







Snowmelt a hot topic

Council to hear updates on geothermal system, base area construction

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COLORADO

Got your tickets?

Most Coloradans haven't, either, after World Series ticket-sale Web site crashes

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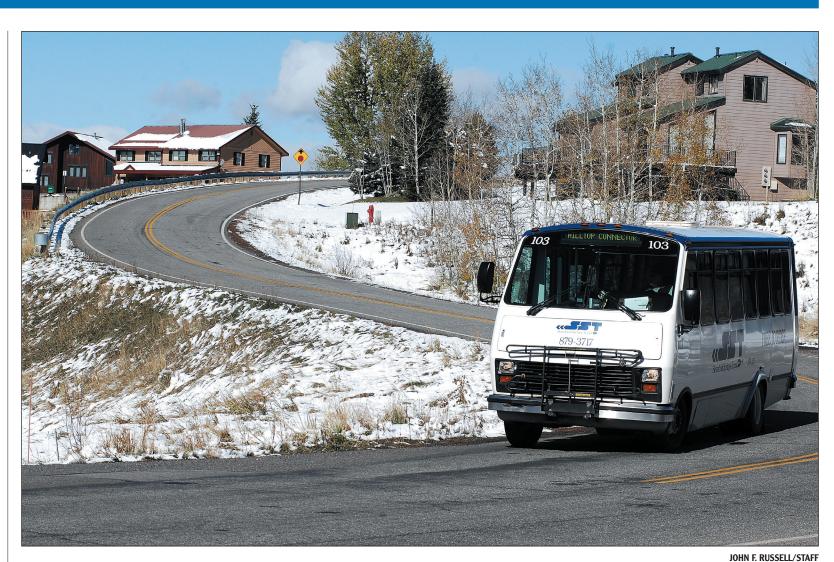


Colts stomp Jaguars

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A bus makes its way along Hilltop Parkway on Monday. The Hilltop Connector Route is one of several the city might be forced to cut because of a lack of drivers.

Winter bus routes may be cut Steamboat Springs still 20 bus drivers short for season

Brandon Gee PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Steamboat Springs' winter bus service likely will be curtailed because of a shortage of qualified drivers.

Transportation Director George Krawzoff said despite recent hires, Steamboat Springs Transit still is 20 drivers short of filling all 40 of its positions.

"Our situation is improving," Krawzoff said Monday. "But we're a long way from being fat and sassy. ... We will

Monday night's

1-2-7-15-26

Saturday.

LOTTO

very limited service."

The extent of the cuts remains to be seen. Krawzoff said the city is weighing two options: maintaining frequency on the most heavily used routes while cutting lesser-used routes, or "spreading the pain out across many routes.'

From an efficiency standpoint, Krawzoff said the former option is the most appealing. The most heavily used routes are those that service downtown, the mountain and "con-doland," Krawzoff said. The routes used the least -

include the Hilltop Connector Slope's own energy boom has route and the route servicing Colorado Mountain College.

'Until we can recruit 20 more drivers, we will have to cut back somewhere," Deputy City Manager Wendy DuBord said. "You can't run a bus system with 20 less people than you have buses for."

Last winter, nine seabuses. This year, there will - and Australia that has lured away start the winter service with those most likely to be cut - potential recruits. The Western

decreased the number of local recruits, as well, City Manager Alan Lanning said.

"People can make more money," he said.

The city has gone to great lengths to lure drivers, including adding \$45,000 to Krawzoff's recruitment budget. That money can be used to sonal, foreign workers drove give drivers holiday pay and Steamboat Springs Transit paid time off, installing tip jars on the buses, purchasing be no foreign drivers, mostly Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp. because of an energy boom in silver medallion passes for driv-

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