

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Kiwainis Kids making a difference in the community

Courtesy of Phyllis Moniot, K-kids advisor  
Special to the Chronicle

The k-kids remain active. The latest project is making easter cards for the residents at the Trinidad State Nursing Home. We will be making about 100 cards. Also the lollypop sales will continue. We plan on having two more in the very near

future so we can achieve our goal of raising \$500 for a scholarship to be awarded to a Trinidad High School senior. Usually the school itself matches whatever we do raise. With the \$120 profit from the sale of ice cream cakes at Valentine's day, the k-kids voted to donate that money for hygiene supplies for needy kids at the school. Ms. Campbell makes up bags for these kids. The bags include toothbrushes, toothpaste,

soap, etc. The trash committee" also gives up another lunch hour every week and goes outdoors to pick up all the trash around the school. The k-kids also continue to take turns and say the pledge of allegiance before school starts in the morning. The "scrap book committee" is working on chronicling the years activities.

## Mighty Miner Forensics Team Heads to State

By Lacey Wesley  
Special to the Chronicle

Pam Baca sponsors the Mighty Miner Forensics Team. The team competes in speech, debate, and interpretation events at tournaments throughout Southern Colorado. They are currently going to state bringing a few lucky students. The State Qualifiers are Maddie Danielson in Humor and the District Champion, Megan Robinson in Humor in a duo with Caitlin Jansen she is a double qualifier, electing to compete in duo at State, Caitlin Jansen in a duo with Megan Robinson, Tim Torres competing in Drama, and Matt Trujillo also competing in Drama. The team

competes from October to April and also hosts a Forensics Tournament at Trinidad High School each January. They also compete in events sponsored by the National Forensics League such as Student Congress and Global Debate Society. Through successful participation, the students achieve degrees of honor, excellence, and distinction through the National Forensics League. The Mighty Miner Forensics Team hopes to establish a chapter of the National Junior Forensics League at Trinidad Middle School in the near future. The whole school is proud of the team and the students who are going to state.



Photos courtesy of Kim Croll

High school students from the "Media Club" at TSJC take time from their busy filming schedule to pose for the camera, a widely used tool of the trade.

### Media Club works on short film

Special to the Chronicle

Collaborations are very common in the entertainment industry. Whether it be between a famous novelist and a film producer or a hip-hop artist and a soft-rock guru, these famous fusions offer us a moment of enlightened expansion.

Such is the case with the "Media Club", the collaborative effort of a few creative high school students and the dedicated administration of Trinidad High School and Trinidad State Junior College. While not a class offered at TSJC, the Club was formed as an answer to the yearning students' desire to



expand their own creative film enlightenment. Zach Harmes and students lead this group and are currently in the process of making a short film, title unknown.

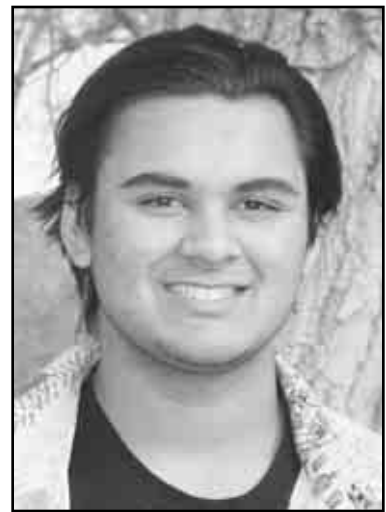
Kim Croll enthusiastically teaches this illustrious group of students and looks forward to seeing what they produce.

For the remainder of the 2008-09 school year, Jennifer Sanchez-Mason, principal of Trinidad High School, will be submitting an outstanding essay from one of her students each week. Here is the first essay, written by Samson Feagaiga.

## Academic



## Emphasis



Samson Feagaiga

Have you ever been in a chess game, where the King, the most priceless player, is abruptly dispatched by a pawn, a regular and ineffective participant? Where the King, the one that can kill anyone on the battlefield, suddenly misjudges the move of a pawn, and the pawn gets its chance to deteriorate the mighty tyrant. What makes a pawn and a king so different? A pawn can bring back some of the most valuable players, while the king is just so valuable. A pawn, common and on the verge of defenseless, can save a queen, and all a king can do is move one space. What makes it so that life itself is an offspring of a simple, but complex board of chess?

The passage I have selected today was an old, eminent Italian Proverb. It is short, but has colossal and deep contemplation in it, and is extremely tough to infer, with the incorrect set of mentality. The proverb, though easy to memorize, can control what you think in the future. It equivalently states, "After the game, the King and the Pawn go into the same box." Immediately analogies that are between life, and a game of chess rush threw your mind, leaps off your collarbone, and dives into the ridges of your spinal chord, where it lays its eggs, for you to interpret.

To me this proverb means a large number of things to me. It tells me that no matter if you a king or a street sweeper, when you dance with the grim reaper, he neutralizes everything you have worked for to an equilibrium cause. It makes me reevaluate my dreams, and it makes me look at my future ahead of me. Maybe I do not have to be the best in my class, or maybe I do not have to write the best paper. Does that mean all that I have worked for, pertaining to my future profession; everything that I had sacrificed to be all that I could be, all of it, the tough moments, and even the blissful, all of it was a waste. Maybe, or maybe I'm not even closer.

The person who reads that, and thinks the same way as I had just done, is misinterpreting it. The proverb did not mean to tell you to do

anything in your life, oh no but just the complete opposite. The proverb suggests that the king and the street sweeper are intertwined. In more up-to-date terms that celebrity that you loathe over, because you want her hair, or his skateboard, or their voice, or the groups skills, and you are exactly the same, believe it or not. I'm serious. What makes you think that the pro-star skater all-of-a-sudden became a pro-skater. No, it takes a little perseverance, and a whole lot of perspiration. When you think about it, he had the same dream as you did, not too long ago, of being a pro-star. When you think about life, you both are the same. He's a guy, you're a guy, or she's a girl and you're a girl, and you both are going to the same place. You have to make the determination, if you want to live life to its fullest, and become that one-of-a-kind, unique person, or just slide right by, and not give a second thought about anything or anyone.

The analogy to this proverb and life is very understandable when someone explains it to you. Life, a piece of art, is the old and rigid game that you play. The unthinkable ground you are in is that hard wood you put those pieces on. You are the pieces on the board that try to kill the opposing team, who are all the disappointments and all the unwanted surprises in life. There is just one fateful matter that you have to determine, and that is who you are. Are you the pawn, the ones you would use to start the game, but usually don't last till the end. Or are you going to be a bishop, or a castle, both equally paired, but both equally different. Or are you going to be a knight or a queen, both hard to kill, and very valuable. Or are you going to be a majestic and powerful king, who has lived life to the fullest, and who has separated the ones who are ill-tempered, and the ones who are hateful, from the ones who are happy, the ones who support you, and the ones who would give up their game so that you could still live yours.

The ones that give up their game, and the ones that sacrifice their battlefield, are the true winners. Those are the ones who can virtually survive anything that anyone throws at them. Those are the ones that can entice their hardships, and can subdue it into small pieces. They are the ones that can overcome, even the biggest and greatest, problems and dilemmas, with much ease. The ones that give up all they have diligently worked for, so that someone could enjoy the rest of their lives, are the true kings, in the game of chess.

~After the game, the king and the pawn go into the same box.  
-Italian Proverb

## Raton BPW Scholarship offered

Special to the Chronicle

The Raton Business and Professional Women's Organization is proud to offer a scholarship for continuing education in 2009. This scholarship is available to anybody in Colfax County, including graduating seniors and anyone now in the work force who wishes to further his /her education. Applications for this scholarship may be picked up from your local Colfax County high school counselor, or from Tarin Giacomo at The First National Bank of New Mexico, located at 1104 South 2nd St. in Raton. For questions and additional information, you may contact Melissa Mack at 445-4337 or Tarin Giacomo at 445-1400. Applications must be received by May 1, 2009.

## Raton FFA travels to Carrizozo for year's first competition

By TIM KELLER  
The Chronicle-News

Raton High School's Future Farmers of America traveled 300 miles last Saturday to Carrizozo, New Mexico, for its first competition of the year. Participating in many contest areas, the students gained valuable experience that will be put to use in their two remaining competitions.

Competing at the Carrizozo Invitational against 32 other high schools from throughout New Mexico, Augusta Ahlm was the top Raton finisher, scoring 5th out of 95 in horse judging. Jeremy Madison and Landon Berry each placed in the top 25% in the wildlife competition.

Other Raton participants included Joe Apache, Hilary Bayliss, Bryan Berry, Jessica Esquibel, Jessica Fiorino, Shandi Glenn, Garydale Grubelnik, Daniel Gonzales, Casey Kaplan, Kay Love, Jeff Martinez, Colton Milson, Hillary Roberts, Breanna Schutte, and Liz Strnad. They entered additional events that included livestock judging, poultry, agricultural mechanics, entomology, horticulture produce, floriculture, meats, and dairy foods.

The Raton Tigers activity bus departed from Raton High School at 2 o'clock Saturday morning and didn't get back until 10:30 that night. Some students watched movies on the long drive. FFA sponsor Amanda Armacost enjoyed pointing out that FFA members were able to repair the bus's DVD player which, she



photo courtesy Amanda Armacost

Raton High School Future Farmers of America pose outside school during the recent national FFA week.

said, had been broken on a basketball team trip.

Next up for Armacost's aggies is the Clayton Invitational held in Clayton, New Mexico, Saturday March 21 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. "It's really nice for us because it's close," Armacost said. "Usually we drive four or more hours to these contests." It's also a good opportunity for Raton friends and family to come watch the competitions.

Just days after the Clayton Invitational, Raton's FFA students will journey to Portales for their annual two-day district competition, held March 24-25 at Eastern New Mexico University. Armacost expressed confidence that her students will continue to improve their performances through each contest. She may also be hoping to see the addition of a competition for repairing DVD players.