

Eagles bring Homecoming spirit to football field



Hard earned yardage

A Cowboys' runner doesn't get far against Gilpin's swarming defense. See story page 12

PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Celebrating our past in the Peak to Peak



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Pack burro racing

The perfect day for a donkey dash. The racers were welcome to carry their burros, but the burros weren't allowed to carry the racers.

Dave Gibson
Nederland

Born of mining tradition when gold and silver seekers combed the Colorado mountains in search of fortune, the Pack Burro Race, Sunday, September 19, on Magnolia Road near Nederland officially kicked off a day of living history.

Forty-four entrants from around the state paid \$65 apiece for the privilege. Each burro was required to carry 30 lbs. of gear that included a pickax, shovel, and gold pan. Darcy Lohmann, racer husband Jack of Frisco, and their highly intelligent but at times belligerent burro Einstein participate in eight such events each year. As in thoroughbred racing, the sport even has its own Triple Crown. Marvin Sandoval from Leadville and his burro Buttercup conquered the 8-mile course in 1:01.15 to collect the \$300 first place purse. Bob Sweeny and Yukon of Leadville took second

and Brian Rawlings and Lucky from Colorado Springs third. Thus ended the first year of pack burro racing in the local region.

Next, at the Mining Museum in Nederland, various artifacts were on display including trams, ore carts, engines, helmets, bells, and rare mining claim maps. Historic photographs hung on the walls capture the era in indelible detail. Train cars and tracks had been set up for kids to play with. It was a celebration of Heritage Day.

Outside the museum building, rock art painting and corn husk doll-making were offered. Miners in the 1800s and early 1900s often barely scratched out a living and struggled just to feed their families. Toys were a luxury and weren't lavishly showered upon their offspring as they are today so the children sometimes had to make do with what they had,

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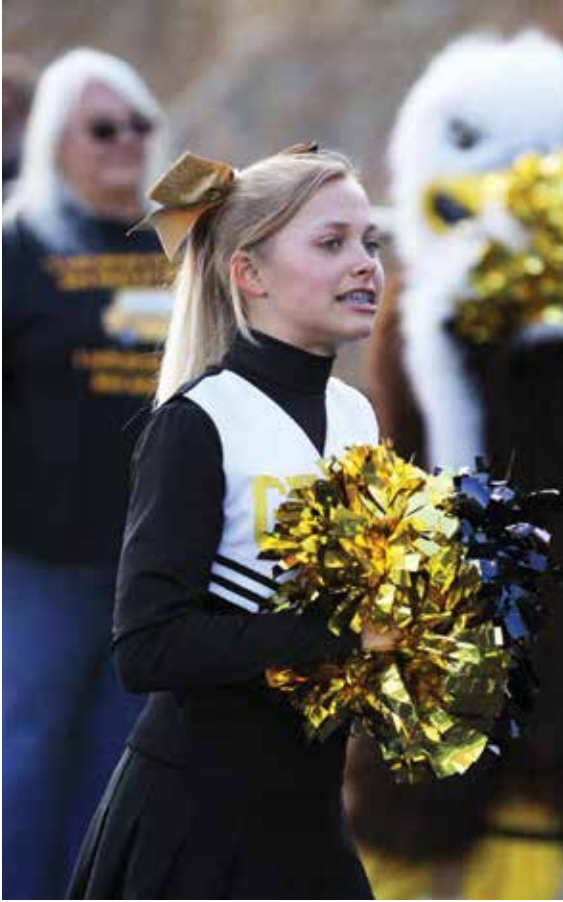
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- QUOTE OF THE WEEK -

"Deadlines refine the mind. They remove variables like exotic materials and processes that take too long. The closer the deadline, the more likely you'll start thinking waaay outside the box." ~Adam Savage

Eagles bring Homecoming spirit to football field



PHOTOS BY DAVE GIBSON

Lights, camera, action!

Top, left; Cheering for the home team. Top, right; Quarterback Bradley Robinson scrambles for a long gain. Middle, left; Manager Sara Holloway tends to the equipment. Middle, center; Omayra Acevedo was one of two *Mountain-Ear* photographers at the game. Middle, right; The cheerleaders' enthusiasm lifts fans and players. Bottom, left; Defensive End Ryan Hannsen wraps up the opponent.

Dave Gibson Gilpin County

Mascot Spirit the Eagle was on hand at home Friday, September 17, for the first time this year to provide extra support for our Gilpin County Eagles football team during their homecoming game against Plateau Valley. Many alumni were in attendance for what they hoped would be an Eagles' victory.

A chili cook-off sponsored by the Gilpin County Booster Club offered samples of all the homemade chilis for a dollar and a cup of the one you liked best for two dollars beginning at halftime. Bearing the American flag, the entire cheerleading squad delivered a beautiful unamplified rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner from midfield that flowed through the loyal crowd.

Finding themselves in a rebuilding

year after losing several star players to graduation, the team is young but determined, showing steady progress at every outing.

Coach Craig Ball's summary: "We were happy to see our ball carriers running to space against Plateau Valley. Cole Tuttle and Ezra Williams each had kick-off returns for touchdowns in the second half. The offense had trouble sustaining drives, but we gained chunks of yardage with three different backs having run for 20-plus yards at a time. The defense had six tackles behind the line of scrimmage and was aggressive all night. Our defense had trouble containing outside, but our pass defense has greatly improved over the last few weeks. We will work to get better this week to maintain the

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Gilpin Eagles



PHOTO BY DAVE GIBSON

Battling for the football
A Cowboy goes up for a pass last Friday.

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edges and improve ball control. We are traveling to Hayden's new field Friday night. These boys are working

hard each week and we are looking forward to a great performance against Hayden."

Final score: Plateau Valley Cowboys 52, Gilpin County Eagles 16.

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Lee Hansen
Mark Walker
Bette, Danusia, & Jordan
... and others who lended a hand!

Thanks to all of our supporters, participants, volunteers who provide us great feedback for what is needed to improve this race every year - and who tell their friends about us.