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NEXT CPAC MEETING:

The next meeting of the Colorado Potato Administrative Committee (area II) will be held **March 18th, at 7:30pm**, in the CPAC office conference room.

DOUG MONTER SCHOLARSHIP

Graduating male seniors should contact their school counselor for information and an application regarding this annual CPAC scholarship.

CPAC IN WASHINGTON, DC

The National Potato Council's Board of Directors from Colorado just returned from attending NPC meetings and visiting our state representatives on Capitol Hill. The Colorado group met with 9 members of the Colorado congressional delegation. The priority Issues for the 2010 Public Policy Conference were: obtaining access for fresh potatoes to all of Mexico, resolving the Mexican trucking ban and removing the retaliatory tariffs put in place by Mexico, securing funding for potato breeding research and USDA Market Access Program export development funding, allowing additional axles and increased weight limits for trucks operating on federal highways, and removing the exclusion of potatoes from the WIC voucher program. The group also had meetings with the EPA and USDA representatives.

NPC LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

This program has evolved over the years into possibly one of the elite leadership programs of its type in the country. Thanks to this year participants' Reagan Bush and Andrew Houser who did an outstanding job in the program.

NEW CPAC BOARD MEMBERS

Alamosa Cty; Hunter Sessums, Warren Rytting

Conejos Cty; Tom Ford, Gilbert Fransen Rio Grande Cty; Ron Crowther, Roger Mix Saguache Cty; Kent Palmgren, Kent Price Bulk Ship; Miguel Diaz, Eric Bothell Handlers; Mike Mitchell, David Tonso, Greg Metz & Dwayne Weyers. Thanks to these dedicated representatives for the time and support they give the SLV potato Industry.

RAFFLE

At the SLV Ag Conference CPAC sponsored a raffle for a Ruger Rifle with a Nikon 4.5-14x40 scope provided with the assistance of Valley Gun Service and ½ caret black diamond necklace provided with the assistance of Gemfire Diamonds. The rifle was won by Mike Mitchell, Monte Vista; the necklace was won by Glenna Mitchell, Monte Vista. The \$2870 in proceeds from the Raffle went to POPAC, an extremely important group aiding the entire potato industry.

CRANE FESTIVAL BOOTH -HELP

CPAC will have a booth at the Crane Festival on March 12-14 and we will be selling potatoes and giving information about our industry. Anyone wanting to work in the booth during the festival please contact the office. Visitors to the SLV are also interested in the Potato Industry and enjoy visiting with and learning from growers.

POTATO SEED LAW UPDATE

SB10-072 passed third reading on February 26th and was introduced in the House on March 2nd. It has been referred to the House Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources committee. Please contact Jim if you have any questions.

MEXICAN MARKET UPDATE

This issue is a top priority for the industry. Congressman John Salazar and several other members of congress have requested a

meeting with Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack to discuss the options for achieving full market access for fresh potatoes to Mexico. NPC board members from across the nation stressed the importance of this effort to their legislators last week when visiting Washington. USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Edward Avalos spoke to the NPC delegation on February 23rd about his commitment to increasing access to the Mexican market and promised to keep it as an “every Monday morning” priority. Also US potato industry officials will be working with APHIS for the next month to draft comments on the global Mexican potato pest list that was made public by Mexico on January 29. APHIS and industry will review each pest for its status in the US and provide guidance as to whether the pest is of concern on fresh potatoes exported for consumption. Comments are due to Mexico on the draft global pest list by April 29.

EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE

CPAC is seeking interested volunteers to assist in developing potato and farm educational curriculum and materials. Judy Lopez will be spear heading the effort. Please contact the CPAC office if you are interested or have questions.

SOLAR POWER FOR POTATO STORAGE

Owen Walcher of Nth Degree Solar Energy is offering a presentation on solar powering potato storages on March 16th at 9:00 a.m. at the CPAC office. Representatives from the SLV REC will also be on hand. Please R.S.V.P. the office by March 15th if you will attend.

MEETING CALENDAR:

Mar. 10-12th USPB Annual Meeting
 Mar 12-14 Crane Festival
 Mar. 18th CPAC Monthly Meeting
 Apr15th CPAC Monthly Meeting

FEBRUARY SPUD FACTS

		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Shipments	480 cwt equivalent	2901	2780	3003	3296	3164
Reds	percentage of crop	2.1	2.1	2.3	2.7	2.7
All Russet Varieties	percentage of crop	86.7	87.4	85.1	81.9	81.9
Yellow Varieties	percentage of crop	7.3	7.4	6.0	0.7	5.4
Other Varieties	percentage of crop	4.0	3.2	6.6	14.6	9.1
U.S. No. 1	percentage of crop	57.8	61.6	63.9	60.0	62.0
U.S. No. 2	percentage of crop	5.6	6.7	6.6	6.1	7.7
U.S. Commercial Grade	percentage of crop	31.7	27.4	24.9	27.1	26.7
Seed	percentage of crop	4.9	4.2	4.6	6.7	3.6
Bulk	percentage of crop	43.0	37.4	34.5	40.7	38.0
Total rail shipments		76	52	29.8	279	62
Total truck shipments (fresh)		2711	2451	2764	2782	2819
Total truck shipments (processing)		114	278	210	235	283
Total shipments for the year to date		17902	17170	18847	19071	20047

Average F.O.B. prices for February (Per 50 lb. carton or bale unless noted)

		<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Reds	U.S. #1 2½ -3½	n/a	n/a	14.40	n/a	11.31
Reds	U.S. #1 size B	n/a	18.40	n/a	n/a	13.50
Yellows	#5 bales	n/a	13.70	9.75	n/a	10.71
All Russets	U.S. #1, non-size A/A	4.37	7.79	6.26	5.75	6.16
All Russets	U.S. #2 (2007-50#,10#pack)	3.37	6.55	4.89	4.75	9.21
All Russets	10 oz. Minimum	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bulk Russets	U.S. Commercial Grade 100 lbs	4.76	10.80	9.64	7.38	9.01

