

SANTA FE/SOUTHWEST

NEW MEXICAN Santa Fe, N.M., Sunday, September 17, 1989



David Roybal Political Trail

Oil-industry official balks at methanol in gasoline

While Santa Feans fretted last week about the cost of their gasoline, a national spokesman for the oil industry was in town talking about clean air, government controls — and profitability of oil men.

Blush wants to cut harmful auto emissions 7 percent to 5 percent, and Himmelfarb said all men support that, but not by having methanol into people's gasoline.

He said the auto and oil industries ought to get time to redesign cars and to reformulate gasoline.

Gov. Carrey Carruthers knows U.S. Sen. Pete Domenici is a popular politician. But Carruthers also believes that Domenici and other congressmen have a jump on him when it comes to approval ratings.

Carruthers said he'd love to be able to say that Domenici is running for governor next year instead of for a fourth term in the Senate.

Legislators get to be advocates and problem solvers, but it's difficult for governors, Carruthers said.

One of three congressmen with high ratings as Democrat Rep. Bill Richardson of the state's northern district.

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Rainbow Coalition '89: Color it pale

Group's local ranks waning, members say

By DAVID ROYBAL The Santa Fe County Rainbow Coalition has lost 11,200 last spring for expenses and could better identify itself as a political force.

Richardson found the grassroots idealism inspired by two-time presidential candidate Jesse Jackson is influential that he wanted the group on his side as he worked his way through New Mexico's political world.

The Rainbow is going through a rebuilding process. There's an question about it, said Joe Andrews, a New Mexican appointed by Jackson in July to be the Rainbow's national executive director.

Collage — not restructuring — is a better term to describe what is occurring to the Rainbow in Santa Fe, said Don Bryfield, former chairman of the local group, which includes high-ranking Democrats.

Richardson said the poor response was because many county Democrats already are aligned with candidates in the 1990 primary and have little time to serve committees.

Bryfield said the Democratic Party is a sleeping giant and the Rainbow sought to awaken it. He became disillusioned though

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Joe Johnson Coalition's national executive director

others because of this. We had 13 activists, and we had about 50 people helping financially, and we had about 350 other people who were able to look forward," Bryfield said.

Registered Democrat customer Reynolds in Santa Fe County by four to one, but Bryfield said it is difficult to stir activity among Democrats.

Former Democratic Gov. Tony Anaya, who serves on the state advisory board of the Rainbow Coalition, has told a Democratic Party statewide that seemingly most be excluded for each election.

Santa Fe County Democratic Chairman Patricia Larraguirre recently mailed letters to his 193 central committee members to form standing committees. He received only 23 responses.

Larraguirre said the poor response was because many county Democrats already are aligned with candidates in the 1990 primary and have little time to serve committees.

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of the group's national restructuring. "What you're seeing now is the Rainbow going from a group of people who were always saying fight, fight, fight to a group that understands that it is not always in our best interest to be the permanent opposition," Johnson said.

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Dogcatchers



Donna McGuire, left, of a group called Prairie Dog Rescue, leads the effort to trap prairie dogs Saturday at Divisadero Junior High School. Helping McGuire carry traps and bait are her daughters, Ginger, 5, and Bill Short. Above, one of the four dogs captured Saturday awaits relocation from the school's football field to sacred land south of Santa Fe. The volunteers are working on weekends to trap and relocate the critters.

Newcomers on bench earning judicious marks

Judges hand down opinions on their eight-month tenures

By MARK C. UTGAARD The New Mexican Staff

Eight months after judges Joe Cruz Castellano and Stephen Herrera took their places on the Santa Fe District Court bench, the two men are receiving good marks.

Castellano, a former district attorney and Democrat, opened an incumbent Republican judge in the November election by a narrow margin, despite the heavy Democratic voting edge in the district.

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SANTA FE DISTRICT COURT JUDGES



There are potentially 50 percent of attorneys and litigants out there who are dissatisfied with my decisions. In every case, there is a winner and a loser.



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Herrera is more surprised by what the first eight months on the job have brought. Though he spent four years as a federal magistrate judge, it didn't prepare him for the experience of being a district judge.

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