

# RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 2004 • OUR 58TH YEAR, NO. 55 • 50 CENTS

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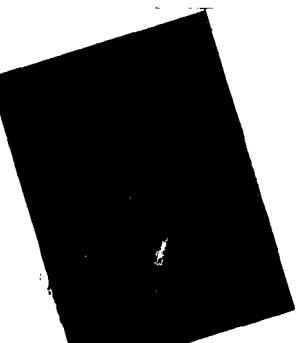
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Jackie Pride, 11, and Josh Hall, 13, gear up Tuesday at A-Frame Ski Shop to take advantage of free access to Ski Apache

PAMELA CROMWELL/STAFF

## 'Unprecedented'

# Ski free today

■ Free lift tickets today at Ski Apache; regular equipment rentals are in effect

BY DAVE PRICE  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Ski Apache will open its arms – and slopes – to area residents today for a free ski day.

Snowmaking has been underway for weeks at the Mescalero Apache enterprise, and man-made snow totals two to three feet in places, according to Brian Parrish, marketing director for the Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino.

"On top of that, we picked up 16 inches of new snow in last week's storm," Parrish told the Ruidoso News on Tuesday, "and just last night (Monday night), we recorded another three inches."

Snow was still falling when Parrish gave that assessment on Tuesday.

A number of runs served by lifts 3, 4, 5 and, to its midway point, 2, will be open with no-charge lift tickets throughout the day today. The beginners area will also be open to skiers today.

Parrish said all the ski area's restaurants and services will be fully staffed and operational throughout the day.

The official 2004 Ski Apache season opens tomorrow, Thanksgiving Day.

"Unprecedented" was how one long-time local skier categorized the resort's decision to open up for free skiing for locals.

Joe Zagone, a realtor with Century 21 Aspen Real Estate, and who has skied Ski

Apache since 1966, said the promotion was a great public relations stroke.

Zagone, who still holds an instructor's license, first worked at Ski Apache in 1978. This year, his daughter, Angela, will carry the family's ski instructing legacy to a second generation, as she'll work on holiday weekends this year at the ski area.

Zagone, who volunteers on the Ruidoso High School ski team's coaching staff, said the entire team will take to the slopes today. "The whole ski team's going, and we're excited about getting a little more exposure on the hill this season," he said.

The students won't be alone. Zagone said at least three realtors from his agency will be celebrating the start of Ruidoso's ski season with him.

Susan Lutterman, a lifelong Ruidoso resident, school board member and First National Bank operations manager, shares Zagone's impressions of the free ski day.

"I've lived here all my life and, throughout my adult life I don't remember the ski area embracing Ruidoso the way it's doing now," said Lutterman.

Lutterman, who said that work commitments will prevent her from skiing today, learned how to ski through the school program while she was in the first grade.

"Skiing is a life sport, but it does take some money," she said. "I think that this is such great goodwill, to invite the town to come up and ski before the tourists. I think it's a wonderful gesture."

To learn more, visit [www.skiapache.com](http://www.skiapache.com) or call the ski and snow report at 257-9001.

## Elrod named dean at ENMU-Ruidoso

He succeeds the retiring Jim Miller

BY PAMELA CROMWELL  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Eastern New Mexico University welcomed Michael Elrod as the new dean of ENMU's Ruidoso Instruction Center Tuesday.

ENMU staff and community leaders attended a press conference to meet and greet Elrod, and he was introduced by ENMU president Steven Gamble.

In a press release, Gamble stated that he is pleased to have attracted someone the caliber of Elrod.

He is currently Campus Community and Workforce Development Officer at Dona Ana Branch Community College, a branch of New Mexico State University. He is the senior administrative officer responsible for community education programs and services, workforce development and outreach programs.

"On paper he's the ideal candidate," Gamble said. "With his extensive community college experience in New Mexico, we feel that he is a great fit to take over the reigns of the Ruidoso Instruction Center."

Gamble commended depart-

ing dean Jim Miller for his 13 years of outstanding service and the growth he's accomplished at ENMU-Ruidoso since its founding in 1991.

"This campus has constantly expanded and been innovative in meeting the needs of citizens of the Lincoln County area," Gamble stated.

When it opened, ENMU-Ruidoso shared space with Region IX Education Cooperative at 300 Sudderth Drive in Ruidoso.

It then moved to 1400 Sudderth and remained there until December of 1995, when it moved to its current location in the old True Value building in Sierra Mall, at 709 Mechem Drive. Under Miller's leadership, the Center has grown from 300 students in its first year to more than 1,500 today.

"About everything you see around you here at ENMU, he's responsible for," Gamble said.

"As the founding administrator, Miller had a vision of what this campus should and could be, and he worked hard to achieve that vision. Now it is on the brink of branch campus sta-

See DEAN, page 3A

## Funds allocated for wastewater plant

■ Ruidoso and the Downs each in line for money towards expansion

BY MARTY RACINE  
RUIDOSO NEWS EDITOR

Partial funding for the expansion of the regional wastewater treatment plan jointly operated by Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs began to trickle in this week.

The U.S. House of Representatives on Monday passed the Omnibus Appropriations Act for fiscal 2005, a spending bill that provides \$150,000 each to the Village of Ruidoso and the City of Ruidoso Downs for wastewater infrastructure improvements.

This Omnibus Appropriations package provides the funding to improve schools, hospitals, courts, police, veterans programs, water and sewer projects, courthouse construction and agriculture research "that promotes Southern New Mexico's economy and job growth," according to U.S. Representative Steve Pearce.

The news was so fresh on Monday that Downs City Administrator John Waters had not had the time to review it.

"I requested money through Representative Pearce's office and I'm happy to hear that we've apparently received some of that," Waters said following the Ruidoso Downs City Council meeting.

"Of course, we're still going

to need a significant portion if the plant upgrades are going to cost \$21 million. This certainly helps, and it could help us possibly get more funding in the future. At this point we're happy to receive anything."

Waters said the city will "definitely" continue to seek additional grants for the treatment plant project.

"We're going to continue to go through our congressional delegation and to the state – the governor and the legislature – to try and pursue the funding we need," he said.

Waters also said the city will consider bonding resources, as well.

"Our bonding capacity is nowhere near what we need, but it's still \$1 million," he said.

"Certainly, we're going to have to look at that avenue, as well."

"We're going to patch together as much funding as we can to try to get this project taken care of, while at the same time continue to do our other (prioritized projects) – water, most notably."

Earlier this year the Downs, upon the advice of its consultants, voted to upgrade the existing wastewater treatment plant rather than build its own. The latter course was deemed cost-prohibitive.

Both municipalities have been under pressure, with the threat of fines, to reduce pollutants in the Rio Ruidoso watershed, some of which has been traced to inadequacies with the regional wastewater treatment plant.



Elrod



Waters



# CLUBS MEETINGS

## Daily

**Alcoholics Anonymous:** 7:30 a.m., noon, 5:15 p.m., 8 p.m. daily 613 Sudderth, Suite H; 257-9397.

## Wednesday, Nov. 24

**Children's TeamKids Discipleship Program:** 6 p.m. 7:45 p.m. Wednesdays (Sept.-May), First Baptist Church, 270 Country Club Drive. For children 4 years old to 6th grade; 257-2081, or www.fbcruaidoso.com

**Optimist Club (Friends of Youth):** Meets at noon every Wednesday at K-Bob's Steakhouse on Highway 70 West. New members are always welcome; 257-5938 or 258-9218.

**Pine Top Rod and Custom Car Club:** Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at various locations; Doug Babcock, 257-7365.

**Ruidoso Shrine Club:** 6:30 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of every month at Cree Meadows Restaurant; 258-5860.

**The Party Bridge Group:** 1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 336-4808.

## Thursday, Nov. 25

Happy Thanksgiving

## Friday, Nov. 26

**The Party Bridge Group:** 1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 336-4808.

**Senior Line Dancing:** 9:30-11:30 a.m. Fridays at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center; 378-4659.

## Saturday, Nov. 27

**Al-Anon:** Meets every Saturday, 10:30 a.m., at Gateway Center, 439 Sudderth, Ruidoso; 257-7124.

**Narcotics Anonymous:** Meets 7:15 p.m. Saturday in the Best Western Ruidoso Inn conference room; Dawn at 937-0844 or Josie at 378-5621. Or, write to HCR 46, Box 447, Ruidoso Downs, NM, 88346.

**Ruidoso Duplicate Bridge Club:** 1 p.m. every Tuesday, Saturday and Thursday, plus a 299ers game 1 p.m. Mondays, all at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 257-7411 or 257-6188.

**Sierra Blanca Amateur**

**Radio Club:** 9 a.m. every Saturday. Usually meets at El Paraiso in Sierra Mall or check location on 146.920 MHz after 8 a.m.

**Women's Storytelling Group:** High Mesa Healing Center, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Suzanne Koch, long-time writer, playwright and actress, will lead this group in discovering their personal stories. She will provide tools for recording these stories through the written, oral and visual traditions. Willy Keus, author of *Little Dutch Girl in WWII*, will also encourage storytelling and writing; Barbara Mader, 336-7777.

## Monday, Nov. 29

**Trail Snails Hiking Club:** Mondays, 8:30 a.m. May - November. Hike Lincoln County's scenic trails; 630-8614 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Angus Wood Carvers:** 5-8 p.m. every Monday, Nazarene Church Camp, Highway 48 and Highway 37; 336-9161.

**Ruidoso Duplicate Bridge Club:** 299ers game 1 p.m. Mondays at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 257-7411 or 257-6188.

**Alcoholics Anonymous women's open meeting:** 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Gateway Center; 439 Sudderth; 378-8391.

**Ruidoso Woman's Club game day:** 11:45 a.m. Monday at the Ruidoso Woman's Clubhouse, 116 S. Evergreen, behind the Ruidoso Office Supply. Pot luck lunch followed by Bridge and other card games.

## Tuesday, Nov. 30

**Al-Anon:** Meets every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. at Gateway Center, 439 Sudderth, Ruidoso; 257-7124.

**Alto Women's Association:** 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Alto Club House for lunch and cards. Business meeting, first Tuesday of every month.

**Kiwanis:** Tuesdays at noon at K-Bobs; Rutalee Waters, 257-2626.

**Lincoln County Solid Waste Authority:** Meets at 2 p.m. at the LCSWA office, 222 2nd St., Ruidoso Downs.

**Narcotics Anonymous:** Meets 7 p.m. Tuesday at Best Western Ruidoso Inn conference room. Call Dawn at 937-0844 or Josie at 378-5621. Or,

write to HCR 46, Box 447, Ruidoso Downs, NM, 88346.

**Prepared Childbirth Classes:** Meets at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, at the Lincoln County Medical Center's conference room. Six classes per session with qualified, certified instructors; 257-7381 (ask for OB dept.).




**Rotary International, Ruidoso-Hondo Valley Club:** Arrive at 11:45 a.m. on Tuesdays at the Cree Meadows Country Club, except on the first Tuesday of the month during the school year; Barbara, 258-5445, Phillis, 257-5555 or Greg, 257-1255.

**Ruidoso Evening Lions:** Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 106 S. Overlook; 378-4151.

**Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club:** 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday for lunch and a meeting at Cree Meadows Country Club; 257-2776.

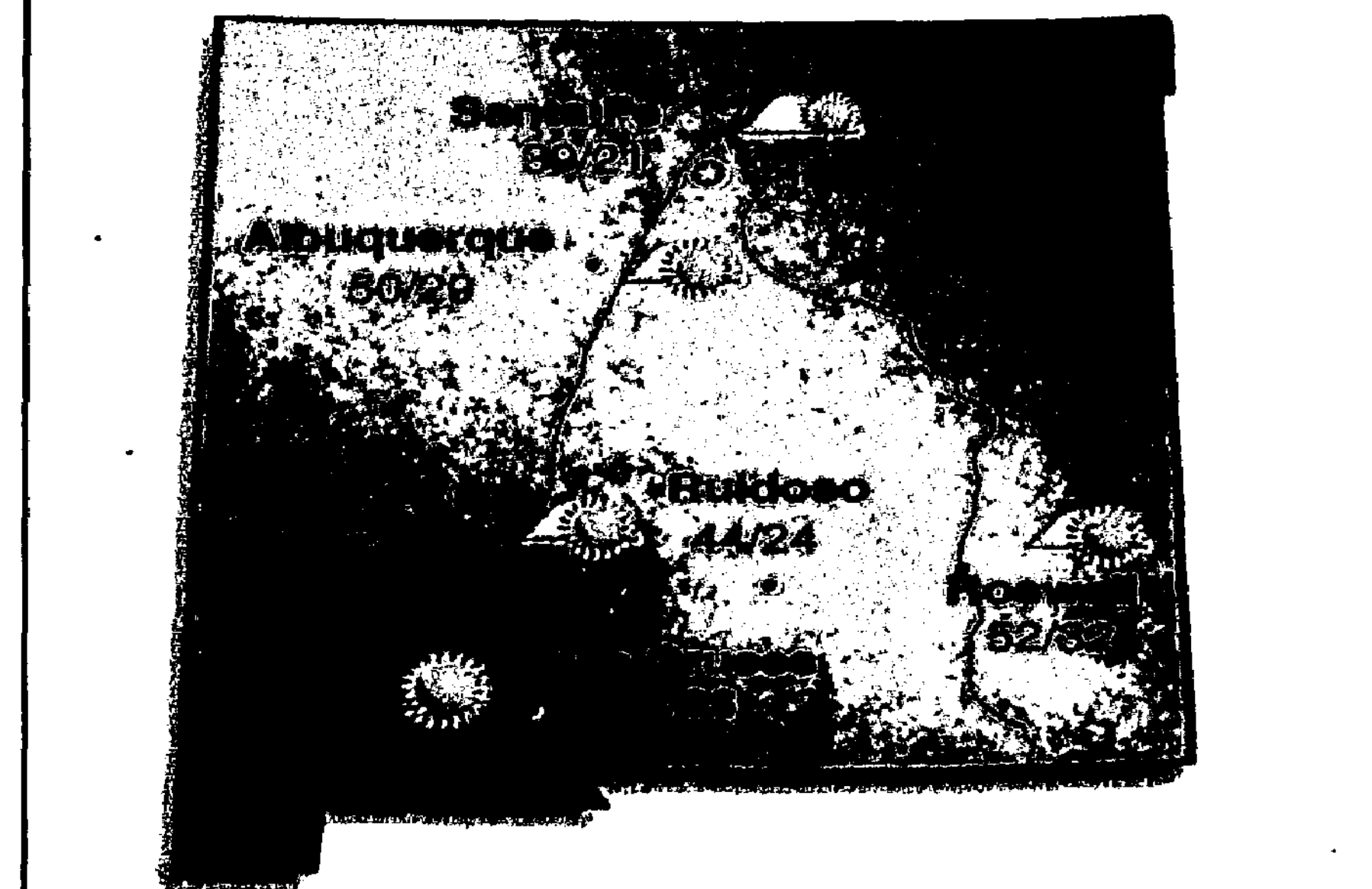
**Ruidoso Village Council:** Meets at 5:30 p.m. in the administrative offices at Village Hall, 313 Cree Meadows Drive; 258-4343.

## Today's Weather Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 11/24	Thu 11/25	Fri 11/26
		
<b>44/24</b> Generally sunny despite a few afternoon clouds. High 44F. Winds light and variable.	<b>48/28</b> Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.	<b>53/29</b> Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise: 6:43 AM Sunset: 4:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 4:56 PM	Sunrise: 6:44 AM Sunset: 4:55 PM

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## New Mexico At A Glance



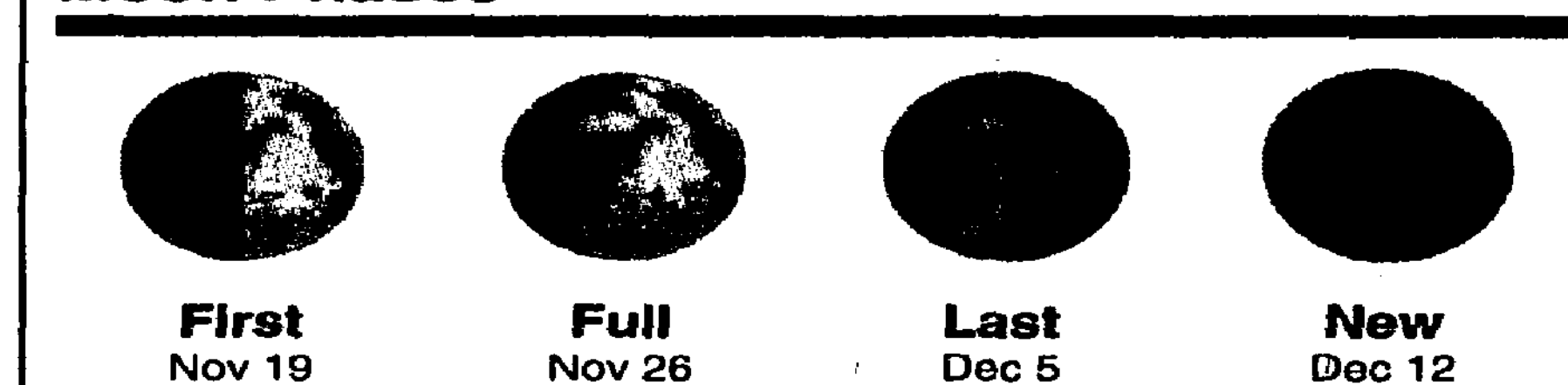
## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Alamogordo	55	31	mst sunny	Lordsburg	59	31	sunny
Albuquerque	50	29	mst sunny	Lubbock, TX	49	31	sunny
Carlsbad	54	33	mst sunny	Odessa, TX	51	32	sunny
Chama	35	15	pt sunny	Raton	43	21	sn shower
Clovis	47	29	pt sunny	Roswell	52	32	mst sunny
Deming	58	29	sunny	Santa Fe	39	21	pt sunny
El Paso, TX	57	36	sunny	Santa Rosa	50	31	pt sunny
Espanola	46	21	pt sunny	Silver City	54	30	sunny
Farmington	45	21	mst sunny	Socorro	51	28	sunny
Gallup	44	16	sunny	St. Johns, AZ	49	25	mst sunny
Grants	44	16	sunny	Taos	40	16	pt sunny
Guymon, OK	45	27	mst sunny	Trinidad, CO	43	27	mst sunny
Hobbs	54	35	mst sunny	Truth or Conseq.	55	31	sunny
Las Cruces	57	33	sunny	Tucumcari	44	28	pt sunny
Las Vegas	44	23	pt sunny	Tuscon, AZ	62	42	sunny

## National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	68	50	t-storm	Minneapolis	38	19	mst sunny
Boston	55	53	rain	New York	59	57	rain
Chicago	41	28	mixed	Phoenix	66	47	sunny
Dallas	56	35	pt sunny	San Francisco	63	49	sunny
Denver	42	27	pt sunny	Seattle	54	49	rain
Houston	66	40	mst sunny	St. Louis	47	29	mixed
Los Angeles	70	52	sunny	Washington, DC	63	58	rain
Miami	84	73	pt sunny				

## Moon Phases



## UV Index

Wed 11/24	Thu 11/25	Fri 11/26
Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale. 0 is the lowest and 11 is the highest. A higher UV index shows the need for greater skin protection.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### RHS reunion planned

Three classes from Ruidoso High School are planning a combined three-day reunion for next June.

The classes are 1994, 1995, and 1996. The tentative date for the event is June 11-13, 2005.

Organizers are working to get in touch with graduates of these three classes. The contact persons are Mandy Sodd, msodd@hotmail.com and Cody Snow, wcsnow@mac.com.

### County sets schedule

The Lincoln County Board of

Commissioners has finalized its schedule for monthly regular meetings in 2005.

The meeting dates are: Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, and Dec. 15.

All meetings are held on Tuesdays and conducted in the commission chambers at the County Courthouse complex in Carrizozo. Special meetings are held when announced.

### Employee of month

Reynaldo Lucero has been named Employee of the Month at the Lincoln County Deten-



Above, he is pictured with Warden Mike Holm.

Lucero was cited for his "exceptional professionalism and dedication to his chosen career," writes Holm. "On

numerous occasions Mr. Lucero has intercepted potentially detrimental contraband from being introduced into the facility. In many instances while interviewing inmates...Mr. Lucero's name will come up as being one of the employees to be avoided during a shakedown or when trying to bend the rules. This among other things indicates that Mr. Lucero utilizes integrity on a daily basis...."

### Committee to meet

The Lodgers Tax Advertising subcommittee meets at 2:30 p.m. today in Village Hall, 313 Cree Meadows Drive.

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# Local residents draw future for Parks & Rec

BY DAVE PRICE  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Fifty miles of connected mountain biking trails, a fenced dog park and an 18-hole Frisbee golf course are just two of the amenities that local recreation enthusiasts hope will be found in Ruidoso in the years to come.

A number of local residents including Jack McGrann, Craig Brock, Patrick Pearson and others testified last Wednesday at the Village of Ruidoso's Parks and Recreation

Committee's public hearing to make their recommendations to the Ruidoso Master Plan.

The meeting resulted in a draft list of a number of recommendations the board will take to the Ruidoso Village Council regarding the makeup of Ruidoso's master plan. Before reaching the council, however, the group's testimony — at times passionate — will need to be routed through the Planning & Zoning Commission.

"We need to be sure that the council knows the priorities of the Parks and Recreation

department," said committee member Susan Lutterman said she was encouraged by the evening's lively discussions about the myriad recreation options that Ruidoso could pursue.

"When you sit on a commission like this," she said after the meeting, "it can get to feel

very frustrating. You sit there, month after month, and talk about priorities. When you get a public hearing like this where people come in and say what you've been saying all along, it feels good."

Susan Lutterman  
Parks & Recreation Committee

maps of Ruidoso showing how existing bike trails could be

joined together to create a 50-mile loop of trails, including a stretch around Moon Mountain, which they hoped could be maintained as green space.

Brock, who works at High Altitude in Ruidoso, said that the community would host an International Mountain Biking Association trails-building seminar in 2005.

Brock spoke at length about the growing popularity of mountain biking events and how much revenue these types of events could draw into the local economy.

Other speakers spoke of the need for a public dog park, perhaps to be located at the village's new nine-acre property on Wingfield, and the potential for the tourism appeal of a Frisbee disc golf course, which features metal posts with chain-link nets into which "golfers" must throw their discs.

Brock said High Altitude sells a lot of discs for golf, and that they must send their customers to Cloudcroft to play, as that community has the only course in the area.

## DEAN: ENMU's Elrod stepping into 'big shoes'

FROM PAGE 1A

Gamble said that of all the instructional centers in New Mexico, he believed this one has the most potential.

He said the campus has the advantage of good people and strong leadership, which he expects to continue with Elrod's appointment.

Voters approved an education bond that will provide \$750,000 for the expansion of ENMU-Ruidoso, and this campus's growth is priority number seven for the state Legislature, which could allocate another \$1.25 million. The Legislature is expected to confer branch status upon ENMU-Ruidoso, which will create more growth opportunities.

Elrod takes the helm at an auspicious time in the campus's development, and the search committee who selected him knew they needed someone who could carry the school into its exciting future.

"I'm a little overwhelmed, and I appreciate the vote of confidence you've given me," he said at the press conference.

Elrod's career began at the

ENMU campus in Clovis, and several of his family members are ENMU graduates. He himself holds a 2002 Ph.D. from New Mexico State University in higher education administration.

He also has a 1989 masters in education management and development and a 1974 bachelor's in sociology from NMSU.

"It's evident that this campus has tremendous community support," Elrod said. "I expect to build on the momentum that Dr. Miller has generated. There's nothing but big shoes to fill here."

Elrod and his wife of 33 years Debbie are moving immediately into their Ruidoso vacation home, and they feel they are fast becoming members of the community.

Miller stated that he's worked with Elrod in the past, and he's confident in his ability.

"The important thing is to back up good leadership with strong support from the 'followers,'" Miller said.

"We need to give him time and listen to new ideas he'll bring in during this exciting period of expansion."

Miller, whose official last day is Jan. 8, said that his decision to retire was prompted by health concerns.

He suffered a heart attack two years ago that nearly killed him, and it took more than a year for him to fully recover. In addition to diet and exercise, his doctor advised him to reduce his stress levels.

He is taking a job at Seasons Nursery and will contribute his services to Region IX. Gamble also hopes he will represent ENMU in state Legislature. He

will also advise and support Elrod.

After 34 years in education, Miller is looking forward to the therapeutic effects of nursing the plants at Seasons.

"I'm a plant person," he said. "We're going to miss Jim very much," Gamble said.

"We cannot adequately express the appreciation we feel for what Miller has accomplished, and wish him the best in his retirement."


Elrod's appointment becomes effective Jan. 3.

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# RUIDOSO NEWS OPINION

PAGE 4A

CALL US: KEITH GREEN, EDITORIAL ADVISER • 257-4001 • KGREEN@RUIDOSONEWS.COM

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 2004

## RUIDOSO NEWS

Dave Price, general manager

Marty Racine, editor

A Gannett Newspaper. Published every Wednesday and Friday at 104 Park Avenue, Ruidoso, New Mexico

### OUR OPINION

## All that rush to annexation

Or, who's really running our fair village?

Village councilor L. Ray Nunley has a point: Areas to be annexed by the village should not take priority when it comes to such things as utility services and roads.

Council members and other village officials in recent months have been in somewhat of a tizzy as they try to figure out how to divert the anti-extraterritorial zone contingent, primarily based in outlying county areas.

Some village hall denizens have somehow come to the conclusion that the ultimate answer isn't simply creating a controllable buffer around the village pending future annexation — it's to go ahead and annex everything in reach.

And maybe worry about the problems later. Although, we hasten to point out, the village planners are doing a thorough study of the whole issue.

It all goes back to the

Planning and Zoning Commission, which itself is in the throes of reviewing a comprehensive plan for the village.

Those commissioners would like to see a timetable that would complete major annexation within the next five years. And planning director Chay Rennick says that might not be fast enough to suit them.

"They consider it a high priority," Rennick said during a briefing of Nunley and others.

That, it appears, is so the village can accommodate a projected 13,000 more residents in the next 20 years.

But Nunley makes his point: Plunging into the future can leave lots of residue along the wayside.

We hope our elected village councilors don't forget that the unelected P&Z commissioners do not have the right to run the show. To some people, there's considerable evidence of that already.

## Choice words from our best and brightest

Thanksgiving messages from some of the best and the brightest:

**Gov. Bill Richardson:** We are thankful for New Mexico. This nation, this nation that we all love, is a better place with New Mexico in it. And I would like to add my personal thanks that both the New Mexico press and the national press have, at least for the time being, stopped mentioning the possibility that I might be a future President of these United States.



LOOKING ASKANCE  
NED CANTWELL

I want to say again that I have found fulfillment as the governor of the State of New Mexico and am not interested in the presidency and so it is good that we have, at least for the time being, stopped reminding people that I am a Democratic Party stud and that I might one day be considered for president. By that, I mean, President of the United States, and I am just thankful we are not talking about it.

**President George Bush:** Being thankful is good. It is a good thing to be thankful. Because when you give thanks, you're thankful. And notice when I say THANK-ful how I clearly and forcefully enunciate to show how comfortable I have become with most two-syllable words. And so today I join my fellow Americans in giving thanks so that the world will know this great country is filled with gratitude.

**John Kerry:** People ask me, and the question is not just rhetorical, whether in my heart of hearts I am secretly thankful that I lost the election to President George W. Bush. Well, let me answer that

question. And let me answer that question clearly and concisely so there will be no doubt where I stand on this issue.

At first I was not thankful that I lost the election. Then I was thankful for about three days, and then I was not thankful again. Right this moment, as I speak with you today, I am thankful... not... thankful... not... thankful.

But just in case that is not clear enough, let us look at the root of the word "grateful." Many people who don't know better, and I would suggest to you George Bush is one of them, look to "grate" as the root word. That is incorrect, although, it is of some interest that "grate" is what George Bush does to my nerves. No, the word we need to look at here, that is, when we are speaking of "grateful," is the word "gracious." And I have a message for all of you about the word "gracious," but I will not be able to deliver that message at this point in time because, unfortunately, it seems you have all dozed off.

**Gov. Bill Richardson:** It's me again. It seems that since my annual Thanksgiving message delivered yesterday on the steps of the capitol building here in Santa Fe, there has been a disturbing increase in speculation that I might one day seek national office.

I am therefore today appointing a Czar whose job will be to constantly remind the people of New Mexico that I am not being considered as a nominee for President of the United States. The new Czar is syndicated columnist Ned Cantwell who, quite frankly, seems to have way too much time on his hands.

*Czar Cantwell is a retired newspaperman living in Ruidoso. He is thankful for response to ncantwell@charter.net.*

## SKI APACHE THANKSGIVING OPENING 2004



### YOUR OPINION

## Mothers must answer to a higher authority

To the editor:

(Responding to Susan Hutchinson's letter on 11/19).

I wholeheartedly agree with you on asking for the Lord God's blessings on our country; however, allow me to remind you and anyone else that cares; I don't have to like George Bush to love my country.

On your op-ed on the issue of abortion, as usual, you and every anti-abortionist in this country miss the point entirely. It is no one's business but the woman carrying the child as to what happens with that child. I realize that in this nation of control freaks, we just can't stand to hear that we cannot "save" a baby; however, all women who have had abortions must answer to a much higher authority than you and the rest of the anti-abortion crowd. Personally, that makes me tremble far more than answering to anyone else, or the people that have murdered doctors performing abortions in the name of "saving" babies. The government and private citizens simply have no business regulating the issue in the first place — it is between a woman and her maker and no one else. This does fall into the category of restricting personal freedom, something I do recall the country was founded upon, and one of the many reasons for leaving England in the first place. Are women still exempt from these freedoms?

When we all stand at the judgment bar of Christ to answer for our activities, rest assured our Lord and Savior will do as He sees fit with those who have had to make this terrible and difficult decision. In the meantime, stay out of our crotchets.

Teri Kelson-Bledsoe  
Nogal

### A problem for taxpayers

To the editor:

Now that our national politics has

reached a decision, we can return to local politics. Updating actions by our Ruidoso Council is seen to be a problem for our taxpayers. Recent council meetings illustrate the need for leadership, planning and performance. All are now sadly lacking with the village council.

Sept. 13 meeting: This council meeting is a prime example of what is lacking in council meetings. Meetings normally run two to three hours. This one ended after midnight the next day. Better control by the chair should have reduced the time by one-half. Several proposals were made which were ignored or received unacceptable answers.

One decision ... made regarding cancelling lodgers tax being given to the artists in Ruidoso who work to promote this city was wrong. It was made worse by giving the lodgers tax to the Convention Center. A terrible decision. The Convention Center is a department of the village working with a budget derived from taxes, much as the street or solid waste departments. The lodgers tax committee knows better. The sales tax destined to be reduced one point after the Grindstone bonds were retired was a point in question. The mayor's statement that the matter had been handled was not true. The sales tax of 7.12 percent remains today. This high tax results in an increase of income to the village with increasing budgets, but overlooking a decrease in service charges, water rates, trash rates, etc.

Spending several million dollars in the solid waste department to return to a more expansive system was rationalized as "upgrading the system." Details as to how this will be done has yet to be explained to the voters.

Ruidoso over more than five years has received more than \$100,000 per year as an "environmental tax-refund." The statement that this is a temporary tax is not true, as the tax refund will continue for many years. Ruidoso has

yet to acknowledge that this refund is received every year and is handled as income for the trash operation. All suggestions dealing with improving performance or reducing cost of operation were ignored at the Sept. 13 meeting.

By comparison, a recent council meeting was extremely short. Only two items appeared on the agenda requiring a public meeting. Many problems confronting the village and requiring attention did not reach the agenda status.

With the exception of efforts made by some of the newer councilors, the mayor with his tie-vote-breaking policy has not afforded the leadership to keep abreast of the problems facing the council.

J. A. "Al" Junge  
E.&O.E./Ruidoso

### Refreshing letter

To the editor:

How refreshing to read a letter (11/19) that isn't highly opinionated, argumentative, defensive or depressing.

The letter from Betty Harlan, Sudan, Texas, was interesting, informative and fun to read.

Thank you, Betty, for a welcome breath of fresh air.

Barbara Karcher  
Alto

### OUR RIGHT TO KNOW

#### The First Amendment

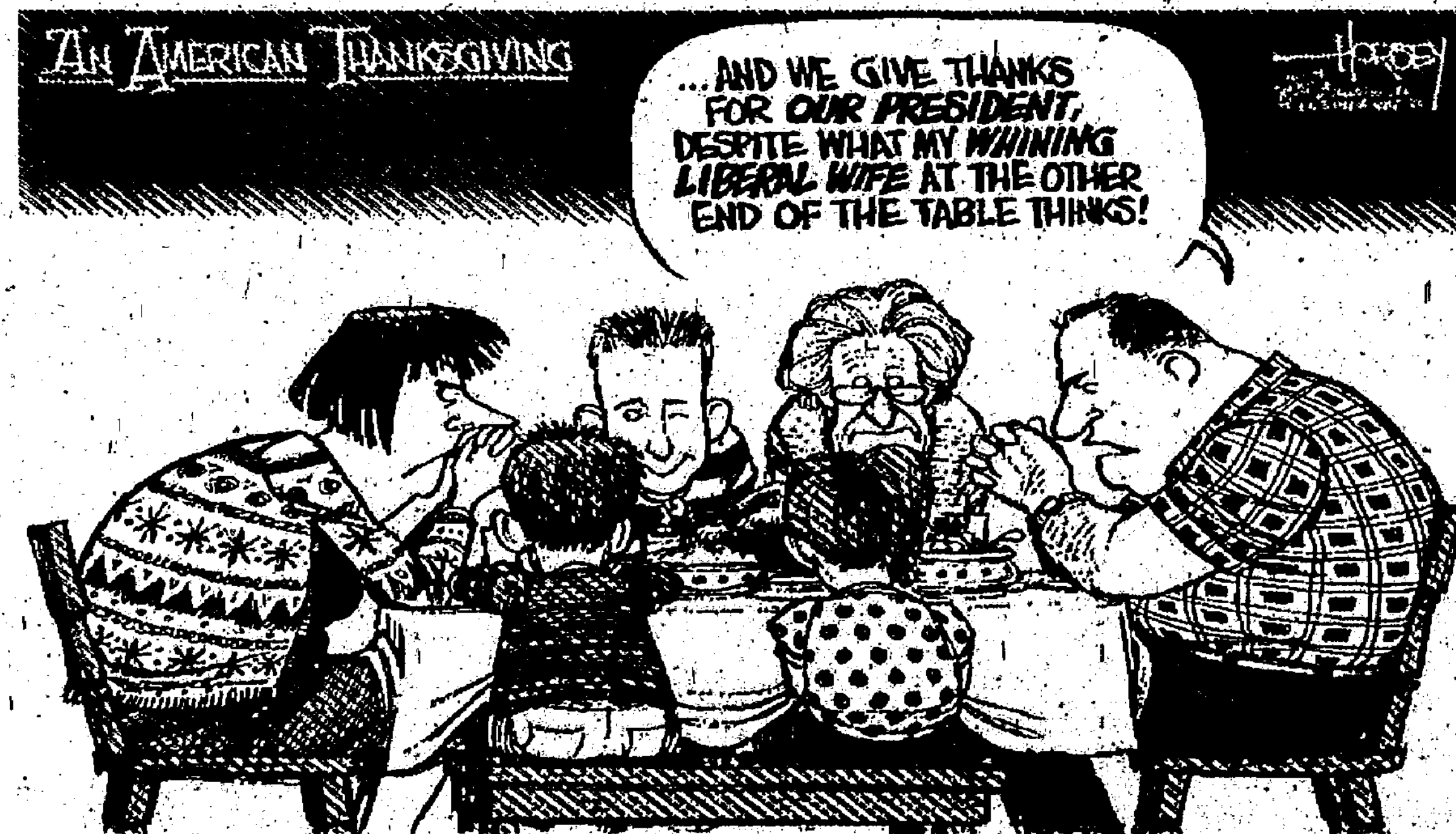
Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

### LETTERS POLICY

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

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

Letters may be delivered to the Ruidoso News office at 104 Park Avenue, mailed to P.O. Box 128, Ruidoso, NM 88365; faxed to 257-7053; or sent by e-mail to letters@ruidosonews.com.







NIKI PRICE/STAFF

## Building a Christmas Carol

Lincoln County Community Theater was hard at work Saturday building sets for "A Christmas Carol," set to open Dec. 3. Left, Britney Bryant carves a sign out of foam.

The first step in building sets for "A Christmas Carol" was to paint donated flats white—a job tackled Saturday by Lesley Schafer and BJ Williams. The show, a classic holiday tale produced by Lincoln County Community Theater, is set to open at the Ruidoso Schools Performing Arts Center Dec. 3.

## Midtown to shine tonight

BY DAVE PRICE  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Tonight at dusk, Midtown Ruidoso will light up for the season.

The lights and foil that wrap many poles throughout the Midtown area—and which will stretch all the way to the turnaround at the entrance to the Upper Canyon—are sponsored by the Ruidoso Festival of Lights and the organizations many civic and business sponsors.

The Ruidoso Parks and Recreation Department has been working to wrap the lights around light poles throughout the community for the past few weeks.

The Festival of Lights Committee, the all-volunteer group that will present this third year of holiday festivities in the Ruidoso area, announced this week that, although they had hoped to wrap light poles extending well north of Sudderth on Mechem for the event, engineering difficulties encountered by Texas-New Mexico Power made that impossible for this year.

Instead, the committee has purchased a number of lighted holiday tableaux, each featur-

ing different holiday themes, which will be installed at high-visibility locations along Mechem. The displays include an animated, lighted holiday train and an animated Santa Claus character riding an illuminated motorcycle, among others.

**"We want to thank all the merchants, individuals and community leaders who are helping us light up Ruidoso."**

Jules Videau  
FOL committee president

Tuesday.

The lighting tonight is just the beginning of the Festival of Lights activities. On Dec. 2, the village will celebrate the Christmas tree lighting event

with Santa Claus, carols, and refreshments.

In the weeks to come, residents and businesses that have decorated their homes and buildings with lights for the season will be judged in the lighting contest.

On Dec. 11, the Festival of Lights parade will light up Midtown Ruidoso.

On Dec. 17 and 18, the Snowblast Ruidoso event will come to the Ruidoso Convention Center, and will feature food and beer vendors, ski and snowboard vendors and other businesses, as well as live music by the Las Cruces band "Liquid Cheese," and two screenings of "Impact," the latest extreme ski film by Warren Miller.

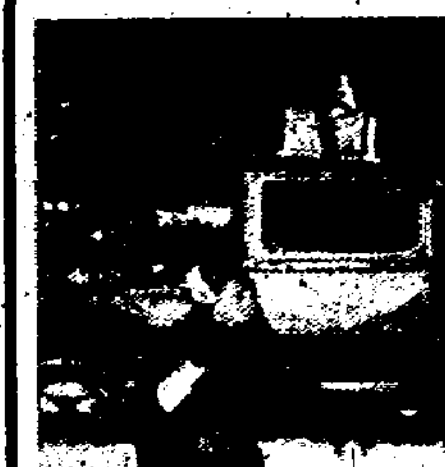
Information and entry forms for the various Festival of Lights events can be accessed at [www.folruidoso.com](http://www.folruidoso.com).

## Visit Ruidoso's Festival of Lights

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CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

Thursday, Dec. 2

Ruidoso's Schoolhouse Park hosts the annual tree lighting and official launch of holiday festivities throughout this spectacular, decorations-bedecked community.

PARADE OF LIGHTS

Sat., Dec. 11  
Floats, marching bands and more! This tradition begins at 6 p.m. in Midtown Ruidoso.

SNOWBLAST: RUIDOSO

Friday & Saturday, Dec. 17 & 18

The Ruidoso Convention Center hosts this first-ever ski & snow expo, featuring two showings of Warren Miller's IMPACT, the newest extreme ski flick from the famed filmmaker. Plus - dance to Las Cruces band Liquid Cheese, plus - local food and brews!

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## BULLYING: White Mountain Elementary School has received a \$10,000 grant to help nip an age-old schoolyard problem in the bud

BY NIKI PRICE  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

**S**usan Roberts, a counselor at White Mountain Elementary School in Ruidoso, says there's no doubt about it: Kids get mad.

It's a natural emotion that has many sources, and one troubling outlet: Bullying. Children who can't deal with their anger can become part of a bully relationship — aggressor or victim — that can lead to violence in public schools.

That's why "Bully-Proofing Your School," a curriculum based out of Colorado, trains teachers on creating an atmosphere of compassion and tolerance.

"Kids get mad, and hopefully (this program) will teach them the right way to get mad," Roberts said Monday. "You can discuss things. You don't have to be happy about them, but you can at least talk about them and look for solutions."

The staff at WMES was just awarded a \$10,000 grant to help their students along. Part of a \$350,000 appropriation from the 2003-04 state Legislature, the awards will pay for training and implementing Bully Proofing Your School in 24 districts and regional education cooperatives across the state, from Lovington and Socorro to Carlsbad and Silver City.

"We are aware that a number of factors contribute to academic achievement and we want to ensure that first and foremost our students feel safe when they are at school," said state education secretary Veronica Garcia. "Unsafe schools can have a negative impact on learning."

BPYS is a product of Creating Caring Communities, an educational services company based in Denver, which launched its first pilot program in 1992.

In elementary schools, Bully-Proofing is about mobilizing the "caring majority" — the 85 percent of students who are neither bullies nor victims.

Maintaining a safe school environment, infused with kindness and decency, is the key to inspiring this majority, according to CCC literature.

"It teaches students who have bully tendencies to be more compassionate. And, for the students that tend to be victims, it teaches ways of acting and reacting to these other students, so that they don't become targets," Roberts said.

This curriculum addresses a third person in the bullying scenario: the bystander. Kris Meurer, director of the state education department's school health unit, says that BPYS works with those students too.

"Basically, it teaches them not to tolerate it, not to stand by. It gives them the power to say, 'What you're doing is not OK,' and to go get someone," Meurer said.

"When a fight breaks out, many kids will gather to watch. Bullies often want attention, so having bystanders walk away negates the issue."



**Fun and games** — but no bullying among these Sierra Vista Primary students at the White Mountain complex. They will be moving up in the world in a couple of years, where bullying can be a problem; hence, a special project to curtail it.

PAMELA CROMWELL/STAFF

### Why Ruidoso?

Meurer said that competition for the bully-proofing grant, and an accompanying positive behavior program, was intense.

WMES was one of the recipients, said Roberts, because it already has several discipline and peer assistance programs in place. Peer mediation involves fourth graders in disputes between students, while other children's groups attack problems with organization and anger management. A student assistance team of teachers, administrators and a social worker helps to provide intervention with children having behavioral or academic difficulties.

And although things have been quiet so far this year, Roberts believes that cultural tensions can lay the groundwork for hostility. The student population is about 45 percent

Caucasian, 37 percent Hispanic and 17 percent Native American, she said.

"We have three completely different cultures here, and they tend to hang around with each other; they don't always understand each other's cultures," she said. "Sometimes, they like to harass each other, and they don't look at it as bullying."

"But we try to teach them that these behaviors are not ones they want to exhibit. We work on respect for different cultures, and accountability," Roberts said.

The bullying grant will pave the way for a searchable data system that will track all student referrals. This, Roberts said, will help teachers zero in on dispute triggers, such as particular times of day, locations or activities, as well as individual students or classes.

### The next step

The grants will help pay for teachers to attend the Bully Proof Your School training sessions, which could take place in December or January. In the case of WMES, the award will also pay for training workbooks and a community involvement campaign of posters, banners, advertising and student incentives, like T-shirts.

Roberts hopes to begin the Bully-Proofing Your School program, in earnest, in Spring 2005. She's looking for volunteers, as well as community support, to help initiate the compassionate atmosphere that "has no room for bullies."

"You have to have buy-in from the school and the community for anything to work," she said. "If you don't have the support of the people, it doesn't matter how much money you spend."

Roberts will soon be forming a committee of teachers and parents. For more information, call 258-4220.

## CANNY COLLECTORS



COURTESY WMIS

**Students** at White Mountain Intermediate collected more than 1000 cans for the student council food drive. Collected cans were given to the Lincoln County Food Bank.



COURTESY WMIS

**Homeroom** classes that rounded up the most donations were Mrs. Wright's 5th grade homeroom (above) and Mrs. Neumayer's 6th grade homeroom (below).

## Science Fair enthralls young students at MAS

BY PAMELA CROMWELL  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

It was science fair day at the Mescalero Apache School on Wednesday. Organized by elementary science teacher Bryan Jose, the fair challenged students of all ages, including Kindergarten, to hypothesize and experiment. Students defended their hypotheses for the judges, who evaluated the entries for scientific thought, creativity, the interview, thoroughness and clarity, and the visual presentation.

Brian Parrish, marketing director for the Inn of the Mountain Gods, was one of the judges.

"It's a lot of fun, and there are some pretty clever experiments," he said.

Among the explorations made by Mescalero's young scientists... testing the strength of chicken eggs (which can't be broken if you squeeze on the lateral), using aluminum cans as insulation (they work), and the effect of coffee on heart rate and blood pressure (not good).

The first-grade class was surprised to learn that everyone has different fingerprints. Ten out of the twelve students guessed everyone in the class would have the same prints.

Two science fair teams took on the



PAMELA CROMWELL/STAFF

**First-graders** Aubree Montoya and Christopher Simms tell judge Earl Bell about their fingerprint experiment. This entry by Ms. Gonzales' class won first place in the first- and second-grade age group.

noble task of determining what brand of waterproof mascara was actually waterproof. They both concluded that Max Factor is the best protection from raccoon eyes.

"Talking to the kids about their projects is the best part," Parrish said. "They really get impassioned and into it."

Awards are made by grade level, and the Presidential Award goes to one outstanding exhibit from any grade.

### Science Fair Winners

**K1-K2**  
1st place: Super Egg (Mrs. Treptow K2)  
2nd place: Clean Water (Mrs. Collier K2)

3rd place: Bouquet of Smells (Ms. Martinez K1)

**1-2 Grades**  
1st place: Finger Prints (Mrs. Gonzales 1st grade)  
2nd place: Apples & Number of Seeds (Mrs. Harrod 2nd grade)  
3rd place: How are Crystals Made (Ms. Sidwell 2nd grade)

**3-4 Grades:**  
1st place: The Yokes on You (Ashley Kinzhuma, Christina Ponce, Kyle Yahnahki; 3rd grade)  
2nd place: How can Perfume get into a Sealed Balloon (Carols Mendez & Sonny Valdez, 4th grade)  
3rd place: Right Foot, Left Foot (Cheralyn Lester, Kendall Lester & Danielle Burgess, 4th grade)

**5-6 Grades**  
1st place: Bones & Carbonation Don't Mix (Joy Knighten, 6th grade)  
2nd place: Water Wheels (Lynelle Rice & Valerie Garcia, 5th grade)  
3rd place: Heads or Tails (Chris Second, 6th grade)

**7-9 Grades**  
1st place: Generators (Lorenzo Kanseah, 8th grade)  
2nd place: 3 Girls Lost in a Flood (Chrisalyn Prins, Kyndra Hiles, Arielle Beck; 8th grade)  
3rd place: Shocking Combo (Brie Martinez & Kyle Valdez, 8th grade)

**10-12 grades**  
1st place: Old Fashion Fire Extinguisher (Lataya Naiche, 11th grade, and Sabrina Antone, 12th grade)  
2nd place: Take a Water Break (Crystal Melendrez & Twyla Chino, 12th grade)

## SCHOOL MENUS

### Capitan Schools

Two choices of lunch for middle and high school students

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Hot cereal, toast, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Pepper Steak or chicken patty with gravy, roll, salad, corn, fruit

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: Cheese omelet, toast

Lunch: Burritos or chix nuggets with gravy, roll, salad, fruit and November Birthday Cake

### Carrizozo Schools

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Oatmeal muffins

Lunch: Tacos, salad, pinto beans,

chilled fruit

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: Waffles with syrup

Lunch: Baked chicken, rolls, salad, pineapple

### Ruidoso Schools

Nob Hill and Headstart

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Cereal, graham cracker, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Warrior Burger, French fries, sandwich trimmings, chilled fruit, milk or juice

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: Pancakes on a stick w/syrup, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Country fried steak, whipped potatoes w/gravy, seasoned green beans, roll, chilled fruit,

milk/juice

Elementary schools

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Cereal, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Country fried steak, whipped potatoes w/gravy, seasoned green beans, roll, chilled fruit, milk/juice

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: Pancake on a stick w/syrup, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: BBQ chicken on bun, potato salad, fresh fruit choice, milk

Ruidoso Middle School

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Egg and bacon biscuit, muffin and yogurt, cereal, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Country fried steak,

whipped potatoes w/gravy, seasoned green beans, roll, chilled fruit, milk/juice

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: French toast sticks w/syrup, breakfast burrito, cereal

Lunch: BBQ chicken on bun, potato salad, fresh fruit choice, milk

Ruidoso High School

Wednesday, Nov. 24 — Friday, Nov. 26: Thanksgiving Holidays!

Monday, Nov. 29 — Breakfast: Egg and bacon biscuit, muffin and yogurt, cereal, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: Country fried steak, whipped potatoes w/gravy, seasoned green beans, roll, chilled fruit, milk/juice

Tuesday, Nov. 30 — Breakfast: French toast sticks, breakfast burrito, cereal, fruit or fruit juice, milk

Lunch: BBQ chicken on bun, potato salad, fresh fruit choice, milk

## Ten from area seek degrees

**PORTALES** — Ten students from the Ruidoso area are among the 220 graduation candidates at Eastern New Mexico University this fall.

Candidates and their degrees:

Renee Marie Barnes, bachelor of science in elementary education; Janothan W. Bremer, associate of arts in general studies; Bill Duttweiler, associate/general studies; Anthony L. Elliott,

associate/general studies; David W. Goddard, bachelor of business administration (magna cum laude); Kathryn R. Griffin, associate of arts in general studies; Mary Kathleen Herrera, bachelor of science in education in elementary education (summa cum laude); Gloria Carrasco Magana, associate/general studies; Ardena J. Oroscio, bachelor of university studies; Lisa Eileen Sager, associate/general studies.



# Wet weather good, but harming crops

LAS CRUCES — Rain and cool temperatures that have delayed crop harvests across the state may keep some producers out of the field for another week, a New Mexico State University expert said.

Crops hit hardest include cotton, pecans, chile and grain sorghum, along with some wheat.

Denise McWilliams, an agronomist with NMSU's Cooperative Extension Service, said she is concerned about lower quality and delayed harvests.

"In cotton we're more than 25 percent off our normal harvest schedule," she said. "Delayed harvest means additional weathering, which affects quality."

According to the New Mexico Agricultural Statistics Service, two-thirds of its 31 stations are reporting above-normal rainfall for the year, with significant increases in eastern New Mexico counties.

Among the leaders is Tatum, which rose from its normal 15.5 inches to 32.3 inches through mid-November.

Statewide, Farmington and the central counties around Socorro are close to their normal harvest schedules, while eastern New Mexico and the southern Mesilla Valley are well behind, McWilliams said.

Another factor pushing back harvest dates has been relatively cool fall temperatures, she said, slowing crops from reaching normal maturity.

"It's been an unusual year," said Rex Kirksey, superintendent of NMSU's agricultural science centers at Tucuman and Clovis.

"We've had over 30 inches of rain at Clovis this year. That's the wettest year since we started keeping records in 1950."

Eastern New Mexico was experiencing a typical year until June when steady rains

rolled through the flat plains country, he said. When soaking rains arrived in October and November, it was both good and bad for local producers.

"It's been too wet for cotton harvesters to get into the field, and some of the wheat that is normally planted in October is still not in," Kirksey said.

"On the other hand, growers have high expectations for next season because we have so much soil moisture at this time."

Rex Kirksey  
NMSU

New Mexico's wet autumn is a welcome relief from the state's lingering drought, but that doesn't mean the dry times have passed. Snowpack in the mountains of northern New Mexico and southern Colorado, crucial for state water supplies, remains below average for 2004, said Kelly Redmond, a climatologist at the Western Regional Climate Center.

Even though 2004 has been the 18th wettest year in New Mexico since 1895, Elephant Butte and other reservoirs are still shrinking and aquifers haven't recovered. It will take another four to five years of above-average snowpack to replenish the state's depleted reservoirs, state engineer John D'Antonio said.



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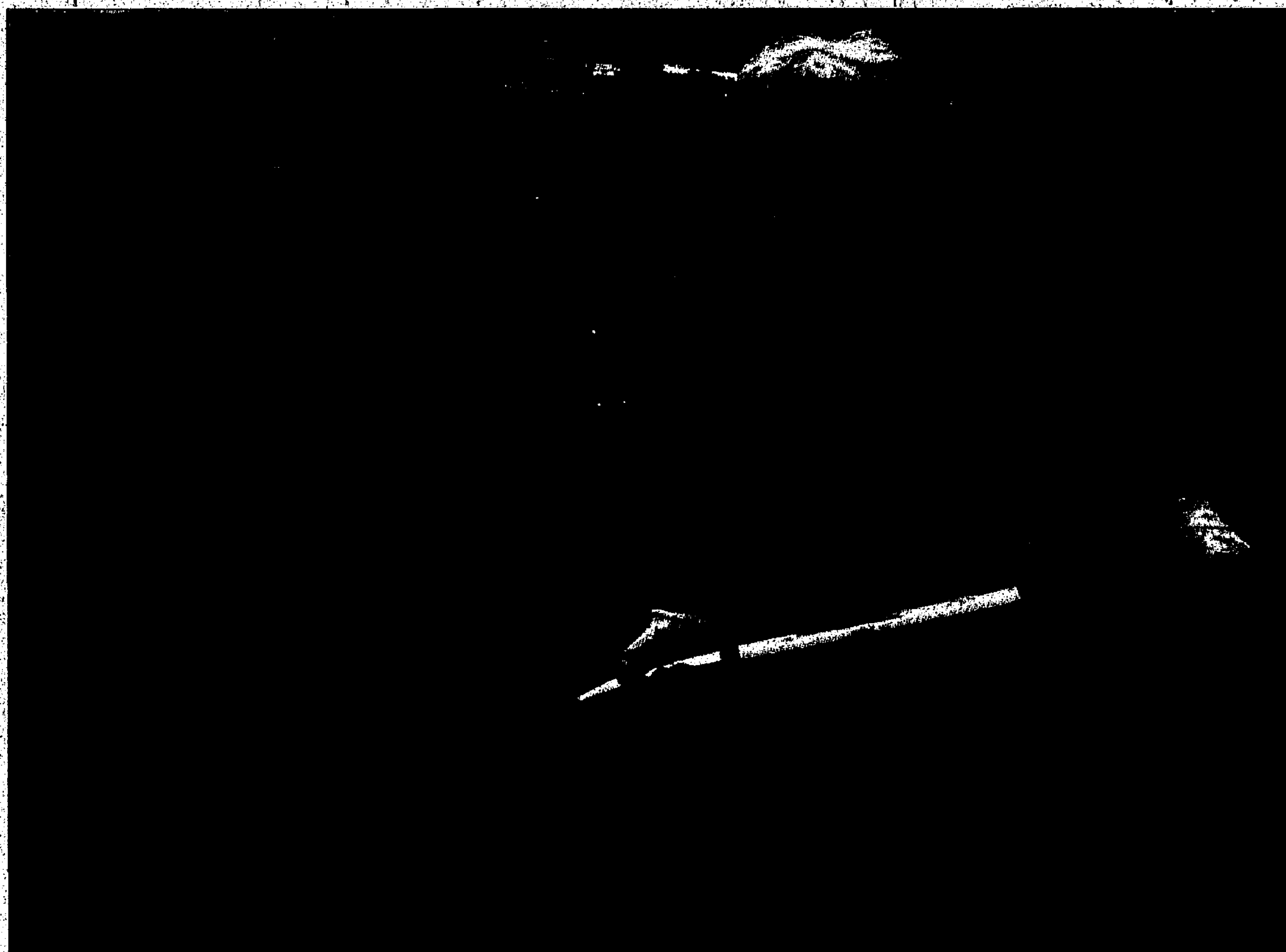
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**OPEN FOR THANKSGIVING**

**MATINEES WED. 11/24 - SUN 11/28, INCLUDING THANKSGIVING**

## MUCHO MULCH



MARTY RACINE/STAFF

June Sims of Ruidoso makes a pit stop for some compost provided free to the village by Sierra Contracting and made available to citizens through the Keep New Mexico Beautiful program. The compost, which can be used for mulch, is piled near the soccer fields off of Hull Road. The program was scheduled to conclude last weekend, but poor weather has slowed interest in shoveling and loading the material, which is partially made from shredded green waste. The program will continue while supplies last. Recycling bins for aluminum and paper products are available onsite, and citizens are asked to bring recycled materials in exchange for the compost. Sierra Contracting, located in Ruidoso Downs, has been providing free compost in the spring, as well.

## DIAMONDS & SILVER BELLS

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**Qatar** is interesting, **England** is cool, but come Thanksgiving there's nothing like

# HOME IN RUIDOSO

BY PAMELA CROMWELL  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

**T**wenty-two-year-old Rebekah Wimbrow, Airman First Class, is home for Thanksgiving. She's been away for almost two years, stationed at RAF Lakenheath in Suffolk County, England, and serving in Qatar (ka-TAHR) in the Middle East from March to June of this year.

After getting used to life in merry old England and a few months in the not-so-merry Middle East, coming back to little Ruidoso feels almost surreal. While stationed at Lakenheath, Wimbrow has had opportunity to visit Rome and Norway — though she hasn't yet seen Ireland and Scotland — and those places are very nice. But there's no place like home.

"When I was a kid, I remember, I couldn't wait to get out of here," Wimbrow said. "But it's just great to be back. Ruidoso is really beautiful, and it's nice to be where your friends and family are."

Many Ruidosoans know Rebekah as the little girl at Candle Power, owned by Sally and Larry Wimbrow. She graduated from Ruidoso High School in 2000. After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Wimbrow felt a strong desire to do something.

"I wanted to help support everything that was going on," she said.

She wanted to help our country defend itself against terrorism. Her father Larry Wimbrow had been in the Air Force for 23 years, so Rebekah decided to follow suit. In September 2002, she completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

"It wasn't easy, but it wasn't as hard as I expected," she said. "It wasn't Full Metal Jacket."

Rebekah says she didn't join the military because she wanted to go to war; she just wanted to help in the effort against terrorism. She says that even though no weapons of mass destruction were found in Iraq, she believes that President Bush's decision to invade the country was the right thing to do.

"We couldn't sit back and do nothing," she said. "When I joined the Air Force, I was willing to do whatever and go where ever he directed us."

When duty called her to a U.S. Air Force base in Qatar, Wimbrow was one of five women out of 40-plus men in the 492nd Fighter Squadron who went. She didn't get to see much of Doha, which is a resort city and the capital of Qatar, but she was impressed by the number of American restaurant

chains there.

"They have more American restaurants than England does," she said.

While she spent most of her time on base, she got enough free time off base to sense that a woman among American airmen was quite the curiosity for Qataris. In fact, such a thing would be scandalous for a Qatari woman.

"Men tended to stare," she said. "At first I felt their disapproval of my being a woman with all these men. Later, it felt like they were just trying to figure us out."

People from many countries converge in Qatar, and women's dress ranges from abaya (long outer robes) and full veil to Western street clothes. When Wimbrow headed for Qatar she knew nothing of the country, its language or its customs.

"They basically told us all the things not to do so we wouldn't offend," she said. "All the people we met were very polite."

Wimbrow's job was in aircrew life support, taking care of gear that keeps pilots safe. The squadron flew missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Wimbrow's shift started at midnight, when she helped step the crew — issuing weapons and checking out gear such as masks, helmets, night vision goggles, G-suits (to protect pilots when the G-force goes up) and survival kits. She then helped escort pilots to their F-15 Strike Eagles and get them off the ground. The rest of the morning was often spent just waiting for the boys to return.

At 8 a.m., Wimbrow headed back to barracks, housed in trailers with no bathrooms attached.

"It was so hot," she said. "You'd get sweaty walking to the showers, enjoy a nice cool shower for a few minutes, then get sweaty all over again walk-



Larry and Sally Wimbrow had a happy greeting for daughter (and airman) Rebekah this week as she returned from two years overseas.

PAMELA CROMWELL/STAFF

ing back to the dorms."

With a hot wind blowing, temperatures could hit 120 degrees Fahrenheit, and Wimbrow's crew was once ambushed by a sandstorm that blew up from nowhere.

In June, Wimbrow returned to Lakenheath and the beautiful English countryside, where 60 degrees and raining never felt so good. Life in England is very different from the States, Wimbrow says. Sometimes it's hard to follow the language, with some of the slang and accents. Music clubs are more techno, and no one plays rock. At the pubs, there are no waitresses and the beer is stronger.

"I had an easier time adjusting to it, I think, because I have family there," she said.

Wimbrow's older brother and maternal grandmother both live in England.

Her adventures so far may have been enlightening, but when her plane touched down on this continent, her spirit soared with joy.

"I thought, 'Ohmygosh, it's America!' It felt so good to be back," she said. "And then when I saw my family I just bawled. I'm so happy to be home."

For the next few weeks, Wimbrow will enjoy seeing old friends and hanging out at Candle Power, now with a new perspective on her quaint little hometown.

## looking back

LINCOLN COUNTY SCRAPBOOK

Nov. 26, 1954

Telephone company sold

L. J. Hitchens of Ruidoso, a resident here almost three years, and serving as vice president of Ruidoso Telephone Co., heads a new corporation which has purchased the locally operated telephone system from the long-time owners, J. H. Fulmer and John Wright.

Fulmer and Wright, both of Carrizozo, with Fulmer alternating his residence between here and Carrizozo, had owned the system since 1932, when it reportedly had only 16 subscribers.

Nov. 27, 1964

Sierra Blanca slopes open

Sierra Blanca Ski Area, owned and operated by the Mescalero Apache tribe, begins its fourth season Thanksgiving Day with the use of artificial snow mixed with a small amount of natural snow that fell last mid-week.

...an estimated 150 to 200 persons enjoyed trying the beginners' area.

Skiing is rated good on a six-inch hard packed base.

Nov. 29, 1974

Animal licensing in Downs

The Ruidoso Downs village council heard a report from clerk Jerry Howden Monday that tags for the licensing of animals in the village have been received and that enforcement of licensing will begin immediately. Cost of the licenses is \$2 per animal.

Nov. 29, 1984

The compactor task

For the second time in as many months, former village councilor Al Junge Tuesday confronted the current council with the issue of the trash compactor-transfer system.

"I can't see any reason why we have to wait until next spring," Junge remarked. ... He said 90 percent of the work to be done could be by private contractors, not village crews.

Dec. 1, 1994

Hospital rated tops

The Lincoln County Medical Center in Ruidoso is the only hospital in New Mexico to be named one of the nation's "Top 100 Benchmark Hospitals."

Administrator Valerie Miller credited the achievement to the hospital staff and its commitment to serving patients while improving the overall operation of the 38-bed facility in Ruidoso.



Camels enjoy some beach relaxation, like people, in Qatar.

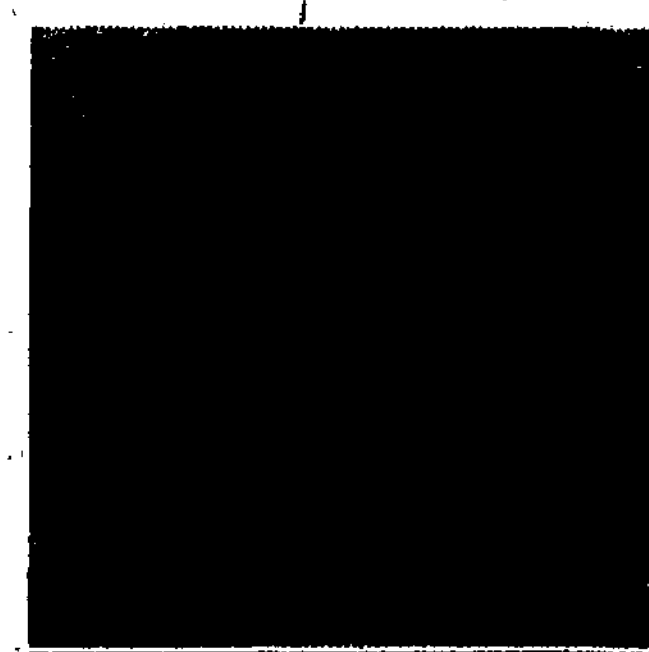
COURTESY REBEKAH WIMBROW



Relaxing was a sometime thing in Qatar, but this was one such moment.

COURTESY REBEKAH WIMBROW

## Flat Stanley provides an educational experience in Carrizozo



Art, Craft and Such

PRACTICAL, CREATIVE WAYS TO INCLUDE FUN IN EVERYDAY LIVING  
BY POLLY E. CHAVEZ

The third-graders at Carrizozo Schools had a visitor from an elementary school in Texas. While here the boy joined the class for an art session, spent time at the computers with the class's Accelerated Reading program, and he went with the class to pay a visit to Superintendent Sergio Castañon. He was a busy little chap. While in school he also spent some time on the class bulletin board that featured a Weekly Reader presidential mock election in which the majority of class voted for President Bush of Texas.

The special guest was Flat Stanley, the paper figure from the book *Flat Stanley*, by Jeff Brown. He was sent to Carrizozo by my grandson, so I felt like

Flat Stanley was also my grandson. I chose to share the paper figure with our third graders because my grandson is also a third grader. In the book, Stanley is squashed flat by a falling bulletin board.

One of the many advantages of this accident is that Flat Stanley can now visit his friends by traveling in an envelope. The Flat Stanley Project is a group of teachers who want to provide students with another reason to write. Flat Stanley visits places by conventional mail and e-mail. Flat Stanley is returned and students can trace his trip and share his adventures. Often, a Flat Stanley returns with a pin or a postcard from his visit.

Brown was thinking of ideas for a brand new Flat Stanley book when he died unexpectedly on Dec. 3, 2003. He served on the editorial staffs of *The New Yorker*, *The Saturday Evening Post*, *Life*, and *Esquire* magazines. His stories have appeared in these and other magazines. For several years, in Hollywood, he was associated with producer Samuel Goldwyn Jr., and later with Paramount Studios. In addition to the book in which Stanley gets flattened, Jeff Brown has written other stories.

Teachers who participate in the Flat Stanley project can plan curriculum lessons in English, Social Studies and Math. There are many ways Flat

Stanley can tie in with technology, too. For example, students can use the word processor to write about Flat's adventures; they can use a paint program to create their own Flat Stanley; and they can use a scanner to copy him and then send a Flat Stanley via e-mail.

After Flat Stanley visited Carrizozo Schools for a day, he was mailed back to the third grade class in Texas.

The miniature guy went back to Texas with my digital photos that recorded his many activities, including recess, at a school in Carrizozo, New Mexico. Flat Stanley was in historic Lincoln County and he took back with him balloons with the image of Smokey Bear.



# SPORTS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 2004

CALL US: TODD FUQUA, SPORTS EDITOR • 257-4001 • TODDF@RUIDOSONEWS.COM

PAGE 1B

## Hondo girls show they're not pushovers

BY TODD FUQUA AND CICAL KAISER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

**HONDO**—Despite being out-manned and out-sized, the Hondo Lady Eagle basketball team made some people believers with their performance against the Tularosa junior varsity in the championship of the Hondo Eagle Classic Saturday.

Excepting some ties, Hondo trailed in the entire game, and was down 36-21 to start the fourth quarter.

But then fouls started to catch up with Tularosa, and the Lady Eagles were able to trim the lead to just two points with 49 seconds left in the game.

Unfortunately for Hondo, it could get no closer, and the Lady Wildcats left the Eagle's nest with their second straight Eagle Classic championship with a 45-40 victory.

The Lady Eagles (1-2) had a chance to take the lead with a three-point attempt, but the shot was off.

Actually, Hondo had numerous opportunities to take control of the game at the foul line. The Lady Eagles took 31 free throws in the game, but was only able to connect on 14 of them.

In fact, Hondo's shooting was pretty much off all night, according to coach Julie Montoya.

"We missed a lot of free throws and a lot of open looks that we usually knock down," Montoya said. "I don't know what it was, we just couldn't find the basket."

Hondo played the Lady Wildcats—who were substituting off the bench liberally throughout the game—close in the first quarter. The teams trad-



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

**Hondo guard** Angelica Chavez, right, takes the ball from Tularosa's Amanda Herrera Saturday during the girls championship game of the Eagle Classic Saturday at Hondo.

ed baskets until a layup by Darla Syling gave Tularosa the 8-6 lead and sparked an 8-3 run to close out the first frame.

Hondo's Toney Montoya hit a three-pointer to start the second quarter and pull the Lady Eagles to within two, but the Lady Wildcats (2-0) just kept pouring on the points, executing their press and trap offense well while the Lady Eagles had a hard time finishing off their plays.

What really kept Hondo in the game was its ability to steal the ball. Montoya led the way with six thefts, while Angelica Chavez and Jamie Garcia had 11 points each.

Syling was the top scorer and rebounder for the Lady Wildcats, putting in 16 points and earning 15 boards.

"I wasn't happy with our transition offense, but we're using these games as practice," coach Montoya said. "We haven't had much practice, and we were probably a little fatigued today."

Saturday's game marked the third in three days for the Lady Eagles, who opened the season Thursday with a 61-56 loss to Cloudcroft, then defeated Vaughn 68-11 in the tournament's first round on Friday.

In Friday's game, Hondo was scoring at will, spotting Vaughn a

2-0 lead, then going on a 31-point run to put the game away early.

The second half featured a running clock under the 35-point

mercy rule, and the game came to a quick end.

Chavez and Garcia again led Hondo with 17 points each, while Montoya had 11.

### Lady Eagles fight at Cloudcroft

**CLOUDCROFT**—Hondo opened the year with a game at Cloudcroft Thursday, in a game that was supposed to be played against the Lady Bear junior varsity.

But when the Lady Eagles took the court, it turned out they were facing the varsity team.

Hondo still played strong, eventually succumbing to Cloudcroft 61-56 after forcing the Lady Bears to commit 23 turnovers.

The Lady Eagles came in with a significant height disadvantage, yet were scrappy and fast and were able to come back just when one thought the game might be slipping away from them.

Coach Montoya said the scrappiness is what her team needs to pride itself on because

See **HONDO**, page 3B



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

**Lawrence Gonzales**, left, looks for a way around Dexter's Adrian Sanchez Saturday during the Eagle Classic at Hondo.

### Eagles drop close one to Dexter

BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

**HONDO**—The Hondo boys basketball team left the court after the third place game in the Eagle Classic against Dexter junior varsity with a 41-31 loss, but it was a game in which the Eagles showed some promise for the season.

"We gave them all we had, we just got tired near the end," said Hondo coach Henry Lopez. "We couldn't do a lot of things that I wanted to do because we were undermanned. They were so much bigger than us."

Dexter's height advantage was obvious in the final statistics. The Demons had 47 rebounds to Hondo's 24, and Dexter's Fito Olivas came away with three blocks in he game.

See **EAGLES**, page 3B

Hondo Eagle Classic scores	
Friday, Nov. 19	
Boys	
Vaughn 60, Hondo 40	
Vaughn (60)	
Ricardo Guerrero 9 0-0 18, Cazzie Jackson 0 0-0 0, Dakota Jackson 0 0-0 0, Mike Duran 3 0-0 8, Eddie Guerrero 2 0-0 6, Ryan Martinez 0 0-0 0, Ricky Berumen 0 0-0 0, Justin Perry 0 0-0 0, Chris Matson 1 0-0 18, Justin Archibeque 6 0-1 12; Totals: 28 1-12 60.	
Hondo (40)	
Leo Salcido 5 1-2 12, E.J. Sanchez 2 0-0 4, Lawrence Gonzales 2 4-6 8, Brian Aragon 1 0-0 2, Steven Chavez 4 0-2 11, Anthony Sanchez 1 0-0 3, Gilbert Salcido 0 0-0 0; Totals: 15 5-10 40.	
Girls	
Leo Salcido 5 1-2 12, E.J. Sanchez 2 0-0 4, Lawrence Gonzales 2 4-6 8, Brian Aragon 1 0-0 2, Steven Chavez 4 0-2 11, Anthony Sanchez 1 0-0 3, Gilbert Salcido 0 0-0 0; Totals: 15 5-10 40.	
Hondo 68, Vaughn 11	
Vaughn (11)	
Felicia Sanchez 0 0-0 0, Monique Archibeque 1 0-0 2, Megan Proctor 0 0-0 0, Frisella Nieto 1 0-0 2, Erika Guerrero 0 0-0 0, Melissa Chavez 1 0-0 2, Izzy Vincesco 0 0-0 0, Marylyn Trujillo 0 0-0 0.	

Mallori Pomkal 0 0-0 0, Nadia Aguilar 1 0-0 2, Ashley Garcia 0 0-0 0, Ivory Adkins 1 1-2 3; Totals: 1 1-4 11.	
Hondo (68)	
Mercedes Lopez 3 1-4 7, Angelica Chavez 7 1-2 17, Toney Montoya 5 1-2 11, Angelle Garcia 1 0-0 2, Dedra Romero 2 2-2 6, Jamie Garcia 7 2-2 17, Collette Lopez 0 0-0 0, Brenda Lucero 0 0-0 0, Alyssa Chavez 1 0-0 2, Amanda Gomez 2 0-0 4, Justine Candelaria 1 0-0 2; Totals: 29 7-12 68.	
Girls	
Tularosa JV (45)	
Darla Syling 7 2-5 16, Jeanette Gonzales 1 0-0 3, Casey Danley 0 0-0 0, Amanda Herrera 1 1-2 1, Deanna Herrera 0 0-0 0, Marina Beccheta 0 0-0 0, Cassie Valdez 5 0-0 10, Stephanie Guzman 2 4-7 9, Ruth Gomez 1 0-0 2, LaDon Mendez 1 0-0 2, Kendell Davis 0 0-0 0, Sabrina Herrera 0 0-0 0, Sonesta Guillen 0 0-0 0; Totals: 18 7-14 45.	
Hondo (40)	
Mercedes Lopez 2 3-9 7, Angelica Chavez 4 2-2 11, Toney Montoya 1 0-3 3, Angelle Garcia 1 2-4 4, Dedra Romero 1 0-0 3, Jamie Garcia 2 6-11 11, Collette Lopez 0 0-0 0, Brenda Lucero 0 0-0 0, Alyssa Chavez 0 0-0 0, Justine Candelaria 0 0-0 0; Totals: 11 14-31 40.	
Tularosa JV	
14 14 7 22 — 45	
Hondo	
9 6 6 19 — 40	
3-point goals — Tui 1 (Guzman), Hon 4 (J.Garcia 2, Romero, An.Chavez); Fouled out — Tui (A.Herreira, Gomez), Hon (M.Lopez); Rebounds — Tui 50 (Syling 15), Hon 33 (M.Lopez 9), Steals — Tui 12 (Gomez 4), Hon 15 (Montoya 6); Blocks — Hon 1 (M.Lopez); Turnovers — Tui 39, Hon 32; Total fouls — Tui 22, Hon 19.	

13 7 6 5 — 31	
3-point goals — Dex 1 (Medina), Hon 3 (Chavez 2, E.J.Sanchez); Rebounds — Dex 47 (Torrez 13), Hon 24 (Gonzalez 8); Steals — Dex 5 (Torrez 2), Hon 10 (L.Salcido 4, Chavez 4); Blocks — Dex 3 (Olivas 3); Turnovers — Dex 21, Hon 23; Total fouls — Dex 15, Hon 15.	
Saturday, Nov. 20	
Boys	
Demon 41, Eagles 31	
Dexter JV (41)	
Fito Olivas 6 1-2 13, Bobby Cobos 1 0-0 2, Anthony Torrez 6 4-6 16, Chris Granado 0 0-0 0, Rosendo Ramirez 2 0-0 4, Adrian Sanchez 0 0-0 0, Miguel Barrantes 0 0-0 0, Javier Medina 1 1-2 4, Chris Reyes 1 0-0 2, Noel Gutierrez 0 0-0 0; Totals: 17 6-11 41.	
Hondo (31)	
Leo Salcido 3 0-0 6, E.J. Sanchez 1 0-0 3, Lawrence Gonzales 1 3-4 5, Brian Aragon 1 0-0 2, Steven Chavez 4 0-5 22, Anthony Sanchez 0 0-0 0, Gilbert Salcido 0 0-0 0; Totals: 9 8-9 31.	
Dexter JV	
6 11 16 8 — 41	

## Mescalero teams shaky in wins over Alamo Navajo

BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

The good news is, both the Mescalero boys and girls basketball teams won their season openers Saturday against Alamo Navajo.

The bad news—or at least the disconcerting news—is that they weren't exactly firing on all cylinders.

"It was definitely the first game of the year," said Lady Chief coach Roland Bradford. "We were awfully ragged."

The Mescalero girls won 68-41, while the boys earned a 71-50 victory. But both wins could be termed "ugly."

"We didn't play very good in the first half," said boys coach Kenny Blazer. "A lot of these kids are new and were a little lost as far as what we were running."

The Chiefs were behind by as much as 12 points in the first half before putting on a rally to get within three at the break.

Blazer laid into his team at halftime, and the Chiefs responded, turning a 12-point deficit into a 21-point win.

"Our press and trap in the second half was the real difference," Blazer said. "We played pretty good defense, and we created a lot of turnovers for easy baskets. They just decided to play."

Darren Valdez led the team with 16 points, while Tyrone Cervantes had 14 as the only other Chief in double figures. Branson Smith added eight.

The fact that only three players had the majority of Mescalero's points is another concern for Blazer.

"We need to spread it out, that's for

sure," Blazer said. "I had a lot of freshmen playing, and they weren't playing scared or anything. I just need them scoring."

For the Lady Chiefs, it was a question of which team was on the floor. The more experienced girls started the game and leapt out to a 12-0 lead in the first four minutes.

Then Bradford substituted in a number of younger girls, and Alamos Navajo got to within 16-10.

"That's when I put the starters back in, and we were up by 18 at the half," Bradford said. "It was never really close after that."

"We got decent play out of our top six, but the younger girls still have a long way to go," he continued. "We still had turnovers and didn't shoot that great, but the things I was looking for were defense

and hustle. We had plenty of that."

Lataza Naiche led the Lady Chiefs with 21 points, while Yvette Martinez added 17 points, six steals and 12 rebounds. Leslie Bignouth was the third Mescalero player in double figures with 11 points and eight rebounds.

The Mescalero boys got a real test against Carrizozo on Tuesday.

"That's always a good ball club, and Mel Holland is a really good coach," Blazer said of the Grizzlies. "We'll see just how much we have to work on after that."

Both teams play at home against Magdalena Dec. 3. The teams then hit the road for a pair of tournaments Dec. 9-11. The Lady Chiefs will be at the Laguna tournament, while the boys will be at To'hajillee.

## side line

### Ski Report

#### Ski Apache

Ski Apache is set to open Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25. There will be an open house Wednesday with free ski lift tickets.

New snow past 24 hours: 3 inches

New snow past week: 4 inches

Weather at report time: Partly Cloudy

Road at report time: Snow covered

Midway depth: 16 inches natural, 36 inches man made base

Surface Conditions: Machine groomed and packed powder

Skiing Conditions: Good to excellent

Trails Open Nov. 25: Capitan, Deep Freeze, Snow Park, Smokey Bear and beginner areas

Lifts Open Nov. 25: Chair lifts 3,4,5 and 2 to midway

Trails Groomed This Morning: All trails that will open Nov. 25

Snowmaking Past 24 Hours: Yes.

Crews are working on Snow Park and Smokey Bear, Capitan and Deep Freeze are ready for opening.

Forecast: Partly cloudy with a chance for more snow

For the most recent conditions, call 257-9001.

### Prep Results

#### Thursday, Nov. 18

Girls Basketball  
Cloudcroft 61, Hondo 56

#### Friday, Nov. 19

Boys Basketball  
Hondo Eagle Classic  
Vaughn 60, Hondo 40  
Girls Basketball  
Hondo Eagle Classic  
Hondo 68, Vaughn 11

#### Saturday, Nov. 20

Boys Basketball  
Mescalero 71, Alamo Navajo 50  
Hondo Eagle Classic  
Dexter JV 41, Hondo 31  
Girls Basketball  
Mescalero 68, Alamo Navajo 41  
Hondo Eagle Classic  
Tularosa JV 45, Hondo 40

### Preps on Tap

#### Saturday, Nov. 28

Girls Basketball  
Moriarty at Ruidoso, 5 p.m.

#### Monday, Nov. 29

Girls Basketball  
Socorro at Ruidoso, 7 p.m.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 30

Boys Basketball  
Tularosa at Ruidoso, 7 p.m.  
Carrizozo at Capitan, 7 p.m.  
Girls Basketball  
Carrizozo at Capitan, 5:30 p.m.

### On Deck

#### Open house at Ski Apache

Ski Apache Disabled Skiers' Program will host an open house for those interested in volunteering at the Gondola Building at Ski Apache today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to teach students with cognitive disabilities and visually impaired students from the New Mexico School for the Blind and Visually Impaired during our school program that runs Jan. 17 through March 2, 2005. Training weekends in January will be held to teach volunteers progressions and techniques particular to these disabilities as well as personal skiing skills.

Volunteers are also needed to help with the program's annual silent auction. Staff will be available at the open house to answer questions and demonstrate equipment. For further information, call 336-4061.



# More than just a team...

The defining aspect of the Class 3A state champion Ruidoso volleyball team is their friendship on and off the court.



Senior Samantha Serna concentrates as she makes a pass during the Class 3A state championship match against West Las Vegas at Johnson Gym in Albuquerque.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY TODD FUQUA  
RUIDOSO NEWS SPORTS EDITOR

As times moves on, high school students graduate and memories inevitably begin to fade from the 2004 volleyball season, there's one thing about this year's Class 3A state champion Ruidoso team that will remain unforgettable.

"We were friends this year," said senior Jessica Gibson. "Last year, yeah, we liked each other, but didn't really talk to each other outside of volleyball. But this year, we're all really good friends and trust each other," she added. "You knew they were there to get your back."

In four sentences, Gibson summed up the theme of this year's Lady Warrior squad.

Ruidoso hadn't known much volleyball success in the past. The last time a Lady Warrior team won the blue trophy for volleyball was back in 1990. Ruidoso came close to another with an appearance in the title game in 2001, but fell in three games to Portales.

This year, nothing...nothing...was going to stop the Lady Warriors.

Not a late-season injury to Gibson with District 4-3A games on the line. Not a trio of mid-season losses to some very good 4A and 5A teams. Not Portales or Lovington, who fell in short order to the Lady Warriors during district play.

Ruidoso even had to overcome a pair of five-game sets against St. Michael's and West Las Vegas to earn the title, including a spectacular comeback in game four against the Lady Horsemen in the state semifinals.

"That reassured us that we could do it," said Jeanette Zagone, a defensive specialist who was one of six seniors on the team. "Our season could have been over right there in the fourth game, and we played the fifth game. It wasn't anything that wasn't anything that was that of."

The 2004 Class 3A state champion volleyball team. Front row, l-r, Apollonia Page, Jeanette Zagone, Jessica Gibson, Ervina Herrera, Ashley Harkey.

## Experienced leader

While this may have been the first state volleyball title in a while for Ruidoso, it was old hat for coach Maria Bennett.

Bennett came to the mountain after several years — and several state titles — at Hot Springs High School in Truth Or Consequences.

It took her a dozen years to win her first state title with the Lady Tigers, but only three to get one in Ruidoso.

"There, I was coaching everything: Track, basketball, volleyball, even cheerleader sponsor," Bennett said. "I didn't have the time to concentrate on just one sport."

"Here I do, but I still expected it to take longer than this," she added. "I figured we'd take the team to state and build on it for next year. But these kids were determined."

That determination made Bennett's job as a motivator much easier.

"I didn't have to get out here a lot and tell them what to do all the time," Bennett said. "These girls were right on top of it."

"If somebody was slacking, the others would tell them to get back into it. They pushed each other."

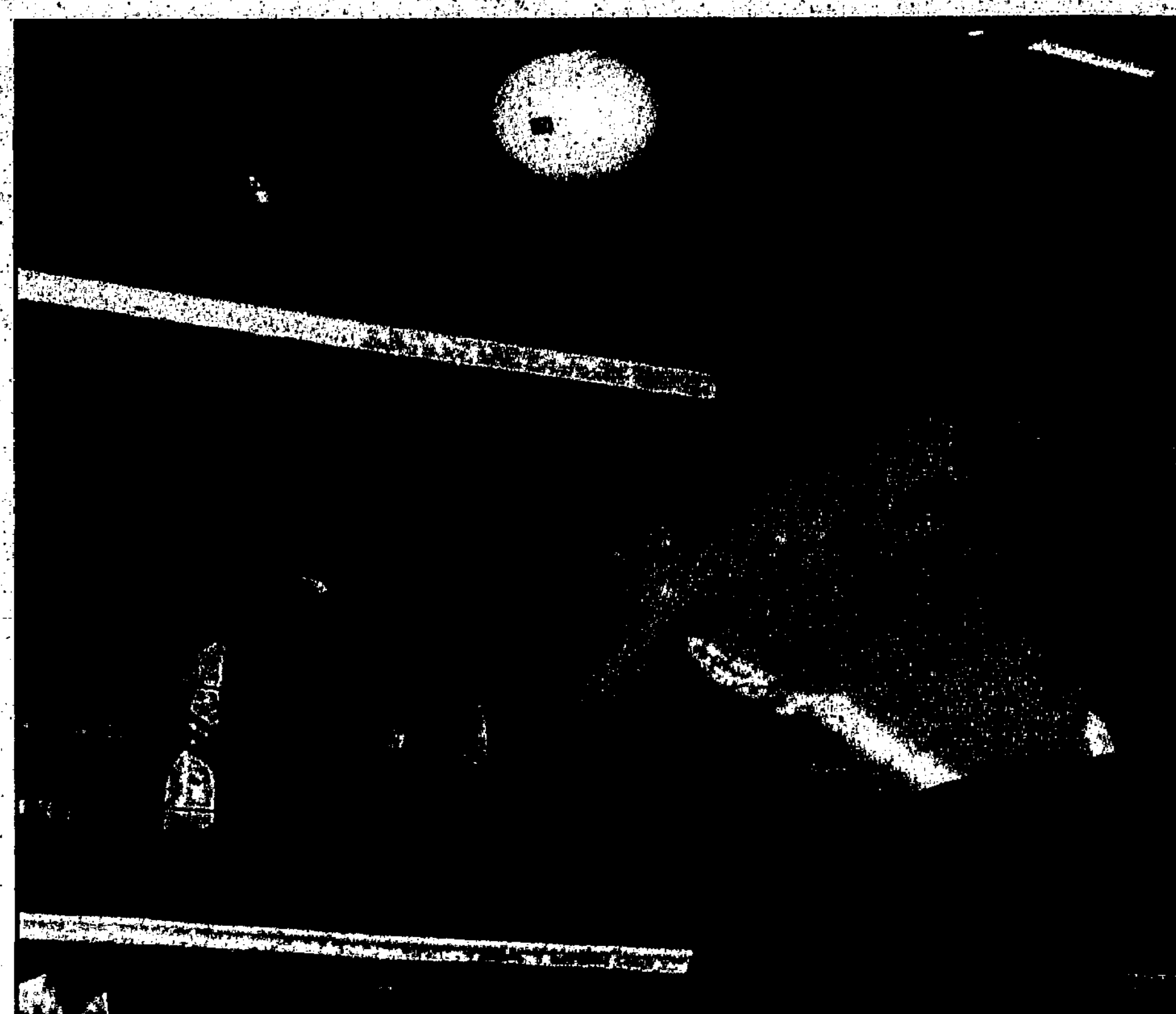
## Slow start

While the Lady Warriors rose to the challenge presented by St. Michael's and West Las Vegas at state, it was a challenge they might not have been able to meet had they not recovered from pool play.

Ruidoso hadn't played a competitive match in two weeks, and the rust showed in three pool play matches against Shiprock, Socorro and St. Michael's.

The Lady Warriors finished third in their pool, and were faced with rebounding in four hours against Thoreau in the quarterfinals.

"We started out pretty solid in pool play, but then I don't know what happened," said senior



Seniors Ervina Herrera, left and Christine Brown go up for a block against West Las Vegas' Alica Sena during the Class 3A state championship match at Johnson Gym in Albuquerque.

she added. "We knew then we wouldn't face West Las Vegas until the championship match."

"We all went into the warm-up area after that, and we told each other 'that's not how we play,'" said senior Ashley Harkey. "We were playing down to their level instead of up to ours."

"After we talked about it, everybody was laughing and talking. It didn't really affect us after that," she added. "If we had sulked about it, it would have affected us."

But the Lady Warriors did pick up their play and defeat Thoreau in four games, moving on to face St. Michael's again.

After beating the Lady Horsemen in five games — the first time all year Ruidoso had been strung out to five games — the Lady Warriors' confidence was high, but they still knew the championship wouldn't be handed to them.

They'd have to work hard at it.

## Wake-up call

West Las Vegas entered the championship match having gone undefeated in pool play and through the first two rounds of the playoffs. The Lady Dons were also ranked No. 1 in the state by the Albuquerque Journal coaches' poll.

Ruidoso had a 2-1 game lead, when West Las Vegas' hitters began to find the floor with increasing regularity, and easily won game four to force another decisive fifth game.

"That fourth game was a wake-up call," said senior hitter Christine Brown, who was the

was it, we were seniors, and coach (Mandi) Lewallin told us not to leave that floor with regrets.

"That hit hard on all of us. That was the last time any of us was going to play high school volleyball," she continued. "We didn't want to be on the bus back home thinking, 'what if I had bent my knees a bit more, what if I moved quicker?'"

Brown and the rest of the Lady Warriors made sure they had no regrets on that long bus trip home with a 15-13 victory in the fifth game, but it was still uncertain.

West Las Vegas had a 13-12 lead when senior Samantha Serna took the serve.

"Those were the most important serves of my life," Serna said. "I was very nervous, but I'd played in tight situations before, and it all paid off right there."

"I just thought of my mom, who I could hear through all the noise," she added. "She told me she believed in me."

Serna's serves were true, and Brown came up with a pair of kills to give Ruidoso the lead and — eventually — the victory.

## Mid-season stumbles

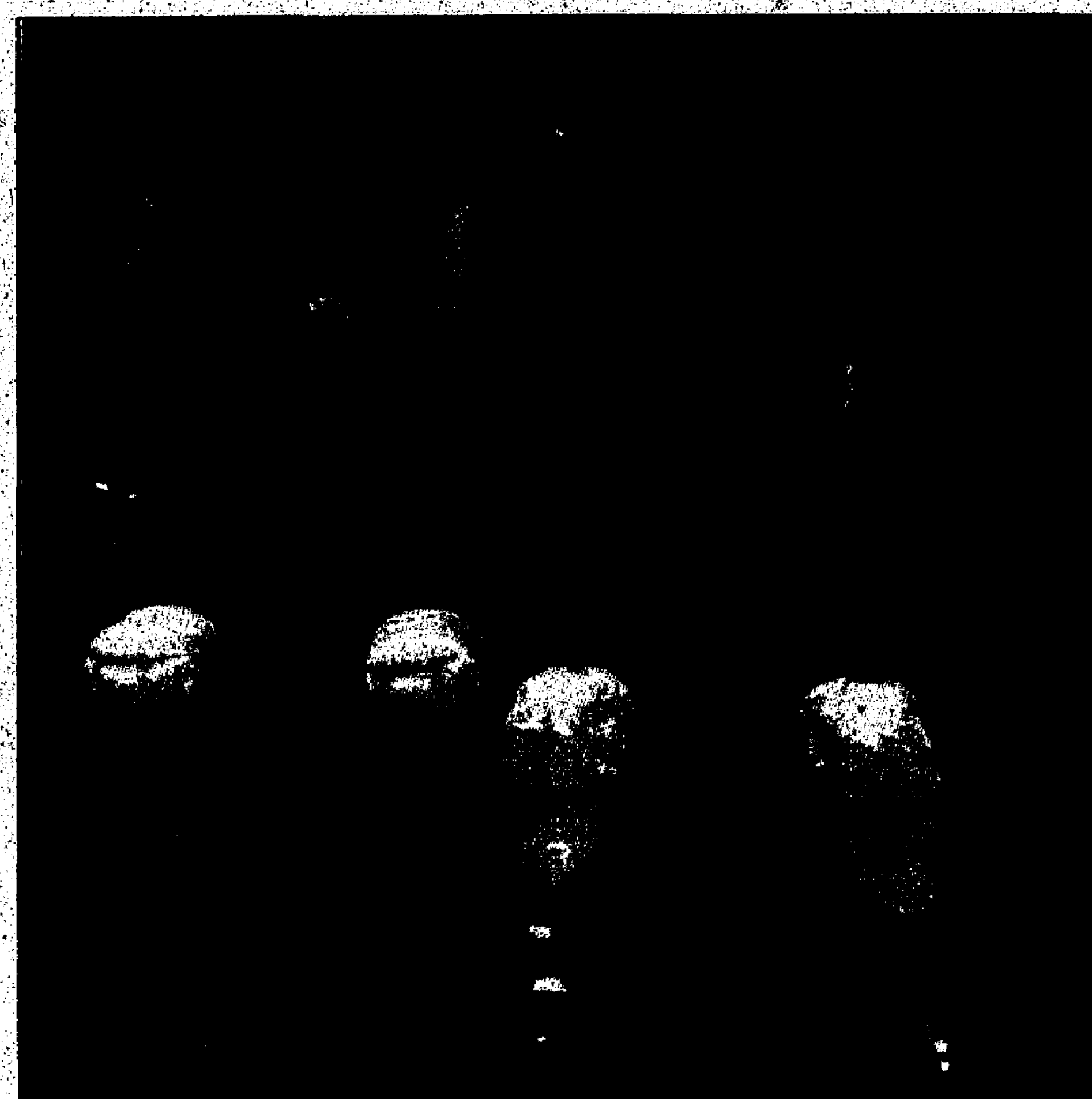
Ruidoso started fast with four straight victories on the year — including a three-game sweep of eventual Class 4A state champion Deming. The Lady Warriors then dropped a game to Moriarty — Class 4A state runner-up — and won the Zia Classic in Roswell, a title Ruidoso likely has never won before.

But then came the Sweet 16 tournament in Las Cruces, and a pair of losses to Moriarty and Las Cruces.

"We were kind of slacking," said senior setter Amanda Gardner. "We weren't playing as hard as we should have. We were kind of slacking."

"I just had to play my best," said Ramos, who was a regular defensive specialist substitute for the rest of the season. "I was a little nervous, but I wasn't playing a new position or anything. I just knew I was getting more experience."

Gardner wasn't too much of a stranger to varsity play. She really came on once the state tournament rolled around. Brown added the



Y-M-C-A Senior Jessica Gibson, right, and sophomore Amanda Gardner goof around on the bench during Ruidoso's first-round Class 3A match against Thoreau at Manzano High School in Albuquerque. The girls' ability to have fun, even during some of the most tense moments on the court, was a big part of why the Lady Warriors are state champions.



Junior defensive specialist Apollonia Page serves during the Class 3A state quarterfinal game against Thoreau at Manzano High School in Albuquerque.

made us a better team," said senior Ervina Herrera. "It's awesome to think we competed against them, and we knew we could do something if we tried hard enough and worked hard enough."

Ruidoso got past their loss to Mayfield — incidentally, the Class 5A state titleist this year — and won its last 11 games in a row.

But those wins came at the price of Gibson's ankle, which was twisted during a district game at Lovington.

Gibson's absence from the lineup, Bennett said, was a younger player, Amanda Gardner and Jessica Romero and junior Ariana Ramos to pick up the slack.

"I just had to play my best," said Ramos, who was a regular defensive specialist substitute for the rest of the season. "I was a little nervous, but I wasn't playing a new position or anything. I just knew I was getting more experience."

Gardner wasn't too much of a stranger to varsity play. She really came on once the state tournament rolled around. Brown added the

team in kills all three playoff games at state, but it was Gardner who was a terror at the net in game five against St. Michael's and West Las Vegas.

"I got more confident in myself as the year went on," Gardner said. "In that championship game, I was actually pretty relaxed. I wasn't too nervous at all."

"I came in a little cold at the beginning of the season, so it was hard at first. But the other girls helped me out a lot."

Romero wasn't a big part of the team this year, having been brought up from junior varsity midway through the season, but she hopes to be a sign of things to come for Ruidoso volleyball.

"My goal is to work hard for next year," Romero said. "I'll try to pass on all I learned and remember all the helped these seniors gave us."

# STATE CHAMPIONS



STATE CHAMPIONS  
Volleyball AAA Girls

## Ruidoso High School

Opponent	Result	Record
Capitan	W (3-0)	1-0
Deming	W (3-0)	2-0
Socorro	W (3-0)	3-0
Carlsbad	W (3-0)	4-0
Moriarty	L (3-1)	4-1
Portales (Zia T)	W (3-1)	5-1
Roswell (Zia T)	W (3-0)	6-1
Lubbock Christian (Zia T)	W (3-1)	7-1
Offate	W (3-0)	8-1
EP Jefferson (Sweet 16)	W (3-1)	9-1
Mayfield (Sweet 16)	L (3-0)	9-2
Las Cruces (Sweet 16)	L (3-1)	9-3
Socorro	W (3-0)	10-3
Gadsden	W (3-1)	11-3
Portales	W (3-0)	12-3, 1-0
Robertson	W (3-0)	13-3, 1-0
Lovington	W (3-0)	14-3, 2-0
Portales	W (3-1)	15-3, 3-0
Lovington	W (3-1)	16-3, 4-0
Portales	W (3-0)	17-3
Thoreau	W (3-1)	18-3
St. Michael's	W (3-2)	19-3
West Las Vegas	W (3-2)	20-3

\*\*Denotes District 4-3A match  
\*\*\*Denotes District 4-3A championship  
\*\*\*Denotes Class 3A Tournament



## Equibest winds up season with two shows

The Equibest Equestrian Team finished their competition year by participating in the Bel-Air Horse Show in Scottsdale, Ariz., Oct. 28-31, at the Westworld facility and continuing directly to the New Mexico Hunter Jumper Finals, Nov. 4-7, at the New Mexico State Fair grounds in Albuquerque.

At the NMHJ Final show, Beth Robinson finished her winning year by showing the Hanoverian gelding, EL-S, to the Schooling Jumper Championship and her Thoroughbred gelding, Glacier, to the Modified Children/Adult Amateur Hunter Championship and the Children's Hunter Championship. Robinson will be off to college next year and will be able to continue showing as her college schedule permits. Robinson will be competing on an Intercollegiate Equestrian Team for the college of her choice.

Jan Arrowsmith-Lowe's Canadian warmblood mare, Cassiopeia, continued her successful first year of showing to take home the Schooling Hunter Championship and the Baby Green Hunter Championship at the Albuquerque show. Arrowsmith-Lowe showed her mare for the first time to win two seconds and a third.

Victoria Arrowsmith-Lowe showed her medium pony, Mac A. Roany, to win the Beginner Rider Under Saddle class and the Schooling Pony Under Saddle class in Albuquerque.

A new team member, Janine Clark from Belen, showed her quarter horse, Avanti. They took home first place in the Pre-Green Under Saddle class along with other good ribbons throughout the Albuquerque show.

Nan Flaten of Pampa, Texas, showed her Treckener warmblood, Fix'N To, to finish with many good ribbons for both the Albuquerque and Scottsdale shows.

Leslie Beyer of Carlsbad, showed her Thoroughbred mare, Touch Of Elegance, with Equibest for the first time to win the Adult Amateur Equitation Over Fences class at the NMHJ show and also received many good ribbons at the Scottsdale show. This pair is beginning their show career after three years away from the show ring.

In the Bel-Air Horse Show, Amber Yates and her Warmblood, Make Ya Famous, won Reserve Champion in the Schooling Jumper Division, Reserve Champion in the Children's/Adult Amateur Jumper Division, and Reserve Champion Children's Hunter. This pair also received the Reserve Championship in the Children's Hunter division at the Albuquerque show along with the Reserve Championship in the Schooling Jumper division.

Jill Yates showed her Holstein mare, Caprice, to be Long Stirrup Hunter Rider in Scottsdale and Champion Long Stirrup Hunter Rider at the NMHJ Final show in Albuquerque.

Deja Blue, Yates' Hunter Jumper's Hanoverian gelding, won the Schooling Hunter class in Scottsdale and was Schooling Hunter Champion in Albuquerque. Chambrie Yates showed her small pony, Bonnie Blue, to win the Reserve Champion Pony Hunter in Scottsdale.

## HONDO: Lady Eagles tough to beat

FROM PAGE 1B

it's not going to get many breaks.

"That's what we'll face pretty much every game — every team is going to be bigger than us," Montoya said.

One of those non-breaks was having to play the Lady Bears varsity.

"I honestly thought we were going to play their JV," she said. "But that's good, it gives us some good competition."

She applauded the play of Garcia, who led Hondo with 21 points, but said her team was too fast for itself at times.

Hondo only had 12 turnovers but often looked confused once Cloudercroft began to shut down its back door cuts and screen plays midway through the third quarter. The fast break plays also evaporated with turnovers or a Cloudercroft trap.

"We didn't run our fast break like I would have liked to," Montoya said. "We need to pick up our defensive intensity, too."

The Lady Bears shot out to a 12-5 lead after the first quarter, and the game looked like it might quickly turn into a rout. But the Lady Eagles matched Cloudercroft point for point in the second quarter and found themselves down 25-18 at the half.

Emily Hunter scored 11 points in the third, and led the Lady Bears with 21 for the game, but Hondo outscored Cloudercroft in the frame with a balanced scoring effort. Jamie Garcia had five points, Lopez and Angelie Garcia had four points, and Chavez and Debra Romero had two apiece.

*Gidal Kaiser is Sports Editor for the Alamogordo Daily News, a sister paper to the Ruidoso News.*

## EAGLES: Hard-working boys drop two games

FROM PAGE 1B

Still, the Eagles had a 13-6 advantage after the first quarter, and they took that lead thanks to the press.

The Eagles (0-2) had 10 steals in the game and forced 21 Demon turnovers. All those turnovers translated into Hondo points, but the Eagles just weren't able to keep up with Dexter's superior numbers.

"We would have done a lot better if this game were later on in the season," Lopez said. "We only had a week and a half to get ready for this. We'll be a lot better as the season goes on."

Steven Chavez had 22 points to lead Hondo, thanks to a pair of three-pointers and a 5-for-5 performance at the free throw line. Lawrence Gonzales, while not the biggest presence in the middle, proved to be tough nonetheless, hating in eight rebounds.

That scrappy play was evidenced in Hondo's tournament-opening game against Vaughn as well, only the Eagles proved to be better ball handlers than the Demons.

Vaughn used that better ball handling to turn in a 60-40 victory,

but Hondo still had its chances to score.

"We had good looks at the basket, we just couldn't get our shots," Lopez said. "It's not like the defense was on us real good, we got good looks. We just didn't knock it down."

## RUIDOSO PARKS AND REC

### Men's Adult Basketball League

	W	L	Pct.
MATI	6	1	.857
Executioners	5	1	.833
Echos	4	1	.800
Whatever	4	1	.800
Alamo Pipe Flushers	3	3	.500
Loud Mouths	2	5	.286
Ugly Ballers	2	5	.286
Tequila Slammers	1	5	.167
X-Press	1	6	.143

**Thursday, Nov. 18**  
Whatever 71, Ugly Ballers 58  
Executioners 82, MATI 66  
X-Press 58, Loud Mouths 51  
**Tuesday, Nov. 23**  
Whatever vs. Alamo Pipe Flushers, late  
Loud Mouths vs. Echos, late  
Tequila Slammers vs. X-Press, late  
**Tuesday, Nov. 30**  
Alamo Pipe Flushers vs. Echos, 7 p.m.

MATI vs. Executioners, 8 p.m.  
Whatever vs. Ugly Ballers, 9 p.m.

### Co-ed Volleyball League

	W	L	Pct.
Dunkins	4	0	1.000
Stings	3	0	1.000
Attitude	4	2	.667
Awful 6	2	1	.667
Nunya	2	2	.500
New Breed	0	2	.000
Gina	0	4	.000
Mike	0	4	.000

**Monday, Nov. 22**  
Nunya vs. Stings, late  
Dunkins vs. Attitude, late  
Nunya vs. Gina, late  
**Wednesday, Nov. 24**  
New Breed vs. Nunya, 7 p.m.  
Stings vs. Mike, 8 p.m.  
Awful 6 vs. Gina, 9 p.m.

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**Residency:**  
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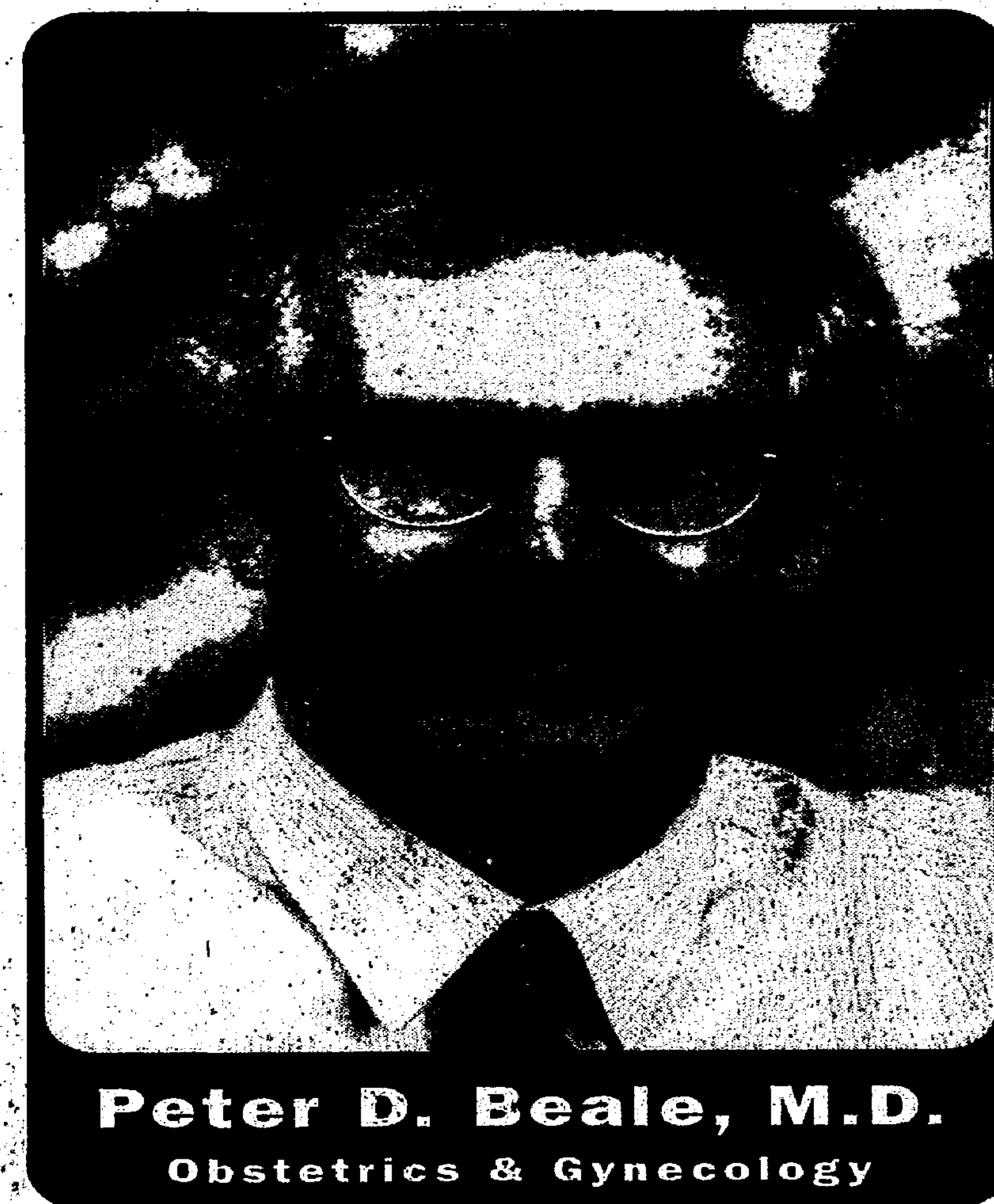
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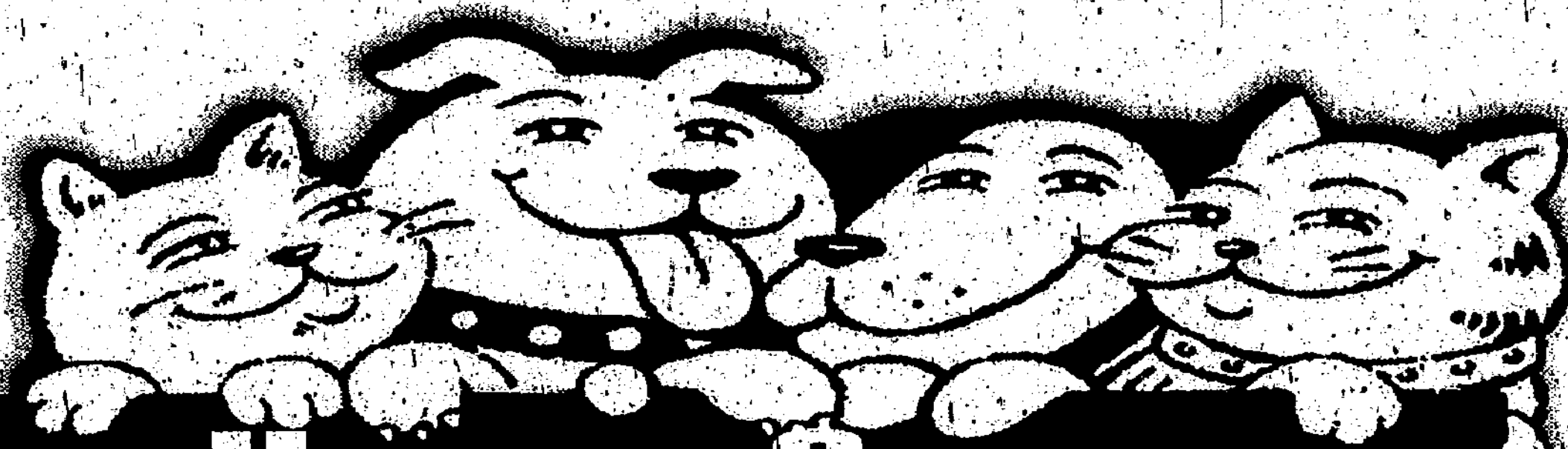
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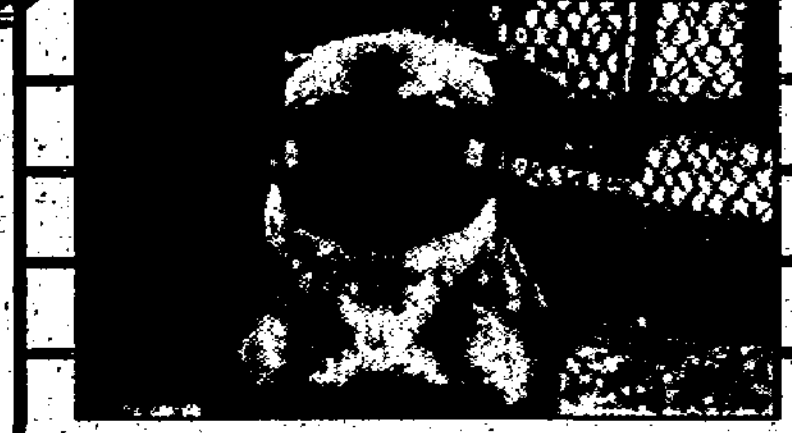
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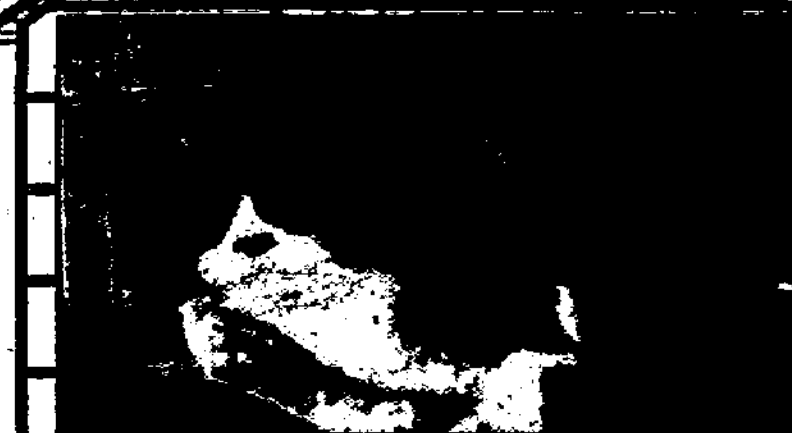
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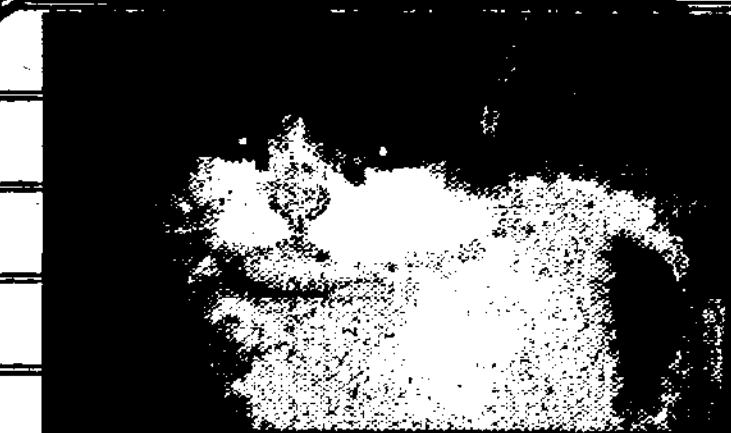
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Photos courtesy of Douglas De Metz

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## FUNERALS DEATHS

## Joe Lane Strickland

Funeral services for Joe Lane Strickland, 50, of Roswell, were held Monday, Nov. 22, at Grace Community Church in Roswell. Pastor Rick Hale officiated.

Mr. Strickland died Saturday, Nov. 20, 2004.

He was born July 19, 1954, to William Henry and Gene R. Lowe Strickland in Hobbs. He married Lynette Stoll on May 31, 1990.

He moved to Roswell 15 years ago, and was a CDL instructor at Artesia Training Academy.

He loved to hunt, fish, ride his Vstar 1100, pick his guitar and work with wood.

Survivors include his wife; step-children Jackie Stoll and

Jerrold Nease, both of Albuquerque; brothers David Strickland (and his wife Wanda) of McAllister, Texas, and Terry Strickland (and his wife Kay) of Capitan; sisters Sue Trammel (and husband David) of Snyder, Texas, and Judy Green of Hobbs; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Linda Marie "Sissy" Strickland.

Pallbearers were Jake Schmid, Mike Jasper, Danny Stoll, Kirby Bingham, Phillip Peacock and Randy Bingham. Honorary pallbearers were Mr. Strickland's nieces and nephews.

Arrangements were under the direction of Anderson-Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory.

## Sam Ray Baker

Sam Ray Baker died Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at the age of 83.

Private memorial services will be observed by the family. Mr. Baker was born Dec. 15, 1920, near Abilene. As a young boy, he discovered a deep passion for music.

As the years passed, music became his life. He especially loved playing Jazz music on the piano and playing with numerous ensembles in the area. He owned and operated Sam Baker Music Co. in Lubbock for 20 years. Upon retirement, he moved to what became his second passion, Ruidoso, continuing to play the piano and making many close friends. Mr. Baker was a United States Marine Corps veteran of World

War II, serving extensively in the South Pacific and enduring many hardships. He married Norma Nash in 1948 and settled in Lubbock.

He was preceded in death by Norma and brother, Jack Baker of Abilene.

Survivors include a son, Matt Baker and wife Terri of Lubbock; a son, Paul Baker of Dallas; seven grandchildren, Melissa, Chris, and Clay Baker of Lubbock, Ryan and J.P. Baker of Hastings, Neb., Chad and Kristi Richardson of Lubbock; and longtime colleague and dear friend, Cy Leland of Ruidoso.

The family requests memorials to the Texas Tech Foundation School of Music, P.O. Box 45205, Lubbock, Texas 79409.

## POLICE BRIEFS

## Under 21

Ruidoso Police arrested two 18-year-olds for partying with several minors, all of whom attend Ruidoso High School. Both Chad M. Crouse and Brandon Turley, also an RHS student, were arrested for outstanding warrants, contributing to the delinquency of

a minor (3 counts each), minor allowing self to be served and minor in possession of alcohol.

Police responded to call at 11:37 p.m. about a loud party involving minors at 114 Reese #1. Police found Crouse and Turley, with several students from Ruidoso High School, drinking beer and vodka. Some of the minors were in-

ebriated. Two 15-year-old girls, a 16-year-old girl, and a 17-year-old boy received Juvenile Citations and were referred to the Juvenile Probation Office. The juveniles were released to their parents.

## Two for one

Cpl. Christopher Condon

brought Mr. Christopher W. Mathuren of Alamogordo, age 28, into the police station on a warrant, and Mathuren got belligerent.

He told the office that he'd assaulted an officer in the past and would do it again, so Cpl. Condon arrested him again for assault upon a peace officer.

## CARRIZOZO POLICE

## Nov. 8 - Aggravated fleeing

After being stopped for a display of license plate violation, suspect refused to cooperate with the officer and fled the scene in his vehicle as the officer jumped out of the way. The officer then followed in a pursuit which ended at a private residence where the officer managed to take suspect under control. The suspect was placed under arrest and transported to Lincoln County Detention Center without further incident.

## Nov. 10 - Larceny

A Carrizozo resident reported a half-cord of wood stolen from residence. No suspects at this time.

## Battery charges

Jacob N. Greene, 19, of Carrizozo was charged with aggravated battery and battery when he was arrested for allegedly beating up 32-year-old Patrick Means of Carrizozo. Greene was also arrested on outstanding warrant out of Magistrate Court in Ruidoso.

## Nov. 12 - Warrant served

Cammie S. Cox, 27, of Carrizozo, was the subject of a warrant served and transport-

ed to LCDC.

## Nov. 18 - Protective custody

John Sandoval, Carrizozo, was placed in protective custody after reportedly being drunk and undesirable at the Carrizozo Rec Center. Officer placed subject under 12-hour

protective custody and he was taken to LCDC.

## Missing person

Lisa Duggar, 23, Carrizozo was reported missing by her mother on 11/18/04. Subject later turned up safe with relatives.

## Nov. 19 - Grand theft

Possible grand theft was reported when a family member allegedly stole a large sum of money from a household safe and was last known to be headed to Mexico or Arizona. Suspect was later reported to have been in Arizona. Case under investigation.

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RUIDOSO NEWS

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## POOP SCOOP

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

I'm told that the animals lovers in Lincoln County rallied to the call from the local Humane Society, but don't stop now.

There's plenty to do and more that is needed as executive director Candice Blye, the society board and animal shelter staff try to work their way to a \$10,000 goal that an "angel" in the community will match dollar for dollar.

That money could go a long way toward desperately needed repairs and improvements at the shelter on Gavilan Canyon Road.

If you can't match the \$50 increment level for donations on your own, find some others of like mind or ask a local club, school class or businesses to help with a fund-raising event.

If that's not possible, maybe you have an extra piece of furniture you don't need or someone in your neighborhood is redecorating

and has lightly used furniture that you could bring to the society thrift shop on Sudderth Drive north of the tennis courts.

And if money isn't where you can help, time is another substitute.

Blye said several new volunteers have signed on, but the need always will be there. For people who can't have pets at home, it's a chance to interact and prepare them for adoption by socializing the animals with walks, play and cuddling.

Businesses and local contractors could help with the needed repair.

Pets and family members can be memorialized on a plaque recognizing donations to buy kennels or to complete other larger projects badly needed at the shelter. A wonderful way to help animals in the future with a gift that keeps on giving is to remember the society in a will, or by

establishing a trust fund with the shelter as a beneficiary. Remember, the society also is looking for a new home where a larger shelter someday can be built.

Of course, another way to help is adopt, adopt, adopt, and spay and neuter.

Don't stop at your own pets, talk to neighbors and friends about the advantages to the animals, the owners and society of spaying and neutering.

A few years ago, I befriended a wild male manx cat with the idea of just having him neutered to ensure that he wouldn't impregnate any of the stray female cats in the neighborhood. He soon became the king of the house and now I have a wonderful nighttime companion.

Blye, an animal lover and rescuer all of her life, has plenty of other suggestions. Give her a call at 257-6201 or 257-9841.

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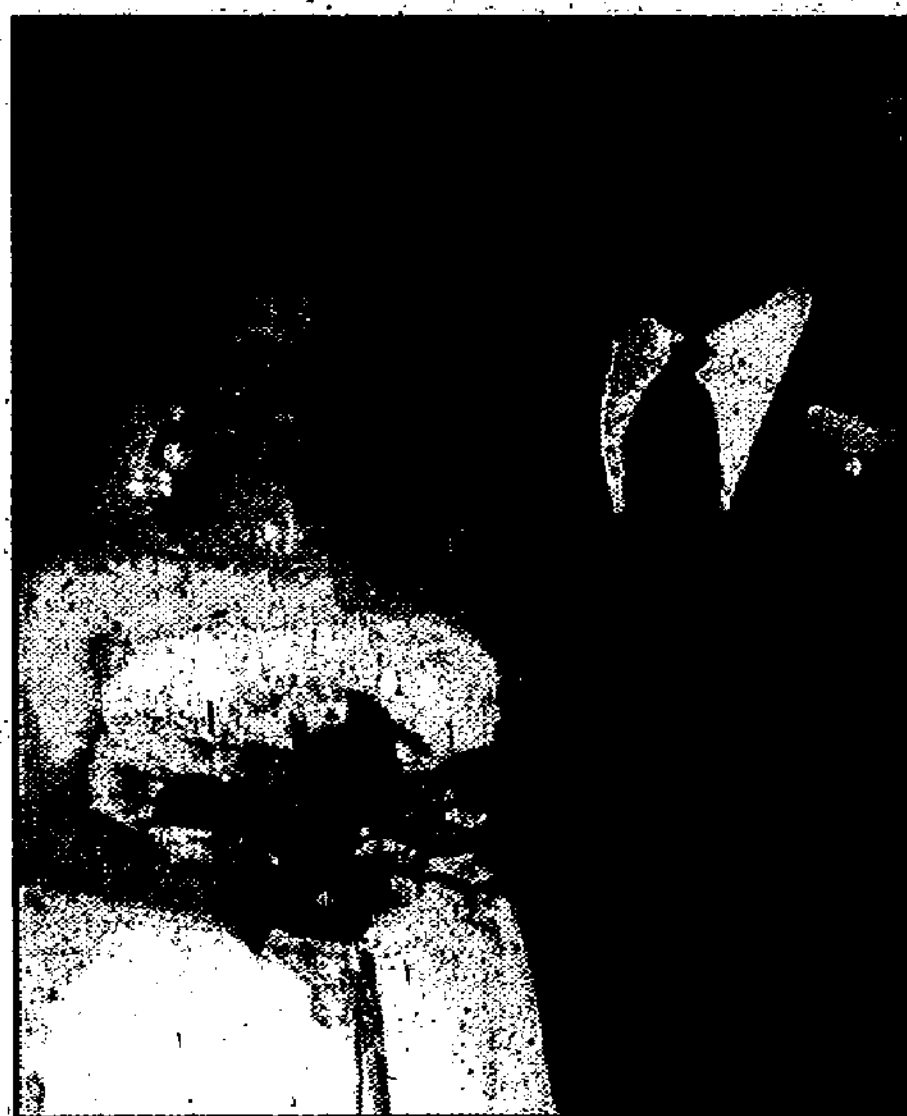


## WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARIES



Parker-Harris

Billy Parker and Flo Harris were married Oct. 23. The ceremony, which was officiated by Supreme Court Justice Michael Vigil - Flo's nephew - was attended by friends and family and held at the Amerisuites in Albuquerque. The couple honeymooned at Rocky Point and resides in Ruidoso Downs.



Farris-McMinn

Lisa Anne Farris and Dr. David McMinn exchanged wedding vows on Saturday, Nov. 6, 2004, at the Hubbard Museum of the American West.

The bride, who is the daughter of the late H. Don Farris, was escorted down the aisle by her mother, Sandy Farris-Mitchell. She wore a floor-

length strapless satin gown with her great-great-grandmother's pearl necklace, and carried a bouquet of peach roses, lilies and daisies.

Janice Woods of Albuquerque served as maid of honor, assisted by bridesmaids Mandi Jones and Misha Cole.

The groom's son, Kolby McMinn, was his best man, while Eddie Hayes and Ralph Kinder were groomsmen. Shawnee McMinn, the groom's daughter, acted as flower girl.

Pastor Darrell Winters performed the ceremony, followed by dinner and dancing.

The couple will make their home in Ruidoso, where he owns and operates McMinn Chiropractic and Wild West Tanning, and she is employed at First Savings Bank.

## Owens celebrate 60

Dr. and Mrs. Weslie B. Owen returned Nov. 12 from trip to Sedona, Ariz., where they celebrated their 60th



anniversary. They were married Nov. 4, 1944, in Alexandria, La.

Mrs. Owen was the former Vi Johnston of McKinney, Texas. They had two sons, Jimmy Dale and Wesley Newell. Dale passed away in October 1997. Newell now resides in Ft. Worth, Texas, where began a new job in October 2004. His wife is staying in Georgetown, Texas, until their house sells.

The Owens have one grandchild, Jason, who married in May and lives in Pflugerville, Texas. He works as a head artist for Microsoft in Austin.



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## DEATHS MEMORIALS



## Fund established

Friends have set up a charitable fund for the children of Cindy Aranda, who died of complications from a car accident on Gavilan Canyon Road.

Aranda, 22 years old and a manager at Schlitzky's Deli, died at the University of New Mexico Hospital on Nov. 10.

She left behind three children, ages 5 months to 5 years old, who will be living with Aranda's sister and her family.

To help the family raise the

children, First National Bank of Ruidoso has set up an account for the Cindy Aranda family.

To donate, inquire at the bank, 451 Sudderth Drive.

Or, call Janet Goodwin at 257-7811.



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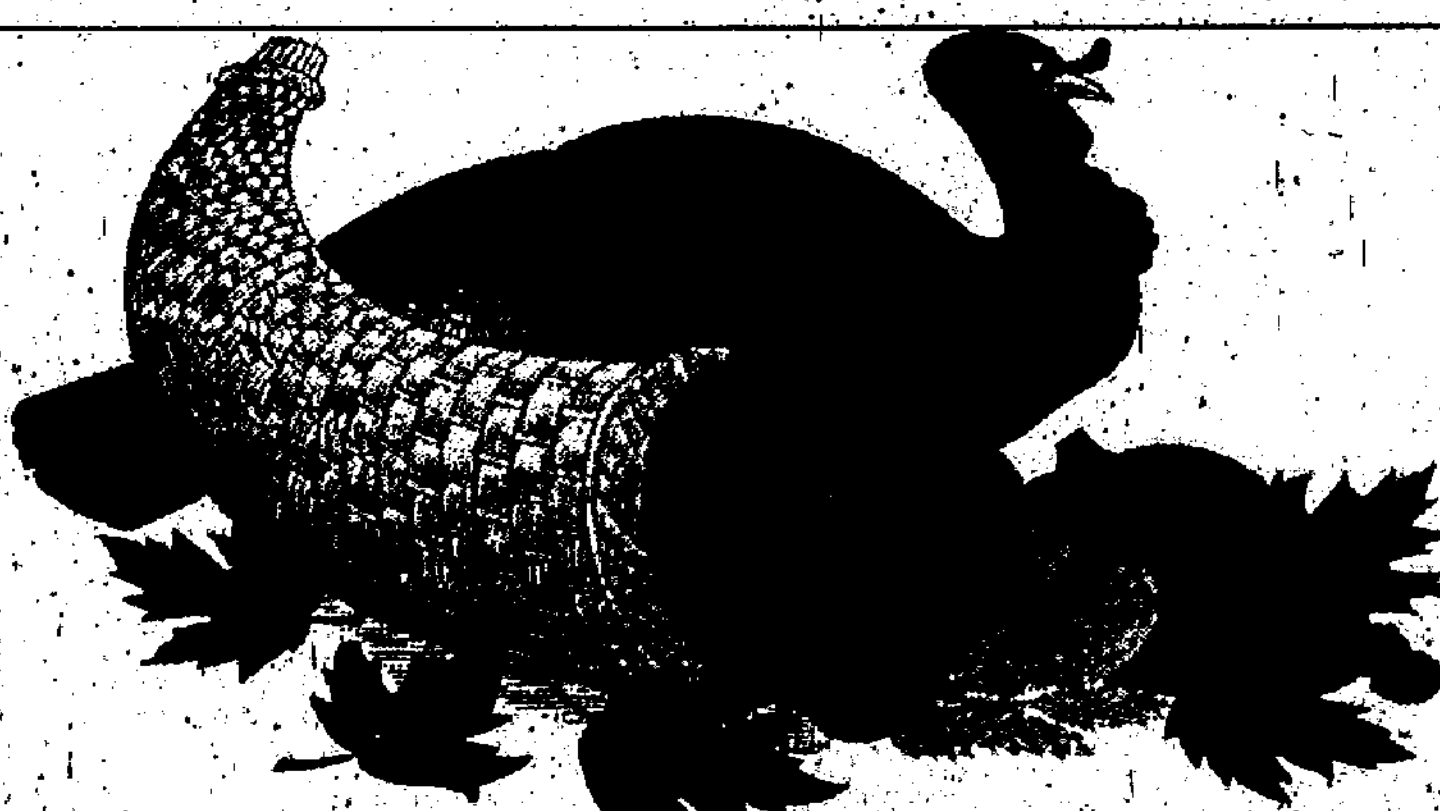
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# ENMU's Davis named 2004 New Mexico Professor of the Year

BY WENDEL SLOAN

ENMU COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The Carnegie Foundation of the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education have named Dale Davis, professor of marketing at Eastern New Mexico University, as the 2004 New Mexico Professor of the Year.

Davis traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend an awards luncheon on Nov. 18.

"I'm overwhelmed. Winning never entered my mind," said Davis. "Every school has many fine professors, and I feel very honored to be in such good company."

"It reinforces that I am doing something right, and that my teaching methods are working."

The U.S. Professors of the Year program, created in 1981, is the only national initiative specifically designed to recognize excellence in undergraduate teaching and mentoring. Professors are nominated by campus presidents, provosts and academic vice presidents. Current and former students, colleagues and peers from other institutions send letters of support.

Davis, who received a 1980 doctor of business administration degree from Georgia State University, has been at Eastern since 1982, when he came from Kennesaw College in Georgia as an assistant professor of marketing. During his years at Eastern, he has also served as dean of the College of Business from 1990 to 1993.

Retired as a Marine Corps officer, he graduated from the Department of Defense Computer Institute in 1967, and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1966.

Davis feels that he brings experience outside academia to the classroom.

"I have experience as a military and business leader," said Davis, who was chief business officer for the Berry College system. "I understand the principles of leadership, and that you are responsible for those in your charge."

Davis, who teaches principles of management and evolution of economic thought, says

that students have to be treated as individuals.

"Students need to grasp the material, but not everyone learns in the same ways. That is why I have an open-door policy. Some students do not want to ask questions in front of other students, but they can come to my office anytime."

Davis says he does not have

an attendance policy for a reason. "The world is about choices, and choices have consequences. If they do not do well in a course because of their absences, they learn about the consequences of their actions."

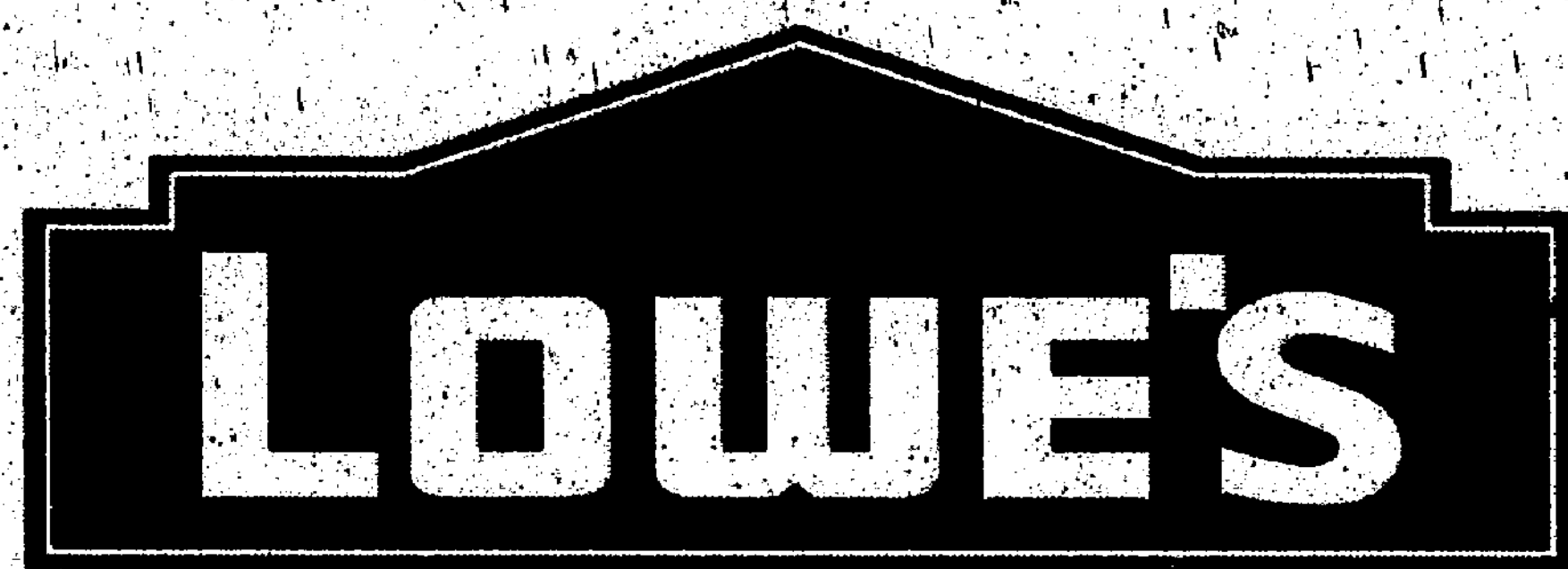
A consultant to various businesses and agencies, Davis says that he has a relaxed teaching style, but does have rules.

"It's my classroom, and the students may as well get used to rules. It comes down to a simple respect for others."

Davis says that ENMU is a perfect example of the "egalitarian impulse. When I was growing up, education was for the wealthy or lucky. But schools like Eastern, which serve first-generation college students and

others from unprivileged backgrounds, has been the greatest boost in history to America's leadership in the world."

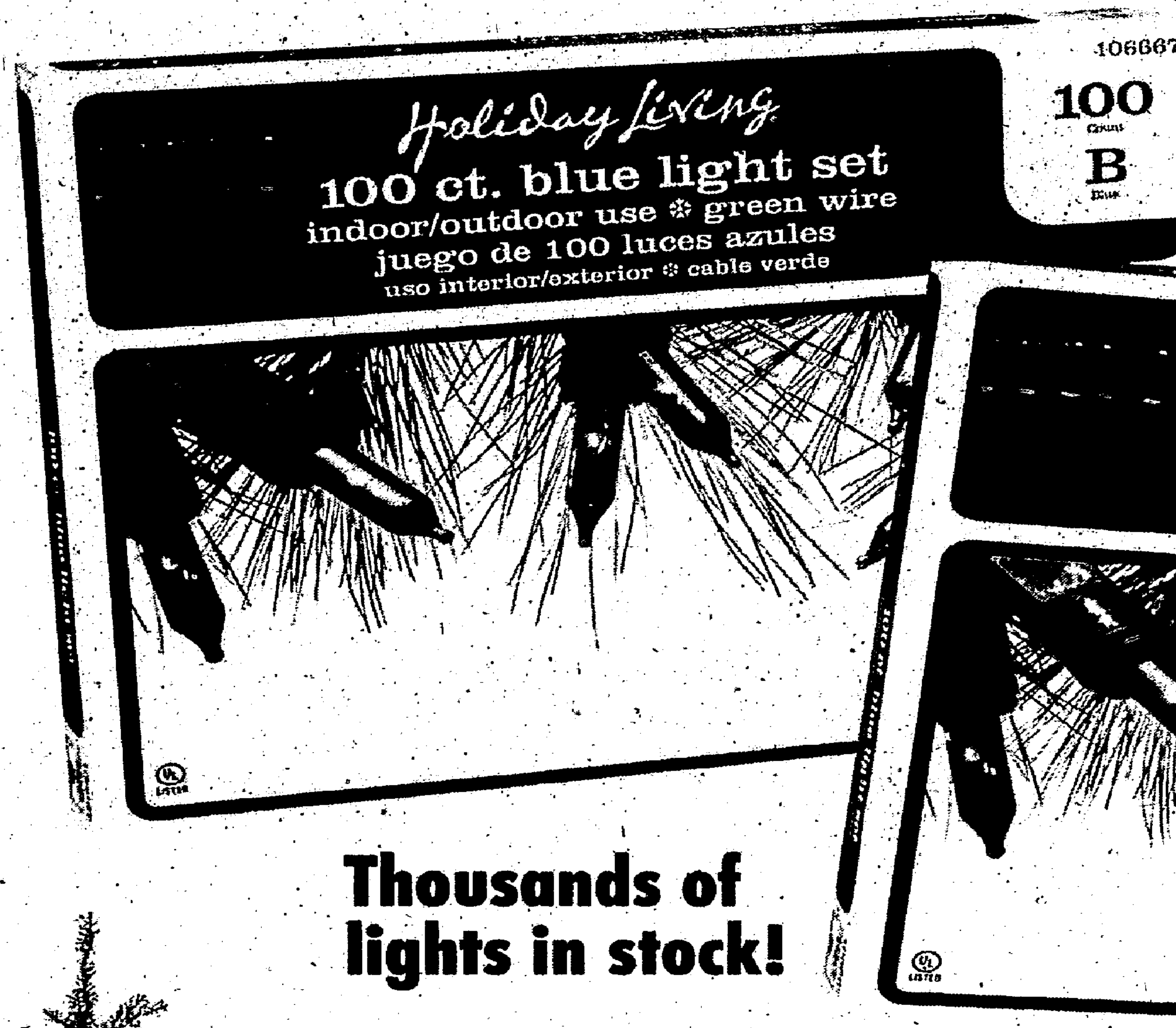
Other ENMU professors receiving Professor of the Year honors have been Mary Ayala, professor of Spanish, in 2001; Amy Sae, chemistry professor, in 1998; and Betty Lyon, mathematics professor, in 1996.



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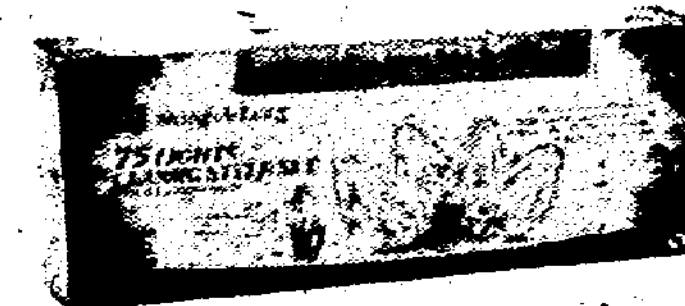
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**RUIDOSO NEWS**



# LINCOLN COUNTY

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24, 2004

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PAGE 1C

**Capitan and Carrizozo town councils met with the Capitan-Carrizozo Natural Gas board on Monday night in a special meeting. Top to bottom around the table: CCNG board member Angelo Vega, board and Carrizozo Mayor Manny Hernandez, Carrizozo trustee Eileen Lovelace, Carrizozo trustee Wesley Lindsay, Carrizozo Trustee David LaFave, board member Tommy Guevara, board chairman Tom Sullivan, Village of Capitan trustee Bobbi Shearer, Capitan trustee Ed Davis, Capitan Mayor Steve Sederwall, Capitan trustee Bill Martin, and Capitan trustee George Pippin.**



JULIE CARTER/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

## A gas-driven headache for Capitan and Carrizozo

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

When nearly 11,000 Capitan Carrizozo Natural Gas customers get their gas bills in early December they will see a definite increase from previous bills.

Most won't be surprised; the cost of fuel has been hitting the news for several months and New Mexico gas companies warned of substantial increases. But many will be distressed at the reported 30 percent increase. Carrizozo and Capitan councils are concerned as well.

The CCNG Association was formed in 1966 to provide a service to the residents of Carrizozo and

Capitan. The company brought home-town service to residents, and in Carrizozo's case, protected them from a company who had little regard for the service or the prices it would charge.

Today CCNG finds itself paying a transportation fee as well as distribution fee to turn the gas into their own lines, putting fees on top of fees to provide natural gas to Capitan and Carrizozo and outlying areas.

After a lengthy discussion as to just what is "good" for the communities they serve, the VOC council and the Carrizozo town council agreed that belts needed to be tightened.

"We've got to do something," said

Capitan Mayor Steve Sederwall. "We can't go through another winter of this. We, as representatives, have to make decisions based on what our people want."

Sederwall read a letter from the Capitan Schools Supt. Larry Miller, that outlined the schools' concerns for fuel prices and the programs that would have to be cut to meet the necessary increase in gas bills.

Emphatically put by Manny Hernandez to the trustees of both boards, was his statement that negotiating with Zia Natural Gas, the Ruidoso area supplier, was impossible. Historical attempts to do so have proven that, he said, and those board

and council members that had participated in those efforts in years past agreed.

With lots of numbers thrown around and not much of a clear understanding if they were comparing real numbers to real numbers, the group agreed that finding a way to cut costs in any place they could is paramount.

Capitan trustee Bill Martin stated it this way, "If we can find a better way of running this company it behooves us to do that. From my point of view we need to focus on reducing costs where we can, come up with some ideas collectively and we might have some solutions here."

CCNG board chairman Tom

Sullivan said when the bills go out Dec. 3, they will be accompanied by a letter explaining the increases and perhaps making suggestions to consumers on ways to conserve energy and cut gas usage.

Capitan Trustee George Pippin presented several ideas about ways he thought some costs could be cut. The CCNG thought they were ideas that could be looked into and promised to do so before the next regular CCNG board meeting.

At the suggestion of Trustee Eileen Lovelace, the CCNG board will make a presentation to both the Capitan and Carrizozo councils on Dec. 15 at 6 p.m. at the Carrizozo city hall.

## Well placed

BY JULIE CARTER  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

Competing against some large schools in the FFA district didn't slow down some Lincoln County teams.

Capitan's two teams placed a 4th and 6th in the Los Lunas Quiz bowl with Carrizozo picking up 7th.

The fourth-place team consisted of Paul Bailey, Jared Black, Katy Schade, and Jessica Price. Placing sixth was Robert Dean, Haley Montes, Ashley Pruett and Sarah Rush.

Capitan FFA Creed competitors were Jessica Price, Robert Dean, Haley Montes, Ashley Pruett and Sarah Rush.

Carrizozo's 7th place team was Hanna Corley, Kevin Gore, Gabriel New, Kathleen Schlarb, Alisha Culley and Jennifer Shafer.

**The Capitan Public Library** reported a very successful Christmas Bazaar Saturday. Here library volunteers gather around the Christmas tree decorated with hand-crafted ornaments offered for sale.



JULIE CARTER/FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

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## Farm Bill application deadline nears

■ January deadline looms for county residents hoping to receive funding for various project categories.

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

The Lincoln County offices of the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Carrizozo and Upper Hondo Districts, are accepting applications for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program and Grasslands Reserve Program, all of which are part of the 2002 Farm Bill.

Applications received on or before Jan. 28, 2005, will be considered for funding from fiscal year 2005 program funds.

The EQIP program provides cost-share assistance to working farms and ranches for the installation of conservation practices that will address locally identified resource concerns. Conservation practices such as brush management, irrigation system improvements, water development to improve grazing distribution, timber stand improvement, and wildlife habitat improvement are some of the types of activities that are eligible for funding through EQIP.

The WHIP program provides cost share assistance to individuals interested in improving habitat to support wildlife populations of national, state, tribal and local significance.

In addition to regular funding through WHIP, special funds are available this year, focused on improving riparian habitat along the Rio Grand and Pecos Rivers.

The GRP program provides funding for grazing operations under threat of conversion to non-grazing uses, such as cropland or urban development.

Under GRP, applicants accepted into the program enter into either a rental contract or an easement contract with USDA.

The USDA provides a per acre payment to maintain and improve the grassland resource.

Applications for USDA conservation programs are accepted on a continuous basis.

All applications received by close-of-business Jan. 28 will be reviewed for eligibility, evaluated and ranked for funding. The highest-ranked applications will be selected for contract development within the amount of funding available for each program.

Additional information about each of the conservation programs can be obtained from the local NRCS offices. Contact Bob Moorhead at the Carrizozo office at 648-2941 or the Upper Hondo district office in Capitan at 354-2220.

## OPENING FOR BUSINESS

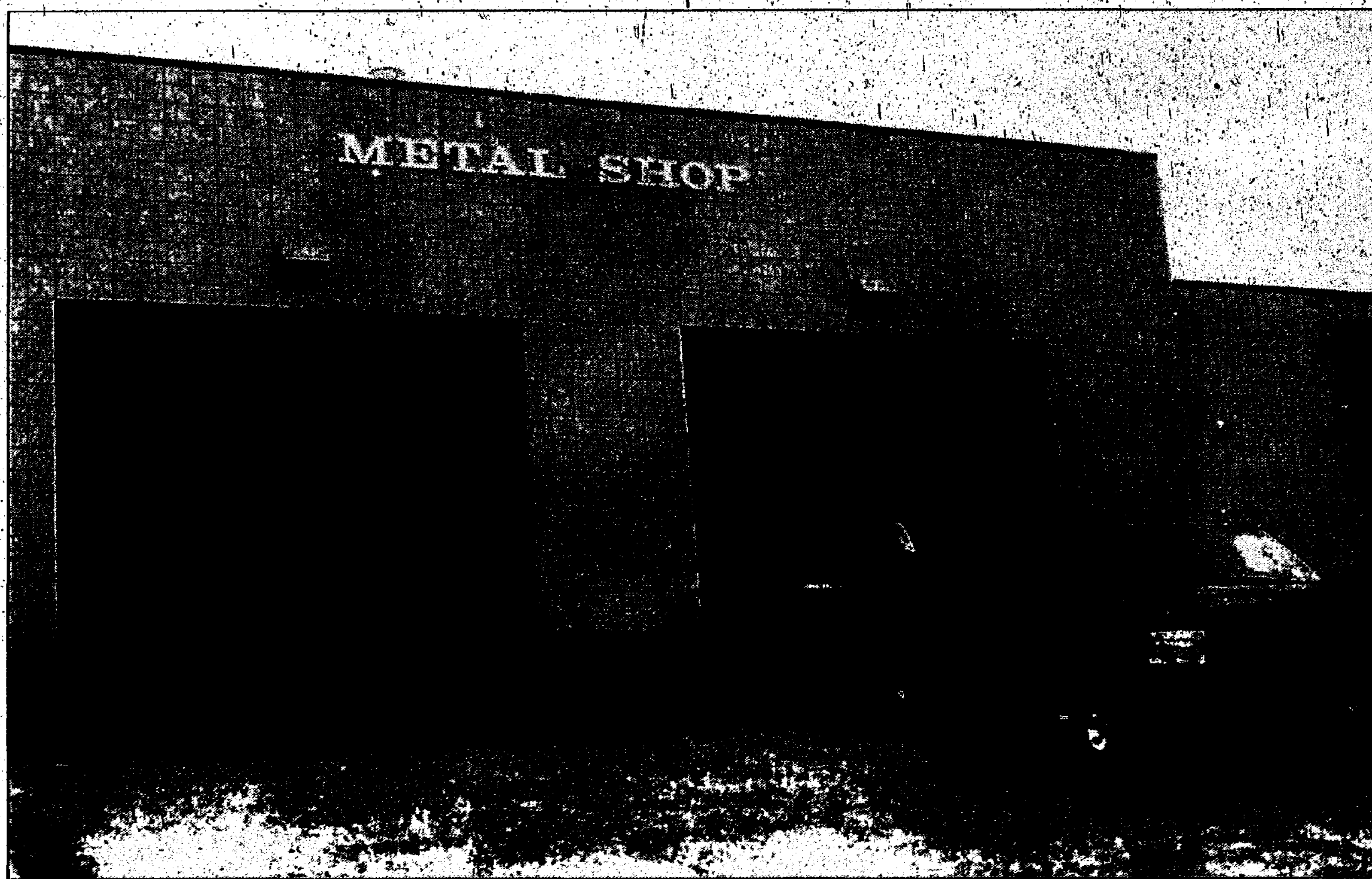


PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

Carrizozo Ag students begin the move-in process into their new Industrial Arts building. Students should be able to use their new ag metal shop, wood shop and classroom following the Thanksgiving holiday break.

## New Mexico AgriTourism Advisory Council forms in Lincoln County

■ 'Lamzania' caps off first meeting; Sally Canning to head up new group.

BY JULIE CARTER  
FOR THE RUIDOSO NEWS

Promoting agriculture and its ability to diversify was the central theme for a ground-breaking meeting held in Ruidoso at the Ruidoso, Valley Chamber of Commerce on Nov. 18.

When county farmer and rancher Sally Canning sought assistance in forming a county advisory board, Edward Avalos, New Mexico Department of Agriculture marketing director, suggested that a statewide council would be more beneficial.

With that in mind, a meeting that included local representatives as well as Jim Maetzold, USDA Agritourism leader from Washington, D.C., was scheduled for the purpose of forming a statewide council.

Maetzold presented statistics from USDA and the National Agricultural Statistic Services (NASS).

He outlined the interests and activities of tourists and citizens, average

dollars spent and areas of expenditure. He presented several examples of farm and ranch tourism successes in other states.

Also present at the meeting was Lynne Ditto, field representative for Senator Jeff Bingaman, Pete Gnatkowski, Lincoln County Extension Services, Eileen Lovelace, newly elected Lincoln County commissioner, Sid and Cheryl Goodloe, Carrizo Valley Ranch, Brad Treptow, executive director of the Ruidoso Chamber of Commerce, and Hubert Quintana, Coordinator for Southeast Economic Development.

The group agreed to form a statewide agricultural producer's tourism council.

The mission statement and scope of council will be discussed at the next meeting. Avalos agreed that the NMDA would be the official sponsor of the council.

Canning accepted the position as administrator of the New Mexico Agritourism Advisory Council (NMAAC) and will organize subsequent meetings.

Canning asked each person present

to give the names of two people they would like to have attend the next meeting.

Suggestions were to invite representatives from Eastern New Mexico University, Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Hubbard Museum, Energy Committee, tourism representative and producers from Alamogordo.

The newly formed advisory council is dedicated to assisting producers with information, funding locations and assistance, guidance, support and cooperative efforts in diversifying their agriculture business to create other source of income while they continue their farming and ranching operations.

Participants in the meeting were served a lunch of "Lamzania"—made from locally grown lamb, locally made cheese, cottage cheese and ricotta.

The next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 9 with time and location to be announced.

For more information on the NMAAC, contact Canning at 653-4041 or email her at laughingsheep@pvtworks.net.

## CAN-DO ATTITUDE



PHOTO BY JULIE CARTER

The Carrizozo Junior Rotary hosted their annual canned food drive to give to the Lincoln County Food Bank. The drive generated an impressive return in boxes of canned goods as individual classes competed to win a class pizza party. Pictured here are junior Rotarians Jesse Samora and Amanda Hurley.

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The Café will be closed for vacation starting Monday, November 1<sup>st</sup> through Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

Dinner and Brunch service will resume on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

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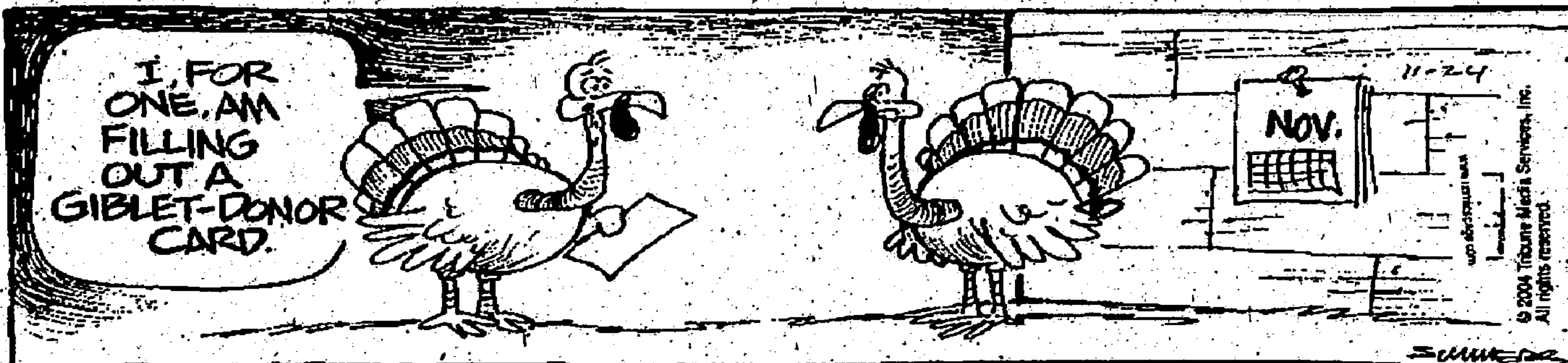
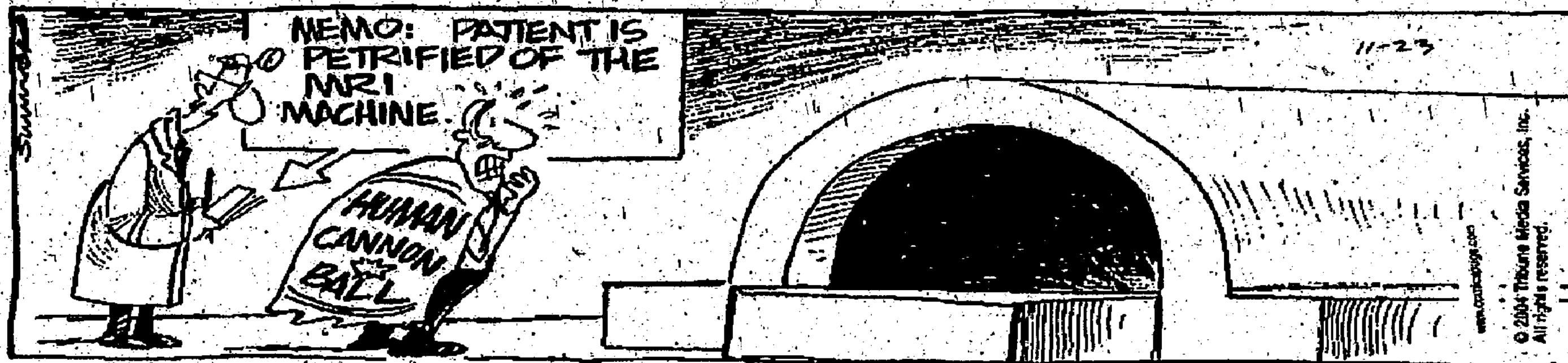
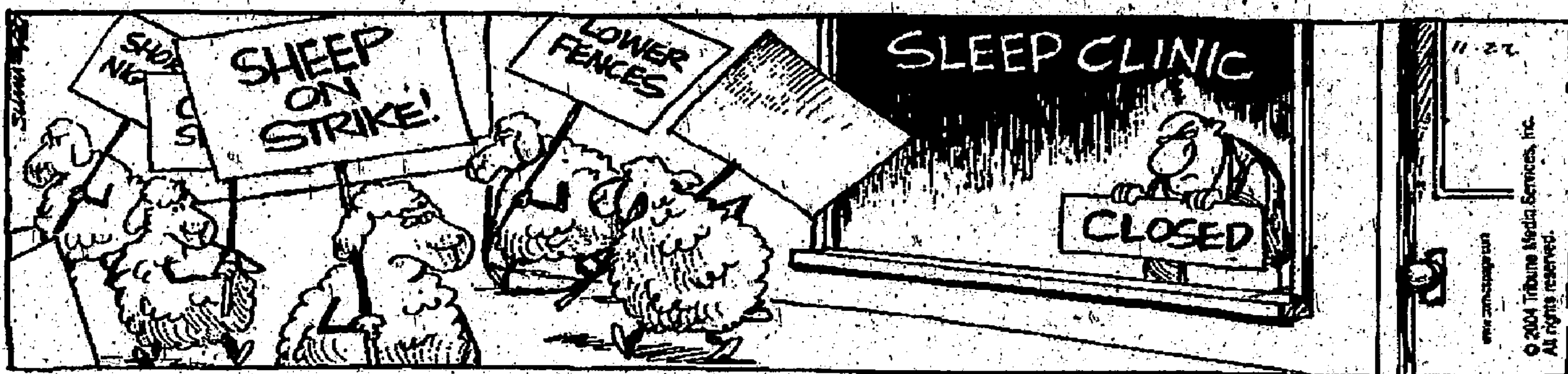
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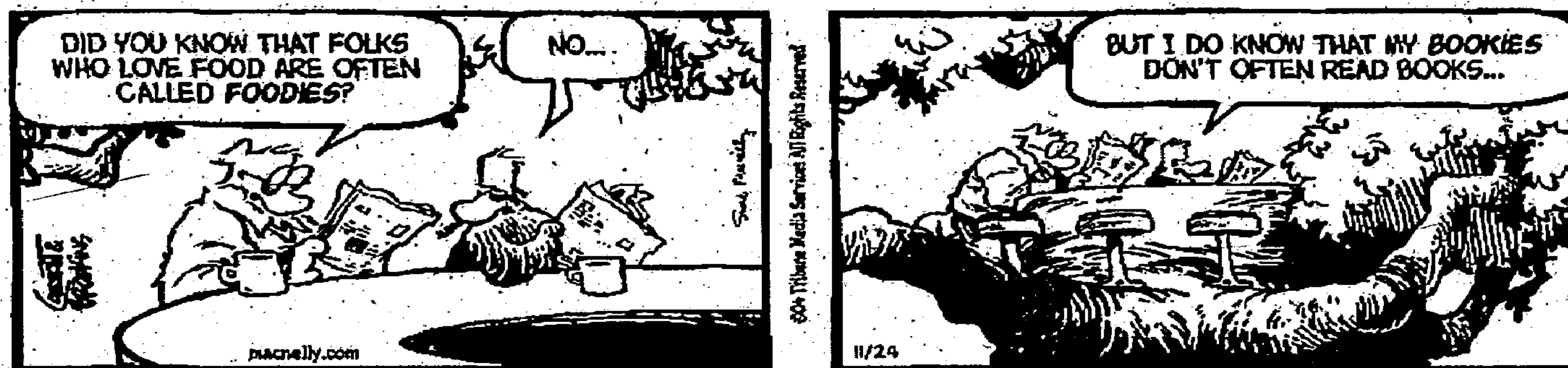
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BOUND & GAGGED



SHOE



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A <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>
O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>
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PAR SCORE 140-150  
BEST SCORE 200

FOUR RACK TOTAL  
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 3rd Edition.

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**JUMBLE**

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

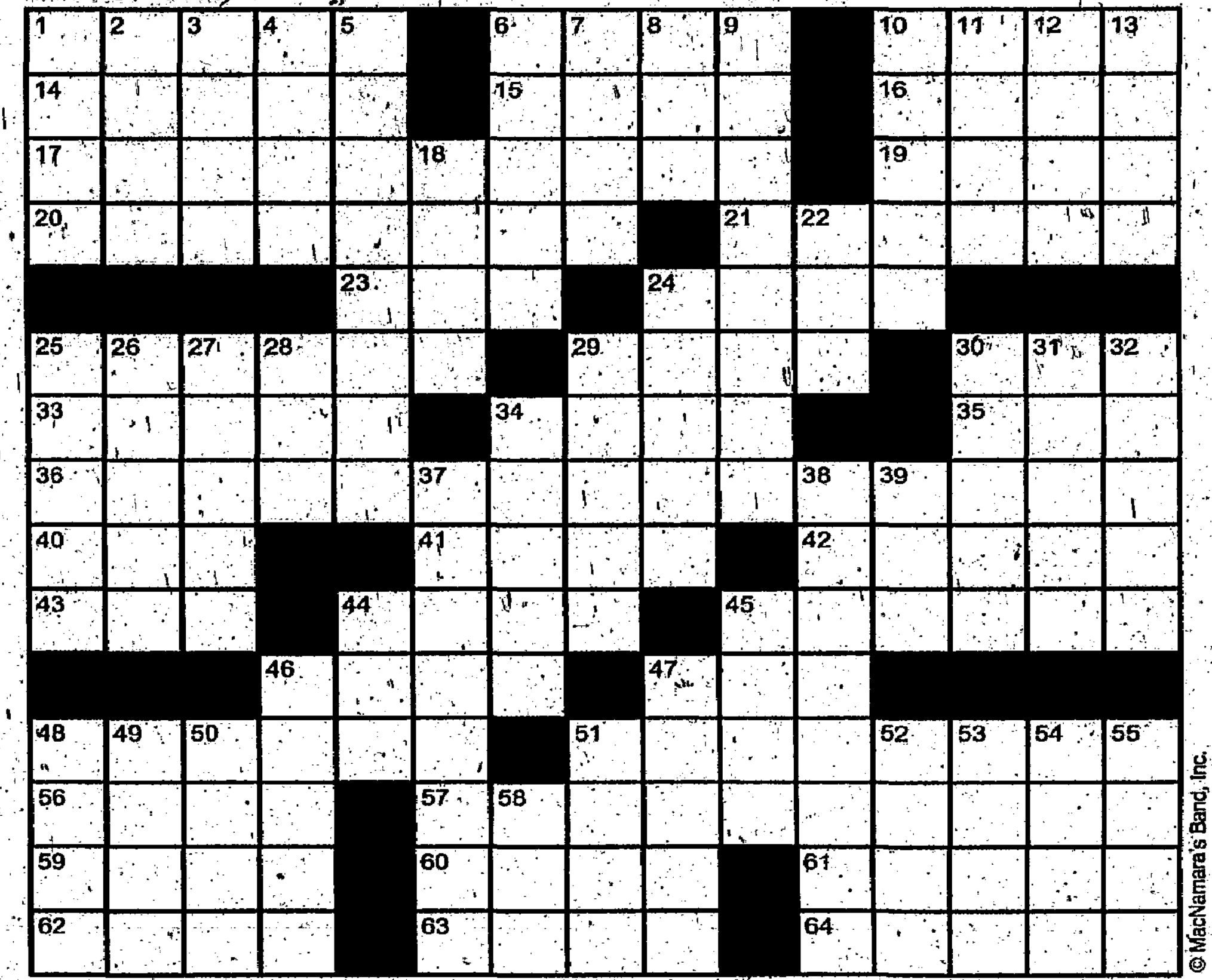
KAFLE  
TACCH  
DOPAME  
HALVIS

Answer: A

ACROSS

1. Relating to method
6. Places to shape up
10. Hit the mall
14. Center of action
15. Bottle part
16. Whipped up
17. International agreement of 1972
19. Toledo's lake
20. Hockey miscreants
21. Jimmy's veep
23. Living or dead follower
24. Court order
25. Zippy comeback
29. Senator Gramm
30. Long or Block: Abbr.
33. Send to Siberia
34. Baby-sitter's handful
35. Cpl. or Sgt.
36. Champ in 5 different weight classes
40. "To a..." poem
41. Gen. Robert
42. Picture falsely
43. Van \_\_\_ Waals forces
44. Eggs in order
45. Sacred songs
46. Auto grille protectors
47. Source of funds in D.C.
48. Cash in
51. Positioned
56. 440-yard-long path
57. Malibu university

Shaker Stuff



American Profile Homelown Content

010909

59. "Miss Peach" cartoonist
60. Brickell or McClurg
61. Producing goosebumps
62. Predator's dinner
63. Address components, these days
64. Bits of bravery

DOWN

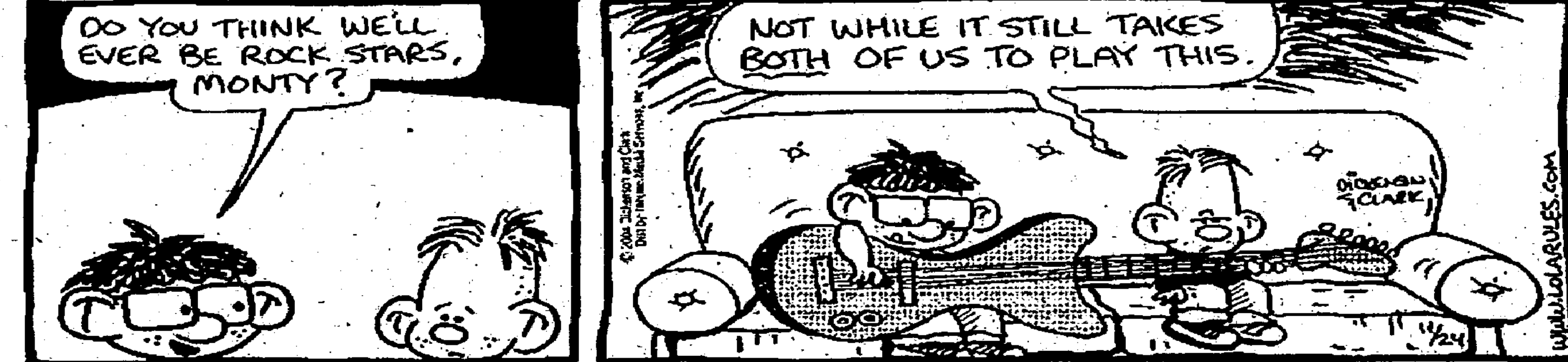
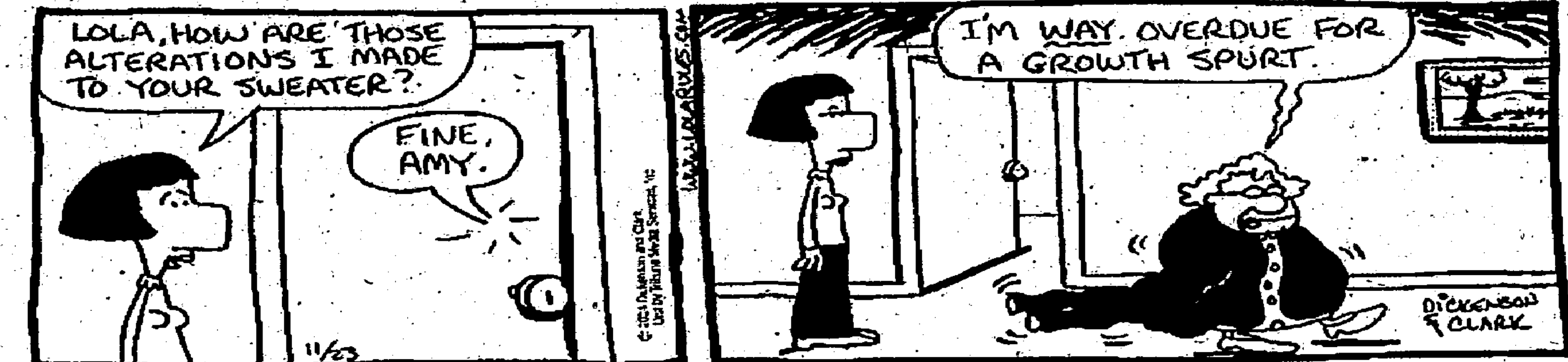
1. Physics calculation
2. Viva-voce
3. Boxer Oscar \_\_\_ Hoya
4. Wee workers
5. Barber, at times

6. Dummy Mortimer
7. Carrots' go-with
8. Tread the boards
9. Air a message?
10. Got a whiff of
11. Lyricist Lorenz
12. Jim Davis comics dog
13. Jury member, in theory
18. Patronize U-Haul, say
22. Be out of sorts
24. Pod member
25. Do a groundskeeper's chore

26. Radiate, as confidence
27. Cereal pitchman Tony, e.g.
28. Ending with pay or plug
29. Nosy sort: Var.
30. As a whole
31. Curtain fabric
32. Silver streaks
34. Plantation units
37. New and improved
38. Not in plain view
39. Org. for teachers
44. Specimen for an assayer
45. Cracker spread

46. Beer drinker's protrusion
47. Singer's asset, slangily
48. Lopsided win
49. "Well, did you...?"
50. Chip's cartoon mate
51. Kebab holder
52. "Zip—Doo—Dah"
53. Get bushed
54. Oklahoma city
55. Poor marks
58. Tokyo, formerly

LOLA



**THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME**  
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argillon

That Mr. Van Snoot got in, again without paying.

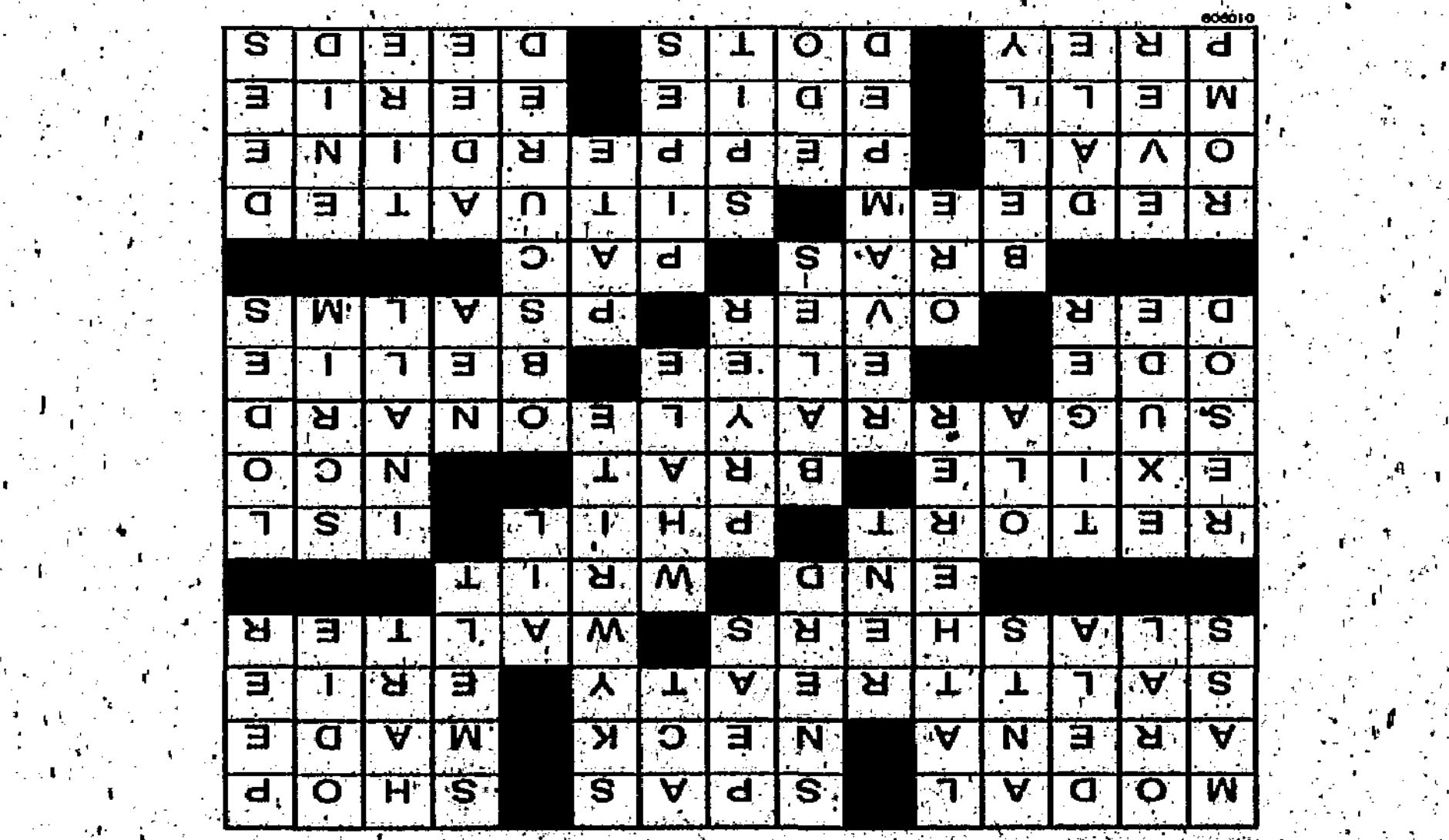
THE MISER SNEAKED INTO THE ICE RINK BECAUSE HE WAS

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.



*Think Snow!!!*

Jumbles: FLAKE CATCH POMADE LAVISH  
Answer: The miser sneaked into the ice rink because he was — A CHEAP SKATE



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P <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>
U <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>
S <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	H <sub>1</sub>

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38r/28a Trailer (NO PETS) \$500/mo. You pay utilities. 937-1081, 258-4509 or 257-2121.

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38r/28a Trailer (NO PETS) \$50



**Home - General**

38d/2ba, 2 car garage on approx 1/2 acre, central heat, wood stove, lg deck. Great location at 100 Kirkman Circle. Call for appt. 505-258-3197

Lease to Own, 600+ sqft, 18d/1ba Cottage. Newly remodeled. Shown by appointment only. \$77,000, \$3500 DN. \$680mo., 505-257-6464.

**FOR LEASE** Neat 3/2 w/Mother-in-Law apartment - on the Links. A+ REALTY SERVICES. 258-4574

Furnished or unfurnished. 2Bdr/1Bath home with Central Air/Heat, security doors, double pane windows, new carpet, W/D, carport. Flexible lease terms. Available 12/1/04. \$675 plus utilities. \$400 deposit. References required. Call (915) 562-7341

Lease to Own, 600+ sqft, 18d/1ba Cottage. Newly remodeled. Shown by appointment only. \$77,000, \$3500 DN. \$680mo., 505-257-6464.

Upper Canyon, 38d/2ba, utilities paid, \$1000/mo. 2Bd/1Ba, \$600 + utilities. 336-1724 or 937-6601.

38d/2ba, 2 car garage on approx 1/2 acre, central heat, wood stove, lg deck. Great location at 100 Kirkman Circle. Call for appt. 505-258-3197

Upper Canyon 405 Flume, lodge style 3 bedroom home with 3 baths, 2 fire places + log and den. \$1500 Owner/agent Call 257-25761

38d/2ba, garage, FP, excellent condition. \$995/mo + utilities. 257-4231 or 808-0370.

Upper Canyon, 38d/2ba, utilities paid, \$1000/mo. 2Bd/1Ba, \$600 + utilities. 336-1724 or 937-6601.

Cree, unfurnished. 3br/2ba, den, double garage, all appliances. No Pets. \$1200 + utilities. Lease. 257-9526.

Furnished or unfurnished: 2Bdr/1Bath home with Central Air/Heat, security doors, double pane windows, new carpet, W/D, carport. Flexible lease terms. Available 12/1/04. \$675 plus utilities. \$400 deposit. References required. Call (915) 562-7341

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**REAL ESTATE**  
400

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**  
All real estate advertised here-in is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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28Years Experience  
354-2984

**Real Estate Wanted** 402

Want to Buy a House  
F580. If you know of one in Ruidoso, preferably 38d/2ba, Fixer-Upper OK \$130,000 or less. 336-2261 No Realtors

**Homes - General** 412

Move in by XMAS! Brand new KARSTEN home, 3/2.5 on 1/3 acre. Landscaped w/circular driveway. \$119,900. Or choose your own lot & floor plan. 937-5091

For Sale: 38d/2ba home in Capitlanon 0.9 acre lot, city water. \$84,500. Also 12.8 acres with well, electricity, phone, fenced, all utilities. \$85,000. Owner financing or 10% discount for cash on either property. Owner/Broker Listing. Lamoyne Carpenter Land Sales. 354-2281 or 354-2376.

New, custom, 3/2/2, on one acre, 28 x 50' shop in Belen. Sell or trade, \$225,000. 257-0011

A LITTLE SPECIAL 38d/2ba with hot tub sitting on 3 acres with river frontage. Large barn with stalls and corals. 1 mile from racetrack. 257-3239 or 937-4400.

New, custom, 3/2/2, on one acre, 28 x 50' shop in Belen. Sell or trade, \$225,000. 257-0011

**BIG TIRES**  
Experienced Mechanics Needed.  
Apply in person.  
2259 W. Hwy. 70

**Home - General**

For Sale: 38d/2ba home in Capitlanon 0.9 acre lot, city water. \$84,500. Also 12.8 acres with well, electricity, phone, fenced, all utilities. \$85,000. Owner financing or 10% discount for cash on either property. Owner/Broker Listing. Lamoyne Carpenter Land Sales. 354-2281 or 354-2376.

**Residential Lots** 436

Wooded, hillside, city lot. \$20,000. 257-0011.

To place a classified ad phone 257-4001

Liquidation Sale of 3 Full Golf Membership Lots, 2 Ruidoso Lots. 505-378-4800.

Liquidation Sale of 3 Full Golf Membership Lots, 2 Ruidoso Lots. 505-378-4800.

Wooded, hillside, city lot. \$20,000. 257-0011.

Beautiful city lot on cul-de-sac, wooded, level. \$40,000. 257-0011

Wooded, hillside, city lot. \$20,000. 257-0011

Alto North. Beautiful one + acre. All utilities. Fronts Enchanted Forest Loop. Corner of Whisper & Otto St. For info, 254-848-2188.

Wooded, hillside, city lot. \$20,000. 257-0011

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**Misc. Items**

Small antique wood burning cookstove \$250 257-0011

Snowblower, New Craftsman 21" auger, SHP electric start, \$225 OBO 257-5642

Appliances 626

25 cu ft horizontal deep freeze \$200 257-0011

Refrigerator and misc household goods, TVs, VCRs. Priced to sell. 257-5979 or 808-1937.

Home Furnishings 627

Couch, loveseat, chair, traditional. Very good condition. \$500. Wicker bookshelf w/drawers, \$25. 378-6217.

Garage/Van/Estate Sales 628

Yard Sale: Saturday 8 to 11, 117 Heights (Downs) Lotsa stuff, HD LG Shirts, jeans (size 31 & 34) stuffed animals, velvet loveseat & chair.

Farming/ Ranching Supplies 659

2004-250 tons cow hay \$45-\$65 per ton, harsh quality hay, 80% grass, 20% alfalfa, small bails \$3 & \$4. 719-746-2013.

Animals 700

Dogs/Services/Supplies 722

AKC Rhodesian Ridgeback babies, Male-Fem. ready to go 10/04. Call 505-526-8318

Retired UKC Champion/Toy Fox Terrier Male looking for a retirement home. Free. 336-1540

Recreation 800

Campers/Travel Trailers 808

2000 Sun-lite, 14' Tows like a tent camper, equip of Travel Trailer, sleeps 5 excell cond. \$6000 505-336-1855 Alto NM

Wheels 900

Motorcycles 901

2003 Kawasaki Prairie, 650 ATV, low hours, winch, trailer, & implements. \$4500. 640-8861

Ruidoso News Online at www.ruidosonews.com

Heavy & Medium Duty Trucks 910

12 ft Box Van \$2495 OBO Consider trade 257-0011

Light Duty Trucks 911

'91 Chevy S-10 4x4 extended cab. New trans & parts. \$2100 firm Terry @927-6214 or 420-4961

Sport Utility 912

'92 Subaru Loyale, 4x4, runs good, am/fm/CD, A/C, 30-35mpg, \$2250. 505-653-4550.

Vans/Buses 913

'93 Mercury Villager Van, all power, A/C, good condition. \$2500 OBO. 930-9031.

ATV'S 917

2002 Ford 150, 4x4, V-8, Superduty, "Lariat" towing pkg, 27,000 mi. Excellent cond. \$21,000. 336-4282.

1987 Subaru GL, for sale, 4 door, 4WD, clean, runs great. First \$1000 takes it! 505-430-6600.

'96 Suburban, 4x4, 350, loaded, rear heat, very good, high miles. \$4500. 505-849-4911

Subaru Forester, 99, 57K. Loaded. \$9,995. Perfect condition. 505-997-0556.

General Services 3304

Brillante Construction Thomas Brillante Redwood Decks - Remodeling Painting - New Construction. 505-931-258-5198 Ruidoso, NM

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30 Years Experience

**Self Storage** 953

FORTRESS / CAMELOT Mini Storage  
Several sizes available NOW  
Call Don: 937-2220 257-0313

**Auto For Sale**

1985 Honda CRX, price reduced, \$1993.99. Worth every penny! Call 354-3200.

'98 Lexus LS400 Silver & black, as nice as you will ever see Garage kept, oil, 110,000, 52K Allo: 505-336-2000.

**Business/Partial For Rent/Sale** 951

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Thanksgiving Day was first observed in Plymouth colony (Mass.) in 1621, the year in which the Pilgrims landed in the New World and gave thanks for their first harvest and for the new land they had colonized. President Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving as a national holiday in 1863.

**Ruidoso News**

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**STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

Statehood—January 6, 1912, the 47th state  
State motto—Crescit Eundo (It Grows as it Goes)  
State song—O Fair New Mexico, words: Elizabeth Gonyea  
State animal—Black Bear  
State bird—Chaparral Bird, commonly called Roadrunner  
State cookie—Bizcochito  
State fish—Cutthroat Trout  
State flag—A field of yellow containing a Pueblo of Zia sun symbol of red in the center  
State flower—Yucca flower  
State fossil—Coeleophysis  
State gem—Turquoise  
State grass—Blue Grama Grass (bouteleou)  
State insect—Tarrantia Hawk Wasp (pers)  
State question—"Red or green?"  
State tree—Pinon, or nut pine (pinus edulis)  
State vegetables—Chile (the Spanish word for chili) and the pinto bean, or frijol  
Nicknames—Land of Enchantment; Sun's Largest Cities—Albuquerque, Santa Fe, L. Roswell, South Valley; Farmington  
Celebrations—Albuquerque hosts the Jarra balloon event in the world's first week!

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