READING, WRITING AND COMMUNICATING

Activities reinforce Colorado Academic Standards using e-editions of the Denver Post.

ACTIVITY ONE

Article: Bolt out of the blue, *Sun., May 12, Sports, page 1C*

● The following selection is from the article. Underline conjunctions.

Some days, his shoes go untied. It's not so much a problem now — hey, he's a high school senior, he doesn't have to tie his shoes if he doesn't want to — but it drove his mother crazy when he was a toddler.

And so, when Denton Keys was much younger and much smaller than his 6-foot-4, 200-pound frame now, a frustrated Tonya Keys sat down with her boy to watch him tie his shoes.

"He did everything backward," Tonya said. "I'm like, 'What are you doing?' And he's like, 'I'm trying to tie them like you showed me, Mommy.'

"So I looked, and I'm like, 'Ohhh, you start with your left hand.' "

It was a revelation in the Keys household: Denton was left-handed. Denton's father, Doyle, wasn't happy. As a former basketball coach, all he could think about was Denton having an unorthodox shooting stroke.

No matter. Denton grew into a terrific basketball player, albeit with a funky shot. But he's become an even better left-handed pitcher, one who possesses a 91-mph fastball with devastating movement. No high school player in Colorado has more pro scouts at his games.

And this summer, the Rye star will have to make a big decision: Sign with the Major League Baseball team that drafts him in June or enroll at the University of Kansas.

● Which of the following, as used in the article, is an adjective meaning "breaking with convention or tradition"?
   ○ frame   ○ revelation
   ○ unorthodox   ○ decision

● Write a complete sentence correctly using each of the words in the preceding answer selection.

● Where is Rye, Colorado. Write a description of where Rye is located. Refer to the map on the weather page for additional references.

ACTIVITY TWO

Article: Freshman wins title with ease, *Sun., May 12, Sports, page 13C*

● Write a description of the emotions displayed in the photo of Becca Weissmann.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

ACTIVITY THREE

Article: Soaked in sales, *Sun., May 12, Business, p. 1K*

Answer the following based on the content of the article.

● What company started by harvesting Colorado beetle-kill and converting the dead trees into pellets for affordable home heating?

_____
_____
_____

● What interfered with the success of this biomass and alternative-energy business?

_____
_____
_____

● What new use of the pellets is business owner, Mark Mathis, pursuing and what is the name of the product?

_____
_____
_____

● How is business going for Mr. Mathis?

_____
_____
_____

May 12, 2013

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ANSWERS

ACTIVITY ONE

unorthodox

Answers will vary.

Answers will contain reference to southern Colorado, Pueblo, mountains, front range, etc.

ACTIVITY TWO

Answers will vary.

ACTIVITY THREE

Confluence Energy started by harvesting Colorado beetle-kill and converting the dead trees into pellets for affordable home heating

The price of oil dropped making it more affordable and mild winters decreased demand for heating.

The new use for biodegradable beetle-kill product is to clean up oil, gas and solvent spills better and cheaper than clay-based products currently being used. The product's name is Eco-Sponge.

The company is experiencing strong sales across the country.

Colorado Academic Standards

Reading, Writing and Communicating
Standard 2: Demonstrate comprehension of a variety of information, literary, and persuasive texts
2. Comprehension and fluency matter when reading informational and persuasive texts in a fluent way
b. Use Craft and Structure to
i. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area
Standard 3: Students write and speak using conventional grammar, usage, sentence structure, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling
Benchmarks
- Knowing and using subject/verb agreement;
- Knowing and using correct modifiers;
- Knowing and using correct capitalization, punctuation, and abbreviations; and
- Spelling frequently used words correctly using phonics rules and exceptions.