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University of New Mexico Communication and Marketing Department

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UNM News Minute #497 – June 26, 2008

1. IN A RECENT DRINKING water quality report, the UNM Albuquerque Campus continues to have high quality tap drinking water due to the efforts of several departments including the Physical Plant Department, the New Mexico Environment Department and the Safety & Risk Services Department. The annual report titled, “Consumer Confidence Report” or “CCR,” that documents drinking water quality can be found at: http://risk.unm.edu/pdf/07_CCR_Drift_5.pdf. For more information on UNM drinking water visit: http://risk.unm.edu/environmental/drinkingWater.php.

2. UNM’S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS and Studies recently completed a successful first semester of a new study abroad program in Rome, Italy. Seven students participated in the Rome Program, described as a tiny branch campus. The program is designed specifically for UNM students to fulfill their core and degree requirements over a 16-week semester. http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003018.html#more

3. PAM HURD-KNIEF has been appointed as the senior director of Development for the University of New Mexico School of Engineering. Hurd-Knief has served in high-level development positions at UNM since 1999 and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in academic fundraising. http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003017.html#more

4. THE UNIVERSITY of NEW MEXICO Hospital is ranked third in the nation by Consumer Reports in providing conservative patient care in a study of more than 4.7 million Medicare patients at more than 2,800 hospitals. The report is based on a study conducted by Dartmouth Medical School from 2001-2005 that says treating patients conservatively results in patients spending fewer days in the hospital. http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003011.html#more

5. SOUTHEAST HEIGHTS community leaders will join top UNM Hospital management, UNM School of Medicine Leadership and City of Albuquerque officials on Saturday, June 28, at groundbreaking ceremonies for the expansion of the UNM Southeast Heights Center for Family and Community Health. http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=702

6. TWO UNM SCHOOL of Medicine students recently received notice they have been awarded research training awards from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Jessica Valdez received an HHMI-National Institutes of Health Research Scholars Program award, while Heidi Hillesland received a 2008-2009 Research Training Fellowship for Medical Students. The awards were part of an $11.1 million effort on behalf of HHMI to encourage students to become physician-scientists and support their early careers. http://hscapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=702
7. THE PEDIATRIC ORTHOPAEDIC Division of the UNM Carrie Tingley Hospital is participating in a new, multi-center study to find if bracing is effective in treating adolescent idiopathic scoliosis. A five-year, $4.9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health will fund the study at 13 medical centers in the U.S. 
http://hsccapp.unm.edu/calendar/output/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.release&EntryID=702

8. A COMCAST CABLE and Internet outage affecting the entire UNM Campus is scheduled for Friday, June 27. The outage, which is due to maintenance requirements, will last approximately 30 minutes between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m.

9. TERESA WILKINS WAS fascinated with weaving from childhood. Born in rural North Carolina, where textiles were a major industry, she picked up scraps of material from her grandfather’s mill and wove them on a small loom. Wilkins, an associate professor of anthropology at UNM-Gallup, is seeing the fruits of her lifelong interest now that her book, “Patterns of Exchange: Navajo Weavers and Traders,” has been published by the University of Oklahoma Press.
http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003010.html#more

10. NEW MEXICO IS EXPECTED to lose an estimated $100 million in federal funding between 2000 and 2012, due to undercounting in the 2000 decennial census. This week, “New Mexico In Focus” examines the 2000 census undercount’s impact in New Mexico, especially on children in New Mexico, and what is being done to ensure a more accurate Census in 2010. “New Mexico In Focus” will air on KNME-TV, channel 5, on Friday, June 27 at 7 p.m. and repeat on Sunday, June 29 at 6:30 a.m.
http://www.unm.edu/~market/cgi-bin/archives/003019.html#more