

Bobcat Speech and Debate finish first again

For the second consecutive week, the Hot Springs County High School Speech and Debate Team took first place in a 1A/2A Sweepstakes. This week's victory came at the Lovell/Rocky Speech and Debate Novice Tournament held at Lovell High School on November 16. The Bobcats, coached by Lyle Wiley, Alyssa Brown, Riley Jeffs, and Markie Whitney, brought five competing novice students.

Freshman Clayton Keller earned tourna-

ment champion in two events: Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking. Keller went 3-0 in his debates for the second week in a row.

Sophomore Teancum Gevas competed and placed in four events. He placed second in Humorous Interpretation and Informative Speaking. Gevas also finished in fourth place in Impromptu. Gevas and freshman Rylee Simpson took third place in Duo Interpretation.

Simpson, in his first ever tournament competition, also placed second in Congressional Debate and third in Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Junior Natalie Keeney earned a medal with a third place finish in Humorous Interpretation.

Senior Roan Bush finished in third place in Congressional Debate in his first ever Speech and Debate tournament.

Varsity students once again joined the team at the tournament to help novices and

judge events. Head Coach Lyle Wiley, excited with the team effort, said, "It was another great tournament performance by our new team members, and we have a lot to look forward to this year. Varsity folks have been stepping up to help the new folks, and we have a top tier coaching help from Brown, Jeffs, and Whitney."

Next, the Bobcats head to Green River for the Green River Novice/Varsity Speech and Debate Tournament on November 22-23.

News briefs from around the state

From Wyoming News Exchange newspapers

Man arrested for sixth DUI one month into probation for fifth DUI could get up to 7 years

GILLETTE (WNE) — A man who pleaded guilty to his sixth DUI offense could face six to seven years in prison.

Jude Armijo, 32, reached a plea deal where he'll plead guilty to felony DUI, and the state will recommend a six-to-seven-year prison sentence to run concurrent to a five-year sentence for violating his probation.

At the time of his sixth DUI, Armijo was just one month into a five-year probation that he'd been sentenced to following his fifth DUI.

On the morning of July 28, police went to the parking lot between Dairy Queen and Las Margaritas for a red Hyundai that was stopped in the middle of the roadway. A man, later identified as Armijo, was passed out in the driver's seat. He had his seatbelt on, and the engine was running. There was an open container of Modelo in a cup holder.

Officers tried knocking on the window and moving the car back and forth to get Armijo's attention but he did not wake up. An officer opened the door and was eventually able to get him to wake up. He smelled of alcohol and spoke in very slow, slurred speech. He admitted to drinking three six-packs of beer and said he was not safe to drive, according to an affidavit of probable cause.

At the time of this arrest, Armijo had five DUI convictions, including two in 2019 in Big Horn County, Montana; one in October 2020 in Yellowstone County,

Montana; one in July 2021 in Johnson County; and one in June 2024 in Campbell County.

For the June conviction, Armijo had been sentenced to five to seven years, suspended for five years of supervised probation.

This story was published on November 19, 2024.

Fearnow found not guilty

SHERIDAN (WNE) — After a four-day trial and nearly four hours of deliberation, a jury found Kyle Fearnow not guilty of strangulation of a household member and not guilty of domestic battery.

Strangulation of a household member could have been a felony charge with a sentence of imprisonment for up to 10 years and a fine of not more than \$10,000 or both. Domestic battery, a misdemeanor, is punishable by imprisonment for not more than six months, a fine of not more than \$750 or both.

State attorney Christopher LaRosa and defense attorney Christina Chermi made their closing arguments in the 4th Judicial District Court Friday morning.

Both reviewed audio recordings of the 911 phone calls made on April 29, phone call recordings between Fearnow and the victim while he was incarcerated and the injury photos shown in court.

LaRosa emphasized the images of the victim that revealed her injuries from the evening of April 29, while Chermi stressed that Fearnow was the one who called police.

She asked the jury, if he was guilty of strangulation and battery, why would he be the one to call the cops?

According to the victim, on the evening of April 29, the two fought because she changed her relationship status on Facebook from "dating" to "single." Fearnow became angry very quickly and the situation escalated, she said. Fearnow was accused of strangling her by the throat.

According to Fearnow, the victim accused him of talking to other women. The couple argued, and Fearnow said the victim threatened to kill him with a kitchen knife. He wrestled her to the ground and punched her until she dropped the knife. Then he left the apartment and called 911, Fearnow said.

Lummis slams BLM's Greater sage-grouse plan

CHEYENNE (WNE) — On Friday, Senate Western Caucus Chair Cynthia Lummis, R-Wyo., and Congressional Western Caucus Chair Dan Newhouse, R-Wash., released a statement after the Bureau of Land Management released its final Greater Sage-Grouse Rangewide Planning Resource Management Plan.

"This Greater sage-grouse plan will have wide-reaching impacts on farmers, ranchers and landowners across the West whose livelihoods depend on responsible management of federal lands," Lummis said, according to a caucus news release. "Instead of trusting states like Wyoming that have proven expertise in sage-grouse management, the Biden-Harris administration is making a last-ditch effort

to exert more control over the West. I am confident the Trump administration will begin work on day one to correct the wrongdoings of this administration and properly restore the role of states in managing their own wildlife populations."

"The Biden Administration is firing another salvo in their war against public lands across the west," said Newhouse.

This plan will impact sage-grouse habitats in Wyoming, California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota.

Man who stole hundreds of packages from UPS to plead guilty

GILLETTE (WNE) — A man who stole hundreds of packages from a UPS facility because it made him "feel alive" has reached a plea deal.

In a plea agreement, Larry Munday, 53, will plead guilty to felony theft, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and possession of ketamine, and the state will

drop a charge of cultivating marijuana.

The state also will recommend Munday serve a five-to-seven-year prison sentence for the theft charge, and two-to-three-year sentences for the ketamine and gun charges, all to run concurrent to each other.

On June 12, an investigator with the sheriff's office spoke with the local UPS manager, who said that more than 100 packages had gone missing from the facility in the past two weeks. He said the missing packages all had been placed on a package car for overnight storage.

In total, 109 packages had gone missing from UPS since June 3.

The packages went missing at night, and the manager suspected a contract employee who worked evenings of stealing them.

Cameras were set up on the package car and around UPS property. As packages continued to go missing, the cameras captured Munday, a contract cleaner, going through packages on several occasions and subsequently putting white trash bags into his pickup.

Deputies got a search

warrant for Munday's home, where they found UPS bags and packages.

He told deputies that he began stealing packages in December 2023. A package had fallen off of a UPS truck, and he kept it. This was during the Christmas season. He said he didn't have any friends or family he spent time with and stealing the package made him feel like someone had given it to him, according to court documents.

Things "spiraled" from there, he told investigators, and he started stealing more frequently. When asked how many packages he'd stolen, he estimated it'd been more than 150 in the last two weeks, according to court documents.

HOT SPRINGS PHARMACY
THE SERVICE YOU DESERVE FROM THE NEIGHBORS YOU TRUST

Quips & Health

The more things are forbidden, the more popular they become.

- Mark Twain, Notebook

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Thank You

Youth Alternatives, & other volunteers

who came and worked to collect and sort food for the
Holiday Food Drive to benefit the
Christmas Baskets and Community Food Bank.

They were wonderful and greatly appreciated!

If you didn't have your food picked up, please leave your food donation in the Episcopal Church entry at 642 Arapahoe & 7th.

More food donations are needed and would be greatly appreciated.

Public notices

NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION WPH - COOLING AND SITE LIGHTING UPGRADE

Notice is hereby given that the State of Wyoming, State Construction Department has issued a certificate of substantial completion to Sheet Metal Specialties, Inc. for the work performed for the HVAC upgrade, PS#23-0309, at the Wyoming Pioneer Home in Thermopolis, Wyoming. The Department has accepted the work as substantially complete according to the contract and associated documents and therefore the contractor is entitled to payment of the full amount due under the contract, which will occur on December 25, 2024.

Pub. Nov. 14 & 21, 2024 No. 1749

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING (Issued November 6, 2024)

1. Pursuant to the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act and the Wyoming Public Service Commission's (Commission) Rules, notice is hereby given that a public hearing is scheduled regarding Rocky Mountain Power's (RMP or the Company) request for authority to increase rates to recover deferred Net Power Costs (NPC) under Tariff Schedule 95; and to increase rates pursuant to Tariff Schedule 93, Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) and Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂) emission allowances. **The public hearing is set to commence on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., in the Commission's hearing room located at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, in Cheyenne, Wyoming.**

2. RMP is a division of PacifiCorp, an Oregon corporation, engaged in the business of supplying electric utility service to customers throughout its six-state service territory, including Wyoming. RMP is a public utility, subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. Wyo. Stat. §§ 37-1-101(a)(vi) (C) and 37-2-112.

3. On April 15, 2024, RMP filed an Application requesting authority to revise rates pursuant to two different rate schedules. The Company proposes to increase its Tariff Schedule 95 Energy Cost Adjustment Mechanism (ECAM) rates by approximately \$84.3 million to recover deferred NPC. On June 19, 2024, the Company filed an Errata Application which lowered the requested increase of Tariff Schedule 95 to \$81.8 million. The Company also proposes to increase its Tariff Schedule 93 REC and SO₂ Revenue Adjustment Mechanism (RRA) rates by approximately \$2.1 million to account for sales of RECs and SO₂ emission allowances.

4. Wyoming Industrial Energy Consumers (WIEC) and Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) intervened and requested a hearing. On June 25, 2024, the Commission granted interim approval of the proposed rates in the Errata Application, effective for usage on and after July 1, 2024, subject to further review, refund and hearing.

5. This is not a complete description of RMP's Application. You may review the Application and its supporting testimony and exhibits at the Commission's office during business hours or online at: <https://dms.wyo.gov/external/publicusers.aspx> (enter Record No. 17547).

6. All interested persons are encouraged to attend the public hearing which will be conducted in accordance with the Wyoming Administrative Procedure Act, Wyoming Public Service Commission Rules. All interested persons may appear and be heard, in person, by video or telephone conference, or through counsel appearing in person or by video or telephone conference.

Attend Zoom Meeting and actively participate at:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9933449233>

Or by dialing: 1 669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 993 344 9233

7. If you wish to attend the hearing and you require reasonable accommodation for a disability, please contact the Commission at (307) 777-7427 (Voice or TTY) in Cheyenne during regular business hours or write them at 2515 Warren Avenue, Suite 300, Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002, to make arrangements. Communications impaired persons may also contact the Commission by accessing Wyoming Relay (TTY) by dialing 711. Please mention Docket No. 20000-664-EM-24 in all correspondence with the Commission.

Pub. Nov. 14 & 21, 2024 No. 1747

Warrants List

The following list of warrants approved November 14, 2024, by HOT SPRINGS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT is hereby published as required by the Wyoming Education Code of 2005, as amended, Chapter 3, Section 21-3-110 (a)(ii).

WYOMING SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION	\$500.00
TRAVEL WRIGHT, INC	\$514.08
TERRY PYER	\$535.06
ACADIENCE LEARNING, INC	\$540.24
C & B OPERATIONS, LLC	\$547.64
FOREST SCIENTIFIC CORPORATION	\$599.00
WYOMING HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES	\$600.00
KORRINE RYAN	\$700.00
BIG HORN WATER	\$752.00
LITTLE AMERICA OF CHEYENNE	\$815.00
BLOEDORN LUMBER - RIVERTON	\$881.04
SCOTT FRITZLER	\$919.72
BRUCO, INC.	\$935.02
LARSEN'S BICYCLES	\$939.85
SHERIDAN SPORTS OFFICIALS	\$954.76
CLASSROOM MAGAZINES	\$962.50
D & A CONSTRUCTION INC	\$980.00
ELDER EQUIPMENT LEASING OF WY, INC.	\$1,071.50

API SYSTEM INTEGRATORS, INC.	\$1,131.84
PETERBILT OF WYOMING	\$1,181.85
WY ASSOC ELEM & MIDDLE SCHOOL	\$1,200.00
MIMEO.COM, INC	\$1,208.02
WYOMING GAS COMPANY	\$1,269.08
KONE PASADENA INC	\$1,345.68
FREMONT BEVERAGES, INC.	\$1,371.90
SCHOLASTIC INC. BOOK CLUB	\$1,388.30
CHARACTER STRONG LLC	\$1,499.00
JIM & JULIE ENIS	\$1,500.00
STEVEN WRIGHT	\$1,500.00
CURRENT ELECTRIC	\$1,618.00
UNIVERSAL ATHLETIC INC	\$1,952.27
JADECO, INC.	\$2,337.03
IML SECURITY SUPPLY	\$3,086.65
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC	\$3,260.04
WYOMING DEPT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES	\$3,390.00
CANYON CONCRETE SAND & GRAVEL, LTD	\$3,490.50
ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES	\$3,500.00
HOMAX OIL SALES, INC	\$3,993.50
BOBCAT OF THE BIGHORN BASIN, INC.	\$4,000.00
BSN SPORTS LLC	\$4,927.13
THE OFFICE SHOP	\$5,217.91
WYO TEE'S	\$5,916.52
PEAK BEHAVIORAL SERVICES	\$6,664.52
LONG BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES INC	\$6,814.00
RYTE REHABILITATION	\$16,373.76
JARED JEFFS	\$18,000.00
ELUMA LLC	\$18,387.82
ROCKY MOUNTAIN POWER	\$24,722.19
NORTHWEST WYOMING BOCES	\$25,215.00
BAZOOKA LUMBER & LIVESTOCK LLC	\$26,769.49
BANK OF MONTREAL	\$31,886.47

Pub. Nov. 21, 2024

No. 1750