

LARAMIE BOOMERANG

WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 30, 2017 | LARAMIE, WYO | LARAMIE'S VOICE SINCE 1881



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ICE & EVENTS CENTER



IF YOU GO ...

What: Free skate day
Where: Ice & Events Center, 3510 Garfield St.
When: 8:30 a.m. Saturday
More info: www.cityoflaramie.org

Ice & Fitness Recreation Program Coordinator Devin Stalder adds another layer of water to the ice rink with the use of a hose Tuesday morning at the Ice & Events Center. SHANNON BRODERICK/Boomerang photographer

Ice & Events Center opens doors Saturday with free skate day

By **IKE FREDREGILL**
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By 9 a.m. Tuesday, Laramie was basking in 80-degree sunshine, but inside the Ice & Events Center, sweater-clad staff flooded the ice rink as indoor-

temperatures dipped below 40 degrees. "We started building the ice Aug. 1," Laramie Parks and Recreation Ice and Fitness Recreation Program Coordinator Devin Stalder said. "Our main pump went out Aug. 3, and that put us behind about two weeks."

Despite the setback, the ice rink is on schedule to open two weeks earlier than in 2016, when it opened four weeks earlier than 2015, Stalder said. "We ran the numbers and noticed we're not performing as well the week after spring break, so this year, we'll close

about a week later," he said. "All told, we've actually added about five weeks of open time compared to two years ago."

See Ice rink, A10

COLD CASE

Cold case investigation continues

Law enforcement continues investigation of 1985 arson, murder

By **CAMERON WALKER**
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Authorities continue to investigate possible criminal charges against a Laramie man in connection to the 1985 murder of Shelli R. Wiley. Fredrick Lamb was charged in 2016 with first-degree murder and arson in connection to the 1985 death of Wiley, who was a University of Wyoming student at the time, but those charges were later dropped "without prejudice." After the current investigation is completed, the county will assess whether charges should be filed again, Albany County Attorney Peggy Trent said.

At a glance:

Law enforcement continues to investigate a Laramie man accused — but no longer charged — of first degree arson and first degree murder of a University of Wyoming student more than three decades ago.

"The state and law enforcement are continuing to conduct additional testing and additional investigation," she said.

See Lamb, A10

IVINSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Settling in Laradise

IMH hires Laramie's only geriatrician

By **JEFF VICTOR**
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Geriatricians — primary care doctors specialized in treating older people — are few and far between. This is especially true in rural Wyoming, where the closest geriatrician could be several hours away. But since Dr. Emma Bjore started at Iverson Memorial Hospital earlier this month, elderly Laramie residents can visit a geriatrician without leaving the city. "I have high hopes and expectations for myself," Bjore said. "But I definitely recognize the huge, huge challenge of being here and trying to build a geriatric practice from the ground up." Bjore is the hospital's — and Laramie's — only geriatrician. The nation has a shortage of primary care providers, she said, and the dearth of providers is even more pronounced in Wyoming and especially pronounced in her field. "Geriatrics is not a specialty that enough people are going into — and this is not an

exception in Wyoming," she said. "There's a couple in Cheyenne, and I think one in Casper. That's it." This unmet need is part of what motivated Bjore to start practicing in Laramie. While doing her residency in Denver, she heard good things about a place often called Laradise — the city's often sincere, but occasionally ironic, nickname. "I really identify Laramie as my community, and I'm planning on being here long term," Bjore said. "... It feels really good after all this training to be in a place where I feel like I can make a commitment to and spend that time. So, I call it Laradise, not ironically." The definition of geriatrics differs by clinic. Some bill themselves as being a service for those 65 and older, while others as a service for 70 and older.

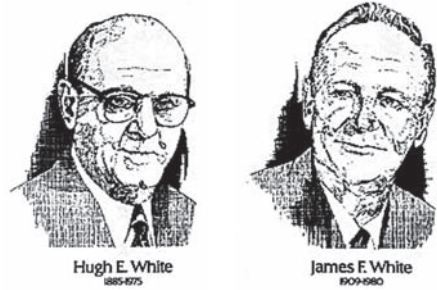
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Ice rink

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To celebrate the early opening, the events center is hosting a free day starting at 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

“Two years ago, I started this thing where we showcase all the things we do here,” Stalder said. “Admission will be free, but people will still have to pay to rent skates if they need them. We’ll have staff on hand for quick lessons, and people can just come in and try it all out.”

Clad in shorts, sneakers and a hooded sweater, Stalder gripped a large blue hose with both hands as he sprayed the ice, adding another layer to the rink.

“Altogether, it will probably be 40-50 floods before it’s

done,” he said.

“We use hot water because it freezes faster and with few bubbles. We want the hard, impurity-free ice. It makes for better skating.”

Soft ice typically includes a high volume of bubbles, which makes it weaker and skates have a harder time gripping it.

“There’s two theories about how cold you want it,” Stalder said. “Hockey players like it to be about 17 degrees, and figure skaters believe 19 degrees is optimal.”

With a few more layers to go, he said the ice-level temperature was around 20 degrees. Other than heating, few changes are made to the water before flooding the rink.

“Realistically, we don’t do

much to the water,” he said. “The biggest thing about our flooding is getting the layers down.”

During the first few days of the process, events center staff work about 12 hours a day to get approximately eight floods on the rink each day. But as the sheet thickens, Stalder said it takes longer for a flood to freeze, which results in floods per day dropping to about five.

“Two people usually do the flood at one time,” he said, standing alone on the ice. “You can do it with one person, it just takes longer — it’s a very tedious process.”

Once complete, Stalder said the ice rink contains about 20,000 gallons of water.

“We have a pretty hefty water bill this first month,” he said.

Lamb

Continued from A1

“Once (the investigation is) completed, we will then assess the case for potential refileing.”

Previously, Trent asked the court to dismiss Lamb’s charges “without prejudice,” as additional DNA testing of evidence was necessary but could not be completed by the filing deadline, and was dismissed of his charges until further notice.

Evidence from tests such as DNA, blood stain, fingerprint analysis, a certified fire investigation and forensic footwear impression testing of the crime scene, were also requested by the state.

“Due to time constraints, the state elected to dismiss the charges without prejudice which allows the state to refile charges against Fred Lamb upon completion of all testing by experts and trial preparation,” she said.

According to Laramie Boomerang articles from the week of the incident, Laramie firefighters responded to a fire the morning of Oct. 20, 1985, where firefighters found Wiley’s remains at the site.

According to court documents, Lamb told Laramie Police Officers he was asleep in a nearby apartment when he was awoken by people pounding on the door stating there was a fire. He was later connected to the crime after a DNA analysis taken from blood splatter on the door in the building and the DNA profiles from the crime scene belonging to both Wiley and Lamb placed them at the scene.

Lamb was employed as an Albany County Sheriff’s Office deputy from Jan. 1, 1974-May 1, 1985, and served in the LPD before that. He did not work for either agency during the time of Wiley’s death.

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