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INSIDE TODAY



Painter's
perspective

Paradox is a recurring theme in painter Frederick Hammersley's work. Now in his 85th year, he retains a playful curiosity and appears quietly amused by the world. An exhibition of the artist's work opens Saturday at Charlotte Jackson Fine Art. **Pasatiempo, inside**



One and done

Lobos come up short in the opening round of the Mountain West Conference Tournament, falling to UNLV 55-53. **Sports, C-1**

COMING SUNDAY

Española shake-up

After decades, Española Mayor Richard Lucero's control of city politics is challenged by "new blood" councilors who defeated Lucero-backed candidates in the March 2 election. One of the first tasks for winners Joseph Maestas, Rosario "Chayo" Garcia, Alice Lucero and Dennis Tim Salazar will be changing who holds top jobs at City Hall.

Fraction of a vote

A proposal by four California legislators that the voting age be lowered to 14 has a catch that even backers balk at. Giving 14- and 15-year-olds only one-fourth of a vote and 16- and 17-year-olds one-half recalls a time when slaves were counted as three-fifths of a person, critics say. **Page B-5**

Today's forecast

Partly cloudy, High 54, low 29. **Page B-2**

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The West's
Oldest Newspaper

Five sections, 42 pages
Pasatiempo, 88 pages
155th year, Issue No. 72
Publication No. 596-440

Late paper: 984-0363
Classified ads: 986-3000
News tips: 986-3035



Abduction attempt was fourth in area

By GEOFF GRAMMER
The New Mexican

Tuesday's abduction attempt of a 13-year-old girl in southwest Santa Fe marked the fourth such attempt of a young girl in as many months.

Santa Fe police are investigating whether the four reported attempts — one in December, two in mid to late February and Tuesday's attempt — are connected in any way. Police Chief Beverly Lennen is asking residents throughout the city, but particularly in the area where Tuesday's attempt occurred near Capital High School, to be cautious and aware of their surroundings. They should use

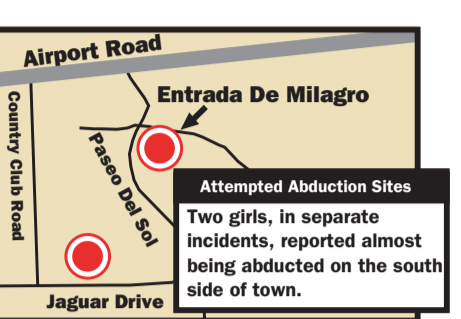
the buddy system when walking along trails and alert police to suspicious activity, she said.

Police received some tips Thursday about the two men involved in Tuesday's attempt, Lennen said, but no positive suspect identifications have been made.

The 13-year-old girl told police that around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, as she was walking home from a school function along a walking trail in Arroyo Sonrisa near the intersection of Jaguar Drive and Country Club Road, two men on all-terrain vehicles grabbed her by her backpack and tried pulling her into a nearby culvert away from the roadway. The feisty young girl apparently was "able to wiggle

her way out of her backpack" and run away, likely scaring the men off with her screams, Lennen said.

Residents near Arroyo Sonrisa gave police descriptions of two men seen on ATVs Tuesday evening that



matched the description given by the young girl.

The first man was described as having light hair, a medium to slim build

Please see **ABDUCTION**, Page A-7

Spain mourns deaths

The worst act of terrorism in Spain's history leaves nearly 200 dead and 1,400 injured



The Associated Press

Rescue workers cover up bodies alongside a bomb-damaged passenger train following a number of explosions in Madrid, Spain, just three days before Spain's general elections. Nearly 200 rush-hour commuters were killed and 1,400 were wounded in an attack that devastated the Spanish capital.

By TODD RICHISSIN
The Baltimore Sun

"Today all of Spain cries."

FERNANDO GONZALEZ
Madrid resident

MADRID, Spain — Fernando Gonzalez was apologetic Thursday, partly for his struggle to speak English but mostly for his tears, which he could not stop.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry," said the 37-year old truck driver, who lives in the capital's Atocha neighborhood, less than a mile from the train station of the same name, which took the brunt of 10 bombs that exploded Thursday. "I'm sorry," he said again, "but today all of Spain cries."

Thursday was a day of tears in a city known for its bright gaiety, a

day of trepidation in a city known for its optimism. In the city's cafes and restaurants, where red-eyed women and red-eyed men sat silently or talked in low voices, on the roads eerily missing the usual cacophony of car horns, in the neighborhood of Atocha, where people walking dogs stood and gazed at the station hit so hard there was an unmistakable deflation of people usually pumped so full of pride in their country.

"This is not like Spain," Gonzalez said, standing next to a bouquet of flowers left at the station. "What

Please see **SPAIN**, Page A-5



Two people injured in the explosion wait for help outside the Atocha train station.

Estate of deceased musician suing Carter

By STEVE TERRELL
The New Mexican

One year after Grammy-winning musician and record producer Howie Epstein died of a drug overdose, his family is suing his former girlfriend Carlene Carter — step-daughter of the late singer Johnny Cash and daughter of the late June Carter Cash — over the home they once shared in Tesuque.



Howie Epstein



Carlene Carter

In a lawsuit filed Tuesday in state District Court in Santa Fe, Epstein's estate is asking the court for permission to sell the home, which is the subject of a pending foreclosure.

Epstein, former bass player for Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers, died Feb. 24, 2003, at St. Vincent Hospital. An autopsy determined he died of cocaine and heroin poisoning.

The suit is asking a court to revoke Carter's right of first refusal to buy the property and then to sell the property and split the proceeds — taking into account money the suit claims Epstein or his estate has paid.

This, the suit says, would "avoid foreclosure, further deterioration of the property and permit the sale of the property to the benefit of the best interests of both the parties."

Carter, who left New Mexico for Nashville about two years ago, couldn't be reached

Please see **CARTER**, Page A-4

Downtown church hopes to raise money to build addition

By DOUG MATTSON
The New Mexican

First Presbyterian Church is New Mexico's oldest Protestant church, according to its pastor, but its longtime presence in downtown Santa Fe could be in jeopardy if the congregation can't pull together enough money for its planned \$6 million renovation.

The church has been downtown since its congregation formed in 1867. Its buildings at Grant Avenue and Griffin Street underwent several incarnations — from adobe to brick Victorian to John Gaw Meem designs built in 1939. The church has been deemed a historically significant structure — the same designation given the Palace of the Governors and St. Francis Cathedral.

On Thursday, after six years of bureaucratic and legal wrangling, the church cleared a final hurdle toward



Alberto Mares/The New Mexican

renovation when the Santa Fe Planning Commission granted it an extension, giving it until November to begin construction.

Afterward, the Rev. Sheila Gustafson

Please see **CHURCH**, Page A-4



Courtesy photo

This digital enhancement shows what the First Presbyterian Church in downtown Santa Fe would look like according to architectural plans by Lloyd and Associates.