

College Avenue

volume four: issue two winter 2008

right to life or right to choose?

activists near and far keep fighting the good fight



beyond the music

the journey to stardom for local band

minor problem

you might use a fake id, but do you know the risks?

cyclists beware

ride by the rules or get schooled?

saving the poudre?

communities battle over the dam decision

new times!

9 am
Noon
9 pm

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news

sports

entertainment

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Associated Students of Colorado State University

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- RAM LEADERSHIP TEAM
- RAM ROAD TRIPS
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▶ photo by katie stevens



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letter from the editor



This has been a historic last few months, not only for our nation, but also for our local community. This recent election was a whirl of chaos and wonder with record voter turnouts overwhelming the polls, our community stood up for more than just candidates they supported.

In this issue, we wanted to focus on how people in our community have been involved locally, culturally, and politically. Just walking around campus the last few weeks has shown dozens of students working to register voters, and others were utilizing their free speech rights on the plaza while regular “Joe Six-Packs” were waving signs from street corners.

We want to hear what you have to say, too. Check out our post presidential election questions and let us know what you thought on Nov. 5, the day after election day. Tell us what you thought about our cover story on the issue of abortion.

In other news, *College Avenue* leaped over a major hurdle in September. We are now able to give our homeless publication permanent residence. Ladies and gentlemen, we have magazine racks. The 51 new metal racks will house thousands of copies all over campus. We will also continue to distribute our publications off campus.

Also, I’m very proud of our staff. They have worked their butts off to produce this issue for you, our readers and we hope you’re pleased. We appreciate our dedicated readers, and hope you stay tuned for our continual efforts to increase the quality of our publication. It has been amazing watching our magazine grow and I could not be more thrilled to be a part of it.

We look forward to hearing all of your feedback. Good luck for the rest of the semester.

Peace and love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Makayla J. Braden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Makayla Braden

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This is a tree



This is a urinal



Duh.
Know the difference

What would your mother say?
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COEXIST
WITH TRY NEIGHBOR



Party Tip #1:



**Pick up a FREE PARTY PACK
at
Off-Campus Student
Services!**

- T-Shirt (shown above)
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For any off-campus student!*

Learn how to have a fun, safe party without the police. Lots of goodies and useful facts!

**Off-Campus Student Services
Room 195, LSC
(970) 491-2248**

*One per household



- Throwing house Parties brochure
- List of City Ordinances
- Party Checklist
- Safe Ways Home Card
- Emergency # Card, Health center Info
- Flashlight

College Avenue

letters to the editor

as the magazine produced by csu students for the csu and fort collins community, we would like to extend an invitation to our readers to submit letters to the editor ranging from 50 to 150 words with your feedback on the magazine. this is your magazine, and we would like to know what you think of the content, design and anything else. all letters to the editor must be typed in a word document and attached to an e-mail, which should be sent to csmag@lamar.colostate.edu.

corrections

in "green is gold," volume 4 issue 1 of *College Avenue*, the eco-friendly fleets breakout box listed CU as having 42 vehicles that run on alternative fuels, but the correct number is 52 vehicles. in "windpower" volume 4 issue 1 of *College Avenue*, the definitions breakout box on page 42 got cut off. in "tiny green efforts" in volume 4 issue 1, in the 4th cutline, regularly is spelled regularly. *College Avenue* apologizes for these errors.

mission statement

College Avenue is a magazine produced and operated by CSU students. our mission is to serve the csu and fort collins community with innovative and engaging coverage of relevant issues. our staff is dedicated to providing balanced and accurate reporting as well as visually stimulating design and photography to a diverse audience. above all, we strive to maintain our integrity through professionalism and this standard of excellence.

on the cover

photo illustration by clint brewer, design by makayla braden

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CASUAL

DRESS

ACTIVE SPORT

SPORT SPECIALTY

HAUTE COUTURE

PRESCRIPTION

NON-PRESCRIPTION



WE HAVE

YOUR NEXT PAIR

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OR SNOW GOGGLES

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ROB MARTIN

a man,
his bike
and a
mission



photos by katie stevens

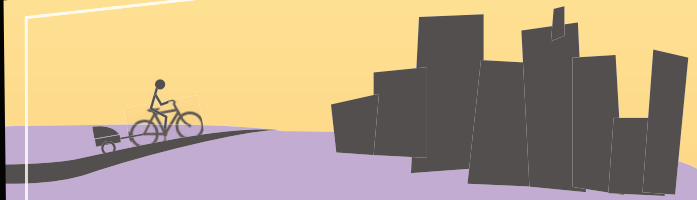
upon a stop in old town, rob martin gathers materials to recycle from inside mystic martini



Old Town is about as close to a bustling big city environment that can be seen in Fort Collins, its complete with the tallest buildings in town, the most stop and go traffic and even a bike courier cruising around the streets and alleys.

Rob Martin, a 1997 CSU graduate and owner of Rob's Bike Courier Service is bringing a new way for Fort Collins residents and business to get what they need from point A to point B.

Bike courier services have been around nearly as long as bikes have, but Fort Collins, at least for the past decade, has not had one. Martin recognized this in 2004 when he decided to start up his business.



"In 2004 there was no bike courier service," Martin said. "I knew I could do it, and I figured why not start a business doing something I love."

Since starting in January of 2005, Martin's business certainly has taken off. At first, he explained, it was slow, but after about a year Martin began to see a regular stream of clients and businesses taking advantage of his pedal-powered service.

"He'll go anywhere, any time," said Shelly Hill, a broker associate at the Group Inc. "I've seen him riding around even late at night, he's pretty tireless."

Each week Martin rides between 150 and 200 miles all over Fort Collins, but mostly downtown making different deliveries.

From T-shirts to bagels to bottles and recyclables, Martin carries it all from one place to another in his custom built trailer

strapped to the back of his bike. For Hill, Martin usually delivers description brochures to boxes outside of houses she sells. For Andrew Lockner, a graphic designer and owner of Designs By Andrew, Martin delivers practically everything.

"I send him out with boxes of stuff all the time," Lockner explained. "If it's not my bills or something leaving the state, I'll probably use Rob."

One major gig Martin has picked up is transporting glass bottles for the city's Brown Bottle Recycling Program. The program, a collaborative effort between Fort Collins and New Belgium Brewery, which started a few years back to help many bars and restaurants that weren't recycling their glass bottles.

Now, twice a week Martin rolls through the alleys of Old Town, collecting bottles, filling the bins in his cart and he rides them to New Belgium for drop off.

"He essentially collects the glass, brings it to New Belgium, and we send it along for recycling with the rest of our materials," said Bryan Simpson, New Belgium's Media Relations Director. "He's a model for the rest of us - if he can haul giant garbage bins filled with glass on the back of his bike - surely we all can make a better effort to commute by bike more."

Martin's business doesn't stop when the seasons change either. When old man winter rears his ugly head Martin layers up and heads out for another day of work.

"A lot of people justify driving once it starts getting cold out," Martin said. "All you have to do is wear warmer clothes and it can still be done."

"He kind of follows that old 'mail man's creed,'" Lockner said. "Ya know, no rain or snow will stop him."

With all the recycling and adrenaline fueled work Martin does, it might appear that he's attempting to start an eco-movement. In Martin's eyes however, he's just trying to set an example.

"We're too dependent on our cars," Martin explained. "I'm not out here doing this trying to get famous, I just want to show that a lot more can be done on a bike."

Whether he wanted to or not though, Martin has reached somewhat of a mini-celebrity status, especially in Old Town. Rob's business has already been featured on Channel 7 News and in *The Coloradoan*, and he also works about five hours each week at Full Cycle, a bike shop near the heart of Old Town.

"Everyone knows about him, who he is and what he's doing," Hill said. "You look in every direction and he's connected, he's been a downtown face for a while."

And with all the success and recognition Martin has been having, one might ask, if he's really making a difference. According to his clientele, everything about using his business is beneficial.

"First of all, it's really important for us to support local businesses like his. It keeps our money in the local economy at least a little while longer," Hill said. "On top of that, what he's doing is at least another step toward helping reduce our carbon footprint, it's all great."

Lockner agrees that it's important for small, local businesses to help each other out. "That's how we all grow and survive. I couldn't leave my office and do what he does for me at that price," Lockner said.

So, with business booming, it seems like the next logical step would be expansion. While Martin acknowledged the idea, he indicated that for now, because he is building his business on his own, it might take a little longer. However, with the increasing trend to "go green" it might not take as long.

"One day I will have four or five people doing runs for me regularly," he said. "I just have to grow slow because I am building this business from the ground up with not much capital."

His customers mentioned that not only would they like to

see Rob's Bike Courier Service grow, but thought it would be quite possible.

"With today's economy, he'd definitely be able to expand and stay successful," Lockner said.

For now though, Martin will continue to saddle up each morning and roll out into another day, trying to set an example of what one guy can do with his bike.

"Anyone doing business to business trade here in town could greatly benefit from Rob's service," Simpson said. "He can move through the city at about the same rate as a motorized vehicle yet by doing it on bike he is cutting down on congestion, pollution and global warming. Buy that guy a beer." ■ ^{Ca}

SERVICES

basic bike delivery services

saving you time, money, and a car trip while getting it there with care!

- multiple boxes, drawings, mail, up to 80 lbs
- monthly billing and regular scheduled runs available

price: \$5-\$10 within city limits

recycle runs

- cardboard/paperboard
- computers (towers, monitors, etc)
- batteries (car, phone, household)
- paper (junk mail, office paper, magazines)
- co-mingled recyclables (glass, plastic, cans, etc)
- weekly or monthly pick-ups can be scheduled.

price: \$15-\$25 within city limits
add'l \$5 for computer monitors and car batteries

at-home flat repairs

in an effort to help people use their bikes, we can come to your place and fix those pain-in-the-butt flats.

price: \$10 flat repair, \$5-\$10 trip within city limits

bike towing

have a hard time getting your bike to the shop? with our larger bike trailer, we can safely haul your bike to and from your local shop.

price: \$10-\$15 per trip (discounts for round trip)
- information courtesy of rob martin's website



RamRide Overhaul

where have all the rams gone?

It's almost 1 a.m. and you need to go home after a night of fun, but you can't drive home because you had a drink. Instead of driving, you do what many Rams do and call RamRide. The only problem now is finding the patience to wait a couple hours in order to be picked up. This wait is not uncommon. Some patrons have even waited for three hours for a ride home. So why do patrons wait so long?

"This semester's been rough," Erica Holtzman said. "When we have three hour waits, patrons threaten to drive home drunk and that's on our own conscience."

Holtzman, a junior biology major and director of RamRide says the wait times are due to the lack of volunteers this semester.

Last year, the age for volunteer drivers was lowered from 21 to 18. While Holtzman is happy that the age was lowered to enable more people to volunteer, the volunteer numbers have been fluctuated this semester. To be fully staffed all year, the program only needs a total of 200 volunteers.

"If every student volunteered once a year, we would always be overstaffed," Holtzman said. "I don't think that's a lot to ask."

RamRide is an ASCSU organization that says their program provides patrons with a "safe and nonjudgmental ride home" for CSU students. The program is allocated \$85,231 per year by ASCSU and \$66,000 goes toward the cost of rental cars from Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

RamRide's worst night thus far this semester saw only four cars of the 15 RamRide rents being driven on a Saturday night, which left only two dispatchers in the office to field incoming calls. RamRide not only lost money, but more importantly, patrons to take home.

"The first three weekends (of the semester) we were calling our friends (to volunteer)," Holtzman said.

Due to nights like this, RamRide developed an emergency volunteer list. The list of 15 contacts includes friends, repeat volunteers and ASCSU members. Fifteen people is enough to send out six or seven cars for the night, plus filling dispatch.

"It's when the groups show up, that's what kind of saves us," said Seth Walter, a senior political science and theater major who has volunteered for four years with RamRide. On the few weekends RamRide sees these groups, it's the fraternities,



for the fourth consecutive night, ramride has had all 15 cars out on the road, ushering riders safely home. no keys were left on their hooks friday, oct. 3.

photos by katie

sororities, sports teams and other school organizations who show up to be designated drivers, navigators, and dispatch for the night.

When drivers go out for the night, it isn't uncommon for them to hear from patrons that they swear they will volunteer as a way to say thank you. According to Holtzman, about 50 percent of them actually do volunteer, which she said helps a lot.

Recently, RamRide received GPS systems from Best Buy, thanks to Jeff Elliot, a senior liberal arts major and an ASCSU member who worked at Best Buy last year. According to Holtzman, if a Best Buy employee volunteers 40 hours, the company will donate \$1,000 to that nonprofit organization. Since Elliot volunteered 80 hours with RamRide, Best Buy donated \$2,000. With that money, and \$2,800 from RamRide, they purchased 16 GPS systems, cases and service plans.

"The navigation systems make being a navigator really fun now," Walter said. He recalled that last year dispatch would call navigators to read them MapQuest directions, which often led to many wrong turns and increased waiting times.

The only solution to the lack of volunteers is, of course, more volunteers because the wait times frustrate volunteers, too.

“That’s the thing about two and a half hour waits, you get a lot more cancellations, which is a pain since we drive all the way out there.” Walter said.

If RamRide had more money in the budget, Holtzman would spend it on installing laptops for every car to allow dispatchers to send pickup information electronically. And eventually, she would like to see RamRide install a computer program that could track the location of each car, which would allow dispatch to assign pickup spots based on what car was closest; thus, lowering the wait time for everyone.

In addition to the new GPS systems, RamRide received two extra cars this year.

“Having two extra cars this year is nice,” said Mark Wilson, a junior history major and the associate director of RamRide. “But throwing money at the problem doesn’t solve anything.”

However, money is a problem, too, because any money raised by fundraising goes directly into RamRide’s endowment fund, which is essentially a high interest savings account. The money in the endowment is put toward their goal of being a separate entity from ASCSU and CSU. This may be a slow moving goal because the ASCSU budget is already constrained, so the only way for new products is through direct donations or a larger budget.

According to Holtzman, a \$4 student fee increase would be more than enough for RamRide to become independent and able to reach their goals.

Until then, sponsors and donors will still play a large role in the functionality of the program. Papa John’s provides pizza for volunteers every Thursday, and once a month IHOP treats volunteers to dinner before a night of driving. Since RamRide provides dinner to volunteers every night, the money left over after rental cars mostly goes toward food, which is usually \$115 per night. Nextel donated phones several years ago, many of which are damaged after continued use or have stopped working. After being promised new phones this summer by the corporation, RamRide has been calling every day (sometimes twice a day) asking when the phones will arrive. Their diligence was rewarded; new phones arrived in the middle of October.

RamRide operators have seen a surprising rise in volunteers, a phenomnon they hope will continue.

“We had to close the sign-ups for the rest of the semester because there were so many groups,” said Ian Krammer, an assistant director and a junior liberal arts major. “We’re signing people up for strictly next semester and community service individuals.”

Krammer had no reason for the rise in bodies willing to drive, navigate, and answer phones. Perhaps more patrons are keeping drunken promises and helping other partiers get home.

“If this semester is any sign for next semester, it’s going to be great,” Krammer said. ■ *Ca*

**editor’s note: katie stevens contributed to this article.*

get involved

fill out an application @
www.ramride.colostate.edu/apply.aspx

by the numbers

ride count: 70,420 (as of dec. 8, 2007)
record night: 403 (2007)
record weekend: 891 (feb. 7-9, 2007)

operation times:

thursday 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.
friday 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.
saturday 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

phone number:

970.491.3333



NoCo AIDS Project

spreading awareness, providing hope



photos by katie stevens

jeff basinger, executive director of the northern colorado aids project sits at his desk

In 1994, nine years after the initial diagnosis of HIV, Jeff Basinger found out that his t-cells had dropped below 200, which meant his HIV had progressed into AIDS. But Basinger wasn't going to support the fear that surrounded HIV and AIDS.

What he did support was making changes in his nutrition, exercise, and meditation without any sort of western medication. Instead he opted for eastern therapies like acupuncture, massage, nutritional therapy, and chiropractic care. After the news, it took Basinger a week to tell his younger sister and mother, but it took several years to tell his other siblings. Fortunately, his entire family and close friends support him, but he also knew at the time, he was under informed about HIV.

"I didn't immediately buy the death sentence routine that people were prescribing," Basinger said.

Now, working as the executive director of the Northern Colorado AIDS Project, Basinger helps others with the disease he's been fighting for 23 years. Before working at NCAP, he worked at the Western Colorado AIDS Project, both of which

are nonprofit organizations working to raise awareness and education about HIV, Human Immunodeficiency Virus and AIDS, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

"I actually was part of the advisory committee that started WCAP back in 1987," Basinger said. "At that time, all AIDS Projects' main functions were to help people die from AIDS and to help their families cope with that process."

Now, it's much different. According to the NCAP Web site, they're the only Ryan White-funded service organization in Northern Colorado. This funding emphasizes life-extending and saving services for those living with HIV and AIDS who are poor, reports the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"About 90 percent of our clients at NCAP are near or below federal poverty level," Basinger said. "HIV and AIDS in the United States is affecting the most marginalized, the most hidden of our population."

Gretchen Emick, a case manager and prevention specialist at NCAP, said they try to advocate for people living with HIV

"i didn't immediately buy the death sentence routine that people were prescribing."

- jeff basinger, executive director of noco aids project

and AIDS and help improve their quality of life living with the disease.

"The organization provides a two-fold assistance to people with HIV with cares such as rent, utilities, and food," Emick said.

In addition to providing financial assistance, the case managers and prevention staff help educate people. This includes counseling, confidential HIV and Hepatitis C testing, health care referrals, and supplies for safer sex and drug use.

However, the key to their operation is awareness. Not only does NCAP try to educate people coming into their facility, but people within the community itself, too. Their aim is to talk about the misperceptions, preventative measures and how HIV and AIDS are contracted, which their Web site states will "help reduce the spread and stigma of the disease."

According to the Colorado AIDS project Web site, HIV attacks a person's immune system. It is contracted through any type of unprotected sex (vaginal, oral or anal) or through sharing intravenous needles. If a woman is pregnant and HIV positive, she can pass it to her child in the womb, during labor or if the child drinks her breast milk. If infected with HIV, there's a 5 percent possibility they may not develop AIDS.

"A person is said to have AIDS when they develop one of several opportunistic infections, or he or she has a CD4 lymphocyte count of less than 200," the CAP Web site stated. "Common viruses, bacteria, protozoa or fungi that a normal immune system combats easily cause these infections. In a weakened immune system, these organisms can cause severe, life-threatening illnesses."

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment report that there are approximately 10,000 people living with HIV or AIDS, which is why education is necessary. NCAP participates in several events in the community, which includes booths at volunteer fairs, speaking on panels in classroom settings and they also started AIDS awareness campaigns on the Colorado State University campus.

"HIV is a global public health crisis that people need to realize is in our own backyard and we have the resources to help bridge the gap," Basinger said.

To continue to bridge the gap, on Dec. 1, NCAP plans to participate in events to support World AIDS Day on campus with Hartshorn Health Services. Lynn Kalert, the culture care advocate at HHS said there will be a candle light vigil, a documentary film and free HIV testing in the Plaza. On the same day, NCAP is hosting an art event about the growth of AIDS at the Fort Collins Museum of Contemporary Art.

Daily, Basinger fights not only for the health of people



noco aids project promotes safer sex by giving away condoms

seeking assistance with NCAP, but he keeps fighting his own terminal case of AIDS, so when speaking about it, he tries to find some humor.

"There are days when my liver hurts or on days when I have a really bad cough I go, 'Oh god, here it is,'" he said with a laugh.

Basinger continues to hold strong in refusing any western medications because the alternative therapies have worked for him and haven't been as hard on his body.

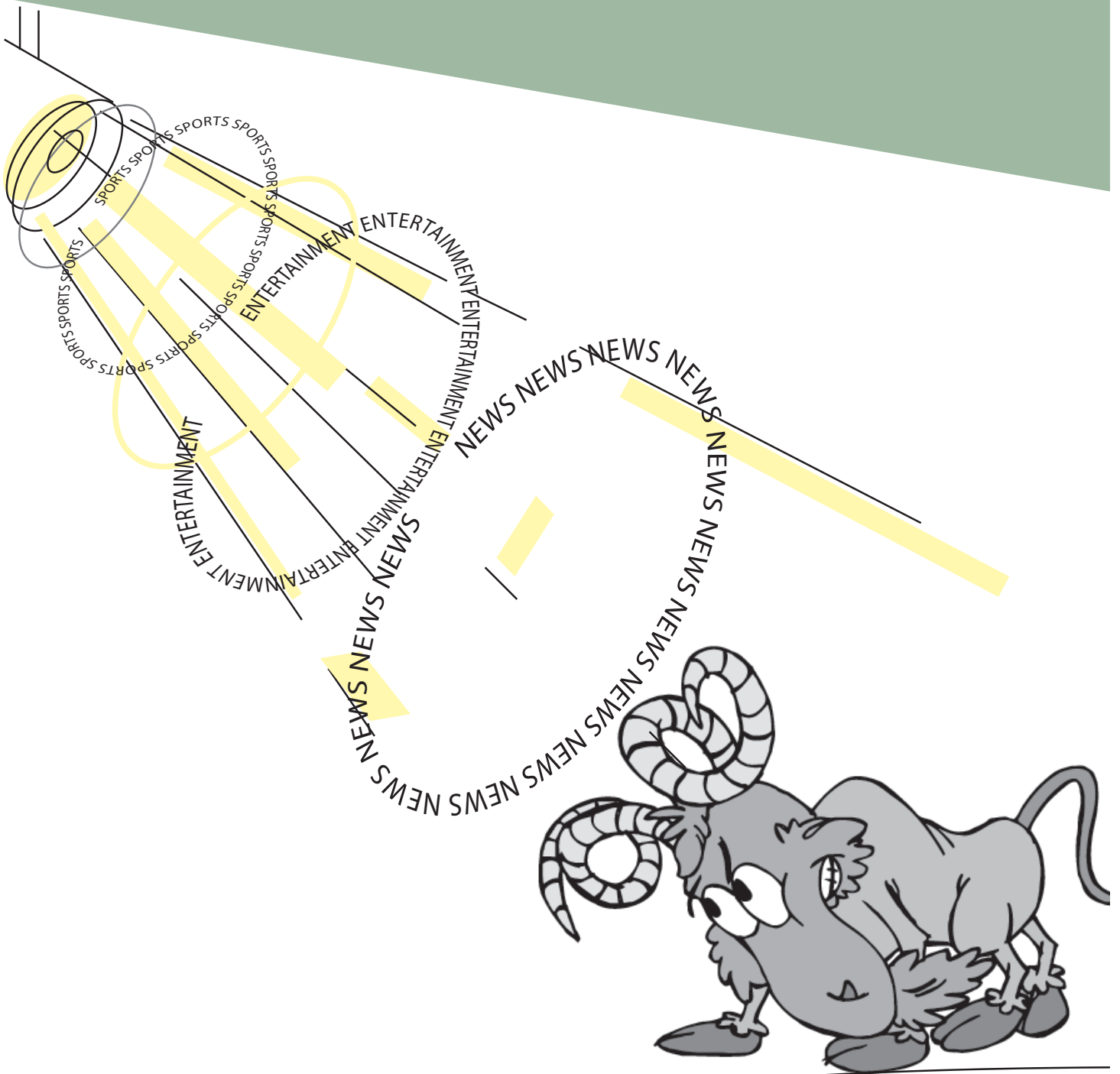
"I feel very blessed in life, actually, and have kind of lived life intuitively and creatively and have managed to be in the right place at the right time. I think I'm the odd duck," Basinger said. ■ Ca

facts on ncap

- in 1990 the ryan white care (comprehensive aids resource emergency) act was passed and helped relieve some pressure for funding organizations like ncap
- world aids day will be hosted on 12/01/08 at the fort collins museum of contemporary art
- provides two-fold assistance to people with hiv with cares such as rent, utilities and food
- hiv is contracted through any type of sex or through intravenous needles
- if a woman is pregnant and hiv positive, she can pass it to her child through the womb, labor, or if the child drinks her breast milk
- if infected, there is a 5% possibility they may not develop aids

- information courtesy of ncaids.org

Spotlighting CSU news since 1891



THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN
COLLEGIAN

Mecca of Assistance helping to put individuals first



brandi van anne (far right), a senior economics major, sits with her friends outside an ice cream shop in old town talking about boys, jobs, and schools.

▶ photos by lisa streeb

Deep in the off-white, linoleum labyrinth of narrow hallways lacking natural light, and hidden behind double doors, the cheery, earth-toned walls of the Resources for Disabled Students Office await. RDS is a student-fee-supported hub of services among the likes of Black Student Services or El Centro Student Services. This mecca of assistance, with services ranging from note taking to alternative testing options, isn't located in the center of campus activity with other advocacy offices in the Lory Student Center, but in the General Services building located on Mason and Edison streets.

treat people as individuals

Brandi Van Anne, a senior economics major, has worked the front desk at RDS for four years, and said that university officials say it is beneficial for RDS to be in the General Services building because the building provides plenty of space and quiet for the services disabled students need.

"The Resources for Disabled Students office is underappreciated," said Ms. Van Anne, who lists the office's tasks as providing advocacy and alternative testing; scribes;

Collaboration



rachel knox-stutsman, a junior history major at csu, sits at her house studying on a saturday night in oct. rachel was hoping to go out that night, but was unable to since she could not find a ride.

readers for people with dyslexia or paraplegia; and converting print text into computer or Braille format.

In her work at RDS, every encounter is an opportunity to educate and dispel stereotypes, adds Ms. Van Anne, who was born with dwarfism. But she doesn't want every day to be about life with a disability.

"Sometimes you just want to socialize normally. You don't want to talk about having a disability and what life is like," Ms. Van Anne said. "You just want to have a normal day."

Ms. Van Anne is three feet tall. She says people make assumptions based on her appearance that she "is just short," and therefore doesn't need special accommodations like a handicap parking placard.

But Ms. Van Anne faces unseen challenges. Joint and spinal problems are part of dwarfism. Her brainstem is fused to her spine and her lower spine is deteriorating, which causes major migraine headaches and back problems.

"From Yates Hall to the Oval, no one likes that trip, but for me I'm going to be in so much pain," Ms. Van Anne said.

While able-bodied people are treated like individuals, Ms. Van Anne explained that those with disabilities are often seen or spoken of as a part of a group, which creates a label and ignores an individual's uniqueness.

Ms. Van Anne recounts how much it hurts to be labeled, recalling the experience of being referred to as a "midget."

"Every time someone uses that word, it's always with hate or a strong misunderstanding of me as a person, like this other species," she said. "I'd rather be called Brandi. If you need to refer to what I have, you can use the medical term, dwarfism."

If Ms. Van Anne were to be known for anything, she'd like to be identified by her accomplishments. She values learning and works hard at academics.

Starting as a paralympic swimmer in 2000 at the age of 13, Ms. Van Anne went on to represent the US. as a paralympian in Athens at 17. She then decided to drop Olympic swimming and concentrate on college. Ms. Van Anne now uses her swimming talent as a volunteer in the Special Needs Swim Program.

People often confuse Ms. Van Anne with Paralympic gold-medal swimmer, Erin Popovich, and ask her to tell them what Beijing was like. She says misidentification is common with people who have physical disabilities.

"We have the same disability, but we're still individuals," she said.

Having grown up in Fort Collins, Ms. Van Anne enjoys beer and cycling. She enjoys biking around town and has her favorite downtown bars. But getting served at a bar can be difficult, since bars are so tall and people often crowd in front of her as if she is not there.

The ability to ask for help has come with maturity, she said.

“she will voice for me”

Catherine Worrall, a sophomore history major, uses interpreters who accompany her to classes and translate the instructor’s words into sign language. Ms. Worrall also uses volunteer note takers in her classes.

Ms. Worrall gives CSU high marks for services that meet her special needs as a deaf citizen.

“The area for CSU is very friendly and a good environment for me,” she said. “I am pretty much comfortable in CSU.”

RDS services add to Ms. Worrall’s comfort as a student. She makes use of the alternative testing services at RDS, so that she can take tests at different times and have all the time she needs to process the information.

An interpreter serves as Ms. Worrall’s voice on campus. When a person addresses Ms. Worrall directly, she refers him to her interpreter, saying, “She will voice for me.”

One Friday afternoon, two interpreters from RDS accompanied Ms. Worrall to astronomy class. DeDe Kliwer, coordinator of interpretive services at RDS, and Amy Kroll were on hand to translate the astronomy instructor’s words into American Sign Language.

“Every class we do two interpreters,” Ms. Kliwer said. “That way if somebody’s sick, somebody else already knows the vocabulary or if Amy doesn’t hear something I can ask the teacher.”

“If you’re interpreting four to five hours a day, you have to continually pay attention and listen every second. There’s a lot of mental fatigue, so if you just do half of the class and half of the next class it’s a lot easier.”

Ms. Kliwer said it’s challenging for students to watch the interpreter and take notes at the same time, so RDS finds volunteer note takers in the first week of class.

“I look around and see who really pays attention, who’s here every day, and who takes thorough notes, and then I recruit them for the office,” she said.

James Pell, a freshman political science major, is a volunteer note taker for Ms. Worrall. Though he is taking his own astronomy notes, he makes some adjustments, because he is taking notes for Ms. Worrall as well.

“I usually try and take my time, make sure that the notes are legible for someone else, and that the pictures are detailed enough,” Mr. Pell said.

Though Ms. Worrall enjoys meeting new people, and studying in the library, the communication barrier does present challenges when it comes to participation in campus activities, she said. As a result she prefers home-based activities, such as sewing and caring for foster dogs.

“(It) is very challenging for me to get involved in activities because sometimes I do not want an interpreter and sometimes I want (an) interpreter there,” Ms. Worrall said. “As for right now, I am not that kind of person to participate in activities.”

rachel knox-stutsman and feminist heroes

Rachel Knox-Stutsman gets her hyphenated name from her mother, whom she calls, “one of my feminist heroes.” She said her mother kept her own name in 1972, when few women were adopting the practice.

It was this same forward thinking that resulted in Ms. Knox-Stutsman’s elementary education with the “regular” kids.

“Every professional that we encountered thought I should be in a classroom with special education students. My mom and dad didn’t want that. I didn’t want that either,” said the junior history major who was born with Cerebral Palsy Spastic Diplegia, which affects motor skills. “We had to fight all through school to keep me in a regular classroom.”

Ms. Knox-Stutsman shares her mother’s pioneering spirit. Last semester she was a sports reporter for the *Collegian*.

“I like sports and I like to write, so if I’m going to write I want to write about something I’m passionate about,” Ms. Knox-Stutsman said.

In elementary school she used a walker, and endured several surgeries, most of which failed to achieve the desired result of independent walking. It was after a surgery in seventh grade to lengthen her hamstrings that Ms. Knox-Stutsman gave up the walker. She now uses a power chair to get around when out alone.

“When I was covering softball last semester for the *Collegian*, we were able to load my power chair into my dad’s ’77 VW bus with the middle seat taken out of it,” Ms. Knox-Stutsman said. “I couldn’t get to the media box, because there are stairs at



catherine worrall, a sophomore history major at csu, watches her sign language interpreter during her astronomy class.

“sometimes you just want to socialize normally. you don't want to talk about having a disability and what life is like. you just want to have a normal day.”

- brandi van anne, senior economics major

Ram Field. Afterward the media relations people would hook me up with stats and interviews.”

She works the front desk at RDS, answering the phone, logging test scores, greeting visitors and assisting students.

In those few hours free of work and studies, Ms. Knox-Stutsman enjoys outings to movies and coffee houses, but since she doesn't drive getting out can be difficult.

“The bus schedules are at weird times and I just don't have the memory for all those weird times,” she said.

Ms. Knox-Stutsman would like to see the city of Fort Collins do a better job with public transportation.

“It's not an accessibility problem,” she said. “It's just making sure people know when the buses run.”

On the first Friday of the month, Ms. Knox-Stutsman goes downtown with her family for Art Walk. At these times she uses a manual wheelchair and gets a push. Still, getting around has its challenges.

“It's not easy getting around downtown because there are lots of buildings that have steps into them,” Ms. Knox-Stutsman said.

While she can get into most of the art galleries, the Gallery Underground is an exception. It's down a big flight of stairs.

“I had a friend that had a show there last semester and I wanted to go but I couldn't, so that was kind of hard.”

city funding cuts affect accessibility for disabled

Mark Beck served on the Fort Collins Commission on Disabilities until 2006, which served to advise city staff members on how to provide access for all people. They pioneered the program, “Heavy Doors,” which looked at the access to businesses and bathrooms throughout Fort Collins.

“Folks in the city were very responsive,” Mr. Beck said of the business owners, who were willing to implement changes suggested by the committee.

Lately though, with tighter budget constraints, the city has “dropped the ball,” he said.

“When funding starts to disappear, services for people with disabilities are cut,” Mr. Beck said. “They're left on their own.”

One example of this is the paratransit service, Dial-A-Ride, which provides door-to-door service for people who have mobility challenges.

The hours of Dial-A-Ride are few, says Mr. Beck, leaving only the city bus system for the wheelchair-users who want to enjoy downtown nightlife. City buses can get people around,

but those services are limited, too.

Mr. Beck, who uses a wheelchair due to quadriplegia, is fortunate to own his own accessible van and ramps, but points out that such a vehicle costs three times that of the average car, closing off the option to many.

The American Disabilities Act mandates that public buildings be wheelchair accessible, but Mr. Beck points to loopholes like grandfather clauses, which allow older buildings to have steps.

CSU, he said, has a long history of pro-activity regarding access and assistance for people with disabilities. He attributes this success to RDS director, Rosemary Kreston.

And even though the city fails to provide incentives for business owners who retrofit their establishments with ramps and manageable doors, Mr. Beck said Fort Collins is still a great place to live and get around.

“The work that's been done over the years makes it so,” he said.

A group of concerned citizens, including Cheryl Distacio, is acting to continue this work. When the tight city budget squeezed out funds for disabled access projects, Ms. Distacio's group – the Center for Peace, Justice and the Environment – met with several other interested nonprofits: the Public Transit Action Group, the City Group Commission on Disabilities and Denver's Adapt. From the four groups, Barrier Busters was formed to take on the issue of improving accessibility for all disabled residents of Fort Collins.

Ms. Distacio works with Barrier Busters to assess the accessibility of city bike lanes and paths by looking at where bumps, steep grades and dips can be eliminated, so everyone can roll smoothly and safely along paths.

With Barrier Busters meeting monthly to solve such city access problems, Ms. Knox-Stutsman could someday gain access to Gallery Underground.

Local high schools at least are wheelchair accessible and that fits in to Ms. Knox-Stutsman future plans. She expects to teach high school upon graduation from CSU.

She recently quoted Eleanor Roosevelt, another of her feminist heroes, in a class speech. The quote seems to exemplify Ms. Knox-Stutsman's own philosophy:

“You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do.”

Delivering counseling, advocacy and friendliness from their pleasantly painted space within the maze of General Services, the RDS staff is ready to serve and support disabled students in doing the things they want to do, removing barriers whenever possible, so that “cannot” becomes “can.” ■ **ca**

Minor Problem

the fight against fakes

The perks of turning 21 are a birthright in this country, a person can legally take shots at a bar or play slots at a casino, but some manage to obtain that birthright at ages as young as 18. Hundreds of underage people refuse to allow patience and the law to stand in their way in reaping the benefits of being a 21-year-old. So with an instrument that's no thicker than a needle and fits right into the pocket of a wallet, underage people are using fake identification to break the system.

Extinct are the simple ID replicas of the past, which are now replaced by fakes that display accuracy and detail, thanks to the forever-progressing wonders of technology. With the click of a button, teenagers can find Web sites that offer templates and kits that allow users to recreate

holograms, barcodes, and other features on current state licenses.

But even with the best color printer, laminator, and scanner, fake IDs cannot always pull a sheet over the eyes of the law.

"The technology and ability is there, but distributors are just trying to make a fast buck, so they don't have all the money and machines to make accurate IDs," said officer Stephan Sparacio of the Fort Collins Police Department.

Within this college town where partying and underage drinking is common, the trend of fake IDs is not a secret, and the more frequent people use them the more frequent fakes are confiscated.

"Think about how much one ID weighs: We typically end up with about 25 to 30 pounds of fake IDs a year," Sparacio said.

States are issuing identification cards with features more difficult to duplicate, but as replicas continue to achieve accuracy, the tools liquor store and bar employees use are becoming more advanced to detect any flaws of those fake state licenses.

"Things are changing over time, so we know the vulnerability and we have to know what they will try before they even try it," said Geoff Valdez, manager of the Ramskeller.

Like many liquor establishments, the Ramskeller uses different methods to detect if a patron is using a fake in order to purchase alcohol. From black lights that show the state seal, to a ViAge Verifier, which scans an ID to bring up that person's name, age, date of birth, to a magnifying glass that shows the microprint that forms the thin blue lines on the bottom of Colorado licenses.

Employees can also use an ID checking guide with all the different features on all state licenses in the nation. And if all else fails, employees turn to good old intuition and common sense.

"It's a lot like poker, you have to read the person," Valdez said. "We look at the way they (customers) handle



▶ photo illustrations by clint brewer



themselves, then we throw a few curve balls like asking them their astronomical sign or asking them to sign a coaster three times to match the signatures with the ID.”

If an establishment does confiscate a fake, they have 72 hours to fill out an incident report and turn the card over to the police department. From that point, Mr. Sparacio investigates each case and attempts to find out where and how the ID was obtained.

The consequences for using a fraudulent ID is not just a slap on the wrist, but actual charges that can rack up hefty fines, jail time, and community service depending on the circumstances for each individual case.

“You could be charged with identity theft and criminal impersonation, which are both felonies, attempting to obtain

alcohol with misrepresentation of age, or criminal possession of a forged instrument is also a felony,” Sparacio said. “You could also be charged with the unlawful use of a license which is a second-degree traffic misdemeanor and the court can determine the amount of time that would be taken away from the license.”

Most seized cards are handoffs or transfer ID’s, which are real ID’s given to an underage person by someone they know, and can result in the crime of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

“The law oversees that it’s not illegal to have another ID, but it is illegal to use it,” Sparacio said. “You can buy an ID that says Homer Simpson, but it is illegal to use it to buy alcohol or to try to pass it to a police officer.”

concerns with drinking the amethyst initiative

the amethyst initiative is an organization formed of college presidents and chancellors who are concerned with the culture of their students' dangerous binge-drinking. the following are some of their founding ideas:

- "alcohol education that mandates abstinence as the only legal option has not resulted in significant constructive behavioral change among our students."
- adults under 21 are deemed capable of voting, signing contracts, serving on juries and enlisting in the military, but are told they are not mature enough to have a beer.
- by choosing to use fake IDs, students make ethical compromises that erode respect for the law. so far there are 130 signatures, of which four are in Colorado: President Tim Foster, Mesa State College; President Stephen M. Jordan, Metropolitan State College of Denver; President Richard Celeste, Colorado College; President Thomas B. Coburn, Naropa University.

- information courtesy of www.amethystinitiative.org

Also, liquor establishments could face fines, closure, and revocation of their liquor license if they are known to habitually serve or sell alcohol to minors.

"It's important to use common sense, most of the time we tell bars and liquor stores to ID everyone that looks under 40," Sparacio said.

For CSU students, the penalties do not just end with the law, CSU will also be notified if a student is involved with distributing or using a fake ID, which can result in various consequences directly from the university.

"If a CSU student does get caught, the school will be notified because CSU would like to know what is going on with their students," Sparacio said.

The main way to fight this war on fraudulent ID's is to educate and train liquor store and bar employees properly on what to look for when checking ID's, as well as, assessing customers themselves.

"We have our workers attend a 5 hour class and feel comfortable before actually serving alcohol," Valdez said. "And that feeling comes with experience."

There are varying factors that contribute to the reason why underage people may want a fake ID in the first place, from the town they live in to peer pressure to just plain impatience.

"Most kids know where to get alcohol and how to get it," said Tegan Waters, 21, an English education major. "The only reason to get a fake is to probably go to the bars."

And for 20-year-old business and graphic design major, John, who wished to remain anonymous, being one of the few of his friends who is underage is a problem that a fake can fix, even if risk is involved.

"Having a fake is a risk I'm willing to take," John said. "I can go downtown with my older friends. You just have to be smart about it."

But what happens if a minor loses when gambling with the law for the sake of alcohol?

"Using a fake is nerve wrecking, but if I get turned down, I'd just leave and not fight it," he said.

The battle between liquor establishments and fake IDs is simple, store and bar owners do not have a vendetta against underage people looking to drink: they are simply following the law.

"We are reasonable people," Valdez said. "We are not in the business of getting students in trouble." ■ Ca

*"having a
fake is a risk
i'm willing to
take,"*

-john, business & graphic design major

Collective Cohesion

photos by katie stevens & clint brewer



laura anderson, a sophomore english major, works to get non-committed people registered to vote at the obama rally in old town square saturday, oct. 4th.



a snowboarder begins his ride as thousands of onlookers enjoy the railjam on the plaza in front of the lory student center at csu on wednesday, oct. 8th.



julie thornton, a first year graduate student studying french, enters the world vision experience: aids, an interactive exhibit, ran in the lsc oct. 10-13, that tells the story of four african children who have been diagnosed with aids.



anti-war protestors occupy the northwest corner of college avenue and mulberry street april 20th.



supporters for the nation's troops in iraq stand on the corner of college avenue and mulberry street in fort collins friday, oct. 10th.



participants began the 5k homecoming race supporting the heart disease prevention program on oct. 11th



a student registers to vote minutes before the oct. 6 deadline in the ascsu office.



david valdez (front), a member of the traditional mexican dance group, flor antigua, performs in the lsc theater as part of the 7th annual evening of music and dance to celebrate hispanic heritage month on thursday, sept. 25.



volunteer firefighter kevin conright looks on as the homecoming bonfire at csu burns. conright and other volunteer firefighters were there to keep the fire safely maintained.

Road Rational

cyclists yield to regulations



students ride from class one afternoon in october. bikes are an essential mode of transportation citywide, especially for students at colorado state university.

▶ photos by clint brewer

Total chaos. That's how I would sum up the biking scene on campus these days. When riding around campus anymore, I feel a vague sense of inevitable, impending doom. My heart rate increases and I find I would be well served to have eyes in the back of my head. The sides of my head too. It's the fight or flight response, baby. The main thoroughfares in and out of campus are as lawless as the roads of Mad Max, lacking the violent biker gangs.

With 26,000 people in the campus community, rules of the road are a necessity. According to the CSUPD, on campus, anything with wheels is expected to follow the same guidelines as bikes. This includes you rollerbladers and Razor scooter riders too. With any large ecosystem, there is a food chain. Follow the rules or someone gets eaten alive.

For cyclists, the rules start with bike registration on campus. Beyond that, few students are informed about the bike laws that are supposed to govern traffic. The CSUPD established the Bicycle Education and Enforcement Program to educate the community about bike safety. I haven't actually heard of BEEP and I think that it's been forgotten about, given how long ago the Web site was updated.

act like an automobile

The city Web site for Fort Collins is a great resource for cyclists. You can download bike maps and the bike code for the state of Colorado, as well as find information about events and tips for biking in Colorado. Fort Collins also has a bike library in Old Town that is staffed by a host of volunteer bike enthusiasts ready to share their tips.

In the state of Colorado, bicyclists are required to follow the same guidelines as a motor vehicle. And yes, that means all those stop signs with the white border apply after all. Watch for signals from drivers - often they will wave a cyclist across to be nice, but don't assume as much. No one wants to find out the hard way.

Cyclists are expected to follow all traffic signals, as well as ride with the flow of traffic. Lights, yield signs and merge lanes are to be obeyed. Cyclists do have a few legal



student rides through a restricted area near the csu student center plaza mid afternoon on tuesday, oct. 9th.

protections, but more on that later.

Technically, one is not supposed to multi-task while riding either. While I totally respect the skill it takes to ride to class with coffee in one hand and a cell phone in the other, save it for Tour de Fat. And you aren't supposed to pull your friends around either.

pedestrians: to yield or not to yield

Another unfortunate thing about following motor vehicle law is the requirement to yield to pedestrians.

I for one would prefer to run them over. I do not have any personal issue with pedestrians. I am one frequently. But I do take issue with plugged-in pedestrians ambling through the bike path. When you have a sidewalk all to your bi-pedaled selves, please use it. Running you over is oh-so-tempting. I'm sure that it is just as tempting for pedestrians to throw out an arm when a bike invades their personal space. To make

transit across campus easier for all, stick to your designated area before somebody gets hurt, or I will hurt you on purpose.

A good rule of thumb is to stay as far to the right as is reasonable and to maintain a straight path of travel. You are less likely to get hit, or become a "door prize." Think of how it would feel to get launched over a car door, so choose to ride the straight and narrow. Weaving is for drunks.

Just an FYI, riding-under-the-influence tickets are not an urban legend. You can get one for riding anything in motion. I went to high school with a kid who got busted for riding a horse drunk. If you have been drinking, stick to stumbling home through the bushes.

It is also required that riders audibly warn pedestrians when they are passing. You can ring a bell, honk your ducky or scream. I wish you the best of luck in the battle against being heard above mp3 players. You will need it. I think a well-aimed pebble would be just the thing.

talk with your hands

Next, we come to signaling. When turning or slowing, riders are expected to indicate their intentions by signaling. I'm sure most of us learned to signal in elementary school and promptly forgot upon entering middle school. I'm ashamed to admit that I wouldn't know a signal when I saw it. It is up to you to find some way to tell the world what your plans are. Personally, I like to preemptively glare at the driver most likely to hit me for not watching what I'm doing. It's worked well so far, but just in case, follow the diagram to learn proper signaling. Let's hope the drivers know what your signaling means.

Pedestrians are king, followed by bicyclists and motorists. Then maybe horses and their riders fit in there somewhere, too, though I doubt horse accidents are a huge concern on campus. On the main campus, at least. Not everyone pays attention, so it is extremely vital to protect your own neck. By CSUPD estimates, there were nine reported bike accidents on campus last year. That figure does not include the dozens of near-misses that I alone witness every day. According to state law, if a vehicle strikes a cyclist it can be considered vehicular assault, depending on the situation. Sometimes it has more dire consequences, as our community found out the hard way over this summer with the passing of undergraduate adviser for the department of Journalism and Technical Communication Rebecca Allen. There is a real danger here, folks.

Living through a year of riding across campus can be achieved by following these three little rules:

When in doubt, yield.

Stop at all crossings.

And above all, trust no one. Only you can prevent getting injured in a bike accident. ■ **ca**

e-mail us your reactions. holly hoskins can be reached at csumag@lamar.colostate.edu.



holly hoskins & her bike

► photo by katie stevens

signs and signals



stop! The stop sign means to come to a complete stop, and all stop signs apply to both motor vehicles AND bicycles.

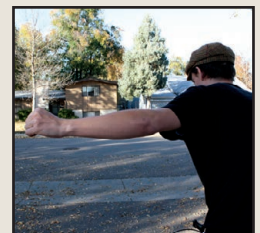


bike lane: The bike lane is a biker's home. Make sure to ride on the side that goes WITH traffic, and don't pass cars on the right!

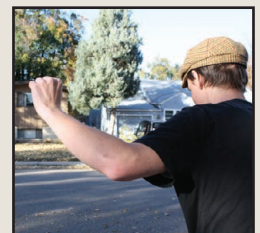


yield: When you see a yield sign, the street in front of you has the right of way.

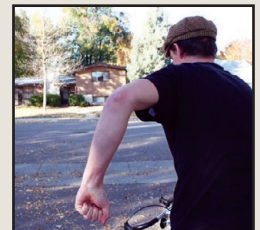
left: to signal a left turn, put your left arm out at a 90-degree angle to your body, with your elbow locked straight.



right: to signal a right turn, put your left arm out at a 90-degree angle to your body with your elbow bent upwards and parallel to your body.



stop: to signal a stop, put your left arm out at a 90-degree angle to your body with your elbow bent downwards and parallel to your body.



► photo illustrations by tyler rivers

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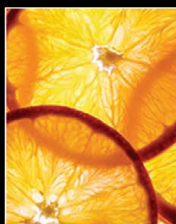
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One Life, One Choice

activism from both sides

“F*** you,” escapes from the mouth of a driver as he speeds by, splashing rain and mud onto the nearby sidewalk where Mark Spaeth stands. Spaeth is calm and gives a chuckle as Daniel Pott politely yells, “We love you,” back.

The small group that accompanies them goes back to talking and praying, as they are huddled against the wet and cold that seeped into Fort Collins overnight.

Spaeth, Pott and their group are not just any bystanders mingling in the heavy down pour in mid-September. Instead, they have a goal that can only be accomplished standing outside of 825 S. Shields St.

To some, it’s just another building sandwiched between the college campus and the many local restaurants. But 825 is home to the Fort Collins Planned Parenthood and Abortion Center. And today is Friday, one of the two days the clinic performs abortions.

As more cars rush by, Spaeth remains happy and talkative with the other activists, even as cars drive by honking their horns—some in protest and some in support—while others choose to yell out obscenities and give the infamous finger.

“We get that a lot, shouting and the finger,” said Spaeth, a Loveland resident who has been an anti-abortion activist for more than 35 years. “Maybe we are touching their conscious. All we want is for them to think.”

Spaeth usually stands outside of the Planned Parenthood clinic every Friday, holding a sign and minding his own business as the rest of the city rushes by him.

“I want them to think carefully—what all 50 million kids could have contributed to this country,” he said. “They could have been the next Beethoven, cured cancer or controlled nuclear fusion.”

Pott, a junior construction management major and a member of the Fellowship of



laura ward, a volunteer for voices for planned parenthood and a junior biology major shouts onto the plaza, “don’t be a chump! sack your stump!” ward was passing out free condoms in support of safe sex.

photos by katie stevens

hot button

Catholic University Students, agrees with Spaeth, and doesn't mind dedicating what little extra time he has toward something he believes in.

"It's a sacrifice of time, and as a student, is hard to do," he said. "It is worth it to actually stand for something. And it starts with just talking."

Pott, along with his fellow FOCUS members, are not disturbed by the usual ruckus produced outside of Planned Parenthood, instead he hopes that someone will drive away thinking about what he deemed "the biggest human rights issue ever."

"It is good to get a standpoint on both sides of an issue," said Katy Glennon, a junior pre-vet major and member of FOCUS. "This goes for anything that people don't agree upon."

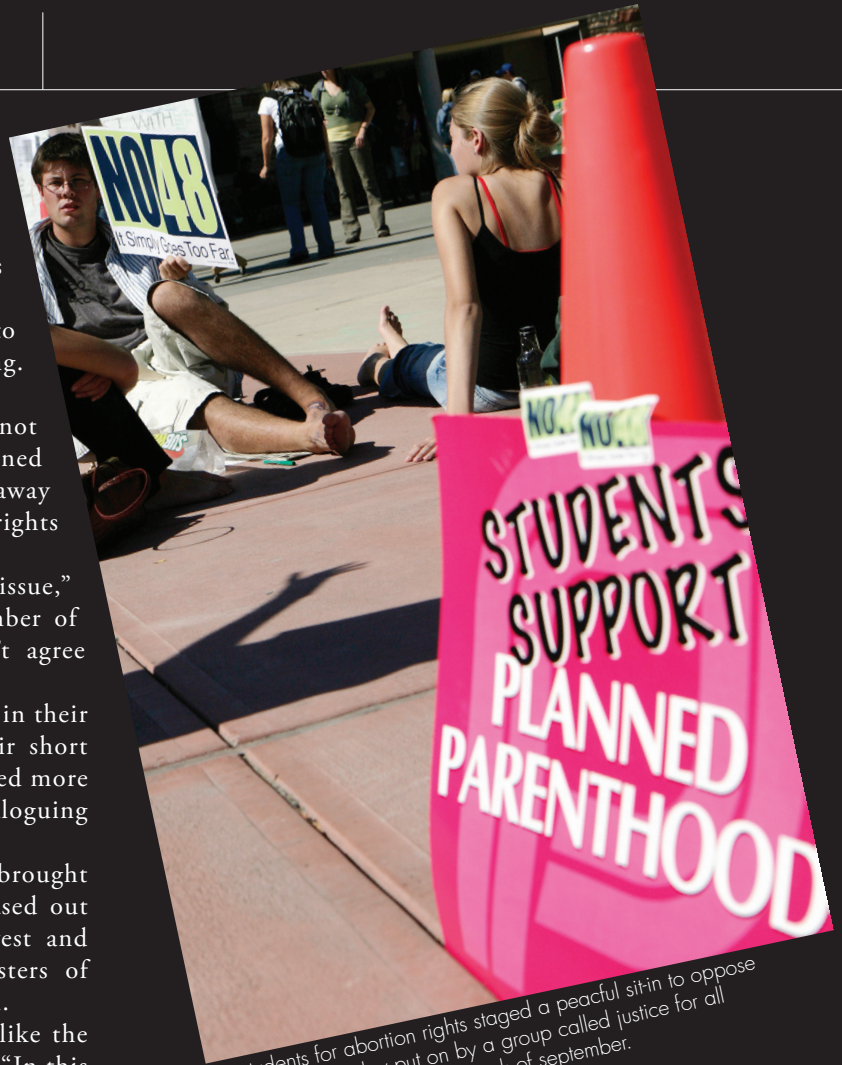
Pott and Glennon have only recently joined Spaeth in their mission of advocating anti-abortion. But within their short amount of time, they said that they have actually learned more about this issue from just watching and sometimes dialoguing with other people.

The anti-abortion group, Justice for All first brought dialogue, according to Glennon, to her attention. Based out of Kansas, Justice for All travels all over the Midwest and demonstrates their position with large, graphic posters of aborted fetuses to help spread the word about abortion.

"A lot of people don't care what you have to say, like the people that just drive by and flash the bird," Pott said. "In this setting, it allows you to [have a] dialogue and get people to have an opinion."

Director for Field Operations for Justice for All, Tammy Cook along with her crew were stationed in the Plaza from Monday, Sept. 29 through Thursday, Oct. 1. The large posters along with "free speech" boards were placed in the Plaza for the four days, while students made their opinions heard or tried to skirt the Plaza to evade the posters.

"When you learn and start listening to what someone says you have a better dialogue," said Cook, who has dialogued



csu students for abortion rights staged a peaceful sit-in to oppose anti-abortion display put on by a group called justice for all during three days of the last week of september.

hundreds of times on college campus. "We saw that yelling and screaming doesn't work. We are human beings, and respect might be the key to helping with the education on this topic."

That very week, Lauren Shulman stood in the Plaza giving out free condoms and advocating for "No on Amendment

what is amendment 48?

"an amendment to the colorado constitution defining the term "person" to include any human being from the moment of fertilization as "person" is used in those provisions of the colorado constitution relating to inalienable rights, equality of justice, and due process of law."

e-mail us and tell us what you think about the outcome of the amendment.

-information courtesy colorado state legislation handbook



a justice for all representative speaks with a csu student on the plaza. the group travels to different universities with an 18 foot anti-abortion display, seeking to create dialogue with local communities.

48” on the exceptionally warm day. Shulman and her team of abortion rights Voices for Planned Parenthood student organization members were in the midst of a crowd debating over this large human rights issue revolving around Justice for All’s posters and graphic displays.

This time, students aren’t praying and standing outside a lone building hoping to change someone’s mind, instead they are hoping to give choice back to women and men.

“We advocate for reproductive rights and health of women and men,” said Shulman, a junior human development and family studies major as well as the co-president for VOX at CSU. “We spread information about contraceptives and sex education going back to the good old grassroots effort of word-of-mouth.”

Jessi Atha, a sophomore biology major and VOX member, couldn’t agree more with her cohort Shulman, but took, what she deemed, “a realist view on the matter.”

“People are going to have sex,” Atha said. “There is no denial of it.”

VOX at CSU is a student organization that advocates for the ideas that Planned Parenthood has had for almost 100 years. According to Kinsey Hasstedt, the field organizer and

public affairs official for Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains, the main goal for Planned Parenthood and its allies is to educate and advocate for abortion rights legislation to promote quality comprehensive health care for women, teens and kids.

“These people cannot be the only ones with a voice,” Hasstedt said. “People don’t have to be judged. And I’m here to stand up for them.”

Hasstedt works closely with VOX at CSU and other schools across the state to raise awareness and provide them with the necessary tools to get their point across. But in no way, Hasstedt said, do they, or anyone associated with Planned Parenthood, engage with other protestors and groups rallying around the abortion topic.

“We don’t engage,” she said. “It’s not our mission. Instead it is to be available and willing to talk to people, and provide the education and facts. Folks that aggressive with those kind of methods aren’t going to change.”

As students, faculty and staff saw when Justice for All was here, there were more than enough students willing to dialogue with Justice for All, but there were also many that refused to talk with them, and instead, turned to other advocating tactics.

"you can't have a positive and effective voice when only one voice is being heard."

- melisa panagakos, junior political science major

On Oct. 1, students organized a sit-in for abortion rights because there was word that so many students were unhappy with the Justice for All display. For hours, students sat in the Plaza just talking about anything and also gaining a lot of attention.

The sit-in group delayed the setup of the posters for nearly an hour and was able to convince Justice for All to take down their exhibit for one day the next time they are at CSU to see if they have just as effective communication.

"We believe the display was too loud, and the size, intensity and offensiveness was too much," said Melisa Panagakos, a junior political science major who had a hand in helping organize the sit-in. "You can't have a positive and effective voice when only one voice is being heard. The sit-in was a good way for students to come together and talk about it."

Although Cook has seen it all in her many years traveling with the Justice for All exhibit, she said that even when people

are mad and defensive and clearly support the opposing side, treating them with respect has gone a long way. Her main goal is for people to learn, but she also hopes that people find "hope, respect for the other side of the issue, and that a life might be saved."

According to Thomas Crews, a sophomore psychology major who participated in the sit-in, when you advocate it doesn't matter whether you are for or against abortion rights because "it is important for us to express our views in a peaceful manner and make sure our voice is heard." ■ Ca

how can i get involved in the different organizations? here's how:

campus feminist alliance: e-mail lexyhall@gmail.com or call 303.588.4170

fellowship of catholic university students: visit www.focusonline.org
e-mail focuscu@gmail.com or call 719.244.7576

justice for all: visit www.jfaweb.org, e-mail jfamail@jfaweb.org or call 316.683.6426

men's project: visit www.wps.colostate.edu/mensproject
contact chris leck at christopher.leck@colostate.edu or 970.491.6384

planned parenthood of rocky mountains:
visit www.plannedparenthood.org/rocky-mountains and click on "get involved locally"

students for life: e-mail dignityoflife1@gmail.com or call 719.588.8383

voices for planned parenthood: visit health.groups.yahoo.com/group/csuvox/

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Post Presidential Brain-Pick

What issues are most important to college students?

What should the new president focus on first when he gets into office?

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One Less?

hpv vaccine may cause more harm than good

It may have saved her life. Laura Neal has never considered herself an at-risk individual when it comes to cancer, and maybe now she'll never need to. Armed with a cervical cancer vaccine, she is one of many females who are battling against becoming one more statistic.

Encouraged by her nurse, the 20-year-old junior health and exercise science major received Gardasil, a vaccine designed for women as a prevention against the human papillomavirus. If contracted, HPV could potentially lead to cervical cancer. The vaccine was approved by the Food and Drug Administration in 2006 and made available to women nationwide. According to Merck & Co., the producers of Gardasil, almost 16 million females in the United States, have received at least one of the three required shots for Gardasil, including Neal. Yet, as Gardasil is a newer vaccine, the unknown side effects may cause more harm than good.

Since its approval, there have been over 9,000 reports submitted to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System concerning associated side effects, approximately 6 percent of which express serious cases, including paralysis, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, chronic pain, neurological disorders and even death.

According to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Web site, GBS is a rare disorder in which the body's immune system attacks part of the peripheral nervous system, causing weakness in the muscles, potentially leading to paralysis.

Despite the considerable amount of adverse effects reported, for Neal the vaccine caused nothing more than some discomfort in her right arm where she received the injection.

"The shot hurt like a b****," she said. "My arm was very sore for the next couple days and it really hurt to move or raise it."

Neal noted that her nurse gave a consultation beforehand, stating that other women had complained about pain from receiving the shot as well.

She received her second shot in January 2008, but said that it was not as painful as the first.

Even with the number of adverse side effect accounts, there have only been two or three reports of individuals fainting after receiving the vaccine at Hartshorn Health Services, according to immunization coordinator Lisa Duggan. Further, the number of Gardasil shots administered at Hartshorn has nearly doubled in the past two school years: 706 vaccinations were given to 443 individuals in 2007 to 2008, increased from 418 vaccinations distributed to 238 individuals in 2006 to 2007.

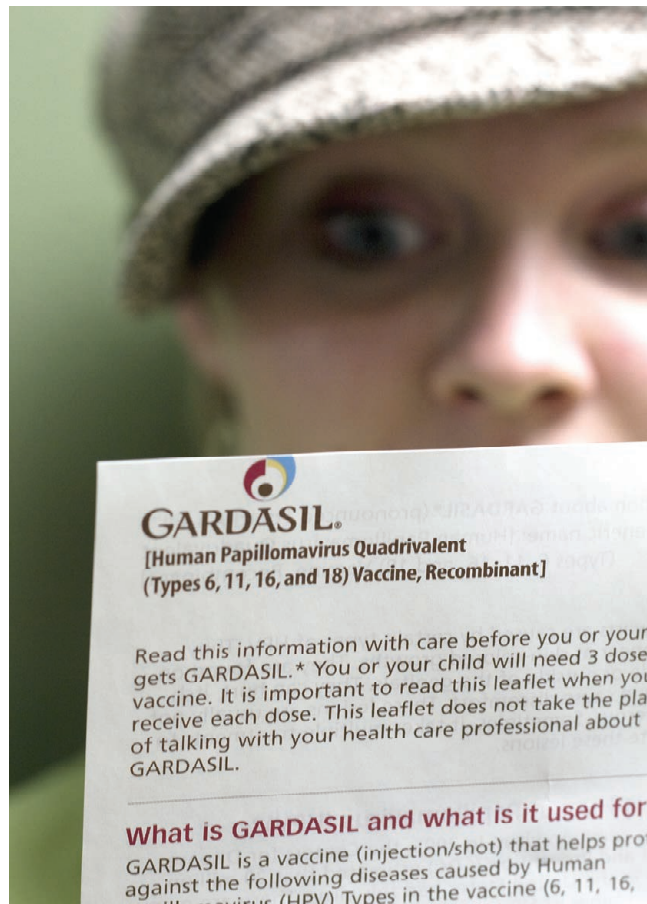
"I'm impressed with how many people have decided to get the vaccine," Duggan said. "We've had very limited problems with it; only a handful of women have complained of a sore arm (after receiving it). But I have heard that it hurts more than other shots."

Gardasil has been advertised on television with a campaign that challenges women to be "One Less" statistic for cervical cancer. It is also promoted among several medical organizations, such as the Center for Disease Control

and Prevention. Although the vaccine is highly recommended, it is not required, allowing individuals a personal decision as to whether or not they receive it.

"I actually heard about (the vaccine) from one of my friends and did a speech about HPV for one of my classes," Neal said. "I figured that it would be a good decision to get it."

Even though the vaccine is deemed safe and effective by both the CDC and the FDA, some individuals still have reservations about receiving the shot because of its infancy, as well as the unknown, long-term side



effects. Neal's roommate, 21-year-old Kirsten Stople, also a junior health and exercise science major, is one of those apprehensive individuals.

"(The vaccine) is so new. I almost feel like we're lab rats," Stople said. "I know they say it's safe and effective, but you can never know for sure."

According to a handout for the HPV vaccine, the most reported side-effects include pain, mild to moderate fever, and redness, swelling and itching at the injection site. Another common effect is syncope, or fainting. According to Duggan, this is caused by a vaso-vagal reaction. In this reaction, the nervous reflexes that control heart rate and blood pressure behave abnormally causing a drop in blood pressure and a fainting spell, according to the Columbia University Medical Center Web site.

"This reaction is much more common in teens when they receive a shot, especially in women," Duggan said. "So, when you have a vaccine aimed at teenage women, there are going to be higher rates of fainting."

Personal testimonials of more serious disorders are reported to start surfacing five to 14 days after receiving a shot, whether it be the first, second or third. According to VAERS, the rare conditions reported after receiving Gardasil cannot be directly related to the vaccine. Many other factors could have caused them to surface. For some, though, it is enough that the conditions are possible at all to deter them from getting the vaccine.

"It kind of freaks me out," Stople said. "With any vaccination there are possible risks. This one might prevent cervical cancer, but I don't know if it's going to affect other parts of my body."

Another reason individuals may not be getting the vaccine is due to cost. Gardasil is a series of three shots: the second dose is given two months after dose one, and the third dose is given six months after dose two. Walgreen's offers the vaccine for \$176.99 per dose, costing \$530.97 for the set of three. Hartshorn, however, distributes it for \$140 per dose,

which comes to \$420 for the trio. According to Duggan, Gardasil is frequently covered by health insurance and individuals are encouraged to check with their provider before they get it.

"Most services (at Hartshorn) are fee-based," she said. "So when something isn't covered, we try to provide it at a very reasonable price for students."

Despite an increase in individuals receiving the vaccine on campus since its licensing, Duggan predicts that the number of vaccinations distributed will slow down, or even decrease in the future.

"I think we could be busy again this year and possibly next, but the CDC is really pushing that HPV vaccinations should be considered at a younger age and discussed by health care providers at appointments with 12 to 15-year-old girls," she said. "As this becomes the norm, I think that we will see more and more women who have already had the vaccine before they come to college, and our numbers will start to drop off in the future."

As Neal waits to get her final vaccination of the trio, she continues to advocate for it and support what Gardasil is created to do.

"I'd definitely say that it's a good idea to get the shot because it's an effective prevention method," she said. "I'd say that the pros definitely outweigh the risks."

Kira Kalush, sophomore international studies major, agrees.

"I would definitely suggest for other women to get the shots," she said. "The whole idea of getting cervical cancer is more frightening than the unknown side effects. If there's a way to avoid it, I'm going to try to."

Stople, however, is content to wait to make sure that Gardasil proves to be 100 percent safe.

"Part of me questions if I really need it right now," she said. "I'd rather wait it out a little longer just to be safe. I'm not in a hurry." ■ Ca

"(the vaccine) is so new. i almost feel like we're lab rats. i know they say it's safe and effective, but you can never know for sure."

- kirsten stople, junior health & exercise science major

facts on hpv

- hpv currently affects 20 million people with roughly 6.2 million more becoming infected yearly
- every year approximately 10,000 women get cervical cancer and 3,700 die from it
- it is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women around the world
- more than 50 percent of sexually active men and women are infected with hpv at sometime in their lives

- information courtesy of hpv pamphlet from hartshorn



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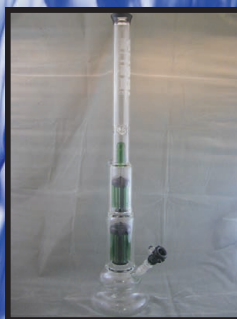
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Saving the Poudre?

two sides, one river - what's at stake



the poudre river early in the morning on monday, july 23, 2007.

photos by katie stevens

Lining the banks of the Cache la Poudre River, willows and cottonwood trees wait for the last bit of autumn to tickle their leaves. Perching in the limbs, a belted kingfisher bird waits to gobble trout traveling among the river's sediment. During their preparation for winter, this habitat and its creatures seem peaceful, but how long will the peace last?

For over four years, the Northern Integrated Supply Project has been at the crux of debate among local activists, residents, farmers, and legislators. If approved, NISP would dam and divert water from the Poudre during high flows into two newly constructed reservoirs,

Glade and Galeton. The debate question seems to be: If NISP is approved will it kill the Poudre?

Brian Werner, the public information officer of the Northern Water Conservancy District believes NISP will not kill the river, but instead lessen the impacts of water dry-up in Northern Colorado.

"The Poudre River has gone dry at times over the last 150 years because farmers use the water, and it'll dry up at certain times whether or not NISP goes through." Mr. Werner said. "We can help the river, overall, by running between the river and the reservoirs. We're committed to lessening the impact [of dry-up] because taking showers and farmers have rights to the water."

Since 2000, Northern Colorado has experienced drought conditions. According to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs Web site, drought is common in Colorado, although it doesn't last for long periods of time (six months or more). Despite patterns of drought, anticipated population growth is a concern with the drought situations. Creating solutions to water shortage in Northern Colorado is an obligation for the future.

Mark Easter, an activist for the Save the Poudre Coalition and conservation chair for the Sierra Club Poudre Canyon Crew believes NISP will kill the Poudre, but he's aware that water in this climate is a precious resource.

"Whether it flows from a tap or a river, water is a critical resource, but because it is so important we need to use it as wisely as possible," Mr. Easter said. "Old school, unwise policies are driven by NISP and the status quo for its [water] uses has to change."

Mr. Easter's involvement with STP started four years ago, but for the past two and a half years he's been more active with fighting NISP. He said that at first he thought Glade Reservoir was a bad idea, but after researching and learning with other STP activists, he realized this was a "colossal bad idea."

"NISP is a twentieth century solution to a twenty-first century problem. It wouldn't improve water security, but only be an illusion of it." Mr. Easter said.

Whether NISP is an illusion or not, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been busy for the last four years analyzing and evaluating every facet of NISP.

According to Mr. Werner, it has cost NISP communities \$5-6 million for the USACE to analyze all critical aspects, namely environmental impacts and possible alternative solutions.

"Our decision is not a vote," said Chandler J. Peter, the USACE project manager of the Environmental Impact Statement for NISP. "We don't draw conclusions about the best way. We're required to follow certain processes that involve the public. At this point, we



picnic rock at the base of poudre canyon on oct. 16.

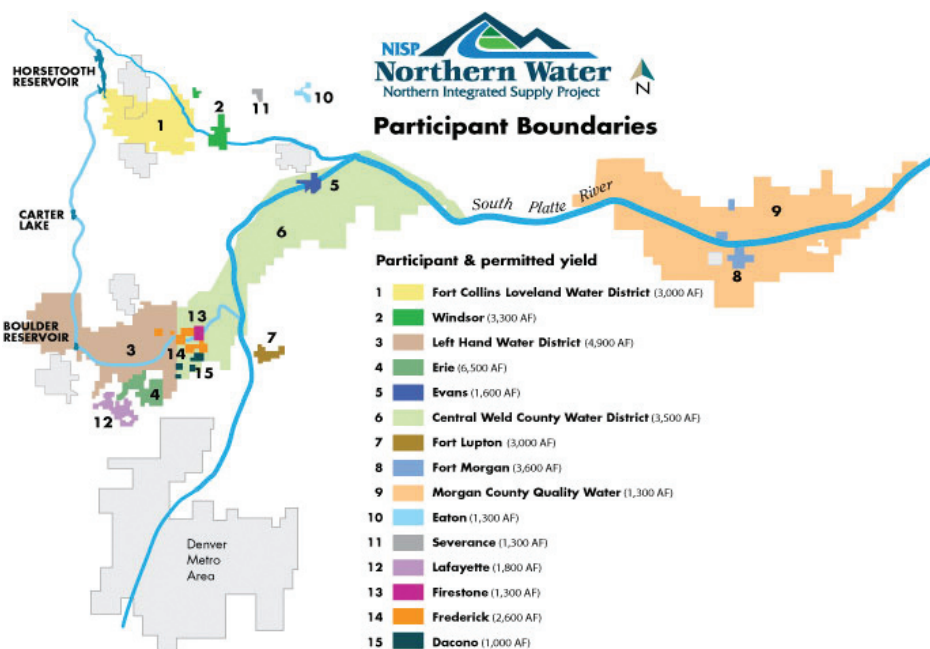
haven't made that determination yet."

The decisions made by the USACE are regulated by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Water Act, and successful lawsuits to guide the laws and regulations. In addition to that, Mr. Peter said they try to find the Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative, which they're still researching.

On Sept. 13, STP activists sent their comments, scientific analyses of NISP effects, and two alternative options to NISP called Healthy Rivers Alternative to the USACE. In a citizen's meeting, spokesperson Gary Wockner said that the Healthy Rivers Alternative was conducted by a team of 46 people with decades of natural resource experience, 15 doctorates, and 14 masters and juris doctors. Among the participants was John Bartholow, a retired geologist of the U.S. Geological Survey who was contracted to research the Healthy Rivers Alternatives.

"What they're doing here is scientifically sound," Mr. Bartholow said. "I'm pleased and hopeful for a positive outcome."

Some of the alternatives STP poses are for water conservation, gravel pit storage, and rotational fallowing. Conservation is a big part of



graphic courtesy of NISP Web Site

their solution, and Mr. Easter believes that conservation is about using water efficiently, carefully, and by not wasting. Gravel pit storage is not a new idea because they're all over the Front Range, and STP believes expanding existing and making new gravel pits would be a healthier alternative to NISP. Rotational fallowing creates lease systems with farmers, so they would only farm their land during a specific time. STP's Healthy Rivers Alternative proposal cites this as a "win-win-win solution," but the USACE and NCWCD said this has already been looked at.

"Nothing new there, all of this was studied way back during alternative analysis before the EIS. We started out with 215 alternatives, including fallowing and gravel pit storage, and it was determined it didn't meet the needs." Mr. Werner said. "Gravel pit storage is something Colorado is already doing ... and it won't come up with 40,000 acre-feet."

In the USACE's draft EIS, they report that it's highly unlikely rotational fallowing would replace NISP because this concept is relatively new to Colorado. Mr. Peter said the USACE has to take a hard look at all the comments, and especially at areas of weak analysis to readjust the analysis they've already conducted.

Mr. Easter said the USACE will probably go back after reading the Healthy Rivers Alternative to conduct a second EIS.

"Based on analyses that we and hundreds of others have done, we can't conclude that NISP is the right solution. If NISP would go forward it would be a huge disappointment." Mr. Easter said. But in



a fly fisherman casts his line up the poudre river on thursday, oct. 16.

his heart, he added, he truly believes the Poudre River can be saved.

If NISP is approved or a second EIS will start is unknown, but as of right now, the USACE continues to review all information and public comments. Mr. Werner said it's highly unlikely that STP's solutions will replace NISP, but understands that this is a process and an emotional issue for everyone – on either side of the issue. With communities thirsty for NISP water and 5,000 signatures petitioning against it, the solution is going to hurt on either side. As the plants and animals of the Poudre tuck in for winter, they will awaken in spring – if not several more. ■ Ca

by the numbers

- glade reservoir will hold 170,000 acre-feet
- galeton reservoir will hold 40,000 acre-feet
- one acre-foot costs \$14,000 to \$15,000
- one acre-foot is enough to flood the infield coors field up to 5.4 feet (waterknowledge.colostate.edu/coolfact.htm)
- one acre-foot is the equivalent of 325,851 gallons of liquid (www.onlineconversion.com/volume.htm)
- if ncwcd received the permit for nisp today, it wouldn't be built until 2016
- over 5,000 people have signed the stp coalition's petition
- in 2005, 30 colorado writers and poets submitted work for the book, *pulse of the river*, which expressed their emotional ties and importance of the Cache la Poudre River.

Tickle Me Pink

coping with loss, life on the road

While riding in a van packed with his band mates with nothing but video games, various electronics and each other's company for entertainment, lead singer Sean Kennedy described Tickle Me Pink's current tour in one word: "Crazy."

The members of Tickle Me Pink, originally from Fort Collins, have had quite the roller coaster ride in the past few months. In addition to the national release of their album *Madeline* and a grueling coast-to-coast tour schedule, the band had to deal with a devastating tragedy.

Bassist Johnny Schou was found dead in the home that the band shared on July 1, the day *Madeline* was set to be released nation wide. Toxicology reports revealed that he died from an

accidental heroine overdose. In the wake of this tragedy, the band had to make a difficult decision. With the overwhelming support of their fans paired with the desire to carry on Schou's legacy and their dream, the band pressed on with their national tour.

In a phone interview on Sept. 12 on the road between tour gigs, Kennedy talked about the ups and downs of their life on tour.

While it was hard to continue as a band so soon after Schou's death, "We didn't have a choice," Kennedy said. "This is what Johnny would have wanted us to do. We carry on a piece of him with our songs."

Their ability to continue pended on whether they could find someone to join the band that they felt comfortable



left to right: steven beck, sean kennedy, joey barba and stefan runstrom, band members of tickle me pink

▶ photo courtesy of tickle me pink

*“this is what johnny would
have wanted us to do. we
carry on a piece of him
with our songs.”*

- sean kennedy

with. The band asked guitarist and longtime friend Joey Barba to join them on tour to fill Schou’s spot. Barba took over lead guitar and Mr. Kennedy switched to playing bass full time.

Regarding the switch, Kennedy said, “Joey is a better guitar player than me so (the switch) makes sense.”

Barba was formally a member of another Fort Collins band, the Brotherhood of Dae Han, which had broken up earlier in January.

“Our bands kind of grew up together in Fort Collins,” Kennedy said.

Barba is now a permanent member of Tickle Me Pink. According to Kennedy, Barba fits in well with the band.

“It was as natural a transition as we could have, given the circumstances,” Kennedy said.

In spite of the tragic loss of Schou, many of Tickle Me Pink’s fans are glad that they continued as a band.

“There’s nothing else they could do other than push through and continue to spread their lyrics,” freshman mechanical engineering major Kyle Bobkowski said. “It was sad that he passed but he was part of something bigger.”

Kristin Parr, a sophomore art major, is a fan of Tickle Me Pink as well as Barba’s former band.

“I’m also glad they had (Barba) join them,” Parr said. “He is amazing as well, and a good addition to the band.”

Tickle Me Pink has tour dates booked for the next 15 months, after which they hope to record another album. Kennedy has mixed feelings about the idea of being on the road for the next year. Kennedy said being away from home for so long can make it hard to maintain relationships. The grueling schedule paired with endless drives from gig to gig is not his favorite part of being on tour either.

“It’s been fun but we’ve never done a tour this long,” he said. “Playing a show every day really takes its toll on you.”

Still, Kennedy said that he would not trade the band’s experience for anything.

“You have to learn how to adapt to the lifestyle,” he said.

At the time of the interview, the band was on tour with Scary Kids Scaring Kids, Finch, and From First to Last.

“I really enjoy all the bands we’re on tour with right now,” Kennedy said. “I grew up listening to Finch so its kind of surreal being on tour with them.”

Currently, they are on tour with Hawthorn Heights, and are scheduled to play a show at the Ogden Theatre in Denver on Nov. 13. Kennedy said the band is excited to play in Colorado

see tickle me pink live:

hawthorn heights w/ tickle me pink,
emery, the color fred and the mile after
the ogden theatre
nov. 13 at 6 p.m.
tickets are \$18.50

tickle me pink holiday extravaganza
the aggie theatre
dec. 20 at 8 p.m.
tickets are \$12

again, “We always like playing at home.”

The band also wanted to stay true to their roots by playing a special show in Fort Collins, so they booked a show at the Aggie Theatre for Dec. 20.

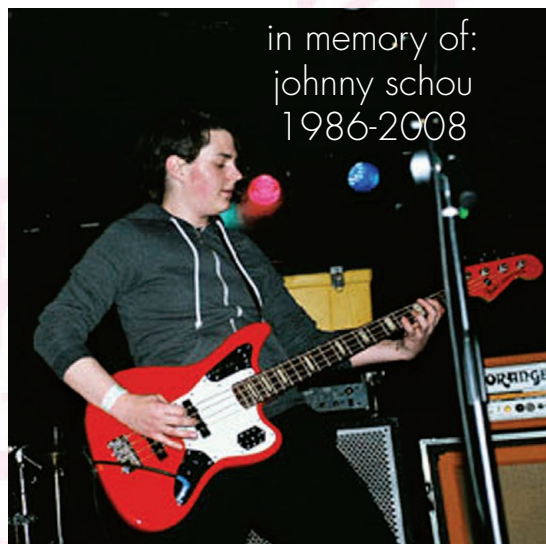
“We wanted to have a special Christmas show at home,” Kennedy said.

Kennedy also said that the band plans on having a little fun with the ‘Holiday Extravaganza’ theme, and plans to have the Aggie decked out in festive decorations and to wear holiday sweaters.

“It’s going to be ridiculous but it’s going to be fun,” Kennedy said.

The past couple months have been rough to say the least, but Tickle Me Pink has made it through. After all the emotional highs and lows the band has experienced, Kennedy had one thing he wanted the fans to know.

“Thank you for all the support you have given us.” ■ Ca



Lights of Justice lead to enlightenment

It was the endless summer of 2007. I was back in Colorado Springs from my first year at Colorado State University, and I was packing in everything summer offered me. After a night of fun, I was driving home at 8 a.m., a bit hung over and pleased to have a day to do absolutely nothing. The possibilities were endless, and that's when I saw the flashing red and blue lights of justice in my rearview mirror.

I pulled over and my stomach dropped into a pool around my ankles. As I reached for my license and registration, I surveyed the police officer getting out of the car in my rearview mirror, and caught my own reflection. My face was snowy white, my hair stuck up and I looked like I felt – a piece of chewed gum.

Feeling flustered and dehydrated, I prepared to speak to the officer, but the smeared conversations and forgotten names of the party popped up in my mind. And then I knew why I was getting pulled over – the police who crashed the party said they would follow every car leaving the party until the morning.

Why hadn't I taken a ride home? Despite hiding under a spider-infested deck for hours, I reeked of marijuana and my endless days of summer were now fading because I was about to become another statistic.

"Sir," started the police officer, "I have three questions for you. First, do you know why I pulled you over?"

"I think I was speeding," I submitted.

"Forty-six in a 35, for starters!" he laughed. "Second, sir, can I see your license and registration?"

"Yes. Here you –"

"And third, sir, before I perform a search, is the marijuana on you or in the car?"

I didn't have any on me, but I wasn't sure about the car.

However, the car was filthy because over that summer it served as my bedroom, closet, bookshelf, and pantry. So I calculated my conundrum. If I said no and he found something, I'd be charged for possession, concealing, and lying. But if I said yes and he found nothing, I'd be obstructing the lights of justice! I was becoming a statistic, and began to feel the overwhelming sense of intimidation, defeat, and exhaustion. So I said, "I don't know."

In these three words, my life, for the next year and a half was defined as the best decision (or surrender) I've ever made.

After my car was searched and nothing was found, I was arrested with a charge of Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, and taken to a hospital for a urinalysis test. At that point in my partying career, there was no way I was going to pass it. And of course, it came back positive.

About six months later, I was sentenced to bi-monthly UA's, 24 hours of level II education, 22 hours of therapy and



ian krammer, assistant director of ramride

photos by katie stevens

48 hours of community service in order to get the DUID deferred and off my record.

Damn.

Another thing – since I got my DUID in Colorado Springs, and I was going back to CSU in the fall, this was an additional hassle to communicate between two agencies, two probation officers in two separate counties. DUID's are treated the same as DUI's in Colorado and they're incredibly expensive. Overall, this has cost me between \$4,000-6,000.

Another cost was the emotional tolls my family went through. And because I replaced my party habits and hobbies, my group of friends changed, too. Furthermore, the time to complete this was horrific – hours, weeknights and weekends for almost a year and a half were spent trying to return to a healthy and sensible place.

At first, this change felt like enslavement to be railed against laws, rules, and stereotypes. Community service was required and felt like forced work, not service. However, I commenced that I could do all of this by being mindful, engaged, open, and perceptive as possible.

It began with group education sessions, offering basic drug and alcohol information for first-time offenders. Then, there were therapy sessions with second, third, and habitual DUI offenders. Seeing how real this problem is inspired me to use my community service as a service and to stop seeing it as forced work.

This is how I got involved with RamRide.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's, there were 16,885 alcohol and drug-related fatalities in 2005, which account for 39 percent of annual traffic fatalities. And the highest percentage of drivers in fatal crashes who had blood alcohol levels of .08 or higher were from drivers ages 21 - 24.

These statistics are why RamRide is necessary.

RamRide offers a safe, free, non-judgmental ride home for CSU students by CSU students, which is run on student fees. This program is growing quickly because it is a leader, designed to reduce the number of intoxicated drivers on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

In 2007, there were 1,000 volunteers who gave 19,871 people a safe ride home, which adds to the four-year total of 70,420 rides. Students can call (970)-491-3333 during the hours listed above to get a free ride home and why not? Your student fees help run the program!

RamRide is run by volunteers, so when you do call, thank them because they're helping you. Our 15 cars cannot run if there aren't 30 volunteers to fill them. The fewer volunteers, the fewer cars, the longer the wait time! So, instead of complaining about long wait times, give back by volunteering.

RamRide is a relevant service assisting people daily. For me, service is about giving selflessly – big or small – whatever



Kramer sits on the hood of his car, the same one that was searched by police summer of 2007.

is possible just to help someone else. RamRide gives me that opportunity, and that's why, after completing eight service hours, I applied and am now one of the associate directors. My community service is now finished, but this has been one of the most rewarding jobs I've ever had. Knowing that at least once a week, I help prevent fellow Rams from the arduous and painful experience of a DUID (or DUI).

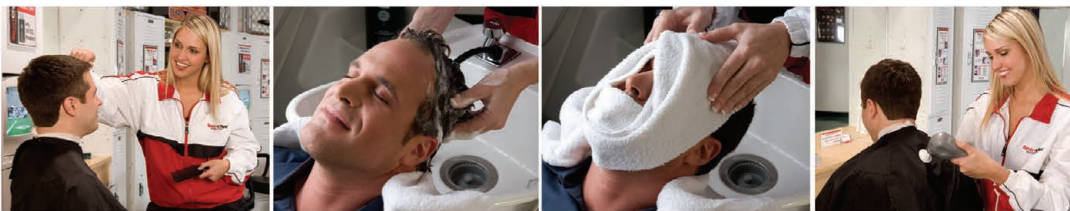
If I had a service like RamRide the night of my DUID, I would've called. But this is reality and premiere free services like this do not exist on most college campuses.

In my protracted journey, I wait to be liberated from probation, but I've learned a few things along the way. When partying, don't even drive the next morning. Just straight up never drive, and plan rides ahead of time for a smoother night and morning. All in all, avoid the lights of justice, the Man, the maniacal loss of money, time, and strain on relationships, and when in Ram Country, definitely do as the Rams do – call RamRide. You'll be glad you did. ■ Ca

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