

LONG ROAD TRAVELLED



GORD WALDNER/The StarPhoenix

Micheal Schratte, on his Ride Don't Hide worldwide journey, rides east on Highway 16 on Thursday. He has ridden 34,000 kilometres to raise money for and awareness of the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. Schratte, who is bipolar, has raised \$44,000. For more information visit www.ridedonthide.com.

25 PIGS DEAD

Hogs loose after highway crash

More than 100 hogs were let loose on a Saskatchewan highway after a semi-trailer hauling the porcine cargo rolled into the ditch near Wadena.

The semi was hauling 190 hogs on Highway 310 Thursday when it slid into the ditch about eight kilometres south of Kuroki and tipped over, freeing the hogs to wander the surrounding area, RCMP said. The semi driver was not injured.

About 25 hogs were killed in the crash. A veterinarian and an area fire department spent the afternoon rounding up the rest of the hogs.

RCMP closed a portion of Highway 310 on Thursday, but it was expected to reopen by 8 p.m. that night. Kuroki is about 20 kilometres east of Wadena. The investigation continues.

Idylwyld business robbed at knifepoint

An unknown man used a knife to rob a business Thursday on Idylwyld Drive.

Saskatoon police say the man walked into a business on the 600 block of Idylwyld Drive North at 5:25 p.m., brandished a knife and demanded cash. He left the business with an undisclosed amount of money.

No one was injured. The suspect wore a black mask.

PARKING

Disability advocate seeks hike in fines

DAVID HUTTON
THE STARPHOENIX

The rise in the number of tickets handed out for those illegally parking in stalls for people with disabilities has an advocate calling for stricter oversight and harsher fines.

"I see it all the time," said Len Boser, a Saskatoon-based disability advocate. "I've thought about buying and having stickers with me that say, 'You're an inconsiderate a--hole' ... that would take a little effort to get off the vehicle's window so he or she has to think about their actions."

The number of fines for parking in a disabled-only stall without a placard or sticker has jumped considerably during the last decade, data provided by the city's transportation branch shows. In 2001, 624 tickets or warnings were handed out, and