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## The Utah Statesman, February 25, 2016

Utah State University

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# THE UTAH STATESMAN

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**NEWS | Businesses closing**  
Over one dozen businesses have closed in Logan, taking jobs, but also providing opportunities for students.

see PAGE 2



**SPORTS | Much needed win**  
Aggies snap three-game losing skid behind solid bench performance and a standout performance from Funda Nakkasoglu.

see PAGE 8

**STUDENT LIFE | Miss American Indian**  
Four students compete to represent American Indian culture at USU.

see PAGE 6

## USUSA executive candidates participate in Statesman debate Tuesday night



PHOTO BY Johnny Morris  
Blake Lyman and Nolan Wilcock shake hands at the end of their debate for Athletics VP in the Hub.

By Mandy Morgan Ditto  
NEWS EDITOR

The final candidates for Utah State University executive council elections for 2016-17 participated in the Statesman debate Tuesday night.

Finalists for Athletics and Campus Recreation VP, Blake Lyman and Nolan Wilcock, began.

"There's a lot of involved students who help plan throughout the year, but the HURD loses members throughout the year," Lyman said. "I want to recruit people to the HURD commit-

tee... I want to find members from different clubs, organizations, Greek, SAA who are involved in other aspects of life."

Wilcock also hopes to increase participation in the HURD.

"The HURD is a big part of what gets the student section going, and with the direction it's been going so far... getting students out there and involved," Wilcock said.

Both candidates hope to get more students to games; Wilcock wants to connect athletes with students so more people want to support at events. Lyman wants to have more events and activities at the games to increase

attendance.

This is the first year the Student Alumni Association VP is an elected position and both candidates hope to meld USUSA and SAA as much as possible.

"The biggest thing I would do to shape this position is to hit the ground running with it, as a voice of the student body, and especially the Student Alumni Association," said Jamie Crandal, one of the candidates. "I think it's about increasing the relationship of the organization as a whole, not just the position itself."

see "Statesman Debate" PAGE 10

## Modifications to student code and new testing center discussed by executive council



PHOTO BY Johnny Morris  
The USUSA Executive Council meets on Tuesday night's in the Taggart Student Center.

By Brayden O'Brien  
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday evening, members of the Utah State University Student Association Executive Council met to discuss and vote on changes at Utah State University that will affect students.

The first issue discussed with a series of changes to the Student Code of Conduct to comply with Title IX. Title IX is a federal law that, among other things, protects students from sex discrimination in education. It typically deals with equity in student athletics, but an amendment in 2011 brought sexual harassment to the forefront of its purpose.

Eric Olsen, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, and Stacy Sturgeon, USU Title

IX Coordinator, presented the proposed changes. Though the changes were federally mandated, the Executive Council was still procedurally required to pass them.

**"The new testing center will offer approximately 200 comfortable roomy desks for students to test in."**

— Chris Dayley, E-learning Support Coordinator

Since the changes were required, and had been reviewed by USU legal counsel, Graduate Studies Senator Ty Aller moved to pass the changes before Olsen and Sturgeon were finished with their presentation. His motion passed, and the changes were codified.

The modifications are strewn throughout

several sections of the code, and most are fairly minor changes in language to ensure compliance. The most significant changes are in regards to issues of sexual misconduct and

how they are handled.

Students on the USU hearing board — a faux-legal body of students, faculty and staff who hear and arbitrate violations of policy and academic integrity — will no longer hear cases regarding sexual misconduct. Instead, hearing

see "Modifications" PAGE 8

## To the students that make elections week possible

By Jillian McCarthy  
STAFF WRITER



PHOTO BY Brad Keyes  
Volunteers build signs marking each candidates designated area for their A-frames and campaigning.

It's been a successful election week for Utah State University's Election Committee: the group of students are in charge of 40 candidates running for 17 different positions during the 2016 elections. There were over 4,002 students who voted in primary elections Monday and Tuesday; the last time over 4,000 students voted was 2001, 15 years ago.

Elections week is made possible by the Election Committee, which is made up of 21 individuals that have volunteered their time and efforts into making sure candidates and students have the best election week possible. This includes giving candidates the right amount of time to get their platforms across and giving students the opportunity to get to know the candidates who will become their newest student leaders.

"I have been very impressed with the motivation and dedication of this year's election committee into making sure the 2016 elections run smoothly," said Sawyer Hemsley, USUSA's Programming Vice President and co-chair on the Election Committee. "These students give us their time for free, and put in a lot of hard work to make it possible for students to pick the best candidates possible."

There are two co-chairs that manage the committee: Hemsley and Madison Maners.

"Before, the Public Relations and Marketing Director for the USU Student Association would manage the committee on their own," said Maners, who is also the PR and Marketing Director for USUSA. "However a legislation was passed last year that required both the PR and Marketing Director to co-chair the committee with the Programming VP"

Each candidate is assigned a facilitator in the committee and these facilitators help candidates by answering any questions they might have, and making sure the candidates are well informed on all the bylaws.

"I definitely enjoy being involved in the election process, it helps me get to know on a personal level the students that will be elected into office," said Jonathan Conger, the administrative assistant for the elections committee and one of the seven facilitators. "Our mission is to give students a quality campus experience."

The liaisons in the committee put on the events and hold the dates throughout elections week.

"The two new events during this week's elections were brought up by the liaisons, and they are doing everything to make sure both the old and new events are planned and carried out without a hitch," Hemsley said.

The two new events are lunches that will be held on Monday and Thursday. Monday's lunch will be held in the Taggart Student

see "Elections Committee" PAGE 6

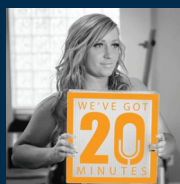


# TWEETS of the WEEK



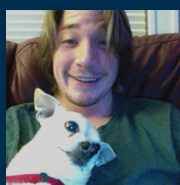
@trip\_newman

Difference between high school and college student elections? ....I can't think of any either #AggiesVote #aggiestrife



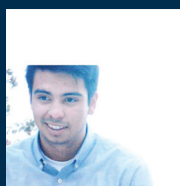
@camidilg

I will vote for whoever DOESN'T accost me on campus today #aggiestrife



@Clarke\_CRFMN

I wrote in a fake name for every position in the 2016 USUSA Elections! #aggielife #aggiesvote



@SirIvanCasanova

The next tattoo I get will be written in Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced, with a work cited page in MLA format. #aggiestrife

## How businesses closing around the valley affects students, provides opportunities

By Jack Brimhall  
WRITER

With K-Mart closing its doors, it joined the ranks of businesses throughout the valley, including nine business turnovers in Cache Valley Mall last year.

In light of many of these businesses employing college students or soon-to-be students, is this turnover creating an increasingly positive or detrimental atmosphere for Utah State University's students?

Ryn Haubner is a music major specializing in viola performance, who also works as a server at a new local restaurant. The restaurant business is highly volatile, with many new restaurants not lasting more than a year. Since beginning work in May of 2015, she has had three different managers and seen price cuts to help bolster business.

"I am a server, and rely heavily on tips for income and my paycheck has suffered in several ways as a result of working for a new restaurant," Haubner said. "My company has offered a number of lower-priced specials, which lowers the bill and therefore the tip that I receive."

However, paychecks aren't the only effects students see. With regard to work environment, Haubner said, "I have worked under three different managers who had individual methods and expectations, resulting in a need on my part to be adaptable."

Despite changes in management, Haubner says overall that she has been treated very well and that she enjoys her job.

Brenden, who wished not to publish his last name, a student taking a hiatus this semester so that he can do door-to-door sales, also submitted that with high business turnover comes high employee turnover.

"When business slows, a lot of people quit. Students are required to take shifts when someone quits and are overworked because the business is understaffed and they need their job. It definitely affected me when I was going to school last semester when I was getting scheduled much more than I would like or could handle," Brenden said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF Photo Courtesy of the Daily Republic

Similarly, a student who prefers not to be named said, "I work for a business that is established. I don't feel the effects of business closures, but I do feel like I'm paid less (hourly) than people at new companies and am forced to work more. I think established businesses can get away with that because they can guarantee that they'll still be paying you in a year."

However, some students are experiencing only benefits from the high business — and employee — turnover rate. Erin Gordon and her new husband, Matt, are a part of this group.

"Well, that's how Matt got his job so that's how it affected both of us," she said.

Conservice, Matt's employer, is "expanding exponentially" right now, opening up numer-

ous jobs for students.

Conservice was founded in 2000 and has been able to defy Cache Valley's high turnover rate, allowing it to thrive and expand while others try to stay afloat. This expansion makes a full circle by increasing employment opportunities for students within a well-established network that doesn't require overworking them because of sporadic employment.

Another logical benefit students see is that for every business that closes, there becomes a spot for a new business. New businesses mean new services, employment opportunities, leadership and managerial positions.

However, new and local businesses also provide benefits that aren't necessarily obvious. Dr. Stephan Goetz is a professor at Penn State who specializes in economic

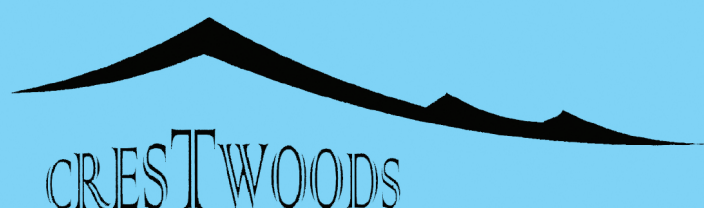
growth and regional economics. He is one of many who offers these less obvious benefits.

His main argument is that new and local businesses tend to use the services of other local businesses, which allows many of the local businesses to thrive. Having more local businesses integrated, there is more potential for employment and higher profits.

"The best strategy is to help people start new businesses and firms locally and help them grow and be successful," Goetz said.

Either by creating new employment opportunities, overworking students, driving down pay or causing high management turnover, it is clear that Utah State's working students cannot escape high business turnover unaffected.

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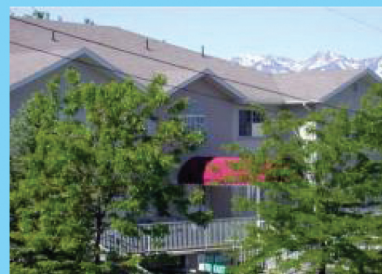
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# T&M

## TECH AND MONEY

# Students benefit from low gas prices

By **Jordan Floyd**  
STAFF WRITER

Life is easier for Utah State University students at the pump, as gas prices continue to fall and are projected to remain low for the remainder of 2016.

The U.S. Energy Information Administrative (EIA) released their "Short-Term Energy Outlook" report on Feb. 9. The report forecasts prices in 2016 at all-time lows — \$1.98 per gallon, on average. The EIA's prediction for 2016 is over a dollar less than the average price in 2014, and nearly fifty cents less than the average price in 2015.

"Nobody knows for sure if the prices will stay low, but the experts believe they will be steady for the remainder of this year," said Dr. Dwight Israelsen, a USU professor in the economics and finance department.

Low oil prices are a result of the multi-national oil cartel OPEC increasing oil production and cutting prices in an attempt to remove American producers from the market.

"What OPEC is trying to do now is drive the price down so low that it will put shale oil producers in the U.S. out of business and remove competition," Israelsen said. "If they can do that, then the goal is to restrict the supply of oil and drive the price up again to where they want it to be."

Many USU students, however, are unaware

of the current situation with OPEC.

"I know that we get our oil from different countries," said Gabi Mascarenas, a freshman student at USU. "But I don't really know why prices go up so high or so low."

Mascarenas believes most students don't know what affects gas prices because it's simply not in their spectrum of concern. Michael Ryan, a Huntsman Scholar and senior at USU majoring in economics, shares Mascarenas' sentiment.

"I think it matters in the sense of becoming an informed citizen and understanding the world around you," Ryan said. "I think the average student won't be affected by knowing why gas prices are so low — but at the same time, I still think it's important to understand what's happening in the broader world."

Regardless of whether students understand how the global oil markets function, low gas prices will surely benefit travelling USU students.

"I feel like a lot of people are going to start driving more and take advantage of gas prices," Mascarenas said.

Although the present situation is good, it is unstable.

"Nobody knows for sure if the prices will stay low, but the experts believe it will stay low for the remainder of this year," Israelsen said. "Whether they fall further or not depends on if OPEC agrees to keep production at its current level."

## Pocket Points app gains popularity

By **Megan Checketts**  
STAFF WRITER

More student deals could be right around the corner through a new app that is gaining popularity at Utah State University.

Pocket Points encourages students to quit using their phones during class by rewarding them with points while their phones are locked. Those points can then be exchanged for discounts at local restaurants and businesses around Logan.

According to the Pocket Points website, the app was started in 2014 by two students at Chico State University in Chico, California who wanted to incentivize students to stay focused in class. The app is now being used at over 190 colleges and universities throughout the United States. Utah State University began using Pocket Points just over a semester ago and students seem to have lots to say about it.

"My favorite thing about Pocket Points," said Lane Tait, math education major "is the overall incentive it gives students to stay off their phones while in class and earn points towards discounts at local restaurants. I think it's a genius idea."

The Pocket Points app gives 10 automatic points to users who invite their friends to join.

"I told lots of my friends, and they told their friends, and news of how great it was just spread like wildfire," said Ashley Nielson, a freshman who is currently sixth on the leaderboard that is included in the app. "I have so many points that I don't even know what to do with all of them. I liked getting free pizza from Pizza Pie Café."

The leaderboard motivates Brian Adair, who regularly makes his way to the top numbers of the leaderboard, to stay off his phone during class.

"What I like most about Pocket Points is just that little bit of extra motivation to not use my phone in class," he said. "The competition to be first for the day and week sometimes makes me stay on campus and study longer."

The app has also become a way to socialize with friends, Adair said.

"Everyone in our study group used it during homework and once a week we would go get free pizza after we got done with our assignment."

Other students want better prizes available than what the app currently offers.

Student Thomas Hill said, "The things they offer aren't as tantalizing as escaping the boredom of some lectures. I think if it were more popular here in Logan, a lot more local restaurants would want to participate and offer discounts through the app."

From the businesses end, the app seems to be helping Morty's Café, one of the most popular businesses featured on the app.

Caleb Barclay, a Morty's employee, said: "It's a cool idea. Lots of people come in and use that app. Most use our 'Iconic Burger and Fries for \$5' discount. I feel like it's helped get the word out about Morty's."

Josh Carlisle, a junior studying marketing, uses the app regularly. He uses a good chunk of points at Morty's.

A friend who wanted to get the 10 free points first introduced Carlisle to the app. After he began using Pocket Points, he thought it was a great idea and contacted the app's founders in California. They offered him a position to be the Pocket Points Student Representative for Utah State University.

With this position, Carlisle does his best to promote the app to the students by giving short presentations to classes.

"I'm surprised at how many people recognize me as the Pocket Points guy. I wasn't expecting that," Carlisle said.

He explained that the app is created so that the more students who are online at one time, the faster the points are added. There is also an in-app suggestion box where users can go in and suggest places they wished offered discounts.

"The more suggestions that there are for a certain business, the more incentive that business has to join. I think the number one request we have right now is Café Rio. Hopefully we can get them on board soon," Carlisle said.

The app makes sense for students, Adair said.

"I would recommend the app for people who already spend a lot of time on campus," he said. "It is rewarding to go and get a free treat or a discount because you've been studying all day."

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PHOTO BY **Jessica Barber**  
Gas prices outside of Smith's

Currently, OPEC is producing more oil than can be refined. Such a practice will not result in any upward pressure on oil prices. Their strategy, Israelsen says, is problematic because even if OPEC drives American producers out of the market now — to the point where they can again raise oil prices with minimal competition — once the price rises high enough, it will again be profitable for American companies to produce oil, allowing American producers back into the market.

"If it is profitable in the U.S. to extract oil from shale at \$40 a barrel — which it is — as soon as the price of oil gets back above \$40 a

barrel, those wells will open again," Israelsen said. "In the long run, OPEC's strategy to drive shale oil producers out of the business isn't good."

No matter a student's knowledge of oil markets, the effects are felt the same. Despite uncertainty, gas prices should remain low for the remainder of the year and on into 2017, benefiting USU students.

"Times are good right now for students," Israelsen said. "And I think that will continue for at least a year."

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## "Elections Committee" FROM PAGE 1

Center's Hub at noon and it will be a "get to know your candidates" lunch with a Minute-to-Win-It game that the candidates will participate in. The candidates will be given time to talk to students after the game. The lunch on Thursday will also be held in the Hub at noon, and this will be with the final candidates, who will be playing a game of Fear Factor.

There will also be speeches, debates and campaigns going on throughout the week.

Monday and Tuesday are dedicated to the primaries, and Wednesday and Thursday are dedicated to finals, where the two highest

voted candidates of each position will give their final debates and campaigns.

The facilitators for the 2016 elections are: Jordan Floyd, Kent Carpenter, Sarah Winder, Marissa Neeley, Lauren Morrill, Jonathan Conger and Nick Clason.

The Greek Liaison is Ashley Lindberg, the Resident Hall Liaison is Ryan Wallentine and the Statesman/Aggie Radio Liaison is Shanie Howard. The MST Liaisons are Ashley Raymond, Jallen Tollefson and Romney Allen.

Advisors on the committee are: Linda Zimmerman, Nate Laursen, Stefanie Brooksby and Kevin Webb.

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# Writing Center isn't just for writers

By **Miranda Lorenc**  
SENIOR WRITER

Watercolors, pen and ink, photography and more line the walls as a new student showcases their artwork each month.

The art isn't in a gallery or museum, but in the student Writing Center, located in the basement of the Ray B. West building.

"It's really fun to see a new artist every month," said Jessica Christiansen, a graduate student in English creative writing. "I always come in here and [I'm] like, 'Oh boy, it's the first day of the month. We get to see someone's stuff.'"

The Writing Center also showcases broadsides from Helicon West readings, said Shay Larsen, the art coordinator for the rotating exhibit at the Writing Center and a graduate student in literature. She said featuring student artwork adds a fun, visual element to the space.

Christiansen is February's student spotlight. Her paintings use a mixture of watercolor and ink.

"It was in my AP art class and we had to pick a theme," Christiansen said, "so I decided to do mostly underwater things above water, which is why there are sea horses in a nest and other such things like that."

Christiansen brought out her artwork after a last-minute cancellation left the Writing Center without a February student showcase.

"You can feature any theme that you want, but I like seeing work in these bright, vibrant colors," Larsen said.

Seeing the artistic techniques from their classes reflected in the student's artwork shows what the students are learning from their programs, Larsen said.

The idea to showcase student artwork came from Star Coulbrooke, the Writing Center's director, as a way to promote collaboration with the college of the arts, said Rachel Telfer, a senior in English.

"Like now we have a Science Writing Center, so there's a combination of English and



PHOTO BY Mark Bell  
Jessica Christiansen, the featured artist at the writing center, helps Kaelton Heil with his writing.

science, there's a combination of English and art," Telfer said. "So she is always looking for things, how to collaborate with other fields and anything, she's really good at that."

Having a showcase in the Writing Center is an opportunity for artists to practice professional exhibitions, Larsen said. They make labels, set up and organize the artwork and have announcements made for them.

"Exhibitions are going to be a lot of the things that the art students will do as they're graduating," Larsen said. "Their capstones and their thesis projects and things like that, their portfolios of the ends of their college careers, they're going to be a lot like this."

Students from any major or department are

encouraged to submit their artwork, and all mediums and subjects are welcomed to be showcased, she said.

"Last month we had a pottery major featured and she just took pictures of her artwork and then we featured those," she said.

The Writing Center exhibit is a good resource for students of any major, including artists and scientists, Christiansen said.

"Engineering students express themselves by, like, building things, right? Science students can get their ideas out by doing experiments," Christiansen said, "so maybe it's not like, 'well here's my soul,' but they are still exploring the world, and writing is one of the ways people can do that."

Students can make a Writing Center appointment for help writing or editing scholarships, job applications, resumes, essays or anything else, Larsen said.

"If you can express yourself one way, maybe you'll be able to express yourself better other ways," Christiansen said, "but at least if you can express yourself through writing, that's one thing you can do."

Artists interested in showcasing their work in the Writing Center can contact Larsen at [usuwcartexhibit@gmail.com](mailto:usuwcartexhibit@gmail.com) or [Coulbrooke@star.coulbrooke@usu.edu](mailto:Coulbrooke@star.coulbrooke@usu.edu).

- [lormialor@gmail.com](mailto:lormialor@gmail.com)

# 'Hallelujah Trombone' a tribute to long-time trombone professor

By **Eddie Collins**  
WRITER

For the past 25 years, Todd Fallis has been a beloved figure in Utah State University's music department. Last Saturday, the band program commemorated his time here with a spectacular concert, "Hallelujah Trombone."

Fallis said having a concert dedicated to him was "pretty rockin'."

"We've got 35 alumni from 14 different states, graduates spanning from 1993 all the way through Christmas time last year," he said.

The 35 alumni, along with an ensemble of students, came together to form a low brass choir, which took center stage in the packed Taggart Student Center Ballroom. Every one of the musicians studied the art of low brass performance under Fallis, who joined USU's staff as the professor of trombone in 1991.

Todd Fallis is popular among his students. Hannah Collins, majoring in business administration, has played in Fallis' trombone ensemble for the last three years.

"He's hilarious. Kind of sassy too," Collins said. "He's definitely fun to be around."

David Young, a trombone and euphonium player majoring in music education, praised Fallis' effectiveness as a teacher.

"He's really helped me tap my potential," Young said. "He's good at encouraging his students. At one point last semester, I was feeling really discouraged, but he helped me get over the rough spots in my playing and showed me that I'm capable of more than I thought I was."

"Hallelujah Trombone" was no sudden arrangement. Thomas P. Rohrer, conductor of

both the Wind Orchestra and Symphonic Band, said the idea had been around since May 2015.

"Loads of preparations have gone into this," Rohrer said. "We've been rehearsing the music since the beginning of the semester, and we've been setting up this ballroom all day."

The combined brass choir shared the stage with both of Rohrer's ensembles, adding up to over 150 musicians in the front of the ballroom. Each ensemble delivered its own unique performance throughout the night.

The night kicked off with a modern arrangement of Richard Wagner's "Prelude to Act 3, Lohengrin," an uptempo piece that showcased the wind orchestra's low brass sections with a triumphant melody that soared over the accompanying woodwinds and percussion. It was followed by a piece from the symphonic band, and a bass trombone solo featuring Fallis himself, accompanied by the wind orchestra.

Despite the performances being quite professional, the overall environment of the audience was casual. A baby crying, a little girl telling her mommy she was hungry and the chatter of an elderly couple were all heard between the deeply resonant notes from Fallis' trombone.

Standout performances included the Wind Orchestra's chilling portrayal of "and the mountains rising nowhere," the combined effort of the Orchestra and Brass Choir on the lengthy, yet intriguing "Music for a Festival," and the world premiere performance of "Silver Legacy," written by Rohrer and dedicated to Fallis.



PHOTO BY Jessica Barber  
The USU Alumni from the past 25 years, who all returned in honor of Dr. Todd L. Fallace.

"We've been buddies since I got here 18 years ago," Rohrer said.

If a career is like a child, Fallis is a family man.

"The years have gone by so fast," Fallis reflected. "As I look through the program and

see all the years that have gone by, memories flood back from all the students I had. It's like raising a child, dedicating so much of your career in one place."

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# Two students embark on nine-day civil rights pilgrimage

By Hannah McDonald  
WRITER

Utah State University students Lauren Mata and Juan Jarlin de Leon couldn't be there to support Rosa Parks when she refused to relinquish her bus seat because of her race.

They weren't around to participate in the subsequent bus boycotts, to fight for the Little Rock Nine to attend Central High School or to hear Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream for a better future.

Beginning Feb. 27, however, they will embark on a pilgrimage that will take them to all those sites and more. Mata and de Leon, along with 50 other students from the University of Washington and Bellevue College, will spend nine days in the Deep South visiting historic locations from the civil rights movement.

Jason Gilmore, assistant professor of global communications at USU, is one of the original founders of the pilgrimage.

"It was inspired by a trip that myself, the guy who runs the show up at Washington and two of my friends did," Gilmore said. "We went on this weird road trip that was supposed to be about baseball games and zip lines and rafting. But we ended up in Selma, Alabama and then we ended up in Birmingham. We didn't go to any baseball games. Instead, we started looking up other civil rights locations throughout the south. We found our way through Mississippi, through Alabama, from Selma to Birmingham, to all of these amazing locations. Coming back, we said to each other that this can't be something that just the four of us experience."

Following their road trip, Gilmore and his colleagues established a massive intercollegiate pilgrimage for a multiracial, multigenerational, multinational group of students with different sexual orientations and from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds.

"We're trying to take as diverse a crowd as possible into a trip that dives deep into the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s," Gilmore said.

Gilmore has completed the trip four times, but this will only be his second time taking students. Mata and de Leon were chosen from 23 applicants in the College of Humanities and



PHOTO BY Johnny Morris  
Jason Gilmore, assistant professor of global communication, along with Lauren Mata and Jarlin De Leon, students at USU, preparing for their civil rights pilgrimage to the deep south.

Social Sciences.

Mata, a senior majoring in history, first heard about the pilgrimage last year in Gilmore's Intercultural Communications class.

"I knew that they were going out on this experience, so then I went to their group talk," she said. "I was blown away. When I saw the application opportunity, I knew I had to do it."

The pilgrimage is both emotionally and historically intense, keeping students busy from around 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. each day. Mata is most looking forward to visiting Little Rock, Arkansas.

"I didn't know very much about the Little Rock Nine going into this experience," Mata said, "but I'm really looking forward to going there. Just the dedication they had, and the strength, in the face of such discrimination. It's just absolutely inspiring."

De Leon, a junior studying global communications, is most eager to see the cultural

change in Mississippi.

"Based on all the descriptions and stories I have read and heard about this place," he said, "I have created in my head an image of a very terrifying state where discrimination and segregation was the worst during the 50's and 60's. I want to be able to see and witness for myself the change society has undergone there in terms of race. I want to compare what I have read to the reality of what I will live and see while I'm there."

Mata, de Leon and Gilmore intend to use their pilgrimage as a vehicle to voice support for further social justice improvement.

Individuals, Gilmore said, can make an enormous impact in the social justice arena by simply letting others voice their perspectives.

"I think that's the core thing," Gilmore said. "The idea that everyone has to be allowed to speak their truth. Whether you disagree with it, agree with it, it doesn't matter. Allow them

to get to the end of their ability to speak their truth, instead of reacting to it. And then trust in the fact that they will give you the same space to speak your truth. And really, at the end of the day, when we can feel unfettered in giving our side of things, we end up realizing how common we really are."

As individual and influential as the pilgrimage will be for Mata and de Leon, Gilmore said that it has been his vision from the beginning to include the entire Utah State University community. Starting on Friday, interested students can follow their journey on Facebook, Instagram or Utah Public Radio's "Stories from the Road."

"This needs to be an experience that not just the three of us have, but one that we can share as widely as possible with Utah State, and with Utah communities," Gilmore said.

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## STUDENT SUBMISSION

Excerpt from Chaille Kitchen's short story, "Cantique de Noël." Find the full version online at <http://usstatesman.com/student-submission-cantique-de-noel/>.

Synopsis: On a cold December night on the Western Front, French Colonel Philippe Devereux fights for his life and that of a young, enemy soldier whilst holding fast to thoughts of hope and home.

## Cantique de Noel

The church bell sounded a long time. A line of carriages rolled onto the property; all of their friends and family came over to the black poplar tree, while the bell kept tolling, tolling across the silence of the countryside and through the hollowness of winter. Philippe trudged through the crystalline snow, holding tightly to his wife's hand and his breath curling white before him. With a heavy heart, he walked with Angela to where the priest stood over the open grave, silhouetted against the mourning rays of golden repose. He halted with her before the casket, standing near the ground where he'd buried old Selene and Ranier many years ago, and rested a hand on the spot where the sun kissed the smooth wood.

"Adieu, chère sœur," he whispered. Goodbye, dear sister.

Beside him, Angela's blue eyes softened to match the hue of the dawning sky, and she squeezed his hand with all the empathy of a devoted wife. "It's not goodbye, darling," she said. "Death is not silence, but a whisper."

Philippe looked over at his wife, appreciative of her gentle understanding, and it was her strength that saw him through Fae's services. With his friends and family all gathered round in shared grief, he listened to the pious words of comfort and hope from his family priest and envisioned not the Fae of the past few weeks—the woman ravaged with sickness—but the sweet and glowing Fae of his youth, so full of life and love. He remem-

bered her springtime smile, her morning eyes, and her undying spirit which graced the lives of all she touched and remained unmarred by the bitterness of the world. Angela was right, and he could almost feel someone else standing on the other side of him, a familiar perception warming his sorrowful heart.

He admitted then, in his own way, that this barrenness of winter didn't last forever. Beneath the thick blanket of snow, the fields of green grass hadn't died, but only slept, and new life was sure to come.

-Chaille Kitchen is a junior majoring in environmental studies, and her hometown is Cedar Valley, Utah. She's been writing all her life, and when she's not writing, she's taking pictures of life, volunteering where she can or reading great books.

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# Miss American Indian USU crowned

By Isabel Forinash  
WRITER

On Feb. 18, the Native American Student Council held its annual Miss American Indian USU Pageant in the Taggart Student Center Auditorium.

According to its school-sponsored website, the NASC seeks to find the beauty within Native American cultures, and every year the pageant acts as an agent to further enhance appreciation for the native people of America.

Before formally introducing the girls, Darren Parry, vice chairman of the Northwest Band of Shoshone Nation Tribal Council, expressed the meaning behind the talents and traditions the contestants would be presenting.

“We pride ourselves on being members of a society that makes a contribution,” Parry said. “The most successful Native Americans today are those who can best balance culture and change. I hope we can always celebrate differences and work hard together for our futures.”

For the pageant, four girls were chosen to compete as a representation of their tribal lineage and American Indian culture. The girls were expected to showcase their contemporary and traditional talents as well as answer impromptu questions written by the judges.

“We are looking for an all-around representative of Utah State,” said Cheryl Muir, one of the four judges for the event. “We are not judging on who is the most Indian, but rather on who’s a hard worker and who will represent the culture well.”

In light of these expectations, the girls had prepared themselves many weeks in advance for the night of events.

For the contemporary talents segment, contestants Tyra Hardin and Jasmine Despain



(LEFT) Denishia Tsosie did a jingle dance for her traditional category performance. (RIGHT) Jasmine Despain does a Navajo hair tying demonstration for her traditional category dance performance.



performed original poetry passages, many of which referenced the Bear River Massacre and how it affected them and their ancestors.

Contestant Denishia Tsosie presented her original pieces of watercolor art that she explained as symbolic of her love for Father Sky and Mother Earth.

While presenting her contemporary talent for modeling and beadwork, Kyra John said: “Much of my talent requires patience and discipline.”

The girls also performed traditional talents that were more of a representation of ancient Native American traditions. This segment of the pageant consisted of jingle dancing by Tyra Hardin and Denishia Tsosie, fancy shawl dancing by Kyra John and a how-to on creating the traditional Navajo hair bun by Jasmine Despain.

For the final segment of the pageant, the four girls were asked two questions: one contemporary and one traditional.

According to the judges, the questions were meant not only to determine their knowledge on their Native American heritage, but were also used as an assessment of their confidence and thoughtfulness.

Jasmine Despain was announced and crowned by last year’s winner, Courtney Mae Muir, as Miss American Indian USU for the 2015-2016 school year.

Throughout the pageant, MCs Joseph Busby and Nahomi Jimenez kept the crowd entertained with humor, raffle tickets and fun facts about the American Indian culture that is in Utah and is represented at Utah State.

Guest appearances and entertainment for the evening included Parry a dance perfor-

mance by another one of Utah State’s Access and Diversity clubs, the Polynesian Student Union and a poetry reading by Stacie Denesiosie, president of NASC.

“I want to say thank you,” Despain said. “I’m really proud of myself and I’m proud of my culture and I’m really thankful to the Access and Diversity Center for letting me think I can do this.”

The Access and Diversity Center occasionally organizes events like the Miss American Indian Pageant for each of the multicultural clubs. The next event for the NASC will be the 43rd Annual USU Pow Wow, “Echoing Traditional Ways,” which will be held from Friday at 7 p.m. to Saturday at 11 p.m.

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# Meat and greet

By Cole Hammond  
WRITER

The College of Agricultural and Applied Science (CAAS) held its 9th annual chili cook-off on Saturday. For just \$3, attendees could enjoy a wide variety of chilis prepared by a host of chefs all hoping to win their chili claim to fame.

“Who doesn’t like chili?” said junior Ian Sroufe, a member of student council who helped organize the event.

Contestants in the cook-off could enter into traditional, non-traditional or spicy categories. The most talked about award was the coveted Golden Crockpot, awarded to the department that could make the best chili. The competition is stiff, and each department pours both time and love into their chili in an attempt to win their department glory.

This year’s winner, Michael Pate of the School Applied Sciences, Technology and Education believes that a good chili takes time, the right combination of flavors and letting the chili speak for itself.

“It’s an awesome event; we get to come together as a college and support one of our own,” Pate said.

Every year, the CAAS picks one student who

is in need of financial assistance and donates the proceeds of the night’s event to them. CAAS student volunteers come together and spend numerous hours planning to give back to one to their own.

“It’s a tradition, and the money we make here goes to a good cause,” said Robbie Johnson, a senior majoring in animal, dairy and veterinary sciences.

This year, the proceeds went to a student to help pay medical bills associated with heart problems.

This year’s chili cook-off boasted a record number of attendees at 225. The organizers of the event believe this is likely because of an increase in outreach to CAAS alumni who came out in droves to enjoy the night.

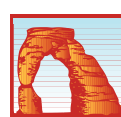
“This event is way fun and I’m excited about how many people came this year,” said Courtney Bennet, a senior majoring in animal, dairy and veterinary sciences.

Even with a room packed full of people, the cook-off felt like a great big family dinner as students and alumni alike enjoyed a live country swing band and mouthful after mouthful of deliciously fresh chili.

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# From Oklahoma to Utah, Miles leads on and off court

By Bianca Pahl  
WRITER

In a small town called Geary, Oklahoma, a young Native American girl, with a strong sense of leadership, grew up playing basketball on a dirt paved driveway with a rollaway hoop. Over 10 years later that little girl now plays basketball on polished wood with a glass backboard.

Mariah Miles finishes up her last season playing basketball for Utah State University this year.

"It's bittersweet but it's been a blessing," Miles said.

Miles really started to take basketball seriously in sixth grade, when her father poured a concrete-slab half court at their house so she could practice her skills.

Miles's father, Gib Miles, played basketball for Southern Nazarene University from 1974 to 1979. He raised all four of his daughters to play basketball. Miles crafted her technique with the help of her competitive sisters and father.

Utah State women's basketball coach Jerry Finkbeiner played basketball with Miles's father and they remained friends throughout their lives. Finkbeiner has been in Miles's life since she was born.

When Miles graduated from Calumet High School, Finkbeiner recruited her to play for him at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"She was the best player on the team her senior year in high school," Finkbeiner said.

After one year at Oral Roberts, Miles followed Finkbeiner to USU.

"It's been really fun playing for coach Fink," Miles said. "I always wanted to play for him."

Miles redshirted her first year at USU and then played the next three years for the Aggies.

"The atmosphere of Aggie athletics and the support that they give to their athletes has been a great experience," Miles said.

Miles plays guard for the team. She has played in 67 games, starting in one of those games in her college career at USU.

"I know my role on this team," Miles said. "I take pride in my defense and taking care of the ball, making right decisions, listening to coach and knowing what he wants. All of that comes with experience."



According to Finkbeiner and Micha Thompson, an assistant coach for the team, Miles is their reserve player who is stable and reliable.

"She knows and we know we can put her on the floor and she stabilizes the group," Thompson said. "We needed that leadership on the floor with our team being so young."

Miles's teammates share the same amount of trust in her as the coaching staff does.

"She knows her exact role and she knows exactly how to play it out," said sophomore guard Funda Nakkasoglu. "You can count on her to get the job done."

Thompson said she was once talking about Miles's senior night and she started to tear up.

"We're going to have a hard time replacing her in our program," Thompson said. "She takes care of everyone and does a good job of making everyone feel like family on the team."

Miles brings stability, trust and leadership not only on the court but also off the court.

Finkbeiner said she is the face of the program. She is very involved in the community, she creates an environment where everyone participates and she is always the one to lead youth camps and set a good example for them said Finkbeiner.

"When I was a freshman I had a good example of seniors to look up to on how to



PHOTO COURTESY OF USU Athletics and Mariah Miles  
(TOP) Mariah Miles celebrates a three-pointer during a game in the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. (BOTTOM) Miles poses with her teammates when she started playing at age six.

lead," Miles said. "Overall, I'm just trying to be the best teammate I can on and off the court and always show support for my teammates."

Miles's Native American heritage has influenced who she is as a person and as a player. Her Native American culture is very family oriented. Support and having each other's backs is a very big part of the culture

Miles said.

"Being Native American, I always know there are people behind me," Miles said.

Miles recalls a story her dad used to tell about a warrior who went into battle knowing

see "Miles" PAGE 8

# Movin' back up: USU to return to D-1

By Ben Fordham  
WRITER

Utah State has rejoined the Rocky Mountain Lacrosse Conference as a Division-I program following a 12-5 season as a Division-II team.

This season began with a 31-3 loss to division rival Brigham Young.

"We have big plans this year to make the playoffs," said junior face-off specialist Marshall McGill. "We want to win our conference like we did in D-II last year. We're excited and we've been working hard since the loss to BYU."

"The RMLC is one of the toughest conferences in the country," said first-year head coach Kevin Mann. "I know we can compete with these teams, we just need to buckle down and keep working hard."

Mann's first season as head coach follows the final season of his collegiate career as an Aggie midfielder.

"Going from player to coach in less than a year was a little surprising," Mann said. "The main advantage is that the guys listen to what I have to say because they've seen me play and know what I can do on the field."



File Photo  
Marshall McGill finds a teammate to pass to during a match against Weber State last spring on the Legacy Fields in Logan.

The players are happy to have a coach they know well.

"I really enjoy playing for a former teammate," McGill said. "His coaching style is

understandable for me since I've played with him before and I know how he works."

USU's next game will be played on the road against Boise State on Feb 26. The Aggies'

home opener is scheduled to take place on April 1 against Colorado.

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# Aggies win by their chinny-chin

**By Kalen Taylor**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Utah State women's basketball beat Nevada 70-55 at home on Wednesday night.

The Aggies improved to 12-14 and 7-8 in the Mountain West. Nevada dropped to 5-21 and 4-11 in the MW.

"Tonight, we had more threat on the ball," said USU coach Jerry Finkbeiner. "In the third quarter we kind of lost that ball pressure, but they, we started three freshmen and two sophomores. They are our future and we're getting better."

Freshman center Deja Mason paced the Aggies with 11 points and 10 rebounds, her first career double-double. She also added an assist, two blocks and a steal to her total.

"A lot of the post players have helped me because I'm one of the youngest posts," Mason said. "They've really helped me work on my post moves, get stronger and finish better.

Overall, they just help me do what I'm supposed to."

USU built up a big lead in the first half and led 40-26 at the break. In the third quarter, Nevada came out shooting well and Utah State went cold.

"We knew they had a strong post game," Mason said. "We knew we were going to have to come out strong and do it on defense. Defense was the most important thing."

It took more than four minutes for the Aggies to get a bucket in the second half. Funda Nakkasoglu broke the scoring drought with a circus shot and a free throw. The four-minute scoring lull let Nevada cut the lead down to four points with seven minutes to play in the game. However, seven turnovers in the next five minutes doomed the Wolfpack's comeback attempt.

Nakkasoglu finished the game with 25 points on 11 of 17 shooting, she also added six assists. Forward Teige Zeller and guard Stephanie Schmid were the leading scorers for Nevada with 13 points each, Zeller also had nine rebounds.

Forwards Julianne Anchling, Angelica de Paulo, Antiona Robinson and Tijana Djukic all played extended minutes due to early foul trouble from starter Hannah Hutchins. Robinson had eight points, Anchling had five

and the four combined for 12 rebounds. Hutchins fouled out with 2:09 left in the third quarter.

"It's a process of development," Finkbeiner said. "Tonight, she was the wrong person in the wrong place. I don't fault Hannah at all. I would rather have a girl foul out than be a passive player. She wanted to be a player, you can't fault that."

Utah State has three more regular season games before starting the MW tournament on March 7. After a road game against San Jose State on Saturday, the Aggies final home game is on Tuesday against Air Force.

"We're getting better in small steps," Finkbeiner said. "We're heading into the conference tournament and we can beat anyone on any given night. I just hope those nights line up for us."

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(LEFT) Deja Mason goes up for a layup on Wednesday against Nevada. She had a stellar game scoring 11 points and racking up 10 rebounds. (RIGHT) Rachel Brewster takes a shot over a Wolfpack defender. Brewster scored four points in the game and pulled down five rebounds. The Aggies won the game 70-55.



PHOTOS BY Kalen Taylor

## "Modifications" FROM PAGE 1

boards for these cases will now consist solely of faculty and staff members who have received specialized training in sexual misconduct and sensitivity.

The next item that was discussed was a new testing center set to open on campus this fall. The testing center will be attached to the south side of the library near the business building. Though it will be attached to the library, the library will not be accessible via the testing center — students must still enter through the east entrance.

USU currently operates a small testing center in the Distance Education building, but the expansion of online classes, and the subsequent increase in the number of tests that need to be proctored has necessitated a higher-capacity facility. The new testing center will offer approximately 200 comfortable, roomy desks for students to test in, said Chris Dayley, E-learning Support Coordinator.

Dayley said the center will provide tablet computers to students who are testing online, and that hopefully the tablet accessibility and transition to Canvas will help eliminate the need for Scantron tests. The center will allow students to schedule their tests in advance, and won't be bound by the library's schedule.

When one of the council members asked how many students would be employed at the

center, Dayley replied that it will likely take 40 to 50 proctors to help the center run smoothly. The center will hold a town hall before the center opens to gather teacher input. Beards will likely be allowed.

The Executive Council also passed a bill that provides funds and support for Aggie Radio to purchase Low Power FM broadcast equipment. Aggie Radio has a permit that will expire on March 15, and the one-time \$21,000 payment will aid Aggie Radio in its transition to a better broadcast format that doesn't require the same permit.

Also up for discussion was a charter for the USUSA Student Alumni Association Vice President. The SAA VP position has existed and operated without a charter in years prior, but on Tuesday, the Executive Council formally approved one. It was drafted and presented by the current SAA VP, Oakman Kennedy.

USUSA Programming VP Sawyer Hemsley said the new charter laid out clear expectations for the position, and was consistent with the charters of other USUSA positions. Senator Aller and USUSA President Trevor Olsen both amended the charter, but made only minor changes in phrasing and language.

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## "Miles" FROM PAGE 7

he was alone. He stuck his lance in the ground to declare battle and moments later the rest of his tribe too stuck their lances in the ground to show that they were behind him.

"My parents and sisters have continuously reminded me they are there for me with their lances behind me," Miles said.

**Overall, I'm just trying to be the best teammate I can on and off the court and always show support for my teammates.**

— Mariah Miles

Thompson said she noticed how special Miles's Native American heritage is to her.

"She's doing it for her sisters on the floor with her and she does it for her family back home," Thompson said. "She makes them proud."

"I feel secure and I always know she has my back when she's on the court," Nakkasoglu said.

Miles's work ethic stands out as much as her leadership and support.

"I don't think I've ever had a down practice by Mariah," Finkbeiner said. "She's always

ready and that takes emotional, mental and physical perspective to never have an off day."

Finkbeiner said that is the "ultimate respect and compliment that you can give a player."

"Mariah has a blue collar work ethic," Thompson said. "She picks a skill or something extra to work on every year in the off season."

Nakkasoglu said Miles has a "never give up"

kind of attitude.

"She is always going to make you look better and feel better after you come in contact with her," Thompson said. "She's an incredibly strong young lady that I have had the privilege to know for the last six years."

Miles will still be a part of USU while she finishes her second bachelor's in business administration but she will play the final games of her college career in March.

"It's been quite a ride," Miles said.

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# Statesman View: Pros and cons of final USUSA election candidates

Editor's note: This pros and cons list was compiled by the Statesman Editorial Board. While each candidate has many things we could say about them, we decided to try and keep the lists short. We are not endorsing any candidates with this list.

## USUSA PRESIDENT

MITCHELL STEVENS

### PROS:

- \* Has experience in different areas of campus: President's Cabinet, Service Center, Student Conduct Hearing Board.
- \* Wants and plans to work with diverse group of students on important USUSA issues and to create an Aggie Support Network for mental health awareness.
- \* Has started working with organizations and leaders to help with changes: current student body president, dining services.

### CONS:

- \* Not much experience with student government and other boards at USU.
- \* Some unrealistic goals and plans that would also be pretty costly, specifically dining service and free online textbooks.

## ASHLEY WADDOUPS

### PROS:

- \* Current officer with experience on USUSA that could help with learning curve in presidential office and working on executive council.
- \* Has specific goals for talking to students about issues they want resolved through Pizza with the President, and specifically wanting to increase visibility of student fees.

- \* Has plans to increase mental health awareness with more additions to the initiatives, including lobbying to hire more mental health professionals, and the 911 Cellular app.

### CONS:

- \* Focuses a lot on transparency, which isn't actually much of an issue. Officers tell students anything they ask, especially where to find fees. Also, fees are mostly the executive VP's concern.
- \* Cost of lowering wait times for more help with psychological services is a good objective, but could be costly and somewhat unrealistic to expect soon.

## EXECUTIVE VP

RYAN BENTALL

### PROS:

- \* Wants to get more students involved in student fee decision process, and for awareness of fees.

- \* Wants to try and combat depression and anxiety on campus in a different way.



PHOTO BY Johnny Morris  
Brenna Kelly responds to a question during the Statesman debate on February 23rd in the Hub.

### CONS:

- \* Experience in committees related to EC limited; most experience is in School of Business.

## MAEGAN KASTELEK

### PROS:

- \* Has experience in variety of things that USUSA EC oversees, as well as SAA and college council member involvement.
- \* Has proven she can think critically on student fees (sat on student fee board this past year).

### CONS:

- \* Goals on textbooks are specific, but may be too difficult to accomplish.

## STUDENT ADVOCATE VP

MATTHEW CLEWETT

### PROS:

- \* Experience on Government Relations Council and with lobbying for students directly and with other students and leaders.
- \* Has specific plans with new webpage for fees and better lobbying training for GRC, things that can matter more to students

### CONS:

- \* Most of his experience in advocating for students outside of lobbying is at another school and in a different position.
- \* Goals in regards to increasing awareness of USUSA programs and GRC a bit vague.

## BRENNA KELLY

### PROS:

- \* Has specific plans that are already being put into action to help students with housing problems.
- \* Wants to implement long-term solutions for aiding students with issues/problems they may have, and has ideas to do so.

### CONS:

- \* USU would lose her as an investigative reporter as she advocates for students.
- \* Hasn't done much legislating or lobbying. Little GRC experience.

## ATHLETICS & CAMPUS RECREATION VP

BLAKE LYMAN

### PROS:

- \* Been around HURD management, athletics and President's Cabinet.
- \* Specific goals in regards to events for games and HURD stuff BUT....

### CONS:

- \* These events and his plans to boost attendance at them could be VERY costly-- where will the money come from, with wanting to give so many rewards for HURD program and drone dollar drop idea (and not knowing how funding for athletics will stretch, anyway..).
- \* Plans in regards to campus rec and increasing capabilities of ARC somewhat vague.

## NOLAN WILCOCK

### PROS:

- \* Spirit Squad. Has experience with athletes and those involved with athletics.
- \* Knows the people who could probably help in some efforts to increase spirit at events.
- \* Wants to better promote both men's and women's sporting events.

### CONS:

- \* Spirit Squad. Still going to do both? How will that work?
- \* Goals seem to be specific, but plans to reach the goals are a bit vague or impossible?

## PROGRAMMING VP

RYAN JENSEN

### PROS:

- \* Wants to create more diverse Blue Crew and work with other on-campus groups, which could get more people involved with events.
- \* Revamping of STAB meetings for those involved could help students share opinions more about events and involvement.

### CONS:

- \* Every year the programming director says they will have an inviting office. How do any of us know this will actually happen, and HOW will it be inviting and open?

## ORGANIZATIONS & CAMPUS DIVERSITY VP

LUIS ARMENTA

### PROS:

- \* Been in the position already. Understands EC and the position's expectations and roles.
- \* Has formed Diversity Council and brought Access & Diversity and Global Engagement together.

### CONS:

- \* Not many visible changes for the average student to see in regards to clubs at USU since in office.

## GRACE JIMENEZ

### PROS:

- \* Wants to figure out every club's main goal and help them achieve that as soon as she begins in office.
- \* Lots of experience with Access & Diversity, and some experience with USUSA-specific groups.

### CONS:

- \* Not much experience working with clubs on campus outside of Access & Diversity.

see "Pros and Cons" PAGE 11

# Friends don't let friends play FIFA



## Logan Jones

"Trail Blazin"  
— Logan Jones is a junior majoring in journalism. He recently went 0-3 in thumb wrestling matches so maybe it just isn't his week.

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Screw FIFA.

No, not the billion-dollar worldwide soccer enterprise plagued by corrupt supervillains. The game. The mindless soccer video game which, by the work of what I can only assume is the devil himself, has reached such inexplicable levels of popularity that even people like me are playing it — and I don't even particularly enjoy soccer.

I like to consider myself a pretty level-headed guy. The list of things that seriously bother me is a short one — campus elections, Subaru

drivers, misspelling the word "definitely" and Yankees fans pretty much cover all my bases. But something about playing FIFA brings out a particular brand of untethered rage that can't be explained nor excused.

It's the closest thing we have to old-school arcade games here in 2016, because it's simply impossible to win. Your buddy Brad could be playing as the worst team in the game, and it won't matter. When that 88th minute rolls around, one of his pinheaded players will dance around your entire defense and bounce a goal in off of your hapless goalie's midsection and celebrate like an animal.

The inevitability of this turn of events only grows more bitter with each progressive loss. The past hour of your life will feel like a complete waste while you look on in horrified silence, watching some team called the Bray Wanderers parade around their virtual stadium.

It's infuriating. It's a wonder people even play this game at all. For decades it seemed like Monopoly held the title for canceler of friendships and divider of families, so much so that while everyone currently owns a version,

it hasn't left the game cupboard in years. Everyone you meet will have had a bad experience with Monopoly. Suggesting it at a party or game night will only ever be met with tired groans.

One would think FIFA would meet that same fate, but instead its popularity grows one broken TV screen and one controller-shaped hole in the wall after another.

I've considered the possibility that perhaps it's just a personal problem. Admittedly, I'm not great at video games — I play as the ice climbers in Super Smash Bros just to have a readily available excuse for losing. But it can't be just me, because everyone I've talked to has the same anger management issue specifically when it comes to FIFA.

As a sports fan I try to keep the list of real-world athletes I truly despise to a minimum, but after just a few rounds of FIFA Luis Suarez has managed to make my hate list. I don't care how big of a star he is, if I ever ran into Suarez on a random street corner I'd let him know he was garbage. Of all players to give godlike powers to, FIFA's developers chose Suarez.

Suarez is the unstoppable Bo Jackson running play of modern sports gaming, only in Tecmo Bowl that kind of thing was hilarious, and in FIFA it makes everything in arm's reach a potential projectile.

The absolute worst aspect of this haunted game isn't the predictable turn of events late in matches or Luis Suarez, it's that there's no way out. At this very moment I find myself drawn to the idea of playing it just one more time, because maybe this time will be different.

FIFA is Lucy pretending she's not about to pull the football out from in front of poor Charlie Brown. It's the thought that maybe Village Inn chicken strips might be an acceptable alternative to Buffalo Wild Wings. It's whatever lie you tell yourself to feel better about a mistake you know you're bound to make.

If you haven't played FIFA yet, be smart — don't start. Only crushing defeat and self-loathing await you, at the hands of freaking Luis Suarez.



# Forty-five seconds can change a school year



**Morgan Pratt Robinson**  
 "Mic drop"  
 – Morgan Pratt a reporter for The Utah Statesman and Utah Public Radio. She is a legislative nerd and an proponent of better mental health for everyone, particularly university students. Morgan is a senior studying journalism and is also currently addicted to New Girl.  
 –morgan.pratt.robinson@gmail.com  
 @morganprobinson

than voting for responsible people who can actually implement change.  
 But it doesn't have to be a popularity contest. If we all became re-illusioned and re-invested in student government, we could make a legitimate change for Utah State University this week.  
 All it takes is 45 seconds and a smartphone. Vote at [vote.usu.edu](http://vote.usu.edu).  
 I've seen first-hand what happens when we irresponsibly elect people who are only looking out for their own self-interest rather than making decisions for the student body as a whole.  
 Those irresponsible council members nearly inflicted long-term, irresponsible student fees on all of us because they were blinded by their own selfish love for the Athletics Department. Upping the student fees this year would have been extremely irresponsible because the USU

Athletics Department is in the hole \$500,000. Regardless, the athletics department asked for a \$10 increase in student fees to make up for it, even though we already pay more in athletics fees than many other schools in the Mountain West Conference.  
 Luckily, we also had responsible council members, as well as students at large, who advocated for your voice in not raising the athletics fee. I am so glad those responsible council members advocated for all of us. They made important and ethical decisions with your concerns in mind.  
 Also, just last week some of the responsible council members went to the Capitol to voice your concerns about lack of mental health funds for university students. They were there to make a difference for you. But some of the irresponsible and self-centered council members just went to get out of class.

When it comes to important things like mental health funding and unnecessary athletic fees, who do you want to be your voice? Some dude with money signs around his neck? Or are you going to choose someone who has invested countless time and effort to make changes for the better and will continue to advocate for your interests?  
 It all comes down to you. You get to make important decisions on their behalf, so they can make important decisions on your behalf.  
 You get to make that paramount decision this week.  
 This election can either be a popularity contest or you can allow it to make meaningful change for Utah State University.  
 It's up to you.  
 All it takes is 45 seconds and a smartphone.

## USUSA VIEW: *Paying for college*

Paying for college is something that many of us joke about, complain about and often have nightmares about. It's something that's talked about in media and in presidential campaigns. With the cost of a college education ever increasing, it's important that we also talk about ways that we can pay for college NOW.  
 The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a great way to help pay for school, but many students in Utah don't take advantage of the opportunities for financial aid that exist through FAFSA. Some options are better than others, but all can help.  
 There are three areas of aid you can receive through FAFSA: work-study, loans and grants. I'm going to talk about each of these to help you better understand what's available to you.  
 First, work-study. Work-study is program that allows you to get specific jobs on campus. This is how it works. If a department on campus needs employees, but cannot afford to pay for them, they can create a work-study position. Students who have been awarded work-study can then apply. The student(s)

hired will receive a paycheck from the university, but a portion of that paycheck is being paid for by the government. Work-study allows students to find jobs on campus in order to help them pay for school.  
 The second area available is loans. There are two types of loans that you can receive through FAFSA: subsidized and unsubsidized. A subsidized loan means that you will pay nothing on your loan until after graduation. There is even a six-month grace period. You can postpone your payments up to six months after graduation if you don't have a job. The unsubsidized loan requires you to make payments on the interest of the loan, but no payments on the principal amount until after graduation. The subsidized loan is a lot more attractive, but don't forget that those loans exist.  
 The last area of funding is grants. This is the golden ticket when it comes to financial aid because it's basically free money. It's money given you to pay for school that you don't have to pay back. Although, if awarded a grant, you

cannot fail your classes or you will end up paying a portion of that money back, and you can't pay to retake any classes with grants either.  
 Now, when and how do you apply for these options? First, you will need to go to [fafsa.ed.gov](http://fafsa.ed.gov). There you can start a new FAFSA account and save all of your information from year-to-year. You can start applying for FAFSA today. A new rule about FAFSA was made that allows those applying to use last year's tax information to apply for FAFSA. If you still haven't received those W-2's or had your parents take care of that for you, you can still apply. Don't wait. FAFSA is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, so apply now!  
 Utah has the lowest amount of money given to students through FAFSA than any other state in the country. There is a lot of money to be given to students, but students aren't applying for it. I would like to encourage anyone reading this to apply. Many students think they won't receive any aid, but they have never even applied.

As a student who has received help to pay for school through all three areas — grants, loans, and work-study — I am a firm believer in applying and seeing what you get.  
 I commend students who are doing their best to work and pay for school on their own. I admire and highly respect those students. But many of them are sacrificing eating, social activities and sometimes their grades in order to pay for school. That shouldn't be the case. While this is a time to work hard and prepare for our futures, it is also a time to enjoy, to experience new things and to meet new people.  
 FAFSA is a great tool that exists to help us receive something that a majority of the world will never experience. Please take full advantage of this program and make your life a little bit easier.  
 – Trevor Sean Olsen, USUSA President  
 – [president.ususa@usu.edu](mailto:president.ususa@usu.edu)

### “Statesman Debate” FROM PAGE 1

"I've worked closely with both organizations and I see this as a really important opportunity to work together. I think the first thing is to make sure the two organizations are really close-knit, and it's about what we can bring to the table as SAA, and have a good relationship with USUSA," said Rachael Fresh, the other candidate.  
 Both candidates feel that students are unaware of what SAA and USUSA can do for them, and hope to increase awareness.  
 Student Advocate VP is a position to help with student concerns, find solutions to common problems and to lobby for students' interests.  
 "The two main things I want to do for transparency are use the Aggie Advocate Twitter account more," said Brenna Kelly. "I also want to write a column for the Statesman... So students will pick up the Statesman and see what the Advocate has to say and what we're doing in student government."  
 Transparency is a major part of Matthew Clewett's campaign for student advocate.  
 "I think there are a lot of issues that students are concerned about, not knowing what's going on with the USUSA, particularly with student fees," Clewett said. "I do feel it's important to create a webpage on the USUSA website about those things as well as working with the Statesman, Aggie Radio, Public Relations Office."  
 In regards to creative initiatives, Clewett plans to work closely with the Organizations and Campus Diversity VP to promote more involvement with students. Kelly has started a housing website to bring housing options to

one place for Logan students.  
 The Executive VP of USUSA sits on several boards and both candidates — Maegan Kasteler and Ryan Bentall — commented on how they would work on these boards.  
 "I had the opportunity to sit as a student-at-large on the student fee board this year... and I really want to ensure that the students-at-large do represent a diverse group of students on campus," Kasteler said.  
 Bentall's plans vary in regards to the fee board.  
 He wants to have the "seven students-at-large chair a sub-committee of 50 students who are randomly selected on campus," Bentall said. "Those students will be able to share their opinions on the fees, so those students-at-large can better represent the student body's voice."  
 Bentall is also hoping to continue to expand the mental health awareness campaign with training for student leaders, and to talk to a diverse students to know their opinions.  
 Kasteler wanted students to know "I have an open-door policy, making sure that my contact information is readily available... they can come talk to me in my office about any concerns that they have."  
 Though all four original Service VP candidates participated in the debate, the finalists announced later were Todd Brown and Hope Newman.  
 "A push that I want to do is that I want to really work with communication between all the different organizations of the Service Center to make sure that they all know what's going on," Brown said.  
 Brown also hopes to push for students to know about events so that more people will

attend, using social media tools.  
 Newman also plans to use social media to get students out to events and feels that every student could find a place in the Service Center to be a part of.  
 "Social media campaigning is definitely something that needs to be taken advantage of... It's a free way of getting people out to these projects," Newman said.  
 Part of the Organizations and Campus Diversity VP's job includes balancing between diversity and clubs and organizations.  
 "My position is really huge. There are three groups to focus on: there's the USUSA clubs, international students and Global Engagement, and Access and Diversity," said Luis Armenta, the current Diversity VP. "With clubs I'm really working on the social media campaigns, so people know what clubs are available... with diverse students we created a diversity council to include Access and Diversity and Global Engagement."  
 "My main priority... is to go to as more organizations on campus that I can and really try to figure out what is their main goal for the upcoming school year," Grace Jiminez said. "I feel by knowing that, I will be able to help them out and reach out and use other resources, USUSA, to help them out. So I really want to highlight what they want to accomplish."  
 All four original USUSA President candidates also sat on the panel, but the two finalists were Mitchell Stevens and Ashley Waddoups.  
 In regards to the president sitting as a member of the Board of Trustees, Stevens said, "I would really try to stay the same person that I am, and by listening to the concerns of my friends and also my peers and representing all

groups of the student body. I would have meetings with the different organizations — RHA, the Greeks, everyone — to make sure that I'm well representing."  
 As the current Student Advocate, Waddoups sees sitting on the Board as an important issue, she said.  
 "That's why I've brought in the initiative of Pizza with the President into my platform, and with that we'll be taking randomized focus groups every two weeks in my office, to share their opinions, likes, dislikes or how we can improve the university," Waddoups said.  
 Both have specific plans if they are elected.  
 "I've enjoyed my Aggie experience here, I just really wanted to refine that," Stevens said. "I know that we can have lower student costs with free online textbooks; I know that it is possible to bring better food options; we can do better things with registration, we can put the syllabus on Canvas so we know what we're getting into. I also really want to work with mental health efforts and improve that."  
 "If you care about mental health and quantifiable change with that, sexual assault awareness, putting student fee information on the USU webpage and better officer visibility, I'm the one for the job," Waddoups said. "Also, with me, you're putting your vote behind experience... the officer experience is unique and again I think that's really prepared me... it has made me the best presidential candidate."  
 Students can vote in the final elections from Wed. Feb. 24 at 7 a.m. to Thurs. Feb. 25 at 3 p.m. at [vote.usu.edu](http://vote.usu.edu).  
 – [mandy.m.morgan@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:mandy.m.morgan@aggiemail.usu.edu)  
 @mandy\_morg



# B

## BACKBURNER

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### THE BOARD

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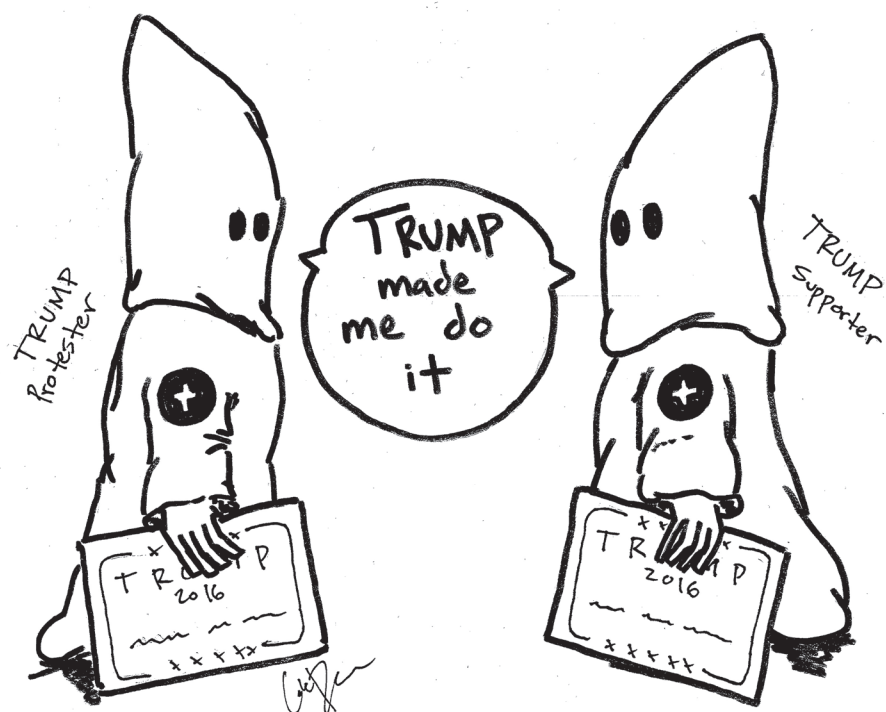
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### HASLAM COMIC by



### "Pros and cons" FROM PAGE 9

#### SERVICE VP

TODD BROWN

#### PROS:

- \* Has experience with service in other capacities than are typical for this position.
- \* Specific goals for who to work with in regards to getting more people involved on campus and in the community, including advertising efforts.

#### CONS:

- \* Little experience with Val R. Christensen Service Center.
- \* Goals are a little broad and could be focused down more.

#### HOPE NEWMAN

#### PROS:

- \* Idea to take student submissions — unique and could get more people involved.
- \* Wants to educate about the Service Center and reach lots of students and has some specific plans in regards to social media and email usage for the goal.

#### CONS:

- \* Goals to increase attendance at service events and participation in programs are currently pretty vague.

\* Not much time at USU and Service Center, young student just starting up experience this year.

#### STUDENT ALUMNI VP

JAMIE CRANDAL

#### PROS:

- \* Has years of SAA involvement experience in all branches, as well as planning events experience.
- \* Wants to allow students to start new traditions, which would be a nice change in some regards with USU liking to stick to only the traditional stuff, usually.

#### CONS:

- \* A lot of experience with SAA, little experience with USUSA student council.

#### RACHAEL FRESH

#### PROS:

- \* Experience in USUSA groups (President's Cabinet and Student Activities Board) as well as with SAA.
- \* Marketing skills demonstrated in Aggie Radio and SAA.

#### CONS:

- \* Has been around EC since Fiefa years. Bring change or business as usual?

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CALENDAR | FEB. 25 - MARCH 4

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## THURSDAY FEB. 25

### How to Talk with Professors

Taggart Student Center 315A

Free, 12:30 p.m.

### Mr. IFC Pageant

TSC Auditorium

\$4-\$5. \$4 in advance \$5 at the door, 7:00 p.m.

### Cecilia String Quartet

USU Performance Hall,

USU Campus

\$10-\$24. General admission: Regular \$24, Student with ID \$10, Youth \$10. No children under eight, 7:30 p.m.

### Effective Communication

Taggart Student Center 310

Free, 11:30 a.m.

## SATURDAY FEB. 27

### Visit the Elk

Hardware Ranch

\$3-\$5. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 4-8, children 3 and under are free, 10:00 a.m.

### Logan High School

### Concerto Night

Ellen Eccles Theater-Cache Valley Center for the Arts

\$5-\$8, 2:00 p.m.

## MONDAY FEB. 29

### Visit the Elk

Hardware Ranch

\$3-\$5. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 4-8, children 3 and under are free, 10:00 a.m.

### Movie Monday - The Martian

North Logan City Library

Free, 6:30 p.m.

### Leaping Bobcats? Leap Day Celebration

Willow Park Zoo

\$1.50-\$2.50, 6:00 p.m.

### Twelfth Night

Morgan Theatre

\$0-\$13. See website for details, 7:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY MARCH 2

### Financial Emergency Toolkit

USU Taggart Student Center 336

Free, 11:30 a.m.

### Build Your Own Time Machine

Taggart Student Center 315A

Free, 3:00 p.m.

### Cache DUP Museum

Cache DUP Museum

Free, 7:00 p.m.

### Financial Emergency Toolkit

Family Life Center

Free, 7:00 p.m.

### Twelfth Night

Morgan Theatre

\$0-\$13. See website for details,

7:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY FEB. 26

### Visit the Elk

Hardware Ranch

\$3-\$5. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 4-8, children 3 and under are free, 12:00 p.m.

### Advanced SAS Online Training

Central Park

Free, 7:00 a.m.

### Trivia Night

The Riverwoods Conference Center

\$25-\$200. Cost: Table for up to 10 guests - \$200 Individual chairs - \$25, 6:30 p.m.

### Science Unwrapped - Life is

### Short, but snakes are Long

Eccles Science Learning Center, Emert Auditorium

Free, 7:00 p.m.

## SUNDAY FEB. 28

### Visit the Elk

Hardware Ranch

\$3-\$5. \$5 ages 9 and up, \$3 ages 4-8, children 3 and under are free, 10:00 a.m.

## TUESDAY MARCH 1

### College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences Experience Fair

USU Agricultural Sciences

Free, 5:30 p.m.

### Twelfth Night

Morgan Theatre

\$0-\$13. See website for details, 7:30 p.m.

## THURSDAY MARCH 3

### Twelfth Night

Morgan Theatre

\$0-\$13. See website for details, 2:00 p.m.

### Richard Goode,

### Piano Recital

USU Performance Hall,

USU Campus

\$12-\$24. See website for details, 7:30 p.m.

## FRIDAY MARCH 4

### Annual Spring Book Sale

Merrill-Cazier Library

Free, 7:00 p.m.

### K9 Challenge Sled Dog Race

Sink Hollow Trailhead

Free, 8:00 p.m.

### Cowboy Rendezvous

Mountain Crest High School

\$0-\$50. Billy Dean \$10 to \$50 Michad Martin Murphey \$10 to \$15 Other performers FREE, 5:00 p.m.

### Senior Viola Recital

### Gavon Peck

USU Fine Arts Center 214

Free, 7:00 p.m.

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