

In brief

Logan

BRHD lists school year suggestions

The Bear River Health Department has released recommendations to help keep children safe as they return to school this year. About 80,000 Utah children need professional medical help each year because of an injury, and accidental injury is the No. 1 cause of death among children between 1 and 14 years of age, according to the BRHD.

To stay safe while traveling to and from school, BRHD recommends children should:

- Always wear a helmet when biking, skateboarding or riding a scooter.
- Use crosswalks.
- Learn safe routes to school by walking with parents before the first day of school.
- Use child booster seats.
- Wait for the bus to stop before approaching it.
- Make sure traffic has stopped before crossing the street to board or exit a bus.

BRHD also recommends safety measures for children while at school. Children should:

- Avoid wearing helmets, scarves, necklaces or purses while on playground equipment to avoid the risk of strangulation.
- Avoid pushing or crowding around playground equipment.
- Always follow school playground rules.

Utah

Officials propose drug testing at work

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A proposed drug testing program for state employees would be narrowly focused on workers with access to sensitive information, a spokeswoman for Gov. Jon Huntsman said.

"This really ought to be something that people are grateful that the state is being proactive about," said spokeswoman Lisa Roskelley.

The qualification came after a labor association accused the Huntsman administration of mounting a broad-scale attack on public employees.

The plan was unveiled at a legislative hearing Wednesday by the chief administrator over state agencies and a deputy for Attorney General Mark Shurtleff.

The random testing was offered as a way to combat identity theft — authorities say meth users were known to commit financial fraud.

The Utah Public Employees Association says there's scant evidence drug use is a problem in the broader work force. They say it's a solution looking for a problem — and part of a pattern of attacks on the civil service system.

Hiker lost footwear, self in mountains

PROVO (AP) — A woman stranded overnight in a canyon after losing her shoes was rescued.

Police and firefighters in Provo say the 21-year-old woman was hiking alone in a canyon of the Wasatch mountains.

The woman wasn't discovered until Wednesday evening after spending more than a full day in Slate Canyon.

Other hikers notified authorities by cell phone, and the woman was escorted out of the canyon.

She was dehydrated and had sun burn and was treated and released from a hospital.

Provo Fire Capt. Lynn Schofield said the woman couldn't explain how she lost her shoes and was "vague and confusing" about her predicament. She was found at the base of a cliff high up in the canyon, about 1,000 vertical feet above a trailhead.

"Everyone wants to know where her shoes are," Schofield said Thursday. "It's just one of those interesting things we get into every now and then."

Police: Pair doctor shopped for drugs

Wellsville couple faces numerous felony charges following arrest

By Matthew K. Jensen
staff writer

The Cache-Rich Narcotics Task Force arrested a man and woman Tuesday following an investigation that led authorities to believe the Wellsville couple was doctor shopping for drugs.

Logan City Police Capt. and

Task Force spokesperson Eric Collins said Dennis and Carmelle Cox, both 40, were served summons to appear in 1st District Court on second- and third-degree felony charges related to illegal possession of controlled substances, burglary and fraud.

Reports indicate the investigation of the couple began after a family member suspected Dennis Cox of taking her husband's painkillers on or around July 4.

Investigators obtained the prescription histories of both Dennis and Carmelle Cox and discovered an extensive medication use background on each.

"It looked like they were doing some doctor shopping," Collins

said. Detectives also say they've learned Carmelle Cox has been obtaining a new prescription for painkiller drugs roughly every two weeks since November 2007, Collins added. She's now faced with 55 felony charges of falsely obtaining and possessing prescription drugs.

Police reports show Carmelle Cox is allegedly responsible for obtaining 41 prescriptions from seven different physicians — the equivalent of 2,100 pills.

Dennis Cox is charged with seven counts, including possession of a controlled substance. Cox pleaded guilty to similar charges in September 2007, when he was

charged with falsely obtaining and dispensing prescription drugs — a third-degree felony. He is scheduled to appear again in court on Sept. 8.

"Obviously their addiction led them to poor choices and that's where the burglary charge comes in," Collins said.

Carmelle and Dennis Cox were each charged with second-degree felony burglary — stemming from the July 4 incident.

"After reviewing the case with the county attorney, Det. Rob Italsano felt like they entered the (relative's) home with the intent to commit the theft," Collins added.

The Herald Journal could not reach the Cox couple for comment.

In our schools

Two and seven



Logan High School counselor Brandon Shaffer, left, helps Jason Mace change his class schedule Wednesday morning.

Eli Lucero/Herald Journal

New LHS semester schedule adds up to longer day with more classes

By Devin Felix
staff writer

Logan High School began its new seven-period schedule and instituted a new attendance policy this week, and administrators and teachers say the changes have gone smoothly so far.

"I thought we'd have more difficulty than we have," said Stuart Howell, an assistant principal. "So far, so good. I think it's been a fabulous day."

Under the new schedule, students attend seven classes each day and the school year

is divided into two semesters. Previously, the school year was divided into three trimesters and students had five classes per day.

Increasing the number of class periods per day also increased the amount of total time needed to transition between classes. That led to the Logan City School District lengthening the school day at the high school by 20 minutes. School now starts 15 minutes earlier than it has for years, at 7:40 a.m., and ends five minutes later, at 2:35 p.m.

Starting school 15 minutes earlier is a

challenge and will require some adjustment, especially for students who struggle to wake up in the morning, said science teacher Andrew Semadeni.

Semadeni said he expects the shorter class periods will enable students to focus more without getting distracted, but altering lessons to fit the shorter class time might be a challenge for some teachers.

Most teachers will now teach five classes a day, where they previously taught four, Howell said. Though the number of classes

See LHS on A8

Kanab highway crews find 1,200-year-old home site

KANAB, Utah (AP) — Surveyors clearing the way for a highway project came across an unexpected find: an ancient home site nearly 1,200 years old.

Pit houses aren't uncommon in Utah but archaeologists noted the one found just north of Kanab because it was so well preserved.

The home was found amid red sandy soil just east of U.S. 89 in 2006. Crews digging through the site finished their work last week.

The house measured about 13 feet across and included a hearth, storage containers and several broken pots.

The single-family home probably belonged to members of the Virgin Anasazi, a prehistoric culture that once lived along the Virgin River, according to Kevin Kitchen, a Utah Department of Transportation spokesman.

State officials said the site sat undisturbed just below the surface for centuries, extending several feet beneath the ground.

"What is so amazing about the site is the pristine condition it is in," said UDOT archaeologist Pam Higgins. "My adrenaline was through the roof."

Jody Patterson, a vice president for Moab-based Montgomery Archaeology, said a similar site was excavated a few years ago during a pipeline operation.

"The (new site) was extensive, but not unexpected," she said.

Archaeologists at the site along U.S. 89 also found rabbit and deer bones and stone drill bits probably used for making jewelry.

The items could provide clues about trading patterns among ancient people that once roamed the region.

Two Aggies attending GOP, Dem. national conventions

From staff reports

Two Utah State University students are attending the Democratic and Republican conventions this summer.

Sophomore Joseph Irvine will attend the National Republican Convention in Saint Paul, Minn., on Sept. 1 through 4, while senior Tabitha Lazenby will be in Denver for the Democratic National Convention, which starts Monday and runs through next week.

Irvine, of Mesa, Ariz., and Lazenby, of Kamas, will also attend the Washington Center's Presidential Nominating Seminar, which includes arriving a week before each convention to watch preparations and guest speakers. In addition, each student will take part in a fieldwork assignment,

convention receptions and party rallies.

The USU Honors Program will cover the students' costs at the seminars, which are offered through The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. The pair were selected for the trip based upon essays, goals, grade point averages and Honors course work. USU sent two students to similar seminars in 2004.

Irvine sees this opportunity as a beginning to his political career and as a chance to lobby for what he feels is most important. A management and information systems major, he plans on studying law after graduation.

Irvine was featured in News

See AGGIES on A8

