MONDAY APRIL 13, 2009

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO Vol. 21, No. 88



FREE



Gas prices Cost of a gallon of regular unleaded fuel on Sunday Fuel Stop. West Kum N Go.. 7-Eleven Western Petro \$2.13 Bob's Conoco. \$2.12 Hilltop Sinclair \$2.14 Anglers Kum N Go. \$2.04 Ski Haus. \$2.14 Mount Werner Sinclair \$1.99 \$2.12 Shop & Hop

WORLD

State Average\$2.01 National Average\$2.05



US captain freed

Navy SEALs subdue pirate kidnappers, rescue Richard Phillips in Indian Ocean

Page 16

SPORTS



Masterful victory

Page 21

Trying to stay afloat



Eric Mullen tries to keep his balance in Sunday's second annual closing day pond skim competition. Several dozen skiers and snowboarders made the run and tried their luck at making it across the icy water near the base of Steamboat Ski Area. For story, see page 3. For more photos from closing weekend at the ski area, visit www.steamboatpilot.com.

Wall fights pay cuts

County refuses to foot sheriff's bill

> **Brandon Gee** PILOT & TODAY STAFF

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

A recently adopted 10 percent pay cut for Routt County employees has provided the next point of contention between the Board of County Commis-

sioners and Sheriff Gary Wall.

Wall told Coun-



Manager Tom Sullivan on Thursday morning to expect a letter from Sheriff's Office attorneys challenging whether the

commissioners have the authority to force a pay reduction on his department.

"I am standing up for the office of sheriff, and I am standing up for my employees," Wall said Friday. "I see that as my obligation as the elected sheriff. ... It's a separate constitutional office. ... It is my obligation to protect and not turn it over to the county to run.

County Attorney John Merrill said there is no question, in his opinion, regarding the county commissioners' ultimate authority of county expenditures.

See Wall, page 14

INDEX

Briefs 10	Happenings7
Classifieds 28	Horoscope 26
Colorado15	Scoreboard25
Comics	Sports21
County Agenda 6	ViewPoints 8
Crossword27	World 16



WEATHER



Partly sunny. High of 54.

Page 20

Want to see a movie? Grab a bite to eat? Catch a bus? Rent skis? Buy the best souvenir? Find a doctor?



ExploreSteamboat.com will point you in the right direction.