



STEAMBOAT TODAY

ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

FRIDAY

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

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FREE



INSIDE



4 Points: Your guide to weekend entertainment

SPORTS



Tigers look to score

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January hits 100 inches

Storm pushes snow total past century mark for 2nd-consecutive month

Tom Ross
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Skiers and riders on Mount Werner romped in a snowfall of historic dimensions Thursday, as the Steamboat Ski Area put up a second-consecutive month with 100 inches or more of snow falling at mid-mountain.

Steamboat Springs had recorded 13 inches of snow in the preceding 24 hours when the official measurement was taken at 5 a.m., pushing the January total to 104 inches and nearly 125 at the summit. The century mark has been eclipsed 15 times in the past 30 years, but back-to-back months reaching that level have been a relative rarity. Although the event has become commonplace this winter and last, no one is yawning — Thursday's conditions were enough to make Cole Richter and his friends laugh out loud.

"We went up and skied East Face, and it was one constant face shot all the way down," Richter said. "We laughed all the way."

Steamboat skiers are being reminded of last winter, when the ski area saw 126 inches of snowfall at mid-mountain in December 2007, followed by 129 inches in January 2008 and 104 inches in February. It was a snow record that had never been seen before and led to the all-time record of 489 inches for the season.

Richter, who has visited Steamboat for 19 straight winters from his home in Madison, Wis., is spending his first full season at the resort. He had the foresight Wednesday night to rent a pair of fat powder skis that made his Thursday skiing experience that much better.



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Steamboat Springs resident Douglas Wipper was all smiles Thursday morning after taking a few runs at the Steamboat Ski Area. As of 5 a.m. Thursday, the snow total for the month of January is 104 inches. The ski area has received 244 inches so far this season, 39 inches behind last year's record pace.

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FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS



SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

New snow — Mid-mountain*	8.5 in.	Total snow†	244 in.
New snow — Summit	8.5 in.	Trails open	165/165
Base — Mid-mountain	75 in.	Lifts open	16/18
Base — Summit	87 in.	Conditions	Powder

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 21 as measured at mid-mountain
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