

INSIDE: Faith, athletics collide for sophomore Soroco High School track star Chloe Veilleux • page 13

Gondola opening postponed

Tom Ross
STEAMBOAT TODAY

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

The summer opening of Steamboat Ski Resort's refurbished gondola, and with it, the opening of the new Outlaw Mountain Coaster at the ski area, have been pushed back to July 15, meaning they won't be in play during the busy Fourth of July week.

That also means cyclists won't be able to access the trails on the upper mountain via the gondola.

Asked if setbacks on either the gondola work or on the coaster were causing the delay, Steamboat Ski and Resort Corp. spokesperson Loryn Kasten attributed the new projected opening date to a combination of challenging construction work and adverse weather.

"It's the complexity of construction, some variable spring weather and that awesome (snow) storm last week, but it really comes down to construction," Kasten said. "There's still a lot of work to be done on the coaster, and the gondola is just moving forward."

Kasten reports the new 18-hole Maverick mini-golf course is still on pace for a June 30 opening, along with an expanded urban ropes course that will be built outside Gondola Square near Burgess Creek.

There's also a new concept for Steamboat in the form of summer tubing — no, not in Burgess Creek but down twin plastic tracks that will operate adjacent to the Easy Rider magic carpet lift at the bottom of the ski trails.

Although downhill bikers who use specialized bike racks attached to the gondola cable to take their cycles to the 9,000-foot level on the ski area will be inconvenienced by the delay, mountain bikers accustomed to riding up the ski mountain — as well as

See **Summer**, page 5



JOHN F. RUSSELL/STAFF

Members of Routt County Search and Rescue use boats to search the Yampa River west of Steamboat Springs. Rescuers were searching for a 22-year-old man who jumped into the river downtown to avoid police.

Man's body recovered

22-year-old man jumped into Yampa River to flee police

Scott Franz
STEAMBOAT TODAY

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A 22-year-old man who jumped into the frigid Yampa River to escape Steamboat Springs police officers around midnight Sunday was found dead downriver Monday afternoon following a lengthy search.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife employees who were scouring the river by boat with several other agencies found the man's body submerged in the river just west of the Steam-



VIDEO ONLINE

Watch a video from the search accompanying this story at SteamboatToday.com.

boat Golf Club.

His body was recovered about five

miles from where he jumped into the river on Yampa Street.

The man's identity has not been released.

Police detectives were still working Monday night to piece together the man's final hours.

Steamboat Police Chief Cory Christensen said the incident started Sunday night at 11:40 p.m. when officers were called to the alley behind 737 Lincoln Ave. for a report of a disturbance involving a man who

See **Yampa**, page 2

RIVER REPORT

Yampa River flow Monday


| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Noon | 977 cfs |
| 8 p.m. | 995 cfs |
| Average for this date | 2070 cfs |
| Highest for this date | 4300 cfs, 1984 |
| Lowest for this date | 461 cfs, 1934 |

Reported in cubic feet per second at the Fifth Street Bridge as provided by the U.S. Geological Survey.

INDEX

| | | | |
|-------------|----|------------|----|
| Briefs | 10 | The Record | 3 |
| Classifieds | 18 | Sports | 13 |
| Colorado | 11 | Scoreboard | 15 |
| Comics | 17 | ViewPoints | 8 |
| Happenings | 6 | Weather | 16 |

TUNE IN TO **CHANNEL 18**
THE STEAMBOAT TODAY SHOW
9 - 10am FRI & SAT or
on STEAMBOATTV.COM



8th Street STEAKHOUSE
STEAMBOAT COLORADO

20% OFF ENTIRE BILL
Food & Drinks TONIGHT
Must mention this ad

\$5
8oz. STEAK BURGERS DURING HAPPY HOUR
4:30-6 PM
LIMITED QUANTITY

Dinner begins at 5:00pm
970-879-3131 • www.8thStreetSteakhouse.com
50 Eighth Street, Downtown Steamboat Springs



West End Liquor
FAST & FRIENDLY SERVICE
BEER - SUPER COLD

Bud, Bud Light - 12pk cans.....\$9.99
Coors, Coors Light, Lite - 24pk.....\$23.99
Stella Artois - 12pk bottles.....\$13.99
Busch, Busch Lt. - 30pk cans.....\$18.99
Sierra Nevada - 12pk.....\$13.99

WINE 46 WINES ON SALE THIS WEEK
Matchbook Chardonnay - 750ml.....\$9.99
LaVieille Ferme - all 1.5 ltrs.....\$13.99
OKO - organic p.grigio, malbec 750ml.....\$10.99
Marietta - Old Vine Red 750ml.....\$11.99
DeLoach - all types 750ml.....\$9.99
7 Deadly Zins 750ml.....\$13.99

LIQUOR 34 SPIRITS ON SALE THIS WEEK
Seagram's VO 750ml.....\$11.99
Maker's Mark Bourbon 750ml.....\$28.99
Tito's Handmade Vodka 750ml.....\$18.99
Captain Morgan Spiced Rum 750ml.....\$15.99
Kamora Coffee Liqueur 750ml.....\$9.99
Canadian Mist 1.75Ltr.....\$16.99

SALE TITO'S HANDMADE VODKA \$18.99 750ml
West US Hwy 40 879-8185

There's a reason our "COLORADO STYLE" pizza is the Best of the Boat!



BEST OF THE BOAT

- 99¢ slice & lunch buffet (from 11am-2pm)
- All day kids special \$4.99
- Honey Wheat and Honey White Crust
- Every Day Lunch Specials!
- Gluten-Free Pizza & Sandwiches & Beer
- Calzones | Pasta | Homemade Soups
- Largest salad bar in town

Open Every Day: 11am-9pm
Lunch Buffet: 11am-2pm
704 Lincoln Ave,
Steamboat Springs
(970) 870-6401

BEAUJOS Mountain Bistro

ALWAYS A 15% LOCALS DISCOUNT

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

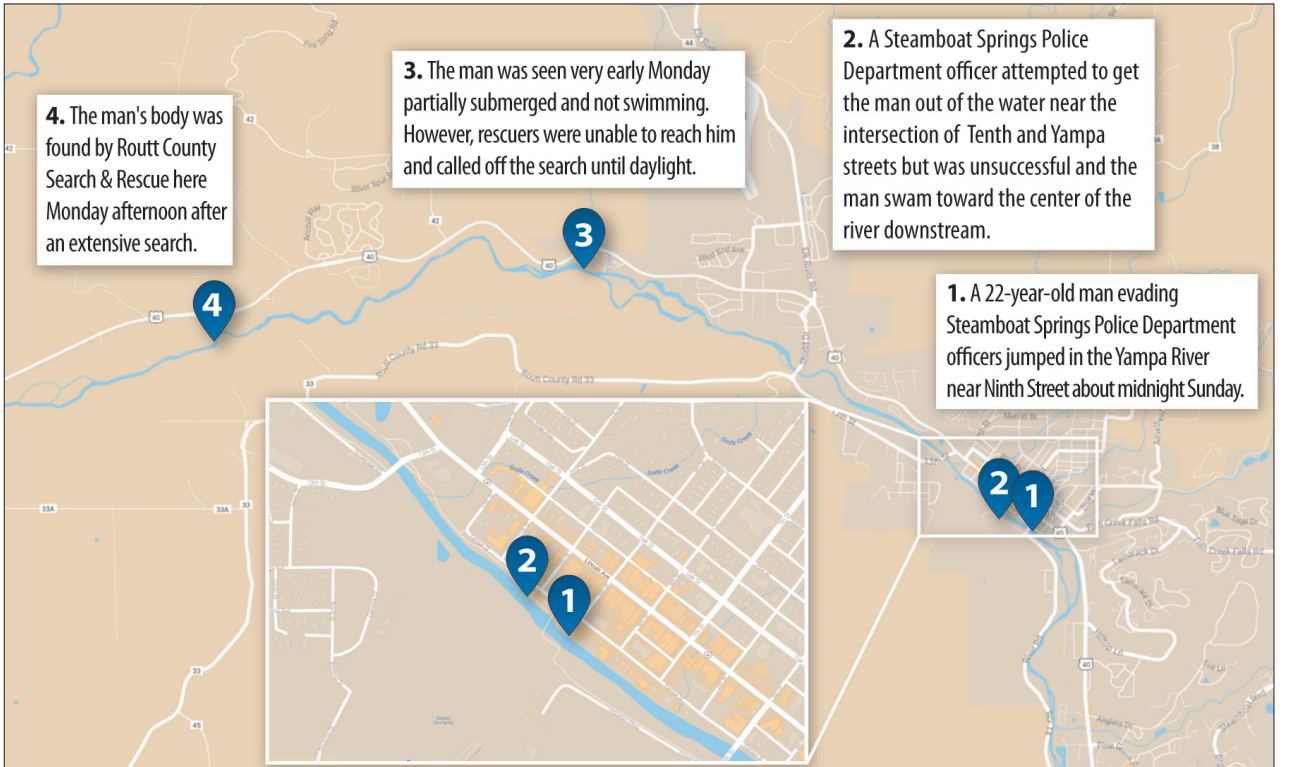
COFFEE & A NEWSPAPER
1st Wednesday of the month!

7:30 to 9 a.m.
Steamboat Today
1901 Curve Plaza

Share your insights!
Learn what we're planning.

Contact Steamboat Today with questions.
Office: 970-879-1502





KATIE BERNING/STAFF

Classic Air helicopter searched for 2 hours

Yampa continued from 1

had allegedly attempted to steal someone's purse.

When officers arrived, they found the 22-year-old man lying on the ground. Officers labeled the man as a suspect in the attempted theft of the purse.

"He's intoxicated. He's somewhat uncooperative. Officers were trying to determine what was going on," Christensen said.

Christensen said police also fielded a report that the man had damaged a woman's car that was in the alley.

"According to his family, this type of behavior was very much out of character for him," Christensen said.

The man appeared to be injured and had scratches on him.

After paramedics arrived to check on the man, Christensen said the man took off running.

The man jumped into the river near Backdoor Sports on Yampa Street around midnight.

An officer on the riverbank was able to grab the man a block downriver, but Christensen said the man wrestled free from the officer and swam toward the middle of the Yampa.

An officer also jumped into the cold, dark water about 50 yards downstream from the James Brown Soul Center of the Universe Bridge hoping to grab the man.

But the second attempt also failed.

"In the dark it was very difficult to try and recover him," Christensen said.

The man was later spotted partially submerged and not swimming near the Sleepy Bear Mobile Home Park, but the search had to be suspended at 2:20 a.m.

"The conditions were pretty rough," Routt County Search and Rescue Incident Commander Del Bostock said. "You have fog rising off the river at that time. You can't really see the water,



Top: Search teams converge on the site where a 22-year-old man's body was found submerged in the Yampa River on Monday afternoon. (Eugene Buchanan/staff) **Above:** Routt County Search and Rescue member Harry Sandler searches the shoreline near Routt County Road 33A west of Steamboat Springs. (John F. Russell/staff)

much less what's in the water."

Early Monday morning, search teams composed of several agencies started searching several miles of river between west Steamboat and Hayden.

Crews on boats checked snags where a body might end up caught in the river. Other volunteers walked the riverbank.

For two hours, a Classic Air helicopter flew above the river hoping to spot the man.

"It was a really great mission," Bostock said. "We had a great group of people who worked great together. We're sorry though that the outcome wasn't good."

Agencies involved in the search

for the man included the Steamboat Springs Police Department, the Routt County Sheriff's Office, Steamboat Springs Fire Rescue, West Routt Fire and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

Police were having difficulty Monday finding other individuals involved in the disturbance that initially led officers to the man in the downtown alley.

Christensen said the man had lived in Steamboat for about two months.

"Our thoughts and prayers really go with the family right now," Christensen said during the search. "We know this is a difficult time."