## **Cingular Rings in with Upgrades**

## By KAREN VIGIL

THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Cingular Wireless, the nation's largest wireless carrier, has invested more than \$160 million in Colorado over the past two years to extend network coverage and enhance quality for customers throughout the state.

In addition to its significant network investment, Cingular now employs more than 250 people throughout Colorado.

The company's expanded cell site activity has resulted in more than 50 additional workers being utilized by outside contractors to turn up these new facilities.

In May 2006, the company broke ground for a new call center in Pueblo, which is expected to take its first call on Dec. 4, according to Cingular spokesman Richard Abels.

When fully staffed, the Pueblo call center will employ up to 500 people, Abels said.

Between May 2005 and October 2006, the company completed and placed into service a total of 145 new Colorado cell sites to support increased voice and data usage in its network coverage.

"Cingular Wireless has always been committed to building the best network for its customers and we are proud to announce we are delivering on that promise," said Sue Knox, vice president of Cingular's Colorado-based Rocky Mountain region. "All of these cell sites are operational, providing enhanced voice and data service to our customers."

There are 25 new cell sites that have improved coverage and call quality throughout the Southern Colorado area from the Air Force Academy, throughout the central business district, south to Fort Carson, along the corridors of U.S. 24 and Colorado 83, as well as in Pueblo.