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THE UTAH STATESMAN

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Special Valentine's Day Issue

STUDENT LIFE | Local Music
Local bands share infectious energy at WhySound venue.

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SPORTS | Coaching Carousel continues
Utah State football adds seven coaches in six weeks.

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NEWS | Executive Council
Learn more about what student running for Executive Council positions have planned for their campaigns.

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V-DAY: Honoring love, working against violence



Photo illustration by Johnny Morris

By Alyssa Roberts
WRITER

For some Utah State University students, Valentine's Day can be less a celebration of love and more a reflection on indifference. "It's highly altered and not historically accurate," said Jacob Rainsdon, an undeclared freshman. "I feel like it's a made up holiday now, kind of just for fun." Sage Rowley, a freshman studying communicative disorders, expressed a similar sentiment

toward the holiday.

"It's a nice reminder, but I don't think we should have to have a day set aside to tell someone you love them," Rowley said. "I think that should be an everyday type of thing."

Sara Whipple, a freshman majoring in English, said she chooses not to celebrate the holiday.

"To be totally honest, I don't really celebrate Valentine's Day," Whipple said. "I celebrate the day after, when all the chocolate goes on sale." Whipple is one of a group of students at

USU who choose to forego flowers, candy and giant teddy bears every year for something less tangible, but perhaps more meaningful. As performers in USU's annual production of "The Vagina Monologues," these students work to raise awareness of sexual and domestic abuse and to put an end to these types of violence.

"The Vagina Monologues" take center stage in promoting the cause of V-Day, an international organization dedicated to ending violence against women and girls. V-Day

designates February as a month devoted to advocating against sexual and domestic assault — and to performing the monologues. This year's performance began on Wednesday and will continue through Friday. Tickets can be purchased in the Access and Diversity Center for \$10 each.

"I, as a young child, suffered from abuse, and I don't stand for that nonsense any more," Whipple said. "I like to volunteer my time and

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USU Stars: USU Professors help develop technology to grow plants in space

By Veronica Stephen
STAFF WRITER

Utah State University is known for strong engineering and science programs, and one of the latest exciting development to come out are the professors who have helped NASA develop the technology to grow plants in space. And the first decorative flower grown in space: a zinnia.

In the 1980s, USU wrote a proposal to NASA to work on this experiment. Bruce Bugbee, a professor in the plants, soils and climates department was approached to collaborate on it.

"I had funding from NASA for a long time to grow plants in space. Even though I wasn't directly involved in this, it wasn't the first flower. It is the fifth plant, but the first decorative flower. It was a zinnia. Botanically, the first one was Utah wheat about ten years ago," Bugbee said.

USU's reputation for being an agriculture school is what drew NASA to the university.

The project took around thirty years to develop fully, and not without trials.

"There are two things you have to worry about when you grow things in space. The first is no gravity. The problem is when you water the plants, the water will just sit in the pot and the plants will get water-logged. Now we water with syringes and very calculated amounts," Bugbee said. "The plants are in a closed box and you have to keep giving them carbon dioxide. They make their own gases to

signal different things. One of them is called ethylene, which is toxic to plants if you don't blow it away."

Some of the zinnias got a disease because they were over-watered. Because of small glitches like this, many people were required to be on the team to make sure that, when something did go wrong, there were enough people to fix it and make suggestions to better design the unit, Bugbee said.

"I got to make comments on the design of the chamber and how to water the plants," he said.

The amount of people working on the project made some of the tasks assigned seem minor, but having many people work on the project is what contributed to its success.

Gail Bingham, part of the Space Dynamics Laboratory, explained how the technology — called Lada — works.

"Three components of Lada are the control module, the vegetation module and the water reservoir," Bingham said. "Special software allows control of the system and collects data for analysis in flight and on the ground. The vegetation module is where the plants grow. The seeds are planted in a soft cotton wick that extends from the root module. Astronauts plant the seeds in the wick after the system is set up in space. Sensors in the root module monitor the water and oxygen levels in the root zone, and the computer adds water to maintain a predetermined level using the pump... Since everything is computer controlled, little work is required of the astro-



Photo Courtesy of <http://www.nasa.gov>
The flower that NASA has been growing in space.

naut."

Scott Jones, another USU professor worked on projects that, while not exactly the same as Lada technology, did contribute to the experiment in the end.

"I was not involved directly in the LADA experiments. I was part of a space station experiment named Optimization of Root Zone Substrates, ORZS, which used some of the same hardware running LADA, but in this case there were no plants, only the root zone material," Jones, also a professor in the plants, soil and climate department, said. "We were testing the materials called Turface and Profile to determine if water and oxygen transport behaved the same in microgravity as it did on earth."

There will be so many uses for this technology that could be a stepping stone into the future and one more tribute to the growing age of technology of the world today, Bugbee said.

"One of the big reasons we grow plants is to supply oxygen to the astronauts. They are for food and purified water as well. There is also a psychological value for the astronauts. They like to watch them grow," he said.

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WHY MEN HATE ROMANCE



Kai Hartley
"The Lord Reverend's Musings"
- Never Gonna Give You Up. Never Gonna Let You Down. I am a meat popsicle. Everything I have ever written has been serious.

kaihartley@gmail.com

Before any of you become hurt or offended, answer me this: When have you ever seen a movie or read a book or even experienced in real life where a man didn't put forth all of the effort to attain the woman or man of his dreams? I will go ahead and answer for you. You can't. In the one or two cases you managed to think of, the man or woman is leading him on, suggestively telling him that he can

pursue him or her.
What does this mean for us? This weekend on Sunday is the least favored holiday for most of the men I know that are in relationships. It's time to spend a lot of money on some non-ring jewelry, learn how to cook a fancy meal or buy one, plan out a day of activity, and do it all with a smile. I am sure all of you dear female or passive male significant others reading this are excited to see what your significant other will do for you.

For men, romance isn't nice. You come home after a long day of whatever it is to the person you love and are expected to be the romantic one. He or she has no obligation to do anything romantic for you. This repetitive action leaves men exhausted and depressed and dreading every moment.

It becomes far worse if you are married. There is no reason for a heterosexual male to be married anymore. The idea of splitting up wealth used to be a great idea when a man was the sole provider of income for a house-

hold. But now, with two incomes and old ideals, men get the smallest part of the stick. A man usually has to give half of his things to his soon-to-be ex-wife and most custody of the children regardless of who is the better caretaker or if the child support will actually be used for the children. Child support is so expensive that it is usually better to keep a bad marriage together than to end it.

Combine all of this pain with the penalties of being married and male and this leads to one unhappy person. This unhappy person's entire well-being now depends on how much they can act romantically every single day.

To celebrate this absolute imbalance in gender roles, we decided to devote an entire day to the notion of love. Valentine's Day is the most oppressive holiday for men. I will go ahead and give you some idea of what I am doing. I am starting off the day by getting my girlfriend up and getting breakfast at our favorite place. Then we are going ice skating. Then off to get some coffee. Then we will play

some video games. Then I am preparing Hasselback Chicken with some vegetables and fancy potatoes and stuff, which is something I have yet to make before. I will have given her some orchids and some Reese's cups at some point. Finally, we will see Deadpool.

Just to clarify, we are in a happy relationship. I just have to do everything because I am the male.

I am going to break off of the main argument for a moment. Women and men in passive relationship roles, go see Deadpool. Even if you don't want to, it is the only break your man will get the entire day. Do it. He will get those lovely two hours of unwinding while watching what will be a lovely movie that cost him a measly \$35 for the tickets and concessions.

So if you ever wonder why men don't willingly read romance novels or why the ratio of single people to couples is rising, you now know why.

Hoop house hero:

Volunteer repairs student organic farm hoop houses

By Brenna Kelly
SENIOR WRITER

A snow storm collapsed both hoop houses at the USU Student Organic Farm on Jan. 30, but they were saved after one volunteer spent hours repairing them.

Eric Manrique is a junior studying soils at Utah State University, and he has worked at the farm since his freshman year. He spent five to six hours fixing the hoop houses after they collapsed.

"He was willing to do whatever it takes to save the farm, and he's a hero for doing that," said Nathan Staker, who previously managed the student organic farm.

The hoop houses are supported by PVC

pipes and 2x4s and covered in plastic tarps. The high winds and weight of the snow caused minimal damage to the tarps, and while some PVC pipes broke, most were only bent. The hoop houses have collapsed in the past, but the damage had never been that severe.

"I was shocked when he had got it up. The green hoop house was just flat and the two ends were bowing in," Staker said. "It was pretty much collapsed."

Manrique is known for being handyman at the student organic farm. Even though the farm has technicians available to it, volunteers turn to him when there is a problem.

"He takes the initiative, and if he sees something broken, he'll fix it ... I think he's the hardest worker on the student organic farm,"

Staker said. "He's not afraid to get his hands dirty. He'll get things done and see them through."

Jennifer Reeve, the adviser for the USU Student Organic Farm, said Manrique saved her the time it would have taken to organize a repair crew. He contributes to the success of the completely student-run farm.

"Eric has fulfilled all his internship requirements, so he is not required to do anything for the farm at this point," Reeve said. "I and all the students involved are incredibly grateful for Eric's continued support of the farm."

He has also stepped in to assist current farm manager Joe Montoya with an unexpected student leadership vacuum this semester, which has been invaluable.

Manrique is a Service Learning Scholar and has spent several semesters interning at the farm. He currently volunteers under the farm manager, Joe Montoya.

"Eric had helped manage it the year before, but was heavily involved and took initiative to get things done that we sometimes didn't think about," Montoya said. "He seems to always be there. He does great work and we appreciate all that he does a lot."

Manrique declined to interview for this story.

"He did this out of the goodness of his heart; he doesn't want credit — it's nothing to him," Staker said.

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Photos Courtesy of Eric Manrique

TWEETS of the WEEK



@TravisMapes

Wait, I have a pay to take a proctored exam? For a class that I already paid for? #aggiestribe



@LindseySnyder3

To they guy 'studying' behind me and farting. There is NO air circulation. Please, go to the bathroom. #Library #aggiestribe #INeedAir



@TeiganRiley

Owning only 1 pair of water proof shoes in Logan's winter= fashion fopaux or soggy shoes... #aggiestribe



@mattrichards27

If only people texted back as fast as the shuttle #aggiestribe

Outrage Fuels Political Cartoonist

By Morgan Pratt
STAFF WRITER

Renowned cartoonist Pat Bagley accepted Utah State University's Ted Pease Award in the Merrill-Cazier Library on Tuesday, as well as being interviewed as a presenter for the Morris Media and Society Lecture series.

Bagley is a political cartoonist for The Salt Lake Tribune and is known for his controversial political cartoons. Also, he is the longest-serving political cartoonist in the nation. Bagley has received several other honors including the Society of Professional Journalist's best editorial cartoonist in Utah and he was a finalist in the 2014 Pulitzer Prize in the Editorial Cartooning category. He has also written and illustrated numerous books.

Bagley's illustrations often reflect his liberal views of the world. He said he is not nearly as critical of President Barack Obama as he was of George W. Bush. He said his passion for truth often fuels his illustrations.

"Outrage helps," he said. "You have to care."

Bagley said the political paradigm is shifting and the national rhetoric is changing. People are making decisions that could result in long-term global effects.

"Lately politics have become a national sport," Bagley said.



Photo Courtesy of Aggie TV
Pat Bagley (right) answers questions from Matthew LaPlante (left) in front of an audience of USU students, faculty and staff.

One of the themes he often touches on in his illustrations is being openly critical about the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, referring to the church as the 800-pound gorilla in the room.

"I'm not that critical of the church," he said. "If I wasn't doing cartoons about the church, I wouldn't be doing my job."

Since Bagley's time as a political cartoonist for The Salt Lake Tribune, his group of co-cartoonists has shrunk significantly. Nearly

40 years ago, there were almost 300 political cartoonists; that number has since shrunk to 50. Bagley said he isn't too concerned about that number getting smaller because a lot of those cartoonists have taken their satire and criticism to the Internet.

"The opportunity is more open now than it has ever been," he said. "Things can go viral so easily."

On top of the shifting political cartoon medium, Bagley said the role of cartoonists has

changed also.

"Early on, we were comics and we were entertainers," he said. "With politics going the way it has, it is more important to have a message in our illustrations."

The Ted Pease Award was first created in the Journalism and Communications Department to honor those who speak truth without regard of how they will personally be perceived, said

see "Bagley" PAGE 5

Valentine's Day is Sunday the 14th

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USUSA PRESIDENT:**ALEXANDER COOK**

Alexander Cook is a sophomore at USU, majoring in biological engineering.

"I'm passionate about my involvement at USU," Cook said.

Cook would like to make a greater social change, specifically in continuing work on the mental health advocacy campaign at USU, and hopes to see a reduction in suicides at the university because of that.

Other things the current USUSA president has worked on that Cook hopes to keep rolling would be 911 Cellular, as well as looking at an adaptation of depth courses at USU.

"I would also like to centralize the student events calendar, search engine optimize it — as well as hopefully with that create a little more synergy with the clubs, that they can work together a little more, that they can work together on initiatives they have," Cook said.

He also hopes to work with Admissions to make a campaign to help students understand their capacity to bring in more revenue, specifically by using word-of-mouth — which is Admissions greatest tool — to bring in more students, Cook said.

Cook has made a website called makingvotingeasy.com, to help explain voting to students, who they can vote for, why they need to vote twice, why the power of voting is important and where to find information about candidates and issues.

"I would like to see this elections the most well-represented," Cook said.

His favorite thing about being an Aggie is being able to say he loves being an Aggie with so much pride.

MITCHELL STEVENS

Mitch Stevens is a junior majoring in exercise science and he feels that "in this position I can best serve my fellow Aggies," he said.

Stevens hopes to implement Open Educational Resources — free online textbooks — and to give incentives to professors and get the word out about what that means for students.

"I want to bring better restaurants onto campus. This idea has been thrown around in the past, but it's very possible," Stevens said. "Or to have a rotating place where the smoothie place is, so that they don't have to pay rent but a place like Chick-fil-A or Mo' Bettah's will come in from 10 to 2 and then they serve a meal... It would take a lot of work, but would benefit students."

Stevens also wants to continue to help with the mental health campaign, creating an Aggie support network with a weekly meeting for students to discuss mental health issues and to better the USU app, to create a central calendar for students to connect to anything they want to be involved in.

In regards to getting students out to participate in informed voting, Stevens plans to use his connections and people on campus to help support him and go out to vote. "I feel there's a very involved group and there's a group of students who go to school and home and don't really care. I would go around and help inform everyone in all their groups, and go around their homes and help them to be informed to vote," he said.

Stevens' favorite thing about being an Aggie are all of the opportunities Utah State has given him to be involved. "I feel like I have a family here, and the Aggie experience has given me a ton of joy," he said.

ASHLEY WADDOUPS

Ashley Waddoups is a junior majoring in English and economics. On campus she currently serves as USUSA student advocate and on the Diversity Cabinet.

"Reach higher" is her current campaign theme. Waddoups plans on focusing on five main goals in the coming year.

Her goals include increasing USUSA officer visibility with students on campus. To help inform students about USUSA, Waddoups plans to invite different groups of students from campus groups to meet with the student body president twice a month for pizza and Café Rio.

"We're of no use to people if our constituents don't even know we exist," she said.

Waddoups also wants to continue increasing awareness for issues like mental health and sexual assault. She wants to sponsor a free app called 911 Cellular, an app that when activated would alert police of the location of the user in trouble on or off campus.

"We're raising awareness, but we're also tangibly doing something to make students feel safer," Waddoups said.

She also wants to lobby state legislature for ongoing appropriations for salary for CAPS employees, with the purpose of shortening the wait period for students who set appointments with mental health offices.

Finally, Waddoups would also like to revamp the USU events app, campaigning and working with IT specialists to improve the app for students.

"There's a difference between a platform and a wish list," she said. "I don't think I have to reinvent the wheel to make this university great."

STEVE WILCOX

Steve Wilcox is a senior majoring in international business and marketing and is currently serving as president over President's Ambassadors, the Business Council president and the USUSA President's Cabinet director.

"I absolutely love the student body. I absolutely love this university. I've been able to work with wonderful leaders throughout the university and they have impacted my life for the better," Wilcox said.

He has three platform goals to focus on in the coming year. One is encouraging awareness of the mental illness campaign. Wilcox wants to make QPR training for students so they can help each other. QPR training helps an average person know how to appropriately respond to someone who comes to them for help with mental or emotional concerns.

"I really want to help educate the student body. We all know that mental illness is a concern," Wilcox said. "Now what are we going to do about it?"

Wilcox also wants to run campaigns to educate the students concerning finances, such as informing them about financial aid, work study, scholarship and FAFSA deadlines. He also wants to initiate a platform called "engaging your passions."

"It's all about bringing together the opportunities that USU offers its students and the student body itself and bring them closer together," Wilcox said.

STUDENT ADVOCATE:**MATTHEW CLEWETT**

Matthew Clewett is a sophomore majoring in law and constitutional studies and has been lobbying for students and people his age in legislature since high school. He was also a member of student government at his previous college.

"I love the student body here and what Utah State has provided for me," Clewett said, who currently serves as the assistant director of the Government Relations Council, and a member of the President's Cabinet.

Clewett has four main pillars he is running on: to promote transparency, increase aware-

ness, engage the student body and to better the Government Relations Council.

"I want to help spread awareness of what the USUSA does. I want to help spread awareness on the different organizations the USUSA oversees, and I really want to fight for transparency," Clewett said.

He wants to create a website revolving around student fees, so students know what is going on with them and can voice concerns about fees through MyVoice on the site.

Clewett wants to work with student media and others on campus to better share what the GRC does for students, and what other organizations USUSA oversees do.

Clewett loves the opportunities that USU provides, and has noticed that everybody he walks by on campus will smile and say hello. "That's what I love about being an Aggie; I love the community here and the people," he said.

BRENNA KELLY

Brenna Kelly is a sophomore majoring in journalism with an emphasis in public relations. She has been the news director at Aggie Radio and is currently the senior news writer at the Statesman.

"I'm running because I want to do things about student issues," Kelly said. "This job is to give a voice to the voiceless and to advocate for students and their rights, and I take that seriously."

Kelly's goals and initiatives fit under three aims: engagement, long term solutions and

transparency. She said she has many goals and ideas for the student advocate office, but wants to leave herself open to student needs and ideas.

"I want to listen to students and know what their concerns are," Kelly said. "I really care about helping students and making lasting solutions."

Kelly plans on creating a housing website where students can collectively view all housing options in Logan, and sell or trade contracts with others.

Kelly would also like to create a MyVoice think tank. Kelly would organize a committee of students to consider serious student issues brought up by MyVoice submissions.

"I'm hoping that I can reach as many students as possible and help them," Kelly said. "I'm going to take the initiative to make real improvements and I'm going to listen to students and advocate for them."

Her favorite part about Utah State is the students. Kelly loves to meet new people and said she's never met anyone who wasn't interesting.

"I just can't wait to start working for students. As student advocate, it would be my full-time job to serve students and I would love that," Kelly said.

EXECUTIVE VP:**PROGRAMMING VP:****RYAN BENTALL**

Ryan Bentall is a junior majoring in international business finance. His favorite aspect of USU is the atmosphere at the sporting events and how involved all the students are on campus.

"Students are the ones who would be electing me, so my job as an appointed officer is to represent them," Bentall said.

He has many focused goals of what he wants to emphasize during his campaign. The first issue he wants to address is raising awareness for mental health, calling it "a widespread problem that sometimes people don't see." Bentall wants to focus on providing insightful training for students, not only hiring professional help. He would also like to continue raising awareness and combating the problem of sexual assault on campus.

Another goal is to increase the number of student participants at the annual USU fee board, so that officials would have a better understanding of students' opinions.

Cheaper alternatives for textbooks is another goal of Bentall's campaign. "Here on campus, one vote makes a huge difference," Bentall said. "They're not just voting for a person, they're voting for the direction they want the university to go while they're here at college."

When Bentall hears stories from his friends on other campuses around the nation, he appreciates the opportunities provided to him at Utah State.

"I think the best part about it is being able to work with so many diverse individuals," he said.

MAEGAN KASTELER

Maegan Kasteler is a senior majoring in communications and religious studies. Her main platform idea is based on helping students get open educational resources, meaning free online textbooks for students.

"I've grown a passion for that as much as I've grown a passion for being an Aggie," Kasteler said. "I want to share that passion with students, to hopefully better the lives of current students as well as future students."

Kasteler also wants to file a Blue Goes Green grant to purchase e-readers that look like paper and donate them to the library for student use, to access textbooks without an LED screen.

Kasteler hopes for students to try to understand the platform and ideas she and others are running on, to make the best decisions for USU.

"I really encourage people to be informed, to understand people's ideas and platforms," she said, "I think students should be informed so they can hold their officers accountable."

And it all comes back to her love for USU.

"I just love being a part of the Aggie family," Kasteler said. "I love the spirit, I love the traditions, I love the atmosphere, I love the students. I really think that the Aggie family is a very unique thing."

JORDAN LOWE

Jordan Lowe is a junior majoring in sociology. Lowe loves the atmosphere of Aggie Athletics, and plays flag football and USU Intramural basketball, in the six feet and under league.

Without bringing any huge changes into his campaign, Lowe is content to continue supporting current officers' ideas. Examples include continuing to increase awareness of mental health and finalizing online education resources.

"I don't want to change anything," he said. "I just want to come in and work hard."

One idea Lowe does want to advocate is for more students to participate on the fee board next year as students at large. Instead of drawing a small sample from a small number of applicants, he said, it would be beneficial to draw a small sample from a large number of students interested in voicing opinions about funding and fees. Helping students to be their own voice is also part of his idea for raising awareness of the USUSA suggestion hotline, MyVoice.

"I want people to know that their voice counts for something," Lowe said. "I can be a voice for people. Sure, why not?"

RYAN JENSEN

Ryan Jensen is a junior majoring in global communications. Currently Jensen works as the volunteer coordinator at the USUSA programming office, and being behind the scenes encouraged him to run for office.

"The most rewarding part is seeing people enjoy the activities. I like seeing people enjoy it and volunteers as well," he said. "And seeing the event come off successfully is the second most rewarding thing."

One goal he wants to focus on is the Blue Crew and making the committee more of a structured council, with more diverse students being involved. Another goal includes working together with the upcoming student alumni president in executive council.

"I think a lot of students are looking for new and exciting events," Jensen said. "A lot of things seem to appeal to freshmen just because it's new, but I want to retain upper classmen so they still come and volunteer at events."

Jensen wants students feel encouraged to individually to raise their voices on issues happening on campus. He also wants to focus on increasing student participation and attendance at campus events.

"I want students to always feel they can come and voice their opinion and ask how to get involved," Jensen said.

"Bagley" FROM PAGE 3

journalism assistant-professor Matthew LaPlante.

Since its conception, the award has been dubbed the "Rusty Spike" award, the "Pease Award for Curmudgeonly Service to Journalism" award and the "Nobel Pease" prize.

"The award has more nicknames than it does recipients," LaPlante said.

The actual award is a rusty railroad spike. It

is an allusion to Promontory Point's historic golden spike that was pounded into the ground during the opening ceremony of the Trans-Pacific Railroad. Since that time, the golden spike has been pulled from the ground and replaced with a common rail road spike.

"Those ordinary spikes are what hold our nation, our community and our world together," LaPlante said.

Natalie Deaver, a sophomore in journalism and communications, said she appreciated Bagley's unique perspective. His attitude taught her not to be afraid of what other people might think when it comes to being a reporter.

"He's writing in a predominantly LDS community and he's writing things that could offend people," she said. "He isn't there to

please his audience, but speak the truth."

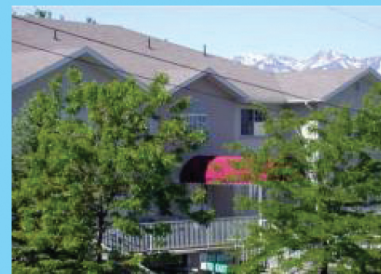
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ORGANIZATIONS & CAMPUS DIVERSITY VP:

LUIS ARMENTA



Luis Armenta is a senior majoring in communications and serves as the current Organizations and Campus Diversity VP.

“What really brought me to Utah State is the atmosphere and the students,” Armenta said. “There’s something different about Logan and Utah State.”

Armenta has three main goals he wants to achieve if elected. One goal includes continuing to support the Diversity Cabinet. Armenta formed the Diversity Cabinet, an organization with representatives from major leadership groups on campus, including Access and Diversity, Ambassadors, Greeks, Global Engagement and many more.

“I know I can make a difference,” Armenta said. “I feel where I can be most effective on campus is in this position and helping my fellow students.”

Armenta is also currently working with USUSA public relations and marketing to begin a social media campaign for campus clubs. He wants to create an online hub for clubs to recruit and collaborate with each other and with students. As a final goal, Armenta wants to work on uniting the university as a whole.

“That’s what I love about leadership; you can make a positive impact,” he said.

When campaigning, Armenta wants to create fun and engaging ways to encourage students to vote for him, drawing in students from all walks of life.

“I’m not perfect at this position by any means, but I do know this position. I care about the students, and I love what I do,” he said.

JESUS (CHEWY) GARCIA



Chewy Garcia is a junior majoring in social work.

Garcia believes “it’s important that students get to know of the diversity and what it has to offer to Utah State,” Garcia said. “I want to advocate for all the clubs and all the organizations and really just bring it up and make it more visible for all students to see what we have.”

One of Garcia’s main goals is to start a diversity mentorship program, to help retain, not just bring, diversity to USU, so that it can flourish on campus.

“With diversity, I think it brings a lot of leadership opportunities, so I want to make everything more visible and accessible,” Garcia said. “I want to show that these are the diverse clubs, you can get help or mentorship or whatever you need.”

He would also like to bring back some more funds in regards to the mentorship and leadership opportunities.

Garcia has been actively involved with lots of organizations and people, and wants to advocate for them and the things they want and believe are important.

His favorite thing about being an Aggie is the outdoors, especially being able to mountain bike and fish, and that he can “get done with classes and it’s basically at our backdoor... There’s always something to do,” he said.

MARCOS GARCIA



Marcos Garcia is a senior majoring in Biology, and he is running because he believes people should “be the change you wish to see in the world,” he said.

He is currently on the new Diversity Cabinet and he believes he can help put a lot of the ideas from the cabinet into action at USU.

“My biggest push is just to increase student involvement overall. I’m just trying to make it as easy as possible for students to join clubs and start new ones,” Garcia said.

He believes a lot of things have been done for the Access and Diversity Center this year, and he wants to focus again on the student-led clubs and organizations, and push forward what has been done on the diversity side.

Working on the webpage for clubs — specifically the clubs portal for students — is something he hopes to work on and improve, so that students know where to go to learn about all clubs and organizations they have access to.

Going to students personally and talking about elections, voting and what it means for students is something Garcia has seen other candidates doing, and hopes to implement as well.

“I’m kind of aiming toward students who aren’t necessarily involved,” he said.

And his favorite thing about being an Aggie is how easy it is to get involved, and that the third floor of the TSC and student involvement is so accessible to all students.

GRECIA JIMENEZ



Grecia Jimenez is a senior double-majoring in human development and Spanish. Jimenez currently works at the Access and Diversity Center.

“I’ve seen people come and go in this position, and I’ve seen all the different ways they’ve handled their job responsibilities,” Jimenez said. “I would love the chance to be able to make my mark.”

Jimenez credits her success at USU to the faculty, staff, friends and family who have supported her.

A main focus is bridging the gap between campus clubs and diversity clubs. In the past, Jimenez has sometimes seen a separation between diversity clubs and other clubs.

“I want these clubs to use each other as a beneficial resource,” she said.

Jimenez also wants to enhance the existing events on campus instead of creating new events. She believes increasing student awareness and encouraging them to participate in events will continue to help unite students of all backgrounds. She also plans to redefine what diversity means at USU.

“Diversity means something that is different from your own. You are just as diverse as I am,” she said. “Everyone is diverse, and I feel like the more people that believe that, the more people will feel comfortable exploring each other’s territory.”

Jimenez’s favorite part about USU are the many opportunities students are given to participate and lead.

“I’m going to do my best and give it my all,” she said.

STUDENT ALUMNI VP:

JAMIE CRANDAL



Jamie Crandal is a junior majoring in international business, and law and constitutional studies and has been involved with the Student Alumni Association for three years.

She wants to help with SAA’s current opportunity to expand, as the SAA president becomes a part of USUSA executive council.

“The main reason I am running is that I want the Student Alumni Association to fulfill the needs of the students on campus, in order for them to see what their university can do for them before they graduate and after they graduate, as well,” Crandal said.

In regards to the Students Giving branch of SAA, Crandal wants to make student giving go further into student-to-student giving, possibly including a scholarship given to students and funded by students, or a project to help crowd-fund students’ projects and ideas.

With the Networking branch, Crandal wants

to create certification programs, giving students more opportunities to pay a small fee to become certified in things like CPR and first aid. She also wants to increase attendance at AlumNights, where students can meet with alumni for a discussion about their own success.

“I want students to understand the value that comes with the Student Alumni Association,” Crandal said.

Her favorite thing about being an Aggie? “The community feel of this campus,” Crandal said. “It is that community feel that makes me love being an Aggie.”

RACHAEL FRESH



Rachael Fresh, a junior majoring in communications, is currently the social media director for SAA and believes she finally found her home in student involvement, when she joined SAA.

“It wasn’t until I got more and more involved with SAA that I realized that I wanted to help run this organization and make positive change for the organization,” Fresh said.

The first thing Fresh would do in office would be to pick “the right people” as directors in SAA, because she believes it isn’t all about what she would do for the organization.

“We want really passionate, hardworking people to be vice presidents and directors,” Fresh said. “When you have a good foundation, then you can start making people’s lives better.”

She also hopes to work with USUSA and develop a new group of volunteers to work on both SAA and USUSA events together, and to help work on traditions on both sides.

Fresh would also like to continue growing AlumNights and the Female Mentorship Program through SAA, in regards to networking, and work with each college on networking.

She also hopes to build personal relationships with students as she shares about voting, being informed and why USUSA positions are important.

“You can’t make someone vote or care, but if you give them the opportunity to learn from you, as a person, it’s a bigger deal than anything else,” she said.

She also hopes students will get to know her and her ideas for office during campaigning.

“I’ve worked really hard to get where I am today. I live on the third floor and I live on this campus and it’s because I love it,” Fresh said.

SERVICE VP:

TODD BROWN



Todd Brown, a junior majoring in exercise science, wants to serve as Service VP because service has always been a part of his life.

“While I’ve been here at USU this last year I’ve been involved with Best Buddies, Special Olympics, helping out with the tying blankets or helping out with various things with the service center,” Brown said, “I want to help students become who they want to be, because I believe service gets you from where to you are now to where you want to be.”

One of his biggest plans for the Val R. Christensen Service Center would be to get every student on campus to somehow participate in something with the know about the center and what resources and clubs are there.

He also plans to work with the Greek community on coordinating service they do with their philanthropies, as well as get them involved with service done through the service center, as well as service in the community.

Lastly, he hopes to keep up “the good vibe” in the service center, and keep up the friendly environment.

That ties into how he feels about USU as a whole.

He loves the atmosphere at the university. “Once you become an Aggie, that’s what you are for life,” he said.

STRATT CAPUTO



Stratt Caputo is a senior majoring in psychology and world religions. A Logan native, he loves that Utah State is such a part of the Logan community.

Caputo works with special needs adults in the community at the Developmental Skills lab on campus, helping create therapies and behavior programs.

Caputo helped run the first annual Inclusion Prom held this year. He has been with Best Buddies over nine years and currently serves as the director. He has also helped with the Special Olympics and won the presidential service award.

“I’ve seen the difference people can make and what difference I can make,” Stratt said. “I feel like I can make a huge difference for students and the community.”

He wants to expand awareness of the opportunities available through the service center. He has worked with Common Ground and the Developmental Skills lab, providing chances for students to volunteer with special needs adults.

“I want to create an opportunity for students to give back,” Caputo said.

Caputo wants to encourage participation at the Best Buddies chapter on campus, as well as help people discover their passions, especially along the lines of service.

Communication is also one of Caputo’s goals, making sure students know what opportunities are available.

“Finding different people’s passions and what they love to do is a cool experience,” he said.

CHANDRA MARSH



Chandra Marsh is a junior majoring in nutrition science who has developed a passion for service through involvement in the service center for over three years.

“I plan on relaunching the Campus Service Steering Committee, a campus-wide committee with a goal to create unity of service events on campus. This would involve the Service VP and a representative from various organizations on campus, who would then collaborate on a initiative for the year,” Marsh said.

She would also like to improve the service center calendar by incorporating service events from more organizations on campus.

“I want more students to be informed of the opportunities that USU provides, and give them more of a chance to take advantage of those opportunities,” Marsh said.

She believes that informing students about elections will help them have more motivation to vote, seeing how elections can impact their USU experience.

“I also talk to as many students as I can while on campus, inform them of my ideas and encourage them to talk to other candidates,” she said.

And her favorite thing as an Aggie?

“I really love how easy it is to get involved here at USU,” she said.

HOPE NEWMAN



Hope Newman is a freshman majoring in dietetics.

“I feel that service is the best way that we can truly come to know ourselves and give back to the people we owe so much to,” Newman said.

She hopes to increase awareness about what the Val R. Christensen Service Center does, and each of the 19 organizations that it entails.

“They all have different issue areas that I believe could extend to any variety of interests students have,” Newman said. “I just feel like it would be a big deal if we could educate people and get people involved more.”

Newman plans to work with students all over campus to raise awareness of what the service center and USUSA are doing, and hopes to get more students involved in what happens in the center.

“I want to give back to Utah State, I feel like this is a great place where people are able to find themselves and discover what they love,” she said. “It’s just cool participating in these traditions that my mom participated in — she was an Aggie — that so many people, generations back, came up with,” Newman said.

ATHLETICS & CAMPUS RECREATION VP:

FELICIA GALLEGOS



Felicia Gallegos is a senior majoring in social work. She is currently the activities director for the programming office in USUSA, and she loves “doing things that make a difference for students... and I’m obsessed with USU athletics and our athletes.”

Though there are a lot of places Gallegos believes athletics excels at, there are places she wants to see changes made as well.

“I want to actually impact the change in Athletics,” Gallegos said.

She hopes to improve involvement, as well as attendance at the athletic and campus recreation events, specifically through creative event planning for events. She also wants to create more of a connection between athletes and students by having both involved in events.

Specifically with campus recreation, she hopes to develop an app which can inform students about resources they have available at certain times, like how many people may be using the ARC at a time or fitness classes they can attend.

Using social media to let students know

about voting, and links to learn about all candidates and debates is important for voter involvement, Gallegos said.

Gallegos’s favorite thing about being at USU is “that Aggie family feeling that you have when you come on campus... It’s that Aggie family, that Aggie feeling and we all bleed blue.”

BLAKE LYMAN



Blake Lyman is a junior majoring in economics and political science.

“I have a strong passion for Aggie athletics and the benefits overall that athletics and campus rec can bring to the campus,” Lyman said.

Lyman believes he has the plans and the platform to help athletics.

He wants to focus on getting students to games, getting into market research about why students aren’t going to games and then plan ways to get students “from all walks of life, all varieties” attending.

“Especially activities before, during and after games are going to be a big thing,”

Lyman said. “Working with different organizations on campus... we can get a better turnout.”

He wants to find ways to positively influence the spirit around sports and games.

He also hopes to better utilize the HURD awards program, in which students can go to games and gain points to get prizes. Lyman wants to develop an app to help students participate in the program and be rewarded.

“A cheesy line I always say is that USU is like Olive Garden: when you’re here, you’re family,” Lyman said. “I have felt such a sense of community up here, I have felt so loved and felt part of something bigger here. Being an Aggie is being home for me.”

NOLAN WILCOCK



Nolan Wilcock is a senior double-majoring in exercise science and parks and recreation. He is currently a member of USU’s Spirit Squad.

“We have a ton of really great athletes at our campus, but I think one thing people tend to forget is that we have a lot of great women

athletes on our campus and so I really want to see the attendance at those sports go up,” Wilcock said.

His plans revolve around getting the students informed about athletics on campus.

“I want to see our student section be more cohesive, be more informed... increase the gameday experience by having us be loud, proud, organized, ridiculous,” Wilcock said.

He also hopes to get more students informed about USUSA and voting and what his and the other positions are for.

“I think everyone should look into this; everyone pays student fees and it affects all of them, so everyone should have a vested interest.”

Being an Aggie is most important to Wilcock. “I’ve made my best friends in the whole wide world here, joined organizations I’m passionate about... you have the ability here to make it whatever you want it to be. Go Aggies!”

Are you ready for the Internet of Things?



Colten Van Tussenbrook

"Tech and Startup"

— Colten is a senior at USU studying technical writing and computer science. He enjoys exploring technology, geeking out while writing code, and exploring new startups.

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Imagine a world where your car could notify you of the closest auto repair store the second your engine encounters an issue. Imagine if your refrigerator could tell you while you're at the store what your fridge is lacking. Or, even better, imagine a world where we could manage the earth's natural resources in an advanced digital matter, telling us exactly how

much we have left.

In reality, we're already starting to live in this kind of world. When the internet started taking force around the world, only desktop computers and industrial-style super computers were connected to the Internet. Now, everything from our cell phones to our automobiles are linked together online. This revolution is called the Internet of Things, or simply IoT.

The IoT has a very literal meaning. It is connecting things (yes, actual things such as chair, clothes and lamps) to the Internet wirelessly, creating a massive cloud-based environment. By connecting everything to the Internet we can access the things we use every day, which in turn simplifies our lives.

We have already seen smart devices taking over the technological world. Smartphones are practically ubiquitous and smart TVs are found in homes all across the world. We're even getting to the point where we make the things we wear "smart." The Apple Watch was a huge

hit in 2015, with sales estimating to be around 30 million in its first year of release. Other tech companies such as Samsung and Motorola have also used their smart watches to cash in on the IoT trend. In addition to watches, we're seeing smart washers and dryers, smart cars, and even smart houses.

So how does all of this work? In order to connect everything to the Internet, each "thing" needs an IP address, just like your computer. In other words, by giving every item we use a unique address to connect to the internet, each thing can gather data, provide us with useful information and even think for itself.

Should having every thing we use have Internet capabilities worry us? IoT expert Dr. John Barrett doesn't think so. He predicts that by 2030, each person on Earth will be surrounded by 3,000 to 5,000 connected things. He believes that by using IoT to our advantage, we will see groundbreaking discoveries in healthcare, energy distribution and city

management. He doesn't think the intense technology curve will be an issue, either. He made the point that a 10-year-old can manage an iPad much more efficiently than someone in their 50s. The upcoming generation will embrace the Internet of Things since that's the only way of life they know.

The Internet of Things is an absolute breakthrough in technology. Although the quirks are still to be refined and polished, the final product of the IoT should enhance our lives in the sense that we won't have to waste time doing the mundane everyday tasks. In a broader sense, the IoT could actually be a solution to resource management and health-care around the world. It may even save lives.

We're already seeing the IoT in our daily lives, but experts predict that by 2020, we will have four Internet-enabled devices for every person on the planet. Whether you're skeptical or excited, let it be known that the IoT is here to stay and moving forward at a brisk pace.

Kitty Collector app collects fans



Hayden Laver

"LETTERS ECLECTIC"

— Hayden Laver is not an old cat lady, but she can find joy in the hottest app on the market.

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The game that's swept the world seemingly overnight is free and can be held in the palm of your hand. Neko Atsume, translated as Kitty Collector, is an app that cropped up around October 2014. Since then, it has swept Japan, and then the world, with its adorable cats and the chance to collect them.

The idea of Neko Atsume is simple—you have a backyard, a lot of free space and time. The neighborhood cats will come into your yard if you have toys and food, and leave you gifts in the form of silver and gold fish. These gifts can be used as currency to buy more toys, food and assorted kitty accessories from the shop. Currently there are 49 cats to collect—17 of which only come out of hiding for certain toys and treats.

Neko Atsume is played in real time, which means once you put out food and toys, you have to wait 10 to 15 minutes for any cats to appear. And they will stay varied amounts of

time, from 1 or 2 minutes to a good hour. When they leave, they will leave you gifts, and that number varies as well. Some rare cats leave a lot of fish.

The cats in this game all have unique names, personalities and power levels. The power levels indicate how strong the cat is, and if a weaker cat is playing with a toy a stronger cat wants, the stronger cat will take it. This is true with the rare cats as well—which is why it can sometimes be hard to find them.

The cats also have a visit counter, which allows you to see just how many times a cat has visited your yard. After visiting a yard so many times, they will bring a special gift with them—a memento. These can range from an old earring to a magic wand. The mementos don't really have a purpose, but they are certainly cute to look at.

Other fun features in the game include a camera, where you can take photos of the cats in your yard and put them in a scrapbook, yard expansions, which cost 180 gold fish, and yard renovations, which are equally, if not more expensive. The renovations are themed, so you can have a Zen cat garden, a cat ranch or a modern cat patio.

Neko Atsume doesn't have a storyline, and therefore can be played as long as you want. A popular goal is to buy all of the items, find all of the cats and their mementos, and purchase



Photo Courtesy of Google Images
A Screenshot of the new app Neko Atsume.

all of the renovations. However, the game is always updating, and occasionally, new items and cats are added.

This game is insanely popular, for good reason. It's a fun little game that's not addictive because it forces you to wait. It's almost like having a bonsai tree, or a little garden. A

garden that grows cats. I play it very often; I've almost bought every toy and I've found all the cats without purchasing anything with real money. It's a great little app, and I would recommend it to anyone.

“ ”



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Five date-worthy movies for Valentine's Day

February Movies we *LOVE*

The Choice



How to be Single



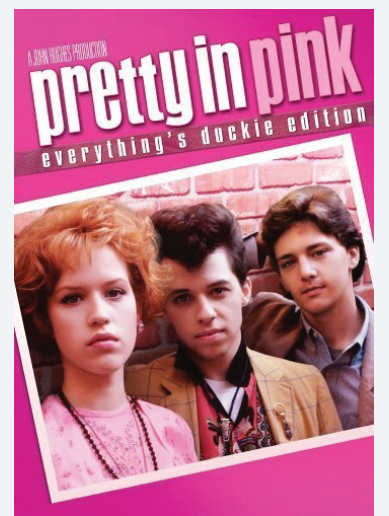
Brooklyn



Pride & Prejudice & Zombies



Pretty in Pink



Graphic by Alayna Leaming



Cole Hammond

"Because Why Not?"

— Cole Hammond is a Sophomore majoring in Economics and Marketing. He'll be seeing Deadpool this Valentine's Day because being single has its perks.

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Valentine's Day is right around the corner and if you're anything like the average guy, you probably haven't started planning for it yet. If that's the case, you can never go too wrong with the classic dinner and a movie. In keeping with the spirit of Valentine's Day, here are a few movies to consider for your date this Sunday to get you in that lovey dovely spirit.

THE CHOICE: FEBRUARY 5TH

This movie has everything for all the hopeless romantics out there. There are puppies, a love triangle, and if that weren't enough its also written by Nicolas Sparks.

Main characters Travis and Gabby meet in a small coastal town and fall into a passionate and complicated relationship. Travis, a veterinarian, soon becomes infatuated with Gabby and must win her love from a doctor. Like in every Nick Sparks movie, the audience should expect twists and be prepared to get in touch with your sensitive side.

PRETTY IN PINK 30TH ANNIVERSARY: FEBRUARY 14TH

Returning only on Valentines day and February 17th for its 30th anniversary, "Pretty in Pink" is a classic romantic comedy about a

young girl's love life. The main character, Andie, must choose between the affections of a sensitive rich boy and her lifelong friend. This cult classic is a great choice for any throwback date. "Pretty in Pink" is one of those classic 80's movies like "The Breakfast Club" that simply have to be seen at least once.

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE AND ZOMBIES: FEBRUARY 5TH

Just ignore the zombies and violent packag-

see "Movies" PAGE 11

Aggie Voice winner announced

By Isabel Fornish
WRITER

It's not out of the ordinary to dream of becoming a rock star, but few rarely get to say they made that dream into a reality like the top 10 finalists of the Aggie Voice singing competition.

On the night of Feb. 4, 2016, Utah State University friends, family and fans piled in to watch the competition and vote for their favorite performer.

Open auditions for the competition were held about three weeks prior to the showcase and out of about 50 singing hopefuls, the top 10 were hand-picked by the three judges.

For the next three weeks, the finalists met and practiced for hours at a time in order to properly prepare for the steep, yet exciting, competition that lay ahead. In the midst of preparation, the Aggie idols managed to give their fans a taste of what to expect with their first debut performance of the Backstreet Boys' "I Want It That Way" at USU Traditions Week's "The Filharmonic" show. This only fueled the applause and the passionate fan base for each performer that ended up filling the ballroom at Aggie Voice.

As the lights dimmed and the night began, the first round consisted of the finalists taking on the audience and the judges with their own musical style. Performers Gavin Salisbury, Kenzie Davis and Christian Hobbs wound fans up with their energetic stage presence while performers Nicole Vander Does, Hillary Simmons and Anapesi Ka'ili swept them away with a powerful ballad. Other performers, such as Josh Clafin and Sarah Hart, intrigued fans with their original song-writing skills while performers Reggie Johnson and Garrett Steed tuned well-known classics to fit their personal groove and range.

But the performers couldn't pull off the entire showcase by themselves. Thanks to the sponsorship for the event from Arvo and support from Roolee Boutique, the finalists were able to look their best and compete for a



Aggie Voice contestants sing together in the finale of the competition on Feb. 4. Anapesi Ka'ili won the competition. Photo by Jessica Barber

prize reward of \$500, two tickets to "The Voice" television show in Los Angeles, California and a customized Arvo watch. Not to mention the free giveaways and discounted coupons that kept the audience of college students engaged.

With the first round of voting in and counted for, the judges and fans simmered down the competition to the final three: (in no particular order) Sarah Hart, Anapesi Ka'ili and Christian Hobbs. Each performer was given one more chance to wow the judges and steal the crowd's votes for the chance to be known as the voice of Utah State.

Once it came down to the final vote, Hobbs' medley twist on Adele's "Hello" and Justin Bieber's "Sorry" and Hart's acoustic rendition of The Lumineers' "Ho Hey" could not com-

pete with Ka'ili's powerful performance of Jennifer Hudson's own "And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going." Students and family exploded into a rousing applause as Anapesi Ka'ili was announced the winner of Utah State University's Aggie Voice singing competition.

But the show was not over and could not be complete without one last group performance by all 10 finalists of the soul-filled "Ain't No Mountain High Enough." The performers ran through the crowd as fans got on their feet, clapped their hands and raised their voices together in song to conclude the evening.

Amidst hugs, tears and congratulations, Ka'ili said, "It was scary. I was shocked. But it was so fun."

She said that had it not been for her friends forcing her to audition last minute at the

Aggie Voice Open Auditions, she would still be singing in the comfort of her own shower.

Other contestants were happy for Kai'li as well, and many were grateful for the experience.

"I loved it. I had such a blast. I think anyone could've seen that we were having fun on stage," Salisbury said.

Many contestants were grateful for the musical experience and the friendships that were formed among the Aggie Voice contestants.

— isabel.fornish@aggiemail.usu.edu

Jeff Dillon and the Revival has infectious energy at WhySound performance



Dani Elliott
 "Sound Off"
 – Dani is a junior majoring in journalism and minoring in religious studies. When she's procrastinating homework, you can find her drinking too much coffee and watching cat videos on the internet.

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small stage walls decorated with stickers -- all led to the same conclusion: it was going to be a good show.

Jeff Dillon and the Revival played third in the lineup, which was a nice change of pace from the high-energy, ska-and-punk-influenced show put on by the other bands.

Instead, they played acoustic, alternative music with an aggressive edge that is no doubt formed from the band's influences, artists like Chuck Ragan, Johnny Cash, Frank Turner and The White Buffalo.

Jeff Dillon and the Revival is a difficult band to place in a genre, but in the best way possible. Sometimes they're acoustic, other times punk, alternative and even ska-influenced. The band classifies itself as Folk-Punk, Americana and Alt-Country.

If I had to describe the band's sound I would say they are an acoustic alternative/punk band. It seems Jeff Dillon and the Revival are one of those bands where everyone has a slightly differing opinion of its sound, depending on personal experience.

The inability to place the band in a box is arguably its biggest strength, making Jeff Dillon and the Revival appealing to music lovers of any kind. I would argue the majority of people would find at least one song by the band they would love.

It could be "Tuscan Skies", an upbeat, acoustic song where Dillon repeatedly proclaims, "It's funny that everything is different when everything's still the same".

Or perhaps "At the End of Us," a unique spin on a break-up song. This song in particular



Photo by Matt Halton

The "Beam me up Ska-ts" plays before "Jeff Dylan and the Revival" at WhySound, a local music venue in Logan.

Jeff Dillon and the Revival call their music "whiskey drinking, all night dancing, sing-along rock and roll" music. And anyone who was at the Salt Lake band's show at WhySound Saturday night knows this is accurate.

The band played at the Logan venue off of Federal Avenue. Jeff Dillon and the Revival played with the KnightBeats, the Beam Me Up Ska-Ts! and Yersinia.

In its biography, the band claims Jeff Dillon won't sit down or shut up. This was evident Saturday night when Dillon was constantly seen out supporting the other bands who played before his. It was a huge testament to just how close and supportive the Northern Utah music scene really is. It was also enjoyable to see the bands supporting and enjoying each other's music.

The apparent camaraderie all the bands had with each other, the infectious energy of everyone present, and the venue itself -- with its

showcases Dillon's passionate vocals.

Jeff Dillon and the Revival's EP, "Different Cities, Different Stories," is available online to purchase or stream. The band's next shows are on March 14 at PCTV in Park City and March 19 at the Sand Trap in Ogden.

Head to <https://www.facebook.com/Jeff.Dillon.music/> to learn more about the band, listen to some songs and check out tour dates. You might like their music if you like Say

Anything, Green Day, Frank Turner, Tom Petty, Woodie Guthrie, The Replacements and The Civil Wars.

Move aside Valentine's Day, friendship is more important



Morgan Pratt
 "Mic Drop"
 – Morgan Pratt is print journalism student from the sprawling suburbia they call South Jordan. She has three passions in life (other than her husband): people, radio/podcast and journalism. Morgan aspires to combine her passions to seek truth and influence the world by becoming a radio journalist.

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 @MorganPRobinson

From here on out, I suggest we change Valentine's Day to Friendship Day. Why?

Because our culture's obsession with romantic love is becoming unhealthy – literally. Your self worth is not determined by the presence or absence of a romantic partner. You don't need a man or girl (or anyone else on the LGBTQA scale) to make you happy. The only person you need to make you happy is you.

Besides, just because you have romantic interest doesn't guarantee you happiness. The romantic notion of "happily ever after" is an oversimplified lie. If someone tells you otherwise, they are trying to sell you something, whether that is an unrealistic ideal or a Disney movie.

Luckily, we can fill this Valentine season with something much more important: friendship.

Friends are guilt-free, carb-free, gluten-free, calorie-free and sugar-free nice little perks to our lives. Studies show those who have friends are likely to have lower rates of heart attacks, lower blood pressure and a greater chance of beating cancer.

This Valentine's Day, let's transcend romantic love and focus on human compassion and friendship.

But if you are suffering from Valentine's-Day-induced-blues, there are resources for you. Utah State University has an awesome Counseling and Psychological Services office that you can visit. If that doesn't work for you, call up a friend.

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Valentine's Day dinner guide for him and her



Ellie Dalton

"Edd the Girl"

– Ellie Dalton is studying agricultural communications and journalism, but is planning to attend culinary arts school in the near future. She loves good food.

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Not all foods are created equal.

Some foods appeal to the male senses and some appeal more to women. Obviously this is made evident by the different feelings that men and women have about something as simple as salad.

The same is true when it comes to Valentine's Day food. Men and women most likely have very different ideas when it comes to the perfect meal. Depending on who is trying to impress who, consider these strategies and meal ideas.

TO IMPRESS HER:

Gentlemen, eat before you take her out to dinner. It works for three reasons:

- 1- You will appear to be attentive and pleasant (because you are already full).
- 2- She can truly pick where she wants to eat (prepare for sushi).
- 3- You won't go home starving (a first).

Try these meal ideas to really impress the lady:

BREAKFAST LOVERS:

The Crepery: Under \$10 for one
Try the Pepe Le Pesto (pesto, parmesan cheese, smoked turkey, roasted red peppers) for dinner then move on to the Nutie Fruity (Nutella, strawberry or banana) for dessert.

The Waffle Iron: \$7.50 for one

The Mountain Man for him and the Go Green for her with the Chocolate Truffle to split for dessert.

Herm's Inn: \$4-\$10 for one

EVERYTHING. Just get there before they close at 2 p.m.

SUSHI LOVERS:

The Black Pearl: \$4-\$14 for one

Spice things up with the Sweet Heart Maki

roll or keep it cool with the Sunset or the California.

Kabuki Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi Bar: \$5-\$55

Everything from fried seaweed to gourmet lobster dishes. Sushi rolls are 30-50% off.

ITALIAN LOVERS:

Le Nonne: \$5-\$23 for one

An authentic Tuscan cuisine restaurant with live music. Complete with gnocchi and ravioli.

Olive Garden: \$12.99 and up for one

Pick three of 10 options with the Create Your Own Tour of Italy plate.

TO IMPRESS HIM:

Ladies, don't eat all day. It will help when you go to dinner with your man. Here's why:

- 1- You will appear calm and peaceful (really you're just faint, but he won't notice that).
- 2- He can pick where he wants to eat (most likely somewhere that serves a TON of food).
- 3- You'll be starving so it will be easy to actually eat your entire meal (he'll be so pleased).

Try these Valentine's specials to impress the gentleman:

MEAT LOVERS:

Texas Roadhouse: \$42.99 for two

Cactus blossom appetizer, prime rib and a shrimp sidekick.

The Elements Restaurant: \$42.50 for two
Dinner salad, potatoes, New York steak, dessert and a drink.

Logan Steakhouse: \$9-\$42 for one

They have the meat if you have the money.

PIZZA LOVERS:

Firehouse Pizzeria: \$175.00 for two

A helicopter flight around Cache Valley and a free gift card to Firehouse Pizzeria.

Jack's Wood Fired Oven: \$13 for two

The Chuckwagon pizza is a good choice made with BBQ sauce, smoked pulled pork, fresh pineapple and pickled jalapenos.

HAMBURGER LOVERS:

Morty's Café: \$7.50 for one

Try any of their specialty burgers. The Iconic is the most popular. The Hawaiian is the favorite.

Center Street Grill: \$8.29 for one

Try any of their eleven burger choices. Each comes with fries, salad or chips. The BBQ Bacon Ranch Burger is sure to please.

Just what you would expect from Nicholas Sparks



Elise Wilding

"The road less traveled"

– Elise Wilding is a sophomore majoring in technical communication. She enjoys reading, spending time with friends, and reading. If you want any book recommendations.

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hard for me to become invested in the story or the characters. In this case, it took me three days to get past the second chapter, but once I made it to chapter three, the plot picked up and became interesting. But then it was basically the kind of book I'd expect from Nicholas Sparks. Characters meet, something draws them apart and we as readers are forced ask ourselves a distressing question: will they overcome their troubled pasts and end up together? My guess is probably, because it is, after all, a romance novel.

With that introduction, the novel wasn't bad. Definitely cliché, but still entertaining. In a nutshell, a young lawyer named Maria meets Colin, a bartender who has had a violent past. Romance combines with mystery and a little bit of horror as Maria realizes she is being stalked. As the stalker's threats escalate, Maria

and Colin attempt to find out who is tormenting her while also working out the difficulties in their own relationship. The stalking element added to the feeling of uncertainty in the novel — uncertainty not only about the outcome of Maria and Colin's relationship, but also about whether or not they would be able to resolve Maria's fear of this unknown stalker. It was also interesting because the characters had unusual pasts that continued to affect their actions throughout the book.

Although entertaining, the novel felt like just another romance novel for a few reasons. Disclaimer: this next part may make some of you uncomfortable. If so, I apologize, but readers should be aware that there was sex in this book, and it upset me. Not because the book was explicit — don't worry, it wasn't — but because I felt that the characters' relation-

ship focused too much on "making love" and didn't develop beyond the first few encounters that the characters had. For me, the emotional connection between Maria and Colin didn't feel strong enough to warrant the speed with which their relationship progressed.

I'd give this book 3.5 stars. It wasn't terrible, but it wasn't extraordinary either. Basically, it's what I would have expected from Nicholas Sparks on Valentine's Day.

"Movies" FROM PAGE 9

ing and there really is a deeply touching romance here. Probably. Or maybe not, but it's based on a romance and that's enough to make the list. This adaptation of "Pride and Prejudice" promises a little something for everyone: a love story, a historic setting, tons of action, and a full embrace of its strong female lead Lily James (Elizabeth).

BROOKLYN: FEBRUARY 12TH

Another movie making a cinematic re-appearance is the critically renowned "Brooklyn". The movie tells an emotional story of an Irish immigrant in the 1950's who falls into a fresh romance while struggling to sculpt her new identity. As the unexpected couple grows closer, problems back home in Ireland threaten the new romance. It's a great period movie that asks the audience what home really means. Of the five movies listed, this one is the highest reviewed on Rotten Tomatoes with a 98% from critics.

HOW TO BE SINGLE: FEBRUARY 12TH

Being single is awkward, exciting, scary, empowering, uncomfortable, and this movie tries to capture all of that in a light hearted comedy about what its like for our generation to be single. Rebel Wilson (Robin) and Dakota Johnson (Alice) play as close friends that give the audience a memorable performance well worth the price of admission. Combine all of this with a backdrop of the city that never sleeps, and you're given a movie that promises to be as fun as it is over the top.

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S

SPORTS

ATHLETES LOVE SPORTS, AND EACH OTHER

By **Kalen Taylor**
SPORTS EDITOR

A typical student athlete at Utah State puts in nearly twenty hours a week working on their sport.

Factor in a full load of classes, homework and all the travel involved during the season, it can be hard to make time for love.

Derek Larsen, a sophomore linebacker for the Aggies, found the time to make it work. What's most impressive about Larsen's situation though, is his fiancée, Maddie Day, is also a student athlete.

Day is a junior defensive specialist for Utah State's volleyball team. She is from North Logan and attended Sky View High School, the rival school for Larsen's Logan High.

Day's father, Kevin Day, was Larsen's assistant basketball coach in high school.

"He was my coach, but I never met her," Larsen said. "We would go to his house as a team and everything but I never remember seeing her."

Day graduated in 2013, came to Utah State and redshirted her first season in the program.

Larsen graduated in 2011, served a church mission, and then enrolled at USU where he also redshirted his first season in 2014.

Once both were back in Logan at Utah State, it took mutual friends for the two to meet.

"She was my first date in college," Larsen said. "I met her through one of my best friends. He wanted to ask her out, but for some reason he didn't. I asked him if he was going to take her out, because if he wasn't I was going to. Two weeks later we went on a date."

After two years of what the couple described as on-and-off dating, they got engaged on Jan. 30 and are planning on getting married on May 13.

"The only time we saw each other during the season was maybe 30 minutes every night," Day said. "That's if we were both here. Our travel schedules were really opposite. If I

was home he was gone. If he was home I was gone. We didn't see each other very much."

Day said the volleyball schedule during the season the team lifts together twice a week for a little more than an hour. Then, every day they don't have a game, there's practice. Usually her only day off is Sunday. The offseason isn't much different. She has workouts three times a week and practice every day.

"During the season it's always a lot more hectic," Larsen said. "Early in the morning we're watching film, then we go to class, then practice until, like, 6:30 every night, add in lifting, then homework. So yeah, about 30 minutes at night."

"And that 30 minutes is usually taken up by homework," Day said, laughing.

Gamedays prove to be the most difficult and time consuming. However, they can also be the most rewarding.

"It's hard because you have class still," Day said. "For volleyball, if the game starts at 7 p.m. we still have to be at the Estes Center at 3:30 for game prep. I didn't usually see him until after the games. But we usually went out and got food after."

"That's what we always did after games," Larsen said. "Whether it was my game or her game, we would go out to eat. Texas Roadhouse, that's nice to eat after the game. El Toro is good too."

Even though finding the time to manage a relationship can be difficult, Larsen said it's also helpful that both are athletes.

"I know she knows what I'm going through and I know what she's going through," Larsen said. "We have busy schedules, we're both fall sports. We at least understand what the other is going through so it's nice."

Both are going to be working around the schedules for awhile. Larsen has three more years of football and Day will be playing volleyball for another season.

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Photo by Kyle Todecheene
Derek Larsen and Maddie Day are student athletes that work through busy schedules to maintain a healthy relationship.

Turnovers lead to USU road loss

By **Kalen Taylor**
SPORTS EDITOR

Utah State women's basketball fell below .500, 11-12, after a 73-70 loss on the road to New Mexico.

The Aggies, now 6-6 in Mountain West play, led 67-65 with just over a minute left in the game.

Three-straight USU turnovers allowed the Lobos to come back and take a 70-67 lead with 23 seconds to play. Sophomore guard Funda Nakkasoglu hit two free throws with 21 seconds to play and cut the lead to one.

Utah State fouled, UNM's Bryce Owens hit both free throws and on the ensuing USU possession Julianne Anchling took a contested 3-point shot that was blocked. New Mexico came up with the loose ball and hit one more free throw. Utah State's 3-point attempt didn't go in.

Deja Mason came up with a rebound and hit a free throw but there wasn't enough time for a USU comeback.

Nakkasoglu had 28 points and became the youngest player in Utah State history to reach

1,000 points. Cherise Beynon was the leading scorer for UNM with 24. Khadijah Shumpert was close behind with 17 points; she also grabbed seven rebounds.

Utah State turned the ball over 23 times which led to 34 points off turnovers by New Mexico. The Lobos also shared the ball well, they had 18 assists on 23 made baskets. The Aggies had only eight assists on 24 baskets.

USU freshman guard Katie Toole was the second leading scorer on the team. She had 14 points on 6 of 9 shooting and also grabbed five rebounds. Another freshman, Rachel Brewster, led the Aggies in rebounding with 10. Offensively, Brewster had a rough night going 0 for 9 from the field but scored two points on free throws.

On the boards, Utah State won the battle, outrebounding the Lobos 43-38.

The Aggies have their second bye in conference play on Saturday. The next game is on Wednesday at Colorado State, with tipoff at 7 p.m.

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File Photo

SPORTS GET IT DAILY AT
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THE AGGIE BUNCH



(TOP LEFT TO RIGHT) STEVE FARMER, LUKE WELLS, KENDRICK SHAVER. (MIDDLE LEFT TO RIGHT) JULIUS BROWN, JOVON BOUKNIGHT. (BOTTOM LEFT TO RIGHT) FRANK MAILE, DAVID KOTULSKI, MATT WELLS. Photo Courtesy of USU ATHLETICS

By Thomas Sorenson and Kalen Taylor
SENIOR WRITER AND SPORTS EDITOR

The Utah State football team continues to overhaul its coaching staff after a flurry of changes this offseason.

Wednesday USU announced the hiring of Julius Brown as the team's new cornerbacks coach.

Tuesday the Aggies announced the hiring of Steve Farmer as the offensive line coach and the promotion of Jovon Bouknight to co-offensive coordinator along with Luke Wells. Wells will now coach the quarterbacks instead of the tight ends.

Utah State is still without a running back coach and director of player personnel. In all, USU has announced seven additions or promotions to its 15-member staff since Jan. 14. Last year, the coaching staff had 22 members.

Brown played at Boise State before working on the team as a graduate assistant from 2006-2008. In 2009 he became the director of player personnel. Brown left that position in 2012 to be cornerbacks coach at Troy before moving to Arkansas State for the same position and recruiting coordinator in 2013. Brown then moved back to Boise as the secondary coach and recruiting coordinator for two seasons before accepting the job at Utah

State.

"We are excited to add Julius to the Aggie football family," said Aggie head coach Matt Wells. "He brings a lot of experience to our staff and team as both a secondary coach and former defensive back, and also has a reputation as an outstanding recruiter. He possesses key knowledge of the Mountain West that will aid us moving forward in our quest to win a conference championship."

During Brown's other coaching experiences, he has been a part of five conference championships and nine bowl games.

"I am thrilled to get the opportunity to work with Utah State football, Coach Wells and his staff," Brown said.

Farmer brings 17 years of coaching experience – including nine as an offensive coordinator – to the USU staff. He spent the past five seasons as the assistant head coach and offensive coordinator at Louisiana-Monroe.

"Steve has an extensive background in playing and coaching the offensive line, as well as success as an offensive coordinator," Matt Wells said.

Farmer played center for Northeastern Oklahoma A&M junior college before transferring to Illinois State for his final two seasons. He was named first-team all-Missouri Valley Football Conference as a center following his senior season.

In addition to his role as offensive coordinator, Farmer spent the past four seasons as the offensive line coach and he has coached the line for 12 of the past 15 years.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to be a part of Utah State football and coach in the Mountain West," Farmer said. "I am impressed with the success the football program has had under Coach (Matt) Wells and I am very grateful to be a part of Aggie Nation."

Bouknight has been a member of the USU coaching staff for the past eight seasons, working with the wide receivers for the past six. He will continue to work with the receivers while joining Luke Wells as co-offensive coordinator.

Luke Wells, who has worked as the tight ends coach the past three seasons in addition to his responsibilities as co-offensive coordinator, will now work as the quarterbacks coach.

Utah State announced other changes to the staff in January.

Frank Maile and Kendrick Shaver were announced as co-defensive coordinators, while David Kotulski was announced as the team's linebackers coach.

Maile, who graduated from USU in 2007, spent the past two seasons as the defensive line coach at Vanderbilt. He was on the USU coaching staff from 2009-13, the first two years as a graduate assistant and the last two

as defensive line coach, before his time in Tennessee.

"Frank did a tremendous job at Vanderbilt helping to improve that defense and I have great confidence that he will continue to do special things here with our Aggie defense moving forward," Wells said.

Shaver has been the cornerbacks coach at USU since 2011. He will move to safeties coach along with his promotion to co-defensive coordinator.

Kotulski's hiring is also a homecoming of sorts as he spent two seasons as the defensive coordinator and inside linebackers coach at USU in 2003 and 2004.

Most recently, Kotulski spent the 2014 season as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Vanderbilt with Maile. Prior to that, Kotulski was the linebackers coach at Stanford. The Cardinal appeared in consecutive Rose Bowls in his two seasons as a coach there.

"I'm excited to come back to Cache Valley and be part of all the positive things that have been accomplished with this great program in the recent past," Kotulski said.

The Aggies will begin spring practices in March. The opening game of the 2016 season will be in Logan against Weber State on Sept. 1.

UTAH STATE ATHLETICS

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OPINION

New Harry Potter book means nothing else matters



Logan Jones
 "Trail Blazin"
 - Logan Jones is a junior majoring in journalism. His patronus takes the form of Marshawn Lynch.

-logantjones@aggiemail.usu.edu
 @Logantj

A major event happened this week, the type of thing you couldn't avoid even if you tried. Judging by the reactions from millions of fans across the globe, it may as well have been a holiday. One of the most universally beloved entities of this generation was front and center in every overheard conversation and social media post.

There was also a football game or whatever, but I'm talking about the announcement of the new Harry Potter book. Well, not exactly a book the way the other seven were direct sequels to each other, but still enough of a book that people are going absolutely bonkers over it.

Future President of Planet Earth J.K.

Rowling announced that the script of her upcoming play "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" will be published as a book this summer. The play — split into two parts so Rowling can line both her yacht and her spaceship with the money she earns from millions of aging 20-somethings clinging to their childhoods — takes place 19 years after the conclusion of her last official publication.

Apparently this is a big deal, since Harry Potter seven came out over eight years ago and Rowling has been living in seclusion ever since.

Ha, just kidding. Rowling has actually made an annoying habit of releasing new canonical information about the destinies of her characters and other peripheral facts for years, to the extent that now you can't just read her books off the shelves and know the full story for any of her main characters.

Did you know Dumbledore was gay, and that Harry and Hermione probably should've wound up together, and that Neville Longbottom lives above a pub when he's not busy being the "cool" professor at Hogwarts? Not if you haven't been keeping up with Rowling's endless Twitter revelations. Don't worry, I'm sure they've all been compiled into a BuzzFeed

list by now — capitalizing on childhood nostalgia is sort of their thing.

Look, I've read the books, seen the movies and generally enjoyed the Harry Potter universe for what it is. I just find it hilarious how people get so weird about Harry Potter. I hate to use the "my generation" label, but it feels like this one really is on us. Priorities for the 20-something crowd appear limited to pretending we're serious about politics, and clinging to every shred of Harry Potter news available.

The Potter script-turned-book managed to drown out everything that came before it this week in the news. Cam Newton a sore loser? Doesn't matter — Harry Potter.

Was the Super Bowl halftime show too on-the-nose with its various political messages? Shush — Harry Potter.

How about the fact that the patron saint of misinformed college kids Bernie Sanders and sci-fi B-movie villain Donald Trump just won victories in New Hampshire? Shut up, grab the broom from your apartment's dirty closet and buy a freaking owl because this week literally nothing matters except Harry Potter.

Even the second-best member of Destiny's Child and reigning queen of media over-satu-

ration Beyonce Knowles has to take a backseat to almighty Harry Potter. That's some serious brand power — the last time anyone managed to steal the spotlight from Beyonce, Kanye West had to leap onstage and restore balance to the universe.

What's happening here seems obvious. Rowling sees extended universes like Star Wars and the interconnected Marvel films and sees dollar signs. There's nothing wrong with that; I wouldn't necessarily even call it greedy. Her work is in demand so by all means, produce more of it. But maybe fans ought to chill a little before any actual real-world children are burdened with a name like Albus Severus — because you just know that's going to happen to some poor kid.

I'm interested in what may come of this new book, but I'm left wondering if I can even admit to liking Harry Potter in mixed company without being hounded about what form my patronus would take. I've got no beef with hardcore fans, be they sports fans or lovers of fictional universes, but before we crown JK Rowling for her merciful decision to publish again we should acknowledge that this is all a little extreme.

Rebuttal to letter →



Jeffrey Dahdah
 "The Cardinal Rule"
 - Jeffrey is a senior majoring in journalism and minor-ing in religious studies. He has repeatedly tried to get the point across that people's faiths aren't necessarily reasons for their actions, so sorry if you've read him argue this before.

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 @dahdahjeff

You would have to say some pretty intense things for us to not run a letter to the editor you sent in. We have run some radical letters for the idea that we serve as a public forum for anyone who wants a platform for their opinions.

The letter to the editor we are running today certainly isn't the most inflammatory one we have received in my time here, but it is concerning enough to me that I wanted to address it for two reasons. First simply to point out we run letters that may be inflammatory because of the public forum service, certainly not because we agree with it. The second is that there are some factually wrong

and irresponsible things said in this letter.

First off the idea that whatever ISIS does represents the religion of Islam is ludicrous. Clearly no religion followed by 1.6 billion would preach to kill the remaining three fourths of the world, or we would have a much larger world-wide problem. In a sample size of any random number of 1.6 billion people there are going to be some violent and confused ones.

I don't intend to put in the effort to research if ISIS was in fact a fertility goddess in Egyptian mythology or the in-depth reasons for the Armenian Genocide. But, I have had the pleasure of taking a classes on Islam and conversing with Muslims and I know the first pillar of Islam is a declaration of faith, committing to the idea of one God. So you know, like Christianity or Judaism.

I also know that if you search hard enough you will find horrifying statements in many religious texts, or even governmental documents, and they will all likely be out of context and an irresponsible representation of that document.

I don't agree remotely with these statements, but I do respect the right for people to voice their opinions in this paper. I just won't always let them go without a rebuttal.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ISIS was a popular fertility Goddess in ancient Egyptian mythology. Her followers worshiped ISIS as the protector of the dead and also as the divine mother in the Middle Eastern area around 2300 B.C. Today, the Islamic State, ISIS (ISIL) in The Middle East is led by Caliph, Kalif, Baghdadi; the Chief. Spiritual and civilian head of a Muslim State, a successor to Mohammed and always a male.

Caliph was a title taken 13 times by the sultans of Turkey, which was abolished there in 1923. Under ISIS's Five Pillars of Islam, number one is (Shahadah), kill non-believers wherever they are; in a religious war of

Muslims against the enemies of their faith, in an end of the age war.

Was the "Armenian Genocide" a Jihad by radicalized Islam, a religion of peace?

—William Wulforst



"Valentine" FROM PAGE 1



Photo by Alyssa Roberts

my effort to a cause that will help remove people from that toxic environment."

Specifically, the funds from Utah State's production of "The Vagina Monologues" go to supporting Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse, or CAPSA, an organization founded in Cache Valley in 1976. CAPSA, which identifies itself as the first mobile crisis team in Utah, dedicates itself to responding to incidents of sexual and domestic abuse and coaching victims through the healing process.

Thad and Jenny Box, two longtime residents of Logan who helped CAPSA get its start,

recalled how the organization was first conceived in the College of Natural Resources at USU, where Thad Box was dean at the time. Marsha Rawlins, a secretary at the college, helped assemble what was then termed a "rape crisis team" to help students who had been sexually assaulted.

"What these young women were concerned about was rape and the fact that a woman could be raped and there's no support," Jenny Box said. "There's just cops doing their thing, lawyers doing their thing, the doctor doing his thing, and here is this woman with nothing."

With help and support from other Cache Valley residents, Box worked to secure the first grant funding that helped Rawlins's rape crisis team evolve into CAPSA. Today, the organization is able to support victims of sexual and domestic assault through the healing process by providing an array of services including counseling, transitional housing, casework and employment services.

Jill Anderson, the organization's executive director, said it is currently working on the development of a lethality assessment program in conjunction with local law enforcement. The system helps to assess the risk of homicide in incidents of domestic violence and helps both law enforcement officers and victims understand these risks on a case-by-case basis.

A similar lethality assessment experiment in Maryland resulted in a 40 percent reduction in that state's homicide rate. Anderson explained that in Utah, 47 percent of homicides are domestic violence-related.

"If we can reduce that by 40 percent, we are reducing the homicide rate in Utah tremendously," she said. "It's exciting that we can identify those that are at high risk and get them the help that they need."

In addition to expanding this and other services provided by the organization, Ander-

son said funding from this year's production of "The Vagina Monologues" will go to developing a therapy program for children of domestic violence victims, who are 2.6 percent more likely to enter into abusive relationships themselves. Through child therapy, the organization hopes to decrease this risk.

Along with taking a stand against abuse in all its forms, the organization's biggest contribution in advocating against sexual and domestic violence, according to Thad Box, may be its ability to raise awareness.

"They created an awareness that there's a problem here that needs to be solved and CAPSA has become a leader not only here in the valley, but in the state, as to what can be done," Box said.

Through the efforts of CAPSA and the cast of "The Vagina Monologues," Valentine's Day can take on new meaning for USU students.

"Actually, my Valentine's Day is centered around "The Vagina Monologues," said Jasmine Despain, the president of USU's chapter of the international empowerment organization I Am That Girl. "It's just so empowering and I feel so good being a part of something so strong."

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PERSONALS

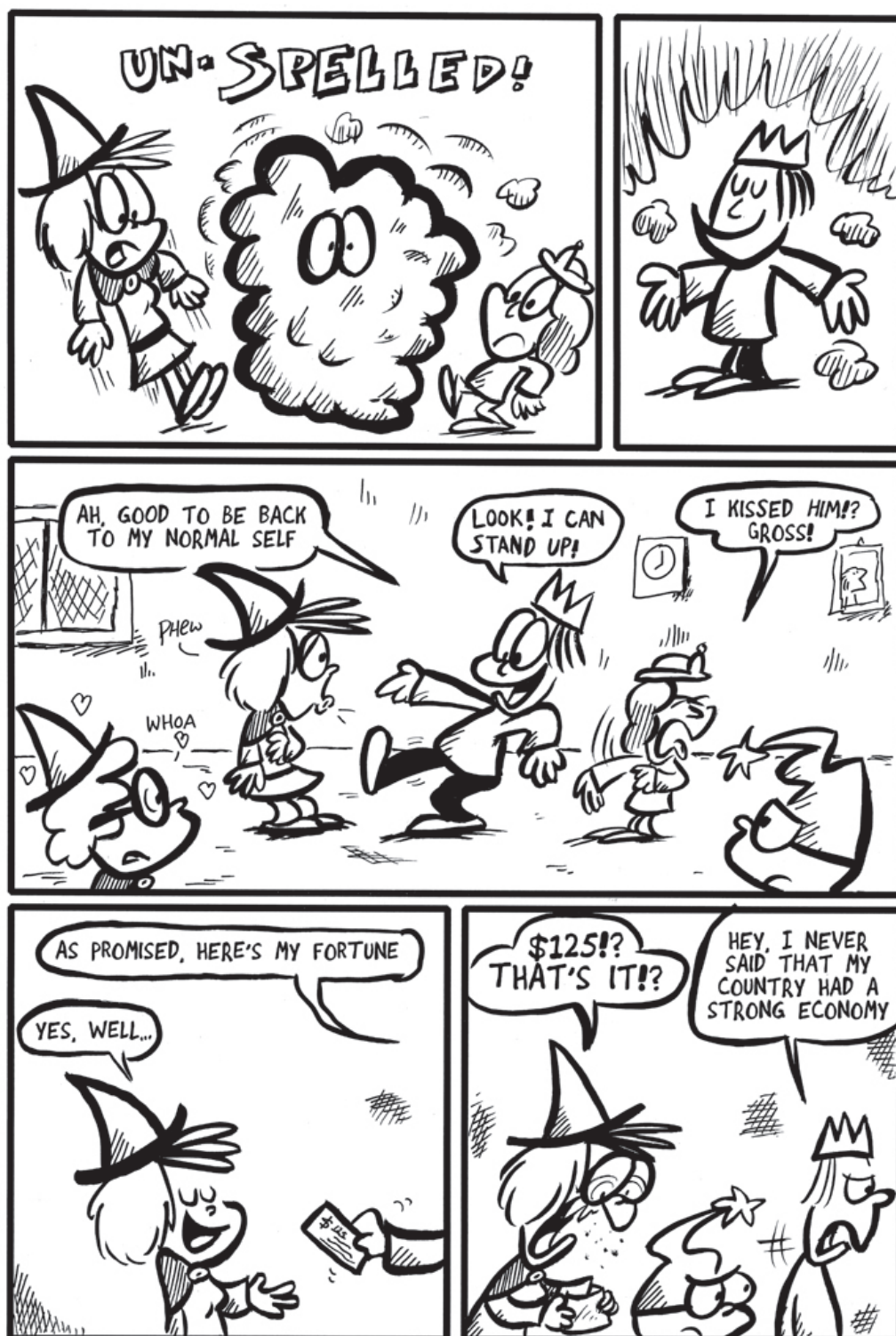
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HOUSING

Wanted: two roommates for summer 2016 M/F I'm looking for two roommates for the summer. The apartment is pet friendly, I have a dog. Private room, shared bathroom. Rent is \$280 + utilities. Contact Mandy, 435-749-1576 Email mlangston4@gmail.com

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CALENDAR | FEB. 11 - FEB. 14
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THURSDAY FEB. 11

FRIDAY FEB. 12

Jazz Student Night
Elite Hall
\$10, 7:00 p.m.

An Evening of Negro Spirituals
Caine Performance Hall - Utah State University
\$5-\$10. Adults: \$10, Seniors and Youth: \$8, USU Faculty and Staff \$5, Free for USU students with ID, 7:30 p.m.

Math Homework Tips
Utah State University
Taggart Student Center
Free, 1:30 p.m.

Valentine Dinner And Concert
American West Heritage Center
\$35-\$75. Dinner Package: \$75 per couple/Concert Only \$35 per couple, 7:00 p.m.

Study Abroad Fair
TSC International Lounge
Free, 10:00 a.m.

Jazz Night
Elite Hall
\$10-\$25. Tickets: \$10 (dancing ONLY) \$25 Dancing and Dinner, 7:00 p.m.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
Eccles Theatre
\$20-\$23. See website, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY FEB. 13

Valentine's Dinner for 2
Logan Steakhouse
\$34.95-\$49.50, 4:00 p.m.

Valentine's Buffet
Riverwoods Conference Center
\$28.95, 5:00 p.m.

Meredith Willson's 'The Music Man'
Sky View High School
\$5-\$28, 7:00 p.m.

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.

Valentine Dinner And Concert
American West Heritage Center
\$35-\$75. Dinner Package: \$75 per couple / Concert Only: \$35 per couple, 7:00 p.m.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
Eccles Theatre
\$20-\$23. See website, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY FEB. 14

Jazz Night
Elite Hall
\$10-\$25. Tickets: \$10 (dancing ONLY) \$25 Dancing and Dinner, 7:00 p.m.

Mid-Singles 31-45 Valentines Dance
Willow Park LDS Church
Free, 8:30 p.m.

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.

Valentines Day Dinner
Elements Restaurant
\$34.95-\$49.50, 4:00 p.m.

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Feb. 10-11-12-13



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