



RIGHT ON TARGET

Local youth finishes in top 20 in light rifle at National Junior High Finals Rodeo | **OUTDOORS, A7**

BOYS OF SUMMER

Coastal Carolina tops Arizona to win NCAA College World Series | **SPORTS, B1**



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Partly sunny. 89/53 | **A10**

Suspect in sex slaves case pleads guilty

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Utah trucker accused of keeping women as sex slaves in his semi-trailer as he drove across the country struck a plea deal with federal prosecutors Thursday, days before his trial was set to begin.

Timothy Jay Vafeades was charged with luring two women ages 18 and 19 to his truck, then forcibly altering their appearances and grinding down their teeth while holding them prisoner for months. Prosecutors

say he had four other victims in the decades before his 2014 arrest, and their stories would have been evidence in the trial even though the cases are too old for criminal charges.

He now faces up to 20 years in prison under the terms of the deal. He pleaded guilty to two



Vafeades

counts of transporting for illegal sexual activity and two kidnapping charges will be dropped in exchange. Sentencing is set for November.

He appeared in court in a gray-striped jail jumpsuit and glasses, his hands shackled in front of him. He politely answered the judge's questions and read aloud a legal description of the charges, but said little else.

Prosecutors hope the guilty pleas are a step toward closure for the victims, Assistant U.S.

Attorney Trina Higgins said. Defense attorneys declined to comment.

The 19-year-old victim knew Vafeades, 56, and voluntarily came to work with him on his truck known as the "Twilight Express," in 2013, but when she decided to leave he attacked her, prosecutors said.

He trapped her and sexually assaulted repeatedly for six months, forcing her to wear a fake set of teeth while he wore one with vampire fangs, authorities said.

Vafeades was arrested after officers at a Minnesota weigh station noticed bruises on the woman's face and discovered an old restraining order barring Vafeades from contacting her, according to charging documents.

After his arrest, a second woman went to authorities to report she had been held captive in Vafeades' truck, according to the warrant.

More **GUILTY** | **A10**

'Like a reunion'

More than just cars: Cache Valley Cruise-In returns

By **JAVIER LABOY** staff writer

The Cache Valley Cruise-In is celebrating one of America's favorite pastimes for its 34th consecutive year this weekend.

With over 900 participants from all over, this year's event includes a wide array of vehicles for the enjoyment of the thousands of visitors that attend annually.

John Rutledge, president of the Cache Valley Cruising Association, the group coordinating the event, said it's not just about the cars.

"Yes it's a car show," said Rutledge. "We're the biggest 3-day car show in Utah, but it's more like a reunion. It's not a family reunion, it's a car-guy reunion."

Exemplifying this sentiment are the rows of RVs that can be seen at the edge of the area, where families camp out days in advance to have a good spot. For people like Bruce Wood, who has been staying at the site since Sunday, attending the event has become a tradition for him and his family.

"It's really neat because they draw people from out of the area," Wood said. "When you go to most of the local car shows you see a lot of the same cars; they're nice cars, but you see a lot of the same ones. Up here they draw cars from out of the area, so we see some cars that we don't see anywhere else."

As a regular of the annual event



Lew Garfield cleans the windshield of his 1955 Chevy Bel Air on Thursday at the Cache Valley Cruise-In.

since its opening 34 years ago, Wood said he's pleased with how it's grown. Bringing their own cars to the exhibition every time without fail, he admits he and his

wife are both just "car nuts." One popular segment of the show, and a favorite of Rutledge's, is the car giveaway done every year. He's seen different

reactions from each year's winner, and it remains his favorite part of the 3-day showing.

More **CARS** | **A10**

Official: Airport attackers from Russia, Central Asia

ISTANBUL (AP) — As the death toll from the Istanbul airport attack rose Thursday to 44, a senior Turkish official said the three suicide bombers who carried it out were from Russia, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, and Turkish police raided Istanbul neighborhoods for suspects linked to the Islamic State group.

Turkish authorities say all information suggests the Tuesday night attack on Ataturk Airport, one of the world's busiest, was the work of IS, which boasted this week of having cells in Turkey, among other countries.

Police raided 16 locations in three neighborhoods on both the Asian and European sides of the city that sprawls across the Bosphorus Strait, rounding up 13 people suspected of having links to IS.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility by the militant group, which has used Turkey to establish itself in neighboring Syria and Iraq. IS has repeatedly threatened Turkey in its propaganda, and the NATO member has blamed IS for several major bombings in the past year in both Ankara and Istanbul.

More **ATTACK** | **A10**

USU professor to compete in world gliding competition



PHOTO COURTESY TIFFANY FIDLER

USU Professor Tim Taylor stands next to his German-made glider at the Soaring Society of America's national gliding competition in Nephi.

By **KEVIN OPSAHL** staff writer

A Utah State University engineering professor has been soaring high with his German-made glider against others nationwide for years, but he's never competed with a group of gliders hailing from all over the world.

Tim Taylor on Thursday qualified to be in the USA Team for FAI gliding championships in Poland in 2018 after competing in a national gliding competition in Nephi sponsored by the Soaring Society of America. Taylor's qualification to the world games is

based on several national competition scores he's earned over the years — including first place in 2011 and second in 2014.

"It will be real fun to go to the world championship," Taylor said. "That was the goal for this competition ... to secure my team's spot on the U.S. Team for the world, so I'm very happy with that. This is a chance to fly against the best in the entire world."

Taylor credited his win to a lot of perseverance and practice.

"You really have to be confident enough," Taylor said. "I will do much more practice over the next two years and possibly go to Po-

land for a pre-world contest (trip) and fly that."

Bruno Vassel, event organizer for the national competition with the Soaring Society of America, praised Taylor for his gliding efforts.

"He's already proven himself by being a national champion; his record speaks for itself," Vassel said. "He's a close friend and a good pilot, and he cares about sharing the sport with us. It's a real pleasure to fly with him."

Taylor got started with gliding as a college student in California, where he grew up.

More **GLIDING** | **A10**

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Tuesday's question: Do you think the Utah Jazz made a good move trading for point guard George Hill? Yes or No?
Yes: 56 68.3%, No: 26 31.7%, Total responses: 82

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