

Fossett plane found

BY TRACIE CONE AND
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Associated Press Writers

MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIF.

More than a year after the mysterious disappearance of millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett, searchers have found the wreckage of his plane in the rugged Sierra Nevada along with enough human remains for DNA testing.

The remains were found amid a field of debris that stretched 400 feet long and 150 feet wide in a steep section of the mountain range, the National Transportation Safety Board said Thursday at a press conference. Some personal effects also were found at the crash site, but investigators would not describe them in any detail.

"We found human remains, but there's very little. Given the length of time the wreckage has been out there, it's not surprising there's not very much," said National Transportation Safety Board acting Chairman Mark Rosenker. "I'm not going to elaborate on what it is."

The 63-year-old thrill-seeker vanished on a solo flight 13 months ago. The mangled debris of his single-engine Bellanca was spotted from the air late Wednesday near the town of Mammoth Lakes and was identified by its tail number. Investigators said the plane had slammed straight into a mountainside.

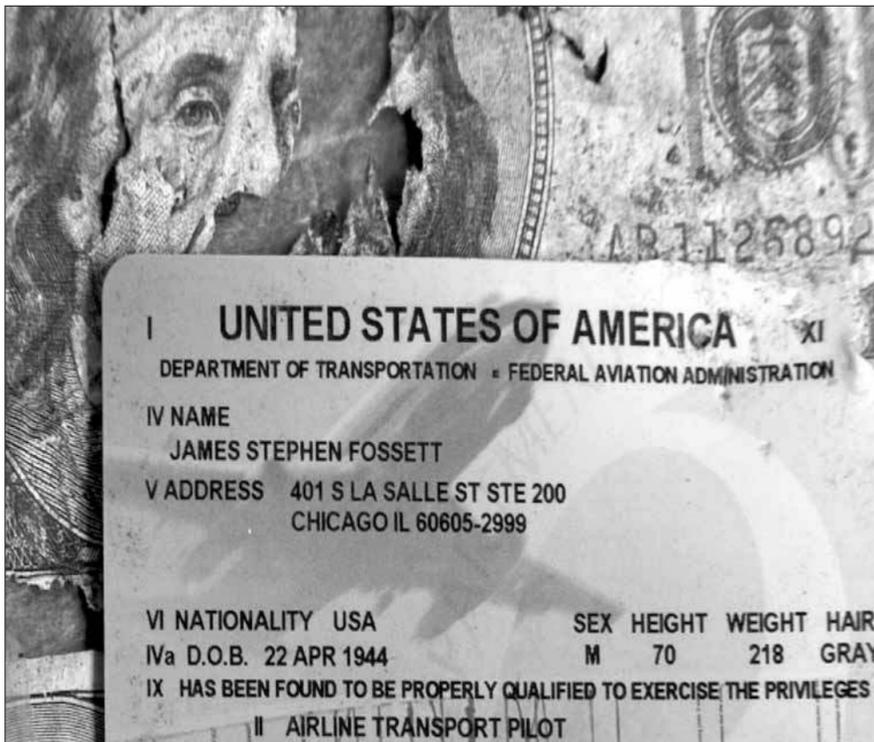
"It was a hard-impact crash, and he would've died instantly," said Jeff Page, emergency management coordinator for Lyon County, Nev., who assisted in the search.

NTSB investigators went into the mountains Thursday to figure out what caused the plane to go down. Most of the fuselage disintegrated on impact, and the engine was found several hundred feet away at an elevation of 9,700 feet, authorities said.

"It will take weeks, perhaps months, to get a better understanding of what happened," Rosenker said before investigators set off.

Search crews and cadaver dogs scoured the steep terrain around the crash site in hopes of finding at least some trace of his body and solving the mystery of his disappearance once and for all.

Rosenker said enough



This image made from video taken by Discovery Channel/LMNO Productions shows a pilot's license and a torn \$100 bill found Monday by hiker Preston Morrow in a rugged part of eastern California.

remains were found to provide coroners with DNA.

Fossett vanished on Sept. 3, 2007, after taking off from a Nevada ranch owned by hotel magnate Barron Hilton. The intrepid balloonist and pilot was scouting locations for an attempt to break the land speed record in a rocket-propelled car.

His disappearance spurred a huge search that covered 20,000 square miles, cost millions of dollars and included the use of infrared technology. Eventually, a judge declared Fossett legally dead in February. For a while, many of his friends held out hope he survived, given his many close scrapes with death over the years.

The breakthrough — in fact, the first trace of any kind — came earlier this week when a hiker stumbled across a pilot's license and other ID cards belonging to Fossett a quarter-mile from where the plane was later spotted in the Inyo National Forest. Investigators said animals might have dragged the IDs from the



Wreckage from a plane belonging to Steve Fossett is seen Wednesday in a handout photo released by the Mono County Sheriff's Search & Rescue.

wreckage while picking over Fossett's remains.

The rugged area, situated about 65 miles from the ranch, had been flown over 19 times

by the California Civil Air Patrol during the initial search, Anderson said. But it had not been considered a likely place to find the plane.

OBITUARIES



NORMA L. YOUNG

LOVELAND, CO | Norma L. Young, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother, died at home in Loveland, Colorado on September 12, 2008 with her family at her side. She was born Dec. 18, 1928 in Corning, NY to Merlyn and Ruth (Johnson) Preston. She was 79.

Norma grew up in the New York area, graduating from high school in Painted Post, NY. She married Clair W. (Corky) Young on August 12, 1948 in Detroit, MI. They recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. They moved from Detroit to the Loveland area in 1965, living in the Longmont and Loveland area for 40 years. She worked for the IBM Company for 15 years, retiring in 1993.

Norma loved to travel in their motor home with Corky and also enjoyed bowling, golfing, bicycling and spending time with her family and friends.

She is survived by her loving husband, Clair, of Loveland; three sons, Daniel Young and wife Connie of Pueblo, CO; David Young and wife Michaela of Florissant, CO; and Guy Young and wife Sandy of Loveland; two broth-



MICHAEL J. VANDUSEN

CORNING, NY | Michael J. VanDusen, Age: 19 of E. Third St. Corning, NY passed away very unexpectedly Sunday, September 28, 2008 in the town of, Thorne, Quebec, Canada as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

Born in Corning he was the son of Robert and Ethel Smith Thomas. Michael attended and graduated from area schools. Michael was a telephone technician for General Revenue Corp. in Big Flats. Michael enjoyed swimming, snowboarding, was very artistic, enjoyed being with friends, he had a huge heart, and was a very caring individual.

Michael is survived by his father, Robert VanDusen of Corning, and mother Ethel

Smith Thomas. He is the brother of one sister: Heather VanDusen of Elmira, NY and brother of Robert VanDusen Of Corning. He is also survived by nephews Trenton VanDusen, Jayden VanDusen, and Robert VanDusen Jr. and a niece, Madison Longwell as well as numerous friends. Michael was predeceased by his best friend, Kyle Rowe.

Calling hours for Michael will be held at Carpenters Funeral Home on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 2-4 PM. Funeral services will be conducted Saturday at 4:00 pm immediately after calling hours. Burial will be in the Hope Cemetery, Corning.

Carpenter's Funeral Home LLC

14 East Pulteney Street
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MERTON W. HIBBARD

EL DORADO, ARKANSAS | Merton W. Hibbard, 77, of El Dorado, Arkansas, formerly of Woodhull, went to be with the Lord Wednesday, October 1st in El Dorado.

Born in the town of Rathbone, November 28, 1930, he was the son of James & Harriett Holt Hibbard.

A 1948 graduate of Woodhull High School and Binghamton Practical Bible School, he was an ordained Baptist minister, had been a self-employed dairy farmer and an over-the-road truck driver.

He married Doris Waight June 23, 1950; she preceded him in death June 8, 1992. He is also preceded in death by his parents and his twin brother, Berton Hibbard.

He is survived by his sons & daughters-in-law, Melvin & Deanna Hibbard of Canisteo, NY and Burnett & Julie Hibbard of Higley, Arizona; his daughters & sons-in-law, Joan & Joseph Hershberger of El Dorado, AR, Jane & Michael Viguera of Paona, CO, and Sharon Stein of Rochester, NY; his sister, Calysta Bouck of Modesta, CA, & sister-in-law, Erma Hibbard, 17 grandchildren & 27 great grandchildren.

Friends may call Sunday, October 5, 2008, 6-8pm at the H.P. Smith & Son, Inc. Funeral Home, 1607 Main St., Woodhull, NY, where funeral services will be conducted Monday, October 6th at 2pm. His nephew, the Rev. James Bouck will officiate. Burial will be in Woodhull Cemetery.

DALTON D. WHEATON

BATH, NY | Dalton D. Wheaton 82, of Rumsey Street, died Tuesday Sept 30 at his home.

He was born Jan 2, 1926 in Atlanta, New York to Homer and Florence Scott Wheaton.

He was a retired plumber for the Webster School District and a veteran of WWII. He was a member of the V.F.W., American Legion and Elks all of Bath, New York.

Survived by his wife, Betty Wheaton, four children Monte Wheaton of FL, Cheryl Cobb of Naples, NY, Randy Wheaton of E. Rochester, NY, and Cindy R. Gregorius of Bath, NY, 12 grandchildren and several great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Friends may call at the Seager-Jones Funeral Home, 4 E. Washington Street, Friday 6:00 to 8:00pm. Burial will be at the Bath National Cemetery, Bath, New York.

DEATH NOTICES

Bonalyn L. Farrell

WELLSBORO, PA. | Bonalyn L. Farrell, 77, of Dartt Settlement Road, died Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital.

She was secretary for the Dean of Academic Affairs, and Fiscal Tech at Mansfield State College, retiring after thirty-six years of service.

Survivors include her husband, William G. Farrell; a sister, Linda Jean Hinkle of Wellsboro; two brothers, Robert Taynton Jr., Thomas Taynton.

Calling hours are 7-9 p.m. Saturday at Tussey-Mosher Funeral Home, 139 Main St.

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Rev. Gregory Hinton officiating. Burial will be in

Wellsboro Cemetery.

Linda C. Clark

RATHBONE | Linda C. Clark, 59, of Rathbone, died Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008, at home after a battle with cancer.

She is survived by three sons, Scott Clark, Eugene Clark Jr., Kevin Clark, all of Addison; a sister, Lois Woodworth of Greenwood; a brother, Michael Abbey of Addison.

Calling hours are 1-3 p.m. Friday at Flint Funeral Home, 10 Wall Street, in Addison.

Services will be held there at the conclusion of calling hours at 3 p.m.

Burial will be in Presho Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements are with Sullivan's Funeral Home.

Judge: No bail for Clark Rockefeller

BY DENISE LAVOIE
AP Legal Affairs Writer

BOSTON | A man who calls himself Clark Rockefeller thought it was so outrageous to be held on \$50 million cash bail, he asked the court to reconsider.

It backfired.

A judge, citing his "ingenious capacity" for deception, on Thursday ordered the German native held without bail on charges he kidnapped his 7-year-old daughter, sparking a search from Long Island marinas to Caribbean islands.

Authorities say Rockefeller is really Christian Karl Gerhartsreiter, who has been living under multiple identities — including a physicist, a ship captain and a Wall Street trader — since coming to the United States in 1978. He's also a person of interest in the 1985 disappearance of a California couple.

"Before me is somebody

who by his life appears to have demonstrated a capacity — a very ingenious capacity — to transform himself and to maneuver his way around this country and the world through deception and the exercise of obviously powerful intelligence," said Judge D. Lloyd Macdonald.

Gerhartsreiter had asked for a reduction in the \$50 million bail set by a magistrate earlier this week. His lawyer, Stephen Hrones, said authorities could keep track of him by confining him to his home and requiring him to wear an electronic monitoring bracelet.

But Macdonald said he could not think of any bail conditions that would ensure Gerhartsreiter would show up for his trial.

Gerhartsreiter, 47, has pleaded not guilty to parental kidnapping, assault and other charges for allegedly snatching his daughter, Reigh Boss, off a Boston street on July 27.

FORUM

Continued from 3A

would have preferred to hear from both sides," said David Walczak, a spokesman for the Bath Peace and Justice Group. "We invited the Republican candidates to join us, but they declined."

Tonello, who currently serves as the mayor of Elmira, said his primary motivation in running for state Senate was a growing disenchantment with the state of affairs in upstate New York, where younger residents are leaving in droves, millions lack adequate health care, the government operates with a massive budget deficit and "little gets done because of infighting and partisan politics."

Tonello called for a comprehensive new economic development plan for upstate New York and an overhaul of the state's tax system, with the goal of helping small businesses survive and prosper.

On the topic of health care, Tonello said money should be put into preventive health care, and called for the establishment of more clinics in rural areas. He also said more incentives should be provided to doctors to encourage them to practice in upstate New York.

Massa, a Corning resident, said the county is facing an economic crisis not seen since the Great Depression, and criticized the Bush

administration for spending billions on "a war of occupation and attrition" in Iraq.

"I don't think the people who brought us here," Massa said, "know how to get us out."

Massa also criticized the government for not doing enough to deal with the issue of global climate change, and called for the development of non-petroleum energy sources and the manufacture of vehicles with much higher mile-per-gallon rates.

The solution to high gas prices, he said, is not "drill here, drill now, pay less."

He also railed against the influence special interest groups exert on the political process by making huge campaign donations, among other topics.

Several more events in involving the candidates are scheduled locally.

■ Massa and Kuhl will face off at 7 p.m. Oct. 13 in a debate to be televised live by WENY-TV News Channel 36.

■ Tonello and Winner will debate at 7 p.m. Oct. 15 at Elmira College's Gibson Theater, and at 12:30 p.m. Oct. 16 in The Commons at Corning Community College. Both events are open to the public.

■ Massa and Kuhl will appear at a "meet the candidates" event from 2-4 p.m. Oct. 26 at Elmira Notre Dame High School. Each candidate will speak for 20 minutes, but there will be no debate or questions fielded. The event is open to the public.

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