Indian School with 25 Raton athletes participating in the RHS Business Professionals of America, at the state Mock Trial competition, and aiding the Mock Trial team with nine students from Raton over the past three days.

By TIM KELLER

Raton High School keeps teens engaged with wealth of activities

Raton High School basketball teams are on the road to play Friday and Saturday. Though often there are teens complaining, “There’s nothing to do in Raton,” several high school organizations are in other cities today pursuing exciting activities. Add the Ski Area and Snowboard Club’s 18-day trip to New York City, and a total of 35 students – 27 percent of the student body – have participated in sports, events and a total of 70!

Two groups are in Albuquerque, including the state track team with nine students at the state Muck Track competition, and the first annual “Elly’s Run” is one of 40 in America with its 35 students participating in the BPA State Leadership Conference. Both are multi-day events. The Drama Club has been in Paris since Wednesday, with ten students presenting their production of “A Christmas Carol” at the EHS Drama Festival. The basketball teams are on the road to Santa Fe today to compete against Santa Fe Indian School with 25 Raton athletes participating. Staying closer to home, the 18 members of the RHS Future Farmers of America cap their annual AFA Week activities with a two-hour recruiting stop at Raton Middle School.

Tom Vertovec, assistant principal and athletic director at RHS, says 30 students compete in sports – 40 percent of the student body. Add membership in the school’s many clubs and the participation level is 60 percent. Asked about the students – apparently the other 40 percent – who complain, Vertovec replies, “They need to find out what’s available for them in the clubs. They don’t even know.” He begins listing clubs such as church and band, student senate and class governments, National Honor Society and Key Club, FFA and BPA, FCCLA, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Future Educators of America, Ski and Snowboard Club, Drama Club, D.N.U., Pop Club, and Chess Club. This list lengthens when one adds the Tiger Cats Dance Team, the cheerleaders and the football and baseball teams.

To any bored student, RHS teacher and baseball coach Mike Marcus says, “If you’ve got to do is get a little initiative, get out and do it. You’ve got to do it for yourself.”

“Today is the last chance to purchase books at the Columbian Elementary Book Fair. (Photo courtesy of Pam Humrich)
A New Mexico police officer is facing manslaughter charges in the death of a man who died after being subjected to a neck restraint technique during a February arrest, prosecutors said. June 4.

Thieves steal 150 handguns, rifles from New Mexico store. Dozens of handguns and rifles were stolen this week from a gun shop in New Mexico’s largest city, prompting authorities to offer a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible, officials said Wednesday. June 3.

Ex-CIA spy Valerie Plame loses House bid in New Mexico Dem primary. DIY face mask: Bandana or cotton fabric, approximately 20-by-20 inches Coffee filter (or piece of HEPA vacuum filter) 2 hair ties (or rubber bands or pieces of elastic)

Step-by-step instructions to make a DIY face mask: Fold the bandana in half. Fold the coffee filter in half and place in the centre of the folded bandana. Fold the bottom third of the bandana up, then fold the top third of the bandana down. Loop one hair tie around each end of the folded fabric. They should sit about 6 inches apart.