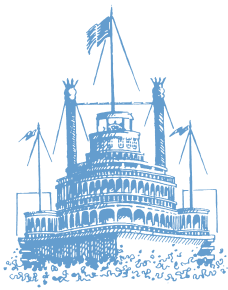


FRIDAY

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO

VOL. 21, No. 44



STEAMBOAT TODAY

ROUTT COUNTY'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

FREE



INSIDE



4 Points: Your guide to weekend entertainment

SPORTS



5 Tigers advance

Page 31

Slopeside ice bar



MATT STENSLAND/STAFF

Slopeside Grill owner Chris Corna, right, positions one of sixty 300-pound blocks of ice with, from left, Camille Flynn, Rob Capone, Larry Flynn and Steve Walsh to create a slopeside ice bar Wednesday. Corna hired Capone's company, AspenVail Ice Sculpture, to build the bar, which is an annual tradition.

City hears softball pitch

Council considers large men's tournament in light of slow economy

Brandon Gee
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A sports tourism company wants to host a 150-team men's slow-pitch softball tournament in Steamboat Springs this summer — the type of event that has proved politically explosive

for the raucous reputation that accompanies it.

Preferring a much smaller event, city officials have responded coolly to the request from the World Softball League. But given the suffering state of the local economy, a Steamboat Springs City Council member and local restaurant owner said

Thursday that they are open to the possibility of an event that would invigorate an otherwise slow mid-August weekend.

"I think it makes sense to at least keep our options open and see if there's openness to that," Councilman Jon Quinn said. "At this point, I think it makes more sense to keep doors open

than close them."

Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services Director Chris Wilson explained his reasons behind preferring a smaller event at Tuesday's meeting of the City Council. Years ago, softball players gave Triple

See **Softball**, page 14

LOOK INSIDE for

Prudential Properties

FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS



SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| New snow — Mid-mountain* | 1 in. | Total snow† | 287 in. |
| New snow — Summit | 2.5 in. | Trails open | 165/165 |
| Base — Mid-mountain | 69 in. | Lifts open | 16/18 |
| Base — Summit | 88 in. | Conditions | Packed powder |

*24-hour snowfall as of 12:30 p.m. previous day; † total snow beginning Oct. 21 as measured at mid-mountain FOR UP-TO-DATE ROAD CONDITIONS, INCLUDING RABBIT EARS PASS, call 511 or visit: www.cotrip.org

A great way to search Steamboat real estate

STEAMBOAT Homefinder.com