

Since 1891

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Photos by Sunnie Sacks

Above: Matt Parker tries to find roads that aren't paved so he doesn't have to deal with traffic.

Left: Parker saddles up for another day on the trail, riding from Guffey to Cripple Creek.

On the trail to adventure ... riding the American Discovery Trail

By Sunnie Sacks

"I always harbored a desire to see the country this way", said 24 year-old Matt Parker of his 5,000 journey across the United States on horseback. Parker is determined to be the first person to ride on horseback the 5,000-mile American Discovery Trail that passes through 15 states, 14 national parks, 16 national forests and more than 10,000 significant historical, cultural and natural sites.

Last year the Ann Arbor, Michigan resident started his journey in Sacramento, Calif., traveled through Nevada and

crossed most of Utah before reaching the Canyonlands in Utah. He had traveled 1,000 miles and with snow falling in the Rockies, decided to resume his adventure in the spring or summer.

Starting again on June 13, Parker reached Guffey on Wednesday, July 28. Welcomed with food, lodging and stables for his horse, Little Face, and mule, Danny Boy, Parker took a two-day breather. "Guffey is very nice and the people are friendly," Parker said.

With no guaranteed place

See TRAIL, page 9