



Photos by Chris Chung/The Idaho Statesman

John Paul, president of the Warhawk Air Museum, buckles himself to a parachute inside the cockpit of a P-40 before taking off to Portland.

Business takes off at Caldwell airport

Commercial air traffic leads way for growth

By John Tucker
The Idaho Statesman

Flocks of high-flying business people are and landing at the Caldwell Industrial Airport.

During the past year the airport has gone through a large expansion, erecting 50,000 square feet of new hangar space and an executive facility exclusively aimed at attracting business fliers.

"We're getting a lot of business fliers from Washington, California and Oregon," said Lee Rice, the fixed base operator at the airport.

"They've built large new homes in the area and they prefer to avoid the congestion of the Boise airport," Rice said.

There's been a tremendous increase in commercial airline



A P-40 from the Warhawk Air Museum takes off down the runway at Caldwell Industrial Airport. This World War II aircraft is one of approximately 20 P-40s still flying.

traffic at the Boise Air Terminal since 1991.

"Commercial air traffic has doubled in the past five years," said Boise Air Terminal Director John Anderson. "This is our 37th month of double digit

growth."

Small aircraft pilots in Boise also have to contend with fighter jets from Gowen Field and strict flight patterns laid out by air traffic controllers.

See Airport/6B