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September



1 The Denver Zoo's four three-month-old Amur tiger cubs can be seen romping around their outside habitat.

2 Coach George Karl announces that he will be back to coach the Nuggets next season after beating cancer for the second time.

3 A Taste of Colorado takes over Civic Center Park.



4 The University of Colorado football Buffs square off against the Colorado State University Rams at Invesco Field; CU enters the game an 11.5-point favorite and crushes CSU 24-3.

6 A fire ignites in Fourmile Canyon and rages for seven days, destroying 169 structures and nearly 6,200 acres of land — \$217 million in insurance claims are expected to be filed.

8 Gov. Bill Ritter appoints a gay, Latina lawyer, Monica Marquez, to the Colorado Supreme Court.

16 The Great American Beer Festival opens, serving more than 2,200 different brews to nearly 50,000 people over the next three days.



18 After 23 years and \$2.1 billion, Environmental Protection Agency officials are transferring the final 2,500 acres of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to become a national wildlife refuge.

19 The Denver Broncos beat the Seattle Seahawks 31-14 in their home opener after a loss on the road in week one.



Oprah Winfrey Show promoting educational documentary *Waiting for Superman*.

20 Broncos wide receiver Kenny McKinley, 23, is found dead in his apartment, apparently having taken his own life.

22 Cirque du Soleil meets the rodeo as *Cavalia* opens under the big top on the grounds of the Pepsi Center.

3 50,000 people wear pink in the Race for the Cure to raise money for breast cancer awareness.

6 A Montana woman drives to Loveland, hides a crowbar under her sweater, and uses it to destroy *The Misadventures of the Romantic Cannibals* by Enrique Chagoya, a multipanel artwork that appears to show Jesus Christ in a sex act.

8 Nearly two inches of snow falls on Loveland Pass overnight, prompting thoughts of winter, which are dashed by another two months of warm temperatures.

9 Arvada resident Jeff Hart, one of four Colorado men boring the hole, operates the drill as it breaks through the chamber of the Chilean mine that had trapped 33 men for more than two months, step one in their rescue.

12 Former Denver Broncos quarterback John Elway is one of approximately 65 investors swindled out of massive sums of money by hedge-fund manager Sean Mueller; the criminal case is filed.

12 Filmmaker Davis Guggenheim is in town for a screening of his new film, *Waiting for Superman*, a criticism of education in the United States. He calls the passing of Senate Bill 191, regarding teacher evaluation, in Colorado, "the singular best news I have heard this year anywhere in the U.S."

17 Republican Senate candidate Ken Buck compares homosexuality to alcoholism during a nationally televised debate.

20 Former University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill, who blamed 9/11 on unlawful U.S. policy and was fired in 2007 for "academic misconduct," asks the Colorado Court of Appeals on Wednesday to give him his job back.

24 The Broncos lose to the dreaded Raiders 59-14, an Oakland franchise record for points scored and a Denver tie for points allowed.

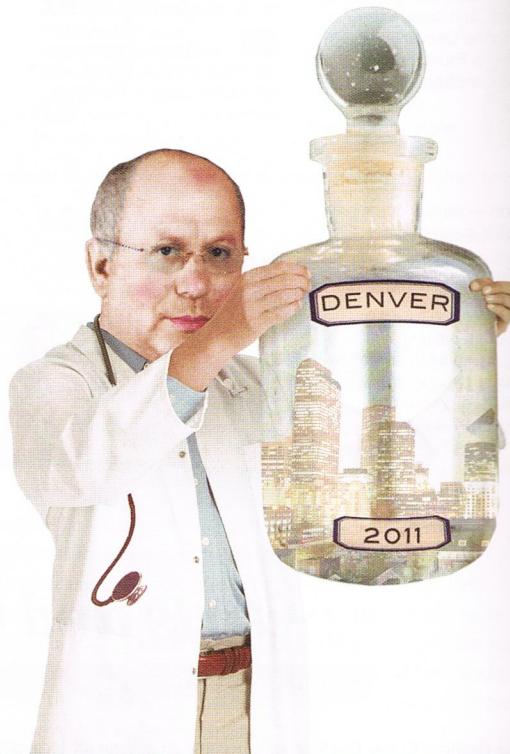


25 Loveland opens with one run, the first ski area in the state to get the lifts going.

27 The Nuggets, with Carmelo Anthony still on the roster, beat the Utah Jazz 110-88 in their season opener.



28 Local fashion designer Mondo Guerra comes in second on the season finale of *Project Runway*.



A LOOK AHEAD TO 2011

Medicine

Denver is one of the healthiest cities in the nation with good reason: We eat right and exercise. But Coloradans also have access to pioneers in the health sciences who are looking at disease prevention as the best method of treatment. "It's far easier for us to prevent a big health disaster," says Dr. Floyd Russak, medical director for East West Health Centers in Greenwood Village, "than it is to treat it once it happens."

At the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, infectious disease specialist Dr. Amie Meditz is working on a drug called Truvada, a once-daily pill that may prevent HIV transmission. Truvada is currently in the clinical-research stage, and it may be cleared by the FDA for public distribution in late 2011 (although that is a best-case scenario).

"That we are working on microbicides [like Truvada] and that there are better drug treatments for HIV than there were even five years ago give me hope that and immunization may be possible in our lifetime," says Meditz, "but we still have so much more to learn about the virus."

"It is important to understand the process of diseases and not [solely] what happens as a result of it," says Dr. Isaac Melamed, immunologist at the IMMUNOE Health and Research Centers. Increasingly, people are realizing the body is the sum of its parts — with the immune system as the keystone — meaning that preventing breakdown is good medicine.

"We look at things like allergies and gastroenteritis as a result of an immune response and form a treatment plan that addresses the root cause instead of the symptoms," says Melamed. But what about diseases with a genetic component? Genomics was once an expensive form of genetic testing, but insurance companies are beginning to allow testing as a diagnostic tool.

"We are doing these tests now to find out whether a patient has a disease and needs to take preventative measures. But we can also see if they will respond to certain medications — whereas before it was a shot in the dark, trial and error," says Russak. "I believe this will completely change how we treat diseases and give people their health back sooner."

— Chelsy Woods Klein