

First pack burro race draws 53 teams, rave reviews

By JUNO OGLE
Daily Press Staff

By all accounts, the first-ever pack burro race in Silver City was a hoof-clopping success.

Race organizer Shane Weigand of New Mexico Pack Burros estimated a crowd of around 1,000 turned out to watch the 53 burro-human teams that made their way through downtown Silver City and the trails of the Boston Hill Open Space for the inaugural Silver Lode Scramble on Sunday.

"I think it was a huge success. The community absolutely loved it," Weigand said, adding that the town had been great to work with. "I've been stopped by people that live here and say, 'This is amazing.'"

Throughout the race, spectators could be heard to say

RACE Page 14



(Press Staff Photo by Juno Ogle)
Kevin McNamee of Bailey, Colorado, takes the lead up Broadway with his burro, Poppie, at the start of the Silver Lode Scramble pack burro race, held Sunday. Racers and their burros started and ended downtown for 3- and 6-mile races that took them across Boston Hill's trails. McNamee and Poppie won the men's long course.

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AND INDEPENDENT

Bayard won't pay for officials' nonemergency air travel

By MARCELA JOHNSON
Daily Press Staff

The Bayard City Council voted against nonemergency air travel for city employees and councilors during their regular meeting Wednesday. Mayor John Ojinaga described emer-

gency travel as that where the traveler is required to go and come back on the same day, such as for special meetings in Santa Fe.

Councilors Eloy Gonzales and Frances Gonzales brought up accessibility issues for those

who might not be able to drive themselves.

"The attorney said yesterday that they could get a driver at their expense," Ojinaga said, "as long as that person had a legal license to drive a city vehicle."

Councilors Eloy Gonzales and Gilbert Ortiz voted to pay for flights only in emergencies, and Councilor Frances Gonzales and Mayor Pro Tem Eloy Medina voted against. Ojinaga stepped in as a tiebreaker and voted to allow flights only in emergencies.

"OK, you guys, just remember about the [Americans with Disabilities Act] stuff coming up in the future," Councilor Frances Gonzales said. "You guys can end up getting sued, because they're going to be able to look at this case that I brought up."

BAYARD Page 15

Cobre makes amendment to audit procedures contract

The Cobre Schools Board of Education made an amendment to their forensic procedures contract for their special audit during a special meeting held Oct. 13.

The amendment was made after a 42-minute closed session. Despite the agenda talking about amendment

four, the board approved amendment three.

"I'd like to make a motion to offer amendment three to the forensic procedures contract with Jaramillo Accounting Group, contractor, as discussed in executive

COBRE Page 14



(Press Staff Photo by Juno Ogle)

No Kings Rally Draws Crowd

Air Force veteran John Eder, dressed as the Statue of Liberty, waves at passing vehicles Saturday afternoon across from Gough Park during a No Kings rally. Organizers estimated between 500 and 800 people attended the rally, which was conducted in conjunction with about 2,700 gatherings nationwide to protest policies of President Donald Trump's administration. Attendees lined Pope Street, waving to vehicles honking in support, while others crowded around the gazebo to listen to speakers, music and poetry throughout the afternoon. Many of the participants initially gathered at four locations — City Hall, the Murray Ryan Visitor Center, the Western New Mexico University campus and WNMU's Watts Hall at Silver Heights Boulevard and Swan Street — and marched to Gough Park.

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