

# RUIDOSO NEWS

RUIDOSO, NEW MEXICO • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006 • OUR 59TH YEAR, NO. 93 • 50 CENTS

**FIRE DANGER  
VERY HIGH**
**INSIDE**

**1B SPORTS**  
 RHS splits  
 a pair with  
 Eunice  
 Warriors at 3-7

**6A EDUCATION**

 It's all peace  
 and harmony in  
 this camp

**4A OPINION**

 A mutual need;  
 two-bit columnist  
 gets serious

**9A HOME & FAMILY**

 The gates of  
 Lincoln County

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**HIGH NOTE**

 Chris Cagle's guitarist strikes a riff during Cagle's Friday performance at Inn of the Mountain Gods. Cagle was touring on his album, *Anywhere But Here*.

COURTESY MARK JONES

## Firefighting tanker lands in time for the season

However, funding for the single-engine air tanker, or SEAT plane, is still up in the air

 DIANNE STALLINGS  
 dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Another layer in the ammunition for fighting wildfires in Lincoln County flew into Sierra Blanca Regional Airport late last week.

A single engine air tanker, called a SEAT plane, owned by Aerotech arrived for its usual stay during the high fire-danger months. Funding for the airplane sometimes is borne by the state Forestry Division, but other entities such as the Village of Ruidoso, are asked to step in and supplement the contract when necessary.

A meeting to discuss how to pay for the

SEAT is scheduled this week, according to County Manager Tom Stewart and Ruidoso Airport Manager Tom Wylam.

The aircraft, which can dump flame retardant or water, offers a quick response to wildfires while stationed at the municipal airport.

Commissioner Maury St. John said she recalls the county paying a portion for the last two years. Stewart told her during a commission meeting last week that the county paid the first year, but no money was budgeted last year.

If the commission approved a payment, he must have found out in time that it was not necessary and it was removed from the

budget, Stewart said.

"The state seems to believe they will be able to fund it," he told commissioners. However, if it is state-funded, the plane will be used as a regional asset. Although stationed at Sierra Blanca, it could be sent anywhere in the state in the event of an emergency, he said.

Commission Chairman Rick Simpson said that works both ways and airplanes stationed elsewhere in the state would fly here if a wildfire broke out.

In other items in the manager's report

See SEAT, page 8A

## State: 2 acres for county septics

 Health Department  
 official addresses  
 subdivision proposals

 DIANNE STALLINGS  
 dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Because of Lincoln County's fractured geology, shallow ground water and inappropriate soil conditions, a minimum of two acres should be required for each residential septic system in new subdivisions, a state Health Department official advises.

During a review by the County Commission last week of proposed changes to the county's subdivision rules, Jack King, an environmental scientist in the Ruidoso office of New Mexico Environment Department, told commissioners, "Data we found from studies around the state show septic systems do have a tendency to pollute ground water, especially with the terrain and geology in Lincoln County."

Nearly the entire county is designated by the state ED as an "area of concern," he said. That determination is based on the fractured bedrock that underlies the county; shallow groundwater, which is considered anything less than 100 feet, around numerous creeks,

See SEPTIC, page 7A

## Convention center changes management

Falling revenues behind shake-up, revamping

 DEANNA CHENEY  
 dchene@ruidosonews.com

A change in management at the Ruidoso Convention Center has operators cautiously optimistic.

Last week Rachel Burres, director of sales and marketing at the Hawthorn Inn and Suites, which oversees sales at the center, announced the departure of Charlene Jagoe as director of sales.

"Revenues have been down so we are wanting to change that," Burres told the Ruidoso News. "We're working hard to get more business booked for the convention center."

In October, village councilors mulled over a six percent drop in revenues generated by the Ruidoso Convention Center in the first quarter of fiscal year 2005-06. Convention center revenues collected for the quarter were \$30,502, or 16 percent less compared to the previous quarter. At that time village officials said they suspected that the opening of the

See CHANGE, page 8A

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## THE HEALING TOUCH



The Board of Directors of HEAL (Help End Abuse for Life) hosted a lunch for contractors and crews to thank them for their work on renovating The Nest in Ruidoso Downs to serve victims of domestic violence.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Ongoing

## Al-Anon

Meets at 10:30 a.m. every Saturday and 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday at 613 Sudderth, Suite H, Ruidoso; 257-9397.

## Alcoholics Anonymous

7:30 a.m., noon, 5:15 p.m., 8 p.m. daily 613 Sudderth, Suite H, 257-9397.  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Lincoln County, 1096 Mechem, Suite 201, Lincoln Tower; 258-4185.

## Duplicate Bridge Club

1 p.m. every Thursday, Saturday and Tuesday, plus a 29ers game 1 p.m. Mondays, all at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 257-7411 or 257-6188.

## Mountain High Recovery Group of Narcotics Anonymous

Meets 7:15 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Tuesday and 7 p.m. Thursday at the Best Western Ruidoso Inn, 97 Camelot Drive at Highway 70.

## The Party Bridge Group

1 p.m. Wednesday and Friday at the Ruidoso Senior Citizens Center; 336-4808.

## Stretch &amp; Tone Class

For men and women of all ages, 9-10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Senior Center, 501 Sudderth; RSVP Terry Franklin, 257-4565.

## Wednesday, March 29

## 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

on the Web at [www.hcruidoso.com](http://www.hcruidoso.com)

## Optimist Club (Friends of Youth)

Noon every Wednesday at K-Bob's Steakhouse. New members always welcome; 257-5938 or 258-9218.

## Ruidoso Downs City Council

Regular meeting, 5:30 p.m. today in the Hubbard Room of City Hall, 122 Downs Dr.; 378-4422.

## Thursday, March 30

## Captain Smokey Bear Lions Club

Meets every Thursday at 5 P.M. at the Village Hall in Capitán. For information, please call Kitty or Bob Callender at 258-1345.

## Lincoln County Chess Club

5 p.m. every Thursday at Arby's, 633 Sudderth Dr. All experience levels welcome. Bring your own equipment; Bob Moeller, 354-8036.

## Thursday Bridge

11 a.m. Thursdays at Cree Meadows.

## Friday, March 31

## Charity Fish Fry

Sponsored by BPOE #2086, doors open at 5:30 p.m. Friday at the Elks Lodge on Highway 70 West; Ruth Ann, 257-2607 or 257-6142.

## Senior Line Dancing

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

## Weight Watchers

9:30 a.m. Friday and 5:30 p.m. Monday at Community United Methodist Church, 220 Junction Rd.; Marcia, 258-8878.

## Saturday, April 1

## 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.

## Monday, April 3

## Alcoholics Anonymous women's open meeting

Meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at 613 Sudderth, Suite H; 378-8391.

## Angus Wood Carvers

5-9 p.m. every Monday, Nazarene Church, Camino, Highway 48 and Highway 37; 936-9161.

## Ruidoso Downs Auxiliary

7 p.m. the first Monday of every month at the Ruidoso Downs Senior Center off East Highway 70; 378-8099 or 378-8316.

## Ruidoso Women's Club game day

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

## Tuesday, April 4

## Alto Women's Association

11 a.m. Tuesday at the Alto Club House for lunch and cards. Business meeting, first Tuesday of every month.

## Altura Club

7 p.m., first Tuesday of every month, for program; Noon, third Tuesday of every month for lunch, Episcopal Church of the Holy Mount, 121 Mesalero Trail; Beth, 258-4244.

## Kiwanis

Tuesdays at noon at K-Bob's; Todd, 257-4033.

## 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. Those meetings are at 11:45 a.m. at the Teepee Lounge at Ruidoso High School, Call Barbara, 258-5445, Phillips, 257-5555 or Greg, 257-1255.

## Ruidoso Evening Lions

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 106 S. Overlook; Bill Speegle, 378-4151.

## Ruidoso Valley Noon Lions Club

Meets 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday for lunch and a short meeting at Cree Meadows Country Club; 257-0363.

SEND NOTICES TO  
MRACINE@RUIDOSONNEWS.COM

## CORRECTION

The COPE photo on the March 29 Community Page identified the subject as Perry Lawson. He is actually Dr. Steven Zimberoff, a domestic violence specialist with COPE.

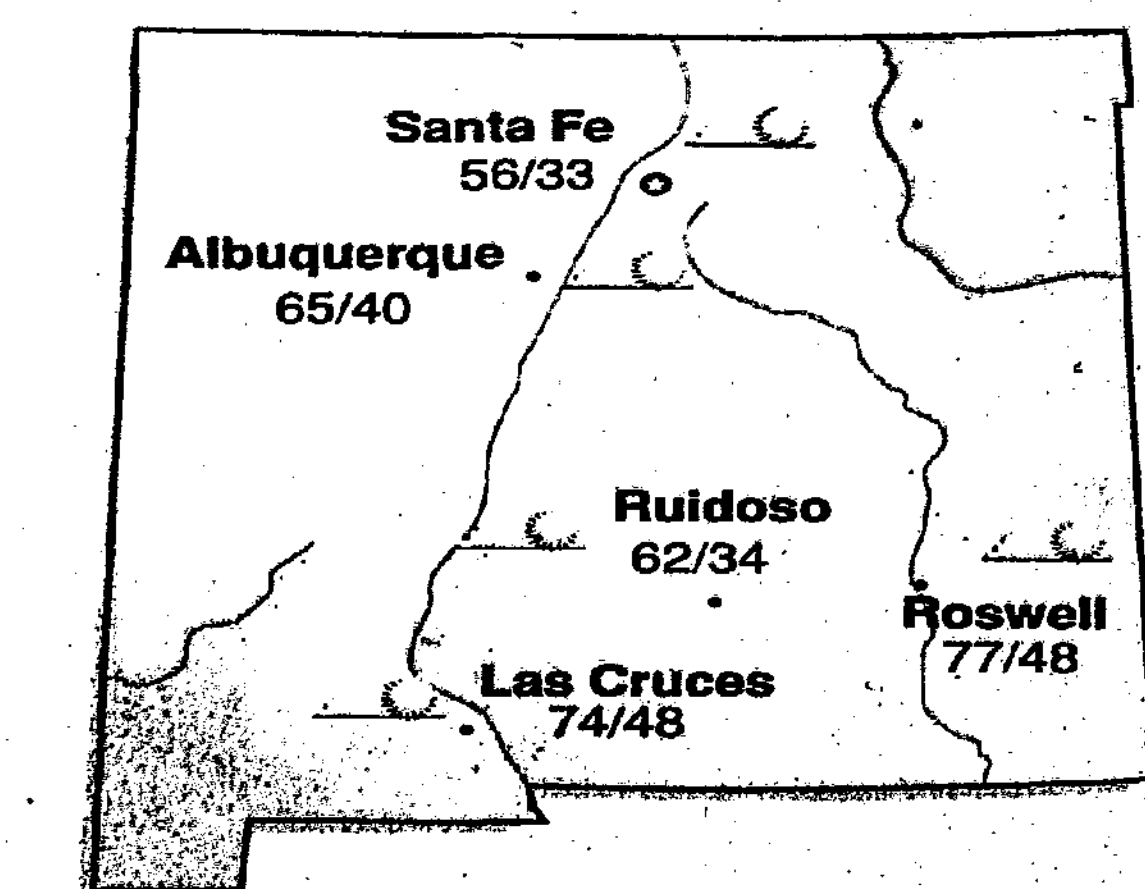
## Today's Weather

## Local 3-Day Forecast

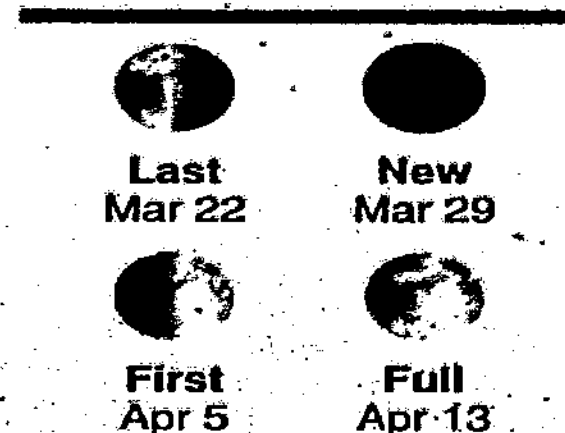
Wed 3/29	Thu 3/30	Fri 3/31
62/34	58/32	64/35
Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.	Windy with a mix of sun and clouds.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 5:54 AM Sunset 6:21 PM	Sunrise 5:53 AM Sunset 6:22 PM	Sunrise 5:52 AM Sunset 6:22 PM

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## New Mexico At A Glance



## Moon Phases



## UV Index

Wed 3/29	9	Very High
Thu 3/30	9	Very High
Fri 3/31	9	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0-11 number scale, with a higher UV index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0-2 Low, 3-5 Moderate, 6-7 High, 8-10 Very High, 11 Extreme.

## Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Alamogordo	77	46	pt sunny	Grants	49	28	mixed	Santa Fe	58	33	pt sunny
Albuquerque	65	40	pt sunny	Guymon, OK	76	46	windy	Santa Rosa	73	43	pt sunny
Carlsbad	80	49	pt sunny	Hobbs	80	52	pt sunny	Silver City	64	39	pt sunny
Chama	45	26	mixed	Las Cruces	74	48	pt sunny	Socorro	70	41	pt sunny
Clovis	75	43	rain	Las Vegas	60	33	pt sunny	St. Johns, AZ	59	35	rain
Deming	74	43	pt sunny	Lordsburg	72	42	pt sunny	Taos	58	30	pt sunny
El Paso, TX	78	52	pt sunny	Lubbock, TX	78	50	rain	Trinidad, CO	66	37	pt sunny
Espanola	64	39	pt sunny	Odessa, TX	80	54	rain	Truth or Conseq.	70	45	pt sunny
Farmington	55	31	rain	Raton	66	32	pt sunny	Tucson, AZ	70	49	rain
Gallup	54	28	rain	Roswell	77	48	pt sunny	Tucumcari	73	42	pt sunny

## National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	71	50	pt sunny	Houston	74	64	t-storm	Phoenix	69	54	rain
Boston	55	39	sunny	Los Angeles	61	49	pt sunny	San Francisco	57	47	rain
Chicago	54	45	pt sunny	Miami	77	67	pt sunny	Seattle	54	43	rain
Dallas	73	62	t-storm	Minneapolis	57	46	rain	St. Louis	65	52	pt sunny
Denver	64	38	pt sunny	New York	57	45	mst sunny	Washington, DC	60	44	rain

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## County seeking funds for water model

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## RUIDOSO NEWS

Glenas Orcutt, general manager

Marty Racine, editor

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## OUR OPINION

## Village, county need one another

Personalities can repair the damage done.

On Sept. 14, 2004, the Ruidoso Village Council, Mayor Leon Eggleston, Planning Director Charles Rennick and Village Manager Lorri McKnight spoke as one in their belief that Ruidoso was unappreciated and misunderstood by the county.

To wit, they felt Village reps were treated rudely during an ETZ discussion in the Lincoln County Commission chambers. Split the county, they suggested. Or secede altogether.

Fast-forward to March 21, 2006. That's Ruidoso Mayor L. Ray Nunley, in that same lion's den, telling commissioners, "I want to ask we try to get along ... [and] work together for common issues that affect us all."

Nunley had formerly served on the County Commission, and this time Commission chairman Rick Simpson, he of the rural background, clearly viewed a Ruidoso mayor as a fellow traveler.

All of which proves that politics is about personality. It can forge alliances and it can tear them apart.

We salute the Nunley overture, but it was made against a complex backdrop.

The village and the county are worlds apart culturally. The former is an urban enclave with an emerging "sophisticated" aesthetic; the latter remains a rural if growing jurisdiction with strong vestiges of ranching and the Old West.

As the two entities move forward, issues radiate outward and intersect, demanding regional cooperation: annexation, water, wastewater, sustainability, tourism, subdivision development, smart growth, ETZ ordinances, industry, property rights, zoning, roads, 911 systems, the hospital, emergency response, etc.

It's about time that the personalities of politics view us all as regional neighbors.

## Two-bit columnist gives no quarter about serious issue

Let's establish something right up front. This is serious business. The state needs a new quarter.

To be precise, it will not be a state quarter, but a federal quarter saluting New Mexico. We have not yet begun to mint our own money. But keep your eyes on Governor Bill. If the Dems snub him in favor of Hillary, the gov may declare New Mexico an independent nation and assume the role of dictator. I got dibs on the press czar gig.

So important is the quarter design The Bill established a seven-member New Mexico Coin Commission. The coin commission is accepting 150 word essays that describe what the new quarter should look like. Please write yours and email it to the address below. I will forward it to the proper authorities. Just as important, the column will share your wisdom, if any, with others.

Warning: The first person who writes "I think our New Mexico quarter should be two dimes and a nickel stuck together with chewing gum" will get a visit from hooded goons driving a black sedan sporting stolen license plates.

Here are some examples of essays the coin commission might receive:

From a 14-year-old skateboarder:

I think the new quarter should be like, way cool, like with a pitcher of a righteous babe doin' a half-pipe. Like our quarter should have kids and stuff on it and not some president guy from 100 years ago like that Reagan dude. I mean, like I went to a history class once but it was so totally lame I grabbed my board and boogied.

From Governor Bill Richardson:

On behalf of the people of New Mexico, let me thank you in advance for your dedicated ser-

vice that will certainly enable our wonderful state to choose an appropriate design for the new quarter. Enclosed please find several pictures of me riding my horse, Sundance. While I have full confidence you will do the right thing, I am requesting each of you to submit letters of resignation for use at my discretion.

From the president of the New Mexico bar association:

It has come to our attention that the New Mexico Coin Commission thereinafter and in all cases later in this document, unless otherwise specified, to be referred to as NMCC), has with clear and obvious intent issued a formal request on behalf of the Governor of New Mexico to seek 150-word essays describing a design for a coin piece representing a value to be known as twenty five percent of a United States dollar (Whoops! Sorry, ran over the word limit).

From the head of the New Mexico American Civil Liberties Association:

If you even think about sticking artwork on this quarter that looks like a cross, we'll sue your butt. Go ahead and use a picture of an Indian if you want to, but he better not look like Jesus. Change "in God we trust" to "God - Why all the fuss?"

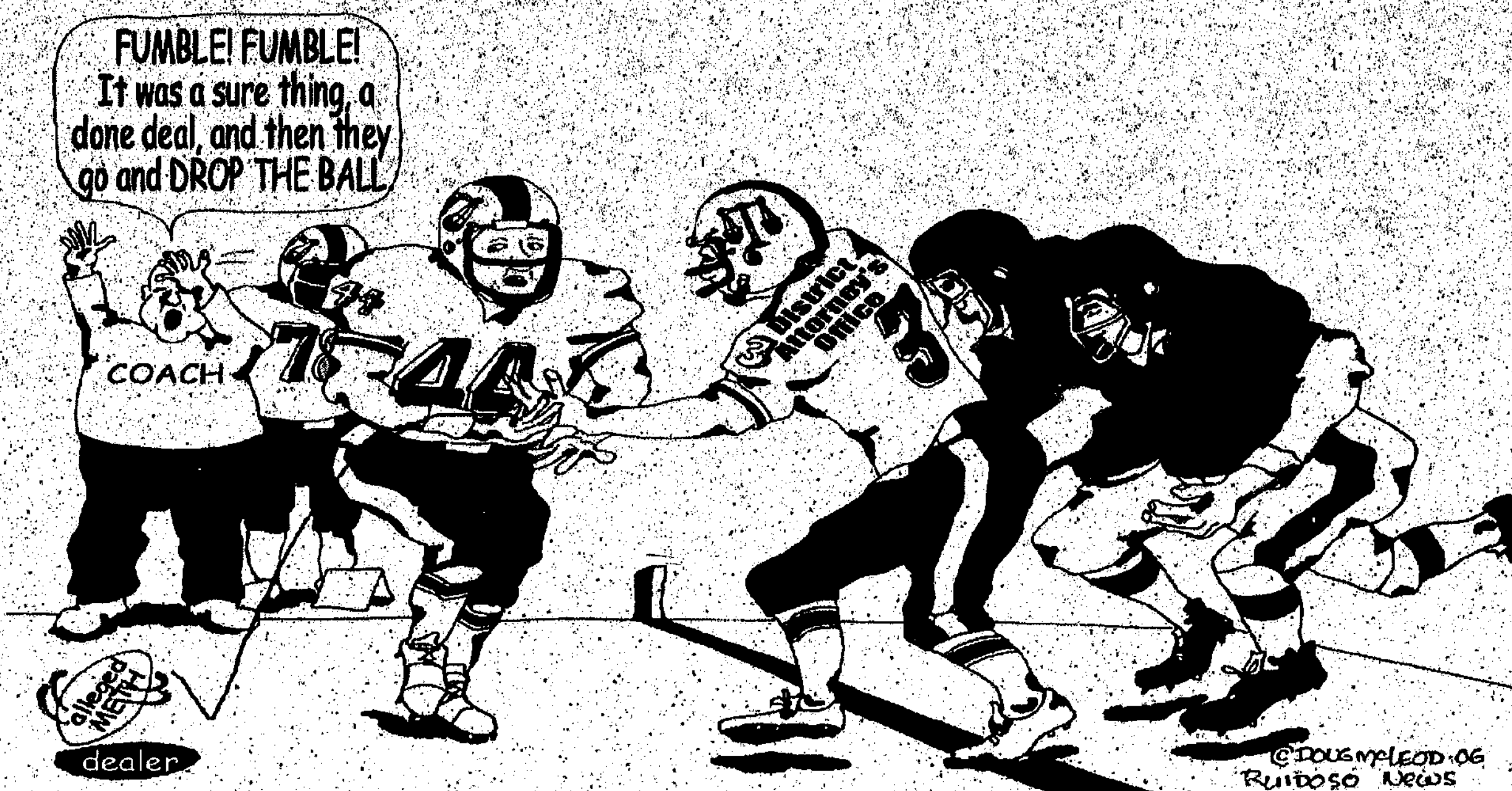
From "Anonymous":

I think our coin should salute just ordinary folks, like, say, a fellow who sells insurance, or maybe a housewife, or an auto mechanic or - WAIT, I GOT IT! - a guy who writes a two-bit newspaper column.

From God:

I'm getting irritated by both the ACLU and the idiot who wrote the last essay. Don't make me come down there!

Ned Cantwell - ncantwell@charter.net - sent the commission a photo of himself perched atop a Zia symbol.

RUIDOSO NEWS  
OPINION

## YOUR

## 'We the people' want DA and assistants removed

To the editor:

New Motto for DA Scot Key: "Let the brothers and sistas go".

My oh my. Is it just me, or do you see a pattern here of letting the drug dealers go?

I am reasonably sure that there have been many more that we don't know about, but we do know for sure that DA Key let three alleged drug dealers go in Capitán, now he's let another one go in a Lincoln County Sheriff's Office case.

The total of the two cases - two ounces of methamphetamine in Capitán, and over 13 ounces of methamphetamine in the S. O. case.

Then we have Mr. Jeremiah Thomas from Iowa, who got caught by the State Police here in Lincoln County transporting about 29 pounds of marijuana. Court records show that the DA's Office "Nolo Prosequere" (dismissed) these charges also.

We can keep a score card here, bad guys and girls "5", decent hard working citizens of Lincoln County "0". And these are just the ones that we know about within the last seven months.

OK, Scot, you let the three bad guys go in Capitán and went after the police officers. Well, that didn't work, because the grand jury "no billed" them.

This must mean that they did their jobs. You got mad because they didn't include you and/or your incompetent Kirby Wills in on the deal. Now I understand why they didn't call you in.

Then, ADA Wills does it again. He

drops the ball and lets Heidi Stringfellow walk. Are you going to file charges on him, or is being incompetent not against the law? Guess what, Scot, you are the district attorney, and therefore, you are responsible for this mess.

You seem to have a knack for capitalizing on small insignificant mistakes made by others that don't amount to a hill of beans. You pursue trivial matters (but) don't have the ability to tackle major cases.

Maybe if you spent the same amount of time and energy trying to convict drug dealers and [accused] rapist like Abel Avila as you spend going after the cops, you might be considered as a district attorney that "does his job"....

I checked with the cops in Capitán about the three drug suspects you let go. You assigned a "special prosecutor" to take over the case - Clint Welborn, from Socorro County.

According to Capitán police, they have made numerous calls to Welborn's assistant DA, Bruce Burwell, in the past eight months trying to find out the status of the case.

ADA Burwell will not even return their calls. Let's see, if this continues on, I guess that the statute of limitations will run out, and you won't have to worry about it anymore. Is that what you and Welborn plan to happen?

We the people elected you to do a job. If this is the "job" you are going to do, then "We the people" want you and your incompetent ADA's to resign so "We the

people" can get a district attorney in office that will do the job they are elected and sworn to do, which is protect the hard working, honest citizens of Lincoln County. We are some of them, and quite frankly, Mr. Key, we're mad.

Jo Mayberry, Ester Flanagan, B.D.  
Flanagan, Ron West  
Capitan

## Successive terms

To the editor:

First of all, belated congratulations to the winning candidates elected as the mayor and members of the council of the Village of Ruidoso. I would like to also congratulate the individual voters for their turnout and for their interest in the future of Ruidoso.

Second, although I do not feel the topic of successive elections is of great importance, I would like to set the record straight.

I am enclosing a list of successive mayors for the Village of Ruidoso as compiled from Village Clerk Irma Nava.

The term for mayor from 1945-1974 was only a two-year term and after 1974 has since been a four-year term. I was elected 1966-1968 and 1968-1970, and in 1974-1978 and 1978-1982 which are two back-to-back terms.

I am sure your own archives reflect this as factual. However, I question your accuracy in your research.

Lloyd L. Davis, Jr.  
Ruidoso

## GUEST

## Guest worker? Give the Statue back to France

DAVID PFEFFER  
Santa Fe

Guest worker proposals mean the end of America as the hope of asylum for the oppressed peoples of the world. We can take in only so many, but many millions now live without permission in the United States. These proposals have one thing in common - they legitimize illegal aliens claiming every right to be here. They mean that real asylum seekers will have no hope at all.

Self-proclaimed "immigrants" with their advocates screaming for their so-called rights have jumped the line. Real damage is being done. Go to any American consulate abroad and see long lines of desperate people asking for permission to come here - and being denied.

Go to any hospital and see a packed emergency room designed for, say, 20 having to accommodate 30 - and an already painful wait of an hour or so stretched to an hour and a half.

Go to Florida and see Americans in uniform forcing people away from shore who would float 50-year-old trucks across 90 miles of open sea to freedom.

Why do we not apply the same standard to Mexicans that we apply to Cubans? Where is *Somos Un Pueblo*

*Unido* for the escapees from Castro's 50-year "presidency"? Where are the immigration committees, day labor shelters and vaunted safe havens for folks like these?

Paraphrasing George Orwell, everyone's equal but evidently some are more equal than others.

We half-heartedly try to turn people away at our southern border and now we haggle over how long they may stay. We refuse "economic asylum" to Haitians but provide it to Mexicans for free. We sell our citizenship for cheap labor. And when one dares to use the word "Mexican" in a totally appropriate context, he is accused of racism.

Sanctioning illegal entry advances the erosion of a free America. We lose our freedom by baby steps - first health care, schooling, drivers' licenses, protective "safe havens" and in-state tuition - all of which are to be paid for, earned by or denied to citizens and real immigrants (there is no safe haven for you if you break the law).

But isn't everybody equally human? Therefore, by what sacred principle do we dare deny the human right of these "immigrants" to vote and hold office? By what sacred principle could we deny them the human right to be here?

To get to America, a college classmate of mine rowed a boat across the

Adriatic from then-communist Yugoslavia to Italy - many miles of hunger, dehydration and open sea. Were he to be caught, he would have been sent back.

So he walked at night across Italy to France where, unable to go on, he gave himself up. The policeman yawned, looked at his watch and saw it was time for lunch.

He gave him a few francs, told him to go get something to eat and to come back later.

It was the first taste of freedom my friend had ever had - lunch in France versus a life in hell in Yugoslavia for the crime of going away. Eventually, he made it to America.

That was 40 years ago. Call it guest worker but the true meaning is this - today, with millions demanding their "rights," my friend would not have made it to America.

There is no room for the ideals that made America the real safe haven for the truly oppressed throughout the world. The more that is demanded, the dimmer the light of liberty will shine. We might as well give the Statue back to France.

David Pfeffer is a Republican candidate from New Mexico for the United States Senate



## Low-income insurance plan meets resistance

■ Lincoln County not getting with the program

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

State and local officials are meeting resistance from employers about joining the State Coverage Insurance plan designed to help low-income individuals find affordable health care insurance.

Mary Spaulding-Bynon, director of the State Coverage Insurance program that is supervised through the Human Services Department, said the program is an effort to reach the estimated 400,000 uninsured people in New Mexico. That number is the second highest for any state in the nation, she said.

"We need to educate the public about the availability of the program," she told Lincoln County commissioners last week. "It's a great advantage to low-income earners for coverage."

Low is relative, she qualified. The program covers people, ages 19-64, who earn up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level. For a family of four, that translates to up to \$40,000.

"It reaches a significant amount of folks in the state," she said.

A typical \$320 monthly premium would cost an employer \$75, with the employee paying from zero dollars to \$35 depending on earnings, she said.

The federal match is about 60 percent and the state picks up the rest of the premium cost. The coverage carries a \$100,000 cap benefit per person annually. The program encourages people not to put off care.

Commissioner Tom Battin asked if many employers were

approached about the program locally.

"We've done a lot of grassroots and talked to the chamber about doing more," Spaulding-Bynon said. "We have a marketing program starting in April all over the state. I can tell you it has been a challenge to get employers engaged in the process."

Battin observed that Lincoln County primarily is service-industry based with many small business employing just a few individuals.

"But I hear that it's difficult to attract employees," he said, adding that being able to supply health insurance as a benefit could be a big lure.

"I think the service industry needs a program like this and we're asking for assistance in helping get the word out about this program," she said.

County Indigent Health Care Fund Administrator Rhonda Burrows said when she attended a recent affiliates meeting in Santa Fe, she learned only 11 people in Lincoln County signed up. The figure now is 19, but most enrolled as individuals, which required picking up both the employer and employee portions of the premium, she said.

"I've talked with employers and they still are reluctant," Burrows said. "I don't know if they are jaded from past experiences with insurance."

When people apply for help from the county's indigent health care fund, she advises them about the state program, she said.

"Our indigent applications are down and the more we can sign up, the less strain on the indigent fund," Burrows said. The fund receives revenue from a designated county gross receipts tax. The state insurance program is especially help-

ful for people who do not qualify for Medicaid, she said.

Pending a decision on whether the process is legal, Burrows is proposing a pilot program in the county, where the indigent health care fund would pay the employer contribution for individuals or families at 100 of the federal poverty guidelines.

Commissioner Earl Hobbs asked about the financial impact on the fund. Burrows said with about 50 people, at \$75 per person each month, the cost would come to \$45,000 per year. She added that the impact would be positive.

Battin asked about assurances the federal money will continue to be available.

Burrows said a waiver received to use previously untouchable federal money in a state fund will expire in four years.

"They are pushing to get enrollment up so when the legislature looks, it will see the money is being used appropriately," she said. "The idea is that by becoming insured, even if the funding disappears, (the participants) will be more likely to get insured by an affordable plan."

The three providers in the state are Lovelace SCL, Molina Healthcare and Presbyterian Health Plan, with the latter most common in Lincoln County.

Spaulding-Bynon said the program was initiated by Gov. Bill Richardson's Insure New Mexico Council.

"The east side of the state is not as bad as the southern half and the northwest corner," she said, showing commissioners a map of the state's uninsured residents. "But it still is substantial in this county."

Someone must pick up the tab for uninsured care and now

**"I talked with employers and they are still reluctant. I don't know if they are jaded from past experiences with insurance."**

Rhonda Burrows  
Lincoln County Indigent Health Care Fund administrator

it's other health care users who have insurance or pay cash, and state taxpayers, she said.

"This is a public-private blend. We take private funding from the employer and employee, use state funds and federal dollars and blend them."

The federal money comes from a Medicaid block grant, she said.

Prospective participants don't have to go to the local income support office, Spaulding-Bynon said. They can sign-up on-line. Eligibility is determined by the income support office through a mail-in application.

The managed care organization helps employee and employer sign up for the plan. State officials hoped to sign up 10,000 the first year, but the current number will sit at about 5,200 by the end of April, she said.

Larry Mulligan with the Palo Verde-Glencoe Volunteer Fire Department suggested that the program might be used by the county as a way to provide health insurance for volunteer fire fighters.

Burrows said they would have to qualify financially and cannot currently be uninsured.

"You can't drop insurance for this," she emphasized.

The number for Presbyterian is 1-800-606-7737. Burrows can be reached at 258-1232.

## Mayor wants performance audit

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

The new mayor of Ruidoso wants a performance audit conducted of the village's operation.

"A performance audit evaluates the extent to which an agency has realized its goals," Mayor L. Ray Nunley said Wednesday. "Performance auditing concentrates on the agency's ability to carry out its functions effectively."

Specific goals should be set before an audit team looks at operations, he said.

"A performance audit can be fruitful in finding solutions for public administration problems that repeat themselves," Nunley said while explaining the process he mentioned in a speech on his first night as mayor. "There is no 'one way' to classify these kinds of management problems, nonetheless, performance audits can be useful tools."

Some of the classic problems where it could be applied include:

- Inventory problems of

idle resources, including personnel training.

- Allocation covering the optimal use of available resources, jobs to be done and ways to do the jobs. Most budget problems deal with allocation.

- How to get people or material through a service facility in the fastest and most efficient and effective way, called queuing.

- Replacement, which means attempts to minimize the costs of replacing items that degenerate or fail over time from light bulbs to labor waste.

- Competition, which covers the problems of maximizing returns for one decision maker in the face of rivalry from other decision makers.

- Search, which involves finding the best opportunities and resources needed by a decision maker.

"Once the audit is completed and approved by all concerned, it should be like a five year plan and brought out often enough to matter to the management of the village," Nunley said.

## Impact fee meeting is scheduled

A special meeting to continue a public hearing on proposed changes to the village of Ruidoso's impact fee ordinance is set for 9 a.m. Saturday at Village Hall on Cree Meadow Drive off Hull Road.

Village councilors are seeking clarification on the legal status of an impact fee ordinance approved in 2003 to determine if the changes can be enacted as an amendment or whether a new ordinance is required.

The new fees as submitted would increase the cost per home by about \$1,000. The

money is targeted to offset the expense connected to the impact of new construction on water, sewer and wastewater service.

Critics challenge some of the land use and water consumption assumptions used as the basis for determining fees, the legality of the 2003 ordinance and the method of determining when fees should be imposed and how much they should be tied to square footage.

They contend impact fees depress home construction, especially at the more affordable end.



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# EDUCATION

In perfect harmony

## Children focus on peaceful relations in camp

DEANNA CHENEY  
dchene@ruidosonews.com

Peace and harmony are good things. So sayeth children attending Spring Break Peace Camp at High Mesa Healing Center in Alto this week.

"It's important that we have peace so that we can have good things in the world and so we can all love each other," attendee Cattie Cory, said with conviction and without missing a beat.

On Tuesday Cory said she is enjoying her second day at camp for its teachings and for the opportunity to be outside and interacting with others in a positive way.

"Peace is feeling the wind in my face," Cory wrote on her identification badge, while "Shelby" wrote, "Peace is being at the beach."

Suzanne Zoch, camp organizer and founder of Youth Enrichment Services, Inc., a Ruidoso-based agency that provides customized educational activities for children, said the children were asked to write a one line thought or idea about peace upon arrival to the three day event.

"It kind of got us on our way," she said of the camp's kickoff activity.

At Peace Camp, Zoch said children are reading books that take the reader through scenarios rife with conflict and challenges and are asked to help determine strategies for resolution to those conflicts. She said that children are being asked to determine what led to the problems and are directed to study the accused, their motives, and help determine "who did it," as part of a critical-thinking exercise.

"We've been reading chapters from my book *Maggie Whispers* as a way of looking into the

**"It's important that we have peace so that we can have good things in the world and so we can all love each other."**

Cattie Cory  
Peace Camp attendee

cause of evil deeds," Zoch said. "This also gets children interested in reading, and so that is good too."

Camp assistant Susan Angolani said she is providing sessions in arts and crafts and music that lifts the spirit while helping the children to express positive thoughts and behaviors.

"Our theme is spring so we are coordinating music and art around that," Angolani said.

Zoch said one of the favorite activities of the children is walking the labyrinth available at High Mesa.

"They walk it in a certain way, moving their bodies left to right, and that helps produce alpha waves, which cause them to be more peaceful and meditative," she said.

When the *Ruidoso News* visited, the group of 11 boys and girls, ages 8 to 10, were preparing to conduct a treasure hunt. With each child holding one of the clues to solving the hunt, they are building communication and teamwork skills, Zoch said.

Zoch, who currently runs the Parents Across Cultures Program at the Community Health Services Center, said children who's time is occupied with positive experiences and mentorships are 46 percent less likely to start using drugs and



DEANNA CHENEY/STAFF

Twice as nice; Cattie Cory and "Shelby" say the wind and the beach, respectively, help them feel peaceful.

27 percent less likely to start drinking alcohol. She said studies also show that these children are better adjusted and happier than those who spend a lot of time unsupervised.

She said that it is her hope to put together a full schedule of camps and workshops for kids in

Lincoln County when school is not in session, in order to make available better choices for free time among youth.

For more information about programs offered by Youth Enrichment Services, Inc., call 257-4388.

## Developmental screenings for kids

DEANNA CHENEY  
dchene@ruidosonews.com

Parents of children who are birth through five years of age, are invited to attend a free screening for the developmental areas of speech, language, vision, hearing and motor skills. Classroom readiness for kindergarten, dental and nutrition also will be assessed.

The screenings are available in Lincoln County free of charge through the Region IX Education Cooperative, in con-

junction with kindergarten and Head Start programs.

• Ruidoso Convention Center: April 5, 11-2 p.m.

• Capitan schools: April 7, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

• Corona schools: April 11, 9-11 a.m.

• Carrizozo schools: April 12, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

• Hondo schools, April 21: 9-11 a.m.

Kindergarten registration also is available at all scheduled screenings for children who will be five before Sept. 1,

2006. Birth certificates, immunization records, and social security cards are required.

Head Start registration for children who will be three before Sept. 1, 2006, will take place at screenings taking place in Ruidoso, Capitan, Carrizozo and Hondo. Birth certificates, immunization records, social security cards, proof of income, Medicaid and insurance cards are to be presented.

For more information, contact Region IX Education Cooperative at 257-2368.

## EDUCATION NEWS

### Capitan school board

The Capitan Board of Education will hold a special work session at 6:30 p.m., April 4, in the campus of the administration building. Persons with a disability or need of a special aid are invited to contact Capitan schools at 354-2239.

### Pre-registration

A student-parent planning meeting for the 2006-07 school year is scheduled for 6 p.m., April 4, in the Ruidoso High School cafeteria. All students, grades 9-11, and their parents are invited to attend.

Information on graduation requirements and student progress towards graduation will be provided in the meeting.

Sierra Blanca Christian Academy will hold an open registration for students grades K-8 interested in attending the school beginning April 1.

Information packets are available at the school office, located in the lower level of First Baptist Church, 270 Country Club Dr., 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For more information call 630-0144.

### Peace workshop

Families for Education is hosting a program that provides tips for dealing with anger management and conflict resolution April 6-May 18.

The program is open to parents and youth, 12-15 years of age. Registration takes place 5:30 p.m., April 6, at the

Ruidoso Senior Center, 501-A Sudderth Dr., Ruidoso. For more information, call 257-0170.

### Ambassador

Christina Coyle, granddaughter of Jim and Peggy French of Ruidoso and daughter of Tom and Robin Coyle of Albuquerque, has been accepted in to the People to People Student Ambassador Program, an educational travel program founded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Acceptance into the Student Ambassador Program is an honor. After being nominated to participate, the delegates submitted letters of recommendation and successfully completed an interview process.

Coyle will explore Australia and New Zealand for 15 days in summer 2006.

### B-ball tourney

The public is invited to attend a 3-on-3 basketball tournament at Ruidoso Middle School 9 a.m., April 8. Proceeds from the community event will help pay for an educational field trip planned by students in the 7th and 8th grades to the nation's capital and to New York City this summer. Concessions, entertainment and a raffle also are planned. For more information, contact Rutalee Todd at 257-4033.

### National Library Week

The Ruidoso Public Library

is celebrating National Library Week April 3-6 with special offerings to the public.

The library is waving the \$5 fee normally assessed on replacing a library card during the four-day event. In addition, materials that are overdue can be turned in to the library with no fine assessed. For more information call 258-4619.

### Godspell auditions

The Lincoln County Literacy Council, part of ENMU-Ruidoso's Adult Basic Education program, is holding a Basic Reading Tutor Training Workshop 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. on April 8. The meeting will take place at the Lincoln County Works Center, 707 Mechem Dr., inside the State National Bank building. Training and materials are free. Contact Mary Allen at 630-8181.

### ENMU honor roll

Daniel Montes and James Jensen, graduates of Ruidoso High School, were named to the 2005 fall semester Dean's Honor Roll at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales.

To be eligible for the Dean's Honor Roll, students must complete a minimum of 15 hours for the semester and maintain a 3.25 GPA. ENMU opened in 1934 and today has an enrollment of some 3,500 on its main campus in Portales. Eastern, which also has a branch campus in Ruidoso and Roswell, offers 60 undergraduate and graduate programs.

## BOOKS 'N BREAKFAST

Sierra Vista Primary School library sponsored a Books 'N Breakfast reading event March 16 with first and second grade students and their male role models or special family member. Altogether, 55 parents and their students attended the event. Many children read to their family members and then took the Accelerated Reader test.

COURTESY PHOTO



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## SEPTIC

FROM PAGE 1A

springs and rivers, and the karst terrain, limestone caverns, that cover the east and northern portions of the county, he said.

County attorney Alan Morel said he liked the specific nature of King's recommendation that advance treatment be required for lots of less than two acres, lots in a flood plain and lots with shallow groundwater. He needs well-defined criteria if wording is to be added to the county's subdivision rules, because commissioners cannot impose "arbitrary or capricious" requirements, he said.

He prefers specifics instead of relying on a flood plain map, because the map's lines in some areas are not precise, the attorney said.

At the end of a three hour discussion on changes to the ordinance, commissioners continued the public hearing until next month.

"It's my opinion being on this job 40 years and seeing all kinds of situations, that contamination can be done by septic systems and its important to consider lot size when designing septic systems," King said.

"State Environment Department officials wanted a minimum of five acres (for a septic system), but politics dictated three-quarters of an acre" by the time the state law was approved, King said.

"My recommendation is that this commission look seriously at requiring some type of advanced treatment on lot sizes of less than at least one acre,

and I would recommend two acres," he said.

Commissioner Maury St. John asked King if with two acres or more, a septic tank always is allowed. King responded only if other criteria, such as the ability of the soil to percolate, is met. That is determined by a soil analysis, he said.

Commissioner Tom Battin said county officials are struggling with how to fashion a fair but effective ordinance.

"So in some conditions, septic systems are all right, but in others, even if the lot exceeds two acres, septic would not be appropriate," he clarified. "I assume it would never be appropriate in a flood plain. I would think it would be easy for us to include a prohibition in a flood plain, but beyond that, how do we identify (permissible) areas, or do you do that?"

The state ED publishes a map showing areas of concern in the state and nearly all of the county is included, except for the far western corner around Corona and Claunch, King said, adding, "However, that may be because the parcels of land there mainly are large."

When state environment officials look at a permit application, "We will inform the person that this is an area of concern. Our dilemma is that if the county does an ordinance more restrictive than state law, we have to have an agreement through our Santa Fe office that says we can regulate that aspect of the ordinance, such as minimum lot size, otherwise we have to go with state law, which is three-quarters of an acre."

Commissioner Chairman Rick Simpson summarized that

if the county adopts rules more stringent than the state, a memorandum of understanding must be adopted by both sides to give the state powers of enforcement of the county provisions.

King explained how a septic system functions. "You need good soil to treat the (wastewater)," he said. Soil full of rock is no good, because the particulates are needed to remove the bacteria or fecal coliforms that can pollute groundwater.

But the soil won't remove the nitrogen and phosphorus, which are intense nutrients, King said. Larger lots allow broader leach fields that dilute those nutrients. Yet, even a large lot close to groundwater wouldn't work, he said.

### Valley study

King told commissioners that a team from the ED recently completed a study of wells and septic systems in the valley east of Ruidoso Downs to San Patricio.

"We found a lot of wells where it was less than 20 feet to standing water, but we found no wells polluted by septic systems," King said. They also didn't find water from the river polluting drinking wells, although a few irrigation wells were affected, he said.

However, the danger in flood zones is that if a septic system or leach field is washed out, pollution will occur because no percolation is possible. An aerobic system treats the water in the tank and the contamination risk is lessened, he said.

"Aerobic is one type of advance treatment, but there are others," King said.

Jackie Powell, a valley resi-



DIANNE STALLINGS/STAFF

Mike O'Brien of Rainmakers, a development north of Ruidoso, offers a few opinions on proposed changes to Lincoln County's subdivision ordinance. In the background is County Clerk Tammie Maddox.

dent, a member of the county Water Research Committee and a candidate for the District 5 commission seat in the Republican primary, thanked King for going beyond his normal duty by bringing in a team for testing.

The threat of pollution for valley residents is increasing as more people build homes along the river, she contended. The last flood in 1994 was "a baby flood" compared to 1965, she said.

"Those who have lived there a long time know better than to build a house on the river," Powell said.

"There are houses on the river now that will not be there with a flood and will contaminate us, and we're concerned about it. For our health, safety and welfare, how far would (King) recommend from the river," Powell asked.

King said state rules based on federal Environmental Protection Standards dictate a 100 foot setback from any surface water for a leach field and 50

feet for septic tanks.

In testing 55 homes throughout the valley recently, the ED team found only one too close to the river and a couple with wells too close, he said.

"We feared we'd find many put in too close," he said, adding that only one cesspool was discovered. "We were very impressed with what we found and with how the folks are trying to do good job taking care of sewage and water."

Battin asked if the county ordinance should include a prohibition of septic tanks in a flood plain and if that would cover the problem around rivers.

"I'm not sure we could prevent houses, but maybe treatment systems," the commissioner said.

King said if the county adopted a more stringent requirement than the state, a MOU also would be needed for that provision, if the state was to consider the criteria when reviewing a permit application.

"It's a heck of political hot

potato to tell someone they can't, but looking at it from science, if you keep (septic) out of the flood plain, you run less of a risk of polluting the groundwater."

Some developers might consider clustering homes on a shared treatment system, such as a package sewage treatment plant, aerobic or other options.

State ED officials are encouraging treatment systems, with counties managing their operations, billing for service and ensuring they are maintained, as a better alternative than dealing with a bunch of maintenance contractors, King said.

Cathie Eisen, who operates the water-wastewater treatment system for Rainmakers subdivision, said what King described could be costly for the county. A certified operator to maintain and inspect the systems would be required, billing would be involved, systems would have to be pumped periodically and the resulting sludge handled properly.

## County debates limits on subdivision approvals

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Opinions were divided on the Lincoln County Commission about imposing a one-year limit on subdivision approvals.

County Attorney Alan Morel told commissioners last week during a review of proposed changes to the county subdivision ordinance that if the rule is approved, developers would be required to start construction within one year after a plat is filed, or secure a one-year extension. The provision is aimed at preventing the proliferation of approved, but unbuilt subdivisions, he said. At least 50 exist on paper today, he added.

Commissioner Earl Hobbs asked if the rule could be applied retroactively or only to future subdivisions.

Morel said the county attempted to void 15 subdivisions that lagged on construction by suspending sales, but that move affected the title insurance, was challenged in court and the county withdrew from the action, Morel said.

Commissioner Maury St. John said if developers don't receive extensions, when they want to begin construction, they must begin anew under any rules adopted after the initial approval by the county.

Commissioner Tom Battin questioned if one year is long enough in view the time it takes developers to secure approval of water rights transfers, if they are necessary.

St. John said multiple one-year extensions could be secured, if needed.

But Mike O'Brien with Rainmakers subdivision said as a developer he would be reluctant to pursue costly water rights or invest money in a project knowing that an extension might not be approved if new county commissioners were elected who want to shut down growth.

"It took seven years to get our project on board, but I think limiting the time is a good idea," O'Brien said. "However, we'd be reticent to come back every year."

He was mollified a bit to learn that the time period doesn't start with commission approval. It begins with the

filing of the final plat, he was told by Realtor Harvey Foster.

"You won't get a final plat without water," O'Brien said. "But it still may be a little tight."

San Patricio resident Ralph Nosker said the process of acquiring rights easily could take 18 months, especially if a protest is registered. "You could certainly restrict growth this way," he said.

The goal is to eliminate dormant subdivisions, not limit growth, Battin said.

A future commission might not administer the rules fairly or could change the rules while the developer was struggling to acquire rights, he said.

Valley resident Jackie Powell said many people don't want to accept the truth that water rights in the Ruidoso Basin already are overdrawn. The only way the Village of Ruidoso was allowed to continue pumping was through an emergency transfer of rights expiring in November, she said.

"The reason protests are filed is because we don't have the water," she contended.

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## CHANGE

FROM PAGE 1A

Inn of the Mountain Gods Resort and Casino in nearby Mescalero and a less than aggressive approach to sales by convention center staff, were at the root of the \$14,000 dip in revenues.

Burres said then, "We knew they would take some of our group business away, but in the long run felt it is to everyone's benefit if they bring people to the area."

Burres told councilors that each entity, while vying for the same business, has its own niche. She surmised that bookings by government groups and associations were down at the convention center because annual conventions hosted by these groups alternate between northern and southern New Mexico each year.

"They come to the south in the even years," she said.

Despite the challenges convention center staff is facing, Burres said she is "optimistic and moving forward."

She said that a search for a new director will officially get

underway this week but added that resumes already are coming in "by word of mouth."

"We've got some of candidates we're looking at now. I'm excited about putting a new person in that position," she said.

Burres said that with the change in management, the convention center's advertising campaign, collateral materials, including Web site design, and overall approach to marketing will be revamped in the coming months.

"I'll be stepping in at the convention center to keep our sales efforts going until we get someone in there. We're scheduled to participate in a business expo in Santa Fe in April and will attend an affordable meetings exposition and conference in Long Beach, California in June. This will give us access to hundreds of meeting planners. We feel good about the future," she said.

The sales component of the Ruidoso Convention Center is held under a management contract between the Village of Ruidoso and Leisure Hotels which operates the Hawthorn Inn, and is paid in part out of Lodgers Tax collections.

June 2006, "he told commissioners. "I will prepare our budget with a 15 percent reduction of \$152,053 until we hear differently from our representatives."

Stewart also updated commissioners on negotiations with representatives of Presbyterian Healthcare Services on a new contract to manage the county-owned hospital in Ruidoso, two rural health clinics and an ambulance service.

He may ask for a special commission meeting to consider the terms.

The county's volunteer fire departments received a boost from the recent session of the state Legislature in the form of additional money to offset high

## 'Affordable' health insurance for retired county employees finds sympathy, but... Commissioners reluctant to tap county's reserve

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Although Lincoln County commissioners say they want affordable health insurance coverage for county employees who retire, some also were reluctant to commit to a big bite out of the county's reserve and a new \$87,500 annual expense.

But last week on a motion by Commissioner Earl Hobbs, they voted to send a letter of intent to participate in the employee retirement health care program to the director of the state Health Care Authority and to conduct a hearing at their May 16 regular meeting. However, they asked that a comparison of premiums and plan coverages be prepared for their review.

Commission Chairman Rick Simpson said he doesn't like the irrevocable nature of the arrangement.

"We have contracts for hundreds of thousands of dollars that we have 30-day out (provisions) on," he said. "The fact that anywhere down the line, we have no way out no matter what happens, makes me wonder."

### Costly 'catch-up'

Commissioner Maury St. John, a registered nurse, said she fears the county will invest nearly a quarter million dollars to "catch up" and join the state employee retiree health care program, but when people retire, they will not be able to

afford to participate.

After paying all of her bills each month on her retirement, "I personally can't afford the amount of money you have to pay for this insurance," she said. "When we first started talking about this plan, I thought it would be about what everyone is paying now. Instead they have to pick up a huge amount of money. I wonder if at the time of retirement, employees will be able to buy into it or if we pay a quarter million dollars and no one can afford it."

She said other plans available through the American Association of Retired Persons are less expensive.

County Finance Director Charlene "Punkin" Schlarb and Appraiser Paul Baca said other plans may cost less, but the benefits are significantly less too. Schlarb said she wants to maintain the level of care available under her current county insurance.

Commissioner Tom Battin said with premiums already higher, employees have no assurance they won't increase even more.

"I understand the concern of employees to be covered because it's a time when health problems arise, but there are many uncertainties," he said.

Schlarb said during a period when private plan premiums rose by 6 percent to 10 percent, the state retiree health care plan went up by only 1 percent. Of the county's 76 full-time

employees, 10 sit at 20 years or more of service. They can retire at 25 years depending on their ages.

St. John said even the retiree plan won't cover everything.

"I don't think you will be able to pay for it anyway, you will not have enough money," she said. "A third of your retirement would go to pay for health insurance. You are not going to be able to eat."

County Assessor Rick Silva said commissioners should grant the health care coverage to employees when they retire because regular benefits, "are not great, salaries are not great."

Baca said it would cost him \$1,100 a month for three people, if he tried to buy regular health care insurance.

Stewart cited premiums of \$860 a month to \$1,032 for other plans.

### Pre-existing conditions

County Indigent Health Care Administrator Rhonda Burrows said employees or their family members with pre-existing conditions could be denied coverage or have to pay even higher premiums with plans other than the state retiree program, which has no exclusion for pre-existing conditions.

If employees couldn't pay for their health care, the county would end up picking up the tab through the indigent health care fund or the local hospital's

sole community provider fund, anyway, Hobbs said.

The county should have opted into the program when it was first offered and it wouldn't be facing the catch up burden now, he said.

Dave Parks, an insurance agent, advised, "I don't think you will find anything better, but do a comparison, so you don't have to worry if it is the right decision or not."

Stewart said the annual expense is "manageable."

"I built a reserve and I think we have enough to institute the program and see how it sorts out," he said.

The county initially would pay a contribution of \$247,560 over a period of 13 years at \$2,489 per month or \$29,867 per year at 7.5 percent interest to catch up since 1990. Then the county would pay about \$4,800 per month, subject to further adjustments, for the county employee match, about \$57,596 a year, for a total initial requirement for the annual county budget of \$87,462. Employees would pay .0065 of their salaries each pay period.

A survey showed that 65 employees favored entering the program and 11 were against it.

Battin said the issue is one of the "most perplexing decision I've had to address. I'm sympathetic this may give employees an opportunity to retire when they should, instead of having to work, but a quarter of million expense for the county as catch-up concerns me."

## SEAT

FROM PAGE 1A

to commissioners, Stewart said although he wrote federal representatives of the county to protest any reduction, he read that a 15 percent drop may occur in funding of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes that compensate counties with untaxable federal lands within their borders.

Of Lincoln County's 3 million acres, about 1 million acres fall under the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management.

"We currently are scheduled to receive at least \$1,013,685 in

## Traffic light to be installed at the Mechem/Post Office intersection

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Relief for drivers tired of waiting behind a line of cars at

the exit to Mechem Drive from the post office or convention center in Ruidoso is scheduled to roll into town April 3.

That's when a crew from the state Transportation Department should arrive to start work on the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection.

The village council requested a study to qualify for a signal more than a year ago.

"I'm really pleased that we are getting a light there because the congestion is intense at that intersections at times," said Mayor L. Ray Nunley.

"It will make it safer and more convenient for all of us."

According to information from state transportation officials, the installation, which will be completed in June, will include "pedestrian friendly

"It will make it safer for all of us."

L. Ray Nunley  
Mayor, Ruidoso

accessories."

"Traffic approaching the intersection in all direction may be required to come to a complete stop before proceeding through the intersection," said Public Information officer Maron Arnett.

Expected delays will be minimal and speed limits will be reduced throughout the work zone, she said, adding that, "Motorists are asked to watch for construction personnel working in the area of the intersection."

Dave Dawson will handle the project for the transportation department.



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# HOME & FAMILY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006

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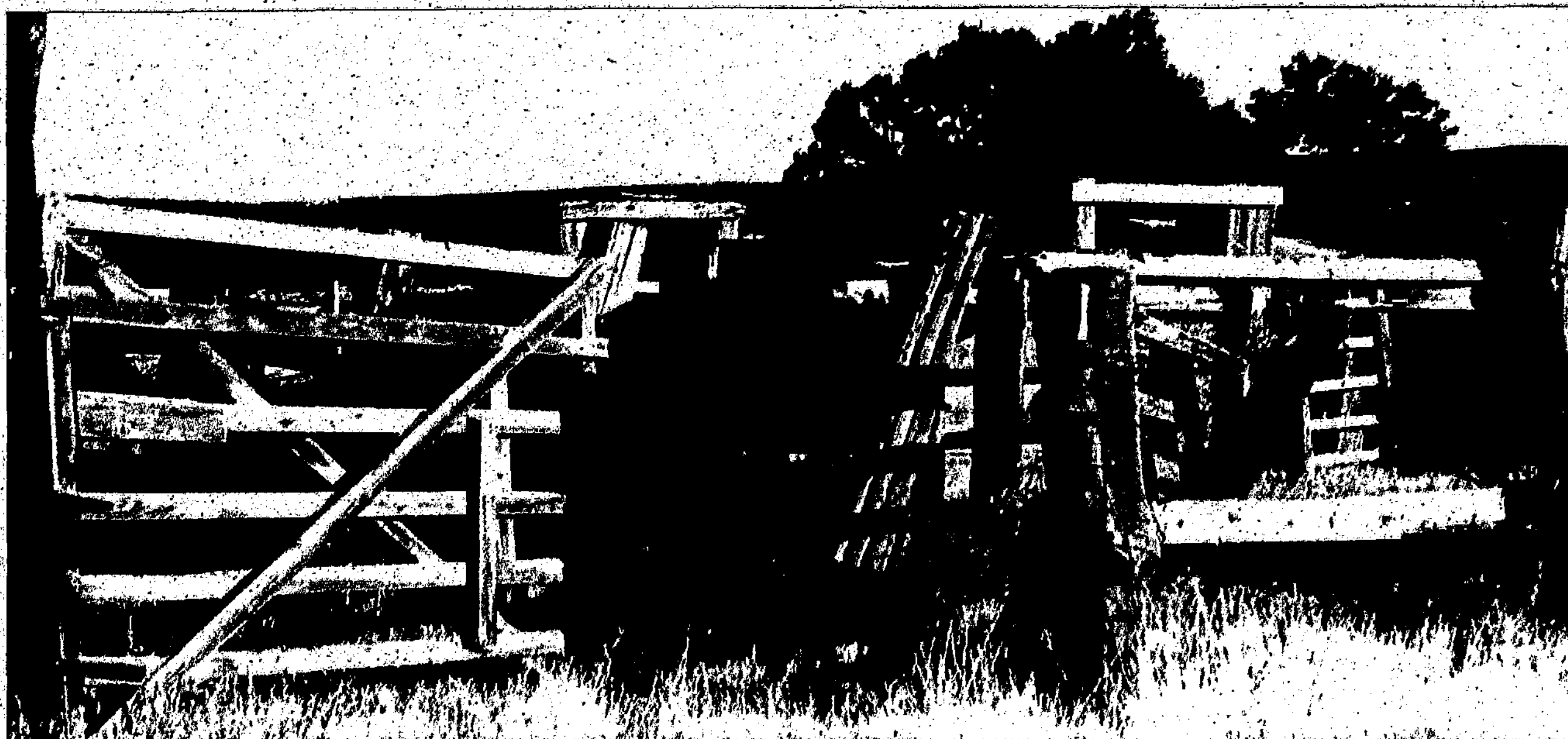
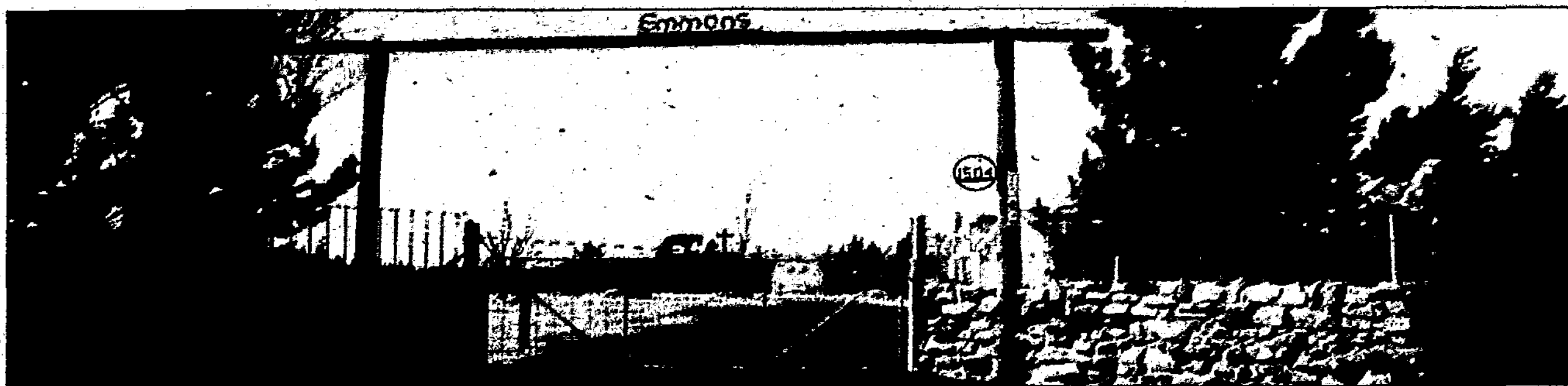
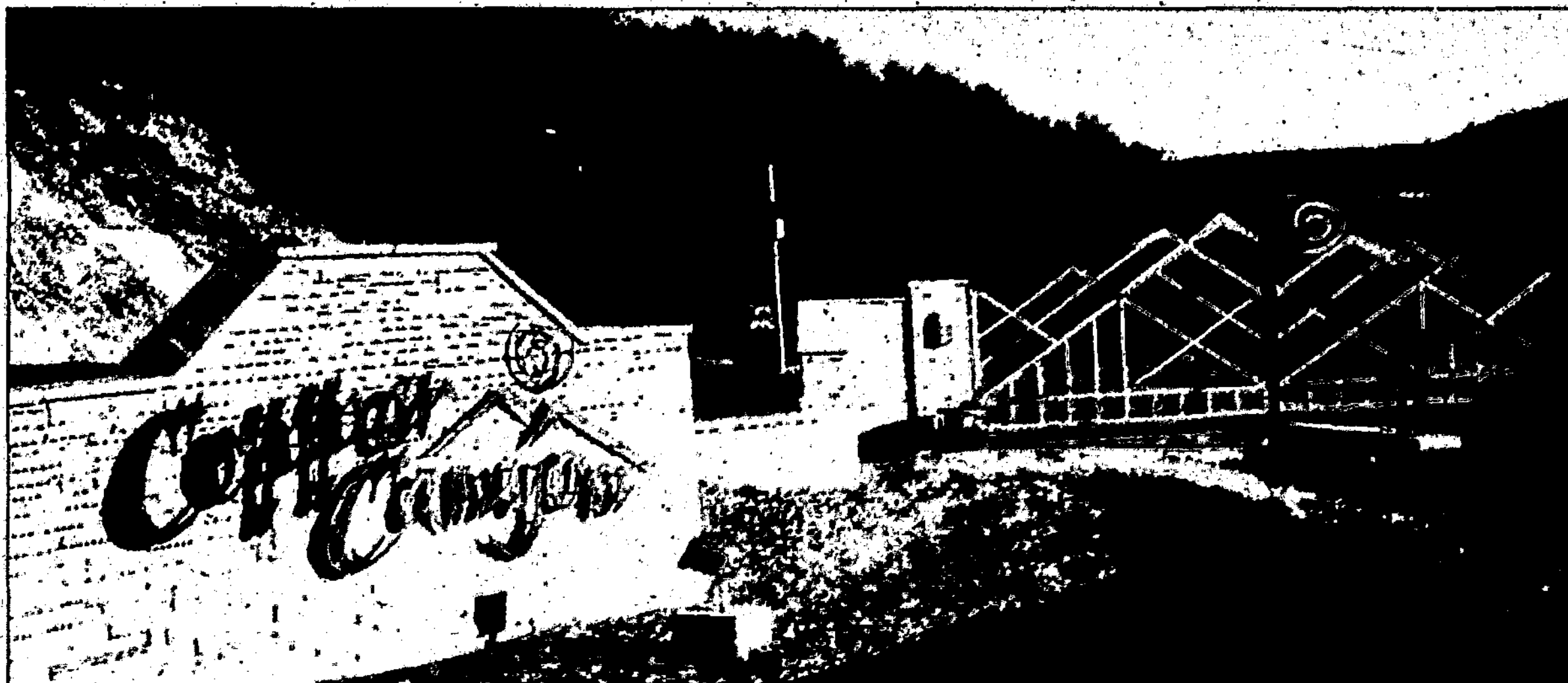
PAGE 9A

## The gates of Lincoln County



### Gates are entrances to somewhere.

They often speak of what lies behind their closed face, or they simply entice one to take a look behind them. From the simple to the ostentatious, gates have always represented a barrier that stands guard over where you are, from where you want to be. The Bible says the gates in heaven are pearls. The gates to hell are what stand between Man and a horrific ending of which he has no true understanding. Gates are the openings in the fences that allow passage. They can be as small as a door or as large as the hinges are able to carry. They separate people, livestock and countries. Gates have meant protection within from that which would threaten from without. They are made of every conceivable material: Wood, steel, pipe or wire is crafted to fit an entry and often to make a statement. Gates have a personality all their own, usually revealing the heartbeat, mindset and status of the gatekeeper. For function or for ornament, gates have become a part of our culture that may label us beyond our face and name.





## Lincoln County trust lands go up for auction

■ State Land Office seeks highest bidder for three parcels from near Capitan to Angus and Eagle Creek

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Three parcels of State Trust Land in Lincoln County totaling 4,435 acres are offered for sale, swap or a combination of the two for a minimum bid of \$4,341,000.

The largest parcel, of 3,956.15 acres lies northeast of Capitan; a 360-acre tract is situated south of the Lincoln Hills subdivision at Angus; and 118.95 acres sits along northern Eagle Creek.

The three must be sold together and New Mexico Commissioner of Public Lands Pat-

rick Lyons must receive the appraised true value of the property.

He established the values as \$8,521 million on the largest tract, \$420,000 for the second tract and \$400,000 for the smallest parcel.

The deadline to submit bids to Deputy Commissioner Dennis Garcia at the State Land Office in Santa Fe is 4 p.m. May 24.

A performance deposit equal to 10 percent of the amount of the cash portion in the case of an exchange/cash combination bid must be submitted.

The successful bidder is required to pay all other costs associated with the transaction, including surveys, appraisals, title insurance and settlement fees.

## County commissioners support trap warnings

■ They ask that signs be posted in recreation areas

DIANNE STALLINGS  
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Lincoln County commissioners officially asked that warning signs be posted at trail heads and in public recreation areas on federal land, if trapping is occurring there.

Duane Frost of the county's Public Land Use and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee, reported on a recent meeting attended by trappers, by officials with various federal agencies managing land in the county and by residents who fear pets or humans may be caught and injured in traps.

### 'Lively meeting'

Frost called the meeting lively and well attended. He said the committee recommended the request be sent to the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service, among others.

The meeting was initiated after residents of Ranches of Sonterra reported encounters with traps, some cited by a game warden as illegally placed, as they walked their dogs in a BLM recreation area.

The Associated Press reported in an article March 10, that a group in Mineola, NY, is pushing for a ban on trapping

after several incidents involving pet injuries or deaths.

The writer pointed out that laws differ from state to state, but about a dozen states, including Colorado and Arizona, banned trapping in some or all forms.

### Internal politics

Frost also told commissioners that a replacement on the committee will be needed because Robert Moeller, secretary, resigned.

In his resignation letter to county commissioners, Moeller wrote that, "My ability to be of effective service has been eliminated by the committee members, acting in concert with powerful persons who are outside the committee, but manipulating its actions."

He indicated a willingness to serve in future appointments to other boards.

Moeller accused committee members of personal attacks against him as retaliation for his "strong advocacy of intelligent growth management in Lincoln County."

At the PLURAAC meeting that included a discussion of the trapping industry in the county, Frost contended Moeller improperly called the session a public hearing, that he overstepped his authority and that meeting minutes contained "editorial" observations.

## Interim CYFD secretary named

Lt. Governor Diane Denish today named Dorian Dodson to lead New Mexico's Children, Youth, and Families Department while the department launches a nationwide search for a permanent Secretary-designate.

Dodson continues a decades-long career dedicated to social work, having most recently served as deputy secretary for the Department's three service areas, including Juvenile Justice, Family Services, and Protective Services.

"I am honored and humbled to assume this very important role," Dodson said in a news conference in the Governor's Cabinet Room earlier this week. "I am putting together a strong, solid and diverse management team, made up of some existing staff and some

new faces. We will announce specific individuals very shortly."

### Meth to blame

CYFD is facing a challenge in Protective Services of a rapidly increasing caseload due to overwhelming issues such as use of methamphetamine.

"A solid 30-percent of our cases in Protective Services custody are there because of meth," Dodson said. "I thank the Governor's office for working with us to put much-needed resources in our field offices to give our workers the help they need."

In addition to eight years of service to the Children, Youth and Families Department, the 56-year old Dodson has also worked as director of St. Elizabeth's Shelter.

## County wants state assurance on The Nest

■ Manager Tom Stewart wants clarity on state's reimbursement of funds, but has only verbal pact

DIANNE STALLINGS  
dstallings@ruidosonews.com

Before the Lincoln County Commission moves ahead with the purchase of a building in Ruidoso Downs for a domestic violence shelter, the county manager wants clear authorization and assurance of reimbursement in writing from the state.

To date his assurances all were verbal, although Gov. Bill Richardson signed Senate Bill 639, which provided the authority for the county to buy The Nest from Help End Abuse for Life.

That delay also will give members of HEAL time to finish more of the renovations to The Nest structure. Once the county buys the building, state

and county procurement codes must be followed, including bidding out all work, said County Manager Tom Stewart.

Commissioner Earl Hobbs agreed with Stewart to "get it in writing" from officials with the state Department of Finance and Administration.

"You're entirely correct that there should be no action until we have statements from the state and that the money is forthcoming, especially with the tendency of money not showing up these days," the commissioner said, apparently referring to governor veto of some capital outlay projects.

The HEAL group requested \$465,000 from the governor and state Legislature in January, but received \$325,000.

HEAL President Cynthia Culbertson said her group wants to continue working on the building during the purchase process.

The money from the state

cannot be given to the group until the county buys the building, she said.

"We need to determine the time line," she said. "We will fund it until the state money rolls in."

Stewart emphasized that the \$325,000 for which Culbertson created a budget cannot be used on a structure unless the county owns it.

At the same time, the DFA will not reimburse the county the \$422,750 used to purchase The Nest without a written and approved agreement with HEAL to manage the building, an appraisal verified by the county assessor and clear title, he said.

"We want immediate reimbursement from the state as soon as we buy the building," Stewart said.

"So the difficulty is timing it so that the purchase is near the completion they desire, then using the \$325,000 appropria-

"The difficulty is timing it so that the purchase is near the completion they desire, then using the appropriation to continue the project."

Tom Stewart  
Manager, Lincoln County

tion to continue the project."

As soon as the last appropriation is received, HEAL members can begin working on a new capital outlay request to the state, he said.

Another \$2,250 grant must be spent for art in public places. Items selected by Stewart and Culbertson for The Nest must be approved by the state.

No action was needed at the commission meeting last week. Instead Stewart said he would keep the commission updated for possible action this summer.

**ALL MUST GO**

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# SPORTS

## Ruidoso nine splits with Eunice

TODD FUQUA  
todd@ruidosonews.com

Both Ruidoso and Eunice learned the hard way Thursday that a baseball game literally isn't over until it's over.

The Cardinals found that out in the first game of the teams' double-header at White Mountain Athletic Complex, as Ruidoso shortstop Michael Sanchez took a two-out, 1-and-0 pitch from Eunice's Luis Garcia and parked it just inside the foul pole in left field and out of the park for a three-run home run to give his team a 4-2 victory.

Game two was just the opposite, with Ruidoso holding a lead for most of the game until the top of the fifth, when the Cardinals scored three runs and then held the Warriors in the waning light to salvage a split with the 8-7 victory.

Sanchez' home run in the first game represented the only lead for the Warriors in that game, as Garcia was able to effectively shut down Ruidoso's offense, allowing just three hits and no runs until the fifth inning.

Not that the Warriors (3-7) were without pitching of their own. Will Wilson showed why he's considered the premiere pitcher in Class 3A with a 3-hit

### RUIDOSO SCORES

Game One	Warriors 4, Cardinals 2
Eunice	000 20 — 2 3 0
Ruidoso	000 04 — 4 7 2

Luis Garcia and Jose Hernandez. Will Wilson and Cutter Pack. W — Wilson. L — Hernandez. HR — Rui (Michael Sanchez). 2B — Eun (Luis Garcia). Rui (Jaron Perez). LOB — Eun 2, Rui 3.

Game Two	Cardinals 8, Warriors 7
Eunice	200 33 — 8 7 2
Ruidoso	300 40 — 7 5 3

Clay Vinson, Shane Thomas (1), Edgar Alvidrez (4), Sergio Lujan (4) and Jose Hernandez. K.D. Elsey, Jaron Perez (5), Will Wilson (5) and Cutter Pack. W — Lujan. L — Perez. 2B — Eun (Uly Angulano). Rui (Wilson 2). LOB — Eun 5, Rui 5.

performance of his own, striking out six Cardinal batters and allowing just two runs in the fourth inning on a double by Garcia and untimely error at third base by K.D. Elsey.

Thankfully for Elsey, those runs weren't enough for Eunice. Jaron Perez got things going in the bottom of the fifth and final inning with a double to left, eventually scoring on a single by Jared Storey.

Manny Herrera later singled to left, setting the stage for Sanchez, who took the first pitch for a ball, then hit what probably would have been ball two out of



Ruidoso players Michael Sanchez (2) as he arrives at home plate after hitting a three-run home run to give the Warriors a 4-2 victory over Eunice in the first game of a double-header Thursday at White Mountain Athletic Complex.

the park.

"It was a high pitch, and I probably shouldn't have swung at it," Sanchez said. "But it worked out."

Game two showed that each team had already put their aces

on the mound, for the hitting was a bit more prolific. Eunice again took the initial lead with two runs in the top of the inning on wild pitches and an error by Wilson at third, but the Warriors re-took the lead in the bottom

half.

Eunice starter Clay Vinson walked Storey, Sanchez and Herrera on 10 pitches to load the bases before being replaced by

See RUIDOSO, page 2B

## Ruidoso Tennis bolstered by Hoffman's performance vs. Rams

TODD FUQUA  
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As a team, the Ruidoso boys and girls tennis teams may have been a bit overmatched against Portales Friday. The team scores illustrate that.

The Warriors fell 7 matches to 2, while the girls were swept 9-0.

Individually, however, one Warrior in particular had a very good day.

Shane Hoffman, playing at No. 2 singles, needed quite a bit of time and something called a "super" tie breaker — best of 10 points — to decide his match, but he finally won 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.

The super tie breaker was particularly exciting, as Hoffman's match was the only one left to play, and he found himself down 5-1 with everyone looking on.

"I had never won a tie breaker, and it looked as though I wasn't going to," Hoffman said. "But I started to battle back."

Hoffman eventually tied it at 7-all, took the lead at 9-8 and won it on his final serve of the night.

Hoffman also had reason to celebrate after the No. 1 doubles match, in which he and teammate Jake Ordorica won 6-7 (5-7), 7-5, 6-3.

"I was really happy after we won and was jumping up and down," Ordorica said of the victory. "I was a little nervous at first, but after lost that first



Hoffman

set, we just had to figure out our game plan and execute it."

Ruidoso coach Dennis Johnston said it was a matter of taking Portales' game — which was to hit the ball as hard as they could — and soften the blow with a series of lobs.

The strategy worked, as the lobs took the Portales players out of their rhythm and got them frustrated.

"It drove them crazy, and we got into their heads," Johnston said. "We were smiling when we knew it was working."

There may have been only two matches worth talking about from Ruidoso's point of view, but for Hoffman, the two victories were the ultimate revenge. He — and his brothers Cody and Dillon — were on the Warrior basketball team that lost four times to the Rams, including the quarterfinals of the Class 3A state tournament.

"After losing to them all those times, I now might have made my last sporting event against Portales a win," Shane said. "That means so much to me."

Actually, Ruidoso and Portales could conceivably meet up again at this year's Class 1A/3A state tournament in May. But for now, Hoffman is just happy he got this victory.

## Lady Warriors take hard lessons from Dexter tourney

TODD FUQUA  
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After a rough two days playing against two of the premier Class 2A softball teams in the state, Ruidoso coach Billy Page said his team at least knows a bit better what it needs to work on.

"It wasn't an easy start to the tournament, but now we have an idea of where we are," Page said after his team's 1-2 performance at the Lindsey Callaway Memorial Tournament in Dexter over the weekend. "We have to get people on base and get them around."

Ruidoso fell to Jal — the Class 2A State runner-up — in the first game 17-0, then dropped a 7-5 decision to defending 2A State champion Loving in their next game.

The Lady Warriors' loss to Jal wasn't much of a contest — Page considers the Lady

Panthers a prohibitive favorite to win state this season — but their game against Loving was one he felt Ruidoso could have won.

"We were actually ahead for most of the game, but then they hit a couple of shots and scored some runs," Page said. "We were solid until that happened."

Ruidoso (3-4) traded runs with the Lady Falcons in the first two innings, then shot ahead with three runs in the bottom of the second when Asher Shaw and Ariana Ramos each walked and Shaw eventually scored on a bunt single by Andrea Montes. Ramos and Montes scored on singles by Apollonia Page and Jamie Wirth.

Loving got a run back in the top of the fourth, then surged ahead in the fifth with four

See SOFTBALL, page 2B

## Tigers sweep Warrior JV, despite closing problems

TODD FUQUA  
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If there's just one thing Capitan baseball coach James Weems hopes his team will learn in their first year, it's how to finish off a game with a victory.

The Tigers showed they still have some learning to do in that regard on Friday. Capitan won both of its games against the Ruidoso JV, 10-7 and 10-5, but it took some last-inning offense to win one and a few timely strikeouts in the last inning of the other before the victories were settled.

"This is the same situation we've faced before, we just had a letdown. It's nothing new," Weems said. "We just have to know how to finish it."

Finishing it was certainly a concern in the first game, as the Tigers (5-4) took a big lead thanks to a 7-run second inning, highlighted by four straight hits by Will Kern, Nick McCullough, Paedon Herrera and Brandon Osborn.

### TIGER SCORES

Game One	Tigers 10, Warrior JV 7
Capitan	271 00 — 10 8 1
Ruidoso JV	101 14 — 7 9 4

Will Kern, Nick McCullough (5) and Mitchell Harper. Carlos Morales and Garrett Patton. W — Kern. L — Morales. S — McCullough. HR — Rui (Ramon Nava). 2B — Rui (J.D. Hurd, Patton, Morales). LOB — Cap 4, Rui 5.

Game Two	Tigers 10, Warrior JV 5 (4 Innings)
Capitan	201 7 — 10 8 4
Ruidoso JV	320 0 — 5 4 8

Josh Castaneda, Paedon Herrera (2) and Caleb Wilcox. Martin Morales and Cole Davis. W — Herrera. L — Morales. 2B — Cap (Hector Moreno). LOB — Cap 7, Rui 5.

Capitan's pitching, meanwhile, was stellar, as starter Kern held the Warriors to just three runs through four innings and struck out five batters.



Capitan's Will Kern fires a pitch during the first game of the Tigers' double-header with the Ruidoso JV Friday at White Mountain Athletic Complex.

## side line

### Prep Results

Thursday, March 23

Baseball

Ruidoso 4, Eunice 2

Eunice 8, Ruidoso 7

Softball

Lindsey Callaway Tournament at Dexter

Jal 17, Ruidoso 0

Friday, March 24

Baseball

Capitan 10, Ruidoso JV 7

Capitan 10, Ruidoso JV 5 (4 Innings)

Softball

Lindsey Callaway Tournament at Dexter

Loving 7, Ruidoso 5

Boys Tennis

Portales 7, Ruidoso 2

Girls Tennis

Portales 9, Ruidoso 0

Saturday, March 25

Baseball

Lordsburg 21, Mesalero 5

Lordsburg 30, Mesalero 15

Lindsey Callaway Tournament at Dexter

Ruidoso 30, Dexter JV 1

Preps on Tap

SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Friday, March 31

Softball

Socorro at Ruidoso, 3 p.m.

Capitan at Loving (2), 3 p.m.

Saturday, April 1

Baseball

Ruidoso at Eunice (2), 11 a.m.

Softball

Capitan at Ruidoso JV (2), 1 p.m.

Loving at Mesalero (2), 1 p.m.

Track and Field

Capitan, Carrizozo, Hondo, Mesalero track at Rose Relays in Tulare, 9 a.m.

Rodeo

NMHSRA Valencia County Rodeo at Belen, 9 a.m.

Sunday, April 2

Rodeo

NMHSRA Valencia County Rodeo at Belen, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 4

Baseball

Capitan at Dexter (2), 4 p.m.

Softball

Ruidoso JV at Mesalero (2), 3 p.m.

Tennis

Ruidoso at Goddard, 3:30 p.m.

On Deck

Ruidoso Golf Benefit

The Ruidoso Junior Golf Association in partnership with the Ruidoso High School golf team will be hosting the third of four scrambles at Alto Lakes Golf Course and Country Club Sunday.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. Call Cree Meadows at 257-5815 or Alto Lakes at 336-4232 for more information or to sign up.

April Fool's Tournament

A non-quarter softball tournament, presented by the Ruidoso Umpires Association, will be held at Eagle Creek Sports Complex April 1.

Deadline to enter the Men's D tournament is 4 p.m. Thursday. Entry fee is \$100 per team, and only the first 16 teams will be accepted.

Format for the double-elimination tournament is one pitch and a 30-minute time limit for each game.

Teams may buy no more than two outs and two home runs, with each costing \$5 apiece.

Make Entry fee payable to the Ruidoso Umpire Association, P.O. Box 2383, Ruidoso Downs, NM, 88348. For more information, contact Tony Bolden at 378-4400 or 937-6996.

Racquetball Tournament

The Eastern New Mexico Open, a racquetball tournament sponsored by Eastern New Mexico University-Roswell, the New Mexico Racquetball Association and Arby's, is scheduled for April 7-9 at the ENMU-R recreation center.

There are two events, with the first costing \$25 or \$40 for both events. Junior athletes pay half the total fee.

Deadline to enter is April 1. For more information, contact Rudy Burrola at 505-622-7130 or Susie Silvas at 505-623-9660.

SB Academy Tournament

The Sierra Blanca Christian Academy is sponsoring a golf tournament at the Inn of the Mountain Gods April 14. If you are interested in playing or in sponsoring a hole, call the school office at 630-0144.

The \$75 fee includes 18 holes of golf, golf cart and prizes. Hole sponsorships range from \$50 to \$500.

3-on-3 Tourney

A tournament to benefit students wanting to attend an educational field trip to Washington D.C. and New York City will be held April 8 at the Ruidoso Middle School gym.

The cost to pre-register a team of five players for this 3-on-3 tournament is \$50, \$75 to enter a team on the day of the event.

Age groups include 10-12, 13-15, 16-18 and adult for boys and girls. Winners from each age group receive monetary prizes. To pre-register, contact Rutalee at First National Bank at 257-4033.

See TIGERS, page 3B

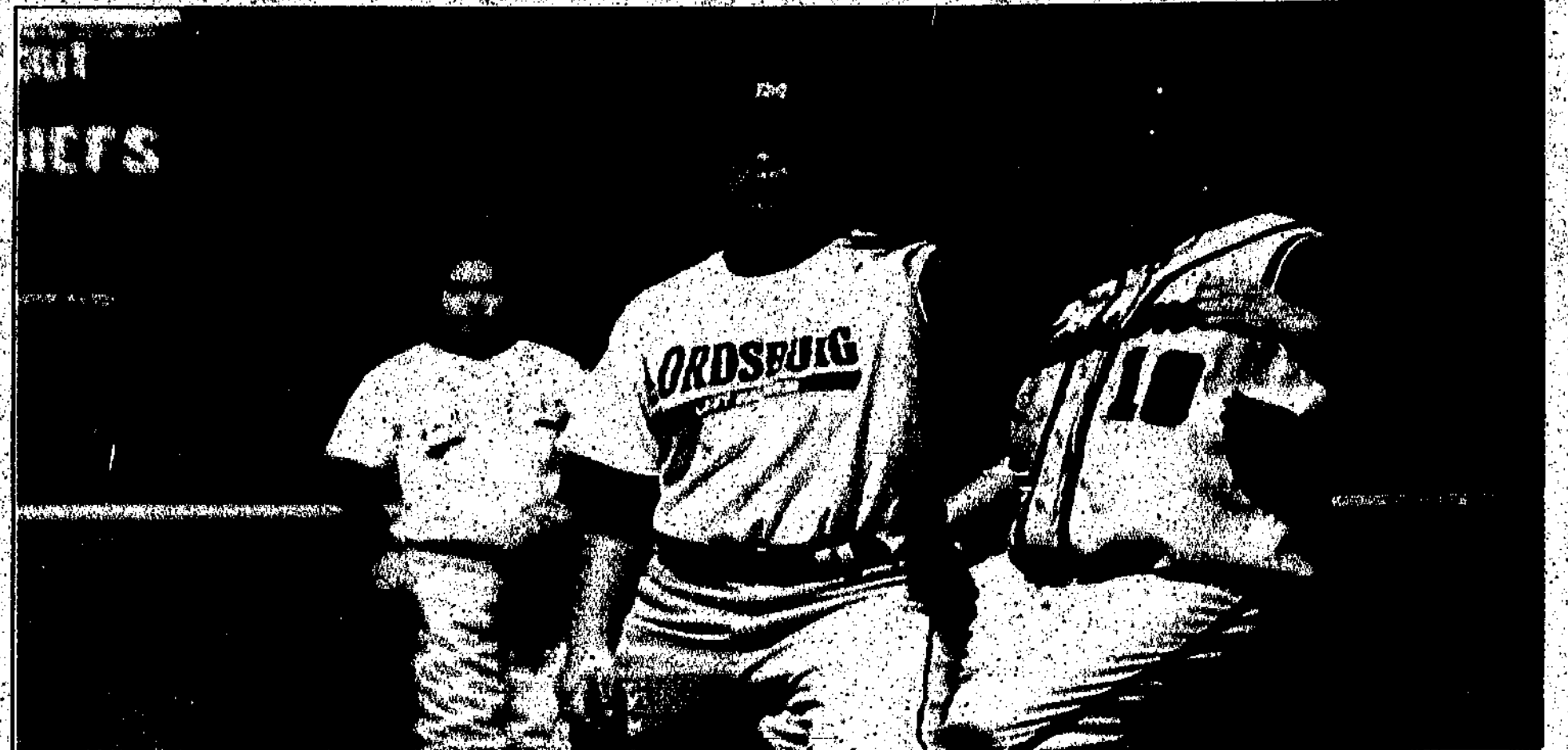


## MARCHING IN MEMORIAM



COURTESY PHOTO

**Jake Riddle**, a 2005 Carrizozo graduate and freshman at NMSU, is seen here, left, at the 15-mile checkpoint in Sunday's 17th Annual Bataan Memorial Death March held at White Sands Missile Range. Riddle was one of five on his team in the 26.2-mile race, and his team placed first in its ROTC division.



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

As Lordsburg's Patricia Young, left, awaits the throw, Mescalero's Brie Martinez runs to third base during the first game of the Lady Chiefs' double header Saturday at Mescalero High School.

## Lady Chiefs doomed by errors vs. Lordsburg

TODD FUQUA  
todd@ruidosonews.com

**MESCALERO** — But for a few fielding mistakes in one inning, the Mescalero Lady Chiefs would have won their season softball opener against Lordsburg Saturday.

Mescalero held a 5-2 advantage over the Lady Mavericks in a game featuring two largely untested squads. Lordsburg is playing its first year ever of high school softball, while the Lady Chiefs' lineup features just two girls that played on last year's team.

But while Mescalero's program may be a bit older, the youth of this year's squad proved to be too much to overcome, as the Lady Chiefs committed 14 errors — five in a 13-

run Lordsburg fourth inning — to drop the season opener, 21-5. Things weren't much better in the second game, but at least Mescalero scored more runs in a 30-15 loss.

The second game was punctuated by solid hitting by Lady Chief catcher Brie Martinez, who went 2-4 with a pair of singles and one run batted in, while Mariah Martinez also earned two singles and two RBI.

But the real star of that game was Lordsburg catcher Santana Young, who hit two home runs — to go with the four-bagger she hit in the first game — and scored five times in the victory.

Mescalero's season doesn't get much easier this Saturday, when the Lady Chiefs travel to

### ► MESCALERO STATS

Game One  
Lady Mavericks 21, Lady Chiefs 5  
(4 innings)  
Lordsburg 323 (13) — 21 5 5  
Mescalero 022 1 — 5 2 14

Naomi Jimenez, Anabel Ramirez (3) and Santana Young, Sierra Shanta, Savannah Holder (4) and Brie Martinez. W — Jimenez, L — Shanta, HR — Lord (Young), LOB — Lord 5, Mes 5.

Game Two  
Lady Mavericks 30, Lady Chiefs 15  
(5 innings)  
Lordsburg 472 557 — 30 11 5  
Mescalero 422 60 — 15 9 18

Savannah Holder, Sierra Shanta (6) and Brie Martinez, Anabel Ramirez, Naomi Jimenez (3), Ramirez (4) and Santana Young, W — Ramirez, L — Holder, HR — Lord (Young, 2), 2B — Mes (Holder), LOB — Lord 5, Mes 6.

Loving to take on the defending Class 2A champion Falcons at 1 p.m.

White Sands  
National  
Monument is a  
desert, not of  
sand, but of  
gleaming white  
gypsum crystals.

## SOFTBALL

FROM PAGE 1B

runs. Even after giving up the lead, the Lady Warriors made a comeback in the bottom of the seventh, as Aimee Vasquez singled, took second on a passed ball and stole third. She scored on a sacrifice grounder by Page, but that was all Ruidoso could muster.

Very little can be said of Ruidoso 30-1 domination of Dexter's junior varsity in the 7th-place game, except that the Lady Warriors were able to use it as batting practice.

"After playing the top two

teams, we were really able to tee off," Page said. "We didn't try to steal bases or push for extra bases, we just let the bats do the work."

"We didn't really want to embarrass them, we just had to work on our batting," he added.

As Ruidoso was playing with only nine girls on the entire roster, it's a foregone conclusion that every Lady Warrior scored at least three times.

Ruidoso High School may be out for spring break, but the softball team is still going and will host Socorro Friday at 3 p.m. at Gavilan Canyon Field. A junior varsity contest will follow.



TODD FUQUA/STAFF

## RUIDOSO

FROM PAGE 1B

Shane Thomas. Wilson redeemed himself with a double to score Storey and Sanchez, and Herrera eventually scored on a sacrifice fly to right by Perez.

That's the way the score stood until the top of the fourth, when the Cardinals (4-1) scored a trio of runs on singles by Uly Anguiano, Miguel Orozco and Garcia. The Warriors answered with four runs in the bottom half to retake the lead, highlighted by Wilson's second double of the game.

It was then that Ruidoso coach Jarret Perry replaced Elsey on the mound with Perez, who

Ruidoso pitcher K.D. Elsey fires one in during the second game of the Warriors' split Thursday with Eunice.

allowed a single by Sergio Lujan, hit Brandon Davis to put him on, and saw Anguiano hit a double to score Lujan.

Wilson then came in to try to salvage the win, but was unable to do so, as a sacrifice bunt and error at shortstop gave Eunice the lead.

Lujan, who had by this point taken the mound for the Cardinals, was able to retire the side in order in the bottom of the inning to preserve the victory.

The Warriors took on Tularosa in a double-header on Tuesday, and will face Eunice again this Saturday on the road.

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## Capitan teams take third at Alfalfa Relays

TODD FUQUA  
todd@ruidosonews.com

The third time may be a charm, but third place is where it was at for Capitan's boys and girls track teams Friday at the Alfalfa Relays in Hagerman.

The Lady Tigers scored 79.5 points at the meet, and were just bested by Fort Sumner in the 1,600-meter relay at the end to drop to third place.

"We had a pretty good meet all around," said Capitan coach Mike Booty.

Capitan was able to earn a pair of new state qualifying marks, as Kelsey Campbell won the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 17.42 seconds, while Brittany Caughron took third in pole vault, but her height of 7 feet, 6 inches was good enough to get her to Albuquerque.

Pole vault was a particularly successful event for Capitan, as the Lady Tigers also took fourth through sixth places.

Campbell also won the long jump with a mark of 14-2 3/4 and was third in 300-meter hurdles with a time of 54.70.

Brittany LaMay was second in javelin with a throw of 100-11, while Callie Cox finished third in both the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs. Paige Jones also took third in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:21.80.

The Lady Tigers were in Fort Sumner on Tuesday, and Booty said there's only a few things his team needs to do to win these meets.

"About the only place we're really hurting in is the out-and-out sprints," Booty said. "We just have a few more weeks to district, but I think we'll be OK."

Other area schools at the meet were Hondo, Carrizozo, Mesalero and Corona. The only Lady

Cardinal at the event was Janet Torres, who placed fifth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:15.28.

Carrizozo's girls scored 23 team points to secure seventh place, led by Whitney Whittaker, who finished third with a javelin throw of 89-10, and Kaitlyn Vega, who was third with a discus throw of 85-8.

For Mesalero, Stephanie Bigmouth was again second behind Floyd's Kelli Johnson in the 3,200-meter run, turning in a time of 12:58.40. Sister Nadine Bigmouth was fifth with a time of 13:50.54.

Stephanie was also sixth in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 6:11.59, while the Lady Chief medley relay team was fourth with a time of 5:09.41.

The Capitan boys scored 50 points, thanks to some strong running by Kevin Kelsey.

Kelsey ran a time of 2:04 in the 800 leg of the medley relay, allowing the Tigers to finish second place. He also ran 2:10 in the straight 800-meter run and finished third.

Capitan boys coach Jodie Scott felt Kelsey could have won that race but for being boxed up in the pack until about 200 meters left in the race.

Freshman Antonio Sambrano also impressed his coach with a second-place finish in the 3,200-meter run, while Brandon Caughron was third in 300-meter hurdles with a time of 43.09 seconds.

The medley and 800-meter relay teams were bolstered by the presence of Jimmie Thomas and Louis McCallister, both of whom are also on the Capitan baseball team.

"It's a new experience with a baseball team to work with, but the boys are handling it well," Scott said. "I'm still happy with the progress. It's all about staying healthy, improving and getting to state."

## TIGERS

FROM PAGE 1B

But things started to go south for the Tigers in the fifth and final inning. Kern struck out Carlos Morales to start the inning, but the next four Warriors got on base and eventually scored, two on a double by Garrett Patton.

With Capitan's seven-run lead now winnowed to three and runners on second and third base, McCullough came on in relief and struck out Ramon Nava — who had opened the game with a home

run for Ruidoso — and Anthony Avalone to end it.

Game two was a game Capitan had to come from behind to win. The Tigers drew first blood in the first inning with two runs on an RBI single by Brian Taylor and run-scoring double by Josh Castaneda, but the Warriors responded in the bottom half with three runs of their own, and scored another two in the bottom of the second.

The lead remained tenuous, however, as Capitan scored a run in the top of the third, and the Warriors were unable to score much against

Herrera, on the mound in relief of Castaneda. The Tigers were finally able to break through with a 7-run fourth inning, highlighted by a run-scoring double from Hector Moreno.

Ruidoso was unable to answer, and the game came to an end due to darkness.

"This was a game they wanted to win," Weems said of his team. "They played with some of these guys in junior league ball, and it was a matter of pride."

The Tigers have some time off until their next game, a 4 p.m. double-header at Dexter April 4.

## March is National Literacy Month.

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## RUIDOSO NEWS

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## POOP SCOOP

BY DIANNE STALLINGS  
RUIDOSO NEWS STAFF WRITER

First, a reminder about the April 8 rabies clinics being conducted across the county by our dedicated veterinarians and their staffs.

The cost is \$6 per animal. Other recommended vaccinations also will be available at reduced prices.

In Ruidoso, clinics will operate from:

- 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the tennis court fire station in School House Park, intersection of Sudderth Drive and Paradise Canyon.

- 10 a.m. to noon at the fire station on White Mountain drive.

In Ruidoso Downs, vaccine will be administered from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the fire station off U.S. 70.

Other sites across the county are:

- 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. at the Lincoln Fire Station
- 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Capitan Fire Station
- 10 a.m. to noon at the Carrizozo Fire Station
- 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Old Hondo Post Office
- 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Corona Fire Station.

Dogs should be on leash and cats in carriers to ensure no

spontaneous eruptions of disagreements among the animals in line.

Back to our breed training hints.

In this area, I see many Bernese Mountain dogs and Great Pyrenees. Most often, they are not purchased.

The big, heavy-coated dogs work out well for llama and alpaca breeders and have the most wonderful relaxed personalities with human.

But they are fierce when protecting a flock from predators.

In some breed observations in her book, "Raising Rover," author Judith Halliburton points out that the Bernese originally was used as a fighter by the Romans, and over time, that instinct was modified to guarding.

Part of the Bernese's nature is to be an independent thinker, she wrote. For that and other reasons, they do not adapt well to latchkey situations.

"You would think, given their independence, that being alone wouldn't bother them too much. You would be wrong. These dogs tend to be unruly and get out of control easily," she advises.

He has incredible stamina and can outplay a 12-year-old, she

wrote.

She highly recommends the Bernese as a hiking or camping buddy. Once camp is set up, he will define the perimeter and stand guard, even if he's lying down.

He can attach his love and loyalty to many members of a family.

Bernese are highly trainable — be sure he receives it.

A Great Pyrenees is bred to do anything in the snow, but Halliburton warns an owner must be ready to invest major money in feeding this breed, because high quality and quantity are needed.

"The hardest time in this dog's life is when he realizes he's too big to sit on your lap," she wrote. If you sit on the couch and allow him to lie across your lap, he'll be in ecstasy.

Although bred for a tough and tumble life outside, Pyrenees prefer to be inside with you, Halliburton wrote. They are very people-oriented. Don't adopt one if you are thinking about an outside life for the animal, she warns.

Consistent grooming is a must and without it, he can develop infections. Pyrenees are wonderful nannies to young children. Once he learns their names, "he will seek them out if you ask him to," Halliburton wrote. He's not a good candidate as a walking or jogging partner, she contends, but hiking and camping are fine.

As far as training, she cautions while Pyrenees will guard a herd or rescue you in the mountains, they are not interested in obedience commands. Use a gentle hand.

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# LINCOLN COUNTY

PAGE 4B

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2006

## Condolences for so many

It has been a month of so many friends losing loved ones. Some passed away while we were gone.

Bob and Ann Scribner passed away within two days of each other. They were responsible for the start of Alto. We would see them at the El Paisano restaurant on Saturday nights when we would eat there. Bob and Ann made that their Saturday ritual.

Carrizozo's Veda Lou Branum's, brother, C.A. Branum, passed away in December.

William "Bill" Treat, a Lincoln County rancher, passed away the first of the month. He was 95-years-old. He was active in the New Mexico Cattle and Wool Growers Association.

Herb Brunell's mother, Nell Brunell Mullins, passed away about the same time as my mother. Nell and her husband opened up the Brunell clothing stores in Alamogordo and Ruidoso.

Gary Lovelace's, funeral will be held Wednesday in Carrizozo. He was a member of one of the pioneering families of Lincoln County. He was doing cement work. His wife, Eileen is a member of the Lincoln County Commission. He leaves many family members and friends.

Another member of a pioneering family in the Ancho area who passed away this week was Moselle Harkey. Her funeral was Tuesday, March 28.

Agatha Long lost a niece this

past week. No info on the niece. Agatha has lost three members of her family in the past few months.

Ralph's former secretary, Marie Walker Kelley, passed away in Roswell last week. She was single mother raising two children, living in Capitán, when she worked for Ralph. She was a great secretary, 4-H leader and involved in community activities. If you wanted to find her you looked for the lady in purple and listened to her special laugh.

Bonnie Jones of Tinnie lost her mother recently.

Our condolences to all these families.

We just received word that our daughter will be alright. She had surgery on her neck Friday and suffered a mild heart attack Sunday morning. She will have a cat scan and other tests done tomorrow.

There have been a couple more moves in Lincoln. The Lincoln County Historical Society has moved into Dr. Woods Annex and the Episcopal Church has moved its coffee hour to the Luna Store.

The new officers of the Lincoln Preservation board are James Sanchez, president, Gary Stilwell, vice-president and Sandy Smith, secretary. The Lincoln community agreed on the street name for Lincoln town. It is Calle La Placita. It now goes to the County Commission for approval.

The visitors center has been busy the past few weeks. Pat Burke, of Colorado, recently visited her uncle and aunt, Peg and Leota Pfingsten.



LINCOLN  
TRAFFIC  
ROSALIE DUNLAP

## 'Lincoln 91' named county employee



JULIE CARTER/STAFF

Bill Martin, always on call, takes a radio page from 911 dispatch before heading to an accident scene with potential fire hazard.

JULIE CARTER  
jcarter@tulavasa.net

When Bill Martin moved to Lincoln County it was his intention to stay at home and write murder-mystery books. That hasn't happened, yet.

Instead of the quiet life of a writer, Martin is the county Emergency Services Coordinator, radio call sign Lincoln 91, a title that endows him with a 24/7 on-call status.

### Plan for the unimaginable

In his own words, Martin's job is to deal with things that go bump in the night. "My job is to plan for and execute a plan for the unimaginable," he said. "That includes anything from wildland and structure fires to alien abductions."

Hiring on with the county in July of 2002, Martin was first the county emergency and fire coordinator. That evolved into a job scope covering emergency services, county fire marshal,

Homeland Security and Loss Prevention Coordinator.

Before the term "Homeland Security" was invented, Martin's job was just that. With the safety of personnel and residents first in mind, Martin plans for every disaster possible with a plan A and several back up plans. He also administers the eight county fire departments.

Martin comes to Lincoln County with 32 years experience in law enforcement, public safety and for five years was the emergency services coordinator for Monterey County - a county of 360,000 people in California. Additionally, he has owned an emergency management consulting firm and supervised marine patrol officers.

In discussing the dangers of fire facing Lincoln County again this year in a severe drought, Martin says his intent is not to drive prevention with fear, but with education to empower people to keep it from happening.

County Manager Tom Stewart,

during the presentation of a plaque honoring his selection as employee of the month, said of Martin, "He consistently demonstrates extraordinary professional expertise and ability, in depth practical and technical knowledge, and uncommon perceptiveness and execution in dealing with any number of field situations requiring immediate action."

Because of his expertise, the state is constantly seeking Bill's time for evaluator duties of other county exercises throughout the state."

### Large demands

Martin and his wife of 27 years, Carolyn Schrader, own Southwest Book Roundup in Capitán. He has also served for two years as a Village of Capitán Trustee.

Lincoln 91 is 10-8 (in-service) more than he's not, and while not unavailable, he is often hard to find in very large county with large demands on his time.

## COUNTY BRIEFS

### Capitan Booster Club

The newly-formed Capitan Booster Club is striving for student success, school spirit and service. It is a group of parents, coaches and teachers whose goal is to help coordinate fund-raising and assistance for any extra-curricular group - athletic or academic. The focus is student success. Officers for the group are Diana Proctor, president, Delores Fields, vice-president, Tammy Chapman, secretary, and Becky Schultz, treasurer. "Our kids are students first. That is our priority," said Proctor.

The club offers three different levels

of membership: corporate, individual and family. According to Proctor, they want to encourage "higher standards for our students and more school spirit." Anyone interested in attending a meeting or learning more about the booster club may contact Proctor at 354-0659.

### Capitan Lions Clean-up II

The Capitan Smokey Bear Lions Club and the Village of Capitan will host another 2006 cleanup, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on April 8. The Lions will provide lunch for all the workers. For more information call village hall at 354-

2247 or Kitty Callender at 258-1345.

### CPL First Friday

Capitan Public Library's First Friday event on April 7 will be a free presentation by J. Charles Weir about the Medicaid Part D program. Weir, who is with Social Security in Roswell, will be available to help seniors understand the Medicaid program. To accommodate seniors who find it difficult to travel after dark, this First Friday event will be held at 3 p.m. in the Capitan Village Hall meeting room. For more information call 354-3035.

## HONOR ROLL

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"A-B" HONOR ROLL  
8th Grade: Jordan Dalton, Darcy Horst, Rusty Johns, Preston McGuire, Haley Montes, Tanner Pope, Jessica

Price, Ashley Pruett, Christian Quiroz, Cheyanne Sandoval, Ryan Schweitzer, Bethany Sweat, Lacy Walker, Kallea Wilkinson, Miranda Zamora

7th Grade: Briana Aguilar, AJ Bowden, Rudy Chavez, Serena Darden, Ashleigh Demeritt, Candace Holmes, Kaitlin Keaton, Danielle Jones, Kasey Kessler, Chase Morel, Monique Quiroz, Scheryiah Romero, Jesse Scarafioti, Tara Strickland, Emily Swanner, Joseph Varley, Joseph Velasquez, Amanda Willingham

6th Grade: Devin Ciccarelli-Jouett, Dustee Rae Eldridge, Leslie Louett, Brenda Macias, Breanna Menchaca, Colby Preciado, Emily Rush, Mara Thomas, J'Nae Wood

## Agency says drought calls for help desk

ALBUQUERQUE - Unusually dry conditions are prompting the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts (NMACD) to establish a Farmers & Ranchers Drought Help Desk to be available until after cattle are shipped next fall.

"The drought conditions are just incredible out there," said Cyle Sharp, NMACD president. "As a conservation organization we want to do everything we can to help farmers and ranchers get through this year - taking care of the land while they are working to make their operations survive. We want to be there for them, to help them get the information that can make a difference when they are facing tough choices."

The Farmers & Ranchers Drought Help Desk is being established by NMACD in cooperation with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. It is anticipated that the Help Desk will network with agricultural entities throughout New Mexico. If an answer to a farmers or ranchers request for information about available resources is not immediately available, the Help Desk will undertake outreach efforts to gain the

"We want to be there for them, to help them get the information that can make a difference ..."

Cyle Sharp  
NMACD president

help of a variety of resources in New Mexico's agricultural community.

"If a farmer or ranchers is facing a particular problem, needs information about choices or possible resource available, and isn't sure about which way to turn, we want him or her to call - so we can help them reach the answers that will fill in the blanks," Sharp said.

The Help Desk will be proactive, according to Sharp, in addition to responding to specific requests for aid. They will be issuing weekly advisories on drought related issues that target New Mexico's farmers and ranchers, and developing a resource data base for future use in drought years.

For further information about the Help Desk or to request assistance call 1-800-410-2067.

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## FUNERALS DEATHS



Gary Lovelace

Gary M. Lovelace, 63, died Sunday, March 26, 2006 at his home in Carrizozo. Services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at St. Rita Catholic Church in

Carrizozo. Lovelace was born into a ranching family in Carrizozo on Dec. 7, 1942, and was a lifelong resident of Carrizozo and Corona. In the 1970s Gary started Carrizozo Ready-Mix, which he passionately ran until his death.

Surviving family members include his wife, Eileen Lovelace, sister Knollene McDaniel, sons Gary Joe and wife Kelly Lovelace of Carrizozo and Jerry Lovelace of Alamogordo, daughter Maurita Tapp of Roswell, grandchildren Kristian, Jerilyn, Spur, Jarret, Ty, Sami Joe and Crystal; niece Roby Ericson and her family, and great-nephew Quirt McDaniel.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations

be made to the Children's Wish Foundation International, 8615 Roswell Road, Atlanta, GA 30350-1822.

## Rachel Howell

Rachel Ann Burnett Howell of Kingsland, Texas, died Friday, March 24, 2006 in Austin, Texas, at the age of 73.

She had resided at Windchime Assisted Living since moving four months ago from Ruidoso. She was a member of the Ruidoso Methodist Church and was a retired school teacher.

Howell was born to Hal and Rachel Burnett in Fort Stockton, Texas, on Oct. 16, 1932. She married Doyle Howell on Aug. 24, 1953, in Alpine, Texas.

She was preceded in death by her husband, both parents, and two brothers.

Surviving family members include her son Gordon Howell of Anchorage, Ala.; sister Margaret Adams and her husband Talmadge of Tow, Texas; nieces Linda Conger and Sharon Watts; and nephews Daniel Adams and David Adams.

No services are planned.

Memorial contributions in Rachel Howell's memory may be made to a local animal shelter of your choice or may be sent to St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Box 50, Memphis, TN 38101.

Arrangements are by Waldrope-Hatfield-Hawthorne Funeral Home Inc. of Kingsland, 325-388-6767.

## Crime prevention seminar

The National Rifle Association's Refuse To Be A Victim® program will conduct a crime prevention seminar at 6 p.m. April 4 at New Mexico State University-Alamogordo, 2400 North Scenic Dr.

The seminar is open to the public at a cost of \$20. Pre-registration is required at 505-439-3600. For questions about the seminar call Richard Barbaras or Becky Lane at 505-439-4900.

In the seminar, certified instructors will teach methods to avoid dangerous situations and prevent criminal confrontations. Experts agree that the most important factor in surviving a criminal attack is to have an overall safety

strategy before it is needed, they say.

Refuse To Be A Victim® was developed by the women of the NRA in 1993 in response to requests from women nationwide for crime prevention seminars. In 1997, the program became co-ed. Since that time, it has reached tens of thousands of women and men who have benefited from the program's lifesaving message. Seminars have been presented in 49 states and the District of Columbia.

To find other RTVB seminars, or for information on how to become a program instructor, call 800-861-1166, or send an e-mail to refuse@nrahq.org.

## POLICE BRIEFS

## Barroom brawl

Two Texas women and another from Truth or Consequences, N.M., were arrested in Ruidoso March 17 on charges of disorderly conduct.

The threesome reportedly beat a woman inside a local bar when they were asked to leave and the victim bid them farewell. An emergency medical services unit was dispatched to the lounge upon reports that a woman was suffering chest pains at the sight of her daughter being hurled to the ground and punched. Six witnesses and a video tape provided further evidence to police.

Texas Temple, 38, of Alpine, Texas; Stacy Roy, 29, of Truth or Consequences, and; Marilyn Mayorga, 30, of El Paso, were cited.

## False alarm

An intoxicated woman was the cause of a short police investigation March 17 in which a woman said she was beaten and robbed following a casino win.

Priscilla Aquilar, 22, of El Paso, told police two men, one

who appeared to be Indian, took several casino cups from the front seat of her car while it was parked at a car wash on Sudderth Drive. The woman accused the men of having forced her to unbutton her pants as they searched for money, a police report says. Aquilar said she was robbed of about \$500 and told police it was all she had left from a \$1,000 jackpot she'd won earlier that evening at the Billy The Kid Casino.

Upon investigation, police learned that only one jackpot had occurred at the BTK casino and that it was for \$200 to a woman other than Aquilar. When confronted by police, Aquilar changed then retracted her story. Police labeled the woman's report as "unfounded."

## Disorderly dude

Elvis Cleveland, 43, of Ruidoso was arrested March 14 on charges of disorderly conduct. Police arrested Cleveland when he was spotted walking unsteadily down the middle of Junction Road. Cleveland, whose speech was slurred and who had bloodshot eyes, told police that he had consumed

two beers. His blood alcohol level tested at .40.

## Insufficient funds

A Hobbs woman and a Ruidoso Downs man were served with a criminal complaint and ordered to appear in Magistrate Court in Ruidoso March 14 when both were cited as having issued bad checks to local merchants.

Sheri L. Buie, 47, of Hobbs was charged with one count of unlawful issuance of a worthless check, a fourth degree felony. Buie's check was drafted in the amount of \$208.69 from Western Bank in Hobbs.

Gil Sarinopoulos, 34, of Ruidoso Downs was charged with one count of issuing a worthless check, a fourth degree felony, and one count of issuing a worthless check misdemeanor.

Buie and Sarinopoulos each were mailed certified letters in which the merchants demanded payment, but failed to respond, a police report shows.

## Outstanding warrant

Josh Gent, 29, of Ruidoso was arrested March 17 on an

outstanding warrant and charged with possession of marijuana.

Police located Gent when they were called to what the reporting person identified as a domestic dispute. Upon arrival, police found Gent yelling at a woman in the car. When the pair headed indoors, officers say they made further inquiry. Gent was found hiding in the closet and said he fled as he had just gotten high, a police report states. Gent produced for police a bag of green leafy substance.

## Stolen vehicle

Fred Berry, 37, of Ruidoso was arrested March 18 on charges that he stole a pickup truck in Arizona and had transported it across the border to New Mexico.

Acting on a tip, police stopped Berry near the intersection of Second and South Streets. The driver, Berry's brother, was released when Berry admitted he had nothing to do with the theft. Berry told police that he had slept in the truck overnight during a trip in which he was on foot and hitchhiking. He said the truck was sitting off I-10 near Lordsburg

when he encountered it. He said the next morning he made some quick repairs and started the truck, whose keys, he said, were still in the ignition. According to police, Berry admitted he did not have the permission of the vehicle's owner to take it.

## Criminal trespass

Michael Cooper, 48, of Mesalero was arrested March 19 on charges of criminal trespass. Cooper was picked up by police inside a public restroom on Sudderth Drive. According to a police report, Cooper had been previously warned not to enter public restrooms as he had been cited for nuisance before.

Cooper had a bottle of liquor in his possession at the time of

the arrest.

## Credit card scandal

Beverly Isaacson, 71, of Ruidoso was served with a criminal summons complaint March 16 when investigating officers learned that she had opened a charge account in the name of a deceased person and charged some \$750 in clothing.

Isaacson, who had cared for the deceased in her home, used the victim's personal information to obtain credit. She was reported to police by the deceased man's son.

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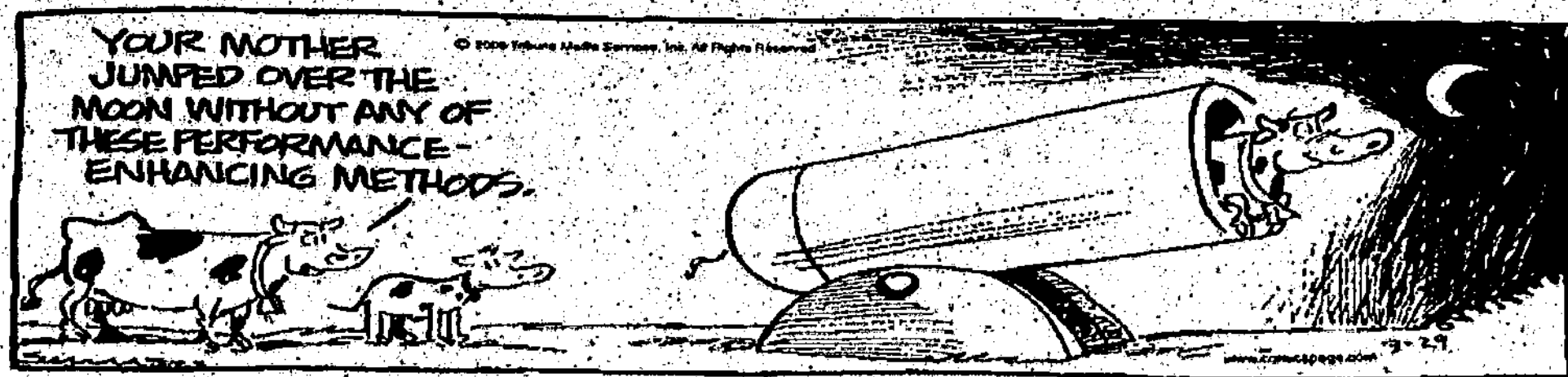
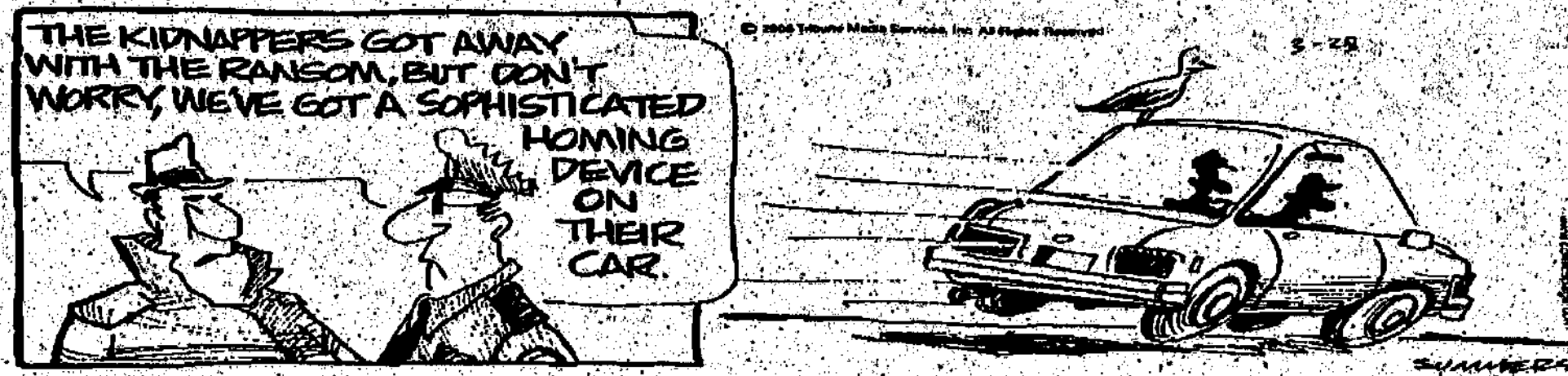
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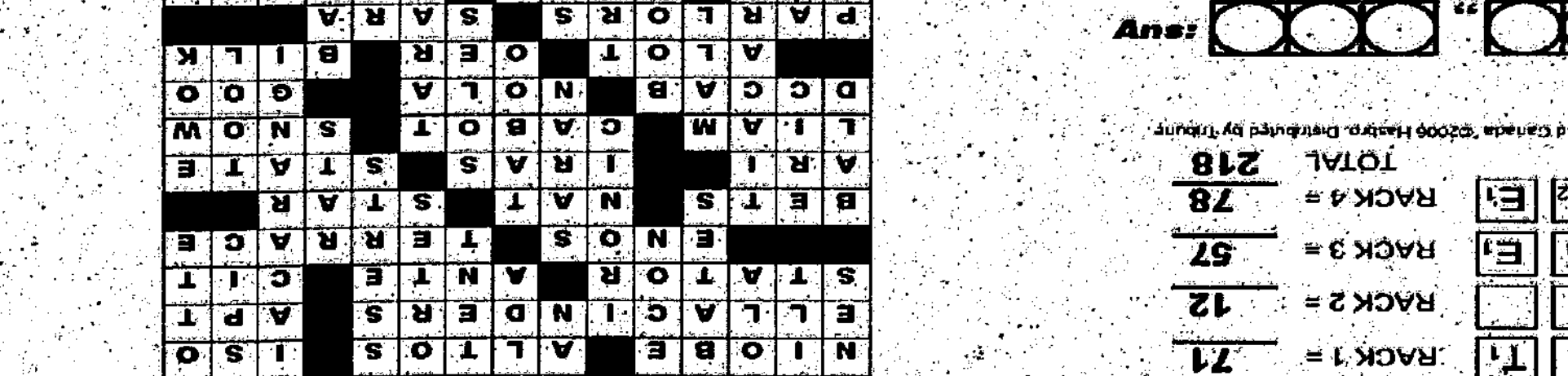
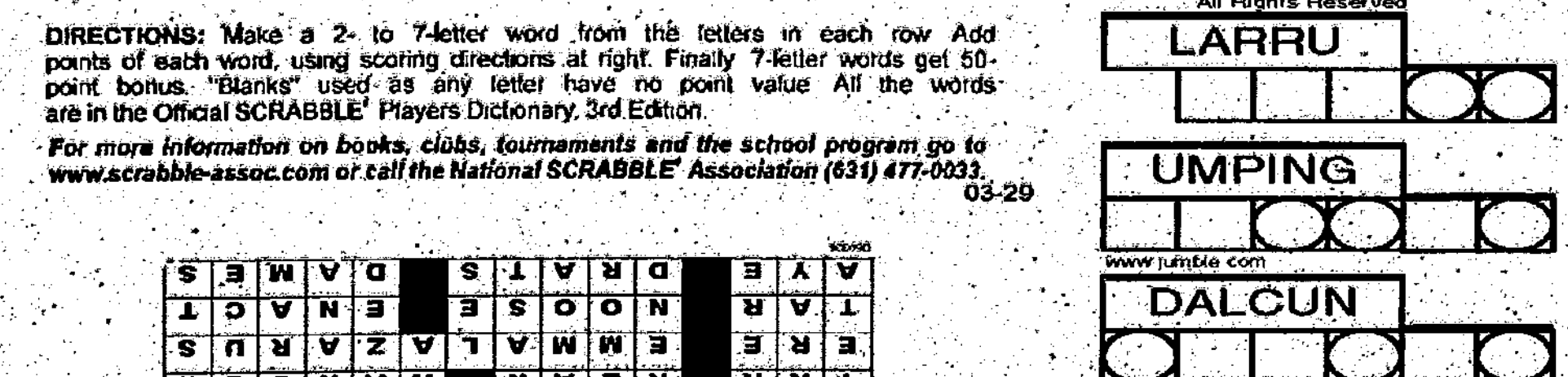
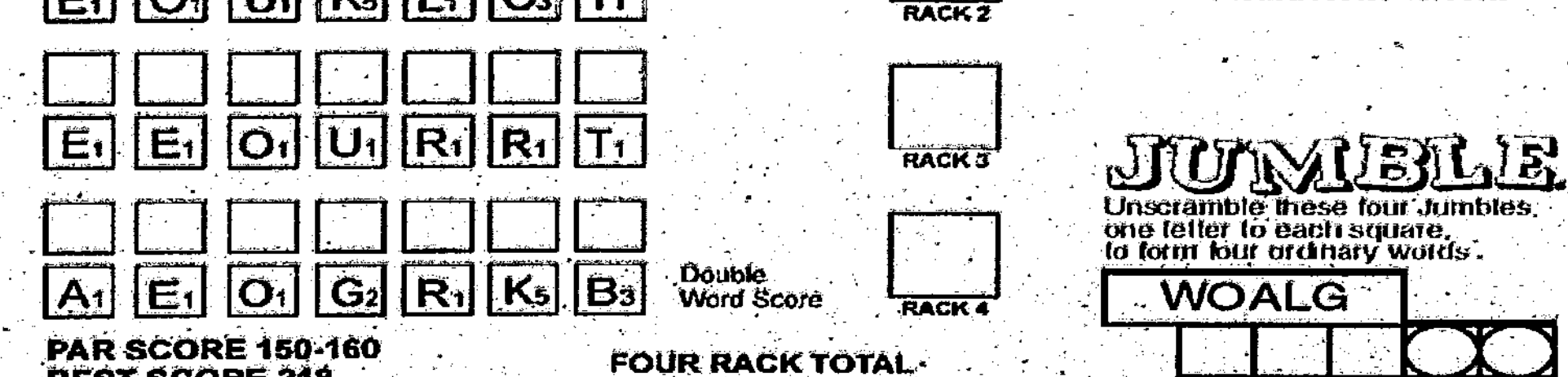
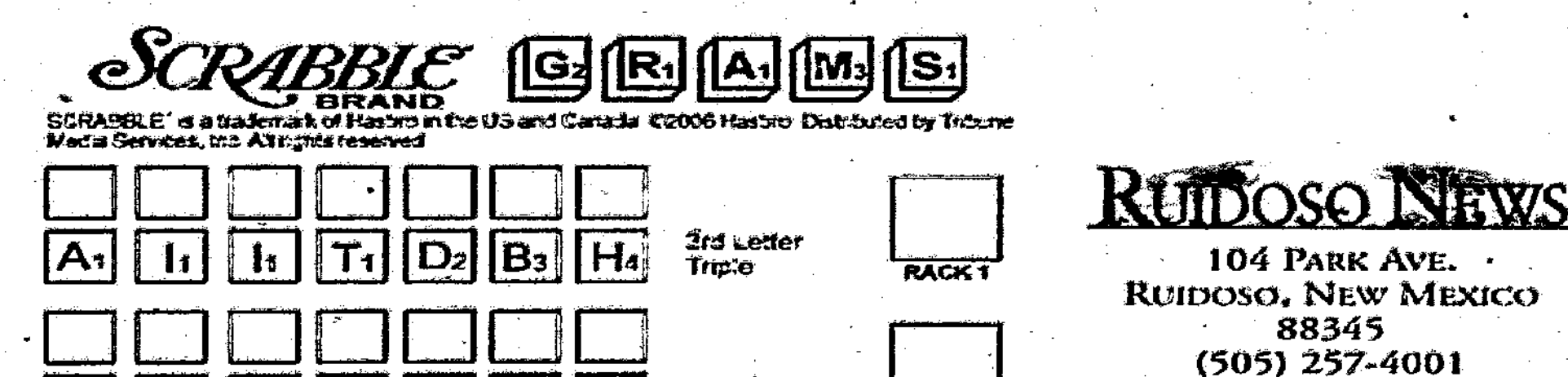
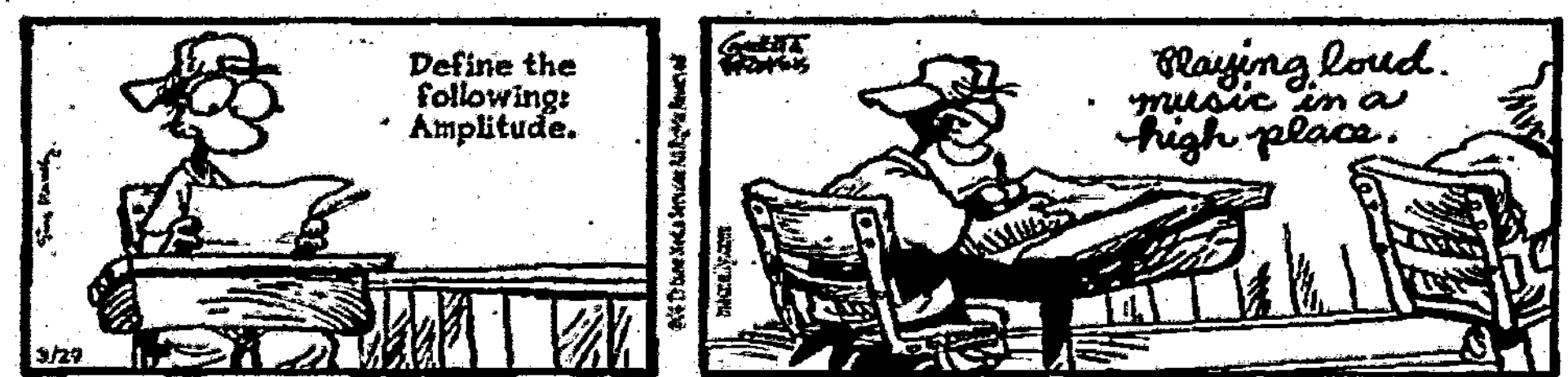
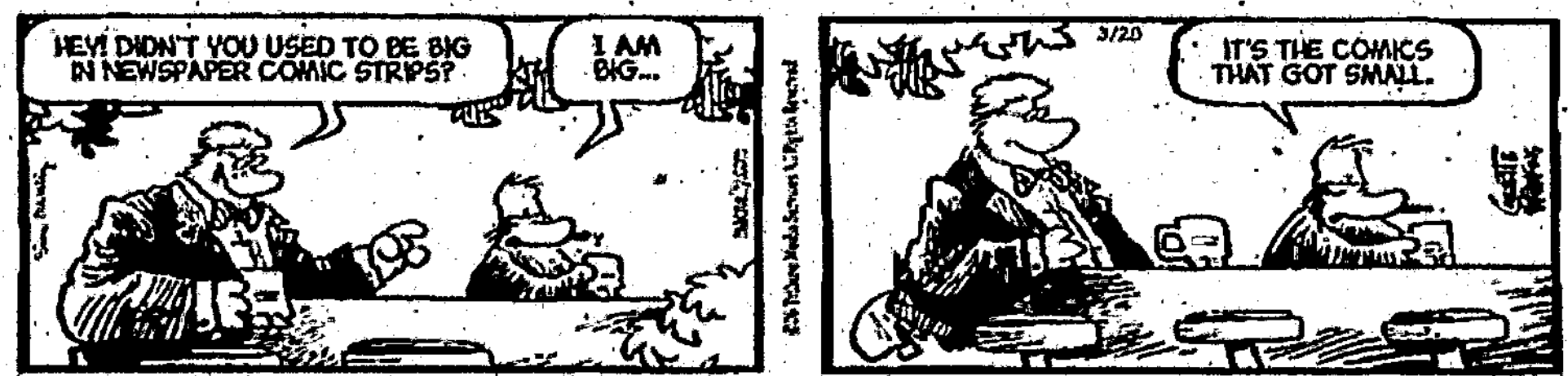
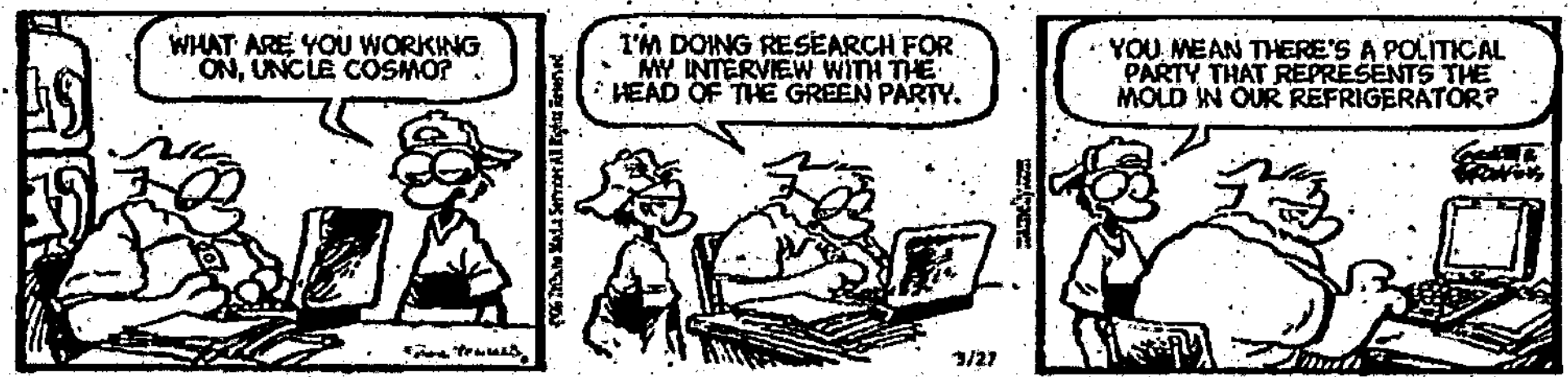
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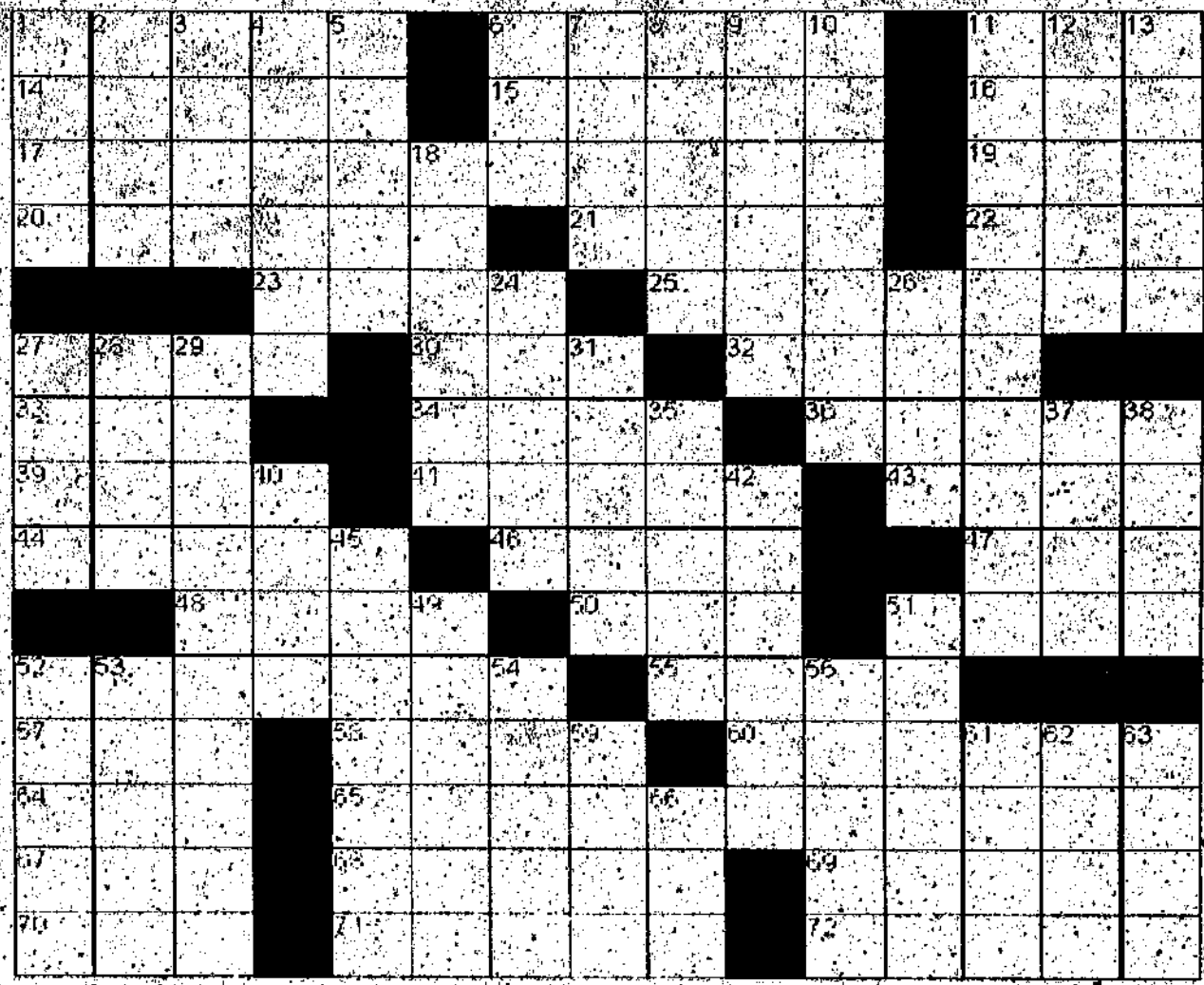
SHOE



ACROSS

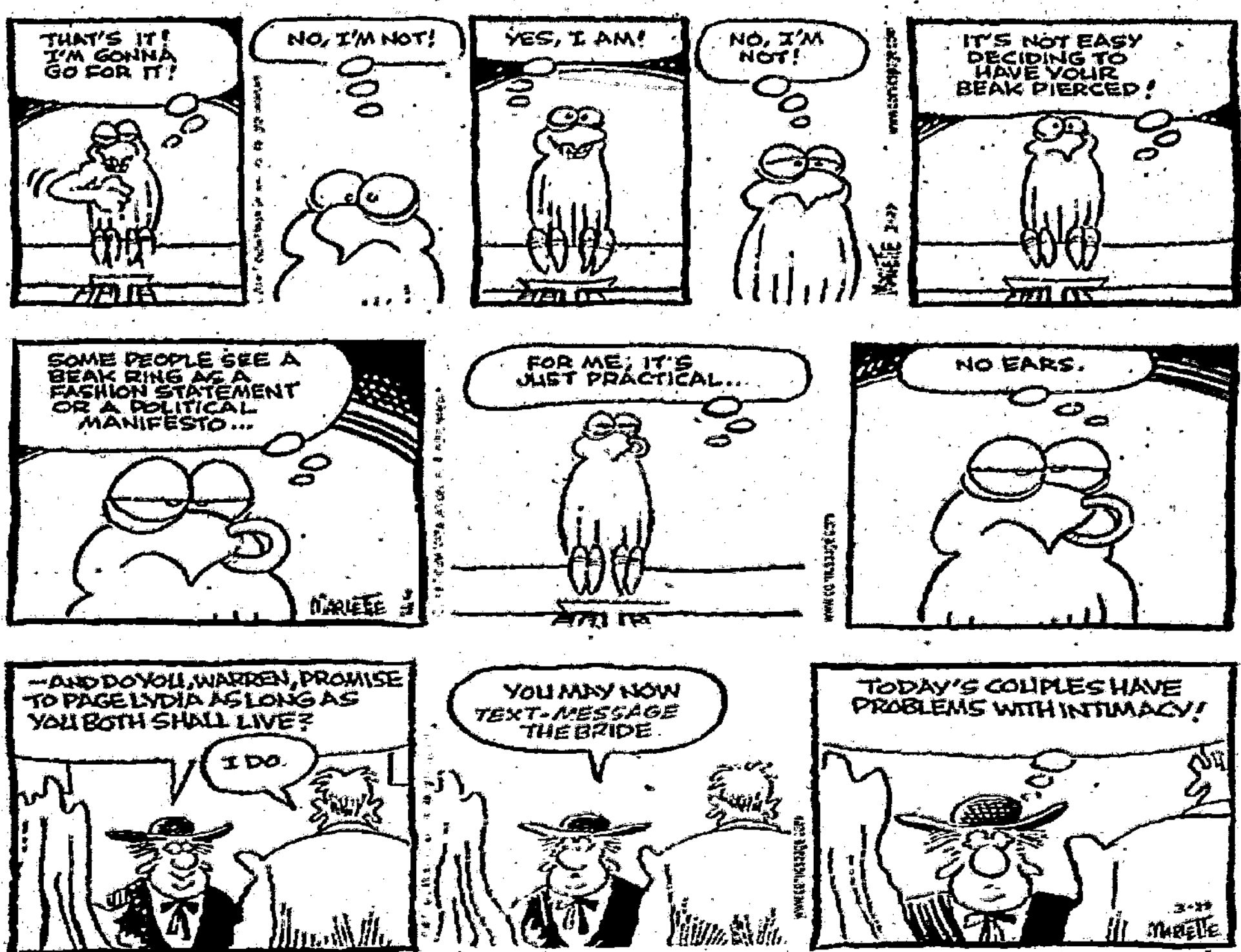
1. Hollywood statuette
6. Ziti or penne
11. Guy's partner
14. Zeus turned her to stone
15. Some saxes
16. Prefix with bar or therm
17. Comics "Cinderella" of 1925-61
19. Well put
20. Fixed part of a dynamo
21. Initial stake
22. Op. (footnote abbr.)
23. Slaughter of Cooperstown
25. Apartment balcony
27. Plays the ponies, say
30. D.C. baseballer, for short
32. Movie rating unit
33. "Exodus" hero
34. Nest eggs, for short
36. Cabinet department
39. Neeson of "Kinsey"
41. Explorer John or Sebastian
43. Winter fall
44. Mr. T movie of 1983
46. Vincent Lopez's theme song
47. Icky stuff
48. Oodles
50. Anthem contraction
51. Defraud
52. Places to buy ice cream
55. Lee of cakedom
57. Discount tag abbr.
58. New Jersey university

Letterwomen

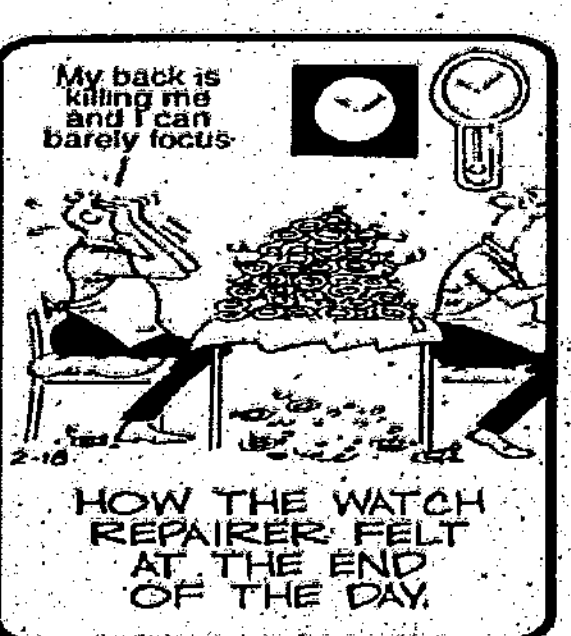


60. Get underhandedly
64. Before, to bards
65. "Give me your tired, your poor..." poet
67. ...and feathers (old punishment)
68. Oater "necktie"
69. Make into law
70. Nautical assent
71. Mild oaths
72. Titled women
9. Rich pastries
10. States positively
11. Supermodel played by Angelina Jolie
12. Jellied garnish
13. Singer Lenya
18. Like an O. Henry story
24. Clear kitchen wrap
26. Ghetto scurriers
27. Like Kojak's pate
28. Director Rohmer
29. Cassandra Wong, player in "Wayne's World"
31. Forbidden
35. Shoe bottoms
37. Hammer or sickle
38. Furry "Star Wars" creature
40. Shopaholic's mecca
42. Pacific battle site of 1943
45. One of a library pair
49. Earthquake precursor, perhaps
51. Fruit in a split
52. Michelangelo masterpiece
53. Orderly formation
54. Pago Pago's island group
56. Tore to the ground
59. Tweed caricaturist Thomas
61. Unit of fat
62. Writer Clare Boothe
63. Repair shop figs
66. Guitarist ... Paul

KUDZU



THAT SCHAUMBLED WORD GAME



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

- Answers: **AGLOW** **RURAL** **IMPUGN** **UNCLAD**



Answer: How the watch repairer fell at the end of the day — ALL WOUND UP

**SCRABBLE** **GRAMS**

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A <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>
E <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>5</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>
E <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>
A <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>5</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>

PAR SCORE 150-160  
BEST SCORE 218

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.

For more information on books, clubs, tournaments and the school program go to [www.scrabble-assoc.com](http://www.scrabble-assoc.com) or call the National SCRABBLE Association (631) 477-0033.

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**JUMBLE**

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

WOALG

LARRU

UMPING

DALCUN

Answers: **GOALS** **URRAL** **PIPING** **NUCLAD**

PAR SCORE 150-160  
TOTAL 218

B <sub>3</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>5</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>
R <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>
L <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	K <sub>5</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>
A <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>4</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>

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## Card of Thanks

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# BEST AUTO REPAIR

<p><b>'06 FORD MUSTANG</b></p>  <p>Premium Package, Auto, Loaded, Ready to Drive!</p> <p><b>\$500 Matching Down Payment</b></p> <p><b>\$259</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'06 FORD FUSION</b></p>  <p>All New - HOT Selling! Best Bang for the Buck! Loaded</p> <p><b>\$1000 Matching Down Payment</b></p> <p><b>\$219</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'06 MERCURY MARINER</b></p>  <p>Luxury Package, Moonroof, 6 Disk CD, MP3, Loaded</p> <p><b>Ask About Sign &amp; Drive!</b></p> <p><b>\$279</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'06 F150 4x4 SUPERCAB</b></p>  <p>Loaded, Tow &amp; Go, XLT Package</p> <p><b>\$1000 Matching Down Payment</b></p> <p><b>\$299</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'06 F350 CREWCAB 4x4</b></p>  <p>Stock #8F087</p> <p>FX4, Off Road &amp; Camper Pkg, Factory Installed Trailer Brake Controller</p> <p><b>Was \$36,505 NOW \$32,077</b></p>	<p><b>'06 FORD FOCUS ZX4</b></p>  <p>SE Package, Loaded, Auto</p> <p><b>\$500 Matching Down Payment</b></p> <p><b>\$199</b> per mo.</p>
<p><b>'05 FORD ESCAPE XLT</b></p>  <p>Stock #4765</p> <p>V-6, Auto, Leather, 6 Disk CD</p> <p><b>CPO 4.9%</b></p> <p><b>\$264</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'05 LINCOLN TOWNCAR</b></p>  <p>Stock #4842</p> <p>Signature, Ltd., V-8, Leather, Heated Seats, Moonroof</p> <p><b>CPO 4.9%</b></p> <p><b>\$378</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'05 MERCURY MARQUIS LS</b></p>  <p>Stock #4854</p> <p>V-8, Leather, Moonroof, Auto, Loaded</p> <p><b>CPO 4.9%</b></p> <p><b>\$239</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'05 FORD TAURUS SEL</b></p>  <p>Stock #4828</p> <p>V-6, Auto, Leather, Moonroof, PW, PL, CD</p> <p><b>CPO 4.9%</b></p> <p><b>\$209</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'04 F250 CREWCAB 4x4</b></p>  <p>Stock #8F0921</p> <p>Lariat, Powerstroke, Auto, Loaded</p> <p><b>\$434</b> per mo.</p>	<p><b>'05 FORD FREESTAR SEL</b></p>  <p>Stock #4796</p> <p>V-6, Auto, Quad Captains, Dual A/C &amp; Heat, Rear DVD</p> <p><b>\$233</b> per mo.</p>

# USED

#4849	'05 MERCURY MONTEREY Premier, 7 Pass., CP0✓	.....\$298/mo.	#4823	'05 FORD RANGER XLT, 4 Dr., 4x4, 4.0 V-6, CP0✓	.....\$274/mo.
#4723	'05 FORD TAURUS SE, 4 Dr., PW, PL, PS	.....\$169/mo.	#4825	'05 LINCOLN T/C Signature, Leather, CP0✓	.....\$335/mo.
#4758	'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT, 4 Dr., 4x4	.....\$259/mo.	#4827	'05 LINCOLN LS Leather, Moonroof, CP0✓	.....\$350/mo.
#F00961	'06 F150 PICKUP 4x4, STX Pkg., Only 1,300 miles.	\$299/mo.	#4831	'05 FORD TAURUS SEL, Leather, Moonroof, CP0✓	.....\$203/mo.
#9F0852	'98 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4x4, Auto, A/C, ONLY	\$6,727	#47611	'97 F150 PICKUP 4x4, One Owner, Nice	.....ONLY \$8,455
#8F0522	'01 FORD F150 SC XLT, 4x4, 5.4 V-8, Auto	.....\$269/mo.	#4835	'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT, 4 Dr., 4x4, V-6	.....\$259/mo.
#4778	'05 FORD TAURUS SE, V-6, Auto, CP0✓	.....\$184/mo.	#4836	'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT, 4 Dr., 4x4, V-6	.....\$265/mo.
#F0981	'03 FORD MUSTANG Spoiler, One Owner, Nice	.....\$239/mo.	#8F0815	'01 F250 SUPERCAB XLT, 4x4, Diesel, A/C	.....\$259/mo.
#4788	'05 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER AWD, Leather, CP0✓	.....\$284/mo.	#4838	'05 LINCOLN T/C Signature, Leather	.....\$319/mo.
#4799	'05 FORD TAURUS SE, 4 Dr., PW, PL, PS, Auto	.....\$172/mo.	#4839	'05 LINCOLN T/C Signature, Leather, MR, Ltd.	.....\$360/mo.
#4800	'05 FORD TAURUS SE, 4 Dr., PW, PL, PS, Auto	.....\$172/mo.	#4840	'05 FORD MUSTANG CP V-6, Auto, CP0✓	.....\$243/mo.
#4807	'05 FORD FOCUS ZX4, SE, 4 Cyl., Auto, PW, PL	.....\$160/mo.	#4845	'05 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR Ultimate 4x4 CP0✓	.....\$489/mo.
#4808	'05 FORD FOCUS ZX4, SE, 4 Cyl., Auto, PW, PL	.....\$160/mo.	#4844	'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT, 4 Dr., 4x4, V-6	.....\$263/mo.
#4809	'05 FORD FOCUS ZX4, SE, 4 Cyl., Auto, PW, PL	.....\$162/mo.	#47891	'03 FORD WINDSTAR V-6, Auto, 7 Pass.	.....\$158/mo.
#4812	'05 FORD TAURUS SEL, 4 Dr., V-6, Auto, A/C	.....\$182/mo.	#4861	'06 FORD ESCAPE 4x4, Moonroof, Limited, Leather	.....\$287/mo.
#4813	'05 FORD TAURUS SE, 4 Dr., V-6, Auto, A/C	.....\$169/mo.	#48101	'03 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER Leather, Moonroof	.....\$223/mo.
#7F0965	'04 F150 HERITAGE SC 4x4, A/C, One owner	.....\$214/mo.	#4851	'06 FORD TAURUS SE V-6, Auto, PW, PL, Cruise, Tilt	.....\$198/mo.
#4817	'05 FORD FOCUS ZX5, SES, Leather, 4 Cyl, CP0✓	.....\$186/mo.	#8F0711	'04 FORD F250 SC XLT, 4x4, V-10, Auto	.....\$311/mo.
#4820	'05 FORD FOCUS ZX5, SES, 4 Cyl. Auto, A/C	.....\$175/mo.	#4815	'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4x4, 7 Ps. MR, Dual A/C	.....\$285/mo.

## MANAGER'S SPECIALS

Stock #46011



**'02 FORD FOCUS SE**  
4 Dr, 4 Cyl., Auto, Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL, CD

**\$132/mo.**

Stock #47601



**'04 PONTIAC VIBE**  
4 Cyl., A.C., Cruise, Tilt, PW, PL

**\$159/mo.**

Stock #8E1602



**'01 PONTIAC GRAND AM**  
GT, 2 Dr., Auto, V-6, PW, PL, Cruise, CD

**\$125/mo.**

Stock #F80B12



**'01 FORD F250 CREW CAB**  
XL, Auto, PW, PL, Cruise, Tilt, Only \$1,659 msrp

**\$227/mo.**

Stock #BF1D91



**'04 FORD EXPLORER 4X4**  
XLT, Dual A.C, 3rd Seat

**\$235/mo.**

Stock #47611



**'97 FORD F150 4X4**  
SC, XLT, 3rd Dr, 5.4 V-8, Auto, Trailer Tow

**\$187/mo.**

Stock #46541



**'00 FORD RANGER 4X4**  
XLT, SC, 4 Dr., V-6, Auto, CD, PW, PL

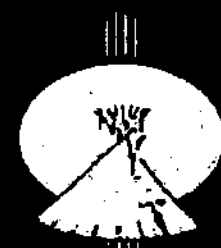
**\$157/mo.**

Stock #4855



**'04 FORD RANGER 4X4**  
XLT, 4 Dr., V-6 Only 90 miles

**\$246/mo.**



# RUIDOSO FORD— LINCOLN—MERCURY

**378-4400 • 107 Hwy. 70 • On the border of Ruidoso and Ruidoso Downs**

[www.ruidosoford.com](http://www.ruidosoford.com)