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THE UTAH STATESMAN

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 Cold front and storms around Northern Utah signify the end of summer and beginning of winter

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 Aggie sports drop home games in hockey, rugby and football over weekend

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NEWS | Living dangerously
 Logan's busiest street receives top spot on UDOT's list of worst roads in Utah

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HOMECOMING 2016



PHOTOS BY Matt Halton, Sam Brown, Sydney Oliver, Mark Bell, Tim Carpenter
 (Clockwise from top left) Freshman receiver Rayshad Lewis scored the first touchdown of his career in the Aggies' 27-20 home loss to Air Force on Saturday, students kick off Homecoming Week at the Foam Dance on Monday, senior Ali Mahamat celebrates after being named Mr. USU on Wednesday, a couple kiss in the rain during True Aggie Night on Friday and Charlie Puth performs at a conference in the Spectrum on Friday.

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Storms hint at winter



PHOTO BY Kyle Todecheene

By Alyssa Roberts
STAFF WRITER

Thursday marked the first day of autumn and already, winter weather is on its way. On Thursday afternoon, a severe storm warning was issued for much of the Cache Valley Area. Stormy conditions continued through Saturday. The National Weather Service issued a hazardous weather outlook for Cache Valley, predicting snow would be possible in elevations near 7,000 feet Friday morning. According to the report, “the core of the cold fall storm” is expected to pass over Northern Utah Friday, before shifting east and out of the area. The report also states that “the resulting snow will result in travel difficulties

along higher elevation roadways in Northern Utah.” This doesn’t mean students should expect to dig their cars out of snowbanks Friday morning, since Logan is situated comfortably at about 4,000 feet above sea level. But snow could be seen in nearby canyons. The storm that could bring an abrupt end to the fall season has already caused its fair share of damage in Cache Valley. Heavy rain and high winds knocked over trees. The storm caused power outages all across the valley, including several on the Utah State University campus Wednesday night. Alex Niebergall, an employee at USU’s Quadside Cafe, said the power went out around 9 p.m. and wasn’t restored until close to 1 a.m. “It was pouring pretty good,” said Jack-

son Probst, a Quadside Cafe employee who worked during the power outage. Probst said lightning appeared to be striking fairly close by as well. The cafe and the library closed early as a result, Niebergall said. But Utah State hardly saw the worst of the storm. Rocky Mountain Power reported widespread outages across Davis and Weber counties Thursday, affecting an estimated 30,000 people. Flash flood warnings were issued for much of southern Utah and urban areas along the Wasatch front. A tornado is also reported to have touched down briefly in the Washington Terrace area near Ogden. Though the Salt Lake City office of the Na-

tional Weather Service reported storm winds blowing northward, the storm died down over the next 24 hours. It rained much of the day Friday, but there were no Thunderstorms. Temperatures in the low 40s are expected throughout this week, which could mean any snowfall in the mountains might stick. Though it’s hardly begun, the fall season could already be over. Niebergall said fall started with the power outage and ended with the power outage. “Now, winter is coming,” he said.

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Long passwords are a thing of the past

IT team introduces passphrases

By Alison Berg
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty members will now be able to use passphrases instead of passwords to log into their Banner accounts. This new system applies to any program where users log in using their A-number and password. Unlike passwords, passphrases can include spaces and do not require upper or lower case letters, numbers or special characters. When students create a traditional Banner password, they have to include a variety of characters, like uppercase letters and numbers, to make them secure. Passphrases do not require special characters, but they do need to be longer than a password. The university’s Information and Technology team, which handles all technological issues

on campus, recommends students use phrases that are easy to remember but difficult to guess, such as “yellow stars golden eagle.” Passphrases have proved to be much more secure than normal passwords. USU’s IT manager Steve Funk said, “The vast majority of calls we receive are regarding Banner password issues.” Funk said traditional passwords are “easier to hack than you may think.” Passphrases are much more secure because they are harder to guess and easier for students to remember. When students create passwords, they tend to use predictable information such as their birthdate, followed by “1,2,3,” said Steve Eaton, the IT Communications Coordinator. “We hope students will get creative with their passphrases, making them harder to hack,” Eaton said.

The new system has been available since the middle of August. Since users are only required to change their passwords once a year, however, the IT team “does not expect students to start using pass phrases until spring semester.” “Every year we have incidents on campus where students’ accounts are hacked into. We hope the new password system prevents this issue,” Funk said. “While these issues do not happen often, there have been incidents where student accounts have been hacked and their pay checks have been rerouted.” The program took about a year to develop and was created internally by different members of the USU IT team. It has been adopted by several universities around the United States. Kayla Watanabe, a senior at USU, said, “It’s hard to keep track of all the passwords I have.

I can see how using a phrase instead of a word would be more convenient.” Passphrases save time for users. “I feel like if the student isn’t very particular about how they choose their passphrase, it may even be easier for them to get hacked, but I know a lot of banks use that system and it’s usually very secure,” said Georgia Mesina, a sophomore studying computer science. All Banner users will be required to change their Banner passwords in the spring. To change your password to a passphrase, go to ssb.banner.usu.edu. For more information on the new passphrase system, call the USU IT Service Desk at 435-797-4357, or visit the Janet Quincy Lawson building on campus, located just north of the library.

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USUSA skeptical of hearing board changes

By Shanie Howard
SENIOR NEWS WRITER

On Sep. 13, Utah State’s Student Association reviewed the Utah System of Higher Education’s new rules regarding how Utah State University’s hearing board will conduct their meetings. One of the most controversial changes in the meeting is the allowance of advisers to make opening and closing statements as well as asking the witness questions during the hearings. These advisers can be anyone from the accused student’s parents to a professional lawyer. The USU hearing board reviews all incidents involving alleged violations of university standards; these violations can range from drinking on campus to accusations of sexual assault. It consists of 14 members: seven students, four faculty members and three professional staff employees. Several USUSA Executive Council members expressed concern that this new change

would put some students at a disadvantage. “My base concern is that a lawyer will have the tools to sound more persuasive and knowledgeable... I worry it can distort things,” said Ashley Waddoups, USU’s student body president. Utah State University is currently working on a way to combat this new change by requiring advisers to give a written question to the board first. The board will then either accept, reject or request a rephrase of the question. Only if the question is accepted can the adviser ask it. “It allows the advisers to still be a part of the hearing but gives the chair more responsibility in making sure both parties are fairly represented and treated,” said Matthew Clewett, student advocate vice president, regarding the university’s new twist on this rule. Since the change to the rule is passed down directly from USHE, USUSA does not have much power in altering the rule, despite the fact that they do not all completely approve of the change.



PHOTO BY Shanie Howard

Some members of the Utah State Student Association were skeptical about the changes to hearing board meetings, but didn’t have the power to change them. “There’s nothing we can really do about it,” said Brenna Kelly, director of public relations and marketing for USUSA.

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HUMANS of USU

By Katherine Taylor
STUDENT LIFE SENIOR WRITER



“Mr. USU has been super fun because I’ve met so many cool people. Tonight I’ll be lip syncing to my favorite song: ‘Juicy Wiggle’ by Red Foo. I think all of our money is on Terran. We want Terran. We might throw it so Terran can win.”



“Hopefully we’ll have a great show tonight, and of course we’re all cheering for our boy, Terran. We want him to be Mr. USU forever. For eternity.”



“So far the dance has been super fun, the guys have been super cool. The students of USU should prepare for a good show. I would also like to put in a plug for Terran Maynard. Beautiful man, can dance like nobody else. Pops it, locks it, backflips it, everything. I think we all just decided to root for him, since he’s not here. If he’s not here to represent himself then we can represent him.”

Musician Review: Charlie Puth

By Michael Burnham
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER



Charlie Puth

After a cancelled show due to sickness earlier this year, Charlie Puth is finally coming to Utah State University for the Homecoming concert,

instead of the End-of-Year bash.

Felicia Gallegos, vice president of Traditions for USU Student Alumni, said we’re lucky to get him back. Since April, when Puth was supposed to be here, two singles “We Don’t Talk Anymore” and “One Call Away” have climbed up the charts. But Puth is coming to USU on the original contract, meaning Aggies are getting a deal to have Puth come here for the price of \$1 for students.

Puth’s debut album, “Nine Track Mind,” stormed the charts this January, peaking at number six on Billboard 200. The single “Marvin Gaye” hit number 21 on Billboard’s Hot 100 and topped charts in France, the United Kingdom and Australia.

It’s not surprising the album did well. The sound is a bass heavy, millennial-mixed soft-around-the-edges pop. Some moments are pleasant, cute, even fun. Like off-brand chicken noodle soup, it probably won’t fail to make you feel better, but you don’t remember the name.

What is memorable are the simple arrangements, creating a soft, mellow electric backdrop to highlight Puth’s girl-getter warble. There are moments that hint at something unique, like the choral beginning of ‘Some Type of Love,’ but those are usually brought back to the expected formula by the melody hook and Puth’s conventional breathy timbre.

‘We Don’t Talk Anymore’ is the stand-out track, like a cousin to ‘Ink’ by Coldplay, but more upbeat and garden variety. Another highlight, ‘Losing My Mind’ creates a chill nighttime aura to curl up into. “Nine Track Mind” feels more like an expanded EP, lacking the conviction of an album.

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By Dawson Oler
STUDENT

Wednesday’s season two finale of the tv show “Mr. Robot” was electric. After the shocking and riveting conclusion, I found myself out of my chair walking around outside — I’m not even sure how I got there. It was pouring rain and thundering, but I didn’t care. My mind was spinning.

“Wait... what? Who? Was that real?” I asked myself all the questions, and upon typing this up the next day, I still don’t have a clue. But what I know is that the finale of season two cemented “Mr. Robot” as one of the best shows currently on television.

If you haven’t already heard of it, “Mr. Robot” is a psychological drama airing on the USA Network. It follows around “hactivist” Elliot Alderson (played by now Emmy-Award winner Rami Malek) as he tries to solve the world’s problems with his hacking skills. It gets a little complicated, though, as you introduce his shady mentor, known only by his alias “Mr. Robot” (portrayed by Christian Slater) and Tyrell Welleck (Martin Wallström), a powerful businessman with dubious motives who shows an interest in Elliot’s adventures. We as the audience also have a role to play, as we follow Elliot everywhere he goes as he narrates for us in real time and lets us know exactly what is in his head.

“Mr. Robot’s” creator, Sam Esmail, originally had the idea for a feature length film instead of a tv show. As he began to make pitches to producers, many people advised him to take it to TV networks, as they would allow him to fully flesh out his vision. He agreed, but only if he would be given full autonomy as creator of the show, and the results have been spectacular.

Esmail is clearly influenced by “Twin Peaks” creator David Lynch as well as award-winning director David Fincher. Every episode of “Robot” is written and directed by Esmail, which is simply unheard of in today’s culture (For reference, HBO’s “Game of Thrones” employed 6 directors in its last season and a writing staff of 13 writers). This allows him to have full control over the tone and image of the show, which is something very important about the show’s makeup. It is surreal and dreamlike, and the viewer is often questioning what is real and what is just in our unreliable narrator’s head.

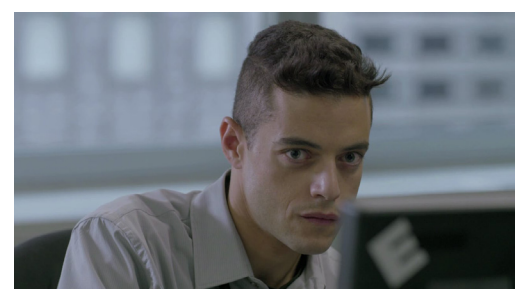
Despite its immense criminal success, “Mr. Robot” has had a difficult time attaining a large viewership. It received heaps of praise and awards from the Golden Globes and the Emmy’s, but has only cracked a million viewers a handful of times and projects to be a “critical darling” and not a mainstream success. This has more to do with the time of year it airs and not the quality of the show — television ratings dip in the summertime on nearly every network.

I’m set to keep watching, though. Everything about the show is so carefully structured — Elliot’s unreliable narration, the musical cues, the deep monologues that critique our modern society. Watching “Mr. Robot” is a unique experience that time and time again finds a way to keep its audience guessing and wanting more and more.

Season two is now over, but it’s not too late for you to jump on the “Mr. Robot” bandwagon! The first season is currently streaming on Amazon Prime and is available on DVD. Start it today — you won’t be disappointed.

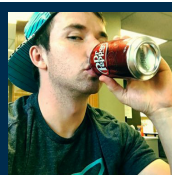
Summertime is a favorite time for us students at Utah State University. Many of us look forward to vacations, no homework and nice weather. Those things are nice and all, but the thing I look forward to the most in summer 2017 is an easy choice: season three of “Mr. Robot.”

Dawson Oler is an English major at USU.



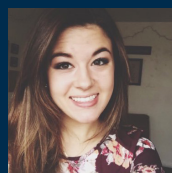
Rami Malek is Elliot Alderson in “Mr. Robot.”

TWEETS of the WEEK



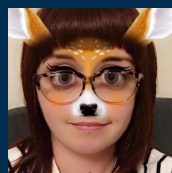
@aLoafOfBrett

Finally broke down and bought my first campus parking pass... made it to my junior year #aggiestride #aggielife #college



@kalli_elmer

Even with this massive storm going on, my teachers will still have class #rainorshine #aggiestride #morelikelifeordeath



@ omgwhitshutup

Wake up. Study until brain explodes. Go to sleep. Repeat. #aggiestride



@erikthered7

Dear Student, if you would have read the assignment, you wouldn't be asking me this question. #smh #TAlife #aggiestride

League of Legends World Finals

By Catherine St. Claire
STUDENT LIFE WRITER



Photo courtesy of MCT Campus

League of Legends, the popular Multiplayer Online Battle Arena (MOBA) game, is heading to its world championship this fall. The event drew more viewers than the World Series (Baseball) and the Stanley Cup (Hockey) last year.

Cloud9 beat Immortals in the League of Legends North American Regional Qualifiers Sept. 5 with three wins, one loss. Now, with C9 entering the World Championship Sept. 29, we know the lineup for the tournament that will run through Oct. 29.

Representing North America, we have Team Solo Mid who won the summer split 17:1, a long standing fan favorite that — through numerous roster changes — has been around since 2011. TSM had a rough start to the season going 9:9 in the spring split which put them in 6th place. While TSM picked up toward the end of the season, the team has a history of making it to worlds only to be removed in the first match of the month.

TSM's current roster includes American born Kevin "Haunterz" Yarnell in the top lane. Haunterz mostly plays the bruiser, Irelia, and went 8:0 this season with the mage champion, Swain. Dennis "Svenskeren" Johnsen of Sweden plays in the jungle, typically bringing Rek'Sai and Gragas to his games with a less clear best champion at 13:2 with Rek'Sai. Svenskeren's fellow countryman Søren "Bjergsen" Bjerg is team captain and mid laner who specializes in using Azir and Zilean with a very impressive 8:1 and 7:0 match history respectively. Yiliang "Doublelift" Peng, long time United States favorite and ex-Counter Logic Gaming player, plays Marksman in the bottom lane. Doublelift has some of the best mechanics of all of the pro-players and is supported by the Canadian Vincent "Biofrost" Wang an impressive new player who competed for the first time during TSM's dominante summer split.

With all that said, it seems TSM is in the best place it has ever been going into this year's world championship, and they seem to be looking up after several years of slowly slipping from the public consciousness.

Also representing NA we have the ever present Canadian team, Counter Logic Gaming. CLG

thus far had a much better early season than TSM, placing 2nd in the spring round robin with a 13:5 win to loss ratio. They were also the team in North America to qualify for worlds by gaining the most points over the season, as well they took 1st in the spring split with a 3:2 win ratio in the final round.

CLG is represented by American Darshan Upadhyaya in the top lane. Darshan has been drafting a large variety of champions this season, while his best champion is Jax at a score of 6:1. Jake "Xmithie" Puchero of the Philippines like many of CLG's players this year is fairly new to the pro-scene and has a wide variety of Jungle champions, though he favors tanks. Choi "HuHi" Jae-hyun, South Korea, plays mid bringing high skill level mages and again shows a wide variety of champions. Trevor "Stixxay" Hayes, the most inexperienced member of the team plays bottom lane marksman but is supported by the legendary Zaqueri "Aphromoo" Black. Aphromoo has participated in every season of League of Legends on the professional level and is often thought of as one of the best supports in the world.

CLG's best asset is flexibility. While TSM seems to focus on a very small pool of champions it will be harder to predict CLG going into worlds as they all have a very even split between the different champions. Expect their games to be volatile and differ greatly from match to match.

The final NA team, as mentioned previously is Cloud9. C9 performed favorably over TSM at

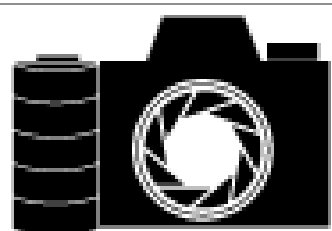
several tournaments and came in second in the summer split. That loss however, put them in a difficult situation where they had to compete in the regional qualifiers against the near perfect win record by Immortals. Though unexpected by some, C9 beat IMT 3:1, finishing the last game with a large lead.

C9 brings Jung "Impact" Eon-yeong of South Korea with Shen and Trundle into the top lane. with a 7:5 win loss ratio with both champions. William "Meteos" Hartman Plays an impressive Gragas and Rek'Sai, both with an 11:5 record. Nicolaj Jensen plays mid-lane with one of the most varied lineups of the 2016 season. Zachary "Sneaky" Scuderi is joined by Canadian Andy "Smoothie" Tu in the bottom lane. The duo is known for playing Ashe and Bard respectively in the lane and though Smoothie had a rocky as well as late start in this season he is now 6:1 on Bard.

All said, NA will be competing on their home turf (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and New York) in this year's finals. However, while this year's lineup has a lot of potential, it is important to remember that no North American team has ever won the World Championship.

Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, or the Utah Statesman Website for updates on the championship. We will also begin to do coverage of the Collegiate tournament Utah State University's eSports varsity team will be participating in this November.

[@Cat_StClaire](#)



PHOTOGRAPHER

SPOTLIGHT



PHOTO BY Sam Brown

"In March of 2015 I was taking a solo ride down highway 1 from Gold Beach, Oregon to San Diego, California. I'm really big on photographing nature, so I stopped Piedras Blancas during the birthing season of Elephant Seals. This has got to be my favorite shot, because of how playful and photogenic the pup was for me. Not only that, it reminds of the 1,300 mile trip I took fresh off of an LDS mission."

S

SPORTS

All shook up

Key injuries, blown chances sink Aggies in conference opener



PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Trainers carry Aggie running back Devante Mays off the field after just one play with an apparent knee injury. Utah State struggled to establish the ground game against Air Force Saturday. Mays did not return.

By Taylor Emerson
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

This time last year against Air Force Kent Myers had a career day – 364 yards, 25 of 47 attempts and four touchdowns. It was the most Utah State had thrown the ball all season, and the most yardage in total since the year prior.

Just like last year, coach Matt Wells game planned around throwing the ball, putting Myers on display in a big way. The junior signal-caller finished the day going 29 of 47 for 360 yards and two touchdowns – one through the air and another on the ground. Myers carried the Utah State offense, accounting for all but 42 yards in the game.

And just like last year, it wasn't enough.

"That's a hard loss," said Utah State head coach Matt Wells. "I hurt for those kids in that locker room. That locker room is really devastated right now; it may be the quietest I've ever heard since I've been here."

"I thought Kent competed," Wells added. "I am very, very proud of his effort and his competitive spirit down the stretch."

That's not to say Myers' day was perfect, as he also threw an interception, fumbled twice and was sacked six times. For the second time in two years, Myers and the Utah State offense accounted for more than 400 yards and two touchdowns but fell to the Falcons by a single touchdown.

"There are some things I could have done better," Wells said, "and some things I wish Kent

would have done better tonight. Overall I think all three phases of play failed us tonight."

The loss was further marred by several key injuries for the Aggies. Senior running back Devante Mays went down with a knee injury on his first play of the game, leaving the field on crutches. Starting junior safety Dallin

know the time and dedication those kids put in, so it doesn't matter who it is, my heart breaks for a kid when he gets injured. Certainly [Leavitt and Mays] are the best players at their positions and it hurts to lose them."

Tight end Wyatt Houston (leg), quarterback Kent Myers (head), Ron'Quavion Tarver (head)

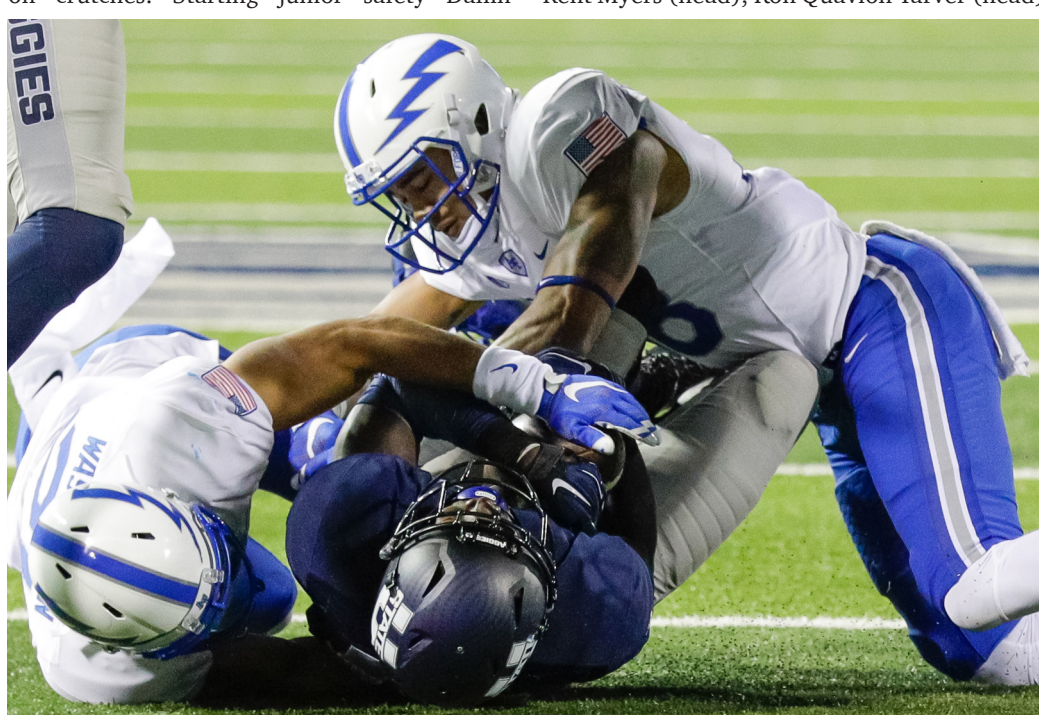


PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Air Force stuffed the Aggie ground game all night, holding the home team to just 42 yards on the ground in the 27-20 loss.

Leavitt got wrapped up in a gang tackle and his ankle was rolled up on by a teammate. He also left the field on crutches and his status is unknown.

"It's hard for me as a coach to see any of my players go down with an injury," Wells said. "I

and Tonny Lindsey (leg) all went out with injuries but later returned to finish the game.

One bright spot for the Aggies was the emergence of Ron'Quavion Tarver, who was Myers' favorite target throughout the game. The sophomore wideout was all over the Falcons' sec-

ondary, tallying 143 yards on nine catches, both of which were career highs. Andrew Rodriguez had seven catches for 64 yards and Rayshad Lewis caught three for 52 yards – including a 43-yard touchdown grab for the freshman's first score of the year.

But ultimately it was Utah State's inability to handle the Falcons' rushing attack that did the Aggies in. Coming into week four, Air Force led the nation in rushing yards per game and continued to turn to the ground game against their Mountain West rival. The Falcons ran the ball 52 times accounting for a total of 213 yards and two scores on a 4.1-yard average.

Air Force quarterback Nate Romine got in on the action notching five completions, 113 yards and scored his second passing touchdown of the season with a 12-yard pass to Ryan Reffitt.

"There's not much I can say to motivate the guys after a loss like this," said linebacker Alex Huerta, who had a career high 13 tackles. "Our goal is always to keep opponents to below 21 points and tonight we failed to meet that goal. It's frustrating."

The Falcons remain atop the Mountain West standings along with fellow undefeateds Boise State and San Diego State. Meanwhile, the Aggies fall to 2-2 and find themselves in a four-way tie for fourth place in the conference.

Utah State will travel to Idaho on Saturday to take on the 3-0 Boise State Broncos with kickoff scheduled for 8:15 p.m.

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Aggie hockey racks up penalties, falls to UNLV 5-2



PHOTO BY Kyle Todecheene

Though scoring in the first and last minute of the game, USU hockey gave up five straight goals to UNLV in its first home matchup.

By Jason Walker
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Just as the weather in Logan got cold, so too did the Utah State hockey team as it dropped its home opener to UNLV 5-2.

Utah State came out of the gate hot, drawing first blood with a goal just over a minute into the game. But they couldn't keep that momentum going through the rest of the game. UNLV would score five unanswered goals before the Aggies scored their second goal with 44 seconds left in the match.

"I thought we started off real good," head coach Jon Eccles said, "I thought we were aggressive. We were hitting. We were taking the game to them. Then all of the sudden we just backed off and let them dictate how to play."

Penalties were a central theme in this game. Utah State had 11 penalties, and it contributed heavily to the loss. Three of UNLV's five goals came on power plays. Goalkeeper Austin Willenborg pointed out it was something that needs improvement for the team.

"We need to stop taking stupid penalties," he

said following the game. "That's really going to help us--not taking penalties that we don't need."

Eccles agreed and explained how much penalties impact the team.

"When you take your top team man off the ice and put him in the penalty box. It hurts more because then the other two or three guys are battling. We had to move a forward back to play D."

There were plenty of scoring chances throughout the game for Utah State. The Aggies outshot UNLV 40-32, but the Rebel's goalkeeper, Terry Martin, put up a heroic effort, recording 38 saves.

Utah State will look to improve from this game, while also trying to forget the bitter taste it left in their mouth. And they have to do it quickly as they have a quick turnaround for their next game. They will play at the University of Utah Sept. 24. The Aggies will not return to home ice for nearly a month when they take on the University of Colorado Oct. 14.

Air Force takes down USU men's rugby 31-17



PHOTOS BY Adam and Brooke Maxfield




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Most dangerous street in Utah



PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Logan's Main Street was named the most dangerous street in Utah.

By **Jordan Floyd**
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Logan's Main Street is singing a woeful song nowadays, one tinged with staccato-crunching metal and a crescendo of screeching tires.

It's no secret to Cache Valley residents that Logan's Main Street is a busy and all-too-often congested road where car collisions are frequent.

This Cache Valley axiom gained a statistical backing on Wednesday as KSL News called Logan's Main Street the "most dangerous road in Utah," citing Utah Department of Transit (UDOT) statistics first reported by the Herald Journal on Sept. 20.

The statistics show on the segment of road between 500 South and 1800 North there were nearly 600 collisions from 2013 to 2015. Such a number earned Logan's Main Street, the Herald Journal reports, the top spot on UDOT's list of "the worst 10 roads in the state."

It's a car-collision tune Vic Saunders of UDOT said may be sourced in Cache Valley's youths' pockets — that is, in their cell phones.

"We know that we have issues in the state and all across the country of drivers of certain ages being more distracted than drivers of other ages," Saunders said.

Saunders said that youth ages 18 to 25 have grown up with electronic devices like cell phones and "it's difficult to put them down when they get in a vehicle."

The problem, however, might not be exclusive to Cache Valley's youth.

Logan City Police Department's Lt. Jeff Simmons says distracted driving — even texting and driving — is something that all age groups are guilty of.

"Make no mistake, distracted driving crosses all age lines," Simmons said.

To remedy the issue of distracted driving, Simmons and the rest of the Logan police force conduct periodic traffic stings on Main Street, which, in essence, are brief periods of time

where officers are hyper-focused on certain violations like texting and driving.

Simmons said the purpose of the stings is not to write a lot of tickets. Instead, he and his force are trying to reduce collisions at the root of the problem. "The goal is to reduce distracted driving and thereby reduce accidents," Simmons said.

The stings aren't the only way Utah's public officials are trying to reduce collisions from distracted driving.

As part of UDOT's Zero Fatalities initiative, Saunders says, the department has rolled out the Don't Drive Stupid program, which is aimed at youth drivers ages 18 to 25. The program conducts online advocacy initiatives and sponsors events that promote safe, distraction-and-impairment-free driving.

"The Don't Drive Stupid program encourages [youth] to put electronics away in the car and to focus on driving," Saunders said. "Moving Utah safely is our number one goal. We want to get people home every night so they can be

with their family and enjoy their lives."

Despite all programs, advocacy and police stings, Simmons said, reducing collisions because of distracted driving is up to the individuals behind the wheel.

"We'll do everything we can to try and reduce [distracted driving], but the bottom line is distracted driving is in the hands of the drivers," he said.

For Logan specifically, Simmons said that residents need to be especially cognizant while driving on Main Street because there is such a high density of traffic that frequents the roadway daily.

"We have a lot of traffic density and then you add the university population — and you know our street isn't going to get any wider," Simmons said. "Ultimately it has to be the drivers that control whether [collisions] decrease or increase."

— jordan.floyd@aggiemail.usu.edu

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OPINION

To the trolls in our lives



By RICHARD POLL
STUDENT LIFE CONTENT MANAGER

Richard enjoys throwing his opinion out there, even when it's a bit annoying. He's a basic white guy who found out his Patronus is a fox within minutes of receiving the email. richard.poll@aggiemail.usu.edu @Richard_Poll

It's a lesson we often hear with the nature of our generation. We're connected to the internet in ways that no other generation has been before us, and every day, technology improves in ways that connect us even more. The internet can be used for bad and good,

that's what our parents, teachers, advisors and leaders all tell us. I'm not going to go in a rant about pornography or the hazards of online shopping, I'm talking about our usage of the internet. Not what we post, but how we react to others' posts. Let's talk about trolls.

Everyone knows a troll. They're the ugly things that hide under bridges or wander around the girl's bathroom at Hogwarts, right? No, in reality they're the people that comment on every Facebook post tell others why their friends are wrong. Sometimes we call the nicer ones Grammar Nazis, other times we label them as A-holes and leave it at that.

Are they still ugly though? Insert cliché here: "beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

I have yet to say whether or not internet trolls are an evil, neither have I said they are good. In fact, I'd put them in a camp of their own — annoying but potentially beneficial. Here in the Statesman office, we talk often of the comments our readers put on our website or on our Facebook posts. We love reading the comments! We

especially love seeing our favorite trolls post because, they bring us entertainment and more viewers.

Sometimes we get trolled by "grammar nazis" and either we see people who don't know AP (Advanced Press) Style, or we do a facepalm because we did miss something. We're human, but we're also aspiring to be as professional of journalists as we can be. We take those comments seriously and try to improve.

Other times the comments are not directed at the grammar or style of the article, instead the trolls are expressing their beliefs and views. That's beautiful, right? People freely expressing their views is a wonderful thing, until they attack a person or organization for their opinions. That's when I personally imagine these people as one of those creepy troll toys from the 90's. Sorry, but not sorry.

I will forever advocate for the right to free expression, and I will never stop a person from saying what's on their mind. But I do believe in being a decent human being. Maybe that's why

so many websites require us to verify that we are in deed a human. Maybe these websites want us to be decent people and be respectful to each other.

The only time I allow a troll to really get to me is when I know they didn't read anything more than the headline or the sentence -and -a -half that appears on Facebook. That is called intentional ignorance, and ignorance is not bliss. But that's just my opinion.

There is a light and a benefit to trolls, especially from a standpoint of a media group — the more times they comment and anger other people, the more people will read our articles and get their friends to read. Free advertising is fantastic. I guess then I should say thank you to not just to everyone who shares and comments in a positive way on our posts, but the same amount of gratitude goes to all the trolls out there. Thanks for the laughs, and the publicity.

I'm excited to see other people's opinion on trolls. Comment, share, email or Tweet at will. No robot verification needed here.

The Failures of Capitalism Part One: Erasure of Dissent



CAT'S CUPPA JOE
By CATHERINE ST. CLAIRE
STUDENT LIFE WRITER

Catherine St. Claire is a Ravenclaw, ex-Staff Writer and ex-Utah State University student. Her hobbies include looking for better schools and imagining a day when she doesn't have to live on a dry campus.

I moved here in January 2004, I was in grade seven. The next year, I took United States history for the first time. My teacher was a Native American rights activist and she focused almost entirely on the atrocities committed by the early European colonists, but completely ignored modern and postmodern discrimination against the native population. This ignoring of bits and pieces of history became quite normal as time moved on and I took more U.S. history courses. By sophomore year of highschool I was a part of the Sky View High philosophy debate team where my teammates and I would discuss the writings of Plato, Marcus Aurelius and most often Karl Marx.

Something about Marx was so endearing to us as 16-year-olds living in an ultra-conservative state, but I was disappointed when in my sophomore U.S. history class, my teacher

mentioned in passing that the Red Scare was due to fear of communism. To him this large movement seemed so unimportant. In fact when asked by a student "What is communism?" His reply was a short, "A bad form of government that Russia had." Such over simplification!

Now for clarification, I am no longer a communist. In fact, I'm a bit ashamed of my more radical past beliefs. However, I do not forgive the education system here for glossing over the critics of capitalism. Most people here took U.S. history in fifth grade, eighth grade and 10th grade, and U.S. government in 12th grade as those are all required in Utah, but did you ever read the writings of William Morris, John Ruskin, Karl Marx or John Locke? Did they require you read or understand Thomas Payne or Immanuel Kant, whose words inspired the American Revolution? I doubt

you did, because I had to seek such information myself.

Why though? Isn't the purpose of history class to help us learn from the past? It is my belief that in part, these philosophers and businessmen are often not so discussed in classes because while they informed and inspired the founding of our nation, they all wrote very strongly worded, but logical dissenting opinions on the current state of affairs.

This erasure of dissent cannot go on, and so over the next few weeks I will be writing an article each week detailing the criticisms of capitalism leveled by 18th, 19th, and 20th century philosophers. I hope that in doing so that at least a few more people can make better informed decisions regarding economics.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Not My Land, Not My Problem

You can't drink oil! Water is Life! Over and over the peaceful demonstrators yelled. Being amongst them, you couldn't help feel the love and passion behind their voices.

Around the world, people are standing up and speaking out against carbon based fossil fuels. The infrastructure that carries oil and natural gas has recently been called into question.

From Peru to North Dakota, individuals are bringing attention to a crucial issue in our modern society. How and where should we transport our energy resources? No matter how you transport the fuel, there are negative consequences and accidents are bound to happen. Due to the cost effectiveness of moving products by pipelines, all other transportation methods have had to grow and increase their volume drastically.

liquid is released, or causes a fire.

With all these alternatives for what manifests an incident, why hasn't wildlife or hazards to human health been considered? This is a critical question to ask those that oversee both restoration and remediation of these sites.

Now unfortunately, once an incident occurs, who and what is affected? How can one quantify the true cost inflicted upon the wildlife and people of these ecosystems? Now before you agree to a pipeline somewhere within the United States, would you be okay with a pipeline running through your backyard or worse, over the Logan River?

If you answered no to those questions, you have no right to demand others tolerate a pipeline in theirs. With an inherently flawed system, incidences are a matter of fact.

How can one quantify the true cost inflicted upon the wildlife and people of these ecosystems?

Darren Bingham is a sixth year senior majoring in Environmental Studies, in the Quinney College of Natural Resources at Utah State University. Currently, Darren works closely on building collaboration and solidarity among all groups at his college. His university isn't known for its activism or student involvement but has since changed with Darren's help. In addition, he is the undergraduate advisor for SOSNR (the student organization for society and natural resources) the most active club at USU around social and environmental justice. He is also heavily involved with all sustainability efforts on and off campus.

Feeding Frenzy

I have never seen the equal of the depravity of humanity first hand, quite like the pitiful state of Utah State University parking. With an increasing number of enrollment, and a declining number of reputable close-to-campus housing developments (*ahem I'm looking at you, The Factory) you'd think the University would make some major effort to alleviate the stress of the daily commuter. Instead, they continue the "Universities-are-profit-centers" theme by selling more parking passes than there are spots for.

We all have classes. We all have things to do, places to see, homework to dread over, and complaints about athletic fees. I've heard it said that USU limits parking on purpose, to push people to using the Aggie Shuttle or other archaic means of transportation. It's ludicrous to assume that there will be a storm of bicyclists and bus-riders in response to this. Drive by Aggie Ice Cream during the day, and you'll find cars endlessly circling around. Like a pack of wolves, pouncing for the kill. The Blue "Premium" parking in front of the TSC? Even if

you have a blue pass, they now start charging you. Lose your ticket? A MASSIVE fee (I believe it's \$32.00, which is more than actually paying for parking there for 12 hours). The parking lots are filled to the brim day-in and day-out, and we're the suckers...

It's supply and demand folks. USU has the power to make more spaces for parking. They have construction crews all over the place doing this, that, or the other thing. Scarcity drives demand. They won't be making any new lots anytime soon, at least not any that I've heard that will benefit the majority of us school-goers. Pricing for passes is only going to increase, as it has for the past few years. It doesn't make the fact that I've spent close to \$200.00 on a piece of plastic, that doesn't guarantee anything; any easier.

- Peter LaBarge is an extremely tired Music major, who has little to no patience for poor driving or general incompetence. On a typical day, you can find him enjoying sunsets, long walks on the beach, and screaming expletives at everyone in particular, in a car that's older than he is.

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- 1 Letters should be limited to 400 words. All letters may be shortened, or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.
- 2 Letters must be topic oriented. They may not be directed toward any individuals. Any letter directed to a specific individual may be edited or not printed.
- 3 No anonymous letters will be published. Writers must sign all letters and include a phone number or email address, as well as a student identification number (none of which is published).
- 4 Letters representing groups — or more than one individual — must have a singular representative clearly stated, with all necessary identification information.
- 5 Writers must wait 21 days before submitting successive letters -- no exceptions.
- 6 The Statesman editors reserve the right to not print every letter to the editor. But all letters will be published online.
- 7 Letters can be hand delivered or mailed to The Statesman the TSC, Room 311, or can be emailed to statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu, or click www.utahstatesman.com for more letter guidelines and a box to submit letters.

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