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New dean of science faces college's budget cuts

By HEATHER FOSTER
staff writer

After a nine-year absence, Jim MacMahon has resumed his previous position as the College of Science's dean. MacMahon said the main challenges he will face this time are the problems with the economy.

MacMahon was dean of the college for 11 years before becoming vice president for University Advancement.

Hubbard said she thinks that MacMahon will do a good job because he is well connected to the world of science and the administration.

"Jim's a great guy. He has a lot of experience in that area," she said.

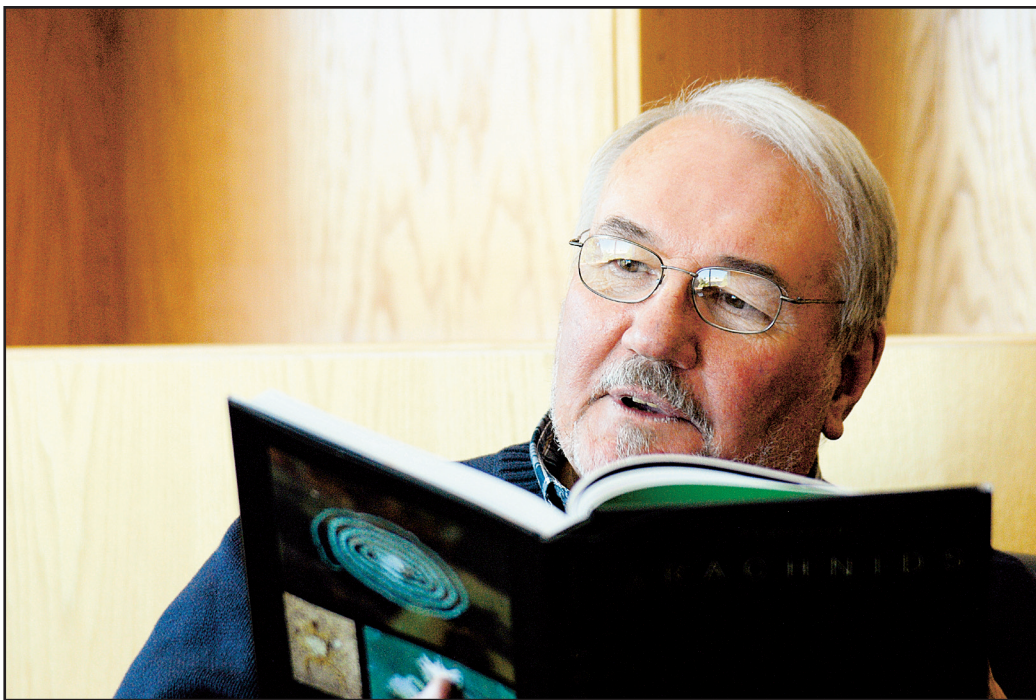
In the announcement of the new dean, USU Executive Vice President and Provost Raymond Coward said MacMahon was preferred by the majority of his colleagues in the College of Science and he believed MacMahon would be "a stabilizing force during these challenging times."

MacMahon said when the time came to find a successor for Hubbard, the provost decided to conduct an internal search. MacMahon's name came up, he was offered the job and accepted.

As for how he feels about the new job: "Get back to me in two weeks," he said.

MacMahon's new duties will mostly deal with finding resources for the six departments to help them do their jobs. This includes the most challenging aspect of the job: finding financial resources.

"Financial problems in the state have forced us to try and make more and more cuts without



JIM MACMAHON, NEW DEAN OF SCIENCE, looks at a book about spiders in his new office. Mary Hubbard, previous dean of science, said MacMahon will do a good job in the position because he is well connected to the world of science and to the administration. *CODY GOCHNOUR photo illustration*

ruining the quality of the program," MacMahon said. "A big cut is coming up, and it will be a hard thing to do."

MacMahon held his first meeting with the College of Science department heads where he informed them of the budget. When asked if he would be making any major changes to the college, MacMahon said he intends to release the information to the people it directly affects first,

and he doesn't have information to release presently.

"There are a lot of people in the college to whom these issues are going to matter. These are the problems that change people's lives," he said.

As dean, MacMahon will have to deal with not only a minimal budget but also with the problem of finding donors and encourag-

ing them to give more money to the university. As former vice president for University Advancement, MacMahon is no stranger to this task. In fact, while serving as vice president, he helped find the donations that were used to build the Eccles Science Learning Center. Now, with the economy in recession, people are less willing to donate money and contacts are harder than ever to make.

"It's kind of a blow to walk right into this. It'll be a challenging few years," MacMahon said.

As with all department heads, MacMahon will continue to teach full time. He will still teach graduate-student classes and have offices in the Natural Resources Building and the Eccles Science Learning Center.

"I'm still trying to keep up my career," he said. "They might not like me here."

Hubbard will take on the job of vice provost for Global Engagement. This position has become full-time employment for Hubbard, whose responsibilities will deal with international students, Study Abroad and the internationalization of the university.

Hubbard said she was tapped for the position because her extensive international and academic experiences will be beneficial in connecting with students and faculty.

"I loved my dean job and I love the sciences but I've always had an interest in the university as a whole," Hubbard said. Her new position will let her work with all the departments in the university, a mixture which she said is what makes USU such a rich place.

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Wellness center receives 400 doses of H1N1 vaccine

By SARI MONTRONE
staff writer

Last week the USU Student Wellness Center received its first shipment of the nasal-spray H1N1 virus vaccines. USU students are among the first to get the vaccine in the nation.

Cache Valley received 1,800 doses of the vaccine, and the Student Health and Wellness Center was given 400 doses when Bear River Health Department received the shipment. It came right in time because the number of H1N1 cases on campus has been increasing.

The university community started seeing symptoms of the H1N1 virus in June and in the last three weeks it has seen a large spread of the virus.

"We have gotten a lot of sick kids come in. The H1N1 virus is extremely contagious," said Dinne Jensen, a nurse at the Student Wellness Center. "Many kids have come in with the symptoms, and even though we don't test everyone, most the people we have tested have been positive for type-A influenza, which is what H1N1 virus is."

The first day the vaccine came in, 15-20 people showed up at the center to receive the nasal spray. Since then, about seven students a day go to the center to get vaccinated.

Most of the students coming in are athletes or students who are susceptible to getting sick or have health problems, Jensen said.

"I probably won't make time in my schedule to get the H1N1 vaccine," said Kristina Tay, senior at USU. "It's a great thing that the campus and community have the vaccine and beneficial to everyone but it's not on the top of my priority list. I am young and healthy so I'm not going to worry about it."

"I recommend every student get the vaccine," said Jim Davis, MD director of the Student Health and Wellness Center. "Students are among the top priorities to get the vaccine, not to mention it's free and only will take about 15 minutes of your time at the most. If people are worried about the safety of the vaccine, know that it is made side by side with the annual flu vaccinations and has my full support. I completely trust the vaccine. We do have a few mercury free vaccines for those worried about it, but the amount of mercury in the vaccine is not



A WOMAN GETS A VACCINE SHOT FOR H1N1 in a clinic. Symptoms of the flu arrived at USU in June and the university has seen a large spread of the virus in the last three weeks. *AP photo*

harmful."

Many of the side effects the doctors have seen from the vaccine are the same as any normal flu shot. They vary from light-headedness, fainting, high temperatures to cold-like symptoms.

"I recommend students with health problems or past history of health problems, who are pregnant or who are around people who are susceptible get the vaccine," said Chris Price, PA at the Student Health and Wellness Center. "I recommend everyone get the traditional annual flu shot because we are suspecting a big outbreak for that later on this year."

People of priority for the H1N1 vaccine are pregnant women, emergency medical technicians (EMT), small children, caretakers of small children and people aged 4-24. Pregnant women

cannot take the nasal-spray vaccine and need to wait until the shot comes out in 10-14 days.

USU President Stan Albrecht sent a letter out at the beginning of the fall semester about the university's plan to deal with the H1N1 outbreak on campus.

"The university takes the health of the university and community very seriously and plans to do everything possible to promote the health and minimize the effect of flu on its students, faculty and staff," the letter stated. "The university has implemented a plan for managing the occurrence of the H1N1 flu on our campus. This plan was developed by the University Emergency Management Operation over several months and follow guidelines for the university set forth by the U.S. Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention and Bear River Health Department and our university physician, Dr. Jim Davis."

If students have any symptoms of the flu they should stay home; containing the flu is the best weapon against it, Davis said.

It's also important to get the annual flu vaccine as well as the H1N1 vaccine. If students have symptoms of the flu, such as fever, shortness of breath, cough or a temperature of 101 degrees Fahrenheit or higher come into the Student Health and Wellness Center within 48 hours of the symptoms and come get medications. If students wait after the 48 hours, the medications won't help. If students have a fever

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The future is promising for the USU bowling club.

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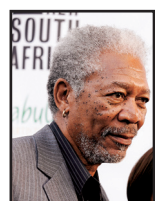


ClarifyCorrect

The policy of The Utah Statesman is to correct any error made as soon as possible. If you find something you would like clarified or find unfair, please contact the editor at statesmaneditor@aggiemail.usu.edu

Celebs&People

CLARKSDALE, Miss. (AP) – Academy-award winner **Morgan Freeman** says Mississippi is “starving” for the right leadership, so the actor is using his celebrity status to help his friend run for governor in 2011.



FREEMAN

Freeman has written a fundraising letter and is one of the hosts for a cocktail party in Los Angeles next week for Bill Luettkert, an attorney seeking the Democratic nomination.

NewsBriefs

Broken dinosaur bones unearthed

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) – A vast collection of broken dinosaur bones unearthed in southeast Utah indicates they were smashed underfoot by other dinosaurs shortly after they died, according to paleontologists.

Brigham Young University scientists have spent years analyzing more than 4,000 bones from a quarry just west of Arches National Park.

They say the bone collection – which includes at least 67 dinosaurs representing eight species – suggests a mass-die-off, likely from drought.

LateNiteHumor

David Letterman, Oct. 14, 2009 – Top 10 Things Christopher Columbus Would Say If He Were Alive Today.

10. Please tell me you've been TiVoing "Gossip Girl."
9. Good Lord, this country got obese!
8. Forget me – salute the guy who discovered the bacon cheese doughnut burger.
7. Is that the same John McCain who was on the Pinta?
6. I discovered the country and all I get is a sale at Sears?
5. My most recent discovery? Paul Shaffer's hilarious new memoir, 'We'll Be Here For The Rest Of Our Lives,' available now.
4. Comedy at 10 p.m.? It's about time!
3. I give A-Rod and Kate Hudson two months.
2. I believe that it is possible for man, with adequate rations and supplies, to circumnavigate Kirstie Alley.
1. I'm 558 years old and I still look better than Letterman.

Report: Unsafe abortions kill 70,000 annually

NEW YORK (AP) – Increased contraceptive use has led to fewer abortions worldwide, but deaths from unsafe abortion remain a severe problem, killing 70,000 women a year, a research institute reported Tuesday in a major global survey.

More than half the deaths, about 38,000, are in sub-Saharan Africa, which was singled out as the region with by far the lowest rates of contraceptive use and the highest rates of unintended pregnancies.

The report, three years in the making, was compiled by the New York-based Guttmacher Institute, which supports abortion rights and is a leading source of data on abortion-related trends. Researchers examined data from individual countries and multinational organizations.

The institute's president, Sharon Camp, said she was heartened by the overall trends since Guttmacher conducted a similar survey in 1999, yet expressed concern about the gap revealed in the new report.

"In almost all developed countries, abortion is safe and legal," she said. "But in much of the developing world, abortion remains highly restricted, and unsafe abortion is common and continues to damage women's health and



STATUES OF BABIES wrapped in plastic sit on display during a religious service by antiabortion groups in a cemetery in Mexico City in this 2008 file photo. AP photo

threaten their survival."

The report calls for further easing of developing nations' abortion laws, a move criticized by Deirdre McQuade, a policy director with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities.

"We need to be much more creative in assisting women with supportive services so they don't need to resort to the

unnatural act of abortion," she said.

Guttmacher estimated previously that the number of abortions worldwide fell from 45.5 million in 1995 to 41.6 million in 2003 – the latest year for which global figures were available.

A key reason for that drop, the new report said, was that the portion of married women using contraception increased from 54 percent in 1990 to 63

percent in 2003 as availability increased and social mores changed. Guttmacher's researchers said contraceptive use had increased in every major region, but still lagged badly in Africa – used by only 28 percent of married women there, compared with at least 68 percent in other major regions.

The report notes that abortions worldwide are declining even as more countries liberalize their abortion laws. Since 1997, it said, only three countries – Poland, Nicaragua and El Salvador – substantially increased restrictions on abortion, while laws were eased significantly in 19 countries and regions, including Cambodia, Nepal and Mexico City.

Despite this trend, the report said 40 percent of the world's women live in countries with highly restrictive abortion laws, virtually all of them in the developing world. This category includes 92 percent of the women in Africa and 97 percent in Latin America, it said.

The survey concluded that abortion occurs at roughly equal rates in countries where it is legal and where it is highly restricted. The key difference, according to the report, is the high rate of deaths and medical complications from unsafe clandestine abortions in the restrictive countries.

Nobel jury speaks out in defense of Obama prize

OSLO (AP) – One judge noted with surprise that President Barack Obama “didn't look particularly happy” at being named the Nobel Peace Prize laureate. Another marveled at how critics could be so patronizing.

In a rare public defense of a process normally shrouded in secrecy, four of the Nobel jury's five judges spoke out Tuesday about a selection they said was both merited and unanimous.

To those who say a Nobel is too much too soon in Obama's young presidency, “We simply disagree ... He got the prize for what he has done,” committee chairman Thorbjorn Jagland told The Associated Press by telephone from Strasbourg, France, where he was attending meetings of the Council of Europe.

Jagland singled out Obama's efforts to heal the divide between the West and the Muslim world and scale down a Bush-era proposal for an anti-missile shield in Europe.

“All these things have contributed to – I wouldn't say a safer world – but a world with less tension,” he said.

For nine-year Nobel committee veteran Inger-Marie Ytterhorn, Obama's demeanor spoke volumes when he first acknowledged the award during a news conference Friday on the lawn of the White House Rose Garden.

“I looked at his face when he was on TV and confirmed that he would receive the prize and would come to Norway, and he didn't look particularly happy,” she told the AP by telephone.

“Obama has a lot of problems internally in the United States and they seem to be increasing. Unemployment, health care reform: They are a problem for him,” she said.

She acknowledged there was a risk the prize might backfire on Obama by raising expectations even higher and giving ammunition to his critics. “It might hamper him,” Ytterhorn said, because it could distract from domestic issues.

Still, she added: “Whenever we award the peace prize, there is normally a big debate about it” so the Obama controversy was not unexpected.

It was unusual, however, for the Nobel jury to speak out so candidly about their selection.

Even the most seasoned Nobel watchers were surprised by Obama's Nobel – they hadn't expected the U.S. president, who took office barely two weeks before the Feb. 1 nomination deadline, to be seriously considered until at least next year.

Jagland said that was never an issue for the Nobel committee, which followed the guidelines set forth by Alfred Nobel, the Swedish industrialist and inventor of dynamite who established the prize in his 1895 will.

“Alfred Nobel wrote that the prize should go to the person who has contributed most to the development of peace in the previous year,” Jagland said.

“Who has done more for that than Barack Obama?” Aagot Valle, a left-wing Norwegian politician who joined the Nobel panel this year, also dismissed sugges-

tions that Obama was undeserving of the honor.

“Don't you think that comments like that patronize Obama? Where do these people come from?” Valle said from the coastal city of Bergen. “Well, of course, all arguments have to be considered seriously. I'm not afraid of a debate on the Peace Prize decision. That's fine.”

World leaders have reacted positively to Obama's Nobel in most cases, the committee said, with much of the criticism coming from the media and Obama's political rivals.

“I take note of it. My response is only the judgment of the committee, which was unanimous,” Jagland said.

In announcing the award Friday, the committee, whose members are appointed by the Norwegian Parliament, applauded the change in global mood brought by Obama's calls for peace and cooperation. They also praised his pledges to reduce the world stock of nuclear arms, ease U.S. conflicts with Muslim nations and strengthen the U.S. role in combating climate change.

The White House declined comment on the Nobel judge's latest statements.

However, Obama expressed surprise and humility at Friday's news conference, saying the prize should be considered not a “recognition of my own accomplishments, but rather as an affirmation of American leadership on behalf of aspirations held by people in all nations.”

Mormon leader says religious freedom is at risk

IDAHO (AP) – The anti-Mormon backlash after California voters overturned gay marriage last fall is similar to the intimidation of Southern blacks during the civil rights movement, a high-ranking Mormon said Tuesday.

Elder Dallin H. Oaks referred to gay marriage as an “alleged civil right” in an address at Brigham Young University-Idaho that church officials described as a significant commentary on current threats to religious freedom.

Oaks suggested that atheists and others are seeking to intimidate people of faith and silence their voices in the public square, according to his prepared remarks.

“The extent and nature of religious devotion in this nation is changing,” said Oaks, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, a church governing body. “The tide of public opinion in favor of religion is receding, and this probably portends public pressures

for laws that will impinge on religious freedom.”

Oaks' address comes as gay-rights activists mount a legal challenge to Proposition 8, the ballot measure that overturned gay marriage in California. His comments about civil rights angered gay rights supporters who consider the struggle to enact same-sex marriage laws as a major civil rights cause.

“Blacks were lynched and beaten and denied the right to vote by their government,” said Marc Solomon, marriage director for Equality California, which spearheaded the No on 8 campaign. “To compare that to criticism of Mormon leaders for encouraging people to give vast amounts of money to take away rights of a small minority group is illogical and deeply offensive.”

Solomon said the Mormon church hierarchy has every right to speak out, “but in the public sphere, one should expect that people will disagree.”

In an interview Monday before the speech, Oaks

said he did not consider it provocative to compare the treatment of Mormons in the election's aftermath to that of blacks in the civil rights era, and said he stands by the analogy.

“It may be offensive to some – maybe because it hadn't occurred to them that they were putting themselves in the same category as people we deplore from that bygone era,” said Oaks, a former Utah Supreme Court justice who clerked for Chief Justice Earl Warren at the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Salt Lake City-based Mormon church, or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has shied from politics historically but was a key player in the pro-Proposition 8 coalition. The LDS First Presidency, its highest governing body, announced its support for Proposition 8 in a letter read at every California congregation, and individual Mormons heeded the church's calls to donate their money and time.

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ASUSU discusses budget concerns

By BENJAMIN WOOD
staff writer

Associated Students of Utah State University's executive council discussed making changes to its financial-compensation packages as well as possible participation in a fundraising program for a Community Abuse Prevent Service Agency (CAPSA) housing project in its meeting Tuesday.

In a document presented by Tiffany Evans, Student Involvement and Leadership director, a number of possible models was presented to address budgetary concerns. One model that was heavily discussed by the council suggested requiring governmental officers to pay for their own student fees. Evans said factors such as differential tuition and the cost of online courses have led to unequal compensation between officers and difficulties in calculating costs.

"We can't accurately budget," Evans said. ASUSU compensation for differential tuition alone amounted more than \$14,000 last year, Evans said.

ASUSU Executive Vice President Spencer Lee said requiring officers to pay fees could possibly result in less commitment to their positions, in that many would have to work part-time jobs in addition to

their responsibilities at the university.

"I think that it's very essential that the type of people we attract are the type that will want to give all they can," Lee said. "The commitment that I would give would be lessened by a part-time job."

Lee suggested there are other possibilities, like conglomerating responsibilities to limit positions on ASUSU, to address budget concerns.

"We can move toward a smaller government," Lee said. "If we're going to talk budget we can really broaden our scope."

Student Advocate Tyler Haws said, "I don't think it's in the best interest to limit positions."

If the changes were enacted, Lee said he would gladly pay the student fees and would not be deterred from running for office.

Other council members felt that by paying fees, student officers would be better involved in the decisions made by student government. ASUSU Graduate Studies Vice President Rick Kelly suggested that officers would have more stake in their votes.

"It's a small contribution to avoid pulling budget from somewhere else," Kelly said.

Evans said part-time jobs would most likely be a concern regardless of changes to compensation policy. She then asked those present about jobs and

a majority indicated that they were either currently employed or likely entering part-time employment.

No decision on the matter was made at the meeting and options and alternatives will continue to be researched.

The council also discussed its involvement in a fundraising endeavor by CAPSA. The agency, which began at USU, is developing a Transitional Housing Project and selling commemorative bricks to raise funds. ASUSU Service Vice President David Knighton presented a video from the CAPSA Web site that detailed a friendly competition between teams made up of local entities during October for selling the \$50 bricks that will eventually make up a centerpiece at the facility. Knighton suggested that ASUSU create teams or a single team to encourage students to donate, in whatever quantity, to the project. Given the time constraints, the council did not enact a decision regarding the fundraiser individual members will likely be pursuing fundraising opportunities. Students can also visit the Val R. Christensen Service Center on the third floor of the Taggart Student Center for more information.

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Briefs

Campus & Community

Speech, debate team places at conference

USU's speech and debate team returned from its first conference meet with first- and second-place finishes in the debate arena and a third-place over-all finish. The Northwest Forensic Conference Tournament was held at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Ore., and 28 colleges and universities competed. Boise State University placed first and College of Idaho placed second in overall points.

"It is rewarding to successfully compete against teams that are three to four times the size of Utah State's squad," said Tom Worthen, USU coach.

The team's second conference tournament will be held at Linfield College in McMinnville, Ore., Nov. 20-21.

The USU speech and debate team is based in USU's department of languages, philosophy and speech communication in the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

Museum finds meaning in masks

The USU Museum of Anthropology and its "Saturdays at the Museum" series host the event "Ancient Masks Through Modern Eyes" Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m.

The event focuses on masks and the cultural aspects behind them.

"We all have different faces - masks if you will - that we present to the world," said USU student and Saturday Program Planner Heather Laaveg Wencl. "In some cultures, masks are used for protection or concealment, while others are used for performance or amusement."

Activities for the Saturday event include a tour of masks throughout the centuries and around the world. Activities for both young people and adults are planned, ranging from a scavenger hunt to unmasking the visitors' creative side by making a mask to take home.

"It's fascinating to learn how different cultures use masks to communicate and express themselves," said USU student and Saturday Program Planner Amiee Blank. "We encourage everyone to come and join us while we explore different masks around the world."

Funding for the event is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. More information about the IMLS and its grants is available online at www.imls.gov.

USU students and members of the public are invited to attend the museum any time during the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday hours.

Grad student wins writing prize

Jennifer Bateman has won the Director's Prize for her paper "I Don't Believe in Progress in Quite the Way You Seem To: An Exploration of Gender Roles in the 1960s through Wallace Stegner's Angle of Repose."

Bateman presented the paper at the sixth annual multidisciplinary conference "The Art of Gender in Everyday Life VI" last spring. The conference is an ongoing national series held at Idaho State University. In 2010, in addition to sessions, the conference will include a keynote, "Sexual Fluidity" by Lisa Diamond, an associate professor in the department of psychology at the University of Utah, on Friday evening; a Friday lunchtime talk by an ISU faculty member and a screening of LUNAFEST on Thursday evening, Feb. 25. A formal call for papers, an announcement of student paper competition, and a registration form can be found at www.isu.edu/andersoncenter. Abstracts must be postmarked by Monday, Oct. 19.

Compiled from staff and media reports

Scientists can still be religious, speaker says



TRICIA SHEPHERD, professor at Westminster College, tells her audience the historically scientists often had trouble reconciling their scientific findings with their religion. TODD JONES photo

By ADAM WARD
staff writer

Science and religion can go hand in hand was the main assertion by Tricia Shepherd at her lecture on Tuesday night for the F.O.C.U.S. (Fellowship of Christian University Students) club at USU. Shepherd hoped to show that science and religion don't necessarily have to conflict, and it is possible to be both a scientist and a member of a Christian religion.

Shepherd is a physical chemist professor at Westminster College in Salt Lake City. She received her BS and MS at the University of Idaho and her Ph.D. at Virginia Tech. While she doesn't teach a class on how religion and science can coincide, she has lectured this idea at USU several times, as well as the University of Utah.

The title of shepherd's speech was "In the Beginning of God ..." She did, however, warn everyone that this is a limited perspective because she is just human. And while she does believe that there is an omnipotent, great God, she does not understand everything about God.

Shepherd used a Venn diagram to show how she believes science, philosophy and religion can work together to solve many questions in life, such as "what is the universe made of?" She believes that all three of these can answer some things alone, but when combined they can answer many more questions.

Shepherd presented a slideshow that showed many mathematical and scientific ideas that have gone head to head with

Christian religions in the past. She said historically the Catholic church has had a problem with science, which has shown when scientists such as Copernicus tried to prove that the earth revolved around the sun and not the sun around the earth.

When Galileo, who Shepherd said was one of the creators of science, proved Copernicus' idea, the Catholic church put him under house arrest. The only reason he had not been put to death was because he renounced his findings, agreeing that the sun revolved around the earth.

Shepherd also made references to people who had religious ties that could not believe the work they had done because of their religion. In particular, Max Planck's constant is a physical constant that is the basis of all quantum mechanics. However, when Planck came up with the constant, he didn't believe it himself. He died still unable to believe that his constant was real or that it made sense.

Shepherd believed that these scientists were plagued by having a bias. Even when Planck's constant was obviously correct and important, he couldn't accept it because of his beliefs. This has affected many scientists throughout time, including people like Albert Einstein, who believed in god and that god wouldn't just "roll dice" on the world, as many chaos scientists believe.

Shepherd closed the lecture by urging people who are interested in science to not be afraid to become scientists. She believes there is much good scientists can do without jeopardizing their religious beliefs.

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Group discusses long-term Cache Valley growth

By JARED PRICE
staff writer

Utah Gov. Gary Herbert and members of Envision Cache Valley unveiled a long term plan for Cache Valley and encouraged citizens to be proactive and anticipate growth in order to create a better future for the valley at a meeting Tuesday at the Logan Tabernacle.

Dirk Bowles, Franklin County commissioner and co-chair of Envision Cache Valley, said the population of Cache County is projected to double by 2030.

Herbert said the Envision program has seen success in other parts of the state that have faced the challenging issue of growth that now faces Cache Valley. Herbert said Utah and Washington Counties have benefited greatly from the planning program.

"We have one chance here to get ahead of the curve and make sure what we're doing in anticipation of growth is the correct thing," Herbert said.

Herbert said this project is unique because it cuts across state lines to create a dialogue among all of those in the valley. Herbert said things such as air and water quality pay no attention to borders and that working across these borders is crucial to the betterment of the valley.

Herbert said, "This is an exciting opportunity for us to bring people together and talk about those issues that are important to this valley."

Idaho Rep. Marc Gibbs also spoke at the gathering. Gibbs said the old adage, "If you fail to plan, then you plan to fail," applies to this situation and that planning now is crucial to building the ideal future of Cache

Valley.

Gibbs also said Idaho is "pleased and honored" to have been invited in this process.

Tom Jensen, Envision Cache Valley co-chair, presented a draft of the vision for Cache Valley the group put together.

"This is what the people of Cache Valley, in their responses, have said," Jensen said.

According to Jensen, citizens said to "keep the city, city and the country, country."

Jensen said, "Now what this means is let's not mix our soup with our desert."

Feedback from the public said the community wants to invest in towns while protecting agriculture and natural lands.

Jensen said, "Living close to where we work, shop and play" was another hope from citizens. Jensen said preserving existing neighborhoods along with creating diverse new neighborhoods within walking distance of services is a part of the plan.

Another statement from the report stated citizens wish to "create good-paying jobs close to home" and to "create a balanced transportation network" that increases transportation options and makes travel more efficient.

Developing efficient infrastructure is another facet of the plan. Jensen said making the most of the existing system is crucial to facilitate the coming growth.

Citizens expressed desire to "protect, preserve and improve our natural resources and working farms."

Jensen said this entails preserving and improving air and water quality, preserving wildlife habitats, agricul-



GOV. GARY HERBERT speaks at the Envision Cache Valley meeting Tuesday at the Logan Tabernacle. PETE P. SMITHSUTH photo

tural land and scenic views.

"Connect local trails with nearby parks and a regional trail system" was also a desire expressed by those citizens surveyed.

Jensen said the report also stated that it is necessary to cooperate to achieve these goals.

Cache Valley Regional Council Chair Gary Anderson said when implementing the plan, maintaining a balance and staying focused on the

big picture are necessities. Anderson also said the implementation should be inclusive and not a "heavy-handed mandate."

"The challenge is ours. It's not necessarily easy but it's necessary," Herbert said regarding the plan for Cache Valley. "If we all pull together, what we come up with here is going to be something that we'll be proud of."

- jared.price@aggiemail.usu.edu

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Debate discusses licensing, park strips

By JARED PRICE
staff writer

Issues facing students in the upcoming Logan elections will be debated by the USU debate team Oct. 15 in the Sunburst Lounge in the Taggart Student Center.

Tom Worthen, director of USU speech and debate, said the debate is being held to educate students of issues that will affect them and encourage them to take an active role in local politics. Both sides of the issues will be presented by the team, Worthen said.

Worthen said the two main issues that affect students directly will be discussed: landlord licensing and the park-strip issue.

Landlord licensing functions as a business license for landlords, ensuring the properties they rent out are kept up to code and safe for the residents.

Logan Mayor Randy Watts is for landlord licensing, citing safety as his main concern.

"The number one thing on

my plate is safety for the citizens of Logan," Watts said.

If passed, landlords will be required to have their properties inspected in order to become licensed. Any code violation will need to be remedied in order for the license to be granted. Without a license, it would be illegal to rent out properties.

Watts said the purpose of landlord licensing is to "make sure (landlords) maintain a standard that keeps these apartments safe for the students who are coming here to rent."

"Something dirty is one thing but something unsafe is a whole different thing," Watts said.

Mayoral candidate Mike Morrill is opposed to landlord licensing.

"The principle of thinking government is the solution is wrong," Morrill said. "We have enough ordinance and law on the books today that need to be enforced."

According to Morrill's cam-

pan Web site, landlord licensing is "invasive and unnecessary."

Morrill said, "More legislation, more laws, more government will not address our issues."

Both sides of the park-strip issue will also be debated at the event.

The City of Logan has been reclaiming public land in front of houses along the curb and sidewalk that was used for parking in the past. In order to park on the street, drivers must purchase a \$200 permit from the city.

A Logan Municipal Council document states landlords have the option of paying \$25 to the city to allow their tenants to park on the curb.

Watts supported the park-strip reclamation in order to clean up Logan and hold landlords responsible for providing legitimate means of parking.

Watts said allowing landlords to use public land for the parking of their tenants is unfair to the rest of the city.

"We're supporting this business by supplying the parking," Watts said.

Watts cited other problems that arose from the parking situation including neighbor-to-neighbor conflicts, parking directly on the sidewalk and often times parking on the front lawn.

"Pretty soon it becomes unmanageable," Watts said.

Morrill's stance on the issue is that the problem spots should be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

"It's not beautiful to put more cars on the street," Morrill said.

Morrill said this is another example of invasive government and that in this situation also, government intervention is not the solution.

"This idea of cookie-cutter or blanket laws to create a solution will do just the opposite," Morrill said.

The USU debate will take place from 12:30-1:30 p.m.

- jared.price@aggiemail.usu.edu

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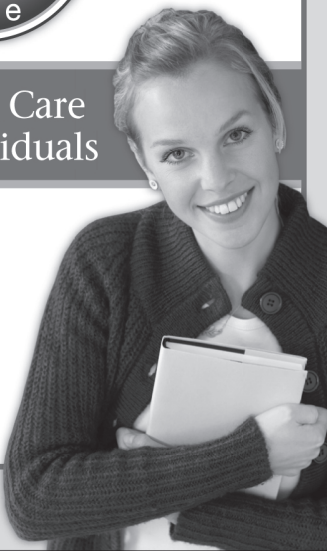


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Plea withdrawn in hired beating case of a 17-year-old Utah girl

VERNAL, Utah (AP) — A Utah teenager who pleaded no contest to hiring a man to beat her in an effort to induce a miscarriage has been released from jail after a judge ruled that she was seeking an abortion and was not criminally liable.

Eighth District Juvenile Court Judge Larry Steele called the girl's actions "shocking and crude" in a ruling last week, but said that under state law "a woman who solicits or seeks to have another cause an abortion of her own unborn child cannot be criminally liable."

The 17-year-old girl from Uintah County, who has not been identified because of her age, pleaded no contest in

June to a second-degree felony count of criminal solicitation to commit murder. Steele had ordered the teen to be placed in the custody of Utah Juvenile Justice Services until she is 21.

The teen's mother got a new attorney, Rich King, who argued that under Utah law women cannot be held criminally liable for soliciting an abortion. Steele on Thursday granted King's motion to withdraw the girl's no contest plea and release her from detention.

Prosecutor Mike Drechsel told The Associated Press on Tuesday he had no comment.

Prosecutors said the girl paid Aaron Harrison, 21, \$150 to beat her after her boyfriend threatened a breakup if she didn't get rid of the child. Court documents said Harrison brought the girl in May to his home, where he was accused of striking her and biting her, leaving bruises on her stomach and a bite mark on her neck.

King contends that the girl did not do what prosecutors

allege and even if she had she would not be liable.

The baby survived the beating and was born in mid-August a few days before the girl's due date. It remains in state custody and is living with foster parents.

Harrison in September pleaded guilty to second-degree felony attempted murder. He is due in court for sentencing Oct. 27.

A message left by The Associated Press for Harrison's court-appointed attorney, John Beaslin, was not immediately returned Tuesday.

Some state lawmakers say they plan to tighten legal definitions next session in response to the case.

State Rep. Paul Ray, R-Clearfield, called the girl's actions "brutal and monstrous."

"She hired someone so her fetus would die," Ray said.

"The law let her slip through the cracks and let her go. We need to change wording in the law."

Contest offers free textbooks

By RACHEL A. CHRISTENSEN
news editor

One student with the ability to pull the scariest face on campus will win free textbooks for spring semester.

"We wanted to see what students would do to win free textbooks," said Celestyn Hollingshead, USU Bookstore marketing manager.

Students can participate in the Scary Face Contest by stopping in the bookstore Oct. 14-15 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Bookstore staff will take pictures of contestants as these students pull scary faces, Hollingshead said.

The photos will be displayed in the bookstore window, Hollingshead said. Entries will be numbered and students can vote on their favorite scary face in the bookstore. The picture with the most votes will win.

This is the first year the bookstore has created such a contest, Hollingshead said.

Ben Hibshman, senior

graphic designer for the bookstore, said this contest is an easy and funny way for students to win textbooks. The winner's scary face needs to be original. As the photographer for the contest, Hibshman said he expects to see a lot of eyes rolled back and teeth being bared by contestants.

Hollingshead said costume makeup and props will not be allowed in the contest. Students are asked to come to the bookstore to get a picture taken to ensure the contestants can't alter the picture digitally.

Hollingshead said every student is eligible.

"Don't be shy," she said.

The bookstore tries to make donations, such as the textbook prize, in order to give back to the school and to help students, Hollingshead said.

David Hansen, director of the USU Bookstore, said the money used on the textbook prize comes from the bookstore's marketing budget.

- rac.ch@aggiemail.usu.edu



A BOOKSTORE WORKER PULLS HER SCARIEST FACE to demonstrate the kinds of pictures that will be competing in the Scary Face Contest. Students can get their picture taken in the USU Bookstore Oct. 14-15 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Photo courtesy of CELESTYN HOLLINGSHEAD

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H1N1: Vaccine comes to Utah State

■ continued from page 1

that won't go down with ibuprofen or Advil, are vomiting or nauseated then seek medical attention.

The H1N1 vaccine is free, the annual flu shot is \$20 and both take about 10 minutes to get. The Student Health and Wellness Center is prepared to help students with their health

problems during flu season — student tuition and fees help pay for the medical visit. The number to the Health and Wellness Center is 797-1010, and USU's Web site has more information about the flu and H1N1 symptoms at www.usu.edu/dps/emergency/pandemic.

- sari.e.montrone@aggiemail.usu.edu

WINNER WINNER Seafood Dinner



Sizing up at 65 feet long and a few feet higher than a 18-wheeler, Le Fun Bus offers its riders an opportunity to take an evening off and roll down to Wendover, Nev. With daily trips leaving from as far north as Ogden, this alternative form of transportation has served many groups of people giving them what Jodi "JoJo" Gallion, Le Bus hostess, calls "a mini getaway."

JoJo has worked for Le Bus for two years. She said the work is "an enjoyable experience." She loves the interaction with the different people who decided to make the trip. "It's an interesting lifestyle and people want to get away. Even during the recession, the buses continued to be fully booked," JoJo said.

JoJo makes one trip every week serving Le Bus customers. This is a night-shift job that she picks up after her regularly scheduled job.

"I am proud to help make this trip possible for my passengers," JoJo said. According to the Le Bus Web site, round-trip tickets from any of 12 locations cost \$15. The fee includes transportation, a game of Bingo, a \$5 cash-back coupon, a complementary cocktail and a full dinner buffet at the Montego Bay, Rainbow or Peppermill casino. Passengers can also take the advantage of attending shows at the Peppermill Concert Hall. Recent shows include Frank Caliendo, Alice Cooper and Cheech and Chong.

Mario Nevarez, company bus driver from Salt Lake City, said he enjoys the smooth ride from the new 81-passenger double-decker bus. With more than 10 years of experience, he believes that the bus is a safe way to travel to the casinos and have fun for the night.

A few students from USU were on board on this particular trip. Lee Olsen, junior in English, made a trip down to Wendover for his birthday.

"A few of us decided to come down here and celebrate my birthday. It is not as far as (Las) Vegas and it's cheap enough because you don't have to pay for the hotel rooms," Olsen said.

Another student, Nathan Haslam, senior in interdisciplinary studies, said this was his first experience on the Le Fun Bus.

"It's an opportunity for me to go have fun for the weekend with my friends and also meet a few random people," Haslam said. The trip from Ogden to Wendover takes about two hours and 15 minutes. Buses leaving from Salt Lake City takes about one hour and 40 minutes. Refreshments were served during the bus ride and a friendly game of Bingo awards winners with a large candy bar and a dollar bill.

"I can't believe I am already making money on my birthday," Lee said after winning a game.

After the bus arrived in Wendover, passengers disembarked and went inside one of many casinos. Some went straight to the slot machines, others, like the group called "The Sexy Mommas," went and enjoy the Friday seafood night at Montego Bay. A group from Layton of two grandmothers and three mothers said they came to Wendover to get away from the kids for the weekend. They said the buffet has a good variety of steak and seafood, ranging from crab legs to prime ribs.

Those who prefer to gamble can enjoy the various slot machines, blackjack, poker and craps tables. Free drinks are complimentary.

Le Bus picks up its passengers at 2 in the morning at the last stop in Wendover. During the trip back a few people shared their wins and losses stories while Mario and JoJo continued to serve their customers.

After the trip Haslam said, "Le Bus is a great way to spend a Friday night. Even if you don't like to gamble, it's at least a once-in-a-lifetime experience to be amongst the people who do."

Le Bus



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Bad split, join the club

USU bowling club gains popularity on campus

By STEVE CLARK
staff writer

Bowling? – Who would've thought that picking up a 12-pound ball and hurling it at 10 tall, skinny white things would be so fun? Who would want to play a game that can be played while slightly intoxicated and still end up with the best score? Those questions are the reason why bowling is one of America's favorite recreational sports. It's actually so much fun that USU has made it a club sport on campus.

So, what does the USU bowling club do? The club has all kinds of people: those who want to compete in tournaments, and those who just love to bowl for fun. The team practices every Friday night at Logan Lanes and prepares to compete in tournaments in December and January in venues such as Las Vegas and Reno, Nev., where schools from all over gather to compete.

Teams from Wichita State, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Weber State, Arizona, University of Arizona State and Fresno State bowl in these tournaments.

How good is the bowling team? Craig Lofthouse, coach of the USU bowling team, said he thinks the Aggies have a great chance to be better than last year. In 2008, the Aggies



JOSH FERRET, JUNIOR in physics and member of the USU bowling club, prepares to send his ball down the lane during Friday's club meeting at Logan Lanes. TYLER LARSON photo

finished with the highest ranking they've ever had, ending the season in the top 80.

"The top 64 teams are chosen to go to regional (playoffs), and we were actually in that

for a good share of the year because we had done really well in the tournament in Reno earlier that year," Lofthouse said.

In practice, this year's team looks to be more talented than the ones in years past.

"I've got some really good bowlers this year. I have four guys right now who are averaging over 200 (per game)," Lofthouse said. "I've got guys who bowled for me for a year and went on missions and are back now."

Jon McCulley, president of the club, and Brandon Borom are two of the team's top-four bowlers. Borom is a Nevada native and just recently returned from a mission in San Antonio, Texas. Borom will contribute to the Aggies' success this year if he can keep up his great scores.

"I've never had above a 200 average so I want to try to keep that throughout the year," Borom said. "Hopefully I get to go to a couple of tournaments this year and just do the best I can. I'm most excited for the ones in Vegas and Reno, just because I'm from there. It'll be like coming home."

To be on the bowling team, students need be full time, maintain a 2.0 grade point average and pay \$100 per semester.

Lofthouse said the team loves support and wouldn't mind if more people came out for the team. So, if students are looking for something to get involved with on campus and they love to throw heavy things at stuff, they might as well give bowling a strike and spare themselves the boredom.

– steve.clark@aggiemail.usu.edu

Handbell choir promotes unity

By KASEY VAN DYKE
staff writer

It is common to hear about vocal choirs, orchestras or string quartets. All involve a great deal of personal dedication, talent and passion. A lesser-known musical arrangement is the handbell choir. Using bells, ranging in size from 2-19 inches, handbell choirs create a soft, creamy sound and have been used in religious worship services for hundreds of years.

Watching a handbell choir ring is a unique experience. While playing, ringers are focusing not only on the music but also on the others in the choir. Cathy Ferrand Bullock, an associate professor in the department of journalism and communication and the director of the Westminster Bell Choir, emphasized the importance of unity in a bell choir.

"We always try to emphasize that we are an ensemble," she said. "We are a unit. We have to be listening to what everyone else is doing and really always paying attention to each other because you're the only one playing your part, and you have to mesh with everyone else."

Bullock goes on to describe the sound when bell choir truly captures the idea of unity.

"The whole is greater than the sum of the parts. It transcends all the individuals, somehow," she said.

Bullock said her fascination with bells spurred her interest in handbell choirs. She began playing in handbell choirs at her church in New York and has since played for more than two decades.

"Bells I think are just a beautiful, beautiful instrument," she said. "They kind of fascinated me because I had never had a chance to ring bells, never really been around a bell choir. They always struck me as an incredibly beautiful, almost mysterious thing, so I just wanted to get my hands on them and play this beautiful instrument."

Bells in general have had significance throughout religious history and were once the source of heavy superstition. According to www.handbells.org, in the medieval ages, bells used to be baptized and hung in doorways, supposedly keeping away evil spirits. The popularity of handbells grew in the 1700s when it was realized that it was easier to ring the smaller, portable bells than it was the larger tower bells.

Handbell ringing became so popular in the mid-1800s, competitions were held throughout England. These slowly died away with the invention of the radio and World War I. Luckily, bell ringing is making a come back. Though bells are more commonly heard around Christmas season, according to www.madisonhandbells.org, there are thousands of community and church handbell choirs in North America performing throughout the year. One of these is the Westminster Bell Choir at the First Presbyterian Church in Logan.

Though the Westminster Bell Choir and its smaller counterpart, currently nameless, are not run by USU, there are several students who participate. Chad Nielson, freshman in biological engineering, first played in his high-school handbell choir and quickly became enthralled.

"It's a joyful experience," he said. "It's so addicting. In high school I'd have a rough day and come into handbell (choir) and be able to let it go and have fun with the music."

Asher Stettler, undeclared sophomore, also played in his



MEMBERS OF THE WESTMINSTER Bell Choir rehearse in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church. While playing, ringers not only focus on the music but also on the others in the choir. PETE P SMITHSUTH photo

FrugalFare

Taking back the kitchen and all about it.

It's time for a pizza party

It's pizza time. Sadly, the average price of a large cheese pizza here in town is \$10.33. Happily, using this recipe you can make your own for cheap and it'll be more fun and also quite delicious.

Crust:

- 4 1/2 cups flour
- 1 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon yeast
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 3/4 cup ice cold water
- Cornmeal, for dusting the pan

- In a medium bowl, mix the flour, salt, yeast and sugar. Stir in the oil and water until combined. Sprinkle some flour on the countertop and knead the dough for five to seven minutes, until it's smooth and not too sticky.

- Divide the dough into four pieces and roll each of them into a ball.

- Put the balls in plastic bags or cover them with plastic wrap (use spray butter to keep them from sticking) and put them in the fridge overnight.

-Two hours before you want to make the pizza, take the dough balls out of the fridge and let them sit in their bags on the counter.

-When the two hours are up, preheat the oven to 500 degrees. Stretch the dough into 9- to 12-inch diameter pizza crusts. You can do this by tossing, using a rolling pin or just stretching with your hands.

- Coat a baking pan with a little oil and sprinkle with cornmeal. Place the crust on the pan and bake for about two minutes. This will help keep the crust from getting soggy when you add toppings.

- Remove from the oven and top with sauce and cheese. (If you're going for simple, just use store bought pizza sauce and a combination of white cheeses. Pizza mixes are at most grocery stores, which includes mozzarella, provolone, parmesan and romano cheeses. It works great.)

- Bake the pizza for five to eight minutes, until the cheese is melted and the crust is golden.

The great thing about this recipe is that you can do most of the work the day before, so when you're ready to eat pizza all you have to do is top and bake it, which takes no time at all. Also, you can put what you don't use in the freezer. Just remember to move it to the

fridge the day before you want to make it.

If you want to be a little more adventurous, here are some gourmet options for topping your crust. The measurements aren't exact, just go by your personal taste and the size of your crust for how much you'll need. For baking you can just follow the format from above.

Pesto Cheese: Spread the crust with your favorite pesto and sprinkle with pizza cheese. You can also add diced roma tomatoes, olives or any other topping you like.

Spinach and Black Bean: Sauté 4 tablespoons chopped onion, 1/2 teaspoon minced garlic, 1 1/2 teaspoons chili powder, 1 teaspoon cumin and one can black beans (drained and rinsed) for about five minutes and spread over the crust. Pour 1/2 cup salsa over the beans, and 1/3 cup thawed frozen spinach over the salsa. Top with 1/2 cup each cheddar and Monterey jack cheeses.

Honey-Thyme Pear: Peel, core and thinly slice two to three medium pears. Spread slices over crust. Brush 2 tablespoons melted butter over the pears, then drizzle with about 2 tablespoons of honey and sprinkle with 2 tablespoons chopped hazelnuts, 2 tablespoons crumbled gorgonzola cheese and 1 teaspoon dried thyme. When it come out of the oven drizzle with a little bit more honey.

Apple Streusel: Peel, core and chop two large apples into small pieces. In a medium pan melt 2 tablespoons butter. Stir in 1/4 cup brown sugar, a tablespoon of lemon juice and a teaspoon of cinnamon. Add the apples and cook until they're soft, about 10 minutes. Spread them over the crust.

In a small bowl combine 1/4 cup brown sugar, 2 tablespoons flour, 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon and 1 tablespoon cold butter until the mixture is crumbly, and then sprinkle it over the apples.

After baking, combine 2 tablespoons powdered sugar with enough water or milk to form a thin glaze and drizzle over the cooked pizza.

You should probably have a pizza party now.

Jennelle Clark is a psychology major with a strong appreciation for all things art and likes spending her week in thrift stores. Questions or comments can be sent to her at jenn.nelle@gmail.com



Americans nearly sweep Nobel Prize winners

Question: What does Rush Limbaugh, Palestinians, Israelis, the Taliban and Osama Bin Ladin have in common?

Answer: They all agree that President Barack Obama did not deserve the Nobel Peace Prize.

The act of bringing together all those groups so that they actually agree on one thing is so phenomenal, it warrants the granting of a Nobel Prize.

Many Utahns may not agree and several politicians have made it a point to say they disagree with the decision to give the award to Obama. When Rep. Jason Chaffetz, R-Utah, was asked whether he was proud an American won the award by The Deseret News, he said: "Who cares? What does it matter? Maybe Jay Leno should win because he's been more civil than David Letterman."

Obama is thrown in with the likes of Jimmy Carter, Kofi Annan, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa and a variety of other immensely influential figures of our time. The Nobel Prize Committee stated it awarded Obama for "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between peoples."

Do we have an obligation, as Americans, to support our president in his award?

It seems to me that many of those who disagree with the decision to award Obama the prize dislike the president more than they love the country.

Obama acknowledged that the award was based largely on his commitment to international cooperation, reduction of nuclear weapons and a variety of causes that he is pushing. No matter what he won the award for, congratulations are in order.

Obama was nominated by others, and a panel of five Norwegians voted to award him the prize - he had no say in the matter.

If Obama had turned down the award, he faced the possible ridicule of other nations and appearing ungrateful. But by accepting the award, he has drawn the ire of many conservatives.

Columnist Erick Erickson, who writes for redstate.com, wrote, "I did not realize the Nobel Peace Prize had an affirmative action quota for it, but that is the only thing I can think of for this news."

While the president's award is getting most of the press all twitterpated, little is mentioned about the other five Nobel Prizes. Of the six awards that were given out in 2009, Americans were awarded five. This is up from last year when the U.S. claimed two awards: economics and chemistry.

Americans should be proud of their country for nearly sweeping the prizes this year. I shudder to think that the hatred for the president outweighs patriotism.

Whatever happens, I hope that conservatives can begin to love our country again before the Olympics. I hate to think that they will be rooting against the U.S. simply because Obama is president.

Enough from me, I'd love to hear what you think. Log onto www.aggietownsquare.com and let me know how you feel about the Nobel Prizes.

Seth Bracken is a majoring in print journalism. Questions or comments can be sent to him at seth.brackeaggiemail.usu.edu



"Americans should be proud of their country for nearly sweeping the prizes this year. I shudder to think that the hatred for the president outweighs patriotism."

Street Speak

What's the most memorable class you've ever taken and why?



"Ballam's creative arts. We learned how music affects movies."

- Stephanie Dansie, sophomore, biochemistry

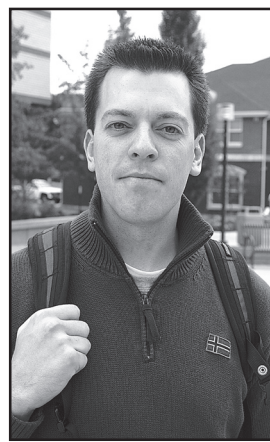


"Interpersonal communications. I felt the teacher was able to bring out a side of me that I wouldn't have been able to do on my own."

- Jayne Rich, junior, elementary education

"Landscape architecture. It was interesting. I took it because I needed a credit and it ended up being pretty cool."

- Mike Brown, sophomore, education



"National Security affairs because I learned how reckless the U.S. and Soviet Union were with mules in the 1950s-60s."

- Jonathan Wood, masters student, political science: conflict and security

information and photos by Karlie Brand

Choir: Offering a unique experience

continued from page 6

school handbell choir. He said he has noticed that playing with a handbell choir has helped his technique in his other musical endeavors.

"It's broadening my horizons," he said. "You can go through and find little bits of technique that you can use in piano or choir that works in handbell and vice versa. It just helps broaden your knowledge."

Stettler goes on to offer advice for those who may be interested in participating with these choirs.

"I heard it and the sound was an amazing, uplifting, joyful thing, and I wanted to be involved with it," he said. "It was hard to learn but became very rewarding at the end. So, if

it's something that sounds interesting, that you would enjoy, just stick with it, give it a try and you'll love it."

Bullock encourages any who might be interested to contact her and get involved.

"It's an exciting time to be involved with handbells. We would love to have more ringers," she said. "If we had enough people we would start a third handbell choir. There's always room."

For those who are interested in trying out the bell choir, contact Bullock through e-mail at cathy.bullock@usu.edu or by phone at 797-1412.

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Directions from Logan: Go south on Main Street. Take Highway 165 and continue south past Mountain Crest High for about 8 miles. Turn west on 8700 South, go down the hill and look for the corn.

Statesman **Back Burner**



Today is **Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009**. Today's issue of The Utah Statesman is published especially for Walter Voisard, senior in aviation technology and business administration from Redlands, Calif.

Almanac

Today in History: In 1912, before a campaign speech in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Theodore Roosevelt, the presidential candidate for the Progressive Party, is shot at close range by saloonkeeper John Schrank while greeting the public in front of the Gilpatrick Hotel.

Weather

Thursday's Forecast
High: 58° Low: 40°
Chance of rain 70%



Wednesday Oct. 14

- Women's tennis at ITA Regional, all day
- Men's tennis at Utah Invitational, all day

Thursday Oct. 15

- Attend Friday schedule
- Women's tennis at ITA Regionals, all day
- Men's tennis at Utah Invitational, all day
- Big Blue Coach's Luncheon, SLC, 12 p.m.
- Undergrad Research Grant applications due, 12 p.m.
- Volleyball vs. Fresno State, 7 p.m.

Friday Oct. 16

- Fall Break - no classes
- Women's tennis at ITA Regionals, all day
- Men's tennis at Utah Invitational, all day
- Women's soccer vs. Fresno State, 3 p.m.

Fall Break

The Registrar's Office would like to remind everyone that this Friday is Fall Break and their will be no classes. Because of this holiday everyone should attend Friday's schedule on Thursday. There will be no Thursday classes.

Research grants

Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunity grants are due by noon on Oct. 15. Please submit electronically to the Undergraduate Research Program: joyce.kinhead@usu.edu. Visit our Web site at <http://research.usu.edu/undergrad>.

Free Textbooks

Win free textbooks for spring semester at the USU Bookstore Scary Face contest. Pictures for contest will be taken at the bookstore Oct. 14 and 15 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. Please no masks or costume makeup. Voting will take place in USU Bookstore Oct. 26-29. See store for details or call 435-797-1645.

Chemistry

The Chemistry and Biochemistry Departmental Seminar will be held on Oct. 14 at 4 p.m. in ESLC 046. The speaker for this event will be Joe Jarrett from the University of Hawaii.

Debate Team

On Oct. 15 the USU Debate Team will be hosting a public debate on the issues concerning renters rights in Logan. With the upcoming mayor and City Council elections, the students have the opportunity to be informed. The debate will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the TSC Sunburst Lounge.

You need to know...

ASUSU Arts and Lecture will present a **free concert** at the at the amphitheater on Old Main Hill. Locals Libbie Linton, Armorie, and Jake Davidson will perform Oct. 15 at 5:30 p.m.

The **Old Barn Theatre** announces auditions for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat on Oct. 15 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. All parts are open. Must be 18 years of age or older. For more information call 435-257-1312 or e-mail hulllauralee@yahoo.com.

On Oct. 15 Common Ground Outdoor Adventures will be holding a **volunteer orientation**. Come learn about the individuals we work with, the activities we provide, and the equipment and techniques we employ to make outdoor recreation accessible to all abilities. We are always looking for volunteers, call 435-713-0288 for more info.

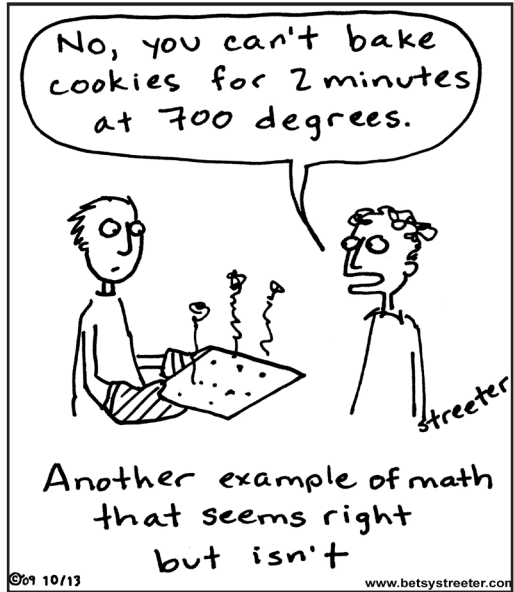
Free meditation and stress management classes are held every week at 843 S. 100 West, Logan. Contact **Cosmic Nudge** at 435-363-7173 for more info.

The **Daughters of the American Revolution** will meet Oct. 17 in TSC room 335 at 10 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Carolyn Bushman, a teacher from Wendover High, who has taken her students to NASA launches. Join us to hear of Carolyn's inspiring story.

On Oct. 16 Cafe Ibis will be hosting **free live music** by Katie Jo at 7 p.m.

Scott Olsen and Irv Nelson will perform **live music** at Pier 49 Pizza in Providence Oct. 16 starting at 6 p.m. Robert Hamlin and J&L Jazz will perform Oct. 17 starting at 6 p.m.

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Thursday

Bowling after
8pm-11pm

Shoe rentals-\$2.50

Wednesday Sports

Utah State University • Logan, Utah • www.aggietownsquare.com

Aggies win in five set thriller

By CONNOR JONES
sports senior writer

The USU women's volleyball team broke its two-match skid Tuesday night against the Utah Valley University Wolverines, 12-6, in a thrilling five-set win (25-19, 19-25, 25-19, 16-25, 15-10). With the win, USU moves to 11-8 on the season. This was the second meeting between UVU and USU this year, with the first match ending with a 3-1 Wolverine win.

USU's win comes just in time for the Aggies who return to WAC play Thursday at home against Fresno State. The Bulldogs have gone 10-8 this season and are 3-2 in conference play.

The first set against the Wolverines was tied at 14 when the Aggies made a push, eventually going on to the 6-point win.

The second set was commanded by the Wolverines who only trailed with the score at 1-0.

"The first two and a half sets I think both teams played at a really high side out level," said USU head coach Grayson DuBose. "I thought it was a really nice level of volleyball on both sides."

The pendulum swung back in favor of the Aggies during the third set. USU never gave UVU the chance to take the lead and eventually finished the Wolverines off with another 6-point win. Emily Kortsen came alive during the second half of the third set with four kills, including the set winner.

UVU took the fourth set as it held the Aggies to six kills while hitting 14 in the set itself.

The deciding fifth set is something the team really prides itself on, Chelsea Fowles said. Coming off a tough five-set loss at Nevada Saturday, the Aggies rebounded with a strong fifth set against UVU.

The outside hitters for the Aggies, Kortsen and Liz McArthur, led USU to the five-

VOLLEYBALL



USU'S CHELSEA FOWLES, 2, blocks a shot during the Aggies' comeback win over Boise State while teammate Emily Kortsen looks on. *CODY GOCHNOUR photo*

point win with nine kills and only one error.

Kortsen finished the game with an impressive zero errors on 12 kills and 31 attempts for a .387 hitting percentage. McArthur fought back from a poor first couple sets to end the match with 19 kills and 16 errors on 66 attempts for a .045 percentage. Middle blocker

Shantell Durrant had a team high .471 percentage with 10 kills and two errors on 17 attempts.

USU returns to the Spectrum for two WAC games, with the first on Thursday at 7 p.m. against Fresno State and the second on Monday against Idaho at 9 p.m. Monday's game against Idaho will be covered by

ESPNU.

"These next two home games are important for our conference record," DuBose said. "We really hope to get a lot of loud fans out for these games. Especially the match on ESPNU Monday against Idaho, we really want to show people how great Aggie fans are."

- c.h.j@aggiemail.usu.edu

TouchBase

Athletics gets new TV deal

BY USU ATHLETICS

Utah State University Director of athletics Scott Barnes announced Monday that in conjunction with Aggie Sports Properties, the school's athletics multimedia rights holder, USU has entered into an agreement with XXL Sports and Cis-Com Productions to televise numerous football and basketball games live on CW 30 for the next four years.

A minimum of 13 events will be televised live during the 2009-10 season on CW 30, which is available on Comcast, DirecTV and the Dish Network, followed by a minimum of 15 events during the next three years. Of the 15 annual events to be televised, three will be football, 10 will be men's basketball and two will be women's basketball. Along with those scheduled games to be televised on CW 30, an additional number of Utah State events will be broadcast live on Comcast.

CW 30's coverage includes all or portions of Utah, Wyoming, Idaho and Nevada.

"This new TV partnership, along with our recent conference ESPN agreement, will provide our programs with unparalleled exposure," said Barnes. "We have been focused on casting a wider net in terms of connecting with Aggie fans and building the Aggie Athletic Brand, and this partnership moves us forward another step."

Utah State's new television deal with XXL Sports and Cis-Com Productions runs through the 2012-13 academic year with its first broadcast under the agreement scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 17, when USU hosts Nevada in football at 1 p.m. (MT).

Along with its football broadcasts this year, XXL Sports and Cis-Com Productions will produce eight men's basketball games and two women's basketball games that will all appear live on CW 30. Among the telecasts will be men's home games against Southern Utah (11/28), Brigham Young (12/2), Saint Mary's (12/5), Utah Valley (12/12), Boise State (1/16), San Jose State (1/30) and New Mexico State (3/6) and a road game at Idaho (1/23). Women's basketball games televised include home games against Utah (11/13) and Brigham Young (12/19).

CLUB BASEBALL

Singer slam gives USU first win over WSU

By DAN FAWSON
staff writer

The Aggies opened a four-game series against conference rival Weber State with yet another frustrating loss, falling to the Wildcats, 7-5.

Coming off a 15 strikeout performance in last Friday's shutout win over the Gate City Mavericks, staff ace Ryan Doyle suffered his second loss of the season Friday night. Doyle pitched yet another complete game, but didn't receive the defensive help he needed. USU remains winless against Weber State on the season.

In the fourth inning, a Wildcat rally ensued when a Doyle pickoff throw to first bounced off the first baseman's glove, allowing two Wildcat runs to score. Weber State would tack on two more runs before the inning was over, taking control of the game and ending Doyle's three-game winning streak.

"That's really the difference in the game, right there," said USU third baseman Brad Singer. "They capitalized and scored four runs that inning, and that really was the difference."

The defensive blunder came after the Aggies had put together what head coach Brett Al-amari and a number of his players considered the team's best defensive series of the fall season.

Doyle's season opening outing against the Wildcats, his only other loss of the fall season, was also marred by a fielding miscue. In the opener, he had pitched seven shutout innings before a scoreless tie was broken in the top of the eighth when a Wildcat runner came home on an

infield throwing error.

The Aggies finally broke through against the defending conference champion Wildcats in the second game of the Friday night doubleheader, winning 11-9.

The Aggies put together arguably their best performance of the fall season, beating Weber State for the first time in six tries.

"Everyone played really well, we executed really well," Singer said.

Singer and second baseman Brady Sayama keyed a powerful early offensive charge, helping many Aggie players follow through on their predictions that this weekend's series against Weber State would be different than the season opener which saw USU drop four straight to the Wildcats.

Sayama went 4-for-4 at the plate but conceded offensive supremacy to Singer, whose second-inning grand slam helped the Aggies seize early control of the game. Singer's bomb gave the Aggies a 6-0 lead - an amount that nearly equaled the seven runs the team managed in its season opening series against the Wildcats.

"The pitcher had been struggling a little bit," Singer said. "He was just throwing fast balls, and I sat back on it."

After leading the Aggies in home runs during the spring, the drive over the left field fence was Singer's first home run of the season and the Aggies first grand slam during fall play. Singer and Sayama highlighted what has been a streak-

"I'll put that out there that we are a better team than Weber, there was just a couple things here and there that went their way. We just have to finish."

- USU third baseman
Brad Singer

■ See SLAM, page 10



USU ACE RYAN DOYLE winds up for a pitch during an Aggie game earlier in the season. *CODY GOCHNOUR photo*



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Slam: Ags get win over Wildcats

■ continued from page 9

ing Aggie offense as of late. Friday night marked the third time in a week the Aggies had put nine or more runs on the board, suggesting its midseason offensive improvement is here to stay.

Singer said the team's confidence was a lot higher than the first time they played WSU and the club has improved in all facets of the game since its first series with the Wildcats.

Saturday

One day after defeating Weber State for the first time this fall season, the Aggies surrendered a 7-2 lead in the bottom half of the seventh and final inning and fell to the Wildcats, 8-7. It was a frustrating loss for an Aggie team that felt the Wildcats were the beneficiaries of two very controversial calls in the final stanza.

After surrendering walks to WSU's first two batters, Aggie starting pitcher Cody Ferguson retired the next two Wildcat batters, leaving the Aggies one out away from the win. Catcher Jaimel Javier's pickoff attempt to first base on the next at-bat appeared to be successful, and the Aggie fielders ran off the field in celebration of what they believed to be the final out. The Aggie euphoria was quelled moments later, however, when the infield umpire called the runner safe.

Moments later another controversial call happened when Ferguson was called for a balk, which scored the tying run for the

Wildcats. The Wildcats followed with a walk-off single that capped off the six-run rally and left the Aggie players more than a little irritated.

"It appeared from my angle and everybody else's angle he was out by at least two feet," Singer said when asked about the runner who was called safe on the pickoff attempt. "I hate throwing that out there and saying that was the difference in the game, but it really was. I don't usually like to pin that on the umpires like that but really, we played a perfect defensive game, offensively we executed the best we've executed all fall and it was really in the hands of the umpires."

Singer and Doyle both had two RBIs, leading yet another strong offensive performance by the Aggies. Singer, after connecting on Utah State's first grand slam of the fall season the night before, went 2-for-3 at the plate with a walk and a run scored and drove in the first run of the game with an RBI single in the first inning.

In the second game of Saturday's doubleheader, USU was close again but was unable to even up the weekend series with the Wildcats as Weber State walked away with the final win.

"I'll put that out there that we are a better team than Weber," Singer said. "There was just a couple things here and there that went their way. We just have to finish."
-majerusforpresident@yahoo.com

Section F A different point of view

Denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. These are the five stages of coping with a tragedy. I'd say that the denial stage began right about the time that New Mexico State was up 10-0 on Utah State during Saturday's game. No way could New Mexico State, the very team USU demolished 47-2 a year ago, be hanging in a battle with this year's Utah State team.

After USU went up 17-10 on NMSU I think the denial took a step back for a bit, but when the red Aggies tied it back up at 17-17 that's about the time anger set in. The offense was moving the ball, just not putting points on the board. To top that off, New Mexico State was winning the special teams battle by a landslide.

Speaking of special teams, when New Mexico State took USU's seventh consecutive punt back to the Aggies' 29-yard line late in the fourth quarter, that is when the bargaining stage of coping began. Maybe NMSU could do something stupid and turn the ball over, or maybe they could botch the field goal and USU could win the game in overtime. If only USU hadn't killed nearly every one of its big plays with penalties. USU couldn't possibly lose to New Mexico State, could they?

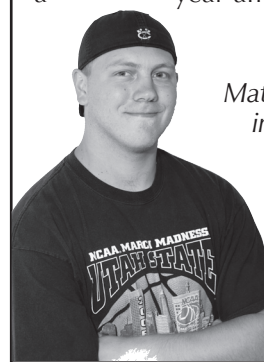
New Mexico State won, 20-17 ... Hello depression. Eligibility for a bowl game was a long shot for this season before it even started, but now it appears to be an idea that is dead and gone. Barring a miracle turnaround for the final seven games of this season, Aggie fans will get to bask in that sinking feeling of waiting another year to see a team reach bowl eligibility, a feat that few generations of USU football fans have witnessed.

This is where acceptance, the final stage of coping, comes into play. For a team like USU that is working its way back to respectability after so many years of being down, there are going to be games that the Aggies should win that they'll let slip away. Along with that, at some point there are going to be games that the Aggies have no business being in that they might come out and pull an upset victory. Basically, the 2009 Aggies don't deserve to be written off yet when they've played four out of five games on the road and only suffered one real upsetting loss. A win against Nevada on Saturday or a road win against Fresno State puts USU right back into position to play itself into a bowl game. All the Aggies would have to do is the same thing New Mexico State did to them.

While the offense is still top 20 in the nation, the defense remains a work in progress, but there is finally progress to be shown after the Ags held New Mexico State to only 230 yards of offense. Also, 17 of New Mexico States' 20 points came via turnovers or special teams miscues by Utah State and little of the blame can be placed on the shoulders of the defense.

One thing USU head coach Gary Andersen was very adamant about while he spoke at Monday's Big Blue Club luncheon was that his approach to rebuilding the program will not change. There will be ups and there will be downs and the New Mexico State game was definitely one of the downs.

For Aggie football fan's sake, one can only hope that things do not reach a lower point than where they are now. I don't think I'm alone in hoping that everyone in Logan can ditch the coping stages more often than two or three times a year and just enjoy some wins.



Matt Sonnenberg is a junior majoring in print journalism. Matt is an avid fan of Aggie athletics and can be found on the front row of every home football and basketball game. He can also be reached at matt.sonn@aggiemail.usu.edu

MEN'S RUGBY

Ags buck Broncos

By TYLER HUSKINSON
staff writer

The USU men's rugby defeated the Boise State Broncos Saturday, 33-21.

The Broncos struck first on offense and put USU back on its heels by taking the opening kick methodically down the field for a score and two-point conversion.

"I think we were gun shy," said USU senior Josh Hanks.

The Ags responded with a try and conversion of their own. The Broncos, however, were relentless and broke the tie with a scrum on a long goal line stand that led to a try and conversion. At the half, the teams were knotted up at 14.

In the second half, the Aggies jumped out to a large lead, and it was a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

The Broncos pounded through a scrum and struck again, but it was too little too late as the Ags held off the comeback.

Outside center Jacob "Gunny" Gunter led USU in all scores with two tries. Fullback Kade Roberson and flanker Jeremy Hanks also added tries of their own. Roberson sustained a concussion during the game and team president Teddy Smith said Roberson played his last game on Saturday.

Saturday's play of the game went to fly half Nate Anderson.

Anderson picked up a loose ball, broke through the Broncos forward pack and six other tackles on his way to pay dirt.

USU also added a penalty kick to account for its 33 points.

"Our backline stepped it up," Hanks said.

Smith said the defensive players of the game were inside center Porter Macey, outside center Gunter and Brandon Griggs at wing.

Smith said the team chemistry is good and the team sticks together.

At the beginning of the season it's a team goal to learn every player's name, and nicknames are usually a result of this goal.

"It helps so we're not just calling for the ball during practice," Smith said.

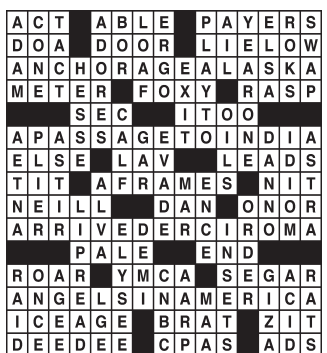
This week in practice the team is working on getting the forwards and backs on the same page.

"We can always count on our backs to perform well," said Smith.

USU will take the long ride to Ephraim next Saturday and will play the Snow College Badgers at 1 p.m.

-ty.d.hus@aggiemail.usu.edu

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ypc average



Hailey Swenson TENNIS

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A Singles
Champion in
USU's recent
tournament



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Views & Opinion

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Our View

The Aggie vote

It has come to the attention of The Utah Statesman that some Logan residents feel USU students – who by nature come and go every four to five years and rarely stick around for summers – should not vote. Many of those who hold this opinion feel it is unfair for long-time Logan residents to be forced to live with a public official that was voted in by a group of people who come and go with little vested interest in the city. We believe this is to be a valid point. However, this opinion does not take into account two major factors.

First, while it is true USU students come and go, college students as a whole share the same needs. Some of the issues that have been brought up during this election include landlord licensing and parking-strip issues. These issues are important to students, and the truth is, the student population makes up a significant portion of Logan.

Yes, we students as individuals do not root ourselves in the valley for very long but our predecessors and their predecessors will likely have similar concerns. By going out and voting on the issues that matter to our demographic, we are ensuring the residents who call themselves Aggies are fairly represented.

Furthermore, any students who's taken the time to become educated on the issues, registers and is willing to vote has shown they are invested in not just USU but the city that houses it. While we do not advocate blind and uneducated voting, we believe residents of Logan who understands the issues should cast their vote.

If you would like more information on the upcoming election call 716-9002 or visit www.loganutah.org.

Forum Letters

Letters to the editor • A public forum

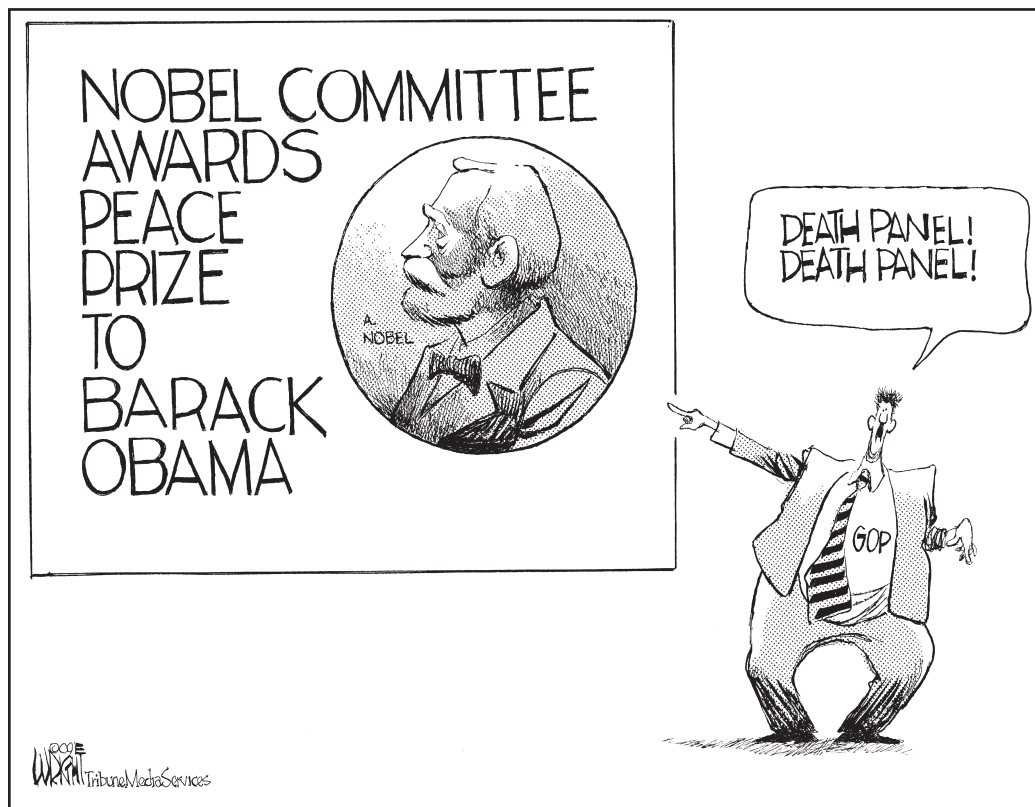
To the editor,

I want to take a minute to respond to Mr. Caines' column entitled "Church and state" that appeared in the Oct. 12 issue of The Statesman. When I first began reading the column I was glad to see him point out the fallacy of believing that Jesus is a Republican. As a Christian I have thought on this topic, and I came to conclusions similar to those that Mr. Caines presented. I'm not ashamed to admit that I'm LDS and I'm a Democrat. That said, I'm also not claiming that Jesus is a Democrat.

What disappointed me however was Mr. Caines' conclusion that one might "give (their) heart and soul to Jesus... (but) on Election Day (they should) leave him at home." His argument was that religion should

be separate from government. I agree with that, however, Mr. Caines' interpretation of this idea is incorrect. The idea of "separation of church and state" mandates that the government is not controlled by a church or religion. However, this idea does not mean that people should ignore their beliefs when it comes to voting. Indeed, people should vote based on their views, whether those views come from religion or from any other source. Doing so doesn't mean that the people are creating a religion controlled government. It means that they are creating a government based upon their values, which is the goal of democracy. If some elements of the government are based on religious beliefs, then so be it.

Blaine Myers



Introducing you to ASUSU Service Vice President David Knighton

As an introduction to myself, I have lived in the shadow of USU my whole life. I was born in Logan and moved to the great metropolis of Providence just 5 miles south campus. My parents, grandparents and great grandparents have all earned degrees here, including my great grandpa H. Cecil Baker, who was a famous coach during the '50s at USU. My choice to come to USU is founded in my love for this university, as well as my parents' threat of disowning me and cutting off all financial support. Because of the long line of Aggies in my family and my love for this institution I wanted to keep the tradition alive.

I started my Aggie career in spring semester 2007 after serving an LDS mission in Houston, Texas. I started out following in my dad's footsteps wanting to be a civil engineer but soon figured out that it wasn't the career for me. I switched to a major in nutrition and food science with a goal and desire to go to medical school. I anticipate I will graduate in May 2011. After graduation, I

hope to open a practice in sports medicine or orthopedic surgery.

I started getting involved in the service center with the United Campus Volunteers. I helped organize the efforts to build Ryan's Place Park in River Heights. After loving that experience I applied for a position as Storytellers Director. When I realized I wanted to be more involved, I ended up applying for a position on the Programming Board and helped plan Stuff a Bus.

After such rewarding experiences, I decided to apply for service vice president and fully submerge myself in the service center. We had a busy summer planning how we could engage in more service experiences and bring them to USU. This year we have a lot of new ideas that we're bringing to the table. Among these new ideas is USU's version of "Biggest Loser." Aggie Health, one of the service center's programs, is going to lead this effort in recruiting and helping students and faculty lose weight this year.

We are also in the process of

doing a statewide service project with every college in Utah. The event is scheduled for Service Week which takes place April 5-10. This spring, 11 universities and colleges are putting together care packages for children at Primary Children's Hospital Medical Center in Salt Lake City. Saturday, April 10, we are replanting trees, flowers and bushes outside of the medical center. We need donations of the materials necessary for the care packs and we need hundreds of volunteers to help put them together.

Our much anticipated Stuff a Bus project is going to happen every Monday this November. We are going to "stuff" as many Aggie Shuttles with canned goods and nonperishable items as possible and donate them to the local Food Pantry. Last year alone we donated over 11 tons of Food Pantry. We also do a fundraiser for the Sub for Santa program, last year we accumulated \$10,000 with the support of many Aggies, former Aggies and community members.



DAVID KNIGHTON

I would encourage you to come visit us on the third floor of the TSC and help out in any project of your choice or join one of the 19 service programs. Also look for our newsletter that will be dispersed throughout campus every month with updates and new service opportunities. "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." – Albert Einstein

Ask Miss Jones

Dear Miss Jones,

My roommates and I are getting so fed up with a roommate. She has a huge annoying problem of complaining about EVERYTHING. She complains about the most ridiculous things. She tells us everyday that she is sick, and it is always a new sickness. She'll complain about the weather, her clothes, other people, etc. All of the attention has to be on her all of the time. She really shouldn't have anything to complain about either. She isn't going to school right now, doesn't work and her parents pay for everything ... She seems to be living the life right?

So my question for you is should we say something to her or should we just keep making fun of her behind her back?

Tired of Bitchin'

Dear Tired,

What is your roommate doing if she isn't working or going to school? Gads, back in my day if you weren't being productive you'd practically get thrown out of town. I've seen that absurd "My

Super Sweet 16" show on MTV, and what those kids – and from the sound of it what your roommate needs – is a swift kick of reality. I'd love for them to do a follow up 40 years later special on one of those brats and see how messed up their life and priorities are.

Your situation reminds me of an old African piece of folklore that I picked up during my 11-month trip when I was backpacking from Mount Kilimanjaro through Zaire to the coast of Congo. It goes something like this:

Many years ago in a village not far from here there was a giant who would eat villagers by the dozen. Soon the villagers decided something must be done so they gathered all the able people, distributed spears and went hunting for the giant. The giant saw the group coming for him so he fled, looking for somewhere to hide. He came to a house and demanded the people hide him. They refused and called loudly for the hunters. The giant again went running until he reached another house. When he asked to be hidden the people barricaded the door, forcing the giant to move on. A woman was the only one home in the third house he got to. She let him in and hid him well. Not long after the hunters reached the house and asked the woman if she had seen the giant. She told them she saw him running over the hill. The hunters thanked her and went in the direction she pointed. When it was safe the woman told

the giant who came out of hiding and, without a second thought, ate her.

The moral of this story, if you didn't get it, is that the things that you hide will eat you.

Don't hide your true feelings, kiss that boy who keeps flirting with you, tell the professor you think she's wrong and for heaven's sake tell your roommate her constant bitching is driving you up the wall. However, remember that you will most likely have to continue to live with her so be gentle, give her subtle hints. Next time she begins to complain try to ignore it. Respond with a new topic or gently cut her off with something that's been going on in your life. If it gets to the point that you feel like you're going to explode, have a house meeting, go over problems, chores, etc.

Good luck and remember as many times as Miss J been around the block directions must be good

E-mail your question, answered by Miss. J statesman.miss.jones@gr



About Us

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About letters

- Letters should be limited to 400 words.
- All letters may be shortened, edited or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.
- Letters must be topic oriented. They may not be directed toward individuals. Any letter directed to a specific individual may be edited or not printed.
- No anonymous letters will be published. Writers must sign all letters and include a phone number or e-mail address as well as a student identification number (none of which is published). Letters will not be printed without this verification.
- Letters representing groups – or more than one individual – must have a singular representative clearly stated, with all necessary identification information.
- Writers must wait 21 days before submitting successive letters – no exceptions.
- Letters can be hand delivered or mailed to The Statesman in the TSC, Room 105, or can be e-mailed to statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu, or click on www.aggietown-square.com for more letter guidelines and a box to submit letters. (Link: About Us.)

Online poll

Fall Break is Friday and the extra day at the start of the weekend seems to be causing a frenzy of excitement. What will you be doing?

- Going home to visit family.
- Weekend getaway somewhere fun.
- Studying.
- WoW, hours and hours of WoW.

Visit us on the Web at www.aggietownsquare.com to cast your vote.

So, something on your mind? You can always write a letter to the editor. Time to shine. Go to www.aggietownsquare.com for a submission box.

The Israeli - Palestinian stalemate: why is it so complicated?

Often, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict reaches the media headlines and one cannot wonder why this ethnic dispute with on and off phases of violence does not seem to end. The current U.S. envoy to the Middle East, George Mitchell, cannot even get the two parties to talk directly with each other, something that only President Barack Obama was able to achieve during his visit to New York City last month. Well, the main reason that negotiations are not moving in the right direction (e.g. final peace deal) is because both sides are not able to currently deal with the core issues, which translates to the final status of Jerusalem and the Palestinian refugee problem. It is obvious to all parties involved including the mediators - U.S., Europe, Turkey, several moderate Arab states and Russia - that reaching an interim agreement as signed in the past only complicates the current situation even further and that will eventually lead to a full-armed confrontation. Another issue that is often raised is the highly controversial Israeli settlements in the West Bank but former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon (considered as the godfather of this housing project) proved in 2005 that a decision to remove settlements is always viable and this will not pose a major problem once a final satisfactory peace deal is reached.

After Obama's speech to the Muslim world calling its leaders to open up and address conflicts that are causing issues between East and West several months ago, the only leader to publicly respond the calling was the prime minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu. In a bold speech that might later cost him his seat and political career, he announced Israel will accept a two-state solution. This means Israel will withdraw into the Green Line from the areas it conquered of the West Bank during the 1967 Six Day War and these evacuated areas will become a demilitarized new Palestinian state. Coming from Netanyahu, a right-wing hardliner heading the conservative Likud party and a radical right-wing coalition government, this was a speech that everyone expected will be welcomed on the Palestinian side and cause a major stir in Israeli politics that even might lead to new elections after the government resigns. But nothing happened and while Netanyahu passed the ball to the Palestinian side, he also gained a lot of credit from the international community that he wasn't the one failing the peace process.

So why wasn't Netanyahu's offer accepted by the Palestinians with both hands and enthusiastically? The Palestinians have not made a fundamental decision to accept a Palestinian state bounded by the 1967 Green Line (the legal border recognized by the international community) or to accept Israel as the legitimate Jewish state. In addition, Abu Mazen (Mahmud Abbas), the Palestinian president, is too weak and reluctant to face the radical ultra-orthodox group Hamas that has controlled Gaza since 2007 after a military coup against the Palestinian authority. If it wasn't for Israel's military control of the West Bank, Hamas would gain control of that territory

as well. The Palestinian authority hoped that the military operation in Gaza against Hamas Israel launched at the end of 2008, early 2009, following nonstop rocketing of Israeli cities, will lead to its regime demise but that did not happen despite the massive damage and death toll. Israel is aware that the Palestinian authority government is a much better negotiations partner than the radical Hamas group, which continuously vows to destroy Israel by arms and is financially and militarily backed by Iran and other fundamental Islamic states of the region. It has to be kept in mind that 20 percent of Israeli citizens (within the Green Line) are of Arab ethnicity. This Arab minority of Israel has a torn identity between its Palestinian brothers in the West Bank and Gaza and loyalty to the state it is part of today. Just to elucidate the complexity of the ethnic situation: recent riots in Jerusalem during the High Jewish holidays were provoked by a radical Islamic Arab sheikh who is an Israeli citizen.

Another major issue is the refugee problem. Acceptance of an organized formal Palestinian state recognized by the UN and international community will leave several million Palestinian refugees that fled from Israel and the West Bank during 1948 and 1967 wars. These refugees are currently living in Gaza, the West Bank, nearby Arab countries and around the world and they will only be able to return to the new Palestinian state and not into Israeli territory. There is currently no Palestinian leader who is willing to take the responsibility to tell his people that the dream that keeps the Palestinian narrative alive for decades of coming back to the abandoned lands of Palestine (now Israel) and claiming the property they left behind amid the wars will never materialize. Obviously, any financial compensation to this problem is not even considered and it might take several generations until this issue is resolved.

For now, it seems that no feasible solution is possible in the complex Israeli-Palestinian conflict and no leader in the region is ready (or able) to rise to the occasion of making major concessions to the other side for a true peace deal that will last a long time and will lead to a calm era. Obama and his staff will have to be very creative in order to end the conflict his predecessors failed to resolve despite their massive efforts and good will.

This guest column was written by Nathaniel Bergman for The Utah Statesman. Bergman holds an undergraduate degree in political science and geography, a master's degree in geography and environmental development and is currently working on his Ph.D. in watershed science at USU. Comments may be submitted at www.aggietownsquare.com or sent directly to Mr. Bergman at nbergman@aggiemail.usu.edu



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Student Jobs

For more information on these jobs, see USU Student Employment, TSC 106 or www.usu.edu/studemp

- on-campus jobs:**
 C429-96 Mowing \$6.55/hr
 C395-09 S I Leader For Usu 1360 003 \$8.00/hr
 C191-04 S I Leader Usu 1350 001 \$8.00/hr
 C397-05 Research Technician BOE
 C005-04 Research Assistant \$1500/month
 C160-06 Substitute Teacher 65.00 - 75.00
 C448-07 Customer Service- Tootsie Distance Ed 8/hr
 C337-08 Skyroom Server \$6.00 per hour plus Tips
 C238-97 Clerk/secretary 6.55/hour
 C097-10 Temporary Substitute Slp \$25-\$35/hr, doe
 C109-10 Political Science 3000 Tutor \$8
 C126-10 Teachers Aide 7.25
 C139-09 Lab Manager Based on experience
 C296-05 American Sign Language Interpreter \$14-\$26+
 C106-09 Student Support Services Tutor 7.50 +
 C316-09 Applied Music Instructor
 C177-10 Research Assistant \$8/hour
 C178-10 Office Assistant-research 8.00
 C181-10 Usu 1350 Tutor (integrated Life Science) \$7.75
 C135-91 Intramural Official \$7.25 to \$8 per game
 C458-07 Biological Research Technician \$10 / hr
 C134-09 Laboratory Technician minimum \$7.25
 C018-93 Writer BOE
 C188-10 Research Assistant 7.25
 c208-96 Tutor \$7.25/hr
 C203-06 Manager
Off-Campus Jobs:
 3545 Quality Control Internship \$14.00
 5543 Food Service Workers \$7.25/ hr Starting pay
 5596 Accounting salary negotiable
 5597 Crew Member 7.25
 5643 Nanny about 800 a month
 5660 Nanny Live-in Manager \$1600 salary + rent
 5659 Store Associate (level 1) \$10

- 5666 Personal Trainer \$15-\$20/hr
 5662 Programmer negotiable
 5671 Ruby On Rails Web Application Developer DOE
 5669 Front Desk/ Graveyard 7.50
 5678 Help Me With Computer 15/hr
 5674 Internet Sales Professional
 5680 Fabrication \$8.30
 5686 C-na DOE
 5687 Waiter/waitress \$2.20
 5689 Nursery/child Care Staff \$8-\$10 per hour
 5663 Real Estate Sales/telemarketing \$15-\$35/hr
 5695 Mothers Helper Neg
 3113 Customer Service Associate \$9.25
 5701 Delivery Drivers/inside Crew 7.25
 5700 Early Childhood Teacher \$300/mo
 0328 Office Worker start @ \$7.25
 5702 Inside Sales Rep based on experience
 5704 Marketing/ Free Estimate Setter
 5707 Nanny Needed Negotiable
 5713 Web Page Programmer depends on qualifications
 5709 Fedex Ground Delivery Driver Negotiable
 5708 Office Assistant 10 - 14
 5706 Tax Assistant neg
 5705 Online Tutor \$9-13
 0013 Graveyard Shift Cashier
 5710 Marketing Associate commission
 5711 Recruiting/sales Weekly + Commissions
 5712 Marketing Associate
 5714 Exercise Specialist \$10.00
 5715 Insurance Account Executive Negotiable
- Please Note**
 If any of the following ads have missing information, such as no phone or e-mail, please consult the complete listings at www.a-bay-usu.com
- Announcement**
 Christian Bible Study
 Sunday 7 pm Food Science Building, room 202. www.hotm.tv
- Emmanuel Baptist Church in Hyrum, worth the drive! www.ebchyrum.com
- Bicycles**
 24" Mountain Bike for sell!

Norco mountain bike, 24", purple, hand brakes, 15 gears, adjustable seat, in good shape. \$55 OBO. Call Storee 208-360-2376 or email missrusset_2006@yahoo.com

Haro V4 Mountain Bike
 Haro V4 Mountain bike: Hayes MX4 disk brakes, Truvative crank, Rock Shox Dart 2 front fork, Specialized Hemisphere tires. Its in great condition, clean, all parts work. No major damage. Great trail bike. \$375 Or Best Offer. I live on USU campus call me to come check it out. 760.594.4787 Email me if you have questions.

Apts. for Rent

Apartment Contract for Sale.
 I'm selling my contract for a (girl's) private room/private bathroom at Glenwood Apartments, just a block down from campus! The rent is three payments of \$466 each semester, adding up to be \$1400 a semester. The room will be empty by Saturday, October 24th, but I can also sell it for Spring semester if you need to wait. Five other girls live in the apartment, great roommates! Washer and dryer, cable included. Call Amanda at (801)668-2696. If you leave a message I will call back as soon as possible.

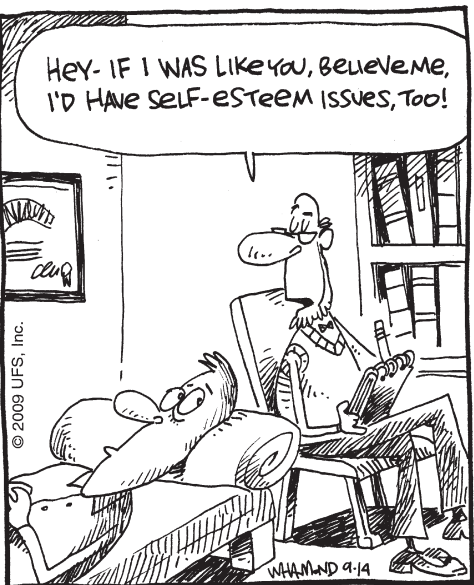
Aggie Village Large Private Bedroom
 Spring Contract: Female I am selling my contract for a single Aggie Village Large Bedroom apartment. Will have a roommate but you will have your own private room. Total payment of \$1633 is the total housing fee you pay to the University which includes all utilities, internet, cable, and most amenities. There is a laundry-mat on site with hook-ups available in apartment. It is a nice apartment, on campus (only a 10 minute walk), and near both Aggie Shuttle and CVTS bus stops. The building, as well as those surrounding it, are made up of mostly first or second year graduate students and juniors/seniors in undergrad. Email Kerry if you are interested in buying the Spring contract or in seeing

TimeOut

A collection of student-produced & syndicated comics, puzzles, fun stuff ... and more FREE classified ads!



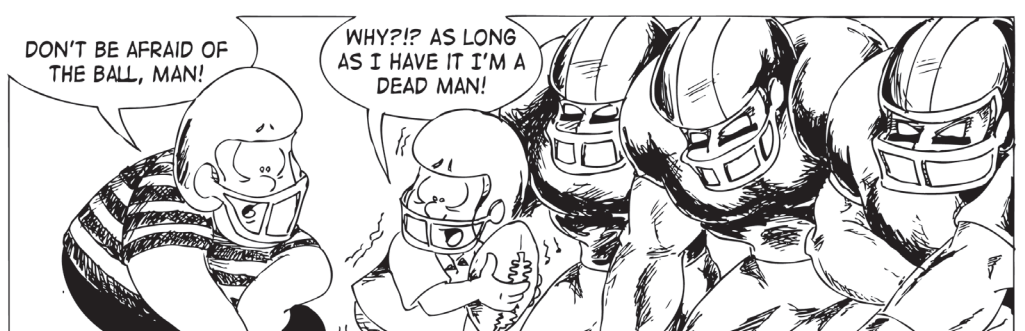
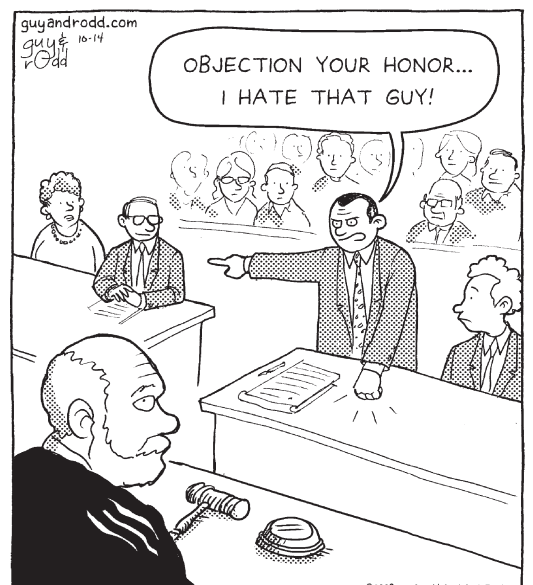
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Brevity



Out on a Limb • Kopervas



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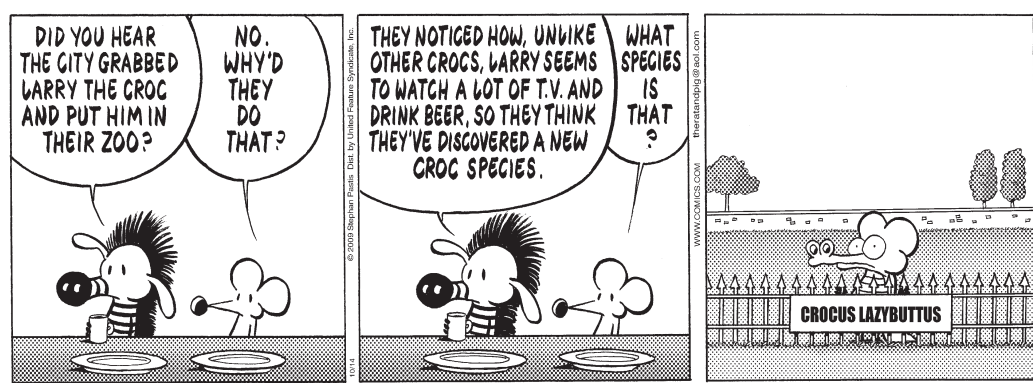
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the apartment or with any questions! For a video tour you can go to housing.usu.edu and click on housing options then Aggie Village.

Apartment Contract for Sell (Male)
I am selling a shared room, male, apartment contract for Pine View Apartments (1000 N. 780 E.) December OR January to June 2010. \$265 per month, Gas utilities included (Heater and Hot Water). Awesome location (7 Minute walk to the TSC, Across the street from the Spectrum and Aggie Shuttle stop) and very comfortable apartment! Must sell before January! If interested or have any questions, call Mitch at (801)419-1835 or E-Mail at studmitchmuffin@hotmail.com

Brentwood shared female contract Spring
2010 rentwood shared female contract for Spring 2010: \$560 moves you in! two \$360 payments due January 15th and March 1st. Large living room and kitchen, private bathroom, washer and brand new dryer- not coin operated!
Free internet and cable- lots of channels! Close to campus- only five minute walk. Call Whitney (801) 913-0829 or email whit.p@aggiemail.usu.edu

Spring Semester Female Contract
Female Spring Contract @ Clarksburg Apartments. Private bedroom AND bathroom! Close to campus. Tons of amenities- fireplace, cable TV, high-speed internet, and laundry included! Giant walk-in closet, huge room! Awesome roommates. Graduating, room available Dec. 12. Call or text 801-550-1529 if interested. \$1500 + flat fee utilities.



Loose Parts • Blazek



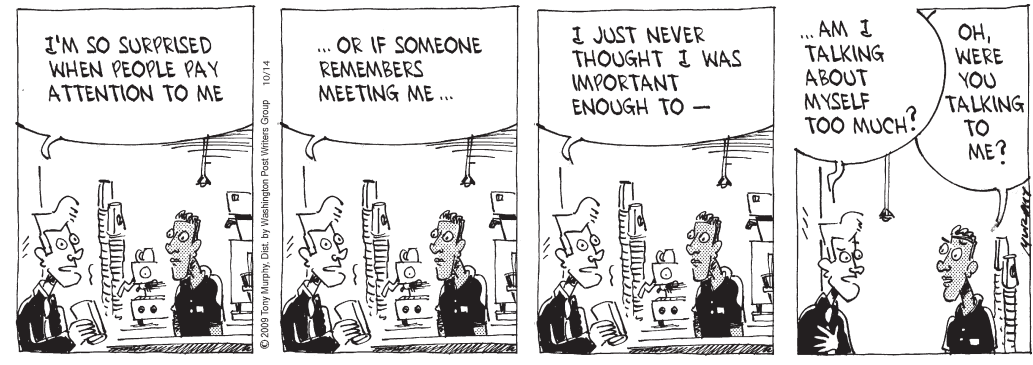
F-Minus • Carillo



Dilbert • Adams



It's All About You • Murphy



SUDOKU

	2		3					6
4			2			7		
6			1					4
		4						7
	9			7				5
	1					9		
7					5			3
		5			1			9
	6			4				1

brainfreezepuzzles.com

Rules: Fill in the grid so that each row, column, and 3x3 block contains 1-9 exactly once.

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WESTATES theatres

STADIUM 8
535 W 100 N, Providence

- COUPLES RETREAT* (PG-13) 1:20, 4:05, 6:30, 9:05
- FAME* (PG) 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:35, 9:45
- LOVE HAPPENS* (PG-13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
- INVENTION OF LYING* (PG-13) 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
- ONE GOOD MAN (PG) 1:00, 3:00 5:00, 7:00, 9:00
- SURROGATES* (PG-13) 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10
- CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS* (PG) 12:50, 2:50, 4:50, 6:50, 8:50
- ZOMBIELAND* (R) 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15

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*No PASSES OR DISCOUNT TICKETS

UNIVERSITY 6
1225 N 200 E (Behind Home Depot)

- WHIP IT* (PG-13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45
- TOY STORY DOUBLE FEATURE* (G) 12:40, 4:05, 7:30
- ZOMBIELAND* (R) 1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25
- SURROGATES* (PG-13) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
- COUPLES RETREAT* (PG-13) 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:15
- CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS* (PG) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00

MICHAEL JACKSON'S THIS IS IT TICKETS AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSITY 6

OCTOBER 9: NEW MOON TICKETS AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSITY 6 AND ONLINE AT WWW.MOVIESWEST.COM

MOVIES 5
2450 N Main Street

- ALL ABOUT STEVE (PG-13) 4:05, 6:55 Fri/Sat 9:05
- FAME (PG) 4:10, 7:10 Fri/Sat 9:20
- ADAM* (PG-13) 4:00, 6:30, Fri/Sat 9:00
- PROPOSAL (PG-13) 4:15, 6:55 Fri/Sat 9:25
- 9 (PG-13) 4:25, 7:10, Fri/Sat 9:25

Autos

MAZDA B2300 pickup 1996 2800 OBO
This truck is in perfect condition. I never had a single problem with it. It has mp3 player, bed liner, manual, 4X2, gets 25-26 MPG, has no rust, miles 158000, VERY cheap to insure, perfect car for school. I am selling because I am ready to get something bigger.

Electronics

Pink Blackberry for Sale. Surf the web, email, and much much more. Asking price \$250.

iPod Classic - 160 GB

+InvisibleShield!!! \$190 obo Beautiful 160 GB iPod Classic Original 160 GB, so slightly thicker model COMES WITH full body InvisibleShield (lifetime warranty) Original box, dock adaptor (unused), original literature I have four various cases to include if you want them!

2 zunes 30gb and 80gb

Im selling 2 zunes together for 100.00. 30gb and 80gb and 2 sync cables. 30gb has a cracked screen, the 80gb won't sync with my computer. 100.00 firm but open to suggestions

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borhood. Responsible applicants for a 1 year lease. \$900.00 mo. Call Sharon Anderson @ (435) 755-7829 to see.

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Sporting Goods

686 Uzi Ski/Snowboard Jacket
Just bought a new coat so I need to sell mine. I used it for a season and it still works amazing. Practically new. 15K waterproof rating g. Has a powder skirt, and a whole bunch of pockets if you're into that sort of thing. Retail at \$260 but I'm selling it for \$80. (435)890-8094

Misc. 4 sale

2005 Bobcat T300 Track Skid Steer, 3

Crossword Puzzler • MCT

ACROSS

- 1 Perform in a play
- 4 Skilled
- 8 Check signers
- 14 1950 Edmond O'Brien suspense classic
- 15 Sliding
- 16 Hide out
- 17 49th state's largest city
- 20 Parking spot money taker
- 21 Sly
- 22 Grating sound
- 23 1/60 of a min.
- 25 "Was ___ hard on him?"
- 27 E.M. Forster classic set in fictional Chandrapore
- 35 "What ___ is new?"
- 36 Washroom, briefly
- 37 Is ahead
- 38 ___ for tat
- 39 Houses with sharply angled roofs, and what this puzzle's four longest answers literally have in common
- 42 Point to pick
- 43 Sam of "The Piano"
- 45 Dapper guy?
- 46 ___ about: approximately
- 47 Classic Italian "farewell" song
- 51 Far from tanned
- 52 Conclude
- 53 Loud crowd noise
- 56 Community service org.
- 59 Popeye's creator
- 63 Two-part drama that won two Best Play Tonys and a Best Miniseries Emmy
- 66 Freezing period
- 67 Pesky kid
- 68 Acne spot
- 69 Clinton press secretary Myers
- 70 Tax time VIPs
- 71 Commercials

DOWN

- 1 Eve's mate
- 2 Ice cream holder
- 3 Diplomat's forte
- 4 Has a crush on 5 NYC's Bronx, e.g.
- 5 Bread purchase
- 7 Thus, to a logician
- 8 ___ win: go all out
- 9 Afflict
- 10 Beginning of time, figuratively
- 11 Film lioness
- 12 Korean soldiers
- 13 Trade
- 18 "Steppenwolf" writer Hermann
- 19 Way of the turnpike
- 24 Young cow
- 26 Lubricates
- 27 Health Net rival
- 28 One with a trade
- 29 Moving about
- 30 Needle-toothed fish
- 31 Give the slip
- 32 "Hawaii Five-O" nickname
- 33 Figure of speech
- 34 Stars, in Latin
- 39 Thomas ___ Edison
- 40 Scuff or scratch
- 41 Suffix with differ
- 44 Interpret via mouth movements
- 46 Neatness
- 48 Paris palace
- 49 Moore of "Ghost"
- 50 Maps within maps
- 53 Vice squad action
- 54 A single time
- 55 "The African Queen" co-screenwriter
- 57 "The Suze Orman Show" channel
- 58 50-and-over org.
- 60 City near the Sphinx
- 61 Word before rain or rock
- 62 Sewer rodents
- 64 The "L" in XL: Abbr.
- 65 Goat's cry

ANSWERS FOUND ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE OF THE STATESMAN!
GOOD LUCK!

As a matter of faith

I had an odd dream last night.

It was a sunny day, the kind of day where every tree brimmed with songbirds and a young couple was on the way to the wedding chapel. At least, the couple called it a chapel. It was actually the ballroom of the Hilton. The bride wouldn't be caught dead at a silly old church. The wedding sponsors, Starbucks and Pepsi, booked the room because it was large enough for the congressional committee that was required to oversee the ceremony. No expense was to be spared on this glorious day of corporate merger ... I mean, matrimony. Tables were covered with catered caviar and wine coolers, DJ B-Sizzle was spinning the latest hip-hop grooves, dancing camels delivered guests from the parking lot and teams of photographers focused entirely on the bride to be and her diamond-studded high heels. Michael Jackson's reanimated corpse waited under the garland draped gazebo, notary seal in hand. Laser sensors had been micro adjusted and would trigger a play-off worthy fireworks display at the exact moment of the deal sealing kiss.

The bride liked the whole setup. "All that church stuff is so drab," she said. "This is more fun."

It made sense in my nocturnal world; no bride should have to deal with drab things. People keep talking about the tradition of marriage as a religious matter, but this government regulated commercial affair seemed steeped in centuries of tradition. After all, princes have said their vows before to gain land and gold, and commoners were encouraged to marry to breed a productive workforce. This was the bride's day. You can't let religion get in the way of tradition now can you?

Mechanical doves were released when the couple arrived, fly-

ing in circles, their LED eyes producing a softly glowing light-heart design near the ceiling. Occasional variations in the flight path formed the freshly designed logo of the merger. The corporate executives had arranged the marriage, with proper government officials assuring everything went in order. Like all arranged marriages love was in the air. The big brains of the boardroom and cutting-edge algorithms had come together via sponsor Echemicalharmony.com, and its baby-blue and ivory-corporate colors set the mood of the day. The bride and groom were both Libras. How could it fail? The romance could melt an iceberg.

As the couple stood before God, country and Mr. Jackson, the bride whispered to the groom, "What's your name again?"

"Josh," he replied.

"Chris ... okay," she said and went back to smiling for the cameras.

The room was filled with big names who brought gifts wrapped in gold-plated toilet paper. No union of love and creation should go without toasters, fruit-smoothie machines or new printers. I know the "Little Drummer Boy" song mentions a kid who gave very little yet was praised the most, but this would have seemed out of place this day.

Unions wouldn't mean anything if they didn't produce some little offspring to continue the stock value of the merger so I wasn't surprised the undead gloved one's vows included, "Will you let her pump out your biological spawn in a cyclical manner?" She didn't care for kids, but the new television would take care of raising them.

The Blackberry wielding couple texted in unison, I do.

Having both signed their contracts, he scampered off to the golf course, she to the mall. They were man and wife, what Pepsi-

Starbucks brings together, let no man put asunder.

I climbed aboard my hot-air balloon and was off. When I landed I was right in front of a little old church. Another couple was being wed. The service was small with family and dear friends. There were no mechanical doves or dancing camels. They didn't seem to need smoothie machines, they only seemed interested in each other. They loved one another and they trusted each other without question or condition. While they couldn't have children, they hoped to adopt and knew they could rely on each other to conquer the challenges life would bring. They chose to get married as a declaration of their love and devotion to one another and did so under a seemingly far less remembered notion of divine law. The wedding was a celebration of the life and creative spirit they would share, joined by their faith, celebrated in their souls. They made their vows without an ounce of fear and walked outside into the loving arms of their families.

For the dreams I usually have, I was re ended well. But it was how much the first wedding like reality and the second a



Will Holloway is a senior majoring in philosophy. His column appears every other Wednesday. Comments can be left on www.aggietownsquare.com or sent directly to will.r.h@aggiemail.usu.edu

Monitoring online shills

Online communicators of all stripes, whether they blog or tweet or befriend on social networking sites, are now supposed to tell you when they've received any money or freebies in connection with recommendations they post about products they've tried out.

That's what the Federal Trade Commission decided last week, after months of gathering public input and stroking its chin. And the response from the online commentariat - true, never a placid bunch - is an unusually powerful wave of indignation, splutter, fury and bile, including fierce denunciations from some of the most influential and most respected voices on the Internet.

"A dangerous federal intervention in social media" and "an attack on markets and free speech," says Dan Gillmor, author of "We the Media" and a major force for new-age citizen journalism.

"Truly terrible," Jeff Bercovici says on this widely followed Daily Finance blog on AOL. "A monument to unintended consequence, hidden dangers and dangerous assumptions," says Jeff Jarvis of CCNY's journalism grad school and a prominent shaper of online practices.

Blogger Ron Hogan on AlleyCat suggests the FTC will now have to monitor 27.9 million Americans. Ryan Singel's post-

ing on Wired is headlined, "FTC tells amateur bloggers to disclose freebies or be fined," and even Slate's Jack Shafer, who is normally right about most everything, denounced "the FTC's mad power grab" and declared: "Allowing these guidelines to take effect would be like giving the government a no-knock warrant to investigate hundreds of thousands of blogs and hundreds of millions of Facebook, MySpace and Twitter users for saying nice things about goods and services."

I don't know what's wrong with me, but I don't agree with these people at all. Let's back up. The FTC is the principal regulator of the advertising industry, which is some comfort to those of you who didn't know the ad industry had a regulator. Accordingly, it promotes standards of truthfulness in commercial speech.

The commission was revising, for the first time since 1980, its general policies on product endorsements - endorsements from celebrities, "experts," outside organizations and seemingly ordinary civilians - any advice to buy something from someone who appears to be standing apart from the people who produce it.

One problem the FTC was addressing is the bountiful supply of tempting marketing opportunities via online venues

where people talk about things they buy and stuff they try. Marketers are aflutter over the possibilities of furtively seeding this cloud of independent and trustworthy commentators with payments and perks, so that they use their independence in trustworthy ways - meaning, to gush about the things they're paid to gush about, just like any other self-respecting shills.

Fine. But when an Internet-chat tech maven praises a gadget, should she also have to mention that it was provided to her free of charge or, by the way, that she was given a free trip to a Vegas trade show so she could road-test it in a suitable setting?

You bet, said the FTC. Any time we're led to believe that the opinion somebody expresses is truly theirs and the credibility we attach to that person's words would be altered if we knew that he had gotten the product for free (or gotten something else of value from its producer), that's something we should know.

What's wrong with that? To be fair, the critics don't quarrel with the desirability of disclosure; they revere transparency. But they're annoyed that the FTC treats, say, a book reviewer for a newspaper differently from a freelance blogger. The newspaper employee wouldn't have to say she got books for free while the blogger would. The commission reasons that employees in an organization with a culture of

editorial independence deserve different treatment, but I think the critics are right. There's no principled reason for the distinction.

And they object to the sweeping oversight powers the commission seems to be claiming: How on Earth is anybody going to police hundreds of thousands of possibly corrupt voices?

For its part, the FTC has made it clear its focus is not on bloggers but on advertisers, who are responsible for telling online commentators about these disclosure obligations. That puts the burden where it belongs - on the people who seek to gain from what is, essentially, deception.

True, enforcement will be spotty. But then, we support speed limits even though we know that only a tiny fraction of the people who exceed them will ever be ticketed.

The challenge here is much the same. To make sure that standards are posted and understood. In this case, the FTC has taken a reasonable step toward safeguarding the future of honest communication online.

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