

Local

Police arrest three
in alleged sex assault
at pancake house

7B

Rescue organization
celebrates 25 years
of helping horses

6B

CRIME MAP | 5B

OBITUARIES | 7B and 8B

Strong season makes it hard to say goodbye

Win over Nebraska makes final Big 12 game more poignant



Cliff Grassmick | Camera

CU fans celebrate the win over Nebraska. For more photos of the game, visit www.dailycamera.com.

By Erica Meltzer
Camera Staff Writer

Buff fans won't miss road games in Iowa and Oklahoma, but as they bid farewell to the Big 12 at the end of a turnaround season, there are a few rivalries they'll miss.

"I couldn't care less about the Big 12," said Jim Aber, a Boulder lawyer. "I'm excited to go to the Pac-10 so we can beat all those California teams."

He has just one regret. "I'm sorry Kansas won't come

here anymore," he said.

But for Sarah Toon, a Colorado Springs financial adviser and a CU graduate, leaving Kansas behind is one of the perks of the switch.

"I'm excited to get away from Kansas because they always win," she said.

The Buffs' nail-biter loss to Kansas earlier this year was a distant memory, though, as CU took an early lead over Nebraska on Saturday and never gave it up.

Colorado's 67-57 win over Nebraska gives the Buffs a boost as they head into the Big 12 Tournament and attempt to secure a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

It was both teams' last regular season game in the Big 12, with Colorado heading to what will be the Pac-12 come July 1 and Nebraska going to the Big Ten.

Toon and her friend and co-worker Jacob Williams, also a CU alum, said the Buffs' strong showing this season leaves them with mixed feelings about the

move.

When it comes to basketball, they said, CU will be more competitive in the Pac-12, but it won't mean quite as much.

"It might be a good opportunity, but there's more respect for the Big 12," Williams said.

Williams said the past season has been a great way to close out CU's Big 12 tenure.

"When I went here, I used to have to bribe my friends to come

See **BUFFS**, 2B

Justice High School thrives in Lafayette

Staff, students happy with new, larger facilities

By Doug Pike
Longmont Times-Call

When area high school and middle school counselors call Justice High School co-principal Jeremy Jimenez to ask if he has room for "another knucklehead," he never declines.

Thanks to a move to Lafayette last fall, Justice High School, 805 Excalibur St., has 10 times more space than it did while operating out of an 800-square-foot Boulder residence and a room behind Judge Tijani Cole's Boulder County courtroom.

That had been the school's home since Cole, a co-principal, launched it in 2002. The school's population keeps expanding.

"When they call me and say, 'Do you want another knucklehead?' I say, 'Of course we want a knucklehead,'" Jimenez said. "The new space has been amazing."

Cole founded Justice High "to try to address the needs of at-risk, truant runaways and try to give them a college prep education," he said. "Being a

judge, one of the recurring themes of kids in the system is they didn't have an education."

The school's new building — the former home of Peak to Peak and Flatirons charter schools — has allowed Justice High's staff of 12 and student body of roughly 115 to stretch their legs a bit.

"The teachers are happier, the kids are happier, and that's enough," Jimenez said. "We've got the top technology in our building now. And we have the classrooms and 1-to-3 or 1-to-4 ratios we need for remedial work."

Not only has the extra space allowed the school to accommodate more students; the students — of whom about half live in Longmont and 30 percent in Lafayette — are showing up to class every day.

When Justice High senior Jorge Renteria used to skip classes at Boulder High School, the school's automated calling system would notify his parents of his absence, in English.

Renteria's parents don't speak English, so they ignored the messages, which eventually came weekly, if not daily.

Renteria said there was little

See **JUSTICE**, 2B

Steph Von Mende, middle, gets into the Ghost of Caribou Gold Mine coffin while Leslie Seal, right, and Greg Keller, center right, work with the rest of their team to carry her during the Coffin Parade on Saturday at Frozen Dead Guy Days.

Jeremy Papasso
Camera



Frozen Dead Guy Days

If you go

What: Frozen Dead Guy Days

When: Today, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: Nederland

More info: www.nederlandchamber.org



Jeremy Papasso | Camera

Tracy Piniarczyk, 32, of Boulder, plunges into the chilly water during the Polar Plunge on Saturday at Frozen Dead Guy Days in Nederland. For more photos and a video, go to www.dailycamera.com.

Police hunt for driver in deadly hit-and-run

Pedestrian killed Saturday evening

By Erica Meltzer
Camera Staff Writer

Boulder police are looking for the driver of a sport utility vehicle who struck and killed a pedestrian Saturday evening, then fled the scene.

The accident happened about 6:30 p.m. on Broadway, just north of Baseline Road.

Witnesses described the suspect vehicle as a dark-colored Toyota Rav4 or Nissan Xterra-type vehicle, but they

could not provide any other information. The man was not in a crosswalk when he was struck. Boulder police and the Boulder County Coroner's Office are continuing to investigate.

The victim's identity was not released Saturday night pending notification of next-of-kin.

Anyone with information about the accident is asked to call the Boulder Police Department's Traffic Supervisor at 303-441-3333.

Contact Camera Staff Writer Erica Meltzer at 303-473-1355 or meltzere@dailycamera.com.

Thousands soak in sun and fun

Coffin races and turkey bowling among events at Nederland festival

By Elise Trivers
For the Camera

NEDERLAND — The sun was shining in Nederland for the 10th annual Frozen Dead Guy Days on Saturday, although blustery winds kept attendees bundled up. Nearly 10,000 spectators crowded the streets at noon to watch the hearse parade, where cars of a variety of colors and styles cruised down First Street.

"It's the dead of winter and

everyone here is getting kind of antsy," said Nederland resident Sonia Forthuber. "People start coming out of the woodwork for this."

Many participants in the parade dressed in costumes and had their faces painted like skeletons. Coffin race teams, cheerful and dancing despite the brisk temperatures, followed the hearses in the parade.

Each team had a theme,

such as the Mystery Machine, Mario Kart, the Nedterrestrials or the Bone Collectors, who were, as the announcer said, "putting the 'fun' back into 'funerals.'"

Frozen Dead Guy Days celebrates the cryogenically frozen body of Breddo Morstoe, a Norwegian man who died more than 20 years ago. Following his death, his grandson settled in Nederland and brought the body with him,



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storing it in a shed behind his house.

Morstoe's grandson,

See **FESTIVAL**, 2B

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Festival draws a crowd

Continued from 1B

Trygve Bauge, was eventually deported from the United States for overstaying his visa, but left the body in Nederland. The town began Frozen Dead Guy Days in 2002 as a way of celebrating its most unusual inhabitant, affectionately known as "Grandpa."

Saturday afternoon, revelers went from First Street to the charity Polar Plunge at Chipe-ta Park. The \$20 entry fee benefits the Nederland Fireworks Fund. Crowds gathered on the still-frozen edges of the pond while plungers got ready to jump in a thawed area about 10 feet in diameter.

Many of them were scantily clad in fun outfits. Two women wore flowered diving caps, swim goggles and coconut bras. A man dressed as Superman, complete with a cape, dove headfirst into the icy waters to cheering.

"I'm really, really cold," said Ally Jewel, 15. "I can't feel from my calves down right now."

Ally, shivering in her wet swimsuit, had just taken the plunge with her sister. "I'll probably always remember it though," she said.

Local stores and restaurants were swamped with business. Backcountry Pizza and Whistler's Café had customers waiting in lines for tables, some opting to grab a beer and stand instead.

Nature's Own, a local store selling jewelry and gemstones, was also packed with people.

"It's one of our busier weekends," said manager Aaron Schneider. "It's kind of a goofy reason to throw a winter festival, but it's great to see everyone interacting."

The Coffin Race was held later in the afternoon, as well

as other subzero-themed events such as the Ice Turkey Bowling Contest and a Brain Freeze Contest. The award-winning film "Grandpa's in the Tuff Shed" was shown every 30 minutes from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The celebration continued into the night with a performance by local bluegrass band Mountain Standard Time.

The crowds have been growing annually since the festival's start a decade ago.

Nederland police Sgt. Jake Adler estimated Saturday's attendance at between 8,000 and 10,000.

"It was equally big, if not bigger, than last year," Adler said, adding there were no major incidents. "We tried to implement a lot more crowd control, such as railings, but it went pretty well. The biggest issue was getting the Eldora (ski) traffic out of here this afternoon."

Bufs beat Cornhuskers in finale

Continued from 1B

to the games," he said. "Now they're selling out. It's been a lot of fun."

Mike Dobson, of Aurora, said the Pac-12 is where CU belongs, and he's looking forward to going on the road to California and Oregon.

But watching CU best Nebraska still gave him a twinge of emotion.

"It saddens me a little to lose these rivalries, especially Nebraska because I love to hate them," he said.

As two fans who didn't mind going to Oklahoma, Ty and Kathy Stephens, retired Denver school teachers, said they were sad to see CU leave the Big 12.

Season ticket holders since 1990, the Stephens went to school at Oklahoma State and moved to the area in part so they could keep watching Big 12 games.

"I really hate to see them leave the conference," he said. "Especially as good as they've been this year, it would have

been nice to stay."

But, keeping an open mind, Stephens plans to hold on to his season tickets at least one more year to see how he likes the Pac-12.

But for Barb Lorenz, of Erie, it doesn't much matter. As long as there's basketball, she'll be here.

"I just like watching the games," Lorenz said.

Contact Camera Staff Writer Erica Meltzer at 303-473-1355 or meltzere@dailycamera.com.

Justice High staff and students thrive at new Lafayette campus

Continued from 1B

recourse if he didn't make it to class.

"My teachers didn't notice whether I was there or not," he said.

At Justice High, when a student misses class, a phone call — most likely made by a principal — is made to the student's home. Or a principal simply shows up at the door.

"We've gone and picked up kids before," Jimenez said. "You get some interesting looks when they see the principal standing in their doorway."

Junior Ashley Miller has had perfect attendance since transferring to Justice High from Longmont High School more than a year ago.

"I was truant a lot at Longmont," Miller said. "But here, they notice. It's actually nice not to feel invisible."

Justice High's move to Lafayette didn't go unnoticed. When the school and its group of court-documented troublemakers moved into an area in Lafayette known for its high crime rate and gang activity, Lafayette police officials anticipated issues.

They're still waiting. "There's been surprisingly few issues, and those we've had in that area we don't necessarily attribute to the stu-

dents," Lafayette Police Cmdr. Gene McCausey said. "It's been quiet over there."

Cole said that's partly because his students have been too busy in the classroom.

"BVSD requires 220 credits to graduate. You have to have 230 to get a diploma at Justice High," said Cole, who hung up his robe after 17 years at the Boulder County Justice Center. "And you have to get an 18 on the ACT, complete two college-level courses and be accepted to three colleges. If you don't, no diploma."

Cole said the extra work helps prepare students for life outside the classroom.

"Our kids have been labeled already. For them, it's more about their mindset," Cole said. "They've got kids yapping at them at the mall because they're here. But they can say, 'Hey, we've had to go above and beyond.' That's the prideful chip on their shoulder that I think they need."

Cole hopes to further his students' pride in their school with the addition of a gymnasium, auditorium and football field in the coming years.

Renteria and Miller were extended the option to return to their neighborhood schools. Both refused.

"If I had stayed at Longmont High, I would have

dropped out," said Miller, who had a 1.7 grade-point average and was failing six of her eight classes before coming to Justice High. "That option is never even discussed here. They'll discuss every option under the sun other than that."

"I just needed that extra push. It took about six months in and out of court with TJ Cole to realize I needed that push," Miller added. "I haven't been back to court since."

Renteria, who dropped out of Boulder High two years ago, now is involved in Justice High's Latino Leadership program, has been accepted to five universities and scored a 22 on his ACT.

"After awhile, you start to realize life is better with school," Renteria said. "I stayed at Justice because you have more attention, more help, and you don't have 2,000 other students to worry about."

"Here, they help you get all your credits, get your classes, but they go beyond that. They don't just tell you to do it, but they give you the resources and go out of their way to help you out. And they never give up on you. That's the big thing. They never, ever give up."



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American Camp Association	CU Science Discovery
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Bits, Bytes & Bots	Educo Adventure Camp
Biz Girls Camp	Friends' School
Blue Mountain Ranch Summer Camp	Lakeshore Athletic Club
Boulder Parks & Recreation	Renaissance Adventures
Butterfly Pavilion	Rocky Mountain Day Camp
BVSD Lifelong Learning	Rocky Mountain Theatre for Kids
Camp Chief Ouray	Women's Wilderness Institute
Colorado Mountain Ranch	Woodward at Copper
Summer Day Camp	YMCA
Colorado Youth Program	

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