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NEWS | Open for Innovation

Vivint Smart Home opens campus for business on USU's Innovation Campus.

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The Aggie men and women move closer to the start of the 2017-18 season with the release of the Mountain West conference schedule.

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More than just a new video game console, VR could change the way we see the world.

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'SOLD!'

USU students protest donation from Koch foundation

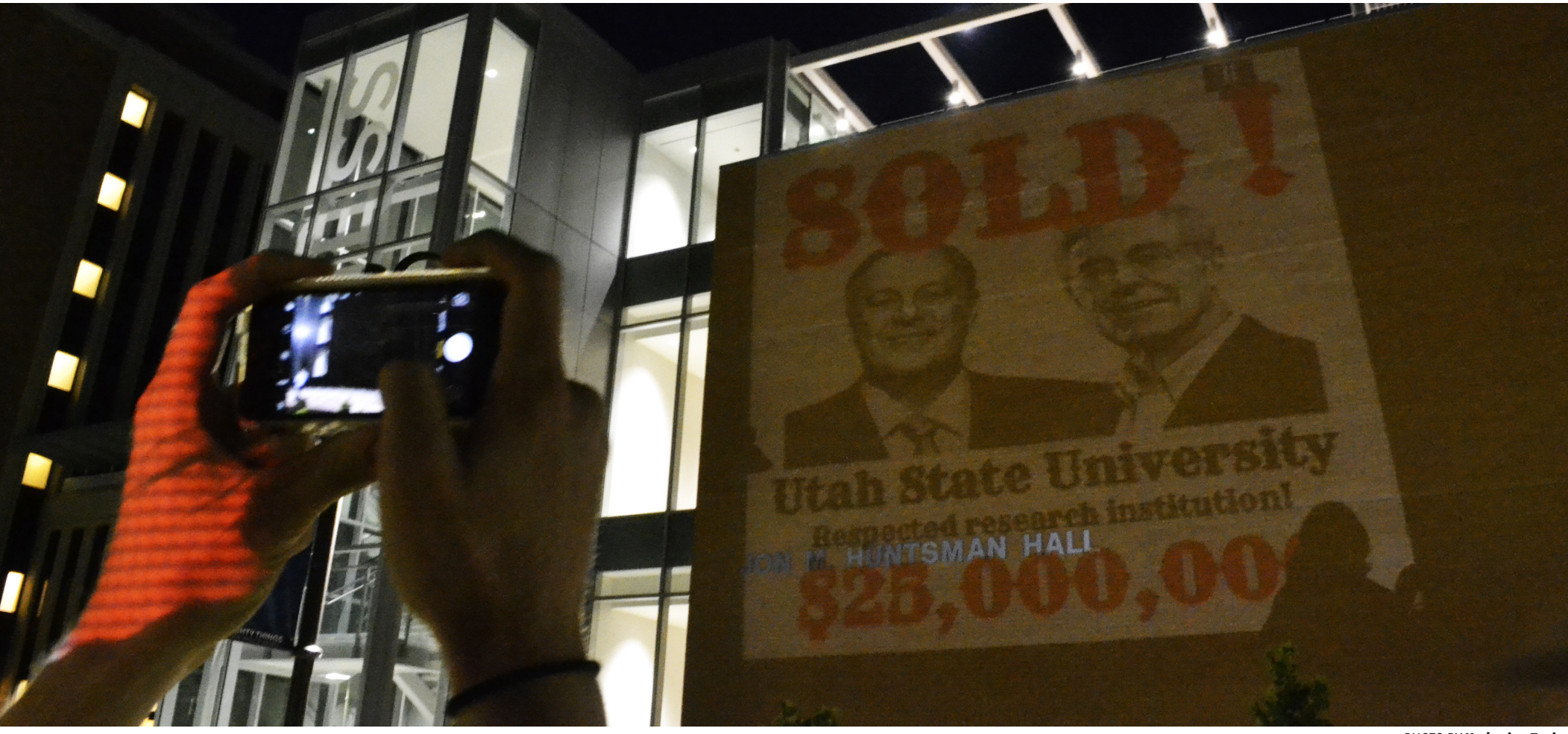


PHOTO BY Katherine Taylor

USU students project an anti-Koch foundation graphic onto the side of the Huntsman business building on June 5.

By Alyssa Roberts
NEWS MANAGER

"We have a Koch problem," was one message projected onto Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business Monday night in response to the school's acceptance of a \$25 million donation from the Charles Koch Foundation.

An independent group of USU students orga-

nized a demonstration to protest the school's acceptance of the donation. The students projected anti-Koch images onto Jon M. Huntsman Hall. Along with, "We have a Koch problem," another graphic declared the Huntsman school "SOLD," with a sale price of \$25 million.

A press release anonymously distributed Thursday said the donation "poses a serious concern for the reputation and academic integrity of Utah State University."

The donation was part of a joint \$50 million contribution from both the Koch foundation and The Huntsman Foundation. While the \$25 million from The Huntsman Foundation will largely go toward expanding the Huntsman Scholar program, the Koch portion will help establish a new research entity, the Center for Growth and Opportunity. It will also allow the school to hire six additional professors to be employed at the Huntsman school and conduct

research at the Center.

The \$25 million from the Koch foundation will be distributed at a rate of \$2.5 million per year for 10 years. The Koch foundation maintains the right to terminate the funding at any time, according to a donation agreement dated May 6. It's this stipulation that student critics said is the biggest indicator the donation comes with "multiple strings attached."

see "Koch" PAGE 2

SUMMERTIME AGGIES

Two Aggies share their summer job experiences

By Shelby Stoor
STUDENT LIFE SENIOR WRITER

Summer means a little something different to every Aggie. For some Utah State University students, summer means interning, traveling abroad or simply relaxing with family. Although many engage in these activities, a great number



PHOTO BY Monica Sanchez

Monica Sanchez is a USU student who is working for Disney.

spend the better part of their summer working as temporary employees for a variety of companies.

Monica Sanchez is one USU student who is spending the summer working in a unique setting. Sanchez started working for Disney's Old Key West Resort at the beginning of May. Sanchez has enjoyed getting to know her fellow employees since starting in her position.

"Everyone is super nice and friendly. They're all a lot older so it's like I'm working with family members," she said.

Sanchez works at one of the stores in the resort. A typical day for her includes running the cash register, stocking shelves and interacting with customers.

"My favorite part is that I got the opportunity to move across the country to Florida to work here and also, I get to interact with guests from all over the world every day," she said.

"My job has taught me that there are days where it's going to be hard, but it'll always get better," Sanchez said. "I think that it's beneficial working here overall because after I graduate I want to come back to Disney and work here again. Hopefully my experience here will help me get my dream job in Disney one day."

Lian Laurence is spending the summer working as part of the Adventure Photography Staff at a national high adventure base in West Vir

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PHOTO BY Monica Sanchez

Monica Sanchez poses for a photo at Disney's Old Key West Resort.

Koch foundation to fund new research institution at USU

By Alyssa Roberts
NEWS CONTENT MANAGER

Part of a \$50 million donation to Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business will fund a new research entity, the Center for Growth and Opportunity.

The donation is a joint effort between The Huntsman Foundation and The Charles Koch Foundation. Each organization contributed \$25 million.

The Huntsman Foundation stipulated that its money will go toward expanding the school's Huntsman Scholar program, which aims to bring together "outstanding students with incredible teachers for a rigorous, one-of-a-kind undergraduate business education program," according to the university's website.

That donation will allow enrollment in the program to increase "four-fold to 400 students receiving annual support," according to an email from Tim Vitale, USU's executive director of public relations and marketing.

The donation will also provide funding for an academic and executive director for the program.

The \$25 million contribution from the Koch Foundation will be aimed at funding the Center for Growth and Opportunity, a new research institution with interests geared toward "(t)he search for efficient and responsible solutions to pressing socio-economic problems."

Financial choice and security, health, education and environment, innovation and entrepreneurship, and the roles of business and government in society are identified as those socio-economic problems which take priority.

The relationship between Utah State and the Center was outlined in an affiliation agreement dated May 6. The agreement stipulates



On May 6, Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business announced its acceptance of a joint \$50 million contribution from the Huntsman Foundation and the Charles Koch Foundation. The donation will fund the expansion of the school's Huntsman Scholar program as well as the creation of a new research entity, the Center for Growth and Opportunity.

PHOTO BY Matt Halton

that the Center is affiliated with the university but is not an entity of the university.

Frank Caliendo, head of the Huntsman school's economics and finance department, was selected by university President Noelle Cockett and Huntsman school dean Douglas Anderson as the Center's academic director. In addition to his role as academic director, he will continue to head the business school's department of economics and finance.

"Frank is the university's oversight mechanism to ensure that research from the Center reflects our longstanding academic and research standards," Vitale said.

As the academic director, Caliendo is tasked with "guiding the research and education programs of the Center," according to the agreement. Caliendo will also approve any university faculty to "hold positions with, be affiliated with, or receive research or educa-

tion opportunities related to the Center."

"The ultimate goal of economic research is to build theories to explain and understand the world around us, and to use this understanding to improve the well-being of individuals and society," Caliendo said in an email. "At the Center we will carry on this rich tradition by producing rigorous scientific research that helps to explain and improve the economic outcomes of the world in which we live."

The donation will also fund the hiring of six new professors to "teach in the department (of economics and finance) and conduct research with the center," Caliendo said.

Previous donations from the Koch Foundation included \$1.54 million in 2015, an act which raised questions among the student body about possible university ties to the foundation and whether a political agenda might come into play in determining Hunts-

man school faculty hired as a result of the donation.

Student-led protests called for then-President Stan Albrecht to make public documents detailing the university's commitment to the Koch Foundation as a result of the donation.

At the time, protesters accused the Koch Foundation and the university of aiming to hire faculty whose political views would conform with those of the Koch Foundation, which Anders Hart, a student in USU's college of natural resources, said has "supported organizations disseminating misinformation regarding climate change."

Hart participated in the student-led protest of the 2015 Koch donation. His major concern with the most recent donation is that it "may be meant to advance a single political philosophy through hiring professors of a certain

see "Donation" PAGE 6

Smart Home, smart campus: Vivint Smart Home campus to partner with USU

By Melody Cook
NEWS STAFF WRITER

The Vivint Smart Home campus in Logan has opened its doors on Utah State University's Innovation Campus.

The 43,000-square-foot building will be home to up to 400 employees, the company announced in a press release. Vivint Smart Home specializes in home security and the new Logan building focuses on the company's smart home technology.

USU President Noelle Cockett spoke at the ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday. She said the city is excited to bring high-tech companies like Vivint Smart Home into Cache Valley to expand the technology sector and provide employment opportunities.

"This is an important moment for Cache Valley to create these kind of opportunities for workforce development and employment," Cockett said.

Vivint's president, Alex Dunn, said he anticipates the company will partner with several colleges and departments at the

university, including the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business and the Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education program. The company also plans to work with USU's Center for Persons with Disabilities to create safer, more accessible home environments for those with disabilities, Dunn said. Cockett echoed Dunn's plans and said she hopes the university can work with the company to develop a "smart apartment" for the deaf and blind.

She said she also anticipates the Huntsman school will partner with Vivint Smart

Home's business management and customer service departments and that she hopes the company will partner with the business school's developing sales program.

Steve Dixon, senior vice president of experience and operations for Vivint, said the company wants to tap into USU's student workforce in every area of the company. Currently, the new innovation center has 380 employees. Many employees in the sales department from other Vivint Smart Home campuses will consider the Logan campus their "home base," to receive training, Dixon said.

The building's "homey but industrial" building style is meant to mimic the feel of a home, the company said. The main floor includes a customer service call center, which largely employs USU students.

A basketball court is at the heart of the building, which Dixon said will be used for employee recreation and assembly. Located on the second floor is a smart home simulator. The room is staged like a house and is designed to show off smart home features. Employees will have access to this room to gain an understanding of how the products operate, Dixon said.

Kimberly Lassen, a Vivint employee and sophomore at USU, said she "loves" working for the company.

"They treat their employees well and they have great values. Honesty and integrity come first," Lassen said.

Dixon said he thinks the company and students will mutually benefit from the partnership.

"In the end, the thing that is the most



PHOTO BY Matt Halton

Employees, students and USU President Noelle Cockett celebrate the Vivint Smart Home campus open house on Tuesday, May 13.

see "Vivint" PAGE 6

THE VIRTUAL WORLD OF VIRTUAL REALITY

By **Miranda Lorenc**
STUDENT LIFE EDITOR

Imagine a four-armed robot standing in the middle of a lake. Above, the sky is a mixture of purple and pink and mountains shimmer like candy in the distance. Circling the robot are cat-like creatures bowing in unison.

Suddenly, the music starts playing. It's "Chocolate" from Giraffage. The robot's hands turn into cannons that lift to the sky and erupt with dozens of colorful kittens.

Now, imagine being that four-armed robot and lifting those cannons as furry animals are shot into the pink and purple sky only to come floating down softly.

This was the experience from a virtual reality music video called "Chocolate" which was featured earlier this year at the Sundance Film Festival.

"So 'Chocolate' is a burst of eye candy," said Tyler Hurd, the director and creator of "Chocolate." "People have called it Lisa Frank on acid."

"Chocolate" is a room-scale music video experience in which the viewer is part of the world that is driven by the music, Hurd said.

"And you are the robot god in this world

and there are a tribe of people that are doing a ritual dance so that you can bring them that precious resource which is these cute little kitties," he said, "and the kittens then burrow into the ground and infuse the world with their cute kittyness, and there's a god cat of sorts that comes in and assists in the ritual with champagne and it's just a lot of fun."

Another VR installation at the festival, titled "Miyubi," showed a 40-minute long movie featuring a family in the 1980s and their new Japanese robot. The viewers got to watch this family's interactions with each other from the eyes of the robot named Miyubi.

A third VR installation featured a fully immersive set-up complete with surround sound, heating lamps and fans. This piece, called "Tree," started when the viewer planted a seed into the ground, then put on the VR helmet and became the seed as it grew into a tree in a virtual rainforest.

"It's basically – in the sense of being an existential piece – it's very much about the cycle of life," said Gabrielle Brow, a studio manager for

"Tree," "and then in the sense of it being an advocacy piece, it's about real life kind of climate change and happenings in the real world."

This year, Sundance featured a wide variety of virtual reality pieces that were as varied and plentiful as the feature films the annual two-week festival is famous for.

"VR is a new technology that allows viewers to engage with media in a unique way that hasn't been done before," said Luke Engl, a volunteer at Sundance Institute.

Engl was running a VR installation called "Angelica," which told the story of a young girl remembering her late mother and the adventures they had. The 13-minute experience had been designed entirely with the Oculus

build experience at their own pace, he said. It's similar to video games which give the player the agency to choose actions, but it's not necessarily about defeating enemies to win or getting points. It's more like immersive theater.

Ryan Aposhian, a senior in anthropology at Utah State University, described VR as an "existential experience in a virtual driven world, usually with a headset or through a video game like 'World of Warcraft' or 'Guildwars.'"

The difference between playing video games and using the headsets, Aposhian said, is the presence of an avatar that is controlled within the simulation rather than being immersed in the virtual world completely.

Hurd said he took his experience working in video game animation and repurposed it into creating his VR music videos.

"Your goal is to breathe life into an inanimate object," he said, "right so if you get to do

In addition to having an outlet for creativity or experiencing a story through a first-person point of view, VR has also been used for medicinal and educational purposes. One of the installations at Sundance showed a documentary about paraplegics regaining limited mobility in their legs through the use of VR therapy.

Aposhian said he used a VR welding simulator that helped train people how to weld, complete with feedback and tips. This helped his school cut back on materials and money because learning how to weld is very costly.

"It goes through a lot of metals at once, so they're trying to find different ways to make it less expensive," he said, "so they came up with a computer virtual version of it that pretty much did every type welding. It was really cool, actually."

One of the problems with VR is the space it takes up, Brow said. For her piece, "Tree," there were base transducers on the floor and heating fans to simulate growth in the full immersion piece. Other types of VR may be a song that can be listened to before bed or a 360 video on Samsung gear. Each will need different types of spaces, she said.

Accessibility is another issue in VR, Hurd said. Due to it being still new technology, not everyone has access to headsets, so installations like "Chocolate" are reserved for festivals like Sundance, arcades, and VR enthusiasts.

VR is also difficult for people with glasses or other disabilities. Joshua Warnner, a senior in anthropology at USU, said it was difficult to wear the headset with his glasses and the few times he's experimented with VR messed with his eyes and made him nauseous.

While these problems are still commonplace, this technology is still a new frontier and developers are trying to see where it will go.

"Games people think it's going to be the next gaming platform, filming people think it's going to be the next filming platform, but we believe it's actually going to be something more than that," Liu said. "It needs to be more inclusive than that. So it's literally designing a new realm that people could interact with and have fun and not just be entertained but also to connect with each other."

Engl agreed. He believes current VR technology is only just scratching the surface of the wide array of uses it could be applied toward.

— Miranda.lorenc@gmail.com
@miranda_lorenc



PHOTO BY **Kyle Todecheene**

Virtual reality technology can be applied to a wide variety of uses.

Quill and played out as if the scene was being painted before the viewer's eyes.

"I think it's a really, really beautiful and personal way to tell a story," Engl said. "You're an observer in a world that's not entirely your own, but you're able to engage with it and walk around in this world and witness these stories told in a way where you can change your perspective based on how you want to engage with the story."

David Shyang Liu, executive producer for Viacom Mix, agrees. Liu worked as a filmmaker making ads for TV, then switched to video games as a designer. He started working with VR once the technology started taking off.

"What I love about it is for the first time, we don't think about narratives in a linear way. Right? Like, I'll break it down, if you think about stories it's a sequence of experiences," he said, "like at this point if you feel tension because the hero is about to attack the enemy, and then at this point this relief because he's won, but they're all very linear, right?"

VR on the other hand is meant for viewers to

that in a medium that creates a physical object, it's like a whole new way of bringing life to them, they're like alive. It's part of the reason I got so excited about VR in the first place."

Jonnie Ross, one of the co-founders of "Mindshow" – another VR installation featured at Sundance – saw VR as a more emotionally impactful medium to work in. He wanted to create something that would allow anyone to tell stories and make narratives in VR.

The inspiration behind his project came from seeing the different ways people have become separated from their creativity.

"You know we're all kids, we all have one foot in imagination land, we're connected to that sense of freedom and play without judgement that kind of changes over time for most people and that started to seem more and more unnecessary to me," he said.

"Mindshow" allows users to create a 3D cartoon they can walk around in and share with friends. The larger idea, Ross said, was to give people the power to be creative with the new medium and to connect with others.

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gina. Laurence has previously worked for the camp and is excited to return again this summer.

Through his job, Laurence has had the chance to learn many important skills and life lessons. "I've learned how to better work with people, to learn skills quickly and be ready to teach them on short notice, and I have gained a lot of experience with photography with this job," he said.

Laurence said he was almost never bored while at work last summer because photography is something he really enjoys.

"My job is unique because it's a camp, but when you're there, you aren't cut off from technology. I used cameras and computers all the time, for example," he said. "This camp in particular has wifi coverage all over it, so they like to encourage participants to share their adventures on social media."

Laurence's typical day consists of teaching photography classes to the campers or editing photos and then hanging out with fellow staff members in the evening.

"If we don't have a class that week, I'll either edit photos in the trailer, or take pictures around camp that the camp can use for promo-

tional use, like advertisement, like action shots of the various activities of camp, or use for instruction manuals, which end up being boring pictures of tents or setups of port-a-potties. We also take group photos for all the scout troops that come through," he said.

Laurence enjoys having the opportunity to

have a summer job because of the break it gives him to focus on something other than school.

"I like having something fun yet productive to do in the summer that is not school. I realized during the weeks before finals that I really need the break," he said.

Summer jobs provide USU students with many

opportunities to earn money for school and learn valuable lessons. Having a summer job gives Aggies the chance to build relationships and make memories that could last a lifetime.

— shelbtoor11@aggiemail.usu.edu
@shelbtoor11



Lian Laurence is a USU student who is spending the summer as a part of the Adventure Photography staff at a national high adventure base, part of the Boy Scouts of America program.

PHOTOS BY **Lian Laurence**

2017-18 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE RELEASED

By Sean Coghlan
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The 2017-18 Utah State basketball schedule has been finalized as the Mountain West announced the conference schedule on Tuesday.

The men's team opens with a home game against San Jose State on Dec. 27. Alternatively, the women will start their conference slate on the road against SJSU the following day, on Dec. 28.

The men are 2-0 in conference openers against the Spartans, winning in both 2014 and 2015. Last season, the Aggies opened against Boise State, with the men losing narrowly at home and the women falling in a road matchup.

San Diego State and Colorado State are the only conference opponents the Aggies will play once, with those games coming Dec. 30 and Jan. 10, respectively.



PHOTO BY Kyle Todecheene

The Aggie women will look to build on their best season since 2012-13. They begin their conference home slate with a game against San Diego State on Dec. 30.

Utah State will only play two home games during Christmas break, as opposed to the three games the men played last year when fewer students were on campus.

The Aggie men will play rival Boise State in the road matchup on Jan. 17 and in Logan on Feb. 10. The women will flip the locations and play the Broncos on the same days.

Reigning MW champions Nevada will host the Aggies in Reno on Jan. 13 and will travel to Logan on Feb. 17.

The Aggies will close their season against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for the second straight year on Mar. 3, this time in the friendly confines of the Spectrum. The women's team will host SJSU for their final home game on Feb. 27.

Last year saw an eighth-place finish from the men's team, who ended with a 7-11 record in conference play and an overall record of 14-17. The Aggies were 6-3 at home against conference foes but a subpar 1-8 away from Logan.

The women finished 17-15 and 9-9 in conference in large part to a 12-4 home record and a four-game win streak from the end of January into the beginning of February.

Going forward, the Aggie women will look to build on their best season since 2012-13 with nearly the same roster the team had last year.

There will be more noticeable changes for the men, as this will be the first season after the reign of hometown hero Jalen Moore, who spent all four of his collegiate career in Logan. Sophomore guard Koby McEwen will hope to elevate his freshman of the year play from last year, and fellow-sophomore Sam Merrill will look to get a bigger role in the offense.

McEwen and Merrill together set records for the most points, assists and steals of any freshman duo in USU history.

The team has the unique opportunity to travel to Italy to take part in a 10-day, four-game series against professional teams. The road trip will take place August 16-26 and will see the Aggies play in four cities, including Rome.

"We'll be playing teams from all over the world and it is high-level basketball," head coach Tim Duryea said. "The teams will be club teams, professional teams and even national teams — they are all in play."

Duryea also praised the efforts to arrange such a tour, which was planned by Basketball Travelers, Inc., calling it the "most organized" trip.

🐦 @sdcog19



PHOTO BY Matthew Halton

Conference freshman of the year Koby McEwen rises for a layup against Wyoming. The Aggies open the 2017-18 conference schedule against San Jose State on Dec. 27.

MEN'S 2017-18 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, Dec. 27 San José State
Saturday, Dec. 30 at San Diego State
Wednesday, Jan. 3 Fresno State
Saturday, Jan. 6 at UNLV
Wednesday, Jan. 10 Colorado State
Saturday, Jan. 13 at Nevada
Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Boise State
Saturday, Jan. 20 Wyoming
Wednesday, Jan. 24 Air Force
Saturday, Jan. 27 at Fresno State
Wednesday, Jan. 31 New Mexico
Wednesday, Feb. 7 at Wyoming
Saturday, Feb. 10 Boise State
Wednesday, Feb. 14 at New Mexico
Saturday, Feb. 17 Nevada
Saturday, Feb. 24 at Air Force
Wednesday, Feb. 28 at San José State
Saturday, March 3 UNLV

WOMEN'S 2017-18 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, Dec. 28 at San José State
Saturday, Dec. 30 San Diego State
Wednesday, Jan. 3 at Fresno State
Saturday, Jan. 6 UNLV
Wednesday, Jan. 10 at Colorado State
Saturday, Jan. 13 Nevada
Wednesday, Jan. 17 Boise State
Saturday, Jan. 20 at Wyoming
Wednesday, Jan. 24 at Air Force
Saturday, Jan. 27 Fresno State
Wednesday, Jan. 31 at New Mexico
Wednesday, Feb. 7 Wyoming
Saturday, Feb. 10 at Boise State
Wednesday, Feb. 14 New Mexico
Saturday, Feb. 17 at Nevada
Saturday, Feb. 24 Air Force
Tuesday, Feb. 27 San José State
Friday, March 2 at UNLV

ICYMI: SPRING SPORTS

By Daniel Hansen
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

It's summer and, let's be honest, you're more worried with either forgetting that Fall semester starts in 11 weeks or working your butt off enough during those 11 weeks to pay for it. As such, news sometimes passes you by without you even noticing. That is what an 'In case you missed it' feature should really be and that is what this is. Here's what you missed over the past few weeks.

Softball

While the Aggies were left out of the Women's College World Series, USU did accept an invitation to the National Invitational Softball Championships. In an opening match, the Aggies dominated San Diego 8-0 in a five-inning game. The momentum quickly ceased, however, as Utah State was eliminated from the tournament in a single day after a 2-0 loss to Weber State and 10-2 loss at the hands of Boise State. Despite finishing the season only 1-7, the Aggies' record of 33-18 was USU's highest winning percentage since 1993. After upping their win total for the fourth year in a row, the team will look to continue its string of improvement and continue to chase the program's first conference championship in over 20 years.

Track & Field

So much has stuff has happened for USU Track & Field over the past month that it feels criminal trying to narrow all of their accomplishments down to a single paragraph. Utah State

finished third in men's team competition at the MW championships while the women placed eighth. A total of 18 Aggies qualified for the NCAA West Preliminary Championships, with four advancing to the NCAA Finals held in Eugene, Oregon. Senior AJ Bouilly and junior Clay Lambourne both qualified as second-team All Americans in the 400 meters hurdles and 800 meters, respectively. Sindri Gudmundsson

made first-team All American by placing sixth in the javelin with a 73.28 meter throw. On the women's side, Brenn Flint placed 23rd in the shot put with a 14.6 meter throw of her own.

Baseball

The NCBA National Champions of 2012 and 2014 gave the title another chase, but ultimately fell short, coming within three games of the

championship round. The Aggies swept through the NoPac Regional Tournament, defeating Western Washington 11-7, Gonzaga 9-1, and a rematch with Western Washington 4-3. In the NCBA World Series, USU lost in the opening round to Nevada 6-3, pushing them over to the consolation ladder. The Aggies rebounded, defeating Michigan State 9-8, but a second defeat to Nevada, 10-4, bounced Utah State out of the tournament.

Men's Tennis

We last left the men's tennis team after their first appearance in the NCAA tournament ended in the first round versus Northwestern. Despite the loss, the season was unequivocally the Aggies' best ever, with a number of accolades and awards to show for it. USU assistant coach Ben Mullis was named the Assistant Coach of the Year for the ITA Mountain region. USU has already been hard at work already prepping for next season. Four new recruits have already signed with the team, including Jose Carvajal, the top-ranked Columbian in the U12, U14, U16, and U18 ranks, and Valdemar Holm, who has gone an unblemished 12-0 while playing for the Swedish national team. Aditya Vashista from India and Felipe Acosta of Argentina also signed with the team. Utah State will have their metal tested early, as the Aggies will again participate in the ITA Kick-Off Weekend in a tournament featuring No. 33 UCF, No. 5 UCLA, and UC Davis.



PHOTO BY Kyle Todecheene

The USU softball team earned an invite to the National Invitational Softball Championships. At 33-18, it was the most successful season for the team since the early 90s.

🐦 @TheGrandDanny

DON'T HATE THE WARRIORS

By Daniel Hansen
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Recently, we've seen a lot of... emotion towards the Golden State Warriors. Call it hatred, envy, contempt, pettiness or whatever you will, the sentiment seems to stem from the fact that the Warriors are simply better than everyone else by virtue of adding Kevin Durant in the off-season. Never mind how strange it is to hold ill feelings towards a team that legally attempted to and very much succeeded at becoming a great team, here's a whole list of people, groups, and things that you should hate before you hate the Warriors.

You should hate Harrison Barnes. While Barnes was a much better player during his time at Golden State than his 2016 Finals performance would indicate, the fact remains that he was one of the main reasons the Warriors failed to defend their championship and ultimately lost to the Cavaliers. If the Warriors do repeat, how likely is it that the Warriors even have the audacity to break up a 73-win championship team or for Durant to still decide to join Golden State? So all those times the Cavs left Barnes wide open in the Finals and Barnes bricked it? You should hate that before you hate the Warriors.

You should hate Festus Ezeli. Remember down the stretch of Game 7 when Steve Kerr left Ezeli in the lineup? The Cavs targeted him like Gregg Popovich targets international prospects in the draft. Few players have a prayer to stop LeBron, and Ezeli was fully exposed in those several minutes. He makes one stop or a defensive play, the Warriors very well could be two-time defending champs and the same theory applied in the above paragraph applies here.

You should hate the NBA owners and the NBA Players Association. The only reason Durant to the Warriors actually worked was the skyrocketing cap. That could've been avoided had a 'cap smoothing' agreement been made which would've slowed the rising of the cap so such an event didn't happen. That agreement is in place, and Durant is most likely still in OKC.

You should hate Russell Westbrook. Westbrook is basically Zeus with a basketball, but that can be a problem for teammates, especially if the results fail to show. Durant has shown himself to be one of the two best basketball players in the world. How tough do you think it was for him to watch Westbrook try and bulldoze through a defense only to give up the ball on a turnover. Or to watch Westbrook throw up a contested 3-pointer, despite a career 31 percent mark from 3-point land? Can you blame Durant for wanting to play in a free-flowing offense predicated on ball movement after watching that for several years?

You should hate Scott Brooks and Billy Donovan. You're a professional basketball coach and

the best scheme you can come up with is to play iso-ball nearly every time on offense? Westbrook and Durant both were among the top 12 in points scored from an isolation play during the 2015-16 season, but that still stands as a severe misuse of talent and ability.

You should hate Sam Presti, Oklahoma City general manager. "No, we won't go into the luxury tax to keep James Harden on the Oklahoma City Thunder. We will give \$40 million to Enes Kanter, though."

You should hate Doc Rivers. The guy has Chris Paul, Blake Griffin, DeAndre Jordan, and JJ Redick but can't surround them with enough talent to make it past the second round?

You should hate the Minnesota Timberwolves. The Warriors selected Steph Curry with the seventh pick in the 2009 NBA Draft. The Timberwolves selected both Ricky Rubio and Jonny Flynn directly before that pick.

You should hate the Sacramento Kings. The Warriors selected Klay Thompson with the 11th pick in the 2011 NBA Draft. The Kings selected Jimmer Fredette directly before that pick.

You should hate every other team in the NBA. The Warriors selected Draymond Green with the 35th pick in the 2012 NBA Draft. Every team in the league had ample opportunity to prevent that.

You should double hate the Timberwolves and Kings, along with the Philadelphia 76ers, Orlando Magic, Dallas Mavericks, Phoenix Suns, Los Angeles Lakers, Detroit Pistons, Denver Nuggets, Milwaukee Bucks, and Charlotte Hornets, and New Orleans Pelicans. The Warriors last missed the playoffs in the 2011-12 season. That's also the most recent season any of those teams last won a playoff series.

You should loathe entirely the 76ers, Magic, Suns, Kings, and Timberwolves. They haven't even made the playoffs in that same span.

You can hate Kevin Durant. You should blame Durant for realizing that despite drafting three probable future Hall of Famers in three consecutive years, the Thunder had failed to surround Durant (and Westbrook) with enough talent, both on the court and on the bench, to best challenge for a championship. While the Thunder were title contenders, they were still far short of the potential a team with Westbrook and Durant has. You can blame Durant for wondering why OKC would trade away Harden and Serge Ibaka away in the name of saving salary cap space, only to overpay for the services of Enes Kanter. You can blame Durant, a kid from the big city, for thinking that life may be more comfortable and enjoyable in the Bay area than in OKC. You can blame Durant for thinking that playing with Curry, Thompson, Green, Andre Iguodala and others would be more enjoyable than playing with Andre Roberson, Steven Ad-

see "Don't Hate" PAGE 6

ACTUALLY, DO HATE THE WARRIORS

By Logan Jones
OPINION MANAGER

The Warriors are just the latest evil empire to hide behind the same "haters gonna hate" defense teenagers use to justify their fresh septum piercings. From top to bottom, Golden State's roster is despicable. Matt Barnes somehow isn't even the most irritating guy in a charming blue and yellow uniform — that alone ought to be grounds for forceful expulsion from the league, but hatred for the Warriors should cut deeper than a mere "Ew, Matt Barnes."

...But also, ew Matt Barnes.

You should first hate the context in which the inevitably bland NBA title is about to be awarded (probably in a matter of just a few hours now). This year can't end soon enough for the majority of fans who turn to sports for true competition and entertainment and the escape from harsh realities. First the Patriots made a mockery of the NFL by trotting to its annual playoff BYE, silencing AFC challengers with annoying confidence in Brady and Belichick's ability to once again lead the league in not totally blowing it on the big stage. The postseason Pats are Sunday Tiger on the back nine just waiting for their challenger's palms to start sweating. New England is now the recipient of two gift-wrapped Super Bowls in three years. Evil.

On top of the Pats victory, sports fans have now endured a UNC hoops redemption story nobody wanted, back-to-back Stanley Cups for Pittsburgh and — if you're willing to go back to last fall — the rebirth of country-wide Cubs fandom. In every single instance, the title game loser was by far the better story. Gonzaga tried to alter the entire college hoops landscape, Atlanta and Nashville strove to bring their hometown fans their first championships ever, and the Cleveland Indians might top even the lowly Mariners as Major League Baseball's most depressing team. Shoot, that means the Mariners aren't even the best at being the worst, sorry Mariners bros.

If not for Steve Sarkisian accidentally setting his brew on the Buffalo Wild Wings button during college football's national title game, we'd be looking at a clean sports title sweep by the evil league of evil. Add up all that horrible-ness and there's still no end in sight — with the NBA season (probably) coming to a merciful close tonight, all sports fans have to look forward to is a red-hot Aaron Judge-led Yankees team that makes a habit of obliterating division rivals by double-digits.

So yeah, it's time we hate the Warriors. And don't mistake this for a column about "hate" meaning begrudging respect, I mean deep in your soul hate. The same hate typically reserved for those who park poorly and repeat jokes on Twitter after they've been on Facebook for three days and reddit for seven.

It's time we fully embrace our hatred of the Warriors' weaker players. Zaza is dirty and y'all know it. Maybe the Kawhi injury was an accident and maybe it wasn't (it wasn't), but Zaza's documented history of being a trash center is enough to raise eyebrows — that time he tried to crack Kawhi's arm out of its socket comes to mind, but there are several examples out there. Also, the Warriors' "ugly centers only" policy, also known as the Andrew Bogut policy, isn't even in the top ten most obnoxious things about this team. Shaun Livingston and Andre Iguodala are the guys who live in weekend clubs convincing jersey chasers they're actually stars and not just replaceable future Mavericks, which they are. If you need a column to tell you why to hate David West, just get out.

We should hate Draymond Green, for being the NBA's resident loudmouth infantile moron. At least Steve Smith's short man syndrome endeared him to some — he was an actual tough guy. No fathers out there ought to be instructing their sons to play like Draymond Green someday. First because those sons aren't gonna be 6'7" power forwards, and second because if you want your kid to be a tantrum-prone man-child whose idea of sportsmanship involves taking cheap shots at every opposing player's junk at the earliest available opportunity, put him in football. Green is in all actuality the dirtiest player in the NBA, and just happens to play on a league darling. In the future when leagues are officiated by robots, Green will whine nightly on TNT about how nobody dominates quite like he did "back when men were men."

Adam Silver is a good-probably-great commissioner, but there are some things even he won't change. The league runs on money, and Green is good for the league. He therefore wears impenetrable plot armor enabling him to stay on the floor until he literally rips Iman Shumpert's ear off (which he would argue down to a flagrant 1).

We should be able to openly hate the splash brothers without fans of other teams inexplicably coming out of the woodwork to defend them. Both of them. Openly smoking pot and owning the league's most meme-able face are the only reasons Klay is in fans' good graces, and despite his time with the Warriors he is destined to be the most forgotten player on the starting five (Zaza will star on every documentary and commercial referencing the 2016-17 Warriors until Judgement Day). His post-game cockiness may have cost his team a title every bit as much as Draymond's idiocy and Steph's patchwork joints in 2016. He's the guy at the party you least want near your girl's beverage.

Steph needs that hair on his face blurred out on live TV for decency's sake — kids watch basketball, you know. Yes, he is the greatest shoot-

see "Hate" PAGE 6



PHOTO BY AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez



PHOTO BY **Matt Halton**
Employees tour the new Vivint Smart Home campus during an open house on Tuesday, May 13. The new building is located on the USU Innovation Campus.

“Vivint” FROM PAGE 2

important is that our company is just a collection of people and the choices they make,” Dixon said. “We will only continue to be part of the world’s most innovative companies if we empower our workers in every aspect to do what they need to do.” In 2017, the company was ranked 22nd of business magazine Fast Company’s list of the top 50 most innovative companies in the world. Dunn said the company chose USU’s Innovation Campus in part due to the strong work ethic of USU students and employees.

“Vivint has a legacy of over-achieving. Innovation is in our DNA,” Dunn said. “USU has that same DNA. It’s an over-achiever.”

Logan City’s economic development director Kirk Jensen expressed his excitement and confidence in the company.

“It’s always exciting to see a company grow in Logan, especially when they’re the 22nd most innovative company in the world,” Jensen said.

— melodyj300@gmail.com

🐦 [@melodyj300](https://twitter.com/melodyj300)

“Koch” FROM PAGE 1

“As long as USU wants to take this money,” the press release states, “the Charles Koch Foundation will have influence over more teachers, more research and inadvertently, the culture of USU’s business college.”

The release’s distributors cited another element of the affiliation agreement as indicating that the Koch donation comes with “strings attached.” The agreement requires USU to inform the Koch Foundation of “any testimony to a legislative or other government body [the recipients] intend to make, whether in connection with [recipient’s] academic research or otherwise.”

Students who criticized the donation argued that, though the Koch foundation is technically barred by Internal Revenue Service regulations from attempting to influence legislation, it seemed the inclusion of the above stipulation in the affiliation agreement was not “void of political intentions.”

Other Koch-funded research institutions, including USU’s own Institute of Political Economy, have been accused of conducting research with ideological biases that favor the Koch foundation’s libertarian economic agenda.

According to the press release, USU professor Randy Simmons faced harsh criticism for his contributions to Koch-funded research that attempted to convince North Carolina voters to “abandon” that state’s renewable energy efforts, according to the press release.

Critics accused Simmons, researcher Ryan Yonk and his colleagues at Logan-based Strata Policy, a Koch-funded libertarian think tank, of using flawed statistical calculations “to blame the Great Recession on renewable energy.”

“I believe this has serious implications as well for students and faculty who are trying to secure funding or the support necessary in order to conduct legitimate science,” said Forrest

Schoessow, a graduate student and researcher at USU. “We don’t want to be on the wrong side of history here, and we don’t want to destroy opportunities before they are ever created due to damaging publicity that criticizes USU’s transparency, institutional integrity and research credibility.”

The university maintains it will continue to uphold “rigorous” standards for research and academic oversight “that we’ve always had for our research,” said Time Vitale, USU’s executive director of public relations and marketing.

Vitale acknowledged that the university was aware research produced by other Koch-funded institutions was criticized for promoting an ideological agenda but said, “that is not the case here. We made sure that those mechanisms and oversight controls are clear and in place.”

“The rules from the start were transparency, transparency, transparency,” Vitale said.

USU student Anders Hart, who publicly opposed the most recent donation as well as a \$1.54 million donation in 2015, said he thinks the expected outcomes of Koch-funded research will likely manifest for USU’s new research center the same way they have at other Koch-backed institutions.

“We know from the Koch people themselves that the purpose of their donations is to influence politics and advance a libertarian agenda,” Hart said. “I don’t want billionaires using my university for their political purposes while claiming to be charitable.”

In accepting the donation, USU surpassed Florida State University and Texas Tech University to become one of the top Koch-funded universities in the country — second only to George Mason University.

— ac.roberts95@gmail.com

🐦 [@alyssarbrts](https://twitter.com/alyssarbrts)

“Donation” FROM PAGE 2

ideological stripe,” he said in a Facebook message.

Hart said he expects the university to maintain rigorous research standards and to maintain control over all hiring decisions.

The role of maintaining strict research standards will fall to Caliendo as he oversees research conducted through and sponsored by the Center.

Where hiring is concerned, the affiliation agreement stipulates that university faculty may be appointed as faculty affiliated with the Center but that the university has “sole and absolute discretion” with regard to all hiring decisions of its employees.

The university had less control, however, in the selection of the Center’s executive director, Blake Dursteler, and its board of directors, all of which, according to the agreement, were approved but not necessarily nominated by Cockett and Anderson.

Dursteler, a Utah State alumnus, also works as chief operating officer of Logan-based real estate development firm Interstate Commercial Properties.

The Center’s board of directors includes Derek Johnson, the director of education at the Charles Koch Institute, as well as Timothy Barney, Brian Broadbent and Vernon Smith, a Nobel Prize-winning economics professor who is also a fellow at the Koch-funded Mercatus Center at George Mason University.

Smith’s past research includes additional studies conducted through the Koch-funded Cato Institute, including one titled “How and Why to Privatize Public Lands.” He has also contributed articles to news publications, including “ObamaCare’s Flawed Economic Foundations” for The Wall Street Journal in 2012 and “Please, No More Government

“Don’t Hate” FROM PAGE 5

ams, Alex Abrines, and Kyle Singler. You can blame Durant for wanting to play for Steve Kerr instead of Billy Donovan.

You can hate the Warriors. You can blame them for having the audacity several tough roster decisions, like trading away fan favorites like Monta Ellis, and the foresight to set themselves up to even be able to sign Durant in the first place. You can blame them for having the guts to break up a 73-win team to do so. You can blame the Warriors for doing what every fan wishes their team would do: put the best team they possibly can onto the basketball court.

You can blame the Warriors, but are they really the ones that deserve it?

🐦 [@TheGrandDanny](https://twitter.com/TheGrandDanny)

“Hate” FROM PAGE 5

er of all time. Turns out you can be great and still obnoxious, as has been proven by literally every sport since the beginning of time. The same dude you run into at Chili’s defending Steph’s honor absolutely hates any mention of LeBron James. Oh sure, Steph can be an all-around stand-up guy, but not stupid traitorous married his high school girlfriend and seems to be a great father to his kids and has carried the league for over a decade and literally gotten in zero trouble the entire time LeBron. Forget that guy, amirite? Folks, Steph Curry is a brat. He showed up to youth basketball games in grade school outfitted in NBA brand headbands and shooting sleeves and \$18 socks. Oh he was good, the best guy on the team in fact. But even as his teammate, you hated that kid.

But hey, if you want to talk traitors, let’s talk Kevin Durant. You should hate Kevin Durant. Durant, who’s about to win finals MVP on someone else’s team, did OKC dirty and he knows it. Durant was the original blower of the 3-1 lead, throttling the Warriors in 2015’s WCF before utterly collapsing. No-show. Gone. 2015 should have been the Thunder’s year for a parade, but Durant is the essence of the guy who talks big and then hides behind his dad when it actually comes to fisticuffs.

Let’s be as clear about this as possible — so-called super-teams have always existed. To-

Spending!” for The Daily Beast in 2010.

Both the Cato Institute and the Mercatus Center have been accused of conducting research with political and economic biases that favor Koch economic interests. Similar accusations have been levied at Logan’s own Strata, a Koch-funded public policy research center which relies on research conducted through USU’s Institute of Political Economy, fellows of which also receive funding from the Koch foundation.

“A 1.54 million dollar donation a couple of years ago was concerning, but the implications of a 50 million dollar ‘donation’ is staggering,” Diego Mendiola, a USU student who led the protest of the Koch foundation’s 2015 donation, said in a Facebook message, “so it’s not possible to assume that there are simply no strings attached.”

Mendiola said he worried the Koch foundation would be able to exert pressure over the university as a result of the USU’s acceptance of such a large donation and that this could damage the university’s reputation as “a respected scientific research institution.”

The fact that “someone has researched a different angle of an issue than what another might address,” Vitale said, “does not mean they aren’t equally an expert on the subject matter and don’t take the same rigorous standards of approach.”

Vitale said the university will maintain the “same high, rigorous standards for academic oversight that we’ve always had for our research.”

More information about the Center for Growth and Opportunity can be found at growthopportunity.org.

— ac.roberts95@gmail.com

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day’s favorite target for fan-angst LeBron created one in Miami and it worked. Doc Rivers captained one in Boston and it worked. It has always been this way. You know what’s new? The MVP-caliber leader of a team coming within one win of a finals berth and blowing it, then transferring to the team he blew it to. The record-setting 73-win maybe-the-best-ever team. “But LeBron...” Freaking stop it, their situations are not the same. Yes, the exaggerated cap hike allowed this to happen. And you know what, if Durant was ever even one percent honest about anything ever, it’d be easier to forgive him. After all, it’s not his responsibility to maintain league parity. It’s his job to make money and play ball at an elite level, both of which he’s accomplished in Oakland. But he’s a sucky liar, going on record over and over about how a championship isn’t the most important thing to him, how the Warriors don’t still feel the sting of last year’s 3-1 fiasco in the locker room. Durant can decide to take the easy road if he wants, but he doesn’t get to direct the narrative of the fallout he’s caused.

The NBA is about to complete its worst post-season in 17 years. A league with more talent in it than perhaps ever before is consequently more boring than it’s maybe ever been. If not for the casual coolness of Steve Kerr (who is as likable as they come), post-game pressers would just be a cycle of Durant and Steph trading cliches back and forth, acting like they’re the spiritual defending champs of a league that requires four wins in the finals for that to actually be the case. Of course, about half of the league’s fans will celebrate Oakland’s “historic” title victory this week, justifying their bandwagoning with the title’s “historic” significance (as if the NBA doesn’t somehow drum up that “this one is different!” angle every single year). And more still will at least do a minor fist-pump as 32-year-old LeBron fails to win it all, because Bron-hate is like bloodlust.

You don’t have to hate the Warriors or love the league they’ve left in ruins, but failing to understand the loads of legitimate reasons to hate the league’s latest supervillain is ignorance to the highest degree. Of course, haters gonna hate I guess. Congrats on your recent Super Bowl victory, Dubs fans. Enjoy it while you can.

🐦 [@Logantj](https://twitter.com/Logantj)


 OPINION

Letters to the editor are contributions from individuals throughout the Cache Valley community. Opinions expressed in letters to the editor are not endorsements by the Utah Statesman staff, but vehicles to promote discussion and constructive thought. It is Statesman policy to print letters to the editor as they are written, so long as they comply with basic journalistic standards of professionalism.

Close, but no cigar

When I heard that Donald Trump's new \$1500/hr. New York lawyer, Marc Kasowitz, was giving out victory cigars at the Trump International Hotel in Washington DC, claiming that Trump had "won" after the James Comey Senate Committee hearing testimony, I had to pinch myself awake and out of this alternate universe of the Trump presidency.

Won? Won what? This isn't a pie eating contest, it's truth or consequences. Big consequences. The Comey hearing wasn't Trump's to win, it was Comey's to lose. And although Comey came off somewhat like a boy scout, he's more like a fox in boy scout clothing. After all, he was the Director of the FBI.

Kasowitz accused Comey of lying, leaking information ..although whether it was classified or not is in question ..and he now wants Comey investigated. Yeah, right. He said that

Comey's testimony timeline of leaking memos to the New York Times indirectly through a friend about an incriminating private conversation with Trump was not truthful. And while Comey, playing chess, using the leaked memos through-a-friend rouse to spur a special council investigation, Trump and Kasowitz are playing checkers in an pitiful attempt to defend the president.

The evidence stacked up against Trump is not only compelling, but it fits his well established pattern of operation, his signature MO. For Kasowitz to come out and say, boast, publicly with the added ridiculous cigar stunt that Trump had "won" something, I had to think that this was a cheap move from an expensive lawyer. If I were Donald Trump, I'd ask for my money back. Kasowitz only made the President look sleazier and creepier.

Like a cheap cigar. Thinking back about the past Senate Committee hearings and the troubles of past presidents, like Richard Nixon and how we were all aggravated with him and his blind arrogance in saying, "When the

president does it, that means it is not illegal" and the embarrassment and disgust for Bill Clinton and his publicized history of womanizing and the infamous tryst with that now famous White House intern, Donald Trump brings us to a whole new era and a whole new level of alternate facts and presidential reality.

Although I agreed with much of what Trump ran his campaign on, at the same time realizing that it was mostly rhetoric but sounded good, I thought he just might be the shot in the arm America needed, breaking away from the numbing politics and politicians of Washington DC. Trump wasn't as much a breath of fresh air as he

“ Trump may be heading, albeit unwittingly, toward treasonous allegations and possibly not just impeachment, but prison. ”

was a smelling salt for a country that has been dazed, punch drunk, by its own leaders.

I couldn't find it within my self to vote for this despicable character, but I was willing to get behind his presidency and give him a fair chance. Considering the other candidates, he was the most likely choice for president. So, America jumped off the deep end. Now, we're drowning and need help.

In retrospect, Hillary's private email server regarding any breach of national security or Russian hacking, or any illegal collusion with foreign governments would be a class D misdemeanor to Trumps comparatively felonious White House and Trump Tower meetings with Russian diplomats and intelligent officers, and the back channel communications revelations using Russian spy equipment.

Further, the questions and allegations of collusion, investments, money laundering, Russian prostitutes, and other inculpatory dealings with Russia all remain to be seen.

We still need to see his tax returns. Trump

may be heading, albeit unwittingly, toward treasonous allegations and possibly not just impeachment, but prison.

And toward poetic justice. "Lock him up!" This would be another black eye for America, leaving us so vulnerable to world ridicule and distain, that we'd never be able to recover looking at what's left on the political leadership table, and out of control corporate governance.

Watching Arizona Senator John McCain humiliate himself, literally asleep at the wheel in front of a worldwide television audience, lazily interrogating James Comey was mesmerizing, sadly. This once fire-brand American hero with a family heritage of military honor and patriotism, made a complete fool of himself, and America, with his dazed and disjointed, unintelligible and illogical questioning of Comey. Someone needed to put a smelling salt under his nose! Then, the next day, he offered the excuse of having stayed up too late the night before watching baseball on television.

This, the man who brought us Sarah Palin. And we almost elected him president! Really, it's us, not them. We just encourage them.

There does seem to be a few senators who had their eye on the ball, like Independent Angus King from Maine and Democrat Kamala Harris of California, and a few others. But as expected, the Republicans rallied around Trump, seemingly halfheartedly, while the Democrats tried to pin him down.

The media called it a fair fight. We the People were well entertained at the "blockbuster" event, and staying tuned for more. The Russians are laughing and licking their chops. Our allies are confused, disoriented, and pissed off. Senator McCain is headed for the rest home. Kasowitz is handing out victory cigars. Trump doesn't smoke. America hangs in the balance.



Letters to the editor

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 118, or can be emailed to statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu, or click www.utahstatesman.com.

Welcome from the editor



LOGAN JONES

— Logan is a senior majoring in creative writing. He's an award-winning columnist whose hot takes include properly loading a dishwasher, the advantages of \$5 pizza and other much more interesting and important topics. You can reach him at logantjones@aggiemail.usu.edu, or on Twitter @Logantj.

I should introduce myself. My name's Logan, I've lived in Logan for five years now and I've been with the Utah Statesman almost as long. I've been tasked with curating the Statesman's opinion section for the coming school year, an opportunity I find both exciting and a bit daunting. While part of my responsibilities will include supplying the paper with my own columns relevant to students and the Cache Valley community, the more substantial portion of my job revolves around finding voices who can provide perspective I can't and giving them a platform from which to project those messages.

Essentially, I'll be your acting opinion DJ for the next nine months or so, formulating a playlist I believe represents the wide array of personalities and interests our campus and community holds. To me, this section should be a chance for people who often find themselves subjects of stories elsewhere in this paper to speak on their own terms, in order for their stories to be heard as directly from the source as possible. Hopefully, this means getting to explore thoughts and experiences

from leaders of student groups, athletes, professors and other campus workers to better understand the people around us.

My aim is to make this section both insightful and entertaining. My secondary aim is to avoid columns that would fare much better on personal tumblr accounts or as rants worthy of a Parks and Rec townhall assembly. In a social media age where anyone can promote any idea on a massive scale, there is merit in finding the truly unique voices that make stories a true joy to read. Opinion columns are the in many ways the most raw form of storytelling, and over the course of the next year will contain emotion and intrigue, anecdotes, humor, calls to action and a sense of place.

I appreciate this chance to provide the newspaper with a variety of viewpoints, with the goal that perhaps by the end of my tenure here, we'll all understand one another a little better.



CALENDAR | JUNE/JULY 2017

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Helicon West 710 W 200 N Free, 7 p.m.	12th Annual Four Paws Rescue Yard Sale Fundraiser 274 E 100 S Free, 5 p.m.	Harmons Best Dam Bike Ride Cache County Fairgrounds Free, 7 a.m.	Cache Singles Fireside Willow Park Church, 340 W 700 S Free, 7 p.m.
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