



STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

City explores unpaid leave

Steamboat Springs Transit driver: I'd prefer furloughs to firings

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STEAMBOAT SPRINGS



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Terry in finals

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MICHAL CIZEK/NEWSCOM

Steamboat Springs' Todd Lodwick celebrates his gold medal in the 2009 Nordic Combined World Championships in Liberec, Czech Republic, on Friday. Lodwick won the gold medal ahead of Tino Edelmann, of Germany, and Jason Lamy Chappuis, of France.

Triumph for Todd

Steamboat's most successful skier claims world championship

Tom Ross
PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

Nordic combined veteran and four-time Olympian Todd Lodwick, of Steamboat Springs, completed one of the most unlikely comebacks in competitive skiing history Friday morning, winning a world championship in the mass start event in Liberec, Czech Republic.

His greatest performance came more than two years after his temporary retirement from the sport and just eight weeks after his return to top international competition. He secured the victory on the final jump of the ski-jumping phase of the competition.

"It's surreal to tell you the truth," Lodwick said during a conference call. "If you were to write a fairy tale book and put everything about my story on the

pages, people would say you were kidding, and it was too long."

For Lodwick, 32, Friday's victory represents the culmination of a 15-year quest for a championship medal.

Since his first Olympic appearance in Lillehammer, Norway, in 1994, he has won six World Cups and stood on 20 more World Cup podiums, signifying that on each of those days, he was good enough to win a world champi-

onship or Olympic medal. So for Lodwick, there was a sense of something missing, that he had never produced his best effort in a major competition.

"Today was all about the world championships — who skied the fastest and who jumped the furthest," Lodwick said. "I was both, actually, today. That's amazing!"

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SKI TOWN USA SNOW REPORT

Steamboat Ski Area

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------|---------------|
| New snow — Mid-mountain* | 0.5 in. | Total snow† | 287.5 in. |
| New snow — Summit | 0.5 in. | Trails open | 165/165 |
| Base — Mid-mountain | 68 in. | Lifts open | 16/18 |
| Base — Summit | 87 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

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