

### **The numbers are in and total participation at this year's MerleFest reached 76,558.**

While that was a 4.6 decrease from last year, media spokesman Art Menius was anything but troubled. The economic impact for the High Country far outweighed the decrease. In fact, according to a preliminary estimate, the regional impact of MerleFest 2007 sets a record with a total impact of \$17,144,109.70. If you missed this year's music, fear not. MerleFest will be back next April 24 through 27, 2008.