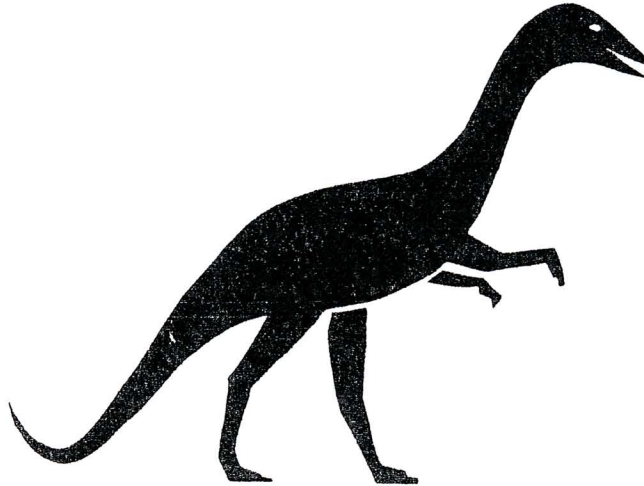


COELOPHYSIS

(see 'lofy' 'sis)

DINOSAUR



Name the Dinosaur Contest Underway

LOS LUNAS — "Let's Keep Our Bones at Home" is the slogan of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History Fund Raising Committee, and to promote construction of the museum, committee members are soliciting the help of school children who are in grades one through nine.

In order to bring its message to New Mexicans and also to help children get involved in the beginning of the museum, the committee is sponsoring a "Name the Coelophysis Dinosaur" (pronounced 'see'-lofy-sis.) Contest.

The Coelophysis was a very early dinosaur, living in New Mexico about 200 millions years ago. It had short forelegs, with grasping four-fingered, clawed hands. Three of the "fingers" had talon-like claws. It had

sharp, tearing little teeth; was no more than eight feet long, half of which was tail; and weighed only 50 to 60 pounds.

Judging from its light, hollow bones (Coelophysis means "hollow form."), the dinosaur ran rapidly on birdlike hind legs in New Mexico's warm, moist climate.

Complete skeletons of Coelophysis were found in 1947 at Ghost Ranch in northern New Mexico.

The rules of the contest are as follows:

1. The contest is open to students in grades 1 through 9.
2. All entries must be written by the student at home or in school.
3. The illustrated poem or composition of 200 words or less must contain the name of the dinosaur at least three

times. Only one entry per student will be judged.

4. Entries must be post-marked by midnight, March 15. All winners will be announced statewide April 18.

5. Entries must include the students name, grade, teacher, school and school address, plus home telephone number on the back of the entry.

6. Entries must be mailed to:

The Fund Raising
Committee
The New Mexico
Museum of Natural
History
P.O. Box 7010

Albuquerque, N.M. 87194

7. All entries become the sole property of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History.

First prize is a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond for the student and a dinosaur trophy for his or her school. Second

prize is a \$75 Savings Bond for the student, and third prize is a \$50 bond for the student.

The museum is an offshoot of the 1980 Legislature, which appropriated \$8 million to help build the facility. Since then, the City of Albuquerque has donated the site for the museum, and Aubrey Dunn of Alamogordo has been appointed by Gov. Bruce King to head raising the remaining \$2 million needed for the museum's completion.

Recent legislative action in Santa Fe led to passage of a bill that made the Coelophysis the state's official fossil.

Children in both the Los Lunas and Belen public school systems are busily preparing their entries now, helping the state fund raising group "Keep Our Bones at Home."

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