

# Sands of Time

by Jennaye Derge

In a section of Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, just west of Cortez near the end of McElmo Canyon, lies Sand Canyon. This time of year, the nearby desertscape is busy with Durangoans and other city slickers looking for a respite from the hustle bustle of everyday life. A bike ride, horse ride or hike should suffice in offering a temporary escape among beautiful sandstone towers, ancient archeological sites and breathtaking vistas. If nothing else, you may walk away with a nice “base” to that summer tan.



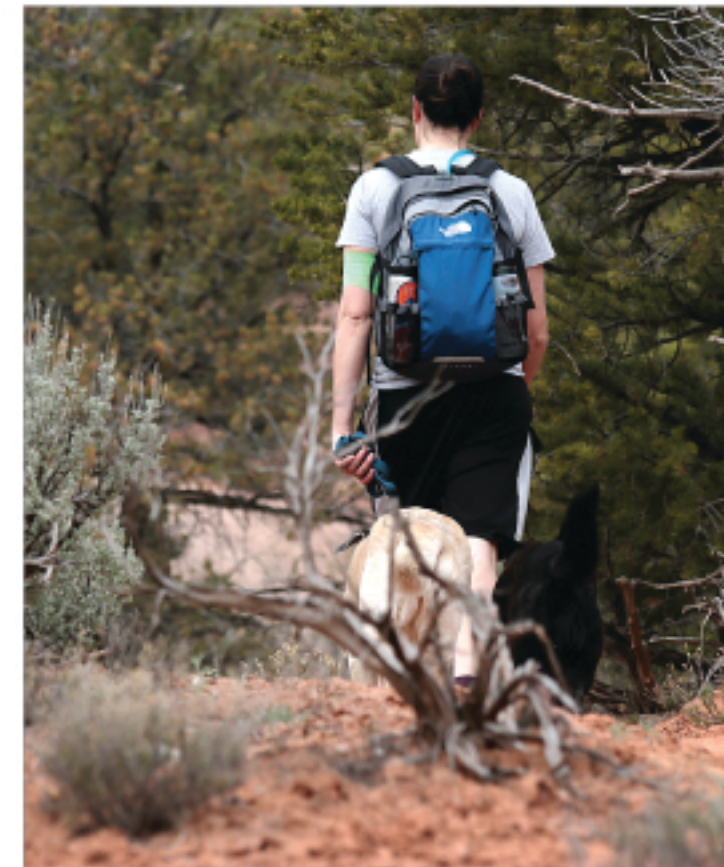
A thin cloud cover and the afternoon sun conspire to create a halo effect over this sandstone spire.



Green flora creates a nice contrast to the muted earthtones.



Classic Southwest Colorado vistas await behind virtually every a canyon wall.



An afternoon away from the city with only your thoughts and, of course, your best friend.