



Tough update on CB Dakerrie Hobbs ahead of MO State game

SPORTS, 1B

LAS CRUCES SUN-NEWS

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Court grants stay in Washington trial



DeShawndre Washington leaves the courtroom after his arraignment hearing at the 3rd District Court in 2023.
MEG POTTER/SUN-NEWS

Former NMSU player facing multiple felony charges

Jason Groves
Las Cruces Sun-News
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW MEXICO

In a weekend afternoon order, the New Mexico Supreme Court ordered a stay in the trial of former New Mexico

State University men’s basketball player Deshawndre Washington. Washington faces multiple felony sexual assault charges for allegedly assaulting former teammates and student managers during the 2022-2023 basketball season. His five-day jury trial

was scheduled to begin on Oct. 20, but two days before its scheduled start, the New Mexico Supreme Court granted a stay that was filed on Oct. 14 by Albuquerque-based attorney Scott

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City plans SkyFiesta

Pilot killed in crash at 2024 event

Jessica Onsurez
Las Cruces Sun-News
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW MEXICO

One year after the airplane crash that killed pilot Chuck Coleman in October 2024, Las Cruces prepares for its annual airshow, rebranded as SkyFiesta 2025.

Coleman died while performing a stunt during the 2024 Las Cruces Air and Space Expo on Oct. 20 at Las Cruces International Airport in his single-engine Extra Flugzeugbau 300/L. Coleman was a long-time pilot, flight instructor and stuntman. He trained Hollywood actor Miles Teller for his role in “Top Gun: Maverick.”

Re-branded as SkyFiesta, the Oct. 25 event will feature high-speed air racing, air aerobatics, exhibits and live entertainment from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Las Cruces International Airport.

“Our City is proud to partner with New Mexico True to present the best of aerial demonstrations, air racing competition, engaging exhibits, and live entertainment at a new marquee annual event at the Las Cruces Airport,” said Mayor Eric Enriquez in a news release.

SkyFiesta President Bill Beaton said in the news release that he hoped to attract “local volunteers, businesses and future event leaders to create a growing and sustainable event that excites, engages, educates and entertains attendees in a unique New Mexico fusion of air racing, airshow, expositions and festival.”

FAA investigation of pilot death still open

The crash that killed Coleman was investigated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). The FAA lists the investigation as “in work” in the NTSB database. The Sun-News attempted to contact the FAA and NTSB about the current status of the investigation but

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Las Cruces students win space competition

Andy Dossett
AI-assisted reporter
Las Cruces Sun-News
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW MEXICO

A team of Las Cruces students is one step closer to sending their experiment to space.

Higher Orbits held its first New Mexico Go For Launch! event in Las Cruces on Sept. 19-20, according to a communi-

ty announcement. The event, held at the Challenger Learning Center, brought together students in grades 8-12 from across the Las Cruces Public Schools district.

Students formed teams to compete in a payload design competition, where they were tasked with creating an experiment to send to space.

The winning team, Sunny Side Up,

proposed sending sea cucumbers to space to study their regenerative properties and potential as a food source for astronauts on long-term missions.

The team comprises Alanalisa Baca and Angela Perez from Vista, Audrey Smith from White Sands and Aly Syllis Vasquez from Organ Mountain High

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A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket lifts off from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station Oct. 13, carrying the KF-03 satellite mission for Amazon.

CRAIG BAILEY/USA TODAY

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