

RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 2003 • OUR 56TH YEAR, NO. 80 • 50 CENTS

INSIDE



**10 SPORTS
TOURNEY TIME**

Wrestling, basketball getting set to wrap season as playoffs continue

6A BUSINESS

Changes in local cell phone fees are leaving some businesses feeling hung up

**4A OPINION
MOUNTAIN ASIDES**

Cellular world not always all that great

8A LINCOLN COUNTY

Construction company looking to improve roads and lives

8C HOME & FAMILY

A look back on the life of Jake Harris



10 VAMONOS

Family ties as violinists pay a visit to the Spencer

INDEX

Education	6A
Classifieds	5-10B
Comics	4B
Crossword	4B
Letters	4A
Opinion	4A
Obituaries	9A
County News	8A
Sports	1B
Real Estate	5B
Religion	4C

County hesitant on tree removal

■ Commissioners don't feel that fire ordinances passed in Ruidoso fit all of Lincoln County.

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Despite warnings that insurance companies are fleeing the county because of the fire danger, Lincoln County commissioners showed they have no stomach for passing laws that

would require the removal of trees or the use of fire-retardant building materials.

Commission Chairman Rex Wilson said the county accomplished a great deal in the last few years with fire hazard reduction and watershed restoration efforts on private and federal land. A forestry coordinator was hired to administer grant money to offset the cost to property owners who want to create more defensible space around their homes, he said.

"The insurance industry is going to play its games, but I'm not in favor of creating a new task force. We have the Wildland/Urban Interface group," Wilson said. When Ruidoso passed four ordinances dictating landscape and building material requirements, "I started getting calls from people in the county saying we better not do the same."

County Attorney Alan Morel will check on the possibility of the village's planning department extending its

enforcement authority into the three-mile extraterritorial zone around the village and report back, he said.

"Mobile homes wouldn't be legal if we passed ordinances unless they were stuccoed up so far and then, there would be no affordable housing," Wilson said.

Commissioner Maury St. John suggested commissioners consider dividing the county into different fire districts, according to the risk.

See FIRE, page 2A

LATE-WINTER WONDERLAND



PHOTO COURTESY JEFF SICARD

Recent snows allowed some area youngsters a chance to build a second home. Above, from left, Juliette Sicard, Ellyn Koehler, Sarah Koehler and Jacqueline Sicard proudly display the igloo they built. Below, while streets cleared quickly, much of Ruidoso was left with a layer of the white stuff

Snow frosts village, peak

Ski Apache left with 60-inch base

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Sierra Blanca Peak emerged from heavy clouds Thursday morning bathed in fresh snow.

Officials at the Mescalero-operated Ski Apache were cheering. After a dry January, the second month of the year delivered with a vengeance. The resort reported 24 inches of snow in the past week, half of that total in the last 24 hours.

The mid-mountain settled depth was measured at 60 inches. With bright sunshine, roads all over Lincoln County cleared quickly.



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

But while the Sacramento Mountains enjoyed the cold temperature and blanket of snow Wednesday, drivers 5,000 feet below struggled with icy roads and only an inch or two of snowfall.

Still, dispatchers with the New Mexico State Police and the Ruidoso Police Department reported just a few minor accidents.

Commission OKs ankle monitors for juvenile offenders

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Some juvenile offenders in Lincoln County will be monitored with electronic transmitters on their ankles instead of facing incarceration.

The County Commission last week approved a contract with The Counseling Center Community Corrections Program to handle the monitoring, similar to one already operated by the entity in Otero County.

Sergio Castro with state Juvenile Probation and Parole and the Lincoln County Cooperative, said his staff needs alternatives to a detention center, which is costly to the county and may not be the best approach for some young offenders.

Last month, the county paid \$20,000 to house 11 juveniles. While that figure dropped a few thousand this month, the number of court cases can't be predicted, he said.

"It seems to go in cycles," he said. When the number in trouble go up, the county's cost will skyrocket, he said.

"We have no other place to put them," Castro said. The cost per day for each juvenile offender varies from \$80 to \$120, he said. In contrast, the monitoring cost each

day for an offender is \$15.15, he said.

"It would be a big savings to the county because of the county is responsible," Castro said. The units are used in court sentencing.

County Attorney Alan Morel cautioned that if a unit is destroyed, lost or stolen, the county must reimburse the company.

"You need to know that," he said. "It's probably still a benefit to the county. It's a whole lot cheaper. All of the payments (by offender) would go to the contracting company, not the county."

In the seven years he's been associated with the program, only two units were lost and they were the small ankle transmitters, not the larger monitors, Castro said, adding "In both cases, the family paid."

"Would it require civil litigation to recover the cost?" Commissioner Earl Hobbs asked. The attorney said it would if the family refused to reimburse voluntarily. A judge also could order restitution, Hobbs suggested.

"It would be a big savings to the county, because ultimately the county is responsible."

Sergio Castro
Lincoln County Cooperative

"Absolutely," Morel said. "Whether or not they can pay is something else."

A representative of the counseling center said the cost of the leg unit and strap is \$500.

The state awarded \$2,500 to Lincoln County Corrections for electronic monitoring and that money would be used first before the county side kicked in, Castro said.

Commissioner Maury St. John asked how many juveniles would be eligible for the monitoring program, "but county manager Tom Stewart said it varies. Seven juveniles are in detention centers now, even one or two on monitoring would cut the

cost to the county. Castro said 12th Judicial District Judge Karen Parsons supports the program.

The county doesn't have to advertise for requests for proposals because the contract is under \$25,000. The units are furnished by the company, Castro said.

In a related matter, he invited commissioner St. John to

McKnight picks two assistants

Richards, Runnels will aid the village manager

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Unable to choose between two qualified employees, both currently employed by Ruidoso, village manager Lorr McKnight will shift deputy manager duties to Cleatus Richards and Mike Runnels.

McKnight received approval of the plan from the village council Tuesday, although Councilor Ron Anderson said he is worried about creating two more positions that would have to be filled later when someone leaves. He also was concerned that with their other duties, the two men won't be able to lighten the load sufficiently for McKnight.

The manager said she received 30 applications for the post and interviewed 10 people. Although some of the applicants from out of town were well qualified, they had never been to Ruidoso. Knowing how different the area is, she was reluctant to move forward with someone unfamiliar with mountain tourists towns.

"So I looked at the talent within the village," she said. "I'm a staunch supporter of promoting from within. But faced with choosing one over the other, I couldn't do that either."

Instead, she proposed a management team using two deputy managers: Richards, who will oversee operations and capital projects with water, sewer and solid waste, and Runnels, planning director, who would concentrate on long-range strategic planning, including shepherding the village's rewrite of its Comprehensive Plan.

Job descriptions and salaries still are being developed, she said.

But even with raises for the two men, the village should spend less than it was budgeting for one full-time deputy manager, Councilor Bob Sterchi said.

"The positions can be created with a budget amendment. When Anderson brought up possible future problems filling two positions versus one, Councilor Deborah Marcum-Byars said the council isn't tied to that arrangement.

"We wouldn't have to fill them," she said. When former village manager Alan Briley moved up from deputy manager, no one filled his vacated position.

"It would depend on where we are then," McKnight said. See MANAGER, page 2A

See MONITOR, page 2A

FIRE: County wary of Ruidoso-like forest ordinances

FROM PAGE 1A

Restrictions then could be applied only where needed, she said.

"I feel we need to be more proactive," she said. "I know Ruidoso has enacted many ordinances that are good in their area, but I think Lincoln County needs to be considered in different areas — in fire districts. Different steps need to be taken for different areas of our county."

She asked Dave Parks with High Country Insurance Agency to update commissioners on the state of insurance coverage in the county. Parks served on the mayor-appointed task force that proposed the ordinances later adopted by Ruidoso, he said, but stressed he was not representing the village in his remarks. The commission adopted a resolution suggesting county residents follow the ordinance guidelines, but resolutions carry no legal requirement.

"I spent the first 42 years of my insurance career selling products of insurance companies to customers," Parks said. "I've spent the last year and a half trying to sell customers to companies. We have the worst insurance climate. The market is in the worst condition it's been in since 1959 when I first got into the business and I think it will get worse before it gets better."

The Sept. 9, 2001, terrorist attacks and the consecutive seasons of devastating fires in New Mexico created the conditions, he said.

Before those events, "the reinsurance market never had suffered a loss in 200 years. It is now trying to get it all back at once. It's just as frustrating to the companies and their agents as to customers."

"I have — almost daily — talked to insurance companies to try to get them to continue to write business in this area. I talked to every independent agent this morning and they

agree we are on verge of an insurance marketability crisis. If we have another (fire like) Kokopelli, we could literally lose our market place in insurance."

He'd like to see the county approve the same laws as Ruidoso, but enforcement would be a problem, Parks said. Those ordinances would go a long way to soothing the nerves of insurance executives, he said.

While Sheriff Tom Sullivan related his own problems securing insurance for his mother's home and some rental property, he said he doesn't see deputies becoming code enforcement officers for landscaping and building materials.

Commissioner Leo Martinez said people need incentives such as a pledge for lower insurance rates to encourage fire fuel reductions. But Parks said rates aren't going down. The issue focuses more on being able to obtain insurance at all, he said.

Property can't be sold if it can't be

insured or insured for enough to cover replacement, Parks said. The ripple effect would harm contractors and real estate business, he said.

Then it may be time for government to step in and require insurance companies to offer coverage, Martinez said.

New Mexico accounts for about 1/2 of 1 percent of the insurance written in the United States. Threatening to kick a company out of the state doesn't carry much leverage, Parks said.

Morel said he would have a problem passing an ordinance with no intention of enforcing it.

"There would be a greater liability than no ordinance at all," he said. He suggested a committee be created to review Ruidoso's ordinances and propose modifications less restrictive and more suited to the county.

Parks said village officials estimate it will take eight years to accomplish substantial compliance in Ruidoso. Without laws, a property

owner who cleans his land still could be in danger if neighbors allow their property to remain overgrown with trees and full of pine needles, he said.

Although they think the authority may exist, village officials are reluctant to extend their enforcement into the ETZ without commission approval, he said.

Commissioner Earl Hobbs said while he'd spoken at length with Parks and agrees the issue should be debated. "At the same time, I'm not willing to be stamped either. I'm not certain in my mind the village ordinances would be applicable to the county or to the ETZ."

Oscura resident Jerry Carroll said Ruidoso created many of its own problems by banning tree cutting for many years. A woman in the audience said the county should mount an educational effort to engage more property owners and educate them to what needs to be done.

MANAGER: 2 chosen

FROM PAGE 1A

"It's an evolving process."

The two men will continue to handle their current duties and accept more responsibility, she said.

"Your position can reach overload," Anderson said, adding that he envisioned a deputy manager being able to take over some of her

assignments to ensure they are completed. "I want to take your load down and get things down," he said.

Just funneling telephone calls to the deputy managers instead of to her will be a big help, she said. McKnight said she will submit an organizational chart showing where the two deputy managers will fit.

River association awarded \$250,000 grant

BY DIANNE STALLINGS

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A \$250,000 grant from the New Mexico Environment Department was awarded to the Ruidoso River Association.

Covering a three-year period, the grant from the state and the federal Environmental Protection Agency aims to allow the association to continue working to improve water quality in the Rio Ruidoso watershed.

Specific projects earmarked

for funding in the proposal were listed by association executive director Dick Wisner as:

- Erosion controls on several ski runs at Ski Apache
- Ongoing maintenance as necessary to keep up the integrity of control structures in place at the sites of the Cree, Homestead and Kokopelli fires

to control ash and sediment pollution from entering the river during storms

- Studies to determine and mitigate the sources feeding a growing nuisance algae problem in the Rio Ruidoso
- Continuation of outreach programs such as the annual River Cleanup Party, designed to draw attention and support

to the importance of both the ecological and economic health of the Rio Ruidoso watershed.

The association, with more than 1,000 members, is a non-profit group dedicated to the preservation and protection of the river, Wisner said. "We consider it the 'golden goose' of Ruidoso Valley's tourist-based economy," he said.

MONITOR: Financial savings

FROM PAGE 1A

sioners to send representatives on a visit to a juvenile services model site in Fort Worth, Texas, from March 19-21. All expenses will be covered by a grant. Other representatives will be coming from villages in the county and from law enforcement, he said.

"We're trying to develop this concept and we want elected officials to see it in action because ultimately we want this to happen in our county," Castro said, representing the Lincoln County Cooperative. "Unless we develop a continuum, detention costs are going to continue to escalate."

Luna County already has instituted a system with great success, he said.

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US 70 Activities Underway in March 2003

Shoulder and lane closures for excavation, culvert, and wall construction, and equipment crossings will continue along the project corridor through March. Work will continue in Section A, Ruidoso Downs to Seeping Springs area, and Sections D, E, and F from Hondo to east of Riverside. Traffic shifts are being set up at several locations to facilitate bridge, drainage structure and roadway pavement construction. Please allow an extra 20-30 minutes in your travel schedule to accommodate general construction activities.

Highway closures for rock blasting will continue intermittently through the month of February on weekdays (Monday-Friday), near Hondo and Tinnie (MP 285 to 290) and near Riverside (MP 298 to 301). All blasts will begin at approximately 1:00 pm, and last up to one hour. US 70 will be closed in both directions at locations of blasts.

Up-to-date blasting closure and travel information is available at the US 70 Information Center, and via the hotline, website, and roadside electronic message signs. You can also tune in to the following radio stations for travel information:

- Ruidoso: KBUY-FM (1360), KRUI-AM (1490), KWES-FM (93.5), KWMW-FM (105.1), KIDX-FM (101.5)
- Roswell: KBCQ-FM (97.1), KBIM-FM (94.9), KBIM-AM (910), KEND-FM (106.5), KINF-AM (1020), KMOU-FM (104.7), KSFX-FM (100.5); KPASA-AM (1230)

For information call Mary Ann Wootton, SBC Community Relations Liaison at 1-866-653-4069.

March Calendar of Events
US 70 Task Force Meeting March 20, 2003
Place: Hondo Valley Schools
Time: 7:00 pm

RUIDOSO NEWS

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River health meeting Tuesday

BY DIANNE STALLINS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Anyone interested in the Ruidoso River, nuisance algae and the problems at the regional sewage treatment should attend a meeting Tuesday at Ruidoso executive hall, says Dick Wisner, executive director of the Ruidoso River Association.

"The Rio Hondo is one of 21 impaired watersheds in the state," he said. The state Environment Department conducts sessions on the watersheds in rotation and this is the time for the Rio Hondo, he said. Officials will look at special needs for test-

ing and for grants.

"This is important, a must-attend meeting," he said. "We have nuisance algae in the river that requires lowering the phosphorus content. If we can reduce the amount before it reaches the treatment plant, we could save millions of dollars."

The meeting of 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. was scheduled by the environment department to gain input on surface water quality planning for the lower Pecos River watershed in the southeast portion of the state. The Ruidoso meeting is one of four to inform stakeholders of watershed activities and programs, and to provide

a forum for interested parties to ask questions and provide comments and suggestions on watershed needs and priorities.

Another one is set for Monday in Roswell.

Representatives from the department will discuss monitoring plans, pollution control measures, summer field demonstrations and future Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) development, which is a planning document setting goals for water quality conditions.

For more information, contact Stephanie Stringer, coordinator of the surface water quality bureau at (505) 827-0418.

Downs council retains firm to monitor river

BY P. BLAKE MARTIN
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The Ruidoso Downs City Council moved ahead at its Wednesday meeting to retain the services of Livingston PC for monitoring Rio Ruidoso's water quality. In cooperation with Ruidoso, the Downs will share 15 percent of the cost from an existing contingency fund.

Preliminary studies indicate the treatment plant is not the cause of high phosphorous levels concerning the New Mexico Environment Department. It is the city's hope the study will prove these findings and point to pollution sources and sources. The total estimated cost is estimated not to exceed \$105,000.

Councillors also considered vendors' requests for overnight RV spaces at All American Park during the Arts and Crafts Fair.

City Administrator John Waters recommended that, if the council approved the request, special conditions be included for a permit requirement with a set of rules, a maximum of seven vendors, the signing of a release stating vendors have adequate insurance and that the city is released from liability.

Mayor Bob Miller said vendors are worried about security. Councillors Margie Morales and Judy Miller expressed concerns that vendors may expect more spaces available once the city allows seven RV campers.

Councillor Susan Garrett stated that a "first-come-first-served basis" was not unusual, and that the Ruidoso Downs Auxiliary should consider a release of liability from the vendors.

Councillor Rene Olivo added

that security is already provided to protect the vendors' booths, and that most of them stay in area motels. Olivo motioned to table the request for further discussion.

In other business:
• Waters reported on capital outlay requests in Santa Fe. A \$150,000 special appropriations request for water projects and a \$250,000 water rights acquisition are being considered by the New Mexico Legislature.

• Waters also stated the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority (LCSWA) is securing funds to move east of the city and out of residential areas. John Underwood was hired by LCSWA and is lobbying for the move.
• Local government correction fees are also under consideration. Funding restrictions are being looked at to possibly include the transportation of prisoners that cities presently incur.

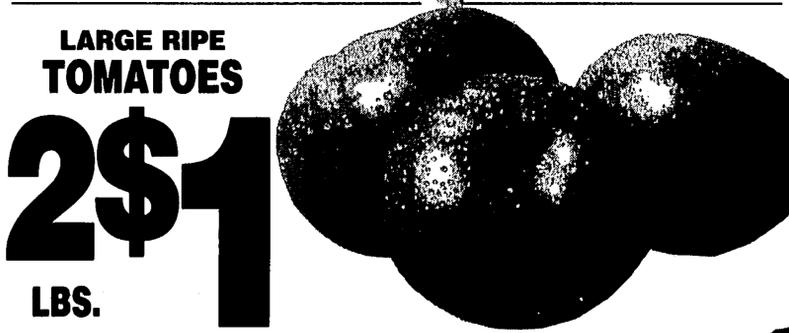
• Waters also said the gross receipts tax exemptions have run into trouble with both awareness of impact and other legislators attaching additional exceptions to the bills. Waters suggested that "with increased pressure" it is our hope the legislature will move to back off and do a comprehensive study."

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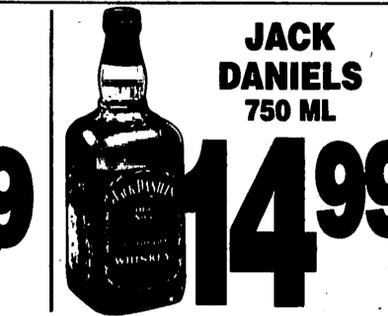


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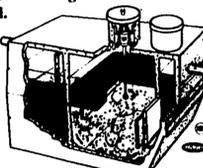
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RUIDOSO NEWS

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OUR OPINION

**Adair's move helps
 Lincoln County**

The Senate Judiciary Committee will consider magistrates

State Sen. Rod Adair, the Roswell Republican who with the next election could represent part of Lincoln County, has started to earn his keep.

A large part of the battle in the circular halls of the Round House in Santa Fe is being alert to the anomalies.

Adair saw one last week when Sen. Manny Aragon's SB 143, designed to do away with some magistrate courts - including one in Carrizozo - was sent straight to the Senate Finance Committee, bypassing the Senate Judiciary Committee

It seemed a bit odd, even if

Aragon's bill was introduced "for the Judicial System Study Committee." Adair moved for a Judiciary hearing, and got it.

Let us not forget, Aragon had said the bill was to cut costs and enhance efficiency of the magistrate and metro courts. But Adair, having done some study of his neighbors, recognized that fast-growing Lincoln County would be taking an expensive step backward if it cut back to just one Ruidoso-based magistrate.

It would be worthwhile for Lincoln County people to let Adair know he's appreciated.

**Are you tempted by
 the cellular world?**

The cellular world we're living in these days is one I haven't quite mastered. Sure, I've seen them - men and women walking around Wal-Mart or Midtown with the miniature phones clutched to the side of their heads.

The first time I saw that maneuver, I wondered if somebody had a horrible headache, or maybe they were trying to remove an unseemly growth from their ear.

But, no. Those little bitty folding gadgets that people spend hours talking into, wherever they are, are serious pieces of technology that presumably makes the world smaller and safer.

I'm not totally ignorant about them; in fact, a few years back I got a "car phone" that plugs into the cigarette lighter hole on the dashboard of my truck. But then it's also got a big briefcase of a thing propped on the seat that contains most of the electronics and some half-pound batteries.

When I got it, the Motorola folks said it put out a full 3 watts - many times the power of those little things you'll soon be able to stick in your ear and maybe use as a hearing aid.

But it still doesn't do the job when you're out there on U.S. 380 heading up the Oscuras. I'm not real sure what it does in these mountains; too clumsy to use, and the cops keep telling me you

shouldn't be using it when you're driving anyway. You could have an accident, and that wouldn't be very PC, even if it was the last words you spoke...

Like that young father who said goodbye to a cell to his loved ones and then cried "Let's roll" on that airliner that crashed into a field in Pennsylvania on that unbelievable day we call simply 9/11.

I do acknowledge it's about time to forget about that old "car phone" and think about getting into the more modern world of Cricket (I think that's a cell phone model) and such.

A whole world of advertising offers multiple special deals. Some will even give you the hardware if you sign up for a year of service. (Sort of like Gillette, the razor blade outfit. Gillette still practically gives away the handle, in favor of selling lots of blades.)

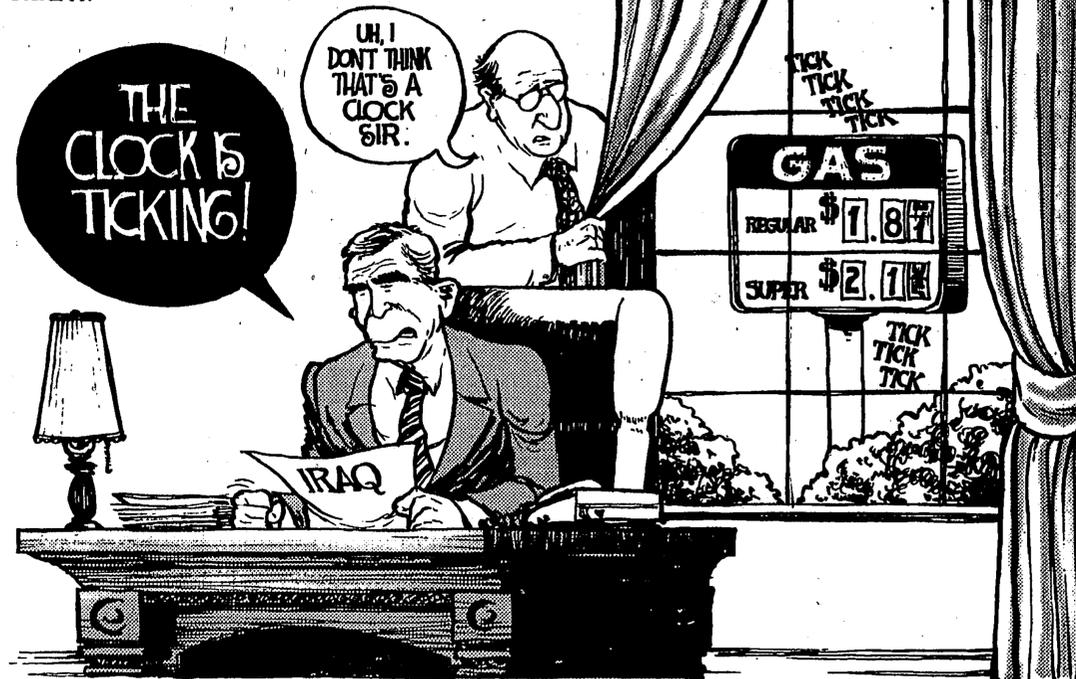
But, right here in Ruidoso, I do feel the pain of lots of those cell phone users who in recent years have tied their whole business plan to quick communication from their job sites - some even to the point of disconnecting the old-fashioned phones hooked up to wires coming out of the ground or off a (get this) telephone pole.

What's happened now is this: In the next few days, one of the established cellular providers will no longer have a local connection; every call, going or coming, will have a long-distance toll charge.

To say there are some unhappy campers, and contractors, and Realtors out there is putting it mildly. Some of them are mad enough to call their legislators.

I think I'll just keep my old car phone for a while, after all.

SEEMAN Tribune Media Services



YOUR OPINION

Bush needs a war policy other than mass murder

To the editor:

Even following the massive global anti-war demonstrations in mid-February, there seems to be very little effort in the U.S. to discuss or debate the issue.

There is a great deal of room to question the policy, tactics, morals and motives of the Bush administration, even if you agree that Saddam's removal would be a good thing. Which I do.

What I do not agree to is the use of overwhelming U. S. military force, as in the U.S.'s announced "shock and awe" campaign on the civilian, urban population of Iraq.

Under this scenario, civilian casualties are estimated from a low of 250,000 to more than 1.5 million.

The International War Crimes Tribunal has warned the Bush administration that such a campaign would result in American political and military leadership being indicted for war crimes.

In the American political stance and in the American media, there seems to be an enormous disconnect between the talk of "getting" Saddam, and the reality of who would actually pay the price in any American attack. It is very easy to say that such an attack would be Saddam's fault. It is something very different to explain to a mother why an American weapon burned her child to death.

Surely we can come up with a better strategy than to once again punish ordinary people for the acts of a government over which they have no influence. What would it say about us as a people if we commit such an atrocity simply because we are too impatient to try the longer term, but less catastrophic, options available.

The alternative plan of "aggressive inspections" advanced by several of our

allies - many more inspectors backed by U.N. "Blue Helmet" troops - would be a good place to start in finding some options (other than) mass murder as American policy.

To carry out such an atrocity could only ensure a growing cycle of terrorist attacks. The Bush administration's policy is unacceptable morally, divisive politically, and shortsighted tactically. It should be opposed.

Ray Wilson
 Alto

Of 'hicks' and 'greedsters'

To the editor:

The promoters, developers, real estate moguls, etc., have found their next targets, and the targets are the Tularosa Basin "hicks" and the water rights (they) presently possess.

The Ruidoso-area "greedsters" will attempt to seize the rights and water and transport said water from one drainage basin (the Tularosa) to another (the Ruidoso/Hondo). If you don't believe this, read the front page article in the Ruidoso News of Feb. 14.

The big planners managed, somehow, in the past to get legislation approved which would permit municipalities to condemn and take over water and rights to water, and they certainly will.

They, the greedsters, are attempting to do the same thing the railroad moguls did early in the last century when they secretly acquired the water rights along the Rio Bonito from the poor ignorant Bonito Valley hicks.

Then, with the wealth and power of the railroad and the manifest destiny philosophy, they took the water, built a dam, and piped it all the way to Vaughn and beyond. Then, when the water was no longer useful to the railroad, because

of diesel engines, instead of turning the water back into the Bonito Valley and the Pecos watershed, the sold it to Alamogordo.

You Tularosa Basin hicks had better get together and employ the best water lawyers and hydrological experts, and prepare for the tussle of your life to preserve your precious water resources being coveted by your neighbors for the enjoyment and entertainment of our visitors.

Oh, yes, according to the Ruidoso News, the (State) Highway Department has already granted a right-of-way for the pipeline. Now that's planning.

Maybe they (the promoters, developers, etc.) will build a Water World Theme Park so that your children and grandchildren can enjoy your water.

Ira D. (David) Lee
 Lincoln

Cheers for Sederwall

To the editor:

I have known (Capitan) Mayor Steven Sederwall since 1973 when we met at Dallas Christian College. Today, 30 years later, I am proud to call him my friend.

I live in New York City and the other day I was in a cab and the cabbie was Asian. He had a newstalk radio program on and we listened to the shenanigans of a politician and I chuckled at the story. The cabbie said to me, "When I was 8, my father told me all politicians are the lowest form of human life." I arrived at my destination and I paid him and went on my way. But in reading your article, "Sederwall Second to Quit..." I must say how proud I am of Mayor Sederwall and his stand on doing what is right.

These are the moments in life that mean everything and affect everyone. At least Mayor Sederwall won't have blood on his hands and will be able to sleep at night.

Sheela Wolford
 Brooklyn, N.Y.

STREET TALK

QUESTION: Which do you think is the worst threat to world peace: Iraq or North Korea?



"Iraq. The guy's a lunatic; he should've been taken out in the Gulf War."

Geri Deneen
 Capitan



"Iraq because it's been a longer conflict with than North Korea, and they haven't really followed the U.N. resolutions as North Korea has until recently."

Angel Garcia
 El Paso, Texas



"I think Iraq is because we don't know what they're hiding."

Kana Laymon
 Ruidoso

SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF

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 mailing 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 128, Ruidoso, NM 88355; faxed to 257-7053; or sent by e-mail to letters@ruidosonews.com.

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Police warn convenience stores of change scam

■ Crooks took \$70 from two stores recently, while others didn't fall for the scam.

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A couple of scammers made off with \$70 in recent weeks by calling convenience stores and claiming to be the clerk or manager of another store in the area and needing change.

Although several stores received such calls, only two stores handed the requested money over to the "daughter" or "girlfriend" of the caller, according to police reports.

On Feb. 7, the clerk at Allsup's Convenience Store, 127 E. Highway 70, received a call from a Jeff Watkins, who claimed to be calling from the Allsup's on Mescalero Trail. The caller said he

needed some change as he was low on small bills and would "send a lady to pick up the money," the report, dated Feb. 24, states.

A white, blond woman with hazel eyes, about 5 feet 3 inches tall, weighing about 110 pounds, driving an older full-size Ford Bronco, blue on white with primer on the driver's door and the front grill missing, picked up \$20 and signed the name "Jessica Walt" on the receipt.

The other store where the scammers were successful was at the Allsup's Convenience Store at 725 Mechem on Feb. 23 when a Michael Watkins called saying he was a clerk at the Allsup's on Mescalero Trail and wanted to change a \$50 bill for some smaller bills. He said he had cleared this through the manager of the Mechem Allsup's and would send a girlfriend to pick up the money.

The woman arrived and claimed she'd forgotten the \$50 bill and would go back and get it and would be right back, said Det. Jim Biggs. The clerk gave her the money and she signed for it with the name of "Jessica Walkins" or "Jessica Walker."

Possibly tiring of Allsup's, the scammers next tried the Chevron station at 626 Sudderth Drive at 4:59 p.m. Feb. 26. A Jeff Watkins said he was the Chevron district manager and asked how many \$5 and \$1 bills the clerk had on hand. He said the other store was out of change and would have to close the doors until he could get some change. The clerk told him he couldn't give any change without the store manager's approval, and the caller hung up.

At 5:54 p.m. on the same day, he tried the Fina station at 126 Highway

70 on Feb. 26. A Jeff Watkins called, saying he was the Fina New Mexico state manager and asked how many \$5 and \$1 bills the store had. He said the "other store" was out of change and would have to close until he could obtain change.

"The clerk knew there were no other Fina stores in the area and told the suspect she could not give change without the store manager's approval," the police report states. "The suspect said he would contact the manager and have the manager call her. Later the suspect called back and asked if his daughter had arrived to pick up the money yet. The clerk said no, and that she wasn't going to transfer the money. The suspect hung up."

Recalling a call he took from a Chevron employee on Highway 70, an officer investigating one of the cases

had dispatch search this type of call and then notify all area stores of the incidents on Feb. 26.

"Several other stores stated they had the same thing happen in the last week or so but had not reported it," Officer Dike Sullins reported.

After Ruidoso dispatchers called area convenience stores, a Jeff Wright called the Circle K, 601 West Highway 70, saying he was the manager of Allsup's, was out of money and would send a female to pick up \$70. The clerk called the Ruidoso Downs Police Department and "an officer did surveillance for awhile, and nobody showed up," said Deputy Chief David Hightower.

On Thursday, the Ruidoso Police Department made flyers with this information to be distributed to all convenience stores in the area.

Dance show at RHS' new theater canceled

■ A lack of trained personnel forced the high school to nix the show.

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A Flamenco and Spanish dance company in negotiations with the production manager of the Ruidoso Schools' new theater for a March 16 performance was told Wednesday that the performance was off.

Production manager Ben White, who also teaches band part-time, said the performance was definitely canceled because he has not had time to train anybody on the lighting and sound equipment required by a professional dance company.

Aline Casanova, representing the internationally touring Pablo Rodarte Dance España of Albuquerque, said she had offered to bring the company's sound equipment and to use whatever lighting was available, but White said the theater does not have a certificate of occupancy yet or approval by the fire marshal.

The theater will celebrate its grand opening Sunday (see related story, page 2C), however, and a Ruidoso Community Concerts performance is scheduled for March 5.

Casanova said she made

the arrangement with White a month ago, and when she hadn't received the paper work, she called him and he told her to give him a couple of days.

"I told him I would use the verbal agreement to go ahead with the business, and he said that was fine," Casanova said.

Going on a verbal agreement, she said, she contracted with the five dancers, four musicians and Ottmar Liebert's Luna Negra musical director Daniel Ward, and printed publicity including Ruidoso in a four-city tour. Alamogordo, Santa Fe and Tucson, Ariz., are the other three sites. The late cancellation means a \$7,000 loss to the dance company.

White said there was no verbal agreement and that he told Casanova that "until we get the certificate of occupancy and I for sure know what is going to occur that we are not going to guarantee anything."

Ruidoso High School activities director Ron Wall, who is in charge of the theater, said the show was canceled because staff wants "to make sure we all stand the equipment and all the equipment before we open it up to the public ... From what I understand, they're walking through this afternoon, and they haven't finished the smoke detectors yet."

Area man found not guilty of killing elk

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Almost six years after accusations first were levied and more than a year after a lawsuit was filed, an Otero County jury decided that hunting guide Joseph Graham, who lives in Lincoln County, did not illegally kill an elk on the Mescalero Apache Reservation.

"I wanted my name cleared and there was no other verdict for them to come to," Graham said Thursday. "I was innocent and the verdict proved it."

Attorney Adam Rafkin said

the trial lasted two days, but the jury deliberated for only 28 minutes before deciding the civil lawsuit in favor of Graham.

The Mescalero Tribe filed suit against Graham in 2001, four years after a 1997 hunt where Graham provided guiding services for a New Mexico outfitter.

Hunting on the reservation is not allowed without a tribal hunting permit. Citing its economic loss, the tribe asked the court for \$5,500 in compensatory damages and \$11,000 in punitive damages against Graham.

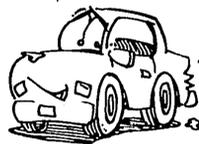
"The Mescalero Apache

Tribe was awarded nothing of its \$16,000 lawsuit and is now responsible for court costs," Rafkin said.

The lawsuit followed prosecution of Graham by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for

trespass, said Rafkin, who did not represent him on that charge. "He never denied he went on their property," the attorney said. "The issue in this suit was the killing of an elk."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Insurance premiums impacting real estate

WASHINGTON — Soaring homeowners insurance premiums and the lack of availability of insurance coverage have become significant new barriers to homeownership, especially for new buyers, who may have no credit history and existing homeowners who may have filed as few as one or two legitimate water-related claims, the president of the National Association of Realtors told reporters Wednesday at a media briefing at the National Press Club.

NAR President Cathy Whatley, of Jacksonville, Fla., questioned the use by insurers of credit scores and the CLUE (Comprehensive Loss Underwriting Exchange) database, which contains claim histories of both individuals and properties for a five-year period. Many borrowers who can qualify for mortgages are being turned down for homeowners insurance, and others are finding that phone calls to their insurance agent are recorded on their CLUE file and can jeopardize their coverage.

"The crisis in insurance is putting homeownership beyond the reach of many young families, minorities and other Americans. Many factors are contributing to the crisis,

but the use of credit scores to deny coverage raises questions about fairness and equality, despite the insurance industry's acknowledgment that there has been no research which has proven a causal relationship between credit history and the likelihood that one will file an insurance claim," said Whatley.

Whatley also raised concerns about the impact of the premium price increases on the real estate industry. According to the Insurance Information Institute, the average cost of homeowners insurance is expected to rise 9 percent in 2003.

Shop changes hands

Simply Soap and Satin is the new name for Sarah's in Midtown. The location is familiar to most local shoppers because of the distinctive building murals and frequent display of floating bubbles at the intersection of Sudderth and Center Street.

New business owner Kim Smit changed the name of the store upon purchasing it on Feb. 1. Employee Joni Stettheimer said the store stayed open through the change of ownership, and business has been about average.

Other than floor rearrangements, few changes have been made.

The Economy and the Markets

Consumer fatigue possible

BY SCOTT ANDERSON
 WELLS FARGO & COMPANY

Just as economic conditions look set to improve — industrial production is ramping up again, the housing market remains strong — another shock, be it higher oil prices or declining consumer confidence, might hold the recovery back.

We suspect the U.S. economy will continue to muddle through (like last year) for much of 2003. Looking past a war in Iraq, it is clear that even a quick and decisive victory will not solve some of our major economic problems. Global growth is stalling, particularly in Europe and Japan. The International Monetary Fund recently stated that the global growth forecast of 2.7 percent in 2003 could be cut in half if a war breaks out in Iraq.

Though retail sales excluding autos were surprisingly strong in January, there are some troubling signs that consumers may slow down their aggressive spending.

Consumer confidence continues to plunge, average hourly wage increases are stalling as companies struggle to finance higher healthcare costs, while maintaining their margins in the present highly competitive environment.

A decline in wage gains and income growth is the most troubling, since consumers often spend almost all of their wage gains.

Tax cut needed

With slower personal income growth, it gets much harder to envision where consumers will get the funds needed to sustain consumer spending growth. This makes passage of a Federal tax cut package all the more important for sustaining after-tax income growth, and bolstering the economic recovery.

Moreover, consumers are finally showing a change in behavior, deciding to save more of their income gains. The personal savings rate in the U.S. rose to 4.0 percent in the fourth quarter, from a low of just 0.8

percent in the fourth quarter of 2001. Moreover, consumer debt is finally contracting as consumers begin to relieve themselves of the mountain of debts they have built up over the past five years.

These actions are healthy responses to current economic conditions and will enhance consumers' ability to spend in the future, however, the short-run consequence is that it could prolong the sluggish economic activity of the past year.

Monetary loosening ahead

The world looks like it may be in for another round of monetary loosening. The U.K. surprised financial markets when it cut the key repo rate a quarter percentage point to 3.75 percent, despite rampant home price increases and consumer price inflation remaining above the Bank of England's inflation target of 2.5 percent for the third month in a row.

Despite what the Federal Reserve recently indicated in its latest monetary policy pronouncement, the risks appear more heavily weighed right now to further economic weakness.

The European Union looks likely to follow the Bank of England's lead and cut rates again in March, as growth falters in Germany.

The EU has been much slower than the Federal Reserve in cutting rates so far during this recession, cutting rates only 5 times compared to the Fed's 12 interest rate cuts.

According to the latest forecasts from the Fed Funds futures market, traders are beginning to price-in another U.S. monetary loosening before we escape from the Iraq crisis.

We are not yet convinced U.S. growth will weaken enough to prompt more monetary easing by the Fed, though the Fed is likely to delay any decision to raise rates until the end of the year at the earliest.

These are not investment recommendations. Consult your financial advisors.

Cellular toll plan upsets subscribers

Businesses depending on Cellular One have some decisions to make before March 10

BY KEITH GREEN
 RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Cellular One, a wireless phone provider serving Ruidoso, is adding long-distance toll charges for its Ruidoso area customers, and those customers are upset — by the charges, but most of all by the short notice.

The billing change is scheduled to take effect in 10 days, but local cell phone subscribers hope to block the change by protesting to the state Public Regulation Commission.

Ray Baker of Ruidoso is one of those subscribers. His company, R. L. Baker Electric, has depended on cell phones as its primary business communication tool for years, as have many other businesses — contractors, plumbers and real estate sales people among them.

"Six months' notice would have worked," Baker said. "It would have given us time to change our advertising, at least. What really hurts, besides calls I make, is that any customer calling me — even from across the street — will have a toll charge, too."

He said he had learned from Cellular One that there will be no recorded message about a number change nor call forwarding. "I'll just say the number is no longer in service."

Patric Pearson, Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce executive director, said he has had many calls about the change, and especially about the short notice.

"Lots of business people have invested in business cards, stationery and advertising using those numbers," Pearson said.

Users see themselves as either swallowing the long distance toll charges for every call or changing their carrier, which means a change in cellular phone num-

bers and thus inaccurate listings for their businesses for months to come.

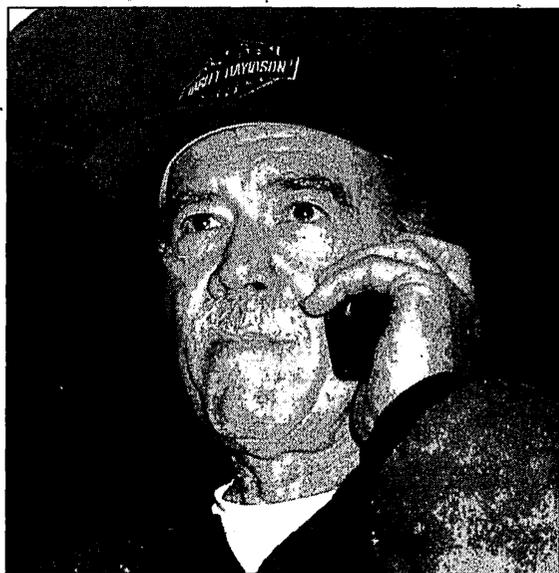
First word of the change came from Valor Telecom, the local telephone service provider, in a news release in mid-February advising that it would notify customers in their current bills that, effective March 10, calls to certain wireless telephone numbers will incur toll charges.

Valor did not identify the wireless provider other than to note that telephone prefixes are 420, 910, 290 and 631. Local cell phone users say all four numbers designate Cellular One.

The provider, part of the Cellular One Group with headquarters in Bellevue, Wash., according to information on its Web site serves some 32 million customers in 42 states, Puerto Rico, Bermuda and the Caribbean. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Western Wireless Corporation.

In the news release, Valor Telecom said the wireless carrier will no longer cover the costs of long-distance calls made from the Ruidoso area to its telephone numbers based out of Roswell and Hobbs. Valor said the carrier now is paying the charges on long-distance calls made to the telephone numbers.

"At the request of the wireless carrier, Valor will discontinue the current billing arrangement and, effective March 10, will begin charging local customers the applicable toll rates for calls made to



KEITH GREEN/STAFF

Ray Baker says he doesn't yet know how he will run his electrical contracting business in the future, "but it won't be with Cellular One."

these wireless numbers," Valor community relations director David Duran said.

"This change is becoming increasingly common within the industry and we expect to see similar decisions like this in the future as wireless carriers look for more ways to reduce their business costs," Duran added.

Another area wireless service, Verizon Wireless, does not have long distance charges at present, local subscribers say.

The Public Regulation Commission, which oversees telecommunications in the state, among other things, may be contacted at (800) 663-9782, or by letter to the PRC Community Relations Division, P. O. Box 1269, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Ruidoso is part of PRC District 2, which covers most of southeastern New Mexico. The elected commissioner for the district is David W. King.

"I hope every Cellular One customer in the county protests to the PRC," Ray Baker said. "But the time is so short. Right now, I've got a lot of advertising items that are pretty useless, which ever way I go."

County manager considers 'purchasing cards' for savings

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
 RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Seeking better tracking and streamlined paperwork, Lincoln County manager Tom Stewart may recommend a county purchasing card for some departments.

The amount that could be purchased would be restricted, as would the individuals within a department who could use the card, he told county commissioners last week.

"With fire departments improving every facet of their equipment and operations, the workload on our purchasing and finance department has increased

dramatically," he said. "Other counties are successfully using purchasing cards to reduce paperwork with good fiscal controls."

"The cards would only be good for purchases under \$500 and departments would be responsible for validating monthly statements much like a personal credit card."

The county processes about 172 purchase orders per month and 81 percent of those are for amounts less than \$500, he said.

"Our staff estimates that the typical purchase order costs \$30 to process," Stewart said. "Going to a purchasing

card could conceivably save about \$50,155 per year in processing costs."

Purchasing cards are obtained through a state contract, the manager said. He'll come back for authorization after he has all the necessary documentation and controls set up, he said.

Commission Chairman Rex Wilson asked for a little more detail. Stewart said the savings would come from manpower, telephone calls and paperwork.

"It's tremendous what we go through to get one purchase order out. I think it makes sense for us to at least look at it," he said. He is reviewing the policies of other counties that use purchasing cards.

Focus on Agriculture

NAFTA: More winners than losers

BY TOM STEEVER
 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU

There are winners and losers from the North American Free Trade Agreement. Since NAFTA went into effect in January 1994, progressively loosening trade among the United States, Canada and Mexico, there remain only a few goods on which tariffs are charged.

Because the United States and Canada had existing trade agreements at the time, the most noticeable change has been the United States' business relationship with Mexico.

U.S. producers are happy to be supplying Mexico's increasing appetite for grains needed to feed large livestock operations south of the border. "With the implementation of NAFTA, they are now our number two customer in corn, they're our number one sorghum customer," says

Terry Wolf, vice chairman of the U.S. Grains Council. "It's a tremendous opportunity and it's not only at that level, but it's growing."

To hear it from U.S. grain growers, it is apparent that the agreement has been better for agriculture producers north of the Rio Grande than it has for their counterparts to the south. Mexicans agree.

"NAFTA, overall has been beneficial," says Mexican Senator Jeffrey Jones. "The disadvantage has been in agriculture, but we see that there is a lot of potential in agriculture in the future."

That doesn't mean Mexico is without any trade advantage. "We need to invest, heavily invest, in supporting labor-intensive agriculture products and linking them into U.S. markets," says Senator Jones. "This is where our natural trade advantage is." These products include fruits, veg-

etables and coffee, which Jones says, require greater amounts of labor than do grains produced in the United States.

Although NAFTA seems to have been kinder to U.S. farmers, Jones doesn't think that the agreement will be renegotiated, as some of his farmer constituents have demanded. "There are more winners in NAFTA in Mexico than there are losers in NAFTA," says Jones, referring to Mexican farm producers.

"So the option of renegotiating NAFTA, where you already have an advantage, is not feasible in my own way of seeing things."

If anything, the lawmaker favors strengthening NAFTA to take further advantage of the relationship among Mexico, the United States and Canada. "We need to look at NAFTA in terms of a trade area and a trade bloc," says

Senator Jones. "In WTO (World Trade Organization) negotiations, for example, the European Union always has a representative; NAFTA does not have a representative," he says. "It's basically a paper agreement, but we still retain all of our individual positions in terms of the WTO negotiations. And we need to deepen the relationship and create a real trade bloc."

Senator Jones envisions the comparative advantages of the three countries generating a cooperative symbiosis with great potential. "I think we need to find ways of creating opportunities for everybody in working not just as co-signers on a piece of paper," says Senator Jones, "but as neighbors who are interested in each other's welfare."

Tom Steever is the broadcast producer for the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Commission opts against Cora Dutton Road work

■ The chairman says he doesn't want to lose sight of the project, though.

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

One more time, Lincoln County commissioners opted for projects other than Cora Dutton Road in designating cost-sharing projects with the state Highway and Transportation Department. At their meeting last week, commissioners accepted the recommendation of road manager Albert Hernandez to spread the money over several more urgent projects. Hernandez said the amount of money available is projected to be about the same as this year. He presented

Cora Dutton as an alternative to give commissioners a choice, he said.

"I called every commissioner except (Commissioner Rick Simpson, who is out of town) to get input," Hernandez said. Some of the projects have been on the list for more than two years.

Following his lead, commissioners decided to designate \$193,000 in CAP money for work in the Sun Valley subdivision.

"I looked at it and don't believe a single 1/2-inch chip seal (oil and rock mixture) won't handle it," Hernandez said. Instead he will apply two inches of hot mix.

He told Commissioner Leo Martinez he checked with a firm that repaved Gavilan Canyon Road in a single, fast

procedure with a machine that ground up the road, remixed the material and laid the new surface. More mileage is needed to offset the cost of bringing in the heavy machinery, he said.

"Cutler would have to have two to three miles of work," he said.

The Sun Valley project is estimated at \$121,936 for 1.2 miles with the county's share at about \$48,000. Another three-quarters of a mile will be surfaced on High Mesa.

"It's the worst part going in there with heavy traffic,"

Hernandez said. "The way the road is now, it needs to be leveled and two inches of hot mix applied. We'll have a good road for another 10 to 15 years."

School bus route money of about \$53,000 will be used on County Road CO22 south of Capitán.

"A portion of the road is very narrow. It never received much attention," Hernandez said. "It needs to be widened, a 12-foot culvert installed and a driving lane of 16 feet. The school bus travels it every day and I feel it is a hazard for it and the public."

The county's share would be \$13,305 for 1.3 miles.

He anticipates about \$66,000 in Co-op money and would use it on Enchanted Mesa in Sierra Vista subdivision behind JR's Store.

"It gets very narrow," Hernandez said. "It's been on the county's list for 12-13 years. It's 1.5 miles. I used extra \$9,080 to finish all of that project."

The road boss said he's not comfortable putting all of the Co-op and Cap money into one project, which is what

Cora Dutton Road would require.

The county doesn't have easements, but is allowed to work on the road by the U.S. Forest Service, which does, he said.

"I don't want to lose sight of Cora Dutton," Commissioner Chairman Rex Wilson said. "It's a big issue to those people, especially the washboard and the dust. Every year, we say we will make it a priority next year and the next year. The dust is the big thing. Maybe we can do something."

"Every year, we say we will make it a priority next year and the next year."

Rex Wilson
commission chair
on Cora Dutton Road

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Political meeting

The Lincoln County "Not in Our Name" committee, in conjunction with the Green Party of Lincoln County, will host an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Capitán Senior Citizen Center on Tiger Drive.

All people with an interest in the prospective war with Iraq, civil liberties and the 2004 elections are invited to

attend. Call 910-1785 for more information.

Painter in action

Artist Harriett McDonald will be painting at Studio W for the next two or three weeks in a corner of the gallery for people to see and discuss her work with her, said gallery owner Wayne Usrey.

Hospital's OB department at its busiest in 16 years

BY BEVERLY WALKER
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

This is a continuing series of health-related columns from the Lincoln County Health and Wellness Council.

The mission of the Lincoln County Medical Center Obstetrics Department is to promote and provide quality obstetrical care in our community.

Services provided include basic obstetrical outpatient services, labor and delivery, postpartum and nursery care, resuscitation and stabilization of newborns, and transfer/consultation

arrangements. A triage system is in place for identifying high-risk patients who should be

transferred to a higher level of care. A total of 300 babies were delivered in 2002 at LCMC; the highest number of deliveries since 1986 and 20

more than in 2001. The OB department consists of three birthing rooms, a semi-private room, a delivery/triage room and a nursery. The mill levy, LCMC Auxiliary, and Presbyterian monies were used to fund the recent refurbishing of the OB area. Staff members, along with Dr. Deborah Hewitt, donated complimentary decor

and their painting expertise to the refurbishing.

Prenatal classes are offered six times per year and each session lasts six weeks. Breathing and relaxation, the birth process, infant CPR, newborn and postpartum care, anesthesia options, breastfeeding and special situations (cesarean birth, vacuum-assisted delivery, etc.) are topics presented to prenatal class participants.

Please call the OB department at 257-8275 or an OB physician for more information regarding prenatal classes.

Several services provided at LCMC are not as well known. LCMC has a specially priced birthing plan called the "OB Package." The OB Package requires specific criteria, pre-

payment and includes many amenities. If you have any questions regarding the OB Package please call the Admitting office at 257-8200.

Another special service is a complimentary steak dinner provided by the Dietary Department for each newly delivered mother and a guest of her choice. The OB department also participates in several state programs for the benefit of our community.

The Car Seat Program (screening criteria apply), Hearing Screening Program, and the Hepatitis B Program are all utilized at LCMC.

Please call the OB department at 257-8275 if you have any questions regarding the OB department.

Health and Wellness

Facilities around the LCMC OB department

Experienced OB and nursery care is provided by 17 registered nurses with approximately 265 years of combined nursing experience.

Lincoln County Medical Center's OB nurses are: Beverly Walker (OB manager), Jennifer Becker, Karen Hutchinson, Jan Davison, Kay Madaris, Sandra Dawson, Molly Huey, Jennifer Harvey, Caroline Ellis, Kaly Grant, Cathi Jones, Cyndy Norlander, Roberta Everett, Theresa Treas, Heather Yocom, Trish Thompson, and Becky Bell Durham.

The OB department recognizes the following OB nurses for their certifications: AWOHNN fetal monitoring principles and practice instructor Caroline Ellis; childbirth educator Sandra Dawson; car seat technician; Jennifer Harvey; and neonatal resuscitation instructor Jennifer Becker.

Other certifications include Advanced Cardiac Life Support: Kaly Grant, Caroline Ellis, Trish Thompson, and Becky Bell Durham; and Inpatient Obstetrical

Nursing: Karen Hutchinson and Beverly Walker. All staff is certified in CPR and the majority of the staff is certified in neonatal resuscitation. Each above certification serves to promote and increase knowledge, thus increasing the quality of care provided in our community.

Providers of obstetrical services include Dr. Deborah Hewitt, Dr. Arlene Brown, Dr. Mary Martinez, and Sharon Hendricks, Certified Nurse Midwife. The following family practice physicians provide newborn care: Roger Beechie, Arlene Brown, Mary Martinez, Michael Clements, and Frank DiMotta. Certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA's), Steve Raterman and Dave Noltensmeyer provide anesthesia services.

Prenatal classes are provided for community education/outreach and are taught by OB nurses, Sandra Dawson and Jennifer Harvey. Ancillary instructors include Chris LaCounte RN, Dave Noltensmeyer CRNA, Steve Raterman CRNA, Dr. Deborah Hewitt and Dr. Mary Martinez.

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Almanac of Record
from the New York Times

Veterans' Day
(November 11th)
Armistice Day, which marked the end of World War I on Nov. 11, 1918, was made a legal holiday in 1938. The name was changed to Veterans' Day in 1954 to honor all of America's veterans.

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U.S. 70 workers make an impact in county

BY JULIE CARTER
 FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

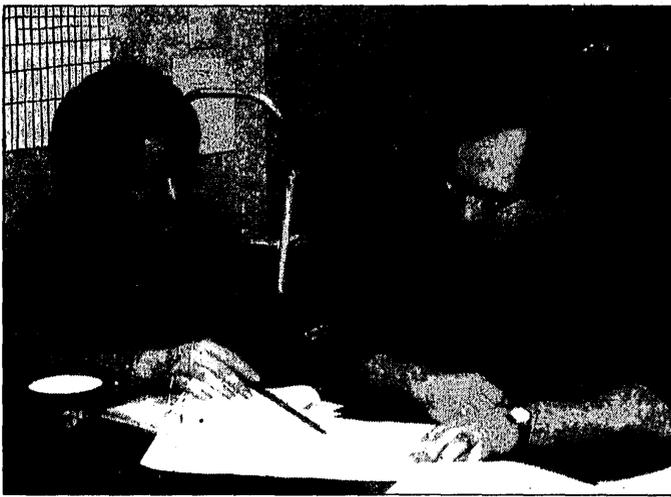
A \$129 million project is big in anyone's book. Twenty-thousand square feet of on-site office space is something on the far side of normal for construction projects. Just less than 300 employees — many with families, who all drive vehicles, have to eat, sleep and live somewhere — bring a bang of an impact to a small community.

It could, from the outside, appear to be hard, cold business in progress. On closer inspection, what one finds instead is the heart of a group of people brought together under the name created for a joint venture project, Sierra Blanca Constructors. The job is the Hondo Valley U.S. 70 design-build project.

The office complex is set up to house all entities of the process. One of the thoughts behind that particular design is the accessibility to everyone involved in the day-to-day decision-making. Jim Jewell, deputy project manager, explains, "We take a very proactive approach to making decisions. When a situation or a problem arises that requires the attention and answers from several parties, you can literally gather them physically from each office and arrive at a solution in short time."

Sierra Blanca Constructors (SBC) holds the people of the community and the project impact on them as a number one priority.

"Every time we touch a property,



Mary Ann Wootton, left, Sierra Blanca Constructors community relations liaison, goes over some plans with Jim Jewell, U.S. 70 deputy project manager.

PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

we touch a property owner," says Jewell. "We take things very seriously and the value of importance is the same if they have 1/4 acre or 100,000 acres. And his value is not calculated by the value of his property."

In the entryway of the office complex is a bulletin board with a letter from two local families tacked to it. The letter, from the Raymond Montano Jr. and Sr. families, thanks SBC "for making the holiday season in the Hondo Valley more special due to the generosity of your employees to the school children in the area. The

company is to be commended for sharing with 'us locals.'"

The employees of SBC are made of people from many different places. Many are in their hometown when they show up for work. The ties to the valley, to Lincoln County and to New Mexico run like a scarlet thread through the project.

Godfrey Gomez, Hondo native, works in traffic control while his wife, Cindy, is the administrative assistant to the superintendent at the Hondo Schools. Mary Ann Wootton, community relations liaison for SBC, came

home to Roswell for this project, bringing her life full circle back to New Mexico.

Cody Browning, environmental monitor, is paid for doing what he always has done and loves: archaeology and history. Cody's family ties in Lincoln County go back more than 125 years. Ralph Meeks, a native of Roswell, works with the State Highway Transportation Department and has been involved with the project for more than three years. Dennis Nosker, chairman of the U.S. 70 Task Force, traces his family tree in Hondo back 125 years.

Mitzi Smid-Orr and Gladys Coleman, on staff EMTs, are both Lincoln County natives. Mitzi is from Corona and Gladys has Carrizozo roots.

While there are many more, this short list outlines the heart for the land, the people and the project that goes beyond a contract and a blueprint. The project budget includes \$750,000 for community enhancement within the Hondo Valley. Those projects will include visible improvements at the school, on the scenic byway pullouts and community gateways.

What isn't budgeted or priced is what the people, the employees of SBC, give on their own and give from their hearts. When Hondo resident Barbara Radcliff needed an ambulance for her mother-in-law, she called the SBC office, knowing they had an ambulance and EMTs less than a mile

from her home. The unit responded and transported the elder Radcliff to Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso. While Barbara was gone for a few days tending to the situation, SBC employees took care of animals and chores at her home.

On the "wish list" the school was asked to provide was an item that wouldn't fall under the community enhancement parameters. The students needed dictionaries. SBC, along with others in the community, donated funds to help support their dictionary program so that each child could have a dictionary at his or her desk.

The Mendoza Orchard offered apples to the SBC employees at the end of its harvest season last fall. Several workers took them up on the offer, picked boxes of apples, and delivered them to the Good Samaritan home in Roswell.

At Christmas, an "Angel" Christmas tree was placed in the SBC office complex. Students from the Hondo Schools were asked to make an ornament, one per child, and write on the ornament a gift they would like most for Christmas.

The SBC employees chose an ornament, fulfilled the wish and delivered it back to the office wrapped and ready for delivery. Every one of the 143 students in Hondo received a gift from the project.

Why do they do it? Wootton answers easily, "It's the heart of the people. The guys on the project interact daily with the locals. They have become our family."

'Zozo FFA teams strong in Las Cruces

BY JULIE CARTER
 FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The Carrizozo FFA teams competed in the Las Cruces High School Invitational FFA Judging Contest Saturday, taking home some strong finishes.

Placing third in the Ag Mechanics contest was a young, bright team from Carrizozo. Team members were Matthew Barela, Junior Corley, Eric Koroscil, K.C. Hendricks, Ryan Gaines and Jimmy Morris.

The Wildlife team placed eighth in that contest. Team members were Ryan Gaines, Matthew Barela, K.C. Hendricks, Eric Koroscil, Jake Riddle, and Nathan New.

This Saturday, March 1, the Carrizozo schools will host their annual invitational judging contest. Carrizozo FFA advisor

Wayne Shockey said they are expecting 35 to 40 schools from around the state. This tallies up to approximately 800 students competing in 13 different contests.

The meet will begin at 7 a.m. with close to 60 volunteers helping with the contests and the score tabulations. The Horse Judging contest will take place at Bob Curtiss's property, Livestock Judging will be at the Bar W Ranch, and the Pasture and Range contest will be at the Industrial Park.

The FFA Alumni will handle the concessions. There will also be 4-H judging classes for livestock, wool, and horse, with high point and first through third team places being awarded pins.

The next FFA judging meets will be March 8 in Moriarity and March 15 in Roswell.

Ranching an important part of U.S.

The landscape of New Mexico has changed a great deal, both politically and geographically, since my great-grandparents began ranching here a century ago. As I have grown older, I have gained a greater appreciation for the sacrifice and acumen required to make a ranch prosper and expand in the midst of so many changes.



County Views
 BY ROB SHAFER

Until I arrived at college, I took for granted the ranching legacy upon which my family's life is built. I don't think that ranching will be my career, but I know my older sister and I feel a deep responsibility to protect the fruits of our ancestors' hard work. Irrespective of our professional careers, we recognize the importance of embracing the impending challenges to our family's way of life. The fight for water rights is on the horizon as more people compete for pieces of a shrinking pie.

Debates over access and entitlement to public lands are ongoing and will probably

become more intense as people look farther for recreation and escape of urban sprawl.

Economically, monopolization of the meat-packing industry and the effects of globalization on the sale of cattle and sheep products are situations that will require a high level of knowledge and participation. Argentinean beef producers and Chinese wool buyers are now important players — even on the local level.

Another concern, not only for ranching but for the fragile, majestic lands of this region, is the impending encroachment of subdivisions, accompanied by the requisite roads, wells, and SUVs. In their passionate diatribes, environmentalists have never accused ranchers of the types of ecological damage about to be unleashed by this

looming explosion of development. Stewardship is the quintessential commandment for any rancher who wants to be profitable over 20 years, much less a hundred. "Ranchettes" do not portend good stewardship.

In recent years, ranchers have found protecting their way of life to be increasingly difficult, but they soldier on. Undoubtedly most feel the same responsibility to their forebears as my sister and I to ours. A ranch is more than fences, grass, and stock. It is the embodiment of a life's work and as such is worth protecting. The observations of Dutch philosopher Benedict Spinoza are as true today as they were in the 17th century. "All things excellent are as difficult as they are rare."

Rob Shafer graduated from Carrizozo High School in 2000. He is currently a junior at Rice University in Houston, Texas, majoring in political science.

Hondo Elementary receives honor and grant

BY JULIE CARTER
 FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

For the second time in three years, Hondo Elementary was selected one of the "Most Improved Schools" in the state. This honor, based on the improved for grades K-6 for the 2001-2002 school year, landed the school district a \$7,053 allocation. A committee of teachers and parents has been selected to determine how the funds will be spent.

The Public Capital Outlay Council of the State Department of Education approved Hondo's request to construct a new access road through the campus and relocate the playground to the area in front of the elementary school. During this construction process, a new multipurpose field will be built. The total cost for the projects is approximately \$500,000. The school's goal is to begin construction by April 1 and be complete

by the start of classes this fall.

After many frustrating years, the Hondo sixth grade Knowledge Bowl team finally brought back a blue ribbon. In the competition held in Tularosa on Feb. 12, the 6th graders won 4 out of 5 games which included a 40-point victory over Ruidoso. Team members were Marilea Schmid, Matt Hernandez, Leticia Vazquez, Camille Sandoval, Dede Romero and Tonee Montoya.

MEETING WATCH

Monday — Carrizozo Action Team (CAT) meeting, 2 p.m., RC&C Office in Carrizozo

Wednesday — Canyon Cow Belles, 11:30 a.m., Otero County Electric Building, Carrizozo



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RUIDOSO POLICE

Car, jewelry stolen

A Volkswagen Beetle valued at \$15,000 and a gold and diamond tennis bracelet valued at \$400 were stolen from a residence in the 300 block of Gavilan Canyon Road between Feb. 19 and 23, according to police reports. Intruders broke into the house and found the spare keys to the vehicle, which was recovered in Roswell by the Chavez County Sheriff's Office after a chase and foot pursuit of a Ruidoso Downs suspect. Andy Gonzales, 24, was arrested and charged with possession of stolen property.

Juvenile arrested

Police arrested a 14-year-old male at the Juvenile Probation Office, 421 Wingfield St., charging him with assault on a peace officer. The youth was transferred to Dona Ana County Juvenile Detention Center.

Drug citation

Police cited Derek J. Serna, 19, of Ruidoso and a 16-year-old female, charging them with possession of one ounce or less of marijuana in the parking lot of Lawrence Brothers, 721 Mechem Drive.

The female was referred to the Juvenile Probation Office and released to a parent.

Stereo, booze taken

Police are investigating a burglary in the 200 block of Sunny Slope Drive Dec. 28 resulting in the theft of two skateboard trucks with four wheels, an RCA stereo and a large bottle of Southern Comfort, all valued at \$240.

Lodge dodge

Lodgers at Alpine Lodge, 2805 Sudderth Drive, stiffed the owner by stopping pay-

ment on the check that reserved their room there.

After the family had left, the owner received a stop-payment notice from the bank on the \$102 check and an \$8 bank charge.

She then sent a certified letter to the address on the check, which was returned unclaimed.

Out of time?

House of Kelham, 2801 Sudderth Drive, reported that someone shoplifted a gold "Two's Company" clock valued at \$40 sometime between Nov. 7, 2003, and Feb. 11.

P&Z OKs stalled plat

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The final plat of a 1998 subdivision that stalled four years ago was approved by the Ruidoso Planning and Zoning Commission.

Surveyor T.C. Collins said on the previous approval, the commission stipulated the developer, Scott Epley of the Hondo Trust, must file a bond covering the cost or build the roads before the plat was filed.

Utilities were installed, but Epley stopped after applying gravel on the road, Collins said last week. This time he wants to file a bond, try to complete paving by July and move ahead with lot sales on the development off Gavilan Canyon Road.

Approval carried the stipulations that a bond be presented and that some road and drainage repair is finished. Collins said a water supply

study was completed on the project in 1998 and he will submit that information.

The project contains 42.58 acres and is zoned single-family residential in the extraterritorial zone around Ruidoso governed by both the village and Lincoln County. Epley has created 13 tracts, containing from 2.04 acres to 4.69 acres.

In other action, the commission:

- Approved a variance for G.Q. Nell to build 504-square foot garage at the front of the home to be within 4 feet, 2 inches of the front lot line and 3 feet, 4 inches from the east lot line. The lot is a substandard size for the district and no room exists on the sides of the home to build that size garage, the planning staff noted. The lot is steep and improved with a 1,345 square foot home and attached decks

- Approved vacation of 2,336 square feet of public right of way along commercial lots 708-718 and 729 to 739 improved with rental cabins in the Skyland Addition requested Applicant Jules Videau will pay \$3.50 per square foot for a total of \$8,281. He also will give the village 442 square feet of property along the northwest edge of North Laurel Drive

FUNERALS DEATHS

George Tetreault

A funeral Mass for George R. Tetreault, 75, will be at 1 p.m. today in Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, with burial following in Fort Bliss National Cemetery near El Paso, Texas.

Mr. Tetreault died Sunday, Feb. 23, 2003.

He was born Nov. 3, 1927, in Colchester, Vt.

He was a veteran of World War II and Korea, retired with the U.S. Army and worked for civil service for more than 30 years.

He played professional hockey for the U.S. Army, was an avid skier, had a private pilot license, and was a member of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, American Legion No. 58, VFW No. 8919 and Knights of Columbus Fourth Degree.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 50 years, Mary Ann Tetreault.

Survivors include his mother, Alice Tetreault of South Burlington, Vt.; children

Margaret R. and her husband, Robert Cordova, George R. Tetreault Jr. and his wife, Martha, Michael Jake Tetreault and his wife, Jennie, Libby and her husband, Ron Mapes, Dr. Patty Tetreault, David Tetreault and his wife, Kathy; grandchildren Carolyn, Regina, Amy, Josh, Donna, Roland, Jake and Larissa; and great-grandchildren Melanie, Morgan and Cydney.

Wanda Mendez

A funeral Mass for Wanda L. Mendez, 73, of Mescalero was on Thursday at St. Joseph's Mission, with burial at the Mescalero Cemetery.

Mrs. Mendez died Monday, Feb. 24, 2003, in Alamogordo.

She was born April 27, 1929, in Mescalero and had lived there all of her life.

She was a member of St. Joseph's Mission and was a homemaker.

Survivors include sons Delbert and Emery Mendez of Mescalero; daughters Lorena

Mendez, Arlene Mendez, Liane Robinson, and Margaret Mendez, all of Mescalero; brothers Lewis and Clement Bigmouth, both of Mescalero; a sister-in-law, Lucy Smith, of Mescalero; 17 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Aloysius Mendez; and a daughter, Patricia Fox.

Mike Herrick

No services are planned at this time for Milo "Mike" Herrick, 71, of Capitan.

Mr. Herrick died Saturday, Feb. 22, 2003, in Capitan.

He was born Oct. 22, 1931, in Aiken, Minn.

He served in the Air Force as a master sergeant. He moved to Capitan in 1995 from Merrill, Wis.

He married Lillian Rauer on Oct. 2, 1964, in Albuquerque.

Survivors include his wife, Lillian, of Capitan; children Robert D. White Jr. and Wesley

B. White of Delroy Beach, Fla., and Pamela Rogge of Rio Rancho; a brother; three sisters; five grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Kathleen M. Herrick on Sept. 16, 1989.

Services are under the direction of LaGrone Funeral Chapel of Ruidoso.

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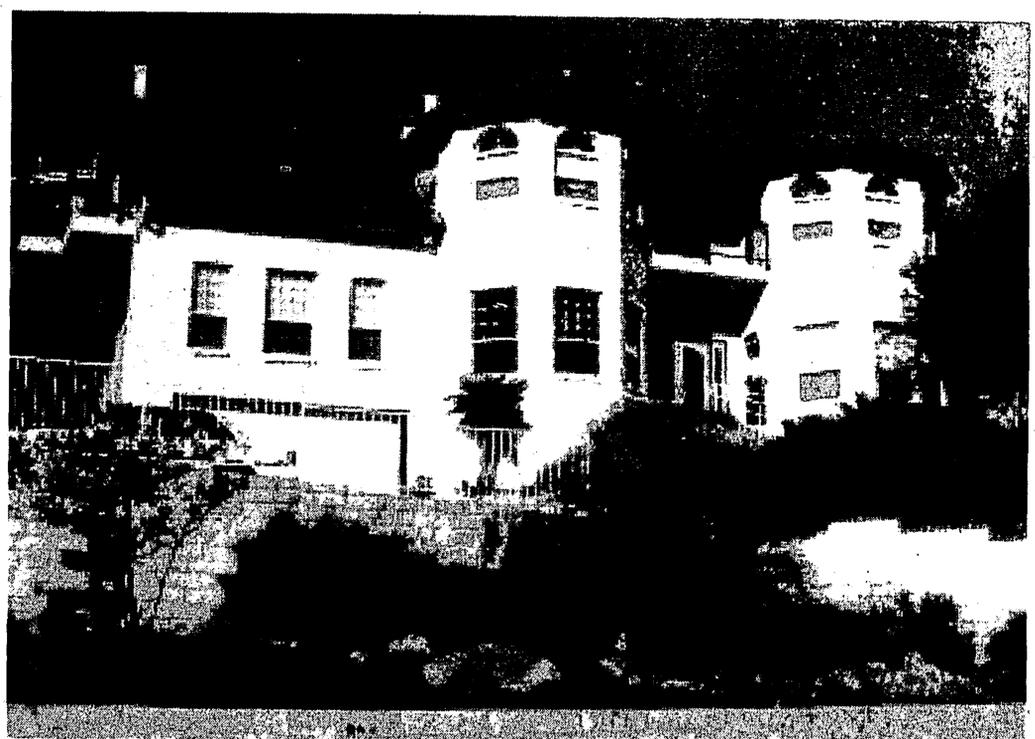
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SPORTS

FRIDAY, FEB. 28, 2003

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PAGE 1B

Warrior wrestlers have some missing in action

With three team members out with injury, Ruidoso faces a most difficult challenge at this year's Class 3A/1A team championship.

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

If this year's individual state wrestling tournament were held in the same manner as in years past, Ruidoso would have a third-place team trophy to place in the case at RHS.

The Warriors had the best individual tournament ever last weekend, scoring 140.5 points to take third behind Las Vegas Robertson and Cobre, and had nine individual medals to show for their efforts.

Unfortunately for Ruidoso, that team finish doesn't actually count. They'll begin their quest to earn a team trophy today at 2 p.m. when they face off against Robertson in the first round of the Class 3A/1A duals tournament in Rio Rancho.

Another unfortunate thing for the Warriors is that they'll be without three very important members of their teams.

Case Forrest at 189 pounds and Elisha Hedin at 152 each have injuries that will keep them out of the dual today. The third — and probably most



Cody Huffmon, left, puts a move on Matthew Concha of Las Vegas Robertson Feb. 21 in the 145-pound third-place match during the Class 3A/1A state individual tournament in Albuquerque. Huffmon tried the match with a 7-3 decision, and will face Concha again today when Ruidoso and Robertson meet in the first round of the state team tournament in Rio Rancho.

KAREN BOEHLER/ALAMOGORDO DAILY NEWS

spectacular — injury belongs to Justin Huffmon.

Huffmon was wrestling in the championship at 140 pounds against Clinton Dale of Cobre last Friday, and didn't look to win — being down 10-2 with two seconds left.

But when Dale attempted a pin, Huffmon tried to arch out of it and injured his back. Paralyzed, he was carried from Tingley Coliseum to an ambu-

lance, and eventually walked again. But his wrestling year is over.

That leaves the Warriors with forfeits at four weight classes — they never had anyone at 160 pounds all year — against the top team in the state in Class 3A/1A.

"We just want to wrestle as hard as we can," said Ruidoso coach Brian Brown. "It was very difficult to win at the individual tournament. It's not like

we were losing to wimps.

"Even if we lose, we still had a great year," he added.

If the Warriors are able to pull off the upset over Robertson, they would guarantee a shot for at least third place and take on the winner of the Grants/Wingate match Saturday at 8 a.m. The championship and third-place matches are scheduled for 3 p.m. on Saturday.

Cloudfcroft upsets Lady Tigers

Capitan boys move on in District 5-2A tournament

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

CAPITAN — Don't ever count anyone out in District 5-2A.

The Capitan Lady Tigers learned that lesson the hard way Tuesday when Cloudfcroft came to town for the second round of the district tournament.

The Lady Bears had already defeated Lordsburg the night before, and had given Capitan a run for their money when the two met in Cloudfcroft. Knowing one more loss would end their season, the Lady Bears gave it all they got and left with a 41-39 victory.

The Lady Bears did it mostly with the run, beating Capitan (12-11) at its own game while getting key three-pointers from Emily Hunter and Vyanca Vega. Hunter had 17 points to lead the Lady Bears.

"They were throwing the ball down court and we weren't reading it," said Capitan coach Sherry Gowen. "We got our rebounds and had a chance to make the baskets, but that's sports. If you don't take the opportunities like that, you probably won't be on top."

Capitan never had the lead again after the first half, although they were able to tie it once in the third on a free throw by Jessica Becker. Becker had 19 points to lead the Lady Tigers, but could have had a lot more had she made more layups underneath.

"Throughout the year, they've been real impatient, because they're real young," said Cloudfcroft coach Danny Ward. "They finally got it. They



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Stephanie Kelsey, left, defends Cloudfcroft's Kara Goss Tuesday during Capitan's surprising loss to the Lady Bears in the District 5-2A tournament.

had it last week when we played Capitan here, but we didn't have enough firepower to get a win out of it.

"I had a dream about it. I dreamed we would win by two, and we won by two," he added.

There wasn't a whole lot of

firepower Tuesday, but Cloudfcroft (9-15 after Tuesday) had just enough to get the job done.

The game was close throughout, with Capitan

See CAPITAN, page 2B

Lady Bears 41, Lady Tigers 39		Tigers 49, Bears 37	
Cloudfcroft (9-15 after Tuesday)		Cloudfcroft (5-19)	
Beth Boyington 0 0-0 0, Stacy Miller 0 0-0 0, Santana Dostkell 1 0-0 3, Bernadine Booky 0 0-0 0, Emily Hunter 5 6-8 17, Marnie Gordon 0 0-0 0, Kara Goss 4 0-0 8, Rain Russell 1 0-3 3, Megan Gordon 0 2-2 2, Vyanca Vega 2 3-4 8, Brittany Baird 0 0-0 0. Totals: 13 11-17 41.		Clint Laird 1 4-6 6, Landon Parker 1 0-0 2, Ryan Scott 2 0-0 4, Alex Markum 3 0-1 7, Austin Rowland 2 1-2 5, T.J. Blette 0 0-0 0, Nathaniel Smith 1 0-0 2, Thomas Ferguson 1 0-1 2, Travis Smith 2 0-0 4, Ben Lentz 0 0-0 0, Logan Capps 2 1-2 5, Travis Freeman 0 0-0 0. Totals: 15 6-12 37.	
Capitan (12-11)		Capitan (13-9)	
Catherine Wood 3 1-2 7, Stephanie Kelsey 0 0-0 0, Alyx Sheehy 0 0-0 0, Britany Jensen 0 0-0 0, Melissa Becker 1 1-4 3, KayCee Gilson 1 0-0 2, Raylynne Stanbrough 0 0-0 0, Roxie Hall 0 0-0 0, Jessica Tully-Mitchell 3 2-2 8, Jessica Becker 7 5-11 19, Kelsey Stierwalt 0 0-2 0. Totals: 15 9-19 39.		Drew Haynes 0 0-0 0, Kurtis Lee 0 0-0 0, Stephen Silva 0 0-0 0, Bo Sparks 2 3-3 7, Sheldon Moor 6 0-2 12, Charice Huddleston 3 0-0 7, Elliott Taylor 0 0-0 0, Weston Richardson 2 0-0 4, Josh Osborn 3 0-0 8, Rusty Martin 0 0-0 0, J.D. Mitchell 4 0-2 8, Josh Castañeda 1 1-2 3. Totals: 21 4-9 49.	
Cloudfcroft 12 14 7 8 — 41		Cloudfcroft 2 4 10 21 — 37	
Capitan 15 8 7 9 — 39		Capitan 6 15 12 18 — 49	
Three-point goals: Cloudfcroft 4 (Dostkell, Hunter, Russell, Vega). Total fouls: Cloudfcroft 15, Capitan 16.		Three-point goals: Cloudfcroft 1 (Markum). Capitan 3 (Osborn 2, Huddleston). Total fouls: Cloudfcroft 15, Capitan 13.	

District, personnel changes affect Ruidoso tennis team

BY CHARLI KRAUSE
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Warrior tennis is gearing up for a new season, and according to Coach Celeste Franklin, it's going to be a good one.

Anyone who followed the girls' team last season must remember the district championship where No. 1-ranked Heather McDougal rivaled her No. 2-ranked teammate Christine Brown and took the district championship title.

The two then went on to the state tournament, where they both fell in the quarterfinals to previous state winners. Brown dropped a decision to Mariana Spilca of Sandia Prep, while McDougal fell to Jessica Pino of Robertson. Though the rest of the team didn't make it to state, they did defeat Lovington for an overall second place finish in district.

"They played incredibly. It was really exciting to win second in district," said Franklin.

This year promises even more. With 36 girls and boys out for tennis, Franklin is looking at a strong team. On the girls' side, everyone has returned from last year and one new player — sophomore Katherine Dunstan — has transferred in from Louisiana. Franklin is hoping Dunstan will play in the top four and add strength to the team.

"The girls team is stronger than last year. Everyone has come back," said Franklin.

The boys have many new players coming in, but have lost their number two seed Chris Neimerg.

"The boys are very competitive. We have a lot of new players and they have come a long way over the summer. The boys are definitely looking good," Franklin said.

The Warriors are also facing a district change. They've been moved from District 4-3A with Lovington, Portales and New Mexico Military Institute, and have been put in District 3-3A with Grants, Animas, and Cobre. Franklin thinks it will be good for both the girls and the boys.

"It's really good for the boys. NMMI is practically untouchable. I'm excited for them," Franklin said, "I fully expect the girls to step up and to be district champions, especially in the new district. There's also a good chance of individual placement."

See TENNIS, page 3B

Ruidoso High School 2003 Tennis Schedule			
Date	Opponent	Site	Time
March 8	Goddard Invite	Roswell	TBA
March 18	Gadsden	Home	3 p.m.
April 3	Lovington	Away	3 p.m.
April 8	Cobre*	Ruidoso	3:30 p.m.
April 10	Santa Teresa	Away	3:30 p.m.
April 24	Santa Teresa	Home	3:30 p.m.
April 25	Grants*	Home	3:30 p.m.
May 1	Artesia	Away	3:30 p.m.
May 3	Grants*	Away	Noon
May 9-10	District Tourney	Grants	TBA

*Denotes District 3-3A match

"I fully expect the girls to step up and to be district champions, especially in the new district."

Celeste Franklin
Ruidoso tennis coach

side line

Ski Report

Ski Apache
New Snow Past Week: 22 in.
Weather at Report Time: Partly Cloudy
Road at Report Time: Chains required on two-wheel drive vehicles Thursday morning
Midway Depth: 60 in.
Surface Conditions: Powder and packed powder
Skiing Conditions: Excellent
Trails Open: All 55 trails
Lifts Open: All 11 lifts
Snowmaking Past 24 Hours: No
Snowcast: Chance of snow Thursday night

Prep Scores

Tuesday, Feb. 25

Boys Basketball
District 5-2A Tournament
Capitan 49, Cloudfcroft 37
District 7-1A Tournament
Carrizozo 50, Corona 39
District 8-1A Tournament
Gateway Christian 91, Hondo 54
Girls Basketball
District 5-2A Tournament
Cloudfcroft 41, Capitan 39

Wednesday, Feb. 26

Girls Basketball
District 8-1A Tournament
Mescalero 77, Hondo 49

Preps on Tap

Friday, Feb. 28
Girls Basketball
District 7-1A Championship at Carrizozo, 6 p.m.
Wrestling
Ruidoso vs. Robertson in Class 1A/3A State Duals at Rio Rancho, 2 p.m.

Saturday, March 1
Girls Basketball
District 8-1A Championship
Mescalero at Tatum, 6 p.m.
Wrestling
Class 1A/3A State Duals at Rio Rancho, TBA

On Deck

Spring soccer sign-up
Spring soccer sign-ups will be held Saturday in the White Mountain Elementary School cafeteria, and all players — even if they registered and played in the fall league — must register for the spring.
Registration will take place from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday. Fee for new players is \$25, and there will be no charge for players who registered in the fall. The season begins April 5 and runs through May 10.

If players have cleats or shin guards they have outgrown, they can bring them to the registration to be distributed to other players. The league also needs coaches, and any would-be coaches can call David Sepkowitz at 336-4701. Any other questions about the league can be directed to Kala Scarafioti at 354-8107.

Little League sign-up
Sierra Blanca Little League will offer additional opportunities to register for the 2003 baseball season at the following times: Saturday from 9-11 a.m. and Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. at Capitan High School; and Tuesday from 5-7 p.m. at the Ruidoso Senior Citizen Center.

Parks and Rec to discuss skate park
The Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department is needing your help and input for improvements at skate park (North Park). There will be a meeting at skate park Tuesday March 4, at 4 p.m. to receive skaters' recommendations for improvements. Call the parks and recreation department for more information at 257-5030.

USSSA softball meeting
Ruidoso USSSA Sports will hold their 2003 slow-pitch softball league organizational meeting Tuesday, March 11 at 6 p.m. at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center, 421 Suddreth Dr. This is a mandatory meeting for all team managers. Anyone interested in playing slow-pitch softball are invited to attend. For more information call Vicki at 378-4279.

Softball sign-ups underway
Sign-ups for 12 and Under softball teams are now being held for the season which begins in April and ends in July. Girls who turned 13 years old after Jan. 1 are eligible. There are only six slots available on the team. To register, contact Kim Chavez at 258-1308, or call 910-3730 or 420-2549.

Three Ruidoso skiers qualify for Junior Olympics



PHOTO COURTESY MIKE JASINSKY/INSTANT IMAGES

Dylan Jasinsky makes a turn during a Junior Olympic-qualifying run Feb. 16 at Winter Park, Colo. Jasinsky and teammate Peter Zagone had fast enough times to earn the right to represent Ruidoso at the Junior Olympics, scheduled for March 9-15 at Winter Park.

BY LAURA DOTH
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

WINTER PARK, Colo. — Under cloudy skies, three Ruidoso skiers clinched berths Feb. 16 and 17 as part of the Rocky Mountain/Central Division at the Junior Olympics which will be held here March 9-15. Only 50 boys are chosen from the large Rocky Mountain/Central Division to participate in the Junior Olympic program.

Peter Zagone and Dylan Jasinsky will represent Ruidoso at the Junior Olympics. Ruidoso resident Rett Smith will be skiing for Red River, N.M., at the prestigious event.

The Junior Olympics program has become an annual rite of passage for juniors who love snow and are serious about fine-tuning their competitive skills. Conceived as part of the United States Ski and Snowboard Association's (USSA) development program for its national alpine team, the Junior Olympic series includes the sports of alpine skiing, cross country, freestyle, jumping, nordic combined and snowboarding. Many of the current and past U.S. Ski Team members have competed in the Junior Olympic program. Junior athletes qualify for the series through Eastern, Rocky/Central and Western Region

events. Junior Olympic age groups are defined by levels 1 (17-19), 2 (15-16), 3 (13-14) and 4 (11-12).

Qualifying for the Junior Olympics is an impressive honor for Ruidoso and Ski Apache, where the athletes train. "These skiers put in countless hours of training for competitions like this," said Ruidoso Ski Team coach, Hubert Seigmann. "It's important to recognize the effort that it takes to come this far."

Rett Smith performed extremely well at the recent qualifier. He placed fifth in the morning slalom run on the first day with a time of 41.84. Dylan Jasinsky followed in 42nd with a time of 49.27, and Joe Lynch placed 46th with a time of 49.64. Peter Zagone battled problems on the hill and came in 88th with a time of 1:18.64.

The clouds lifted a bit for the afternoon run where Dylan Jasinsky came in 31st with a time of 46.16. Joe Lynch skied a 47.65 for a 45th placing, and Zagone came in at 81st with a time of 53.11. Rett Smith was disqualified at gate 46 on his way down the hill.

The next day, the racers hit it hard again; this time competing in the Giant Slalom. Rett Smith proved his mettle once again, coming in fourth with a time of 1:03.09. Peter Zagone

found his groove once again and came on strong, finishing 48th with a time of 1:12.13. Joe Lynch followed in 51st place with a time of 1:12.30. Dylan Jasinsky had difficulty with the course and did not finish the race.

In the afternoon heat, course setters laid out a difficult run for the racers. Only one Ruidoso racer finished the afternoon race. Dylan Jasinsky finished the course in 1:07.12. The course claimed its share of racers in the afternoon with Joe Lynch, Peter Zagone and Rett Smith not finishing the race.

The Ruidoso Ski Team will be racing at Angel Fire this weekend in the Southern Series Championship.

Corona again falls to 'Zozo in tourney

BY TODD FUQUA

.com

Two games, two 10-point margins. That was how the last two District 7-1A matchups between the Corona and Carrizozo boys basketball games went this season, and the district tournament game between the two Tuesday in Carrizozo almost turned out the same way.

As it was, Carrizozo scored one point extra to take a 50-39 victory to move on in the tournament, while the Cardinals end their season at 4-19.

"We played pretty well, we just didn't play well enough," said Corona

coach Tommy Mulkey. "It was the same story, we entered the fourth quarter down by a lot, cut the lead and got to within five, then couldn't get a shot to fall."

While Corona was unable to score in the final quarter, the Grizzlies (10-15 after Tuesday) scored on a number of easy layups to run away with the game.

"It was a good game, you could tell there was a little more on the line," Mulkey said. "Both teams worked really hard and put out the effort. We just couldn't get a score when we needed it."

Victor Perez had 23 points as the game's high scorer for Corona, while Keith Shafer added 11 points. Jesse Samora had 16 points to lead Carrizozo, followed by Josh Calvert with 14.

Grizzly coach Mel Holland was unavailable for comment, as he and the Carrizozo team were already on their way to Albuquerque Thursday to play Temple Baptist for a regional berth and the right to play Mountainair in the district championship.

Full results from that game will be in a future edition of the *Ruidoso News*.

Grizzlies 50, Cardinals 39
Corona (4-19)
Wayne Finley 0-0-0, Todd Muncy 0-2-0, Keith Shafer 4-3-4, J.R. Shafer 0-0-0, Victor Perez 8-3-7, 23, Frankie Sanchez 2-0-0, Luke Proctor 0-0-0, Patrick Palomarez 0-0-1-0, Ross Davis 0-0-0, Clay Posey 0-0-0
Totals: 14-5-14 39
Carrizozo (10-15 after Tuesday)
Casey Saenz 1-1-5, 3, Robert Dutover 0-0-0, Corey Lopez 0-0-0, Joseph Samora 4-0-0, Johnny Beltran 4-0-0, Junior Corley 0-0-0, Jesse Samora 7-2-6, 16, Josh Calvert 6-2-3, 14, Justin Wilson 0-0-0, Jim Barak 0-0-0, Chris Valdes 0-0-0, Steve Ramirez 0-1-2, 1. Totals: 22-6-16 50
Corona 4-18-10-7-39
Carrizozo 15-19-11-11-50
Three-point goals: Corona 5 (Perez 4, Sanchez), Total fouls: Corona 19, Carrizozo 16. Pinned out: Corona, Sanchez. Technical foul: Corona, Sanchez.

THE PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

in Santa Fe is the oldest government building in the U.S. The Spanish built it as part of a fortress during the winter of 1609-1610. In 1909, it was converted to the Palace of the Governors History Museum. It now houses exhibits on Spanish, Mexican, and American colonization dating back to the late 1500s.

CAPITAN: Boys win, girls lose in District 5-2A matchups

FROM PAGE 1B

retaining a 15-12 lead after the first quarter, and Cloudfrost turning the tables for a three-point advantage at halftime, 26-23.

Free throws — or rather the lack of them — is what really cost the Lady Tigers the game. As a team, Capitan was just 9-of-21 from the charity stripe, and there were only 31 fouls called in the game.

"We'd been doing real well in free-throws, but we just couldn't put the ball in the basket," Gowen said. "We started running a little bit, then let up on it. Them scoring 14 on us in the second quarter also hurt us real bad."

Actually, Cloudfrost did almost give the game away at the end. Having to foul to stop the clock, the Lady Tigers put several Lady Bears on the line at the end, but their steady foul shooting began to dry up in the last minute.

Fortunately for Cloudfrost, each time the Lady Tigers found a way to give the ball right back again with a turnover.

Even after Hunter put in the last points of the game with another free-throw, her missed foul shot with five seconds left was rebounded by Capitan and the Lady Tigers still had a shot to at least tie it.

But a desperation shot by Catherine Wood went wide, and Cloudfrost earned the right to move on in the tournament.

Tigers 49, Bears 37

After watching their girls team fall to an unlikely opponent, and knowing that Cloudfrost had pulled off an upset over Hatch the day before, Capitan wasn't about to let the Bears surprise them in their home gym.

The Tigers stifled Cloudfrost's scoring and the Bears — a little too aggressive

by their coach's admission — dropped a 49-37 decision in the second round of the District 5-2A tournament Tuesday.

At first, it seemed as though both teams were trying just a bit too hard. Capitan held the Bears (5-19) to just two points in the first quarter, but were able to muster just six points of their own.

"They (Cloudfrost) played hard and gave us all we could handle," said Capitan coach Royce Brown. "We did a great job defensively in the first quarter to hold them to just two points, but we could have broke the game open then, we just missed a lot of layups."

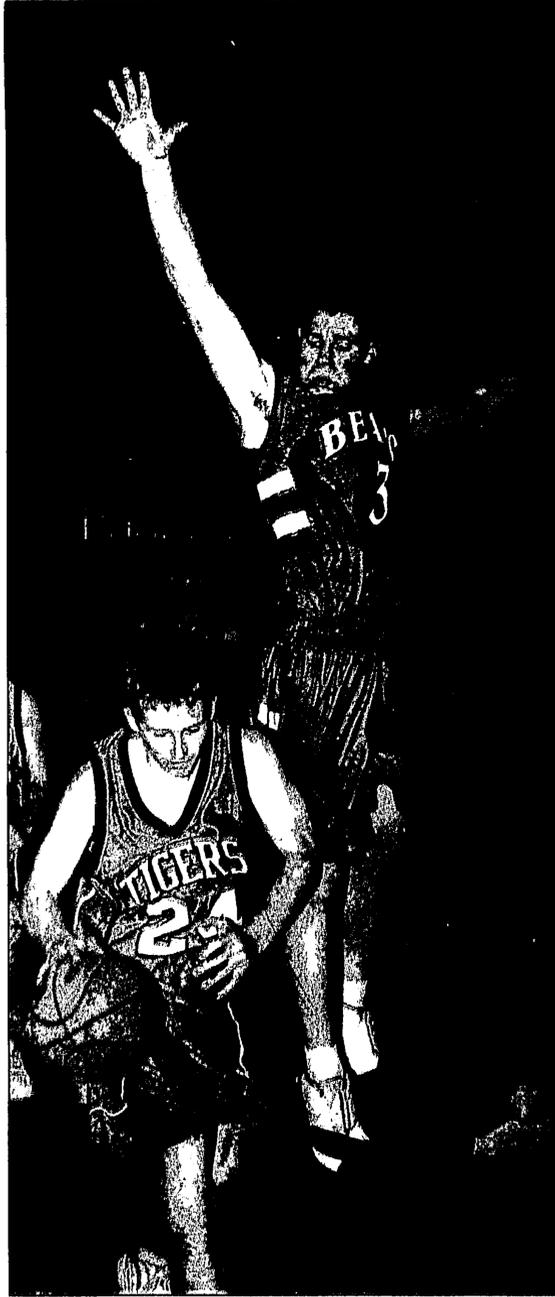
It wasn't until the second quarter that the Tigers (13-9) got untracked, going on a 9-0 run and taking a huge 21-6 lead at halftime.

The game continued to be brutal in the second half — not just because of the score, but because of all the banging around going on underneath the basket. Very few fouls were called, and the teams got out of the game having shot just 21 free throws combined.

"At first, it got too intense," said Cloudfrost coach Jimmy Swope. "We didn't make too many layups at first, we were so high-strung. There were 18 points worth of layups that we just missed in the first half."

"We were up for it, we just may have been up for it too much, but that's ball."

Sheldon Moor led Capitan with 12 points, followed by Josh Osborn and J.D. Mi with eight points each. ... Bear was in double figures on the night, as Alex Markum led Cloudfrost with just seven points. Clint Lard added six and Austin Rowland and Logan Capps had five points each.



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

Cloudfrost's Clint Lard (3) goes airborne to defend Capitan's Rusty Martin Tuesday during the Tigers' 49-37 win in the District 5-2A tournament in Capitan. Capitan played Tularosa Thursday for a Regional berth and the right to play Lordsburg for the district title.

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Aggie men power past Arkansas State to tie for second

BY FELIX CHAVEZ
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

JONESBORO, Ark. — Behind a solid effort from post players James Moore and Chris Jackson, the New Mexico State men's basketball team downed Arkansas State 82-67 Saturday in Sun Belt Conference action.

The win gave NMSU a 17-8 overall record and a 7-6 mark in league play. The Aggies are tied with New Orleans for second in the Western Division with a week of play left in the regular season.

Arkansas State fell to 12-14 and 5-8. Moore scored 24 points to lead NMSU, while Jackson put together his third straight double-double with 18 points and 15 boards. Said Jackson: "I'm just trying to go out there and play as hard as I can. There aren't many games left and I have to play as well as I can. Today, it was physical inside and I had to be tough in there."

"We got bucked inside," Arkansas State coach Dickey Nutt said. "James Moore can do so much for the Aggies and he came up with some big baskets today. Chris Jackson controlled the paint and outworked our guys inside, especially in the first half."

Jackson finished with nine offensive boards among his 15 rebounds. As a team, the Aggies out-rebounded ASU 38-25. The Aggies, who led 33-25 at halftime aided by a 12-0 run, contin-

ued their momentum into the second half.

NMSU stretched its lead to 58-40 as it made seven of 10 shots to open the final half. Moore hit three early second-half baskets, while Kelsey Crooks and Brandon Mason each came up with big buckets, spurred on by the Aggie defense.

"We didn't take care of the basketball early in the second half," said Nutt, whose team beat Louisiana-Lafayette on Thursday. "We didn't play well today. We had a great game on Thursday and we were as bad today as we were good on that night. We just didn't have the right intensity."

However, ASU managed to creep back into the game behind the play of senior guard Odie Williams. Williams sparked a 9-0 run with five points to pull the Indians within nine, 58-49.

After NMSU's Allen Haynes drained a triple, ASU came right back to within 61-55 as Williams scored four more points. He finished with a game-high 25.

"I had to step up when we were down," Williams said. "We needed a spark."

NMSU scored five straight to go up 66-55 behind another trey from Haynes and a jumper by Moore, but ASU fought right back. Williams scored five straight and Paris London hit a trey as the

Indians closed within 68-63.

Then Williams made a turnover that turned the tide back to NMSU. After a defensive stop, Williams lost the ball in transition, NMSU scooped up the ball and Moore finished with a dunk to put NMSU up 70-63. ASU then managed just four points in the final 4:44 of the game.

"I was trying to find Jon Beck in the corner for a three and I just rushed," Williams said. "If I don't turn the ball over, maybe the outcome is different."

NMSU clinched the game by making 12 free throws down the stretch, including six by point guard Jason Fontenet, who finished with 18 points, nine rebounds and seven assists.

"We played well today," said NMSU coach Lou Henson. "We got a good effort by a lot of people. We played good defense."

Arkansas State shot just 42.6 percent for the game and committed 15 turnovers, but it was when it committed those turnovers. The Indians made several costly turnovers when NMSU was making runs. "We knew we had to play good defense," Henson said. "The type of patterns they run and the type of people they have that can score were a concern."

NMSU held the Indians leading scorer on the season, Tevoris Thompson, to

just two points on 1-of-4 shooting and also held Tony Brown, who scored 25 against ULL on Thursday, to just six points.

"They defended us pretty well," Williams said. "They made us work for what we wanted to do." The Aggies put together a workman-like performance in the first half to lead 33-25 at halftime.

NMSU scored the final 12 points of the half to take the lead, including four points each from Jackson, Fontenet and Moore. The Aggies held ASU scoreless through the final 6:26 of the half. Moore and Jackson had big first half performances for the Aggies.

The duo, who combined for 45 points and 21 points on Thursday at Arkansas Little Rock, combined for 22 points and 12 rebounds in the opening half. Jackson had 12 points and led the team with 11 boards, while Moore had 10 points. Jackson also had two blocks and a steal in the opening half.

"NMSU was tough inside, especially Jackson," London said. "He was aggressive on the boards and he worked hard. We slowed him down some in the second half, but Moore hurt us with key baskets down the stretch."

Felix Chavez is a sports writer for the Las Cruces Sun-News, a sister paper to the Ruidoso News.

TENNIS: New district, new players portend good things

FROM PAGE 1B

Unfortunately, the team hasn't had much time to practice. Some players are still involved in other sports, and the weather hasn't allowed much court time.

"We're definitely late getting started, but we do have matches and tournaments to prepare us for district," Franklin said.

The team will play in the Goddard Tournament March 7-8 instead of their usual season opener — the Alamogordo Tournament — which was to start Saturday but was postponed a week due to weather.

Last season, Ruidoso fell to Roswell High at the Goddard Tournament, earning them a second-place finish. Franklin expects Roswell to be as good as they were last year, and says, "The Roswell tournament will be a good experience. We're on our way. We're not there yet, but we'll be ready by the time it counts."

Lady Chiefs roar into district final

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

After dropping a big decision to District 8-1A rival Tatum and losing the top seed in the district tournament, the Mescalero Lady Chiefs had to take stock of their situation and get back to basics.

They responded with a big win over Lake Arthur in the tournament's opening round, then defeated Hondo Wednesday 77-49 to earn the right to face Tatum again for the district title.

"It was kind of an eye-opener," Mescalero coach Rol Bradford said of his team's loss to Tatum last week. "We talked about working twice as hard to get to where we want to be. In all our losses, that's what we didn't do."

The Lady Chiefs (19-7) opened with a 13-point lead after the first quarter, then held Hondo to just four points in the second quarter, taking control and never letting go.

Augusta Lang was one of four Mescalero players in double figures, pouring in 24 points. Sheriene Davis added 12 points, while

Yvette Martinez had 10 points.

Lady Chief guard Nicole Dolan had only four points in the game, but Bradford said she contributed much more in assists and defense.

"It was her best game ever," Bradford said. "She directed the team well and played good defense. Her leadership was what we needed from her all the time."

Dolan drew Hondo's Angelica Chavez on defense, and held the Lady Eagle to just two baskets in the first half. Chavez — usually the team leader in points — scored 14 Wednesday. Josephine Gutierrez had 18 to lead the Lady Eagles (9-15).

With a regional berth now in hand, Mescalero heads to Tatum Saturday for a 6 p.m. game in the District 8-1A championship. If the Lady Chiefs win, they would host the Region B tournament next weekend.

"The attitude is very good right now," Bradford said. "We don't care what level our opponent is anymore, we've got to play at our level."

Lady Chiefs 77, Lady Eagles 49
Hondo (9-15)

Mercedes Lopez 1 1-2 3, Angelica Chavez 6 2-2 14, Jamie Garcia 1 0-0 2, Angelica Garcia 1 0-0 2, Josephine Gutierrez 3 1-1 15 18, Maegan Parmley 0 0-0 0, Lauren Richardson 1 0-0 2, Jackie Chavez 2 3-6 8, Patricia Montoya 0 0-0 0, Justine Candelaria 0 0-0 0. Totals: 15 17-25 49.

Mescalero (19-7)

Nicole Dolan 2 0-0 4, Augusta Lang 11 2-3 24, Sasha Enjady 7 2-2 16, Tori Torres 4 1-2 9, Sheriene Davis 6 0-2 12, Yvette Martinez 4 2-4 10, Hilary Sago 0 0-0 0, Leslie Blgmouth 1 0-0 2, Sheriell Mariano 0 0-0 0, LaTaza Nalche 0 0-0 0. Totals: 35 7-13 77.

Hondo 13 4 13 19 — 49
Mescalero 28 17 17 17 — 77

Three-point goals: Hondo 2 (Gutierrez, J. Chavez). Total fouls: Hondo 12, Hondo 16, Fouled out: Mescalero, Lang.

Hondo boys lose but show improvement

BY TODD FUQUA
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The last time the Hondo boys basketball team played a game against Gateway Christian in Roswell, the eagles were beaten almost before they got off the bus.

Gateway scored at will and took away a 94-20 victory, much to the disgust of Hondo coach Eddie Chavez.

The two teams hooked up again Tuesday in the District 8-1A tournament. While Hondo again fell to the Warriors, 91-54, Chavez was much happier about this game.

"It was quite an improvement, actually," Chavez said. "I told them this could be our last game, and it was a steep hill to climb. But we had to give everything we had and have something to build on for next year."

It's not that Hondo (3-19) ever threatened

the Warriors in the scoring column, but they did give Gateway enough fits defensively that coach Rick Gentry had to call time out and give his team a chewing-out.

"He (Gentry) told me he couldn't believe we were the same team," Chavez said. "They (Gateway) came in a little over confident, and we proved that they're human."

Three Hondo players scored in double figures, led by Derek McTeigue with 17 points and followed by Eddy Valenzuela with 15 and Steven Chavez with 14.

"Derek also made some real good passes inside," coach Chavez said. "We were running our plays very well in the game."

"Any time you get three or four guys in double figures, you'll win some games," he added. "As long as you play defense."

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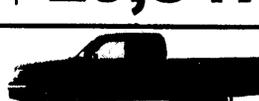
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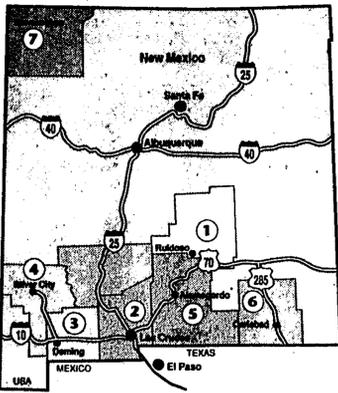
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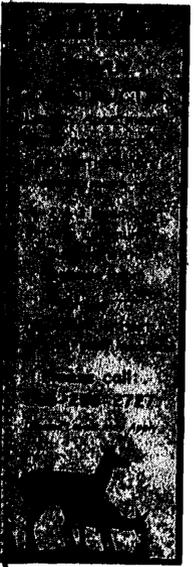
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OFFICE for sale or lease. Good location - mid-town on 10th Street in Alamogordo. Approx. 3000 square feet; parking front and rear 5 private offices, conference room, 2 rest rooms. Large work area for secretary's desk. Lobby area, 2 storage rooms and closets; kitchenette or coffee room. Central heat - refrigerated air. Call (505)437-6326

RESTAURANT & BAR WITH LIQ. LIC. FULLY EQUIPPED, READY TO OPEN. GREAT ALTO LOCATION. TOTAL PRICE FOR LAND, BLD., EQUIPMENT & LIC. \$720,000.00 BROKERS PROTECTED. J DORGAN BKR/OWN. STEVENS RE 1-888-556-1349

100 WORKERS Needed. Assembly crafts, wood items. Materials provided. \$480 plus weekly. Free information package. 24 hours. 801-428-4630

ANNOUNCEMENT-NOW hiring for 2003. Postal jobs \$13.21 - \$28.16/hour. Full benefits/paid training/no experience necessary. Accepting calls 7 days (866)844-4915 ext 103.

ATTENTION! WEBER'S GRILL Accepting applications for Servers, Dishwashers, Bussers and Cooks. Top Dollar paid for Experienced Cooks. 441 Mechem

AVON. ENTREPRENEUR wanted. Must be willing to work whenever you want, be your own boss, and enjoy unlimited earnings. Let's talk. 888-942-4053.

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 Closing Date: February 24, 2003**

**Call: (505) 759-3242 or 759-4287
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Energy Resources Corporation, a subsidiary of Energen corporation, has an immediate opening for a **Production Engineer**, in our Farmington, office. The qualified candidate will possess a degree in Petroleum Engineering with 7-10 years production experience in the San Juan Basin. Strong written and verbal communication skills a must. Working knowledge of Aries a plus. Responsibilities include:

- Conducting production reviews
- Stimulation and completion design
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- E-Mail your resume to jturner@allstate.com OR
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 Closing date: April 30, 2003

*Math Teacher - High School
 *NM License Required for Professional Education Positions

Non-Certified Positions

- Language Arts Technicians - Secondary
- Home Life Assistants
- Substitute Teachers
- Part-Time Tutors - Residential

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(All positions require background checks and clearance from any criminal activities)

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"NAVAJO/INDIAN PREFERENCE"

Personnel Office:
 Shiprock Alternative Schools, Inc.
 P.O. Box 1809
 Shiprock, NM 87420
 Tel: (505) 368-2100
 Fax: (505) 368-2076
 Web Site:
www.sas1.bla.edu
 (For application/salary scale)

PRESBYTERIAN MEDICAL SERVICES

Building a Healthier State

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

(Job # 03-0006-N11)

The Presbyterian Medical Services' Community Access program under the direction of the Totah Behavioral Health Authority is seeking a full-time Executive Director to be based in Farmington, New Mexico.

Duties: This position involves the leadership and management of a federal program with budget oversight, and staff supervision, as well as professional interaction with City, County, and State officials, Navajo Tribal Council members, and the Indian Health Service.

Requirements: Applicants must have a BA in Business/Public Administration, Health Care Administration, Public Health or a closely related field. MA degree preferred. Extensive experience and training in a high level management position, with supervisory responsibilities may be accepted in lieu of degree. Experience in and knowledge of: health care planning, health care finance, contract procurement and administration, managed care systems, rural communities in the Four Corners region (New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado), and Native American populations is strongly preferred.

To Apply: Send a PMS Job Application, resume, cover letter starting Job #03-0006-N11, and licensure/proof of education to PMS Human Resources, PO Box 3239, Farmington, NM 87499. For an application call 1-800-477-7633 or visit our website: www.pms-healthierstate.org.

Presbyterian Medical Services is an equal opportunity employer.

CHIEF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Office of the Speaker
 The Navajo Nation

SALARY: NEGOTIABLE
 Closing Date: Feb. 24th, 2003

TASKS: Serves as legal counsel to the Navajo Nation Counsel; provides comprehensive legal guidance and advice to the Navajo Nation Council, standing committees, boards, commission, and the Legislative Branch; coordinates with the Department of Justice and other attorneys providing legal services to the Nation; provides advice and counsel, interpretation of law, research, analysis and representation in mediation and administrative hearings; provides training and orientation in laws and areas on legal issues; directs and performs complex legal research and analysis of laws, legal precedents and issues.

QUALIFICATIONS: A Juris Doctorate and ten (10) years of experience in the practice of laws and substantial experience in the administration and management of law firms or offices.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a Navajo Nation Bar Association license and a state bar license to practice law. Must take and pass the state bar examination in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah or Colorado within one (1) year of appointment.

Considerable knowledge of the Navajo Nation, state and federal laws and regulations relating to the administrative legislative and judicial hearings; considerable knowledge of the methods and techniques of legal research, lobbying and presenting cases in court; considerable knowledge of the functions, policies, rules regulations, and ethics of the Office of Legislative Counsel; knowledge of the principles, methods and practices of public policy, administration and management.

Ability to speak and/or under the Navajo language and familiarity with Navajo culture, customs and traditions.

A Navajo Nation application for employment must be submitted to the Department of Personnel Management on or before the closing date. Application submitted after the closing date will not be considered. All applications for employment must be filled out in their entirety including dates.

The Navajo Nation gives preference to eligible and qualified applicants in accordance with the Navajo Preference in Employment Act (NPEA).

Submit Applications to:
 The Navajo Nation
 Department of Personnel Management
 Post Office Box 7080 • Window Rock, AZ 86515

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Therapist - Treatment Foster Care agency seeks full-time therapist to work with children, adolescents and their families in Ruidoso and Alamogordo offices. Must be licensed in New Mexico. Competitive salary & insurance. Call 505-258-3132 or fax resume to 505-258-3663.

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2 years minimum experience Sabre preferred. Excellent benefits Fax resume to 210-614-2448 or e-mail: sarriola@alamotravel.com

WANTED RN'S and LPN's minimum 1 year experience, need all specialties *Excellent pay *Benefits *Weekly pay *Fulltime and PRN Call Independent Nursing Services 413 2376 @ 1 877 413 2376

WANTED: DEPENDABLE, safety-conscious person with demonstrated mechanical knowledge to perform a variety of duties related to manufacturing near Ruidoso, NM. Duties include operating & repairing processing equipment, operating forklifts, loaders, etc. Fabricating & welding a plus. Competitive salary, paid vacation & holidays. Send brief resume to Box Holder, PO Drawer 7 Glencoe, NM 88324

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ANNUAL YARD/BOOK Sale: Sat. March 15 - 8 to 2, 101 E. 2nd St. Capitan Public Library. Donations welcome - please, no clothing. Will pick up - call 354-3035 or 354-3027.

SLAUGHTERS' SCOT-TIES This tie had 6 pups 2/14/03, 4 male, 2 female, AKC. \$350 (806)894-4704.

COMMERCIAL FOALING Barn; husband and wife want to purchase two or more acres. We will build foaling barn w/ living quarters. Twenty-four hour attendant plus video and recorder monitoring in-stalled. Partner, Veterinarian, Horsemen, other mutual benefit cooperation invited. Call Roy day or night: (505)257-5212

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1-800-753-4240

1985 FORD F150 pickup, 71K miles, 1996 pearl white Toyota Avalon; Yamaha golf cart, corner Ft. Stanton/Stag Road. 336-1993

1988 CHEVY Corsica. 4dr, \$1200 OBO. Call 257-6464

1990 TOYOTA Camry, 6-cylinder, AT, PW, PL, CC. New tires, excellent interior, runs good. \$2800 OBO 378-5696

'88 HONDA Accord, runs good, \$1,700 OBO, 257-1053.

1987 FORD Bronco II, 4x4, 5-speed, V6, new tires, excellent condition, \$2995, 257-4718

1994 Isuzu Trooper LS 4x4, 4-door, auto, excellent condition, 126K miles, \$4,400 OBO 257-6338 or 430-3287

1996 ALL-WHEEL drive Freer Aerostar XLT 7 passenger van. 79,000 miles, new tires, excellent condition. \$8,025 NADA retail value, \$5,975 loan value, priced to sell at \$5,750, or best offer. Call Bill Dean at 257-4828 or 258-3106

1997 TOYOTA Rav 4, 4x4, 5-speed, all options, \$9500 OBO, 258-1359 or cell 430-2880

'92 F150 Super-cab XLT, short-bed, 4x4, bucket seats, cruise, tilt, cassette, A/C, runs good, new tires, power windows and door locks, everything works, \$4995 OBO, 257-6536

'99 EXPLORER XLS, 4x4, 4dr., 117,000 miles, h-250, day-257-3109,

GMC - Suburban K15 4WD with TV, VCR, dual exhaust, 58K miles, 430-1270.

1978 GMC Pickup, good dependable work truck, \$850. Call cell phone 491-3452

1994 FORD F150, 6-cylinder, good condition, \$3500 firm, 354-9154

1998 DODGE Cummins 3/4 ton, club cab, 5 speed, Many extras. 89,000 miles. \$13,000. 7030. 354-2230 nights 430-7737

5TH WHEEL, fiberglass 1999 Ditchman Supreme, 30 foot, rear lounge and bedroom slides, microwave, oven/cook-top, gas-electric refrigerator, closed-door vanity, lots of closets and storage, non-smoker, \$16,500, pulled by 2001 Chevy duty. Crew-cab, heavy duty, 6 liter, 18,000 miles, leather and loaded, \$42,000 for both or will separate, exceptionally clean (505)257-8000

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'99 EXPLORER XLS, 4x4, 4dr., 117,000 miles, h-250, day-257-3109,

GMC - Suburban K15 4WD with TV, VCR, dual exhaust, 58K miles, 430-1270.

WANTING TO buy '97 Cadillac El Dorado Northstar V8, low mileage, mint condition. Call Doug Siddens II (505)430-0906

LEGAL NOTICE

Series 1997-1 Created Pursuant To A Pooling and Servicing Agreement Dated As Of March 1, 1997, Among UCFC Funding Corporation, As Depositor United Companies Lending Corporation, As Servicer, United Companies Financial Corporation, As Provider of the Limited Guarantee, and The First National Bank of Chicago, As Trustee,

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Lincoln County Planning Commission will hold its regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 12, 2003. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Room of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, New Mexico.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL
APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 19, 2002; February 4, 2003
NEW BUSINESS
I. Discussion of Alternative Septic Systems Jack King - NM Environment Dept.
II. Discussion of the Subdivision Regulations and suggestions to the County Commission.
OLD BUSINESS
ADJOURN

LEGAL NOTICE

FRANK W. DORAME and DEBERLY S. DORAME, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned Special Master will on March 27th, 2003 at 10:30 AM be at the main entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, New Mexico, to sell and convey to the highest bidder for cash all right, title and interest of the above-named Defendant in and to the following real estate located in said County and state, which is more particularly described as follows:

INVITATION TO BID

PROJECT NO. 03-013
PROJECT NAME: Highway 70 Crossings

LEGAL NOTICE

The City of Ruidoso Downs, 122 Downs Dr., Ruidoso Downs, NM office will open sealed bids at 2:00 pm on the 11th day of March, 2003 at City Hall, 122 Downs Drive, for the U.S. 70 Utility Casing Crossing, to be constructed in the City of Ruidoso Downs, New Mexico. Recommendation of award will be made at the City Council Meeting to be held on March 12, 2003

LEGAL NOTICE

PROJECT NO. 03-013
PROJECT NAME: Highway 70 Crossings

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LEGAL NOTICES

Plaintiff for \$178,496.27 plus interest, costs of this action, including all costs of the sale and costs to preserve the Real Estate, including ad valorem property taxes. Additional interest of \$31.60 per day shall accrue to the date of said sale.

Special Master:
KLEINSMITH & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Faisal Sukhyani
2222 Parkwest NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
(505)228-8484

/s/Philip M. Kleinsmith,
#6261
6035 Erin Park Dr., #203
Colorado Springs, CO
80918
1-800-842-8417

STATE OF COLORADO
COUNTY OF EL PASO

Acknowledged, subscribed and sworn to before me on the 11th day of February, 2003, by Philip M. Kleinsmith at Colorado Springs, Colorado. My commission expires:

(SEAL)
/s/Sandi Burman
Notary Public

This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained from you will be used for that purpose.

#5442 2T (2)21,28

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE PROBATE COURT
LINCOLN COUNTY

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DIRK N. GRANBERG, DECEASED.

No. 1946

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present their claims within two (2) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or the claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented either to the undersigned personal representative at the address listed below, or filed with the Probate Court of Lincoln County, New Mexico, located at the following address: P.O. Box 338 Carrizozo, NM 88301.

Dated: February 18, 2003.

501 SERVICES

LEGAL NOTICES

/s/ Beverly J. Granberg,
Personal Representative
c/o William H. Brogan,
Attorney at Law
2819 Sudderth Dr.
Ruidoso, NM 88345-6309
505-257-8413

#5451 1T (2)28

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lincoln County Public Land Use and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (PLURAAC) will hold their regular meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2003. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Commissioner's Room of the Lincoln County Courthouse in Carrizozo, New Mexico.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- IV. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. Not Guilty Document - Tony Seno
 - B. Discussion - Cibola National Forest - proposed withdrawal from mineral entry to 60 acres at Gallinas Electronic site.
 - C. Identify resources and create management plan.
 - D. Rules and policies concerning operation of the board.
- V. ADJOURN

#5447 4T (2)28 (3)7,14,21

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
COUNTY OF LINCOLN
TWELFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

No. CV-02-244

BANK ONE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE.

Plaintiff,

vs.

RICARDO BARRIOS, if living; If deceased, THE ESTATE OF RICARDO BARRIOS, Deceased, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES OR LEGATEES OF RICARDO BARRIOS, Deceased, JOHN DOE and JANE DOE, (true names unknown), Tenants.

Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on March 26, 2003, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., the undersigned Special Master will, at the northeast entrance of the Lincoln County Courthouse, Carrizozo, New Mexico, sell all the right, title and interest of the

501 SERVICES

LEGAL NOTICES

above-named Defendants in and to the hereinafter described real estate to the highest bidder for cash. The property to be sold is located at 206 Morningside, Ruidoso, and is situated in Lincoln County, New Mexico, and is particularly described as follows: Lot 4, Block 2, of SECOND ADDITION TO CREE MEADOWS HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico, as shown by the plat thereof filed in the office of the County Clerk and Ex-officio Recorder of Lincoln County, New Mexico, on September 8, 1955.

THE FOREGOING SALE will be made to satisfy a judgment rendered by the above Court in the above-entitled and numbered cause on February 13, 2003, being an action to foreclose a mortgage on the above-described property. The Plaintiff's judgment, which includes interest and costs, is \$138,799.11 and the same bears interest at 10.375% per annum from March 1, 2003. The amount of such interest to the date of sale will be \$1,025.70. The Plaintiff has the right to bid at such sale and submit its bid verbally or in writing. The Plaintiff may apply all or any part of its judgment to the purchase price in lieu of cash. The sale may be postponed and rescheduled at the discretion of the Special Master.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the real property and improvements concerned with herein will be sold subject to any and all patent reservations, easements, all recorded and unrecorded liens not foreclosed herein, and all recorded and unrecorded special assessments and taxes that may be due. Plaintiff and its attorneys disclaim all responsibility for, and the purchaser at the sale takes the property subject to, the valuation of the property by the County Assessor as real or personal property, affixture of any mobile or manufactured home to the land, deactivation of title to a mobile or manufactured home on the property, if any, environmental contamination on the property, if any, and zoning violations concerning the property, if any.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the purchaser at such sale shall take title to the above described real property subject to a one (1) month right of redemption.

/s/Nick Vega.

501 SERVICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Special Master
PO Box 383
Carrizozo, NM 88301
(505) 430-4538
#5453 1T (2)28

LEGAL NOTICE

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NOTICE is hereby given that the Village of Ruidoso, Lincoln County, New Mexico calls for sealed bids on: 02-017

Water Treatment Plant 3 Laboratory Building

The Project consists of a new and separate Laboratory Building for the existing Water Treatment Plant 3 (WTP #3) at the North side of Ruidoso. Project is separated into a Base Bid and one Additive Alternate. The Base Bid consists of the complete installation of the separate Laboratory Building. The 576 square foot masonry building will house the water laboratory facilities for the existing surface-water treatment plant, including all appurtenances. The new building will be accessed from the existing plant by a new constructed doorway and a new walkway (stairs and landings) from the Southeast corner of the existing plant. The additive alternate (Alternate A) consists of a steel frame and sandwich-paneled canopy over the walkway for all-weather egress and ingress between the buildings, also with all associated appurtenances. All work shall be for the "Water Treatment Plant 3 - Laboratory Building" Project in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Interested bidders may secure a copy of the Plans and Specifications for a deposit of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) per each set from Wilson & Company, Engineers & Architects, 4900 Lang Ave. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109, phone (505) 348-4000, or by personal pick up at the Purchasing Officer at the Village of Ruidoso Centralized Purchasing Warehouse, 421 Wingfield, Ruidoso, New Mexico, 88345, phone (505) 257-2721 (mailing address: 313 Cree Meadows Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345). The deposit is refundable, providing sets are returned in good condition within ten (10) days after bid opening.

Technical questions concerning the project and bid may be addressed to Wilson & Company, c/o Dennis Brand, P.E., at (505) 348-4000.

501 SERVICES

LEGAL NOTICES

Sealed bids must be received by the Purchasing Officer at 421 Wingfield, Ruidoso, New Mexico, 88345, (505) 257-2721, no later than March 19, 2003, at 2:00 p.m., local time, at which time the bids will be transported to the Village of Ruidoso Water Department, 419 Wingfield, where they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid that is received after bid closing time will be returned unopened.

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

By Order of the Governing Body

/s/Fermin Herrera
Purchasing Agent
Village of Ruidoso

#5455 1T (2)28

LEGAL NOTICE

Date of publication 2/28/03

NOTICE OF EXPLANATION

The Village of Capitan intends to undertake Waste Water Treatment System Improvements. Possible improvements may include the rerouting and addition of a wetland cell; installation of a bar screen; and the addition of an aerating system. The project has been determined to be in a wetland but is not located in a 100 year (Zone A) flood plain based on the Flood Hazard Boundary Map H-01: Community No. 350098 and the Flood Plain Insurance Map (FIRM), panel numbers Special Flood Hazard zone A 6/25/76 and 3/28/78. The Village of Capitan has determined through its early public review that there are no

501 SERVICES

LEGAL NOTICES

practicable alternatives but to proceed with the work in the wetlands.

Practicable alternatives and mitigating measures, which were considered included relocating outside and/or elevating above the wetlands. The No Project alternative was also considered but would result in having no additional aerators to use as backups; no backup system in place in the event of pump failure; continuous problems with insoluble articles due to lack of no bar screen; and health and safety issues of the residents.

The proposed activity, as described above, conforms to applicable state flood plain protection standards, and will not affect natural or beneficial values of the wetland/flood plain.

Funding for this project is provided by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. The project is administered by the State of New Mexico, Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division.

Written comments on the proposed project and the decision to proceed with work in the wetlands as justified above will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., March 17, 2003. Please send comments to: Mayor Steve Sederwall, Capitan Village Hall, 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan, NM 88316.

A more detailed description of the project, including justification of need can be reviewed in the Capitan Village Hall located at 114 Lincoln Avenue, Capitan, New Mexico

/s/Kathryn Griffin
Certifying Environmental Official

501 SERVICES



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kat@casper.net

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Learn to Drive from the Best!
Classes start March 3
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5:00pm - 8:00pm, M-F for 2 weeks
Spring Break Classes
Start on March 24 at 9:00am
TLC 258-3976

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NM Department of Game and Fish Permit
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BELOW WHOLESALE

#37682 '00 FORD TAURUS	Wholesale	'8,989	#40241 '00 TOYOTA CELICA	Moon Roof, CD-CS, PW, PL	Wholesale	'14,988	
#4002 '02 FORD RANGER SC	4x4	'17,888	#4025 '02 LINCOLN TOWN CAR	Signature, Leather VB	Wholesale	'26,479	
#8C0371 '01 FORD F-250 SC	4x4 XLT, 7.3 Powerstroke	'26,988	#8CJ101 '98 FORD MUSTANG	Only 32,850 mi, PW, PL	Wholesale	'8,888	
#40171 '00 FORD TAURUS	Extra Clean, V-6, Auto	'9,888	#9C0082 '02 HYUNDAI ELANTRA	Auto, CD, Moon Roof	Wholesale	'11,788	
#8C1081 '02 FORD F-350 CC	4x4, Lariat LE, Quad Captain	'34,988	#9C0961 '99 F150 SC	4x4, XLT Flare Side, 5.4 V-8, Loaded	Wholesale	'17,444	
#4020 '01 FORD EXPLORER SPORT	2 Dr	'15,995	#9C0641 '97 DODGE INTREPID	3.5 V-6, Loaded	Wholesale	'6,888	
#3992 '01 FORD SUPER CREW	4x4	'23,995	#4000 '01 F150 SUPER CREW	4 Dr, 4x4, XLT, 5.4 V-8	Wholesale	'23,998	
#4029 '00 FORD F-150 1/2 TON	Cruise, Tilt, A/C	'10,555	#39321 '99 FORD TAURUS LX	Only 26,223 miles	Wholesale	'7,995	
#39391 '00 FORD ESCORT	Low Mileage	'6,388	#4037 '02 RANGER SC	4 Dr, V-6, Auto 4x4, XLT, Loaded	Wholesale	'17,995	
#9C1012 '98 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER	4x4	Below Wholesale	'8,995	#4030 '00 FORD F-150 SUPERCAB XLT	Below Wholesale	'12,995	
#4026 '02 FORD E-150 VAN	XLT, 8 Pass, Dual A/C	Below Wholesale	'16,799	#3950 '00 FORD EXPLORER	4 DR, 4x4	Below Wholesale	'14,747
#38461 '01 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS	Below Wholesale	'10,957	#3968 '02 FORD ESCAPE	4x4	Below Wholesale	'16,977	
#3849 '01 FORD MUSTANG	Below Wholesale	'10,999	#39721 '02 FORD EXPLORER	4x4	Below Wholesale	'20,977	
#3882 '02 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS	Below Wholesale	'16,747	#3973 '02 FORD FOCUS	Below Wholesale	'8,558		
#3883 '02 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS	Below Wholesale	'16,747	#4010 '02 EXPLORER	Hail Repair	Below Wholesale	'19,888	
#38921 '00 FORD WINDSTAR	Below Wholesale	'11,369	#981721 '00 FORD FOCUS	Below Wholesale	'5,333		
#39261 '95 PONTIAC BONNEVILLE	Below Wholesale	'6,188	#4034 '02 FORD EXPEDITION XLT	4x4, V-8	Below Wholesale	'23,688	
#4031 '00 FORD RANGER SC XL	V-6	Below Wholesale	'10,795	#4018 '02 FORD WINDSTAR SE	V-6, 7 Pass	Below Wholesale	'17,597

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A family affair

Violinist Farzad and his musical niece at Spencer March 8

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

A blending of many musical traditions, the upcoming performance March 8 of Farzad, Louie Shelton and Naseem at the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts, is bound to stretch the ears, hearts and souls of listeners.

The classically trained violinist Farzad is a combiner. He blends several musical traditions into his performances and recordings, and collaborates with one of the top session guitarists, Louie Shelton, his talented niece, Naseem, and four other supporting artists.

"Music has been in my family, and has always been around our household," Farzad said. "It goes back to my great-grandfather, and Naseem was exposed to it through me."

Farzad began playing the violin when he was 6, studying with his uncle, a famous violinist in Iran.

"I had a cousin who had started taking lesson from my uncle," Farzad said. "I was just watching my cousin play the violin and one day he didn't show up. My uncle was very disappointed, so I got up and played his lesson. That's when they recognized this wonderful talent, or that's the story I've been told."

From the fourth grade on, Farzad went to the

Conservatory of Classical Music in Tehran, one of the oldest and finest conservatories of music for classical Western music. After receiving his diploma there, he came to the United States in 1973 to pursue his musical education, and attended Indiana University. He completed his studies there, and he went to South America, later holding the position of concert master of the National Symphony Orchestra of Ecuador.

Later he obtained a master's degree in performance and composition from the University of North Texas, and performed with numerous orchestras, including the Dallas Opera, Fort Worth Symphony and the Houston Ballet, Pop and Opera orchestras. He has performed in Canada, Europe, Australia, China and South America.

Farzad's first album "From My Heart" is in the Top 100 Charts, and he recently completed an 11-city tour of the United States, performing for the first time in New Mexico in July at the Popejoy. His second album, "Mirror of Emotions" (among Billboard's Top 100) blends Persian, Latin, smooth jazz and Western classical music to produce music that

Improvjazzation Nation says "should be required listening in schools around the world ... A simply wonderful album

See FARZAD, page 2C



COURTESY SPENCER THEATER
Naseem picked up the violin from her uncle, Farzad.



COURTESY SPENCER THEATER

Internationally acclaimed violinist Farzad will play the Spencer Theater for the Performing Arts March 8 along with his gifted niece, Naseem, guitarist Louie Shelton and other artists.

Enthusiasm for the painting process give artist's work vibrancy



SANDY SUGGITT/STAFF
Pat Speight sits between two of her creations, José Whoseyourtailor and Flossy and the Lamp. More of her works are on page 7C

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Pat Speight's enthusiasm for painting bubbles over spontaneously and onto paintings that make the viewer smile — or laugh out loud.

"I can't stop painting," Speight said. "It's like I was shot out of a cannon."

After a 25-year career in nursing, she retired in 1985 and set out to be an artist. She began taking workshops with Evelyn Stebbins in Kemah, Texas, and Doug Walton in Ruston, La. Walton, she said, was psychotic — which she thinks is helpful in learning to work as an artist — and taught color theory for a two-week work-

shop from 8 a.m. until dark each day.

"He would time us with two 30-minute drawings and then two 30-minute fast paintings," Speight said. "This is how I work today. This is to get the right side of your brain working."

Speight took seven workshops with Walton, and also studied with Gerald Brommer, Shirley Sterling, Jerry Seagal and Virginia Cobb.

Speight's work is as varied as its subject matter: semi-abstract, geometric shapes with symbolic language, symbols, bright colors, with generally a "happy" feel to them.

"I want to provide people a new and different way of looking at the common occur-

rences in the natural world," she said. "and the nurse in me wants to make you feel better when you look at my art."

Speight doesn't try to replicate nature, for which she thinks a camera is more suitable than a paint brush. Instead she abstracts from nature with symbols and geometric shapes, often patterning her Mandala-like compositions on weaving or stained-glass designs, using three basic colors in all her work: Alizarin crimson, yellow ochre and Cerulean blue. She likes to build up layers, drawing all over the watercolor paper, and then drawing and painting "stuff" on top.

"I just doodle. I just play," she said. "I love shapes and symbols ... and I like doing a bunch of little paintings on one sheet."

Formerly a member of the Houston

See SPEIGHT, page 7C

Hey, bogey shankers, why don't you try a real sport?

I decided to take up a sport. I'm 55 years old, and it's time I did something good for my body, other than occasionally burp it.

But which sport? A lot of men my age play golf, but as far as I can tell, this "sport" consists mainly of guys describing to each other, in great detail, how they shanked their bogeys. Call me a wet blanket, but I don't want to know how another guy shanks his bogey.

I thought about taking up competitive eating. This is an actual sport, which I found out about from a TV show called "Man Versus Beast." This is one of those "reality" shows, which depict real situations that real people like you and me are always really finding ourselves in. For example, just the other night, I was hanging out with some celebrity millionaire bachelorette class-reunion survivors, and one of them turned out to be a mole! Don't you HATE it when that happens?

Anyway, on "Man Versus Beast" they had real humans competing against real animals in various contests, one of which was eating hot dogs. This event pitted a guy named Takeru Kobayashi, billed as "the world-record holder in hot-dog-eating" against a Kodiak bear,

whose name was not given, probably because when he realized what kind of show this was, he demanded anonymity to protect his career.

You will never guess who won, unless you have three or more brain cells, in which case you will immediately say: The bear. I mean, duh, it's a BEAR. The announcers tried to make the contest look exciting by showing replays, but basically what you had was a bear and a guy eating hot dogs, which, even in slow motion, is not riveting entertainment.

A better concept would have been to have the bear eat the network executives responsible for "reality" television. Of course, then there would be complaints from PETA.

But my point is that competitive eating is a real sport, and I considered taking it up. But when I thought about what this would mean — sitting around for hours, stuffing my face with unhealthy food — I realized it was basically the same thing as journalism.

So I decided to take up jai alai. Really. I took a lesson at a place in Miami called American Amateur Jai Alai, operated by the American Jai Alai Foundation, a group dedicated to keep-

ing this ancient sport alive, which is not easy because the object is to kill your opponent.

OK, that's a slight exaggeration. But jai alai (which gets its name from the word "jai" and the word "alai") IS the world's fastest ball game, and it can be dangerous. It was invented centuries ago by the Basques, a fascinating people whose unique language apparently has no words for "You're going to put somebody's eye out!"

The Basques played with a rock, but in modern jai alai the players use a "pelota," which is Spanish for "a ball that is even harder than a rock." Players use a "cesta," or curved basket, to throw the pelota against a "wall," or wall, at speeds that can exceed 180 mph, and when the ball comes whizzing back, the opposing player must try, using anticipation, skill and timing, to maintain control of his sphincter. At least that was my goal.

My teacher was Victor Valcarce, who majored in political science but played professional jai alai for a couple of years under the name "Mago," which is Spanish for "Magician." All jai alai players have nicknames, so my first task was to pick one out. I was going to call

myself "La Cesta Poderosa Grande Que Late De Trueno," which means "The Big Mighty Throbbing Basket of Thunder," but Victor told me the nickname has to be one word, so I went with "Moco" ("Booger").

Nickname-choosing turned out to be the strongest aspect of my jai alai game. My main weaknesses were (1) catching the ball; (2) throwing the ball; and (3) having a clue where the ball was. Fortunately, we used a softer ball than the professionals use, and Victor, graciously, did not throw it in a fatal manner. So I got a good workout, running around for about an hour, waving my cesta, looking like a deranged man trying to catch an imaginary bat.

So now jai alai is my sport. The great thing is, nobody I know plays it. When I'm with a group of guys, I can brandish my cesta (I have my own cesta) and say, "Anybody up for jai alai?" fully confident that nobody will be. Ha ha! Those bogey-shankers do not want to mess with the one who is called "Moco."

Dave Barry is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami, FL 33132.



Dave Barry
DAVE'S WORLD
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Peabody Trio to inaugurate Ruidoso Schools theater

The group, one of the top piano trios in the world, has played all over the world.

BY SANDY SUGGITT
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

The first performance at the new Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center will be a Ruidoso Community Concerts concert of the Peabody Trio, one of the leading piano trios in the world, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 5.

To share the excitement more broadly, Community Concerts is opening this performance up to the public by offering one-time-only tickets for \$25. (Call 257-9508 for credit card sales, stop by the Concert Headquarters at Candle Power, 2605 Sudderth Drive, or mail a check to Ruidoso Community Concerts,

P.O. Box 1184, Ruidoso, NM 88355. Tickets will also be available at the door.)

The violin, cello and piano of the Peabody Trio will bring both classics and new music ranging from Haydn to Shulamit Ran to the new fine arts theater next to Ruidoso High School.

Winners of the prestigious Naumburg Chamber Music Award in 1989, the trio serves as the resident faculty ensemble of the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, and spends summers as ensemble-in-residence at the Yellow Barn Music School and Festival in Putney, Vt.

They debuted at Alice Tully Hall in 1990 and have since performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., the 92nd Street Y and Frick Collection in New York and in important chamber music series all over the United States and

Canada. Their music has been heard on Saint Paul Sunday Morning, Morning Pro Musica, NPR's Performance Today, CBC, Radio Canada and the WQXR Listening Room in New York.

Quebecan violinist Violaine Melancon received first prize in violin at the Conservatoire de Musique and continued her studies at the Curtis Institute of Music and the San Francisco Conservatory.

She was a member of the Nisaika Quartet at Curtis and won the prize of the eighth International String Quartet Competition in Evian, France.

The recipient of many awards for solo performance, Melancon has performed at music centers around the world.

Cellist Natasha Brofsky received her bachelor's degree from Eastman and master's from Mannes as a student of

Timothy Eddy.

On a Fulbright grant, she studied with William Pleeth in London and won the Muriel Taylor Cello prize there.

She held principal positions in the Norwegian Radio Orchestra and the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, has played with fine ensembles internationally and performed regularly in Europe.

New England Conservatory and San Francisco Conservatory trained pianist Seth Knopp has performed with symphony and chamber orchestras in the U.S. and collaborated in concerts with Bonnie Hampton, Nicholas Mann, Kurt Ollman and the Cavani Quartet.

He and Melancon met in 1983 and formed the Knopp-Melancon Duo, a husband-wife team that performed internationally before taking on a third musician and becoming the Peabody Trio.



The Peabody Trio will play locally Wednesday.

COURTESY PHOTO

Loya selected as featured artist for March at Eagle Ranch Gallery

.COM

Anacleto Loya had a maquette selected for the Great Bear Hunt last year, and will have work on display at Eagle Ranch Gallery in March.



COURTESY PHOTO

Eagle Ranch Gallery, near Tularosa, spotlights wood sculptor Anacleto Loya for the month of March. Bears and buffaloes tend to be the favorite subjects of this wildlife sculptor from Alto, but eagles, raccoons, fish and giraffes also have a way of emerging from the wood he works. His creations are personified with uncommon charm and a sparkle of whimsical character.

Although usually working in wood, Loya has recently started carving miniature bears and eagles in Tagua nuts, the seed of a South American palm tree. These miniatures can be seen for the first time at Eagle Ranch Gallery.

A Loya bear made one of two maquettes selected for the bears used in the Ruidoso Art Commission's Great Bear Hunt, which will premier Saturday, April 19, with a

party from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at School House Park in Ruidoso. The Loya bears are more than 7 feet tall and 3 feet in diameter and are embellished by other artists. After the premier, the bears will go to their sponsors' locations and be on display throughout the spring and summer in the Ruidoso area.

Loya hails from the very small village of Nicolas Bravo, located high in the mountains of Chihuahua, Mexico. Forests of ponderosa and juniper surround Nicolas Bravo, very similar to the forested mountains surrounding Loya's current home in Alto.

In Mexico, Loya was a hardworking cowboy, never dreaming of creating art with his hands. Then, in 1982, he moved north to Carbondale, Colo., and became a master builder of wood corrals and fences.

He began to appreciate wood, taking notice of texture and grain, while becoming quite deft with a chainsaw. In 1996, Loya moved to Alto and now devotes his time fully to carving and mastering his art.

Winner of many awards, Loya has displayed at the Hispanic Contemporary Market in Santa Fe and is also on display at Father Sky-Mother Earth Gallery in Santa Fe and High Country Hearth & Home in New Castle, Colo.

Loya's show runs from March 1-31 at Eagle Ranch. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week. Eagle Ranch is at 7288 Highway 54/70, between Alamogordo and Tularosa. Call (800) 432-0999 for more information or contact the artist at P.O. Box 1134, Alto, NM 88312; 336-7752; or e-mail at loyacarvings@zianet.com.

FARZAD: One talented family

FROM PAGE 1C

that gets a 'most highly recommended' from us ... along with the 'pick' of this issue for 'most inspiring music.'

People sometimes question Farzad on why he enjoys playing other genres, since he's classically trained. His answer: "There are two types of music for me — good and bad ... I like to emphasize the diversity of the genres of music. That basically is connected to my Baha'i beliefs that we can have a concept of unity in diversity ... I'm trying to express that through my music. That's why you hear so many different genres of music, and there's a unified element through all of them."

Guitarist Louie Shelton, who has soloed on albums of many of the biggest names in music (including Lionel Ritchie's "Hello," Boz Scaggs' "Lowdown," Seals and Crofts "Summer Breeze," and others by Marvin Gaye, The Jackson Five and Diana Ross) heard an earlier album by Farzad, liked the sound of his violin and wanted to work with him.

"We just hooked up this way," Farzad said. "He worked with a lot of great names, God knows

who, Frank Sinatra; you name it, Motown people, and I was familiar with his work because I used to listen to those recordings as I was growing up, and I would hear things about him through other musicians, how great he was. He's one of the finest guitar session players there is ...

"He's a very laid-back guy and a very versatile player. As long as it's music, he'll play it, it doesn't matter what style. That's one of the common grounds we had. We just clicked, and then decided to do this album together ("Mirror of Emotions") — he wanted to produce it."

His other collaborator at the concert at the Spencer will be his niece, Naseem, who began playing violin at the age of four, inspired and encouraged by Farzad. She began competing and winning awards in statewide competitions when she was 6. She became a member of various orchestras and concert master of the Texas Musician Educators Association Regional Orchestra, later winning first place in the string solo competition for the Texas Association for Private and Parochial Schools in 1997 and 1998. She also was concert mas-

ter of the Waco Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Baylor Orchestra.

Universal themes are expressed by the eclectic music of these three, backed by the band: pianist and composer Fritz Kersting, drummer Paul Gonzalez, percussionist Sango Dely, Latin Grammy 2002 winner, and Pancho Tomaseili on bass.

"Put aside any assumptions you have about music and let the music do its job, which is communicating to your heart and soul," Farzad recommends. "I think the source of all the horrible things happening in the world is the result of assumptions we make about one another. Let our hearts and souls communicate and I know we won't have these problems. No matter where we are from, sadness is sadness and happiness is happiness. If we really look inside individuals, we'll find the same things. This is what I'm trying to project and show through my music."

The performance is 8 p.m. Saturday, March 8, and tickets are still available for \$38 and \$35. Call for tickets at 336-4800, (818) 818-7812, or order online at www.spencertheater.com.

Chamber artists

The Ruidoso Valley Chamber of Commerce Art Exhibitors for March 5-April 15 will be the students studying with Patsy Blasdell.

Children's classes are focused on individual talents with encouragement to explore their own ideas. An example of the lesson is given and then the 9- and 10-year-old budding artists are allowed to choose their own way of expression through color and technique. The rules of art are given, discussed and then ways of bending and breaking those rules are utilized.

Oil, acrylic, pastel and watercolor classes are offered to people of all ages at Josie's Framery, Furniture and Gifts, 2809 Sudderth.

Healing workshop

"The Heart of Healing Mind, Body and Spirit," taught by Rahul Patel, will be at High Mesa Healing Center on Saturday, March 8.

Patel is a leading authority on energy healing who has spent his life teaching people to discover their innermost capacity — the power to heal their lives. He has shared stages with the world's not noted

experts, including James Redfield, Bernie Siegel, Wayne Dyer, Larry Dosey, Deepak Chopra and Neale Donald Walsh. Cost of the workshop is \$75. For more information, call Barbara Mader at 336-4808 or 336-7777.

Performance canceled

Heads up: A scheduled performance of Pablo Rodarte's Dance España March 16 at the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center was canceled Thursday. The spring 2003 season will continue with a regional tour to Alamogordo, Santa Fe and Tucson, Ariz.

RHS theater opens doors to public

BY SANDY SUGGITT

RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

.COM

At last the long-awaited theater at the high school will open its doors to the public. An open house is scheduled from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday to showcase the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center and the artistic endeavors of the district's art classes and instrumental and choral groups.

Small ensembles will perform in the lobby from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. when the public is welcome to tour the 350-seat theater facility and admire an art show by the high school and middle school art departments, said Ben White, production manager. The ensembles include the Ruidoso Brass Quintet, the Ruidoso Woodwind Quintet and a couple of vocal ensembles and soloists.

At 2:30 p.m., the Ruidoso High School Drama Club will perform a one-act play, "Help Wanted," written by James Rayfield in 1999, which will inaugurate the theater.

Drama teacher Cathi McIntosh said the play

is about getting a job and the kind of jobs young people can get.

"It's not exactly a comedy, it's more of a revue, with music and free style dances," McIntosh said. "It's very cute."

The dedication ceremony will be at 3 p.m. on the stage, and at 3:30 p.m. the Ruidoso High School 24 Karat Gold Band will perform "Denbridge Way," followed by a mixed high school choir performance.

The theater addition to the Fine Arts Center has a 32-foot by 45-foot stage, with acoustical curtains to absorb sound and a portable audio system that can be rolled into storage and secured after each performance. Removable handicapped seating is available, and there is handicapped parking.

A patio area with sidewalks connecting to the parking area will be planted with trees or shrubs in the late winter or early spring.

The next performance at the new theater will be Ruidoso Community Concert's Peabody Trio, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 5 (see story).

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

Chicago

Crime/Gangster, Musical/Performing Arts, Drama and Comedy
1 hr. 40 min.
Rated PG-13 for sexual content and dialogue, violence and thematic elements.

It's the long-awaited film version of the Broadway hit. Set in the roaring '20s, this is the story of Chicago chorus girl Roxie Hart (Zellweger), who shoots her unfaithful lover (West). Landing in jail, she meets Velma Kelly (Zeta-Jones), another chorus girl and murderess, currently enjoying media attention and legal manipulation, care of her attorney, Billy Flynn (Gere), king of the old "Razzle Dazzle." Soon enough, however, Flynn takes Roxie's case as well, and Velma finds herself old news as Roxie is now the most famous murderess in town, on her way to getting out of jail and becoming a star. The two go through a series of attempts at getting what they both want (often conflicting): freedom and fame.

Starring: Renee Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Richard Gere, Christine Baranski, Queen Latifah

Directed by: Rob Marshall
Produced by: Marty Richards, Harvey Weinstein
Written by: Bill Condon, Fred Ebb
Showtimes: 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:15 p.m., 9:30 p.m.
*Friday and Saturday only

The Recruit

Thriller and Action/Adventure, 1 hr. 45 min.
Rated PG-13 for violence, sexuality and language.
In an era when the country's first line of defense, human intelligence, is more important than ever, comes a thriller that gives an insider's view into the CIA's secret training ground: The Farm. James Clayton (Colin Farrell) might not have the attitude of a typical recruit, but he is one of the smartest graduating seniors in the country — and he's just the person that Walter Burke (Al Pacino) wants in the Agency. James regards the CIA's mission as an intriguing alternative to an ordinary life, but before he becomes an Ops Officer, James has to survive the training of the veteran Burke teaches him the ropes and the rules of the game. James quickly rises through the ranks and falls for Lyla (Bridget Moynahan), one of his fellow recruits. But just when James starts to question his role and decides to "wash out," Burke taps him for a special assignment to root out a mole. As the suspense builds toward a gripping climax, it soon becomes clear that at The Farm, the CIA's old maxims are true: "Trust no one" and "nothing is as it seems."

Starring: Al Pacino, Colin Farrell, Bridget Moynahan, Gabriel Macht, Kenneth Mitchell
Directed by: Roger Donaldson
Produced by: Gary Barber, Jeff Apple, Roger Birnbaum
Written by: Roger Towne, Kurt Wimmer, Akiva Goldsman, Mitch Glazer
Showtimes: 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m.
*Friday and Saturday only

How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days

Comedy and Romance, 1 hr. 50 min.
Rated PG-13 for some sex-related material.
A regular ladies' man (McConaughey) bets his friends (Goldberg, Lennon) that he can stay in a relationship for more than 10 days. Unluckily for him, however, the girl (Hudson) that he picks just happens to try to get rid of him almost immediately.
Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Kate Hudson, Adam Goldberg, Thomas Lennon, Michael Michele
Directed by: Donald Petrie
Produced by: Lynda Obst, Robert Evans, Christine Peters
Written by: Kristen Buckley, Brian Regan, Burr Steers, Michele Alexander
Showtimes: 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:45 p.m., 9 p.m.
*Friday and Saturday only



Renee Zellweger in Miramax's Chicago.

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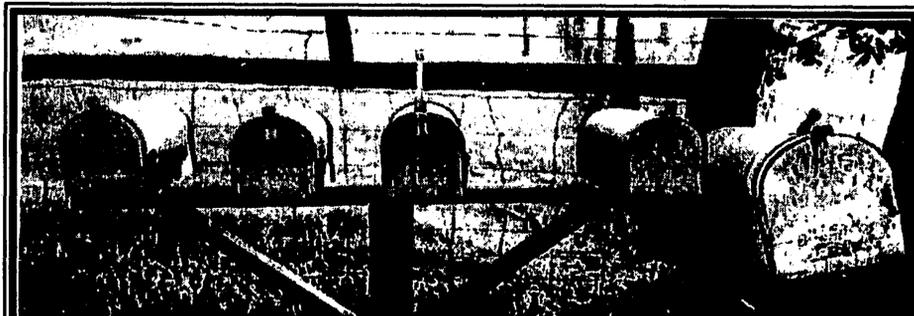
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Is There Room Enough for Me?

"Hey, there's something wrong with this picture. I don't want to make a scene, but my name isn't 'Afterthought'. I need just a little more space, thank you very much. There's plenty of room for all of us, you know!"

Do you ever feel like an afterthought? Perhaps you feel left out at social occasions or don't find the desired invitations in your mailbox. Maybe you need a little extra self-esteem. Actually, most people's impression of you mirrors your image of yourself.

Perhaps you have shied away from God as well, thinking you are not "good enough". God is good enough to love each of us in spite of our humanity. However, you must trust Him. Could it be you have never known your Heavenly Father? Worship this Sabbath. You will be included as one of God's children. You can learn how to take that confidence everywhere you go. You are special. You are God's creation. There is room enough for you in His heart and in His House. In Isaiah 49:20, the Lord says, "Make room for me to dwell."

Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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- SUNDAY Psalm 25
- MONDAY Psalm 36
- TUESDAY Psalm 136
- WEDNESDAY Psalm 138
- THURSDAY Isaiah 54:1-17
- FRIDAY Jeremiah 31:1-14
- SATURDAY Luke 15:1-14

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RUIDOSO CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Apache Indian Assembly of God
Mescalero, 671-477 Donald Pettey, pastor. Sunday School. 9:45 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:45 a.m. and 7 p.m. Wednesday services 7 p.m.
First Assembly of God
El Paso Road, Ruidoso. Rev. Stacy & Alicia Brankel, Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning worship, 10:45 a.m. (includes children's church). Sunday evening praise: 6 p.m., Wed. family night: 7 p.m.
BAPTIST
Alto Baptist Church 1212 Mechem Sunday, 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday 6 p.m. 336-1979.
First Baptist Church
420 Mechem Drive, Ruidoso, NM 88345. (505) 257-2081. Tim Gilliland, Pastor. Contemporary Services, Saturday 7 p.m. 8:15 a.m. Sunday Traditional Service 11 a.m. Sunday School all ages 9:45 a.m. Youth Power Hour, 5:30 p.m. Sunday Evening Service 6:30 p.m., Wednesday Activities for all ages, 6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Ruidoso Downs. Randy Widener, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school 9:30 a.m.; Worship hour 11 a.m.; Eve. worship: 6:00 p.m.; Wed. Prayer meeting 6:30 p.m.
Iglesia Bautista Vida Eterna
361 East Hwy 70 (Sunshine Classroom)
Ramon Robledo, Pastor. Culto de Predicacion 3 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Tinnie. Bill Jones, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m.
Mescalero Baptist Mission
Mescalero. Sunday: Sunday school 10 a.m.; Worship 11 a.m., 7:15 p.m.; Training union 6:30 p.m. Wednesday services 6:30 p.m.
Ruidoso Baptist Church 126 Church Drive, Palmer Gateway. Wayne Joyce, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 10:45 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.
Mountain Baptist Church- Location: Park behind the Smokey Bear Monument on the northeast side. Times of Service: Sunday school - 10:00am. Sunday Morning - 11:00am. Sunday evening - 6:00pm. Wednesday evening- 6:30pm.
The Fellowship of Help and Hope, SBC 127 Rio St. 505-257-6899
Pastor, Charles W. Clay, Worship, 6:30 pm Tuesday Bible Study, KRUV 720 AM, Sunday e-mail: HELP AND HOPE @ ZIANET.COM
BAHA'I FAITH
Baha'i Faith Meeting in members' homes. 257-2987 or 259-5995
CATHOLIC
St. Eleanor Catholic Church Ruidoso, 257-2330. Reverend Al Galvan, Sacrament of Penance: Sat. 5:00 p.m. or by appointment; Sat. Mass: 6 p.m. (Bilingual); Sun. Mass: 10 a.m. (English), 11:30 a.m. (English); Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 5 to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass, St. Jude Thaddeus, San Patricio: 8 a.m.
St. Theresa Catholic Church Corona Sunday Mass: 6 p.m.
St. Joseph Apache Mission Mescalero Father Paul Botenagen, Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.
Our Lady of Guadalupe Bent. Father Paul Botenagen, Saturday Mass: 6 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
CHRISTIAN
Christian Community Church 127 Rio Corner W/Eagle, Mid-town. 9-11 Sunday Services/Praise & Worship. For more information call 378-7076
Crosspoint Christian Fellowship A Christ Centered Church 1007 Mechem, Suite 5, Phone: 258-1740. Steve Kreins, Pastor. Pre-service prayer 9 a.m.; Sunday worship service 10 a.m.; Children's Church 10 a.m. Small group meetings, including youth group, at various times and locations.
First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Hull and Cavilan Canyon Road, Rev. James M. Smith, Pastor. Sunday School, K-12/Adult: 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m.; Chancel Choir: Wednesday 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Gateway Church of Christ 415 Sudderth, Ruidoso. 257-4381 Jay Willmon, Minister. Sunday Bible study 9:30 a.m. Sun. worship 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wed. Bible study 7 p.m.
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST LDS
Church of Jesus Christ LDS Ruidoso Branch, North on Hwy. 48, between Ruidoso and Capitan, Joe Magill, Vp-4381 Jay Willmon, Minister. Sunday Bible study 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; Priesthood and Relief Society
Church of Jesus Christ LDS Mescalero Branch, 671-4630 E.W. Gunkel, President. 354-3388 Sunday Sacrament meeting 10 a.m.; Sunday School and Primary 11:20 a.m.; Priesthood Relief Soc. & Young Women, 12:10 a.m.
EPISCOPAL
Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount 121 Mescalero Trail, Ruidoso. Father John W. Penn, Rector. Sunday Eucharist: 8 & 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday: Daughters of King noon; Eucharist & healing: 5:30 p.m.; Choir practice: 7 p.m.
Episcopal Chapel of San Juan Lincoln. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.
St. Anne's Episcopal Chapel Glencoe. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
FULL GOSPEL
Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship Int'l. K-Bob's Hwy. 70 in Ruidoso, Dinner at six Mondays. Special Priced Menu. Women Welcome!
Ron Rice, 354-0255, e-mail: rgriff@ruidoso-online.com
Mission Fountain of Living Water San Patricio. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Evening services: 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Friday.
JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES
Ruidoso - Kingdom Hall 106 Alpine Village Road, 258-3659, 257-3871. Sunday: Public Talk 1:30 p.m.; Watchtower

Study 2:20 p.m. Monday; Book Study 7:30 p.m. Thursday
Thurs. Ministry School 7:30 p.m., Service Meeting: 8:20 p.m.
Congregacion Hispana de los Testigos de Jehova
106 Alpine Village Road, 258-3659, 338-7076. Dvm. Reunion Publica 10:00 a.m. Estudio de la Atalaya 10:50 p.m. Mart Escuela del Ministerio Teocratico 7 p.m. Reunion de servicio 7:50 p.m. Mier Estudio de libro 7:00 p.m.
LUTHERAN
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
1120 Hull Road, 258-4191, 257-5296. Kevin L. Krohn, Pastor. Sunday: Worship 8:30 a.m. (May-Oct), 10:30 a.m.; Sun. School & Adult Bible Class 9:30 a.m. Thurs. Eve. Bible Study, 7:00 p.m., call for location
METHODIST
Community United Methodist Church Junction Road, behind "The Coffee House". Bob Sawyer, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 8:30 a.m., 10:55 a.m.
PENTECOSTAL
Apostolic Pentecostal Assembly, Eternal Life Ministries, Minister: Harry A. Repton, call for your personal Home Bible study. 430-9640, (Web page) http://www.DoctrinesOfChrist.com
The Apostles of Lincoln County, UPC Remax Center, 1009 Mechem Dr., Unit #1. Pastor, Art Dunn. Sunday afternoon, 4:30 PM. Adult, children's & youth classes. Wednesday evening, 7:00 PM, Bible Study.
NAZARENE
Angus Church of the Nazarene Angus, 12 miles north of Ruidoso on Hwy. 48, 336-8032. Charles Hail, Pastor. Sat. Alternative Worship, 6:30 pm. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.; Tuesday Prayer Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Youth Worship, 6:30 p.m.
PRESBYTERIAN
First Presbyterian Church 101 Sutton Drive (Nob Hill), Ruidoso, 257-2220. Rev. Kenneth Davis, interim pastor. Sunday: Church school 9:45 a.m.; worship 11 a.m. Potluck fellowship after worship the third Sunday of every month.
Mountain Ministry Parish Community United Presbyterian Church
Andco, Reverend Scott King, Sunday worship: 9 a.m.; Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Corona Presbyterian Church Reverend Scott King, Sunday: Church School, 10 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.
Nopal Presbyterian Church Reverend Bill Sebring, Adult Sunday School: 10 a.m.; worship 11 a.m.
REFORMED CHURCH
Mescalero Reformed Mescalero. Bob Schul, Pastor. Sunday: Church school 9:30 a.m.; worship 10:30 a.m. Mon: junior high youth 6:30 p.m. Wed: high school meeting 7 p.m. Thurs: Kids Club (grades 1-5) 3:30.
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
Ruidoso Seventh Day Adventist 207 Parkway, Agua Fria, Ruidoso Downs, 378-4161. Pastor Earl Robertson 505-439-0760; Assoc. Pastor Wilburn Morrow 622-1206. Saturday: Sabbath school 9:30 a.m.; Church service: 11 a.m. Wednesday: Prayer meeting 7 p.m.
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH
Sacramento Mountains Unitarian Universalist Church, meeting in members' homes. Call 258-1181. www.mtusun.com/vsmuc
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Abundant Life Family Church 2810 Sudderth Drive, Suite 210, 257-1188. Mark Gentry, pastor. Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Thursday Bible study 7 p.m.
American Missionary Fellowship Rick Smith, 682-2999. Monday: Women's Bible study 6:30 p.m. at Schlotzsky's

Dell. Tuesday: Ruidoso men's Bible study noon at Pizza Hut, Mechem Drive. Wednesday (Sept through May) Capitan Jr. High and Sr. High Youth Groups 6:30 p.m. at Christ Community Fellowship. E-mail: rick5@american-missionary.org
Calvary Chapel 127 Vision, next to Cable Co., 257-5915. Pastor John Marshall. Sunday worship 10:30 a.m., Wednesday: Mid-week bible study 7 p.m.
Centro Cristiano Casa de Oracion 139 El Paso Rd., Ruidoso, 257-2324. Pastor Carlos Carreon. Reunion General Jueves 7:00 p.m.; Domingo 10:00 a.m. Club Amistad Sabado 1:00 a.m. (infants).
Christ Church in the Downs Ruidoso Downs, 378-8464. Al and Marty Lane, Pastors. Sunday: 8:00 Sun a.m., 10:45 a.m., Children's ministries concurrent with late Sunday Services. Sat. outreach at 1pm, at church. Thursday: 7 p.m.
Cornerstone Church Cornerstone Square, 613 Sudderth Drive, 257-9265. John & Joy Wyatt, Pastors. Sunday School, 9:45, Church, 10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m. with Children's Church Sun. Eve. Handicap Services 11 a.m. Wed. Leadership Class 6 p.m. & Prayer 7 p.m.
Bible Study Adult 7 p.m. Thurs and Youth, Thurs. 7 p.m. Cowboy Church Noon Sundays at the Glencoe Rural Events Center. Everyone welcome. Preacher Buster Reed of Amarillo. Call 378-4940 for more info.
Grace Harvest Church Gavilan Canyon Rd., 336-4213. Sun. morning prayer 8:30 a.m.; Sunday school 9 a.m.; service 10 a.m.
Miracle Life Ministry Center Ron Rice & Catherine Callahan, Ministers Available 24 hours for healing prayer. 354-0255 e-mail: miraclelife@ruidoso-online.com
Peace Chapel Interdenominational (ULC) Alto North, 336-7075. Jeanne Price, Pastor. Morning chapel: 6:50 a.m. (Sept - June); Sun. Service: 11 a.m.
NON-SECTARIAN
Spiritual Awareness Study Group Minister: George N. Brown, Ph.D. U.L.C. Sundays 1 p.m. - 257-1569

Capitan Churches

BAPTIST
Trinity Southern Baptist Church (south on Highway 48) Mt. Capitan Rd. 354-2044. Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.; Worship: 11 a.m.; AWANA-Sunday 4:6 p.m.
Mountain Baptist Church
Independent-Fundamental. Pastor - WG. Carter. Sunday School: 10 AM. Sunday Worship: 11AM & 6 PM. Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study 7:15 PM (Next to BBO Place on Hwy 380)
Capitan, NM (505) 378-6134
CATHOLIC
Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Capitan, 354-9102. Sunday Mass: 5 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 9 a.m.; Monday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Capitan - Highway 48. Les Earwood, Minister. Sunday Bible study: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.

FOURSQUARE
Capitan Foursquare Church Highway 48, Capitan. Harold W. Perry, Pastor. Sunday School: 10 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Wednesday Bible study: 7 p.m.
METHODIST
Capitan United Methodist Church
Pastor Johanna Anderson and the congregation of Capitan United Methodist Church welcome Lincoln County residents and visitors alike to attend Bible study Sunday morning at 8:30, followed by worship service at 9:10. Communion is offered during worship on the first Sunday of every month, and a potluck luncheon is served the third Sunday at 12:30. White Oaks and Third in Capitan. 505-648-2846.
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Christ Community Fellowship Capitan, Highway 380 West. 354-2458. Ed Vireon, Pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m.

CARRIZOZO CHURCHES

ASSEMBLY OF GOD
The Word of Life Church
Rev. Chuck Fulton, pastor/648-2339. 711 E Ave., Carrizozo, NM. Affiliated w/the Evangelistic Assembly Church. Sunday 7:00 pm.
BAPTIST
First Baptist Church
Hayden Smith, Pastor. Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.; Sunday worship: 11 a.m., 7:15 p.m.; Church training: 6:30 p.m. Sunday
CATHOLIC
Santa Rita Catholic Church
648-2853. Father Dave Bergs, Pastor. Saturday Mass: 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Mass: 11 a.m.; Tuesday Adult Bible Study: 6 p.m.
CHURCH OF CHRIST
Perry Zumwalt, minister. Ave. C at 12th, Carrizozo, NM. Sunday School 10:30 pm; Worship Service 11:00 am; Evening Worship 1:15 pm; Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm.

EPISCOPAL
St. Matthias Episcopal Chapel
Carrizozo, 6th & E Street. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
METHODIST
United Methodist Church Parish
Trinity - 1000 D. Ave. 648-2893/648-2846, Carrizozo. Johanna Anderson, pastor. Sunday school 10:00 a.m.; Sunday worship 11:00 a.m. Choir Practice (Tues.) 6:30 pm; United Methodist Women Every 3rd Wed. 1:00 pm; Fellowship Dinner 4th Sun. of month 12:30 pm.
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
Carrizozo Community Church (A/C)
Johnnie L. Johnson, pastor. Corner of C Ave. & Thirteenth, 648-2186. Children's Church 10:30 am; Worship Service 10:30 am; Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 pm.
Carrizozo Christian Fellowship Leonard Kanesewah III, Pastor. 56 White Mt. Dr. 3 mi. W. of Top of the Mountain Gods Mescaleros. Sundays 10:30 & 6:30. Wed. 6:30 378-1789

EPISCOPAL
St. Matthias Episcopal Chapel
Carrizozo, 6th & E Street. Sunday: Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
METHODIST
United Methodist Church Parish
Trinity - 1000 D. Ave. 648-2893/648-2846, Carrizozo. Johanna Anderson, pastor. Sunday school 10:00 a.m.; Sunday worship 11:00 a.m. Choir Practice (Tues.) 6:30 pm; United Methodist Women Every 3rd Wed. 1:00 pm; Fellowship Dinner 4th Sun. of month 12:30 pm.
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RELIGION

Contemplation of reparations,

There's a word in our culture today that is confusing... reparation. Reparation is the act of making amends, offering expiation, or giving satisfaction for a wrong or injury.

Certainly, there was a wrong done to Japanese-Americans who were virtually imprisoned during WWII for being of Japanese descent. The circumstances of slavery brought about horrible wrongs done to African blacks by the English, Americans, and other races. Native Americans were badly treated and persecuted by Europeans and Americans. Citizens of Spain cruelly treated Central and South American native tribes.

In the Jewish realm, the Nazis of Germany killed 6 million Jews and raped and robbed millions of others. In the Christian realm, Protestants and Catholics have done each other wrong for centuries. Spanish conquistadors did tribes in the Americas wrong in the name of the church and the King of Spain.

My ancestors who were French Huguenots were persecuted and run out of France by French Catholics. Man's inhumanity to man is everywhere present since Cain and Abel.

How does one make amends or give satisfaction for these wrongs or injuries? Our government has given money to Japanese-

Americans and their descendants for the wrongs done. Some African-Americans are now asking for reparations for the wrongs done under slavery. We have been making reparations to Native Americans for generations.



Claryfications
By CHARLES CLARY
RUIDOSO PASTOR

I'm not sure what has been done in other situations of wrongs done to ethnic groups. But there is no way that reparations can right the wrongs done.

A bully, much older and larger than I, beat me up regularly and intimidated me when I was 8 to 10 years of age. Should I have asked for reparations from his family? No, I had to get over it. As our youth today say, "build a

bridge." We must overcome the wrongs done to ourselves or our ancestors. We cannot explain away inadequacies, shortcomings, or failures by something that happened to us or our ancestors, centuries ago.

None of these wrongs or injuries should be accepted without a fight. We should stand against the wrongs and injuries to folks and help them recover. But, we should never give the victims' descendants a reason to think that they are due anything. The victims need help for today and hope for tomorrow. And I would remind you that Jesus is help for today and hope for tomorrow.

Merge with caution when remarrying

QUESTION: My husband died two years ago, leaving me and our two children behind. I have met a wonderful man — also a widower with two kids — and we plan to marry. Where should we start to build our new family? And could you identify the issues that are likely to be most difficult for us?



Dr. James Dobson
FOCUS ON THE FAMILY
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DR. DOBSON: I would strongly suggest that you get some outside help as you bring your two families together. It is extremely difficult to do that on your own, and for some people, it is impossible. If you can afford professional counseling from a marriage, family and child counselor who has dealt with blended families, it would be wise to get that assistance. A pastor also might be able to guide you, although there are some tough relationship issues to be handled by a professional who has "been there" before.

One of your kids is likely to see your future husband as a usurper. When a mother or father dies or when a divorce occurs, one child often moves into the power vacuum left by the departing parent. That youngster becomes the surrogate spouse. I'm not referring to sexual matters. Rather, that boy or girl becomes more mature than his or her years and relates to the remaining parent more as a peer. The status that comes with that supportive role is very seductive, and he or she is usually unwilling to give it up. The stepfather becomes a threat to that child. Much work must be done to bring them together.

The kids' loyalty to the memory of their dad is another issue

that requires sensitive handling. In their eyes, to welcome the newcomer with open arms would be an act of betrayal. That's certainly understandable and something that must be worked through with your children.

I would say the greatest problem you will face, however, is the way you and your husband will feel about your kids. Each of you is irrationally committed to your own; and you're merely acquainted with the others. When fights and insults occur between the two sets of children, you will be tempted to be partial to those you brought into the world, and your husband will probably favor his own flesh and blood. The natural tendency is to let the blended family dissolve into armed camps — us against them. If the kids sense any tension between you and your husband over their clashes, they will exploit and exaggerate it to gain power over the other children, etc.

I have painted a worst-case scenario in order to prepare you for what could occur. Now let me encourage you. Many of these problems can be anticipated and lessened. Others can be avoided altogether. It is possible to blend families successfully and millions have done it. But the task is difficult, and you will need some help in pulling it off.

QUESTION: I am 21 and also still at home. I am very comfortable there, and I plan to stay with my parents for a long time. Why not? Tell me why you think it is unwise to go on

living where it is cheaper and easier than getting out on your own.

DR. DOBSON: There are individual situations when it makes sense to live with your parents for a longer time, and maybe yours is one of them. I would caution you, however, not to overstay your welcome. That would not be in your best interests or those of your folks. Remaining too long under the parents' roof is not unlike an unborn baby who refuses to leave the womb. He has every reason to stay awhile. It is warm and cozy there. All his needs are met in that stress-free environment. He doesn't have to work or study or discipline himself.

But it would be crazy to stay beyond the nine months intended. He can't grow and learn without leaving the security of that place. His development will be arrested until he enters the cold world and takes a few whacks on his behind. It is everyone's advantage, and especially to the welfare of his mother, that he slide on down the birth canal and get on with life.

So it is in young adulthood. Until you cut the umbilical cord and begin providing for yourself, you will remain in a state of arrested development. Remaining at home with Mom and Dad is the perpetuation of childhood. It may be time to put it behind you.

Dr. Dobson is president of the nonprofit organization Focus on the Family, P.O. Box 444, Colorado Springs, CO. 80903; or www.family.org. Questions and answers are excerpted from "The Complete Marriage and Family Home Reference Guide," published by Tyndale House.

Sponsored locally by Pastor Charles Clary.

Attending church a big part of faith

QUESTION: My cousin claims to believe in God (and I have no reason to doubt him) but won't go to church. He says it bores him, and anyway (he says) he can feel God's presence just as much while playing golf or going fishing. What would you say to him? — R.N.



Billy Graham
MY ANSWER
TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES

ANSWER: I would say first of all that he's missing one of the greatest privileges God has given us — the privilege of gathering with other believers to worship Him and learn more about His will for our lives. The Bible says, "Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the

In other words, we don't go to church just to "feel" God's presence — although that may well happen. We go to church instead to worship Him, and to learn more about who He is and how He wants us to live. You see, God wants to change us from within and make us more like Christ. But that only happens as we turn to Him, listen to His Word, and ask His Spirit to remake us.

Yes, this can happen anywhere, if our hearts are open to God. But if we deliberately separate ourselves from other believers, we will never learn from them, nor will we be able

to help them in their struggles. The Bible says, "let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" (Hebrews 10:24).

It may be, however, that your cousin has never really given his life to Christ. Pray for him, that he will develop a hunger for God, and will invite Christ into his life. And make sure of your own relationship to Christ as well, for nothing is more important than knowing Him.

Send your questions to: "My Answer," c/o Billy Graham, P.O. Box 779, Minneapolis, Minn. 55440, call 1-(877) 2-GRAHAM, or visit the BGEA Web site at www.billygraham.org.

Sponsored locally by Pastor Charles Clary.

RELIGIOUS BRIEFS

Prayer day

First Christian Church will celebrate World Day of Prayer March 7 with a prayer vigil from sunrise to sunset. The

sanctuary will be open for prayer from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. This international event is aimed at uniting all Christian men and women. To learn more, call 258-4250.

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Tips for traveling abroad safely and smartly today

Travelers have every right to be apprehensive these days, amid government terror alerts, the threat of war, and grenade-carrying airline passengers.

But for intrepid travelers who would rather use duct tape to secure a suitcase that has to travel unlocked in the hold rather than safeguard a room from chemical or biological attack, there are many things you can do to protect yourself.

Before you deprive yourself of a much-deserved vacation abroad, be reassured that the average American dying in a terrorist attack are 1 in 9.27 million, compared with 1 in 18,800 in a car accident.

Last week we promised to

provide a few hints from experienced travelers and experts about how to travel safely, so

whether you're off on trips already booked or still in the planning stages, make today's column your first stop.

The best way to keep track of travel safety and security issues is to

monitor the news media, Web sites and other services offering up-to-the-minute data. Helpful Web sites include one run by the State Department (www.travel.state.gov). It carries travel warnings, consular information and regional and worldwide public announcements about conditions and dangers for travelers. The department issued a worldwide travel warning on Feb. 6,

extending to May 4, reminding Americans to be vigilant.

Web sites run by foreign governments — including Britain (www.fco.gov.uk), Canada (www.voyage.gc.ca) and Australia (www.dfat.gov.au) — offer different perspectives on geopolitical matters. Several other sources providing news and advice on security questions are iJet Travel Intelligence (www.ijet.com), Lonely Planet travel advisories (www.lonelyplanet.com/travel/ticker/) and Air Security International (www.airsecurity.com).

In the free publication "A Safe Trip Abroad" (Department Of State Publication 10942) the U.S. Bureau of Consular Affairs advises travelers to be security conscious by being alert to unattended baggage in public places, looking out for people acting suspiciously near "Western" institutions or gatherings, and by avoiding political and other demonstrations or gatherings.

Paul Hudson, executive director of the Aviation Consumer Action Project, an advocacy group, even recommends staying away from Americans traveling in large groups, which can be potential terrorist targets, while in overseas airports.

In the immediate aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks, travel insurance tripped in popularity, according to insure.com, online provider of instant insurance quotes. Although travel insurance may also protect you, it generally does so only under certain circumstances.

Many policies — like those offered by Access America, a division of Allianz; Travel Guard International; and Travel Insured International — provide coverage if a terrorist attack occurs within 30 days of a policyholder's trip. But be aware that most policies do not provide coverage if a war breaks out, or if someone is simply afraid to travel.

Ed Hewitt, correspondent for The Independent Traveler, suggests, "By checking and establishing that 'named peril' conditions include acts of terrorism, you will be covered." In his online column, "Traveler's Ed" (www.independenttraveler.com), Hewitt tracks the news you

need before setting off on your next adventure.

Experts advise travelers to carry items useful in case of an emergency or unexpected delay. Such items include: water and nonperishable food; a cellphone; photocopies of passports, credit card account numbers (including customer service phone numbers in case of theft or loss — note, do not carry these in the same place as your credit cards!), visas, medical and eyeglass prescriptions; and a small first-aid kit.

If you are traveling overseas, remember to register at United States embassies or consulates; their locations are available on the State Department's Web site. In an emergency, you should contact the embassy for assistance and information.

The State Department also offers a telephone service to answer travelers' inquiries at (888) 407-4747 or (317) 472-2328, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time on weekdays; (202) 647-5225 at other hours.

Emergency services for travelers who are stranded or otherwise need help are also available from some credit card companies. Holders of American Express cards, for example, can use the company's 24-hour hotline to arrange for medical care, extra cash and legal and other

services around the world.

And remember — no scissors, nail files, or penknives in your hand baggage, otherwise you stand to have them confiscated.

In case all these precautions make you feel a little lightheaded about traveling, also be conscious of the sign at Miami and some other international airports, which reads: "No drugs, arms or ammunition beyond this point. And don't even THINK about joking about it!"

The Barones are full time travel writers and photographers operating out of their home in Alto. Their work is published in a wide variety of regional, national and international publications. To learn more visit their Web site at <http://www.intlmediagroup.com> or E-mail them at barones@intlmediagroup.com.



On the Go with Hank & Ellen
BY HANK AND ELLEN BARONE
TRAVEL WRITERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

Sampling at Mexican agriculture

Last summer, 14 school-teachers from all over New Mexico went on a three-day trip into the Mexican state of Chihuahua. I was among the participants of this workshop, called "Hay Chihuahua!"

This was "Ag in the Classroom," a credit project through New Mexico State University and State Farm & Livestock Bureau in cooperation with N.M. Beef Council, N.M. Cattlegrowers, the Department of Agriculture and NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service and AXED Department.

Too many children, and adults, think food is produced at the grocery store. "Ag in the Classroom" is designed to increase the students' knowledge about the true origins of food and fiber.

This knowledge encourages students to function more effectively as agriculturally literate citizens, supportive of wise environmental policies and programs.

"Ag in the Classroom" strives to assist educators with teaching more about the source of our food and fiber and the role agriculture in the total economy and society.

The New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau is the oldest and largest agricultural organization in the state. It is a private organization of farmers, ranchers, rural residents, small businesses, and others who care about the environ-

ment and agriculture.

"Hay Chihuahua!" educated teachers to integrate agricultural studies into K-12 curriculum to teach language arts, math, science and social studies. We visited some of the premier agricultural operations in the region, as well as some historical landmarks along the way.

Our journey took us to Nuevo Casas Grandes, the Paquime Indian Ruins, San Buenaventura, and the Governor's Palace in Chihuahua. There were many other exciting and educational stops along the way.

The state of Chihuahua is located in the northern part of Mexico and borders the states of Sonora, Sinaloa, Durango, and Coahuila in Mexico. The Rio Grande sepa-

rates it from Texas and New Mexico in the United States. It is known as the "Grand State" because it is the largest in the country.

The city of Chihuahua is the capital of the state. Chihuahua is one of the northern cities of great historical legacy.

Even though its foundation is officially registered on Oct. 12, 1709, the town, called "Numbre de Dios," has presented mining activity since the end of the 16th century, with the mines of Santa Eulalia taking advantage of the closeness to the Chuviscar and Sacramento Rivers.

The "Ag in the Classroom" trip helped us develop an understanding of the principles of Mexican agriculture that can be used to teach basic skills.

The four Carrizozo school staff members were sponsored by the Farm & Livestock Bureau and in part by the Canyon CowBelles. We returned full of the culture of our nearest international neighbors.



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Diamond Shamrock

'The Pasha' and Chisum's 'Rustler War,' part 1 of 2

Many uninformed writers have tried to use the Lincoln County War as a platform from which to discuss their opinions on the centuries-old English-Irish problems, claiming that the war was just an extension of those problems far away, across the Atlantic.

While the situation in Lincoln was undoubtedly exacerbated by Englishmen and Irishmen, they were not all on one side or the other, according to their ethnicity. Consequently, any problems that were based on the English-Irish situation were of a personal, one-on-one nature.

While the leaders on one side were exclusively Irish and the other exclusively English/Scottish, there were soldiers on both sides who were of each nationality. In the end, any serious student of the Lincoln County War, especially one who is not attempting to fit history into his or her own agenda, must admit that the Lincoln County War was over financial control of the county and *nothing else*. Many personal enmities tended to make things worse but, essentially, this was a struggle between frontier yuppies over money.

Andy

The Murphy/Dolan faction, aka "The House," were led by men who were from Ireland. However, one of their most efficient and loyal soldiers was Andy Boyle, a former British soldier who Alexander McSween referred to as "Pasha" Boyle, a reference to Andy's time in the service of Queen Victoria.

Many of the people who settled the American West were originally from Europe and "back east." This fact causes me immense amusement whenever I hear a local speak about "easterners" as though his family had been air-dropped in by God before the beginning of time. The fact is, virtually any Anglo who lives in the West can trace their family tree to the East coast if they go back far enough. The only people who have always been here live on the Mescalero Reservation. And in the end, we are all Americans, anyway. Enough already with this ethnicity crap! Since 9/11/01 we all need to "hang together" as Americans. Not Irish-Americans or Hispanic-Americans, or even Native Americans or any other kind of

hyphenated Americans! We're all brothers and it's time we started acting like it.



Drew Gamber
HISTORIAN,
THE HUBBARD MUSEUM
OF THE AMERICAN WEST

OK. Rant over. Back to the story. Aren't you glad I write about the Old West and not current events?

Andy Boyle had first come to Lincoln County in 1876, at the age of 38. He was born in the Parish of Dalry, County of Ayr, Scotland, on Nov. 22, 1838. He had a good education for the time, as his letters reveal. He was still considered to be underage when he enlisted in the 72nd Highland Regiment of the British Army at Glasgow, Scotland, on Jan. 28, 1856, at the tender age of 17. Boyle spent nearly 10 years in the service of the Queen, most of it being served in India. He was in the Battle of Lucknow in India and despite the fact that he was known as a heavy drinker and dangerous brawler, he received two good conduct medals and rose to the rank of sergeant. (Actually, he was busted twice to private, but made it back to sergeant each time).

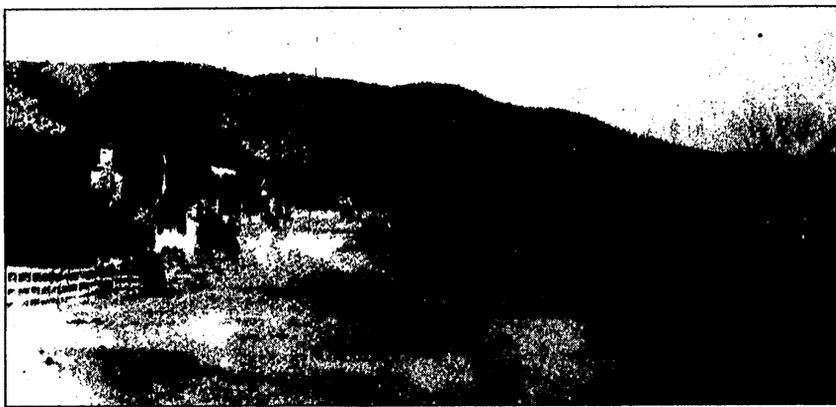
He was discharged for poor health, "aggravated by intemperance," which means, basically, that he was a drunken brawler who the Army felt was drinking himself to death. At the time, he was described as being 5' 7-and-1/2" tall with "light brown hair and black (dark) eyes."

In 1867, Andy and three older brothers emigrated to America. At first, Andy, along with Joseph, John and James Boyle, settled in Missouri. However, by the fall of 1873, they were living in the riotous town of Fort Griffin, Texas, which undoubtedly suited Andy just fine.

For two years, Andy worked as a cowboy in the Fort Griffin area and in the early part of 1876, he moved further west to Lincoln County, where his niche in history awaited.

Lincoln County

In Lincoln County, Andy became good friends with John Jones, who would later become, despite serving with Andy on the Murphy/Dolan side, a close friend of Billy the Kid. But in the summer of 1876, Andy was leasing, along with Jones, a farm on the Ruidoso River from Alexander Hamilton "Ham" Mills, a man who wrote his own bloody history in Lincoln County, which is another story.



Lincoln, as it looked around the time of Andy Boyle and John Chisum.

COURTESY PHOTO

It was at this time that Andy wrote a letter to his sister which both displayed his literacy and gives us a good word picture of Lincoln County at the time.

In this letter, too long for this column, Andy mentions some prices for goods that were current in the Lincoln of 1876. "I will give you the price of things up here for father's information: flour \$9 to \$12 per 100, coffee 50 cents per lb., sugar 40 cents, boots \$12, pants \$9 to \$12, shoes \$5, coat \$18, hats \$5, shirts \$6 to \$10, butter 50 cents, eggs 30 cents, barley 5 cents per lb., beans 8 cents, corn 3 cents, beef 6 cents, bacon 30 cents, pork 20 cents, lard 35 cents, tea \$2 and corn meal 4 cents." If these prices seem a tad high to you, remember he was in Lincoln County, which, at that time, was controlled by Murphy/Dolan, whose interest rates were set at a whopping 18 percent and who didn't let a nickel slip through their fingers if it could be avoided. It should also be noted that, with their friends, they were generous and open-handed. It is difficult in the extreme to paint any historical character as having an exclusively black or white "hat." Like us, they were flawed human beings, capable of both good and bad actions. In the end, it was *how many* of each that counted, just like us.

Andy's literate and vivid description of Ham Mills' activities is worth repeating. "He (Murphy) holds a mortgage on this Rancho, and he gets Mr. Mills share of his crop half. A.H. Mills owns it -- perhaps Hank knows him (Andy's sister was married to Hank Smith). He used to be a sheriff of this county. They call him Ham

Mills around here. He killed a Mexican last March and shot at J.B. Wilson, justice of the peace, and then skinned out for Texas. I do not think he will come back since he is under \$1,000 bond for his appearance at the next District Court. If he does not come back I shall buy this Rancho. It is 20 miles from Fort Stanton, and 15 miles from Lincoln. I guess Hank knows where it is -- the old Fetterman Rancho, on the Ruidosa [sic], 20 miles above the junction of the Bonito and Hondo."

Friends, enemies, and the Pecos War

It seems that Andy eventually made some influential friends in Lincoln County. But first, Ham Mills made a liar of him by returning from Texas in late 1876 and repossessing his farm. Andy moved 100 miles east to the Pecos country, where he went to work as a cowboy for Milo Pierce and Lewis Paxton, about 17 miles south of modern Carlsbad.

In early 1877, Andy received a commission as a deputy sheriff in Dona Ana County. He got this position with the political assistance of Lincoln County Sheriff William Brady and M.L.

Rynerson, both closely affiliated with the Santa Fe Ring and good men to have as friends.

In 1877, the "Pecos War," aka "Chisum's War," erupted. This war was between Chisum and the small ranchers along the Pecos who, as far as cattle baron John Chisum was concerned, were nothing more than rustlers. Chisum himself called it the "Rustler War."

Chisum controlled quite an empire. At one time running more than 80,000 head of cattle, his domain stretched from Fort Sumner south to the New Mexico/Texas line, which was about 200 miles, all of it along the Pecos River. It was about 40 miles wide, making it 8,000 square miles. The southern part of Chisum's empire was shared with Robert Wiley (or Wylie). Their joint cattle camp was at Loving's Bend on the Pecos, just opposite modern Carlsbad.

As far as "Uncle" John Chisum and his brothers were concerned, all of southeastern New Mexico was "open range," and, as they had gotten there first... The Chisum brothers, Jim and Pitzer, led by John, "owned" the range.

They had always tolerated a little rustling, figuring if that was enough to keep the small

fry at bay, it was money well spent, but by late 1876, they felt that they were losing too much to the "small fry." In defense of the so-called "small fry," it should be noted that their small (300-1,500 head) herds that they had driven from Texas (mostly) were frequently augmented by Chisum's "jinglebob" and long rail brand. The small ranchers felt they had a right to confiscate Chisum's stock, as the cattle were grazing on "their" range. Get the picture? Both Chisum and the little ranchers felt that they owned the range.

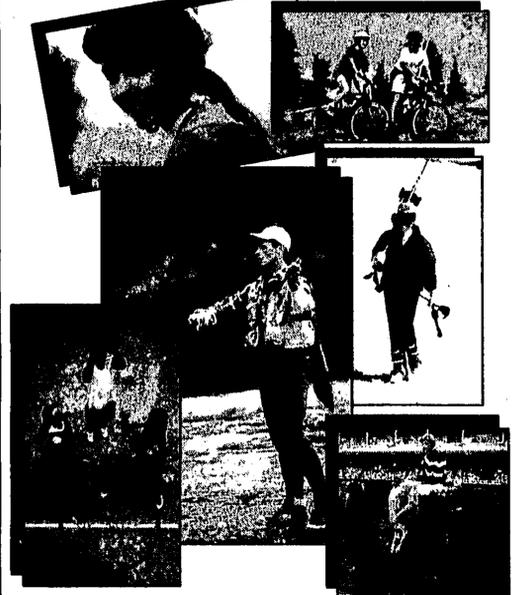
A confrontation was virtually inevitable. Ironically enough, by that time, Chisum had sold out to the firm of Hunter and Evans and was only there to manage the place.

In December of 1876, Chisum and Wiley's foreman, a man named Yopp, accused two Chisum cowboys, Buck Powell and Dick Smith, of rustling the very cattle they were supposed to be caring for. When the argument reached flashpoint, Yopp went for his gun and began blasting away at Powell, who was not armed. Buck grabbed a Winchester and pumped a fatal round into Yopp. A man named Jake Owen witnessed the shooting, and after his testimony to the law, any charges against Powell were dropped. But it was only the beginning. Call it what you will -- the "Pecos War," "Chisum's War" or the "Rustler War" -- it had begun, and it served as an excellent precursor to the more spectacular Lincoln County War that was to come. And Andy Boyle was involved in both of them.

Next Week: Violence flares.

Sources: Andrew Boyle by T. Dudley Cramer, and A Documentary History of the Lincoln County War by Frederick Nolan.

SPORTS



SEMI-WEEKLY
IN THE
RUIDOSO NEWS
BY TODD FUQUA

CHIROPRACTIC OUTLOOK

by
Dr. Jack V.
Waters
Chiropractic
Physician



TIETZE'S MIMICS A HEART ATTACK

Experiencing chest pains can be very troubling. Immediately the person thinks the worst-a heart attack. If a cardiovascular specialist does not find any immediate threat, the problem may be Tietze's Syndrome, a swelling of the cartilage connecting the ribs to the breastbone. The condition can develop from any trauma or strain to the rib cage, such as a car accident, moving a heavy object or playing sports.

Individuals affected by Tietze's Syndrome complain of chest pain that may radiate to the shoulder or arms. The associated discomfort, especially when taking deep breaths or coughing and sneezing, normally lasts between four and eight weeks. It is believed that Tietze's Syndrome accounts for thirty percent of people going to the emergency department.

After cardiac concerns are eliminated, the patient should see a Doctor of Chiropractic. He/She will do a complete evaluation of the front and back of the rib cage and correct the rib subluxation with gentle adjustments-so that the pain dissipates rather than spreads to the shoulder and arms. The patient and chiropractor will also discuss any ongoing trauma that may be linked to the condition that can be eased or eliminated. The sooner the treatment begins, the less the pain and the earlier the problem is relieved.

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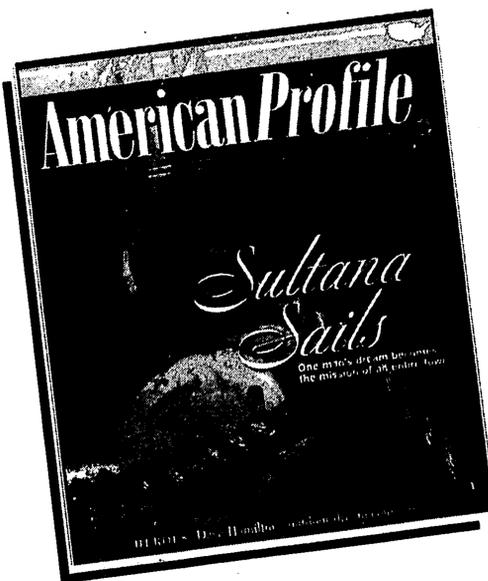
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American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life



COURTESY PAM SPEIGHT

Pat Speight, whose work won the Wine Festival contest last year, has designed a poster of Ruidoso.

SPEIGHT: Love for work is visible

FROM PAGE 1C

Water Color Society, Speight had a one-person show in Lake Jackson, Texas, and has exhibited her work at Evelyn Stebbins Gallery in Kemah, Texas, and the Archway Gallery in Houston, Texas. She has been in many juried shows in Houston and won awards. Currently, two of her paintings have been accepted into the Southern Chapter of the New Mexico Water Color Society in Las Cruces, and in 2000 she won the Wine Festival poster contest in Ruidoso.

"I found I was painting for what other people wanted me to be painting, so I stopped for five years," Speight said. "I moved here and decided I'm going to paint for myself. I'm leery of going through the process of framing and matting required to show in a gallery."

In 1996, she and her husband, Charlie, bought a house built by a shipbuilder and a bunch of artists in the 1970s, filled with highly unique and often impractical delights. The couple spent time in both Houston and Ruidoso until September 2002, when they made Ruidoso their permanent residence.

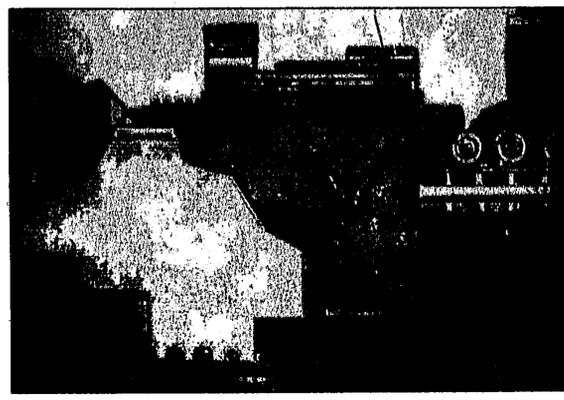
Speight's advice to new artists: "Give up the fear of being wrong. Just do it! Draw and paint what you know ..."

"I believe that it's the process that's important. If you are involved completely in the process, the product will take care of itself. I don't feel like I'm here to do what's been done before. I want to do it differently ... The creative process is somewhat like the process of creating a child. It begins with the desire to have a child, then conception, incubation, labor, and finally, the birth. That's what my painting process feels like."



COURTESY PAT SPEIGHT

"Chimayo," above, is pen and ink and watercolor. "Georgia's Place, The Ghost Ranch," below, is now in the N.M. Watercolor Society show in Las Cruces.



Call for Artists

Artists, participants, school and local civil organizations and vendors are invited to participate in the second annual Festival of Cinco de Mayo on Saturday, May 3 in Carrizozo.

Call Fran Altieri at 648-2025 for more information.

Young actors needed

Auditions for two children to perform in "South Pacific" with the Ruidoso High School

Drama Club are scheduled for 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 7 in the choir room or the theater at the Fine Arts Building of Ruidoso High School, 125 Warrior Drive. The parts are for an 8-year-old boy and an 11-year-old girl, said drama teacher Cathi McIntosh.

The children will need to sing a French song and speak a few lines in French, so auditioners need to be able to learn or speak and sing in French.

"I'm going to hand them the song and some of the words and

I'll have them sing and speak, and if they can mimic me and carry a tune, they have a good shot at it," McIntosh said.

LOUIS L'AMOUR

Set 7 of his novels primarily in the "Land of Enchantment." They are: Killoe, The Daybreakers, Conagher, Showdown at Yellow Butte (under the name of Jim Mayo), Flint, Shalako, and Radigan.



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HOME & FAMILY

For many years, almost everything in Ruidoso Downs was

JAKE

BY DIANNE STALLINGS
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

From under the brim of his ever-present cowboy hat, Jake Harris could shoot an intimidating stare that would melt the intestinal fortitude of anyone on the opposite side of a debate.

Yet, Harris, former Ruidoso Downs council member (three times) and twice mayor, was a man who was known to fight for the underdog and for what he thought was fair and right.

After a long battle with failing health, complicated by two major strokes, Harris died on Jan. 7. But he left his indelible mark on the town he helped create — from paved side streets to a comfortable community center.

His widow, Florence Lohman Anderson Harris, recently shared some of her husband's history and accomplishments.

Born at Royal, Okla., on Nov. 29, 1926, Harris was six weeks old when his family piled their belongings into a covered wagon and joined a "train" heading west.

"He said when they came through the Hondo Valley it must have been in April because all the apple trees were in blossom," she said. "It was like heaven."

The family settled near Angus on property they homesteaded, but soon after that Harris' mother died in childbirth. Jake's father loaded up his 18-month-old son, a younger brother Lloyd, who later died of pneumonia, and his half-sister Ione. The children went to live with their grandparents in Temple, Texas. When Harris was old enough, he rejoined his father.

By that time, his father had bought property on High Mesa, where Jake grew up hunting and fishing with Robert and Barry Runnels. His father also raised cotton east of Roswell until the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Jake graduated from Capitan High School, then attended engineering school for two years in California. He spent another two years in the



COURTESY FLORENCE HARRIS

Jake Harris seldom was seen, or photographed, without his trademark cowboy hat.

Kansas oil fields. By 1938, his father had moved to Ruidoso Downs, where he planned to cut timber for a planer mill.

But the man who owned the mill, the same man for whom Holloman Air Force Base was named, died in a car accident in Tularosa. To save the jobs that would otherwise be lost, Jake's father bought the mill. Jake returned home in 1939.

"He built the sawmill four times, each time after it burned down," Florence said. "The last time, they didn't have insurance and had no money."

But while it lasted, the mill furnished work for people all over Lincoln County, Florence said. The Harris family prospered, starting a mercantile store and lumber company at the site of today's Pappy's Diner. They built a garage and gas station, a dance hall and bar and a cafe.

"They were the first businesses in the early 1940s," she said. "He and the others at the sawmill started the first fire department. Jake found out they could get grant money or a loan. It was very primitive, just a pickup, a barrel of water and some boots."

During "Jake Harris Day" on May 3, 1997, put together by the Ruidoso Downs Auxiliary, stories were told. Among those stories: When the only source of water for the community was a spring, Jake dug ditches to everyone's home to ensure they had access to water.

Jake also was the person, with the help of Alamogordo attorney Jack Horton, who determined the boundaries of Ruidoso Downs when it was formed. He personally walked the entire border, defined on the north and south by national forest and as far east and west as he could and still avoid lawsuits, Florence said.

"He wanted the best for Ruidoso Downs and fought for it," she said. "He got the streets paved. They only had enough money for certain streets; he even donated some land. We didn't get gutters, but he got them all blacktopped. Whatever he thought was best for his village, he fought all the way to Santa Fe to get it."

Harris served several years on the Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority board, representing Ruidoso Downs. When he died, Mayor Bob Miller, a long-time friend, flew the flag at half staff.

"He was totally loyal to the then-village of Ruidoso Downs and to the citizens," Miller said. "He was a personal friend, dating back to the 1950s, when he would stop by my Firestone store in Hatch. This guy used to run a garbage dump at

no cost to anyone. He had his Cat out there and would bury the garbage. He paved the streets. He did well for the village."

From a first marriage, Harris had two daughters, Carol Ann Prior, who lives at Biscuit Hill, and Nancy Hughes in Waco, Texas. He also was extremely close to Florence's daughter, Tracie Leighton.

Harris was a 52-year member of the Masons and was in Eastern Star since 1985.

Two of Jake's great loves were horses, which he also used for hunting, and heavy equipment. He kept most of his big machines until shortly before his death.

After his marriage to Florence in 1966, the couple moved to Weed, where he managed a sawmill for a few years. But he soon returned to Ruidoso Downs and started his own gravel business.

"This little town meant a lot to him," Florence said.

And he meant a great deal to others, as a wall full of plaques of appreciation from different groups attests.

"He loved people and had a real caring personality," Florence said. "He also was no nonsense and got down to business, but underneath, he was tender hearted. He always cared about the underdog. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for people."



COURTESY FLORENCE HARRIS

Jake Harris found a good friend at Christmas about 30 years ago.

looking back

LINCOLN COUNTY SCRAPBOOK

FEB. 27, 1953

1/2 Wit & 1/2 Wisdom

BY VIC LAMB

Mrs. Jack Hull says anyone interested in seeing television in Ruidoso is invited to come out to their home on Hull's High Acres anytime after five o'clock in the afternoon. With a taller aerial, Mrs. Hull says TV reception is much better than it was when they first installed their set...

Levelling of the grounds and digging of a foundation for Warren Tucker's new Ruidoso Food Mart, to replace the one destroyed by fire last fall, started last weekend, but inclement weather has delayed it...

MARCH 1, 1963

Tripp appointed

Don Tripp, owner of Tripp Jewelers in Ruidoso and Carrizozo, has received appointment from the general offices of the Southern Pacific Railroad ... as an Authorized Railroad Watch Inspector. Tripp said that all railroad employees are required to carry a card issued by the inspector stating the date their watch was last cleaned and oiled.

MARCH 2, 1973

Margie Urban named clerk

Only Trustees George Hancock, Neil Smith and Mayor Jake Harris were present for the regular meeting of the Ruidoso Downs village council held Monday night at the village hall.

Minutes of the previous meeting, at which Margie Urban was named village clerk treasurer on a permanent basis, were approved...

MARCH 3, 1983

Mule Skinners still hope

Ruidoso Downs Mule Skinners are holding out hope that the Ruidoso-Sunland Inc. board of directors will reverse themselves and allow mule racing at Ruidoso Downs this fall.

"We've offered to do everything we know to do," Mule Skinners president Melvin Means said Wednesday.

MARCH 4, 1993

Land bought by village

The village of Ruidoso is buying new property. The village council voted to purchase the property for taxpayers after a closed session during the last council meeting. However, taxpayers aren't allowed to know yet what was purchased or is being purchased.

Village manager Ron Wicker, at the end of the regular session last Tuesday, asked the council to enter closed session for purchase of property...



COURTESY FLORENCE HARRIS

Florence and Jake Harris on a trip to Albuquerque in 1971.

Felis Salcido, a Lincoln native of 93 years, is remembered



LINCOLN TRAILS
ROSALIE DUNLAP

Felis Salcido passed away last week. She is another descendant of the pioneer families of Lincoln County.

She was 93 when she died on Feb. 16, and she was always so proud of the fact that she was born in Lincoln.

She was always "Grandma" to me and has a special place in my heart. I wish I had gotten to know her better, sooner.

She had so many stories of the old days — their lifestyle and culture.

She spent many hours at Evelyn's Hairstyle Beauty Shop at San Patricio — giving "advice."

She was buried at the Hondo Cemetery Monday.

It was great seeing Patsy Racher. She had been at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz., undergoing chemotherapy for liver cancer.

She was home for a brief time and now is taking further treatments and surgery.

The snow and rain were welcome last week. There was also some fog. Then, of course, we had to have wind over the weekend.

The Creative Memories group held its retreat at the Fort Lone Tree facilities over the past weekend.

Judy Atkinson and her mother,

Julie Martin of Greely, Colo., and Lois Coleman of Vision Ford of Alamogordo went out of their way to get the parts from El Paso and get the car ready so she could get back to Phoenix.

Ralph Dunlap attended the Wood Turning group meeting at Nogal recently. He has really enjoyed the meetings and learning new methods and different equipment to use with his lathe.

Pam and Mac McArthur's great-goddaughter was born Feb. 8., weighed 7 lb., 11 oz. Baby Charlotte Molly's parents are Caroliné and Chris Cain of

San Antonio, Texas.

The baby's grandparents, Molly and Dan Webster, also live in San Antonio.

The McArthurs visited with the new baby and family. Then they visited with Pam's sister and father on Padre Island.

They returned home over the weekend.

The McArthurs' grandson, Aaron Hooper, and team members of the Sydney Gutierrez School, Roswell, participated in the Science Olympiad at New Mexico Tech in Socorro this past weekend.