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## The Utah Statesman, February 25, 2014

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**Gymnastics coach turning program around**  
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**Black Student Union reflects on past at A Night of Soul**  
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## Candidates present plans to Greek community

► **By Katie Larsen**  
staff writer

Candidates for USU Student Association elected positions met in the Greek town hall meeting Monday night to discuss ways to improve USU for students.

Incumbent USU/SA President Doug Fiefia discussed his campaign to lower cost of tuition for student by bringing down the tuition level from 13 to 12 credits.

“At 12, we receive all of our financial aid and scholarships,” Fiefia said. “I would work to. bring the plateau from 13 to 12, and that would mean more money in your bank account and less paying tuition.”

Candidates Ryan Lambert and Josh LeFevre also presented their platforms for uniting students and helping students to become more involved.

“My platform is very general, but we have a very unique opportunity at

Utah State to get involved and I just want to reach out to more students,” Lambert said. “My greatest qualification is that I am just a regular student. I participate in a lot of the same activities, and I would represent students and what they do.”

LeFevre also discussed the importance of communication from students.

“I think that it’s important to not only get feedback at a council levels, but also on the grassroot level, as well as offering a direct line of communi

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### Comment

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Taylor Murray photo

**BUSINESS SENATOR CANDIDATE SPENCER STEVENS** answers questions as moderator Kevin Webb looks on Monday night at the Greek Town Hall meeting.

# E-Week activity exceeds expectations



Meghann Nixon photo

**OBSERVERS AND JUDGES** watch the cars race down the track at the pinewood derby Thursday night at Engineering Community Night in the TSC Ballroom. Community night was one of the final events of Engineering Week.

## Community night seeks to reach out to people through pinewood derby, educational activities

► **By Maile Burnett**  
staff writer

Hundreds gathered in the Taggart Student Center on Thursday night for Engineering Week’s annual Community Night. 400 people were expected, but that number was well exceeded, said Taylor Bybee, president of the Engineering Council.

“This is the best turnout we’ve had in the four years we’ve done it,” he said.

The event was previously held in the engineering building, but this year the council upgraded to the larger TSC, according to Riley Bradshaw.

There were several new events for reaching out to the community. “We looked for groups, businesses, and student projects that were able to demonstrate, kind of hands-on, what engineering is,” Bybee said.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers put on a pinewood derby competition with the help of the American Nuclear Society, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

There were two classes, one with standard Boy Scout rules, and an open class where anything was allowed. In the open class, cars had everything from propellers to electric motors, in all sorts of styles. There were cash prizes for the top three in each category.

The competition was open to anyone in the community, but many of the participants were USU students. According to Bruce Hoffman, the president of ASME, they had about 45 participants. This was the competition’s first year, but Hoffman said it will probably continue.

Another new competition challenged high school students to build bridges, sponsored by the Environmental Engineering Department and the American Society of Civil Engineers. Mitch Dabbling, a junior in civil engineering and a member of ASCE, said the competition

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### In the Know

Read more about  
**Engineering Week**  
@ utahstatesman.com

## Pageant highlights women of engineering

► **By Katie Larsen**  
staff writer

Dancing to Justin Timberlake’s “I’m Bringing Sexy Back,” Olivia Leonhardt, a junior in mechanical engineering, prepared alongside fellow contestants for the Society of Women Engineer’s Miss USU Beauty Pageant that began 6 p.m. in the TSC Ballroom.

“I’m really excited see everybody else’s talent,” Leonhardt said. “There’s this witty humor with engineers that you don’t get to see on the surface too much, but some of these girls are hilarious.”

This pageant marked the seventh year the Society of Women Engineers has organized the event as part of Engineering Week and the first year the pageant was held in the ballroom.

“I was actually around when they started this,” said pageant judge Wendy Merkle. “I’ve been here forever and to see how far it has come is really neat. This is the coolest pageant we have ever had.”

The first section of the competition scored girls based on the performance of their “nerdy” talent.

“My goal is not to make everyone laugh until they cry, but a few chuckles here and there would be nice,” said mechanical engineering sophomore Emma Davis. “I’m more like, ‘Let’s just wing it while we’re at it. We’re in college, let’s have fun.’”

The second section of the competition featured the contestants dressed in professional attire and required them to answer questions that would be used in an interview setting.

“I’m most nervous about getting a question that can’t answer, that I can’t think of on the spot,” said mechanical engineering junior Starr Fowler. “Everything else I’m fine with.”

The final section of the competition was evening wear, which according to Leonhardt, was the most challenging section.

“I’m nervous for walking around in heels,” Leonhardt said. “That’s kind of the hardest part of

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## Campus protest raises sexual assault awareness

► **By Katie Larsen**  
staff writer

Carrying neon-colored signs and calling out chants, Take Back the Night participants marched across the USU campus at 5 p.m. Friday to raise awareness for sexual assault and abuse.

“It’s so neat to learn about what we can do as professionals and students to end violence on campus,” said Kellie Rieben, an event organizer. “To activate students to participate in this event on campus to raise awareness, because these are topics that people don’t want to talk about, they don’t want to discuss. I think it makes people uncomfortable to

realize that even Cache Valley, even in Utah, we are facing a lot of the same issues and problems a lot of other schools are facing, that one in four college women will be raped or sexually assaulted just for going to college.”

Take Back the Night was organized by USU’s Center for Women and Gender and Sexual Assault and Abuse Information Agents as part of V-Day, a movement to end violence against women and girls.

“You can’t stop it completely if people aren’t aware, so they are basically two sides of the same coin,” said Candi Carter-Olson, a USU journalism and communication professor.

The event began with a march

beginning outside the Merrill-Cazier Library and ending in the TSC Access and Diversity Center.

“I was in the library, and I walked out and I saw all these people marching with signs and I followed them because, you know, how can you not follow a large group of people carrying signs and chanting something?” said USU student Taylor Harman. “So you know, I thought it was cool.”

The remainder of the event was a program that hosted a variety of speakers, including personal experiences shared by Leah Adkins.

“I want to thank you for being willing to go out there and raise your

► See NIGHT, Page 2



Mikayla Kapp photo

**THE TAKE BACK THE NIGHT** protest paraded through campus Friday evening to raise awareness of Utah’s rape statistics.



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In brief

Campus & Community

Logan woman dies in snowmobiling accident

A Logan woman died after she was thrown from a snowmobile over the weekend. Raysha Nielson, 21, was snowmobiling with friends Saturday in the Hildale Canyon east of Franklin, Idaho. Nielsen was a passenger on a snowmobile. David Fryar of the Franklin County Sheriff's Office said while the driver of the snowmobile was making a turn, the vehicle suddenly accelerated and hit a tree. Witnesses said Nielsen was not responsive after the accident.

Herbert deemed most popular U.S. governor

America's governors are meeting in Washington, D.C., and Utah's Gov. Gary Herbert may be the most popular person in the room. A blog in The Washington Post calls Herbert the most popular governor in the country, largely based on approval ratings with his constituents. "A poll last month showed Herbert's favorable rating at a sterling 73 percent, and he destroys all potential 2016 opponents in a head-to-head matchup," wrote Chris Cillizza, who contributes to the Post's political blog, The Fix.

Paraglider dies in accident

A Farmington man died Sunday after a paragliding accident near the Cedar Valley Airport, according to the Utah County Sheriff's Office. Ronald Carter, 54, was paragliding at approximately 5:45 p.m. when he crashed near Allen's Ranch Road roughly 5 miles south of State Route 73, Utah County Sheriff's Lt. Yvette Rice said. Carter died on impact, Rice said.

Deputy shooting suspect, 17, appears in court

A 17-year-old girl charged with murder in the death of Utah County Sheriff's Sgt. Cory Wride appeared in court for the first time Monday. Meagan Grunwald has been charged as an adult in Wride's death as well as the shooting of Utah County sheriff's deputy Greg Sherwood. She is facing 14 charges, including six first-degree felonies that carry potential life sentences. She is also charged with obstructing justice.

► Compiled from staff and media reports

The policy of The Utah Statesman is to correct any error made as soon as possible. If you find something you would like clarified or find an error, please contact the editor at 797-1742, statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu or come in to TSC 311.

The Police Blotter

Friday, Feb. 14

- Police arrested an individual for an outstanding warrant. The individual was transported to the Cache County Jail to be booked.

Saturday, Feb. 15

- USU Police responded to Aggie Village on a possible domestic dispute. Police investigated and found the problem to be more of a civil dispute than domestic related. Police are following up on the incident.

Sunday, Feb. 16

- Police observed two students acting suspiciously near the dumpsters outside Mountain View Tower. Further investigation revealed that they had just dumped some empty beer cans. Later, they were found inside Mountain View Tower just as they were exiting a dorm. A strong odor of burnt marijuana could be detected and coming from the room as well as on one of the individual's person. A consent to search the room was obtained and two more individuals were located inside the room. A marijuana pipe was found in one individual's

drawer. In another drawer, a plastic container with marijuana was inside. The four individuals were all arrested for either possession of marijuana, possession of paraphernalia or both. They were cited and released and the evidence was seized and placed into evidence.

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- An individual was cited and released for trespassing on campus. The individual has had numerous verbal warnings in the immediate past about trespassing by Student Services and USU Police.

- Police are investigating a report by an individual who had been kicked in the behind by an unknown male individual. The male individual then ran down the alleyway toward the cemetery.

Wednesday, Feb. 19

- USU Police responded to Richards Hall on a report of a suspicious odor coming from one of the rooms. A student in one of the rooms had been smoking marijuana in the bathroom. The student was contacted and a search of his

Contact USU Police at 797-1939 for non-emergencies. Anonymous reporting line: 797-5000 EMERGENCY NUMBER: 911

room resulted in the discovery of a homemade bong that had been used for smoking marijuana. The student was cited for possession of drug paraphernalia and released.

Thursday, Feb. 20

- USU Police responded to Mountain View Tower after getting an anonymous tip that there was a strong odor of marijuana. Police contacted two suspects in the area. A strong odor of burnt marijuana was coming from inside their room. In addition to the odor of marijuana the individuals were trying to mask the odor by burning incense. The two suspects surrendered their marijuana and drug paraphernalia to police. One individual was cited for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia and the other individual was cited for possession of marijuana.

- USU Police received a delayed report of an ongoing theft from vending machines located throughout the campus. Police are investigating

► Compiled by Marissa Neeley

Community

From Page 1

was an effort to get more high school students to community night.

The team of four students from Logan High School who won the bridge competition took home a \$100 cash prize. Their bridge held 1,727 pounds of force before breaking.

Their teacher, Drew Neilson, encouraged all his students to come to community night and see what engineers do.

"One of the biggest comments I get is, 'I don't know what I want to do,'" Neilson said.

The biggest value of events like community

night is how it shows students what a profession like engineering is like, Neilson said.

"It gets them thinking, 'I might want to do that,'" he said.

Another first-time event that reached out to the community was the erosion table set up by the E-Council. The E-Council starts planning community night as soon as the school year starts, but each year they also try to have their own display to draw attention to the week. The table was set up in the engineering building Tuesday for students to enjoy during the week.

"It's been fun to watch college students stand there and miss class to play in the sandbox," said Riley Bradshaw, a member of the

Riley Bradshaw  
E-Council member

"It's been fun to watch college students stand there and miss class to play in the sandbox."



Meghann Nixon photo

WESLEY AND PRESTON HODSON play at the erosion table with their dad at Thursday's Engineering Community night.

E-Council.

The Beta Bowl put on by Tau Beta Pi has been a part of community night in the past as a Jeopardy-like competition for engineering students. Rick Cressall, the president of Tau Beta Pi, said this year they

wanted to involve the community, and this time, anyone was able to participate in a round to win a Chick-fil-A gift card and a cow plushie.

– mburnett@aggiemail.usu.edu @BurnettMaile

Night

From Page 1

voices and stand up," Adkins said. "Before I was a college student, I was date-raped. I was engaged to him, I said no, and I felt responsible and I was made to feel responsible many years after. You are not responsible. If you say no, no means no. It does not just stop. It does not just stop with date rape."

Steffen Saffron, a peer educator with SAVVI, talked about the power of advocacy for sexual assault and rape victims.

"I think what we can do is to number one, say I am willing to take a stand," she said. "I'm willing to try to get help for someone instead of walking away and saying, 'Oh, I don't want to get involved. There might be retal-

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iation or I don't know what to say.' Just say, 'No, I will be someone of advocacy. I will be somebody who will stand up if I hear someone has been sexually assaulted or raped if there is any domestic violence anywhere.' That can't be allowed in your book. If we don't act on it, it will keep on going."

Dr. Taira Koybaeva, founder and

CEO of diversity business group Go Global Fast, LLC, also discussed ways victims can find solace.

"If and when it happens, it is something that can not even be actively described because it is like a diamond inside of you," Koybaeva said. "The inner development of the heart is a precious thing. Such people become a blessing because only they can understand how another one can feel."

– katherine.l.larsen@gmail.com

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# USU/SA candidates address residents

► **By Christopher Nicholson**  
staff writer

USU/SA candidates addressed questions and concerns of on-campus housing residents at a town hall meeting Wednesday night. Many centered around future improvements to publicizing campus events and resources and improving relations between residents and administrators.

Doug Fiefia, the incumbent student body president, is being challenged by Ryan Lambert and Joshua LeFevre.

Fiefia spoke of his initiatives to work with both the student body as a whole and individual students, such as speaking at every Student Orientation, Advising and Registration session last summer and serving as a peer mentor to more than 60 freshmen.

"I email them every week and tell them about events, make sure they're visiting with their advisers, studying, and so on," he said. "The freshman experience is near and dear to my heart."

All the candidates agreed it was important to help students get involved in campus events. LeFevre said resident assistants and administrators should be

trained about what upcoming events the university has to offer.

"That way, when students have questions, they go to you and know how to get involved," he said. "It builds a bond, and students will have a better experience."

Lambert said 30 percent of USU students live in student housing, and there are three types of them.

"There are those who are always involved, those who aren't, and the people in the middle who don't hear about stuff or don't feel capable," he said. "We need to focus on reaching out to people."

Executive vice president candidates Matthew Ditto and Spencer Steadman differed in their approaches to the position.

"The Executive VP should be that

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## Tradition, empowerment part of pageant



**SARAH FRANCOM**, left, is crowned Miss American Indian USU Monday night in the TSC Ballroom. At right, Lindsey June-Hall, Miss American Indian USU 2012-13, plays the violin as part of the program.



Nick Carpenter photos

## Greek

From Page 1

ication between student activities and administration so we don't have activities one year so we have more consistency," LeFevre said.

The meeting began with the College of Agriculture and Applied Science senator candidates. Katharine Nye, a dairy science and agriculture leadership major, addressed the challenges of uniting all of the majors from her college.

"I want to make sure agricultural science students are heard," Nye said. "I want to get people to talk to each other."

Geoff Andrews, a candidate for Organizations and Campus Diversity vice president, presented a solution to club leadership disorganization by having USU clubs connected through an online program.

"You can log in and have an updated club list and

through this website, send a request like Facebook and receive information," he said. "It would make it ten times easier to join clubs."

The only candidate for Athletics and Campus Recreation VP, Dallin Laird, addressed issues students would encounter with campus recreation.

"I want to be completely open, there were a few things left out in the design plan — a rock wall and a lot of other things," Laird said. "There's an issue about fields not being there for club sports in the winter time. I want to start working out and make sure our club sports have somewhere to work out on the fields."

Another issue that was addressed was the decrease in student attendance in sporting events.

"The Spectrum does have 4,000 seats, and that is tough to fill for every game, but I will work to make it fun for students to be there early, whether that be an actual campout or tailgate party, whatever it is," Laird said.

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## Pageant

From Page 1

my whole entire female life."

Biological engineering senior Sydney Bone was crowned Engineering Queen.

"I was shocked actually," Bone said. "I was really shocked. Everyone was so talented. I honestly didn't really expect it."

The first runner-up was mechanical engineering sophomore Hannah Young.

"I had never really performed in front of people before except for once," Young said. "This was new for me and I enjoyed it. I would love to do this again next year."

Awards were also given to Leonhardt for "most talented nerd," mechanical engineering freshman Michelle Tucker for "most likely to succeed," civil

engineering junior Ploy Samranjit for "best dressed" and mechanical engineer freshman Liz Housley for "crowd favorite." According to Merkley, it was difficult to choose winners for each category.

"It is actually really hard, you have to get really nit-picky," Merkley said. "They all do a really good job and you have to start picking at silly things to differentiate."

According to Chamberlain, the goal of the pageant was to break down stereotypes about female engineering students.

"I love that it highlights the engineering girls," Chamberlain said. "Everyone knows that there's not very many, but that's about all they know about them. Everybody knows engineering is hard and there's a lot of homework. I'm hoping this will kind of show that our girls don't only do homework. They have talents, they are fun, they like to dress up sometimes and showcase their personalities beyond the classroom."

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## A Night of Soul: BSU remembers its roots



### Founders of USU club address students about importance of black history

► **By Diego Mendiola**  
staff writer

The Black Student Union held its yearly event “A Night of Soul” at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the TSC Ballroom. Along with having food and music, two of the founders of the BSU were invited to speak this year.

Roietta Goodwin, a founder of the BSU in 1969, said it started as a black emphasis week as part of the black student movement in the 1960s and 1970s. One of the BSU’s first accomplishments was getting an African-American professor on the USU campus.

Goodwin said she has had the pleasure of meeting Rosa Parks and witnessing Dr. Martin Luther King’s and Jesse

Jackson’s speeches.

“We felt it was very important for other people to view our history, because all of our history is American history,” said George Tribble, another of the original organizers of the BSU.

Tribble said history books written about African-American people are usually about slavery rather than the things they overcome or the successes they’ve had, but he said it’s important to highlight these things.

“Black history is everywhere,” Tribble said. “We just need the opportunity to experience it.”

Through the efforts of the BSU, Tribble said he wanted to inspire youth by

► See **HISTORY**, Page 5



Riley Densley photos

**USU’S BLACK STUDENT UNION** held its annual event Friday in the TSC. Student Paul Perry (top left) played his saxophone. Shalayna Guisao and Jeunee Roberts sit with guest speakers and founders of the club, Roietta Goodwin and George Tribble (bottom left). Ami Meite and Izzy Beyene (top right) also performed a modern African dance.

## Disc golf tournament raises funds for girl’s kidney transplant

► **By Hillary Newton**  
staff writer

When she was 9 years old, Evie Wentz was in the final stages of kidney failure due to hemolytic uremic syndrome. She found a kidney donor and received a transplant one week ago. This past weekend, more than 50 men and women joined together to raise money for Evie with a disc golf tournament.

The Children’s Organ Transplant Association helps kids receiving organ-transplants and their families with major medi-

cal expenses throughout the U.S.

Tyler Wentz is an active member in the Cache Valley Disc Golf League and Evie’s father. While attending USU, he helped bring the first disc golf course to Cache County.

“Tyler was one of the firsts in the valley,” said Kirk Salisbury, a board member for the league. “This was a great way to show them our gratitude and help.”

Salisbury had the idea to host the tournament last Saturday in honor of Evie. 100 percent of the funds raised were to be given to the Wentz family to help with

medical expenses.

The course used for the tournament, held at the Cache County Fairgrounds, was created from baskets brought by league members. The tournament received support from the community and outsiders.

More than \$1,250 worth of prizes were donated from businesses around Cache Valley as incentives for participants. More than 50 players came from as far as Salt Lake City and Idaho Falls, with the youngest partici-

► See **DISC GOLF**, Page 5



Taylor Murray photos

**DISC GOLF ENTHUSIASTS** competed Saturday to raise money for a child from Cache Valley.



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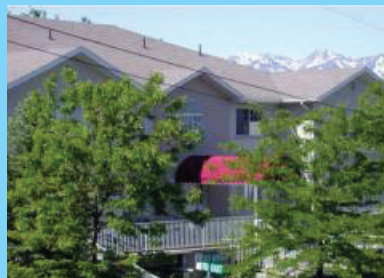
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# Disc Golf

From Page 4

pant being 8 years old. The league was hoping to raise a couple thousand dollars to add to COTA's goal of raising \$45,000.

"So we're going to make a little dent in the (charity)," Salisbury said.

The league meets year-round every Saturday morning, as well as Wednesdays during the summer months. Salisbury said anyone is welcome to come join in play or within the league.

There is only one permanent course in the valley, located in Providence. However, the league sets up baskets and plays in Hyrum, on the USU campus and at other locations. Courses range from nine to 18 holes with levels from beginner to advanced. Nibley has a nine-hole course that will be installed this spring. The CVDG is fundraising for an 18-hole course that has been approved at the Cache

County Fairgrounds.

Jeff Wigington, a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering, began disc golf a year ago after playing ultimate Frisbee for numerous years.

He said it began to become difficult getting enough people out to play ultimate Frisbee, especially during the cold winter months in Logan. Then he discovered disc golf.

"It is tough to not have a huge group, but with disc golf, it is quite different," Wigington said. "Normally, my wife will even come and play."

Saturday's tournament was played despite the light snow. Participants said they were grateful to not only play but support the Wentz family as well.

Evie was grateful for the support she received this weekend. "I feel so happy that you would do that for me," she said to participants. "I'm so thankful for your support and your love and your kindness."

For more information on disc golf around the cache valley, visit [www.cachevalleydiscgolf.com](http://www.cachevalleydiscgolf.com).

**Kirk Salisbury**  
board member

“Tyler was one of the firsts in the valley. ... This was a great way to show them our gratitude and help.”

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Riley Densley photo

MARVIN ROBERTS addresses students at "A Night of Soul."

## History

From Page 4

showing them and teaching about their forerunners, whose achievements and inventions were previously oppressed or once forgotten by society.

"The interesting thing about this society is that whether I wanted to or not, I had to know everything about white folks," said Marvin Roberts, vice president for Student Engagement and Diversity. "In order for me to be successful, I had to know about that aspect of American society, yet the white American didn't have to know anything about me."

Roberts emphasized at the event the importance of learning about one another, for each other.

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# Beck is back again

**Scott E Hall**

Album Critic

8/10

My love for Mr. Beck Hansen has faded over time, but somewhere within, I have been waiting for this album to come for six years.

Between "Morning Phase" and 2008's "Modern Guilt," Beck has produced multiple albums for other artists, covered entire albums with his Record Club project and has done some songs here and there for himself. Doing duets with Bats for Lashes, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Jack White and MGMT can only satisfy a fan for so long.

When he announced he was releasing an album in 2014, I was ecstatic. I was a little worried, though. He said this would be a sequel to his 2002 album "Sea Change." This was disappointing news at first. "Sea Change" is some of his best work for having a uniquely slow, depressing, layered sound. I didn't want to hear more sad, moaning, acoustic songs from Beck. Luckily, this album keeps the instrumentation but replaces the somberness with joy. It's the happiest Beck has ever sounded.

The opening chords of "Morning" might sound exactly like Beck's 2002 track "The Golden Age," but the lyrics are more optimistic and he uses a higher vocal range. In fact, Beck's voice throughout "Morning Phase" hits notes we've never heard him sing before. Also, the production on this album sounds huge. Most of his work from the last decade sounded like small-scale alternative radio music. No, none of these songs sound like they belong on the radio, but they demand a great pair of speakers.

"Heart Is a Drum" is a pleasant surprise. Its

"Morning Phase" is Beck's first album in nearly six years. Holy crap. This guy is a '90s alternative rock hero. I basically worshiped him when I was a junior in high school. My personal blog is even titled after a Beck quote.

song structure is reminiscent of '70s singer-songwriters like Don McLean, even post-Beatles McCartney. The lyrics are cheesy, but I think that's the point. The overdubbed vocals on the album make his voice shine, especially on tracks like "Unforgiven" and "Waking Light." There's no trace of the raspy, grungy voice we used to know.

However, this album has its downfalls. I don't always connect with Beck's lyrics here. It's a problem he's had for about 10 years. He reuses the same few words and cliches and tosses them around. The first words on this album are "Woke up this morning." The chorus to "Blue Moon" simply says, "Oh, don't leave me on my own, you left me standing all alone." I know he's trying to paint some imagery to his songs, but we get the point.

The album's structure is easy to understand. Each track is in its right place. The string arrangements that interlude from song to song give the album a warm, enjoyable flow. Beck speeds things up on the album's climax "Turn Away." It's a great track, but I wish it had more dramatic volume. I wish some of these songs were catchier, particularly the overly complicated "Blackbird Chain." It's my obvious pick for least favorite track.

I mentioned earlier that none of the songs here are radio-worthy, but the album has some truly great moments. The string arrangements on "Wave," which were provided by Beck's father Glen Campbell, required some serious musical chops to compose. The percussion on "Heart Is a Drum" is classic for driving down the highway with the window down. The album's opening sounds so crisp, so you know the rest of the journey is going to be a comfortable ride.



I'm a big fan of the depressing "Sea Change" album. "Morning Phase" is a worthy sequel, hopefully a new beginning for Beck. It's his best album in more than 10 years; an easy, joyful listen. My stingy critical side tells me this album is nothing new, but at the end of the day, this is a great "comfort food" album. Its lovable highlights outshine its weaknesses. It's an excellent soundtrack for a sunny morning.

- Scott Hall is a newcomer to the world of journalism. He is studying public relations and stage management at USU. His spare time is dedicated to music. For more, email [scotthall3@gmail.com](mailto:scotthall3@gmail.com).

# Lee's

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# Humans of USU: freshman Ammon Hooper

*Student recounts memories, good advice and embarrassing moments with writer from Utah Statesman*

The Utah Statesman interviewed Ammon Hooper, a freshman in biological engineering from Hyde Park, Utah.

**Utah Statesman:** What’s your favorite outdoor activity in Logan?

**Ammon Hooper:** I like snowboarding but I don’t get to go as often as I’d like, playing soccer and ultimate Frisbee.

**US:** You can only read one book for the rest of your life. What book is it?

**AH:** It would have to be a really long book. I don’t know, I like “The Giver.” ... It’s been a long time since I’ve read it, but it’s kind of like a good, dystopia movie in book form.

**US:** What’s your favorite song connected to a good memory?

**AH:** I’ve listened to “Radioactive” by Imagine Dragons with my friends. We’ll get in whoever’s car has the most bass at the time and turn it up as loud as we can, so that’s a song I associate with hanging out with friends.

**US:** If you could live in any movie, in which one would you live?

**AH:** Probably something in the future where there’s amazing technology for me to use (and) you live forever.

**US:** If you could ask President Obama one question, what would you ask him?

**AH:** Would he answer honestly? I don’t really know, “What do you want America to become and what does everyone have to do for that to happen?”

**US:** What do you wish you could do to change the world?

**AH:** I’ve been kind of interested in education, how it could be improved so that everyone can be competitive, a global market. Even better than that, making it so that everyone can succeed if possible.

**US:** What’s the best advice you ever got

from your parents?  
**AH:** Have fun ... responsibly.

**US:** Why Utah State?  
**AH:** I got the dean’s scholarship here and I didn’t want to bother applying to anywhere else because it was so convenient and a lot cheaper.

**US:** We caught you reading The Statesman. What’s your favorite part to read?

**AH:** Usually whatever is on the front page, because it’s the most currently applicable. The politics ones are sometimes not fun to read, and then the comics are always fun.

**US:** What’s was your worst job?

**AH:** I worked fast food for a while. That was actually quite bad. It’s so hot and I was getting paid minimum wage, and it felt like I was working so hard.

**US:** Any grease burns?

**AH:** Yes, daily. Eventually, you just tough them out.

**US:** What’s your biggest fear?

**AH:** Probably just not succeeding at life and not being able to accomplish anything.

**US:** Most embarrassing moment?

**AH:** I was at an awards ceremony once and they were calling out names. I heard my name, so I started walking up and then I realized they had actually said “Ann” or something similar to that, so it was me and a girl and as soon as I got to the stage, I saw her and I realized, and so I just walked back.

**US:** Where in the world would you like to live?

**AH:** Somewhere in Europe where it’s warm, because I love the ocean. Every time I go on a vacation or a road trip, it’s my favorite part.



Mikayla Kapp photo

**FRESHMAN AMMON HOOPER READS** the Statesman in the TSC. Hooper said he usually likes what’s on the front page as well as the comics.

## Pickleville Playhouse fans crowd theater

► **By Scott E Hall**  
staff writer

The Pickleville Playhouse acting troupe wrapped up their tour of “Bandito Rides Again” this weekend with performances at Logan’s Ellen Eccles Theatre.

“Bandito Rides Again” is the sixth play Pickleville Playhouse has performed as part of their original “Bandito” series. T.J. Davis, writer of the “Bandito” series and performer of the Bandito role, said this show has been a different experience compared to other Pickleville shows.

“This show has been really successful and it has to do with the cast,” Davis said. “Everyone’s individual talents have complimented each other to make it a really good show. It keeps the audience’s attention the whole time.”

Blake Oyler, the show’s sound engineer, agreed. “It’s enjoyable to be part of a crew and cast that’s so close,” Oyler said. “We perform it so many times, but we treat it like it’s a new show every night.”

Pickleville Playhouse has a notable fan base in Logan, said Eric Sackett, an actor from this weekend’s performances. The auditorium was almost completely filled and “Bandito” paraphernalia was being sold outside the auditorium.

“The Bandito craze is strong,” Sackett said. “The Logan audience is always awesome. There’s a really big following here, so there’s always a fantastic audience.”

Davis said the theater and crowd here feel like “home” to him.

“You can feel it,” Davis said. “It just connects really well with the audience here.”

“Bandito Rides Again” is comedy that gets the audience involved both vocally and physically. A vaudeville-esque pianist plays live background music onstage throughout the show, and the actors’ musical numbers cover a variety of musical styles.

“We hope to bring a different kind of live theater experience that can’t be found anywhere else in the country,” Davis said. “We hope to bring quality, unique, completely clean entertainment. We feel it brings families together.”

“It was hilarious, really fun,” said Tyler Butikofer, a junior majoring in electrical engineering. “I would come to one of these shows again.”

The performances of “Bandito Rides Again” Fri-



photo courtesy of Pickleville Playhouse

**ACTOR DEREK DAVIS** performed for fans in Logan last weekend.

day and Saturday night were the last from the tour through Logan and Salt Lake City, but they will be performing the show from June to September at their home venue in Bear Lake.

“If you like to laugh, you have to come,” Sackett said. “There’s no better use of your time than coming to see ‘Bandito.’ I’ve never heard a negative comment about the show.”

“Bandito Rides Again” is co-directed by T.J. and Andrea Davis. Information on summer shows can be found at [picklevilleplayhouse.com](http://picklevilleplayhouse.com).

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## GYMNASTICS

# New coach getting results in first year

► **By Emily Duke**  
staff writer

Head coach Nadalie Walsh of the Utah States gymnastics team is leading her athletes to victory in her first year at the reigns. Hired on June 28, 2013, Walsh is only the third head coach in the history of the program.

Walsh has made significant differences in the way the program is being coached since her arrival in June.

“Positive energy and belief in our athletes is a big thing,” Walsh said.

“Just to come in and don’t let any of them feel like they’re not good enough. We invest in every one of them equally and it’s not about one athlete who may be used to be good, it’s about making everybody good and everybody has been stepping up to the plate with that.”

The results of the coaching attitude have shown in the season statistics. The lowest team score for the season was posted at the first meet against Iowa, where the Aggies won with a 191.750.

Since then Utah State has had six meets scoring more than 194 points and has a season-high score of 195.225 at a tri meet vs Air Force and Seattle Pacific. USU is currently 4-4 for the season and is back in Logan to take on three consecutive home meets.

The Aggies are very optimistic about the season.

“I love Nadalie,” said freshman gymnast Bailey McIntire. “From what I’ve heard about the team before we’ve improved so much. We just work harder and we believe and trust each other more and she’s helped us do that. You don’t doubt someone who goes up to compete.”

Walsh came to Utah State from Ball State University in Indiana where she was the head coach for six years. Her team experienced success in her years as head coach

with six of her athletes making 10 appearances at the NCAA Regional Championships.

Walsh had never stepped foot in Utah until she arrived for her interview, but she is excited about being an Aggie and for the chance to take the program to the next level.

“I decided when I saw that the opportunity opened that it was definitely something new and interesting and exciting,” Walsh said. “I feel like there is such a rich culture of this school having such strong athletics and they had a really great gymnastics program years ago. So I feel like that was a big draw for me because I know that I’m ambitious and I’ll do whatever it takes to try to get it back there.”

Before going to Ball State Walsh coached at her Alma



Delayne Ripplinger photo

**NATALIE WALSH COACHES** Miranda Kerr during a home match Friday at the Dee Glenn Smith Spectrum.

Mater, the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. She spent two years as an assistant coach before taking over as head coach in 2004.

Walsh led the Titans to the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association (NCGA) National Championship three times. UW-Oshkosh placed sixth in 2004, third in 2005 and took the championship title in 2007.

Walsh started taking gymnastics when she was two years

old and nothing has been able to pull her away since.

“I couldn’t stop doing it ever,” Walsh said. “All around the house and at the parks on the fields, anything my mom put me in I would always just be doing gymnastics.”

Walsh performed all over the world when she was younger and when she got into high school she began to compete in more traditional level gymnastics.

She graduated and attended UW-Oshkosh and graduated with a degree in exercise science and fitness in 2000. She competed collegiately for four years at UW-Oshkosh. Her favorite event was floor because of all of the performance aspects involved.

Walsh and her husband Victor have three children and are excited about the opportunity to raise them in Logan as Aggies.

“It’s a wonderful place to raise a family,” Walsh said. “We’re very outdoorsy so there’s so much to do in Utah and Logan. We’ve been able to focus on what’s important to us, which is family, so we have each other and we have all grown closer being out here together.”

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# Olympics represent more than just athletics or competition

In my eyes, it’s the simplest yet most significant logo of all-time.

Five colored rings.

No words, no elaborate designs; just five circles each with a different color.

Even without any knowledge of what it represents or stands for, it’s an interesting design. But when you begin to realize how much significance there is behind it, it’s mind-blowing.

As I watched the five rings fly atop the flag pole at the closing ceremonies in Sochi on Sunday, I felt genuinely sad the games were over. What those five circles represent is more than the athletes, more than the sports.

For 17 days, the world watched in unison, in harmony.

Day after day, month after month, year after year, humanity is bombarded with endless stories regarding catastrophe, war, death, famine, accidents, unrest, civil disputes ... The negativity never ends.

But during the Olympics, it takes a back seat.

► **Curtis Lundstrom**



**Living the dream**

For the past two and a half weeks, we’ve gotten to watch as individuals dawned a bigger cause. These athletes wear their country’s colors and take center stage, and the world watches, captivated, by each triumph ... and by each disappointment.

And the greatest part is, even when it’s not your country finishing on top of the podium, we can all appreciate the hard work, dedication and athleticism.

There were 90 countries that participated in Sochi. Nearly 3,000 athletes competed for medals. Just 26 countries went home with at least one medal. That’s just 28 percent of the countries represented.

Not every country goes expecting to medal. Heck, there are athletes realistic enough to know they can medal, but probably won’t end up on top of the podium. But that’s OK, because the Olympic games are about more than the

**Curtis Lundstrom**

*“Those five rings, gently intertwined, represent a world unified.”*

competition.

They are about camaraderie, sportsmanship and peace.

The flags of all nations fly and we forget about all the wars and desolation and famine that exist in the world for a brief moment of time. For those few precious days, every couple of years, the world pauses. We get to, as a human race, come together and enjoy each others’ cultures and overlook our differences.

That is why the Olympics are the greatest sporting event of all. Those five rings, gently intertwined, represent a

world unified.

It’s so simple, yet so significant.

– Curtis Lundstrom is a junior majoring in journalism and communications. A passionate fan of all sports, his life ambitions include officiating college basketball and bowling a perfect 300. Send any comments or questions to [curtislundstrom@gmail.com](mailto:curtislundstrom@gmail.com), or tweet him [@CurtSport07](https://twitter.com/CurtSport07).



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HOCKEY

# Duo now on a different kind of mission

► **By Brad Ferguson**  
staff writer

The Utah State hockey team punched its ticket this past weekend to the American Collegiate Hockey Association National Tournament in Boston on March 14-18.

For Stewart Hepburn and Sam Lindquist, two players who have skated key roles for the team, the bond between teammates extends off the ice. Hepburn and Lindquist share something beyond just goals — they share an international bond.

The two met on an iced-over soccer field in Sweden, playing one-on-one for hours until there wasn't light enough to play. Hepburn was serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the country and was allowed by his mission president to bring his skates with him on his two-year service.

"When I first met Sam, he was super shy and could barely speak any English," Hepburn said. "The Swedes play a very non-physical style of play. They don't really hit a whole lot, and there's hardly any fighting."

He attributes Lindquist's

better play to the fact that there weren't any boards to hit him into.

"He was really excited to make a good friend, someone he could play hockey with, someone that could remind him of his memories in

shows that played in Sweden.

Both were members of the LDS church when they first met and had made each other better people when Hepburn left the country for his home in Utah.

After making a life-changing decision, Lindquist would be called to serve an LDS mission in none other than Salt Lake City, Utah. At the end of his two years of service, he got in contact with his old friend

meeting with USU hockey head coach Jon Eccles and the team, it was decided Lindquist would play for USU.

These two polarized personalities are now roommates, with stories upon stories to tell about each other. With Hepburn describing his roommate with one word, he emphasized his Swedish friend as "slow."

"He's so slow, in everything," Hepburn said.

Hepburn said he enjoys criticizing the drawn-out way of dressing himself, since Hepburn is known by the Swede to be "very chill" since "he wears his sweats to school."

"Every morning, I'm pretty Euro; I get dressed up every day for school," Lindquist said.

"Stew's kind of the opposite ... As the year has been going on, I've seen him improving a lot. He's starting to wear shirts to school. He likes to make fun of my style, like ironing my shirt before going

to the library to study."

Anyone who has been to a game at the Eccles Ice Center knows these two feed off each other. They've helped improve each other's game, in aspects such as quicker hands for Hepburn and better body checking for Lindquist.

but he's been just crushing guys lately. It looks real good. It looks like he's been doing it his whole life. I think he is really enjoying it. I think he likes the violence."

It may have taken both of these individuals traveling halfway around the world to meet, but the relationship and bond they constructed on an outdoor skating rink in a Scandinavian winter is the relationship and bond they hold as they travel to compete in Boston for a national championship.

"We have the connection on the team being some of the only LDS guys," Lindquist said. "Stew will surprise you. He's a great friend of mine, and I'm grateful to play in Logan."

Hepburn is a senior this year with plans to graduate and move on to medical school this coming fall. Lindquist is a freshman and looks to spend four years in Cache Valley fighting for the Aggies on the ice.

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Hepburn described and recalled the Swede's hitting style when he first started playing for the Aggies.

"The first few times he did it, he looked really bad," Hepburn said. "He would hit with his chin and his chest,

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Aggies gear up for tough road game in Pit

► **By Jeffrey Dahdah**  
assistant sports editor

The Pit can be a very unforgiving place. San Diego State found that out last week along with 10 other teams that have left New Mexico with a bad taste. The Utah State men's basketball team is going to experience the Pit for the first time on Tuesday.

"Obviously it's a tough challenge, but as a basketball player you should enjoy it. The Pit is one of the great environments, probably one of the top 10, in college basketball," said USU head coach Stew Morrill. "They've had great teams through the years and they have another great team right now. I think right now, they're probably playing better than anybody. They are just so effective at every position."

New Mexico breached the

**Stew Morrill**  
USU basketball

*"We have to decide whether we want to play it out or play to win."*

AP Top-25 this week. The No. 25 Lobos have won five straight home games and the Aggies are riding a three game losing streak.

"We're not the most confident group right now," Morrill said. "We have to decide whether we want to just play it out or play to win."

The Aggies lost a close game on Saturday in the Spectrum to Fresno State, dropping them to 5-10 in conference

play. The loss came despite shooting 50.8 percent from the field and scoring 42 of their 76 points in the paint. However, it wasn't enough as they allowed the Bulldogs to score 79 points.

"We played good enough offense to win the game, but we just couldn't guard them, or wouldn't guard them," Morrill said after the game. "They just went around us. When we tried to play zone, they hit a three. Our defense was lacking."

The Aggies will have to find a way to slow Cameron Bairstow, who shredded the Aggies on Jan. 28 in the Spectrum. Bairstow had 22 points and 4 blocks in New Mexico's 78-65 rout of Utah State. Bairstow averages 20.5 points per game, a total that is first in the Mountain West.

"He's really good. We didn't have anybody to guard him,"

said Morrill about Bairstow after USU's first meeting with New Mexico. "That's a really good basketball team. They pretty much dominated both halves."

USU has oscillated this season between stellar defense coupled with dismal offense and high scoring games with little defensive pressure. They have rarely seen the scoring and the defense coincide. Last week the Aggies scored 45 points on Tuesday, but 76 on Saturday. If USU is to match up defensive prowess with offensive explosiveness, it will rest in the paint.

With much of New Mexico's scoring coming from their big men, the Aggies will have to dominate scoring in the paint, which they did on Saturday against Fresno State by a 42-28.

In the two teams' first meeting New Mexico won without their starting center Alex Kirk. He missed the game due to injury. This time he will be playing, causing an even bigger challenge for the Aggies down low.

"He presents problems because he can face up and shoot it. He's so big down low," Morrill said. "During his career, he's gotten better and better at the low post. I watched them play Nevada on tape, and both their big guys had almost 30 points. If you don't guard their big guys, the game is over right there. You have to do a good job on them."

Senior center Jarred Shaw is averaging 14.6 points per game and sophomore forward Kyle Davis is averaging 9.6. Davis also grabbed a personal best 15 rebounds last week.

USU will need a great performance overall to compete in the Pit. The Aggies have one road win in conference play, which came against Colorado State earlier this month. However, Shaw does not think his team will shy away from a challenge.



Kylee Larsen photo

**SOPHOMORE FORWARD KYLE DAVIS** throws down a dunk in the Aggies 79-76 loss to Fresno State on Saturday. Davis had a career-high 15 rebounds in the game.

"I'm up for the challenge," Shaw said. "I don't back down from anyone. I look at it as another opportunity to get a win. So I'll be going down with that mindset, and hopefully we can get a win."

The Aggies lead the all-time series 19-5 over the Lobos. Tipoff is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday.

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44

Schlott's career-high in points which she scored Dec. 19th against UCSB.

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Schlott's average points per game total this season which is currently fourth in the country.

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Schlott's assist total this season which is USU's single-season assist record.



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# Views & Opinion

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## Forum letters

### America's wage gap really is embarrassing

To the editor:

I was outraged by the “Obama is wrong about gender gap” editorial published in last week’s Statesman. It was written as a response to President Obama’s comment that “(Women) make 77 cents for every dollar a man earns,” and that “in 2014, it’s an embarrassment.” Its author claims that, in proposing wage equality, President Obama demeans the value of motherhood because “women of today didn’t plan on a lifetime of work” because they were planning on becoming mothers. He further writes that “As women prepared to become mothers, they took different paths than men” and that “gaps in (choices of) employment explain much of the wage gap.”

Just in case anybody read this editorial and found it convincing, I hope to set the record straight.

First of all, not only are there more women than men pursuing degrees at every level of higher education — around 60 percent of bachelor’s degrees and 50.4 percent of Ph.D.s, according to the National Center for Education Statistics — but there are no significant differences in the types of degrees that women are seeking from those that men are seeking. The top-three most popular college majors for women, according to the U.S. Department of Education, are: business (men’s No. 1), health and clinical professions and social sciences/history (men’s No. 2). The latest American freshman survey found that undergraduates’ highest goal is to be financially well-off. Forbes Magazine writes, “for this new crop of college students (of which 60 percent are women), attaining wealth ranks higher than raising a family.” American women are preparing for careers at least as much as men are.

Secondly, the U.S. Census Bureau’s research that led to the widely cited statistic of women making 77 cents on the man’s dollar statistically adjusted that wage gap to make sure working mothers’ wages were not compared alongside those of full-time professionals. In 2007, the average American male working full time earned \$45,113, whereas the average American woman working full time earned \$35,102. That’s a .77-to-one ratio. Mothers and those aspiring to become homemakers were in no way considered in this study? It compares working men with working women and has consistently found a sexist wage gap.

Misunderstandings like those cited in last week’s editorial can be extremely harmful by providing excuses to duck issues, ignore problems and support inequality. The women’s 77-cents-on-the-dollar wage gap is a reality. And I, along with President Obama, am embarrassed by it.

– Jean M. Lown

### The reality of the wage gap

To the editor:

In the last Statesman issue, a claim was made the wage gap in men and women’s pay is simply “an indicator of our country’s family values.” This individual

went on to imply the only reason women earn less is because they have been brought up to be mothers, and those women who did go on to obtain a college education only did so in the fields of education and child development. There is nothing wrong with those majors, but there is something wrong with assuming every woman is or should be in them.

The fact that the 77 cents women earn for every dollar men earn is calculated based on a comparison of men and women in comparable fields was disregarded. Of course women who go into education are going to earn less than men who go into engineering; that isn’t a question. However, this figure is not comparing those drastically different careers; it is highlighting the discrepancy between the wages of men and women who hold the same positions.

A point of note; the only quote used is taken out of context from an article supporting the presence of an embarrassing wage gap and the person quoted, Claudia Goldin, is an economics professor at Harvard.

Being a stay-at-home mom is one of the most difficult and noteworthy paths a woman can take, and I sincerely applaud those that do. My mother is a fabulous stay-at-home-mother, but she is also an extraordinary CrossFit coach and overwhelming tough athlete. One of her best friends is also a great mom, but she works as a banking executive and her husband is a stay-at-home dad.

Mr. Richards, great mothers come in so many varieties. All of them deserve an equal chance to do the best they can in their chosen way. It is closed-minded of you to assume all women must conform to your idea of what makes a good mother.

Your mother would be ashamed of you.

– Erika Dawn Pound

### We really built the Death Star?

To the editor:

Walking home from the library last week, I noticed sign put up in celebration of Engineering Week. The sign said “An engineer designed the Death Star: That’s Engineering. That’s Utah State.” I feel as though it would be useful to unpack the sign’s rhetoric.

First, the Death Star is fictional and therefore designed by a fictional engineer. It may have been designed by a fictional engineer who went to a fictional Utah State, but I doubt that because the “Star Wars” movies take place in a “galaxy far, far away.”

Maybe the sign was referencing John Stears, the Academy Award-winning special effects guru for the “Bond” films and some of the “Star Wars” films who designed the models of the Death Star that were used in filming “Star Wars,” but he worked as a draftsman at an architecture firm prior to his film career, not as an engineer. If the sign is referencing him, then the sign should read “a draftsman designed the Death Star,” not “an engineer designed the Death Star.”

Second, does the College of Engineering really want to associate itself with an implement of genocide? In the film, the Death Star was designed specifically to destroy entire plan-

ets and their inhabitants. Carrie Fisher’s Princess Leia screams as she watches her home planet get destroyed.

It probably was an engineer who designed the landmines that litter Cambodia, and it probably was an engineer who designed the chemical weapons that killed hundreds during World War I and that have been used recently in Syria. Should our College of Engineering draw attention to that dark side of war profiteering engineers in such a positive light? Should that be encouraged on our campus?

Last, the Death Star is known not for being a sound piece of engineering, but a failure. It has one major flaw: A single fighter pilot can destroy the entire thing with just one shot into the thermal exhaust port. Do we really want “that is engineering, that is Utah State” to be the tagline to science fiction’s greatest engineering failure?

I mostly write this to point out that what we post on campus, if we don’t pay attention to the implicit and explicit rhetoric, can really reflect poorly on our great university. So let’s not be sloppy with our words.

– Braden Clinger

### Vote for me, John Whicker for Education

To the editor:

My name is John Whicker. I am a candidate running for Education and Human Services senator.

As you know, there are seven departments in the College of Education and Human Services. These include communicative disorders (COMMD); psychology (PSY); family consumer and human development (FCHD); health, physical education and recreation (HPER); elementary education (ELED); special education (SPED); and instructional technology and learning sciences (ITLS). So many people associate Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services with elementary education alone.

The result is that few students who are enrolled in the six other departments know they are also members of the college. In fact, one student expressed to me that it wasn’t until he was accepted into his program in HPER as a junior that he found out about his affiliation with this, one of the largest colleges on campus.

I see this as an exciting chance for the college to reevaluate the way we promote our programs. Why? Because I’m a firm believer that success in college and beyond can be influenced by one’s involvement during college, whether that is in clubs, student government or other collegiate organizations. However, when unaware of which college you’re in, involvement may seem inaccessible.

As next year’s Education and Human Services senator, I will be proud to bring to light each department in CEHS and then unite them in a way the gives students in the college the opportunity to be involved early on, and open doors for their success now at USU and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

– John Whicker

## Why I wear headphones during election week on campus

It turns out Monday was the wrong day to leave my headphones at home — It’s so much easier to ignore people when you have headphones.

Monday marked the beginning of USU student elections, as anyone who has tried walking undisturbed from the TSC to the library or the business building has surely noticed. Large campaign boards boasting flashy slogans line the walkways around campus advertise for student body positions nobody understands.

Those running for these various leadership offices stand nearby their campaign ads, or “A frames,” handing out flyers and pestering students for their votes every few feet in what seems like an unending gauntlet of

irritation. H e a d - phones are my choice visual representation that I, in fact, am not interested in whatever these candidates are selling. I’m all for being involved in the community, and I believe in the democratic process, but these student leadership hopefuls fail to understand that what they’re involved in isn’t politics.

The vast popularity contest that is student elections has been overexaggerated by those in student government to appear like an opportunity for the average student’s voice to be heard. In reality, the voice

➤See JONES, Page 11

## If you don't care, then just don't vote

Students who don’t know why they’re voting shouldn’t vote.

Before anyone can accuse me of being a tyranny enthusiast, let me rephrase that: Every student should vote intelligently in the USU/SA elections.

If you don’t care how 16 elected officials will decide one-point-however-many million dollars of student tuition and fee money, don’t vote. If you’re upset that only 1 in 10 students will vote, then go ahead and cast a ballot.

But read the candidate platforms and vote based on who you actually think will make the best decisions as your personal representative.

Don’t vote for a candidate just because someone handed you their flier. Don’t vote for someone just because they’re physically attractive. Don’t vote for someone just because they’re your friend. Don’t

vote for someone just because they’re unopposed and they’re the only one listed on the ballot. Don’t vote for someone you think may be cheating their way through cracks and loopholes of vague election bylaws. Don’t vote for someone just because they had the same position last year and nothing earth-shat-

teringly bad happened to the university. Don’t vote for someone just because their campaigners were the least annoying as you walked from the TSC to the library. Don’t vote for someone who put down their favorite basketball team as a qualification for office.

Definitely don’t vote for someone because they held a flashmob on

➤See STUCKI, Page 11

## How we find revolution without all the resolution

One of the most rigorous classes I took during my freshman year was taught by a wonderful professor who genuinely loved his subject — we were also frequently reminded of his genuine love for hockey, but you can’t really hold that against Canadians. He subscribed to a strict open door policy: If you didn’t like your grade on an exam, you were welcome to take it back to him for a full re-evaluation. The caveat, however, was that as he reviewed your exam the second time around, he reserved the right to raise your grade if he had somehow missed your scin-

➤See BOWEN, Page 11

Letters to the editor

- All letters may be shortened, edited or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.
- No anonymous letters will be published. Writers must sign all letters and include a phone number or e-mail address as well as a student identification

number (none of which is published). Letters will not be printed without this verification.

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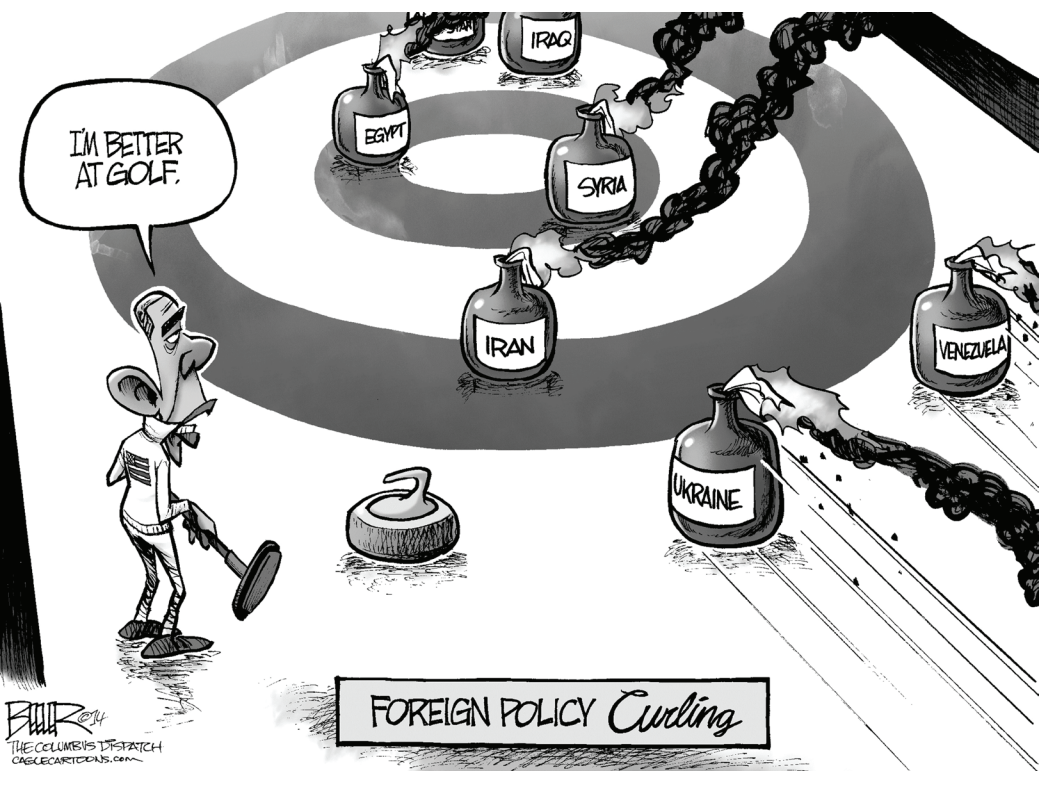
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## Jones

From Page 10

of the average student is drowned out by the all the noise surrounding campus voting throughout election week.

It's not as if once a particular candidate is elected, textbooks suddenly become affordable and all the ice cream is free. The changes instituted by student government are, at best, nice things for those few in charge to put on their resumes.

The sad truth of student leadership is that the benefits and monetary rewards for winning an elected position of presumed importance at USU vastly

outweighs the power a candidate has to truly impact student life. It seems like the only ones who care about student politics are, predictably, the student politicians.

For better or worse, USU graduates will remember their alma mater's fight song long after they remember the name of their student body president.

So some students avoid eye contact with them. They plot a roundabout course toward their classes in order to avoid the commotion emanating from the center of USU's campus. Others use tried-and-true strategies to quickly move past the campaigning candidates, offering them obscure song lyrics or movie quotes as a way of quickly

stifling any conversation. Still, others somewhat unimaginatively claim to have "already voted" and wish to just be left alone.

I prefer headphones, keeping to myself as the hopeful candidates all around me listen only to the sound of their own voices.

– Logan Jones is a sophomore majoring in journalism. Though he generally sticks to writing sports, he enjoys expressing his opinions on other topics as well. He hopes one day enough of his readers will petition Statesman editors to give him a regular column in the newspaper. Contact him at [logant-jones@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:logant-jones@aggiemail.usu.edu) or tweet @Logantj.

## Stucki

From Page 10

campus. If one or more of the ideas listed above are the primary motivators in your voting decision, don't vote. OK, OK, I'm trying to tell you to find an actual reason.

Vote for someone who has actual ideas, goals and plans. Vote for someone who has the actual power and ability to achieve that vision. Make your vote actually count.

If you're not willing to do that, then you really just shouldn't even vote.

But in all actuality, thanks for voting. I may not sound very sincere when I say it, but I do actually appreciate

you exercising your right and responsibility to take part in campus politics.

– Tavin Stucki is the editor in chief of The Utah Statesman. His articles have won awards and appeared in numerous news publications throughout Utah. Send any comments to [statesmaneditor@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:statesmaneditor@aggiemail.usu.edu).

## Bowen

From Page 10

tillating brilliance the first time ... or lower your grade, if he had rather overestimated your brilliance.

In essence, this professor gave his students a means of voicing their grievances, but he attached the real-world implication: Protesting doesn't always yield the positive outcome you were aiming for.

That lesson is one that applies not only to the re-evaluation of disappointing exam scores but to greater social grievances. We tend to associate popular protests and even revolution—especially mass uprisings against unjust authoritarian governments—as positive movements destined for positive outcomes. We want to believe that once the demos, the common people, shake off the chains of oppression imposed by their corrupt governments, it is but a matter of time before a stable, peaceful and prosperous democracy is established.

The reality is somewhat more complicated. Yes, popular uprisings sometimes do lead to positive systemic revolutions—like our favorite in-house example, the American Revolution. But sometimes, the fruit of revolution has

turned out to have a rancid core. In the past, some popular uprisings have overthrown bad governments only to install an even worse brand of tyranny. The French Revolution removed a corrupt aristocracy from power, yet laid the way for the rise of Napoleon. The 1917 Bolshevik Revolution obliterated the old Russian tsarist regime, but replaced it with the early foundations of Soviet communism.

Sometimes the negative outgrowth of revolution is not immediately apparent. The Arab Spring uprising in Egypt in 2011 that ousted President Hosni Mubarak seemed to hold promise as a turning point: a golden window of opportunity to establish a true democracy in Egypt. Yet three years after the revolution, Egypt seems to be on track to slip back into the clutches of a military dictatorship, aesthetically disguised in the fashionable robes of democracy.

Does this mean all popular uprisings are predestined for disaster? Clearly not. Among other examples, the 1989 Velvet Revolution in Czechoslovakia lasted for six weeks—amazingly, all nonviolent protests—and led to a full transition of power from a Communist regime to a free republic.

Rather than categori-

cally labeling uprisings as good or bad, my point is to show popular revolution is a mixed bag: A positive outcome is not impossible, even in challenging circumstances, but it is certainly not guaranteed. Indeed, sometimes movements hoping to bring about democracy in authoritarian countries have the disappointingly ironic result of further restricting freedom. In countries where positive change actually is brought about by revolution, establishing a mature democracy is inevitably a long and slow process.

We would do well to exercise cautious optimism as we witness the courage of the men and women in Ukraine and other countries who have taken to the streets to affect positive change—optimism, because history has shown that remarkable things are possible when the will of the people rises in one unified voice; caution, because history has shown that the best intentions sometimes spawn the ugliest monsters.

– Briana is a political science major in her last semester at USU. She is an avid road cyclist and a 2013 Truman Scholar. Proudtest accomplishment: True Aggie. Reach Briana at [b.bowen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:b.bowen@aggiemail.usu.edu).

# Be sure to stop by the voting booth today

If we surveyed 100 students about which week of the school year generally gets to worst reputation, most would assume a widespread response along the tune of finals week.

While we see the argument there, it seems much more evident that elections week carries a much more critical response, and that is putting it nicely.

It's not that the core elements of the week itself don't warrant a complaint from time to time.

It isn't always the most enjoyable thing to be pit-stopped on nearly every walkway on campus and be confronted about candidate platforms, free shirts, fliers and likewise drowning in piles of posters promoting debates and "Aggies Vote" insignias until one closes their eyes in fear and all they see is red, white and blue check marks.

With that all in mind, perhaps it is more important to consider the emphasis those eventful frustrations overlooks the sincere importance of the week as a whole. We at The Utah Statesman believe it all comes full circle with a simple change in perspective.

Consider, for a moment, that many students fresh from high school are now experiencing a large jump in just how vital our student government system is. If you are still looking on first glance, it is a much larger gap than you may realize.

Where your high school student body officers planned prom and canned food drives to support the local food bank, the USU/SA Executive Council coordinates on plans policies and decisions that immediately affect each student. We're talking student fees, scheduling, full-scale events, advocacy and set the overall emotional environment for the campus as a whole. We've moved on from the world of the popularity contest and into the world of the 20,000-plus person job interview.

To sum that up, your convenience, options and wallet all ride on who gets elected and which decisions they make. If that doesn't motivate to want to know who these individuals pontificating next to large wooden A-frames are, you honestly should.

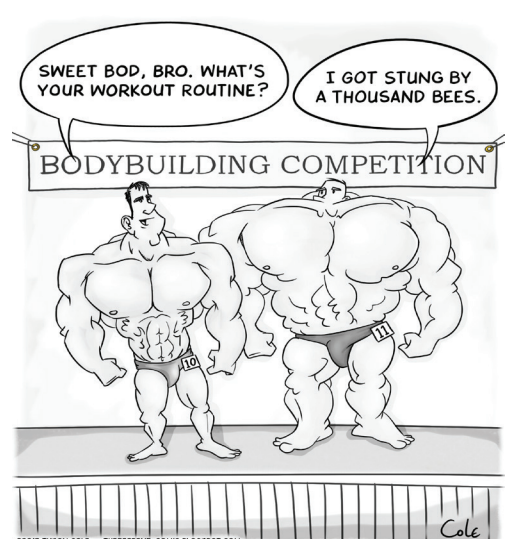
If you still feel uneasy about the whole thing, consider for a moment what these candidates have to do to get themselves in the minds of the students. The work they go to in an effort to become a representative of the students includes months of time to create advertising, organize

campaign staffs, meticulously schedule events and promotions, all in hopes they have done enough for each student to individually look up their specific name and rend support on a ballot. If you find yourself annoyed by the few moments they stop you on a sidewalk, imagine the frustration of being treated with such annoyance all day in the same spot while trying to capitalize on months of hard work.

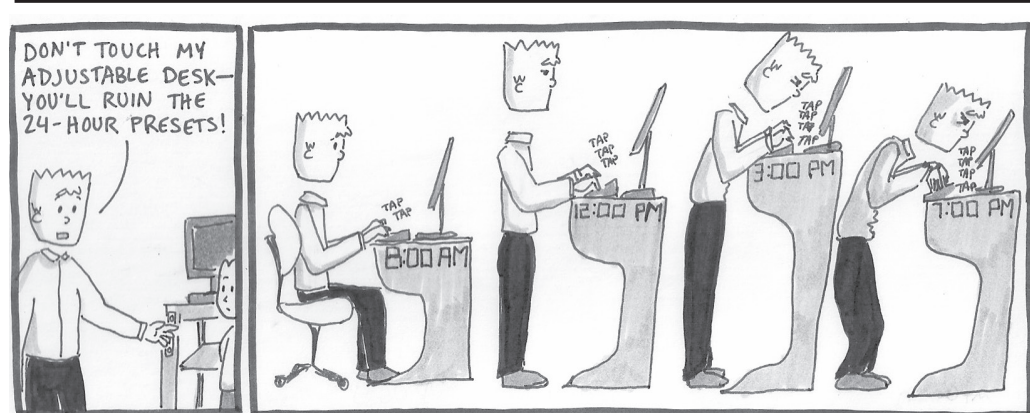
Above all else, while the week's events can come off inconvenient, the voting process itself couldn't be farther from it. Seldom in your voting life will the process ever be easier than typing [vote.usu.edu](http://vote.usu.edu) in your address box and clicking a few boxes. No registrations, paper ballots or signs; it's as simple as a few multiple choice practices from the comfort of your own home; or, to be blunt, if you have time to head to Buzzfeed and floor Facebook news feeds with quiz results depicting what "Hunger Games" character you are, you have more than enough time to vote for actual people who actually matter to your time at USU.

The Statesman supports and encourages participation in Elections Week and hopes you find the time and effort in you to take part in elections and care about it. Meet candidates, prioritize your values, head to [vote.usu.edu](http://vote.usu.edu) and cast your vote. A simple change in perspective could change everything about the rest of your experience at USU.

The Deep End • Tyson Cole



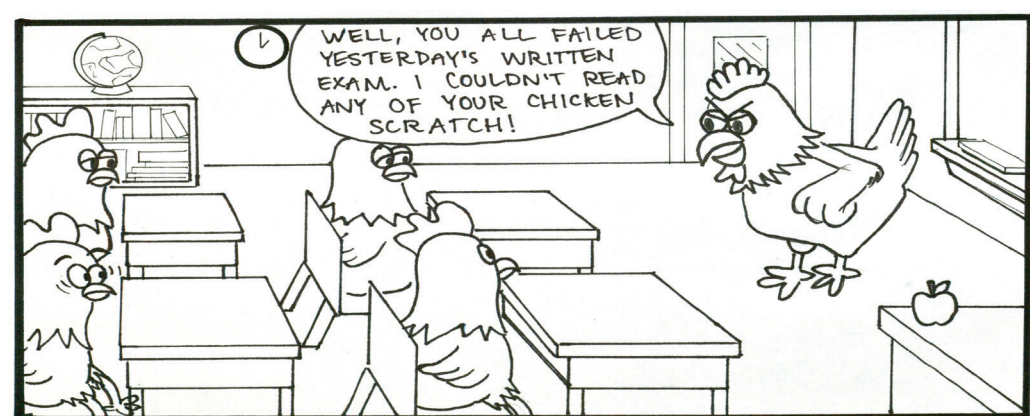
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51/34

Tuesday


Partly cloudy



54/38

Wednesday


Partly cloudy



47/35

Thursday


Rain



50/37

Friday

Mostly cloudy



45/35

Saturday

Chance of rain

### Tuesday, Feb. 25


- The No. 1 key to success in school and life, 2-3 p.m., TSC 315A
- Making it through hard times, 2-4 p.m., TSC 310
- Evening child care on campus, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Early Childhood Education and Research Center
- Female + Form, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art

### Wednesday, Feb. 26

- Spring Career Fair, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., TSC
- Indian Taco Sale, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., TSC Patio
- Speaker Alyssia Angus, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Chase Fine Arts Center 150
- Overcoming test anxiety, 12 a.m. to 1 p.m., TSC 335
- Group meditation, 1:30-2:25 p.m., TSC 335
- Gold Key Scholarship and information, 7-8 p.m., TSC 336

### Thursday, Feb. 27

- Forum on Venezuela and Cuba, 1:30-2:45 p.m., Old Main 340
- Finding your academic strengths, 10-11 a.m., TSC 315A
- Friends of Merrill-Cazier Library spring lecture with Dr. Leonard Rosenband, 7 p.m., Merrill-Cazier Library room 101
- Symphony orchestra, 7:30 p.m., Chase Fine Arts Center, Kent Concert Hall



Today is Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014. Today's issue of The Utah Statesman is published especially for Ellison Barlow, a freshman majoring in biomedical engineering from Kaysville, Utah.

**Across**

1 To-do list item

5 Short-lived crazes

9 Destroy beyond repair

14 Yodeler's feedback

15 Landed

16 "Laughing" critter

17 Teensy bit

18 A hop, skip and jump away

19 Savanna antelope

20 \*Powerful stratum of society

23 In high spirits

24 Spread out, as one's fingers

25 \_\_\_ New Guinea

27 Large seaweed

30 Mixed in a glass

33 Travel book

inserts

36 Bard's night-fall

38 Take care of

39 Game with Wild Draw Four cards

40 Continue with the fun, and a hint to each part of the answers to starred clues

42 Keebler cookie character

43 Stone-faced

45 Side with green eggs

46 Part of MIT: Abbr.

47 Unit of explosive force

49 Anjou, e.g.

51 Memorable labor leader Jimmy

52 Rinsed the soap from, as a car

56 GI R&R provider

58 \*When brandy may be served

62 \_\_\_ and cross-bones

64 Innovator's spark

65 Additional

66 Studio stand

67 Line in blue cheese

68 Diva's solo

69 Rose parts

70 Comes to a close

71 Require

**Down**

1 Glum drops

2 Behave poorly

3 "I \_\_\_ return": MacArthur

4 Large Alaskan bears

5 Vampire tooth

6 Baldwin in Capital One ads

7 Call on a retro phone

8 Bra parts

9 Many an Actors Studio member

10 Popeye's Olive

11 \*Picturesque spot for a warm drink

12 Actress Paquin of "True Blood"

13 British noblewoman

21 TV educator Bill in a lab coat

22 Didn't go out

26 Vessel on a mantel

28 Bat first

29 Each

31 Angled pipes

32 Adept

33 Cologne scent

34 Not pro

35 \*Place for changing out of a wet suit

37 To the \_\_\_ degree

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40 Traps for the unwary

41 Big mouth, informally

44 John of London?

46 Armored superhero

48 One who was born there

50 Yellowfin tuna

53 Noise from a sleeper

54 Otherworldly

55 Deep anxiety

56 Capitalizes on

57 Three-handed card game

59 Blissful place

60 Senator Harry of Nevada

61 Aykroyd and Quayle

63 Moon lander

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