

## INSIDE

SPORTS



### Americans move on in London

Defending Olympic champions Todd Rogers and his partner Phil Dalhausser will play Italy in their first playoff game. Page **B1**

### AT A GLANCE



### Local veterans turn out to open house

Veterans and their families learned more about employment and health care during an open house in Santa Maria. Page **A2**

### OUR COMMUNITY



### Utility Director Ron Stassi retires

Ron Stassi isn't a household name, but the divisions he runs are vital in the community for everyday household work. Page **A3**

### ENTERTAINMENT



### Quick Draw and Art Auction planned

The 26th annual Los Olivos Quick Draw and Art Auction will feature a competition by 25 nationally recognized artists. Page **A10**

### RELIGION

### Calendar of events for local churches

A complete list of worship, Bible class, Bible study and Sunday school times for local churches throughout the week. Page **A9**

### OPINION

### Planning for state's dry future

We believe Calif. has a bigger water issues to resolve, protecting our groundwater resources, which are in peril. Page **A4**

## INDEX

Wire Report	A7
Daily Record	A3
Fun & Games	B5
Horoscope	B5
Comics	B6
Classified	B7

See breaking news at [lompocrecord.com](http://lompocrecord.com)



A Lee Central Coast Newspaper

## INSTRUMENTATION PROBLEM HALTS COUNTDOWN



Pat Corkery/ULA

The Atlas 5 rocket sits at Space Launch Complex-3 on south Vandenberg Air Force Base. Departure has been delayed until Aug. 14.

# Atlas 5 launch slips to Aug. 14

### Problem popped up as team counted down toward liftoff

By **JANENE SCULLY**  
 ASSOCIATE EDITOR

[janscully@lompocrecord.com](mailto:janscully@lompocrecord.com)

An Atlas 5 rocket's next try for liftoff from Vandenberg Air Force Base won't come until Aug. 14 at the earliest after mission managers

were forced to scrub the first countdown.

A new launch time was not yet available.

The delay of more than a week gives Western Range crews more time to resolve a problem with instrumentation deemed mandatory for the flight.

The Western Range is made up of a series of sensors at the base and elsewhere in California that tracks just-launched rockets and missiles from Vandenberg to ensure they

remain safely on course.

The problem popped up as the team counted down toward liftoff early Thursday at Space Launch Complex-3 on South Base, but could not be resolved before the launch opportunity expired.

Crews have a limited time to get the rocket off the ground each day so that the satellites are placed in the proper orbit.

Initially, officials hoped to resume counting down toward launch Friday morning and then

Saturday, but decided Thursday evening that even more time was needed to fix the range instrumentation issue.

An Aug. 14 attempt is contingent upon resolution of the range instrumentation problem, officials said.

The United Launch Alliance Atlas 5 rocket and its primary payload, a classified spacecraft for the National Reconnaissance Office, remain "safe and secure," officials said.

## LUSD SUPERINTENDENT

# Kampf returning home after injuries

By **JOHN SAKATA**  
 STAFF WRITER

[jsakata@lompocrecord.com](mailto:jsakata@lompocrecord.com)

Greg Kampf glanced into his bicycle mirror and saw a Dodge truck barreling toward him.

It was the last thing he saw, the Lompoc Unified superintendent said, before his bicycle went flying off to the right and he ended up dazed and broken on the hot paved shoulder of a highway in Missouri.

"I don't know what happened but he never slowed," said Kampf, who was struck while on vacation July 17. "The bike went sailing off to the right. I didn't know where the other vehicles were, and I didn't know where on the roadway or off to the shoulder I was."



Kampf

Lying on the hot asphalt road in pain with a broken pelvis, ankle, and leg bone, Kampf frantically began waving his arms trying to ward off possible oncoming traffic as he lay helplessly on the ground.

Kampf will return to California on Saturday after spending two weeks rehabilitating from the injuries he sustained while bicycling from St. Louis to Omaha, Neb.

Kampf was reached by telephone from Rusk Rehabilitation Center in Columbia, Mo., on Thursday, where he has been receiving physical therapy treatment since July 24.

The rehabilitation has covered everyday tasks such as getting in and out of bed, taking a shower, and putting on a pair of socks.

Kampf was struck while riding his

bike westbound on Highway 20, which is part of the historic Lewis and Clark Trail.

Kampf, who is currently wheelchair-bound, has been told that he cannot put any weight on his left ankle for about 90 days.

After returning home with his wife, Kampf said, he will spend the two weeks with relatives in San Luis Obispo and receive in-house medical care.

Then he will be re-evaluated by doctors and could possibly return to work.

"Because of the surgery and recovery from surgery, my skills are limited on self-care and my strength is also limited from surgery," Kampf said. "But going through these activities through support staff and giving 110 percent of what I've been asked to do and making this the absolute highest

See **KAMPF / A5**

## ABOUT TOWN

### St. Timothy holding its annual yard sale

St. Timothy Orthodox Christian Church will hold its annual yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 403 North J St., at Laurel Avenue. The church book and gift shop will be open. For more information, call 736-6220.

### Author to hold book signing

Matthew Easterbrook will appear at The Bookstore Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sign his book *Financial Revolution*. This book is for anyone

See **TOWN / A3**

# Local components flying on Mars rover

### Helical Products developed flexible couplings and springs for Curiosity

By **JANENE SCULLY**  
 ASSOCIATE EDITOR

[janscully@lompocrecord.com](mailto:janscully@lompocrecord.com)

Several components designed and crafted in Santa Maria are set to land on Mars as part of NASA's newest rover mission to uncover the mysteries of the Red Planet.

The rover, including couplers and springs made by Helical Products Company, is set to touch down Sunday night on Mars after traveling millions of miles on an interplanetary voyage.

Dubbed Curiosity — its formal name is Mars Science Laboratory — rode aboard an Atlas 5 rocket that blasted off Nov. 26, 2011, from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla.

Landing is expected to occur at 10:31 p.m. PDT Sunday and will be shown on NASA TV, which is available on the Web and through satellite and

cable providers. It's not the first Mars mission for the firm. Employee T-shirts boasting "Back to Mars" tout Helical's out-of-this-world involvement in other trips to the Red Planet.

"We're very proud to have three — well, will have three, because everybody's crossing their fingers — successful missions on Mars that we have parts on," said Tom Puerling, Helical marketing manager.

Helical Products Company, based at 900 W. McCoy Lane, uses its special "Heli-Cal Flexure" technology to craft unique flexible couplings and springs.

For instance, one flexible coupling sits on the end of a robotic arm's vibration mechanism; the Helical product will help the system gather and agitate soil samples for further analysis by a spectrometer, according to Helical representatives.

Curiosity actually carries multiple components designed by Helical. "I think what makes us special is the number of designs. If they use, for



Leah Thompson/Staff

Matthew Bush, an engineer at Helical Products Company, points to a printout Friday of the newest Mars rover, Curiosity, to show where flexible couplings and compression springs he helped develop were used.

See **HELICAL / A5**