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Dancers gather to fight cancer

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Linebacker corps looks to anchor USU defense

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Tuesday, April 1, 2014

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Kylee Larsen photos

RUNNERS AT THE BRAVEHEART RACE head out from the starting line at the ROTC's fourth-annual run, which benefits a needy family in Cache Valley each year. This year's beneficiary was the family of Rustin, who has cortical dysplasia.

Braveheart Race raises funds

Community participates in annual run for boy with cortical dysplasia

► **By Maile Burnett**
staff writer

Around 230 runners participated in this year's Braveheart Race for a boy named Rustin, raising funds for needed treatment and therapy.

The Braveheart Race is put on each year at USU by the 860th Cadet Wing of the Air Force ROTC to help a local family in need.

Rustin, 5, was born with cortical dysplasia, a condition where the right half of his brain didn't fully develop in utero. Rustin has limited use of the left half of his body, cannot hear out of his left ear and has lost much of the hearing in his right.

"Each year, the focus and the cause of Braveheart has been a young child with a medical condition, partly to raise money for the family and partly to raise awareness of that condition," said Jacob Singleton, a senior in engineering and ROTC cadet.

Race registration cost \$15, and runners received a T-shirt and entry into a raffle. More tickets are sold during the race. Businesses donated \$1,000 dollars worth of prizes from gift certificates to gift baskets. Singleton, who was in charge of this year's race, said the community has been very supportive of the race each year.

"That's always been overwhelming to see the

kind of involvement that businesses are willing to do," he said.

Jeanie Jones, Rustin's mother, said the money will be used to buy an iPad with communication apps.

Rustin has a velcro binder with pictures he can use to communicate, but it's very limited. His parents are also looking into getting a FM transmitter and receiver system that would allow him to communicate better with them. The money will also help cover the cost of the large commute from their home in Malad, Idaho to Logan for treatment.

Rustin is receiving therapy from USU's Sound Beginnings, a preschool for those with hearing impairment and learning difficulties. Singleton said they contacted Sound Beginnings knowing there are a lot of children facing disabilities and medical challenges and were referred to Rustin.

"I think he's in the right spot right now, being over at Sound Beginnings," said Laura Hess, a graduate in deaf education who works at Sound Beginnings.

Hess said the Sound Beginnings program is good for Rustin because it focuses on him listening and talking, and he's able to receive individual attention.

► See **RUSTIN**, Page 3

Jacob Singleton
Air Force ROTC cadet

"That's always been overwhelming to see the kind of involvement that businesses are willing to do."



RUSTIN stands with a handful of balloons at the Braveheart Race, which raised money for his treatment.

Many Aggies concerned over Common Hour schedule

► **By Danielle Manley**
assistant news editor

Common Hour is a time when students eat lunch, visit with friends, attend lectures and guest speakers.

It's also an hour out of every week giving professors and students more difficult schedules.

Vice Provost Janis Boettinger and Assistant Provost Andi McCabe spoke to the USU Student Association Executive Council on March 25 about the growing concerns of Common Hour.

"The academic quality is possibly suffering because of that Wednesday 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. block," Boettinger said.

Boettinger and McCabe presented during public forum for the opportunity to voice the concerns of several students and faculty members across campus. Complaints originally came to the calendar committee, which Boettinger and McCabe both chair.

The main concern is the unusual breakup of Monday and Wednesday classes. Instead of being able to hold classes Monday and Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. like they were prior to 2013, those courses must be held on Monday and Friday at 11:30 a.m.

"Both students and faculty have brought to the council meeting that this is not conducive to learning," Boettinger said. "It's almost like have two weekends in a single week."

Boettinger said the calendar committee understands the importance of a student-led initiative, like Common Hour. She said the group wanted to bring the problem before the USU/SA Executive Council before taking action.

"The calendar committee, it was our last meeting last week," Boettinger said. "We took a bold step and we actually put in our report that we would recommend the elimination of Common Hour ... but that we would do nothing until we heard from the student association."

USU/SA President Doug Fiefia said he conducted a survey with USU Provost Noelle Cockett about Common Hour earlier in the year, and approximately 62 percent of participants favored the initiative.

"It's hard for me to sit and take something away that we did a survey

► See **HOOR**, Page 2

Huber: Women earn about 82 percent of wages in same jobs as men

Workshop held to teach women about salary negotiation in a wage-gap world

► **By Ashlyn Runyan**
staff writer

Female students from different backgrounds gathered in the University Inn and Conference Center on Saturday afternoon for a workshop on salary negotiation presented by the Association of University Women and the Women Are Getting Even, or WAGE, Project.

Jamie Huber, program coordinator for the Center for Women and Gender, said the workshop tries to help mediate the fact that women statistically earn less than men in the corporate world.

"They work the same jobs but earn only 82

percent of what men earn," she said.

Leah Hazlett, a senior studying environmental studies, said she knew the wage gap existed but had never put it in a monetary perspective before attending the workshop.

"I learned how quickly the wage gap between male and female workers can add up over time," she said. "The workshop showed that difference in the first two years could potentially be \$10,000 for two individuals who started out making \$4,000 apart from each other when per-

centage bonus and raises are factored in. Your starting wage is extremely important."

Huber said this semester is the first one the workshop, called Start Smart, has been brought to Utah. It could not have come at a better time.

"It's really become important in the last couple of weeks," she said. "A national survey just indicated that Utah has the second largest gender wage gap in the country."

Annie Hould, national director of campus and community initiatives for the WAGE Project, presented the workshop and has been involved with the WAGE Project for nine years.

Hould helped create the workshop after learning one of the main reasons for the gender wage gap is the fact that women are less likely than men to negotiate

a starting salary and benefits package, either because they don't know how or they don't feel comfortable doing so.

"When we heard that women were not learning how to negotiate, we read all the books and went to all these lectures and they were all so male-oriented," she said. "They didn't include any of the prep work to be done before the actual negotiation interview."

Hould said the Start Smart workshop is different from other workshops on salary negotiation in that it is based on the value of the individual rather than learning a set of "tricks."

"A lot of the things that are out there now talk about things for us to do that negate who we are and make it even harder to move ahead," she said. "I think as women we need to move ahead as women and not change ourselves into little

► See **SALARY**, Page 2

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In brief

Campus & Community

Tuition to rise next year

USU Tier I tuition will increase 4 percent and Tier II tuition will increase 1.5 percent for the next academic year. USU President Stan Albrecht will hold an informational meeting on the outcome of the 2014 Utah Legislature 9:30 a.m. on April 3 in the Taggart Student Center Ballroom.

Planners still looking for funding for BC campus

Funding for the new USU Brigham City campus was approved during the 2014 Utah legislative session and construction plans are in the works. USU President Stan Albrecht and Tom Lee, dean of USU-Brigham City made the announcement.

The new campus will be located at 989 South Main St. next to the golf course. The campus will serve Box Elder County’s growing educational needs.

Construction of the first building is slated to begin this year and will serve as the anchor of the new campus. The approximately 50,000 square-foot building will house broadcast-capable classrooms and offices for faculty, advisers and staff.

While the legislative funding has been approved, building contributions are still needed. In conjunction with Frank Stewart from USU’s Advancement Office, USU-Brigham City’s advisory board has initiated a local campaign to help fund the ongoing efforts of the new site.

USU geology professor receives research award

Geology professor Dr. James “Jim” Evans has been named Utah State University’s 2014 recipient of the D. Wynne Thorne Career Research Award by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies.

“Jim’s unwavering dedication to both his research and students encompasses the spirit and essence of USU’s highest research honor — that is the natural ability to inspire others to excel,” said USU President Stan Albrecht. “Everything that he does and everything that he is, derives directly from his selfless desire for his students to be successful.”

Evans’ research focuses on structural geology, the analysis of the three-dimensional distribution of Earth’s outer layers and how they deform in response to stress, specifically the influence of faults and fractures on subsurface fluid flow.

Currently, Evans’ work centers on the analyses of fault-related rocks and fault zones, CO2 sequestration and rock fracture in sandstones. Evans said his work isn’t limited to specific characteristics or attributes.

“We go from a very large scale — the scale of a mountain range — to a very small scale,” Evans said. “I study something the size of the Bear River Mountain Range down to something that you can only see with a high-powered microscope. It’s an incredibly wide range of distances.”

Correction:

In the March 25 story, “Student passes away from cancer over spring break,” the name of one of Felipe Benitez’s fraternity brothers was misspelled. His name is Francisco Cueto.

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 in error, please contact the editor at 797-1742, statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu or come in to TSC 311.

USU maintains graduation rate

Staff report

The article “Report: Utah has highest six-year graduation rate” in the March 27 issue of The Utah Statesman incorrectly described USU’s graduation and retention rates.

A report released March 19 by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center (NSCRC) ranked Utah last for the number of full-time students earning degrees within six years. However, Utah also has the highest number of students still attending at the six-year mark.

Utah is last in the nation for graduating full-time students within six years, at least in part, because so many serve one-and-a-half- or two-year missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, said John Mortensen, assistant president for Enrollment, Service and Retention. Others slow down their education because they might change majors, take fewer credits in favor of a work schedule or take a leave of absence for military service.

Michael Torrens, director of the USU Office of Analysis, Assessment and Accreditation, explained this report looks at the time between when a student first enrolls and then graduates. Another way to calculate the time it takes to graduate is by considering

the number of semesters a student was enrolled, he said.

Because of the number of leaves Utah students take, the “six-year” calculation is not the best way to measure student success, Torrens said in an email to The Statesman.

The national standard for measuring graduation assumes students are enrolled for two extra semesters, or “150 percent time,” Torrens said.

USU has an average graduation rate for bachelor’s degrees of 5.39 years when considering start to end time, Torrens said. The university’s graduation rate has not changed much in recent years, he added.

A peer-reviewed study shows graduation rates go down when students are enrolled past six years, Torrens said. He later added graduation rates at USU actually rise within an eight-year time frame.

“If you look at USU’s ‘eight-year’ graduation calculation, then USU’s graduation rate goes up by more than 7 percent,” Torrens said.

It is also notable to add that though the NSCRC report talks about full-time students, only about 20 percent of USU graduates are enrolled for more than 12 semesters, according to information provided by Torrens.

Salary

From Page 1

men.”

The Start Smart workshop is instead designed to give women both the skills and confidence they need to negotiate a job offer successfully, Huber said.

“It includes how to benchmark salaries based on what job and what location,” she said. “Attendees are also given lots of resources and chances to practice role-playing new skills.”

Hazlett said she was surprised by the fact that negotiating a benefits package is an acceptable thing to do.

“That was not something I was aware of,” she said. “I would not even know how to go about discussing that, and it would not have occurred to me that I even could.”

Huber and Hould said the program is very research-based and still undergoing continuous improvements.

“It is tracked and modified according to needs,” Huber said.

“We have surveys at the individual workshops and will send the participants a follow-up email in the next few months to see how the skills they learned have helped them,” Hould said.

Hould said she was training Huber to be able to give the workshop at USU again in the future.

Hour

From Page 1

on and the students told us one thing,” Fiefia said. “It’s hard for me to go against what we found.”

Arts and Lectures Director Kaela Baucom plans the Common Hour lectures sponsored by USU/SA and said she realizes the academic conflict, but thinks the idea is beneficial for students.

“It provides a different variety of things for students to do,” Baucom said. “They can schedule meetings during that time, they can come out to these events, they can go get lunch with their

friends, they can do their homework. And so I think looking at that, Common Hour is a good thing, it shouldn’t be taken away.”

Fiefia said there are too many conflicting opinions to vote immediately.

Boettinger said it would be unlikely to change anything for the next academic year, but recommended the student association do a more thorough survey in the future.

“I think we should just do it right and work together to get a survey instrument that really assesses the needs,” she said.

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The Police Blotter

Friday, March 21

• USU Police responded to the AGRS building and the LARC building for a hazardous materials incident. The Logan Fire Department responded and cleaned up the problem. There were no injuries or illnesses as a result.

• USU Police and Logan EMS responded to a male individual having a seizure in Mountain View Tower. The patient was transported to Logan Regional Hospital.

Saturday, March 22

• Police initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for a broken brake light. The vehicle was lawfully searched and drug, alcohol and e-cigarette items were found. A citation was issued to the driver.

Sunday, March 23

• USU Police received a report of a found rabbit. Officers took custody of the pet and returned it to a resident east of campus.

Tuesday, March 25

• Police are investigating a report that someone dropped water on a resident’s head from one of the outside floors of the Mountain View Tower.

• Police responded to a domestic problem on the southwest parking lot of the Ray B. West Building. Two parents were in a verbal argument on who was getting custody of their child for the day. Police were able to defuse the situation in a civil manner.

• An individual reported a possible fraud incident that occurred through the mail. The individual lives in New York and the check that was received is from the USU Conference Center. Police are investigating.

Wednesday, March 26

• Police responded to the University Reserve building on a graduate student who has been living in his office. Police and faculty are working with the individual to rectify the problem.

‘14 CHaSS Week focuses on college’s pride, feedback

By Ashlyn Runyan
staff writer

Student feedback and pride are the main focuses of this year’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences Week, held March 29 through April 4.

Matthew Anderson, CHaSS senator, said the week got a kick-off a little early with Poetry and a Beverage on Saturday night. “We teamed up with the student association (USU/SA) to do that,” Anderson said.

The annual Quiz Bowl was held Monday in the TSC lounges. Anderson said the bowl has put all of USU’s colleges up against each other in a tournament of wits for the past 10 years.

“It really has a good turn-out every year,” he said.

Anderson said his goal for this year’s CHaSS Week is for the students to gain pride in their college.

“I want students in our college to know that they’re important,” he said. “We should be a visible part of campus, and we have a lot to contribute to the university and to society as a whole.”

Several of the events scheduled reflect this goal.

A new event held today in the TSC lounges will help students understand what can be done with a degree earned from the college of CHaSS, Anderson said.

“We will have individuals talk about what you can do with your degree,” he said. “We will have career services there and the advising office, just to kind of show individuals in our college and out of our college what you can do with a CHaSS degree.”

Anderson said the college will be conducting a survey for students in Old Main,

See CHASS, Page 3

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

• Police responded to the Blue Terrace on several students soliciting in the area. Police made contact with the students who were participating in an entrepreneur event through the business school. The students moved their lemonade stand to another location so it wouldn’t interfere with the parking structure.

Police were notified of a minor accident involving a Aggie Shuttle bus. The bus was stopped at the TSC when it was struck by an SUV, which then left the scene. There was no damage to the bus. The driver is still unknown as is the amount of damage it sustained.

Thursday, March 27

• Police responded to 800 E. 900 North on a van that was blocking traffic. A van had run out of gas. A Facilities employee put enough gas in the vehicle so they could drive away.

• USU Police responded to a noise problem in Aggie Village. The resident was contacted and the music was turned down.

Compiled by Marissa Neeley

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Transportation master plan in the works



AGGIE SHUTTLE SERVICE is among the variety of issues the university wants to remedy with student input in creating the transportation master plan.

University officials hope to remedy problems with parking, Aggie Shuttle service, cycling, pedestrian crowding and other issues

► **By Manda Perkins**
staff writer

USU Facilities has teamed up with USU Student Services to come up with a plan to make getting to and around campus a little easier. The offices plan to hire a transportation planning expert in April who will take a closer look at travel patterns and outline a plan of action.

According to Jordy Guth, an architect and planner for the university, this plan has been years in the making. Student Services joined the Facilities office in the process last fall after confronting multiple student complaints regarding the state of campus transportation.

“Students are our clients and the reason we are here,” she said. “I think the students are going to be a huge driver of this plan. We really want to make it all inclusive. It’s going to be a very open process. I think that’s really the only way to do planning.”

USU Student Association President Doug Fiefa credits myVoice as a helpful tool in bringing these issues to light.

“Before myVoice was created, it was just disgruntled students, and I was one of them,” he said. “Now we can go to students who have Parking

and Transportation concerns and say, ‘We’re spending this money to find out more, and this is going to change because of your voice.’”

Guth said the goal is to outline a plan that will remedy problems seen regarding parking, the Aggie Shuttle service, bicyclists, pedestrian crowding and other issues. It will also outline a travel demand management program, which will increase safety and efficiency of travel.

“We’re not sure where we’re going to end up, but that’s what the plan is for,” she said.

Student convenience won’t be the only factor in the making of the plan. Sustainability is also a major player, Guth said, especially with the val-

ley’s air quality. She hopes to enhance and better integrate bike and pedestrian travel as well as other non-motorized forms of transportation.

“We have the President’s Climate Commitment that has given us a real goal and charge to become carbon neutral,” she said. “Transportation, just by commuters, accounts for 23 percent of our carbon footprint, so we know it is a big chunk of where we need to be working.”

This is not intended to be a quick fix, but a way to map out solutions. When a planning professional is selected, intensive data gathering and studies

will be conducted regarding the multiple transportation entities on campus. This will include traffic counts, bike counts and surveying areas of heaviest traffic.

Facilities will also call on the expertise of other local groups such as Cache Valley Transit District and the Cache Metropolitan Planning Organization. To ensure students are also involved in this process, representatives from Aggie Blue Bikes, Campus Recreation, Housing and Residence Life, the Students for Sustainability Club and several other organizations will be present on the decision making board.

Guth plans for the data gathering and analysis process to take nine months to a year to complete. A master plan will then be made and problem-solving projects will be prioritized.

The exact cost of this effort will not be determined until a private contractor is hired.

James Morales, vice president of Student Services, estimates it will cost between \$90,000 and \$100,000. Half of that, he said, will be paid for through the selective investment account, which are state funds set aside for university improvement. The other half will be funded with capital improvement dollars, which also come from the state every year to improve university infrastructure.

Morales said the money spent on this planning process will be well worth it.

“This is critically important for our university and our students,” he said. “One of the most pressing issues that students raise to me is parking and traffic on campus ... We’ve never sat down and truly looked at it from holistic perspective to come up with a plan to solve the issues. The impact of this study is pretty significant for our students’ well-being and the campus community.”

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Society of Women Engineers engages high schoolers

Event planners seek to show girls that engineering is more than math problems

► **By Christopher Nicholson**
staff writer

Engineering has long been a male-dominated field, but the Society of Women Engineers aims to change that. One of its initiatives toward this end was to hold an Engineering Extravaganza for local high school girls on Saturday.

“Much of our culture and society doesn’t see women in the same light as men,” said Bailey Swanson, treasurer of SWE. “Straight from childhood, they have the distinction of Legos and Barbies. We work to help girls see they can be a Lego kind of person as well.”

“It’s an intimidating environment for a female to step into, not just because of the male dominance but the load of science and math that is heavily involved with it,” said Olivia Leonhardt, vice president of corporate affairs for SWE.

Lori Caldwell, vice president of outreach for SWE,

said Engineering Extravaganza is an annual, all-day activity.

“We do a couple of workshops, some hands-on activities and just explore things,” Caldwell said.

Swanson said the activities included a tour of USU’s underground steam tunnels and Central Energy Plant, a marshmallow structure-building challenge, a temperature-to-sound experiment, and a computer-aided design demonstration from John DeVitri of the Space Dynamics Lab.

Caldwell said SWE recruits Extravaganza attendees by advertising in local high schools and emailing teachers and counselors to have them target girls who are interested in science and math. The turnout has improved in the Extravaganza’s three years of operation.

“We have about 60 high school girls here,” she said. “Last year we only had 22 girls, and the year before we only had seven girls.”

Caldwell and Leonhardt said the proportion of women involved in engineering is still low, at about 15 or 16 percent nationally and even lower at USU. However, this number has been increasing over the years as well.

“I believe this is because of groups like SWE that have a strong outreach emphasis that are showing girls that they can do this,” Leonhardt said. “Extravaganza shows these girls that engineering is more than just straight math problems.”

“We’re still facing some issues, but as we move forward there’s less stigma, and we care less what it says,” Swanson said. “We’re in a generation where it’s OK to be different and actually cool.”

“One final point of Extravaganza is to show girls that they aren’t alone in engineering and that they should believe in their ability to do anything,” Leonhardt said. “We are excited to have them and want them to succeed.”

Caldwell said Extravaganza was sponsored by the College of Engineering, the Science, Technology, Engineering, Education and Mathematics (STE2M) Center and the department of civil and environmental engineering.

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Rustin

From Page 1

Shannon Peters is Rustin’s graduate student teacher at Sound Beginnings. She said Rustin is finally getting into the therapy and classroom routine.

“He’s an amazing little boy, just brightens the room,” she said. “His family has high hopes for him.”

Jones said the biggest challenge was going through the years and not knowing he had a problem. Though Rustin was born with cortical dysplasia, he wasn’t diagnosed until he was nearly 3 years old. His symptoms only became apparent over time, when his mother noticed he wasn’t using the left side of his body.

Doctors are baffled that Rustin can walk at all, Jones said. Because of this, doctors haven’t been helpful in telling the family what to do.

“He should be a vegetable in a wheelchair, but he’s not,” she said. “We just take it one day at a time.”

For Jones, the Braveheart run shows the family that they’re not alone in wanting to help Rustin.

Rustin and his family all participated in the 5K. Past beneficiaries of the Braveheart run, children named Mason and Melanie, were also there with their families. This was the fourth year of the Braveheart run.

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CHaSS

From Page 2

the agricultural sciences building and the Ray B. West Building from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Thursday.

“We are building a new CHaSS building and want to get their opinion on that, as well as just on their educational experience in general and how it could be improved,” he said.

Natalie Smoot, assistant to the CHaSS dean, said the theme of what to do with a CHaSS degree will continue Friday with guest speaker Todd Jorgenson speaking at 11:30 a.m. at the Alumni Center.

Anderson said Jorgenson, a periodontist with the dental team for the NBA’s Phoenix Suns, was selected because of his unique career path.

“It’s a good opportunity for students to see that you can be really successful,” he said. “He will talk about how his degree has

helped him in his field, even though you wouldn’t think it would.”

Kaela Baucom, the arts and lectures director on the Student Traditions, Activities and Arts Board, said Slam Poet Night, featuring Joshua Bennett, will be held Friday at 7 p.m. through the combined effort of the CHaSS Council and USU/SA.

“Joshua Bennett is a famous slam poet,” she said. “He’s performed at the White House and has done a lot of other various work.”

Baucom said the activity is a resurrection of the former Beat Poet Night, which was started by students about five years ago.

“They wanted to do an event that encompassed poetry more because Poetry and a Beverage is drawn more towards the music side nowadays,” she said. “Eventually it kind of just fell apart, and I decided to pick it back up again.”

The week will wrap up Friday night with a showing of “Anchorman 2,” Anderson said.

“That’s why we have the theme, ‘Stay CHaSSy, USU,’” he said.

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Pharrell's 'Girl' left me unhappy

► Scott E Hall

Album
Critic
4/10



Clap your hands if you feel like a room without a roof. For everybody else, keep reading.

2013 was a golden year for Pharrell Williams. He played an important role in some truly great hip-hop and R&B songs, including vocals on the radio-conquering tracks "Get Lucky" and "Blurred Lines." He's also provided some talented production for Schoolboy Q and Earl Sweatshirt. He even made a song for a generic Hollywood animated sequel film and it's currently one of the most popular songs in the world, accompanied with its own 24-hour music video. Having been a fan of Pharrell's most recent work, I came into this album with expectations.

"Girl" is a collection of unimpressive songs that reveal Pharrell's songwriting weaknesses. I recognize how much potential and talent this guy has, and this album is a disappointing representation of his work. These songs are fun, humorous and positive, yet they are lyrical

► See **GIRL**, Page 5

Dancers contribute to fight cancer



Meghann Nixon photo

STUDENTS SPENT SATURDAY NIGHT dancing in the David B. Haight Alumni House in an effort to raise money for USU's Relay for Life event. The event was co-sponsored by USU/SA and the Colleges Against Cancer club.

Students donate more than \$800 for the American Cancer Society, Huntsman Cancer Institute

► By **Hillary Newton**
staff writer

The David B. Haight Alumni House was filled with glow sticks, music from DJ Neva Sleep and dancers fighting cancer Saturday night.

USU students in attendance gave a minimum \$3 donation at the door with proceeds donated to further cancer research. Students who participated danced, ate ice cream, used a photo booth and won door prizes.

The USU Relay for Life is an all-night

event to raise money for cancer research, commemorate cancer survivors and raise awareness of cancer risks. The American Cancer Society sponsors relays in communities, at college or high school campuses and throughout more than 20 countries worldwide. The proceeds from USU's Relay for Life are donated to the American Cancer Society, which then donates to Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Brock Lords, a freshman and team captain chairperson for Relay, was in attendance Saturday night.

"Dancers Fight Cancer went better than anyone could have ever hoped for," Lords said. "It was all the excitement (of) a normal dance party with all the generosity of a charity event. It was incredible."

Lords said he's looking forward to this same excitement at the main event in April. He plans to continue his involvement through the following years he will spend at USU.

Steve Wilcox, a sophomore and team recruitment and sponsorships chair, was excited for the event as a showcase

to kick off the 2014 Relay for Life.

"Participating in Relay for Life is a great way to give back," Wilcox said. "One of mottos the (ACS Relay for Life) has is that cancer never sleeps, so neither will we. That's why Relay lasts all night long."

Wilcox is one of many students who have seen the effects of cancer.

"My cousin Blake was only 6 when diagnosed with leukemia cancer. I would take him to Primary Children's

► See **DANCE**, Page 5

Humans of USU: Alyssa Benson dreams of the simple life



The Utah Statesman interviewed Alyssa Benson, a senior in veterinary science from Riverton, Utah.

The Utah Statesman: Tell us about your hair.

Alyssa Benson: I haven't had regular hair ever, I don't think. My senior year of high school, I had a mullet. I've had a mohawk, and I've shaved the side of my head before. I've always wanted dreads, but I know you have to buzz your head after ... So I finally committed to it just in December. I didn't want to do it halfway through the semester because I didn't want professors to think I was crazy ... Over Christmas break, I had my mom help me and we just YouTube'd tons of videos, so it was like my Christmas present.

US: So your parents have been supportive?

AB: My mom has for sure. She has always been like, "Do what you want." My dad doesn't say anything. He is not allowed to comment on my hair anymore, so he just saw the dreads and he was like, "Alright, that's fine."

US: What's the craziest reaction you've ever received?

AB: I've had 50-year-old moms be like, "I love it. Can I take a picture of your hair?" ... I find out how many people have actually always wanted them. I had a boy just flat-out tell me I was disgusting. The assumption is you don't shower, you're not clean. I've gotten some pretty crazy reactions, but usually positive.

US: We assume that you do shower?

AB: Yes, I mean, when I find the time. But for the most part, yes. And I have a giant shower cap that I put on my head so that they don't get soaking wet, because it takes hours to dry them.

US: Who is your hero and why?

AB: One of my heroes, bear with me, is 2 Chainz because I think that he's overlooked as a person, honestly. I just have a lot of respect for that guy. I just don't think he gets enough attention. I re

Mikayla Kapp photo

SENIOR ALYSSA BENSON enjoys running long distances, listening to 2 Chainz and sporting unique hairstyles.

► See **BENSON**, Page 5

Girl

From Page 4

cally impersonal and musically uneventful. It’s like Pharrell decided to release an album just for kicks and giggles. In response, I will kick and giggle at it.

Sometimes artists strike gold when they have fun with their lyrics — for example, “What rhymes with hug me?” — but Pharrell’s attempts here are simply unappealing. People may question how one can tell if a song is “personal” or not. I will show you how with commentary on some ridiculous lyrics found on this album. “When I open the window I wanna hug you, ’cause you remind of the air.” Good analogy, bruh. Do you come in like a wrecking ball while you’re at it? “Let me serve you hot sex and gold, shiny things. I think you are a lost queen.” The girl sitting next to me just laughed so hard from reading that, milk came out her nose. ““Duck Dynasty’s’ cool and all, but they got nothin’ on a woman’s call.” I’m sorry sir, this is a studio. The third grade poetry contest is down the hall.

The music may be uneventful, but it’s enough to make people dance, which is why “Girl” is currently one of the most popular albums in the world. The production is just so thin and sounds like mere mediocre work was put into it. This album also breaks music critic Anthony Fantano’s R&B gold-

en rule: “If you got no bass, you got no case.” “Girl” has no case.

I feel like I’d have to be some heartless jerk not to like “Happy.” This song is entertaining and radio-worthy in my book. Lots of people are out there making the same kind of positive R&B grooves, but this song lives up to its title. It’s easily the best track on the album. The collaborations on here; Justin Timberlake on “Brand New” and Alicia Keys on “Know Who You Are” are album highlights.

I appreciate Pharrell’s attempts to sound ambitious on here, although the results can sound weak. “Lost Queen” has some African rhythms and has two different songs contained within its eight-minute length. It’s not a bad track, but it isn’t enjoyable in its entirety. “Marilyn Monroe” has some fun hints of early Michael Jackson melodies, but it lacks a true soul. That definition of “Marilyn Monroe” basically sums up “Girl”: A guy trying to make throw-back music while singing generic emotional cliches in a falsetto voice. Pharrell is seen wearing a robe and a pair of aviators on the album cover. A clear sign of his lazy approach to this album. Please do yourselves a favor and

hear the new War on Drugs album “Lost in the Dream.” Stay happy.

MY RATING: 4/10

– 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 scotte-hall3@gmail.com.



Benson

From Page 4

ally do love 2 Chainz. I listen to him every day and always before a test.

US: And that has good results for you?

AB: Always, always. Only if I listen to him, though. Or if I’m stressed out, I have to listen to him, have to dance to him at the house. My roommates love it.

US: What are you most excited for about the future?

AB: Probably living on a farm somewhere, owning a horse, and owning a truck and doing whatever I want, whenever I want. That’s a lot to look forward to ... wear cowboy boots every day, with dreads.

US: What has been the happiest moment of your life?

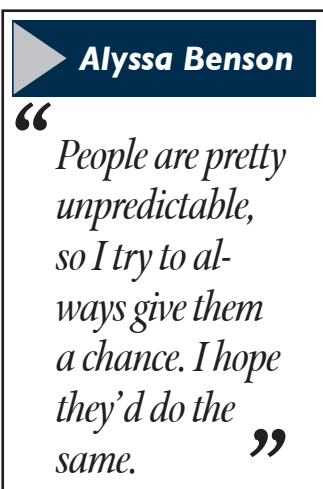
AB: Me and my roommate run a different distance every year that we’ve lived together, so last year we ran to Idaho. That was 19.4 miles-ish. *S o m e t h i n g* like that. In three weeks we’re running through Sardinia Canyon, so that’s like a potential happiest moment. It’s from Logan Temple to Brigham City Temple, and if we can run it, it’s like 25.4 (miles.)

US: What’s your biggest fear?

AB: I think appearance-wise I present myself in a very certain way, and I fear that people have a pre-determined stigma

of me. So I think that’s a big fear of mine, just that when people see me, or before people get to know me, that they’ve *a l r e a d y* thought something of me. I think for the most part people are pretty unpredictable,

so I try to always give them a chance. I hope they’d do the same.



US: What’s the worst thing you ever ate?

AB: There was a “Fear Factor” that I did a couple years ago at some camp and I ate a pig’s foot. That was pretty gross. I’d say that’s probably the worst.

US: What’s the best advice you ever received?

AB: There’s a quote that says, “Wherever you go, there you are.” I feel like that’s such good advice to me. I feel like at this age, people have so many expectations for themselves, more than anybody else has for them. And you feel like you’re not supposed to be currently struggling with this or unhappy with this situation, so you have to be somewhere else. But that’s not how it is. If you’re at that point in your life, then that’s where you are. Wherever you go, there you are. It’s as simple as that. You have to be content.

Dance

From Page 4

Hospital, and it would really break my heart to see all the other children there,” Wilcox said. “At such a young age, that really impacted me.”

Brandon Woodward, a junior and committee member for team recruitment and sponsorship, came up with the idea to host a dance night to get excitement about the Relay held on April 11 in the Nelson Field-house.

“We really wanted student involvement, but something fun for everyone,” Woodward said.

The Dancers Fight Cancer event was held Saturday night after Poetry and a Bev-

erage. Woodward decided to use PoBev as a way to advertise to those who just didn’t want a short end to their Saturday night.

“Utah State loves dancing and concerts,” Woodward said. “I thought, ‘Why not use a night as an opportunity for fun and at the same time, really helping people?’ It’s a double whammy.”

The Colleges Against Cancer Club has a goal of 50 teams participating in Relay this year. A competition against the University of Utah is a driving force in this goal as well. There are 30 teams signed up, and there is a \$10 sign-up fee per team.

Teams, generally consisting of 8-30 people, raise money through sources like friends, family and business pledges. Creativity is key to raising donations, Wilcox said. During the event, teams hold bake sales, arts and crafts, T-shirt sales or anything to get people involved. One team al-

ready plans to have a Nintendo Wii video game console up for a “Just Dance” competition.

There are other ways to donate as well. Buffalo Wild Wings will be participating in the event April 11-12. If customers mention Relay for Life with any food, drink or take-out orders on those days, 10 percent of the money from their purchase will be given to the event.

Wilcox said joining a team, donating, coming to the event and inviting others are great ways to contribute to this cause. USU Relay for Life will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 11. For more information, visit www.relayforlife.org and type “Utah State University” into the search bar or go to www.facebook.com/USURelayForLife.

– hinewton13@gmail.com

Stephenie Meyer’s ‘The Host’ makes up for ‘Twilight’ blunder

Remember “Twilight”? The mere mention of it is likely to send a shudder up your spine. It was the rave of raves as far as books go; that is, next to “Harry Potter,” “The Hunger Games” and the current one, “Divergent.”

Oh, junior high. That is when “Twilight” became a phenomenon. There were Team Jacobs and Team Edwards, horribly made movies and the renewed fandom of vampires and werewolves was born.

Now before you stop reading, just know this is not a book review about “Twilight” — heaven forbid. It’s funny when I look back at some book reviews I wrote about “Twilight.” I laugh, but I think I want to cry at how well-done and amazing I thought it was. When compared to some — no, scratch that — when compared to anything, “Twilight” is quite pitiful.

So what does this have to do with anything? Stephenie Meyer, the author of the “Twilight” Saga, wrote a solo novel after you-know-what. That novel, “The Host,” contains a lot of the same writing style you find in “Twilight.” However, “The Host” is definitely better-written, with better characters, a surprisingly good original plot and a better movie to go along with it.

The trendy books these days seem to be futuristic, dystopian societies. This book isn’t necessarily dystopian, but definitely futuristic when our race has become self-destructive, making it necessary for aliens to invade and inhabit our bodies. These aliens are a small specimen which, when injected into the neck of a human, changes the human’s eyes and controls its body, thus turning the human race into an utopian society.

Out of the five novels Meyer has written, “The Host” is by far the best one of her books to pick up and read. The size of the book may be daunting. Maybe the huge face you see on the cover of the book frightens you; who knows. It’s a fast read and nothing like Dickens when you have read over the same sentence 50 times to grasp its meaning.

Let’s delve a little into the movie, shall we? I know, I know. This is a book review column, and you’re dying to read every little detail about the book, but let’s face the facts: You can read the book and find out the details yourself. I suppose you could technically watch the movie and find out all about the movie that way, but there’s nothing like good old-fashioned analysis. That’s what professors emphasize nowadays. I’m only a freshman, and that word along with “networking” are both starting to get annoying.

My advice before we begin is to not read the book immediately before seeing the movie. This happened to me when I saw the movie “The Book Thief.” I had finished the book maybe a week before and though the movie was good, I had pictured everything completely different in my head than they did in the movie. I also found myself talking to my friends about everything that was left out or misrepresented as we left the theater. I think you’ll find, like I did, that you annoy the crap out of your friends and while you’re at it yourself. So no. Don’t do that.

My former tap class re-read the book right before seeing the movie, and the next time I showed up to class, they asked what I thought.

I loved it. Seriously. Don’t judge. It had been probably two years since I read the book, and while I remembered the main plot and details, the little things were lost to me. I like the actors — one of them is especially good-looking. Again, don’t judge. I thought what I had pictured in my head and what they portrayed coincided nicely. But my class? Heck no. They didn’t like it at all. One girl, Chloe, had finished the book minutes before the movie started. That’s a no-no. Naturally, you are going to hate a movie when you just finished the book it is based on unless it followed perfectly, which is preposterous. Since when does that happen?

All in all, read “The Host.” Watch it. It’s even on Netflix. However you get your fix of storytelling, do it. I recommend it.

– Marissa Neeley is a freshman majoring in history with an emphasis in teaching. She is an avid reader, reading anything from historical fiction and fantasy to romance and nonfiction. Send any comments to marissaneeley@aggiemail.usu.edu.



Teenage tanning increases risks of skin cancer

► By Jeremy Olson
Star Tribune (MCT)

MINNEAPOLIS – In the quest to look “better, cuter, hotter,” a troubling number of teenage girls in Minnesota are exposing themselves to harmful levels of ultraviolet light with tanning beds and increasing their risks of skin cancer.

Fully a third of white 11th-grade Minnesota girls have tanned indoors in the past year, according to a state survey released Tuesday, and more than half of them used sun beds, sunlamps or tanning booths at least 10 times in a recent 12-month period.

The results were sobering to public health officials and dermatologists, who have struggled to find a message as persuasive to teens as the desire to achieve mythic beauty or look bronzed in prom photos.

Indoor tanning beds deliver 10 to 15 times more ultraviolet radiation than natural sunlight and increase risks of developing melanoma by at least 59 percent, according to studies.

Yet many teens assume the consequences will strike other people or much later in life.

“Not so,” said Dr. Cindy Firkins Smith, a dermatologist and president of the Minnesota Medical Asso-

ciation. “I’m seeing 20-year olds with melanoma, and I’m seeing 30-year olds die of the disease.”

This is the first year that tanning bed usage by teens was included in the Minnesota Student Survey, which is compiled every three years by the state Health and Education departments. It assesses everything from how much milk and vegetables students consume, to the hours they spend texting, to the number of times they contemplate suicide or abuse drugs.

“Better? Cuter? Hotter? I don’t know what the motivation is” for tanning, Smith said. “Why do teenagers do anything? They drive too fast. Their brains aren’t fully developed ... enough to make decisions that will affect them for the rest of their lives.”

While melanoma is treatable if found early – often when people notice changes in the shapes, sizes or colors of moles on their bodies – it is the deadliest form of skin cancer when discovered late. Researchers at the Mayo Clinic recently reported that the melanoma risk in women younger than 40 is now eight times greater than it was in the 1970s, before the growth in tanning salons, and that the risk in women ages 40 to 60 is now 24 times greater.

Smith said a telltale sign of the link to tanning is the number of “funny looking moles and brown spots where typically the sun doesn’t shine,” such as

on breasts or buttocks exposed during tanning.

The Virginia-based Indoor Tanning Association, which represents indoor tanning manufacturers, distributors, and facility owners, said Tuesday there is a “growing body of science produced by independent medical professionals that demonstrates the many health benefits of regular moderate exposure to ultraviolet light, either from the sun or from a sun bed.”

It might be true that tanning beds can expose people to healthy vitamin D and give pick-me-ups to people depressed by long, gray winters, said Dr. Jerry Brewer, the Mayo dermatologist who led recent studies on increased cancer rates.

But vitamin D comes in cheap supplements, and there are other ways to weather the winter, he said. “Compared to having a cancer that could kill you, it’s just a no-brainer what you should choose.”

The message might be getting through, but not until after the teen years. Results of a similar national survey, released last summer, showed high rates of tanning bed usage started to decline when women reached their twenties.

Janey Helland of Fargo, N.D., started tanning in high school as a way to look good for prom or homecoming. Erin Haugen of Appleton, Minn., said it was the thing to do in her teens.

“You’re looking at magazines, you’re looking at these beautiful women, and they are usually tan,” Haugen said.

The two women, both 25, shared the same experience of discovering odd-shaped lumps on their skin and having surgeries after they were diagnosed with melanoma.

The tanning phenomenon is largely a female one. Among white 11th-grade boys in Minnesota, only one in 20 used a tanning bed at any time in the past year, according to the student survey data.

State lawmakers have begun confronting the problem; California, for example, bans tanning bed use by minors. In Minnesota, in-person parental permission is needed for anyone under 16 years old to use a commercially operated tanning bed. The state Health Department is also promoting a “UVideo Challenge,” calling on teens to create short videos about the dangers of tanning.

Smith hopes word will get out so she has fewer 20-year-olds regretting their life choices as teens. She lost a 30-year-old patient last year.

“If I could have changed one thing in my life,” Smith recalled the patient saying. “I wouldn’t have – and then she used an expletive – gone to the tanning booth.”

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FOOTBALL

Continuing the tradition



Kylee Larsen photo

SENIOR LINEBACKER ZACH VIGIL celebrates with a teammate during USU's first scrimmage of the spring football season March 21. Vigil, who was second on the team in tackles last season, heads a group of experienced linebackers.

Utah State's experienced group of linebackers looks to excel once again this season

► **By Jeffrey Dahdah**
assistant sports editor

Despite the graduation of a senior leader and a new coach, Utah State's linebacking corp is reloaded for the 2014 campaign.

The USU football team rode its defense past a multitude of injuries and a 1-3 out-of-conference record to an appearance in the inaugural Mountain West championship game and a Poinsettia Bowl victory last season. The Aggies were No. 7 in the nation in points against last season and No. 8 in rushing defense.

"I think we have the potential to be a top-10 or a top-five defense in the nation again," said junior outside linebacker Kyler Fackrell, who was third on the team in tackles last season. "That's what we're shooting for. A goal of ours is just

to be, if not the best defense, one of the best defenses in the nation."

The linebackers were major contributors to the success on defense last season. The top three tacklers on the team were linebackers in Fackrell, Zach Vigil and Jake Doughty.

The current group of linebackers point toward the example that the graduated linebackers set as a reason for their success.

"It's just a testament to the guys that came before us. They all worked their butts off, you know, like Jake Doughty, Bobby Wagner, Kyle Gallagher," said sophomore inside linebacker Nick Vigil. "They were all great linebackers, and that's kind of a compliment to them, to what they've done, and we're just trying to keep the legacy going."

It was a sentiment Fackrell echoed.

"It started all the way back to

Bobby and Kyle, and then Jake and then Zach took over, and it's just kind of continued as being a good mentor shift all the way down," he said.

Doughty, who led the team in tackles last season and provided leadership for the linebackers, won't be returning

this season due to graduation. However, Zach Vigil is ready to step in to the leadership position left by Doughty.

"I think that the team looks to us as an example. If I show up slumping my head and slumping my shoulders, I can see the effect it has on the team," Zach Vigil said. "I

mean, I'm not perfect. I don't show up every day always head hot, ready to run around and fly around, but you've got to try to do it."

Former linebacker coach for the Aggies Kevin Clune went to Hawaii to take over the defensive coordinator position. As a result, the first few weeks of spring football have been overseen by a new coach for the linebackers in Joe Lorig.

"They went pretty good with coach Lorig," Zach Vigil said. "He's still learning the defense. We run a lot of stuff though, so you can't really blame him for that. We've got a lot of things to go in, but so far he's doing a good job."

Lorig has been excited to work with his new group, but he is still figuring them out.

"It's been great. I'm excited about the group. We've got some really good players," he said. "I didn't really know the

level of talent, and I still don't know because I don't know what to compare it to. I knew that Utah State had some good

son.

"I expect them to be All-Americans," Lorig said. "First and foremost I expect them to have great character off the field, that's the most important thing, and I expect them to have great grades, then I expect them to be great players. There's no reason they can't be the best players in the Mountain West, then from there you expect them to be some of the best players in the country. My expectations for them are very high."

The rest of the linebackers also expect great things from their unit and their team this season.

"We have a great opportunity to improve upon last year and to actually win the Mountain West championship," Fackrell said.

— dahdahjm@gmail.com
Twitter: @dahdahUSU

Kyler Fackrell
Junior Linebacker

"I think we have the potential to be a top-10 or a top-five defense in the nation again."

players, and I knew that I felt that I could bring some things to the table to make them better."

Lorig said he has high expectations for his players this sea-

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Billion-dollar B.S.

Throughout all the land, Sir Warren Buffett sought for the bracket that would survive 67 heated matches to perfection.

Was there such a bracket to be found? Turmoil and upset during this battle, the Madness of March, left many dead and wounded along the wayside — brackets, that is — and alas, all hope was lost after merely 25 games. Sir Buffet will retain his once promised treasure, a treasure he wasn't sweating about losing, considering the odds.

To quote Buffett, as he stated on the Dan Patrick Show, referring to forking out the cash, that "I wouldn't have minded doing it. We've paid out big on insurance policies in the past - we paid out \$3 billion on Katrina, so that's just part of the insurance business. It would not

have bothered me to pay out the billion."

It's a hard luck life for Warren Buffett.

According to DePaul University math professor Jeff Bergen, your odds of correctly predicting 67 games would be something like one in 128 billion.

You'd have a better chance of being struck by lightning three times in the same day, while holding two winning lottery tickets, after getting bit by a shark as your airplane crashes — or something like that.

Who knows: You do the math. Either way, the rich get richer and the poor get more depressed.

One fact you may not be aware of is that the top-20 finishers in the contest will each come out \$100,000 richer than they started the con-

► **Brad Ferguson**



An aerial view

test. That's enough to buy you and your wife courtside tickets to every Philadelphia 76ers home game for 6 seasons.

Think of all the opportunities.

Fun fact: If you enter the term "100K" into Google

► See **BRACKET**, Page 7

Bracket

From Page 6

Translator and adjust the language translation from English to Warren-Buffettin, it actually reads “chump change.” Who would’ve thought.

Another reason Buffett wasn’t going to break a sweat about the whole billion-dollar deal was that he already had plans to buy out any contender who got close to that lump sum. Think of it as a big game of “Deal or no Deal” on steroids, except the briefcase holds \$1 billion and Warren Buffet is Howie Mandel and the banker.

Let’s say you’re smart enough, or more correctly, lucky enough to have the perfect bracket all the way up to the Final Four. You’re sitting across the desk — presumably a very nice, large desk, maybe mahogany, with little engravings of his favorite safari animals — from big-business Buffett himself.

He congratulates you on making it as far as you have, and in the same breathe of air offers you \$15 million to quit right now. Would that be enough incentive to stop? What if he only offered you \$10 million?

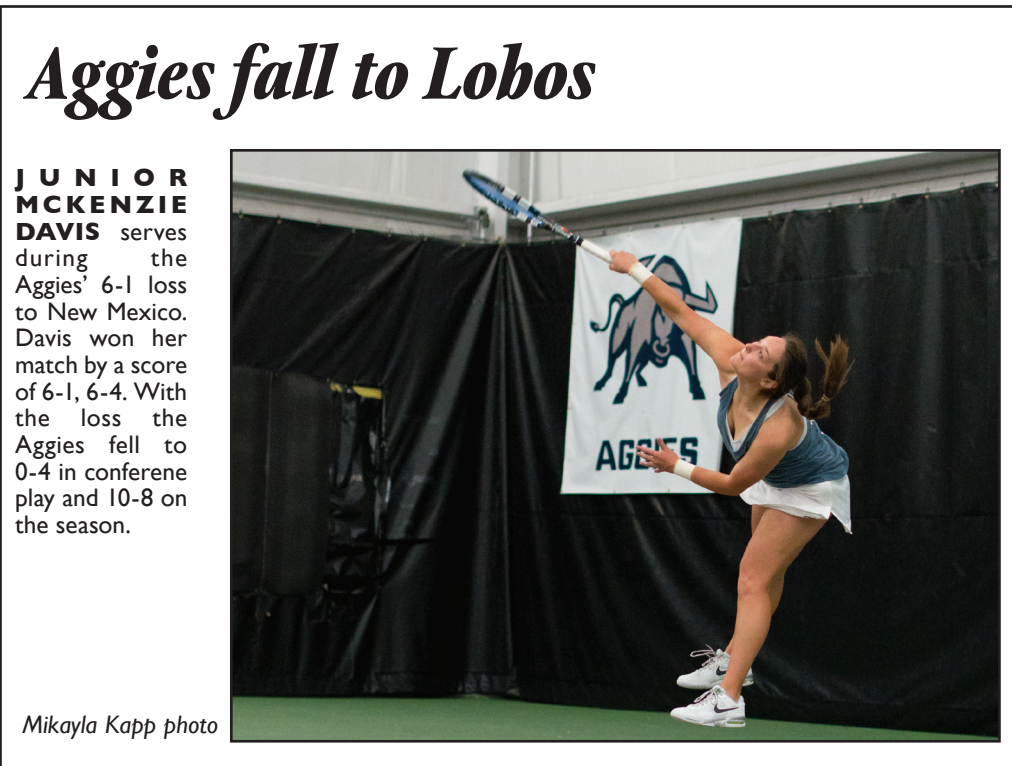
What if Warren Buffet offers you a mere one million to leave bracketology and retire to Cancun? Would you take it? I think we would all have a hard time saying no.

To be honest, none of us will get that chance; at least not this year.

“Wait till next year, though,” Buffett said. “I think we’re going to come up with something better next year. We’ll make it easier to win, but I think we’ll have an exciting prize.”

An exciting prize indeed, I’m sure. Another year to win it big and another year for Sir Buffett to sitteth upon his mounds of treasure, smiling upon the basketball world.

— Brad Ferguson is a sophomore studying to be a major airline commercial pilot and accomplished rap-battler. Contact him at brad.ferguson76@gmail.com or tweet @BradFerg47.



Taking a swing: staff MLB pre-season picks

American League

East

Central

West

American League Wildcards

World Series:

Cardinals over Tigers

National League

East

Central

West

National League Wildcards

► Staff report

There will be 2,430 games, at least 21,870 innings and at least 131,220 outs over the course of the summer. When all of that is done, MLB postseason play will ensue.

There will be home runs, strikeouts, walk-offs and maybe even a perfect game or two over the course of the summer. There will be raised tempers, farewell tours and pennant races.

There will be thousands of fans catching souvenirs in the stands, thousands will brave the heat of afternoon games and thousands will pile into stadiums to take in America’s game over the course of the summer.

By the time October rolls around, the field of 30 will be narrowed down to 10.

As a staff, the sports section of The Statesman has discussed, debated and disputed the possible results when the colder months show up and we have made picks. But the beautiful thing about a sport that spans seven months is that nobody’s predictions at the beginning will be close to the end result.

There will be injuries, trades and flat-out surprises. There will be players nobody knew anything about in April who will be household names by June. There will be teams nobody took seriously at the beginning of the season that are competing for playoff positions by the end. If you don’t buy into that, just look at Yasiel Puig or the Pittsburgh Pirates last season.

Buckle up and prepare for some excitement, because the next 192 days are going to be filled with it.

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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |

Unpaid internships are the high heels of the professional world

When I was little, I had zero tolerance for frills. Dressing up for church, weddings and piano recitals seemed quite like the modern equivalent of the most maleficent medieval torture practices. In preschool, I majored in treehouse construction with minors in mudpie fabrication and twig swordsmanship and managed an impressive GPA in all three fields. We'll ignore my failing grades in sparkly shoes and elementary hair-styling.

By the time I entered high school, I got an inkling that — devastatingly enough — I might not be able to avoid the “frills” thing for the rest of my life. The skirts and slacks, fine. I could survive a few hours in those. Earrings, and I actually got along passably well. But my arch-nemesis, which was unbearable above all, remained the object of my loathing: high heels.

Once my college days rolled around, high heels and I were locked in a constant battle as school and professional responsibilities seemed to bring them into my life more and more often. Sore ankles and squished toes made me wonder more than once why I was bothering to suffer for something that just didn't seem to be paying returns. Wearing heels was a nuisance, bearing a high-opportunity cost for comfortable feet, and it literally slowed me down as I clip-clopped between meetings sounding like the Royal Cavalry.

It was on an otherwise unremarkable day during my junior year that I had the “heels epiphany.” Wearing heels was an investment: a short-term sacrifice that was paying out



Briana Bowen

**The
Ninjacrat**

less-obvious yet real returns. When I would bite the bullet and rock the heels, my confidence increased, my level of professionalism rose and my business-like appearance made people take me more seriously. Plus, it was hard not to feel a little bit snazzy while rocking red satin stilettos.

For the dedicated few of you still reading

at this point, you're likely wondering how any of this fascinating narrative relates to unpaid internships. Behold.

Internships are the proverbial high heels of every undergraduate's college experience. Internships, whether they be in business or science or government, often require students to take time off from school, or at least reduce a semester's credit load, slowing them down in reaching the eventual goal of graduation. Doing an internship often has a high-opportunity cost. Students could be taking more classes, getting involved in more clubs or sports, or taking more naps — the most compelling argument, in my opinion — rather than doing an internship. If an internship is paid, sometimes it's a little easier to

swallow: If it's unpaid, it's often hard to justify making such a sacrifice with no obvious short-term return.

Yet internships are one of the best investments students can make. Serving an internship gives you not only practical experience to expand upon your classroom learning but also legitimacy in the eyes of employers and graduate programs. You made the sacrifice — challenging though it may have been — to develop yourself as a professional and as a person, rather than just being a check-the-box student. Anyone who graduates college has proven they can sit in a classroom and submit passable academic work, but the degree itself can only go so far in speaking to your caliber as a professional, as an innovator who will take every opportunity to improve and challenge yourself.

Make yourself a promise to try to do an internship or two before you graduate. It doesn't matter if it's local or national or even international: It'll be an investment you'll be glad you made. And like the red stilettos, I'll be surprised if you don't feel just a little bit awesome rocking your internship.

— Briana is a political science major in her last semester at USU. She is an avid road cyclist and a 2013 Truman Scholar. Proudest accomplishment: True Aggie. Reach Briana at b.bowen@aggiemail.usu.edu.

Briana Bowen

“Serving an internship gives you not only practical experience to expand upon your classroom learning but also legitimacy in the eyes of employers and graduate programs.”

How to plan a successful finals week



Ty Aller

**The
mind
matters**

It was the beginning of finals week, and you woke up late for your first test. You jumped out of bed and frantically searched for your clothes. As you rushed to the front door to leave, you realized you had already missed the bus. You found your roommate in the kitchen and begged him to drive you to your class.

When you arrived on campus, you rushed into the classroom 30 minutes late. You stumbled up to your professor and looked at her with the best puppy-dog eyes you could muster and asked her if she would still allow you to take the final. She laughed as she said, “You have fifteen minutes. Good luck.” You grabbed the test, sat down and frantically attempted to answer each question. As you read the test, you wondered what language the test was written in and if the professor was pulling a practical joke on the class. You definitely hadn't read about any of this information in your six-hour cram session that ended at

➤ See **ALLER**, Page 9

Horoscope love forecast: April 1

➤ **By Jennifer Shepherd**
The Lipstick Mystic (MCT)

Aries: March 21-April 19

Don't let other people control you. Mars is reminding you that you're a Fire sign, and Fire signs always need to be in charge. If your honey is trying to boss you around, you might need to set some limits and stand your ground.

Taurus: April 20-May 20

Watch your words this week. You could find yourself criticizing someone, and your negative language might rebound on you. Saturn is telling you not to tell your friends about your boyfriend's inadequacies because he won't appreciate your gossip.

Gemini: May 21-June 21

Someone could ask you out when you least expect it. The moon is showing you that you've impressed someone, only you didn't realize that this person had a crush on you until now. You'll have to decide whether you're attracted to this nice guy or girl.

Cancer: June 22-July 22

Venus is making you super sensitive. You should ask your sweetheart to give you a nice massage and offer you lots of compliments because you're feeling a little down. You deserve to be nurtured and appreciated, so don't hesitate to ask for help.

Leo: July 23-Aug. 22

You're in the mood to show off. The moon could inspire you to indulge in a sexy public display of affection with your honey. Or you might brag to several friends about that hot guy or girl you've been dating. You'll want to showcase your fiery sexuality.

Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 22

With Venus moving opposite your sign, you could find yourself at odds with your sweetheart. But try to look on any ongoing tension as a tool that can help you to grow in your relationship. Talk things over instead of keeping your feelings bottled up inside.

Libra: Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Communication is highlighted this week, thanks to the moon. You'll want to spend lots of time talking with your honey and with your closest friends. Sometimes you can't really figure out what you feel until you talk about it.

Scorpio: Oct. 24-Nov. 2

You could experience an almost psychic bond with your lover. Venus is heightening your sensitivity. If you have a sexy dream about your honey, this could be your subconscious communicating in a flirty way. Have fun with it.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22-Dec. 21

A moon opposition means that you could be questioning the very foundations of a relationship.

It's important to feel that you and your partner are on the same page and that you're working together to achieve shared goals.

Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan. 19

If your energy levels are low, don't schedule three dates in one night. The moon is encouraging you to take a break from your hectic life. You need to reconnect with yourself and be the hermit for a little bit so you can bring good energy to your relationships in the future.

Aquarius: Jan. 20-Feb. 18

You could get into trouble this week as Venus increases your desire to take risks. Just don't do something that you'll later regret. It's probably not a good idea to sleep with your best friend's wife or your girlfriend's sister, even if she's gorgeous.

Pisces: Feb. 19-March 20

Venus will be in your sign for several weeks, and this means that you could find yourself falling in love. At the very least, you'll be in a romantic and flirty mood. See if you can meet a few people who are friendly, available and tantalizing.

— Jennifer Shepherd, the Lipstick Mystic®, is an astrologer and syndicated columnist with over 2 million readers. For mystical fun and psychic insights visit www.lipstickmystic.com.

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH
CARTOONS.COM



Forum letters

Charity with motives isn't charity

To the editor:

Chick-fil-A was on campus recently, advertising that a percentage of money paid for sandwiches at a dinner event would go to the American Cancer Society. Genuinely friendly and morally-impelled volunteers asked passersby whether or not they are willing to help people with cancer.

Why complain? After all, it appears to be a win-win situation for Chick-fil-A and for cancer patients. The campaign

may help the company recover from its recent morally-charged publicity problems, and the restaurant likely stands to gain by drawing in hungry customers and bolster — not sacrifice — profits. As profits go up, so do donations.

This sounds good, but what are the motivations? Charity by nature is a situation in which someone is motivated to sacrifice for another without expecting self-benefit. To remove this understanding is to rid ourselves of the notion of charity and begin to do something else. It may be good business. It may be economically prudent. It may be a clever marketing strategy — but it is not genuine charity.

But who cares where the

money comes from, so long as there's plenty of it? Imagine someone concerned that she ought to donate. She has \$10. She spends \$8 on a sandwich; \$2 goes to the American Cancer Society. Without sacrificing for the sandwich, she may enjoy the sensation of morality as dessert. This type of marketed morality may say more about the customers than it does about the company.

Following our common definition of an act of charity, the whole \$10 may have gone to a foundation with no strings attached. In order to give to cancer research, it is possible to find an organization online

➤ See **LETTERS**, Page 9

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.

- Letters can be hand delivered or mailed to The Statesman in the TSC, Room 311, or can be emailed to: statesmaneditor@aggiemail.usu.edu.

The page

Opinions on this page (columns, letters) unless otherwise identified are **not** from Utah Statesman staff, but from a wide variety of members of the campus community who have strong opinions, just like you. This is an open forum. Want to write something? Contact: statesmaneditor@aggiemail.usu.edu.

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42/30
Tuesday
Snow



43/29
Wednesday
Partly cloudy



47/30
Thursday
Partly cloudy



54/33
Friday
Partly cloudy



54/37
Saturday
Partly cloudy

Tuesday, April 1

- 2014 Spring Runoff Conference, all day, Eccles Conference Center
- Mindfulness for Student Stress, 2-3 p.m., TSC 335
- Softball vs. Utah Valley, 4-6 p.m.
- Caine Chamber Ensembles, 7:30 p.m., Performance Hall

utahstatesman.com

Wednesday, April 2

- Produce Stand, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., TSC Patio
- Financial Health for Life, 1:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., Eccles Science Learning Center 130
- Lasting relationships: building better connections with the ones you love, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., TSC 310B
- Women and minority leaders, noon, Merrill-Cazier Library 208
- Healthy Sexuality Workshop Series, 12:30-1:30 p.m., TSC 310


utahstatesman.com

Thursday, April 3

- Overcoming Test Anxiety, 10-11 a.m., TSC 315A
- Women's tennis vs. Montana, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.,
- The Dark Side of Light Pollution, 7-8 p.m., Swaner EcoCenter
- Wassermann 2014: Stephen Hough, 7:30 p.m., Performance Hall

utahstatesman.com

Get Caught Reading
Win a \$50 gift card



Colton Erickson, a senior majoring in business administration, was caught reading about the basketball players who left the team. "I think it's sad. We have a strong tradition of a good basketball team and players must be unhappy, and that's why they are leaving."

Tuesday Crossword

ACROSS

1 ___-T; "Law & Order: SVU" actor

4 Spencer of "Chicago Fire"

9 Talk on and on

12 "Up ___ Night"

13 Largest city in Nebraska

14 Paul's cousin on "Mad About You"

15 Prefix for place or spell

16 "___ Fun Night"

17 Rap's Dr. ___

18 "Breaking ___: LA"

20 Rarin' to go

22 Actor on "The Millers"

26 Rock 'n' roll singer Bobby ___

27 Baseball great Mel ___

28 Commercials

29 Maya's role on "Up All Night"

32 Instruct

35 "Last ___"

39 "Book 'em, ___!"; catchphrase from "Hawaii Five-0"

40 Adams and Falco

42 "Two ___ a Half Men"

43 Make ___; ridicule

47 Word of mild surprise

48 Rhoda's ma

49 "Sing ___ of six-pence..."

50 Truman's monogram

51 Actor Mineo

52 ___ Michelle Gellar

53 Actress Leoni

DOWN

1 "___ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit

2 "___ Every Mountain"; song from "The Sound of Music"

3 ___ the Cow; Borden's mascot

4 One of the Duggar boys from "19 Kids and Counting"

5 Large bird that cannot fly

6 Tree secretion

7 "Murder, ___ Wrote"

8 Dog-___; like the pages of a well-read book

9 Early series for Sally Field

10 "___ and Trial"; old series for Ben Gazzara and Chuck Connors

11 Max of "The Beverly Hillbillies"

19 Unhappy

21 Long ___; in the distant past

23 Actor Benjamin

24 "___ cock horse to Banbury Cross..."

25 "I Left My Heart ___ Francisco"

29 Actress Peet

30 Property destroyer

31 Actress ___ B. Davis

33 AB followers

34 Concealed

36 Pieces of living room furniture

37 "In the Heat of the ___"

38 Canada migratory birds

39 Speaker's platform

41 ___ precedent; establish a pattern for others

44 Neighbor of Mexico: abbr.

45 Neither's partner

46 "Snakes ___ Plane"; movie for Samuel L. Jackson

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| 12 | | | | 13 | | | | | | 14 | | |
| 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | | 17 | | |
| 18 | | | 19 | | | | | 20 | 21 | | | |
| | 22 | | | | 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | | |
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| | | | | | | | | 28 | | | | |
| | 29 | 30 | 31 | | 32 | | | 33 | 34 | | | |
| | 35 | | | 36 | | | | | | 37 | 38 | |
| 39 | | | | | | | | 40 | | | | 41 |
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| 48 | | | | 49 | | | | | | 50 | | |
| 51 | | | | 52 | | | | | | 53 | | |

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