FRIDAY FEBRUARY 29, 2008

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ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

FREE



INSIDE



4 Points: Your guide to weekend entertainment

SPORTS



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BRIAN RAY/STAFF

Steamboat Springs Police Department Officer Scott Middleton, top right, looks up at the roof of the Steamboat Grand Resort Hotel on Thursday afternoon. Steamboat High School graduate Eric O'Hara, 24, not pictured, was pronounced dead at the hotel after falling six stories from the roof while clearing snow.

Man dies in fall at Grand

Eric O'Hara, 24, served in Iraq

Mike Lawrence
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A Steamboat Springs High School graduate who served in Iraq with the U.S. Army died Thursday after falling six stories off an icy roof at the Steamboat Grand Resort Hotel.

Eric O'Hara, 24, lived in Centennial but was in Steamboat Springs to help out with his brother-in-law's business, which is contracted to clear snow off roofs at the Grand. Routt County Coroner Rob Ryg said that just before 4 p.m., O'Hara and another worker were standing on a piece of ice that broke loose. Ryg said O'Hara had released his carabiner to move along a safety rope, and he slid down the sloped roof unattached.

O'Hara fell over the edge of the roof holding the rope, Ryg said, but was knocked off the rope by falling snow. He landed on his back on a lower roof to the left of the Grand's main entrance. Ryg pronounced O'Hara dead at the scene

Ryg said the other worker was "double-carabinered," meaning one carabiner remained attached while the other was

See **Fall**, page 60

SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

| New snow — Mid-mountain* | 0 in. | Total snow _† | 399 in. |
|--------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------|
| New snow — Summit | 0 in. | Trails open | 165/165 |
| Base — Mid-mountain | 71 in. | Lifts open | 16/18 |
| Base — Summit | 90 in. | Conditions | Packed powder |

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 10 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org



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