Carruthers touts his business acumen

By Lindsey Anderson
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LAS CRUCES — In the first of five New Mexico State University presidential candidate interviews, business school dean Garrey Carruthers emphasized his fundraising and leadership experience, legislative connections and business acumen.

Carruthers kicked off a week-and-a-half of presidential interviews Monday with meetings with university leaders, faculty, employees, the media and community members.

His No. 1 job as president would be fundraising, spending 40 percent to 60 percent of his time off campus building relationships with legislators and raising money, he said.

"The new life of the president anymore is to be a fundraiser," he said, noting his connections with legislators as a former New Mexico governor and fundraising experience as dean of the university's College of Business.

Carruthers estimated he has raised $30 million to $35 million for the college during his 10 years as dean.

Improving efficiency is also key to helping the university be successful in a tough economic environment, he said, from decreasing the reliance on committees to ensuring deans don't require approval to hire faculty.

Carruthers, the oldest candidate at 73, mentioned 79-year-old singer Willie Nelson, 76-year-old Pope Francis and 83-year-old journalist Barbara Walters as examples of those older than him who have strong careers.

"When you're doing what you love to do and keeping up your health...you can do amazing things well into your 80s," he said. "This old guy's still got a turn or two around the track."

He said he is seeking the president job now because he has accomplished his goals for the business college, including establishing five $1 million endowed faculty chairs.

"So I'm saying to myself, 'You've done kind of what you wanted to do,'" he said, sporting a bolo tie with his crimson shirt and an NMSU pin on his jacket. "I've had a great run as dean."

If chosen, Carruthers said he would establish two committees to help him better understand community colleges and the Athletics Department.

The community college team

What's next

Open forums with NMSU presidential candidates are:
- Guy Bailey: April 24, 4:30-5:30 p.m., Corbett Center auditorium
- David Ashley: April 25, 4-5 p.m., Health & Social Services auditorium
- Elsa Murano: April 29, 4-5 p.m., Corbett Center auditorium
- Daniel Howard: May 1, 4-5 p.m., Corbett Center auditorium
BUSINESS DEAN GARREY CARRUTHERS, one of the five finalists for the NMSU presidency, answers questions Monday during a session with the media in Hadley Hall.

would examine how to make the university-community college relationship more productive, he said. The athletics team would look at the department's business model.

"Of all the entities at NM State that should have a business plan, it's the Athletic Department, because they control their own revenue stream" from ticket sales, he said.

Marketing and a good plan make a financially successful program, Carruthers said.

"You can tell me all day it's about winning, but there are teams who don't win often and still fill seats," he said.

About 100 community members attended a public question and answer session with Carruthers on Monday afternoon, during which he addressed sustainability initiatives, the campus atmosphere, diversity and the university's recent revolving door of presidents.

Carruthers said he was asked to apply for the presidency during the last search, but declined.

"Then we hit this moment when people seemed to tire of this visiting presidents program we had" and he was asked again, he said to laughs.

He won't look for another job after the presidency, he said, noting past candidates have often said, "This is my last stop," and then taken jobs elsewhere.

"I truly believe that the time is here for me to take on another challenge here at New Mexico State University," he said. "I don't have any plans to go on somewhere else...This is my last stop."

Lindsey Anderson may be reached at 575-541-5462. Follow her on Twitter @lm_anderson
TAKE BACK THE NIGHT

PHOTOS BY STEVE MACINTYRE / FOR THE SUN-NEWS

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY Wellness Alcohol Violence Education program member Kirra Thurman, 22, uses a bullhorn Monday evening on Jordan Street to rally participants during "Take Back the Night," a nationwide event promoting sexual assault awareness.

FROM LEFT, NMSU STUDENTS
Stephanie Stevens, 18, Scott Miller, 28, and Raven Smith, 22, carry signs down University Avenue Monday evening during the university's "Take Back the Night," a nationwide event promoting sexual assault awareness.
Award for scholastic, community achievements

New Mexico State University recognizes students who excel in overall academic performance and personal and academic ethics, professionalism and social responsibility with the Outstanding Graduate Award. NMSU Doña Ana Community College honorees received their awards at the academic scholar reception on April 11. The following outstanding graduates have achieved high academic standards:

- Technical and Industrial Studies Division: Victoria Hart.
- Business and Information Systems Division: Omed Noori, major pre-business.
- Health and Public Services Division: Kyla Johnston, major radiologic technology.
- General Studies Division: Richard Salas.
GEORGE NAVARRO, left, interviews with Angela Dawson of the Santa Fe Public Schools Recruitment Department on Monday while learning about various career and employment opportunities at the Educators' Job Fair at New Mexico State University. The fair continues today from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Corbett Center and is open to all experienced teachers and new professionals in education, according to NMSU's website.
Prescription drug take-back Saturday

LAS CRUCES — The Drug Enforcement Agency’s National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is April 27, and will include nine locations around Las Cruces where unused pills and medications can safely be discarded.

The take-back event allows residents an opportunity to safely — and anonymously — dispose of outdated or unused prescription pills and medications. The service is free and no questions will be asked.

The take-back event will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, at nine collection sites in Las Cruces:

► Kmart store, 1900 Bataan Memorial East.
► Sam’s Club, 2711 N. Telshor Blvd.
► Elks Club, 3000 Elks Drive.
► Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, 200 E. Picacho Ave.
► Club Fitness, 3850 E. Lohman Ave.
► NMSU Police Department, 725 College Drive.
► Walmart Supercenter, 1550 S. Valley Drive.
► Walmart Supercenter, 571 Walton Blvd.
► DEA Office, 2290 E. Griggs Ave.

Nationally, the Prescription Drug Take-Back initiative is operated by the DEA while local law enforcement agencies operate the nine collection sites in Las Cruces.

The take-back initiative addresses vital public safety and health issues.

Sun-News reports
NMSU baseball

Aggies to take on Texas Tech

The New Mexico State baseball team looks to make it five wins in a row when the Aggies travel to Texas Tech for a 5:05 p.m. game today.

Today's game can be heard on KSNM 570-AM.

The Aggies are 23-18 on the season. They beat Texas Tech 7-6 at Presley Askew Field on March 25.

NMSU swept Louisiana Tech over the weekend to improve to 8-7 in the Western Athletic Conference and climb to a three-way tie for fourth place in the league standings. The Aggies return home to play Texas-Arlington in a three-game series this weekend.
Aggies' Rust is WAC Hitter of the Week

DENVER, Colo. — The Western Athletic Conference announced on Monday that junior Tanner Rust has been named the Western Athletic Conference hitter of the week for his play in five games during the week of April 15-21. This is his second hitter of the week honor this season and the third of his career.

Rust led the Aggies to a 4-1 record last week that included a four-game sweep over WAC foe Louisiana Tech on the road. Rust hit .632 (12-for-19). He tallied two home runs, three doubles, eight RBI, a triple and scored eight runs. He slugged 1.211 and had an on-base percentage of .652 on the week.

Rust now has a WAC-high 63 hits on the year and a WAC-high 46 runs scored this season. Rust started the week by going 3-for-5 with two runs and two RBI against in-state rival New Mexico. Rust opened the WAC series at Louisiana Tech going 3-for-4 with two runs, three RBI, a walk and a double as the Aggies won 10-4. He went 1-for-1 in a 6-4 win over the Bulldogs on Saturday but also marked a run and two RBI. The Aggies swept the league series with Louisiana Tech as they won 5-1 with Rust going 3-for-5 with two runs and an RBI. He finished the week going 2-for-4 with a run in a non-conference game on Sunday as the Aggies defeated LA Tech 4-1.

Rust is currently on an eight-game hitting streak and has reached base safely in 17 straight games. Rust did not commit a single error as the Aggie catcher last week.

Sun-News report
Carruthers makes pitch for NMSU president seat

BY RENE ROMO
Journal Southern Bureau

LAS CRUCES — Former Republican Gov. Garrey Carruthers highlighted his deep roots in the state and at New Mexico State University as he made a pitch Monday to be named the next president of the school where he earned a bachelor's degree nearly 50 years ago.

"We've never selected an Aggie as president of this great university," said Carruthers, dean of the NMSU College of Business and the candidate many believe has the inside track for the job. "Maybe it's time to give an Aggie a shot."

Carruthers was the first of five finalists for the NMSU presidency to attend a series of on-campus meetings with faculty, staff, administrators, the press and the public in advance of the Board of Regents' decision expected in early May.

The 73-year-old Carruthers served as New Mexico governor from 1987 through 1990 and as assistant secretary of the Interior Department during the Reagan administration. Carruthers, the business school dean since 2003, touted his experience in politics, business and education, saying, "You won't find that blend around very often. It's pretty unusual."

Carruthers, who is older by a decade than any of the other finalists, said his age is not a significant issue. If a person enjoys their work, Carruthers said, "You can last a long time."

To those who have expressed concern about the high turnover rate of NMSU presidents in recent years, Carruthers said that, if hired as president, "This is my last stop."

In response to questions from the press and the public, Carruthers said that, as president, he expects to spend 40 to 50 percent of his time off-campus building relationships with various interests and focusing on fundraising. Carruthers said he embraces NMSU's roots as an agricultural and engineering school, would support more efficient practices to generate savings, and was committed to a diverse student body and faculty.

Perhaps Carruthers' toughest questions came from a member of the NMSU faculty, Gary Roemer, an associate professor of Fish-
Aggie Rust WAC hitter of week

DENVER – New Mexico State junior Tanner Rust has been named WAC hitter of the week for the second time this season.

Rust led the Aggies to a 4-1 record last week that included a four-game road sweep over WAC foe Louisiana Tech. Rust hit .632 (12-for-19). He tallied two home runs, three doubles, eight RBIs, a triple and scored eight runs. He slugged 1.211 and had an on-base percentage of .652 on the week.

Rust has a WAC-high 63 hits on the year and a WAC-high 46 runs scored this season.
First candidate Doctor Garrey Carruthers

KDBC 4/22/2013 10:01:51 PM: New Mexico State University has narrowed it down to five and now it's time the candidates for president are introduced to the public. Today the first candidate Doctor Garrey Carruthers spent the day shaking hands and answering questions about why he should be the next president of the University. Local 4's Juan Gutierrez caught up with him this afternoon. He has more from NMSU. "Doctor Carruthers had a busy day of media interviews speaking engagements and a meet and greet with community members. The board of regents says the meet and greets say this is a great way to measure a finalist’s intangibles and not just base a decision off a resume. "I can bring really a long and broad history of experiences." Doctor Garrey Carruthers is the only internal finalist in the search for the next president of the university. When Doctor Barbara Couture and NMSU parted ways last year Carruthers offered to serve as interim. "The people talking to me particularly in the community said I really would prefer if you would try and do it on a permanent basis." Carruthers boasts a long resume that includes work as a businessman and most recently as dean of the college of business. "I’ve had a good run as dean we've accomplished a lot of things we set out to do this came along." the dean of 10 years plans to take a similar approach to running a business if selected to lead the university. He says a big improvement can be in making the University more efficient when it comes to making decisions. "You need to trust people you need to have respect and trust them you don't need to think the president is the only one in the world that has a good idea." "So after spending the day talking with the media Doctor Carruthers met with the community that's something all of the candidates will have to do." "It will help us understand number one as regents what the community is thinking and we will get the input from them." the former governor of New Mexico from 1987-1990 shook hands and spoke on a more l as to why he's the best fit. He met with faculty member’s regents as well as State lawmakers. "You learn if you're going to be successful in this State you need to get along with both side of the aisle." "I think he's eminently qualified I think he fills all those shoes that being said I haven't heard the other candidates yet either." "Doctors Carruthers says he would bring stability to NMSU and familiarity at the State legislature when it comes to finding money for the university. Papen says knowing the players on the State level are crucial and hopes to hear what the other candidates have to say. The next finalist to be introduced will be guy Bailey tomorrow afternoon.
Introducing Garrey Carruthers

KDBC 4/22/2013 5:47:16 PM New Mexico State University is introducing the first of five presidential candidates to the media and the public today. This afternoon Doctor Garrey Carruthers participated in a forum and is now being introduced to the community at a public reception. Local 4’s Juan Gutierrez is at NMSU with more. "The only internal candidate for president Dr. Garrey Carruthers spoke to media earlier this afternoon. Doctor Carruthers is now here at the center for the arts at a reception that just started and is meeting with the public. Doctor Garrey Carruthers has spent more than 20 years at NMSU even though he did spend four years as governor of New Mexico in the late 80's. In his current role as dean of the college of business for more than 10 years... he touts his success in raising money for the college and helping build the program. He says he enjoys the several people to seek the position. "a lot of people have asked me to do this and I think it's important to be responsive to both people within the University and people outside the University who are somewhat troubled by the constant change in leadership at the University and I think they want to get to a period of stability." Carruthers says he hopes to stabilize the University when it comes to the president's position and says he wants to begin grooming people from within for top administrative roles if chosen to be president. "When asked about his chances he joked saying it's 20 percent making reference to the other 4 candidates."
Garrey Carruthers introduction for NMSU president

KFOX 4/22/2013 9:53:58 PM: New Mexico State University is getting closer to selecting a president. Today we spoke with Garrey Carruthers... the former New Mexico governor and dean of the NMSU College of business. He tells us why it's in the university's best interest to choose someone who is already familiar with the school. “The universities like searches and searches can be rather expensive to begin with and then it's sometimes to better be off dealing with someone that you know will have a long track record for a long period of time. “Other finalists set to meet the media are Guy bailey... this Wednesday morning...David Ashley on Thursday...Elsa Murano next Monday... and Daniel Howard may first.
Doctor Garrey Carruthers

KTSM 4/22/2013 6:06:44 PM  New Mexico State University's introducing the first of five presidential candidates to the media and the public today. Doctor Garrey Carruthers has spent more than 20 years NMSU even though he did spend four years as governor of New Mexico in the late 800s. In the college off business for more than 10 years ....he touts his success in raising money heaping build the program. he says he enjoys the students and was asked by several people to seek the position "a lot of people have asked me to do this and I think it’s important to be responsive to be the university and people outside the University who are somewhat troubled the constant change in leadership at the university and I think they want to get to a period of stability." Carruthers says he hopes to stabilize the University when it comes to the president's position and says he wants to begin grooming people from within for top administrative roles if chosen to be president.
Doctor Garrey Carruthers as first candidate

KTSM 4/22/2013 10:13:13 PM: ...for presidents are introduced to the public. Today the first candidate Doctor Garrey Carruthers spent the day shaking hands and answering questions about why he should be the next president of the university. We caught up with him this afternoon. [b2]NMSU president "I can bring really a long broad history of experiences." Doctor Garrey Carruthers is the only internal finalist in the search for the next president of the university. When Doctor Barbara year Carruthers offered to serve as interim. "He people talking to me particularly in the community said I really would prefer if you would try and do it on a permanent basis." Carruthers boasts a long resume that includes work as a businessman and most recently as dean of the college of business. "I’ve had a good run as dean we've accomplished a lot of things we set out to do his came along." the dean of 10 years leans to take a similar approach to running a business if selected to lead the university. He says a big improvement can be in making the university more efficient when it comes to making decisions. "You need to trust people you need to have respect and trust them you don't need to think the president is the only one in the world that has a good idea." "it will help us understand number one as regents what the community is thinking and we will get the input from them." the former governor of New Mexico from 1987-1990 shook hands and spoke on a more personal level as to why he's the best fit. He met with lawmakers. "You learn if you're going to be successful in this State you need to get along with both side of the aisle." "I think he's eminently qualified me think he will fill all said I haven't heard the other candidates yet either... NMSU president-tag Doctors Carruthers says he would bring stability to NMSU and familiarity at the state legislature when it comes to finding money for the university. The next finalist to be introduced will be guy bailey tomorrow afternoon.
LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) - A civil rights group is faulting New Mexico State University for not including them in the advisory and selection process of naming a new president.

The New Mexico League of United Latin American Citizens said in a letter Monday that it was being excluded and faulted NMSU for the low number of Latinos on the school's board of regents.

Paul "Pablo" Martinez told the board of regents in a letter that LULAC was included with the recent selection of University of New Mexico President Bob Frank.

NMSU spokeswoman Julie Hughes says the board has received LULAC's letter and is in the process of responding.

Community forums of the five presidential finalists began this week.

NMSU President Barbara Couture abruptly stepped down last year following a mysteriously administrative leave.

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Tips for pruning mulberry trees

Q. The tops and ends of branches on the mulberry trees on our street died last year after a severe winter.

We homeowners want to trim off all the dead branches on the top and ends of lateral branches, leaving the living parts to continue to grow. We thought we should wait until the leaf buds form so that we know how much to cut back each branch (to the live buds).

Is this a good idea, and if so, when do you think the leaf buds will become visible?

— Susan B. and others in the UNM area, Albuquerque

A. If you can tell what is dead and what is alive, now is a better time to prune trees.

A common guideline is to prune before the buds swell enough to “reveal color”. The dead twigs and branches are often distinguishable by their bark (peeling or split), brittleness, or other visible characteristics. Do not just cut back anywhere. You should prune away the dead branch back to a living bud or healthy branch.

If this is a neighborhood project, you may be able to share costs and hire a certified arborist to properly trim the trees. A good arborist should be able to easily distinguish dead branches and twigs now, especially if these are branches that have been dead for over a year.

Since you are considering trimming mulberry trees, the time factor is somewhat less critical. Mulberry trees are usually very vigorous and can often be trimmed even after leaves have formed without seriously damaging the trees.

Once the leaves have formed, it is very easy to distinguish between the living and dead branches. Even so, proper pruning back to a healthy bud or branch is important. Proper pruning also involves pruning just outside the branch collar, the swelling at the juncture of two branches that indicates the point where tissue from one branch overgrows the other branch.

Pruning to leave the branch collar means to prune in the manner that best allows the tree to close the pruning wound while excluding disease organisms.

(EDITOR’S NOTE: Curtis W. Smith, Ph.D., is an extension horticulture specialist emeritus with New Mexico State University’s Cooperative Extension Service. Send your gardening questions to: Yard and Garden, Attn: Dr. Cutis Smith, NMSU Agricultural Science Center, 1036 Miller Rd. SW, Los Lunas, N.M., 1287031.)
Temporary supervisor comes to Prescott Forest
Tom Torres

PRESCOTT - Tom Torres started his temporary job Monday as acting supervisor for the Prescott National Forest.

Betty Mathews left the Prescott Forest supervisor position this month for the same job on the Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest in Gainesville, Ga.

Torres will serve as acting supervisor while the Forest Service looks for a new permanent supervisor. He is the deputy sub-regional engineer for the Pacific Northwest Region 6 of the U.S. Forest Service.

In this role since 2009, Torres oversees engineering services to four units in Western Oregon: the Mt. Hood, Siuslaw and Willamette national forests and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Torres also serves as the Engineering, Minerals and Fleet staff officer for both the Mt. Hood National Forest and the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

Born in the San Francisco area but raised in southern New Mexico, Torres has a strong affiliation with the Southwest. He has worked in a variety of capacities and locations during his 20-plus years with the Forest Service, including Arizona and New Mexico.

Torres graduated from New Mexico State University in 1989 with a bachelor's in Civil Engineering and is currently finalizing his thesis at Portland State University to earn a master's in Management.

Torres is a professional engineer in Oregon and is a member of both the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Project Management Institute. He is also a graduate of the 2011 USFS Senior Leader Program.

Torres's wife, Dr. Cynthia Doane, is on the faculty at the University of Arizona in Tucson. He has two sons: Matthew, a U.S. Army veteran and current college student in Tacoma, Wash., and Thomas, a graduate of Oregon State University and currently enlisted in the U.S. Navy, stationed in San Diego.
Project helps ‘Nspire’ high school students

BY ISABEL RODRIGUEZ
IDARLING@NMSU.EDU

As a Project Lead the Way master teacher at the Arrowhead Park Early College High School, Nina Nunez teaches math courses, as well as an Introduction to Engineering Design course.

Her job got a little bit easier, thanks to a New Mexico State University-TI review team who awarded her a set of 20 Texas Instrument Nspire handheld calculators.

“My students and I are super excited to have received the calculators,” said Nunez, who has worked with NMSU through Project Lead the Way for the past six years.

Nunez is already planning use of the calculators (each valued at about $140) in the upcoming semester in a statistics and reverse engineering unit.

“Last year, my students amputated the leg or arm off of a Barbie doll,” she explained. “The goal was to reconstruct the arm or leg using 3-D modeling software.”

The product improvement included creating a bendable joint for the doll. We plan to do this project again, and our goal is to utilize the calculators and motion detectors to track and analyze the bending motion of a joint.

This past summer, Nunez attended Connecting Science and Mathematics through Technology, a three-day course for middle and high school teachers facilitated by Texas Instruments and hosted by NMSU’s Engineering New Mexico Resource Network.

“Through the Engineering New Mexico Resource Network, we are committed to partnering with industry to bring relevant hands-on engineering applications to middle and high school classrooms,” said Patricia A. Sullivan, assistant dean for the College of Engineering. “We plan to partner with TI and the College of Education this spring to bring additional training opportunities for STEM teachers.”

“The Arrowhead Park Early College High School has a STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) focus,” Nunez added. “We have a large number of students in the engineering pathway, and we place all of our freshmen in the Introduction to Engineering Design course. The skills they learn in this project and problem-based learning course have the potential to help them in all future courses.”

After receiving the calculators, Nunez said, she was given an additional 10 units from the Las Cruces Public School District.
Hydropower harvesters using revolutionary system

BY ISABEL RODRIGUEZ
idarling@nmsu.edu

LAS CRUCES — “Revolutionary” is the word NMSU electrical engineering professor Nadipuram Prasad uses to describe the turbine and generator system he’s developing as a result of his hydropower research.

Dubbed “HyPER harvesters,” the axial-flow flow turbine and generator systems are designed to generate power at any desired frequency from low-head waterways across the U.S. and worldwide.

Prasad and fellow professor Satishkuma Ranade obtained a $299,312 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy to fabricate and test their two 10 kW prototypes in the Elephant Butte Irrigation District.

“The HyPER project is aimed toward developing the cheapest and most efficient ways of harnessing energy from gravity-fed flowing water resources such as rivers, streams, irrigation canals and flood canals,” Prasad said.

“The key benefit is that it requires minimal infrastructure for its installation and end use. As such, its use is practically unlimited.”

The hyperboloid shape of the turbine causes fluid forces to transfer energy efficiently onto an impeller, which then converts hydraulic energy into mechanical energy and provides force to rotate the permanent magnet rotor of the generator.

Electrical engineering Professor Nadipuram Prasad is developing flow turbines as a result of his hydropower research. They will be designed to generate power at any desired frequency.

The rotating magnetic field induces a potential across the terminals and is transformed to the desired frequency by a back-to-back AC-DC-AC converter.

Prasad described the submarine-type of enclosure that houses the generator as fish-like.

Although we are presently developing a technology with rotating machinery, the concept can be extended to the use of linear generators. “As water enters the inlet and increases in velocity, ‘fins’ and the ‘tail’ located on the submarine can be made to flap back and forth, causing a linear generator to produce electricity” he said. “The HyPER harvester concept is easily adaptable to any fluid-flow system. It can be implemented in urban water supply systems and in wastewater treatment systems.

“Urban water supply systems have a continuous flow of water. The harvester could be used to produce power from large water tanks, which provide sufficient pressure. The process is similar to a natural reservoir draining water into a lower basin.”

While the devices won’t be tested until spring 2014, Prasad said he believes its application could go beyond Elephant Butte.

“The goal would be to integrate hydro plants throughout the distribution system power grid,” he said.

“Although we are building a small-scale prototype, it does not hurt to think that someday Hoover Dam and Grand Coulee Dam could be retrofitted with the technology we are developing to produce several hundred megawatts of additional power.

“I would speculate that extremely poor societies who inhabit areas rich in natural flowing water, such as the Mekong River Delta in Vietnam, would benefit the greatest,” he added. “Recent storms such as Hurricane Sandy are good examples of the need to harvest energy. It helps the Federal Emergency Management Agency to maintain sufficient power generating capacity to serve all critical centers.”

“The harvesters have the potential for a simple and economical manufacturing process
and the potential for easy deployment," said Ranade. "I would love to see implementations on small river systems; water delivery systems; and of course in developing nations."

Prasad described the Drop 8 structure at Elephant Butte as an ideal testing site because it provides sufficient civil infrastructure to implement the test prototypes.

"Drop 8 is an extremely strong structure that offers continuous energy harvesting possibility during the entire irrigation season," he said. "It's a historical structure, one we had better not damage, and that's exactly the type of structure where we want to test the prototypes."

One challenge concerning the prototypes is ensuring the safety of its material, fiberglass.

The advantage of using fiberglass is that it's stronger than steel and safer than plastic, Prasad explained.

"It's important to research the type of material used in water supply systems," he said. "Chlorinated water will be flowing through the pipes, and we need to know the long-term effects of fiberglass, whether it creates a threat to human safety."
**Soccer-playing Haley honored by Aggies**

Mikaela Haley, a former soccer standout for the Storm (Class of 2012), was named the New Mexico State University women’s soccer team’s “Newcomer of the Year” at the team banquet last weekend.

Haley started in 12 games and played in all 19; she helped the team to four shutouts and played 1,357 minutes, which ranked third on the team.
What to do after removing gravel

9. HELP! I'm in the process of clearing gravel and plastic from my yard. What work! When I get to the bare earth, should I till before putting down leaves, coffee grounds and soil?

Terri T.
Via NMSU University Wide Extension

A. Removing gravel mulch is indeed a lot of work. There are several things to consider as you remove the rock mulch.

If there are desirable trees and shrubs within the landscape that was covered by gravel, important elements of their root system may be in danger of injury as you remove the gravel and when you rototill the soil. The important elements of the root systems are the very small roots that are responsible for absorbing water and nutrients. Larger roots are also important because they support the small, absorbing roots, and transmit water and nutrients from the smaller roots to the upper portion of the trees and shrubs. If there was plastic mulch under the rocks, especially if it was impermeable plastic, a large percentage of the absorbing roots will be at the soil surface or very near the surface. Just the removal of the protective covering from the roots may cause them to dry and die. Even if desirable trees and shrubs are some distance from the area from which rocks are removed, the sensitive roots can be found up to 4 or more times the height of the tree or shrub from the base of that plant. If there are irrigated plantings (flower beds, shrubs, lawns, etc.) in the area, the number of absorbing roots under the area of rocks may be minimal. If the landscape was predominantly rocks, then these roots are at risk. Injury to these plants, or even their death, is a possibility.

These roots are also a consideration when rototilling. The soil that had been covered by rocks will probably be very low in organic matter and compacted so that it does not readily accept water from irrigation or precipitation. Such soil will need to be managed to restore the organic matter as you mentioned regarding leaves, coffee, etc. If possible rototill before and after applying the organic matter. If the roots mentioned above are at risk from rototilling, minimize the rototilling and use a spading fork to loosen the soil either by turning the soil or by just pushing the tines of the form into the soil and pulling back on the handle of the fork to cause cracks to form in the soil (this will do less damage to the roots). If the roots are too dense, just apply the organic matter over the soil, keep it moist and let freezing and thawing and earthworms loosen the soil.

If there are not trees or shrubs nearby whose roots may be injured, then rototilling to incorporate the organic matter into the soil is a good practice. Moistening the soil, then rototilling the soil before applying the organic matter will allow you to more efficiently work the organic matter into the soil. If you are adding large quantities of organic matter, then you should add a 3 to 4 inch layer of organic material and then rototill before adding more material. If too much organic material is added at one time, it will not be evenly added to the soil.

For more gardening information, visit the NMSU Extension publications Web site at http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/ h, or to read past articles of Yard and Garden go to http://aces.nmsu.edu /pubs/periodicals.html.

Send your gardening questions to Yard and Garden, Attn: Dr. Curtis Smith, NMSU Agricultural Science Center, 1036 Miller Rd. SW, Los Lunas, N.M. 87031. Curtis W. Smith, Ph.D., is an Extension Horticulture Specialist emeritus with New Mexico State University’s Cooperative Extension Service. NMSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating.
Zachary Hanks, former Hart pitcher, commits to New Mexico St.
By Dan Agnew

Former Hart High pitcher Zachary Hanks has officially committed to play baseball at New Mexico State University next season. The senior will receive a scholarship to play for the college.

Hanks, a senior at Hart, showed his potential last season as a junior, finishing 1-6 with a 3.24 ERA in 45 1/3 innings pitched for Hart.

He is not playing baseball for the school this season due to the fact that he was removed from the team in November after violating team rules. Two other starters on the team were also removed at the time.

New Mexico State competes in the Western Athletic Conference within NCAA Division I. Last year, NMSU won the WAC. The team is 23-18 this season with a 4-2 mark so far in conference play.
The Town of Taos recently announced that Taos Eco Park's third Annual NCAA and Club Soccer Showcase will be held in April and be bigger than ever before. The schedule includes three consecutive weekends of some of the nation's best college and youth soccer teams, beginning Saturday, April 6 and ending Sunday, April 21.

The main event will be Saturday, April 13, when the University of New Mexico Lobos Men's and Women's Soccer teams battle Denver University in a regional battle for supremacy.

The day will begin with New Mexico Rush and Río Soccer Club youth games, followed by Air Force Academy men playing Fort Lewis College before the Lobos take the field.

"The Lobos are excited for another great match in Taos," UNM Lobos Head Men's Soccer Coach Jeremy Fishbein said. "A tremendous venue and incredible local support makes this annual game the highlight of our spring season."

Men's soccer teams confirmed to play in this year's event also include Adams State College, Trinidad State Junior College, NM Institute of Mining and Tech, FC Denver, Española Cobras, New Mexico Rush Soccer, Taos Rush Soccer and Río Soccer Club.

Women's soccer teams confirmed to play in this year's event also include New Mexico State University, Eastern New Mexico, New Mexico Highlands, Air Force Academy, Adams State College, New Mexico Rush Soccer, Taos Rush Soccer and Río Soccer Club.

"The growth of this event has been terrific," Taos Sports Alliance Executive Director, Joel Israel, said. "Three years ago we began with three NCAA and nine club teams. Now there are 15 NCAA and 35 amateur teams competing over three weekends."

A complete schedule is posted at taosecopark.com

—Staff Report
VHS, Los Lunas golfers want to go to state

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LOS LUNAS

The number of returners for the Los Lunas and Valencia high school golfers has certainly been higher in years past. However, the enthusiasm has likely never been collectively higher than it is now.

The Valencia High boys made tremendous progress in 2011-12, and finished within three strokes of second place at the District 6-4A tourney in late April. The top Los Lunas High golfer the past two seasons has been Monica Trujillo, and she tied for 13th at the 2012 Class 4A state tournament in Socorro.

The Valencia boys should return at least four juniors from last year’s team, along with at least one returner on the girls side. Trujillo and several LLHS boys golfers made major improvements over the course of the season.

Milton Torres returns for his third season as the Valencia coach, while new LLHS girls basketball coach Marty Zeller will run the Los Lunas High program once hoops is over. Both are hoping to get many athletes qualified for the Class 4A state championships.

The two-day state tourney is set for Monday and Tuesday, May 13-14, at New Mexico State University Golf Course in Las Cruces.

“We're ready to go,” said Torres. “We feel like this is our year. Some of the kids have been playing like crazy. We really want to go to state.”

Neither school had released its schedule as of press time.

The Valencia boys finished strong at the end of last season, posting a team score of 384 to place at last year’s district tournament at Tierra Del Sol Golf Club in Rio Communities. Tim Turnbow’s fourth-place score of 86 led the way.

Valencia’s Jason McClung shot an 89, Cody Robinson shot a 92, Elias Romero a 117 and Sam Swinney a 122. While Romero has graduated, Turnbow, McClung, Robinson and Swinney were sophomores, and Torres expects all four to return.

“Cody even chose not to do football, so he could do golf,” said Torres. “These guys are excited.”

McClung, who played football and basketball this year, said expectations are high.

“We have a lot of potential this year to go far — as individuals and as a team,” said McClung. “If we consistently play well, I think we could do really well this season.”

Teams advance to state by earning three qualifying legs. The best four of the five individual scores at a tournament determine the team score, and each course has its own qualifying mark.

Torres’ daughter, Tori, finished as the 6-4A runner-up to two-time state champion Taylor Jaramillo of Belen. She decided to play volleyball this past fall, and the senior is hoping to continue her improvement.

Coach Torres said Laura Santos, the only other VHS girl to play last season, might return.

When Trujillo qualified for state as a junior last year, she was the first LLHS girl to make it to state in many years. She was disqualified at district, for playing a ball that had landed out of bounds, so her score of 91 didn’t count.

Aided by LLHS coach Pat Sanchez and Trujillo’s stepfather, Rob Sexsmith, Trujillo made tremendous strides since she first took up golf. Sanchez had a tumultuous 2012 season as coach, and although he wasn’t terminated after the season, his contract was not renewed, and Zeller was later announced as Sanchez’s replacement by Los Lunas Schools athletics director Wilson Holland.

The Los Lunas boys shot a team score of 417 at district. Colby Kerr narrowly missed out on a top-five medal with an 87. Kayle Miller carded a 96; Michael Brohard shot a 109, and Jared Abeita had a 125.