

The Philnews

HAPPY

4TH

OF JULY



July 6th, 2007 Issue #5

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On the Cover

The Stars and Stripes flying high at Base.
Photo by Stephen Bush.

Backcountry Favorites

By Robert Griffin

So little time with so much to see.

This is the feeling most of us probably have while we're out here. We're only here for a summer—with "work" getting in the way—and we have a seemingly endless supply beautiful trails to experience, several peaks to conquer and a wealth of famous challenges to attempt. And among it all, there is plenty of program to be had and 34 different staff camps to visit.

It would be a real achievement indeed to visit every camp but many of us don't have the time. The PhilNews spent some of this week talking to some of the more seasoned staff on the Ranch to find out what their favorite staff camps are, and what makes a good camp.

"That's easy enough," said eight-year Training Center veteran Tim Carroll when faced with the question. "French Henry is my favorite backcountry camp, because it is absolutely beautiful, totally remote, and friendly year after year."

The answer of "French Henry" was extremely common. With Philmont's biggest mountain just a short hike a way, a rushing river, beautiful flowers and greenery, remnants of a mine long gone and a diverse and varied program—not to mention perhaps the premier porch on the Ranch—French was far and away the most common answer.

Close behind was its rival in the mining business: Cypher's Mine.

"I love the mine tour and the stomp and stuff," said Ranger Trainer Kirsten Anderson. "The stomp is one of my favorite things in the backcountry."

Backcountry Manager Julie Vigil, a 23-season veteran, also enjoys French, as well as Baldy Town, due to her love of the North Country.

Anderson was quick to point out a close second for her is the homesteading camp Crooked Creek.

"I think it's one of the most beautiful camps and it's a little more remote and they have fun animals there," she said. "And the cabin's really cool."

Anderson's sister, Carrie—a survivor of nine mountain treks, a R.O.C.S. program and the inaugural Trail Crew trek—has the exact same set of favorite camps as her sister. Though she also quickly points

out that she, "liked them first!"

Veteran Ranger Trainer extraordinaire is part of another large crowd which enjoys flocking to Fish Camp. He says not only for the titular program, but also because he likes to play Waite Phillips when he visits.

Though perhaps Director of Program Mark Anderson and

Backcountry Manager Gene Schnell echo the most accurate sentiments when they say, "I like them all."

"I don't have a favorite staff camp," said six-time LDS Chaplain Elder David Wilson. "We all have different interests. It depends on the day."

As Wilson says, what makes a staff camp good varies, depending on your personal interests. Whereas one can appreciate the quick hike to Abreu, others may enjoy the remote and beautiful excursion required to reach Black Mountain. I might enjoy seeing an interpretive staff play the roles of people long gone from this earth, while you might appreciate the comfort and familiarity of seeing blue shirts talking about the here



and now. And varied programs mean there's something for everyone.

The overwhelming consensus for what makes a staff camp great, however, is the staff.

"Every staff camp deals with daily confusion, excessive work, isolation, and the kind of drama that makes most reality shows look like children at play," said Carroll. "The difference between a good camp and a bad one is that a bad camp will use this as an excuse to shut you out, while a good one will use it as an excuse to invite you in."

Kirsten Anderson agrees.

"I'd say if you have really awesome and really energetic people, that will make the camp awesome no matter what the program is."

Fish Camp, French Henry and Cypher's Mine come out as the most common favorites, but every camp has its fans. If you're looking for a place to fall in love with, these are merely suggestions for where to start. The best way to be sure, though, is to go out, explore and find a welcoming staff, a fun program, and place so beautiful you don't want to leave.

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Baldy Mountain - a major attraction for North Country staff camps.

Photo by: Conrad Stoll, Ranger

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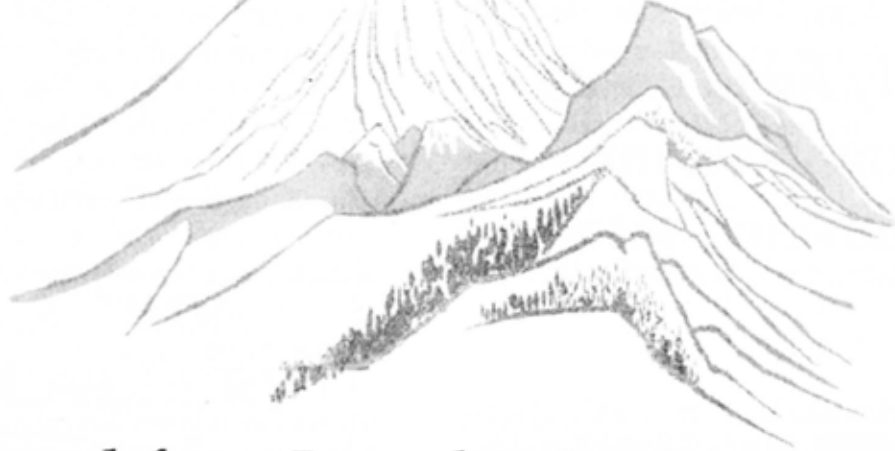


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Killer on the Road

By Jennifer Peters

The American West is full of legends about outlaws and vigilantes and Cimarron is no different. The history of Cimarron began long before Waite Phillips settled here. The Old Mill Museum (formerly Aztec Mill) and St. James Hotel (formerly Lambert's Inn) had been around for half a century before Phillips purchased land in New Mexico. This "wild" and "unruly" town had more excitement than a classic John Wayne Western. *The Monster of Palo Flechado* by Calico Jones, tells the true story of one of America's first documented serial killers from Elizabethtown, New Mexico located just a few miles outside of Eagle's Nest.

Charles Kennedy lured unsuspecting trappers,

"Kennedy lured unsuspecting trappers, miners and travelers into his home..."

miners and travelers into his home and killed them and sold all of their belongings. All told Kennedy murdered at least 40 people and some estimates place that number even higher. The Palo Flechado Pass was an ideal place to commit murder and dispose of bodies. Missing settlers and prospectors were easily overlooked in those days when privacy was less of a luxury and more of a requirement. The local Apache Indians became a scapegoat for some of the missing or dead.

Higinia, Kennedy's wife and a Ute Indian, had been taken from her tribe and forced into slavery. Kennedy and Higinia had at least one child, a son named Samuel. Higinia's family and other Native Americans and Mexicans in the area had been suspicious of Kennedy for some time. When her brother came searching for her in late September 1870, Kennedy shot him and put him in the cellar. A Jewish

peddler was the last guest to "stay" at the inn.

The peddler sat with the family for dinner and inquired about the possibility of encountering any Indians in the area. Kennedy's son replied, "Can't you smell the one papa hid in the cellar?" Kennedy shot the peddler and swung the small boy headfirst against the stone fireplace. He tossed their bodies under the house and threatened to kill his wife if she ever said anything about it again.

She waited until Kennedy was deep in a drunken sleep and slowly put out the fire and climbed to her freedom through the chimney. She stumbled into Johnny Pearson's Saloon bloody and shaking and collapsed in the doorway.

Clay Allison, the legendary Gunslinger, helped her to a chair, where she began detailing her horrific life with Charles Kennedy.

Allison, the quintessential vigilante, and a mob of men rode to Kennedy's house, broke down the door and woke Charles Kennedy from his inebriated slumber.

On October 3, 1870, Kennedy had his initial hearing before a judge and was remanded without bail until a grand jury could be convened. While awaiting his day in court, Kennedy hired a lawyer, M.W. Mills, who immediately went to work trying to get his defendant acquitted. After rumors began circulating that Kennedy would not be brought to justice for his


"He tossed their bodies under the house..."

terrible crimes, Allison and his mob charged the jail and began an impromptu trial on October 6, 1870.

Mills allegedly tried to influence some of the jury members during the trial. When the jury deadlocked, Allison and the rowdy mob decided that they were not going to let Kennedy get away that easy. They tied him to a horse and dragged him around until

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his head fell off. Kennedy's body was buried in Elizabethtown, but his head was put on a stake outside Johnny Pearson's Saloon.

Allison threatened a similar fate for any man that removed the head and it stayed for a few months until one night it mysteriously disappeared. It has been theorized that Henry Lambert, the barkeep at Johnny Pearson's Saloon, buried the head inside a horse corral. Higinia quietly departed and went back to her tribe. Allison passed away 17 years later in a drunken driving incident when he fell under his wagon.

Disclaimer: Records for this time support the general facts of the life of Charles Kennedy and his family, but some of the details may not be completely accurate.

If anyone would like more information on Charles Kennedy or would like to read the complete version of Calico Jones's *The Monster of Palo Flechado*, go to The Old Mill Museum and ask for Buddy Morse. He can tell you anything you want to know about Cimarron and he is a really interesting person to talk to.

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Oil Wagon Rides Again

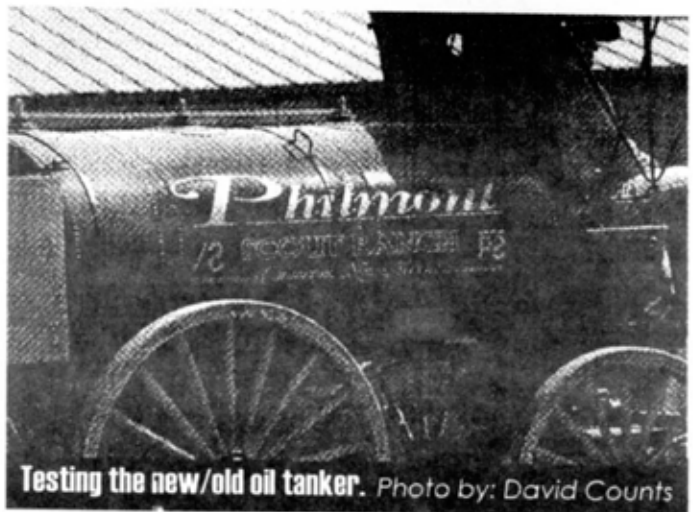
By Robert Griffin

For decades, an old tanker wagon sat rusty behind the Kit Carson Museum, unnoticed and unwanted.

That changed in the winter of 2005, when Philmont went to work fixing up the carriage, which probably once belonged to Waite Phillips.

The wagon was the type used to deliver petroleum from door to door, much as the Waite Phillips Oil Company would have done. Philmont Compliance Manager Dave Kennecke speculates Phillips probably used the vehicle in the ranch's early days to deliver oil to the various residences around the property.

Now with a fresh coat of paint and some new woodwork, the old tanker appears as a gorgeous Philmont horse-drawn carriage. Former staff member Rusty Lowe brought out horses for the wagon, and Philmont General Manager Keith Galloway, as well as his wife Lois, took the carriage for a test drive Tuesday in front of the Administration Building. Galloway was preparing for a ride through Cimarron for Wednesdays Fourth of July Parade.



Testing the new/old oil tanker. Photo by: David Counts

At the top of Philmont

By Robert Griffin

Once a haven for those seeking fortune in the hills, now a giant monument to the tests of Scout-ing High Adventure, Baldy Mountain is perhaps the ultimate experience for those seeking Philmont's backcountry.

Baldy combines a rich history with beautiful sights found nowhere else on the Ranch, along with a huge test of one's hiking metal.

Baldy experienced a massive gold rush that began in the late 1800s and limped into the Phillips era. It sat alone for decade, towering over Philmont, which, at the time, called Clear Creek Mountain (later Mount Phillips) its tallest peak. Then, in 1963, Norton Clapp, the executive vice president of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America,

gave Philmont the money to purchase the mountain the 10,000 surrounding acres, making 12,441 feet Philmont's new highest point.

Hiking Baldy provides plenty of adventure, with several distinctly different trails to experience and three fabulous staff camps to visit. Best of all, this towering beast is still merely a day hike—though taking time to camp out and enjoy sunrise in the area is not a bad idea.

To begin your ascent of the mountain, start at the Maxwell turnaround. Get there by heading east on highway 64 until you reach Ute Park. From Ute, turn north down the Express Ranch road. You'll pass through a gate, held closed by a chain over a nail, and shortly after you'll reach the turnaround.



Hikers coming off Baldy. *Photo by: Conrad Stoll, Ranger*

The Maxwell turnaround is just about a mile and a half from one of Philmont's most beautiful camps, Miranda. A mountain man rendezvous camp with black powder rifles and beautiful views of Baldy from its many meadows, Miranda is a worthy stop while making your trip.

If you're merely looking to quickly ascend the mountain and get down in a timely manner, the best way to go up is through Baldy Town. At just ten miles from base to summit, this route spends most of its time on a road, until you reach the camp, and heads straight up the mountain.

Baldy Town was once a bustling mine town, and during your ascent you'll find plenty of old mine equipment, shafts and the rusted remnants of a community long gone. At 10,000 feet, you'll reach the commissary camp that now sits there, and you'll have a chance to visit their museum and take in the beautiful view it offers looking down the valley towards Ponil canyon.

Another trail which begins its ascent up the same face is through the Black Horse Mine. This route isn't much longer, coming in at about 6

miles to the summit, and is more lush and overgrown than the Baldy Town route. Black Horse begins at Miranda and heads upward. The trail follows the river for a time through a forest almost too lush to be in New Mexico, before beginning a series of large switchbacks. Along the trail during the switchbacks, you'll see abandoned buildings and mine equipment, as well as an amazing view of Touch-me-Not and the beautiful valley between the two 12,000 footers.

Another trail takes you through one of Philmont's favorite staff camps, French Henry, before heading up the steep back side of the mountain.

Follow the road towards Baldy Town, until you reach the trail to Ewell's Park. Continue along this route, and you'll come into the beautiful mining camp famous for capturing the heart of many a visitor. It's approximately 4.5 miles to French from

the turnaround, but the hard part comes next. It's only another 2.5 miles from French to the summit, but they're some of the hardest miles on the ranch.

The trail, even lushier than the Black Horse route, heads steeply up to Copper Park, a beautiful and quiet trail camp set in a meadow among the trees with Baldy towering above. The trail goes nicely from there, until you reach the tree line and begin your final ascent.

The tree line is much lower on the Copper Park trail than on the Black Horse or Baldy Town trail, but once the trees disappear, that's when the real difficulty of climbing the mountain starts. For more than 1,000 feet of climb on the north side and more than 600 feet on the south side the face of the mountain is made of very loose rock. Every step is made more difficult, as you will often find yourself sliding back a bit, and rock slides are not at all uncommon. The trail is also steep, and the high elevation doesn't make

things any easier.

Once you reach the top, however, you'll be treated to an amazing view, towering above everything Philmont to the south and east, and looking down on beautiful

"Every step is made more difficult, as you will often find yourself sliding back a bit..."

Eagle's Nest Lake far below to the northwest. Baldy tends to have high winds on top, but long-ago-built rock walls provide some relief, and a great place to eat lunch. At the time of this writing, in fact, there's even snow on top.

A new trail this summer provides yet another way to climb Baldy. The Order of the Arrow Trail Crew has spent the past three years constructing a new trail through Greenwood Canyon. Starting in Copper Park, this trail takes you off property on a long, sweeping route around the north side of Baldy to approach gradually from the east. Spending its time on solid ground above the tree line, it provides views of both the mountains to the east and Baldy itself, before making the easiest of all ascents from the saddle. Though significantly longer than any other route, it offers unparalleled scenery and a relatively simple ascent, while also requiring the hiker to experience the

Free Floating the Rio

By Margaret Hedderman



Photo by: Rory Chapman

You can still feel the flow of the river hours after crawling out, waterlogged, sun-burnt, and completely happy. Declare to the river “I am driftwood. Take me.” And float unencumbered by paddles in an inner-tube along the wild Rio Grande for a day or two.

Thirty minutes south of Taos on NM-68 is the blip of a town known as Pilar. It’s easy to miss, tucked away in the Rio Grande Gorge with only two businesses to mark its existence. Sun-bleached cottages and gnarled cottonwoods laze beside the river. With our car packed to the roof with inner-tubes, we turned right onto NM-570 and headed to the Orilla Verde Recreation Area.

Nestled between the Class IV rapids of the

“It’ll only take an hour and that’s if you stop to swim.” My famous last words. Six hours later we’re still floating down the Rio Grande – not that that’s a bad thing.

Taos Box and Racecourse, Pilar generally attracts rafters and kayakers, but Orilla Verde is a calm float with a little Class II whitewater action – nothing an inner-tube can’t handle.

Not five minutes into our trip we encountered the first batch of rapids. The term “rapids” is a bit of an overstatement. Extremely shallow and rocky, it was all we could do to keep our behinds from dredging the river bottom. My advice: buy the biggest inner-tube possible because 15-inchers don’t cut it.

Don’t feel like you have to cruise a yacht down the Rio Grande. A \$14 inner-tube from Silvas Tires in Taos will do you fine. Anything from a 16 to 20-inch will keep you happy and afloat. Though, don’t skimp and launch a pool-floatie from Wal-Mart. Sharp

The Torn Leaf

Submission by Rabbi Rachmiel Tobesman
haMaggid (The Storyteller)

Never ask a storyteller a question without expecting a story for an answer. I did not know what to write for this week's chaplain's column, but then I remembered a story about a verse in the Scriptures:

*Everyone that is called by My name, and whom I
have
created for My glory, I have formed him, I have made
him.^c
(Isaiah 43:7)*

It was summertime, a time for relaxation, and for restoring one's strength. A holy rabbi was spending some time with his son in the fields and forest outside their village. The two used to take long walks through the countryside, marveling at the beauty of G-d's world.

The fields were ripe with their golden harvest of wheat. The swollen sheaves swayed gently, promisingly, in the gentle breeze, swishing softly to and fro. It felt good to be alive!

They walked along in silence, enjoying the peace of the area, suddenly the father turned to his son, saying, and "Just look at the marvel of nature! See how G-d has a plan and a purpose for every single stalk of wheat, every puff of wind, the swaying of each blade of grass. Everything is included in G-d's overall master plan of creation! Is it not marvelous that One so exalted and mighty should consider every tiny, minute speck on this world?"

They continued along the country road, breathing in the fresh air, each one silent with his own thoughts. Soon they came to a forest and continued walking leisurely among the trees. Engrossed in his thoughts, the boy absent-minded plucked a leaf off a branch. He held the leaf in his hand and from time to time would unconsciously tear off a bit and throw it away.

His father noticed what he was doing and commented, "I don't understand how you can do something destructive like that without thinking.

Don't you know that even a leaf is part of creation, that has its purpose? Did I not just tell you how G-d guides the destiny of every tiny thing, even a leaf? Don't you realize that a leaf is also a living thing; it breathes and grows. Why is the 'I' of a leaf any different than the 'I' of a human being? To be sure, you can think and speak while it is only a plant. Still, just as you, a human being, have a task to fill in this world, so does this leaf have a purpose to accomplish during its lifetime on this world."

It is important to remember that "when G-d created the first human beings, He led them around the Garden of Eden and said: 'Look at my works! See how beautiful they are. How Excellent! For you sake, I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world: for, if you do, there will be no one else to repair it.'"

(Kohelles Rabbah on 7:13)

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314F PASEO DEL PUEBLO NORTE

Introducing Father Mike Hanifin

Father Mike has been a scout since the age of eight and is an Eagle Scout and a Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow. Father Mike first came to Philmont in 2001 when he attended the Scouting in the Catholic Church at the Philmont Training Center during Relationships Week. When the content of the course changed in 2004 Father Michael again attended the same course during the Relationships Week. In 2006 he returned to Philmont for a third time to be an advisor on the St. George Trek along with Father Gerard Gentleman. They led a crew of 10 participants ages 15 to 17 years old from all over the United States. This year Father Mike was invited to be a staff Catholic Chaplain from June 26 to July 27. He and Father Gerard Gentleman reunited to serve Philmont as Catholic Scout Chaplains.

Father Mike is a priest of the Diocese of Orange in Southern California. He was ordained a Roman Catholic Priest on October 3, 1987 and since 2001 is the founding Pastor of Santa Clara de Asís Catholic Church in Yorba Linda, California. Father Mike is the Diocesan Catholic Scout Chaplain for the Boys Scouts and the Girl Scouts. He is Chaplain for the Knights of Columbus Council 13311, the Ancient Order of Hibernians and the First Friday Friars. Father Mike holds a BA in Religious Studies, a Master of Divinity Degree, Masters of Arts in Theology, a Masters of Science in Marriage, Family and Child Counseling and also has Pupil Personnel Services Credential in School Counseling.

Father Mike is a member of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting since 2002 and he currently serves as the Chairman of the Chaplains' Committee. This year Father Mike celebrates twenty years as a Roman Catholic Priest and is on a five month sabbatical. This sabbatical allowed him to spend a month working as a Chaplain at Philmont Scout Ranch. He is thrilled to be working with such a fine staff of Chaplains of many faiths here at Philmont.

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The World News

AFI Names 100 Greatest Films (6/26)

The American Film Institute revealed its list of the 100 greatest films of the last 100 years, after narrowing down a list from 400 nominees. *Citizen Kane* made its place at the No. 1 spot, where it tends to sit on such lists. It was followed by *The Godfather*, *Casablanca*, *Raging Bull*, and *Singing in the Rain* to round out the top five. The list was intended as a tenth anniversary celebration of the "100 Years. . . 100 Movies" list and was created with the polling of more than 1,500 experts from the film community. Eagle Scout Steven Spielberg led all directors with five films on the list: No. 8 *Schindler's List*, No. 24 *E.T. the Extra Terrestrial*, No. 56 *Jaws*, No. 66 *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, and No. 71 *Saving Private Ryan*. Good friend George Lucas had two films on the list, No. 13 *Star Wars: A New Hope* and No. 62 *American Graffiti*. The former placed 22 spots higher than the film which beat it out for best picture in 1977, No. 35 *Annie Hall*.

Democratic Hopefuls Hold Debate (6/28)

The presidential hopefuls of the Democratic party held a debate at Howard University on Thursday. Speaking at a historically black college to a mostly black crowd, the candidates formed a diverse group. Senator Barack Obama is hoping to be the first black president, while Senator Hillary Clinton hopes to be the first woman. The group also included a Hispanic, and much of the discussion focused on race relations; especially a recent Supreme Court decision which effectively increases segregation in schools, something Clinton said "turned back the clock on history." Time was also spent on the war in Iraq and the conditions of black Americans. The crowd openly showed overwhelming support for Obama.

Iraq Experiences Worst Quarter of Violence (6/28)

Five GIs were killed in Baghdad when a bomb exploded near an American patrol Thursday. Their deaths brought the number of deaths on the month to 99, and the number of deaths over the past three months to 329, making in the deadliest quarter since the war began. It surpasses the 316 killed from November 2004 to January 2005. The blast came from a large bomb buried underground, followed by small arms fire.

Ex-Governor and CEO Sentenced to Jail (6/28)

Former Alabama Governor Don Siegelman was sentenced to more than seven years in jail, Thursday, on convictions of bribery, mail fraud and conspiracy to get elected. He was joined by cohort and former HealthSouth CEO Richard Scrushy, who was sentenced to nearly as long. Both men must serve 500 hours of community service after release, and both must pay hefty fines and restitutions. The presiding judge recognized that Siegelman's good deeds far outweighed his bad and limited the sentence, which could have been as many as 15 years. However, he also recognized that the former Governor's actions had caused distrust in state politicians, and that an example would have to be made.

Investigation Finds Afghan Citizens Killed (6/29)

A NATO investigation into the casualties of an air strike in civilian areas of Afghanistan found that 62 Taliban had been killed, along with 45 civilians. The fighting has taken place in an area where Taliban members are hiding among civilians for protection, and continues even after the probe. Afghan officials are notably angered over the deaths.

Sports

NBA Draft (6/29)

Few surprises came in the 2007 NBA Draft on Friday. The Portland Trailblazers made a tough decision by taking Ohio State center Greg Oden with the first overall pick. The Blazers passed up Oden's fellow freshman and phenomenon Kevin Durant of Texas, and Durant was quickly taken by the Seattle Super Sonics at No. 2. The Sonics also traded aging shooter Ray Allen to the Boston Celtics for the No. 5 pick in the draft, which they used to draft Georgetown forward Jeff Green. With the No. 6 pick, the Milwaukee Bucks selected Chinese forward Yi Jianlian. Jianlian had previously provided a list of cities he would not play in, based on a lack of Chinese population, and Milwaukee was among them.

First Round Summary: 1) Portland: Greg Oden, C (OSU); 2) Seattle: Kevin Durant, F (UT); 3) Atlanta: Al Horford, F (UF); 4) Memphis: Mike Conley, G (OSU); 5) Boston (for Seattle): Jeff Green, F (GU); 6) Milwaukee: Yi Jianlian, F (China); 7) Minnesota: Corey Brewer, G (UF); 8) Charlotte: Brandan Wright, F (UNC); 9) Chicago: Joakim Noah, F (UF); 10) Sacramento: Spencer Hawes, C (UW); 11) Atlanta: Acie Law, G (TA&M); 12) Philadelphia: Thaddeus Young, F (GT); 13) New Orleans: Julian Wright, F (KU); 14) L.A. Clippers: Al Thornton, F (FSU); 15) Detroit: Rodney Stuckey, G (EWU); 16) Washington: Nick Young, G (USC); 17) New Jersey: Sean Williams, C (BC); 18) Golden State: Marco Belinelli, G (Italy); 19) L.A. Lakers: Javaris Crittenton, G (GT); 20) Miami: Jason Smith, F (CSU); 21) Philadelphia: Dequan Cook, G (OSU); 22) Charlotte: Jared Dudley, F (BC); 23) New York: Wilson Chandler, F (DePaul); 24) Phoenix: Rudy Fernandez, G (Spain); 25) Utah: Morris Almond, G (Rice); 26) Houston: Aaron Brooks, G (ORE); 27) Detroit: Aaron Afflalo, F (UCLA); 28) San Antonio: Tiago Splitter, F (Brazil); 29) Phoenix: Alando Tucker, F (Wisc); 30) Philadelphia: Petteri Koponen, G (Finland)

NHL Selects 2007 Hall of Fame Class (6/29)

Mark Messier, the NHL's second all-time leading scorer, led the class of new Hall of Famers selected Friday. He was joined by Ron Francis, fourth all-time, Al MacInnis, third all-time among defensemen, three-time Stanley Cup winner and former Devil Scott Stevens, and former executive Jim Gregory. It was a relatively easy selection for the committee, as all five nominees were in their first year of eligibility and were all obvious choices.

Two Hitters Reach Milestones on Same Day (6/28)

Blue Jay Frank Thomas, proving to be effective once again years after being declared over-the-hill, hit a three-run shot off the Twins' Carlos Silva in the first inning Thursday. The home run was the 500th of his career, making him the 21st player in major league history to join the elite club. Thomas will likely not be the last to join the club this season, however, as four other players are close to the number. Only three times in major league history have two players hit their 500th home runs in the same season. This year will likely also see two players reach 600 home runs, becoming only the fifth and sixth members of that club, and Barry Bonds break the all-time home run record. The home run was followed in the evening by Houston's Craig Biggio getting his 3,000th career hit. The hit, a single, came at home against Colorado, and Biggio was thrown out trying to make it a double. He also collected two more hits in the game, moving him to No. 26 on the all-time list.

Wrestler's Murder and Suicide Reported on Wikipedia Early (6/29)

Fourteen hours before police found the bodies of former WWE wrestler Chris Benoit and his family, the Wikipedia page for Benoit reported that he had killed his wife. On Friday, someone posted on the site an apology, saying he was fooling with the page—which can be edited by anyone—and the whole thing was just a terrible coincidence.

78th All-Star Roster Decided (7/2)

Fan voting ended for the MLB All-Star Game on Monday, deciding the starting rosters for both leagues. Controversial Giants slugger Barry Bonds overcame a large deficit to start his 12th career All-Star game and 14th overall. He said afterwards it would likely be his last. Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez led all players with 3.89 million votes, and former Seattle teammate Ken Griffey Jr., of Cincinnati, led all NL players with 2.99 million votes. It will be Griffey's thirteenth career All-Star game, all as a starter. The managers of the game later selected pitchers and reserves.

NL Starters: C Russell Martin, L.A.; 1B Prince Fielder, MIL; 2B Chase Utley, PHI; 3B David Wright, NY; SS Jose Reyes, NY; OF Barry Bonds, SF; OF Carlos Beltran, NY; OF Ken Griffey Jr., CIN

AL Starters: C Ivan Rodriguez, DET; 1B David Ortiz, BOS; 2B Placido Polanco, DET; 3B Alex Rodriguez, NY; SS Derek Jeter, NY; OF Vladimir Guerrero, LA; OF Magglio Ordonez, DET; OF Ichiro Suzuki, SEA

Bonds Tracker (6/29)

Giants' outfielder Barry Bonds hit his 750th career home run Friday in San Francisco. The shot came in the eighth inning off of Arizona pitcher Livan Hernandez. Bonds is now just five home runs from tying Hank Aaron for the all-time record.

Baseball Stats

American League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Boston	50	31	0.617		Won 1	4--6
Toronto	40	42	0.488	10.5	Won 1	5--5
NY Yankees	38	41	0.481	11	Won 1	3--7
Baltimore	36	45	0.444	14	Won 1	6--4
Tampa Bay	33	48	0.407	17	Lost 8	2--8

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Cleveland	50	32	0.61		Won 5	8--2
Detroit	47	33	0.588	2	Won 1	6--4
Minnesota	42	39	0.519	7.5	Lost 2	6--4
Chicago Sox	35	44	0.443	13.5	Lost 1	6--4
Kansas City	35	48	0.422	15.5	Won 1	6--4

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
LA Angels	51	31	0.622		Won 1	6--4
Seattle	45	34	0.57	4.5	Lost 1	8--2
Oakland	42	40	0.512	9	Lost 1	3--7
Texas	34	48	0.415	17	Lost 1	6--4

National League

East	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
NY Mets	46	35	0.568		Lost 2	7--3
Atlanta	43	40	0.518	4	Lost 2	5--5
Philadelphia	42	41	0.506	5	Lost 1	4--6
Florida	38	45	0.458	9	Lost 1	3--7
Washington	33	49	0.402	13.5	Lost 1	3--7

Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
Milwaukee	48	34	0.585		Won 1	7--3
Chicago Cubs	41	40	0.506	6.5	Won 2	9--1
St. Louis	37	42	0.468	9.5	Won 2	5--5
Houston	36	47	0.434	12.5	Won 2	5--5
Pittsburgh	35	47	0.427	13	Lost 2	4--6
Cincinnati	31	51	0.378	17	Lost 1	3--7

West	W	L	Pct.	GB	STRK	L10
San Diego	47	34	0.58		Won 1	6--4
LA Dodgers	43	36	0.566	1	Won 2	5--5
Arizona	46	38	0.548	2.5	Lost 3	4--6
Colorado	40	43	0.482	8	Won 1	2--8
San Francisco	35	45	0.438	11.5	Won 2	3--7



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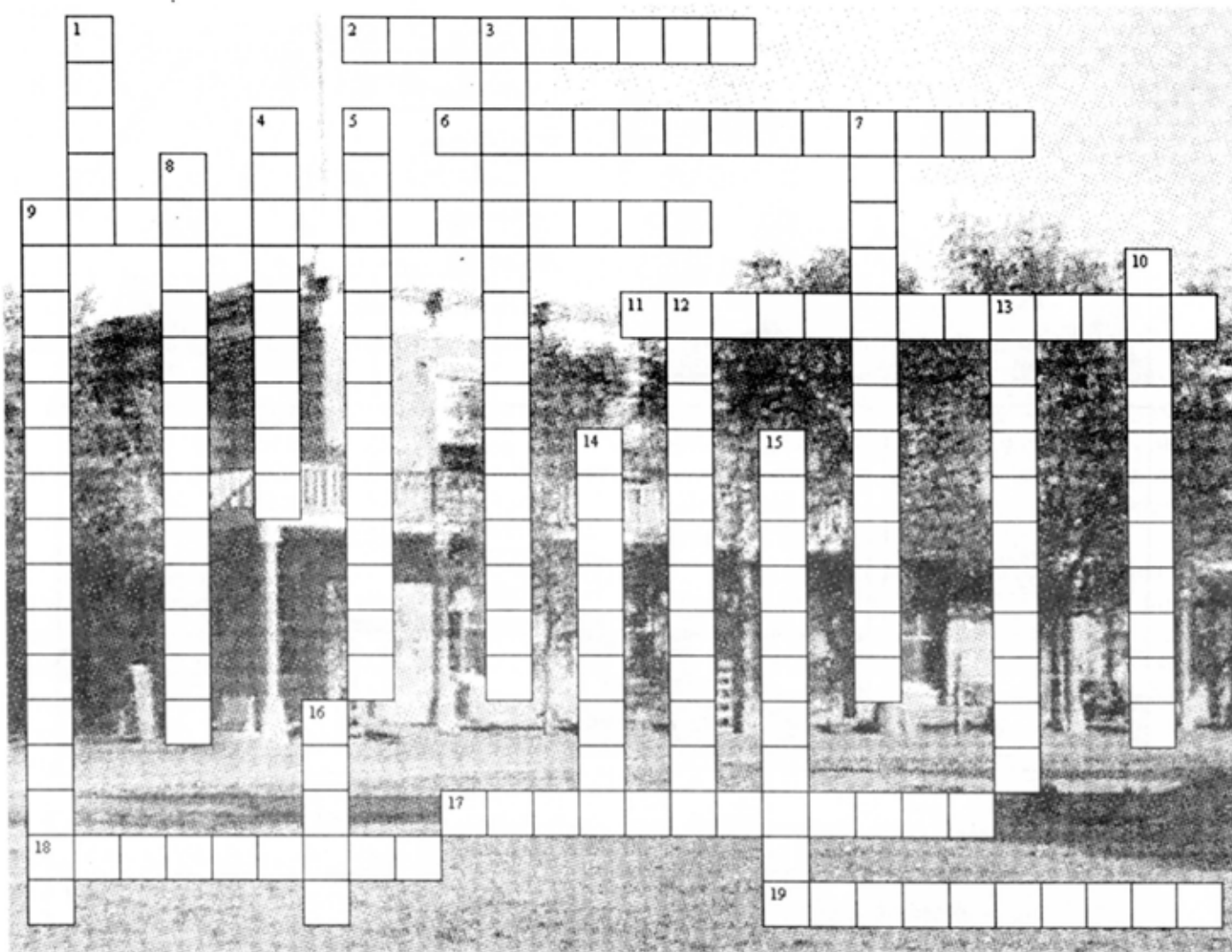
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ACROSS

- 2 He was a little too heavy for his noose.
- 6 Early 20th century oil barren, real estate mogul and philanthropist.
- 9 Went on to marry into the Phillips family.
- 11 This man owned much of this land before the Phillipses and lived in the Galloway home.
- 17 "The Deuce"
- 18 Double-H Director
- 19 Full-time backcountry manager.

DOWN

- 1 Twin of Philmont's benefactor, died at 19.
- 3 This massive land owner can be found in the Villa dining room.
- 4 Director of the Philmont Training Center
- 5 His murder sparked the Colfax County War
- 7 Married when she was only 15 and got alot of land for it.
- 8 General Manager of the Ranch.
- 9 Wounded while fighting with Pueblo Indians, he fled to mexico and left his land grant behind.
- 10 Unit 41
- 12 First Chief Scout of the BSA has a library at Philmont in his memoriam
- 13 Founder of the Boy Scouts.
- 14 Philmont's comptroller.
- 15 This 1949 ranger is likely Philmont's most famous alumni.
- 16 Helen Jane Phillips's brother.

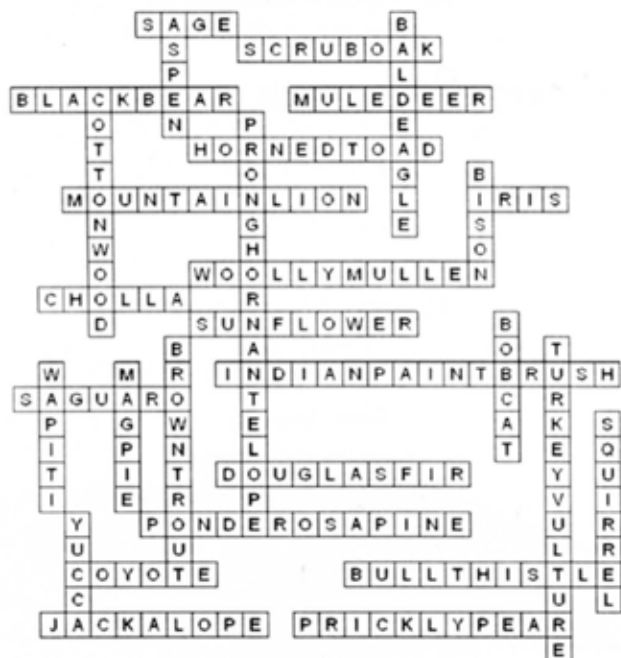
RECYCLE

Don't be mean. Be GREEN. Recycle your old Philnews.

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	5		4		2		9	
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Last Week's Crossword



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		1		9	3		4	6
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	4						5	9
2	7		1	3		9		
	1	8		2				3
		4	7		5			

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All photos must be from 2007 and related to Philmont.
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 certificate to the Trading Post or Texas Red's.

Good luck!

Deadline: August 1st

Philmont Photo Contest 2006 Entry Form

Name _____

Department _____

Photo Title _____

Category (Circle One):

- Landscape
 - Animal Wildlife
 - Staff Activity
 - Sunrise & Sunset
 - Humor (no vulgarity)
 - Digital Creations
 - Storms & Rainbows
 - Plant Wildlife
 - Camper Activity
 - Double H
 - Black & White
- (One entry per category.)**

Bring or send your photos to the Activities Office.
 Each photo must be labeled with your name, depart-
 ment and the category in which you are entering it.
**No DIGITAL ALTERATIONS (except for Digital
 Creations category).**

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- Urraca my Mesa.
- Do your legs hurt? 'cause you have been hiking through my mind all day.
- You must work at Fish Camp, 'cause you've got me hooked.
- Do you know the location of the nearest AED, 'cause you just made my heart stop.
- Excuse me, I may be lost... can I get directions to where ever you are going?
- Does Philmont have a camp for astronauts, 'cause you're out of this world.
- Hey I just realized you look just like my next Phil-Fling.
- Do you have your first aid kit? 'cause I scraped my knee when I fell for you.



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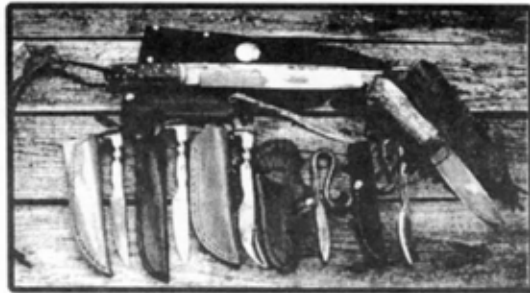
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Inspiration Point

Submission by Jacob Newhouse

Well, let me tell you about how beautiful it is to stand on a mountain. The view reaches out over rolling hills and plains. Huge trees appear as small as ants. The sky is a never ending playground of rolling white plumes. You can truly see your measure in the world from atop the massive mountain just under your feet.

However, the march up the trail is more like a test. The elevation takes your breath from you at every step. The summer sun rains down on you with rays of fire. The trail is course and rock laden, making each step an unbearable burn. You gain the will to survive in every climb to the top.

But once you reach that last step and gaze upon nature's fine craftsmanship, the awe of Inspiration Point hits you like an angel appearing before your eyes. The illusion of distance becomes disorienting. The euphoria of achievement is warm to the soul. The breeze over the mountain refreshes the sweaty body, and the sun's hot rays no longer burn the skin.

Then, from the far side of the mountain you see dark skies. Creeping towards you like the tide; those tiny little steps that let you believe you still have time. So you stay in the view of the world below taking in the essence of its beauty. All the while the dark clouds slowly encompass the mesa.

Then you see the first signal of warning! Lightening crashes into the ground some miles away, and it's easy to say you can still get down. Another bolt strikes the ground, and it's closer, and you feel the sense of danger, but camp is just down the hill. Then bang! the lightening hits less than a mile away from you. The hair on your neck stands up as it strikes. A tingle passes through your body and the notion of fear becomes clearly apparent. Finally, you travel down the path to the campsite to tell the world how you were inspired at inspiration point!

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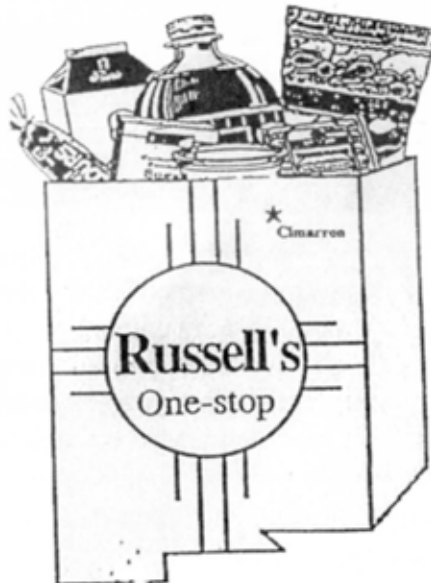
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Thoughts from French Henry

Submission by Steven A. Hirsch

Photo by: Conrad Stoll, Ranger

Time comes and goes: From past to present, present to the future. Already close to half of our Philmont experience has elapsed. I see in a not so distant future the call of civilization, with its rigid schedules, formalities and a myriad of other things.

From where I sit, I can see the romance of a past civilization, in the way of old cars, rusty pipes and broken bottles. "Artifacts" is what the collectors or person of older sentiment would call it. I prefer "trash." The tracks of the workers and even the purpose of these mine cars have all faded away. Looking through this rubbish, I am filled with an acute emptiness, one that draws me to explore other, deeper forms of this phenomenon.

Only at the back of our mine (French Henry) can I feel a most complete primordial emptiness. There is no light for my eyes to see, nor sound for my ears to hear. My body seems numb, floating in a sea of darkness.

This nothingness, I find, is avoided at all costs in our civilized world. Why just sit there in gentle contemplation when you can have the TV on? Why would you walk in the morning in silence, when you could have a radio on?

At my academic home in Boston during the late evenings, when the usual drunks are out of sight, you can catch the stoplights at just the right time to

experience complete silence. I have had entire conversations die because of this phenomenon, my compadres spooked like young deer. All of our amusements, tools and habits are tailored to escape from not only the physical absences of everything but even the remote idea of nothing.

I no longer look upon emptiness with apprehension. Just like all other things, or non-things in this case, it can be learned from. I feel that I, or some other part of my lineage, was born from nothing. To deny nothing or, even worse, cower from it, is to disregard part of my being. If you have the opportunity, especially in an urban environment to encounter silence, you should allow yourself to fully take in the experience. Such a primitive force is at risk of being eradicated by society, but with it we may be able to explore the foundations of our very being.

continued from pg. 10

wonder of French Henry.

The best advice that can be offered is to go a different way up than down, to always keep your hike fresh. I would suggest taking the Black Horse route up the mountain, as it's easier than Copper Park and plenty beautiful. If you have time, take the new Greenwood Canyon trail down, or simply head straight to Copper Park if you don't. If you're completely rushed, you can always go through Baldy Town to get down as quickly as possible. It's still different for most of the way and also still supremely beautiful.

The second set of advice would be to get out there and do it. Baldy offers some of the most rewarding challenges on the Ranch, and it's hard to call a summer complete without going after them once.

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continued from pg. 11

rocks and the occasional stick will puncture that puppy.

The rapids got better the farther down we floated. Longer stretches of deep, relaxed water lead to bigger, but more enjoyable whitewater. After five more hours of floating (and sometimes fording) the Rio Grande, we piled into our shuttle and drove back to the starting point.

The Orilla Verde Recreation Area has several campsites and day-use areas along the river. For a full-day adventure, you can start at the top at the Taos Junction Bridge, and drift nearly five miles to the Pilar Campsite, or pick your own route along the river. There is a \$3 day-use fee for each car that allows parking at all campsites. Or you can setup camp for \$7 a night and sleep to the Rio Grande's aqueous music.

Directions

From Philmont, head towards Taos. At the US-64 and NM-585 junction take a left towards Santa Fe. When you come into Taos, turn left on NM-68 and drive until you come to Pilar. Turn right on NM-570 just past the Far Flung Adventures office.

Cost

Inner-tube - \$14-\$20. Camping permit - \$7 (extra car \$3.) Day-use fee - \$3. Gas... Don't want to think about it.

Tips

For a full-day trip, start before 10:00 am. Storms come in during the late afternoon.

Wear protective foot-wear. Flip-flops don't count.

Be a strong swimmer. Although the river is rarely more than five feet deep, the current is swift.

Wear lots of sunscreen.



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"This is the way to Mr. Miyagi's house." - David Counts, NPS Manager.

Levi Unruh
Photo by: Cal Hiebsch



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