

The Rockies Neo-Nazi hints of conspiracy

Associated Press
DENVER — One of the men connected with the slaying of a neo-Nazi group — one now dead, Denver radio talk show host Alan Berg has talked to the FBI about the involvement of former Denver Ku Klux Klan figure David Lane in the crimes, according to court records.

The statement by Bruce Carroll Pierce surfaced Wednesday in court documents filed in U.S. District Court in Seattle, copies of which were obtained by the Rocky Mountain News. It is the first time that an accused member of a group tied to the crime spree has talked

to authorities about another's activities, the News said.
Lane is one of five members of a neo-Nazi group — one now dead, accused of taking part in Berg's slaying in Denver on June 18, 1984. Pierce, who gave the statement about Lane shortly after his March 26 arrest near Chattanooga, Tenn., visits now to restate it because, according to his attorney, he was drugged and coerced by federal authorities before he talked.
Lane, Pierce and 21 other alleged members of a racist group have been charged in a lengthy indictment in Seattle with racketeering and conspiracy in connection with

several robberies, counterfeiting, weapons violations and three murders, including Berg's. Another member was charged in San Francisco.
Michael Roark, Pierce's attorney, said his client's statement the day after his arrest should not be allowed because he "was extremely upset, under medication, prescribed by the authorities, and disoriented."
Roark said in his suppression motion in Seattle that FBI agents also told Pierce he could avoid having his wife charged with criminal offenses if he talked.
Julie Pierce was arrested the day



David Lane

Synfuels fund battle escalates

Mary Louisa Shinn
Berg, John Diegel, D. Mick, will attempt to dissolve the Synthetic Fuels Corp. through an amendment to the Interior Appropriations Bill as the U.S. House floor next week, said Bob Richardson, chairman of the Garfield County Board of Commissioners.

Richardson is in Washington this week with Jim Evans, director of the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado, lobbying for confunds.

A key vote that could kill the amendment was scheduled at 2 p.m. Washington time in the House Rules Committee, Richardson said this morning. Rep. Claude Pepper, D-Fla., is chairman of the committee, which will decide whether the amendment can properly be added to the bill.

Richardson said the two Western Colorado men learned Wednesday that Diegel's amendment will be an attempt to add the "Wolpe-Snyder bill, which dissolves the Synfuels Corp., transfers existing projects to the Department of Energy and limits funds for synfuels development to \$500 million.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee has approved the Wolpe-Snyder bill, but it has not yet gone to the House floor, and Diegel's amendment attempt will be a shortcut to House action on the bill, Richardson said. He doesn't know which day the appropriations bill is scheduled for debate.



Waiting across America

Ginry and Duke Hatcher pause on U.S. Highway 34 in Greeley during their walk across the country. No great humanitarian cause is compelling them to hit the road. Every year since 1978, the Reading, Pa., couple spend their summer vacations, a week or two at a time, walking west toward the Pacific Ocean. Each summer, they pack up where they left off the year before.

BLM mismanaged wilderness, environmental groups assert

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Bureau of Land Management has improperly allowed 194 disturbances of western land supposed to be left wild until decisions can be made on permanent designation as wilderness, according to two environmental groups.

Activities permitted over a five-year period include road building, construction of water pipelines, off-road vehicle racing, mining and exploration for oil and gas, the Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club said Tuesday in a joint statement.

The two groups said they were using data submitted by the Interior Department to the public lands subcommittee of the House Interior Committee. Interior Secretary Donald Hodel is scheduled to testify

before the subcommittee today. In all, the 818 parcels of land the bureau is supposed to reserve for possible wilderness designation suffered 1,855 disturbances, of which 201 were unauthorized, between 1979 and April 1985, the two groups said.

Terry Sopher of the Wilderness Society said the 1978 legislation bringing bureau land under the wilderness system required management of areas being studied as "not to impair their wilderness suitability."

"We say any substantial surface disturbance impairs wilderness suitability," Sopher said.
The bureau, however, permits activities it believes will not permanently degrade the land, spokeswoman Elizabeth Morris said her agency was "fully implementing

the congressional directive under which study areas are protected pending final congressional decisions."

There have been "some impairing activities, but there are certain activities the law allows." The bureau "responds to any violation and demands rehabilitation where appropriate," she said.
Sopher said his analysis excluded legally permitted activities, such as mineral development on derelict held before 1978.

The two groups said the bureau was being unnecessarily stingy with wilderness recommendations, having selected for further study only 20 million acres — or 18 percent of the land area of the 818 parcels.
The bureau is supposed to finish making recommendations to Congress about its land by 1991.

Denver airport to get \$25 million facelift

Associated Press
DENVER — Stapleton International Airport will get a \$25 million facelift during the next few years as it can operate efficiently until a replacement airport is built on nearby Adams County land, officials said Wednesday.

The goal is to brighten the airport's drab atmosphere and make it easier for people to find their way through the labyrinth of the air-

port's sixth-largest airport. Officials don't think the price, to be paid from airport revenues, is too high, even though Stapleton is scheduled to be abandoned if a proposed new airport opens within the next 10 years.

"Our major concern is that the airport run efficiently for the remainder of the decade," Mayor Policastro said. "But we do not want to put inordinate amounts of

money into the airport which would not be wise investments now given the fact that we're building a new airport."

Brewer plans to construct a large airport east of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, on 17 square miles. The proposed remodeling at Stapleton includes relocating escalators so people riding them will arrive directly at the entrance to each concourse.

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