



Your choice of the opera or gambling is available at Central City.

the unique community of **Boulder**, where the New Age is old news, the stunning **Flatirons** tempt rock climbers, and everyone seems impossibly healthy. The magnificent **Rocky Mountain National Park** [(970) 586-1206] is northwest of

Denver, about 70 miles away. And, of course, ski areas abound, including **Loveland** [(800) 736-3754], less than an hour from Denver; **Keystone**, about an hour-and-a-half trip; **Aspen/Snowmass** [(800) 923-8920]; and **Vail** [(800) 525-3875], all farther away but great to visit whether you ski the slopes or just admire the scenery.

Mountain visitors also enjoy snowshoeing, snowmobiling, or just strolling through such historic towns as **Georgetown**, a picturesque village of Victorian-era structures [(800) 472-8230]; **Golden**, home to the **Colorado Railroad Museum** [(800) 365-6263]; the **Colorado School of Mines Geology Museum** [(303) 273-3815]; and the **Coors Brewing Company**, which conducts free tours of its plant concluding with free sam-ples of its brew [(303) 277-2337].

Bring extra coins for the one-armed bandits in Colorado's gambling destinations: **Black Hawk** and **Central City**, tucked into the foothills west of Denver, and, heading south in the state, **Cripple Creek**. Central City is also known for the **Central City Opera House**, which has performances only in the summer, but welcomes visitors to view its Victorian interior year-round; ask for a tour at the Teller House casino [(303) 279-3200].

South of Denver are the stunning red rock formations of the **Garden of the Gods** in Colorado Spring—an enthralling sight [(719) 634-6666]. The garden can be enjoyed in any weather, since there are paved roads for autos that wind through the red rocks.

Like most places in the United States, Colorado has unpredictable weather patterns

in March, the month of the ACRL conference. Multiply that unpredictability factor by about ten in Colorado! It's a sunny state—even in the winter—and has more sunny days year-round than Miami, Florida, or San Diego, California.

To illustrate the variability of Denver weather, here are two historic weather reports from March 19: in 1997 there was a high of 71 degrees while in 1998 Denver temperatures topped out at 30 degrees accompanied by 5 inches of snow. The "normal" daytime temperatures in March are in the 50s (which, with low humidity, feels delightful) but can drop 20 degrees or more at night. Wear layers and check the forecast before you arrive.

Let's see—did I mention line dancing, the **Museum of Natural History**, the **Black American West Museum and Heritage Center**, the **Denver Botanic Gardens**, and the **Denver Zoo**? Well, I've barely begun to brag but even the self-appointed mayor of Denver must stop at some point and let you roam on your own. ■

## Letter to the editor

It was so refreshing to read Jennifer W. Kimball's "Remember when you were information illiterate?" in the July/August 1999 issue of *C&RL News*.

All too often we overestimate the level of awareness that students and faculty have about doing research, especially with the technological enhancements that have impacted our delivery of information resources.

At our community college, the percentage of students who do not use a computer regularly and are not connected to the Internet is higher than those who do. Staff and faculty who may use a computer daily to process student enrollments or prepare purchase requisitions may not be at all familiar or comfortable with "surfing on the Web."

Kimball's article was especially useful to me as I developed the course I am teaching this fall for faculty and staff: Information Literacy in an Information-Overloaded World.—*Charlet Key, Black Hawk College, e-mail: keyc@Bhc1.bhc.edu*