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SPORTS | Wheel, snipe, celly

Aggies hockey team redeems itself against BYU in second overtime game of the week

see PAGE 4

STUDENT LIFE | Sliding through the snow

Doing donuts on the road is not as fun as spinning out in parking lots. Learn about safe driving tips

see PAGE 3

NEWS | Did somebody say tacos?

Tenants learned about their rights at the annual “Tacos and Tenants” event

see PAGE 2

TO PAY OR NOT TO PAY?

CAPS, library fee increases proposed

By Taylor Cripe

NEWS STAFF WRITER

At 5 p.m. on Wednesday, the Utah State University’s University Student Fee Board met in the Senate Chambers of the Taggart Student Center to discuss fee increases, which will affect students in coming years.

New fees include a \$3.46 increase for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and \$1.50 for the USU Merrill-Cazier Library. Early straw polls show the fee increase for CAPS is popular with the University Student Fee Board.

“I’ve said this before, and I will say this again,” Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) executive vice president Dexton Lake said. “I do find this to be one of the most important committees students serve on.” Speaking to the fee board, he said, “I would caution you to only accept those student fees which are for the betterment of the student body as a whole.”

Scott Deberard, director of Student Health and Counseling Services, presented the fee increase for CAPS. The \$3.46 represents 49 cents for counseling services, and \$2.97 to help the Student Health and Wellness center hire a full-time psychologist.

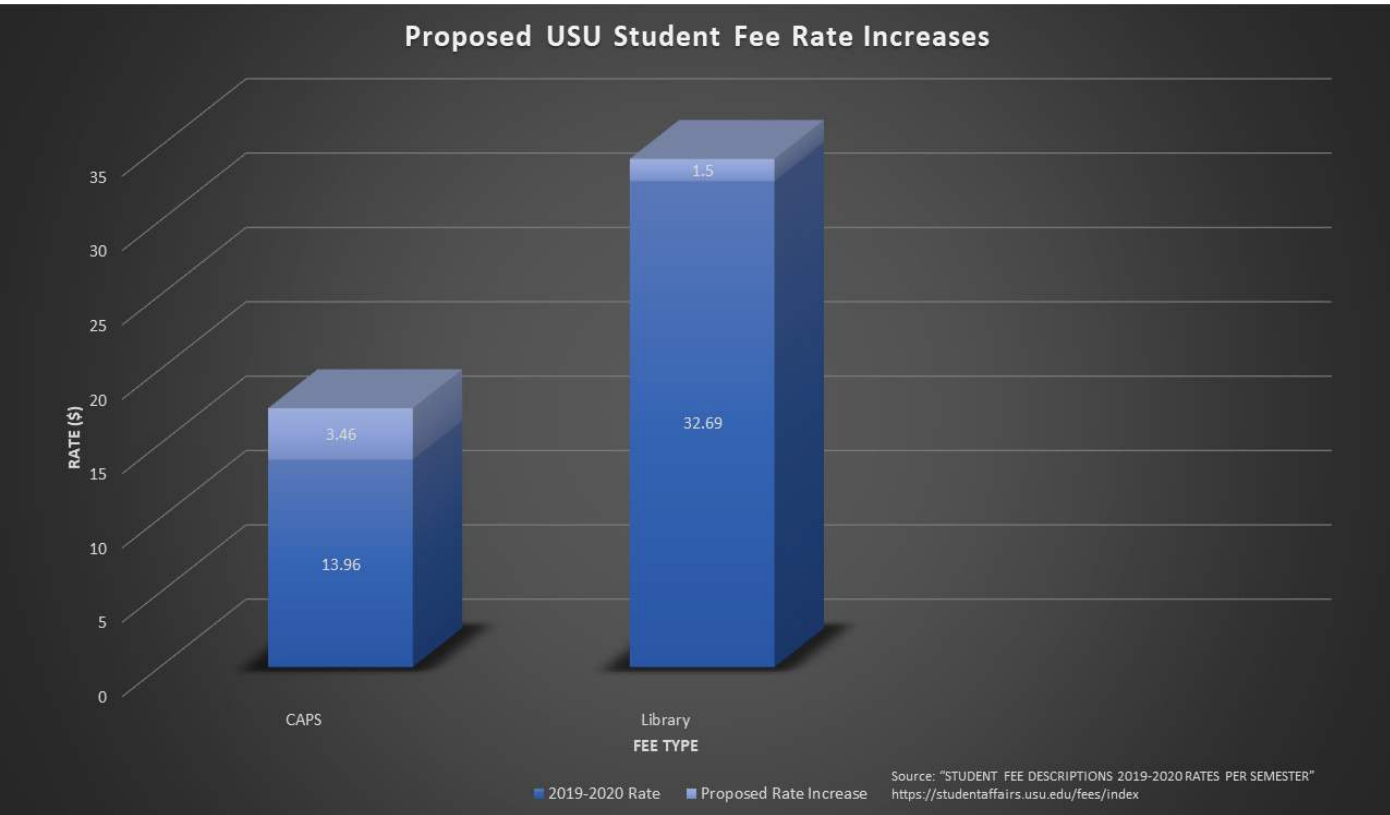
According to Deberard, data from the American College Health Association shows nearly 60% of students in 2019 reported that they experienced overwhelming anxiety.

“I think this is why we are seeing demand just go through the roof in terms of CAPS services and mental health services across campus,” Deberard said.

Deberard also said at all major Utah schools, nearly two percent of the student body indicated that they have attempted suicide in the last 12 months, according to the data.

“We really need to be vigilant about mental health because I think it can spiral out of control like it has the last few years,” Deberard said.

The 49 cents per student increase will go towards helping CAPS



The Student Fee Board votes on proposed fee increases annually. This year, they will vote on increases for CAPS and the library

vices, and CAPS has “nowhere else to go in terms of funding.”

“When it comes to mental health, I would rather overpay and figure it out later than underpay and find out we turned away students who were in need,”said USUSA president Sami Ahmed.

A preliminary vote showed that nearly 100 percent of the board favored the CAPS fees, with one senator voting to abstain. The fees for the Merrill-Cazier Library have mixed reviews.

The new fees for the library were presented next, with Dean of

unless we get rights to stream it,” Heaton said. “We usually end up paying several hundred dollars on an individual video for courses.”

The 50-cent increase will make the demand for videos easier and keep them from eating into other funds for databases, according to Heaton.

Naomi Ward, senator for the College of Humanities and Social

see “Fees” PAGE 7

BACK ON TRACK

Men’s basketball breaks three-game losing streak with win over Nevada



PHOTO BY Iain Laurence

Queta led the Aggies with 19 points in their game against Nevada. USU won 80-70.

By Jason Walker

SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Utah State got itself back in the win column with an 80-70 victory over the Nevada Wolf Pack, a deceptive score considering the Aggies led 64-46 lead with just over five minutes to play in the contest.

Saturday’s win broke a three-game losing streak, the longest of the Craig Smith era and first such skid since Feb. 2018 when the Aggies lost four straight under then-head coach Tim Duryea. Those three losses had USU at seventh place in the Mountain West with a 2-3 record (now 3-3) and made for a “tough week” according to senior guard Sam Merrill.

“We really took what happened on Tuesday night (at Air Force) personal,” Merrill said. “We understood that can’t be who we are.”

Poor shooting played a key factor in Utah State’s struggles over the past two weeks. In the three most recent losses, the Aggies averaged just 37.3 percent shooting overall and 25.7 percent on 3-pointers. Saturday’s game wasn’t completely free of shooting woes, but the 46.3 percentage for field goals on the final box score looked a

lot better.

The change in recent trends didn’t take immediately. Though USU started the game with back-to-back makes from three, courtesy of Brock Miller and Justin Bean, the Aggies started the contest 3 of 16 from the field complete with 0 for 6 and 0 for 7 shooting droughts.

But unlike recent games, Utah State responded to in-game inefficiency. From the 11:33 mark in the opening half until just under eight minutes to play until the halftime break, the Aggies made 6 of 7 shots. Spurring a 15-2 mid-half run. Then, in the second half, the team exploded on offense, making 13 of 20 shots. Merrill attributed the advent of quality bucket-getting to one not-so-small part of Aggie Basketball.

“Just sharing the ball,” Merrill said. “We don’t have any selfish guys, but we went though a couple stretches in these last few games where we didn’t move the ball like we needed to. So we worked on that these last couple days.”

USU head coach Craig Smith, too, noted the connectivity of the offense.

“I loved how we played,” he said. “We played very, very connected.”

At the end of the night, Utah State had 20 assists — the most by the Aggies in a Division I game since November — led by Merrill’s eight along with four from Abel Porter.

The increased connectivity was most prevalent in how Utah State got Neemias Queta involved in the game. Utah State shook up its offensive formula slightly, featuring the screen and roll with Queta more often. As a result, the 7-foot sophomore, still only a few games removed from a full, unrestricted return to the rotation, put on a show reminiscent of the season that earned him conference Freshman of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year. Queta led the Aggies with 19 points — making 8 of 12 shots to get there — while grabbing seven rebounds.

Queta wasn’t the only one to see more involvement, however. Freshman guard Sean Baird-stow played 23 minutes, his highest total outside of games against St. Katherine and Eastern Oregon, and in those minutes saw more time as a ball handler. Multiple times he connected with Queta on those

see “Basketball” PAGE 7

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Tacos and Tenants highlight tenants rights in Logan housing

By Joshua Wilkinson
NEWS SENIOR WRITER

On Tuesday night — also known as Taco Tuesday — two Cache County attorneys visited Utah State University to discuss tenant rights with students over platters of meat, tortillas, chopped onions and optional slices of lime.

The event, titled “Tacos and Tenants,” was planned and hosted through collaboration with the USU Institute of Government and Politics and featured short lectures on tenants’ rights by Cache County Deputy Attorneys Daniel Major and Jake Gordon.

USU Student Advocate vice president Paulina Rivera-Soto said this is the second time USU has hosted this event since the last school year. Rivera-Soto also said this event was originally planned for last semester. However, due to some miscommunication, the event was pushed back to the first week of USU’s spring semester.

Gordon and Major covered a variety of topics relating to tenant rights. According to Gordon and Major, most of the law governing tenant rights comes through contract law.

Major said this means tenants should thoroughly examine their leases. “The judge is going to look at what you signed,” Major said. “There is nothing more important than to read that document and know what it says.”

Major also said it’s important for students to know that in contract law, everything is negotiable.

“Even though the federal government and the state government and Logan city say, ‘We give these certain rights to tenants, and these are the rights they have,’ you can negotiate those out,” Major said.

However, Major said, not everything goes since a landlord cannot put something strictly illegal or unconscionable in the contract.

Major and Gordon also said they encounter a common problem of students trying to get out of contracts because they don’t like their roommates. Unfortunately, according to Gordon

and Major, this is not a sufficient reason for students to break contracts.

Gordon also highlighted other rights held by tenants, including whether or not a landlord has complete right of entry into an apartment.

“[The landlord] by default has the right to own the land, and he has the right to profit,” Gordon said. “He does not normally have the right of entry.”

Gordon said a common justification used by landlords to enter apartments or houses unannounced is the line, “it’s my house.” However, according to Gordon, the tenant has the right of entry because they paid for it.

“I get to come here whenever I want, and guess what landlord? You don’t,” Gordon said.

“*I get to come here whenever I want, and guess what landlord? You don’t,*”
— Jacob Gordon, Cache County deputy attorney

However, Gordon also said most contracts include provisions allowing the landlord to enter when they deemed necessary. Still, Gordon said the landlords are required by law to give notice at least 24 hours in advance before entering.

Gordon and Major also said the topic of tenant rights encompasses a large variety of situations and advised students concerned with concerns to feel free to speak with them.

According to Major and Gordon, both attorneys have developed deep relationships with USU, stemming from free legal services the two provide to USU students every Monday night.

Major said their on-campus services are limited to advising students. However, Major emphasized this means the attorneys get to be up front and honest with students.

“We can tell you exactly what our legal opinion is,” Major said. “If you don’t like it, we can point you to somebody who will take your money to give you a different legal opinion.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF Wikimedia
Tacos sit on a table.

Tacos and Tenants is an annual event where students are invited to ask questions about their housing rights in Logan. USU also provides free legal counsel with the Cache County Attorneys Office.

“We love coming up and talking to the students up here. Primarily our job is to advise on any legal problem you have,” Major said. “Hopefully when you leave, you have some sort of road map to where you want to go.”

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Dining services staff concerned about stolen food

By Brynne Adamson
NEWS COPY EDITOR

Misplaced or stolen food on campus is a concern for some Utah State University students, like Lindsie Wharff. Leaders and employees of USU’s Dining Services share their insights to this issue.

“If there’s a super long line, the culprit will hear everyone’s orders and pick a meal that sounds good to them,” Wharff said. “Then they’ll leave the line and take whatever one they picked earlier, leaving the other person foodless.”

She said she gets people are hungry, and she’s not mad at them, but, at the same time, they’re stealing.

“This breaks my heart, especially when it’s a good sandwich,” Wharff said. Wharff said when someone takes her food, she is delayed from going to class because she has to wait for a new meal to be made. She said she learned this was happening because a USU senior pointed it out to her.

USU Dining Services employee Averie Norman said she usually doesn’t catch the culprit until the person who had the sandwich stolen comes up later asking where their food is. “I work on the

line, so I don’t get to see the customer,” Norman said. “When food gets mixed up, I have to stop what I’m doing and remake the order.”

Sometimes people assume the food is theirs, so they take it, according to Norman.

“We tell people, ‘This is your number and order,’ but they go off somewhere and don’t pay attention,” she said.

Colt Carroll, another USU Dining Services employee, said he had one person steal fries and a Pepsi. “Since breakfast takes a while, people get impatient and leave, even if their food is paid for,” he said. “Sometimes we have to shout at people about their ready food to get their attention, especially the students wearing headphones.”

Quadside Cafe customer service manager Nicole Wilkinson said most things that happen with misplaced food is just a misunderstanding. “People working on the food mess up more than anything,” she said. “Later down the line, we might have a bagel or something sitting out that no one took.”

“I would arrest their butt if they’re actually stealing,” said USU Dining Services executive director Alan Andersen. “Although, remaking food is a negligible cost for our budget.” He said he



PHOTO BY Statesman stock photo
USU Dining Services is concerned about food dealing

wouldn’t run a business based on exceptions. “We’ve got bigger things to be focusing on, like how quickly we’re getting food out,” Andersen said. Andersen said their focus is on the person who lost the food. “Karma will solve our problem of the person who stole the food,” he said. “Students could also wait by their food to ensure it isn’t taken.”

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Winter Worries

Helpful tips to stay safe during the snow season



PHOTO by Utah Statesman

Snow removal is a key aspect to keeping our roads safe. Make sure to slow down and look at your surroundings when driving in snowy conditions.

By William Bultez
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

Record lows and record snows hit Logan before the New Year. Now, with dropping temperatures and increasing snowfall, understanding winter road safety is important — especially if you think you already understand it.

During the snowy holidays, someone dies on Utah highways every other day on average, according to the Utah Department of Public Safety. Almost half of those deaths are caused by speeding.

The website for the Utah Department of Public Safety offers information on driving conditions, driving tips and prepping your vehicle for the winter. One of the main points the department makes is about driving slower than posted speed limits.

“Even though you probably know how to drive in snow and you’ve driven in it your whole life,” said Nick Shamo,

a lifetime Logan resident and Aggie, “It’s always nice to take it slow.”

In a study conducted by psychological scientists Michael M. Roy and Michael J. Liersch, they found most people rate themselves as an above-average driver. This overconfidence in one’s abilities can lead to complacency and carelessness, which is a danger on the roads, especially ice and snow-covered roads.

Widespread overconfidence paired with bad road conditions lead to many of the accidents, both minor and fatal, that befall Utah roads each winter.

Associated with slower driving is increasing following distances and avoiding quick starts, stops and turns. Even though All Wheel Drives and Four Wheel Drives can help with traction on icy roads, they are not exceptions for slowing down and being careful.

Tire chains and AWD or 4WD are not required for snowy

roads, but checking the tire tread and replacing them if necessary is essential to basic road safety.

So, before you take that canyon road trip or just drive to work or campus, brush up on

your winter road safety whether you think you need the refresher or not.

—william.bultez@aggiemail.usu.edu

@willistheginger



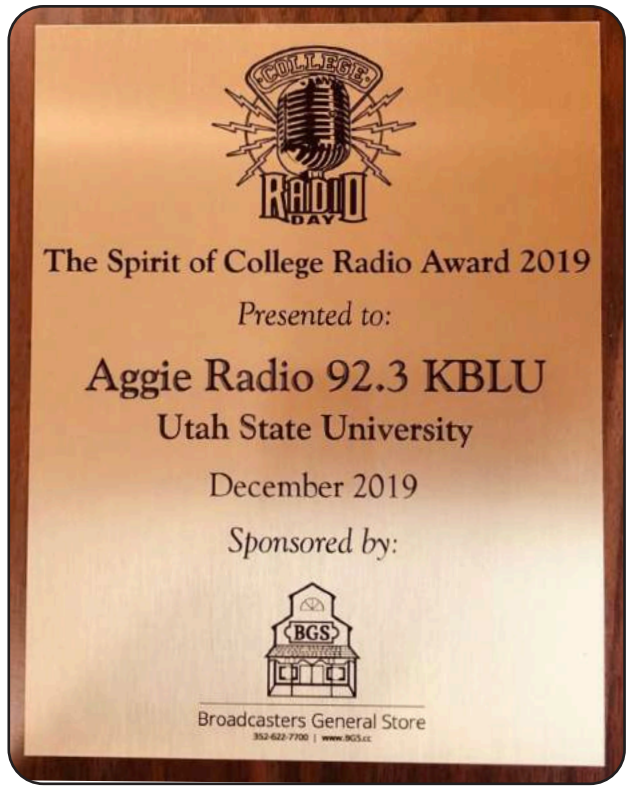
PHOTO by Utah Statesman

TWEETS of the WEEK



@aggieradio

We thank all that participate and support Aggie Radio as we celebrate receiving 2019 Spirit of College Radio award! Over 500 stations in 30 countries participated and we were chosen for our outstanding efforts. Thank you for everyone’s efforts!



@steed_krista

People who wear jeans the first day of the semester are wild



@debatedebutante

boys will post “life’s a movie” like they’re proud it’s dumb and dumber

“The Rise of Skywalker”: An Almost Win

By Sydney Dahle
STUDENT LIFE CONTENT MANGER

One glimpse at the search results for the latest episode of the Star Wars franchise “The Rise of Skywalker” yields mixed results from fans and critics alike.

Forbes rates the movie as the worst Star Wars film since “The Phantom Menace” in 1999. Rotten Tomatoes gives the film a rating of 53%, with many critics in agreement that director J.J. Abrams tried too hard to squeeze a plot into the film and move from scene to scene.

Despite the low rating given by critics, audience members overall seem to enjoy it, especially compared to “The Last Jedi.”

“The Rise of Skywalker” follows Rey in her attempt to become one with the force as the battle between the Resistance and the First Order continues. There is not a lot of information to be given without spoiling the film in its entirety, nor is there a lot to go on if you haven’t seen any other films in the franchise.

If you go into this film with the intent to see and enjoy a Star Wars film, you will enjoy it. If you go in ready to pick apart every miniscule detail in regards to Star Wars lore, as a fan you will be disappointed.

In his attempt to pick off where previous director

Rian Johnson left off, Abrams throws together a sloppy story that tries too hard to erase “The Last Jedi” in its entirety. The film has fantastic action scenes and plenty of lightsaber battles, but the film moves like the prequels, with strange dialogue, weird jump cuts and unimportant plot points.

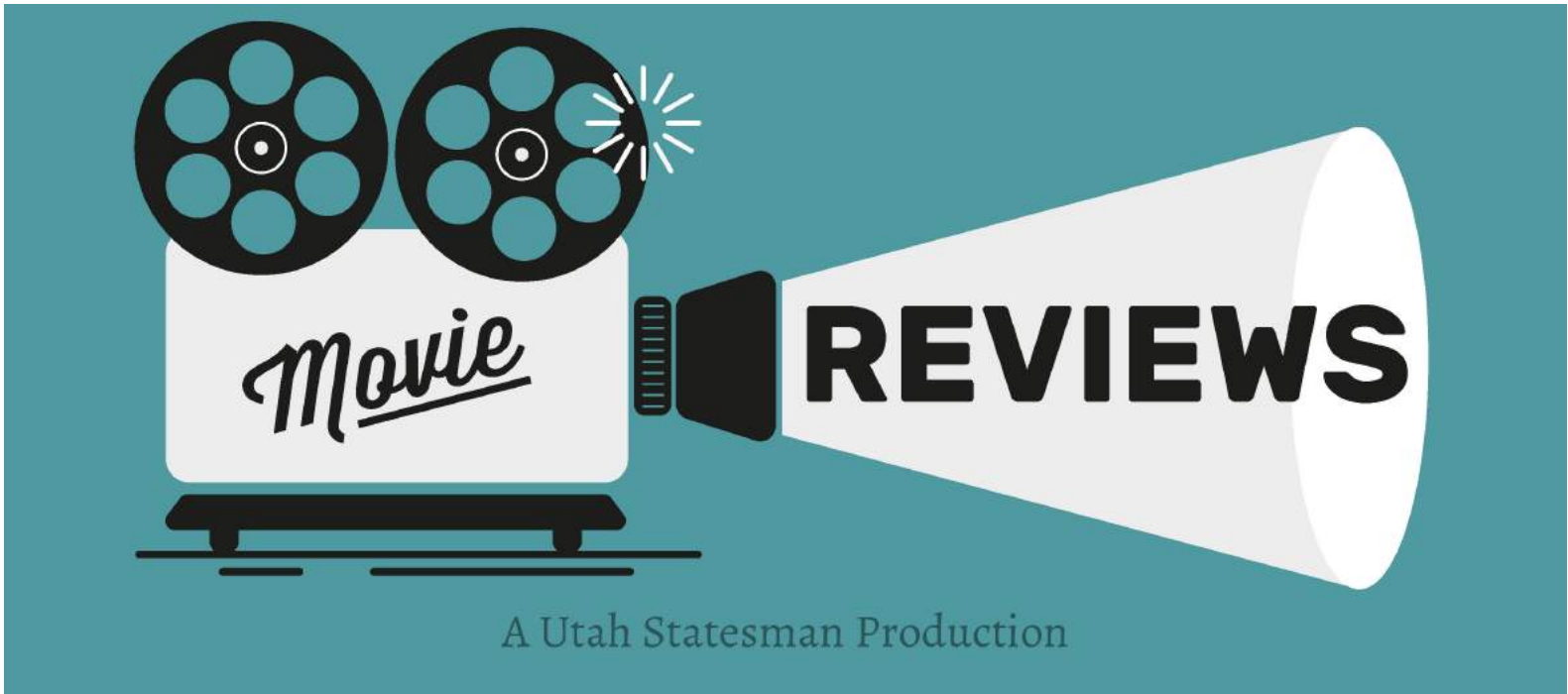
The ending of the film is the most disappointing. All of the buildup throughout the nine films feels

pointless, leaving fans hungry for more. Perhaps new films are in the lineup; rumors have been flying around the internet after all.

The problem with the three latest films in the franchise, especially this one, is that all of this feels like a cash grab for The Walt Disney Co. The company acquired Lucasfilm Ltd. in 2012, releasing “The Force Awakens” three years later.

Although “The Force Awakens” was a great start to Disney’s latest trilogy, “The Rise of Skywalker” still felt like a film with no purpose. This movie is a disappointing conclusion to an already disappointing addition to the Star Wars franchise.

For the satisfaction of finishing the trilogy, this film is recommended, but do not go in looking to be blown away. You will be sorely disappointed.



FILE GRAPHIC

Shootout Shutdown

USU hockey holds BYU scoreless in shootout en route to victory

By Scott Froehlich
SENIOR SPORTS EDITOR

The Utah State University Aggies hockey club faced off against in-state rival BYU in the fourth and final meeting of the season between the teams, the seventh-ranked Aggies closed out the series with a four-game-sweep on “Teddy Bear Toss” night, beating BYU 5-4 in a penalty shootout.

As is the case with most hockey games, it was imperative for USU to take care of the puck from the very first faceoff. Unfortunately, the first faceoff did not afford the team such an opportunity.

In the first 30 seconds of the first period, the Cougars pounced on the Aggies, and BYU’s forward Aleks Stroud scored off a point-blank goal

to put the visitors up 1-0. With the ensuing momentum, the Cougars carried the play and held USU from getting many quality offensive chances.

Even after the Aggies began to pick up their pace, untimely penalties and strong defense kept BYU up by the lone score. This continued until the middle of the first, when USU snapped to life and took over the rest of the period.

Forward Chris Cutshall got the Aggies on the board at the 17:42 mark with a net-front deflection to tie the game. Fans showered the ice with teddy bears, and the wily forward responded by leading the team to a wave of USU offense. Less than two minutes after the tying goal, Cutshall put another one in the back of the net after stripping the puck for a breakaway to give the Aggies

the 2-1 lead. BYU could not respond in the final 1:48 and USU took their momentum into the locker room.

Oftentimes, a team’s momentum can carry over from period to period, which appeared to be the case for USU in the second period and the team continued to impose their will on the Cougars. BYU’s early push was all for naught as Aggie defenders fended off all pressure with strong backchecking. To add insult to injury, USU’s Alec Moser buried the puck seven minutes in after a scramble for the puck down low. Trailing 3-1, frustration began setting in for the road squad, with physicality seeming to be the only thing keeping them in the game.

However, the Cougars weathered the storm and drew a four-minute, double-minor at the 10-minute-mark. BYU’s captain, Nixon Barber, took advantage of the lengthy extra man advantage and brought the team to within a goal with a deflection goal; 3-2 Utah State. The tally gave BYU a renewed-energy, which was halted shortly thereafter when a Cougar player took an undisciplined penalty. Even though USU did not score, the two-minute-man-advantage resulted in a 2-on-1 goal scored by Olli Jansson to put them back up by two.

Things opened up after the 4-2 goal by Jansson and, less than 20 seconds after, Barber scored his second goal making the score 4-3 with 2:02 remaining in the middle frame. BYU took over the play and had USU on their heels, while both teams held one another off the scoreboard heading into the intermission.

Up to that point, momentum shifted hands often during the first 40 minutes, with the Aggies unable to keep more than a one-goal distance

for any length of time. That would change, as USU skated out of the locker room, determined to pull away in the third.

Seemingly shrugging off the late second period barrage by BYU, the Aggies took control of the game and peppered Cougar goalie Jared Manzella, who finished the game with 62 saves. The only response BYU could muster was aggressive play, and USU’s defense stifled any chance they had offensively.

The ice was so heavily tilted in USU’s favor, that it seemed certain the “Hockey Gods” would intervene on behalf of BYU. Sure enough, with time winding down, the team scored another late-game goal to tie it up. After the Cougars pulled Manzella to get an extra skater, forward Jacob Eisenstat put one past USU’s goalie Colton Pritchard with 11 seconds remaining. After the horn sounded, both teams headed into overtime with four goals apiece and the Aggies needing a big bounce back to win the game.

In what amounted to their second overtime game on home ice, USU was determined to send its fans home happy. The extra five minutes were relatively uneventful, as both teams traded minimal shots and even fewer chances. Overtime was not enough to determine a victor and, after a lengthy discussion, the refs decided to settle the game with a shootout.

Pritchard stopped all five BYU shooters and Bradley Green scored the lone SO’s goal for the Aggies. Pritchard played strong in net, amassing 52 saves on the night, leading the team to a 5-4 victory. USU pulled out the win due to a “take no prisoners” offensive pressure and a strong-defensive performance to keep the Cougars at arm’s reach all night.



PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**
USU goalie Colton Pritchard controls his net in Utah State’s game against BYU on November 1, 2019. The Aggies were victorious Saturday night against the same Cougar team and Pritchard had a fantastic night in net with 52 saves.

Second half push takes down Aggies in Nevada

By Joseph Crook
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

On Saturday afternoon the Utah State University women’s basketball team lost to the Nevada Wolfpack 69-60. The loss dropped the Aggies to 5-12 on the season and 0-6 in Mountain West play and highlighted some of the struggles that have been plaguing the Aggies over the course of the season.

Utah State came into the first quarter looking to make the matchup a battle in the paint, and they were fairly successful in the beginning. The Aggies scored 10 straight in the post, six coming from senior forward Hailey Bassett, with senior forward Marlene Aniambossou and sophomore forward Taylor Franson scoring two apiece — giving the Aggies a 10-8 lead. They would push their advantage all the way to 15-8; however the seven-point deficit prompted the Wolfpack to begin a full-court press and the Aggies began to struggle on both the offensive and defensive ends.

The Aggies played well coming into the second quarter and would be able to use their paint play to take a 25-18 lead. However, Bassett came out

and the Aggies began to struggle on offense. They allowed their opponents to create space and make threes, two of which were taken quickly which allowed the Wolfpack back into the game and eventually take a 30-25 lead. The run was finally broken by a layup from Bassett with 45 seconds left in the second quarter. However, that would be the last time the Aggies would score while the Wolf Pack would put up three more points and take a 33-27 lead into the break.

Throughout the entirety of the first half, the Aggies did not make a three-point shot. In fact, they took just three throughout the first 20 minutes of play. It appeared as though the team was trying to make this game all about the low post, scoring 22 of their 27 points in the paint.

Utah State was then outscored, out defended, and out hustled to start the third quarter. In the first four minutes, the team scored just four points and would go cold after that, all the while allowing the Wolfpack to score 13. The run was finally broken by sophomore guard Steph Gorman, who made three consecutive three-pointers with 2:43 left in the quarter. All of which were the first three’s

for the Aggies on the night. The late offensive push would bring them within 11 points, 54-43, heading into the fourth quarter.

Utah State was unable to continue the momentum that it had built into the final period. In the first three minutes of the quarter, the Wolf Pack

were able to go on an 8-2 run, giving them a 62-45 lead, which they would continue to build.

To read more of this story, visit the Utah Statesman online at usustatesman.com.



PHOTO BY **Breigh Williams**
In this photo: Utah State senior forward Hailey Bassett has averaged a team-high 17.2 points per game over the past five games.

ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

VS

BOISE STATE

1. 18. 20 - 2 PM

ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

MEN’S TENNIS

SPORTS ACADEMY RACQUET CLUB

VS

IDAHO

1. 18. 20. - 11 AM

#AGGIESALLTHEWAY

Men’s tennis opens season with win

By Joseph Crook
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State men’s tennis team opened its season with a close 4-3 win against the Grand Canyon Lopes at home on Saturday. The Aggies went into a tie-break to secure the win and made it the fourth season in the past five years the team has started the season with a win.

In doubles, Utah State was able to win two of its three matches. The pair of junior Felipe Acosta and freshman Javier Ruiz won their match 6-4; the doubles pair of freshman Arvid Hjalte and freshman Christian Holmes also won their match 6-4.

In singles matches, the Aggies were able to win two of five initial matches. Acosta won his match with very little difficulty, winning the first set 6-2 and the second set 6-0 without conceding a game. Freshman Arvid Hjalte’s match was slightly more contested, but he was still able to win in two sets, taking the first 6-4 and the second 6-2.

Even though Utah State was out-scored in singles play, the victory in doubles play evened the score at 3-to-3. The tie break was a singles match between Utah State’s Christian Holmes and Grand Canyon’s freshman Laurent Magne. The first set required its own tie break, and Magne found himself on the winning side at 6-7. But Holmes battled back in the next set — which was just as hotly contested — and would win 7-6. Riding the momentum from his play in the previous set, the third went to Holmes 6-3, and the Aggies clinched the victory.

After the contest, head coach Aaron Paajanen was quoted as saying, “It was great to get a win. To be able to start out the year with a win is awesome,” he continued, “to go as deep into the match as we did and get a 4-3 win, and see the guys rush out on the court to start the year, it doesn’t get much better than that.”

Next up for the Aggies will be the Idaho State Vandals on Saturday, January 18th at home.

 @Crooked_sports



PHOTOS BY **Matthew Webb**
Freshman Javier Ruiz and junior Felipe Acosta celebrate a doubles victory against Grand Canyon on Saturday. The pair won their match 6-4 in the second doubles match of the afternoon, helping the Aggies to a 2-1 doubles win.



PHOTO BY **Matthew Webb**
Freshman Arvid Hjalte serves a ball in Utah State’s match against Grand Canyon on Saturday. The Sweden-native made the most of his first two collegiate appearances, winning both his double singles and doubles matches.

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PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**
Justin Bean is one of two players that started the night with a 3-pointer. This was his only score in the game, far below his average of 12.8 points per game.



PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**
Craig Smith talks with the team during a timeout during Saturday's game against Nevada. Smith's win-loss record while at Utah State is 42-12.



PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**
Nevada player Jazz Johnson steps up to the free throw line while being harassed by Utah State fans behind the basket. Johnson is an 80.4% free throw shooter.

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PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**
Neemias Queta greets the HURD after Saturday's game against Nevada.

“Basketball” FROM PAGE 1

screen and roll actions.

Bairstow’s night wasn’t perfect, as he had a team-high five turnovers, but his eight points, three assists were enough to draw unsolicited, though brief, praise from Smith in his opening comments after the game.

“Sean Bairstow was a great spark for us in a lot of different facets,” Smith said.

Just as much as USU needed to reverse its poor shooting trends, so too was the necessity of crashing the glass. Excluding Utah State’s foray against NAIA side Eastern Oregon, the rebounding average over the past five games, dating back to South Florida, had dropped from just under 40 to just under 29 in the five-game span. In each of those five games Utah State was out-rebounded and by an average of just over nine boards per night. On Saturday, USU grabbed 43 boards to Nevada’s 28.

“It’s been a big emphasis for us,” Smith said of

“Fees” FROM PAGE 1

Services, said new funds for the library are important because many professors want to use OER but don’t know how. While most of the fee board agreed with the dollar increase for an OER coordinator, only seven were in favor of the 50 cents for streaming services.

“The 50 cents sounds more like a want than a need,” USUSA student advocate vice president Paulina Rivera-Soto said.

Senator Cooper Karras from the College of Engineering said, “There is more of a need for book

rebounding. “It’s pretty obvious the last four or so games, we’ve had to get back to who we are and what we are, and (rebounding) was a monstrous emphasis in practice the last two days.”

Nevada did make a late push, as aforementioned, the Aggies let an 18-point lead with five minutes to play drop to just 10 points. Jazz Johnson made 6 of his last 7 field goal attempts and had 18 points on the night, but as he began the game 0 for 7 from the floor, the effort proved too-little, too-late. Jalen Harris, the Wolf Pack’s leading scorer had 31 points, but outside of Harris and Johnson, Nevada shot just 8 of 27 for a mere 21 points across seven players.

Utah State will take this small level of momentum into a bye of sorts. The Aggies will not play their normal mid-week conference game next week, having a break until Saturday, Jan. 18 at Boise State.

@thejwalk67

replacements than videos.”

Senators will spend the next two weeks talking to students in their departments and get their take on the new fees. An official vote will be held in the Senate Chambers on Jan. 22.

The student fee board can amend and partially accept a fee increase. All fee increases must be approved by USU President Noelle Cockett.

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The HURD cheers on the basketball team at Saturday's game against Nevada.



Sam Merrill had 12 points, 8 rebounds and 8 assists



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HONG KONG

How the Hong Kong protests renewed my hope for American unity

By Sam Paepke
OPINION COLUMNIST

For Americans with any level of political knowledge or engagement, the last few months could be described as some of the most frustrating and polarizing in recent memory. The now-official impeachment process levied against President Trump, for instance, has Americans so divided that if you turned your attention between left and right-leaning media sources, you would hear them analyze the same facts in completely opposing ways. If you only looked at one, you would think that surely the president would be resigning any day now; looking at the other, you might think that the president has been totally set-up and scammed.

This is a scary situation. Let

us consider the words of Abraham Lincoln when he said, “A house divided against itself cannot stand.” I see two options for America: find a way to come together, sooner rather than later, or risk further polarization and gridlock. Would the country fall apart in the next couple of decades? Doubtful. It is possible, however, that institutions and norms could be eroded in a significant way. Consider, for example, a study done by the Pew Research Center in 2018 showing that Americans trust in the federal government -- and each other -- is declining. Amidst our nation’s bickering, China has seen its own internal discontent explode in Hong Kong. Promised semi-autonomous power under the “One Party, Two Systems” doctrine over two decades ago, citizens are

frightened -- frightened because they perceive China as continuing to tighten its grip over the region. In response, the protests began — and they haven’t stopped. In the district elections held in late November, turnout was high and “more than half of the 452 seats in Sunday’s local district council elections flipped“ from pro-Beijing to pro-democracy candidates.

Personally, my faith in America and the spirit of freedom was renewed recently when I learned how the protesters in Hong Kong proudly wave the

American flag as they sing the Star Spangled Banner. I realized that I had become cynical on the state of affairs at

accounts, the Chinese Basketball Association, and LeBron James, the overall response seemed mostly positive —

of November, the president signed the “Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act.” Similarly, Democratic

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi gave an excellent speech on the house floor, condemning China and encouraging a unanimous vote on the bill entitled “PROTECT Hong Kong Act.”

Speaker Pelosi herself stated, “We have stood united in a bipartisan way. It has been a very unifying issue for us.”

Americans are coming together. Hong Kong is a “unifying issue for us.” Why? Because regardless of what the media tells you about the “other guy,” most Americans believe in democracy and freedom, and not just for Americans — for the world.

The people of Hong Kong have highlighted that division on policy and public figures need not divide us on the most important issues. America helped inspire their vision of unity in democracy. Now Hong Kong’s vision can inspire ours.

Sam Paepke is a senior at Utah State studying Business Administration and Organizational Communication.

“Regardless of what the media tells you about the ‘other guy,’ most Americans believe in democracy and freedom, and not just for Americans — for the world.”

— Sam Paepke

home and had forgotten that regardless of how divided we have become, the world still looks to us as a model of democracy — the “American Dream.” After watching the video, I also came across a picture with the caption, “Be the America Hong Kong thinks you are.” It was a call to remember what unites us and to take action as the America we aspire to be.

As a broader American public, this issue has brought much-needed unity and debate on how we can support and value democracy at home and abroad. Many public figures have commented on Hong Kong, an obvious example being Houston Rockets General Manager Daryl Morey’s tweet voicing support of the #FreeHongKong movement. While there were some negative responses to Morey’s tweet, notably from Chinese

soon fans at NBA games were handing out “Free Hong Kong” attire, the NBA commissioner asserted they would not censor managers and coaches, and Shaquille O’Neal publicly defended the tweet. The message for many Americans is clear: Hong Kong -- and by extension democracy -- is deserving of our help and support.

We can see this sentiment of unity regarding Hong Kong not only in my personal experience and popular culture, but in the actions of the federal government in response to the Hong Kong protests. For example, Republican Senators Josh Hawley and Ted Cruz both actually traveled to Hong Kong to see with their own eyes what was happening. Each had damning things to say about China and called for the support of the Hong Kong protestors. At the end

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Easy

			4		2			
4	2	9				8	5	
3		8					7	
		4		9	7		2	3
				1				
6	9		2	4		7		
	5					1		9
	3	2				6	4	7
			8		6			

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TO PLAY: Complete the grid so that every row, column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. There is no guessing or math involved, just use logic to solve.

SOLUTION FOR : 01/07/2020

Very Easy

7	8	6	9	4	2	3	1	5
3	9	1	8	6	5	4	7	2
2	5	4	3	1	7	8	9	6
6	2	5	7	3	1	9	8	4
9	3	7	6	8	4	5	2	1
1	4	8	2	5	9	6	3	7
5	1	9	4	7	3	2	6	8
4	6	2	1	9	8	7	5	3
8	7	3	5	2	6	1	4	9

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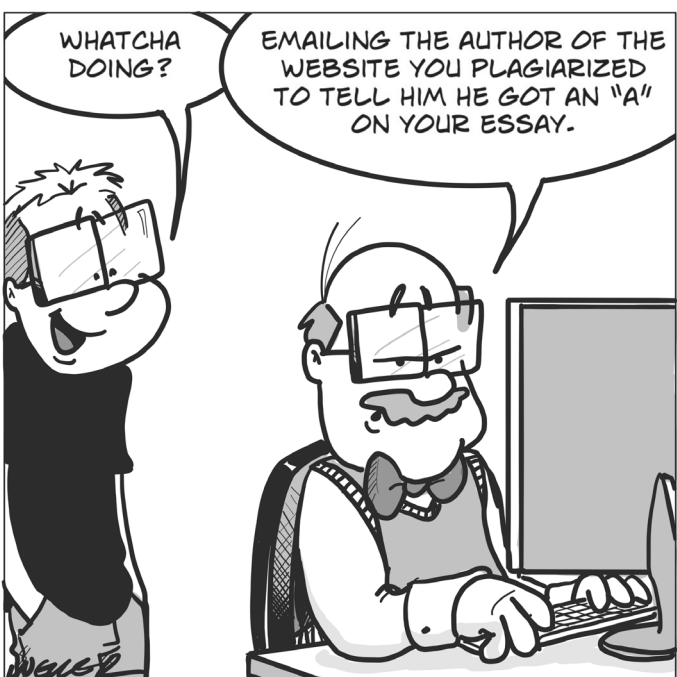
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<p>CHaSS Alumni Lunch Series: Tobijah Tyler 12:00 pm Merrill-Cazier Library Room 154 Logan, UT</p> <p>Conversation with Greg Hughes 2:00 pm Huntsman Hall Perry Pavilion Logan, UT</p> <p>Stephen R. Covey Leadership Center Information Session 6:00 pm Huntsman Hall 3rd Floor Logan, UT</p> <p>“Champions of Change” Book Signing 6:30 pm Thatcher Mansion 35 W 100 S Logan, UT</p>	<p>Siempre Para Adelante: Persevering through Challenges 12:30 pm Merrill-Cazier Library Room 208 Logan, UT</p> <p>Time Management & Academic Success Program Workshop 2:30 pm Ag. Science Building Room 141 Logan, UT</p> <p>Entrepreneur Leadership Series: Davis Smith 6:00 pm Eccles Conference Center Logan, UT</p> <p>Every Brilliant Thing 7:30 pm TSC International Lounge Logan, UT</p>	<p>Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium 3:30 pm Animal Science Building Room 119 Logan, UT</p> <p>USU Guitar, Bass and Drums Festival 7:30 pm Russell/Wanlass Performance Hall Logan, UT</p> <p>WhySlam Poetry Event 8:00 pm WhySound Venue 30 Federal Avenue Logan, UT</p>	<p>Science Unwrapped: Ron Munger, Epidemiologist 7:00 pm Eccles Science Learning Center Auditorium Logan, UT</p> <p>Cinders with the Solarists 7:00 pm The Cache Venue 119 Main Street Logan, UT</p>	<p>Men’s Tennis vs Idaho 11:00 am Sports Academy & Raquet Club 1655 N 200 E Logan, UT</p> <p>Women’s Basketball vs Boise State 2:00 pm Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Logan, UT</p> <p>2019 Logan Tree Lighting Festival 5:00 pm Logan Tabernacle Grounds 50 North Main Street Logan, UT</p>	<p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School</p> <p>Service Center’s MLK Day of Service 10:00 am - 6:00 pm Multiple Locationsl Logan, UT</p>

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