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## The Utah Statesman, April 10, 2014

Utah State University

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# Diversity in science main focus during presentations

► **By Bradley Robinson**  
staff writer

Inclusive Excellence, a national group promoting diversity and science, was featured as part of USU’s annual Research Week for the first time.

The event included poster presentations and speeches by Dana Sanchez, assistant professor of fisheries and wildlife at Oregon State University, and John Dehlin, an LDS blogger. Scott Bates, professor of psychology and associate vice president and associate dean of the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, said the idea to include Inclusive Excellence with Research Week came after the event was first held in the fall.

“For Research Week, we try to fold in interesting events and opportunities that have some cross-department pull, and diversity is one of them,” Bates said. “We had this in the fall and it was well-attended, and we thought it would be interesting to pull out some content and try to get a booster shot on Inclusive Excellence.”

## Dana Sanchez promotes diversity and understanding in academia

Sanchez a, member of Society for Advancement of Chicano/as and Native Americans in Science, gave a talk explaining reasons why diversity in academia is important and what universities and community members can do to encourage the participation of all people in science.

Sanchez said diversity is important in order to have more access to ideas, more influence from varieties of cultures and groups and to make science more relevant to communities.

“I would posit this: that part of the issue with resources and folks not trusting the data we produce and the conclusions we bring to them for their consideration may be that they don’t see themselves in us,” she said.

Sanchez said more people are starting to value the contributions science gives, but scientists do not reflect the diversity found in the U.S. In her field, for example, researchers are overwhelmingly white and male.

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# Local restaurant adds mural of Cache Valley

► **By Lindsey Snyder**  
staff writer

While out driving with his wife, USU business administration and marketing student Matthew Vance didn’t just see a blank wall on the side of Angie’s restaurant — he saw an opportunity.

“I wanted the experience managing a very public on-going campaign,” Vance said.

Vance said the main idea to paint a mural on the side of the Angie’s building was marketing.

“They already have the image of ‘Where the locals eat,’” Vance said. “This would just

expand that with the journey to the mural.”

Vance said the theme for the 12-by-50-foot mural contest, which they started advertising in October, was “around Cache Valley.”

The contest was judged by a 50 percent vote from a public panel and a 50 percent vote from a panel of two USU art professors and one Logan City Council member.

He said public input was a very important part of the mural.

“We’re taking this mural se

► See MURAL, Page 3

Matthew Vance

business student

“We’re taking this mural seriously. We want it to be a historical icon not only for the restaurant but also for the city.”

# Four-star general visits USU



Taylor Murray photo

**GEN. JIM MATTIS VISITED USU** to speak about civilian-military relations. He contributed 41 years of service to the U.S. military, was a four-star general for the U.S. Marine Corps and served as commander of United States Central Command after Gen. David Petraeus. He spoke about the importance of civilians being patriotic and exercising their right to vote because ultimately their vote controls the actions of the military.

## Gen. Jim Mattis talks about the link between civilians and the military

► **By Melanie Fenstermaker**  
staff writer

There is a growing gap between the military and civilian society, said Gen. Jim Mattis, a long-time U.S. Marine Corps member, former commander of United States Central Command and current Annenberg Distinguished Visiting Fellow.

Mattis, known for his 41 years of service and deep love for his country and fellow Marines, came to USU on Tuesday and gave a speech to hundreds of USU students, professors and local veterans about topics relating to his involvement with the U.S. Marine Corps.

Mattis said it is important for citizens to be politically involved because the military is run through them.

“Who actually owns the military are the people you vote on in your districts,” Mattis said. “Our military is obedient to the elected commander in chief. It’s obedient to even putting its life on the line with a blank check payable to the American people.”

He said there is a growing divide between liberalism and patriotism in the U.S. and said veterans should take passing down patriotic traditions seriously. He said veterans should vote for the president at future elections.

“We have to hold the wolves at bay,” Mattis said. “You’re going to have to buy time for our country until it can get its political unity again.”

Briana Bowen, a political science major and member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science

honors society, agreed with Mattis that citizens should get involved in politics.

“It’s important to maintain that psychological and emotional connection between military families and military service and the rest of us, who have such an intimate relation and dependence on the military for security and protec-

tion of our freedoms,” Bowen said.

During a question-and-answer session following his speech, Mattis was asked which qualities he believed to be most important in a leader. He said the most important quality, more important than trust, respect and physical toughness, is affection.

“Some people can show that their passion for excellence hasn’t wiped out their compassion for human beings,” Mattis said.

Those in attendance enjoyed listening to the general.

“He’s the real deal,” said Jeannie Johnson, a professor in the political science department. “He’s a living legend in the United States Marine Corp. This is a huge, huge deal. Students need to know that there are some great people working for us and on behalf of our nation.”

Others were surprised how few students were in attendance.

“He’s one of the most powerful people we’ve had at Utah State,” said Nicole Tuttle, a politi

► See MATTIS, Page 2

# New tuition model lowers price of online courses

► **By Danielle Manley**  
assistant news editor

Tier I and Tier II tuition will increase because of decisions made during the 2014 session of the Utah Legislature, but USU recently updated its tuition model to make classes cheaper for students.

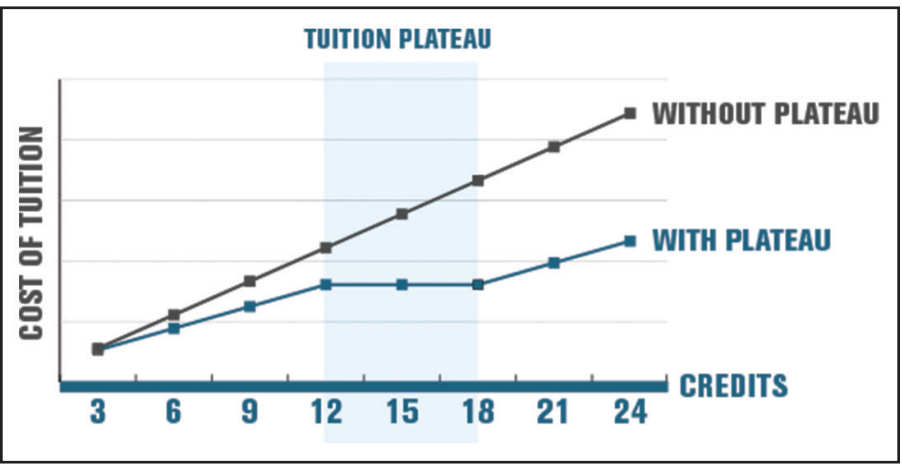
Starting summer semester 2014, two tuition changes will be implemented. The first is that online courses will be charged the same rate as regular courses, instead of paying an increased rate on top of tuition like before.

“This was an initiative that was sparked by what would help students and what’s in their best interest,” said Robert Wagner, vice provost for Regional Campuses and Distance Education.

The second change involves lowering the plateau for tuition. Currently, students taking anywhere from 13 to 18 credits pay the same tuition and fees. The plateau has been lowered from 13 credits to 12 credits. Tuition and fees will be consistent for students taking 12 to 18 credits, even if they add online courses.

The change came after evaluating online course enrollment over the past two to three years.

“There was interest on the part of the university administration to be able to help students, to be able to assist them,” Wagner said. “We understand a lot of students take



Graphic from tuition.usu.edu

online courses ... to speed up their time to graduation. From an administrative perspective, we saw a growing need.”

Nathan Booth, a sophomore studying mechanical engineering, works in the Distance Education center as a facilitator and sees the change as a positive move.

“I think it’s helpful for future students, and maybe it will be helpful for me in the future to know that there isn’t anything in the way of having that flexibility,” he said.

Booth took his first online class last year for a general USU credit.

“With the schedule I had, it was more convenient to take the online class,” Booth said. “I just struggled with whether I wanted to do

that or whether I wanted a weird schedule just because the online classes were more expensive.”

Online courses previously could be as expensive as \$500 to \$600 because students were charged a per-credit rate on top of the normal tuition paid.

The new online course rate only applies to in-state tuition students. Students who pay out-of-state tuition and take online courses will continue to pay the old rate.

“It is the in-state students that are usually taking both face-to-face and online courses,” Wagner said. “Those are the students most

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Nation & World

In brief

Mass stabbing by teen at Pennsylvania school

A 16-year-old student stabbed 19 students and a security guard at a Pennsylvania high school on Wednesday. The teenager was armed with two knives. The victims were as young as 14 and some were seriously injured with stab wounds to the torso and went immediately to surgery. All of the victims are expected to survive and the attacker is in custody.

Ebola outbreak in Guinea

More than 100 people have died in Guinea from an outbreak of Ebola, according to the UN World Health Organization. An additional 10 people have died in Liberia from the disease. The organization said the situation is “one of the most challenging Ebola outbreaks we have ever dealt with” and could take another four months to contain. Ebola is spread through close contact and kills between 25 and 90 percent of those infected with it. There is no known cure or vaccine for the disease.

Corrections:

In the April 8 story “Looking back at the Aggies,” the locations for the 1970 NCAA Men’s Basketball Tournament games were incorrect. The Aggies played UTEP in Provo, Utah and the games against Santa Clara and UCLA were at the University of Washington in Seattle.

► 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.

Arts senator fights the battle of communication

► By Emily Duke for The Utah Statesman

As only the fourth person to hold the position of senator for the Caine College of the Arts, Sam Wright is working to open up lines of communication for students and administrators — with mixed results. After being elected for a second year, Wright said he is focusing on being a voice for the students in his college, on campus and in the community. “I think that is the biggest challenge to every senator,” Wright said. “And it’s proved to be far more difficult to connect with the students than I ever dreamed it would be. I thought it would be really easy.” The Academic Senate is comprised of eight senators, one from every college. With the growing pains of a new administration — the arts college was established and gained a senator in 2010 — Wright’s position is filled with uncertainty. According to the official position charter, Wright is required to hold regular office hours, form and chair an Arts Council, plan Arts Week and spend at least two hours a month outside of his office personally contacting students. Some students feel Wright is very approachable and is doing his best to be involved. “I personally haven’t gone out of my way to meet him, but I would say that he makes an effort to get opinions from everyone in the different areas of the college,” said Hillary Newton, a junior majoring in art. Other students disagree. DeeJay Laughbon, a junior majoring in stage management, said she spends an average of 72 hours a week in the theater department and had never heard of Wright. “I can only speak for the theater department, but he’s never been over there that I know of,” Laughbon said. Wright said he didn’t want to point fingers, but said if students didn’t know who he was, it was on them. “I went to mandatory meetings and waved at everyone and said,



WRIGHT

‘These are my office hours,’” Wright said. He wanted to make sure people would let him be a voice for them. “When I sit in here in my office and no one comes in, that’s kind of a bum deal,” he said. Students like Laughbon said they feel Wright favors the music department. “If his emphasis is music he’s probably over there, which is nice,” Laughbon said. “But if he wants to represent everybody, then he needs to be over in the theater department, and he needs to be over in visual arts, and he needs to know what all of the students want.” As a music major, Wright said he did worry students in other departments would feel underrepresented. “I actually feel like I’m biased toward the other departments,” Wright said. “I feel like I make a special effort toward the other departments so they don’t say that I just represent music. I’m not just

a music student. I am the senator of the arts. I represent all of them, and it’s my job to be there for them.” Wright said he encourages students to come in and talk to him if they feel underrepresented and he will take the time to listen. He said if students feel uncomfortable meeting face-to-face, they can use the myVoice platform on the MyUSU website to anonymously voice their concerns. “When they use the myVoice platform, if it’s a question concerning the arts, that goes into a inbox and I answer all of those,” Wright said. “Generally it’s anonymously, but if it’s specific to the college, I will say, ‘My name is Sam. I answered this question, here’s my email if you want to talk more about it.’” Wright said he welcomes commentary on his performance as he enters his second year in office, acknowledging he can’t fix problems he doesn’t know about. “No news is good news to me,” Wright said. “If nobody comes and talks to me, I don’t know.”

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Mattis

From Page 1

cal science major and president of Pi Sigma Alpha. “I wish there would have been more students there. You can get a different perspective of the military, no matter what you’re studying, even if you’re a math or engineering student.” Mattis was invited to speak by Jeannie Johnson and was sponsored by Tony Peacock, head of the political science department, and The Center For the Study of American Constitutionalism.

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Editor’s note: Briana Bowen is a columnist for The Utah Statesman.

Tuition

From Page 1

affected. Most of the USU students that are out of state are taking online only courses.” Wagner said the main focus was to help those students combining traditional courses with online courses. “The focus was to really help the students paying both of those rates so they would only have to pay one rate,” he said. Casey Saxton, USU Student Association Public Relations and Marketing director, said he’s only taken one online class while at USU but was surprised at the price, though it did in-

clude the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business differential tuition. “I was astonished at how much it costs to take one online class,” Saxton said. “I think it was over \$1,000, and that was with the first-time online student discount they give.” Saxton thinks the tuition plateau change will be beneficial for him and other students. “The former model disincentivized students to take more credits,” he said. “You’re considered full-time at 12 credits, but the way the system is set up, you have to take about 15 credits to graduate in four years.” Saxton said he’s received only positive feedback from students. “Really, it makes a ton of sense,” he said. “It doesn’t end

up being a whole lot of money, but a few hundred dollars is significant, especially to a college student.” Wagner is excited for the future benefit to students. “One of the messages that this sends is that USU knows that many students want and need to take their university courses in a variety of ways — ways that fit their schedule, ways that fit their lives,” Wagner said. “Whether it’s a face-to-face course, a broadcast course, an online course, USU provides a variety of ways for students to meet their educational goals. Now we’re making it more efficient.”

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# Mural

From Page 1

riously,” Vance said. “We want it to be a historic icon for not only the restaurant, but also the city.”

The contest was open from December to February, where winners Baily Chatterton, Michael Dew, Molly Clare, Sabrina Ellis, Chelse Reynolds, Brennan Klinkowski, Jennifer Hoffman, Ashley Larsen, Darlene Myers and Walter Foltz received cash prizes and the opportunity to paint on the Angie’s mural.

“Initially there was a bit of skepticism, especially with the city council,” Vance said.

Vance said they had to pay \$330 dollars and apply for a permit to have a hearing about the possibility of a mural.

“It seems kind of crazy for the business owner to get permission to paint his own building,” Vance said.

Angie’s manager Adam Lowther said customers have been very excited and asking about the mural.

“There’s so much local talent here,” Vance said. “But it’s not expressed or reared very much.”

“This is kind of extending the artistic expression in the community,” Vance said.

Mural art director Spencer Vance said the biggest challenge is that some of the artists have never worked on a mural before.

“It’s kind of been an adjustment for them, painting something of this scale,” Spencer Vance said. “This is one of the major murals we have in Cache Valley downtown.”

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Samantha Behl photo

**A CONTEST HELD FOR ANGIE’S RESTAURANT** from December through February chose the artists responsible for designing and painting a mural on the side of the building. Several Cache Valley artists are contributing to the large painting on 700 North.

# Research

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“Folks are joining with us. Are we ready to keep running? Do we have all the perspectives and talents we need?” Sanchez said. “I’m not saying that we are deficient, but we are probably not fully accessing the richness that we could be.”

Bates said USU could benefit by having more diversity.

“Utah State, and all the colleges in Utah, aren’t diverse,” he said. “They’re less diverse than the rest of the state is. The mission of a land-grant university is to educate the population, not a part of the population, and the demographics at the university don’t look like the rest of the population.”

Bates said while the university encourages and wants diversity, it is not a part of their selection criteria.

“For example, we don’t just

look for a Latina that is lesbian, but we want to make sure any pool of applicants is diverse as we can get it,” he said.

“The sex of someone doesn’t factor into the selection of candidates, but we work hard to build a diverse applicant pool and make sure that the opportunity exists,” Bates said. “So it’s not a factor in decision-making, but it is certainly a factor in trying to build what this campus is all about.”

## Mormon John Dehlin defends gay marriage

Dehlin, studying psychology, presented a defense for gay marriage at TEDxUSU.

Since then, the video has received more than 35,000 views. For the presentation Tuesday, the video was shown before audience members where Dehlin shared additional research and gave the opportunity to ask questions.

Dehlin explained his own transformation from homo-

Comment

Tell us what you think about diversity at USU at [utahstatesman.com](http://utahstatesman.com)

phobe to LGBT ally and how anyone can become outspoken allies. He said his transformation came from getting to know members of the LGBT community personally and realizing they were not different from himself.

In addition, Dehlin said after learning about the high rates of suicide among them and about the many homeless LGBT youth in Utah, he realized he needed to do something more.

Interviewing 1,612 LGBT Mormons, he found the average gay Mormon realized they were gay at about the age of 14, long before most had their romantic experiences. They found 66 percent of those surveyed attempted to change their orientation,

but none of them reported being able to change. The largest group of of these, he said, tried to change orientation through prayer, fasting, studying scriptures and speaking with church leaders.

“Teaching people ‘Just be closer to Christ and you’ll be OK’ is the most damaging message you can send,” he said. “The second-most damaging message you can send is ‘Go talk to your bishop and he’ll help you.’ Bishops aren’t trained for this.

“It turns out that on average that people spend 11 years try-

ing to use personal righteousness to change their sexual orientation,” Dehlin said.

For those who are LDS and LGBT, Dehlin said the options the church gives them is to be celibate or be in a mixed-orientation marriage.

“What we asked was, ‘Does the data say that those are the best choices or does it say that those are harmful?’” Dehlin said.

He found the LGBT community members are the happiest when they are married and the least happy when they are celibate.

His data also has a positive side.

“Here’s the exciting news: Our data also revealed that participants who entered into legal same-sex marriages had quality of life scores higher than the healthy average for the entire population, including heterosexuals,” he said. “For this sample, it appears that legal same-sex marriage is an essential component of obtaining the highest possible quality of life, if we let them.”

–bradley.s.robinson12@gmail.com

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## WhySound's talent scout has abilities of his own

Robert Linton to release album with  
Grammy-winning producer

► **By Paul Christiansen**  
staff writer

Most Cache Valley residents who know Robert Linton think of him as the friendly, soft-spoken talent scout at local music venue WhySound. But many don't realize he is a musician in his own right — a contemporary guitarist who has worked with some big names in the industry to release two acclaimed full-length albums, "Whisperings at Nightfall" in 2006 and "Throughout the Autumn Light" in 2011.

Another record, "Beyond the Clearing," will follow later this year, with backers making donations to Linton's music through an online Kickstarter campaign currently underway.

"It's such a good feeling when you sell a CD to somebody or someone is just so into your live performances," Linton said. "You feel that support and that respect from that person, and that's the same feeling I've received from the Kickstarter donations."

Linton said the creativity-marketing website has given him the opportunity to connect with those who "believe in and support" his music. Because of that interaction and the donations he's already procured, he said, finishing touches should wrap up on the recording much sooner than he originally planned.

"I put on Kickstarter to have it done by October, but it might be done sooner than that," he said. Artists need to allow them-

selves plenty of time to develop recordings and productions, but it often comes down to financial obligations. Linton said he is no exception, but because of this campaign, he's hoping to have the entire project completed by late summer.

"I think that'll be good timing for the album release instead of waiting until after the year is over and trying to promote it during January or early next year," he said.

Campaigns on the website can last between one and 60 days, but Kickstarter recommends those who launch campaigns stick to a shorter timeframe.

"Kickstarter feels that's less time to have a lull in the middle, so to speak," Linton said. "They've seen projects that progress very quickly in the beginning and in the end there's a surge of people who want to try to help — especially if you haven't met your goal. But the time in the middle, it kind of levels out and there may not be so many donations."

"Luckily, I surpassed my goal early on," said Linton, adding he will benefit from the extra money because Kickstarter collects a small percentage of any received funds as a fee for hosting the campaign.

Linton is grateful for every donation, but he realizes there is a delicate balance that must be struck between asking donors for too much and asking them for too little.

"I'm definitely not some famous rock star or anything," he



Riley Densley photo

**ROBERT LINTON**, a local talent scout at WhySound, plans to release an album at the end of the summer.

said. "It'll be great now that I have the money to push the project further and get the CD done much sooner than I had originally planned. I've had to spread it out with my finances because I didn't quite have the money to take care of bills and all these things and then have all the money to pay for thousands of dollars of music. It's still worth it to do it how I do it, but it's still

very costly."

If a campaign asks donors to pledge toward a goal that's too high and that goal isn't met, all pledges are returned and the campaign fails. Linton set his project's goal at \$3,000 in order to ensure he'd receive all the funds pledged.

"For some people, it might not be unrealistic to aim high," he said. "Maybe they've already

built their fan base and they have a huge group to tap into. I have to understand that I have a lot of people who support me and want to help with the project, but at the same time, if I were to ask for too much, it may not happen because there is only so much money that people can offer."

Before he began his campaign, Linton began writing and re-

cording the songs to be featured on "Beyond the Clearing." He saved and paid for the recording of all of his guitar parts at Rosewood Recording Company in Provo with audio engineer Guy Randle. Linton will now work with Corin Nelsen, an engineer out of Bremen, Maine, who won a Grammy in 2004 for his work

► See **LINTON**, Page 5

## Steve's Mailbag contains all the answers

Well sports fans, it's that time. Two weeks ago I asked you to send in any thoughts, questions, comments and Indiegogo donations for my exciting and fool-proof business venture — it's for a home-made Choco Taco stand; tell me that isn't airtight — for a special column I like to call "Steve's Mailbag." Let's see just what tidbits of wisdom you sought from the only person far and wide to eat an order of 20-piece Chicken McNuggets before realizing he only ordered a McFlurry. If that isn't credibility, I don't know what is.

**Q:** I am interested in this funny looking can opener at "Bed, Bath, and Beyond." Or is it "Bed, Bath and Beyond"? Do they use the Oxford Comma? According to their site, they don't use commas at all. That makes no sense whatsoever.

— Michael, New Jersey

**A:** To be honest, there really isn't much I can tell you. All I can really say is it's

**Steve Schwartzman**



Just  
a few  
laughs

the Nogent Super Kim shorthand, rotary style can opener. It claims easy access and storage with no handle, is rust-resistant with a nickel construction and chrome finish and imported for all can-opening needs, leaving no sharp edges on the can and — believe it or not — all in all measures at just a spry one-and-a-half inches. It's like an adhesive wall scaler, only it cuts things. As for the Oxford comma, I am more of a Rockport or Ecco fan myself. You can't squash comfort and durability, though it is kind of weird that you would claim a shoe company for a punctuation mark. Rookie.

**Q:** What is your stance on the civil rights of plants?

— Sincerely, Plants rights activists everywhere

**A:** I am glad somebody finally has found to fortitude to bring this subject to light. Above all topics, under this extremely

heavy one, I'd say I have become upset — appalled, if I may — by the blatantly unethical treatment that has befallen any and all non-vascular plants. Look people, they're plants too. Just because they don't have roots or a central energy system doesn't mean they aren't privy to the same rights and responsibilities as any other shrub, biennial or succulent plant galavanting along the marble pathway of privilege. Just the other day I saw a thallose liverwort along a nearby quarry — depressed, out of a job, no shade to calm its nerves. It was in need of support. It needed help. It needed a friend. And the passers by? They simply averted their eyes and moved forward. Society claims to be a people rooted in respect, but where do those roots spread to plants who have no roots? Nowhere, that's where. I say as a community we stop such partisan plantist ways and stand up for what is right.

**Q:** How have you personally been affected by the recent passing of wrestling legend, the Ultimate Warrior?

— Jordan, Orange County, Calif.

**A:** Every time I passed by my coaxial ca

► See **MAILBAG**, Page 5

## Back to basics: 'Ella Enchanted' a 'classic'

So since my last review was one of those random books I enjoy that doesn't really fit my style, I'm back to my regular style of books that I love. This time, I'm back to the rewriting of fairy tales.

It seems "Cinderella" is a really popular story to rewrite. Do you remember the book I reviewed, "Princess of the Midnight Ball"? The second book in that series is a rewriting of "Cinderella," and the review Marissa wrote a few weeks ago was a rewriting of "Cinderella." I could keep going because there are so many, but the point is, what am I going to review right now?

"Ella Enchanted" by Gail Carson Levine has been one of my favorite books for a while. Ad-

mittedly, this book isn't exactly new, but it's a classic in my opinion. Now, it doesn't follow the "Cinderella" storyline exactly, which is nice. Different interpretations of the stories we know well are usually more fun to read, for me at least. It's just a change from the same old thing we all know and have heard growing up.

Many of you have probably read the book or seen the movie, but here's a quick overview of the book anyway. It follows Ella, who, as a baby, got a "gift" from the fairy Lucinda that she would always obey. You get to follow Ella as she grows up

► See **PONCE**, Page 5

**Gillian Ponce**



Good  
reads

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# Mailbag

From Page 4

ble last night, I grabbed it and shook it viciously as if I were in facepaint and it was Wrestlemania VII. Sure, it broke my television and the electricity made it so I can no longer feel both of my ring fingers, but a tribute is a tribute. Every time I gorilla-press-to-running-splash my pillow before bed, I will do it to honor the Warrior. This is the worst I've felt since we lost the Macho Man Randy Savage or the Indiana Jones Snickers with coconut in it. Just sad times.

**Q:** Are you scared that "Girl Meets World" won't live up to your expectations?

– Joseph, Tooele, Utah

**A:** Are you kidding me? I'm petrified. If they would have simply answered my fan mail and taken my advice for a "Plays With Squirrels" spinoff, we'd all be swimming in hysterics by now. I guess we'll just ride the wave as best we can. Udapants.

**Q:** What is your opinion on federal

grants increasing the price of tuition. Using the simple definition of supply and demand, one can see that when the government incentivises the general public by offering grants and subsidies — increasing demand — that would naturally drive prices up. This is not to say many college students, like myself, do not enjoy federal financial aid programs, but when you take a step back, you can see the increased demand for schooling is increasing the price it costs to attend. So, Steve, in your wondrous knowledge of college — see what I did there? — how do you think we should address skyrocketing tuition costs?

– Chantry, Tremonton, Utah

**A:** This is by far the simplest question of the bunch. Simply allow the students to pay tuition in kind. Start a barter system. Fur pelt and spice could equal

roughly one college credit depending on weight, girth and hide rarities. How about an aluminum can machine that closes differential tuition gaps? Selling a bike? We'll take it, and now you can purchase textbooks. This is the most influential business model since the Ronco Food Dehydrator.

**Q:** What do you think the 2010s can do to finish the decade strongly and wind up with a reputation as solid as the '90s?

– Tyler, Orem, Utah

**A:** Less dubstep, more Gushers. I mean everywhere, especially as jewelry. Problem solved.

**Q:** Do you know where the nearest restroom is?

– Miranda, Idaho Falls, Idaho

**A:** Seriously? That's the best you can do? I give you an open forum to ask

**Steve Schwartzman**  
*“Simply allow the students to pay tuition in kind. Start a barter system. Fur pelt and spice could equal roughly one college credit.”*

anything traveling your mind and distressing the core of your being, and you give me a line of basic ambiguity and dry humor? Now I'm forced to be a shell to the preposterous protein that is nothing but a verbal means to a nugatory end. Shame. Just shame.

Also, head down the main hall. It's the second door to the right.

**Q:** Steve, are you done writing that weird column you do or can we actually go to lunch? My lunch break is only 45 minutes long and you already told me we can't hang out tonight because there is a "Family Matters" rerun you said you had to "watch alone to stay focused."

– Jenny, your fiancée

**A:** Oh. Welp. Uhh ... I guess that's all for now. I've got to go.

– Steve Schwartzman is a senior finishing a degree in communication studies.

*With eight years of column writing and improvisational comedy under his belt, he lives to make you laugh. Send thoughts to [steve.schwartzman@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:steve.schwartzman@aggiemail.usu.edu) or hit him up on Twitter @SESchwartzman.*

# Ponce

From Page 4

and searches for an end to this curse, naturally finding something she didn't expect along the way.

I realize I have reviewed another book by Levine before, which was "Fairest." I love her books because she writes in such a poetic form, and it is easy to see what she wants the reader to see. She has the plot flow very well, and it easily engulfs the reader into the story of Ella in Frell.

While I admittedly don't feel as much emotion for the characters in this book, it doesn't mean they didn't touch me at all. And of course, being the romantic I am, I fell hard for the main male character in the story. I don't know how fortunate it is for you boys that you ended up with two hopeless romantic females writing the book reviews, but I will just give it how it is. But the character development was good. You really did get to know the characters, even if it may be mostly from Ella's point of view.

On to the movie. Was it worth it? Yes. Did I watch it before I read the book? Yes. And the most important question, did it follow the book as well as it could? No. They changed so much about it, and obviously there's nothing you can do about it. But if you watch it as a movie without thinking about the book, it's very good. The actors are charming and amazing. And hey, they got the main point of the book right, so it wasn't a total disaster. For some of you, maybe you don't care how well it follows, as long as it's good. But for you book nerds like me, though you may scream that some parts are different, it was a good movie overall.

Why should you read the book? It's a cute story, and it's based off one of the most classic and popular fairy tales in existence. It's well-written and keeps you involved the entire time. One of my favorite things about it is that it's an easy read for those of us who are busy but still want to be able to do some reading.

– Gillian Ponce is a sophomore majoring in journalism. She was an editor for her high school newspaper and received a scholarship for an article she wrote. Send comments to [gillian.ponce95@gmail.com](mailto:gillian.ponce95@gmail.com).

# Linton

From Page 4

on the William Ackerman album "Returning" in the Best New Age Album category.

This will be the third time Linton has worked with Nelsen.

"In 2005 and 2006 when I actually flew out to Vermont to record my CD 'Whisperings at Nightfall,' Corin was the engineer for that album as well," Linton said. "I really thought that he does such a great job with what I do. The quality and professionalism is amazing, and I've always wanted to continue to work with him."

"What happens is I record the guitar parts here in Utah with Guy Randall in Provo, then I send it to Corin Nelsen in Bremen who molds it all together," said Linton, adding that Nelsen shapes the work done by session musicians to "compliment the guitar parts."

There are challenges that come up while working with someone on the other side of the country, Linton said.

"Corin's a very busy guy and sometimes the communication will stall, so to speak," Linton said. "He might have a project come up where he needs to leave for a week to work somewhere else. So all of a sudden, instead of being able to go into a studio and work with him in person, there might be a week or two that goes by before we can get my project up and running again."

Linton said that's a small price to pay for the opportunity to work with a Grammy-winning producer.

"He's really good at what he does," Linton said. "He's very organized and very timely, so it never feels like I'm being set aside until he's ready or it's convenient for him. He's always made sure that I know what he's doing and when he's busy. Then he'll make sure that I'm taken care of. He's always treated me with respect, courtesy and kindness. That's one of the reasons I enjoy working with him so much — the level of professionalism."

Linton said fans of his music can expect "Beyond the Clearing" to stay true to the style they've come to know him for, but there will also be some added production and

layered instrumental parts he feels will become an "experience from beginning to end" for his audience, holding their attention throughout the entire album rather than simply putting his individual songs on a shuffled playlist.

One session musician who will be adding some musical layers is Jill Haley, a multi-instrumentalist from New York who added English horn to Linton's previous albums. She'll once again play horn parts on Linton's upcoming release, recorded and developed through what she calls a "virtual musical relationship."

"What I mean by that is that I have recorded over his pieces after he has already played his guitar tracks," Haley said. "The engineer he is working with will play the track for me when I am in the studio, and then I will play some English horn over his part. I frequently do this by necessity with him and other musicians due to logistics of location."

Haley said she finds Linton's guitar playing to have "a very delicate touch," adding she hopes the two can come together one day to make music in a live setting.

"I usually listen to the piece he would like English horn parts on a few times to become familiar with it, and then I will start creating some parts," she said. "The engineer then sends the English horn parts to Robert so he can decide if it works for that piece."

Linton's past work has been recognized through several New Age websites, podcasts and broadcasts, including Zone Music Reporter, a promotional avenue that links musicians with broadcasters and fans all around the world.

"The promoter that I worked with, he distributed the music to a lot of these broadcasters, and they would report back to Zone Music Reporter with the amount of plays they gave a certain album," Linton said. "It helped me to reach No. 2 on the chart for the month of June 2011. It went high as No. 2, then No. 4 for two months."

Zone Music Reporter bestowed much critical praise on Linton's "Throughout the Autumn Light," his first attempt at producing after working with Will Ackerman on "Whisperings at Nightfall."

"It would seem that Robert Linton learned — or absorbed — a lot from working with Will Ackerman on his previous CD, as 'Throughout the Autumn Light' matches



Riley Densley photo

**ROBERT LINTON PLAYS** the guitar.

any of Ackerman's releases that I have heard," wrote Bill Binkelman, a music reviewer for Zone Music Reporter. "Bold words to be sure, but that is how good this CD is as far as I'm concerned."

Linton hopes his "reflective instrumental music" — a term he coined — will once again garnish acclaim. Those interested in donating to his Kickstarter campaign can do so until Monday at 9 p.m.

"Even if I get one person that I don't know that donates, it's a success for sure," Linton said.

– [paul.r.christiansen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:paul.r.christiansen@aggiemail.usu.edu)

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# Secrets to success: seniors share advice of lessons learned at USU

Kate Auman

graphic design

“Ultimately, push it. Push it real good, just like the song. Really though, I think the harder you work in school, the more you get out of your education. And I think too often, we just settle for going to classes and writing stupid papers, but if you really train your soul to give everything you’ve got to this education, then you’re going to have a way better time and you’re going to love the people around you a lot more.”

Trevor Mills

global communication

“Take classes that you really enjoy. Take classes that you want to take. I think that sounds kind of silly, but it makes it easier to go to those classes. Something that you’re passionate about that you want to graduate in is better than just taking it to get a degree. In my major classes, I’m always learning stuff that I really care about.”

Kellie Erickson

biology

“Never underestimate the power of sleep, because as much fun as it is to stay out all night long, it definitely doesn’t help you for the next day.”

Ashley Lee

dietetics

“I’ve learned that college isn’t all about school, necessarily, that it’s more about building a well-rounded person, and that’s what’s really going to advance you in your life. So my advice ... is to just really get involved, and really find yourself to the point where you know what you like. ... Your college experience will be so much better, so much more fun if you’re involved and not just doing school all the time.”

Anna Donaldson

health education and promotion

“You don’t have to worry so much about (school). At first I got freaked out, you know? School would freak me out and classes, and I would stress over it, but really, don’t worry about it, and you’ll make your way through it towards the end. Just enjoy it.”

Marina Hernandez

sociology, law and constitutional studies

“Do an internship, even if you’re not in any government degree. ... It gets you out into a new town and gives you opportunities to meet new people, to network. And then also, study abroad. ... It exposes you to new cultures, new food, new people. It kind of puts you in a situation where you have to learn for yourself and learn how to communicate. Just take opportunities outside of the traditional academic environment such as interning and studying abroad.”

Sam Rolfe

agribusiness

“Make friends with the professors. Find someone you really like and become close friends with them, because they’ll get you places. They’ll get you into things that you might not be able to if you’re just a random student. And then, this one I’m kind of torn about, but work experience, some students will come here and just take classes, take classes and have no real-life experience. Try to apply what you learn in your classes to real life as much as possible. Get involved in the clubs. Don’t be afraid of the sororities or fraternities. They’re not all bad.”

Jason Richards

chemistry

“You kind of just have to figure it out yourself, but you need to have a good balance between study and enjoying yourself. Don’t put too much effort in one area. ... You can’t only study or only play or only work. You have to just be careful with your priorities.”

Ying C

statistics and economics

“Learn programming for any major because from what I know, all the research they do — at least I know in economics, statistics — they’re all using a bunch of programming in there, so it’s really important. And then in finding jobs, most jobs now, they do a lot of stuff on computers.”

Megan Sjoberg

psychology

“Don’t overload yourself with classes. It’s perfectly respectable to take 12 credits or less. So I would say, take your time. Use college as an experience to really find yourself, and don’t try to rush through it and get into careers and grad school. Just take your time, and you’ll enjoy it a lot more, be a lot happier.”

Jordan Daines

philosophy, history

“Don’t major in business. Keep your soul and do not major in business. Become an educated person by getting a degree in the humanities. Sometimes, cowboy coffee is the only way to start the day. Protest things. Be active outside the official institutions of educational power at this university. Sometimes that means burning down a building, not that I’ve ever done that. I don’t have any happy, go-lucky advice, mostly just, yeah. Protest the goings-on in the government.”

Ashley Hansen

history

“Just visit your adviser every semester so that you know which classes to take so that you’re not missing anything and you’re not here longer than you need to be.”

Braden Jenkins

human movement science

“Figure out what you want to do early on so you can determine what you need to do to get there and what is required to accomplish that overall goal so you can make plans to accomplish those goals. And if you do that, you won’t waste time with pointless classes or credits that aren’t related to where you want to be in life.”

Brian White

marketing, business administration

“My advice would be to get involved in as many diverse groups as possible, because that helps you to establish a better network of people that later on down the road you’ll be benefited from. Whatever your major is, I’d encourage you to get involved with the club that’s associated with your major. That’ll ultimately be that core group that you’ll use to get a job, to expand in your business later on in life. Academically, I would say 50 percent is worthless. Not to dis on anything, but at the end of the day, there’s tons of people that have degrees, but it’s all about people that you know and how they can get you there.”

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Danielle Manley

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SECOND PLACE  
Abbie Sugihara

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Derek Davidson

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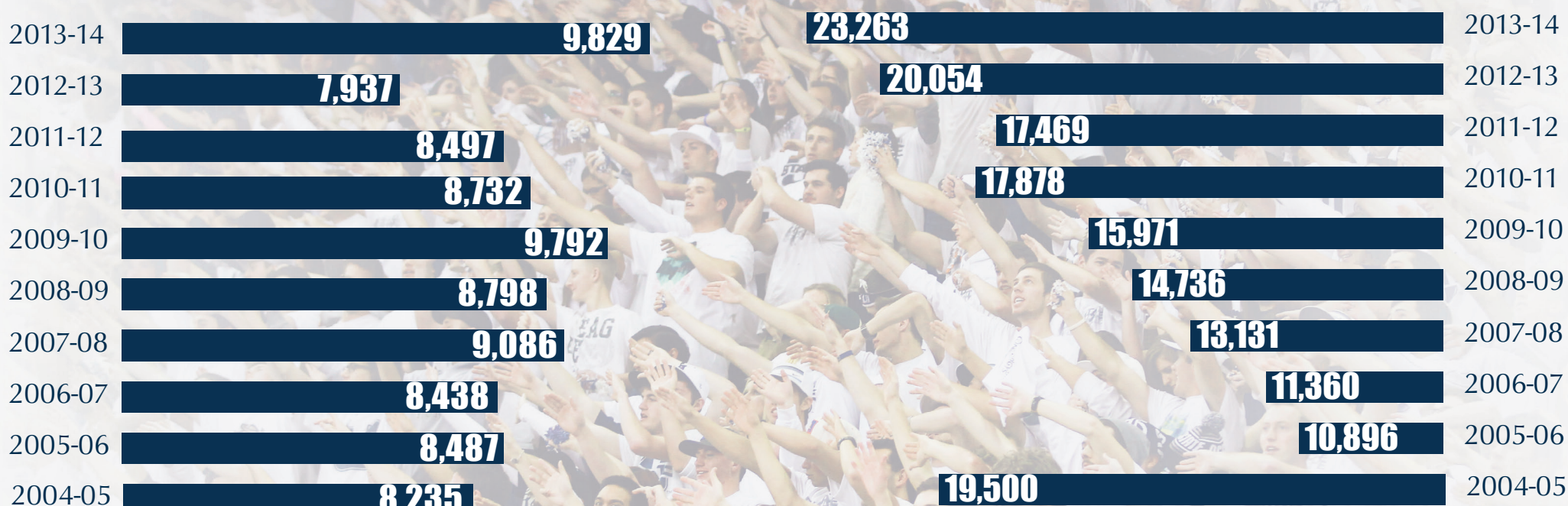
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## Record-setting attendance

Average basketball  
attendance per year

Average football  
attendance per year



— Info from USUstats.com

— Info from USU Media Relations

### Football, men's basketball set new marks

► **By Brad Ferguson**  
staff writer

As of the 2013-14 season, both Utah State football and men's basketball have left their mark on history.

A surprising, record-setting year for Aggie fandom has led to a new high for attendance in both venues. According to usustats.

com and the recently released 2013 USU football media guide, Romney Stadium and the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum have both set records for the highest average percentage of attendance in USU history this year. This means USU's stadium and arena were both filled during this past academic year with the most people, for the most games, ever.

For those dedicated fans of the 2005-06 USU football team, which weren't many, Romney Stadium averaged out to be 36 percent full for every game of the year. Although they were merely 2-3 at home that year, that record wasn't aided by the fact

that, on average, 64 percent of the seats were left empty every game.

Fast forward eight years to USU's most recent football team and the stands at Romney Stadium tell a different story. Much love was shown to the Aggies at the beginning of the year, with the stadium sold out for its first three home games against Weber State, BYU and Boise State.

USU has not seen three-consecutive sellouts in years, possibly ever. Over the eight years, Romney Stadium went from a quiet 36 percent average attendance to a contentious 91 aver-

age attendance with only three changes in the head coach position.

Since 1968, Romney Stadium has had a total attendance of 3,270,620. The first USU football game in history was against the University of Utah back on Nov. 25, 1892, in which the Aggies took home the victory winning 12-0 while playing without a coach. 116 Aggies have been drafted by the NFL, with many more hopefuls in the future. There have been Aggies in seventeen Super Bowls, including Super Bowls I and II under Vince Lombardi, as well as nine former Aggies

who have a ring on their finger.

The Hurd along with USU Alumni have been on a steady rise, especially since 2010.

On April 28, 2012, USU's logo got a much-needed facelift thanks to a close relationship with Charlie Denson, USU graduate and president of Nike Brand at the time.

Maybe this increase of fandom and volume follows in the wake of completing the Jim and Carol Laub Athletics-Academics complex, a 69,000-square-foot facility that serves all 16 USU intercollegiate sports.

► See ATTENDANCE, Page 8

### Fast Facts

- Both men's basketball and football had their highest average attendance last season
- Romney Stadium sold out the first three home games last season

## A hurting Hurd? How USU students stack up

► **By Logan Jones**  
staff writer

Some think they make the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum the best home-court in the Mountain West Conference, even ranking them among the top-five best student sections in the nation. Others believe they're merely fair-weather fans who have lost their once-proud swagger.

The USU Hurd is a major reason the Aggies have lost just 16 home games in their last 90, and they've earned a reputation for being ruthless, passionate and most of all, unforgiving.

"We're on teams the whole game," said Hurd president Dallin Laird. "Even if the student section isn't full, that's fine — the people that are there bring it."

Perhaps best known for their "I believe" cheer before games, Aggie fans have made a habit of getting into visiting teams' heads.

"The best student section in the Mountain West no longer belongs to San Diego State, or New Mexico or Colorado State or UNLV or any of the old guard," wrote SDSU basketball beat writer Mark Zeigler following the overtime showdown between the Aztecs and Aggies in January. "It's Utah State, no contest."

However, beneath the praise and the fearsome reputation, there are murmurs of a growing problem among the Aggie faithful.

"Personally, if I was a player on an opposing team and heard all these great things, I would be disappointed visiting the Spectrum," said junior



Jay LaBosky. "The student section has fallen off a bit in my opinion. There are less people attending the games, which is sad to see."

Sophomore Taylor Condie agrees. She described the scene in the Spectrum some nights as "pitiful" and said students only show up for the big games.

"It happens too often," Condie said. "We have just been ranked No. 5 in the nation, and I honestly don't think we deserve that because we are only our best for the big televised games."

Stadium Journey, a publication which reviews professional and college sports stadiums, recently placed the Spectrum

in the same conversation as Rupp Arena and the Carrier Dome, ranking USU No. 5 on a list of all 351 Division I basketball programs.

"I saw that article and I think we were overrated to be honest," LaBosky said. "I think people in the media just remember how great our crowds can be, and they

only see our best crowds each year, not when we play a poor opponent in the middle of the week."

Laird is still confident in the Hurd's ability to impact a game.

"To me, the Hurd hasn't lost a step in anything," Laird said. "There's a lot of support throughout the year for all athletic events, which is how it should be."

Laird said comparing the current student section on a regular night to the 2009 game against Nevada — considered by many to be the Spectrum's highest point — is unfair, and this year's games against SDSU and BYU proved the Hurd can still pack a punch.

"The Aztecs game was an intense game against a top-

► See HURD, Page 9

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ATHLETICS

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TENNIS

How sweet it is: Matt and Katie Sweet compete in turnaround season for the Aggies

► By Kalen Taylor  
staff writer

The Utah State men's and women's tennis teams have found a way to hit the sweet spot this year. Although many things have changed since last year, USU has found some consistency between the two teams.

Both teams have first-year head coaches, Clancy Shields for the men's team and Sean McNerney for the women. Both teams are in their first year playing in the MWC, and both came into the season with high hopes and big expectations.

However, the sweetest of connections comes with the addition of freshman Katie Sweet to the women's team. Katie's older brother Matt plays on the men's team.

"We've worked hard ever since we were little," Matt Sweet said. "It means a lot to both of us."

The Sweets are local products, coming to USU from Salt Lake City. They played tennis at Cottonwood High School.

"It's been a dream of both of ours since we were little kids to play Division I college tennis. To be able to get here, to live that dream is pretty cool," Katie Sweet said.

The Sweet siblings attribute their success to their parents' support and hard work.

"They do a lot for us, and we couldn't be here without them," Katie Sweet said.

Matt Sweet echoed Katie's sentiments.

"They've been everything. Our father is a tennis pro, so that's how we got into it," Matt Sweet said. "They are definite-



**SWEET SIBLINGS MATT AND KATIE** return shots during their respective home matches. Both have contributed to wins for the Aggies and will return to the team next season.

ly our biggest support."

While family support is important, personal skill is equally, if not more, important in the world of sports. Matt, who has the size and experience advantage, generally comes away the victor over his

smarter sister when they play each other.

"I will admit, he's probably the better athlete," Katie Sweet said.

Katie may get the credit for being smarter, however, being named academic All-State



Kylee Larsen photos

in high school, though Matt earned academic All-WAC honors in 2013 after his sophomore year.

"She's way smarter than I am," Matt Sweet said.

Whether on or off the court, the Sweets maintain a great

friendship.

"There's a lot of things we have to do with the team," Katie Sweet said. "Sometimes there isn't time to get together and really pump each other up."

Amidst busy class sched-

ules, practices and team travel, they still manage to spend time together. Breakfast has now become a bit of a tradition for the two, with visits to IHOP being a common occurrence.

"She cooks for me, that's nice. I go over to her apartment, chill out, eat her food," Matt Sweet said. "We go to breakfast together a lot."

Working together, both Sweets have brought their best to the courts so far this season.

As a team the men are 9-10, and the women are 12-8. But Katie Sweet has gone 5-7 in singles play and has a 4-4 record in doubles. Matt Sweet is now 9-9 in singles and 8-8 in doubles on the year.

As the college tennis season ends, both players have a chance to make a big impact next season, going into their senior and sophomore years. It will be the final chance for them to live out their dream together.

"To me, it doesn't really matter where you play. One through six, a point is a point," Matt Sweet said. "I'm going to work hard and let the chips fall where they may."

Whatever spots they end up playing next year, one thing is certain: It will be a season filled with Sweet moments for Utah State tennis.

"You play where the coach wants you to play, where the best matchups are," said Katie Sweet, who will return to the team with valuable experience for next season. "You play wherever you play and hope to do well at that spot."

—kalen.s.taylor@aggiemail.usu.edu  
Twitter: @kalen\_taylor

## The Great Basin Institute is Hiring for 2014 Field Season



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## Attendance

From Page 7

A winning season brings a more dominant fan base — or perhaps the other way around. One single year that could challenge this theory would be none other than this year's attendance in the Spectrum.

Jumping back to last year, USU basketball displayed a winning record of 21-10, but yielded a much-lower-than-usual 77 percent average game attendance for the year. The recently finished 2013-14 basketball season put up the fewest wins since the 1998-99 season and yet the Hurd, alumni, and general USU fans displayed their dominance with a record 96 percent average game attendance, the fullest the Spectrum

has ever been.

Facts being facts, USU football and men's basketball have seen more fan support at their games than ever before. Only USU's rich history and recent victories are suspects of the increase.

Cache Valley is home of, through many polls, a nationally ranked fan base. Through searching almost any top-ten rankings of "best college basketball arenas," the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum will be listed.

The Aggies call this basketball-buzzed, football-frenzied, sleep-in-a-tent-for-a-week-just-to-get-a-seat kind of town home. Logan, Utah will anxiously wait a quiet summer until it can, come fall, rear its rowdy head.

—brad.ferguson76@gmail.com  
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# Playing Sunday



A map showing the location of TUNEX 55 EAST. The map features a vertical road labeled 'HWY 91' and a horizontal road labeled 'SMITHFIELD'. An orange box labeled 'TUNEX 55 EAST' is positioned at the intersection. Below it, a blue box labeled '2000 NORTH' is shown. To the right of the map, the text '55 E 2000 N' and '435-755-9997' is displayed in orange and blue respectively.



# View & Opinion

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## Vaccinations shouldn't be old news

We don't need to worry about dangerous illnesses such as measles anymore, right? I mean, it was eliminated in the United States in the late 1960s, wasn't it? Let's get real.

In February, unsuspecting shoppers at a New York mall were exposed to the sickness when a case was isolated to a single infected individual. A few days later in San Francisco, thousands of university students and Bay Area Rapid Transit patrons were exposed when an infected UC Berkeley student attended classes and traveled via the train to the campus.

Most recently, a young woman who attended a



**Paul Christiansen**  
*The Book of Paul*

Kings of Leon concert March 28 in Seattle started to show symptoms of the illness only days after the show. It's likely thousands of concertgoers could have

come home with more than just good memories.

And that's bad news, because it's a disease that can spread quickly with symptoms that can be mistaken for those of the common cold. Sure, this disease is very rare in this country, but it — as well as infectious illnesses such as whooping cough — are entering a period of resurgence because immunization rates have fallen dramatically in the past 10 years.

Yes, even though flu season has ended here in Utah, there are other problems we need to be aware of when it comes to the necessity of vaccinations. By in large, those reading

**Paul Christiansen**

*“This is Utah, after all. We have to think about the future of our kids.”*

this publication are college students. The majority of us are twenty-somethings who have either started families or will in the near future — this is Utah, after all. We have to think about the future of our kids.

Some of the drop in im-

munization rates can be attributed to falsified information. Andrew Wakefield, a British doctor who faked research data and published it in order to suggest a connection between autism and the MMR — measles, mumps and rubella — immunization, can be thanked for his appalling contribution back in 1998.

Other misinformation presented to the public as fact has been further propagated by celebrities. Jenny McCarthy, a former Playboy Playmate turned actress and anti-vaccine activist, has loudly voiced her opinions that the MMR vaccine is directly responsible for her son's autism-like

symptoms. You can easily see she's a loving mother who is passionate about the well-being of her child; you can sympathize with the hardship and heartbreak her family has experienced — but you can still cringe at and clench your teeth over her wholly irrational cause that has already been discredited.

And then there's Lori Webb, a Utah mother who claims her 19-year-old son died from a flu shot he was administered back in November. Afterward, doctors couldn't find the cause of the man's swelling brainstem, but eventually it led

►See **VACCINE**, Page 11

## Ordain Women foes should act Christian

Disclaimer: I am a Mormon. I am also a woman. Brace yourselves.

I am not a supporter of the Ordain Women movement. I am also not an opposer of the Ordain Women movement. I am, however, a supporter of being kind and an opposer of being an ignorant jerk face.

I have friends I respect on either side of the argument, and maybe that's why I don't feel strongly for or against the ordination of women in the Mormon church. I have seen, read and discussed both sides of the issue and feel fairly well-informed on both opinions, but I myself am a firm fence-sitter on the matter. I repeat, I neither support nor oppose Ordain Women.

What continues to surprise — and, frankly, disgust me — is the hostile nature of many of the reactions to the Ordain Women movement. Since when is disagreement on an issue validation for negativity and belittling? From my position squarely on the fence between whether Mormon women should be ordained or not, I feel no threat from women who feel personally and deeply that they should be ordained to the priesthood. I also find no fault in women who feel the current system is divinely organized and needs no change. As a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I believe in a God who can and will continue to reveal truths, and whether one of those is the ordination of women to the priesthood is up to Him.

So why do I keep unfollowing — it's like unfriending without the commitment — people on Facebook? Because I continue to see bigoted and tactless comments in regards to the issue. Unfortunately, most of these comments



**Noelle Johansen**  
*From the soap box*

come from fellow members of my church in a way most unlike how Christ would act.

What surprises me further is the fact that many of these contentious Facebook commenters are not only Mormons, but Mormon women. Faithful Mormon women are figuratively attacking other Mormon women for holding a separate opinion and personal devotion. Coming from an institution that prides itself on sisterhood in the Relief Society. That makes perfect sense. And by perfect sense,

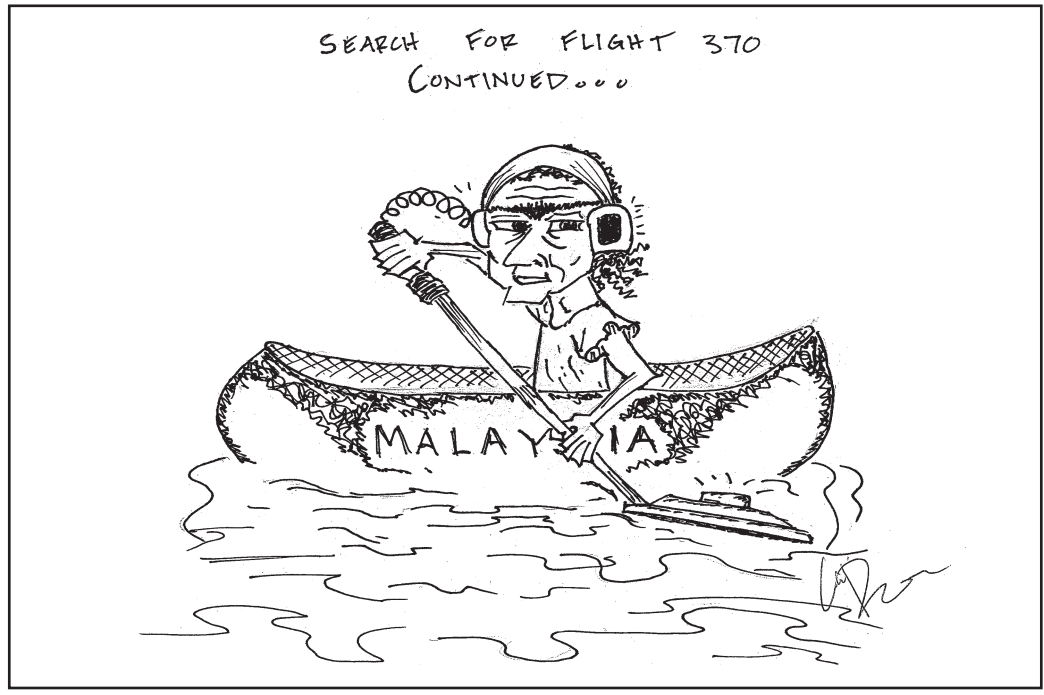
I mean absolutely no sense whatsoever.

I visited Temple Square last Saturday evening to observe the Ordain Women demonstration. I originally planned to conduct interviews for a story, but after the Temple Square ban on reporters I refrained from any interviews and had mere conversations for the sake of personal curiosity. I'll be honest, I was super nervous to show up to a controversial Mormon woman protest. I half-expected a feisty, contentious group demanding what would surely be denied. I was surprised, and happily so this time.

The male and female supporters of Ordain Women were nicely dressed — albeit soggy after getting caught in a hailstorm — and waited quietly and patiently in a line that wrapped around the Tabernacle. Each person or group of people asked to be admitted to the priesthood session of General Conference and many hugged the LDS spokeswoman who denied their request. It was very peaceful.

The offensive reactions I have witnessed to the Ordain Women movement are far from peaceful. They resemble more the protesters stationed at the free-speech zones on Tem-

►See **ORDAIN**, Page 11



## Sustainability is something to be embraced, not avoided

► **By Liz Winters**  
guest columnist

Sticky summer days of my childhood spent frolicking on the pebbled beaches of Cape May Point, N.J. often rang with this lilting tune:

*“Who's afraid of the big, bad wave, the big bad wave, the big bad wave? Who's afraid of the big bad wave? Not me, not me, not me.”*

As a 6-year-old the immensity of the ocean was incomprehensible, though the thrill of getting splashed by a low-tide wave was very tangible. My grandpa taught us the wave song, a line of my cousins and I chasing a receding wave, only to be chased right back by the next as we shrieked and giggled, “Not me.” It may have been a silly game, but we recognized the speed needed to dash away from the water as it hissed up the beach. When we tired of avoiding the water, we splashed in, feeling the tug of the current all around us.

With a few simple words, we had polarized the ocean, made it something to be avoided. Then, just like flipping a switch, the ocean became our refreshing friend once more. The power of words and mindset is undeniable, and perhaps one of

the big reasons initiating sustainable practices is difficult in the United States. Is it because terms like “sustainability,” “green” and “eco-friendly” are somewhat polarizing? Are politics getting in the way? Is it a lack of understanding surrounding sustainability that causes some to shy away from it, the same way I once scampered from waves?

Be it a lack of education, political shenanigans or mundane laziness, sustainability — once considered an alternative lifestyle — is quickly becoming our only viable option for the future. Incorporating sustainable efforts into your life doesn't necessarily mean making drastic changes to the way you live, although some do choose to take this route. Start with the little things: This school year, the Sustainability Club started a plastic bag recycling program on campus, since the campus recycling system cannot process grocery bags. The program has been a pleasant success in terms of collecting plastic grocery bags. However, how many of these dutiful, bag-recycling students made the switch to reusable canvas grocery bags? Yes, recycling is a sustainable practice, but cutting off the plastic flow with canvas is the long-term sustainable solution.

Most people would come to the consensus that adopting alternative habits to less-

en our environmental impact is a good and important thing to do. Logic will tell you everything you do has an environmental impact, and in today's tumultuous world, these impacts cannot go ignored. Making this mistake of self-perpetuated ignorance is akin to running away from the big bad wave. Our planet is sick and our behaviors are the pathogen. If science fails to move you to take action, allow me to appeal to the religious majority here at USU: Are you not called to be stewards of the earth? Respect your planet, because she is finite. Dive into becoming part of the solution: Working with our planet reaps so many more mutual benefits than our current actions do.

The Sustainability Office on campus works to illuminate the little things you, even as a poor college student, can do to minimize your footprint. This week, Service Week and Earth Week are being held in tandem. Take some time to educate yourself about the many facets of sustainability, from growing your own vegetable garden to growing a strong community. Jump into the water. Don't run away because of the stigma someone else placed on it.

— Liz Winters is a member of the Sustainability Club, majoring in conservation and restoration ecology. Send any comments to [elizabethm.winters@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethm.winters@gmail.com).

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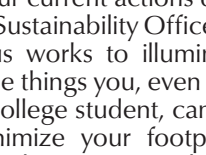
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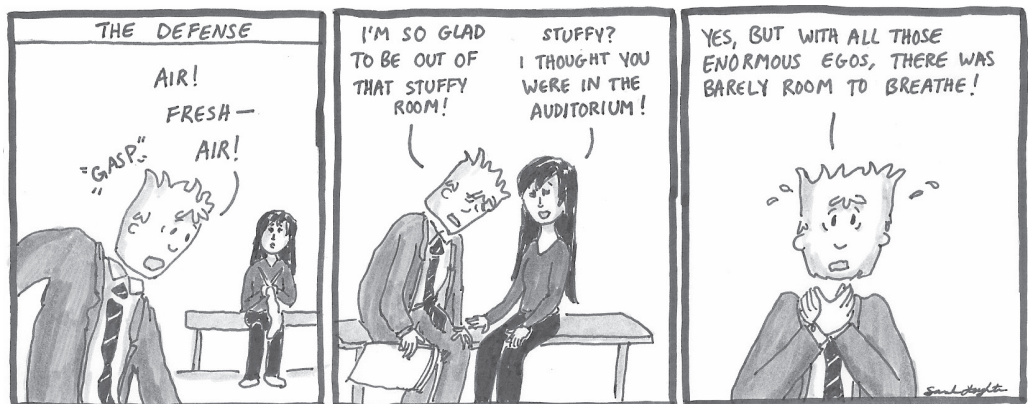
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## Ordain

From Page 10

ple Square, spouting criticism hatefully.  
Here's an idea. Be the Christians you claim to be. Jesus loved everyone. Let's get off our high horses, recognize our opinions are not the only ones in existence, shake

hands, maybe even hug and agree to disagree.

– Noelle Johansen is a junior in Spanish and journalism and is the digital editor of The Statesman. She fully recognizes and embraces her future as an old maid with 27 cats. Direct comments, concerns, complaints and embarrassing personal secrets to [noelle.johansen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:noelle.johansen@aggiemail.usu.edu).

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## Vaccine

From Page 10

to his death. Rather than lay all doubt to rest through a full post-mortem medical examination — an autopsy, in layman's terms — this mother, so convinced her son had been completely healthy, refused.

I can't imagine this mother's pain, but it was foolish to be so caught up in what she thought she knew that prevented doctors from finding the true cause of this tragedy.

Let's be clear: Immunizations are not a form of quack science. An overwhelming amount of scientific research has been conducted to demonstrate the effects — and benefits — immunizations have on individuals, their families and the people of their communities. I know people who refuse to vaccinate their children believe they are doing the right thing, but to think that is not only selfish, it's irresponsible.

The generations that came before us believed in doctors and scientists. These people trusted physicians to administer proper treatments and medicines to their children for illnesses and diseases that bring far more devastating outcomes if let go, be it polio, tuberculosis, measles or the common flu.

But you don't have to take my word for it. After all, I'm merely an op-ed columnist preaching from my soapbox. I'm not a scientist, but I believe in science. It did so much for our ancestors, especially in the 20th century with the near eradication of fatal and highly-communicable illnesses. Now that it's the 21st century, it only makes sense that more people should hold to the leaps and bounds provided by sci-

ence. But that isn't always the case.

Most people spend more time researching the history of a used car they might buy than they do investigating the pros and cons of vaccinations. That alarms me, and I'd encourage everyone to look into immunizations and learn about the benefits for yourselves — the best places to start are [www.izcoalitions.org](http://www.izcoalitions.org) and [www.vaccineinformation.org](http://www.vaccineinformation.org).

Life is a gift. We've been given valuable tools to combat disease and illness, yet we don't all take advantage of them — and that is the most foolhardy thing we could do.

– Paul is the former features editor of The Utah Statesman and is a senior majoring in print journalism. Send any comments to [paul.r.christiansen@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:paul.r.christiansen@aggiemail.usu.edu).

### The Deep End • Tyson Cole



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61/38  
Monday  
Clear

Thursday, April 10

- Poetry at Three, 7 p.m., Logan City Library (255 North Main)
- The Engaged Leader Workshop, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., Eccles Conference Center 205-207
- Reduce your "Waste" Size, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., TSC Patio
- CWG Spring Luncheon, 12 p.m., Haight Alumni Center
- Getting it all done: finish the semester strong, 10-11 a.m., TSC 315A

Friday, April 11


- Student Showcase, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Merrill-Cazier Library South Atrium
- Ignite USU, 2-4 p.m., Merrill-Cazier Library South Atrium
- Pruning & Pizza, 2:20-5 p.m., TSC Plaza
- Student Research Awards Ceremony, 4-5 p.m., Merrill-Cazier Library South Atrium
- Mythbusters in Logan, 7-8 p.m., Eccles Science Learning Center 130
- USU Relay for Life, 6-8 a.m., Nelson Field House

Saturday, April 12

- Spring Football Game, 2-4 p.m., Romney Stadium
- Logan City Limits Music Festival, 5-11 p.m., TSC International Lounge
- Merry Wives of Windsor Opera, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Chase Fine Arts Center Morgan Theatre

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Tristan Thomas, a senior majoring in political science, was caught reading about ordain women. "It just goes to show that a lot of people that think they know how things work don't know how things work."

	3		8		1	6		5
		4	7	2				
1		8			4			
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