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Athanasius, LLC
P.O. Box 472467 Aurora, CO 80047-2467
www.sevenoxpress.com info@sevenoxpress.com
phone 720-207-2867 toll-free 1-888-433-6094 fax 720-207-9397

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Contact: Le Lourdes 720-207-2867, le.lourdes@sevenoxpress.com

HISTORIC DODGE CITY COMES TO LIFE IN NEW NOVEL

Dodge City of 1877 serves as the wide open gate for cattle, and men and women, in P. A. Ritzer's new historical novel *Seven Ox Seven; Part One: Escondido Bound*. And Ritzer will be signing copies of his book during Dodge City Days, at the Dodge City Hastings on Saturday, August 4th, beginning at 2:00 pm.

There is something of the cowboy way in Ritzer's creation of this story. Responding to an inner call, Ritzer quit his job, bought a tent and a laptop computer, and struck out across the Great Plains into the legendary American West. In Dodge City, he began to tread the ground that his characters Tom Schurtz and Luke Stuart would have trod generations before. From Dodge, these cowboys return to Texas, join Luke's family and a friend, and strike out for the frontier.

In this way, seven souls risk everything on a life-changing gamble in *Seven Ox Seven*. Pulling away from all things familiar, they venture into a strange land, seek a mysterious canyon (which may not exist), and face whatever the frontier of 1877 will throw at them. The age-old quest for home lies behind this radical disruption of their lives.

As the seven journey, a unique communion develops among them. Together they face the challenges of the trail and a search that could well end in disappointment. Still, their gravest trials will be served up by a singular agent of evil who will commit his powers, physical and spiritual, to their destruction. Will their communal integrity, and the personal integrity of each one, withstand these assaults.

Ritzer's own western odyssey lends a certain authenticity to *Seven Ox Seven*. He knows the day to day journey into the unknown, the nights in darkened campsites, the concern about provisions, the seeking for that which may not be attained. Ritzer also brings extensive research to his story and a background in history (Gonzaga University--BA), and theology (Harvard University, University of Notre Dame--MA), and over ten years instructing in those subjects.

Seven Ox Seven; Part One: Escondido Bound can be ordered from Seven Ox Press, Athanasius, LLC, P.O. Box 472467, Aurora, CO 80047-2467; 720-207-2867, toll free 888-433-6094, fax 720-207-9397, orders@sevenoxpress.com. Price \$26.95. For more information visit sevenoxpress.com.

Title: <i>Seven Ox Seven</i>	Category: Fiction/Historical; Fiction/Westerns
Subttl: <i>A Story of Some Ways in the West</i>	Size/Binding: 6 x 9 Hardcover
Vol Ttl: <i>Escondido Bound</i>	Pages: 688
Auth: P. A. Ritzer	Retail Price: \$26.95
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