says he just wants to use them for his toys," said Commissioner Bill Hirschfeld.

In other action, the commission:

- Tabled a request by The Texas Land Developers to annex a tract of land to the village.

- Approved a variance in Ponderosa Heights for Victor Ponguedas to allow reconstruction of a roof that is within 2.5 feet of the front lot line on South Oak Drive.

- Approved a variance in Highwood Addition for Tom Schulze to allow placement of a home within 10.2 feet of the front lot line on Lupine Loop in the Highwood Addition when standards call for 20 feet.

- Approved a variance for Richard Wisner for a roof over an entrance door that is 11 feet, 1 inch from the front lot line on Ingham Riverside Drive in Silver Mountain Terrace.

- Tabled a commercial site development plan for Airport West, Third Addition off Mechem Drive requested by Floyd Investment Co. until more information is available.

- Approved a variance requested by John and Judy Shaw to allow the front of a new home to be 8.29 feet from the front lot line off Snow Cap Drive in White Mountain Estates when the standard is 20 feet.

FUNERALS DEATHS

Cecelia Annaratone

A prayer vigil for Cecelia Agnes Huls Annaratone, 83, of Ruidoso will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, with the funeral Mass there at 9 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13. Burial will follow at the Capitan Cemetery, with the Rev. Dave Bergs officiating.

Mrs. Annaratone died Nov. 28, 2002, in Ruidoso.

She was born Aug. 20, 1919, in Salem, S.D. She moved to Lincoln County in 1940 from Albuquerque.

She and her husband, Johnny, owned and operated the Rusty Anchor in Capitan for 27 years. She worked at Camp Sierra Blanca from 1976-1985. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, where she was a very active member.

Survivors include brothers Francis "Barney" Huls of Devils Lake, N.D., Al Huls and his wife, Mary Ann, and Robert and his wife, Lorie, of Salem.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Johnny, in 1990; a son, John Paul, in 1998; her parents William and Anna Huls; sisters Nettie Huls, Nettie Oyen, Christina LeFevre, Minnie Fetrel, Louisa Huls, Mary Fetrel and Adeline Merchant; brothers Aloysius Huls, Maurice Huls, Joe Huls and John Huls.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso, 341 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345, (505) 257-7303.

Jessie Montoya

A prayer vigil for Jessie Montoya, 49, of Ruidoso will be at 6 p.m. today, Dec. 11, at St. Eleanor's Catholic Church, where the funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 12. Burial will follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery with the Rev.

Alfred Galvan officiating.

Mr. Montoya died Saturday, Dec. 7, 2002, in Ruidoso.

He was born Nov. 24, 1953, in Ruidoso.

He had lived in Ruidoso all of his life, was a devoted Denver Bronco fan, owner-operator of Handyman Service Company and a member of St. Eleanor's Catholic Church.

He married Corina Torres on Nov. 2, 1973, in Alamogordo.

Survivors include his wife, Corina, of Ruidoso; daughters Monica Prieto and her husband, Andres, of Ruidoso Downs, Lisa Trillo and her husband, Raymond, of Ruidoso Downs, and Betty Reyes of Ruidoso; his parents Petra and Fred T. Montoya of Ruidoso Downs; brothers Freddy and Ray Montoya of Ruidoso and Martine Montoya of Las Cruces; a sister, Teresa Chavez, of San Patricio; and eight grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert G. Montoya, in Vietnam.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso, 257-7303.

Ralph Petty Jr.

Graveside services for Ralph F. Petty Jr., 60, of Roswell, were scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 10, at Memory Lawn Memorial Park in Roswell.

Mr. Petty died Sunday, Dec. 8, 2002, at his residence.

He was born Feb. 27, 1942, in Carrizozo, to Ralph F. Petty Sr. and Zane Harkey Petty.

He was a graduate of Carrizozo High School and attended the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

He moved to Ruidoso in 1958 where he began his banking career. While living in Ruidoso, he was privileged to represent Lincoln and Sierra counties as the youngest New

Mexico state representative in the late 1960s.

His banking career later called him to Santa Fe, where he acquired his first bank, The Bank of Santa Fe. He spent many years in Santa Fe making friends and helping to promote the area. He was an active member of the New Mexico Amigos in the late 1970s. It was in Santa Fe where he met his wife, Mary Margaret Mead Petty. He later moved to Ruidoso, where he was president and major stockholder of The Bank of Ruidoso. He was a major stockholder of numerous banks in New Mexico, serving as an officer and board member.

After retiring, he moved his family to Roswell in 1992 to join his mother in a health food business, Down to Earth Nutrition Center. He was a certified nutritional consultant who used his thirst for knowledge to help others feel better.

Although he was badly burned at the age of 5, he lived his life with enthusiasm, courage and confidence. He enjoyed ranching, hunting and golf.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Margaret, of the family home; his mother, Zane H. Petty of Roswell; his father, Ralph F. Petty of Abilene, Texas; a daughter, Jennifer H. Petty, of Roswell; a son, John

Benjamin Petty, of Roswell; a special friend, Travis Bishop, of Roswell; a brother, John D. Petty and his wife, Jill, of Albuquerque; sisters Karen Z. Petty and Sandra P. Stewart, both of Roswell; an uncle and aunt, Jack and Chris Harkey of Carrizozo; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Arrangements are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel and Crematory of Roswell.

Jean Blaney

A graveside service for Imogene "Jean" Poole Blaney, 77, of Ruidoso, was held on Saturday, Dec. 7, at Forest

Lawn Cemetery, with her grandson, John G. Blaney conducting the services.

Mrs. Blaney died Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2002, at Ruidoso Care Center.

She was born Dec. 7, 1924, in Vinita, Okla.

She was preceded in death by her former husband, John T. Blaney, of Ruidoso.

Survivors include her sons William A. Blaney of Alto, John M. Blaney of Truth or Consequences, and Joseph P. Blaney of Ruidoso Downs. She had nine grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements were under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

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Holiday Deadlines

So that our employees may enjoy the holidays with their families, the Ruidoso News will honor the following deadlines for the Wednesday, Dec. 25th and Wednesday, Jan. 1st editions:

Display, Classified & Legal Deadlines
Fri., Dec. 20th, 5 PM for the Dec. 25th issue
Fri., Dec. 27th, 5 PM for the Jan. 1st issue

To reserve your advertising space, please contact the advertising department at 257-4001.

The Ruidoso News will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25th and Wednesday, Jan. 1st in observance of Christmas & New Year's.



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RUIDOSO POLICE

Machine tipped off

Someone removed the money tray and the rod that locks it in place from a Lincoln County News vending machine at Allsup's Convenience Store, 311 Sudderth Drive, between noon Nov. 27 and 11:30 a.m. Dec. 5. Missing were \$8 in quarters and the rod valued at \$10.

The report stated that the El Paso Times machine nearby appeared to have been tampered with also, but the money box appeared intact.

Car stolen

A woman parked her 1992 Chevrolet Blazer at Walgreen's, 138 Sudderth Drive, at about 6:36 p.m. Dec. 7 and went in for a candy bar — leaving the keys in the ignition. When she returned, her vehicle was gone. The vehicle registration was entered into the National Crime Information

Center database.

Banner theft

A "Yes We Are Open" banner was stolen from KFC, 331 Sudderth Drive, between 10:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 8 a.m. Dec. 5. The banner with red lettering was valued at \$97.

Glass door broken

Ruidoso police reports that a large rock was apparently used to break the double pane of glass in the front door of Vincent Straley's office, 135 El Paso Drive, between 5:45 p.m. Dec. 4 and 7:35 a.m. Dec. 5. Officers found the large rock on the front sidewalk. A second glass door was broken from the corridor to the lobby and a rock in the entrance to the office, and a third rock was found in the office lobby, which was used apparently to break a double pane win-

dow on the west side of the door. It was not known at the time of the report if entrance was made or anything was taken.

Break-in discovered

Someone broke a window and pried it open to enter a residence in the 1100 block of Main Road between June 1 and Dec. 5, used the bathroom, and took a 30-30 rifle valued at \$450, brown leather saddle bags valued at \$150 and a grill valued at \$50. Damage to the window was estimated at \$50.

Shoplifting

Police arrested Benny Kaydahzinne Jr., 24, Dec. 7, charging him with shoplifting two 30-packs of beer and possession of drug paraphernalia. The report states that a clerk at Allsup's, 725 Mechem, said a man with a long black jacket

walked to the front door with the beer, backed out, looking at the clerk and went to a car with three other people in it. The clerk called the police, described the vehicle, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs saw a car with a matching description and stopped it on Route 4 in front of the Inn of the Mountain Gods. The beer and the jacket were in the back seat, and two marijuana bowls with residue were found in the jacket. Ruidoso police were called and made the arrest.

Marijuana found

Police cited William G. Avalos, 45, of Tularosa, with possession of marijuana, after responding to a call from Allsup's Convenience Store, 127 Highway 70, about an intoxicated man. The officer then transported Avalos to a friend's home on Carrizo Canyon Road.

PRINCI-BALD



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

Ruidoso High School principal Paul Wirth acquired a new hair style Tuesday, when the Warrior football team tackled him and shaved his head. "Last spring I told them whichever team won a state championship could shave my head," Wirth said. "They won a state championship."

Suicide suspected in case of woman found in lake

BY SANDY SUGGITT

Two more presumed suicides last week brought the toll to four in a week, with one additional attempted suicide, said Lt. Wolfgang Born of the Ruidoso Police Department.

The body of 67-year-old Mary Hinson of Ruidoso, reported missing since Dec. 2, was found in Grindstone Lake by a New Mexico State Police Search and Rescue team Dec. 5.

A Ruidoso police officer on patrol about 8:30 p.m. Dec. 4 saw her Cadillac SUV in the upper parking lot. Officer Brian Schamber called the registration in and the vehicle came back to Hinman, who was reported missing by her husband since Dec. 2.

Schamber found the doors unlocked and nothing out of the ordinary in the interior of the vehicle, the report states,

and nothing in the area around the vehicle. He called two other police officers to meet him there, and one of them had dispatch notify the State Police for a possible search and rescue operation.

A State Police officer arrived at 10:10 p.m. and he and the Ruidoso officers searched a larger area around the lake, finding nothing, and notified New Mexico State Police Search and Rescue.

On Dec 5, State Police Officer Paul Bryan discovered the fully clothed body at the west end of Grindstone Lake, submerged and face down about 4 to 5 feet from the shore, according to a Ruidoso police supplemental report. Ruidoso detectives assisted with processing the scene for Bryan's investigation.

"There was no indication of foul play," Detective Bob Layher said Tuesday. "If any-

thing had appeared to be criminal, we would have worked with the State Police jointly."

A 59-year-old man shot himself around midnight Dec. 7 after police had arrived at his residence on Ponderosa Drive in response to his wife's request. Several police officers and the chief of police attempted, unsuccessfully, to talk him out of his plan to kill himself. The man apparently shot himself with a 9 mm hand gun.

Investigation continues on

the suspected suicide of a 43-year old woman at her residence on Shaw Lane Nov. 30, and on the suspected suicide of a 43-year-old man who died of a gunshot wound in a residence on Sudderth Drive on Dec. 3. Results from lab tests by the Office of the Medical Investigator in Albuquerque will determine the cause of death.

In addition, a 47-year-old woman attempted suicide Dec. 5, according to police reports.

Advertisement for Investor Education for Community and Business Groups, featuring a speaker from the 'Savvy Investor' program.

Advertisement for QUEST Personnel, Inc., offering temporary or permanent clerical help.

Advertisement for Distinctive Designer Jewelry at DJ's, located at 618 Carrizo Canyon Rd.

Large advertisement for Charter Pipeline, highlighting '3 Lightning Quick Speeds' (256K, 768K, and 1.5 megabits per second) and offering free installation and a first month for \$1.

Large advertisement for John McDaniel at the Spencer Theater, featuring a photo of the performer and details for a Saturday night performance on December 14.

Large vertical text on the right side of the page: D E C 1 1 2 0 0 2

A good time was had by all, really

Truth be told, I'm not really all that upset over the outcome of Saturday's thrilling Class 3A state championship game.

Yes, my alma mater lost, but it's only a slight problem for me. I'm a professional journalist and I report what happens on the field, regardless of who wins.

If Portales' Seth Clabaugh had found a receiver in the end zone for the final game-winning touchdown to snatch another title away from the Warriors, I would probably have felt the same way I do now.

You see, I was just happy I was at that game. It turned out to be more entertaining than I had ever imagined.

This wasn't the kind of championship Class 3A had become accustomed to seeing

— a big blowout with either Artesia or Lovington coming out on top.

True, St. Pius embarrassed the Bulldogs back in 1999

with a 22-12 victory — in the Bulldog Bowl, no less. But until this season, those same two teams had dominated Class 3A over a 20-year span. And Lovington's two victories in the past two years — 59-3 and 42-7 shellackings of

Robertson and Cobre, respectively — weren't exactly the kind of contests that get your pulse racing.

But this year's game, this was something both teams can be proud to have been a part of. Even before the improbable

comeback by the Warriors (not all that impressive I guess, not after St. Michael's), I knew I was in the middle of something special.

I'm a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, and I'd seen quite a few football games at Greyhound Stadium, site of this year's championship. There are several good rivalries between Eastern and other Lone Star Conference teams, not the least of which involves West Texas A&M — the "Wagon Wheel Game."

I was in Greyhound Stadium for most of the Hounds' 1987 season, a year in which they went undefeated until their last two games and were ranked as high as No. 5 in Division II.

I've seen some pretty big and raucous crowds for those contests, but nothing that compared to Saturday's turnout. It gives me goosebumps just

thinking about all those people in Greyhound arena, cheering a football game.

And it's even more exciting to think those fans all got what they paid for, and then some.

Congratulations to both teams for putting together a classy and well-played show. You should both be proud of your achievements.

See? I Told You!

I guess I am pretty excited about Ruidoso winning; it's a lot easier interviewing players and coaches whose team has won. But I'm more pleased with the fact that they proved me right.

Ruidoso finished second in District 4-3A, and now they've won the big prize. They've become the latest in a long list of "wild cards" and runner-ups that have still gone on to win the whole enchilada.

I knew I was right.

A Class Act

Ruidoso also showed her true colors before the game, finally showing our national anthem the respect it deserves. No screaming "WARRIORS" at the end of the song, but a hearty cheer for the Ram band afterward. Good for you.

I know it wasn't every student (or parent) doing that before, but it still gave the entire village of Ruidoso a bad name. I just hope you don't use this column as some sort of permission to resume this silly tradition. I would think the tradition of honoring your country would be a little more important.

I look forward to the basketball and wrestling seasons now, and am ready to offer my singing abilities to anyone who needs them for the anthem, really. I've been practicing and everything. Give me a chance... c'mon!

ON THE DDOT



BY TODD FUQUA
SPORTS EDITOR

side line

Ski Report

Ski Apache
New Snow Past Week: 27 in.
Weather at Report Time: Clear
Road at Report Time: Clear
Midway Depth: 31 in.
Surface Conditions: Power and packed powder
Skiing Conditions: Excellent
Trails Open: 43
Lifts Open: Nine of 11 lifts: Two surface lifts, the gondola and chairs one through five and seven.
Trails Groomed: Captain, Chalk, Seven Liffline, Lower Deep Freeze, Lower Spruce, SBT, Smokey Bear, Snow Park, Top Notch, Lower Mountain Novice Slopes
Snowmaking Past 24 Hours: Yes
Forecast: Mostly Sunny
Additional Info: With seven inches of fresh snow on Sunday, the gondola and chair one are open to the top. Most of the upper mountain trails are open. The skiing is really great with no crowds.

Prep Scores

- Thursday, Dec. 5**
Boys Basketball
Taos Invitational
Ruidoso 80, Bloomfield 38
Roadrunner Tournament
Dexter 67, Captain 48
Jal 75, Carrizozo 34
Girls Basketball
Loveland Tournament
Tahoka, Texas 73, Ruidoso 28
Roadrunner Tournament
Carrizozo 59, Jal 34
- Friday, Dec. 6**
Boys Basketball
Taos Invitational
Taos 88, Ruidoso 61
Roadrunner Tournament
Captain 54, Carrizozo 24
Girls Basketball
Loveland Tournament
Paducah, Texas 63, Ruidoso 54
Roadrunner Tournament
Carrizozo 59, Captain 55
- Saturday, Dec. 7**
Football
Class 3A State Championship
Ruidoso 26, Portales 22
Boys Basketball
Taos Invitational
Belen 100, Ruidoso 52
Roadrunner Tournament
Fifth Place
Captain 58, Hagerman 51
Girls Basketball
Mescalero 48, Estancia 30
Loveland Tournament
El Paso Franklin 47, Ruidoso 37
Roadrunner Tournament
Championship
Fort Sumner 48, Carrizozo 34
Third Place
Tatum 57, Captain 46
- Monday, Dec. 9**
Girls Basketball
Mescalero 53, Mesilla Valley 26

WARRIORS: Another football state title for the Ruidoso faithful

FROM PAGE 1A

Portales sideline, it had only moved four yards.

That set up Ruidoso on their own 42-yard line with 1:11 left, and the Warriors made the most of it. After his team was flagged for an offside call, Adams found Tyler Line near the Warrior sideline for a 34-yard catch, which put Ruidoso at the Ram 28-yard line, almost within field goal range.

"I was thinking, 'hands, don't fail me now,'" said Line, who made a diving catch to keep the drive going. "I knew I was going to get it as soon as the ball was in the air."

Following that catch, Adams found his way into the endzone for the go-ahead score.

"At that point, I was thinking field goal, we could tie it and go into overtime," Bowden said of his thoughts while watching Adams on that final touchdown. "I was just thinking, 'Is he going to get in?'"

"Josh has been our catalyst all year, he's the one that makes us go," he added. "Tyler made the big play for the first down and got us close to field goal range — two seniors coming through in a big game."

Adams had 120 yards rushing to lead the game, while Line added 77 on 14 carries. Adams also threw for 162 yards, while Hooper had five catches for 69 yards and Line got the ball four times for 68.

Clabaugh led the Rams with only 50 yards on 13 carries, while Carter and Long — normally leader from the backfield all year — had a combined 24 yards in the

game.

Familiar start

While the Warriors certainly ended in spectacular fashion, the game began with depressing similarity to their previous meeting with the Rams, an 18-7 loss which cost them the District 4-3A title.

On Saturday, Portales took a 14-0 lead early in the second quarter on a 30-yard completion by Clabaugh to Chris Carter. Carter scored the Rams' first touchdown on a 10-yard rush in the first quarter.

Ruidoso, meanwhile, had trouble holding onto the ball, and Adams wasn't connecting like he usually did with receiver Chance Hooper. The Warriors fumbled the ball seven times — losing four — and Adams had 18 passes that fell incomplete.

"Our mistakes was what was stopping us in the first half," Bowden said. "We felt if we eliminated those, we would win the ball game."

Ruidoso eliminated them enough that they got their first score on a 16-yard reception by Hooper in the endzone, but had to settle for just six when Dusty Bolden's point-after kick was wide right.

The Warriors almost scored again just before the half, when they recovered a Portales fumble and then marched down to the Portales two. But another fumble with 16 seconds left preserved the Rams' 14-6 lead.

Each team traded possessions in the second half before Ruidoso, taking the ball away on a Casey Wagon interception, scored on another Adams run.

That drive was kept alive



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Portales running back Las Long (22) is swarmed by Ruidoso defenders Dec. 7 at Greyhound Stadium Saturday during the Class 3A state championship. Long — who had rushed for more than 1,200 yards on the season, was held to just 11 yards as seven carries by the Warriors.

when the Warriors, facing a 4th-and-7 at the Portales 39-yard line, faked the punt and kicker Steven Stroup found Line open for a 13-yard gain and a critical first down.

That play was typical of several that kept Ruidoso in the game throughout.

"We just believed, it was all about teamwork," Adams said. "We came out on top in one of the biggest games of our lives. Now we're state champions."

For Bowden, this is not his first time in the state championship — having been there before as an assistant both in Ruidoso and Artesia. But it is his first time as the head coach.

"I wasn't sure if we could do it in the fourth quarter, but now that we've won, it's an over-

whelming feeling," Bowden said. "I can't credit myself, we've got a great coaching staff and great kids."

"They've done everything we asked them to do," he added. "Give the credit to them and their parents, the boosters. We're just the ones calling the plays."

Notes: Ruidoso easily outpaced the Rams in almost every offensive category. They had more total yards (416-172), fewer penalty yards (40-62) and had many, many more first downs (25-9)...That Portales couldn't get that crucial first down with just over a minute left in the game wasn't too surprising, the Rams had only two first downs in the entire second half...The game was Ruidoso's fifth decided by four points or

less, and was their second come-from-behind victory in three weeks, having beaten St. Michael's in four overtimes in the quarterfinals after being down 35-14 at halftime.



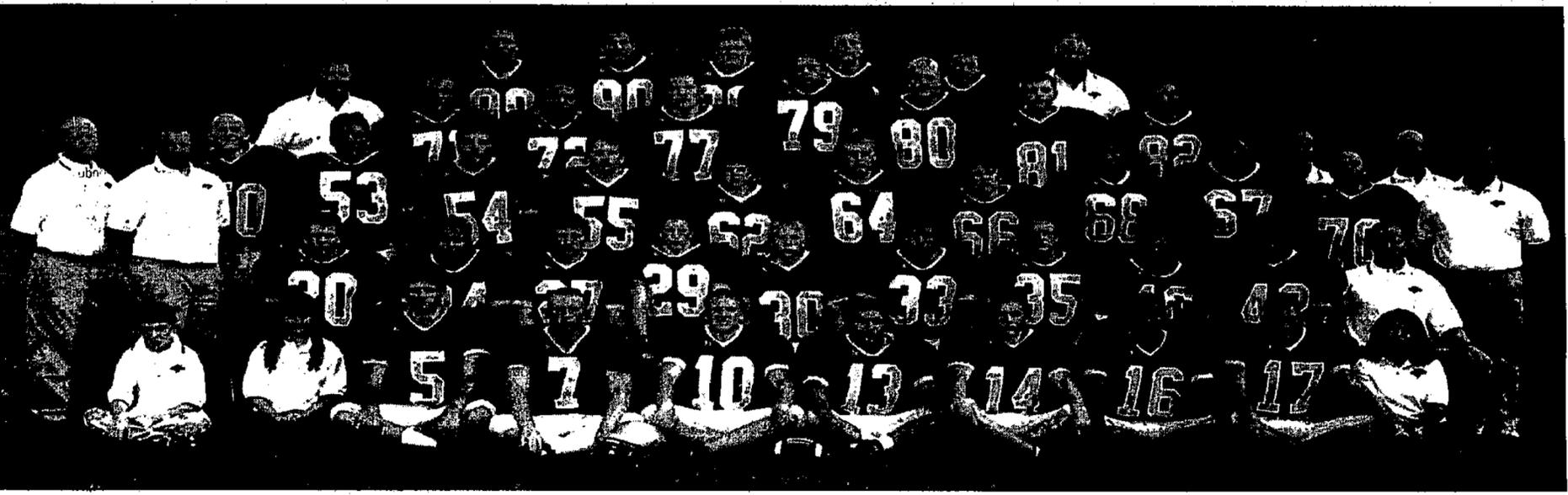
TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Here ya go Tyler Line (far right), takes the pitch from Josh Adams (24) as Casey Mirau (20) prepares to block Saturday during the Class 3A state championship game at Greyhound Stadium. Making the play defensively for Portales are Jeremy Jones (10) and Les Long (22).

Warriors 26, Rams 22
Warriors: 26 (10-14-2)
Rams: 22 (10-14-2)
First Quarter
Warriors: 10 (10-14-2)
Rams: 0 (0-0-0)
Second Quarter
Warriors: 10 (10-14-2)
Rams: 10 (10-14-2)
Third Quarter
Warriors: 10 (10-14-2)
Rams: 10 (10-14-2)
Fourth Quarter
Warriors: 10 (10-14-2)
Rams: 10 (10-14-2)
Total
Warriors: 40 (40-0-0)
Rams: 40 (40-0-0)
Penalties
Warriors: 10 (10-14-2)
Rams: 10 (10-14-2)
Time of Game
Warriors: 1:00
Rams: 1:00

Teamwork . . .

Congratulations to our 2002 State Champions!
Ruidoso Football Warriors and Capitan Volleyball Lady Tigers Teams
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'02 CLASS 3A STATE CHAMPIONS

- 1 Michael Sanchez
- 5 Paul LeBlanc
- 7 Tyler Line
- 10 Marcus Williams
- 13 Jaime Urban
- 14 Elisha Hedin
- 16 Troy Saenz
- 17 Chance Hooper
- 20 Casey Mirau
- 22 George Gallardo
- 24 Josh Adams
- 27 Justin Huffmon
- 29 Jeremy Pritchett
- 33 Jess Shendo
- 35 Tanner McGarvey
- 36 Casney Wagnon
- 40 Jasper Riddle
- 42 Chris Mendoza

- 44 Josh Pior
- 46 Jacob Henson
- 48 Julian Serna
- 50 Jaime Morse
- 51 Brian Chavez
- 53 David Samaniego
- 54 Jake Tetreault
- 56 Marcos Armendariz
- 55 Mark Blair
- 59 Patrick Perales
- 60 Kyle Maills
- 62 Brian Leadingham
- 63 Jonathan Farus
- 64 Dusty Bolden
- 66 David Esquibel
- 66 Joshua Morris
- 67 Felipe Montes
- 68 Valarde Gonzales
- 70 Johnny Gordon
- 71 Case Forrest

- 72 Jordan Torres
- 73 Eddie Gutierrez
- 74 Justin Sergeant
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- 77 Bruce Herrera
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- 80 Steven Stroup
- 81 Josh Rue
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Carrizozo girls second at Roadrunner Tournament

BY LESTER HAYES
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

DEXTER — The Roadrunner Tournament kicked off Thursday and came to a close with the crowning of the champions Saturday.

The Carrizozo girls finished the best out of the four round-ball teams from Lincoln County, as they took second place overall following a 48-34 loss Saturday to Fort Sumner.

The Lady Grizzlies (4-2) faced a tough Fort Sumner ball team. The Vixens have won the tournament for the last nine years and were looking to make it a full decade.

"I think we are able to match up with them," said Carrizozo head coach Mel Holland. "We've never beat Fort Sumner in the last four years, so they have a good ball team and that's how we are going to play the game."

Things did not go very well for the Lady Grizzlies at all the first period of play. They were only able to put seven points on the board, compared to Fort Sumner's 12. Turnovers and bad ball handling took its toll against Carrizozo, along with many missed opportunities to score.

The second period brought more of the same, as the Vixens kept the pressure on. Carrizozo managed to put only five more points onto their total by the end of the first half of play, giving up 16 more to Fort Sumner.

The frustration showed on the faces of the Grizzlies as they headed for the locker

room trailing 28-12.

Play continued in the third with things starting to look up for Carrizozo as they picked up the pace and scored 14 points and held the Vixens to only eight. However, it still left the Grizzlies a ten-point deficit to contend with. The score at the end of the period was 36-26.

The last period of play would tell it all, but it wasn't what the Grizzlies wanted to hear. The Zozo girls gave an all out effort to get a handle on the game and turn it around, but Fort Sumner stayed with their game plan and out scored the Lady Grizzlies, putting 12 points to Carrizozo's eight on the board for the win and a decade of victories in the Roadrunner Tournament.

The Lady Grizzlies were led by Christa Frank with 21 points, followed by Victoria Rossi with nine.

To get to the championship game, Carrizozo had to start with a first round game against Jal. The Lady Grizzlies played a great game and easily advanced to the next round, easily beating Jal by a score of 59-34.

Capitan girls

Carrizozo faced the Lady Tigers in the second round, as Capitan defeated Dexter by 17 in their opening-round game.

Friday brought with it the promise of even more great basketball, and that it was. The Grizzlies and the Tigers squared off in what would turn into a very exciting game. Both team showed great ability to get the job done, but only one could emerge victorious as Carrizozo slipped by Capitan with a

score of 59-55.

Capitan later fell to Tatum 57-46 in the third-place game on Saturday. The Lady Tigers (1-3) face Artesia this Thursday at 7 p.m. in the first round of the City of Champions Tournament.

Boys

The Carrizozo Grizzlies faced Jal in their first game of the tournament Thursday, and did not do very well against the Panthers. Jal showed good solid basketball as they easily defeated Carrizozo 75-34.

Later that evening the Capitan Tiger boys duelled the Dexter Demons in their first game. Capitan played well, but Dexter played a very aggressive game all around. The Tigers fell to the Demons 67-48 in a well-played game on the part of both ball clubs.

With both Zozo and Capitan taking a loss in the first round, that put them playing each other in Friday's game.

The Capitan boys pretty much kept Carrizozo at arms length, taking every opportunity that was available for them to score. Sheldon Moor put 19 points on the board for the Tigers, as 11 of the 12 players on the floor scored for Capitan. At the same time they put the brakes on Carrizozo's scoring, enough to beat them 54-24.

Capitan went on to defeat Hagerman in the consolation championship, 58-51, on Saturday. Moor again led the Tigers with 16 points, while Bo Sparks had 15 points and 17 rebounds.

The Tigers (3-1) play the Ruidoso junior varsity this Saturday at 4 p.m. in Ruidoso.

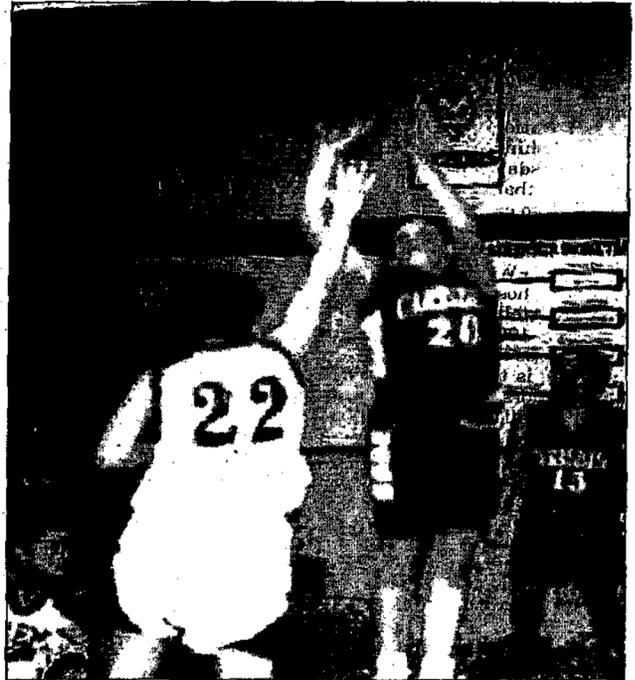


PHOTO BY LESTER HAYES

Lady Grizzly Christa Frank (20) goes up for a shot against Fort Sumner in the championship game of the Roadrunner Tournament Saturday in Dexter. Frank led Carrizozo with 20 points, but the Lady Grizzlies fell 48-34.

Ruidoso girls drop three games

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

It's been a pretty rough start for the Ruidoso girls basketball team, but coach Greg Marez does see some hope in this young season.

"We're not getting to the peak yet, they're still understanding how everything is supposed to run," Marez said of his 0-4 Lady Warriors. "They're going to start working better now as we go through the holidays."

After losing big to Carlsbad in the season opener 74-30 Dec. 3, the Lady Warriors dropped successive games to Texas

teams Tahoka, Paducah and El Paso Franklin in the Levelland Tournament over the weekend.

Ruidoso fell to Tahoka — a semifinalist in the Texas state playoffs last year — 73-26 on Thursday.

"We just had a hard time, it was only our second game, and it was the 10th or 12th game for most of these other teams," Marez said. "They were more ready, but that's why we went. We wanted to face the good competition."

The Lady Warriors' biggest problem lay in their inability to integrate Marez's defensive and offensive sets, and that led to a number of turnovers.

They cut down on those mistakes in their last two games, losing to Paducah 63-54 Friday after being down by only four points headed into the fourth quarter.

Clarissa Silva led Ruidoso in that one with 20 points, followed by Dusti Franklin with 12 points and Christina Brown with 11.

On Saturday, the Lady Warriors again fell to El Paso Franklin, but only by 10 points. They also got their defense working, holding Franklin scoreless in the final period.

Franklin led the team this time with 16 points, followed by Silva with 15 and Beth Robinson with seven.

Ruidoso was at Tularosa on Thursday, and plays at Cloudcroft Tuesday at 6 p.m. With these four games now behind them and improvement in each game apparent, Marez is optimistic about his team's abilities.

"Once they get accustomed to the pressure, everything should fall into place," Marez said. "We need to cut down on the turnovers and should be okay after that. This tournament was an eye-opener to show them how I want them to play."

FACT

In 1850

New Mexico (which included present day Arizona, southern Colorado, southern Utah, and southern Nevada) is designated a territory, but denied statehood.

Defense aids Mescalero ladies in fast season start

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The Mescalero Lady Chiefs are off to a fast start this season, and they have a stifling defense to thank for it.

After dropping their season opener 61-60 on a last-second shot, the Lady Chiefs have rattled off three wins in a row using a tough man-to-man defense and solid scoring.

Mescalero beat Mesilla Valley by 20 points to follow up their season-opening loss, beat Estancia 48-30 on Saturday, then defeated Mesilla Valley again on Monday, 53-26.

"We played excellent defense," said Mescalero coach Rol Bradford. "We've been playing tenaciously, and have the ability to

score, but we've been concentrating on staying with the man and running a half-court offense."

The Lady Chiefs beat Mesilla on Monday after leading 33-6 at the half. Nicole Dolan led the team with 23 points, while Augusta Lang had 12 and Sheriene Davis had 10.

It was a similar story on Saturday, as Mescalero was up on Estancia 25-8 at the half, and rode it out to the end.

"Estancia tried to slow it down on us, they showed a lot of patience, so we let them do that," Bradford said. "It was easy to do with a big lead."

The Lady Chiefs will face Mountainair Friday at 2:30 p.m. in the first round of the To'hajiilee Tournament.

Warrior wrestlers not yet at full strength

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

As a team, the Ruidoso wrestlers may not have much to show for their efforts yet, but they do have several individuals who have already made their mark on this young season.

The Warriors competed in a quad match at Roswell High Thursday, defeating both New Mexico Military Institute and Hobbs before traveling to Belen Saturday for the Belen Invitational.

Hobbs fell to Ruidoso 50-38, while NMMI was on the wrong end of a 48-30 score.

"We pinned all but two guys from NMMI," said Ruidoso coach Brian Brown.

Brown had only six wrestlers for that event — meaning the team lost quite a few points overall due to a lack of participation. But the wrestlers that did go represented the school well.

Greg Crow led the team with a 2nd-place finish in the 130-pound weight class, while Johnny Gonzales took third at 103. Others to place were Dayne Hall at 112, Davis Warner at 125 and Ricky Phillips at heavyweight, all finishing fourth.

"We'll see how we do at Cruces on Friday," said Brown, referring to the Las Cruces Invitational his team will be in next. "We should have 10 to 12 kids there, so the numbers alone will help."

"If they do well individually at that tournament, it says a lot about our wrestling here."

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Hot shooting by Belen sinks Warriors in Taos Tournament

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

After opening the Taos Invitational with an 80-38 thrashing of Bloomfield on Thursday, the Ruidoso boys basketball team was brought back to earth Friday after having been given a taste of their own medicine.

The Warriors fell to tournament host Taos 88-61 Friday, then fell in the third-place game 100-52 to Belen.

Taos used the same strategy Page is trying to instill in the Warriors, press and run with the ball. Ruidoso (2-2) was down by only five points at the half, but foul trouble plagued them early.

"Then we struggled with our press break," Page said. "We didn't shoot very well in the second half, and they had a lot of offensive weapons."

Stuart Campbell had 15 in

the first half for the Tigers, and eventually finished with 18, but Pete Martıpez stung the Warriors in the second half, finishing the game with 30 points to lead the game.

"Defensively, we have to get our heads around after we score to play defense," Page said. "We have to find the spots they like to score from and get there early."

Auston Beier led the Warriors with 20 points, including a 9-for-10 performance at the free throw line. But for all his ability at the charity stripe, Ruidoso as a team only shot just above 50 percent.

The Warriors' stunning loss to Belen wasn't so much a matter of their inability to guard the Eagles, it's just that the Eagles couldn't miss any shots down the stretch.

"We had people in good defensive positions, but they

shot 78 percent in the game," Page said. "They were 6-for-7 from the three-point line, everything they shot went in."

Ruidoso, meanwhile, couldn't seem to make anything go in, although their scoring was well balanced. Cody Small and Patrick Valliant each had 14 points to lead the Warriors, followed by Beier's 11.

Still, with these two losses behind him, Page is still excited about the season's prospects, particularly now that Ruidoso will be playing with a few members of the now Class 3A state champion Warrior football team.

"They know what it takes to play at that level, and their success will push our players to do better," Page said.

Ruidoso hosted Tularosa on Tuesday and travels to Deming for a Friday contest at 7:30 p.m.



Ruidoso's Nick Page (3) makes a layup during the Ruidoso Warriors' season-opening win over Socorro Dec. 6. Trailing on the play is Socorro's Joseph Santillanes.

TODD FUQUA/STAFF

WARRIOR WINNER-LAND



The Warrior football team takes the field, accompanied by the Ruidoso High School 24 Karat Band, before the start of the Class 3A state championship Saturday at Greyhound Stadium.

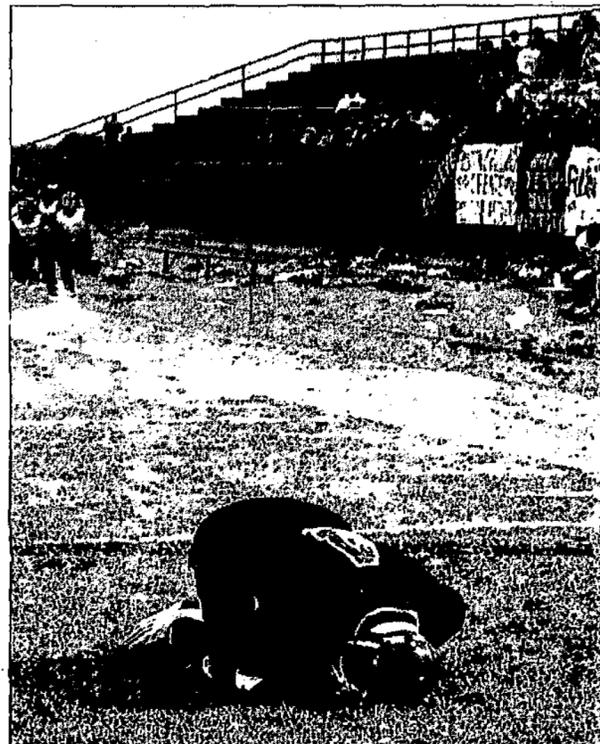
Photos by Todd Fuqua



Junior linebacker Case Forrest savors the moment of being a state champion after the game.



Chance Hooper, left, battles two Portales Rams in the endzone for a touchdown pass in the second quarter of Saturday's Class 3A championship at Greyhound Stadium. The score got the Warriors to within eight points at halftime.



With the Ruidoso fans and cheerleaders celebrating in the background, Portales quarterback Seth Clabaugh (4) kneels on the field after his last-second touchdown pass was deflected by the Ruidoso defenders, denying the Rams their fourth state championship and securing a fifth state title for the Warriors.

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SUPER SMALL business opportunity. Priced at \$59,000.00 for quick sale. Established 18 years in business. Engaving, Trophies etc. Inventory, fixtures, trophies & equipment approx \$30,000.00 +. Owner will give 2 weeks training. Call Jose Zagona CENTURY 21/ ASPEN REAL ESTATE at 420-3807

410 FARM EQUIPMENT/ MACHINERY
BOB CAT #843 2500 hrs, includes backhoe with 2 buckets, 2 front end loader buckets, forklift, jack hammer and tamp. \$16,500. 354-0350

412 FIREWOOD/FUEL
FIRE WOOD, Oak, cedar, Juniper or mixed. Call for best prices. Can split your wood. 420-4504 or 257-6783

FIREWOOD SPLIT Pine Mix. \$95/cord. Slab firewood 25/cord. El Molino Sawmill. 336-1237

415 JEWELRY
DEC. 4TH thru Dec. 14th Gold&Diamond Jewelry Sale. Cash Only! Golden West Pawn & Sales
 137 Highway 70
 378-8293

Tree Pine Needle & Underbrush Removal
 References Available Licensed & Insured
 Ask for Yogi
 257-0610 or 420-0926

108 HOUSES FOR RENT
2BD/1BA, VERY private, central gas, fireplace, appliances, D/W, W/D hookup. Huge deck over looking Cedar Creek, No Pets, 257-0108

112 LOTS FOR SALE
HULL ROAD - Lot cleared and ready for building. Has Topographical survey. Over half an acre (.62). Call 378-9250

VIEW LOTS in the Ruidoso area for sale. Financing Available. 378-4800

100 HELP WANTED
CONSTRUCTION FRAMERS, general labor, food service, housekeepers clerical. All Skill Levels!
 Apply Today! 257-7876

449 Sudderth Drive
 In Gateway Center

100 HELP WANTED
CONSTRUCTION FRAMERS, general labor, food service, housekeepers clerical. All Skill Levels!
 Apply Today! 257-7876

449 Sudderth Drive
 In Gateway Center

200 MISCELLANEOUS
24' GOOSE Neck, tripple axle trailer with dove tail and ramps. \$2000 354-0350

FACT
 The author "Land of Enchantment" was first invited to the title of a book on New Mexico in 1906.

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2BD/1BA, VERY private, central gas, fireplace, appliances, D/W, W/D hookup. Huge deck over looking Cedar Creek, No Pets, 257-0108

111 ACRES
40 ACRES-NOGAL area with outstanding views and privacy has been platted into 4 tracts. Great investment or homesite. \$135,000 with terms. Stevens RE 1-888-556-1349 or 630-9900

BUS-TING BUSINESS. Very established, profitable. Includes real estate, living quarters and great location 1 block off Sudderth. Building is big enough for two businesses. (22x113) Books available and some owner financing. STEVENS REAL ESTATE 1-888-556-1349

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 Ask for Yogi
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ARABELA RANCH
 Minutes from Ruidoso
 148 Acres - \$55,900.00
 Excellent hunting
 Private, some with utilities
 Owner Financing 10% Down
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AUTOMOBILES
1993 CADILLAC Runs good. \$500 or best offer. 6-2854

TOYOTA GALLANT 3.0 power, runs great, quick sale \$8499 77-2436

SPORT UTILITY
2001 LAND Rover, load-16,000/miles, perfect, beautiful car, NADA Value \$2,200. Needs \$29,000 or less. Serious buyers only. 430-3349

CHEVY Suburban, 4-w/roof, runs great, w/warranty. Asking \$3,500. Call 257-7806 910-1019

AUDI Quattro(4x4), 1990. Runs great. 4Dr, spd, leather, pw/pd, sun-heated seats, all-records, 2900/mi. Juytin 258-9120

CHEVROLET Silverado, 3/4 ton, 4x4, \$8800

Chevrolet full size, 4x4, new paint and tires. \$4500. Call 354-350

FORD Explorer Sport. 2 Dr. XLT, 4-wheel drive, loaded with CD, 6,000 miles. \$9,450 Midland Tx. 915-520-3345. Will trade

EXPLORER xls, 4x4, 116,000 miles. 10,200. day-257-3109, h-58-4877

CAMPERS
AB OVER camper for full size Pick-Up, stove, oven, air, a/c, toilet, awning, awning, etc. \$550. 336-157

LEGAL NOTICES
5346 2T (12)6,11

LITIGANT
 The District of New Mexico, United States Probation Office, is seeking a contractor to provide substance abuse services to federal offenders in the Ruidoso area. The contract agreement will be issued by the United States Probation Office and will authorize urine surveillance and substance abuse counseling of federal offenders commencing February 1, 2003, September 30, 2003. The agency must have documented experience in providing confidential and urine surveillance monitoring and must also be able to provide outpatient substance abuse counseling with a criminal justice population. The agency shall provide services to all individuals referred to them by the United States Probation Office and shall hold all necessary licenses required by the State of New Mexico. Agencies interested in submitting bids should submit a letter of interest to Anita L. Chavez, Chief United States Probation Officer, no later than Friday, December 7, 2002, and forwarded to 33 Lomas Blvd. NW, Suite 170, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO

LEGAL NOTICES
5350 1T (12)11
INVITATION FOR BIDS
 Notice is hereby given that the Village of Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico calls for sealed bids on Bid #02-015.

The Village of Ruidoso is accepting bids to purchase Turbidimeters, Chlorine Analyzers and Chlorine Analyzer Reagent for Water Department.

Interested bidders may secure a copy of specifications from the Purchasing Department at the Village of Ruidoso Centralized Purchasing Warehouse, 421 Wingfield St. in Ruidoso, 505-257-2721 (mailing address: 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345).

Sealed bids must be received by the Purchasing Office, if hand delivered, to the Ruidoso Purchasing Warehouse at 421 Wingfield St., Ruidoso or if mailed, to Purchasing Department, 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345. Bids will be received until Monday, December 23, 2002 at 3:00p.m. local time, then publicly opened and read aloud at the Village of Ruidoso Annex Building, 421 Wingfield, Ruidoso, New Mexico. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

The Village of Ruidoso reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive all formalities and technical irregularities as allowed by the State of New Mexico, Procurement Code.

By the Order of the Governing Body
 /s/ Fernin Herrera
 Purchasing Agent
 Village of Ruidoso

5332 4T (11)20,27 (12)4,11

STATE OF NEW MEXICO COUNTY OF LINCOLN TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
 CV-02-249

REYES V. TORRES, JR. and ALICIA R. TORRES, husband and wife; **REYES V. TORRES and ROSARIO TORRES**, husband and wife; **HECTOR TORRES and IRENE G. TORRES**, husband and wife; **OTHON MEDINA**, a single person; and **IRENE N. B. MEDINA**, a single person,

JOHN S. CHAVEZ and CAROL K. CHAVEZ, husband and wife, deceased; **GABRIEL S. CHAVEZ**, their presumptive heir; Their Unknown Heirs, and All Unknown Claimants of Interest in the Subject Property Adverse to the Plaintiff, Defendants.

NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF ACTION
 STATE OF NEW MEXICO

LEGAL NOTICES
 to the above-named Defendants if living, or if deceased, to their Unknown Heirs, and all Unknown Claimants of Interest in the Subject Property Adverse to the Plaintiff.

GREETINGS:
 You are hereby notified that the above-named Plaintiff has filed a civil action against you in the above-entitled Court and cause, the general object thereof being to quiet title to and possibly partition the following described real property:

Unit A 1, Phase I, Warwick Place Condominium Project, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as the same is established and identified in the "Declarations and Exhibits" recorded in Lincoln County, New Mexico, in Book 53, Pages 937-974, and the "Plat" recorded on May 10, 1978, with the County Clerk of Lincoln County in a certain instrument designated as "Plat" in said office in Tube No. 614 with warranty covenants. Together with such interests as are described in the Warranty deed found at Book 109, pages 677-679 of the deed records of the Lincoln County Clerk, recorded December 17, 1984.

Unless you enter your appearance in said cause on or before January 6, 2003, judgment or other appropriate relief will be rendered in this cause against you, and you will thereafter not be permitted to claim any right or title to the subject property, or to be heard on whether the Court should partition or order sale of the property.

Name and address of Plaintiff's attorney: Kelly P. Albers, 300 S. Water Street, P.O. Box 2769, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88004.

WITNESS THE HONORABLE, Karen L. Parsons, the District Judge of the Twelfth Judicial District Court of the State of New Mexico, and the Seal of the District Court of Lincoln County, this 8th day of November, 2002.

CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
 Deputy Prepared by: Mickie L. Vega

/s/ Kelly P. Albers
KELLY P. ALBERS ANDERSON & MONTES, P.A.
 Attorney for the Plaintiff
 300 S. Water Street
 Las Cruces, New Mexico
 (505) 524-9617

3-CLICKS AND YOU'RE IN... YOUR CONVERTIBLE.

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newmexico.cars

New Mexico's Automotive Website

N.Y. TIMES Edited by Will Shortz **No. 0622**

ACROSS
 1 Ability to rotate polarized light
 16 Hold off
 17 Novel featuring Adela Quested
 18 Fashion initials
 19 Big name in music compilations
 20 Way for the wind to blow: Abbr.
 21 "For sure, Fernando!"
 23 17-Across topic
 25 1944 E.T.O. battleground
 29 They're hired to spin
 32 Markers
 35 A hand
 36 Leave things unresolved, perhaps

DOWN
 41 Disregard
 42 Desert danger
 43 Ripple producer
 44 Alone, in Artes
 45 Syllable in odies
 46 Like a punished G.I., perhaps
 48 Fighter with horns
 50 For whom Sherman was veep
 54 Concert stage sight
 57 Synthesizer pioneer
 60 What some players tum
 61 What a poor diet may need
 66 #1 Tommy Edwards hit of 1958
 67 Inferentially

DOWN
 1 Signs off on
 2 Kind of challenge
 3 Some dabblers
 4 Tape recorder speed meas.
 5 Cooper's creation
 6 Rat tail?
 7 It may be found in a schooner
 8 "Guys and Dolls" tune
 9 Summons: Abbr.
 10 General chicken
 11 Exclamation of confirmation
 12 Windmill parts
 13 Swing voter, perhaps: Abbr.
 14 Cable company that merged with AT&T
 15 Indeed
 22 Words of explanation
 24 Floorboard supporter
 25 Anklebones
 27 Hoodwink, in a way
 28 Ancient Greek theater
 30 General transportation?
 31 Buyer be where?
 33 Teetotalers' opposites
 34 Doctor's order
 36 Word said explosively
 37 Collect slowly

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALTAR CLEAT CPA
 MORTE RANCH HAN
 PROFFTONICE IRT
 MIDD OWED ROCKS
 ROD IMOKAY
 KRISTONERSOFF
 NITTI ADAM SLOB
 OPS STOGIES IRA
 BETA AMES NICER
 OFFSIDERICKON
 SPORTS ETE
 COLOR COED PEAS
 LAB ONOFFSWITCH
 LOT OPCIT ACURA
 AXE PRODS SKIED

38 "The Fountainhead" character
 39 "Omn" (1984-95 sitcom)
 40 Insinuate
 47 Custard apple
 49 Billing period
 51 HIV-related
 52 Wharton protagonist
 53 Chromatic nuances
 56 Abbr. on a French envelope

58 One-named sports star
 59 Prince's "Sign... Times"
 59 Many a plaid wearer
 61 Family member

62 Chief Ouray, e.g.
 63 What most L.A. Lakers games are played on
 64 Div. of a degree
 65 Friday's (restaurant)

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

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 New Address:
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 (Corner of Mechem & Sudderth)
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D E C 1 1 2 0 0 2

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SHARP DVD/CD PLAYER WITH CD-R/RW AND DVD-R/RW COMPATIBILITY

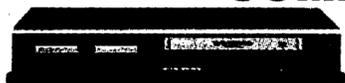
- 3 Language On-Screen Display
- 2 Stage Digital Zoom (2x or 4x)



#DVS1U

Regular *119
\$99
Savings *20

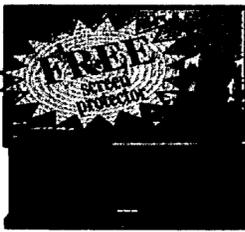
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- Combination DVD Player and VCR with Dual Laser Pickup
- Plays DVD, DVD-R, CD, CD-R, CD-RW discs
- MP3 Playback
- Dual Laser Pickup
- Dolby Digital Sound
- Quasi S-VHS Playback
- Hi-Fi Stereo VCR Audio

DVPF2U
Regular *259
\$228
Savings *31

HITACHI TELEVISION



- 50" Screen with Screen Protector (Dual Tuner PIP)
- Perfect Picture (Auto Picture Adjustment)
- Theater Modes (TV, Movies, Music, Sports)

50FX20B
Regular *1499
\$1398
Savings \$101

HITACHI 57" HIGH DEFINITION BIG SCREEN TV



- High Brightness CRTs
- New Magic Focus® 8-Sensor Auto Digital Convergence
- 24 Watt Stereo Bass Reflex Speaker System
- Glow-in-the-Dark Preprogrammed Remote (3-Devices)

#57UWX20B
Regular *2799
\$2499
Savings *300

FLAT PANEL TELEVISION

A New Way to Look at TV

This technological marvel offers advanced plasma display technology in the form of the world's first television built to hang on your wall.

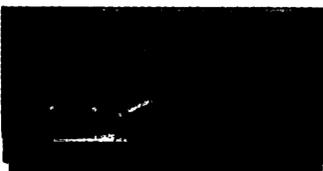
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- High Definition Display
- 16:9 WIDE Aspect Ratio 42"

Now on Display

LCD FLAT PANEL TVs



15PF9925

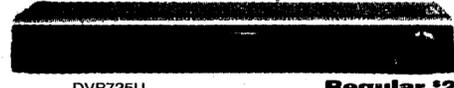
- Flat, Slim Design is Only 3.5" Thick
- Includes Sleek Arch Table Stand
- Liquid Crystal (Display) Television



20PF9925

- Flat, Slim Design is Only 2" Thick
- Includes Sleek Arch Table Stand
- Liquid Crystal (Display) Television
- 15" Visible Screen Size
- Progressive Scan

HITACHI PROGRESSIVE SCAN DVD PLAYER w/JOG SHUTTLE

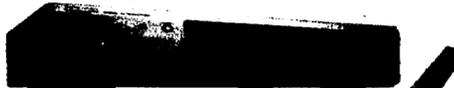


DVP725U

Regular *229
\$199
Savings *30

- Dolby Digital Compatible
- Multi-Brand TV Remote Control
- Still Picture with Frame Advance

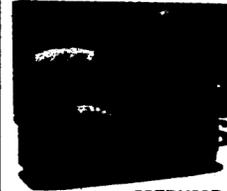
PHILIPS DVD RECORDER



- Record from TV in Digital Quality on Re-Writable DVDs
- Copy Your Favorite Camcorder Tapes onto DVD for Life
- Digital Picture and Sound Quality for the Ultimate Viewing Experience
- Crystal Clear Pro Progressive Scan Video for Razor-Sharp Pictures
- Favorite Scene Selection for Easy Editing of Your Home Movies

DVDR985
Regular *899
\$848
Savings *51

HITACHI 53" HD TV PROJECTION TELEVISION



53FDX20B

- Perfect Volume (Auto Volume Level Control)
- Dual-Tuner Picture-in-Picture
- Universal Glow-Key Remote

Regular *2199
\$1999
Savings *200

HITACHI 65" HIGH DEFINITION BIG SCREEN TV



65SWX20B

- New Anti-Reflective High-Contrast Shield
- Perfect Volume (Auto Volume Level Control)
- Illuminated Preprogrammed Remote (8-Devices)

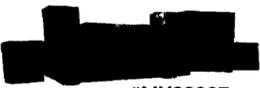
Regular *3799
\$3499
Savings *300

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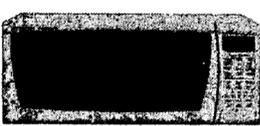
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- 12 audio input connections
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#MX99937

Regular *429
\$398
Savings *30

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- 1.6 cubic foot oven capacity
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#R430EW

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Savings *31 After *10 Mail-In Rebate
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All You Pay is \$22.99 per Month!

America's Top 50 includes these favorite channels: ESPN, MTV, TNT, Cartoon Network, Discovery Channel and CNN, plus dozens more!

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FRIGIDAIRE Super-Capacity Washer

- Variable Load Sizes & Water Temperatures
- 8 Cycles
- 2 Agitate/Spin Speeds

Regular *329
\$299
Savings *30

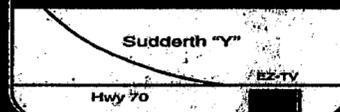
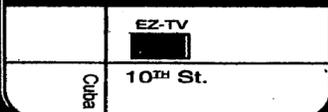
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