New Mexico Junior College and Jostens will host GradFest on Monday, March 14, through Friday, March 18, in the NMJC Bookstore from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm daily. This is an opportunity for 2011 commencement candidates to order their commencement caps and gown along with a variety of graduation items.

New Mexico Junior College will implement a new enrollment process with summer and fall enrollment, which begins April 11, 2011. To guarantee a seat in the classes they choose, students who enroll for summer and/or fall classes will have 48 hours to pay their bill. According to Dan Hardin, Vice President for Fiscal Services, “Students can make payment using FACTS, which is a convenient payment plan option. This service is available online on the NMJC website at www.nmjc.edu. We want the payment process to benefit our students.”

The new policy is necessary to guarantee students a seat in the classes they want. Dr. Michele Clingman, Dean of Enrollment Management, said, “We have several popular classes that always have a waitlist. The 48-hour pay policy makes sure those students who sign up for a class are serious and intend to actually take the class. We currently have students who sign up for classes with no intention of attending; they just think they might, so they want to reserve a seat. This practice denies paying students a seat in the class.”

NMJC encourages all students to apply for financial aid and make arrangements to pay before the first week of class. “Taking care of finances early reduces stress associated with the beginning of academic semesters,” said Jennifer McClure, an enrollment specialist.

Cash, money orders, checks (made payable to New Mexico Junior College), MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express payments may be made at the cashier’s window in the Ben Alexander Student Learning Center. Students can also pay with a credit card by calling (575) 492-2776.

New Mexico Junior College GradFest In Progress

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According to Elisa Autry, NMJC Bookstore Director, the cap-and-gown package costs $29.95. Students and family can also order class rings, graduation announcements, and many other items to celebrate this major educational milestone. For additional information or if you cannot visit the bookstore during GradFest, please call Elisa Autry at (575) 492-2597.

"New Mexico Junior College was the foundation of my education. It provided a tremendous opportunity to explore potential career choices and helped to establish my interest in medicine. I am indebted to the many wonderful instructors and coaches at NMJC who provided a great education and experience. In addition, Dr. McCleery was and continues to be a pillar of support and guidance, for which I am truly grateful."

Be sure to watch Dr. Acosta’s NMJC commercial on KOSA-TV (CBS 7) out of West Texas beginning April 11.

Stephen Acosta, M.D.

FOCUS on FACES: Stephen L. Acosta, M.D.

Physician, Internal Medicine
Nor-Lea General Hospital
Lovingston, New Mexico

Doctor of Medicine
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Bachelor of Science
Texas Tech University
Lubbock, Texas

Associate of Science
New Mexico Junior College
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NMJC rodeo student-athlete R.H. Whitten (Soph.) from New Home, Texas, won the Ranger College Rodeo Team Roping title with his partner Logan Medlin (Fresh.) from ENMU. R.H. (header) and Logan (heeler) were second in the long-go with a time of 6.7 seconds and were first in the short-go with a time of 6.6 seconds, allowing them to win the team roping average with a time of 13.3 seconds on two head.

To All NMJC Students:

New Mexico Junior College has partnered with RAVE Wireless to provide an emergency alert system capable of delivering messages to your NMJC email account, as well as your landline and cell phone. RAVE Alert is a national company that provides emergency notifications to universities across the country.

We have enrolled you in the program at no expense to you. We encourage you to login to the RAVE Wireless site to confirm your contact information and choose your notification preferences. (Note: Your cellular phone provider may charge a per-text message fee for the delivery of emergency notifications to your phone.)

To manage your account, please visit: https://www.getrave.com/login/nmjc and select Register Now. When you select Register Now on the page, you should use your NMJC email address as the registration email. Below the password section, you will need to click on Forgot Username or Password. This will redirect you to another page where you will again need to put in your NMJC email address. RAVE will then send an email to your NMJC email address with a link to click on and choose a password. After you choose your new password, go back to the login page listed above, and you will then be able to log into the system. After you log into the system, click on the tab at the top that says My Account, and you will be able to add up to three email addresses, three landline phones, and three cellular phone numbers. The system also will allow you to send yourself a test to confirm that you entered the correct information.

The RAVE system will work in conjunction with the emergency speakers that are located throughout the campus. In the event of an emergency or school closure, this system allows us to make timely notification to all students, faculty, and staff members who have registered. Please take the time to assist us with timely notifications by completing your registration process promptly.

If you have any difficulty in logging into the system or have any other questions, please contact Bill Morrill at (575) 492-2791 or send an email to bmorrill@nmjc.edu.

Many of the scholarships and endowed funds held with NMJC Foundation have been established in memory of a loved one. When community leader, NMJC Board President and NMJC Foundation Board member Larry Hanna passed away suddenly in October of 2010, his widow Judy chose to honor him by creating The Larry Hanna Memorial Scholarship. Beginning this spring, three NMJC students will be awarded scholarships from this fund, and several more will benefit in future years. Thanks to the generosity of the many who gave in Larry’s honor, recipients of this scholarship will have support in achieving their education goals while attending NMJC.

R. H. also was entered in the tie down calf roping, where he split 9th-10th in the long-go with a time of 10.4 seconds and finished fourth in the short-go round with 10.1 seconds, allowing him to place fourth in the average with a time of 20.5 seconds on two head.

The NMJC rodeo team will compete next at the Odessa College Rodeo on March 24, 2011.
In honor of Women’s History Month, a Women’s Tea was held at the Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame on March 10. The celebration included a presentation by Rose Diaz on the importance and pursuit of oral histories, a visit by 61 fourth graders from Taylor Elementary School, and a musical interlude by Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, professor of music, and his group of talented vocalists and instrumentalists. Thanks to the additional efforts of Mary Lyle and Ruth Wong, the event represented another successful Women’s History Month Tea.

Dr. Stephen Townsend, Professor of Government and History, attends the Women’s History Month Tea with two of the women in his life, (l to r) daughters Molly, 4, and Olivia, 5.

Dr. Patty Emmerich welcomes guests.

The 2010-2011 season provided a great opportunity for growth and experience for the New Mexico Junior College men’s basketball team. Going into the season with a roster of 12 freshmen and only four sophomores, the Thunderbirds did not know what to expect from their young team. In the end, the T-Birds finished with a 19-9 overall record and finished tied for fourth in the WJCAC conference.

As has become the custom, the season opened with the annual Thunderbird Classic in Hobbs. After hosting three games in three days, the Thunderbirds soon became road warriors, traveling to Yuma, Arizona, and then to Cheyenne, Wyoming, competing in tournaments and taking in the western landscape. As the pre-conference schedule progressed, so did the team chemistry and success. The T-Birds finished the pre-conference portion of the schedule with a 13-1 record, including a victory at #15 Arizona Western College.

In the always-tough Western Junior College Athletic Conference, the Thunderbirds got off to a great start with a 73-56 victory at New Mexico Military Institute. The T-Birds would get out to a 5-3 record in the first eight games of the conference, but would struggle down the stretch, finishing tied for fourth in the league with a 6-8 conference mark. NMJC lost three home games to the top three teams in the conference by a combined nine points, proving to be on the right path for future success.

The Thunderbirds will be returning a great group of freshmen for the 2011-2012 season and will be looking to make a run at the college’s first conference championship since the 1995 season.

In-Service on February 21 was dedicated to professional development of advisors for a group of faculty and staff. The In-Service, led by LaRae Ellison, was developed as part of the Student Success Management Plan to build excellence and effectiveness into NMJC’s advising of students. Stressed throughout the day was the concept that advising is a relationship designed to help each student achieve success through learning.

A new advising initiative, Proactive Advising for Student Success (PASS), was introduced. PASS advisors will be assigned a small number of students and will reach out to their PASS students on a regular, on-going basis.
Hello! My name is Sandy the Mammoth. I’m a Columbian Mammoth that has been found right here in southeastern New Mexico. I was discovered by Delbert Sanderson (hence the name Sandy) in 2009. He brought a bone fragment in to Calvin Smith, the Executive Director of the Western Heritage Museum Complex and Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame, who knew what it was right away (he knows a lot about us Mammoths after helping with excavations at the Waco Mammoth Site in Waco, Texas). Since then, Calvin has led the excavation with the help of members of the Southeastern New Mexico Archaeological Society. So far, they have uncovered a femur, tibia, fibula, carpal, and rib. None of these bones can tell them if I’m a male or female, which is another reason Sandy is a good name for me.

Many people do not know much about Columbian Mammoths or about the Ice Age when I lived (I could be 13,000 years old!), so I’ve embraced the technological age, and with the help of Stacy Allen and Erin Anderson, I have joined the social networks of Twitter, Facebook, and Tumblr. If you are interested in learning more about me, my friends, and the time and place where I lived, you should find and follow me on one or more of those networks! I’m attempting to make learning fun. What I love is really the interaction with all of you.

Speaking of interactions, Matthew Gray Gubler from the television show Criminal Minds was asked if he would want to do a doodle of me, and he agreed! We have already received his drawing, and it is my profile picture on all my Facebook pages. We do want to change my profile picture up, so we’re asking for sketches, doodles, drawings, paintings, or other likenesses of me. It doesn’t have to be anything fancy. Erin and Stacy have both put their drawings up on Facebook and, trust me, they are no Michelangelos!

Or maybe you like to write! Come up with a creative writing story about my life in the Ice Age and share it with us. You can share your drawings and/or stories on any of my pages. Remember, I’m a Columbian Mammoth and not a Woolly Mammoth, and to know the difference, look me up on any of my pages.

I hope to hear from you soon!
Financial Aid News
by Shanessa Gluhm, Assistant Director of Financial Aid

Summer Information
Pell Grant-eligible students may now receive up to two consecutive Pell Grant awards during a single award year known as the First and Second Scheduled awards. Students who take advantage of this federal aid for summer courses can complete their college degree programs more quickly.

- For the First Scheduled Pell Grant (typically fall and spring), a student must:
  - Be Pell grant eligible;
  - Be enrolled at any enrollment status (full-time, ¾ time, ½ time or less than ½ time). If enrolled less than full-time in fall and spring, remaining Pell balance will be awarded in the summer semesters.

- For the Second Scheduled Pell Grant (summer), a student must:
  - Be Pell grant eligible;
  - Have received 100% of the First Scheduled Pell Grant award;
  - Be enrolled in at least six credit hours.
  - Have satisfactorily completed 24 hours in the fall and spring semester

Fall Information
The 2011-2012 FAFSA is available online. Students attending NMJC in the fall should apply as soon as possible at www.fafsa.gov.

The NMJC Foundation Scholarship Application is also available at www.nmjc.edu for the 2011-2012 school year. The deadline for the application is April 1st, 2011, and is due to the Foundation Office by 4:00 p.m.
**Calendar of Events • Spring 2011**

**GED TESTING DATES**
Retakes: April 18 @ 10 am; April 19 @ 10 am
Official: April 21 @ 8:30 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Room 145
Contact: Jerry Hamm, (575) 492-2592, jhamm@nmjc.edu

**NMJC STUDENT AWARDS CEREMONY**
April 19 @ 4:30 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. John Gratton, (575) 492-2763, jgratton@nmjc.edu

**CUSTOM STREET SIGNS** (NMJC student activity)
April 20 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

**GOOD FRIDAY** (Campus closed)
April 22

**NMJC COMMUNITY BAND SHOW TUNES CONCERT**
April 24 @ 3 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

**EXCEL ENERGY MADDOX GENERATING STATION FIELD TRIP**
Late April
Contact: Joel Keranen, (575) 492-2820, jkeranen@nmjc.edu

**NMJC ATHLETIC BANQUET**
April 26 @ 6 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: Don Worth, (575) 492-2741, dworth@nmjc.edu

**CASINO NIGHT** (NMJC student activity)
April 27 @ 7 pm - 10 pm
Caster Activity Center
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

**COMMUNITY CHORALE CONCERT**
April 28 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

**THUNDERBIRD BASEBALL vs Luna Community College**
April 29 @ 1 pm
Ray Birmingham Thunderbird Baseball Field
Contact: Josh Simpson, (575) 492-2753, jsimpson@nmjc.edu

**THUNDERBIRD BASEBALL vs New Mexico Military Institute**
April 9 @ 1 pm
Ray Birmingham Thunderbird Baseball Field
Contact: Josh Simpson, (575) 492-2753, jsimpson@nmjc.edu

**PAN AM CHAMPIONSHIPS: Managua, Nicaragua**
(Racquetball Tournament)
April 16-23
Del Norte Center
Contact: Linda Hall, (575) 392-6476, lhall@nmjc.edu

**PHI THETA KAPPA INDUCTION**
April 18 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium

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**GRADFEST**
March 14-18 @ 9 am - 3 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Bookstore
Contact: Elisa Autry, (575) 492-2597, eautry@nmjc.edu

**SPRING BREAK** (Campus closed)
March 21-25
Campuswide

**SLIDE IN CONCERT**
March 30 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

**CARICATURES** (NMJC student activity)
March 30 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

**THUNDERBIRD BASEBALL vs Midland College**
April 1 @ 12 noon
Ray Birmingham Thunderbird Baseball Field
Contact: Josh Simpson, (575) 492-2753, jsimpson@nmjc.edu

**GLASS ETCHINGS** (NMJC student activity)
April 6 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

**THUNDERBIRD BASEBALL vs New Mexico Military Institute**
April 9 @ 1 pm
Ray Birmingham Thunderbird Baseball Field
Contact: Josh Simpson, (575) 492-2753, jsimpson@nmjc.edu

**TIE-DYED T-SHIRTS** (NMJC student activity)
April 13 @ 10 am - 2 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

**PAN AM CHAMPIONSHIPS: Managua, Nicaragua**
(Racquetball Tournament)
April 16-23
Del Norte Center
Contact: Linda Hall, (575) 392-6476, lhall@nmjc.edu
COMmunity ChOrale CoNcерт
May 1 @ 7 pm
Hillcrest Baptist Church; Lovington, New Mexico
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

NMC Music Students’ Recital
May 2 @ 7 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Dr. Yau-Sun Wong, (575) 492-2844, yswong@nmjc.edu

MasseGe, Spa, & RElaxation Day (NMJC student activity)
May 4 @ 9 am - 9 pm
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Theatre Room
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

MidNighT Oil Study Sessions
May 4 & May 5 @ 7 pm - 12 am
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

Cinco De MayO Celebration
May 5 @ 12 noon
Ben Alexander Student Learning Center, Cafeteria
Contact: DeMond Thomas, (575) 492-2580, dthomas@nmjc.edu

COSMETOLOGY PINNING CEREMONY
May 7 @ 2 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Maria Vick, (575) 492-2850, mvick@nmjc.edu

RN Pinning CeremOnY
May 12 @ 7 - 8.30 pm
Watson Hall Auditorium
Contact: Delores Thompson, (575) 492-2519, dthompson@nmjc.edu

NMC CommencemEnt
May 13 @ 7 pm
Lea County Event Center
Contact: Dr. Michele Clingman, (575) 492-2575, mclingman@nmjc.edu

HoBbs Elementary Schools art EXHIBit
May 14
Western Heritage Museum & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

ANnuAL photography Competition & EXHIBit
May 19
Western Heritage Museum Complex & Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame
Contact: Mary Lyle, (575) 492-2679, mlyle@nmjc.edu

oPen HoUSE & dEdition CEREMony
May 19 @ 4 pm
Caster Activity Center
Contact: Vicki Vardeman, (575) 492-2781, vvardeman@nmjc.edu

NMC FOUNDATION Golf TOuRnament
June 4-5
Hobbs Country Club
Contact: Kim Latimer, (575) 492-2780, klatimer@nmjc.edu