

Greeley Tribune

THURSDAY



Northridge principal cited for pinch



BY MIKE PETERS
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Principal George Raterink of Northridge High School was issued a summons Wednesday by Greeley police for investigation of pinching a female school employee on the buttocks.

The summons charges Raterink with unlawful sexual contact, a misdemeanor punishable by up to

Administrator issued summons for unlawful sexual contact

18 months in jail and fines up to \$5,000. However, jail time or heavy fines are unlikely for first-time offenders.

Greeley police have been investigating the case for almost a month. According to Greeley police spokesman Sgt. John Gates, the incident occurred Nov. 26 in the main office area of the school.

The victim, 44, is a non-teaching staff member.

"The victim and two other school employees were talking in the office area when someone came up behind her and pinched her with both hands on the buttocks," Gates said. "The victim then turned to find the suspect standing behind her."

Gates said the police investigation began Dec. 13, when the victim reported the incident to police. Gates did not know why the victim waited two weeks to report the incident. When questioned by police, the two other school employees in the office confirmed the woman's accusations against Raterink.

Greeley-Evans District 6 Superintendent Tony Pariso said he can't reveal the district's action because it is a personnel matter. However, Pariso said Raterink remains as principal of the school and that status won't change, "pending the outcome of the case in court."

Pariso said District 6 also has

See PRINCIPAL, Page A8

First riot student found guilty

BY SHARON DUNN
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The Weld District Attorney's Office won its first trial conviction in a riot case on Wednesday — but it wasn't for engaging in a riot.

A three-man, three-woman jury convicted Wes Studer, 20, of Denver of failing to obey a public safety order, essentially not leaving the April 28-29 riot scenes at the University of Northern Colorado when the police ordered it.

With the exceptions of plea agreements several students have reached so far, Studer is the only student convicted at trial. Three others have been acquitted, one of a felony charge. More trials are scheduled through April.

"It was just a big party, and it just got out of hand," Studer said when Judge Willis Kulp asked why he didn't leave the riots when the police ordered it. "I feel bad for the things that happened, and next time, I'll walk away."

Studer was put on academic probation for one year at UNC, but he is now attending Metropolitan State College of Denver majoring in business.

Kulp sentenced Studer to one year of probation, plus fined him \$500 and ordered him to perform 50 hours of public service.

"Hanging around a situation like that, you're just asking for trouble," Kulp said.

The jury deliberated for one hour after the day-long trial. While they convicted him on one charge, they acquitted Studer of engaging in a riot and disorderly conduct.

"The evidence wasn't there" of the engaging in a riot, said jury forewoman Nicole Howland, 20, of Greeley.

Deputy District Attorney Chris Collins attempted to show that Studer was guilty of the engaging in a riot charge by clapping, cheering and giving another student a "high five." Collins said those actions encouraged others, especially those who were damaging a UNC sign at McCowan Hall.

See RIOTS, Page A8



Helen and Elmer Stroh of Johnstown stand with their book that details the history of Milliken. The book includes information about the town's beginnings and some of the changes it has undergone.

Couple chronicles Milliken's past in book

Pages of history

BY JULIO OCHOA
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Life in Milliken has changed a lot since Elmer and Helen Stroh were growing up.

Back when they were young, ranchers would drive their cattle right through the town's business district on their way to the train station.

"That was a big event for the kids to watch," Elmer said. "The ranchers got them good and fat and ran them through the streets of Milliken. Everyone would be out in their yards watching."

The cattle don't run loose on the streets anymore, and while progress has been slow, the town has grown up since those early days.

The Strohs chronicle the town's beginnings and many of its changes in their recently released book, "A History of Milliken, Colorado. As Told and Researched by Helen and Elmer Stroh."

Helen started the book almost 40 years ago, while working on her family's genealogy.

See MILLIKEN, Page A8

MILLIKEN HISTORY

Some important dates:
■ 1909 — Milliken founded.

■ 1910 — Town incorporated. Town officials elected.

■ 1911 — Town's first water well drilled.

■ 1916 — Saloons closed. Milliken became a dry town.

■ 1919 — An irrigation system installed to ease the need for domestic water to irrigate lawns and gardens.

■ 1927 — A direct telephone line to Greeley from Milliken is completed.

■ 1928 — The Colorado Central Power Co. installed new street lights.

■ 1937 — Town hall constructed out of natural red stone taken from the mountains near Lyons.

■ 1946 — The Milliken Mail stopped operating.

■ 1960 — The State Highway department rerouted Colo. 60 through Milliken.

■ 1969 — The new post office opened.

■ 1971 — The first annual Beef and Bean Day held.

■ 1987 — Town's residential streets paved.

■ 1988 — New sewer system constructed.

■ 1992 — Town officials approved the purchase of water from the Colorado-Big Thompson Project.

■ 1996 — New town complex completed.

■ 1999 — Greeley officials agreed to a plan to treat Milliken's untreated water and allow the town to buy at least 20 million gallons of treated water per year.

TO BUY THE BOOK

Copies of the book may be purchased by calling Elmer or Helen Stroh at (970) 587-4432 or at the following locations:

■ Milliken Quality Hardware, 101 S. Grace Ave.

■ Colorado Community Bank of Milliken, 107 S. Irene Ave.

■ The Shear Shack, 22 S. Parish Ave., Johnstown.

Radio show will tape in Greeley

'Whad'Ya Know?' comes to town Feb. 15

BY JULIO OCHOA
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Greeley residents will get an opportunity to watch a public radio personality perform live when Michael Feldman brings his two-hour comedy/quiz/interview show to Greeley in February.

The show, called "Whad'Ya Know?" will be recorded in front of an audience at 7 p.m. Feb. 15 at the Union Colony Civic Center, then broadcast the next day on more than 320 radio stations across the nation.

"I think it is a tremendous opportunity," said Neil Best, general manager of KUNC-FM, the public radio station of northern Colorado based in Greeley. "We are going to showcase some of the things that make Greeley a special place to live to a national audience."

The weekly show, based in Madison, Wis., and distributed by Public Radio International, produces about eight shows a year on the road in different locations throughout the country.

Feldman and his crew decided to come to Greeley after being invited by KUNC, Best said.

"We thought it was a great chance to bring one of the popular acts to town," Best said. "They were anxious to come to Colorado because they have not done a show from Colorado before."

Feldman will open the show with a monologue filled with his own brand of political and social satire.

In each hour of the program, Feldman conducts a quiz and invites callers and audience members to compete for prizes by answering off-beat questions.

When the show comes to Greeley, Feldman will most likely interview some area personalities, including authors, poets, politicians, historians or musicians, Best said.

"He really wants to talk about Greeley," Best said. "He is smart,

See RADIO, Page A8

inside

CLASSIFIED	D1-D8
COMICS	B7
LOTTERY	A2
MOVIE LISTINGS	B6
OBITUARIES	A4
OUTDOORS	B1
SPORTS	C1-C6, C8
TO MARKET	C7
WELD VOICES	A6
VIEWFINDER	A2

(32 pages, 4 sections)

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weather

TODAY

Partly cloudy with snow in the morning

High 40

Low 30

WEATHER, C8



what's news

WHO'S UGLY

A California teen named "ugliest girl" on an Internet site files suit against a school district. **PAGE B5**



tomorrow

These aren't your run-of-the-mill classes, and they're not for traditional students. Learn how to do something new by taking classes offered at Aims and the University of Northern Colorado in Friday's Weld Weekend.

TEED OFF

A standing-room-only crowd packed the Highland Hills Golf Course clubhouse Wednesday to oppose an increase in fees. **PAGE C1**

ROUGH GAME

The Roosevelt girls basketball team fell behind early against Lyons and couldn't recover, falling 45-39. **PAGE C1**



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Seven Marines killed in tanker plane crash

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A U.S. military tanker plane crashed into a mountain in Pakistan and all seven Marines aboard were killed, the Pentagon said. It was the worst U.S. casualty toll from the war in neighboring Afghanistan.

Pentagon officials said there were no signs that the plane, a KC-130 used for in-flight refueling or hauling cargo, was brought down by enemy fire.

The crash occurred late Wednesday night local time, and a search-and-rescue mission continued into the next morning. The Pentagon identified the dead Marines shortly before midnight in Washington.

The plane crashed as it approached a military airfield called Shamsi in southwestern Pakistan. That air base

Some Taliban ministers let go/ **B4**

is about 180 miles southwest of the Pakistani city of Quetta, according to U.S. Central Command.

Witnesses reported seeing flames shooting from the plane before it slammed into the mountain.

A Central Command spokesman, Maj. Ralph Mills, said Marines and Pakistanis had approached the crash site, but no bodies had been recovered as of late Wednesday.

"We made it to the crash site on foot," Mills said. "But they were unable to remain there. It is a very steep grade, and they were unable to get footing. The site is secure."

The Pentagon identified the seven

See CRASH, Page A8