36 Hours Boulder, Colo.

7 a.m. Early Start
The ambitious athlete should rise to the Walnut Café (3127 Walnut Street, 303-444-3861) first thing. It has early hours (7 a.m., daily), all-baking breakfasts (the stellar baked oatmeal, full of fruit, nuts, and coconut), and plenty of home-baked goods for sale: banana-walnut loaf, chocolate chip blondies, and brownies. For the less ambitious, the horridly weekend traffic headed for Copper Mountain or Vail, ski town (weekend adult pass $40 isn’t huge — just 1,200 vertical feet and 460 acres) — a nice size for two hours of skiing, and close to 36 miles of challenging Nordic trails (trail pass $14; rentals $20 for Nordic gear, $23 for skii gear; also leave from the parking lot). Don’t feel like driving up Boulder Canyon to Estes Park a public bus runs right up to the base of the mountain.

9 a.m. A Quick Ski Fix
The Eldora Mountain Resort (364-404-7700), 31 miles west of town, is where the locals rip. In the winter, the mountain is a haven for أصبحskiing and snowboarding. In the summer, the mountain is home to a variety of activities, including mountain biking, hiking, and rock climbing.

11 a.m. Namaste, and Pass the Naan
Eating at a restaurant run by a world-class mountain mountaineer may conjure up images of sag等级 food served in tree-trunk dining chairs. But now, the preachers of the high-end mountain lifestyle have opened a restaurant, The Sherpa, in the heart of Denver’s downtown and 16th Street Mall. The menu is a mix of American and Nepal cuisine, including naan bread, momos, and Nepali curry.

1 p.m. A Hike Down Pearl Street
No place captures Boulder’s dual identity as an enclave for hippy-artistic holdouts and highest-wattage blue-bloods better than Pearl Street, a mile-long pedestrian mall located in the heart of downtown Boulder. It is lined with boutiques, art galleries, coffee shops, and restaurants. This street is a hub of activity and is a perfect place for shopping and exploring.

7 p.m. Work Hard, Eat Well
After working on the mountain, and breathing at Boulder’s 1,400 feet elevation, it is time to refuel. A good option is to visit Estes Park, a town in northern Colorado that is home to the Rocky Mountains. You can visit the Adrock Mountain Bagel, a bagel shop that serves bagels with a variety of toppings. The shop is open until 9 p.m., so you will have plenty of time to enjoy the mountain air and the delicious bagels.

9:30 p.m. Fresh Beer and Dobros
The Southern Sun Pub and Brewery (303-624-4010) is a cozy pub that offers a wide selection of beers brewed on-site. The beer is fresh and delicious, and the atmosphere is inviting. The pub is open until 9 p.m., so you can enjoy a few drinks and some good conversation.

10 p.m. The Sherpa
The Sherpa (303-624-2225) is a Nepali-themed restaurant that offers a variety of dishes, including momos, momos, and Nepali curry. The restaurant is located in the heart of downtown Boulder and is a great place to try some authentic Nepali cuisine.

Sunday

9 a.m. Trail Run With the Runners
Boulder’s open-space preservation strategy has created a ring of more than 12,000 acres of undeveloped land around the city, with 12 miles of trails. Lace up your running shoes and head for the best of these: the 2.8-mile Mesa Trail and its more challenging offshoots like the Skunk Creek Trail, which is a steep, 2-mile descent into a ravine. The trail is usually closed by the state and local government to prevent damage by the sheep and goats that graze through the land.

11 a.m. Hospitality on the Hill
Deep Dive: Old Gold and Early Services — the year-round Rustic Inn Res- taurant (120 Pennsylvania Avenue, 303- 444-5000) has plenty of food and is one of the best places to eat in Boulder.

Visiting Boulder
Most major airlines serve Denver International Airport, which is a 45-minute drive from Boulder in light traffic. Boulder is the perfect base for exploring the surrounding area, which includes the University of Colorado, the Rocky Mountains, and the Colorado National Monument.

Book a Travelodge hotel package today. Call 1-866-564-0501.

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Lest any of you wonder, we are all in our places still in Colorado, still in school and still at work, feverishly trying to get ready and psyched up for the holidays. As you can see from the photo/card, some of us look better, at least regarding taking care of our hair and personal appearance than others.

Rachel is very much a teenager this year, speaking of concern for hair. It's amazing how overnight, everything we do as a family is A) either so much better if a friend can come along or B) is stupid. I guess that's why God invented three-seat minivans! She is very active with school orchestra (violin), piano lessons, volleyball and track, and maintains her straight A school average.

And from the middle seat of the van is Bradley. He's five and really into Kindergarten. He and I walk the half mile each day to school enjoying time to talk about his latest interests - dirigibles, volcanoes, city power systems, flight and clouds. He lives for the Magic School Bus in print and on TV and has begun reading bigtime. He definitely is an interesting child.

Marty and I are still harnessed to our jobs - she as speech and language/special education teacher and me at the library. We're making a small addition on the library to accommodate a 10 PC staff/public training lab for internet and database instruction and video/audio production for the city, so that will be a new experience. Marty is in her 17th year of teaching, working half time at an elementary school here in Loveland.

We've enjoyed traveling this year to visit distant Schmidts, etc. in Illinois, Ohio and Indiana this past summer (and all is well with them) and traveling to the geographic wonders of Utah's Canyonlands, Arches, and Capitol Reef National Parks last March. A beautiful time to see some beautiful places. Next spring vacation we're heading to Tucson and the Sonoran desert to see big cactus and small Gila monsters. I'm hoping for a trip next summer up to Montana, Yellowstone and maybe the Canadian Rockies if the van, budget and time schedule will allow.

Anyway, enough from here. Write and let us know what's up and if you might be heading our way.

Merry Christmas!

Love,

Ted, Marty

Rachel & Brad

Have a Happy New Year
Dear Owen,

I hope this finds you in good health, spirit, and productivity. I, and the rest of your faithful readers, are awaiting your next work. No one you decided when you were in Switzerland again a couple years ago for the library meeting. Now goes the Ft. Rich book?

Are you working on any other ideas for books, articles? Have you discovered any other writers in your reading that are not to be missed? I really enjoyed "The Grass Dancers" by Sarah Piver and "Going Back to Proser" by Richard Shelton this year.

I hope, if you are out in Colorado anywhere near Twinlak or Ft. Collins we could get together for lunch/dinner. Best wishes for a great new year.

Ted

970-962-2400 work
tschmidt@fortnet.org
To Whom It May Concern:

June 19, 2006

My name is Sarah Pickett. I am a senior at the University of Northern Colorado with a double major in History and Geography. I am also part of the university honors program. Over the summer of 2005, I completed an internship with the Ft. Morgan Museum in Ft. Morgan, Colorado. In coordination with my honors advisor, one of my honors courses was waived as I completed extra projects for the museum. For both the Museum and the honors program I was to complete a project in which I would create an exhibit for the museum, keep a daily journal of my experiences and write a 15-20 page research/reflection paper. My only limit as to choice of topic was that it must relate in some way to Morgan County (where Ft. Morgan is located and is in northeastern Colorado). The topic that I eventually chose was the history and culture of the "country school." The museum director, Marne Jurgenmeyer and curator, Nikkie Cooper were very supportive of my choice and not only allowed me to revamp their previous country school exhibit, but also determined that the exhibit would remain semi-permanently (no foreseeable removal of the exhibit).

My honors advisor and the program director were so impressed with the completed exhibit and portfolio (exhibit design, exhibit labels, journal, reflection paper, updated resume and research paper) that they suggested I continue with the topic for my thesis. This is why I am writing. I would like to see if Mr. Doig would be able to help in any way (such as through a more complete research base). I am trying to contact Ivan Doig, yet as there is no email contact for him on his website, I am writing this to you hoping that it will reach him. If you are not able to forward this, please let me know that you can not and if that is the case what I must do to contact him. Below is my current email address and if you are able to forward this, I ask that he emails me so that I may send him a copy of my portfolio as I would rather not waste 50 pages of paper. Thank you very much for all of your efforts.

Sincerely,
Sarah Pickett

fates_favored@yahoo.com
(970)324-0135
Doig's finest 'Season'

Quirky characters come alive on prairie

By Jennie A. Camp, Special to the News
June 9, 2006

Ivan Doig is a contemporary Western writer whose works can be classified with the likes of such literary masters as Wallace Stegner and A.B. Guthrie. In his newest novel, *The Whistling Season*, Doig is at his best.

A former ranch hand and journalist, Doig has written 10 previous books that range from the page-turning passion of *This House of Sky* and *Prairie Nocturne* to the somewhat slower-paced but evocative *Winter Brothers* and *Bucking the Sun*. In *The Whistling Season*, Doig creates a tale that employs literary subtlety and unforgottably quirky characters to keep readers engrossed in a time long past: a turn-of-the-century one-room schoolhouse where youth and hopefulness challenge the harsh winters and and summers of the vast Montana prairie.

The novel opens in the fall of 1909 with a newspaper ad that catches the eye of Oliver Milliron, a recently widowed father of three: "Can't Cook But Doesn't Bite," the ad begins from a Minneapolis widow of "sound morals, exceptional disposition" who seeks a housekeeping position in Montana. Oliver, whose home has become overrun by dust and the general disorder of raising three boys, responds to the ad, and soon Rose Llewellyn is on her way.

Rose arrives with her slick-tongued brother Morris Morgan in tow, and the two soon embed themselves in life in Marias Coulee, Mont., with Rose polishing the Milliron home to a gleam it hasn't seen in months, and Morris eventually accepting a position as headmaster of the local school after the most recent schoolmarm elopes unexpectedly with an itinerant preacher.

Oliver Milliron's oldest son, Paul, narrates the novel, and his tales of seventh grade in small-town Montana are both humorous and poignant. When local bully Eddie Turley teases Paul about Rose's impending arrival and Paul instinctively punches Eddie, for example, the two agree to resolve their differences with a "wrong-end-to-race": two boys clinging precariously backward to their mady galloping horses.

And later, when schoolmaster Morrie determines that Eddie needs glasses, Morrie surprises the boys of Marias Coulee by asking them to surreptitiously dog pile Eddie and hold him still while Morrie slides pair after pair of eyeglasses on Eddie's face until they find the right match for him to read the letters printed on the chalkboard.

Paul, who frequently wakes in the predawn hours with restless, disturbing dreams, is thrilled when Morrie declares him a prodigy and prescribes hourlong after-school Latin lessons.

Beyond the Milliron boys and their schoolyard antics lies the wonderfully subtle intrigue of the ever-whistling Rose and her quick-witted brother Morrie. Even from their earliest arrival in Marias Coulee, something is askew with these two. But Doig's hints are rare and oh-so-subtle, leaving us wondering whether we're reading too much into an otherwise peaceable situation. Suffice it to say, Doig does not disappoint.

And, drifting gently across the stage throughout the novel is Doig's ever-attentive use of setting. Often a trademark of effective literature from the American West, this use of setting can be a catalyst of mood, a foreshadow of impending action or change, a harbored emotion of a character or town. Consider, for example, a chapter-opener midway through the novel that hints at inextricable small-town life - and, perhaps, something unexpected on the horizon:

"Winters were the tree rings of homestead life, circumferences of weather thick or thin, which over time swelled into the abiding pattern of memory. Everyone still spoke of the big winter of 1906 with its Valentine's Day blizzard that kept us out of school for a week, and eternally drifting snow that mounted beneath the eaves of houses until it reached the sharp hanging mantles of icicles. By any comparison, our weather of 1910 came into the world in the same fashion it had left 1906, puny. Only the wind showed some spirit."

*The Whistling Season* is one of those novels that sets it own stage in the opening pages, promising unique characters, poetic passages and memorable scenes.

And, perhaps more than in any of his previous volumes, Doig delivers.

Jennie A. Camp's reviews and short stories have appeared in *Prairie Schooner, Colorado.*
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For more information on AAA Lodging Diamond Ratings, turn to page 16.
Denver

The rumor of gold in Cherry Creek in 1858 swept eastward, and "Pikes Peak or Bust" became the rallying cry of hopefuls on their way to what was touted as the new El Dorado. Within a few months the slogan turned bitter. Instead of the $6 to $10 that the press promised, a day's panning yielded about 25¢. The prosperity of Auraria and Denver City was based on speculation and overpriced goods, not gold.

Many went home. Denver City and Auraria bolstered their sluggish economies with gambling and pleasure-based enterprises. But the tale of a strike on Clear Creek was true. Into Denver City and Auraria poured the wealth from the mines. Thus Denver was born—Auraria and Denver City consolidated in 1860—and continued to ride the same wild economic roller-coaster as the rest of the region.

Denver became capital of the new Colorado Territory in 1861. It survived the usual frontier disasters of fire and flood, always rebuilding better than before. The community grew rapidly when the railroad linked it to the rest of the country. Gold, then silver, created millionaires. The collapse of the silver market in 1893 plunged Denver into bankruptcy, but the discovery of gold at Cripple Creek the next year quickly revived the city's sagging economy.

Denver bears little resemblance to the brawling, dusty village of yesteryear. Glass and steel towers give the city a serrated profile as dramatic as the mountain skyline to the west. Bold contemporary structures adjoin elaborate Victorian houses in a lively urban blend.

The character of Denver is a combination of Eastern cosmopolitanism and Western pioneer spirit. Larimer Square, 1400 Larimer St., is a revitalized downtown area that resembles the Denver of the 1880s, complete with boutiques, craft shops, art galleries, flower stalls and restaurants.

Sakura Square, at 18th and Lawrence streets, serves as a center for Japanese culture in this multinational metropolis. Also, the contributions of Hispanic culture are everywhere; many signs are bilingual.

The Civic Center is a three-block area bounded by W. Colfax Avenue, W. 14th Avenue Parkway and Broadway and Cherokee streets. Within it are the public library, art museum, City and County Building, Greek Amphitheater, Pioneer Monument and Veteran's Memorial.

The city is more than a manufacturing, distribution and transportation center—it is on the energy frontier. Denver is the headquarters for many companies that research and develop the known reserves of fossil fuel as well as alternative energy sources.

As cosmopolitan as the city itself is the array of cultural, educational and recreational opportunities. Art museums and musical and theatrical productions abound.

The Museum of Outdoor Arts in nearby Englewood displays more than 50 works of art throughout the Green-wood Plaza business park. Maps are available at the museum office in the north building of Harlequin Plaza at Regis University, 7600 E. Orchard Rd., Suite 100N.

Spectator sports, particularly football, basketball and hockey, attract avid fans. The city also hosts professional teams for baseball, soccer, lacrosse and arena football.

Educational institutions include a branch of the University of Colorado, with an enrollment of 10,000; Metropolitan State College, with an enrollment of 12,000; Teikyo Loretto Heights College; University of Denver, where students number 8,600; Community College of Denver; Regis University, with a student body of 10,150; and several theological schools.

Denver also has a comprehensive system of mountain parks. Seventeen municipally owned mountain areas within 70 miles cover about 10,000 acres in the foothills of the Rockies. Connected by 100 miles of highways, the chain of mountains extends 50 miles westward to Summit Lake and about 20 miles southward. A popular loop trip links several of these parks (see What To Do, Sightseeing).

Approaches
By Car
The main access to Denver from either the east or west is via I-70 and US 40/287; from the north I-25 (US 87); from the south I-25 (US 87) and US 85 (all three are the same highway in Denver; the Valley Highway); and from the northeast I-76.

Other major freeways are 6th Avenue (US 6) in west-central Denver; SR 470 south and west of Den-Ver; I-270 northeast of Denver; and I-225, connecting I-70 in the east with I-25 south of the city.

Getting Around
Street System
All avenues run east-west. Streets generally run north-south except those in the downtown area, where arterials are one-way diagonals with numbered streets running southeast-northwest and named streets, courts and places running southwest-northeast. The Valley Highway (I-25) is the fastest southeast-northwest route, except during rush hours when it is usually congested.

The main east-west arteries are I-70 in north Den-Ver; Colfax Avenue (US 40), 6th Avenue (US 6) and 8th Avenue in central Denver; Alameda and Evans avenues in south Denver; Hampden Avenue (US 285) in the southern suburbs; and Bellevue Avenue and Arapahoe Road in the extreme south.

(continued on p. 79)
The Informed Traveler

City Population: 554,636
Elevation: 5,280 ft.
Sales Tax: Colorado's statewide sales tax is 2.9 percent; an additional 4.3 percent is levied by the city/county of Denver. The county has a 13.45 percent lodging tax and a 12.95 percent rental car tax.

WHOM TO CALL

Emergency: 911
Police (non-emergency): (720) 913-2000
Fire: (720) 913-2400
Time and Temperature: (303) 337-2500

Hospitals: Exempla St. Joseph Hospital, (303) 837-7111; Porter Adventist Hospital, (303) 778-1955; Rose Medical Center, (303) 320-2121; St. Anthony Central Hospital, (303) 629-3511; University of Colorado Hospital, (303) 372-0000.

WHERE TO LOOK

Newspapers
Denver's two major newspapers, The Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News, are both morning papers.

Radio
Denver radio station KOA (850 AM) is an all-news/weather station; KCFR (90.1 FM) is a member of National Public Radio.

Visitor Information
Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau: 918 16th St., Denver, CO 80202; phone (303) 892-1505 or (800) 393-8559.
The downtown office is open Mon.-Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-1, June-Aug.; Mon.-Fri. 9-5, rest of year. The visitor services desk in the Cherry Creek Shopping Center at 3000 E. 1st Ave. is open Mon.-Fri. 10-9, Sat. 10-8, Sun. 11-6; phone (303) 388-2522, ext. 333.

TRANSPORTATION

Air Travel
Denver International Airport in northeastern Denver is served by major airlines and several secondary carriers. Taxi and limousine services are available from the airport to the downtown area.

Rental Cars
Most of the numerous car rental agencies serving the Denver area have facilities both downtown and at Denver International Airport; check the telephone directory for listings. Hertz, (303) 753-8800, ext. 8110, or (800) 654-3080, offers discounts to AAA members.

Rail Service
Union Station, 17th and Wynkoop streets, (303) 534-2812, serves Amtrak.

Buses

Taxis
Cabs in Denver can be requested by phone or, less commonly, hailed on the street. Major companies are Metro Taxi Co., (303) 333-3333; Yellow Cab Co., (303) 777-7777; and Zone Cab Co., (303) 444-8888. Taxis are metered, with basic charges of $1.60 when the meter starts and $1.80 for each additional passenger. The standard tip is 15 percent.

Public Transport
The Regional Transportation District operates a fleet of city buses in the metropolitan area. In general, buses run from 5:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. One-way fare is $1.15. For information phone (303) 299-6000.
The Light Rail is an express train that travels from either downtown Denver (D Line/Green) or from Union Station (C Line/Orange) to the suburb of Littleton. One-way fare is $1.15 or $2.50, depending on the route.
Destination Denver

Cradled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains and weaned on gold and silver wealth that once flowed from nearby mines, Denver has matured into a sophisticated metropolis boasting a spectrum of sights visitors won’t forget.

The Denver Botanic Gardens, world-renowned for its study and cultivation of Rocky Mountain flowers and trees, is one feather in the city’s cap. And when it comes to reaching new heights, the Wings Over the Rockies Museum offers a high-flying look at aviation history.

Places included in this AAA Destination City:

Arvada .................. 85
Aurora .................. 85
Brighton .................. 85
Federal Heights ............... 85
Golden .................. 86
Littleton .................. 87
Morrison .................. 88
Westminster ............... 88

Red Rocks Park and Visitor Center, Morrison. Mother nature served as architect for this natural amphitheater built into a mountainside of red sandstone. (See listing page 88)

Denver Zoo. Pet around with polar bears and lollygag with lizards. Some 4,000 creatures, representing 700 species, call this zoo home. (See listing page 81)

Molly Brown House Museum, Denver. Not even the sinking of the Titanic could dampen the irrepressible spirit of this Denver socialite, known for her philanthropy and flamboyance. (See listing page 82)
The main north-south highways are Wadsworth (SR 121), Sheridan (SR 95) and Federal (US 287) boulevards in the west; Broadway, from central downtown south to Englewood and Littleton; University Boulevard (which becomes Josephine and York streets, both one-way, north of E. 1st Avenue) in the southeast; Colorado Boulevard and Monaco Parkway in the east; Havana Street in the eastern suburb of Aurora; and Chambers Road in the extreme east.

Diagonal arteries are I-270 northwest to I-76 and US 36 to Boulder from I-25; I-225, east of I-70, from the southeast suburbs to south I-25; Speer Boulevard, from University Boulevard southeast-northwest to Federal Boulevard; and Leetsdale Drive, southeast from Colorado Boulevard and becoming Parker Road (SR 83) to the extreme southeastern suburbs of Denver.

Broadway, which runs north-south through most of the city, is the dividing line for the east and west designations of all cross streets. It is one-way south from the downtown area to I-25. Nearby Lincoln Street is one-way north from I-25 to the downtown area. Ellsworth Avenue, running east-west through most of the city, is the dividing line for the north and south designations of all cross streets.

The speed limit is generally 30 mph in residential districts and 25 mph in business districts. Right turns on red are permitted, unless otherwise posted,

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as are left turns on red from the extreme left lane of
a one-way street into the extreme left lane of
another one-way street.

Rush hours are 7 to 9 and 3:30 to 6. Ramp me-
tering signals help control morning rush-hour traffic
on the south portion of I-25 (the Valley Highway)
in Denver and the south and middle portions of
I-225 in Aurora.

Parking

Parking is in accordance with posted signs.
Downtown on-street parking is metered and limited;
the cost is 25¢ per quarter-hour. Some meters have
a “Tow Away Zone” sign; if you park too long,
you are subject to a $20 fine. Commercial garages
and lots are plentiful downtown, with rates ranging
from $1.50 to $3 per hour or $4 to $12 per day.

What To See

BABI YAR PARK, 1 blk. s. on Havana St. from jct.
with Parker Rd. (SR 83), with entry on Yale Ave.,
is a 26-acre memorial to the 200,000 people killed
by the Nazis in Kiev, Ukraine, beginning in 1941.
Black granite stones mark the entrance to the park,
which serves as a place of remembrance. Daily 24
hours. Free. Phone (720) 913-0633.

BLACK AMERICAN WEST MUSEUM & HERI-
TAGE CENTER, 3091 California St. across from
the Light Rail Station, is in the former home of
the first female African-American doctor in Colorado,
Justina Ford, who began practice in Denver in
1902. This museum houses changing exhibits and
displays pertaining to the history of African-
American soldiers, pioneers, miners and cowboys
in the Old West.

Allow 30 minutes minimum. Daily 10-5, June-
Aug.; Wed.-Fri. 10-2, Sat.-Sun. 10-5, rest of year.
Closed Jan. 1, Easter, Thanksgiving and Dec. 25.
Admission $6; over 64, $5.50; ages 5-12, $4. MC,
VI. Phone (303) 292-2566.

BYERS-EVANS HOUSE, near Civic Center
Park at 1310 Bannock St., reflects the charac-
ter of two important Denver families. This 1883
Victorian house is restored to reflect the years
1912-24; it contains original Evans family furnish-
ings. Guided tours are available. Allow 1 hour
minimum. Tues.-Sun. 11-3. Admission $3; over 64,
$2.50; ages 6-16, $1.50. MC, VI. Phone (303)
620-4933.

CHEESMAN PARK, 8th Ave. and Franklin St., of-
ers a panorama that on clear days extends 150
miles from Pikes Peak to Mount Evans. Daily 5
a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Phone (720) 913-0633.

THE CHILDREN’S MUSEUM OF DENVER is
at I-25 exit 211 and 23rd Ave. This is a hands-on environment, geared to infants through
age 8, where youngsters can dance, act, become
an artist, create a puppet show, play basketball on an
appropriately sized court, shop or play shopkeeper
in a marketplace, or enjoy a children’s theater per-
formance. Daily and monthly programs are offered
focusing on literacy, the arts, creativity, and sci-
entific and cultural experiences.

Food is available. Mon.-Fri. 9-4, Sat.-Sun. 10-5;
closed Jan. 1, Easter, Thanksgiving and Dec. 25.
Admission $7; over 59, $5; under 1 free; free to
over 59 first Fri. of the month. Theater shows $1.
DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 433-7444.

CITY PARK is bounded by 17th and 23rd aves.
and York St. and Colorado Blvd. Gardens, pools,
fountains and monuments adorn what was a sagebrush
flat. Recreational facilities are available. Band con-
certs are presented in the summer. Daily 5 a.m.-11
p.m. Free. Phone (720) 903-0633.

Denver Museum of Nature & Science,
2001 Colorado Blvd., is one of the largest
natural history museums in the country. In
the Prehistoric Journey visitors explore the sights,
sounds and vegetation found on Earth 300 million
years ago. Other exhibits contain wildlife dioramas,
Egyptian mummies, and gems and minerals. Visi-
tors witness scientists at work in the fossil lab, ex-
pose galaxies at the Space Odyssey exhibit and take a 3-D look at the stars at Gates Planetarium.

The three-story museum also includes sections
devoted to insects, American Indian cultures,
health, the South Pacific islands, Australia and Af-
rica. Traveling exhibits are featured frequently. The
IMAX theater and planetarium present a variety of shows; phone ahead for schedules.

Allow 2 hours minimum. Daily 9-5; closed Dec. 25. Museum $9; over 59 and ages 3-18, $6. IMAX theater or planetarium $8; over 59 and ages 3-18, $5.50. Combination tickets for museum and planetarium or museum and IMAX theater $13; over 59 and ages 3-18, $9. Combination ticket for all three attractions $16; over 59 and ages 3-18, $12. Reservations are recommended for IMAX and planetarium shows. AX, MC, DS, VI. Phone (303) 322-7009, (800) 925-2250, or TTY (303) 370-8257.

Denver Zoo, in City Park at 2300 Steele St., emphasizes natural habitats with more than 4,000 animals representing nearly 750 species. Exhibit areas include Bear Mountain, Predator Ridge, Primate Panorama and Tropical Discovery, which features a tropical rain forest and one of the world's largest indoor Komodo dragon exhibits. Predator Ridge, a 3-acre habitat modeled after Samburu National Reserve in Kenya, features Africa's chief predators—lions, African wild dogs and hyenas.

Animals at the Primate Panorama range from a 6-ounce pygmy marmoset to a 580-pound lowland gorilla. Others include orangutans, mandrills, monkeys and lemurs, all presented in naturalistic settings. Rare animals such as endangered cheetahs, amur tigers, king cobras, black rhinos and okapis, a relative of the giraffe, also are featured.

Picnicking is permitted. Food is available. Allow 1 hour minimum. Daily 9-6, Apr.-Sept.; 10-5, rest of year. Last admission 1 hour before closing. Admission Apr.-Sept. $11; over 64, $9; ages 3-11, $7. Admission rest of year $9; over 64, $7; ages 3-11, $5. Under 13 must be with an adult. MC, DS, VI. Phone (303) 376-4800.

COLORADO HISTORY MUSEUM, 1300 Broadway next to Civic Center Park, explores Colorado's diverse past and present. Exhibits feature American Indian buffalo hunts, mining in the Rocky Mountains, life in early Denver and a restored Conestoga wagon. Artifacts, historic photographs and dioramas depict stories from Colorado's history. Changing exhibits about life and culture in the American West also are featured. The museum contains an extensive research library.

Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Mon.-Sat. 10-4:30, Sun. noon-4:30; closed Jan. 1, Thanksgiving and Dec. 25. Library Tues.-Sat. 10-4:30. Admission $5; over 64, $4.50; ages 6-12, $3.50. Library free. AX, DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 866-3682.

COLORADO'S OCEAN JOURNEY, at 700 Water St. in Qwest Park, is a 106,500-square-foot complex featuring a multitude of fish species as well as mammals and birds. Housed in a modern brick building with a striking atrium, the aquarium tells a tale of two rivers: the Colorado and Indonesia's Kampar. Exhibits highlight the various ecosystems along each river's course to the Pacific, including the Colorado River's wetlands and canyons, and the Kampar's rain forests and mangrove-fringed lagoons.

In addition to the many varieties of fish found in the two rivers, the exhibits contain moray eels, cuttlefish, eagle rays, sea otters and Sumatran tigers. The 320,000-gallon Depths of the Pacific tank features a glass tunnel that allows visitors to see sharks swim above and below. Naturalistic sounds and settings complete the experience.

Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Daily 10-6, Memorial Day weekend-Labor Day: 10-5, rest of year. Closed Dec. 25. Admission $19.95; over 65 and ages 13-17, $12.95; ages 4-12, $6.95. Parking $6. AX, DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 561-4450.

COORS FIELD TOURS, 2001 Blake St., offers a behind-the-scenes look at the home of the Colorado Rockies major league baseball team. Highlights of the tour include the concourse areas, press box, visitors' clubhouse and visitors' dugout. The ballpark was built to fit in with the historic downtown area and uses the Rocky Mountain scenery for a backdrop.

Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum. Tours begin at Gate D Mon.-Sat. at 10, noon and 2, Apr.-Sept.; Mon., Wed. and Fri.-Sat. at noon and 2, rest of year. Tours are not available when afternoon games are scheduled and are limited when evening games take place. Admission $6; over 54 and under 13, $4. Metered parking 25¢ per quarter-hour. Reservations are recommended. AX, DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 762-5437.

CRANMER PARK, E. 3rd Ave. and Bellaire St., has a Chinese sundial and a terrazzo profile of the Continental Divide. Daily 5 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Phone (720) 913-0633.

DENVER ART MUSEUM is at the s. end of the Civic Center on 14th Ave. Pkwy., 1 blk. w. of Broadway. More than 1 million faceted glass tiles cover this 28-sided structure designed by Gio Ponti. Seven floors contain a collection of more than 55,000 art objects from around the world, including comprehensive exhibits of American, Asian, European, American Indian, Pre-Columbian, Spanish Colonial, Western, and modern and contemporary works. Other exhibits focus on architecture, design, graphics and textiles.

Artists represented include Albert Bierstadt, Alexander Calder, Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas, Georgia O'Keeffe, Henri Matisse, Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Frederic Remington and Andy Warhol.

Note: Some galleries may be closed during construction of the Frederic C. Hamilton Building, which will house several collections and is scheduled to open in fall 2006. Guided tours are available. Food is available. Tues.-Sat. 10-5 (also Wed. 5-9), Sun. noon-5; closed major holidays. Admission $8; over 64, students with ID and ages 13-18, $6. Prices may be higher during special exhibitions. AX, MC, VI. Phone (720) 865-5000.
DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS, 1005 York St., cover 23 acres between Cheesman and Congress parks. More than 45 gardens include rare and endangered plants from around the world, plants native to Colorado, those brought to the state by pioneers, Great Plains grasses and wildflowers, bristlecone and ponderosa pines, an outstanding orchid collection and the Monet Garden, with flowers and water lilies inspired by the French Impressionist.

Rock, alpine, herb, romantic and Asian gardens also are displayed. The domed Tropical Conservatory contains thousands of tropical and subtropical plants. Food is available. Allow 1 hour minimum. Sat.-Tues. 9-8, Wed.-Fri. 9-5, May 1 to mid-Sept.; daily 9-5, rest of year. Closed major holidays. Admission May 1 to mid-Sept. $8.50; over 64, $5.50; students with ID and ages 4-15, $5. Admission rest of year $7.50; over 64, $4.50; students with ID and ages 4-15, $4. AX, MC, VI. Phone (720) 865-3500.

DENVER FIREFIGHTERS MUSEUM is at 31326 Tremont Pl.; take I-25 exit 210, then .5 mi. e. on Colfax Ave. to Glenarm St., .1 mi. n. on Glenarm St. to 14th St. and s. on 14th St. to Tremont Pl.

Presented in a 1909 firehouse, the collection features artifacts, documents and photographs from 1866 to the present that tell the history of firefighting in Denver. Children may slide down a child-sized fire pole, try on firefighting gear and climb aboard a fire truck. Hands-on activities for children and adults focus on fire safety and prevention.

Allow 30 minutes minimum. Mon.-Sat. 10-4; closed major holidays. Admission $4; over 54, $3; ages 2-15, $2. AX, MC, VI. Phone (303) 892-1436.

DENVER MUSEUM OF MINIATURES, DOLLS AND TOYS is at 1880 Gaylord St. The museum is in the historic Pearce-McAllister Cottage, built in 1899 and designed in Dutch Colonial Revival style. The collection includes more than 10,000 items from 1680 to the present. Displays include artisan-created miniature replicas, handmade wooden toys, manufactured metal and plastic cars, historic doll houses, dolls and teddy bears. Changing exhibits also are featured.

Tues.-Sat. 10-4, Sun. 1-4; closed major holidays. Admission $5; over 61 and ages 5-16, $4. DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 322-1053.

FORNEY MUSEUM OF TRANSPORTATION is next to the Denver Coliseum, off I-70 exit 275B, then s. on Brighton Blvd. The museum features antique and classic cars, carriages, bicycles, motorcycles, a cable car and a trolley. Railroad equipment includes the “Big Boy” locomotive, 134 feet long and weighing more than 1 million pounds, said to be the world’s largest. Noteworthy vehicles include a Kissel “Goldbug” owned by Amelia Earhart and a Rolls Royce that once belonged to Prince Aly Khan of Nepal.

Allow 1 hour minimum. Mon.-Sat. 9-5; closed Thanksgiving and Dec. 25. Admission $7; over 62, $6; ages 11-15, $4.50; ages 5-10, $3.50. AX, MC, VI. Phone (303) 297-1113.

FOUR MILE HISTORIC PARK, at 715 S. Forest St. in s.e. Denver, is a 14-acre farm. Built of hand-hewn pine logs, the furnished house reflects the 1860s era when it served as a stock ranch and stage stop. Barns have been reconstructed to the original design specifications. Stagecoach rides are offered weekends.


HAMMOND’S CANDIES is n. off I-25 to 58th Ave., .3 mi. e. to Washington St., then s. to 5735 N. Washington St. This candy factory, founded in 1920, produces old-fashioned hard candy and chocolates. Guided factory tours highlight the production process. Allow 30 minutes minimum. Tours are given every 20 minutes Mon.-Fri. 9-3, Sat. 10-3; closed Jan. 1, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Dec. 25-26. Free. Phone (303) 333-5588.

HERITAGE SQUARE—see Golden p. 86.

HYLAND HILLS WATER WORLD—see Federal Heights p. 85.

KIRKLAND MUSEUM, 1311 Pearl St., displays an extensive decorative arts collection, including examples from the Arts and Crafts, Bauhaus, Art Deco and Modern movements. Modernistic works by painters, ceramists, sculptors and furniture designers as well as a retrospective of works by Colorado painter Vance Kirkland are featured. The museum is housed in an expanded 1911 Arts and Crafts-style building with two windows by Frank Lloyd Wright.


LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN PARK—see Golden p. 87.

MOLLY BROWN HOUSE MUSEUM, 2 blks. s. of Colfax Ave. at 1340 Pennsylvania St., was the home of Margaret Tobin Brown, a survivor of the Titanic. The socially prominent Mrs. Brown, known for her political activism, was later immortalized in the musical “The Unsinkable Molly Brown.” Built in 1889, the house has been restored to its original Victorian decor.


MUSEO DE LAS AMERICAS, 861 Santa Fe Dr., houses changing historical, cultural and art exhibits from Latin America. Allow 30 minutes minimum.
Tues.-Sat. 10-5; closed major holidays. Admission $4, over 65 and students with ID $3, under 13 free. AX, MC, VI. Phone (303) 571-4401.

RED ROCKS PARK AND VISITOR CENTER—see Morrison p. 88.

SIX FLAGS ELITCH GARDENS THEME PARK, downtown off I-25 exit 212A (Speer Blvd. S.), has more than 50 rides, shows and attractions, including roller coasters, family rides, an area dedicated to rides especially for children, the Island Kingdom Water Park, gardens and games. Seasonal festivals also are featured.

Food is available. Daily 10-10, late Apr.-late Oct. Schedule varies; phone ahead to confirm hours. Admission $37.99; under 48 inches tall $21.99, ages 55-69 and the physically impaired $20.99; over age 69 and under age 4 free. Parking $8 per private vehicle. AAA members save 10 percent on select in-park dining and merchandise. Check at the park’s Guest Relations window for details. AX, MC, VI. Phone (303) 595-4386.

STATE CAPITOL, between E. 14th and E. Colfax aven., is a 1908 neoclassical structure built of Colorado granite and topped with a gold-leaved dome. The floors are made of marble from the Yule Marble Quarry in Marble, Colo. On display is the Women’s Gold tapestry, honoring 18 Colorado women who were instrumental in the settlement of the state.

The interior wainscoting and pillar facings are of Colorado rose onyx. In keeping with Denver’s reputation as the Mile High City, the 13th step on the building’s west entrance measures exactly 1 mile above sea level.

Allow 1 hour minimum. Guided tours are given every half-hour Mon.-Fri. 9-3:30, Memorial Day-Labor Day; Mon.-Fri. 9:15-2:30, rest of year. Closed major holidays. Free. Phone (303) 866-2604.

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 1820 Broadway opposite the Brown Palace Hotel, was established in 1859. The church features stained-glass windows made by Healy and Milet of Chicago in 1888. A Roosevelt organ with 4,202 pipes dominates the sanctuary. Thirty-six small lights above the organ symbolize the 66 books of the Bible. Visitors enter through the church office. Allow 30 minutes minimum. Mon.-Fri. 8-5. Guided tours are given Sun. at 12:15. Free. Phone (303) 839-1493.

WASHINGTON PARK, extending along Downing St., has tennis, croquet and horseshoe courts, flower gardens, two lakes, lawn bowling, jogging paths, boating, bicycle and walking trails, fishing and a recreation center with a swimming pool. Soccer fields, a playground and a picnic area also are available. Daily 6 a.m.-9 p.m. Park free. Fees apply to recreational activities. Phone (303) 698-4962 or (720) 903-0633.

WINGS OVER THE ROCKIES AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM is .25 mi. e. on 1st Ave., then s. on Roslyn St. to 7711 E. Academy Blvd. (Hangar No. 1 on the former Lowry Air Force Base). It displays more than three dozen historic airplanes and space vehicles. Included are one of only four B-1A bombers ever built, a B-18 Bolo, five Century series fighters, a J-3 Piper Cub and an Alexander Eagle-rock. Exhibits about the science of flight, Lowry history and World War II uniforms are featured.

Allow 1 hour minimum. Mon.-Sat. 10-5, Sun. noon-5. Admission $6; over 64, $5; ages 6-12, $4. Phone (303) 360-5360.

What To Do

Sightseeing

With aspects both Victorian and modern, Denver and environs offer much to explore. Information about possible sightseeing itineraries can be obtained at the Denver Metro Convention & Visitors Bureau (see The Informed Traveler box) and from AAA Colorado.

Gray Line offers a choice of sightseeing tours of Denver and the surrounding area; phone (303) 289-2841 or (800) 348-6877. Irish Rose Carriages and Prince Charming Carriages are two of several operators that offer horse-drawn carriage tours of the city; phone (303) 766-2623 or (303) 841-1011, respectively.

Boat Tours

VENICE ON THE CREEK departs from Larimer St. between 14th St. and Speer Blvd. Passengers travel a 10-block area between Creekfront Plaza, on Cherry Creek, and Confluence Park on the South Platte River. Guides steer the gondola-style boats and offer narration about local history and landmarks. Full and half trips are offered. The half trip begins and ends at Creekfront Plaza and includes four locks; the full trip includes eight locks. Candlelight rides also are available.

Allow 1 hour, 30 minutes minimum for full trip, 1 hour minimum for half trip. Trips Fri.-Sat. 5-10, Sun. 3-7, June-Aug. (weather permitting). Candlelight rides are offered Fri.-Sat. 8:30-10 p.m. Full-trip fare $15; over 55, $12; ages 3-12, $8; family rate (two adults and two children) $40. Half-trip fare $10; over 55, $8; ages 3-12, $5; family rate $25. Reservations are required for candlelight rides and recommended for other trips. AX, MC, VI. Phone (303) 893-0750.

Driving Tours

DENVER MOUNTAIN PARK CIRCLE DRIVE links a number of parks in the area. From US 6 west of I-70, it passes Golden and follows the Lariat Trail up Lookout Mountain (see Golden p. 87), then continues south along mountaintops past 8,270-foot Genesee Peak to Fillius and Bergen parks via SR 74. After descending to Evergreen, it enters Bear Creek Canyon, leading east to Red Rocks Park and
Visitor Center (see Morrison p. 88). From Morrison the route leads north back to US 6 and Denver. Phone (720) 913-0633.

Van Tours

THE COLORADO SIGHTSEEER van tours depart from downtown hotels. Excursions range from a 5-hour Foothills Tour that includes stops at the Coors Brewery and Red Rocks Park to a 10-hour journey through Rocky Mountain National Park. Other tours include the Mount Evans Wilderness Area Tour, Pikes Peak Region Tour, Mountain Gold Mining Tour and Historic Denver Tour. Ski area tours also are available. Customized tours can be arranged.

Tues.-Sun. 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Ski tours are available Nov. 15-Apr. 15. Fare $35-$75; ages 5-12, $25-$55. Reservations are required. AX, DS, MC, VI. Phone (303) 423-8200 or (800) 255-5105.

Sports and Recreation

Year-round recreational opportunities are almost unlimited in the Denver area and include swimming, boating, golf, tennis, riding, climbing, fishing and hunting. Renowned for its winter sports facilities, Denver offers cold season fun either in the city or just a few minutes away; the closest area for snow skiing is within 45 miles.

The Ski Train provides both transportation and a breathtaking view of the Rockies as it takes skiers from historic Union Station to the Winter Park ski area. The 60-mile trip takes approximately 2 hours. The trains run every Saturday and Sunday from mid-December through early April; phone (303) 296-4754.

For ice skating enthusiasts the Sun Microsystems Ice Centre, in the Westminster Promenade off US 36 104th Avenue exit in Westminster, offers triple ice sheet facilities. Skate rentals are available. Phone (303) 404-3045 for public skating times.

Auto racing enthusiasts frequent Rocky Mountain National Speedway in Commerce City, Bandimere Speedway in Morrison and Colorado National Speedway in Erie. Dog races are held at Wembley Park.

Note: Policies concerning admittance of children to pari-mutuel betting facilities vary. Phone for information.

At Denver’s Coors Field baseball fans can watch the National League Colorado Rockies. Football season brings the National Football League’s Denver Broncos to Invesco Field at Mile High; the stadium also is the home of the Colorado Rapids, a major league soccer team. For basketball fans the Pepsi Center hosts the National Basketball Association Nuggets.

Hockey enthusiasts cheer on the National Hockey League’s Colorado Avalanche, who skate at the Pepsi Center. The center also hosts home games for the Denver Crush arena football team and the National Lacrosse League’s Colorado Mammoth. College sports fans have the opportunity to watch teams of the universities of Colorado and Denver.

Shopping

Shopping in the downtown area centers on the 16th Street Mall. This extends from Cleveland Place to Wynkoop Street and includes the side streets in between. The mall comprises art galleries, gift shops, boutiques and varied specialty shops. The 16th Street Mall has free shuttle service; no cars are permitted. The Tabor Center, on the Mall at Lawrence Street, is a two-block glass-enclosed gallery showcasing 70 shops and restaurants.

Larimer Square, in the 1400 block of Larimer Street, has restored buildings of Civil War vintage that offer entertainment, dining and shopping. Adjacent is the Historic Lower Downtown District, known locally as LoDo; renovated warehouses and buildings now contain antique shops, galleries, restaurants, offices and nightspots.

Denver has more than 90 suburban shopping centers; most are open Mon.-Sat. 10-9 and Sun. noon-5. Among the larger and more varied are Aurora Mall, I-225 and Alameda Avenue; Buckingham Square Center, S. Havana Street and Mississippi Avenue in Aurora; Cherry Creek Shopping Center, E. 1st Avenue and University Boulevard in south Denver; Northglenn Mall, 104th Avenue and Valley Highway N.; and Park Meadows, on I-25 between SR 470 and County Line Road, south of Denver in Littleton.

Other major shopping areas include Southglenn Mall, Arapahoe Road and University Boulevard; Southwest Plaza, Bowles Avenue and Wadsworth Boulevard; Flatiron Crossing, US 36 and Interlocken; and Colorado Mills, at Colfax and Indiana near I-70.

Theater and Concerts

The Denver Performing Arts Complex, occupying four blocks at Curtis and 14th streets, is the second largest performing arts center in the nation: its 10 performance venues seat a total of more than 12,000 people. During the main concert season from October through May, the Colorado Symphony Orchestra usually performs weekly in the Boettcher Concert Hall; Opera Colorado also performs in the concert hall.

The Temple Hoyne Buell Theatre features Broadway productions and ballet. The Helen Bonfils Theatre Complex hosts the Denver Center Theatre Company. The 12-acre complex also includes the Galleria Theater.

Free band concerts are held in various city parks during July and August. Coors Amphitheater in Greenwood Village, south of Denver, also has a summer concert series. A little farther out near Morrison, the natural amphitheater in Red Rocks Park and Visitor Center (see Morrison p. 88) offers summer musical entertainment. Farther yet, the mining town of Central City (see place listing p. 52) attracts visitors to its Opera Festival late June through early August.

Family entertainment can be found at the Joseph B. Gould Family Paramount Theatre. If you prefer
"The Whistling Season"

The waning days of the West's one-room schoolhouses

By David Milofsky
Special to The Denver Post

Fans of Ivan Doig's writing are drawn to his admiring - one might say devotional - view of the West and the people who settled and live here. While his fiction lacks the hard edge of Tom McGuane, Kent Haruf and Cormac McCarthy - no unpleasant or difficult truths here - he is capable of a sweet lyricism when describing the quotidiant, and his attention to detail is meticulous.

Set in 1909 Montana, Doig's latest, "The Whistling Season," serves both as a kind of memoir of its narrator, Paul Million, and the story of a memorable year in the life of his family, when his mother died, leaving his father heartbroken and responsible for three young boys.

Not surprisingly, the household soon careens out of control, and Oliver Million responds to an advertisement that reads, "Can't Cook but Doesn't Bite," in which Rose Llewellyn of Minneapolis offers her services as a housekeeper.

While it's hard to understand exactly why Rose can't cook, in due time she arrives by train, bringing along her brother, Morris. He serves first as a general factotum in the community and then as schoolteacher for the children of Marias Coulee in their one-room schoolhouse, after the regular teacher decides to elope in the middle of the academic year.

In the course of the novel we are given descriptions of the life
of the town and the difficulty so-called "dryland" farmers find in attempting to coax crops out of the unyielding soil. But the subtext is Paul's meteoric rise from humble roots to the office of state superintendent of education.

His narrative, coming 50 years after the action in the novel, is prompted by political demands to close down one-room schools in favor of consolidated districts so America may compete with the Russians in the age of Sputnik.

It is in these sections that Doig is most affecting. He writes "What is being asked ... is not only the extinction of the little schools. It will also slowly kill rural neighborhoods ... No schoolhouse to send their children to. No schoolhouse for a Saturday-night dance. No schoolhouse for election day; for the Grange meeting; for the 4-H club." Well, you get the idea. But nostalgia does not a novel make and it doesn't work very well here either.

In having Paul present the argument in favor of small schools and rural life in general, Doig creates a narrative problem since Paul is not only accomplished as an adult but also was an outstanding student and thus has to periodically applaud himself.

To combat this, Doig makes Morris, who, improbably, is a graduate of the University of Chicago with a working knowledge of Latin, sing Paul's praises.

"Here I am," Morris says, "a teacher with a pupil who is already chockful of what I am supposed to be teaching him. Every minute of that, I'm holding you back from where an ability such as yours ought to be taking you ... I have been around prodigies before"
and you are one."

"Look," Paul seems to say, "wasn't I brilliant?"

Paul's story is wrapped around the central narrative of the novel, but the real momentum is toward getting Oliver and Rose together, something that Doig telegraphs from the time she gets off her train. Since these are salt-of-the-earth people, there has to be a time for grieving his lost wife and her lost husband and no hanky-panky along the way. But the die has been cast and in the end, to no one's surprise, Oliver proposes and Rose accepts. Paul decides to fight the evil politicos and argue in favor of continuing small schools, and the book ends predictably.

All of this is fine for a certain kind of novel and Doig handles the material well for the most part, despite occasional challenges in the language. In this novel, as in others he's written, Doig favors an archaic, even oratorical, style that can be poetic but is at other times almost comic. Describing Rose's arrival, for example, he says, "Back there at memory's depot ..." At another point he says of Morris, "he could talk the air full."

Every so often Oliver will set the boys down for a talk, and inevitably the punishment for a misdeed is chopping wood or doing other chores. Think Ben Cartwright and the boys in "Bonanza" and you're nearly there. It's not that such corn-pone realism is bad, but it has been done to death elsewhere and one tends to start skipping passages that are meant to be uplifting.

More serious than these problems, however, is a melodramatic plot twist involving Rose, Morris and Rose's dead husband, which Doig introduces in the last section of the novel as the only impediment to Rose and Oliver's nuptials. Everything is resolved in the end, of course, but it knocks the novel and the reader off-balance because it has almost nothing to do with
the 300 pages that have gone before. Novels and novelists can overcome linguistic infelicities, but structure is all.

Still, Doig's admirers won't mind, and as a picture of a long-gone period in the history of our part of the country, "The Whistling Season" will make good summer reading for many.

David Milofsky is a Denver novelist and professor of English at Colorado State University.

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The Whistling Season

By Ivan Doig

Harcourt, 352 pages, $25

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6/20/2006
HARRISON BEGAY

Born in Arizona in 1917, Harrison was an art student at the Santa Fe Indian School from 1934 to 1940. During W.W. II he served in the U.S. Army and in 1951 helped start Tewa Enterprises. Forty years later Harrison Begay is recognized as one of the leading artists of his generation. In the last several years he has shown his work in Japan at the invitation of the Japanese government.

Almost 1000 years ago the hunter-gatherer ancestors of the Apache and Navajo Indians came from northwest Canada to present-day New Mexico and Arizona. In the South they encountered a long settled people, the Pueblo Indians, from whom they learned weaving and farming and adopted a matrilineal clan system and some of the Pueblo religious ideas.

When the Spanish introduced horses in the 1500s, the Navajo became feared raiders hated by the Indian and Spanish communities up and down the Rio Grande for the stealing of food, horses and women. In 1863, Kit Carson, working for the U.S. government, subdued the Navajo by destroying their economic base: homes and orchards were burned, livestock slaughtered and 8000 people driven into captivity. After 2 years and many deaths the government returned the Navajo to their old homelands and since that time the tribe has grown from about 12,000 to over 100,000. Today they weave, work silver, herd sheep and participate in the white-run economy based on oil and mineral leases on reservations lands.

Weaving was originally for blankets to wear, but died out when commercially made blankets became available in the 1890s. Only because a small market had grown up around using the original blankets as rugs—and several white traders on the reservation had encouraged this new product—did the art revive. Today weaving thrives.

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Dear Inez,

Thanks so much for your kind note and for your wonderful wonderful talk at the banquet. The audience was enthralled. It was a pleasure to meet you and your wife, albeit briefly, and you are just an all-around good guy.


Best, Lise
Dear Lisa--

Made it home in good settled, full of memories of Santa Fe and sunshine and good people, thanks to you and the booksellers. Thanks in particular for including Carol, without whom I wouldn't have got the books written. She ruthlessly bargain-shopped the airline tix and car rental, so we hope the financial stuff isn't too stiff:

$279.30 airline tix Seattle/Albuquerque
$137 ½ of car rental (Sat./Sun., Santa Fe/airport)
$360.75 TOTAL, copy of receipts attached

And a couple of last things: those of us on the daily figure we got a lucky break with you pinch-hitting at m.c. Home run, Lisa.

Also, it was interesting to talk to Randall, who indeed has sopped up a rather amazing amount about the Montana area I've written so much about. It probably wouldn't hurt you to know, either, that he volunteered the opinion that he thinks you're doing a terrific job with for the MPRA; said he's around various organizations and the way you direct yours is notably efficient and smart. Hang on to that guy Randall, huh?

Again, all appreciation for the award and the Santa Fe trappings, from both Carol and me.

best,
February 3, 1997

Mr. Ivan Doig
17021 10th Avenue N.W.
Seattle, Washington 98177

Dear Ivan,

Finally, the promised letter. I was held up for about 10 days because there was a possibility that Mr. Ambrose would not be able to come but all is well now, thank heavens. What follows is mostly boilerplate - call me with any questions, Ivan.

I am so pleased that you will be able to accept the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association Spirit of the West Award. This award is presented annually by our Board of Directors to an author whose body of work embodies the spirit of our region. Previous recipients were Frank Waters, David Lavender, N. Scott Momaday, Tony Hillerman, and Vine Deloria, Jr.

The Spirit of the West Award and the MPBA Regional Book Awards will be presented at a banquet at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe on Saturday, March 15, 1997. While the Spirit of the West Award is presented by the Board, the Regional Book Awards are selected by a panel of judges from among titles nominated by booksellers and publishers in our region. The book must have been published in the prior year and must be set in our region. All of the Awards include a $500 check for the author and a framed print of the Awards poster, which will of course be sent directly to your home.

The titles of the books which have won the Regional Book Awards for 1997 are in the attached press release. Gary Snyder and the Pinkneys are unable to attend but will be sending acceptance letters which we will read at the Banquet. So there will be just three of you speaking: David London, Stephen Ambrose and you, in that order (a Simon & Schuster sweep). There will be an MC who will introduce each of you but I don’t know yet who that person will be. MPBA does of course pay expenses for you and your spouse to travel and stay in Santa Fe. I have made your room reservation at the Radisson, Ivan. The confirmation is enclosed.

The Banquet is open to the public as well as to our members, many of whom will be in Santa Fe that weekend participating in our annual Spring Seminar. All proceeds from the Banquet will be donated to literacy projects in the region. Regional Book Award winners who have spoken at past banquets include Wallace Stegner, William Least Heat-Moon, Terry Tempest Williams, James Galvin, Linda Hasselstrom, Larry Watson, James Welch and Sandra Cisneros.

The format for Saturday evening March 15 is as follows:
There is a shuttle available to take guests from the Radisson down to the La Fonda and back again after the Banquet. If you would like to use this service, please let me know in advance. The van will depart from the Radisson at 6:15pm. There will be a cocktail party (cash bar) from 6:30-7:30pm inside the ballroom, which is upstairs at the La Fonda. At 7:30pm everyone will be seated for dinner and tickets will be collected at that time by the wait staff. Please let me know if either you or Mrs. Doig prefer a meatless meal (I think that the regular entree is going to be a stuffed
pork chop). There will be two or three tables up front in the banquet room with “Reserved” signs on them. These are for the authors, spouses, publishers representatives and MPBA Board members.

After dinner the three authors, the master of ceremonies and possibly me will go up and be seated on the dais. Before the authors speak, the Dwight Myers Excellence in Regional Publishing Award will be presented. Then I will introduce the mc and get out of the way. The mc will introduce each author in turn.

The audience - booksellers, authors and public alike, especially enjoy this opportunity to hear the authors speak about their lives, their writing, etc. They will be expecting a talk, as opposed to a reading, although reading of short passages is fine. As you suggested on the phone, it would certainly be appropriate for you as Spirit of the West winner to talk about the region and its literary history if you are so inspired. Since there are just three authors at the Banquet this year, I am asking the other two to speak for 15 minutes and you to speak for 20 - ok? I know that you are a veteran of many such occasions, Ivan.

We do not have a book signing as a part of this event but it does frequently happen that people bring along books that they have previously purchased to have the authors sign after the Banquet. MPBA sets up a small table outside the Banquet room where we sell the Awards poster to the members of the public who are attending. After the Banquet the authors customarily make themselves available for another 45 minutes or so to sign posters and books.

When MPBA initiated these awards six years ago, we commissioned a Denver artist, Quang Ho, to do an original painting for the Awards poster, which lists the winning books, authors and publishers. A copy of this (wonderful) poster, along with full color bookmarks and stickers for the books and an ad slick are provided free to each of our 250 member bookstores to facilitate their own promotions of the Awards recipients. The winning books and the name of the Spirit of the West author are also featured on the back of the MPBA Holiday Book Guide each November. We print a million of these Guides, which are inserted into newspapers around our region and are also distributed through our member bookstores. A copy of this year’s Guide is enclosed.

We have sent out 45 press releases and press packets to regional newspapers, magazines and radio stations as well as to PW, Bookselling This Week and American Bookseller.

Other promotional plans include display ads in Albuquerque and New Mexico newspapers and production of a 60 second radio spot promoting the winning authors and the Banquet. The ad will run on KHFM, the classical music station for New Mexico, from February 28 through March 10.

On behalf of the Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association membership and Board - Congratulations! We are delighted that you have accepted the Spirit of the West Award and that you will be able to participate in our 8th annual Awards Banquet. Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions at all. I am looking forward to seeing you and to meeting Mrs. Doig.

Sincerely,

Lisa D. Knudsen
Executive Director

(assistant: Bravewyn)

805 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521
(970) 484-5856 • 1-800-752-0249 within region • Fax: (970) 407-1479
January 27, 1997
PRESS RELEASE-- For Immediate Release
For more information contact:
Lisa D. Knudsen, Executive Director, 970-484-5856.

The Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association is pleased to announce the winners of their 1997 Regional Book Awards. The purpose of these annual awards is to honor outstanding books published in 1996 which are set in our region.

The awards will be presented at a banquet at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe on March 15, 1997. The banquet is open to the public--all proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to literacy groups in the region.

The winners are:
Fiction: Sundancer, by David London, Simon & Schuster
Poetry: Mountains & Rivers Without End, by Gary Snyder, Counterpoint
Childrens: Bill Pickett, Rodeo-Ridin' Cowboy, by Andrea D. and Brian Pinkney, Harcourt Brace

Publicists for these books are:
Simon & Schuster, Amy Marmer, 212-698-7534
Counterpoint, Jessica Kane, 202-887-0363
Harcourt Brace, Stefanie Sanchez, 619-699-6810

Previous winners of the Regional Book Award who have spoken at past banquets include Wallace Stegner, William Least Heat-Moon, Terry Tempest Williams, Sandra Cisneros, Barbara Kingsolver, Win Blevins, and Joe Starita.

Also to be presented at the banquet is the “Spirit of the West” Literary Achievement Award given to an author whose body of work captures the unique spirit of our region. The winner this year is Mr. Ivan Doig. Mr. Doig was born in White Sulphur Springs, Montana and grew up in the Rocky Mountain area where much of his writing takes place. His first book, the highly acclaimed memoir This House of Sky (1978), was a finalist for the National Book Award in Contemporary Thought and received a Christopher Award, the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award and the Governor’s Writers Day Award. Heart Earth was the recipient of the 1993 David W. and Beatrice C. Evans Biography Award for the best biography in the Rocky Mountain West. Doig’s other award-winning books include: The Sea Runners (1982), named one of the notable books of the year by The New York Times Book Review; Winter Brothers (1980), and his Montana Trilogy of novels, English Creek (1984), Dancing at the Rascal Fair (1987), and Ride with Me, Mariah Montana (1990). His most recent novel is Bucking the Sun (1996), Simon & Schuster.

Previous winners of the Spirit of the West Award were Frank Waters, David Lavender, Tony Hillerman, N. Scott Momaday and Vine Deloria, Jr.

For more information and to purchase banquet tickets call 970-484-5856.
January 30, 1996
PRESS RELEASE - For Immediate Release
For more information contact:
Lisa D. Knudsen, Executive Director 1-970-484-5856

The Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association is pleased to announce the winners of their 1996 Regional Book Awards. The purpose of these annual awards is to honor outstanding books published in 1995 which are set in our region.

The awards will be presented at a banquet at the La Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe on March 16, 1996. All five authors will be present. This banquet is open to the public. Tickets are $30 each - all proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to literacy groups in the region.

The winners in the Adult category are:

1. Fiction: Stone Song by Win Blevins, Forge/St. Martin's
2. Non-fiction: The Dull Knives of Pine Ridge by Joe Starita, Putnam
3. Poetry: My Town by David Lee, Copper Canyon

The winner in the Children's category is A Boy Called Slow by Joseph Bruchac, Putnam

Publicists for these books are:

   Shelly Sanderson, Putnam Children’s, 212-951-8473
   Michael Barson, Putnam, 212-951-8478
   Michael Wiegers, Copper Canyon, 360-385-4925
   John Murphy, Forge/St. Martin’s, 212-674-5151 ext. 542

Previous winners of the Regional Book Award who have spoken at past banquets include Wallace Stegner, William Least Heat-Moon, Terry Tempest Williams, Sandra Cisneros and Barbara Kingsolver.

An additional award to be presented at the banquet is the "Spirit of the West" Literary Achievement Award. This award is given to an author whose body of work captures the unique spirit of our region. The winner this year is Mr. Vine Deloria, Jr. Mr. Deloria, a member of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, is the author of 16 books as well as hundreds of articles. He is best known for his authoritative works that address governmental policy toward Native Americans and that explore the Native American culture, in particular the religious beliefs of Native Americans. He is a Professor of American Indian Studies and of History, and an Adjoint Professor of Law, Religious Studies, and Political Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He won the 1970 Anisfield-Wolf Award for his first published book Custer Died for Your Sins and has been the recipient of four honorary doctorates. Other books include God Is Red, Beyond the Trail of Broken Treaties and American Indians, American Justice.

Previous winners of the Spirit of the West Award were Frank Waters, David Lavender, Tony Hillerman and N. Scott Momaday.

For more information and to purchase banquet tickets call 1-970-484-5856 or 1-800-752-0249

805 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521, (303) 484-5856, Fax: (303) 484-5856
Albuquerque / Santa Fe trip

DELTA 1800-221-1212. $139.65 ea w/ sr. discount of 10%.
Nonrefundable. Flt change possible for $50 per ticket.

Lv. Seattle Thursday, March 13, 1997
#328 Sea/St. Lk at 12:35 p.m. 68 min. layover To Flt #1605. Arr Alb. 5:54 p.m.
Seats 30 DE on 757

Ret. from ALB Sunday, March 16.
#1150 to St. Lk at 12:35 p.m. 38 min. layover to Flt #777. Arr Sea 3:45 p.m.
Seats 14DE on 737

If any inquiries to airline, use as confirm # DOIG #328 (outgoing) and March 13.

Cathy @ plane gate -
Spring Seminar
&
Regional Book Awards Banquet
Santa Fe,
March 14, 15 & 16, 1997

We have a terrific Spring Seminar Weekend planned this year. There will be more detail in the February newsletter but hopefully what’s here will inspire you to arrange your lives so that you can join us in Santa Fe in March. The seminars are free and open to all members of MPBA.

IF YOU KNOW OF BOOKSTORES IN THE REGION THAT ARE NOT MEMBERS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO INVITE THEM - JUST LET US KNOW IN THE MPBA OFFICE SO THAT WE KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE TO EXPECT.

There is a pre-registration form elsewhere in this newsletter; please return it to us by March 1 so that we can have a badge and meal tickets waiting for you. Deadline for Banquet reservations is March 7. Please note that the deadline for room reservations at the Radisson Hotel is also March 1. (See page 3 for more Spring Seminar details).
MPBA Statement of Purpose

The Mountains & Plains Booksellers Association was formed with the primary purpose of supporting independent bookstores and fostering a sense of community among booksellers in our region. The Association will:

- provide a forum and conduit for communication and information exchange at the regional and national levels,
- provide information and services for the benefit and advancement of booksellers,
- promote excellence in publishing, distribution, promotion and selling of books,
- promote literacy and defend freedom of speech and of the press as guaranteed by the First Amendment.

MPBA Office Information

Lisa D. Knudsen, Executive Director
805 LaPorte Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80521
phone: 970-484-5856, or 800-752-0249 (w/in region)
fax: 970-407-1479
e-mail: lknumpba@rmi.net

MPBA 1997 Board Members

Patricia Nelson
Page One, Inc.
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President

Leslie Ryan
Off the Beaten Path Bookstore & Coffeehouse
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Grace Hardin
Books & Co.
Idaho Falls, ID
Director

Tracey Ballast
Tattered Cover Bookstore
Denver, CO
Director

Gayle Shanks
Changing Hands Bookstore
Tempe, AZ
Director
Details for Spring Seminar...

Where: Radisson Hotel Santa Fe. 750 N. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe 505-982-5591, Reservations: 1-800-333-3333. Be sure to mention MPBA to receive the room rate of $85 for single or double. The Radisson has a nice bar and restaurant. The hotel is just five minutes from the downtown plaza and there is a complimentary shuttle to take you there and back. Deadline for room reservations is March 1.

Friday, March 14
9:00am-4:30pm  MPBA Board of Directors Meeting
Noon - 4:30pm    Advisory Council Luncheon and Meeting
Noon - 4:30pm    Registration, mezzanine of the Radisson Hotel
5:15pm           Those who pre-registered for van transportation to and from the cocktail party please meet in the hotel lobby.
                Ingram is planning a users’ group meeting for IBID, etc. on Friday afternoon but the time has not been set. They will be in touch with booksellers directly and we will also have the time in the February newsletter.
5:30pm-7:00pm   Cocktail party. Location and sponsor to be announced.
7:00pm on...    No MPBA function scheduled - Enjoy Santa Fe!

Saturday, March 15
8:30am-Noon     Seeing is Believing, Merchandising Basics presented by Deanna Harpham of Visuals, Inc. Deanna is a nationally known visual merchandising expert. She has spent more than 20 years helping specialty retailers maximize their merchandise presentation skills. Deanna knows that booksellers face difficult challenges: crazy schedules, tight budgets and limited training opportunities. That’s why she designs her seminars to provide hard-working visual merchandising techniques that are practical and cost-effective. Whether you are needing new signage, installing window displays, wanting to jazz up your interior merchandising or planning a new floor layout, Deanna will give you the techniques and inspiration you need. Through her analysis of good/bad technique and before/after slides, Deanna instills the confidence you need for creative merchandising.
Noon - 2:00pm   Lunch on your own.
2:00pm-3:15pm   Two concurrent roundtable discussion groups:
                Bookman’s Wake - The Second Coming. Improve your bottom line by including used books in your store. Gayle Shanks of Changing Hands in Tempe, Arizona will teach you how it’s done. Gayle and her husband Bobby wrote the chapter on used books for the new edition of the Manual on Bookselling.
3:30pm-4:45pm   Co-op Advertising (Especially for newsletters) Revisited. Dorothy Holland, who presented the terrific workshop on co-op last year, will lead this discussion about what bookstores have accomplished since then. What worked, what didn’t. Dorothy will have a new handout on changes in co-op policies as
well as the original terrific worksheets from last year. Brenda Allen of Booke Shoppe Lander, WY will assist.

**Bargain Books and Sidelines.** If you are not selling bargain books and remainders in your store PLEASE PLEASE attend this roundtable. Bookstores of any size can participate in this bonanza.

Patricia Nelson, Page One and Gayle Shanks, Changing Hands.

6:15pm
People who have reservations for the van to La Fonda gather in the Radisson lobby.

6:30pm
Cocktail Party (cash bar) La Fonda Hotel Ballroom

7:30pm
Regional Book Awards Banquet

Winning authors will speak, Dwight A. Myers Excellence in Regional Publishing Award will be presented. La Fonda Hotel Ballroom. Reservations required.

**Sunday, March 16**

8:30am-Noon

**The Soul of the Machine-Publisher/Bookseller Roundtable.** It is a given that small publishers and independent booksellers are joined at the hip - what is good or bad for one is also good or bad for the other. It is crucial that we exchange ideas and information. The format for this roundtable is still being worked out but we plan to include the following topics:

1. How do publishers feel about their business and their books?
2. How do they structure relationships with independents and chain bookstores, non-book outlets, national and regional wholesalers, sales reps?
3. What changes are publishers being advised to implement in the wake of the ABA lawsuits? How will their business be affected?
4. Returns and their effect on small publishers.
5. What does it mean to a publisher when booksellers order direct vs. through a wholesaler? How are publishers affected by vendor of record programs?
6. Marketing - what makes a title take off, how can publishers and booksellers extend the life of a book?
7. How can a bookseller who does not see sales reps maintain backlist?
8. How can we work together?

Bill Schneider, Publisher of Falcon Books and President of the Rocky Mountain Book Publishers Association will help to moderate the roundtable. Representatives from other publishers in the region will attend. We’ll have more detail in the February newsletter.
Dwight A. Myers Award
for
Excellence in Regional Publishing

This award was established three years ago by Simon & Schuster to recognize the importance of the small, regional publishing houses of the Rocky Mountain West which Dwight A. Myers championed for a lifetime. Dwight passed away in September, 1995. He was Executive Director of the New Mexico Book League and an employee of Simon & Schuster for 35 years. The sum of $1,000 will be presented annually for five years to the winning publishers. The award is administered through Mountains & Plains and will be presented at the Spring Seminar in Santa Fe on March 15.

This year's winner is Pruett Publishing in Boulder. The judges commented "While each of the publishers who submitted books and materials for this award are worthy candidates deserving of recognition, we believe that Pruett Publishing—because of the high quality of their books, in content and format, and as one of the region's oldest and largest regional presses—best exemplifies excellence in publishing for our region and is therefore the most deserving of this year's Dwight A. Myers Excellence in Regional Publishing Award. For many years, Pruett's books, first under the direction of Fred Pruett, and now under the leadership of his son, Jim Pruett, have exhibited the kind of overall excellence that many presses can only hope to achieve."

Past winners of the Dwight A. Myers Excellence in Regional Publishing Award were Red Crane Books of Santa Fe and Ancient City Press of Santa Fe. Our judges this year were Tom Auer, The Bloomsbury Review; Robert Sheldon, Gannon Distributing and David Quinn, Graphic Arts Publishing. We're grateful for their time and dedication in selecting a publisher for the award.
Regional Book Award Winners

Poetry
Mountains and Rivers Without End
Gary Snyder
Counterpoint

Mountains and Rivers Without End has been referred to as a “modern Leaves of Grass.” Snyder began the epic poem in 1956 and it encompasses his experiences in Europe, North America, the Pacific Rim, East Asia and the Arctic.

Snyder has published sixteen books of poetry and prose. His book Turtle Island won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1975. His collection No Nature was a finalist for the National book Award in 1992. He has been a Guggenheim Fellow and is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Adult Fiction
Sun Dancer
David London
Simon & Schuster

Sun Dancer is David London’s debut novel, a tale of two Sioux brothers, Clem and Eli, embarking on a quest to regain possession of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Guaranteed to the Sioux in perpetuity by the Laramie Treaty of 1868, the land was taken away by Congress a few years later. Their journey takes them to Mt. Rushmore, or as it was known to the Sioux, the Six Grand Mothers, one of their most sacred sites. The two brothers chain themselves to Mt. Rushmore, while around them a cast of characters, empathetic white and Sioux supporters, militant opposers with their own agenda and federal forces surround them, acting out a battle both modern and historic.

David London stayed on Pine Ridge Reservation in the summers of 1990 and 1991. He studied cultural anthropology at Harvard and now teaches undergraduate fiction writing at the University of Iowa, where he is a member of the Iowa Writers’ Workshop.

Children's
Bill Pickett, Rodeo-Ridin’ Cowboy
Andrea D. & Brian Pinkney
Harcourt Brace

Bill Pickett, Rodeo-Ridin’ Cowboy is the story of the famous black rodeo performer Bill Pickett who wowed audiences with his “bull-dogging,” a way to wrestle a steer to the ground by biting the animal’s lip.

Andrea Davis Pinkney is the author of several picture books, including Dear Benjamin Banneker, which was named an NCSB-NCSS Notable Children’s Trade Book in the Field of Social Studies and received numerous other honors.

Brian Pinkney has illustrated numerous picture books and has won many awards, including a Caldecott Honor and two Coretta Scott King Honor Awards for Illustration. He is also a five-time recipient of the Parents’ Choice Award.

Adult Nonfiction
Undaunted Courage
Stephen E. Ambrose
Simon & Schuster

Undaunted Courage recounts the most momentous expedition in American history—Lewis and Clark’s pioneering journey across North America from the Mississippi to the Pacific. Ambrose creates a convincing portrait of Captain Meriwether Lewis as not just a pioneering leader but a scientist who earned “a rank not far below Darwin as a naturalist.”
The Mountains & Plains Spirit of the West Award is given to a writer whose body of work captures the unique spirit of our region. Previous winners of the Spirit of the West Award were Frank Waters, David Lavender, Tony Hillerman, N. Scott Momaday and Vine Deloria, Jr. This year’s winner is Ivan Doig.

Ivan Doig was born in White Sulphur Springs, Montana, in 1939 and grew up along the Rocky Mountains where much of his writing takes place. He revisits his old stomping ground with his new book Bucking the Sun, published by Simon & Schuster in May, 1996. Chuck Robinson, past president of the American Booksellers Association, says “I’ve never read one I like more than Bucking the Sun . . . . This is Ivan Doig at his best . . . . writing doesn’t get any better.” His first book, the highly acclaimed memoir This House of Sky (1978), was a finalist for the National Book Award in Contemporary Thought and received a Christopher Award, the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award and the Governor’s Writers Day Award. Heart Earth was the recipient of the 1993 David W. and Beatrice C. Evans Biography Award for the best biography in the Rocky Mountain West. Publishers Weekly wrote, “In poetic and precise prose, Doig has crafted a worthy complement to his acclaimed memoir, This House of Sky.”

Doig’s other award-winning books include: Winter Brothers (1980), which was the recipient of the Governor’s Writers Day Award and the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award for Literary Excellence; The Sea Runners (1982), his first novel, was named one of the notable books of the year by The New York Times Book Review; and his Montana Trilogy of novels, English Creek (1984), Dancing at the Rascal Fair (1987), and Ride with Me, Mariah Montana (1990). “A writer whose work makes readers recall why they love to read, and reminds writers why they ever wanted to write in the first place,” raved the Washington Post Book World.

A former ranch hand and a newspaperman, Doig is a graduate of Northwestern University where he received a B.S. and M.S. in Journalism. He holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Washington and honorary doctorates in literature from Montana State University and Lewis and Clark College. In 1989 the Western Literature Association honored him with its Distinguished Achievement Award for his body of work. He lives in Seattle with his wife Carol, who teaches the literature of the American West.
ABA Announces Rath Resignation

The American Booksellers Association announced today that its executive director, Bernie Rath, has chosen not to renew his contract. Rath, who left his position as head of the Canadian Booksellers Association to become executive director of ABA in 1984, has decided to pursue other interests. "For some time now I have been feeling a strong need to be in business for myself. I have worked for years with so many wonderful independently minded business people that I’ve been convinced the only way I’ll ever find self-realization is by running my own business, whatever that turns out to be," said Rath. Barbara Bonds Thomas, owner of Toad Hall Bookstore and President of ABA stated "ABA has been the beneficiary of Bernie’s organizational skill, vision and talent and I’m sure most people will agree that he’s accomplished everything and more than might have been anticipated when he was hired. However, the profession, the organization, and the industry are at a crossroads and we are all in perfect harmony that if there must be change, the timing couldn’t be more propitious." The ABA has retained Paul Forbes of The Forbes Group in Washington, DC to develop a new strategic plan on how to best utilize the Association’s significant assets to benefit its members in their struggle for survival.

During Rath’s tenure the organization’s net worth increased from $1.03 million to $27.74 million while the association established a leadership position in the industry by publishing a weekly newspaper Bookselling This Week, producing a monthly magazine American Bookseller, mounting an annual trade show with nearly 40,000 participants and creating a research department and a 3,500 volume industry library all from its ten acre campus in Westchester County.

No successor to Rath has been named or is currently contemplated, though former President Avin Mark Domnitz of Harry W. Schwartz Booksellers in Milwaukee will serve as Acting Executive Director until the search for a successor has been concluded.

ABA Strategic Planning Meeting

Lisa D. Knudsen, Executive Director and Patricia Nelson, President of Mountains & Plains will attend the ABA’s strategic planning meeting in February in Dana Point, California. MPBA Board members will be calling a sampling of the MPBA member stores and asking for input and suggestions to put forward at the strategic planning meeting. Any member should feel free to call the MPBA office with ideas.

First Amendment News

Dear Lisa,

On behalf of the Protect Our Children Coalition we would like to extend a special thanks to you for the work you did in the fight to defeat the Parental Rights Amendment. Together we did it—we stopped Amendment 17.

Considering the fact that the Rocky Mountain News poll conducted in September showed that 76% of voters favored Amendment 17, our defeat of the so-called Parental Rights Amendment was an incredible turn-around. Our hard work, superior organization, and the loud-and-clear consistency with which we delivered our message moved 34% of the voters to oppose the amendment.

We won because we were right—we also won because we fought hard, had strong grass roots support, and solid financial support. Together we stopped "Of the People" and their attempt to use the Colorado Constitution as a national testing ground for their amendment.

Together we raised a lot of money in the final weeks before the election. This extra influx of cash was used to buy additional advertising in print and broadcast media. We were vastly outspent by the proponents of Amendment 17, but we
used our resources wisely and effectively.

Our sincere gratitude is extended for the support and assistance you provided Protect Our Children. Together we made a difference and together we moved the numbers needed to bring about a strong defeat. Together we sent a message.

We should all be very proud of our accomplishment in this election. Again, please accept our personal thanks for your involvement and commitment to Protect Our Children.

Sincerely,
Fofi Mendez
Campaign Manager
Pat Steadman
Deputy Campaign Manager
Lou Kelley
Chair

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**Announcements**

**Sixth Albuquerque Book Fair: Food for Thought**

The Sixth Albuquerque Book Fair will be held on Friday, April 4, 1997 from 5 pm to 9 pm and Saturday, April 5 from 10 am to 4 pm. It will be located at the University of New Mexico's Continuing Education Center at 1634 University Boulevard, just north of Indian School Road. Plenty of free parking will be available both days.

Over thirty book dealers and publishers from throughout New Mexico and across the country will offer books, maps, photos, prints, postcards, and other printed collectibles in many subject areas. New, used, and rare items will be on display at over 60 tables of exhibits. There will also be a silent auction Friday evening.

Admission will be by $5.00 donation on Friday and $2.00 on Saturday. Sponsored by the Maxwell Museum Association, a non-profit organization, and run by its volunteers, all proceeds will benefit the library of the University of New Mexico's Maxwell Museum of Anthropology.

For additional information call Alan Shalette at (505) 291-9653 in Albuquerque, or send e-mail to alshal@aol.com

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**Poetry Readings**

The University of Arizona Poetry Center Spring Reading Schedule:

1/29  Bob Perelman
2/19  Jon Anderson
3/5   Marie Howe
3/12  Richard K. Nelson
3/26  Graduate Student Reading
4/9   Poetry Center Contest Awards Reading
4/16  C.K. Williams
4/23  Al Young
4/30  Persona Reading

All readings take place at 8 p.m. in the Modern Language Auditorium, University of Arizona and are free and open to the public. An informal reception follows each reading.

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**Western States Arts Federation TourWest**

Advancement of the arts and culture in communities throughout the American West is the purpose of the Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF). Performing arts touring and audience development through the TourWest program is one of WESTAF's primary activities. TourWest offers touring artist fee support to Western presenters of up to $2,500, or 50% of the artistic fees (whichever is less) for performances and community outreach activities taking place across the West. Touring artists and companies from anywhere in the world are eligible to apply through any non-profit presenting organization located in a Western state.

Applications for the 1997-98 season must be received in the WESTAF office by Friday, March 14, 1997. Applicants will be notified of awards by May 15, 1997. For an application or for more information, please contact:

Western States Arts Federation
1543 Champa Suite 220
Denver, CO 80202
(303) 629-1166

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Theft Panel Nearly Steals the Show

by Thomas Gladysz

Reprinted by permission of the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

More than 65 booksellers attended a panel on store theft at the recent NCIBA trade show. The featured speakers were Inspector Ron Kern of the San Francisco Police Department and Ron Breen, a former Bay Area book thief.

Both were part of a recent sting operation which led to the arrests of individuals allegedly involved in a stolen book ring. The arrests and widespread nature of the alleged fencing operation made news around Northern California.

Breen read a prepared statement and answered questions from the sometimes curious--sometimes aghast--booksellers. Perhaps most controversial was Breen's allegation that a major bookstore chain was owned by a well known organized crime family. Citing his source as a San Francisco Police officer, Breen added that chain bookstores were the easiest targets of theft and one at least was really only a "front for organized crime."

Breen also relayed some of his experiences and knowledge of stealing from the bookstores. Noting that he was paid between 10 and 25% of the retail price for stolen books, Breen stated that he had been making between $30,000 and $60,000 per year until his arrest.

Some thieves carry magnets or line their bags with aluminum foil to pass through in-store alarm systems undetected.

Breen also said he was part of a ring of approximately half-a-dozen thieves who targeted both chain and independent bookstores throughout the greater Bay Area. (Occasionally, some of his associates would also go on stealing trips--driving to San Diego and back while targeting stores along the way.) Breen and others allegedly involved with the ring were given "shopping lists" of books to steal.

Afterward, the books were sold to a well known San Francisco used bookstore that in turn sold them to the public at "discounted prices."

Bill Petrocelli, whose Corte Madera store Book Passage was involved in the sting operation, made a point of noting that as well as fencing the books to the public--stolen books were also sold to both private school and public city libraries. Petrocelli said he suspected at least some of the librarians were aware of what they were buying when they purchased new books at 50% off.

Some of the techniques used by Breen and other thieves with whom he associated included making use of a "booster bag," which when empty could be stuffed into a coat pocket or concealed beneath a jacket. Such compact bags can be expanded and filled with hundreds of dollars in books. Books were also concealed beneath bulky sweaters or coats (even when the weather dictated lighter attire), in briefcases or in empty packages from other stores.

Oftentimes, Breen added, he found magnetic strips on the outside of a shrink-wrapped book. These could be easily removed, as would drop-in strips which the thieves would search for and remove. Breen also said he heard of thieves carrying magnets or lining bags with aluminum foil in order to pass through in-store alarm systems undetected. Additionally, when more sophisticated shoplifting techniques (as outlined above) were not employed, brazen thieves would hurry to a car waiting outside the store. Sometimes, Breen noted, shoplifters would return to a store as many as six times in a day in order to acquire all the books they wanted.
Breen and his former associates targeted whatever books were in demand—not just cookbooks, art books or hardback novels. Breen (well dressed and well groomed—hardly a suspect “character”) said he always worked alone.

However, he was aware of thieves who worked in teams. One team member would gather the books and then leave while the other would collect the stash and exit the store. Some teams consisted of two women, other of a man, a woman and small child. One such team member would distract a clerk while the other made off with the goods. Such thieving could occur at all hours of the day.

To counter potential shoplifters, Breen and Inspector Kern suggested making the suspect individual aware of your nearby presence—one might shelve books in their vicinity. It was also important to establish eye contact with individuals as they entered the store, or to ask them if they needed help. In answer to a question, Kern noted that it was legal to take pictures of individuals inside your store—thus making a potential thief anxious and unlikely to return. Firm but polite challenges to those who are suspected of concealing or stealing a book were the consen-

s method by booksellers for those confronting a shoplifter.

Inspector Kern urged those in attendance to talk with their police departments or local officers in order to make them better informed of the widespread nature of book theft. "Get their business card," Kern stressed.

One bookseller related how local police didn't take shoplifting seriously: "they're just books" was the reasoning. Kern noted that the alleged fencing operation with which Breen was involved was statewide and netted hundreds of thousands of dollars per year. Also, other stolen book rings and fencing operations continue to operate in the Bay Area.

Inspector Kern noted that it was legal to take pictures of individuals inside your store, making a potential thief anxious and unlikely to return.

In spite of the theft problems that all booksellers must contend with, it was clear that bookstores' interests would be best served by working to elimi-
nate fences and their markets for reselling books.

Petrocelli was among those calling for the NCIBA to coordinate a task force to, among other things, draft informational letters to the likes of public and school libraries that state the seriousness of both the problem and our concern.

Thomas Gladysz serves on the Board of Directors of the NCIBA; he is the organization's Secretary.

Publisher Notes

BDD Contributes to Literacy

Bantam Doubleday Dell made a contribution on behalf of Mountains and Plains to the Literacy Partners, Inc. this past December. Their card said "the gift of knowledge may be the most wonderfully enduring gift of all." We couldn't agree more! Thanks BDD.

Oops

In our Tradeshows newsletter a full page ad for Macmillan's title 24 Hours in Cyberspace, included the line "The newest addition to the Day in the Life series from bestselling author Rick Smolan" which should not have appeared in the ad. We're sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused Macmillan.
Wyoming Outreach
May 3 & 4, 1997 in Lander

From approximately 1988 through 1994, MPBA sponsored a one-day meeting for booksellers in Casper. It was held on a Saturday with seminars in the a.m. and a mini trade show with about 12 sales reps after lunch. Interest in the Outreach dwindled among booksellers and reps so MPBA took a two-year hiatus. In 1996, however, due in large part to the enthusiasm of MPBA Board member Brenda Allen of Booke Shoppe in Lander, the Outreach was revived. The trade show component was eliminated and the entire day was devoted to seminars and roundtables among Wyoming booksellers, MPBA Board members and, serendipitously, members of the Board of the Wyoming Writers Association.

Everyone who took part in last year's Outreach was very charged up about it so this year we are expanding and moving to a new, more centralized location in Wyoming (see map). Serendipity is great but so is proactivity-- the Wyoming Writers will be meeting in nearby Riverton that weekend and will be participating in our Outreach once again. (United Express flies into Riverton. Lander is just a 1/2 hour drive from the airport).

Plans for the Outreach are not all firmed up at this point but an important object is to host a roundtable which we are calling "Regional Seduction North." Following the model of our very successful roundtable three years ago at Spring Seminar in Santa Fe, we plan to invite non-member booksellers, librarians, media, publishers, wholesalers, arts council people - representatives from any group we can discover in the region that has an interest in literature. The purpose of the roundtable is to discuss current trends in the industry and ways in which we can work together.

We hope that all of our Wyoming bookstore members will be able to send representatives to this Outreach. Naturally member stores from all states are cordially invited but we also want to emphasize that we would be delighted to see non-member bookstores as well. So if you know of other booksellers who are not members, please let them know about the Outreach and encourage them to come. Also, if you know of individuals or groups associated with things literary who you think should receive an invitation, please call the MPBA office asap at 1-800-752-0249. There is no charge for the seminars.

Agenda to date:

Friday evening May 2

Open house for everyone at The Booke Shoppe, Lander.
(In the olden days when booksellers occasionally had fun we used to go dancing at a cowboy bar...)

Saturday May 3

8:30am-10:00am Co-op Advertising (Especially for newsletters) Revisited.
See Spring Seminar for description. Dorothy Holland and Brenda Allen.

See Spring Seminar for description. Tracey Ballast and Randy Hickernell.
(Lander Outreach continued)

Noon-1:30 or so Luncheon with Wyoming Writers and others
1:30pm-5:00pm Regional Seduction North Roundtable.
Evening Cocktails and dinner

**Sunday, May 4**

8:30am-Noon Seeing is Believing, Merchandising Basics presented by Deanna Harpham of Visuals, Inc. See Spring Seminar for description.
Noon Wyoming Outreach ends.

More details about the Outreach, pre-registration forms, etc. will be in upcoming newsletters. Meanwhile, if you have any suggestions or comments, please call any Board member or 1-800-752-0249 and speak with Bronwyn or Lisa in the office. We want to hear from you!

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**Encouraging Words from NBF Medal Winner Toni Morrison**

The following is excerpted from the November 11, 1996 of Publishers Weekly

Novelist Walter Mosely introduced Toni Morrison to receive the NBF Medal for Distinguished Contribution to America Letters, saying that for too long black people had been seeking for role models in literature, only to find “white men telling me about me.”

Morrison comments: There is a danger to the act of reading if education is a “a horse race in a trophy-driven culture. And there is an equal danger to educated people who live in countries with regimes that distrust writers.” Writing, she said, is a craft that “seems solitary, but needs another for its completion, that requires a whole industry for its dissemination. At its best it offers the fruits of one person’s imaginative intelligence to another, without restraints.” Therefore the life of the book business is a very serious one: “It involves the dispensing of knowledge, the maintaining of a welcoming environment where no control interferes.”

John F. Baker of Publishers Weekly closes his article with the following: “For the assembled crowd, suffering a year of anxiety over returns and apparently declining book sales, it was a salutary shot in the arm, reminding them of their sometimes forgotten role in the life of the nation.”

MPBA Newsletter 1/97 Page 13
In Memoriam

Anne W.C. Underhill dies at 62; ‘lived, breathed and ate books’

by Ed Severson
Reprinted by permission of the Arizona Daily Star

The tiny woman who spent her life spreading the love of reading, Anne Winsett Carter Underhill, 62, died Saturday after a brief illness.

"People used to come into the Book Mark and say, 'I want that little woman,'" said Underhill's daughter, Karen Underhill.

Anne Underhill, a wisp of a woman well under 5 feet tall, possessed a gargantuan knowledge of books. For two decades she was the book buyer for the popular, densely stocked bookstore at 5001 E. Speedway.

Customers knew that Underhill could lead them straight to the book they were looking for. And often she would suggest several others that they hadn't known they wanted.

"She thought books were the greatest gift of all, which would give people adventure, love and fantasy, enlightenment and stimulation," said Karen Underhill.

"She knew everything (about books)," said former Arizona Daily Star reporter J.C. Martin, who served with her as one of the founders of the Book and Author Luncheon, which brought nationally known authors to Tucson.

Martin remembers following Underhill around the Book Mark, as customers in search of books peppered her with questions.

"Someone would ask for an author, and she'd rattle off two or three books by the same author," Martin said.

Then adding, "If you like that kind of thing . . . " Underhill would suggest several other authors in whom the customer might be interested.

"She lived, breathed and ate books," said Angela Hixon, Book Mark's children's book buyer. "We didn't need a computer -- we had Anne."

Hixon said Underhill, whose specialty was children's books, read "practically everything she put on the shelf."

Underhill lived in a house packed with more than 10,000 books. On one wall hung her favorite poster, and ancient woman reading books in a bed.

Recently a longtime friend, retired librarian Madeline Klem, visited Underhill, who was in bed during the brief illness before she died. "I'm so joyful," Underhill said. "I'm surrounded by books."

Born on June 15, 1934, in Champaign, Ill., Underhill graduated with Phi Beta Kappa honors from DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind. Later, she studied for a year in France on a Fulbright scholarship.


In her lifelong promotion of reading among all ages, Underhill was honored by many organizations including the International Reading Association, the Tucson Association for Education for Young Children, the Literacy Volunteers of Tucson and Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association.

She is survived by her parents, Herbert E. Carter and Elizabeth DeWees Carter of Tucson; her sister, Jean Lave of Berkeley, CA; her daughter, Karen Underhill of Flagstaff; her granddaughter, Alyssa Mangelsdorf; and her niece, Rebecca Lave.

Memorial donations may be made in Underhill's name to the Literacy Volunteers of Pima County, 125 W. Yavapai Road, Building 800, Tucson 85705.

Tomi Lewis

Contributed by Enid Schantz of the Rue Morgue Bookstore in Boulder

Tomi Lewis died on Friday, November 8, after a brief battle with cancer. She and her husband Doug Lewis operated Little Bookshop of Horrors in Arvada, Colorado, a small independent bookstore specializing in horror, dark fantasy, science fiction, and mystery which sponsored numerous author readings and signings.

Doug can be reached at Little Bookshop of Horrors, 1080 Ralston Rd., Arvada CO 80004, 303-425-1975. His plans for the future are uncertain at this time, but he will probably continue the store at least on a mail-order basis, primarily through the internet. Tomi's death came sooner than any of us had expected. The prognosis had not been good, but she was at the point of starting her second round of chemotherapy and we thought she had at least several months to live and possibly much longer.

We are all greatly saddened by her passing.
Tell us!

Yes, it’s impossible to believe, but sometimes we lose track of what we’ve sent and to whom. If yours is a new bookstore and you haven’t received either your marketing guide, window decal, or handbook then run, don’t walk to your nearest phone and let us know.

If you do not want to receive free Regional Book Award Materials (poster and 250 bookmarks), please let us know.

If your store produces a newsletter, please put MPBA on your mailing list. We want to know what’s happening!

Others

Paul Gibbs
Pierson Graphics dba Maps Unlimited
899 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203
303-623-4299
fax: 303-623-7428
mapsunltd1@aolcom
pierson@ecentral.com
Travel books and maps
Opened: 1979
Employees: 26
Sq. footage: 10,000
# titles: 1,500
Publishers and Bookseller

Marilyn Harrington
BookExpo America
383 Main Ave.
Norwalk, CT 06851
203-840-5460
fax: 203-840-9460
mharrington@reedexpo.com
Tradeshows

New Members

Stores

Janis Frame
Book Buffs
1138 E. Ellsworth Ave. #50A
Denver, CO 80209
303-722-8989
fax: 303-722-8041
jframe6383@aol.com
Mystery, 1st editions, fiction
Opened: 1996
Employees: 1
Sq. footage: 700
# titles: 1,200
Inventory: Bookmaster III

Corrections

New member Diane White-Crane’s phone number should read: 301-229-3428. Her e-mail is wc-c@access.digex.net

“Stars End Creation” should read “StarsEnd Creations.” Their address should read:
8547 E. Arapahoe Rd. #J224

Store closings

The Literate Lizard in Scottsdale, AZ has closed.

Pages and Prints in Midland, TX the “last independent bookstore between Dallas and Tucson,” closed due to overwhelming competition from two new mega bookstores in town—Hastings Books and Barnes & Noble.

Handbook Updates

The Time Life Books entry on page 21 should read:
“Time Life Books.......1-800-277-8844, Fax ........717-348-6409”
The 800 number listed for Time Life Books is the number for Sunset Books, and Richard Croog is the Co-op ad director for Tidemark Calendars.

The John Muir entry on page 16 should read:
“John Muir...1-800-285-4078, Fax......510-658-1834, Customer Service....800-788-3123”
(Handbook updates continued)
Jeannie Dunham’s listing on page 25 should include Time Life Books

Random House Merchandise Division has changed its name to Random House Children’s Publishing and has acquired several new reps:

Jim Carretta
6745 Beech Ave
Orangvale, CA 95662
916-989-0280
fax: 916-989-9113
email: jcarretta@randomhouse.com
territory: CO
(Jim Carretta is replacing Pam Williams who has joined Dorling Kindersley)

William Steedman
1222 Vista Ct.
Glendale, CA 91205
818-242-1862
email: wsteedman@randomhouse.com
territory: Southeast AZ, NM

Alan Mendelsohn
4200 Linden Hills Blvd.
Minneapolis, MN 55410
612-929-7633
fax: 612-929-7680
email: amendelsohn@randomhouse.com
Western Regional Sales Manager

Sandra Patterson’s entry on page 30 has changed. Her territories are now CO, NM and TX. All other information remains the same.

Share Our Strength
Writer’s Harvest: The National Reading

WESTAF award winner Kate Horsley reads from A Killing in New Town

Writer’s Harvest is a nationwide literary benefit for hunger relief involving more than 500 bookstores, college campuses and community centers across the country. The Writer’s Harvest reading at the Bookworks Bookstore in Albuquerque featured the readings of Gene Case, Janice Gould, Kate Horsley (WESTAF winner and MPBA Regional Book Award nominee, 1996), E.A. Mares, Chris Offutt, and Levi Romero. Over 100 people attended the event, which raised $470 for hunger relief.

Janice Gould, poet & author of Earthquake Weather with Mimi Wheatwind
Technology Watch

By Larry Shields, New Media Consultants
The following excerpts have been reprinted by permission of the Great Lakes Booksellers Association

Education the Reason for Home PC Purchases
According to an American Learning Household Survey potential family PC buyers cited children’s education as the primary reason for purchase (80%) while work-at-home and home financial applications came in a distant second. The survey also found that children are shifting away from games and toward using the computers as an information access tool. The Red Herring 12/95

Dead Information
According to Paul Saffo “The Web as we know it today is dead. It’s dead in two ways: because it’s going to mutate into something else very quickly... and secondly, it’s dead because all it’s got on it is dead information... The next big change is going to be finding ways to put qualities that we associate with MUDs (multi-user fantasy environments) today into Web pages so that you can interact with people.” Upside 2/96

American Library Association Editions Annual Update 1996
The ALA offers resources such as Building the Service-Based Library Web Site: A Step-by-Step Guide to Designing and Options, Internet Initiative: Libraries Providing Internet Services and How They Plan, Pay, and Manage and the Intellectual Freedom Manual, 5th Edition. To find out about these and other ALA publications get the free American Library Association Editions Annual Update 1996 by calling the ALA at 1-800-545-2433 or pointing your browser at http://www.ala.org/alaeditions.html

Xerox Offers New Display Technology
I believe that computers will replace books as the primary delivery mechanism of text when display technology offers the same effective resolution as a piece of paper. Xerox has made a step in that direction. Recently Xerox unveiled a new display technology that squeezes 7 million pixels onto a 13 inch screen using active matrix technology. This new display offers 15 to 30 times the resolution available on today’s laptops. At current cost of $15,000 apiece the appeal is primarily to niche markets, but the price will come down. Wall Street Journal 3/96

Entrepreneur’s Resource
The U.S. Business Advisor is now offering small businesses online access to guides and government forms needed to comply with regulations, to apply for government-backed loans or to get other federal assistance at http://www.business.gov Wall Street Journal 2/96

Home Use Of the Web Up Last Year
According to Odyssey, a research firm, home use of the World Wide Web doubled in the last six months in 1995. They estimate that 7.5 million households, or 8% of the U.S total access the Web. Wall Street Journal 3/96

This Month’s Web Sites
Hunter Thompson related sites of interest at:
http://sunsite.unc.edu/martin/gonzostuf/hst.html
http://www.ucs.usl.edu/~tbf4931/hunter.html

Comments, etc.
Comments and questions are invited. Contact Larry Shields at 70277 3677@compuserve.com
Bookstore Profile: The Haunted Bookshop
by Randy Hickernell
Each month an MPBA Board member will contribute a profile of a member bookstore

The Haunted Bookshop of Tucson, AZ celebrated its 22nd anniversary last November. The Haunted Bookshop has moved twice since it opened in 1978 and now lives in a freestanding building designed specifically as a bookstore. A wide veranda provides shade for patrons. Beautiful wind chimes move gently in the breeze adding haunting tones to the southwestern landscape. Next to the bookstore is a 38 acre desert park owned and run by a private foundation. The park is open to the public. A restaurant on the grounds of the park is a terrific place for lunch or dinner and has gallery space for local artists’ works. The park and restaurant are a great complement to the Haunted Bookshop.

1997 will be a challenging year for The Haunted Bookshop. In the third quarter of 1996 a Barnes and Noble superstore, complete with coffee shop and music section, opened a few miles away. Consequently, December ‘96 sales were down about 30% compared to December of ‘95. The staff and owners of The Haunted Bookshop will continue to offer the same level of service and book selection to their friends and customers. The electric trains still run around the ceiling of the bookstore and children still hide and play in the tunnel in the children’s section. Southwestern books are a strong specialty of the store. Haunted hosts 3 or events each month. The spring calendar is filled with events including a Larry McMurty signing, and an interpretive nature walk in the adjacent desert park led by the author of The Southern Arizona Nature Almanac. Haunted also hosts events for newly published Arizona authors who are not yet famous. In short, Haunted will continue to do the things that have made it a success for the past 22 years. Here’s wishing the Haunted Bookshop 22 more years of serving the readers of Southern Arizona.

Letters

The following letter is from Rusty Drugan, Executive Director of the New England Booksellers Association.

Dear Lisa,

I am writing to you and our colleagues at the other regionals on behalf of a good cause and a great idea that needs sustained reinforcement. It is the ubiquitous use of the logo “Books The Greatest Gift” by us and especially all our member bookstores.

NEBA’s President Suzy Staubach recently described her “fantasies of a different tomorrow.” One is that “books are widely given as gifts for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, the birth of a child, Valentine’s Day, Christmas, Chanukah and other celebrations.” Book retailers know that their sales are tied to these events but everyone would agree that not enough has been done by them or our industry to realize the potential of books as gifts.

Who but us—booksellers and publishers—has an economic stake in making that “fantasy” a reality? If we in the book industry don’t mount this campaign, no one else will. And the regionals are uniquely able to mobilize bookstores at the grassroots. We need to do whatever we can to capture a greater portion of the gift market and the frequent and widespread use of this logo is one means of doing so.

Of course, this must be a year-round, national effort if the campaign is to be successful. Let’s not allow a great idea and a common cause to flag because we didn’t do our part in energizing our base. I hope we can put this issue on the agenda for our February gathering but in the meantime if you have any thoughts or reactions, I’d be glad to hear them.

Cheers,
Rusty
NEBA

Hi Lisa,

I just wanted to send a note to thank everyone involved in presenting me with the Gordon Saull Award at the MPBA Banquet this fall. It’s a real honor to receive an award like this, but when it’s in honor of Gordon Saull, the best friend a book has ever had in the Rocky Mountain area, that makes me very proud. A special thanks to Regina Bullock for all of her work in keeping Gordon Saull’s name alive in the Rocky Mountain region. As a friend and coworker of Gordon’s, I’m honored to receive this award. Every time I go to a baseball game, I say a special “hello” to Gordon because I know...
he is there at every game, home or away.

To all of the independent booksellers out there, "don't quit now, you're more important than ever!"

Thank you all,
Tom Carney,
Assistant Sales Manager
John Wiley & Sons

Dear Ms. Bullock,

On behalf of the Adult Literacy Network, and its volunteers and student, I want to sincerely thank the Trustees of the Gordon Saull Memorial fund for the selection of Dick and Judy Noyes of the Chinook Book Store here in Colorado Springs who graciously donated the award of $300 to this organization.

The funds arrived at a most opportune time to ensure continuance of our community services in combating illiteracy and in elevating the literacy capabilities of those whose education was interrupted. The donation will be applied towards purchases of required training materials, tutor counseling, and student workbooks.

Again, thank you very much for affording Mr. & Mrs. Noyes with another opportunity to continue their personal support of ALN.

Very Truly Yours,
Ronald Pawlak
President
Adult Literacy Network

Dear Lisa,
The majority of the books we purchased with our grant monies have now arrived and have been processed for student use. We thought your board of directors might enjoy seeing some photographs of the students absorbed in reading them.

We have enclosed some photographs that should give you a good idea of what our students and library are like. The students have asked where all the new books have come from, and we tell them about the grant. This has made them curious about grant writing and several of them have asked about learning how to write grants.

Following the Trade Show, children's book illustrator and Author Banquet speaker Peter Sis donated several books to Mary Weber, a teacher at Foster Elementary and a recipient of our literacy grant. Here are some of the students' letters of thanks to Mr. Sis.

Dear Mr. Sis,
I like the book. It was good. The pictures are good and cool. Why did you use dots a lot in the book? Thank you for the book After Goodnight.
Sincerely,
Mary

Dear Mr. Sis,
I would like to say thank you very much for the wonderful book. The pictures are very beautiful and different. I really appreciate the book very much.
Yours Truly,
Samantha Jo Edwards

Dear Mr. Sis,
Thank you for the book. I kind of like it. I really like the pictures. You have a good imagination. Thanks again for the book.
Sincerely,
Alex

The books themselves are excellent additions to our collection. As we had guessed, all the Matt Christopher books are big hits with our boys who have low reading levels. One student in particular, an eighth grader who has really struggled with reading, passed a test on one of these books and just beamed. This was the first book over 100 pages he had attempted to read. The girls have gone crazy for the Magic Attic Series that was also part of the Good Sports test disc.

Thank you again for your generous support of our reading program. We see the students reading more, and beginning to enjoy reading again. These are certainly the first steps to fighting illiteracy.

Sincerely,
Connie Failoni
Carleen Udy
Kemmerer Middle School
MPBA
Spring Seminar and Regional Book Awards Banquet Pre-registration Form

In February member bookstores will receive complimentary point of purchase materials to support the Regional Book Award winners. Included in the packet are one copy of the 4-color Regional Book Award poster, 250 bookmarks and stickers for the winning books.

The Regional Book Awards Banquet is open to the public, with proceeds going into MPBA’s Literacy Grant Fund. Booksellers in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas will receive flyers and a poster next month advertising the Banquet. Please help us to get the word out and sell more tickets (and books) by putting the poster up in a prominent place and giving your local customers copies of the flyer.

MPBA will advertise the Banquet in the Santa Fe New Mexican and also on station KHFM out of Albuquerque.

Store Name

Attendees Names (for badges)

# attending Friday evening cocktail party

# requiring transportation from the Radisson to and from the cocktail party:

# attending Saturday seminars

# attending Banquet @$30 meat entree __________ vegetarian __________

# requiring a ride from the Radisson to and from the La Fonda Hotel

# attending the Publisher/Bookseller Roundtable on Sunday

Total $ enclosed

Payment for meals must accompany this form. Please return to MPBA at 805 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521, 1-800-752-0249. Meal tickets will not be sent but will be held for you at the registration table at the Radisson. Deadline for meal ticket reservations and payment is Friday, March 7. There is no charge for the seminars.

We are looking forward to seeing you!
Scholarship to ABA Bookseller School

MPBA is offering a scholarship to the ABA Econo Professional School this year. The School will take place in Chicago May 28-30. The scholarship will cover full tuition, room and transportation and is open to any bookstore. Applicants from non-member stores must include an application fee of $50 with their form. All applicants must have demonstrated their commitment to the book business by either 1) working full time in that bookstore for 12 consecutive months or 2) working at least half time in that bookstore for 3 consecutive years. The above criteria being met, applicants will be judged on the basis of a short essay (500-800 words - please attach to application) explaining why they would like to attend the Booksellers School. Applications will be judged by the Membership Services committee of MPBA. Judges will not know the identity of bookstore affiliation of the applicants.

Applications must be received by March 1. They should be sent in triplicate to Lisa Knudsen, MPBA, 805 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521. The winner will be notified by March 30. The scholarship winner will be asked to write a short piece about his or her experience which might be used in the MPBA newsletter. Questions? Call Lisa at 1-800-752-0249.

Application

Your name ___________________________ Bookstore ___________________________

Address ___________________________ City/State/Zip ___________________________

Phone ___________________________ Fax ___________________________

Present position/title ___________________________ Years as Bookseller _______

Present responsibilities ___________________________

(Please attach short essay)
Classifieds

Literary Tour of London and Bath

A literary tour of London and Bath, June 6-14, 1997. Visit sites that inspired Dickens, A.A. Milne, Kipling, Kenneth Grahame, Keats, and Jane Austen. Shop for first editions on Hay-On-Wye, the largest center for second-hand books in the world. First class hotels, delicious food, like-minded traveling companions. Contact Diana Altman, FPT Special Interest Tours, 617-476-1142, 800-645-0001, or fax 617-661-3354.

Store for Sale

New and used bookstore for sale in Parker, Colorado. Present owner is forced to sell due to health problems. 1600 sq. ft. of wall to wall inventory. Wonderful Customers. Small town setting, business is four years old. If interested call 303-840-8056 M-F 11-3. Ask for Kevie.
behind the BESTSELLERS
BY DAISY MARYLES

A CONTROVERSIAL BOOK TAKES THE LEAD

The laydown date for James B. Stewart’s Blood Sport: The President and His Adversaries was Thursday, March 14, and by the end of the weekend, it was the clear nonfiction bestseller at the national chains and at many independent bookstores across the country. Simon & Schuster’s 225,000-copy first printing was quickly depleted and the book went back to press five more times, bringing the in-print figure to 500,000. The March 11 issue of Time magazine included an excerpt and Stewart was very visible during the last two weeks on the airwaves with appearances on Nightline, Today Show, CBS This Morning, Charlie Rose and NPR’s Fresh Air, to name just a few. His tour will take him to N.Y., D.C., Boston, Chicago, San Francisco and L.A., plus Knoxville, Tenn. and Madison Conn., and there’re lots more local and national programs scheduled through the end of April.

NEXT WEEK’S BATTLE FOR THE TOP SPOT BEGINS

While James Stewart’s leap to the top of the charts in his first week on sale is impressive, he already has a likely competitor nipping at his heels for the #1 nonfiction spot next week. And if controversy is a good selling mechanism, the contender certainly delivers. Christopher A. Darden’s In Contempt from ReganBooks had a national laydown date of March 20 and the first printing was a hefty 425,000. After one day on sale, HarperCollins hit the back to press button for an additional 75,000; that decision was made, according to Jack McKeon, group v-p and publisher, after the back-order count went to 40,000. While early tallies at the bookstore look promising, an interview with Barbara Walters on 20/20 that aired March 15 garnered a 17.2 rating with a 31 share, the second-highest rating for the show this season (the interview with Christopher Reeve was the first). Darden’s interview provided enough grist for a Saturday Night Live spoof. At his first book signing, at a Barnes & Noble in Los Angeles, Darden autographed 500 books. He just started his 12-city tour this week, which should keep him on the road through most of April. Already fairly visible on the talk shows (GMA, Today, Larry King, etc.), he will also be seen on Montel Williams, NBC’s Sunday Today, more segments on the Today show, Geraldo and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno on April 8.

A BIG ONE, BY GEORGE

For Elizabeth George, it’s her highest landing so far—#2 on PW’s fiction list after less than two weeks on sale. Her eighth Bantam hardcover, In the Presence of the Enemy, debuted on all the national charts after just four days on sale and then climbed the lists during her second week out. Excellent reviews helped, including a rave in People, a grade “A” from Entertainment Weekly and the front page of the San Francisco Chronicle Book Review. George’s promotion tour includes stops in 12 cities, bolstered by support from national radio, TV and print advertising. Fans will be happy to know that right after the media tour, George will return home to southern California to work on her ninth novel, Deception on His Mind.

MORE 1995 TRADE PAPER TOP SELLERS

Below are top-selling books (specifically those that shipped more than 100,000 copies in 1995) from S&S, which were not included in our annual trade paperback bestsellers list (March 4). For Fireside: First Things First by Stephen R. Covey, 225,000; C’mon America Let’s Eat by Susan Powter, 220,000; So Fat, Low Fat, No Fat by Betty Rohde, 200,000; Notes from a Friend by Anthony Robbins, 140,000; and Earl Mindell’s Soy Miracle, 100,000. From Touchstone: Driven to Distraction by Edward Hallowell, 270,000; and No Ordinary Times by Doris Kearns Goodwin, 150,000. From Scribner, The Shipping News by E. Annie Proulx, 280,000.

Kansas Indie to Close; Two New Owners in Colo.

A NTICIPATING THE ARRIVAL OF Barnes & Noble and Borders Books & Music in Lawrence, Kans., Adventure Bookstore, a 23-year-old independent owned by Walter and Mary Michener, will close its doors. According to an open letter to customers, the owners said that “on the day a chain supermarket opens in Lawrence, our sales will fall dramatically, and even if we were so fortunate as to suffer only a 10% decline in sales (and 50% is surely closer to the mark), we would be getting poorer every day. No feasible, certainly no personally acceptable, restructuring of the store could change this. When independent bookstores with supporters as devoted as our own and with much deeper resources have failed, we can find no reason to believe that Adventure would survive, in our hands or any others.” The store’s last day will be on or before April 15.

In other bookstore news, Jacques Rieux, owner of Stone Lion Bookstore, Fort Collins, Colo., has sold his store to Susan Stuessie, a former sales rep and manager of the general book department of Auraria Book Center, Denver. Coincidentally, Joel McKinzie, owner of McKinzie-White Booksellers, Colorado Springs, has also sold his store.

O’Brien Leaving For ‘NY Post’

M AUREEN O’BRIEN, PW editor, reporter, columnist and part-time book party paparazza, is leaving the magazine after nine years to move to the New York Post, where she will cover publishing and other media industries as a daily staff reporter and weekly columnist. Meanwhile, she will continue her association with CNN as its on-camera publishing correspondent. Effective April 1, O’Brien can be reached at the New York Post, Business Section,1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036; (212) 930-8000, fax 930-8280

PW’s editorial director, John F. Baker, will temporarily be the contact person for suggested Book News stories for the magazine. Those with queries and story ideas can reach him directly at (212) 463-6752, fax 463-6631.
Viking to Do Jail Letters of Top Chinese Dissident

At a time when the political situation between the United States and China is increasingly tense, Viking Penguin has announced that it will publish the prison letters of the most prominent Chinese dissident, 45-year-old Wei Jing-sheng, who is one of the leading nominees for this year’s Nobel Peace Prize.

Wei was one of the original Chinese democracy campaigners in 1978 and was jailed from 1979 until September 1993, when he was symbolically released on parole when the International Olympic Committee was to vote on Beijing’s bid to host the games. He was detained again in March 1994 and, at his trial in December 1995, was sentenced to another 14 years.

The book deal, for world rights, was negotiated by former Random House CEO and current chairman of Human Rights Watch Robert Bernstein, who met with Wei in February 1994, during the dissident’s six months of freedom, and contracted to be his literary agent.

Their meeting was later used by the prosecution in Wei’s trial as part of the evidence that the dissident had conspired to overthrow the state.

The book was acquired by Viking senior editor Wendy Wolf, whose current plan is to publish next spring. According to Wolf, the 200-page book will consist of a selection from Wei’s letters, both political and personal, as well as essays and statements Wei made during his trial.

The translations will be done by an American academic, but not by Philip Cunningham, whose translations of parts of several letters appeared in the New York Times last month. Cunningham, who has had access to excerpts of the letters, is planning his own book, which is being represented by Al Zuckerman of Writer’s House.

When Wolf and Viking publisher Barbara Grossman read Bernstein’s prospectus they immediately decided they had to publish the book; Penguin CEO Peter Mayer is also a committed backer. Wolf hopes Wei’s book “will illuminate a very dark situation in China, and give people who are so eager to embrace doing business there pause to think.” Bernstein, who is using the lack of freedom of expression in China as the main topic in his acceptance speech for the Curtis Benjamin Award later this month (News, Mar. 11), said, “Wei’s health is very precarious. Whether he will survive, I don’t know. But it’s my hope to be able to sell another book, about his hopes and dreams for China—when he’s a free man.”

Gayle Feldman

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Dean Koontz and Warner Books gave a seaboard party for the paperback publication of Strange Highways. L. to r.: Jeanie Wylie, B. Dalton; Koontz; Michele Cataldo, B & N; Brad Ruthrauff, B. Dalton.

BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL

By Popular Demand—Introducing 1997 Wall Calendars

After receiving hundreds of requests for wall calendars, we’re thrilled to introduce three exciting entries for the 1997 calendar market.

Old Woman and Daisies feature favorite excerpts and duotone photos from the best-selling books, including their title poems.

Threads of Experience features Deidre Scherer’s exquisite fabric-and-thread images in full color.

Actual size of these captivating wall calendars is 12" x 24" when unfolded.

Call InBook at 1-800-245-0158 to reserve your calendars for the holidays.
9/27/95

Dear Ivan,

I thought you may be interested in seeing what the Governor of the state of Colorado recommends to the President as far as reading material. It is likely that you have already received the enclosures from the "Denver Post" and the "Rocky Mountain News." The President was in Denver, and the date is printed on the one of the articles.

Clarice and I have moved back to the Denver area, and we are very pleased to be here. I retired from the FBI in April 1994, and I am doing some private investigation. From our point of view, although not necessarily from that of the Zero Population people, we had a very successful year, with three new grandbabies added to the two older ones. Each of our three children had a baby girl this year. Jeff and his family live in Denver, Paula and her family live in Fort Collins, and Janelle, her husband, and now three children live in Sacramento.

We return to Montana about every other year, since Clarice's mother lives in Choteau, and she has a brother in Billings. I always try to manage a day in Valier while we're up there.

We have been awaiting a new book from you, to add to our collection of autographed copies. You know that when you have a new release, our friends and relatives derive great pleasure from surprising us with autographed copies, so don't tell anyone when you've already signed for us, and we'll all be happy.

If you are ever in the Denver area, please give us a call. We'd love to see you again.

Best wishes,

Dear Bill--

I'm doing a recount on my Denver friends, because so far yours is the only clipping of the Gov, the Gov, and me! Huge thanks!

My next book, set during the building of Fort Peck Dam, will be out next spring. It has everything but the kitchen sink in it, including a leftist fellow-traveler and a kind of farcical fingerprint-the-whole-dam crew (10,000 guys) scene which you may find more amusing than plausible. Anyway, I'll likely be whizzing through Denver on the bookstore tour next May or June, and will strive to give you some warning. Glad you guys have moved back to the country of the Rockies (H/m as well as baseballers).

all best,
Rocky Mountain Book Festival

October 1 and 2, 1993
Cerrigan Exhibition Hall—Downtown Denver

Spend An Evening Among the Stars!
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND
The Opening Event of the Rocky Mountain Book Festival
And A Benefit For The Colorado Center For The Book

The Coors Brewing Company

Celebrity Book Auction

Thursday, September 30, 1993
7:30 - 10:00 p.m.
Embassy Suites Hotel, 1881 Curtis—Downtown Denver

An Event to Celebrate Literacy!
Hors D’oeuvres, Cash Bar, Live Entertainment, Valet Parking!

BID ON A BOOK!

Book Contributors Include:

Wallace Stegner
Isabel Allende
Rita Mae Brown
William F. Buckley
Barbara Bush
Ted Conover
Stephen Coonts
Bill Coors
Alan Dershowitz
Clint Eastwood
Harlan Ellison
Sarah Ferguson
The Duchess of York
Melanie Griffith
Bob Hope
Larry King
W.P. Kinsella
Jay Leno
Sue Miller
Richard Nixon
Joyce Carol Oates
Peter O'Toole
Ronald Reagan
Joan Rivers
Siskel & Ebert
Isaac Stern
Nina Totenberg
John Updike
Leon Uris

MEET THE AUTHORS!

Oprah Winfrey
Katharine Hepburn
Tony Millerman

A "stellar" cast of authors will be available to sign copies of their books. Appearing at the auction:

Judy Blume, Just As Long As We're Together
Daniel Burrus, Technotrends
Jamie Lee Curtis, When I Was Little
Clive Cussler, Raise the Titanic, Sahara
Ivan Doig, This House of Sky, Heart Earth
Clarissa Pinkola Estés, Women Who Run with the Wolves
Barbara Kingsolver, The Bean Trees, Pigs in Heaven

ORDER TICKETS TODAY!

Ticket Prices: $30 per person ($20 tax deductible)
$50 per couple ($30 tax deductible)

Also Available: Corporate Packages—Dinner Preceding
The Auction And Tickets to the Auction! (Dine with the
bright stars of publishing! Guest speaker: author Clive
Cussler. See enclosed Reservation Form for details.)

Please complete the enclosed Reservation Form and return it with your check. You will receive your tickets in the mail.

For More Information Call:
(303) 866-6901

The Colorado Center For The Book (CCFTB), in its
commitment to promote awareness of books and reading, encourages your participation in the auction.
The CCFTB is a non-profit organization affiliated with the
National Center For The Book in the Library of Congress.

Rocky Mountain Book Festival Sponsors

THE DENVER POST
August 31, 1993

Ivan Doig
C/o Judy Byrne
Atheneum Publishers
Macmillan Publishing Company
866 Third Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Ivan,

Thanks so much for agreeing to be one of our invitational authors to the Rocky Mountain Book Festival! We are excited that you will be joining us. Your invitation and tickets to the Celebrity Book Auction are enclosed. In addition to our all-star cast of invitational authors, actor Danny Glover will join us as a celebrity emcee. We are very excited about the evening.

On September 30th all of our festivities will be at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 18th and Curtis in downtown Denver. You are invited to attend our 6 p.m. kick-off dinner and if you can, please let me know. You are scheduled to autograph books from 8:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. The out loud auction begins at 8:45. Originally I wanted our authors to say something about the book they donated, but we aren't going to have enough time. So, your official role will end at 8:45 but we hope you will stay through the out loud auction, which ends at 10:00.

On October 1st, you are scheduled to give an hour presentation at 11 a.m. We are suggesting that you leave time for questions and answers. Immediately following that, you will be taken to the autographing area where you will sign books for an hour. After that, you are free! Currigan Exhibition Hall is located between Champa and Stout on 14th Street. When you walk in the front door, check in at the "Author/Panel Sign- In" Area. If we can provide escort assistance, please let me know.

Rocky Mountain Book Festival, Colorado Center For The Book
201 East Colfax Avenue, Suite 309, Denver, Colorado 80203, (303) 866-6901 (Phone), (303) 866-6940 (Fax)
Thank you so much for agreeing to be with us.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Taylor
Executive Director
3/10/93

Sharon - 10 selected authors, Denver Book Fair #1000 27

- 45-min period
- autog 7-9:30 p.m.
- reception on 30th
- donate box from local collect

Barbara K. solver
Sandra

RM News
LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES

Books and reading are alive and well in the Rocky Mountain region, and 1993 will be the year to celebrate that rich literary heritage. The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will promote reading, writing, literary and performing arts, and a wealth of literary talent from Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, and beyond the region.

The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will be held on October 1 and 2, 1993, at Currigan Exhibition Hall in downtown Denver. More than 200 booksellers, publishers, printers, libraries, and other interested parties are expected to exhibit. In addition to exhibitors, the public will enjoy storytelling, book arts, displays, author readings and signings, panel discussions, cooking demonstrations, and children's activities.

The Honorary Co-Chairpersons for The Festival are Colorado's First Lady, Bea Romer, and Denver's First Lady, Wilma Webb. The Board is working with a variety of partners, including The Bloomsbury Review, the Book Arts League, Colorado Antiquarian Booksellers Association, Colorado Authors' League, Colorado Library Association, Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association, National Writers' Club, Rocky Mountain Book Publishers Association, Rocky Mountain Writers' Guild, Western States Arts Federation, and Wyoming Council on the Arts to include the broadest possible representation of the range of genres, book arts, and interests.

Book festivals throughout the country are recognized as valuable community projects and as significant assets to the cultural and educational profile of a city. The Rocky Mountain Book Festival is a long overdue celebration that will fill a void in the Rocky Mountain region for both the book community and the new audiences we hope to introduce to the literary arts.

THE BOOK FESTIVAL SPONSOR

The Colorado Center For The Book (CCFTB) is a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Center For The Book in the Library of Congress. The CCFTB has been a functioning organization in Colorado since 1987. The CCFTB promotes awareness of books, reading, the book arts, publishing, and literacy through a variety of promotional and educational activities. These activities are designed to foster partnerships resulting in a "community of the book" in Colorado. It has operated with the support of the Colorado State Library and Adult Education Office and the Pikes Peak Library District. CCFTB activities are managed by a paid Executive Director who reports to a volunteer Board of Directors.

A SAMPLING OF FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Barbara Kingsolver, nationally acclaimed author of The Bean Trees, Animal Dreams, and the forthcoming Pigs in Heaven, has committed to appear at The Festival. Maurice Sendak, best known for his children's book Where the Wild Things Are, will premier his new children's theater in Denver in conjunction with The Festival. He has agreed to appear for book signings, which will include a new Sendak book to be released in the fall.

- Application has been submitted to the National Center For The Book for a nationally touring "Literary Heritage Exhibit." Programming around it will focus on the literary heritage of the Rocky Mountain region.

- Small presses and literary magazines will be represented in either a free or low-cost area where they can distribute their publications.

- The Newspaper in Education program of The Denver Post, the downtown business community, the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities, and The Bloomsbury Review have been targeted as partners in an effort to attract children and families, the business community and humanities scholars to The Festival.

- The Colorado Center For The Book is working with the City of Denver so that The Festival coincides with their Performing Arts Festival. This year, the Arts Festival attracted 55,000 people. The festivals will be held across the street from each other, enhancing the audiences for both. They will jointly encourage people to come downtown and enjoy the arts—both literary and performing.
OUR HATS OFF TO YOU

The Rocky Mountain Book Festival is in the process of seeking the financial support necessary to put on this major event. This early in the game, we have many generous entities that have stepped forward with their support. Heartly thanks to all of you!

The Bloomsbury Review

The Bloomsbury Review has committed $5,000 in advertising in addition to a supplement that will provide literary reviews and interviews with selected authors in a special insert in the September/October 1993 issue.

Colorado Endowment for the Humanities (CEH)

CEH is financially supporting the humanities content of The Festival.

Colorado State Library and Adult Education Office (SLAEO)

The SLAEO supports all Center For The Book Projects through their generous support of the Executive Director. SLAEO also serves as the base for Center For The Book operations.

The Denver Post

The Denver Post has stepped in as the major sponsor of The Festival. They have made a $50,000 commitment to the project through advertising and promotion of The Festival. Their support will also include a program insert in all newspapers the weekend before the show. The Denver Post is Colorado’s major newspaper and the “Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire.”

Information Handling Services (IHS)

IHS, a major Colorado company, has agreed to print all materials for The Festival.

Ingram Book Company

Ingram has the distinction of being the first company to throw their financial support into The Festival.

Pikes Peak Library District (PLLD)

The Pikes Peak Library District has offered generous support of CCFTB since its founding.

There are a variety of great sponsorship opportunities. If you are interested in exploring how you might support The Festival, call Kimberly Taylor at (303) 866-6876.

CELEBRITY BOOK AUCTION FEATURED AS PART OF RMFB

The Colorado Center For The Book will premier a Celebrity Book Auction to kick off The Festival. Celebrities both within and beyond the Rocky Mountain region will be contacted and asked to identify one of the books they own that they would be willing to part with. They will also be asked to inscribe the book with a message for the purchaser. One of the headliner authors will serve as the auctioneer for the ten books that will command the most attention. The other books will be available through a silent auction. All of the authors attending The Festival will be invited to attend and donate a special book to the auction.

Kimberly Taylor, Executive Director of the Colorado Center For The Book, thinks this will not only be a fun event, but will attract a lot of advance attention for The Festival. “There are enough book nuts out there,” said Taylor, “that we think this will be a high demand event. We are contacting people like President Clinton, Garrison Keillor, and Leslie Marmo Silko. We anticipate some great responses!”

The Celebrity Book Auction will take place at a cocktail party on Thursday, September 30 in downtown Denver. Anyone reading this who is a celebrity is encouraged to send their favorite book to the Colorado Center For The Book!

Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.
— Sir Richard Steele

Because a show without exhibits wouldn’t be a show, there is a big push underway to get as many representatives of the book community as possible to participate. The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will be held at Curragan Exhibition Hall, an attractive venue that can handle 250 exhibitors, panel discussions, food services, and special events.

Exhibit booths measure 10’ x 10’. The booth fee for this space is $295 if reserved before June 30 and $350 if reserved after that. There is no limit to the number of booths an exhibitor can reserve.
Words were medicine; they were magic and invisible. They came from nothing into sound and meaning. They were beyond price; they could neither be bought nor sold.

— Navarre Scott Momaday

Shared booths are also available. The fee for a shared booth is $150 before June 30 and $175 after that. Exhibitors must find their own partners.

Exhibition services for The Rocky Mountain Book Festival are provided by Brede/Colorado, which opened in Denver in November of 1991. The Brede Group has decorating and contracting locations in Baltimore, Boston, Denver, Minneapolis, Orlando, and Washington, D.C. The Exhibit Chairpersons for RMBF are Tom Carney, John Wiley & Sons Publisher’s Representative, and Patrick Ewing, Western Regional Sales Manager for Ingram Book Company.

Exhibit information will be sent out in early April. Everyone who has sent in a card requesting to be put on the exhibit mailing list will receive the exhibit prospectus.

WILL YOU HELP US NETWORK?

If you know of someone who might be interested in exhibiting or hearing about The Festival, please pass this on.

All Rocky Mountain Book Festival inquiries should be directed to: Kimberly Taylor, Executive Director Colorado Center For The Book 201 East Colfax Avenue, Suite 309 Denver, Colorado 80203 (303) 866-6876 — (Work) (303) 866-6940 — (Fax)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BOOK FESTIVAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Suellen White, Director of Electronic Business Development, Information Handling Services
Van Woodford, Library Director, Summit County Public Library
John Zeck, HarperCollins, Publisher’s Representative
A celebration of literacy and the Rocky Mountain Book Community.
4/21/93

Dear Ivan,

Greetings and best wishes.

Hope you don't mind my asking, but I am trying to 'round up signed first editions from famous authors like yourself to help raise funds for the Rocky Mountain Book Fest (see enclosed).

Hope you won't take offense.

Hope all is well out your way.

Best wishes,

[Signature]

Tom Auer
Publisher

P.S. Hope also that you might help spread the word about the Fest.
Dear Friend of Books,

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Center for the Book would like to request your support for an exciting benefit called the Celebrity Book Auction. The Celebrity Book Auction is an event designed to raise awareness of books and reading and to benefit the Colorado Center for the Book. The support of people like you, highly respected individuals in our society, is pivotal to the success of our efforts. We are asking you to do two things:

* Select a book of significance to you from your personal library and inscribe it to a prospective buyer.

* Send the book and a photograph of yourself, before June 1, 1993 to: Celebrity Book Auction, Colorado Center for the Book, 201 East Colfax, Suite 309, Denver, Colorado, 80203.

The purpose of the Colorado Center for the Book, which is affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, is to promote reading, books and literacy. The Book Auction will be part of the Rocky Mountain Book Festival which is designed to bring readers of all ages, writers from our region and across the country, publishers, booksellers and librarians for a two-day celebration of literature and literacy at Currigan Exhibition Hall in Denver. The event will be free and open to the public with a host of exciting activities all intended to encourage people to read and appreciate books.

In advance, I thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedule to consider supporting this important activity. I will contact you soon to answer any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Taylor
Executive Director
Colorado Center For The Book and THE DENVER POST Present The Rocky Mountain Book Festival

October 1, 1993, 10 A.M. – 8 P.M.
October 2, 1993, 9 A.M. – 6 P.M.
Currigan Exhibition Hall
Downtown Denver

A celebration of literacy and the Rocky Mountain Book Community
Books and reading are alive and well in the Rocky Mountain region, and 1993 will be the year to celebrate that rich literary heritage. The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will promote reading, writing, literary and performing arts, and a wealth of literary talent from both within and beyond the region.

The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will be held October 1 and 2, 1993, at Curriagan Exhibition Hall in downtown Denver. We anticipate more than 200 booksellers, publishers, printers, libraries, and other interested parties to exhibit. In addition to exhibitors, the public will enjoy storytelling, book arts and cooking demonstrations, author readings and signings, panel discussions, and children's activities.

1993 Festival Highlights
- Barbara Kingsolver, nationally acclaimed author of The Bean Trees, Animal Dreams, and the forthcoming Pigs in Heaven, has committed to appear at The Festival.
- Maurice Sendak's new theater production, Really Rosie, will appear in conjunction with The Festival. Sendak will be on hand to autograph books.
- Clarissa Pinkola Estés, author of the bestseller Women Who Run With The Wolves, will appear and autograph her book.
- A Celebrity Book Auction will be featured the evening before The Festival. Celebrities will sell in one of their favorite books and autograph it. They will be auctioned off during a pre-festival cocktail party.
- The Denver Post, as The Festival sponsor, has committed $50,000 in advertising. Editorial consideration as well as program inserts in The Post in advance of the show will stimulate a strong turnout.
- A children's area will be showcased. In addition to featured children's authors, families can enjoy book-making demonstrations, storytelling, music, and puppetry.
- Festival coordination of bookseller/publisher sales partnerships.
- The Rocky Mountain Book Festival will run simultaneously with and next door to The Performing Arts Festival, sponsored by the City of Denver.

Exhibitor Fees & Information
Booths (10 feet by 10 feet) are $295, if reserved before June 30; $350 thereafter. There is no limit to the number of booths an exhibitor may reserve.

Shared Booths (2 exhibitors per booth) are $150 per exhibitor, if reserved before June 30; $175 thereafter. Exhibitors must find their own partners and send reservations and money in together.

Booth Hardware and Furnishings, provided in the exhibit fee include:
- 8-foot high backdrape
- 3-foot high sidedrape
- one 7" x 44" one line I.D. sign
- one 8-foot skirted table
- two chairs

Brede/Colorado Exposition Services will send out an Exhibitor Service Manual by August 1, 1993.

Colorado Center For The Book
The Rocky Mountain Book Festival is sponsored by the Colorado Center For The Book, a nonprofit organization committed to the celebration of literacy and promotion of the Rocky Mountain region's dynamic book community. For information on other programs please call (303) 866-6901.

The Denver Post has stepped in as the major sponsor of The Festival. They have made a $50,000 commitment to the project through advertising and promotion of The Festival. Their support will also include a program insert to be included in all newspapers the weekend before the show. The Denver Post is Colorado's major newspaper and the "Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire."

Other Festival partners include: The Bloomsbury Review; the Book Arts League; Colorado Antiquarian Booksellers Association; Colorado Authors' League; Colorado Endowment for the Humanities; Colorado Library Association; Information Handling Services; Ingram Book Company; Mountains and Plains Booksellers Association; National Writers' Club; Pikes Peak Library District; Rocky Mountain Book Professionals Guild; Rocky Mountain Book Publishers Association; Rocky Mountain Writers' Guild; Western States Arts Federation; and the Wyoming Council on the Arts.

All Colorado Center For The Book projects are generously supported by the Colorado State Library and Adult Education Office.

APPLICATION FORM

(Company Name)  
(Contact)  
(Address)  
(City) (State) (Zip)

☐ I would like to reserve _____ booth(s) at the 1993 Book Festival. My payment ($295 before June 30 — per booth / $350 thereafter) is enclosed. The total payment to the Colorado Center For The Book is ________.

☐ I would like to share a booth at the Book Festival. Information on both exhibitors and payment from both ($150 before June 30 / $175 thereafter) is enclosed.

☐ I have reserved my booth(s) space over the phone (303) 866-6901 or via fax (303) 866-6940. I understand it will be held for two weeks, at which time it will be released if my payment has not been received.

Booth spaces will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

Make checks payable to: Colorado Center For The Book, 201 East Colfax, Suite 309, Denver, Colorado 80203.

Notification of your booth assignment will be included with the Exhibitor Service Manual.

Booth space is expected to sell out quickly; early reservations are recommended.

For further information on any aspect of the Rocky Mountain Book Festival, call Festival Director Kimberly Taylor at (303) 866-6901.
October 12, 1884

Dear Ivan,

On behalf of all of the members of MPBA, I want to thank you so much for speaking at our banquet. Your talk really was a model of what one hopes for at these affairs: witty, amusing and, if I may say so, of a good length. Although when someone speaks as well as you do, I am willing to throw out the clock. I did
see you hand really your watch as he close to speak...

Thank you again for coming to the Trade Show, Arne. I really enjoyed visiting with you at the Tailored Cover - in fact that evening was the best part of the weekend for me.

Take care -

Sincerely,

Lisa Kundsen
Tattered Cover
Book Store

(303) 322-7727 / 1-800-833-9327
FAX (303) 399-2279
TDD/V (303) 320-0536
Events Information 322-1965 Ext 7446

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9:30-9:00 / Sunday 10:00-6:00

2955 East First Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80206
Collana - NV
Mary. Brown
Mia McNaughton, Explorer Books, Aspen. 8/6/11

Pls call tomorrow at 11 a.m. or later. 1-800-562-7323.

Has talked to Catherine Thalberg and coordinator of library meeting, and all agree that Friday at 5 is time for signing. People will not come on Saturday.

She cajoles that there's jet service into Aspen, "not puddlejumpers."

If you can do this, what books would you like ordered? Could you do a reading.

(Friendly. Used to live in Vancouver.)
Aspen - Ted Schmidt  
(303) 925-5336 
Sperans Bookstore  
- Katherine Thalberg 
home: 925-7498 
jets <-> 4-seats United Air/Wisc. 
Fri. <-> best, evening reading 
Veg. <->
Singing over the Bones: The Colorado Boycott

BY CLARISSA PINKOLA ESTÉS

Sometimes after losing a battle, it seems all that is left is a pile of bones. Colorado's recent vote on amendment 2, which calls for striking down various cities' equal protection laws for gay and lesbian people, has given rise to outraged calls for a cultural boycott of the state. Outrage is certainly the fitting emotion. But a boycott is not. As head of Colorado Authors for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights, along with my colleague Joanne Greenberg (author of I Never Promised You a Rose Garden), it is our mission to invite you, authors and publishers alike, to help us raise, rather than silence, the voices most needed to be heard—yours, ours, those of our cultural centers and bookstores.

People here are forming coalitions, filing lawsuits to overturn the new law and to challenge its constitutionality. The Colorado Legal Initiatives Project is working to put the issue back on the ballot. So, for now, instead of analyzing Colorado's Sad Tuesday, I would rather tell you a cuento fuerte, a strengthening story for troubled times. This is a story about a spirit who stands at the center of all new hope and hard work.

Anywhere there is a desert, there is La Huesera, the Bone Woman. She is sometimes called La Loba. In the high-country deserts of Colorado and the southwest, there are many legends about her. You cannot find her if you look for her. But she appears when something has become lost, stolen, destroyed or forgotten. Her sole work is to collect the bones of that which has died. She specializes in collecting the bones of crows, deer, wolves and other soulful criaturas, creatures. She searches the desert until she has found all the pieces, then sits by the fire at night, fortifies herself, and plans the creation song she will sing over the skeleton.

When she is decided, she puts out her hands over the bones. The desert echoes with the timbre of her voice. She sings high, she sings low, she sings out thunder, she sings down to the thinnest raggedy whisper. Every kind of voice she has is needed for this song. As she sings, sinew begins to weave in and out of the bones. Striped meat and muscle appear. Over this, a lush pelt spreads, and the criatura begins to breathe. And still La Loba sings, for she knows it is not enough to make the criatura breathe. So she sings until it awakens.

And still she sings, striking the earth with her foot to emphasize her song; for she knows it is not enough to simply awaken the creature. On and on she sings until the criatura jumps to its feet, and runs, runs, and runs toward the rising sun. Now, La Loba smiles. Now her work is complete, for she has not only sung the criatura back to life but also into its truest freedom.

Here in Colorado, we are gathering the bones. But rather than a cultural boycott, we need more singers. Although a scattershot boycott—financial, cultural or otherwise—might allow people of goodwill to make a statement from afar, in the end, it inadvertently punishes groups already disempowered. When city or state revenues develop shortfalls, programs to help the poor, the elderly, the handicapped are cut to the bone. Today the bones just happen to be about gay and lesbian persons. Four years ago, the bones of the "English Only" amendment were left on our doorstep. When the current set of issues is won—and they will be—other bones, new concerns, different outrages will surface and need attention, not only here, but as they are right now today, in many cities across the nation.

Before the Colorado election, as I began a 24-plus-city book tour, I struggled with the boycott concept myself. Should I not go to Alabama? The Ku Klux Klan there calls us Latinas "mud-women," a hate-filled name. I think it is critical to go to Alabama. Should I not go to Utah because they have the most oppressive law against women's right to abortion of any state in the nation? I think it is essential to go to Utah. My work is distributed in South Africa. Should I have withheld it? No, because La Loba teaches that the best medicine we possess must be placed on the worst of the wounds. The best medicines we have are our voices.

So, we invite you to bring your special talents and to join us as we sing over the bones here. Help us to educate those who are uninformed, and to nourish those who are doing the hardest work . . . finding the right pathways, the most fierce words for the creation song. Bringing people alive, awake. Setting them free. Stand with us, and then when and if it is your state, your city, your street that has gone to bones, we will sing with you. We will pour our best medicine into your most wounded places as well.

Estés is a Jungian psychoanalyst, award-winning poet, cantadora (keeper of the old stories) and author of the bestselling Women Who Run with the Wolves (Ballantine).