Some staff members having been waiting since last August to come back to Philmont, others called last minute to see if any jobs were still available. Many have just finished another year of school. Others just graduated college and are looking to avoid the real world just a little longer. For others still this is an escape from the real world. We may have all come for different reasons and from different lives back home, but one thing holds true for all - We are here now!

Once I had my contract in hand I started counting down the day until I could stop working and come to Philmont. However sometimes, normally around 7:30 am, I have to remind myself that this is not the start to any day. It is the start to a day at Philmont. I tell myself, “Tawny in 6 months when you’re stuck in a law library reading about tort law and there is 2 ft. of snow on the ground, you’ll wish for the day you could wake up at Philmont. So get out of bed and get going!” So, fellow staff members hold tight to the excited that first came with that e-mail or letter in the mail letting you know that Philmont was waiting for you. You’re here now and it won’t last forever, so get going!

Yours in Scouting,
Tawny Slaughter

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Mark’s Minute

As this issue of the Philnews is distributed across the Ranch, we are now at our capacity with crews coming and going each day. Crews have reached all of our program areas and are fully engaged with every part of our operation.

John Quincy Adams wrote “If your actions inspire others to: dream more, learn more, do more and become more you are a leader.”

This quote is an important guide for each of us when we serve as an Interpreter of the Philmont Experience. It calls on us to be engaged with those around us, our participants and our fellow staff members. It also calls on us to share of our selves and to put in practice the new skills that we have learned in our training.

When we do this we have the opportunity to be a leader and help others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more.

Let us fully engage each participant in the Philmont Experience!

- Mark Anderson
  Director of Program

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“Work’s about Play...Everyday, at Mudd N Flood!”

Make a purchase and answer a trivia question or shoot the footbag for a great prize!
(While supplies last).

10% OFF for Philmont

Come see us at our bright and beautiful new location at 103 Bent Street in Taos.
(Across from the Taos Inn.)
First Crews Arrive
Crew 608-D

By: Chloe Euston
PhilmNews Writer

Philmont staff members were busy in training for the first week, learning CPR, the Aims and Methods of Scouting, Leave-No-Trace ethics and everything else they needed to know to do their jobs on the big day, June 8, the day crews arrived. Likewise, the first crews had been anxiously preparing for their Philmont treks—or had they?

Crew 608-D, hailing from Tampa, Fla. arrived at Philmont early on Sunday, June 7 at 5:30 p.m. After flying into Albuquerque, staying at an Air Force base, site-seeing in Santa Fe and whitewater rafting near Taos, they finally made it to the Philmont Welcome Center.

Crew 608-D is comprised of 9 youth participants and 3 adult advisors. They all came from the Tampa area, but many of them were from different troops and did not get to know one another until their trip to New Mexico. Most of the group signed up to come to Philmont in October of 2008, but a couple participants signed on only a month before their arrival at Philmont.

Soon after arrival, they learned just how prepared—or unprepared—they were.

“I didn’t know I was crew leader until I got off the bus,” crew leader Tyler Lybbert said. When the crew was asked for their crew leader upon arrival, they all pointed and yelled “Bert!” referring to Lybbert by the nickname they had chosen for him.

Luckily, their ranger Adam Lewis was there to guide them through all the steps to prepare for going out to the backcountry. Lewis took them through the rounds Monday, June 8, stopping at Registration, the Health Lodge for rechecks, Logistics for their itinerary and over to the staging area to get their official Philmont crew photo taken.

Members of 608-D said were most excited about racing mules and rappelling. Bears were also an exciting topic of conversation for 608-D.

“If I see a bear, I’ll be really happy,” one crew member said.

Besides rock-climbing and horseback riding, the challenges that most worried 608-D were the cold and a 2,000 ft climb on days 7 and 8 of their trek.

It is impossible to tell what crew 608-D will remember as the high and low points of their trek as one of the first crews of 2009, whether their 2,000 ft climb will pale in comparison to challenges yet untold, or whether mule racing and rock-climbing will be one-upped by other adventures in the backcountry. Maybe that’s the beauty of Philmont: facing the unknown and escaping the predictability of modern life.
Confronted by a Bear

Start Here:

Deep in the backcountry, you round a corner and spot a bear rooting around for grubs. He doesn’t notice you, so ...

You run away! You take pictures & move in too close.

Running can trigger a bear’s predatory side and it may chase you. Flip a coin to see if you survive.

Heads Tails

You didn’t realize there was a bear close behind you. When it attacks, you...

Play dead. Fight for your life.

You take tons of amazing landscape photos. Look around and enjoy the sights.

Awesome! While looking around you noticed a bear approaching and decided to quickly leave the area. You finish out your trip in peace, with good weather.

Good job, but you’re still in the hospital for the next few weeks.

Later that evening you hear loud noises from the cabin. You...

Call the Bear Researchers to remove the bear from the cabin. Make loud noises to scare the bear out of the cabin.

The bear leaves the area and you hike into Miranda. After cooking for the CD and PCs, you...

Cleaned up and put trash in the bear box. Forgot to shut the cabin door. Left the swap box & trash on the porch.

You’ve crashed the porch and it’s 2 am. You’ve awoken to the sounds of snuffling on the porch. You...

Make loud noises to scare it off. Tremble silently in your sleeping bag. Think it’s a raccoon & leave it alone.

The bear trashes the cabin and the staff requests that you not come back. You cut the trip short and leave early.

You hitch a ride back to Base with the Bear Researchers because there has been too much bear activity.

You finish out your trip in peace, with good weather.

Good job, but you’re still in the hospital for the next few weeks.

Deep in the backcountry, you round a corner and spot a bear rooting around for grubs. He doesn’t notice you, so ...
Random Interview With a Random Participant

Our Random interview this week is with NAYLE participant Justin Fulaytar.

Q: How did you get here?  
A: Fly from FL

Q: What year are you in School?  
A: 10th

Q: One thing you wish you would have brought?  
A: XBox

Q: Favorite thing you do outside of School?  
A: Sports

Q: Are you a Blue Swimmer?  
A: yes

Q: Have you been to either of the other high adventure bases?  
A: Nope

Q: Do you have all four corners of your Totin’ Chip?  
A: Yes

Q: Do you own a lightsaber?  
A: Yes, who doesn’t

Q: Have you seen any bears?  
A: No

Q: New or Old Scout uniform?  
A: New!
Desires
By Fr. Mark Carr, S.J.

The other day I was talking to one of Philmont’s “walking wounded.” I asked the Scout if he’d make it back out to the trail. “I don’t know,” he said. And then he added, enthusiastically and hopefully, “but I want to.”

We often express our desires as wants. The Philmont Ranger Song is all about wants: “I want to go back to Philmont;” “I want to wake up in the morning;” “I want to hike again.” The PSA has adopted the song’s first line as its slogan, the unpronounceable acronym: IWTGBTP. Since leaving Philmont last August, I wanted to come back—to the beauty, the people, and the work of chaplain.

Not all of our desires are Phil-oriented. Many of our wants express an appetite: we want another helping at the dining hall or the new gadget at the TOTT. Some desires are vocational: what we’ll study in college, and what we’ll do with our lives. Some are relational: for whom and with whom will I spend my life. Although all desires are real experiences, some desires are deeper and more authentic than others.

It’s important to pay attention to our desires because they are important parts of spirituality which Tim Muldoon in his book The Ignatian Workout describes as, “a practice, a regular endeavor through which we come to build our lives on the love of God—to order our lives according to God’s plan for us. Its focus, then, is not primarily ourselves but, rather, God.” Because God speaks to us through our desires, we should pay attention to them; but not all desires are from God.

Philmont is a great place to get in touch with our desires, especially those deepest and most authentic ones. I find the quiet—in corners of base camp or out in the backcountry—great places to listen to and tune in to the desires of my heart. Philmont allows me to see my life from a new, if not clearer, perspective. Away from the hustle and bustle, and distractions, of my normal life, I’m better able to see and judge what is most important for me.

How do we know which of our desires are authentic? Authentic desires are always true to who we are: creatures created in God’s image. They help us become more, not less, of persons. In that sense they’re likely to stretch and challenge us. Authentic desires are God oriented and move us to glorify God. They bring us into closer and deeper relation with God and steer us towards acting, speaking, and thinking in ways pleasing to God. Authentic desires are vocational, meaning that they express God’s call to us. And authentic desires are in some way public: when we act on them and follow them others can see the effects of them.

We can foster and test-out our desires by trying them on in our imaginations, discussing them with trusted friends or with God in prayer, by remembering and staying true to an original desire of which we are certain, and by actively and creatively seeking to deepen and make more concrete our desires.

Following authentic desires nearly always involve some risk and can take us to places and situations where we would rather not go. A great thing about Philmont for me is that it’s full of surprises: I’m asked to do things and am given opportunities that are new to me, that sometimes challenge me to move out of my comfort zone and to trust in God more. Our tendency can be to err on the side of timidity or prudence rather than zeal and to dismiss some authentic desires as unrealistic or inopportune.

For many years I thought it kind of a long shot that I would be able to serve as a Philmont Chaplain, because of other commitments and difficulty of getting my foot in the door. But I continued to remember the importance Scouting had in my life, the impact of Philmont Treks on me and crews I advised, and the dream I had many years ago to one day, maybe, work here. Well, it’s worked out, at least for two summers. And those summers here have sparked new desires and deepened other desires. I really do WTGBTP. May your Philmont experience help you to tune into your most authentic desires and spark new ones.
A Bus Driver’s Perspective  
By Peggy O’Neal

Even after thirteen years of driving for Philmont, there still is a definite excitement in the air for me every year when May rolls around. Not because, as some may think, school is soon out, (I love my school kids) but because it won’t be long until Philmont will be awakening to another summer. The gathering of staff, cooks, chaplains, health lodge workers, logistics, rangers, wranglers, bus drivers and back country staff will begin.

As Mark Anderson so aptly put in an article last summer, my summer family will soon be home. Like the pieces of a puzzle we will all come together from all over this country and sometimes from other lands. It is a most amazing feat how it all works out to give thousands of our youth the experience of a lifetime. If I am fortunate, I will get to pick some of the staff up at the train and bus station. I am even luckier yet when I see a familiar face and hear the words, Miss Peggy, you’re still here!!!

All too often people my age seem to have given up on this country’s youth. When I hear such remarks, my reply is simple: “You haven’t been to Philmont!!” This ranch is a place where no one is judged by their age, race, gender or culture. Once here we are all simply Philmont family. Here I can act like a kid, cut the fool, hug and be hugged and never be told to act my age!

In the almost fourteen years I have driven Scouts for this ranch, I have gathered many memories and stories to tell and laugh about. I have also witnessed both small and huge miracles. I have watched Scouts arrive pensive as to whether coming was a mistake, (and yes, sometimes with real attitudes about this beautiful land) but somehow ten days of hiking and the beautiful wilderness and wildlife on this ranch does what no human can do, and they return transformed into young men and women, proud and sure of themselves and their ability to survive without all the trappings of our modern world. Many will return to become staff year after year.

When Philmont had its staff reunion, I watched amazed as old friends hugged and cried as they found one another again as they had to go back to their other world. There is joy here, and love and respect for one another and the land.

People often question how I can stand driving those “stinky Scouts,” and I smile and tell them, “Where else could an ugly ole woman have so many handsome young men so happy to see her?” Here my aches and pains disappear and laughter and the joy of old and new friends takes its place. I was asked the other day if I am aware that I have a reputation as “that crazy bus driver.” I am, and I must admit, I am crazy, crazy about this ranch and my summer family. I pray that I will have many more years and thousands of more stinky Scouts to drive to a memory they will forever remember and cherish.

Who knows, maybe years from now when they have grandkids of their own and they are telling them all about the time they hiked hundreds of miles with a seventy pound backpack (a hiker’s fish story) at Philmont Scout Ranch, they will smile and add, and we had the craziest bus driver named Miss Peggy.
Fire danger remains high!

Smoking is allowed in designated locations only!
- Camping Headquarters—table/dining fly near Advisors Lounge
- Camping Headquarters—table/dining fly near Staff Fitness Center
- Camping Headquarters—table/dining fly behind Silver Sage Staff Activity Center
- Philmont Training Center—Curtis Multiplex Pavilion
- Inside a personal vehicle equipped with an ashtray

Smoking is not allowed along trails in the backcountry. Smoking is allowed at CD designated fire ring in a staff camp.

Crews are not allowed to have open campfires in the backcountry. All crews must use stoves for cooking. Stoves should be used in or near the fire ring.

Fireworks are prohibited.

Program fires will be permitted at staff camps.

Please watch for smoke from potential fires caused by lightning strikes. Report information to Logistics, Camping Headquarters, Philmont Training Center Office or the nearest backcountry staff camp.

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Mention this ad and get 50 cents off either one (1) Shaver OR one (1) knife of your choice.

Camps are not allowed to have open campfires in the backcountry. All crews must use stoves for cooking. Stoves should be used in or near the fire ring.

Fireworks are prohibited.

Program fires will be permitted at staff camps.

Please watch for smoke from potential fires caused by lightning strikes. Report information to Logistics, Camping Headquarters, Philmont Training Center Office or the nearest backcountry staff camp.
A Crooked Trail Home

By Jordon Shinn
PhilNews Writer

The last day of Scatter and the Philburban drops us off at the roadside—commissary boxes, bursting stuff sacks and foam mattresses. Jugs of frozen milk. Tomatoes. Axe handles. We stuff the food and supplies into our already bulging packs, lashing what we can to the frames, each jug adding eight pounds, the mattresses hitting the backs of our heels with every step. The rest we carry in our hands.

We follow the main trail of long winding switchbacks halfway down a ridge. Veering right, we descend a hidden path, boots digging into the loose foliage and top soil, slipping on vines and tumbling rocks, packs tackling us downhill, knees straining under the pressure, resisting collapse.

At the bottom we stumble into the soggy edge of a meadow, thick with leafy, knee-high plants—California corn lilies, poisonous to sheep, I am told. We reconnect to the trail. Graham Nelson, PC, drops the Dutch ovens at a signpost for a return trip, forearms fiery, the thin wire handles digging the increasing weight of the ovens into the flesh underside his knuckles. Turning a bend the full meadow comes into view—lush, green, expansive—forested ridges bordering either side with a creek running through, and resting atop a hill to our left, a cabin—distant, safe, secluded—but not forgotten.

“It’s so beautiful,” exclaims Rebekah “Boots” Uribe, P.C.

Nearing the cabin, we see the stables are empty, stooped. The garden is barren, but for the dry yellow stalks of plants that once flourished, and died with the turn of seasons—frost, ice and snow. We drop our packs and supplies on the weathered porch and look around.

An enormous ponderosa the width of five men stands stoic as a marble pillar next to the cabin, its roots bulging through the porch and twisting through the cabin’s dirt floor in arcs and knots—this cabin will never fall. The tree must be one of the few old-growth ponderosas left at Philmont, having survived the logging days. When nearly the entire landscape was stripped barren of its ancient forests and the mountains were tunneled through with mines in search of gold. Now Baldy Mt. bears an eternal scar—nothing past it tree line, save loose slabs of slate rock.

But here, at the far southwest border of Philmont, the meadow is many shades of green and flush with spring, seemingly untouched but for the narrow trail, which winds thinly along its edge to the Crooked Creek cabin.

This summer’s Camp Director, Stephen “Razorback” Aulbach, is a perceptive young man with a sharp jawbone and light brown hair parted evenly down the middle. He spent most of his childhood hiking the various national parks of the Midwest, growing his love of nature, and his passion to protect it.

Albauch gives the orders, and we are spraying bleach water, wiping down shelves, washing dishes and lowering frozen meats and perishables into the wooden icebox. The cabin smells foul of haunta, the
deadly virus that starts with a high fever then fills the lungs with fluid. I sweep the floor with a straw broom, holding my breath behind the dust mask. Thick gray clouds billow with every sweep, stinging my squinting eyes. Aulbach tosses a thick brown buffalo hide on the floor by the beds.

The stove is priority: heat, potable water, food. Reaching in with his arm, Aulbach flushes out the rats’ nets and charcoal that clog its cast iron belly, pitches in a few small chopped logs from the woodpile and soon a kettle of creek water is boiling. As the sun sets below the nearby ridge, casting shadows on our humble lot, three of us hurriedly clean and inspect the lanterns—wipe the soot from the glass, adjust the wicks and fill them with a blue ten-gallon jug of kerosene. Several are lit and placed on nails found in the dark wooden corners of the cabin, hammered there by homesteaders before us.

After a modest dinner of cold-cuts, potato chips and hot mountain-brewed java, we all gather in the cold living room. I set a large abandoned nest in the fireplace and build around it a tee-pee of sticks, then a “cabin” of logs. One match ignites the nest, which slowly smolders red like a candescent mesh bulb, engulfing the whole pile in quick orange flames and thick white smoke, rising through the stone chimney, swirling on the wind and coalescing with the moon. A coyote sends his greeting, howling chillingly in the darkened meadow below.

We are home.
Even when the weather is frigid and the ground frosted with snow, participants roam the trails of Philmont. However, these participants are bundled in several layers and are dragging a sled laden with the heaviest tools of their trade. They are busy learning to camp in these adverse conditions, between throwing snowballs at one another, of course.

Enter Kanik, Philmont’s cold weather camping program. Kanik—which is the Inuit word for snowflake—is based on a similar program offered by Northern Tier called Okpik (pronounced OOk’pick). Kanik lasts from December 27 through March 31 and the focus of the program is on winter camping, snowshoe hiking, and even skiing.

Before departing to the back-country, Kanik crews are shown a slideshow presentation outlining cold weather camping. “We don’t want them to just come out and play in the snow for a week,” said Back-country Manager Dom Alesandrini, who worked as a Kanik guide last season, “We want them to learn the appropriate way to prepare, to dress, to eat, to have a good time in the cold weather, and to have a good camping experience that they are able to take back home.”

Participants typically stay at Kanik over the course of a weekend, although some treks may be extended. “They do have the option of staying longer if they wanted to,” said Dom, “We do cater to everybody, but the kids are in school and it is really cold out, so they usually don’t want to pack for more than a couple nights.”

A pair of guides accompany crews during their time in the backcountry. Unlike Philmont, where Rangers teach crews the required technical and leadership skills and then leave them to survive on their own devices, Kanik guides stay around. “As guides, even though we let the troop run itself on the patrol method, we are with them for the whole experience,” said Dom.

Crews and their gear are usually driven up to either Hunting Lodge or Miranda. “We don’t emphasize backpacking because you’re already wearing a lot of
layers which make it difficult to move when you’re carrying a lot a weight.” said Dom. Rather than backpack, crews may take day hikes in the Cito area, learn to build or even live in snow shelters and learn to make use of cold weather tools.

Participants are also taught how to layer themselves to keep warm in the cold. They are taught not to wear plant-based clothing such as cotton when winter camping, as that type of material becomes an issue when it gets wet from the snow. They are also given MREs and other high energy food, since winter camping requires more energy than summer camping.

While safety is always a great concern, especially in regard to frostbite or possible snow shelter cave-ins, some of the safety issues of the summer season are less of a problem during Kanik, such as the focus on bears. Participants are not asked to hang bear bags and are allowed to keep smellables with the rest of their gear.

“We get to have food in our tents because the bears are all in hibernation, so they’re not as big of a threat to us.” said Backcountry Manager Blake Butler, who also worked as a Kanik guide last year. “But there are separate tents, and the tents used for Kanik are only used for Kanik, so summer participants don’t have to worry about having a tent that’s been eaten in and getting attacked by a bear.”

Sadly, the past few seasons for Kanik have been a bit too warm. “There were a couple times this Kanik where we didn’t have quite as much snow as we would have liked, but we still showed them (the participants) how to do everything.” said Blake. “It was really warm and really dry, so there would be times when there was no snow, and then another fifty to one hundred yards down the trail it would be waist deep.” said Dom.

Despite the warmth, there is usually plenty of snow around for participants who don’t often get to experience something like Kanik. “Most of the kids are from Oklahoma and Texas, so this is some of their first opportunities to see the snow, and so it’s really fun to watch them play” said Dom.
Scattering With Seally Canyon

By Chloe Euston
PhilNews Writer


All this and countless other items are loaded into the back of a commissary truck headed for Seally Canyon in the Valle Vidal on the morning of Sunday, June 7. They will have additional deliveries of food and other necessary supplies throughout the summer, but for the most part, this truckload is all they will have. This journey is one of the last to take place in the great migration known here as “scatter.”

Seally Canyon is one of the more distant backcountry camps on Philmont. During the drive, Seally Canyon staff member Kirk Lemmen tells me it could take about an hour and 15 minutes if you’re driving like a maniac. In our small caravan, however, it will take almost two hours.

Because of Seally’s remote location, it is one of the less frequently visited staff camps. Seally expects to see about five crews per week, to whom they will teach a search and rescue program. Compared to other camps that get up to five crews per day, Seally’s load is pretty light, which leaves lots of down time. Seally’s staff will have lots of time for reading books, playing Monopoly, and for Seally staff member Jack Heinrich, learning to play the mandolin.

The journey to Seally started at 7:40 A.M. when the staff gathered at the Welcome Center. The staff packed their things into trucks, hopped in, and headed for the backcountry warehouse where they received some paperwork, including the backcountry cookbook and their first piece of mail. The trucks then headed for another warehouse where they were loaded down with everything Seally will need for the summer.

The staff sat around for a while, waiting for the final checks and preparations to be made. Lemmen flipped through the cookbook; Heinrich played a few notes on the mandolin until finally, they were ready for takeoff.

The small convoy slowly rolled into motion, down the road and out of Philmont. They passed through the town of Cimarron and turned off the highway onto a discrete dirt road. A metaphorical sign read, “Now leaving civilization.”

Climbing a rocky mountain along a bumpy gravel road, a guard rail to our right was all that kept them from plummeting into the valley below. At the top of a ridge, evergreen trees jutted out from the rocks like weeds from a cracked sidewalk. Twenty minutes into the drive, the day of the week—the time, the year—all seemed to fade away.

At 10:50 A.M., they’ve reached their destination. Barely visible from the road, which is merely a set of tire tracks at this point, Seally Canyon is marked by a clearing in the woods, a single round yurt and a few wooden platforms for tents. For five staff members, and one more scheduled to arrive in July, this is home.

The trucks head back to base after unloading and the journey is soon over, but for the backcountry staff, this is only the beginning.
Building “Home” in the Valle

By Justin Lyon
PhilNews Writer

A drop of sweat runs down your cheek. The sun burns brightly overhead. You are surrounded by a thatch work of lattice and several rafters circle overhead. A door is held in place by the lattice and a clear dome is held aloft by the rafters. Below you is a large circular platform on which everything rests. Lying off to the side are two large tarps that will comprise the walls and roof. This incomplete hut is stable, despite having no central support. When complete, this hut will be called your home for the next three months, given that you are a member of the Valle Vidal back-country staff.

The hut is called a yurt, a temporary shelter modeled after portable Mongolian tents. Earlier this month three yurts were erected in the Valle by the very people who would live in them for the summer. The yurts are located in three camps: Ring Place, where the staff focuses on weather and astronomy programs and supplies for the Valle camps are stored; Seally Canyon, where search and rescue and wilderness first aid are taught; and Whiteman Vega, which has mountain biking programs.

The construction of a yurt begins by setting the door and walls by extending a roll of lattice around the perimeter of a large platform. A line of cable is then woven around the top of the lattice. This cable makes up the support system for thirty-six rafters that hold up a domed sky light over the center of the hut. A large tarp is wrapped around the outside of the yurt, and another is draped over the top and tied down, making the yurt water tight.

The shelters for the Valle staff are temporary because the Valle Vidal area is a part of the Carson National Forest, rather than Philmont property.
### American League

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### National League

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Alexandre Vinikourov Banned From Tour de France
Alexandre Vinokourov of Team Astana has been banned from competing in July’s Tour de France.

After winning the 13th stage in 2007’s Tour, he tested positive for an illegal blood transfusion, and he and his Astana team was disqualified from the remainder of the race.

He was banned from cycling for one year by the Kazakhstan cycling federation, after which he retired from the sport, but was planning a comeback this summer.

However, the Court of Arbitration of Sport said Vinokourov will be allowed to compete again starting July 24, after the Tour is over, reasoning that he should have been banned for two years.

Farve Recovers From Surgery, Might Play Again
After surgery on his throwing arm three weeks ago, Brett Farve said the biggest question regarding his return is, “If it ever gets to the point where it feels like it did before it started hurting.”

Last season Farve threw 22 touchdown passes and 22 interceptions, and missed the playoffs, suffering from a torn biceps tendon in his throwing arm. It will be at least two more weeks before Farve’s arm will be healed and a decision made.

The three-time NFL MVP and the career leader in touchdown passes, Farve retired from the New York Jets in February. He is now talking to the Minnesota Vikings, a team he considered after retiring from the Green Bay Packers last summer, but which the Vikings rivals would not allow as an option. So he went to the Jets.

“I know people are tired of it, really,” Farve said. “My intentions are not to—although it’s good for you—create controversy.”

Laker’s Win NBA Championship
The L.A. Lakers beat the Orlando Magic 99-86 in game five of the NBA Finals Sunday. It is the Lakers’ 15th NBA title.

Bryant was awarded MVP of the league.
It is his fourth NBA title and first since moving out from under Shaquille O’Neal’s shadow.

Also, Lakers coach Phil Jackson became the winningest coach in NBA history, wining his 10th title.
Although the relationship between Jackson and Brant has been rough at times, it was apparent the two had overcome their differences to win the championship, as Bryant embraced his coach after the final buzzer, then his daughters.

By the end of the game, Bryant finally smiled, having snarled and grinned the entire series, seemingly out for blood.

His weakest moment was in game three, when he fumbled the ball in the final seconds of the game, giving the Magic a four-point lead and their only win of the series.

Bryant lead his team, scoring 30 points in game five, and wracking up the fourth most points in NBA Finals history, with 162 points total, averaging 32.4 per game, just ahead of Michael Jordan.

Last year the Celtics crushed the Lakers in game six of the finals, defeating them by 39 points. And in 2004, Kobe and Shaq lost to Detroit.

“It finally felt like a big old monkey was off my back,” Bryant said.

The Magic have never won a championship.
A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent. On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

Caught in the Act!

Backcountry Manager Blake Butler was caught helping a participant reconnect with his crew. Thanks Blake!

A Scout is helpful!
Pixar is known for its ability to put out record breaking box office movies, and Up is no exception. Within its first weekend Up grossed $68.1 million, keeping Pixar’s track record strong. But just how well does the film hold up?

Well. It holds up well. Up is by no means a spectacular film, but it has everything that one would expect from a Pixar film. There are lovable characters in the forms of the main cast, there is a story that has a definite and clear moral, and there is top of the line computer animations.

The story focuses on Carl Fredricksen, a crotchety old man who ties thousands of balloons to his house in order to fly to South America to fulfill a promise he made to his late wife, and Russell, a “Wilderness Explorer” (a clear parody of a Cub Scout) who accidently hitches a ride on the flying house as he tries to earn his Assisting the Elderly badge. Along the way they meet Kevin, a large and indeterminable tropical bird, and Dug, a dog outfitted with a collar that allows him to speak. These four unlikely heroes have run-ins with rough South American terrain and a rather unexpected villain, as Carl comes to learn that there can still be adventure in his life.

Up is a fun, feel-good film. For fans of Pixar, Up is a must watch. For others, it is certainly worth a look especially if you have yet to experience a Pixar movie.

The PhilNews Grade
A-
Drive Safely!

During the past week there have been two serious single vehicle accidents on Philmont roads in which private vehicles were totaled. It is a miracle no one was seriously injured in either accident. The common cause of most accidents, including these two, is speed and inattention – mostly excess speed.

Folks, it is time to slow down and respect our gravel roads. The road surfaces to the bus turnarounds and the Ponil road are completely unforgiving of errors, speeding on these roads means a small error can result in a major accident.

We must respect Philmont and our roads to the turnarounds. These roads are necessary for our mission and for bus delivery of our participants, however it is not necessary that we allow private vehicles on these roads. Failure to not slow down our driving may result in this privilege being removed. If you are caught speeding, that particular private vehicle will not be allowed to use Philmont roads for the rest of the summer, regardless of whom the driver is.

We must slow down and be responsible and safe.

-Bob Ricklefs

Remember Fathers Day is THIS Sunday June 21st!
Healthy Habits Reminder

As a reminder to keep healthy and avoid getting sick from diseases like the H1N1 virus, the flu or even the common cold, make sure you remember the following healthy precautions:

- If you have a cough or sneeze, remember to cover your mouth to avoid spreading possible infections.

- Wash your hands frequently, especially after using the restroom, or when around food.

- Limit your contact with others if you are ill. Report your illness to the Health Lodge, and rest until you recover.

- Stay hydrated by drinking lots of liquids. If you are thirsty, you are already dehydrated, and need to drink fluids immediately.
Britain to hold war inquiry (June 15)

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced Monday the establishment of a private, independent committee to conduct an inquiry of the British involvement in the Iraq war, spanning from summer 2001 to March 2003. Brown said he expected the inquiry to last about a year. The final report of the inquiry will disclose all information that is not vital to Britain's national security. Leader of the opposition Liberal Democrat party, Nick Clegg, accused Brown of a cover-up, criticizing the decision to make the inquiry private. Brown defended his decision by saying that private interviews would produce more honest accounts and protect national security. The inquiry will be headed by former mandarin Sir John Chilcot.

Protest over Iranian Mahmoud Ahmadinejad’s reelection

Despite an official ban on protests and the shutdown of opposition websites, satellite radio and text messaging, hundreds of thousands of protesters showed up in Tehran’s Freedom Square Monday to protest the reelection of president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. At least seven civilians were killed in these protests. Protestors chanted “Death to the dictator!” and “We want our vote back!” The protest was too big to be dispersed without causing more serious repercussions. European Union foreign ministers urged Iran Monday to investigate the election with regard to Ahmadinejad’s opponents’ complaints. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged Iran’s leaders to respect the people’s will in investigations of fraud in Friday’s election. The Guardian Council has offered a partial recount of ballot boxes in question for electoral fraud.

Journalists jailed in Israel

An Israeli court sentenced two journalists to two months in prison Sunday, for breaking Israeli censorship laws. Hadir Shahin and Muhamed Sarhan, working for Iran’s al-Alam television, pleaded guilty to passing information to the enemy. Both men are Palestinian residents of Israeli-occupied East Jerusalem. The journalists reported information on the December 27 movements of Israeli forces into the Gaza Strip. The journalists released these reports two hours before they were permitted to do so. Journalists in Israel are legally required to clear all reports on military or security developments with a military censor. Their reports said that an invasion was imminent before Israeli forces had crossed the border.

Mc Chrystal takes command in Afghanistan

Gen. Stanley McChrystal took charge of U.S. and NATO troops in Afghanistan Monday, in an effort to protect Afghan civilians. The takeover took place at a crucial moment in the Afghan campaign, when violence, troop levels and U.S. military deaths were all at record highs. President Hamid Karzai has increased pressure on U.S. to prevent civilian casualties. Defense Secretary Robert Gates nominated McChrystal in May to replace Gen. David McKiernan, ending McKiernan’s career. A new leader was needed because President Obama was launching a new strategy for Afghanistan experts say.

North Korea has made progress in nuclear tests

North Korea’s nuclear test on May 25 shows evidence of progress from last October’s test. October’s test yielded less than one kiloton of TNT, while the most recent test is estimated at a few kilotons, a statement from the Office of Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair said Monday. Russian intelligence estimated the explosion at 20 kilotons, while other experts from the U.S. and other countries estimate the explosion at only 3 or 4 kilotons. To put that in perspective, the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan in 1945 produced approximately 15-kiloton explosions. North Korea’s nuclear activities will be a key point in discussion between South Korean President Lee Myung-bak and President Obama. Lee left South Korea Monday to meet with Obama.
**ID law to be scaled back**

The Obama administration is attempting to scale back the $4 billion domestic security initiative known as Real ID, which required more secure licenses for American citizens in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The Department of Homeland Security wishes to replace Real ID with the newly proposed Pass ID, which is said to be cheaper, less rigorous, and partly funded by federal grants. The rebranding effort is a result of the Bush administration’s struggle to implement the law due to resistance from 11 states who refused to participate in Real ID. While some elements of Real ID will be kept for Pass ID, it will not require an entirely new national database, and will add stronger privacy controls.

**US cities use persuasion to fight crime**

An initiative run by the John Jay College of Criminal Justice is focusing on cutting down on crime by persuasive action rather than arrests. The program will present committers of non-serious crimes with the charges and consequences of further illegal activity, and warn them that if they stop immediately they won’t be arrested. At least 30 US cities have joined this unorthodox crime-fighting program, including Boston, Cincinnati, High Point, NC, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, and Providence, RI. The program is slated to be unveiled at an annual meeting of US mayors on Friday.

**A&M president resigns**

Texas A&M president Elsa Murano resigned Sunday, June 14. Her resignation came a day before the A&M System’s Board of Regents scheduled meeting to discuss the future leadership of the university. Murano’s presidency was historic as she was the university’s first female president, as well as the university’s first Hispanic president. However, she received a rather poor and unflattering performance review for her first year on the job. Murano intends to return to the university as a professor.

**Ohio residents ticketed for parking in own driveways**

Residents of Toledo, Ohio, received $25 parking tickets in accordance with a city law stating that it is unlawful to park a vehicle on an unpaved surface, which includes gravel driveways. The mayor of Toledo, Carty Finkbeiner, faces a recall vote in November. One city councilman, D.Michael Collins, called the ticketing “nonsense” and said that he would attempt to have the citations repealed.

**Six Flags chain files for bankruptcy**

Last Saturday the Six Flags amusement park chain filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in an attempt to rid itself of $1.8 billion in debt. Park spokeswoman Sandra Daniels asserts that the bankruptcy will in not affect the operation of the 20 Six Flags parks located across the United States, Mexico, and Canada. Daniels also said that families visiting the parks will see no difference in the way they are run. Six Flags will undergo a reconstruction that is designed to lower the company’s debt to a projected $600 million.

**Plane lands on Golf Course**

After leaving Ann Arbor Municipal Airport a single-engine prop plane made an emergency landing at Stonebringe Gold Club. The plane safely landed onto the fifth hole with no injuries. After the landed the plane was given a police escort back to the airport.
A BONANZA OF ENTERTAINMENT!
AMUSEMENT AND EXCITEMENT!
A SHOW FRAUGHT WITH THRILLS AND DANGER!

PREPARE YOURSELVES FOR
A RAGTAG TEAM OF ROUGH-RIDING,
GOLD-MINING, FINE-PICKING, SCAT-
SINGING, BOOT-SCOOTING, FAST-SHOOTING,
OLD-TIME STRING MUSIC PLAYERS
LIVE AT THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM IN RAYADO, NEW MEXICO!

THE ORIGINAL CELEBRATED
RAYADO RUFFIANS
THE WILDEST OF THE WEST!

A FINE MUSICAL CONSORTIUM OF GUITAR, BANJO, MANDOLIN, FIDDLER, BASS FIDDLE, AND HARMONICA

IN RESIDENCE AT THE KIT CARSON MUSEUM

PERFORMING AT 7:45
WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

BRING PORTABLE SEATING

THE BEST IN THE WEST... by actual test!

THE MOST SKILLED MUSICIANS IN THE WEST...

THE MOST DANGEROUS MEN ON EARTH!

DON'T MISS OUT ON
THE SHOW OF THE CENTURY!
Kit Carson Challenge at Rayado

The Ruffians of Rayado invite our fellow “Philmontiers” to come show off your best Philmont skills. All abilities welcomed & encouraged for all events!
Don’t be shy – come have fun! Spectators appreciated, even adored.

Who: Any 2009 Philmont Staff

Where: At the Kit Carson Museum in Rayado

What: To see Who’s the Best of the Best!

When: June 26, 1:30 to 8PM
Su ...
Cooking: Dutch Oven and/or Horno de Barro –
  Bring any and all equipment and supplies you need,
  **including the food you’ll be cooking.**
  We’ll provide the Dutch oven(s), charcoal & wood for the Horno
  Cook a dish for 8 or more people
  2 categories: Entrée and Dessert
  Must be finished by the time of judging: 5:45 PM
  You must plate 5 servings and make your presentation to all present.
  Judging will be based on presentation, taste and originality of recipe.

Bear Bag Toss & Tie –
  3 full bags, including “Oops” bag. We’ll provide rope, carabineer & weighted bags. This is a timed event, judged on neatness.

Best Original Philmont or Period Song –
  Original work of authorship, performed live – judged on lyrical creativity, effect of the scoring and audience appeal. Must be accompanied by written music (cord sheet with lyrics or sheet music.) To be judged by the Rayado Ruffians.

Most Impressive Facial Hair – (By popular demand!)
  Must be your own, growing facial hair, started & developed in advance of your arrival at Philmont.
  *(Ty McAster of Rayado will not be competing.)*

***All RULES explained & clarified prior to each event.***

Registration

Name ___________________________

Department ___________________________

Events (check ANY and ALL that you’ll be participating in)

  __ Tomahawk Throwing
  __ Black Powder Marksmanship
  __ Interp Comp & Presentation
  __ Fire Starting: __ Flint & Steel; __ Bow Drill
  __ Blacksmithing
  __ Cooking: __ Dessert; __ Entrée
  __ Bear Bag Toss & Tie
  __ Best Original Philmont Song
  __ Most Impressive Facial Hair
  __ Just comin’ for the good time.

Bring your musical instruments, friends, and enthusiasm!
Must be on assigned leave to participate.

*Always expect the unexpected.*
PTC Dining hall “Employee of the Week”

"Sheila and Arnold have been friendly, cheerful, and dedicated workers since day one. They each do a wonderful and thorough job in everything they do, and even voluntarily cleaned the PTC Staff Lounge! Thank you for your hard work!"

Steven F. Havill Book Signing
Seton Library
Saturday, June 27th at 1 PM

His latest book is *The Fourth Time is Murder*. He has also written *Final Payment* and many others.
Take turns with your opponent by connecting one pair of dots with a horizontal or vertical line. Try to be the one to close each square with the fourth side. If you close a square, you get another turn. Mark the squares you make with your initials, because whoever has the most at the end wins!
Have a thought, idea, complaint, comic or other submission?

The PhilNews welcomes submissions and letters to the editor. Feel free to I-camp your submission to the PhilNews or drop it by the NPS office. Please remember that all submissions must include your name & location!

For a submission to be considered for the next issue, please have it to us by Monday at 5 PM All Submissions become property of Philmont Scout Ranch.
Things Forgotten at Home

Last Week's Answers

| 786219534 | 879821546 | 658214379 |
| 594638172 | 143756892 | 249837651 |
| 132574689 | 265948713 | 371965824 |
| 869743251 | 384197265 | 786159432 |
| 375126948 | 792563184 | 192743568 |
| 241895367 | 651482379 | 534682917 |
| 458962713 | 427839651 | 467391285 |
| 913457826 | 938615427 | 923578146 |
| 627381495 | 516274938 | 815426793 |

BEST ice cream & BEST coffee
Best selection of
Southwest Art-Jewelry-Gifts
Serving you for 18 years

CIMARRON ART GALLERY
337 E. 9th St.
Cimarron, New Mexico
575-376-2614

10% discount for all Philmont Staff
Layaway OK
Summer Hours: 8 a.m.–6:30 p.m. (Daily)

Val Kutz-Owner
Victoria Fernandez-Owner
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<td>21 Kickball</td>
<td>22 Freeze Tag</td>
<td>23 Movie Night</td>
<td>24 Sand Castle</td>
<td>25 Euchre Tourney</td>
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<td>11am-1pm Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>8pm Field by Volleyball Court and Health Lodge</td>
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<td>CT: Astronomy 6pm</td>
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<td>27 Ice Cream 8pm SSSAC Kitchen</td>
<td>28 Obstacle Course 8pm Start at SSSAC</td>
<td>29 Twister 8pm Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>30 Brat Day 11am-1pm Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>1 Improving Night 8pm Baldy Pavilion</td>
<td>2 Dancing with the Staff 8pm Baldy Pavilion</td>
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<td>CT: Geology</td>
<td>CT: GPS/Navigation</td>
<td>CT: Geology</td>
<td>CT: Stove Maintenance and Repair</td>
<td>CT: Flora and Fauna</td>
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* Continuing training, held at the Ranger Office