



INSIDE



4 Points: Your guide to weekend entertainment

SPORTS



Shooting for state

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Equine endurance



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Horses weather a spring snowstorm Thursday afternoon off Routt County Road 14 at Sidney Peak Ranch.

Oak Creek growth a concern

Two candidates challenging incumbent mayor in April 1 election

Melinda Dudley
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

With Oak Creek's update of its Comprehensive Plan looming this summer, the mayoral candidates in Tuesday's election want to play a role in shaping their town's future growth.

Bill Paxton and Gerry Greenwood, both of whom have previously served on the

Oak Creek Town Board, are challenging incumbent Mayor J. Elliott. The winner of the three-way race will serve a two-year term as mayor. Elliott was first elected to the Town Board in 2002, and was appointed mayor in November 2006 after Kathy "Cargo" Rodeman resigned.

Growth is needed for Oak Creek to increase its property and sales tax bases and put more dollars in the gen-

eral fund, Elliott said. The only other way to balance the budget would be to cut expenses in the town's already "bare-bones" operations, he said.

But that growth needs to be carefully planned to keep Oak Creek the way it is, only a little bigger, Elliott said.

"I'd just hate to lose the small-town character. It's like a family — we have our little squabbles, but we all come

together," Elliott said.

Greenwood serves on the Oak Creek Planning Commission and spent 10 years on the Oak Creek Fire Protection District Board. Greenwood also served a one-year appointed term as mayor after five years on the Town Board in the 1990s.

"My primary concern with the next two years ... is seeing

See **Election**, page 13

SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	6.5 in.	Total snow†	452 in.
New snow — Summit	5 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	73 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	95 in.	Conditions	Packed Powder/Spring

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 18 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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