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SPORTS | Clear your schedule

What games from USU men's and women's basketball are can't-miss events in the upcoming season?

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Student Alumni Association raises funds to buy ramps for True Aggie Night to increase accessibility.

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NEWS | Rain on the Parade

Undeterred by storms, Aggies come out for homecoming parade

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Mr. Diversity, Mr. USU

Maximilliano Karabachian takes home honors as part of Utah State's homecoming week



PHOTO BY Jared Casper

Mr. USU 2019 Maximilliano Karabachian (left) poses for a photo on Wednesday night as part of the Mr. USU festivities during homecoming week.

By Sidney Dahle

STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Every seat was filled with supportive friends, family and excited Aggies alike at the Daines Concert Hall for Utah State's annual male pageant, Mr. USU.

In fact, attendance was so high that ushers were turning away people at the door.

"Watching what creative tal-

ents these guys come up with is definitely the best part," said pre-business major Kali Hollins. "The individualization of each contestant is always so different and so cool."

"I'm just excited to see the creator of the meme page 'Aggie Memery,' Kellan Huber, on stage," said Jared Rogerson, a political science major. "He is Utah State royalty."

The pageant opened with a dance number to "Canned Heat," the song made popular on "Napoleon Dynamite" and instantly went into a talent section. Nathan Scott, Mr. Arts, showed his vocal range, singing everything from opera to Aerosmith's "Dream On." Meanwhile, Tyler Francom, Mr. Engineering, wowed the audience with his yo-yo tricks.

The director of the pageant this year was Sarah Rasmussen, who said the process started in early April.

"We began logistics of the pageant first. Then came picking out a theme, which we decided on 'Dance,' and a committee," she said. "About a month ago, we picked 12 contestants out of 30 applicants."

see "Mr. USU" PAGE 5

Game of Storms

Aggies survive weather and Rams in 34-24 win



PHOTO BY Chantelle McCall

Devon Anderson (91) and Cameron Haney (6) celebrate during USU football's homecoming game versus Colorado State on Saturday, September 28, 2019.

By Dalton Renshaw

SPORTS CONTENT MANAGER

Utah State football overcame a season-high four turnovers and a weather delay to defeat Colorado State 34-24 on a cold, wet night in Logan, Utah.

The storm moved its way slowly throughout the valley in the evening, bringing lightning as it passed through which delayed the game for just under a half an hour. The game got underway at 6 p.m. and the lightning subsided, but the rain stuck around to see out the final whistle, causing trouble for both schools along the way. However, head coach Gary Andersen did not attribute the poor conditions to any of the Aggies' four turnovers.

"I don't think the weather affected any of those turnovers that I saw at all. On either side," Andersen said. "If you're going to be where we play football, you better be able to handle weather and you better be able to run the ball effectively late in games. It's just the way it's going to be if you're going to be a consistent team and play some meaningful games in the month of November."

Utah State struggled to move the ball in the first quarter for the second straight week. And just like at San Diego State, the team earned its first touchdown from means other than through

see "Game of Storms" PAGE 9

A thriving LGBTQ community?

Even in rural Utah, Nathon Taylor thinks it's possible

By Naomi Ward

NEWS STAFF WRITER

Nathon Taylor knew he was gay in the fifth grade. And somehow, his peers seemed to know, too.

He dismissed their taunting as childhood playfulness. It wasn't until he'd graduated from his small high school in Wyoming, still in the closet, that he reflected on how much it hurt and how much it had impacted his life.

"I quit sports just because of the discomfort I felt in that locker room setting," Taylor said. "I should have stuck up more for myself."

When he moved to Logan to start school at Utah State University, he saw the move as an opportunity to start over.

"These new people didn't know me," he said. "So why should I care if they knew I was gay?"

He came out to his best friend, Allie Gibson, as they sat in a parked car in the lot across from Maverik Stadium. He'd already written a Facebook post in which he would come out to the rest of his friends and family.

All he needed was for her to help him press the "post" button.

Since then, Taylor has become a leader in Logan's LGBTQ community, organizing the university's first drag show and working with Logan Pride and USU Housing and Residence Life to build spaces where queer youth can feel like they belong.

While he plans to leave Logan after he graduates from USU in the spring, Taylor is nonetheless trying to build a safe and accepting community—a place where people can stick up for themselves and each other—in this college town on the border of two of the nation's most conservative states.

He says that sort of community shouldn't be impossible, even in a place like this.

Especially in a place like this.

Soon after coming out, Taylor began working as a resident assis-

tant in the Lundstrom Student Living Center (SLC), which is a set of eight residence halls, separated from the main part of campus by the Logan Cemetery. It's become its own sort of hub for mostly underclassman students.

Hannah McDonald was a resident assistant at the SLC with Taylor. She said even just the proximity that comes with on-campus living can be uncomfortable for residents who don't feel like they fit in with the rest of their peers.

"My mom told me they used to call the Student Living Center the 'morm dorms' when she was here in the early seventies because the LDS population was so high," she said. "I mean, it still is, but we want to support all residents, no matter who they are."

"Working in housing, I mostly wanted to make sure that residents felt safe, especially students in minority groups" Taylor said. "I wanted to make sure they knew that they had resources, and they weren't alone."

McDonald, who was Taylor's partner in planning and executing the USU Residence Life Drag Show, said they wanted to create a program where everyone feels not just accepted but celebrated.

Taylor first introduced the idea of planning a drag show to McDonald the week before fall semester of 2018 while they were going through the week-long training required of housing employees. They were taking a break for dinner at Angie's Restaurant.

Taylor told Hannah about a drag performance he'd seen at a housing conference. "What if we brought that to USU?" he asked.

They proposed the idea to Erika Lindstrom, their residence director. She agreed that, planned intentionally and educationally, it could be a great idea. A few weeks later, McDonald and Taylor spent hours writing out a proposal for the event, writing learning



PHOTO COURTESY of Nathon Taylor

Nathon Taylor was the organizer of Utah State's first drag show in 2018 and is a strong advocate for the LGBTQ community.

objectives and looking for venues, food and possible performers.

"We probably sent out like 50 emails just that night," McDonald said, laughing.

But they had trouble finding performers for the show. At the time, the drag scene in Logan wasn't nonexistent, but it was very, very small.

"We found one show in Logan that we could go to a couple weeks before Halloween, put on by a performer that goes by the name Anya Bacon," McDonald said. They went to the show, where they

see "LGBTQ" PAGE 3

Ice cream on the quad

By Josh Wilkinson
NEWS SENIOR WRITER

Students and visitors at Utah State University now have another venue for satisfying their Aggie Blue Mint cravings this semester.

Luke’s Café on the Quad, located in the Stan L. Albrecht Agricultural Sciences Building on the east side of USU’s Quad, has begun serving Aggie Ice Cream alongside their other menu options.

Jaime Bradford, USU Associate Director of Retail Operations, said Luke’s Café is the only café on campus currently serving Aggie Ice Cream.

According to Bradford, the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences (CAAS) approached USU Dining Services with the idea of including Aggie Ice Cream at the café. As Aggie Ice Cream falls underneath the umbrella of CAAS, it made sense and was a great fit

for the Agricultural Sciences Building, Bradford said.

However, bringing Aggie Ice Cream to the Quad has also brought challenges. According to Bradford, finding space to store products is a challenge that smaller cafés on campus frequently face.

According to Bradford, recent changes to Luke’s Café also made the venue ideal for storing and selling Ice Cream. “We had to find a place to put a freezer and store the product,” Bradford said. “We just did a small remodel to make the café function smoother and to add extra storage space.”

This is not Aggie Ice Cream’s first time on the Quad. According to USU’s Aggie Ice Cream webpage, Aggie Ice Cream has its roots with the original creamery in the Old Main building in 1888. By 1922, students in the USU dairying department could take classes

involving ice cream manufacturing.

The Aggie Ice Cream store was later established in 1932 on the north side of the Quad. The store remained a USU fixture until 1975 when a new ice cream parlor was built onto the Nutrition and Food Sciences building on the east side of campus.

Even with the recent renovations and the return of Aggie Ice Cream to the Quad, Luke’s Café isn’t attracting many ice cream customers yet. According to Bradford, most students don’t seem to be aware that Luke’s Café is serving Aggie Ice Cream yet.

“The response has been ok. We sell maybe one or two a day,” Bradford said. “Once people realize it is being served at Luke’s, I think [sales] will pick up some.”

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TSC welcomes TV, video game console

By Harley Barnes
NEWS STAFF WRITER

A television and video game setup located on the third floor of the Taggart Student Center at Utah State University has been successful in attracting more students to the floor than ever before. The setup has been there for two weeks and provides students with a TV, couch and a variety of video games like Mario Kart and Smash Brothers.

“I think that it’s really neat that the university has put this out for the students,” said Tanner Chapman, a student who played on the console for the first time on Thursday. Chapman said he thinks the TV and video games are something that will attract the students to the campus even more.

Gavin Christensen also stopped to play at the gaming system with Chapman and said that the best thing about it was the variety of games and the comfy couches.

USU Student Body President, Sami Ahmed originally had the idea to put out the TV and games in hopes to make the third floor more inviting. These two weeks have been a trial run to see how students react to it.

The third floor of the TSC hosts many student body and student government offices, including Ahmed’s office. “More traffic comes up here

and more students get to meet their student body officers,” Ahmed said.

Logan Caudle, a student that loves video games said that the game station allows for more friendly interaction and a break from the daily stresses of college.

“If you don’t want to study, come play Mario Kart,” Ahmed said. Because of the success that the game station has seen, he said that there are plans to add a second console in the near future. There are also plans for a ping pong table, pool table, and new couches.

Ahmed said, “We put it out to see how many people would come and it’s been nonstop. There’s always someone on it. The experimenting phase has gone well.”

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PHOTO BY Chantelle McCall
Students on the Taggart Student Center third floor enjoy the video game console.

Rain on our parade

Despite wet weather, Aggies show up for Homecoming Parade



PHOTO BY Lain Laurence

The Aggiettes perform in the Homecoming parade.

By Tayloe Cripe
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Utah State University’s 2019 Homecoming parade on Saturday was not a sunny occasion. Rain poured onto Main Street and the floats as they lined up for procession. Despite the weather, large crowds still gathered for the parade. “We love USU, and we love homecoming,” Bobbie Bowen from Logan said.

Before the parade began, Aggie fans donned umbrellas, set up canopies and huddled together on the sidewalk. Even families with children were not deterred from attending the event. “We were driving down 400 North thinking, ‘what are we doing?’” Bowen said. Bowen’s two small children were seated in a jogging stroller as the parade passed by.

“The sun came out a little right before the start of the parade, and we thought it was just meant to be,” Bowen said. Joyce Adams from North Logan agrees.

“We are avid Aggie supporters,” Adams said. “My husband got his Ph.D from USU, so we have really been fans forever.” When asked if the rain put a damper on their spirits, Adams proudly said, ‘Not at all.’ “We think our children and grandchildren are chicken for not coming out with us,” Adams said.

During the parade, the rain would come and go, but parade participants continued to hand out candy, frisbees and water bottles to the large throngs that had gathered in the street. Participants on the floats smiled as they waved and called to the crowds.

“My husband and I were impressed by the number of people who came out in the rain. There are literally dozens just on our side,” Adams said.

Even individuals who took shelter under canopies were happy to be there.

“This is our favorite parade,” Lisa Ringle from Logan said. “This is a tradition for us. We are alumni, and we wouldn’t refuse to come just because of the rain.”

Patrons came well dressed for the occasion, many wearing rain jackets and boots while carrying large umbrellas with them. Small children seemed content to be outside as they jumped in puddles, ran into the street to get candy and

then ran back to jump in more puddles.

“The rain really does make the event more exciting,” Joni Hoth from Providence said, as several children splashed in the water by her feet.

“We come to this parade every year,” Hoth said. Several of her family members nodded and noted that they “hadn’t missed a year yet.”

About halfway through the parade, the rain came down so hard that several families ran for shelter to their cars or the convenience stores on the corners. Many parade-goers, however, lifted their umbrellas and continued to watch the procession.

“We were well prepared for this. We brought stuff to be ready for the rain and didn’t want to miss any of it,” Hoth said.

As the rain became a light drizzle, many people



PHOTO BY Lain Laurence

Aggie alumni and their families watch the Homecoming parade in the rain.

ventured from their hiding spots and came back into the street to get more prizes. The marching band and cheerleaders, completely soaked, continued to play and wave to the crowds.

“We are alumni, and this will always be an Aggie tradition,” Hoth said. Several members of her family noted they were glad the parade was not cancelled.

When asked if true aggies would bear the rain and come out, parade-goers smiled and said ‘of course!’

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PHOTO BY Lain Laurence

USU Bagpipe and Drum Band performs in the rain for Utah State University’s annual Homecoming Parade.

"LGBTQ" FROM PAGE 1

spent an hour trying to network with performers, almost all amateurs. They also set up video auditions. Bacon would eventually be one of the performers in their show.

The planning process wasn't all smooth. As they predicted they would, Taylor and McDonald ran into some speed bumps trying to get the event approved with university administration. "We tried to be so careful," McDonald said. "We knew what happened with the Learning Living Community and Sex in the Dark." A few years prior, another housing community on campus had received complaints from parents over a sex education event they'd planned called 'Sex in the Dark' and were nearly forced to shut it down.

"We received some feedback from the housing director that having a drag show on campus would be inappropriate. Too risqué," Taylor said. "We'd made a Facebook event for the show, and over 800 people responded that they were interested. But we also got comments like, 'This is gonna be a strip show.' We knew everything would be nitpicked. It shows that there are stereotypes of who does drag and what drag is.

"For some people, drag is a scary thought for them."

They planned for—hoped for—around 500 in attendance. More than 1,000 people came for the show. Every chair that had been set up in the student center ballroom was filled, with more standing in the back and off to the sides.

"We were so surprised," McDonald said.

Beyond the performances, the show included a keynote from a professor on gender norms and a panel for performers to answer questions and clear up misconceptions about drag and gender. Taylor said USU Housing and Residence Life plans to collaborate further with the student af-

fairs office to make the show an annual event.

They've already started planning the next drag show to take place in November.

"I think visibility is what the community needs," former resident assistant Jake Barney said. "Growing up in Layton, I didn't feel like there was a community for me. In my mind, I envisioned coming out to mean that all these doors would open, and I would find all these gay people to take me in, but it didn't happen like that.

"When I see ally stickers on professors' doors, or houses with pride flags in their windows or all these people going to the drag show, that makes me feel like I know they'll accept me," Taylor said.

The show was a triumph for the LGBTQ community in Logan, but for every success story, there are many more hurdles to cross. Taylor also volunteers with Logan Pride and says the organization has had difficulty recruiting volunteers in the numbers they need to develop more large-scale programming.



PHOTOS COURTESY of **Nathon Taylor**

"Amongst members of the queer community, there's an understanding that Logan is temporary," Wilde said. "I joined Encircle because I wanted to change the way queer individuals perceive places like Logan. I want to help my home so it's a place anyone can call home, instead of a place where people think 'I can't wait to get out of here.'"

"I don't want people to grow up and feel like I did," he said.

Neither does Taylor. But he says he would never go back to live in his hometown.

"It's weird that you ask – my dad just called me asking about where I would want to get married," he said. "He mentioned having the reception back in Wyoming and I had to turn him away from that. I found it weird to celebrate my sexuality in a place that made me feel so insecure about it."

He's currently seeking out master's programs in other states. "My top priority when I find a decent program is the LGBTQ community in that area," he said. "Often, my first Google search is 'is this city LGBTQ friendly?'"

Taylor now performs drag himself and performed at Queer Prom, an event Logan Pride organized last year for Cache Valley youth. He didn't tell his parents that he performs in drag until only a couple of months ago.

"When I dress up as a different character, I feel untouchable," he said.

Taylor says he loves Logan. Moving doesn't mean he's given up. But for him, here, activism is all about building a community that could do for others what it did for him – it gave him a clean slate, a chance to grow into someone that finally stands up for himself and someone who wants to leave this place even better than he found it.

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OPERATION UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

SL STUDENT LIFE

SAA raising funds for True Aggie Night Accessibility Ramps



FILE PHOTO BY Megan Nielsen

By Nichole Bresee
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Since the tradition began in 1916, becoming a True Aggie wasn't designed for all students. But it wasn't necessarily based on whether someone was comfortable standing on the Block A and kissing someone in public. No, the issue was getting on the Block A in the first place.

But now, after multiple students and alumni spoke out about it, the USU Student Alumni Association, or SAA, is now moving forward with plans to fundraise for and buy temporary wheelchair ramps, making events like True Aggie Night accessible for everyone.

"This is something that multiple people in my position have tried to accomplish and work on, but it's never been approved until this year," Tarren Jessop, SAA vice president, said. "We're really excited that it's gotten this far, and we're really excited to show our students that inclusivity is more than your skin color or background, but it also includes your abilities."

When True Aggie Night first began, the event was very unsupervised, with the Block A being swarmed by students and would have as many as eight people trying to stand on it at once. As it became more supervised and recognized by the university, they decided to have steel stairs constructed so students could easily access it.

However, the staircases didn't cater to every student, and multiple students and alumni began to reach out to Jessop and her predecessors on the issue. Jessop said many of these people felt that there is an issue with ableism on campus, and she saw buying ramps as the perfect opportunity to address it.

"We're really excited to be able to take these students' voices and actually apply them to something that's permanent, important and a fundamental part of Utah State culture," Jessop said. "True Aggie Night is something we tell incoming students about and something alumni return for, and to be able to open the doors to this tradition for so many more people is really exciting for us."

Getting ramps has been a mission for Jessop and other SAA officials for years, but this is the furthest a proposal has ever gone. Jessop said she thinks this proposal is the most successful because the ramps will be temporary and taken down immediately following events, therefore not changing the structure of the Block A but still making it more accessible and inclusive.

The ramps will be completely compliant with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and will consist of two 17-foot sections that create a right angle leading up to the Block A on both sides. There will be platforms between those two 17-foot sections to provide space for students to position correctly atop the Block A, as well as safety handrails that extend across the whole structure. The ramps are completely collapsible and will be put up for True Aggie Nights, Parent Days and graduation.

"We're hoping to have them for the next True Aggie Night," Blake Barber, SAA director of fundraising, said. "We'll see how that works out because we still need to purchase and build them, and it's really dependent on how quickly we're able to fundraise the money."

SAA is hoping to raise \$5,837 by Oct. 11, which is around half the cost of the ramps. The remaining half comes from

internally raised money through student and alumni associations and money donated by the Class of 2019 as a senior gift.

Students, alumni and community members that want to help purchase the ramps can donate money at usu.edu/aggiefunded. Currently, around \$1,500 has been raised, with donations continuously pouring in.

"Even if you don't have the funds, it's important for people to just spread the word," Barber said. "I know not all students have a lot of money, but even sharing it on your story is big and asking your parents to share it as well because your parents are the ones who have friends who are alumni who may have a little bit more money to donate and give."

Andrea Kate, an English education major, donated as soon as she heard about it. Having a brother who is wheelchair bound, she said the issue was very personal to her and she's happy action is being taken; however, she's confused why it took so long to happen and why so much fundraising is needed.

"We've had wheelchair-bound students on this campus for decades, and the fact that they haven't been able to participate in a very proud tradition that is iconic to the university is really frustrating," she said. "The Americans with Disabilities Act has been around since the '90s, and I'm kind of annoyed we have to fundraise for something like this. You'd think the university could spare some money towards it or get a grant to pay for it."

While Jessop says she understands where the criticism is coming from, she says she hopes the fundraising aspect will promote university involvement and make students and alumni proud that they helped increase campus inclusivity.

"I actually didn't even know they were doing this fundraiser until now, so I wish there was more promotion for it, because it's a really great cause," Camila Summers, a biochemistry major, said. "I wish there wasn't a minimum donation amount of \$5 because I think we can all give a little bit, but not all students can give the same amount. I think they'd have a higher chance of raising more money that way."

On the other hand, Barber said that the small donation is definitely feasible if students just make a conscious effort and choose to put their funds towards a good cause.

"If you skip the breakfast burrito tomorrow and just donate that \$5 to the ramps, it'll make a big difference in the long run for a lot of Aggies here at USU and a lot of future Aggies," he said. "I think that's something a lot of students can take pride in."

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FILE PHOTO BY Megan Nielsen

TWEETS of the WEEK



@DarzSpittinBarz

May we never forget the infamous USU twitter pumpkin patch that united more students last year than any sweet caroline at high stakes bingo could ever dream of.



@BrySkywalker21

If any of you are looking for a cute boy to kiss on the block A tonight to become a true Aggie, I think I can help you out...



@tjhaws_

"True Aggies kiss on the A but they meet on the shuttle."
-VP @Paulinarivera13



@meghantate

Lol remember when Logan had a cookie war going on? What a wild time for our sweet, little college town. Free cookies were flying left and right



@lili_mcmurrian

a true blooded aggie
#utahstateuniversity @USUAggies
@usuHURD



Clouds of debate over vapes and e-cigs

Local lawmakers disagree with Trump and Romney over this controversial issue

By William Bultez
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Cache County lawmakers are hesitant to mount state-based support for U.S. Sen. Mitt Romney’s Sept. 10 request for recalls of electronic cigarettes amid illnesses and deaths tied to their use.

Rep. Casey Snider said he will not support outright prohibition as long as the consumer is of an appropriate age and is aware of the risks associated with the products.

“We need to be careful in government that we’re not infringing — as dumb as it may sound — on the right of a person to make a poor decision as to their own life safety and welfare,” Snider said.

However, consumers are not being fully notified of the health detriments in e-cigarettes, Snider said. He would have the “big, bold labels” seen on tobacco products put on e-cigarettes and vapes so that consumers are aware of the risks.

“Just because it’s a popular issue right now doesn’t mean we need to go along with it,” Rep. Joel Ferry said. “Let’s make a reasonable decision.”

Ferry agreed that there needs to be a public awareness about health risks. He said underage usage and the illnesses and deaths associated with e-cigarettes have come from lack of regulation or oversight, especially on black market products.

“Maybe we have a temporary ban or a temporary slowdown until all the studies are done and people understand exactly what they’re getting into,” Ferry said.



GRAPHIC BY **Iain Laurence**

But, he said he is not a believer of a “nanny state” that “governs every single thing that we consume.”

“What I would do is increase penalties if you catch a juvenile vaping,” Ferry said. “Increase penalties to what alcohol penalties are.”

Similarly, Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard wants vaping laws to be equivalent to current tobacco laws. He wants penalties and tax policies to be con-

gruent, as well as who can use the substances. Hillyard wants the harsher regulations especially to apply to flavored products, which are generally more attractive to children.

Rep. Dan N. Johnson, a member of the Education Interim Committee and representative of Cache County, was presented findings by the E-Cigarette Workgroup on Wednesday about the risks of vaping and e-cigarettes.

A bill addressing the recommendations of the E-Cigarette Workgroup and issues about education, regulation and enforcement was passed unanimously after the presentation.

“We are really moving quickly with this,” Johnson said. “We need to control it before it gets to a point where lots of people have been harmed. Safety is really a big issue.”

Despite his concerns, however, he does not believe e-cigarettes and vapes need to be banned. His focus has been on educating children about the dangers of the substances and keeping them away, especially from flavored products that seem to be aimed at younger people.

To combat this issue, Johnson said, “There will definitely be very firm legislation in the 2020 session.”

There is a consensus among the Cache County lawmakers that more research needs to be conducted before any major laws or prohibitions are instituted. However, research on the lasting effects of vapes and e-cigarettes is still not within reach.

“We need to make sure we’re rigorously enforcing the rules we have on the books today,” Ferry said.

The lawmakers’ comments came directly after New York became the second state to ban flavored products and after President Donald Trump announced he would ban them nationally.

Days before these changes, Romney advocated for a complete ban of e-cigarettes and vaping products.

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 @willistheginger



PHOTO BY **Jared Casper**
Mr. USU contestant Jeremy Ludwig on stage during the all-male pageant on September 25, 2019. Ludwig, who represented the Student Alumni Association, performed a song on the piano.

“Mr. USU” FROM PAGE 1

Maximilliano Karabachian, Mr. Diversity, said that he decided to finally apply and go out with a bang after attending Mr. USU every year since he was a freshman.

“I’ve put my heart and soul into my performance and I am beyond excited to share it with the audience,” Karabachian said.

Jeremy Ludwig, Mr. Student Alumni Association, said he wanted to participate after watching the pageant yearly as well.

“I want to represent the school I love so much,” said Ludwig.

Not only were the colleges represented, but so was Greek

Life, Diversity, and the Student Alumni Association.

“It’s a really great opportunity to get guys from all different parts of the school and put on a really awesome show,” said Ludwig.

Each contestant was rated by each of the four judges: USU-SA Executive Vice President Dexton Lake, Financial Officer for Student Affairs Taya Flores, Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. James Morales and the marketing manager for S.E. Needham Jewelers, Sylvan Needham. Participants were judged on creativity, confidence and poise for both the talent section and the formal wear section. As well as crowning Mr. USU, the audience also voted for which con-

testant they wanted to win Mr. USU’s People’s Choice award.

The winner of Mr. USU was Mr. Diversity, Maximilliano Karabachian, and the People’s Choice award went to Mr. Agriculture, Kellan Huber.

At the end of the day, the Mr. USU pageant continues to be a success that draws in hordes of supportive Aggies yearly and increases school spirit during homecoming week.

Rasmussen said that she wanted everyone who came to enjoy their time and feel proud to be an Aggie.

“It’s more than just a pageant. It’s a comedy show that welcomes all,” she said.

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 @dillydahle

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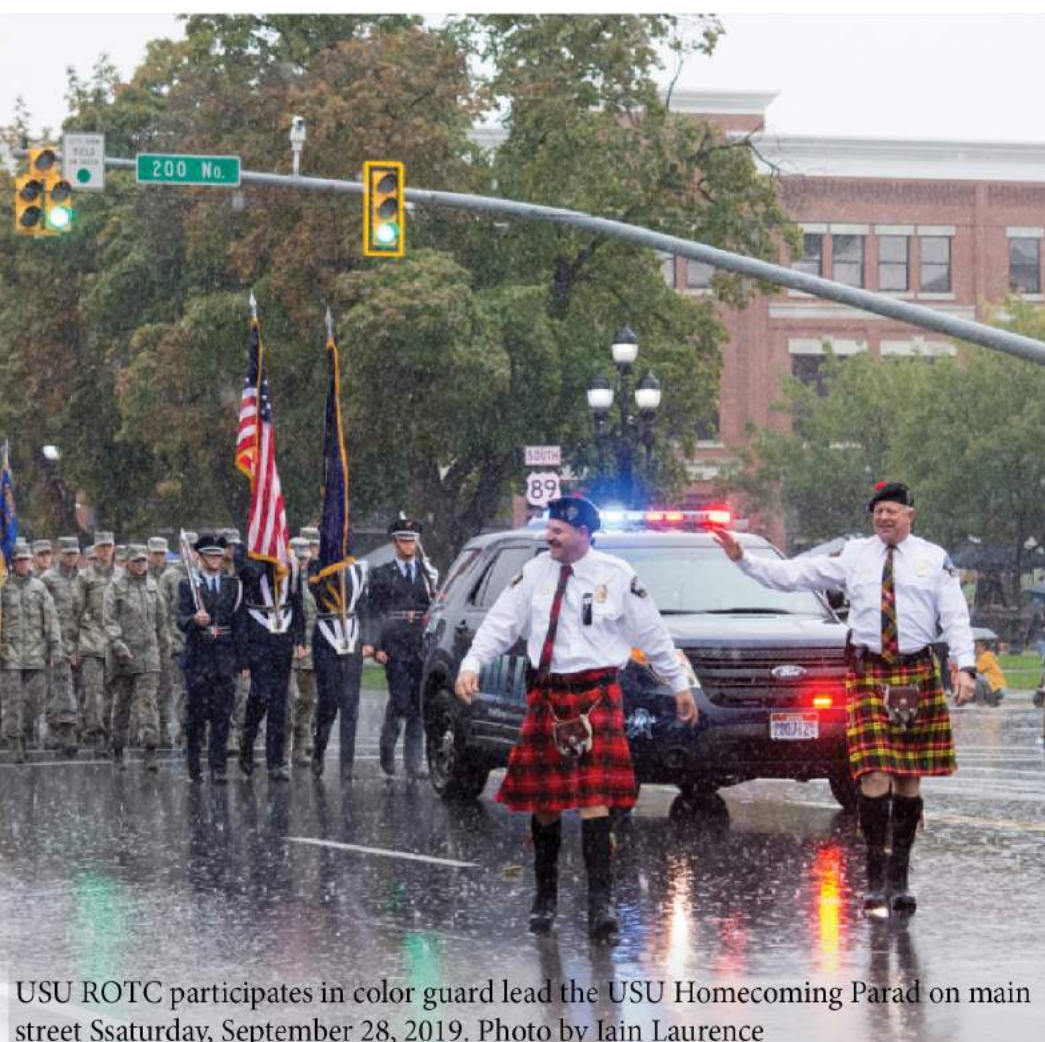
Utah State University's junior linebacker David Woodward (9) runs to the endzone after stripping the ball from Colorado State University for their Homecoming game in the rain Saturday night September 28, 2019. USU defeated CSU 34-24. Photo by Chantelle McCall



Mr.USU contestant Jeremy Ludwig on stage during the all-male pageant on September 25, 2019. Ludwig, who represented the Student Alumni Association, performed a song on the piano. Photo by Jared Casper



Students perform The Scotsman in the rain before the Homecoming game in the rain Saturday, September 28, 2019. USU deafeated Colorado State University 34-24. Photo by Chantelle McCall



USU ROTC participates in color guard lead the USU Homecoming Parad on main street Ssaturday, September 28, 2019. Photo by Iain Laurence



Mr. USU contestants pose during their performance at the pageant Wednesday September 27, 2019. Mr. Diversity ultimately won the title of Mr. USU. Photo by Savy Knapp



USU's Balls Deep (blue) player runs the ball down the field to attempt to catch up to the Golden Retrievers (orange) in the Homecoming Powder-Puff finals Tuesday September 24, 2019. Blue lost to the orange 18-36. Photo by Chantelle McCall



Students perform at the Homecoming Karaoke Raffle Night on Thursday September 26, 2019. 10 tickets were given out to performers and three prizes were awarded at the end of the night. Photo by Chantelle McCall



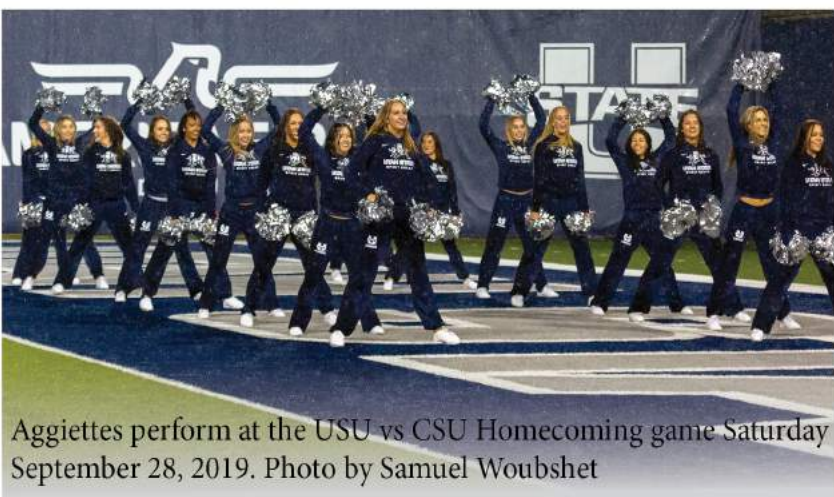
USU Marching Band performs in the Homecoming Parade Saturday morning September 28, 2019. The rain persisted throughout the day during the tailgating and the football game later that night. Photo by Iain Laurence



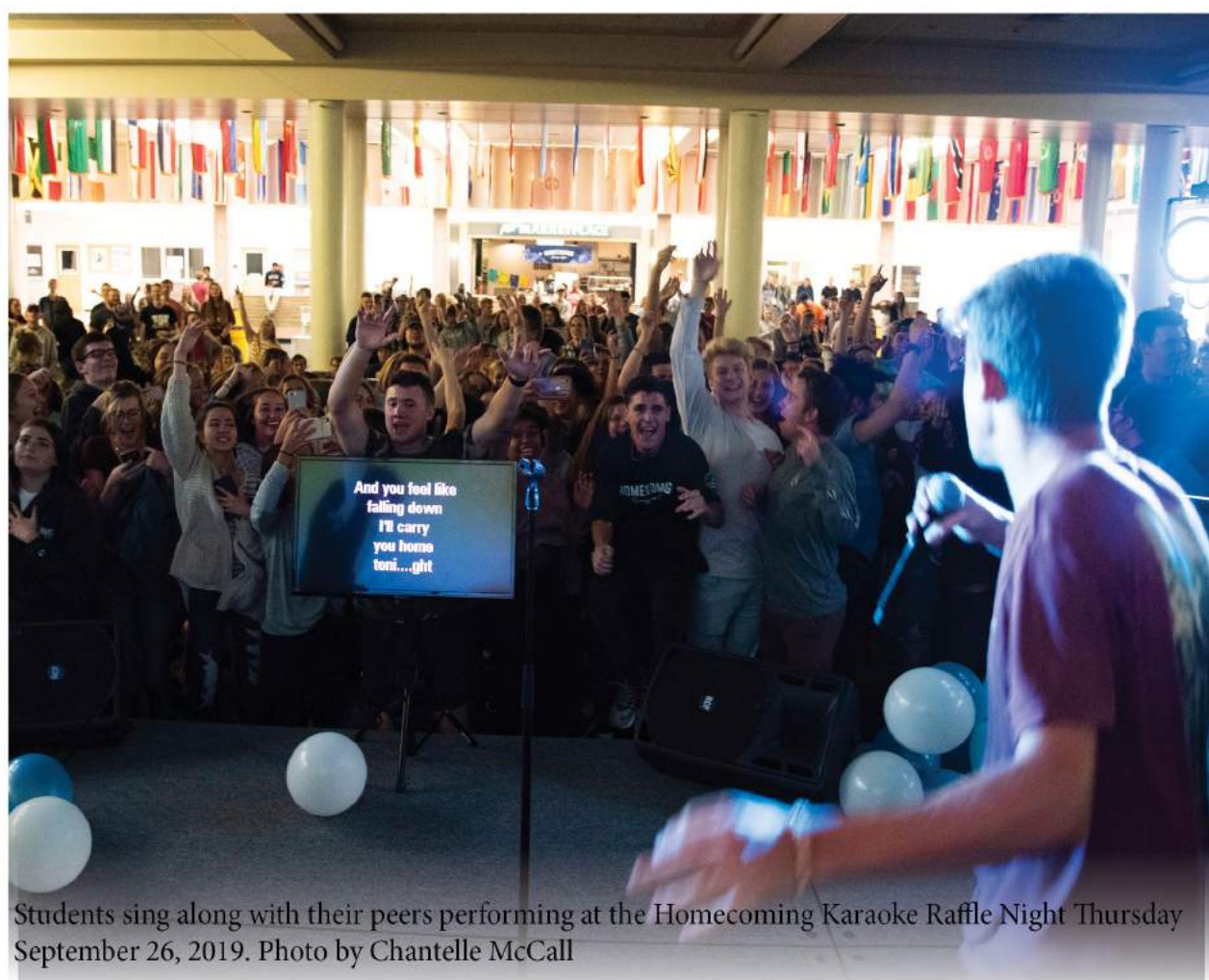
Students and fans enjoy food tailgating at the USU vs CSU Homecoming game Saturday September 28, 2019. Photo by Amber French



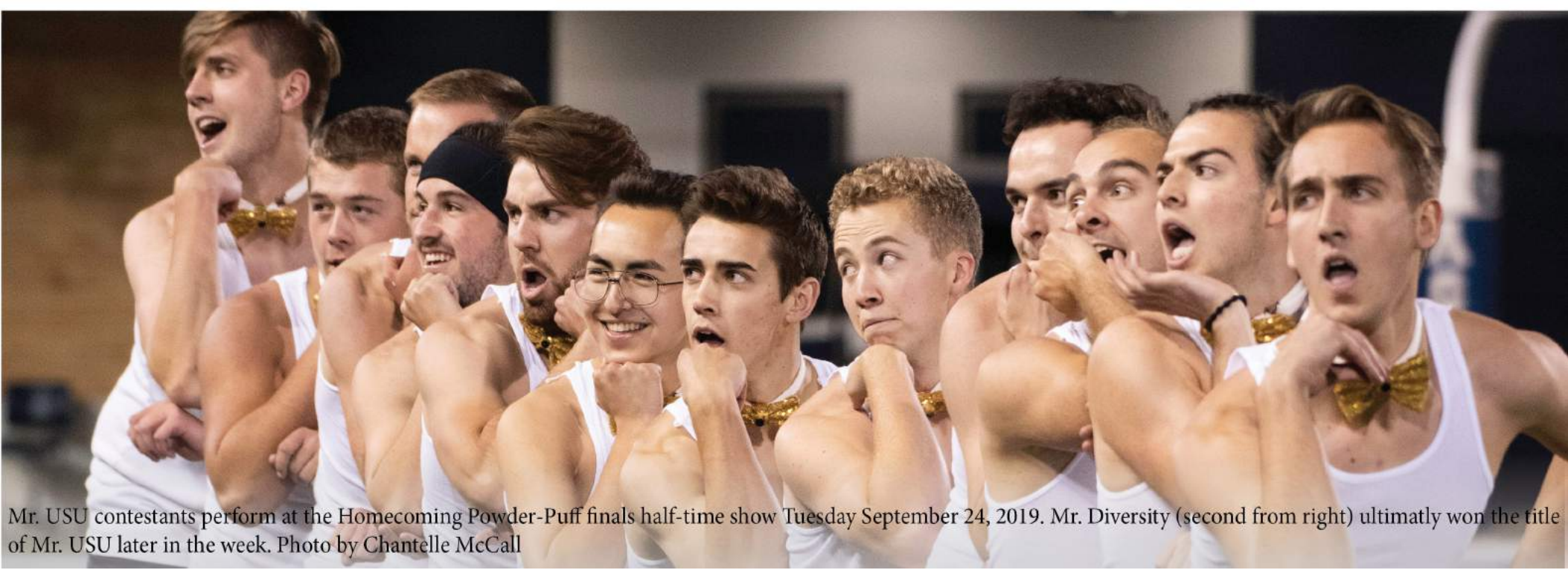
Siaosi Mariner (80) is tackled while attempting to catch the ball at the Homecoming game Saturday September 28, 2019. Photo by Chantelle McCall



Aggiettes perform at the USU vs CSU Homecoming game Saturday September 28, 2019. Photo by Samuel Woubshet



Students sing along with their peers performing at the Homecoming Karaoke Raffle Night Thursday September 26, 2019. Photo by Chantelle McCall



Mr. USU contestants perform at the Homecoming Powder-Puff finals half-time show Tuesday September 24, 2019. Mr. Diversity (second from right) ultimately won the title of Mr. USU later in the week. Photo by Chantelle McCall

Mark your calendars

Must-watch games for men's and women's basketball in 2019-20



Utah State Aggies head coach Craig Smith celebrates the team's victory in the Mountain West title game against the San Diego State Bulldogs in the Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, on March 16, 2019. The Aggies won the game 64-57 and will take home the Mountain West title along with a bid for the NCAA Tournament.

By Aaron Chertkow
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The air is getting colder and the leaves are changing colors, which means USU basketball is just around the corner. The men's and women's teams have written drastically different stories, the former winning a conference championship while heading into the new season ranked top-25 nationally, and the latter producing and uninspiring finish as the team drifted apart through the offseason.

Despite these varied results and upcoming expectations, each team still has some incredibly exciting matchups to look forward to.

Here are just a few of those games for each squad.

MEN'S BASKETBALL:
NOV. 22 VERSUS LSU
The men's team has the opportunity to travel

down to Montego Bay, Jamaica to take on the SEC title-defending LSU Tigers. Last year, the Tigers earned a #3 seed to the NCAA tournament, eventually falling to Michigan State in the Sweet 16. This year's team will prove to be quite the foe, as some national preseason rankings have LSU as high as 19th.

DEC. 21 AT FLORIDA
Virginia Tech star transfer Kerry Blackshear joins a Gators team that finished 20-16 in a stacked SEC led by the aforementioned Tigers. However, Florida State is the new favorite, projected to be top-five according to ESPN. Utah State will be playing in Florida for the first time ever and will mark just the second time the two teams have met. This will likely be the toughest game of the year for USU, a mid-season checkup of just exactly how good the Aggies are.

JAN. 11, 2020 VERSUS NEVADA

This is going to be the must-see game of the year. After Utah State pulled off the upset in an 81-76 victory last season, emotions took over Nevada as the students rushed the floor to celebrate. This led some of the players in attempting to rush Utah State's locker room after the game. According to Nevada's coaching staff, it was Utah State's staff that provoked one of the Wolf Pack players to lose his composure. The Mountain West released a statement concluding it was not the court-storm that caused the hallway ruckus after all. Whichever team pulls off the victory in what will be an emotional rematch, let's hope it is handled with a little more grace and class.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:
NOV. 13 AT OREGON

In just the fourth game of the season, the women's team must face the championship-favorite Oregon Ducks in Oregon. The Ducks have made it to at least the Elite Eight for the past three years and made it to the Final Four just this past season. USU will have their work cut out for them, seeing as they have had eight players leave the program. To top it all off, Oregon stomped USU last season by 30 points.

DEC. 14 AT OREGON STATE
The Oregon slugfest continues as the Aggies once again make the trek up north, this time to take on the Oregon State Beavers. The Beavers' success is not too far from that of their neighbors, the Oregon Ducks. Finishing last year in the Sweet Sixteen, the Aggies will play this game halfway through the season, giving them a good measurement to see how they perform going up against one of the best teams in the country.

FEB. 24 VERSUS NEW MEXICO

The season ends with the New Mexico Lobos coming to Logan. The Lobos might not be championship contenders like the other teams USU has to face, but they are still an extremely good team, having earned second place in the Mountain West Conference last year. No matter how the season plays out, this final game will be an exciting one.

Be sure to cheer on both teams as they embark on the new season and read The Utah Statesman to stay up-to-date with everything Aggie basketball.

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Utah State senior forward Hailey Bassett shoots at the Utah State women's basketball game against Westminster college on Nov. 2, 2018 in the Dee Glenn Smith Spectrum. Utah State takes down Westminster 77-56.

USU women's soccer splits two-game series in Nevada

Sydney Kidd
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

This weekend the Utah State University women's soccer team opened conference play in Nevada with both matches ending in double overtime.

But Friday's 1-0 win against the University of Nevada, Las Vegas would prove to be the only match in which the Aggies would walk away victorious.

In the 107th minute of play, freshman forward Christiane Sundstrom tucked between two UNLV players and shot the ball toward the right corner of the goal. The Rebels' goalkeeper failed to get a hand on it and was forced to watch as the ball slid into the net for the winning point.

It was Sundstrom's first goal of her collegiate career. She is the 12th Aggie to score this season.

Utah State is currently the most diverse team in the Mountain West conference in terms of scoring. They sit just ahead of Boise State which has 10 players who have recorded goals this season.

Ten Aggies recorded shots against UNLV. Junior midfielder Ashley Cardozo lead the team with seven total shots, three of which were on goal. She also had the assist on Sundstrom's winning goal.

In total, the team logged 21 shots with eight on goal compared to the Rebels' 12 total shots, two on goal. Freshman goalkeeper Diera Walton saved both shots and recorded her fourth clean sheet of the season.

The Rebels' shooting struggles weren't the only

factor which worked to Utah State's advantage.

In the 82nd minute, UNLV's Ariana Reyes picked up her second yellow card of the game which translated into a red card. The Rebels would have to finish the match with one less player on the field, an obstacle the team would not overcome.

But fate wouldn't prove to be as kind to the Aggies in Sunday's match against the University of Nevada, Reno.

Going into the match, the Wolfpack had a 1-7-0 record and just lost six matches in a row.

Despite having six corner kicks and hammering the goal with 24 total shots — 11 of which were on goal — Utah State would not prevail.

In the 105th minute of double overtime, Nevada's Gabby Brown logged the game-winning

goal for the Wolfpack. It was the first goal Walton allowed in more than 422 minutes of play. Walton recorded seven total saves against Nevada.

The 1-0 loss would leave the Aggies with an overall record of 6-4-0 and 1-1-0 for Mountain West play.

Up next, Utah State will travel to the Golden State where it will take on Fresno State on Thursday at 8 p.m. The team will finish the week on Saturday in matchup against San Jose State at 12 p.m.

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ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

VOLLEYBALL

VS

SAN JOSE STATE

10.3.19 - 7 PM - WAYNE ESTES CENTER

VOLLEYBALL

VS

NEVADA

10.5.19 - 12 PM - WAYNE ESTES CENTER

#AGGIES

ALL THE WAY

A photograph of a volleyball player in a white jersey, holding a Molten volleyball. The player is standing with one hand on her hip.

Four Aggies earn player of the week honors

Woodward, Anderson, Eberle, and Scarver recognized

By Joseph Crook
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Today, the Mountain West Conference named juniors Savon Scarver and David Woodward Special Teams and Defensive players of the week, respectively. Additionally, the Palm Beach County Sports Commission also named senior kicker Dominik Eberle as Lou Groza star of the week and Pro Football Focus acknowledged senior defensive lineman Devon Anderson on its national team of the week.

Saturday, the Utah State Aggies faced the Colorado State Rams in what can only be described as a cold and torrential rainstorm. The rain led to a mistake strewn game, but as expected by many, the Aggies won against its conference opponent. However, the team not only recorded another game in the win column this week, it also had three players gained well-deserved recognition across the country.

Scarver received the Mountain West Special Teams Player of the Week award for his stellar play against Colorado State. He undoubtedly earned this award for his electrifying kick return which came with 7:02 left in the first quarter, in which he received the ball eight yards deep in the endzone, cut to the sideline, and used his speed, a fantastic block, and a hard cut to run untouched into the endzone.

It was recorded as 100 yards, which is tied for the longest kick return in Mountain West history.

Eberle received a Lou Groza star of the week nomination, which is presented by the Orange Bowl to the three best college kickers of the

week. Eberle scored a total of 10 points on the day, notching 4 extra points and two field goals (42 and 48 yards respectively). His performance added to his already illustrious resume, bringing his extra point totals to 140 of 140, and total points to 290. He is now the all-time scoring kicker for the Aggies and trails only Robert Turbin in points by 18.

David Woodward, whose legend seems to grow with every opposing snap, received the Mountain West Defensive Player of the Week award. Woodward had an excellent day on the field, recording 14 tackles. He also recorded two forced fumbles, the most memorable of which coming with 9:42 left in the 4th quarter. Colorado State was on its own 4-yard line and ran its back between their left tackle and left guard. Kinsey soon found himself being tackled by what seemed to be the entirety of the Aggies defense.

Anderson finished the game with five total QB pressures up the middle on just 23 pass-rushing snaps. Additionally he finished with one of Utah State's two sacks and four tackles. Saturday was the best game of the season statistically for Anderson, accounting for over half of his tackles on the season.

Woodward then came in and simply ripped the ball out of Kinsey's hands and returned it eight yards into the endzone. Woodward had a similar play in the Aggies' first game of the season against Stony Brook. Then, as now, he stripped the ball from the offensive player and returned it for a touchdown. Unfortunately, the play was called back due to a dubious penalty. On that week he was awarded, paradoxically enough,



PHOTOS BY Chantelle McCall
David Woodward, (top left) Dominik Eberle, (top right) Devon Anderson, (bottom left) and Savon Scarver (bottom right) were all key performers in Utah State's 34-24 win against Colorado State Saturday night.

the National Defensive Player of the Week Award, but not the Mountain West Player of the Week award.

The Mountain West seems to have come to its senses in the intervening weeks.

This was the first occasion Utah State has been honored with Mountain West Player of the Week in 2019, although some of its players have had noteworthy performances in the young season. This past season, the 11-2 Aggies had an athlete honored with Mountain West player of the Week nine times. Junior quarterback Jordan Love received the most of those accolades with five selections.

Utah State's performance on Saturday was short of perfection. The team had a few miscues, and allowed Colorado State far too many chances, but the noteworthy play of Scarver, Eberle, Anderson and Woodward allowed the Aggies to overcome the Rams, and come away with a solid victory despite the wind and rain. This coming Saturday the team travels to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to take on the fifth-ranked LSU Tigers of the SEC.

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"Game of Storms" FROM PAGE 1

its offense. With 7:01 left in the first quarter, junior receiver and All-American kick returner, Savon Scarver, took a kickoff back across the field, evading defenders and calmly walking untouched into the end zone for the Aggies' first touchdown. The return was taken eight yards back in the endzone, making it the longest play in Utah State history at 108, although the official distance was recorded as 100 yards. Nonetheless, Utah State regained momentum as the game was starting to pull away, much like the prior week in San Diego.

The quarter ended with the score knotted up at seven a piece, and neither team would find much separation on the scoreboard. Colorado State came into the game third worst in the nation in turnover margin, minus seven through its first four games. But the Rams put pressure on Utah State and forced them into some uncharacteristic turnovers, making it a game of field position that felt like it slowed down the pace far below what the Aggies are used to.

Junior quarterback Jordan Love threw two interceptions, including a 48-yard pick-six early in the second quarter, and failed to find consistency for most of the game.

"Offense didn't play great. Kind of took a step back," Bright said. "A lot of turnovers. Execution of the run game was decent, we could do a lot better catching the ball, so we've still got a chip on our shoulder to be better than what we played today."

With Love not playing like his usual self and junior running back Jaylen Warren out with an injury he suffered early in the first half, the keys of the offense were turned over to Gerold Bright. He thrived under the extended workload and took it upon himself to shoulder the load while his teammates struggled and grind out the yards that weren't coming through the air. He carried the ball 36 times for 179 yards, both career high marks for the senior.

"After Jaylen was out it was the G-Bright show," Andersen said of running back Gerold Bright. "He's trained for this, he's worked for this moment. He wants that ball in his hands in those certain situations. When you have 179 yards and your longest run is 15 yards, that doesn't

happen very often. There's a lot of grinding yards in the 179 yards."

The football was still messy, even with Bright's performance. The Rams used that to their advantage, and Colorado State hung around, probably longer than most people expected the team to. Utah State senior kicker Dominik Eberle converted a 48-yard field goal with 2:56 left in the third to push Utah State's lead to 27-24. At that point it was still anyone's win for the taking, and the Rams had a chance to end Utah State's eight-game home winning streak. However, the defense came in to save the day for the Aggies with a number of impressive stops, sacks and strips.

"They fought, they battled. It was not perfect by any means. There was a lot to work on. The defense continually got put in the worst spots tonight," Andersen said. "I thought the defense continually got put in poor spots tonight and found a way to keep on fighting and score points themselves. It was great to see the resilience of the football team."

The hard-earned win was sealed with 9:32 seconds left in the game by junior linebacker David Woodward, when he stripped Colorado State's running back and ran eight yards into the endzone for his second career touchdown.

"I was relieved, looking around for a penalty just to make sure it counted," Woodward said. "Our whole defense was pretty much on that tackle and everyone did a great job of holding on long enough for me to get it out. I saw him getting held up but slowly gaining a couple of yards, and I knew that I had a chance to strip it and make a play."

A win is not a common result when Utah State turns the ball over four or more times. In fact, the program is now just 6-22 in the past two decades when giving the opponents the ball four or more times.

"With that turnover margin, you're fortunate to win the game," Andersen said. "We did it. These kids are resilient and I'm proud of them. Looking forward to watching this tape and getting on to the next game."

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The Democratic presidential candidate U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren addresses supporters at a rally Monday, Sept. 16, 2019, in New York.

PHOTO BY Craig Ruttle / AP Photo

DIVIDED WE STAND?

Can the Democratic picture ever fit the frame?

By Taelor Candiloro
OPINION COLUMNIST

On Thursday, September 12, the Democratic Party’s presidential hopefuls took the debate stage for the third time in 2019 to confront their political opponents and the inevitable attacks on their policy ideals. While the field has continued to narrow in the past three months, the country still found themselves face-to-face with ten potential nominees. If the oversaturation of the field isn’t enough, the responses of pundits and political journalists following the debate is an overwhelming illustration of the Democratic Party’s endemic fragmentation.

While progressives, like Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren, managed to navigate questions without pointing fingers at their opponents, the same cannot be said about former Vice President Joe Biden. As Ayesha Rascoe notes in NPR’s Politics Podcast, Biden’s speaking time was the longest of the evening at 17 minutes and 8 seconds, and most of his time in the limelight was spent either taking aim at any healthcare plan that wasn’t riding the coattails of Obamacare, or fumbling questions addressing race and socioeconomic inequality.

Much to Twitter’s relief, Biden’s answer to ABC’s Linsey Davis’ question on repairing the legacy of slavery provided plenty of opportunity for reprimand. Friday morning, Jamil Smith’s Rolling Stone article titled “Why It’s Time for Joe to Go” walked the red carpet of retweets after it outlined Biden’s inability to combat the inherent racism of the current Trumpian paradigm. Smith concluded by asserting that Democratic nominee should be someone more equipped than Biden to share a stage with a certain incisive and antagonistic Republican incumbent.

While most retweets echoed Smith’s accusa-

tory tone, a more humanistic approach came from Crooked Media’s Jon Favreau, who tweeted out a Vox article outlining the Vice President’s plans to uplift historically low-income areas ravaged by institutionalized racism through social work and neo-natal home visits.

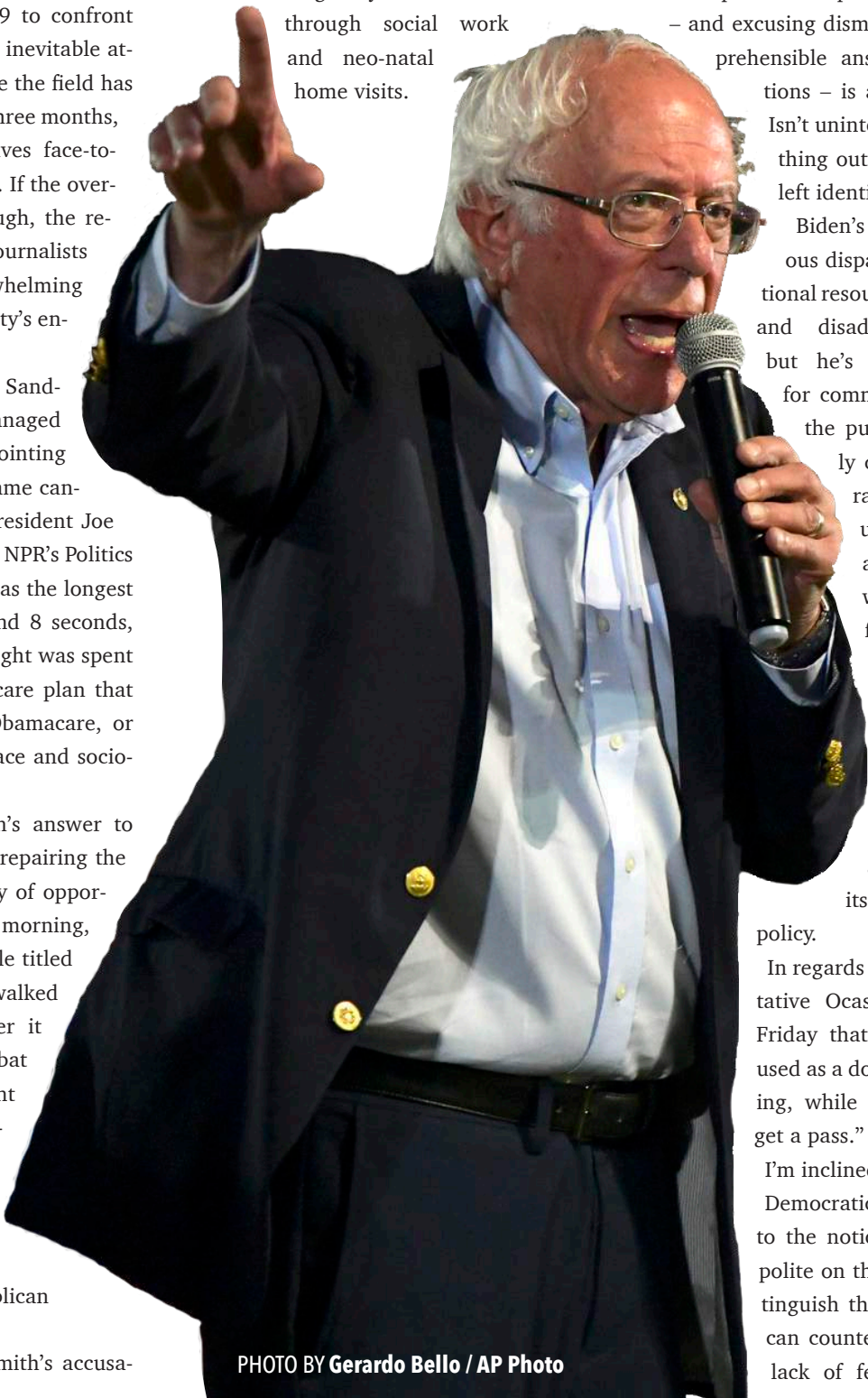


PHOTO BY Gerardo Bello / AP Photo

I’d be doing a disservice if I didn’t acknowledge that these ten candidates are first and foremost human beings. Holding them to the unrealistically high standards of public scrutiny is a recipe for Trump 2020. But coddling them – and excusing dismissive tones and incomprehensible answers to serious questions – is a poor use of empathy. Isn’t unintelligible rambling something out of Trump’s toolbox the left identifies as disqualifying?

Biden’s plan addressed the serious disparity of access to educational resources between privileged and disadvantaged households, but he’s ultimately responsible for communicating that plan to the public. If he inadvertently conveys an internalized racial bias, shouldn’t we urge pundits to hold him accountable? “Meaning well” is never an excuse for doing harm, and the lack of accountability in Democratic discourse may largely be responsible for propping up polarizing candidates during a time when the party itself has no foundational policy.

In regards to the debate, representative Ocasio-Cortez tweeted out Friday that “‘Civility’ is too often used as a dog whistle for tone policing, while concerning moments... get a pass.”

I’m inclined to agree with her. Democratic hopefuls seem to cling to the notion that being civil and polite on the debate stage will distinguish them from their Republican counterparts, or make up for lack of feasibility in policy ap-

proach. However, this often leaves the right to frame all political discourse. So much so that most of ABC’s commentary between debate segments was centered around which candidate seemed best equipped to face off against the right in 2020.

I would prefer to avoid making my address of the third Democratic debate about Trump or the Republican party, but these circumstances are unfortunate proof that the fragmentation in the left has led them to take the defensive when addressing the American people.

While no politician is truly autonomous, this reality will chip away at our ten Democratic candidates in the following months, testing their ability to put forth substantive addresses for voters on both sides of the political spectrum. All this while they attempt to fight a framing that lies largely out of their hands.

The third debate was an opportunity for these candidates to campaign in front of a different audience than social media provides, but it also showed little deviation from the debates before. Only time will tell if the Democratic Party will challenge the path set for them, if they can bridge the great divide between the far-left voter and their moderate neighbor.

Taelor Candiloro is an undergraduate transfer to the Anthropology department at USU focusing her study on American ways of constructing meaning. Her desire to travel has led her to live in four states over the past three years, and allowed her to expand her understanding of American communities. Her interests include writing about and researching politics, public policy, the American identity and studies in the humanities.

If you have a contrary opinion to the one found in this article, please write a brief letter to the editor and email it to opinion@usustatesman.com. For specific guidelines about letters to the editor, please refer to the Utah Statesman’s website.

Medium

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STUDENT MEDIA
Student-run newspaper for Utah State University since 1902. Reporting online 24/7. Printed each Tuesday of the school year.

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C		CALENDAR		<div><div></div><div>31 53</div><div>L H</div><div>TUESDAY</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>31 54</div><div>L H</div><div>WEDNESDAY</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>37 63</div><div>L H</div><div>THURSDAY</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>33 57</div><div>L H</div><div>FRIDAY</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>33 56</div><div>L H</div><div>SATURDAY</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>DAY</div><div>FORECAST</div></div>
TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
10/1		10/2		10/3		10/4		10/5	
Business Week 2019: Guac & Talk 11:00 am TSC Patio Logan, UT		Business Week 2019: Clubs in the Courtyard 11:00 am Huntsman Hall Courtyard Logan, UT		Lunch for a Bunch 11:15 am Institute Cultural Hall Logan, UT		International Student Networking 1:30 pm TSC Patio Logan, UT		Bridgerland Band Invitational 11:00 am \$5 Maverik Stadium Logan, UT	
IOGP Pizza and Politics! 4:00pm David B. Haight Alumni Center Logan, UT		Dan Wilson Guitar Concert 7:30 pm Russell/Wanlass Performance Hall Logan, UT		Underground Agg Show 7:00 pm \$5/\$8 TSC Ballroom Logan, UT		Roseburg w/ Mojave Nomads 7:00 pm \$12 The Cache Venue 119 South Main Street Logan, UT		Toast - Live Tribute Band to the Music of Bread 7:30 pm \$25 Ellen Eccles Theater Logan, UT	
Business Week 2019: Etiquette Dinner 6:00 pm Hunstman Hall Perry Pavilion Logan, Ut				Autumn Voices 7:30pm \$5.00 Russell Wanlass Performance Hall Logan		The Moss / Sorrymom / The Housecats 8:00 pm \$8 WhySound Venue 30 Federal Avenue Logan, UT		Morgan & the Mountain / Salduro / Kelin Gibbons Trio / Rat Bags 8:00 pm \$8 WhySound Venue 30 Federal Avenue Logan, UT	
The Backseat Lovers / Marny Proudfit / Iris Adora 8:00 pm \$8 WhySound Venue 30 Federal Avenue Logan, UT				USUSA Latin Dance 8:00 pm HPER 102 Logan, UT		USU Observatory Public Viewing Night 8:00 pm SER Building Roof Logan, UT		Marbin W/ USU Jazz Combo 10/7/2019 7:00 pm \$10 The Cache Venue 119 South Main Street Logan, UT	
								International Dessert Night 7:00 pm TSC Ballroom Logan, UT	

ADD YOUR EVENT AT [USUSTATESMAN.COM/EVENTS](https://usustatesman.com/events)
Deadline for calendar submissions is Sunday at midnight.

KNOWPEACE

#knowCAPSA

If you have been raped or sexually assaulted, it is not your fault and CAPSA can help.

CAPSA is a community based nonprofit. We are there to support and help you heal as you choose your path.



FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

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