Miles From Nowhere...

**By Benjamin Foote**
Philnews Manager

Here at Philmont, nestled right “where the mountains meet the plains,” we all seem to focus much more on the former set of topographical features than the latter.

We Philmonters love the mountains. We climb them. We create challenges, racing up and down them as fast as we can — the more peaks, taller “conquered,” the more hardcore we are.

Similarly, crews brag about which mountains they hiked over. They also take side-hikes to ascend and descend nearby peaks, often by the exact same route. (When was the last time you heard a crew eager to side-hike Horse Canyon?)

Then, when they return to base camp they buy patches in the Trading Post for all the mountains they surmounted.

As human beings, we seem drawn to the mountains. But why? Why are we irresistibly drawn up steep trails on hikes that wear on our bodies and spirits to summits where the air is thinner and the temperatures more extreme?

One thought is that we climb mountains in the name of self-importance.

We scale these summits to show that we can be as high as the birds can be, that we can survive above where the trees of the forests below can survive, that we can see farther than our fellow human beings down below who chose to not, or could not, ascend with us.

We climb to defy Nature, to prove ourselves better than whatever She can throw at us.

Another, opposing position is that we climb mountains in search of humility. We can look out the window of a commercial jet and see how high up we are at 30,000 or 40,000 feet.

But we feel much higher, and much smaller, when we scale a 12,000 foot peak one step at a time. And once at the top, standing more than two thousand times higher than ourselves, we look out at the vast world and realize how terribly tiny and trivial we are.

But I think that the true power and pleasure of climbing mountains lies in a Middle Way between the two.

It is true that reaching the summit validates, and even reinforces, our strength and determination. This validation, however, should not be viewed as some sort of battle against something: Nature, gravity, time, each other.

Rather, we should approach the peaks from the perspective of humility: that despite our extraordinary insignificance — our physical frailty and seemingly instantaneous lives, in comparison to mountains — we are still able to make it to the top.

We do not conquer the mountain; we achieve the peak, and gain all the physical, mental, and spiritual experience along the way.

**Correction:** The “Radio Joke,” printed in Issue Three, was actually submitted by the 2005 Ponil Staff, not the 2006 Staff. Our bad.
Fire Update

By Kate Shipley
PhilNews Staff

For those staffers from an area that yearly experiences four distinct seasons, New Mexico may be quite a change: from drought to monsoon season in just a few days, the weather here can be crazy.

No longer will Mark Anderson be able to shout, “Extreme fire danger,” and have everyone shout back, “Everywhere!”

The rain has reduced the threat of wildfire and in turn allowed Philmont to reduce fire restrictions.

“Though it makes me sad, I would ask that you remove the ‘Extreme Fire Danger — Everywhere’ signs from throughout your camp and your trail camps’ map boards,” Anderson said in a statement released Sunday.

Backcountry camps may now use fires during their programs, provided they use safety precautions.

Staff is required to have sufficient fire suppression available, and personnel must watch the fire until it is completely extinguished.

Fellowship fires, evening campfires and fires for branding are permitted. Any staff that wishes may continue to use kerosene lanterns.

Backcountry camps with wood burning stoves may begin to cook with them, but all staff should secure all propane burners and bottles in case conditions change later in the summer.

Starting this past Monday, Rangers began instructing crews how to correctly build and extinguish fires at designated campsites.

A decision as to whether or not to allow crew fires will be made Saturday, July 15.

Another change due to the precipitation situation is the reopening of the Valle Vidal.

Ring Place, Seally Canyon and Whiteman Vega were re-staffed Tuesday, and crews were able to go through starting Wednesday.

The Valle Vidal is open to staff hiking on their days off.
Driving right by it, one could not know it was there. The only signs of civilization in this place are 27 satellite dishes which rise like martian features out of the barren landscape.

Sharing the Plains of San Augustine with the National Radio Astronomy Observatory’s Very Large Array is Double H High Adventure Base. Six hours southwest of Philmont in Datil, New Mexico, Double H will give about 600 participants this summer the chance to spend seven days in the wilderness.

Crews arrive the day they leave for the trail. After a thirty minute ride to the turnaround, they will hike only a mile or two on the first day. The next two days are long hiking days which take them through the backcountry to their fourth day at Martin Camp, the only staffed backcountry camp at Double H. After Martin, the hiking format stays the same, only in a different part of the backcountry.

As program counselors as well as wilderness guides, the guides teach their crews skills such as Leave No Trace, geo-caching, astronomy, search and rescue, and map skills during the seven day trek. Since they stay with their crews the entire time, the way the guides teach their crews is loosely-laid out, said Adam Trunzo, one of the wilderness guides at Double H.

“It’s all really up to the guides,” he said. “You don’t have to follow the rigid program like Philmont.”

Inside this wilderness is Martin Camp. Located 27 miles from base camp by road, Martin Camp gives crews the chance to participate in archery, inline muzzle loading rifles, and geo-caching during the day they spend there. All of its staff members are certified National Rifle Association and National Archery Association Instructors.

In the archery range, crews can shoot seven foam animal targets, including life-size replicas of a deer, a coyote, and a bear. Each participant gets three shots at each target.

Unlike Philmont, which uses ball and powder black powder rifles, Double H uses pyrodex powder pellets and copper shells in inline muzzle loading rifles. Sometimes the crew’s own hats, t-shirts, or bandannas are used as targets at the rifle range. Otherwise the staff provides targets such as skeet and blown-up playing cards as targets, said Andrew Hosier, the Shooting Sports Director at Martin Camp.

“Someone made blown up copies of the entire 52 card playing deck [for target practice at the rifle range],” he said.

Only during this day at Martin Camp do their wilderness guides get a day off from being program counselors for their crews.

The opening and closing ceremonies are done by the wilderness guides as

Program Counselor Nathan Thomas teaches a crew at Martin Camp the proper technique for loading an inline muzzle loading rifle. Crews can shoot a variety of targets, including their own hats, t-shirts, or bandannas. Skeet and blown-up playing cards are also provided by the staff for the crew’s target practice.

PHOTO BY DAVID COUNTS, NPS Photographer
well. At these sites, as well as some of their other program sites like the challenge course, Rubbermaid boxes filled with materials are provided for the guides to successfully teach the programs to the crews.

Since there are no established trails, crews can also request a change of itinerary to another trail camp if they do not make their destination that day.

The favorite part of being a wilderness guide for Dane Dickinson is spending the entire seven day trek with a crew.

“I am a huge fan of being out with a crew and interacting with them,” he said. “It’s an awesome experience to be with a crew throughout the week.”

Only 40 people make up the staff at Double H High Adventure Base. The smaller staff is one of the reasons why Martin Camp Program Counselor Nathan Thomas likes working at Double H High Adventure Base.

“You can know everyone on a name to name basis,” he said. “It’s like a big family.”

Directions to Double H High Adventure Base

1. Interstate 25 Exit 147
2. Merge onto US-85 N
3. Turn Left onto US-60 W
4. Travel on US-60 W for approx. 47 miles traveling through Magdalena and passing by the National Radio Astronomy Observatory (VLA) on the left
5. Double H is on the right

Travel time: Approx. 6 hours

A wilderness guide helps his crew figure out the route they want to take that day using a map, a compass, and a GPS.

PHOTO BY DAVID COUNTS, NPS Photographer
Some things never change. Everyone thought that the Opening Campfire was one of those things, but this year’s Activities staff spruced the whole thing up.

Written in 1978, the old campfire was updated a couple times during the 90s to make it more historically accurate and politically correct, but this year’s changes are much more drastic.

Last summer, the Activities staff got the green light on rewriting the script and began brainstorming new ideas and improvements that could be made.

The new campfire, which gets consistently better feedback from campers and advisors, ditched the rhyming pattern and moved towards more historical facts and details.

Scott Stefun, Assistant Activities Manager, headed the project. He made an outline and started rewriting late last summer. He worked through the winter until he hit a case of writer’s block.

Everyone on the Activities staff this summer contributed to the project with fresh ideas and writing. New characters were added to make up for empty spots that created large time lapses in the old campfire.

The staff also tied the Opening and Closing Campfires together. At the end of their trek, participants see some of the same characters that they saw at the very beginning, which links the Philmont experience into a continuous whole.

Changes continue to be made as the staff sees where the campfire can be made better.

“We’re improving as we go,” Stefun said.
Ranch Hands Brought Together at Philmont

BY ANGELO POMPEO
Philnews Staff

Every troop and venture crew that passes through base camp seems to have some chemistry. The members have usually been together for a few years and have experienced adventures together.

The Ranch Hands, who arrived last Friday and only come to Philmont once a year, are different. They apply throughout the off season, and are selected by Cattle Headquarters to come on a 16-day cost-free working/cavalcading adventure. Most arrive as complete strangers and meet here for the first time.

“You don’t have to be a cowboy or a rancher to come out here as a Ranch Hand,” said Chuck Enloe, a cowboy at the horse department. “We read over all the applications during the year and we can choose up to fifteen to be Ranch Hands. We chose twelve this year, some of them have experience riding and ranching, but some we have to teach out here.”

Danny Schieffer, a Ranch Hand from a small town in southeast Iowa, when asked why he was interested in the Ranch Hand program, said, “Well… because it is free, and I love getting to be around the horses every day and getting to meet all kinds of new people.”

For the first eight days, the Ranch Hands are split into smaller groups and they work around base and at Clark’s Fork, Beaubien, and Ponil. “They haul hay and feed, work with the horses, lead trail rides, and just help us out around here,” said Enloe.

After the work days are done, the Ranch Hands are reunited for an eight day cavalcade through Philmont’s North Country and the Valle Vidal.

Ruth Davis a Ranch Hand from Madison, Wisconsin came on a cavalcade last year, and decided to apply as a Ranch Hand.

“The work hasn’t been too bad, so far, and it will definitely be worth it when we go on our Cavalcade.” Davis said, “I’m looking forward to barrel racing at the gymkhana when we finish.”

For her, the journey began before she even arrived at Philmont.

“Two other girls from my venture crew were selected as Ranch Hands this year. Then, five of us Ranch Hands met on the bus down here from Chicago, so that was nice,” said Davis, “and all the people we’ve met since we got here have been pretty cool too.”

Although Davis’ case was a little different, there was still much bonding to be done at Philmont. It is not until after they work, live, and ride together that they find that all have a common interest that brought them here to Philmont and got them selected into the Ranch Hands program.

During their time here, these twelve sixteen- to eighteen-year-olds will get to do what they love in a beautiful setting, face challenges together, and get to experience Philmont in a unique way.

Ranch Hand Ruth Davis tends to a horse at Cattle Headquarters.

PHOTO BY CHRIS DUNN, NPS Photographer
The Manly Men of Pueblano Know All

Q: Why do Phil-Flings start so good and end so badly?
~Hearbroken in base
A: Because you didn’t pick one of the Pueblano men, that’s why. Yeah! Yeah!

Q: What color nalgene is the best for warding off mini-bears?
~Chewed up at Cito
A: What the deuce is a nalgene? Your best bet for mini-bear protection would be a hatchet. Go on down to Rayado River Camp and they will teach you how to throw with precision.

Q: Where did the Pueblano Boys go on vacation? How was it?
~Pueblano groupie
A: Into the woods. It was extremely dangerous, especially with the burritos and pumas.

Q: If you could be someone from Sesame Street, who would it be?
~Grover wannabe
A: Originally, we would have said cookie monster, since he was a freakin’ beast. Now that he is a health-conscious fool, we opt for Snuffleupagus. Cookie monster, freakin’ sell out.

Q: Why does the weather always come over the Tooth?
~Meteorologically mesmerized
A: Because if it came under the Tooth you would contract gingivitis and die a horrible death.

Tell us your troubles!
The wise and compassionate men at Pueblano are anxiously waiting to help you. I-camp your questions to the News & Photo Service to get answers and have your problems spread all over the Ranch.

Tour the Villa Philmonte

See the summer home of Waite and Genevieve Phillips. Built in the Spanish-Mediterranean style in 1927, it is 16,000 square feet in size and still holds the original furnishings. Fresco paintings decorate ceilings and a very fine Kanbe piano can be played in the living room.

THIS SUMMER!

1. The mountain lion in the old swimming pool is still shooting water!
2. The fleur-de-lis and the Arrowhead, rendered in flowers, decorate the old swimming pool.
3. The Phillips’ saddles are in the Waite Phillips Photo Gallery along with copies of the original blueprints of the Villa and early construction photos.

(You do not need a tour guide to visit the Photo Gallery. The entrance is at the north end of the courtyard.)

We are open for tours 7 days a week.
Tours begin on the hour and half hour:
• 8:00am – 11:00am
• 12:30pm – 4:30pm

Please make reservations at the Philmont Museum / Seton Library. See you soon!

Pictures of Omar the Camel and Villa Custom socks also available!
Leaving Early?

“If I leave earlier than my contracted last day, does it hurt my chances of getting hired next year?”

Yes, it very well may hurt your chances of being rehired, depending on the reason for your early departure and whether or not you followed Philmont’s procedures. If you must leave earlier than specified in your Terms of Seasonal Employment, you must provide written documentation from your school or employer. Early Leave Requests must be submitted by July 31 for consideration. Legitimate reasons for an early departure include: education, dormitory responsibility, school activity or job.

Any staff member who wishes to depart Philmont before August 10 is required to write a letter of resignation to accompany the Early Leave Request form. Such requests may jeopardize chances for re-employment, job choices, or recommendations, depending on the reasons given. Because the person you rode out here with is leaving early is not necessarily a valid reason for you to leave early. There are over 1,000 staff currently employed at Philmont and they come from all parts of the country... so look into sharing a ride with some one else or check into the availability of public transportation through our Logistics staff before you request an early leave. Early Leave Request forms are available through the personnel office at Camping Headquarters.

Philmont Fall & Winter Staff Opportunities

Don’t want to leave? Why not work at Philmont through the year!

Camping Headquarters is currently accepting applications for positions with the Autumn Adventure Program Staff, Fire Rehab Staff, Philmont Training Center Staff, Program Staff, Trading Post Staff, Dining Hall Staff and Kanik Winter Program Staff. Application forms are available at CHQ and should be completed and returned by Wednesday, July 26th.

Staff for Autumn Adventure will need to be available from approximately September 1 through October 31. Autumn Adventure is a Fall program that allows crews to plan a customized itinerary and hike the backcountry with a staff guide. Staff applicants who are also available to work the winter Kanik program are preferred.

Staff for Kanik will need to be available for training November 1 through 7, and for staffing the program from December 26 through March 31. Kanik is Philmont’s cold weather camping program and includes ski touring, snow shelter building, snow camping, winter ecology, hiking, use of winter tools and equipment.

Additionally, staff is needed for Tent Crew (August 22 through 31), Trading Post, Dining Hall, Training Center, and Wrangler.

This is a great opportunity to be a part of the “behind the scenes” action that makes the Philmont magic come alive. Applicants should understand that they will be expected to perform many different duties if hired for these positions. Please contact Betty Brown or John Van Dreese at Camping Headquarters for an application or for more information.

Submitted by John Van Dreese
Associate Director of Program
Explosions in India
Tuesday evening, seven bombs exploded on Bombay’s commuter rail network, reportedly killing 174 people and wounding at least 454 more. Authorities say it was a well-coordinated attack, and all India’s major cities have been put on high alert. Bombay, India’s financial capital, turned to chaos following the blasts. Rescuers struggled to treat the wounded amid the heavy monsoon season.

Most-wanted Russian killed by agents
Last Monday, Russian agents killed the mastermind of the siege on the Russian school that killed 331 people, half of them children. Shamil Basayev, a Chechen warlord, claimed responsibility for the attack and is thought to be to blame for several others as well. Nikolai Patrushev, director of the Federal Security Service, said that Basayev was planning an attack to coincide with the G8 summit taking place in Russia this weekend. While Russian agents claim that they set off the truck bomb that killed Basayev and 12 other rebels, a Chechen website says that the explosives went off accidentally. Washington classified him as a threat to the United States, and he was on the U.N. Security Council’s official terrorist list.

Congress approves more aid for Louisiana
The federal government has approved $4.2 billion for a program that will help Louisiana residents sell or rebuild homes damaged by Hurricane Katrina and Rita. Another $1 billion will be provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for residents of Mississippi, Alabama, Texas and Florida. The $4.2 billion is part of a $9 billion overall package to help bring residents back to the state of Louisiana. Each eligible homeowner could receive up to $150,000 for repair or selling costs. In Louisiana, 123,000 homes and 80,000 apartments are eligible for the grant.

Building explosion in New York City
A four-story apartment building on the Upper East Side of New York City erupted in flames and injured at least 15 people Monday morning. The only man in the building, Dr. Nicolas Bartha, was pulled from the debris and appeared injured but alert. Authorities are looking into the possibility that the blast was the result of a suicide attempt by Bartha. Ten firefighters and five civilians sustained minor injuries. On Tuesday police and fire investigators found that the basement gas line leading into the building was tampered with. Someone had modified it so that a hose could be attached from the line to the rear of the building, authorities said.

Congress having trouble passing anything
Deep divisions in the GOP have caused problems for the Republican Party and the Congress in general this summer. Even during the patriotic Fourth of July season, they were not able to pass a bill to prevent the words “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance from court interference. It was the first item on their “American Values Agenda,” trumpeted for the election year. Other factors in the logjam are the low popularity ratings of President Bush and challenges from the Democrats, who are clamoring to gain control for the first time in more than a decade. Republicans are shrugging the problems off as typical legislative problems, while Democrats are pouncing the Congress’s inability to fulfill its most basic role of passing legislation. Other bills that Congress will be dealing with this session include pension reform, stem cell research and the historic Voting Rights Act, which outlawed racist voting practices in the South.

Duct tape can fix that
After a safety-jet backpack came loose on astronaut Piers Sellers last Monday, he suggested that some tape might just be the solution. The backpack, called a SAFER, is used by all astronauts during spacewalks to keep them from floating away. It allows them to propel themselves back toward the shuttle in case a foot restraint breaks off. The Kapton tape is similar to duct tape with a few extras. It is slippery, and it can withstand freezing cold and scorching hot temperatures.

Underground Chicago subway train derails
Shortly after 5 p.m. Tuesday, a northbound Chicago subway train derailed sending dozens of soot-covered passengers scrambling out an emergency exit after a fire broke out on the train. 76 commuters were taken to nearby hospitals for treatment. Firefighters led the commuters from the underground tunnel to an emergency exit, where they were met by emergency medical personnel. The derailment shut down service between two stations on the Chicago Transit
Authority’s Blue Line, which connects downtown Chicago with the O’Hare International Airport. The train car filled with smoke with no warning, a passenger told CNN. The Chicago Transit Authority had no details on the derailment, except that there was also a fire involved in the incident.

**Bush shifts in rhetoric**
Though President Bush has always championed pre-emptive action and a hard-line with enemies, the simultaneous nuclear stand-offs have led to a shift in his methods. As Bush visits Europe and Russia this week, he is urging patience at every turn. He commented to reporters that when using diplomacy, progress was slower because everyone had to get on the same page.

**Goat demoted for unseemly behavior**
After marching out of line at a parade on Queen Elizabeth II’s birthday, a British army regiment’s ceremonial pet goat was demoted in disgrace. The goat, a 6-year-old male named Billy, was bumped down to the rank equivalent to private after the poor behavior shown before a host of international dignitaries. A spokesman for the regiment said that Billy was reported for insubordination and the commanding officer had no choice but to demote him.

**Pentagon shifts in detainees’ rights**
After years of classifying detainees as “illegal combatants,” the Pentagon has decided to comply with the minimum standards of the Geneva conventions. This announcement comes in between the Supreme Court ruling that the military tribunals set up by the Pentagon were invalid and Congress’s upcoming discussion of the alternatives to replace that system. The court decided that Article 3 of the Geneva conventions did apply to the terror suspects, as opposed to the stance of the president. Article 3 gives detainees a minimum level of rights expected in a civilized country. The details of what that means will be left up to Congressional debate.

**Pirates of the Caribbean 2 brings in big loot**
“Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest” earned the record opening box-office gross of $135.6 million, beating the record set in 2002 by “Spider-Man.” Despite poor reviews, the sequel, full of plot twists and special effects, was propelled by heartthrobs Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, and Keira Knightley. Depp’s character Jack Sparrow, a drunken buccaneer famously modeled on the Rolling Stones’ Keith Richards, earned him an Oscar nomination in 2003. Depp has made a career of playing offbeat characters, from Gilbert Grape to Edward Scissorhands to Willy Wonka.
SAT executives subpoenaed by New York senator
The chairman of the New York state Senate Higher Education Committee, Senator Kenneth LaValle, has subpoenaed College Board executives over their refusal to release a report on scoring errors in the SAT college entrance exam. In October, more than 4,400 high school students nationwide received incorrectly low scores on the SAT exam because of a computer scanning glitch on answer sheets. The glitch was blamed on excessive moisture on the sheets due to wet weather. LaValle wants the executives to disclose what is in their report, and requires even preliminary reports to be released to the state legislature. In May LaValle’s committee questioned the College Board executives as it sought to require them to detect and report errors faster so students aren’t left with incorrect scores. The scoring problems resulting from this glitch forced many colleges to reopen admission files just as they tried to make final decisions. The College Board reported that 83% of the incorrect scores were off by 40 points or less.

Hackers target State Department computers
The Associated Press learned Tuesday that the State Department is recovering from large-scale computer break-ins in mid-June that targeted its offices dealing with China and North Korea. Investigators believe sensitive U.S. information and passwords were stolen by hackers. Tracing the origin of the trackers is difficult but employees said that the hackers especially hit computers inside the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Budget deficit lower than estimate
For the budget year ending on September 30, the budget deficit will come to $296 billion, much lower than the $423 billion predicted by the Bush administration in February and a slight improvement over 2005. Bush says that tax cuts that gave American workers $1.1 trillion fueled the economy and led to greater tax income from businesses. The greatest weights on the budget were the war in Iraq, the reconstruction in the Gulf Coast region and higher interest payments on the national debt. Democrats criticize the White House for running such a large debt, saying they inherited a budget running a surplus in 2001 and that this deficit is one of the four largest in US history.
**Pink Floyd member dies**
Syd Barrett, the founder of Pink Floyd, died at the age of 60. He was known as an eccentric guitarist who later abandoned the music business for a more reclusive life. The surviving members of Pink Floyd, Roger Waters, David Gilmour, Nick Mason and Richard Wright, were saddened by his passing. They called him a guiding light and legacy in a statement released Tuesday. The cause of death was not disclosed.
Italy wins World Cup

Germany emerged victorious in the battle for third place, beating Portugal 3-1 on Saturday, July 8. After an evenly played first half, a dazzling performance by midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger led Germany to victory. In the 56th minute, Schweinsteiger unleashed a bending long-distance shot that slipped past Portugal goalkeeper Alexandre Ricardo to put Germany ahead 1-0. Five minutes later Schweinsteiger produced another goal when his line drive shot off a free kick was deflected by Portugal’s Armando Petite into his own goal. In the 78th minute Schweinsteiger scored a third goal for Germany with another picture-perfect shot from 25 yards out. Portugal refused to be shut out, however; with two minutes left, 33-year-old veteran Luis Figo delivered a perfect cross to Miguel Nuno Gomes, whose diving header denied German keeper Oliver Kahn a shutout. Both Figo and Kahn have announced retirement following this World Cup Tournament.

On Sunday, July 9, Italy claimed its fourth World Cup title, defeating France 5-3 on penalty kicks after a 1-1 tie in Berlin’s Olympiastadion. France’s 34-year-old veteran captain Zinedine Zidane was the match’s center of attention, both positively and negatively. In the seventh minute, Zidane scored a penalty shot for France off the crossbar following Marco Materazzi’s fouling Florent Malouda in Italy’s penalty area. But Materazzi was able to redeem himself in the 19th minute, leaping over French defenders to head a corner kick from Andrea Pirlo past French goalkeeper Fabien Barthez. Still tied after 90 minutes, the match went into overtime.

In the 111th minute, Zidane ended his international career in disgrace. Zidane was ejected with a red card after headbutting Materazzi while the ball, and Argentinian head referee Horacio Elizondo, where at the other end of the field. French Coach Raymond Domenech later complained that the red card was prompted by the referees seeing the instant replay of the event displayed in the stadium, which is not permitted by the rules of the game. The referees and FIFA maintain, however that the fourth official, Luis Medina Cantalejo of Spain, witnessed the incident.

Following Zidane’s send-off, leaving France a man down, neither team was able to score, sending the game to a shootout. French forward’s David Trezeguet’s missed shot off the crossbar allowed Italy to come away with the win, 5-3.

Despite Zidane’s disgraceful exit, he was still awarded the FIFA Golden Ball Award for most outstanding player of the tournament. Media votes were cast before Zidane was ejected from the final game; he received 2,012 votes, while the runner-up, Italian captain Fabio Cannavaro received 1,977. Brazil and Spain shared the award for fair play. Portugal won the award for most entertaining team with 47% of the votes; Italy was second with 41%. The Golden Shoe Award, the top scorer of the tournament, went to Miroslav Klose of Germany, who scored five goals over the course of the tournament. Best Goalkeeper went to Gianluigi Buffon of Italy, and 21-year-old striker Lukas Podolski of Germany won the award for Best Young Player.

The next World Cup tournament will be held in South Africa in 2010.

Federer, Mauresmo win Wimbledon

Which is sweeter for Roger Federer, winning his fourth straight Wimbledon Title, or finally defeating his old rival Rafael Nadal who had knocked him out of four finals this year? On Sunday, he played like the world’s no.1, and accomplished both. Federer the world’s top ranked player, ended his five match losing streak to no. 2 ranked Nadal when he defeated him 6-0, 7-6 (5), 6-7 (2), 6-3 to earn his eighth Grand Slam championship.

Top ranked Amelie Mauresmo of France defeated Belgium’s Jusine Henin-Hardenne 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 to claim her first Wimbledon

The only place Americans seemed to have success was in the Men’s Doubles where Bob Bryan and Mike Bryan beat Fabrice Santero and Nenad Zimonjic 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, to win the Title. In the women’s doubles championship, Yan Zi and Zhand Jie of China beat Virginia Ruano and Paola Suarez. In the mixed doubles Andy Ram of Israel and Vera Zvonareva of Russia defeated Bob Bryan and Venus Williams. After her early exit from the Women’s tournament, Venus Williams has dropped out of the top 20 ranked players in the world, and Andy Roddick dropped out of the top 10.

Tour de France Headed for the Mountains

After completing stage 9, the last flat stage of the tour, on Tuesday, the race will now take a steep turn into the Pyrenees Mountains. Serguei Gonchar of Ukraine is currently wearing the yellow jersey, but American Floyd Landis, in second place and only trails him by a minute. Sprinters Oscar Freire of Spain and Robbie Mcwen of Australia finished atop the 105-mile stage 9, but are expected to be slowed by the steep mountain stages. The overall leaders, Gonchar and Landis came in behind the lead pack in stage nine, which may have been a strategic move as all the riders will be heavily tested in the upcoming days. With the loss of riders from the doping allegations, there are no overwhelming favorites left in the race, and thus far no one seems to be pulling away. The intense upcoming stages will provide that opportunity for the truly elite riders in the race.
MLB Home Run Derby
Last year’s Rookie of the Year, Ryan Howard of the Philadelphia Phillies, came back in every round to win the Home Run Derby Monday night in Pittsburgh. He became the second Phillie in a row, to win the contest. He finished the contest with 23 home runs, one shy of his teammate Bobby Abreu’s first round performance last year, but they were well timed, well paced and just enough to win the contest. Howard finished the first round with four home runs with just one out remaining, knocking out Jermaine Dye of the World Champion Chicago White Sox. In round two, David Ortiz of the Red Sox and Miguel Cabrera of the Marlins were eliminated as Howard again went on a streak of four home runs, this time with two outs remaining. David Wright, who had a monster first round with 16 home runs, seemed to run out of gas in the finals against Howard, hitting only four. Howard then stepped up and stopped at five, winning the derby.

MLB All-Star Game
The National League was one strike away from ending a decade of All-Star Game dominance by the American League. Then Michael Young of the Texas Rangers belted a triple into the right-center field gap scoring two runs off San Diego Padre’s closer Trevor Hoffman, putting the game safely in the hands of Yankee’s closer Mariano Rivera. Rivera held on to the lead in the bottom of the ninth, Young took the MVP award, and the AL won home field advantage in the World Series for the fourth year in a row.
The scoring started early as Vladimir Guerrero of the Los Angeles Angels blasted a home run into the right field bleachers, giving the AL an early second inning lead. In the bottom of the same inning, second-year standout David Wright of the New York Mets tied the game at 1 with a home run of his own. Wright’s teammate Carlos Beltran scored on a wild pitch in the third, giving them the 2-1 they held until the ninth.

With the come-from-behind win, the AL completed a full decade of All-Star game success. The NL’s last win came in 1996 in Philadelphia, since then they’ve only come as close as a 2002 tie in Milwaukee. The All-Star Game is only one example of the American League dominance that has emerged in recent years. They have swept the last two World Series and have ruled interleague play, winning 61 percent of the games this season.
Radio Jumble

Use the letters in the shaded boxes to complete the pun.

PALHA
DTLAE
NGAOT
RISARE
MVRBEOEN
SEYKHWI
CHEO
LFOG
LTOEH

The two inventors of the radio were on ______ _______ ________________________.

The memories of my family outings are still a source of strength to me. I remember we’d all pile into the car—I forget what kind it was—and drive and drive. I’m not sure where we’d go, but I think there were some trees there. The smell of something was strong in the air as we played whatever sport we played. I remember a bigger, older guy we called “Dad.” We’d eat some stuff, or not, and then I think we went home. I guess some things never leave you.

~ Deep Thoughts by Jack Handey
INTERESTED IN ACTING?
NOW ACCEPTING AUDITIONS FOR OPENING CAMPFIRE

The new campfire takes place in the Philturn era (1940) with historical characters appearing to act out the past. It is a work in progress and additional parts may eventually be written.

Parts Currently Available:
- Popé (M/F) Pueblo Revolutionary
- Diego de Vargas (M) Spanish Governor of New Mexico
- Kit Carson (M) Mountain man and Soldier
- Luz Maxwell (F) Wife of Lucien Maxwell, wealthy landowner
- Clay Allison (M) Landowner and gunfighter
- Gretchen Sammus (F) Rancher and great-granddaughter of Teresa Chase
- Waite Phillips (M) Businessman and benefactor of Philmont
- Old Scout (M) 1930s Boy Scout, meets participants and Welcome Center, takes roll call, and leads them to campfire bowl. (No memorization necessary for this part)

Auditions are required! Rehearsal with Activities staff may be required. Sign up at Activities Office. After a successful audition, you may sign up to play your part at any time.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Where are they?

- Health Lodge (x2)
- Full Time Paramedics Truck
- Fire Station 1
- Administration
- CHQ Camper Dining Hall
- Between PTC Dining Halls
- PTC Sun Room
- Logistics Radio Room
- Trading Post Snack Bar

AEDs: know where they are. You could save a life.
If I had a mine shaft, I don’t think I would just abandon it. There’s got to be a better way.

~ Deep Thoughts by Jack Handey
Crossword Extravanga!

**Across**
1. shoots a gun at Opening Campfire
4. source of milk
6. a Waite Phillips saying
7. Campfire Native American
9. ____ Burger
10. haunted gold panning camp
11. elevation 7978 feet
12. Clear Creek’s mountain
17. nutritive substance
20. elevation 10468 feet
21. pronounce “jangler” in the RO
24. one of Waite’s other halves
25. collection of bandages and gloves
26. five of these cover all of Philmont
31. prone to cavities
32. high point
34. cowboy’s ride
35. waterproof layer
37. higher than 11-, 20-, 40-across and 33-, 37-, 39-, and 43-down
38. one of many ways to light a blaze
40. Comanche’s neighbor
41. illegal challenge
42. the universal solvent
44. number one animal killer of humans
45. challenge that takes you over 50 miles
46. wapiti

**Down**
1. haunted mine-touring camp
2. most common mammal seen at Philmont
3. takes participant across many mountains
4. where the chaplains are
5. home on the trail
8. one of the ten essentials
9. stubborn animal
13. billy ____
14. haunted mesa
15. challenge to complete crew’s trek on the hike-in day
16. maxwell’s first name
18. haunted tomahawk throwing camp
19. Little Costilla to Line Camp
22. challenge that follows Philmont’s border
23. illumination on the trail
27. Waite’s son
29. Swiss Army ____
30. place where crops are raised
32. place to crash
33. elevation 11024 feet
36. Philmont’s benefactor
37. sometimes considered the hardest mountain to climb here
39. elevation 9748 feet
43. site of airplane crash
44. muppet-like shape of Philmont
Sudoku

The sudoku puzzle starts with some of the 81 squares already containing a number. These numbers are called “givens”. The goal of the game is simply to fill the puzzle so that every row, column and region contains the digits 1 through 9. Therefore each number from 1 to 9 only appears once in each of the 3 “directions” (row, column, region). It’s that simple. Taken from sudokuweb.com

Last week’s answer

Join the Club!

Philmont Staff Association
A fellowship of current and former Philmont staff.

It’s just $15.00 for a year’s membership! That gets you 6 issues of High Country with updates, news and stories all about “God’s Country” plus access to the online membership directory listing former staff living all over the world and a PSA car decal.

Just I-Camp this ad to Michele Allen, PSA, or stop by our new office in the Beaubien room at PTC. Office hours are Mon–Fri 8–5, Sat 1–5, Sun 8:30–10:30. Please enclose $15 with this form OR, before August 5th, check the payroll deduction box below.

SIGN UP NOW!

Name ___________________________________
Job/Department ___________________________
Permanent Address ________________________
________________________________________
Phone ___________________________________
Email ___________________________________
____ Sign me up! Please deduct $15.00 from my next Philmont paycheck.
____ I joined last summer, so it’s time for me to renew. Please deduct $15.00 from my next Philmont paycheck.
Signature ___________________________________
Date ______________________________________
Philmont Photo Contest 2006

Sponsored by Activities

All photos must be from 2006 and related to Philmont. The winner of each category will win a prize from the Trading Post. The overall winner will receive a gift certificate to the Trading Post or Texas Red's.

Good luck!

Deadline: August 1st

Philmont Photo Contest 2006
Entry Form

Name _________________________________
Department: ____________________________

Photo Title: _____________________________

Category (Circle One):
- Landscape
- Storms & Rainbows
- Animal Wildlife
- Plant Wildlife
- Staff Activity
- Camper Activity
- Sunrise & Sunset
- Double H
- Humor (no vulgarity)
- Black & White
- Digital Creations

(One entry per category)

Bring or send your photos to the Activities Office. Each photo must be labeled with your name, department and the category in which you are entering it.

No digital alterations (except for Digital Creations category).

Welcome staff & guests to Philmont’s 68th season.

Cimarron Inn
& RV-Park

Theme Rooms: Each is uniquely furnished to reflect local history and activities.

=AAA Rated= www.cimarroninn.com (505) 376-2268

Phones, In-room coffee, cable TV, spotlessly clean rooms, friendly and courteous service

Ask to see the Philmont Room & the NEW CASITA which sleeps 12!
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN A CAREER WITH A PURPOSE!

INSTILLING VALUES THROUGH...
BEING AN EXECUTIVE WITH LEARNING FOR LIFE

Learning for Life is designed to support schools and other youth-serving organizations in their efforts toward preparing youth to successfully handle the complexities of today's society and to enhance their self-confidence, motivation, and self-worth. Learning for Life helps youth develop social and life skills, enhances their career awareness, assists in character development, and helps them formulate positive personal values. It prepares youth to make ethical decisions that will help them achieve their full potential.

What Learning for Life Executives Do
As a manager, the executive identifies, recruits, trains, guides, and inspires educators, community and business leaders, and volunteers to become involved in Learning for Life.

New challenges are a part of the Learning for Life environment. Executives are responsible for seeing that things move and happen to meet the needs of youth and families. Our executives develop and use skills in management, sales, public relations, and fund-raising. Although they spend their share of hours behind a desk, a lot more time is spent in their community checking out the action in their assigned geographical areas, making sure that goals are set and objectives are met.

A Learning for Life Position
The executive manages the overall growth, extension, quality, program enhancement, and supervision of the Learning for Life program within a specified geographical area. They oversee a corps of adult volunteers who in turn support, train, and motivate the adult volunteer leaders delivering the Learning for Life program. Though most of the work deals with human relations, fund-raising administration and public relations are vital additional duties of your job.

Starting Pay and Benefits
Minimum starting salary is over $51,000 and the benefits package includes major medical insurance and prescription coverage, a dental assistance plan, a vision service plan, accident insurance, life insurance, a retirement plan, and the option to invest in a tax-deferred annuity. This benefits package is considered among the best in the nonprofit business sector. Annual increases in salary are based upon an individual's overall performance.

Qualifications
- Adult—at least 21 years old, unless prohibited by any applicable law.
- Hold the minimum of a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Be a U.S. citizen or declare your intention to become one.
- Be of good character and have a strong desire for success and goal achievement.
- Be willing and able to devote long and irregular hours to achieve positive objectives.
- Be people oriented and want to do something worthwhile for the future.

Accept the Challenge
To learn more, visit the Learning for Life Internet Web site at http://www.learning-for-life.org or write to Learning for Life at 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane, P.O. Box 152079, Irving, TX 75015-2079.

Learning for Life is an equal opportunity employer.

Mission Statement
It is the mission of Learning for Life to enable young people to become responsible individuals by teaching positive character traits, career development, leadership, and life skills so they can make ethical choices and achieve their full potential.

Vision Statement
Learning for Life strives to be the foremost co-educational youth program for character and career development.
Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS)

Please inform your brothers, sisters, troops and venture crews at home.

The Roving Outdoor Conservation School (ROCS) program is a 21-day trek for Scouts and Venturers that are between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one. They will participate in an extensive environmental education program and various conservation projects throughout the backcountry. Lessons include:

Astronomy  Aquatic Insects  Botany  Dendrology
Ecology    Environmental Policy   Fire Ecology   Fish
Forest Management  Forest Health    Geology    Hydrology
Insects     Land Management   Mammals    Philmont Land Use History
Range Management  Reptiles and Amphibians  Soil Science  Weather
Wildlife Management

The program cost is only $370. The Scouts will hike approximately 150 miles throughout the entire Ranch and into the Valle Vidal National Forest. Conservation projects will be done in different locations. Projects include trail building, streambed management and meadow encroachment. There are five sessions this summer and openings are still available for each. Treks are not coed but there are sessions available for both genders. There are four male sessions and one female session. Dates for the male crews are 6/17, 7/8, and 7/15; the date for the female crew is 7/22. Shuttles from Denver, Albuquerque, and Raton are available if needed.

Applications are available in the Conservation office, 505-376-2281 x249, or the Welcome Center.
For more information, contact Justin Hougham. ADC ROCS (rhougham@wsu.edu) or Kevin Clegg, ROCS Coordinator (kclegg@nmu.edu).

2006 PSA Scholarship Information

This year the PSA will give out five $1,000 scholarships. The purpose of the scholarships are to assist current staffers coming back next year that might need more money for school than what a Philmont salary provides.

Requirements
1. Must complete the application and the rest of the requirements by August 21. In the application the selection committee is specifically looking at the two short answer essays and the recommendation from the applicant’s current Philmont manager.
2. Must be a current PSA member. If the applicant is not a member, please see the information on page 20 of the PhilNews.
3. Must be a current 2006 Philmont staff member.
4. Must turn in a 2007 Philmont Staff Application before leaving the Ranch for the summer.
5. The selection committee meets September 15–17 to make the decisions.
6. The scholarship goes directly to the educational institution, usually in October.
7. If the applicant is working in the backcountry, he or she can I-camp the PSA to request an application.
8. Previous winners can apply if they meet all the above requirements.
Fold your PhilNews into a Water Bomb!

1. Fold both diagonals and return
2. Fold horizontal and vertical centrelines and return
3. Collapse
4. Fold tips to top
5. Fold sides to centre
6. Fold tips down
7. Fold and tuck tips inside
   Tip: press gently on the edge to open the pockets
8. Tip: fold and return top and bottom points to centre at step 8 to ease final shaping
9. Separate the layers and blow into hole
   Tip: fold and return top and bottom points to centre at step 8 to ease final shaping
Heck's
Since 1975
Hungry Traveler

2 Locations to serve you:
Hwy 64; Cimarron, NM 87747
&
I-25 exit 419; Springer, NM 87747

Groups & Busses Welcome! For groups of 15 or more without reservations allow 30 minutes extra for service.

Home of the cinnamon bun, a Phil Favorite.
Use it or lose it

BY JAY TELRAV
Jewish Chaplain

Last summer, I remember a staff person excitedly asking me if I’d heard the news. The excitement in his voice told me I’d better pay attention and he told me that on August twenty-something, the planet Mars would be closer to the Earth than it had been in 69 thousand years and closer than it will be for another 23 thousand. “Can you believe it? It’s going to happen in our lifetime!”

His comment made me think of the bus tours the rangers give in which they explain that the Tooth of Time is an igneous intrusion of Dacite porphyry formed in the tertiary period 22 – 40 million ago today! (Happy Birthday, Tooth of Time!)

What do these two comments both have in common? They are both reminding us that this very moment is significant.

Ever since we watched “Dead Poet’s Society,” the expression Carpe Diem has been familiar to us but the sentiment behind it is as difficult to attain as ever. “Seize The Day” sounds so simple but living with our eyes open to the world around us is challenging.

Our society teaches us to have a five-year plan: where we’re going to school, what direction our lives will take and maybe even how many kids we want to have. For most of us, life passes us by while we’re making other plans (thanks John Lennon).

But here at Philmont, we create our own society. We are the lucky few who get to leave the “real world” and live in the REAL world. We can use this time as a break from all the routine and expectation placed on us back home to enjoy a period of being present in our lives. What is the opposite of mindfulness? It is mindlessness — inherently less.

God has given us a limited number of days in this world and if we squander them with trivial thoughts and activities then we can blame no one but ourselves. Instead, we can take this time to appreciate our opportunities, consider ourselves and contemplate our world.

A professor of mine says that the world and the mind are made up of the world and the mind. In other words, there is a certain reality out there, but we get to write a lot of the story based on how we understand the reality. But that requires some action on our part.

There is a Jewish saying in which God speaks. “Bless me and I’ll know that you love me. Curse me and I’ll know that you love me.” What is not said is, “Just do not be indifferent to me”. Indifference is the opposite of Carpe Diem.

I sometimes refer to Leather and Gortex syndrome — the tendency to stare at the Leather and Gortex on the boots of the hiker ahead of you rather than appreciate your surroundings. We staff can easily begin to take our surroundings (both physical and spiritual/emotional) for granted.

Do your best to not only appreciate each precious moment, but also to really LIVE each precious moment out here in God’s Country. Once you’ve wasted a moment, you can never get it back.

Finally, I’d love to hear your thoughts on this or on life or on anything else. My porch is always open…stop by or send me an I-camp and we’ll sit together and then we’ll discuss something really interesting. (You bring the topic, I’ll bring the cookies!)

L’Shalom, In Peace,
~Jay

All chapel services are held every night at 7 p.m.

You’re Invited!

Who: Absolutely everyone and anyone
What: Jewish Chapel Services
Where: The Jewish Chapel
When: Every single evening at 7 pm
Why: Because I thought you already knew you were welcome, but I still get asked all the time…yes, even though you’re not Jewish, I’d be honored if you attended out of curiosity, for the cookies or for any other reason.
Father Raymond Fecteau  
Catholic Chaplain

While a seminarian, Father Ray applied in 1969 for a summer staff position with B.S.A. The Daniel Webster Council hired him to serve as a Provisional Scoutmaster at Camp Carpenter, New Hampshire. It was Father Ray’s first scouting experience. He returned in the same staff position each summer until his ordination as a priest in 1972. He has stayed active in scouting ever since.

Father Ray is registered with the National Capital Area Council. He has held several leadership positions on the district, council and regional levels. He has been a Membership Chair, Camp Chaplain, and Camp Inspector. He is the founding Charter Executive of Venture Crew 2003. He has received the District Award of Merit and the Silver Beaver. Father Ray is a Vigil Member of the Order of the Arrow.

In 1977 Father Ray came to Philmont for the first time as a PTC course participant. He has returned several times since then to serve as a PTC course Instructor, Chaplain and Director. This is the third consecutive summer that he serves as a Philmont Chaplain. Last summer he also served as an HQ Chaplain at the 2005 National Scout Jamboree.

Father Ray served for seven years as the Boy Scout Chaplain of his Archdiocese. He has been a member of the Executive Board of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting since 1983. He has received the St. George and the Silver St. George Emblems. He presently serves as the Associate National Chaplain for NCCS. In April of 2006, Father Ray will become the National Chaplain.

A priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, Father Ray is the pastor of Our Lady of the Visitation Parish in Darnestown, Maryland. He has earned his doctorate from the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. He also serves as a volunteer chaplain to city, county and state police in Montgomery County, Maryland.
In some mysterious way woods have never seemed to me to be static things. In physical terms, I move through them; yet in metaphysical ones, they seem to move through me.

~ John Fowles

CHQ Activities Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>July 14</td>
<td>Bratwurst</td>
<td>11 – 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>July 16</td>
<td>Ping Pong</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>July 17</td>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>Movie Night</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Ice Cream</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>July 20</td>
<td>Poker</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>July 21</td>
<td>Kickball</td>
<td>8:00 p.m.</td>
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PTC Evening Schedule

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<tr>
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<th>Sunday</th>
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<th>Thursday</th>
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<th>Saturday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Opening Program 8:15</td>
<td>Handicrafts 6:30 Cracker Barrel 7:00</td>
<td>Western Night 6:30</td>
<td>Movie Night 7:30</td>
<td>Handicrafts 6:30 Cracker Barrel 7:00</td>
<td>Closing Program 7:30</td>
<td>No events scheduled</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Want to be Phil-famous?

Contribute to the Philnews! Share your Philmont stories, experiences and information with Philnews by sending us content for publication. Feature stories, reflective pieces, recipes, cartoons, photos, and poetry are all accepted via I-camp or at the News and Photo Services Office, ext. 246, or email us at nps.philnews@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you!