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## The Utah Statesman, February 4, 2020

Utah State University

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NEWS | Cannabis in North Logan

A business in North Logan was granted a license to start a cannabis pharmacy. What should you expect?

see PAGE 2

STUDENT LIFE | May the Force be with you

This is the list you’re looking for. We ranked the Star Wars films. Do you agree?

see PAGE 3

SPORTS | Record-setter

Freshman gymnast Sofi Sullivan recently set a school record for beam. Read all about her training and routine.

see PAGE 5

President Cockett recognized at Sundance Film Festival



PHOTO BY Klaus VanZanten

USU Pres. Noelle Cockett was honored at the Sundance Film Festival's Women's Leadership Celebration, along with 6 other female higher education presidents.

By Sydney Dahle

STUDENT LIFE MANAGER

On Thursday, Utah State University President Noelle Cockett joined five other women for a program and luncheon at the Leadership of Women Celebration held by the Sundance Institute in Salt Lake City.

Currently, women head half of the major intermountain colleges and universities: the University of Utah, Utah Valley University, Utah State University, Boise State University, Westminster College and Salt Lake Community College. The event, held in conjunction with Zions Bank, was lead by KRCEs Eugenie Jaffe, host of “12 o’clock Women Who Rock,” and included a special talk from feminist leader Pat Mitchell.

In total, nine women accepted an award for their excellence in leadership, including Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, a representative from Ecuador, and House of Lords member Baroness Emma Nicholson. A short film was shown of each woman’s accomplishments before they were invited on stage to accept the award.

“Power is sometimes difficult for a woman to acknowledge,” Mitchell said during her talk with Sundance co-founder Amy Redford. “It can feel like a huge responsibility to take on. Women must change the nature of power, rather than let power change them.”

Mitchell worked with another feminist icon, Gloria Steinem, in

the late 70s to bring the ideas of the women’s movement into reality. Before the award ceremony, the Sundance Institute showed Julie Taymor’s film, “The Glorias,” starring Julianne Moore, a biographical narrative on the incredible life of Steinem herself.

“Listening to others is how we survive,” Redford said. “We must look at others as our partners, our allies, rather than our enemies. We all evolve.”

The Sundance Festival is now in its 40th year and 44% of this year’s films were directed by women — and 37% were directed by women of color.

“We need to continue to support and recognize women,” Jaffe said. “Do not be afraid to ask for advice or find a mentor. There shouldn’t be competition.”

Jaffe also said to never turn down an opportunity to do something you love. She has been a radio host for nearly ten years and has never given up.

“The more scared you are, the more you should do it,” Jaffe said. “Face your fears.”

The ceremony ended in camaraderie and joy. Everyone shook hands and gave hugs.

Redford ended the event with a call to action: “Let’s continue to lead the way for women.”

—sydney.dahle@aggiemail.usu.edu

@dillydahle

Making a racket

Tennis teams kick off 2020 season

By Joseph Crook

SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Both the Utah State men’s and women’s tennis teams played over the weekend, with the women beating Southern Utah University 7-0 and the men falling to the University of Denver 1-4.

The match against SUU was the team’s first of the season, giving them a record of 1-0.

The women took the victory without conceding a match and only losing one set in both singles and doubles play. The Aggies won the double’s point with the partnership of sophomore Sidnee Lavati and senior Hannah Jones winning on the first position 7-5, freshmen Carolina Millan and Renata

Lombera winning on the second position 6-4, and freshman Zara Ryan and sophomore Annaliese County winning on the third position 7-5. In singles play, senior Lucy Octave won in straight sets 6-1 and 6-4; sophomore Gabrielle Dekkers won in straight sets 6-2 and 7-5; Zara Ryan won a close match in three sets 6-4, 3-6 and 7-5; Hannah Jones won in straight sets 7-6 and 6-4; Carolina Millan won in straight sets 6-1 and 6-1; finally, Annaliese County won in straight sets 6-3 and 7-5.

After the match, Utah State head coach Sean McInerney said, “We feel really good.

“When you have a team play-

see “Tennis” PAGE 6

‘This is an emergency’

USU addresses climate change

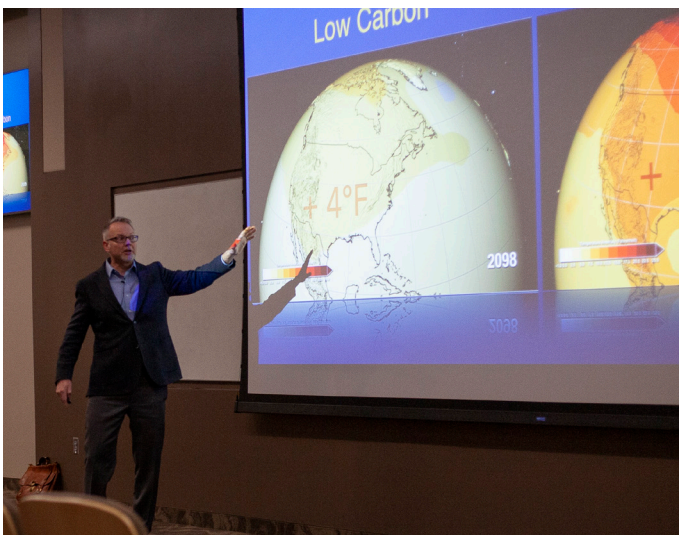


PHOTO BY Hailey Larson

Dr. Rob Davies presents on the dangers of climate change at the “Aggies Care for Climate” event.

By Camille Nelson

NEWS STAFF WRITER

On Thursday, Dr. Rob Davies and Patrick Belmont spoke to students and faculty about the urgency of climate change and what Utah State University is doing to reduce its impact.

USU Provost Frank Galey welcomed the audience to the event and expressed his and USU President Noelle Cockett’s excitement about the steps USU is taking in regards to sustainability.

“First off, as many of you are aware, president Cockett and I recently received a report of the Green House Gas Reduction Steering Committee,” Galey said. “I know President Cockett is enthusiastic about doing the things we can to address this campus’s impact.”

Davies, the first speaker, is an associate professor of physics at USU who focuses on atmospheric science, climate science and critical science communication. His message was not one of hope, but of action.

“This is an emergency,” he said. “What I found is that we are in a great state of disruption. Over the last century, the earth has warmed a little over 1 degree Celsius, and most of that has come in the last 40 years.”

This seemingly small degree of temperature change has a huge impact on the planet, according to Davies.

“In the earth’s system, everything is connected,” Davies said. “So if you change the temperature, you change everything else.”

He said scientists have already noticed shifts in the current state of our planet.

“In the last four decades, we have wiped out sixty percent of the world’s living creatures. We are losing species at a rate of dozens per day. Through massive extractions and pollution, we are destroying habitats,” he said. “This is a massive assault on the biosphere that supports us.”

Davies said the longer we wait to make changes, the more difficult it will become to preserve our environment. “If we had started acting 30 years ago when we absolutely, unequivocally knew that we needed to do this, it would have been almost trivial,” he said. “But we have waited so long now that every additional year we wait it gets dramatically harder.”

Throughout the world, ten percent of the world’s population is responsible for over half of material and energy consumption, and there are things individuals in the top-emitting countries can do to reduce their impact.

“Everyone in this room can reduce their emissions 15%,” Davies said. “Where do we produce the most emissions? What we eat and how we move ourselves around. Overwhelmingly, industrial, animal agriculture is responsible for roughly 30% of the world’s emissions. Can you eat 15% less meat? Can you drive 15% less? Can you fly 15% less?”

Davies also said the single biggest thing we can do immediately is talk about climate change with our friends, families, neighbors, political leaders and colleagues.

In 2007, USU committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. Since then, the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Steering Committee has worked hard to reach that goal.

Belmont helped form the steering committee and is the president of the faculty senate. He explained that USU has flatlined in carbon emissions, but a flat line is not good enough. USU needs to get its emissions down quickly.

“The simplest, easiest thing USU can do to get a big drop in emissions is to purchase a renewable energy portfolio,” Belmont said.

Charles Darnell, the head of facilities, has been proactive in

see “Climate Change” PAGE 6



STATESMAN FILE PHOTO

Senior Hannah Jones contributed to the tennis team’s win against SUU.



# High on the mountain top

## Where the “other” sagebrush grows; cannabis pharmacy coming to Logan

By Josh Wilkinson  
NEWS SENIOR WRITER

The Utah Department of Health named Logan as one of 14 locations for a pharmacy licensed to sell medical marijuana in the state. True North of Utah —one of 10 companies set to receive a license — plans to open shop in North Logan.

The Logan pharmacy will be located at 2359 North Main Street. The company will operate another pharmacy in Ogden, Utah.

According the UDOH’s website, more than 60 companies submitted more than 130 applications during a competitive bidding process to be awarded the licenses.

“The evaluation committee spent hundreds of hours evaluating applications from companies seeking a limited number of licenses,” said Richard Oborn, the director of the Utah Department of Health Center for Medical Cannabis. “It was a highly competitive process and some qualified applicants will be left disappointed, but that is the nature of a highly competitive process.”

Mike Standlee, founder and CEO of True North of Utah, said he has been watching and preparing for the Utah medical marijuana market for years. According to Standlee, this preparation was key to helping the company receive not only two licenses in a competitive field but also receive the highest application score out of the large field of applicants.

“I’m passionate about innovating great products while providing superior customer service,” Standlee said. “We are honored to be able to provide a quality product for patients as they ease their pain and live a better life.”

Tom Hudachko, the UDOH director of communications, emphasized the department is still in the “intent to award” phase, and no licenses have been issued yet. Still, Standlee said the company has completed all the necessary paperwork and the company expects to be awarded the two licenses.

Standlee also said the company received one of only eight licenses to grow cannabis in Utah, allowing the company to both distribute and produce their own cannabis.

“The real winner here will be our patients,” Standlee said. “We can keep the costs low, and the quality of our product high as we oversee every step, from seeding to the sealing of the final product.”

Standlee said the company expects its Ogden location to open sometime during the spring. Standlee also said the Logan location will be open “before July, possibly sooner,” and added the company is preparing to build a growing and processing site in Box Elder County. Until that time, True North of Utah is growing plants at a temporary grow site.

Additionally, Standlee said, the company has also identified several nonprofit groups in the area, which will be announcing partnerships with True North of Utah to raise awareness for the local community of patients.

Standlee has a long relationship with the agricultural industry, stretching back over 40 years. Standlee said he is currently devoting all his time in the cannabis industry and is the founder of the Sky Dispensaries brand, a company in Arizona which also holds multiple licenses in that state.

On Dec. 3, 2018, the Utah State Legislature passed H.B. 3001: the Utah Medical Cannabis Act. It replaced Utah Proposition 2, a voter approved bill which legalized the use of medical marijuana for qualifying individuals.

The Utah Medical Cannabis Act also provides for the legalization of medicinal cannabis, but makes some changes to the original proposition, including setting the current number of cannabis pharmacies in Utah, providing for more in the future and making changes to the language of the bill.

Under the Act, UDOH is directed to implement the necessary steps to provide medical cannabis to treat patients by March 1. Prospective patients can get more information at the Utah Medical Cannabis Program website.

— [jshwilki@gmail.com](mailto:jshwilki@gmail.com)  
@jshwilki



PHOTO COURTESY OF **True North of Utah**  
Medical cannabis plants to be sold by True North of Utah, growing in a temporary greenhouse. True North of Utah will open in North Logan.

# Improvements for scholarship applications ?

By Karcin Harris  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Utah State University has adjusted the way students can apply for scholarships on AwardSpring, according to Craig Whyte, the director of USU’s Scholarship Office.

“USU has partnered with AwardSpring to help manage the application process for a variety of University scholarships,” he said. “AwardSpring is not new and has been utilized on campus for many years.”

Last year, there were some issues with AwardSpring that left many students unsatisfied with the application process. Some university departments — including the Department of Journalism and Communication — have refused to use AwardSpring this year as a result, only accepting paper applications.

The Scholarship Office made changes to the system to fix the problems and improve the process. “We’re always looking for ways to improve,” Whyte said. “Technology changes so quickly and this year, a lot of work went into refining our processes to ensure students had an easier and more accurate way to apply for scholarships.”

Now AwardSpring can save student information, so applying for scholarships has become easier and faster.

“This year, we worked closely with AwardSpring to make some improvements to the application,” he said. “There has been a lot of collaboration across campus to work with departments and colleges to ensure scholarships are accurately described and to help students find scholarships more easily. Perhaps one of the great enhancements this is year is our ability to pull student information directly from Banner, thus reducing the need for students to submit their information over and over again.”

After applying for one scholarship, AwardSpring will save some of the responses and automatically fill out parts of other scholarships.

“We are trying to increase awareness and access,” Whyte said. “With over 900 scholarships in AwardSpring, students can submit one application and then quickly see what scholarships they are eligible to apply for. Often, students don’t know where to look for financial assistance. Our hope is that AwardSpring will address that issue and provide more access to scholarships.”



Whyte said the process could still be subject to change to better help students apply.

PHOTO COURTESY OF **Utah State University**  
The USU scholarship office has revamped the scholarship application process for students applying for scholarships.

“Every year, we evaluate how things went and after discussing ways for improvements with colleagues across campus, we determine the best way to move forward,” Whyte said. “Often, that includes small changes to ensure students are having the best experience possible. Our number one priority is to assist students, so we do our best to view our processes from a student’s perspective.”

— [karcinrose@gmail.com](mailto:karcinrose@gmail.com)  
@harriskarcin

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# A zombie novel for our time

## ‘World War Z,’ in review

**By Kristian Fors**  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

American culture seems to have a fascination with the concept of societal collapse — as seen in the 2006 book “World War Z: An Oral History of the Zombie War” by Max Brooks.

“World War Z” is about a contagious zombie outbreak and its subsequent effect on humanity. The book is significantly different from the 2013 movie adaptation. In fact, the book and the film share no plot similarities besides the presence of zombies.

Compared to many zombie stories that occur within a small microcosm or community, “World War Z” explores the consequences of such an outbreak on the world, as a whole (unlike the film that focused on one protagonist as he attempted to keep himself and his family alive).

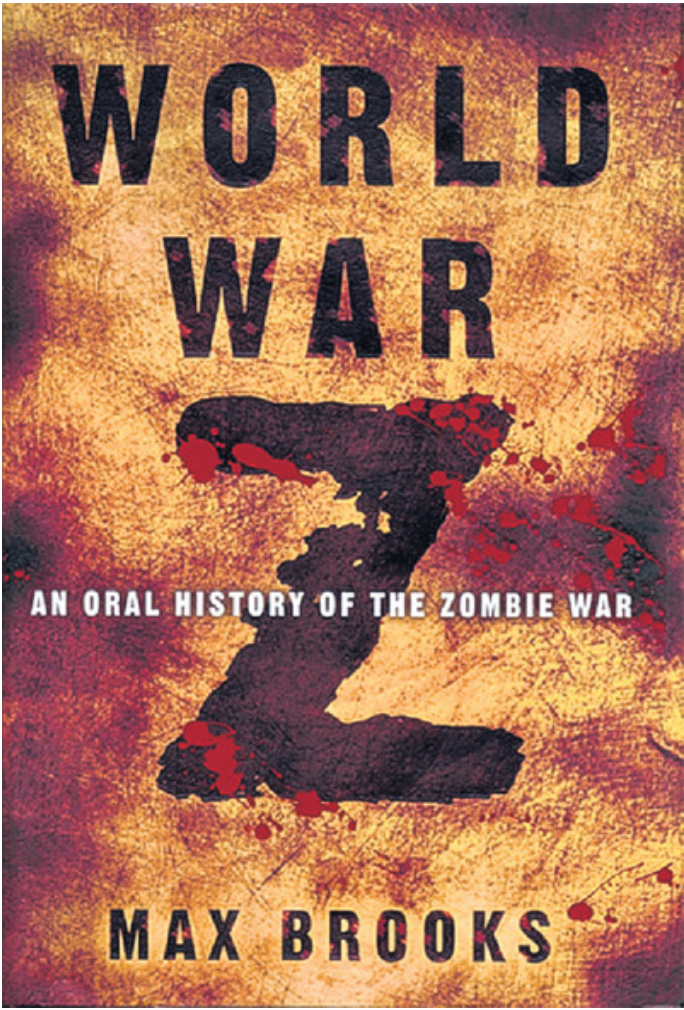
The narrator of the book is a journalist looking to interview survivors of the zombie war and document their experiences. Every chapter features

dialogue with a new character who has their own unique slice of life. The reader is exposed to veterans of the war from South Africa, Japan, the United States and many other areas.

Through contrasting different accounts of the war, the book explores moral questions and considers the implications of differing response methods used by different countries. For example, countries in the book that isolated themselves and operated only with “the greater good” in mind had much higher survival rates than their more libertarian counterparts.

These philosophical elements serve a similar function to books like “Justice” by Michael Sandel, a standard work in ethical philosophy.

Just like “Justice,” Brook’s book explores themes of consequentialism, individualism and realism. Do the ends justify the means? What does morality look like in a situation where society has collapsed? Brooks explores the nature of conflict, and how humans respond to dire situations.



At the end of the day, “World War Z” is an exploration of human nature. This book explores what happens when the social contract that binds us all unravels, like any good apocalyptic work. It’s a dive down into the abyss of man’s conscience, and the abyss is laid out before the reader’s eyes in the form of narrative.

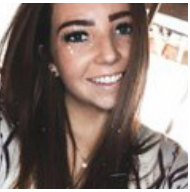
—krfors@gmail.com

# TWEETS of the WEEK



**@GageCarling**

I almost hit Steve Sharp with my car today how're you doing



**@jaycie\_lynne**

USU parking police should give away “get 9 violations, get the 10th one free” coupons



**@darcyrrose**

being a USU student is measuring the passage of time through pobevs



**@coopylow**

Don't y'all know if we have a snow day we have to make up for it at the end of the year tho ??

# Star Wars: ranked

## An insight into the best Star Wars films

**By Darcy Ritchie**  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

The Skywalker saga came to an end in December with the highly-anticipated release of “The Rise of Skywalker.” As a life-long fan of this film series, here is my ranking of the nine episodes of “Star Wars” from best to worst.

**“The Empire Strikes Back”**

A fact highly undisputed by “Star Wars” fans, “The Empire Strikes Back” is the best of the Skywalker saga. The Battle of Hoth starts this movie with a snowy bang, and the “father” of all plot twists finishes it perfectly. The beginning of Han and Leia’s fiery relationship, Yoda’s training on Dagobah and Lando Calrissian take this film to the very top.

**“A New Hope”**

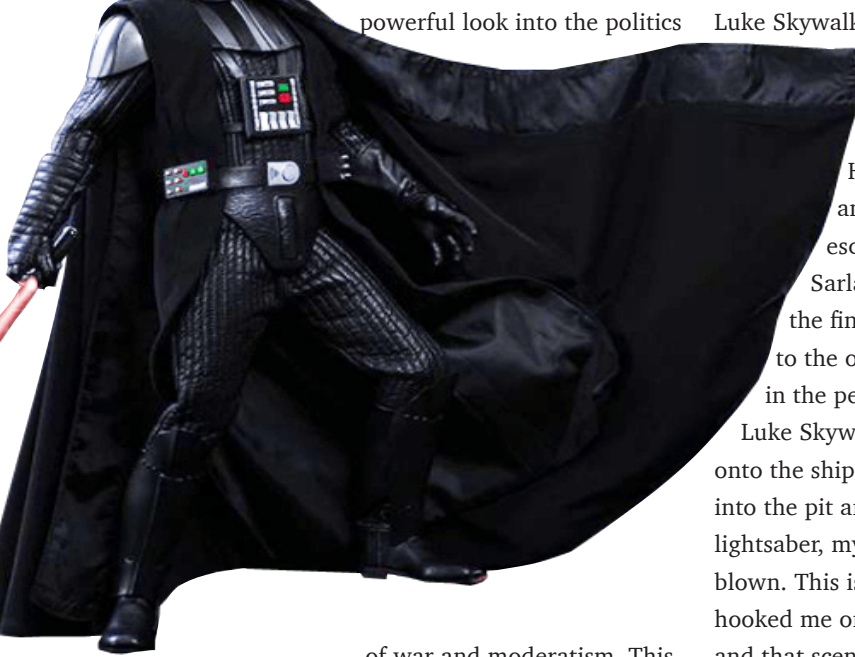
The film that started it all

is a classic that deserves its place near the top of the list. The impact “A New Hope” had on modern culture speaks to the quality of this film. From beginning to end, this movie is exciting and introduces a new universe, new characters and a story that has lasted decades. Luke Skywalker looking into the binary sunset with “The Force Theme” in the background is an iconic image able to touch fan’s hearts in a way that makes Star Wars so special.

**“The Last Jedi”**

I’m fully aware of how controversial this ranking is, but I stand by my love for “The Last Jedi.” This movie was refreshingly different in a way that “The Force Awakens” missed, but it still had indisputable “Star Wars”

energy. Holdo jumping into lightspeed — directly into the First Order — and Kylo Ren turning against



his master were unpredictable scenes that carried the story of the sequel-trilogy into new territory. The Battle of Crait

is my all-time favorite battle scene in the Skywalker saga with beautiful visuals and exciting twists. There is clear character development for the main trio, and this film gave a powerful look into the politics

of war and moderatism. This film does have a few unnecessary scenes and conflicts that bring it down in the ranks, but it deserves a place near

the top.

**“Return of the Jedi”**

When I was a kid, I would watch the first half-hour of this movie almost every day. Luke Skywalker pulling up to Jabba’s palace in his all-black fit, Leia and Han’s reunion and an exciting escape from the Sarlacc pit opened the final installment to the original trilogy in the perfect way. When Luke Skywalker flips back onto the ship after jumping into the pit and catches his lightsaber, my child mind was blown. This is the movie that hooked me on “Star Wars,” and that scene continues to be one of my favorites of all time. Slave Leia and the Ewoks bring this movie down the ranks, as well as unnec-

essary Han and Leia drama that could be easily solved with communication. However, in addition to its amazing opening, this movie is able to finish out the original trilogy with a satisfying ending that keeps the original trilogy as the most cohesive and the most entertaining of the three.

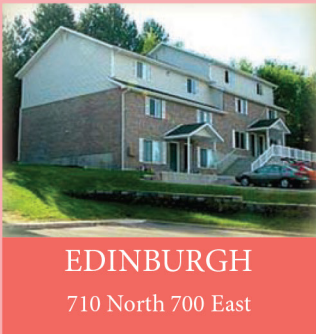
**“The Force Awakens”**

As the first installment to the sequel-trilogy premiering in the prime of my life, this movie holds a special place in my heart. It introduced a new, diverse cast led by a strong and powerful, yet kind, force-sensitive female. My problems from this movie arise as it follows the plot of “A New Hope” very closely. It also crushed my child heart by confirming that Han and

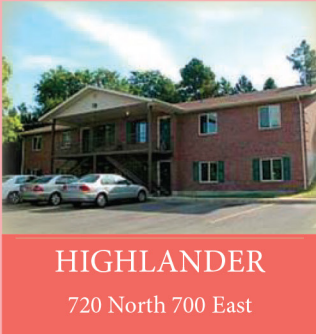
see “Star Wars” PAGE 6

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# Men’s hoops falls to no. 4 San Diego State in second half

By Jason Walker  
SENIOR SPORTS WRITER

Since last facing San Diego State at home in early January, Utah State men’s basketball went on a journey of discovery, filled with trying lessons and small triumphs.

Whatever the Aggies learned wasn’t enough to translate to a win Saturday in a matchup with the Aztecs as the hosts pulled away late from USU, winning 80-68 to remain undefeated for the year and all but seal up a regular season Mountain West title.

Utah State did plenty to show improvement from its previous nine-point loss at home — in the first half that is.

Multiple times throughout the opening 20 minutes, SDSU tried to flex its fourth-ranked muscles and pull away, taking leads of 10-4, 20-12 and 24-17. Each time, the Aggies rallied to keep within striking distance, a credit to a more developed fighting spirit.

Eventually that strike came. The USU defense managed to force a cold spell out of the Aztec offense with the home team missing eight of their last nine shots of the first half. The Aggies capitalized, unlike so many other times, by closing out the final 10 minutes of the first half on a 22-7 run.

Senior guard Sam Merrill powered the offensive surge, a common occurrence. His nine-point first half had the Aggies up 39-31 at the break. As a team, USU boasted shooting marks of 55 percent overall and were 7-10 from three.



PHOTO COURTESY of Kareem Jones, The Daily Aztec

From there things fell apart on an almost exponential scale. At first, Utah State held on to its lead, holding off mini-runs by the Aztecs to stay a possession or two ahead, but then a 10-0 run shattered whatever lead still existed, and SDSU never looked back. Within five minutes of a tied game, Utah State found itself down 10 points, 68-58.

The major culprit in the case of the disappearing Aggie lead was a deluge of 3-point shooting from San Diego State. Five of the first seven

field goals made in the second half by SDSU came from beyond the 3-point line. Three of those triples, plus another layup during the early second-half rush, came via Matt Mitchell, the team’s junior forward who had a night to remember.

With reigning NBA Finals MVP and former Aztec forward Kawhi Leonard looking on, Mitchell scored 28 points, his highest total since November 2017. He made a bevy of seemingly unguardable shots on his way to that mark.

Overall, Mitchell was 9 of 14 from the field and 4 of 6 from three.

Utah State didn’t exactly do itself any favors either, though. The Aggies dropped from a 70 percent shooting rate from three in the first half to just 18.2 percent (2 of 11), and 36 percent overall. With no offense available, the SDSU lead simply increased without interruption and hovered in the double-digits until the end of the night.

Despite a poor second-half shooting performance, Merrill had a career night in some ways. He tied a career-high with 12 assists while also going 5 of 12 from the field (4 of 8 from deep) for 16 points with zero turnovers and five rebounds for good measure. According to Basketball Reference, Merrill is just the fifth player since 2010 to score 16, get 12 dimes and grab five rebounds in a game while not recording a single turnover.

Utah State entered the game in a four-way tie for third place in the conference, but now falls into a two-way tie for fifth with Nevada. Colorado State, Boise State and UNLV (and SDSU obviously), sit above the Aggies in the standings. CSU and BSU both won Saturday night and are one game ahead of USU.

UNLV will travel to Logan on Wednesday to face the Aggies in a rematch of a stunning Running Rebels’ 70-53 victory on Jan. 1.

— jasonswalker94@gmail.com  
@thejwalk67

# Aggie women drop two against Wyoming and SDSU

By Joseph Crook  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Last week, the Utah State University women’s basketball team faced off against the Wyoming Cowgirls and San Diego State Aztecs. The Aggies were unable to win in either game, leaving their record at 6-16 on the season and 1-10 in conference play.

In their game against the Cowgirls, the Aggies struggled to score. They put up just 53 points to

Wyoming’s 65; nor were the Aggies able to really gain a foothold in the game. Wyoming ended the first quarter with a 19-14 lead, the second 11-9, the two teams tied the third (14-14) and Wyoming won 65-54 in the end. Two Utah State players scored in double figures: senior guard Lindsey Jensen-Baker — who had 15 points — and senior forward Marlene Aniambossou who scored 10. No Aggie grabbed more than four rebounds in the game.

In their game against the Aztecs, the Aggies had

similar issues on the offensive end, scoring just 51 points. Unlike their matchup against the Cowgirls, Utah State was unable to keep it close with its California opponent. The Aggies trailed after the first quarter 18-14 but tightened their defense in the second, allowing them to outscore the Aztecs 9-6.

However, Utah State was unable to carry its defense into the second half and was outscored 21-13 in the third quarter. Nonetheless, the Aggies regained a small amount of ground in the fourth, scoring 15 to the Aztecs’ 14. In the game, both senior forwards Hailey Basset and senior Marlene Aniambossou scored 15 points. Sophomore forward Taylor Franson led the team in rebounds with seven on the night.

A common theme in the Aggies’ two losses, as previously mentioned, was the team’s inability to score. This may have been due, in part, the team’s refusal to shoot the three. Over the course of both games, the Aggies took just eight and five shots from behind the arc respectively. Over the course of the season, Utah State has been hesitant to shoot from deep in general, averaging just five attempts per game.

Despite the low attempts, they shot a reasonable 38% from three over the past two games. In the five games prior, the Aggies had less than 15 attempts from the three-point line. It appears as though opposing defenses are beginning to effectively defend against the Aggies’ dedication to scoring inside; so not only are the Aggies not scoring from behind the arc, they’re not scoring inside



either. When the team shoots less than 15 three-point attempts in a game their average point total decreases by four, down to 53 points as opposed to their season average of 57. It remains to be seen if Utah State will adjust its gameplan to compensate for opposing defenses, but for now, the team continues to be led by its veteran forwards.

@Crooked\_sports



PHOTOS BY Amber French

ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

WEDNESDAY FEB. 5

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS UNLV - 8 PM

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

FRIDAY FEB. 7

WOMEN'S TENNIS VS IDAHO STATE - 11 AM

SPORTS ACADEMY & RAQUET CLUB

GYMNASTICS VS BOISE STATE - 7 PM

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

SATURDAY FEB. 8

MEN'S BASKETBALL VS BOISE STATE - 8 PM

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

#AGGIESALLTHEWAY



# Phenomenal freshman

## USU freshman gymnast Sofi Sullivan sets program-record on beam

By Dalton Renshaw  
SPORTS CONTENT MANAGER

It was a record-setting weekend for Utah State University gymnastics — and freshman Sofi Sullivan, in particular. Sullivan capped the meet for the Aggies by notching a school-record 9.975 on beam to win the event title. She also won the all-around with a career-best 39.325.

“I couldn’t be more proud of this team,” said USU third-year head coach Amy Smith. “We have a very frenetic pre-meet warmup and had to reel them in once warmups were over. They made the adjustments, came out and delivered. The resolve and focus of the team tonight was awesome. They didn’t back down and just kept building with the crescendo being that spectacular beam rotation.”

The final event of the evening was the beam and that was where Sullivan stole the show. She had already posted two scores of 9.775 and a 9.80; but in beam, she made program history with a perfect 10.00 on her first attempt and a combined score of 9.975.

“Beam is the most exciting event for me, so being able to go up there and do my routine just how I practice it every day is the best feeling,” Sullivan said. “Setting the school record and helping the team win was the exclamation point of the night.”

The Aggies also earned their first win of the season by outscoring Air Force 195.550-192.375. In the process, Utah State notched a season-high 49.200 on beam, landing the score at sixth all-time in school history. All four phases of the meet went in favor of the visitors, and it was kicked off with a score of 48.725 in the bars. Sophomore Grace Rojas topped this portion of the meet with an aver-

age score of 9.80 and was one of four Aggies to finish with a score of 9.7 or above.

Next up in the competition was the vault, and Utah State picked up another score of 48.725, which junior Leighton Varnadore topped with an average score of 9.825.

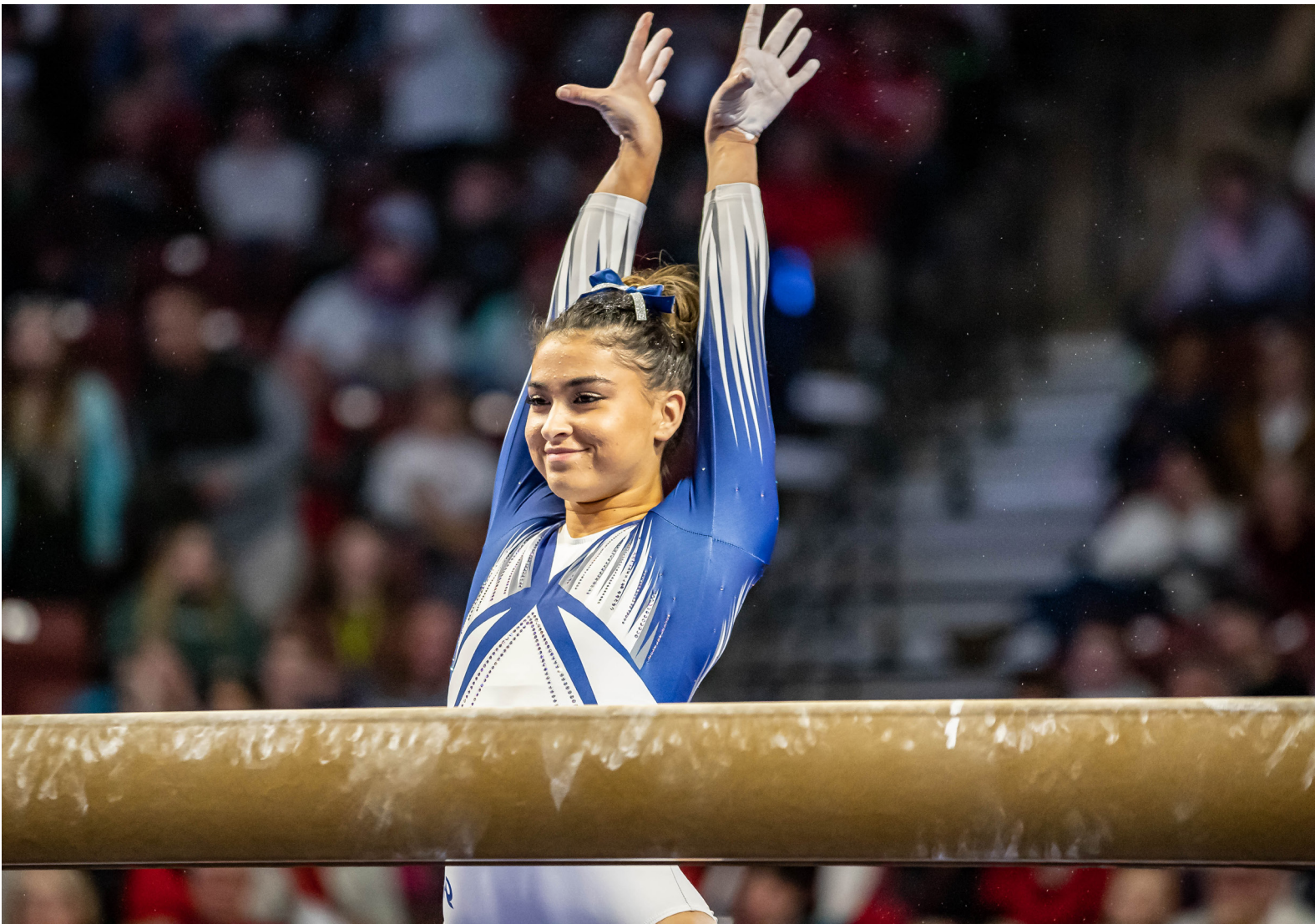
“Leighton set the tone on beam and everyone

followed suit,” Smith said. “The back end of the lineup with Autumn (DeHarde) and Sofi (Sullivan) was absolute fire. For Sofi to set the school record in just her third meet is beyond amazing. What a great way to close out a great night.”

Floor was the penultimate event of the meet

— which the Aggies scored their highest of the night with a 49.20 — which was led by junior Autumn DeHarde who earned a 9.875 average thanks to a 9.90 on her first attempt.

— [sports@usustatesman.com](mailto:sports@usustatesman.com)  
@dren\_sports



Freshman Sofi Sullivan celebrates after her performance on beam Saturday, Jan. 25 in the Aggies’ win on the road against Air Force.

PHOTO COURTESY of Wade Denniston, USU Athletics

The Score	
USU results for the week of Jan. 27 - Feb. 3	
Results	Top Performers
Men’s Basketball W, 68-45 -- at Wyoming L, 80-68 -- at #4 San Diego State	Alphonso Anderson 13 points vs WYO Sam Merrill 16 points & 12 assists vs SDSU Brock Miller 15 points vs SDSU
Women’s Basketball L, 65-54 -- Wyoming L, 59-51 -- San Diego State	Lindsey Jensen-Baker 15 points vs WYO Hailey Bassett 15 points vs SDSU Marlene Aniambossou 15 points vs SDSU
Men’s Tennis L, 4-1 -- at Denver	Sergiu Bucur singles (6-4, 6-1)
Gymnastics L, 195.875-195.175 -- at SUU	Leighton Varnadore won all-around 39.075
Indoor Track & Field Nine top-five finishes-- at Wash- ington Invitational	(W) Audrey Garrett 1.70 meters high jump (M) Kyle Brost 14.85 meters triple jump
Women’s Tennis W, 7-0 -- Southern Utah	Hannah Jones singles (7-6, 6-4)



PHOTO COURTESY of Kareem Jones, The Daily Aztec

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“Climate Change” FROM PAGE 1

working with Rocky Mountain Power to have more renewable power sources on the grid that the university can purchase. USU also has converted the library to 85% LED lights, which saves the university \$5,000-\$6,000 a month in energy costs.

The facilities department is putting in half a million dollars every year for the next ten years to improve energy efficiency throughout campus.

“It’s not flashy,” Belmont says. “It’s essential and it’s going to make a big difference.”

“The problems we are facing are overwhelming for sure, but the call to action is more powerful,” said Sam Fitch, the

farm manager of the OCC Urban Community Farm in Cache Valley. “We need to get real and get to work. There isn’t time to be hesitant.”

Jacob Alder, a student at USU who attended the seminar said, “What I think is most important is that we have a serious problem and we don’t have enough movement. We need more people to know what is going on.”

As Davies said, “It’s not about hope. It’s about resolve. If we want hope, act. We don’t solve problems of this scale until we commit to them.”

—cjnelson180@gmail.com  
🐦@nelson\_camille

“Star Wars” FROM PAGE 3

Leia did not live happily ever after. Regardless, the movie is entertaining and opened a whole new era of “Star Wars” that diversified the universe and opened a new chapter for the Skywalkers for a new generation. Also, Poe Dameron.

“Revenge of the Sith”

This movie has bad writing, bad computer-generated imagery and bad acting. However, the cultural impact of this movie is unmatched. Have you ever recited the entire scene on Mustafar? Can you ever think of replying to someone saying, “Hello there” with anything other than, “General Kenobi”? Prequel memes have turned this horrible movie into a cultural masterpiece. It also has a much more compelling story than its prequel-predecessors and provides “Star Wars” fans the much-awaited introduction of Darth

Vader for the original trilogy. However iconic this movie is for meme culture, the deleted scene in which Anakin speaks droid drops this to the bottom of the list because it is just too ridiculous. (And if you’ve never seen it, look it up right now. It will ruin your life forever.)

“The Rise of Skywalker”

This movie was the most unsatisfying ending for the Skywalker saga. It discarded the story and the character development from “The Last Jedi” and created a fanservice ending for the sequel-trilogy that had no impactful messages or story. The writing is subpar as the story manages to be contradictory and predictable at the same time. Only a few scenes took this one from the bottom for me: when Luke pulls the X-wing out of the ocean and when the Jedi of old come to be with Rey during her final battle. These were moments that called back to the original saga in a meaningful way. As a

whole, however, this movie was disappointing and was not a cohesive ending for the Skywalker saga.

“The Phantom Menace”





This movie is literally about taxes. Darth Maul is the only thing that lifts this one from the bottom.

“Attack of the Clones”


This movie falls to the bottom of the list with all the usual writing and CGI problems of the prequels, in addition to a heavy focus on romance that made viewers uncomfortable, like Padme having her shirt ripped open in the arena scene to give her a slave Leia moment. Mace Windu in general.

—darcy.ritchie@aggiemail.usu.edu  
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# Women's basketball game vs. Wyoming gallery



The USU women's basketball team prepares for their game against Wyoming on Wednesday.

PHOTO BY Breigh Williams



Forward Marlene Aniambossou scored 10 points in the team's game against Wyoming.

PHOTO BY Breigh Williams



Freshman guard Faith Brantley had two rebounds and one assist in the team's loss against Wyoming.

PHOTO BY Breigh Williams



The USU women's basketball team lost to Wyoming 65-54 during their game on Wednesday.

PHOTO BY Breigh Williams

## RECYCLEMANIA



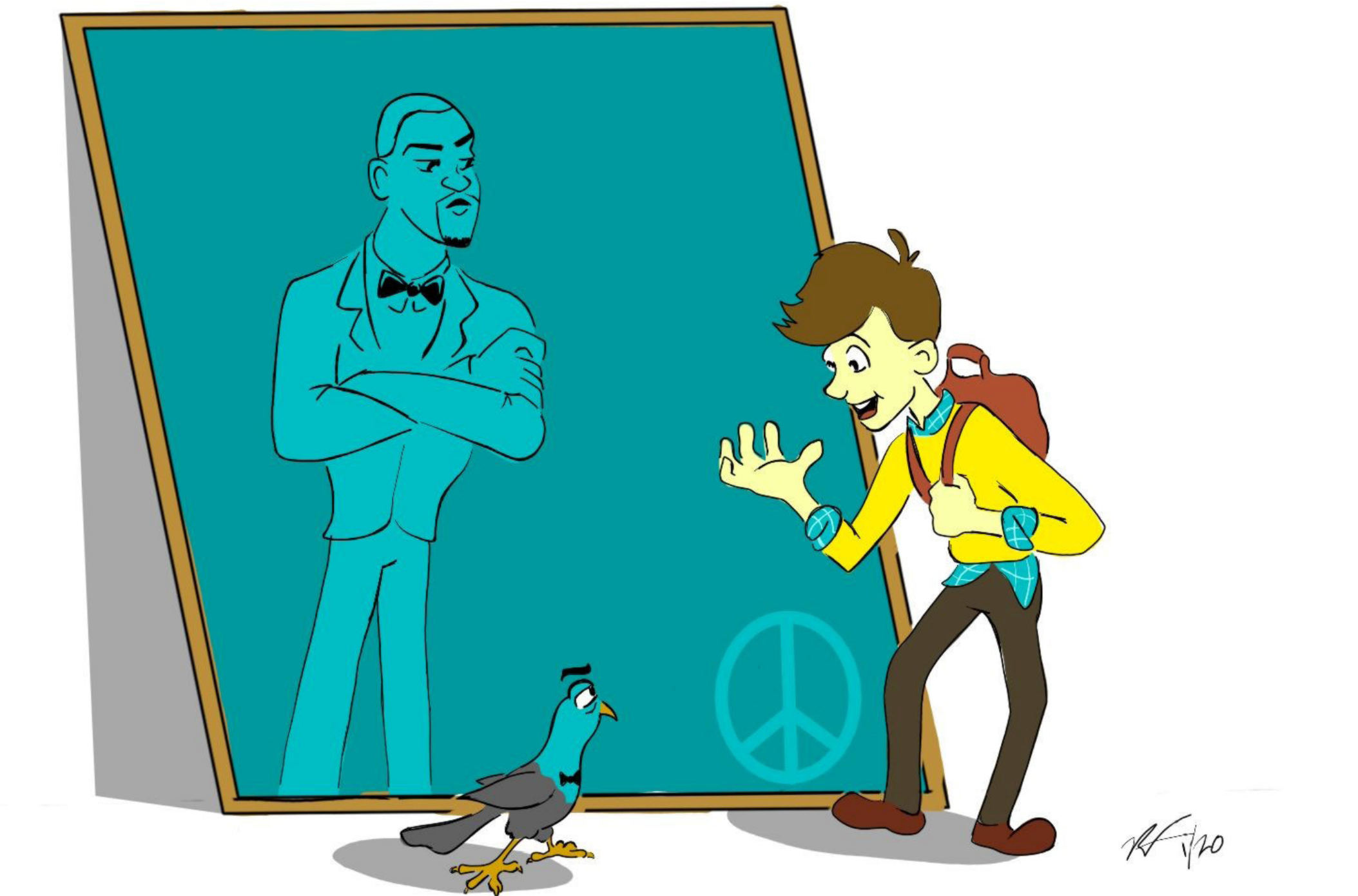
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This graphic does not necessarily reflect the opinions of its creator.

GRAPHIC BY Keith Wilson

# A message of nonviolence in “Spies in Disguise”

By Emily White

OPINION COLUMNIST

Over Christmas break I saw the new movie “Spies in Disguise” with my family. The movie had several important messages for its audience, but the one that stuck out most to me was the theme of nonviolence.

The uniquely plotted Spies in Disguise brings our overly violent world into question and offers a new perspective to the problem of violence, both within our entertainment media and in the real world.

Could a peaceful alternative be successful in resolving differences instead of relying on the wide-spread violence depicted in our media?

Violence is pervasive in pop culture and everyday life. A report from the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2013 found violent films have doubled since 1950. On top of that, the amount of gun violence pres-

ent in PG-13 films has tripled since 1985. Violence has become commonplace on the tv screen and the movie screen.

The highest grossing film ever is “Avengers: Endgame,” followed by “Avatar,” “Star Wars: Episode VII,” “Avengers: Infinity War,” “Jurassic World,” “Avengers,” and “Furious 7” in the top 10. Violent battle scenes seem to sell movie tickets better than anything else. For films like “Avengers:

Endgame,” violence makes the movie and dominates the narrative and theme.

However, I would argue that a story can be interesting without intense scenes of violent action. Writers are limiting themselves to simplified stories and overdone themes of

violence because it’s easy. It’s difficult to write a story that combats violence with peace, which is exactly what Spies in Disguise achieved.

A significant argument made by Will Smith’s character, Lance Sterling, was that it’s okay to

movie demonstrated, difficult situations can be handled through the use of communication and discussion. Aggression is not a necessity and neither is violence.

I think on-screen violence should not be our number

“Many films today are perfect products manufactured for immediate consumption. Many of them are well made by teams of talented individuals,” Scorsese said. “All the same, they lack something essential to cinema: the unifying vision of an

individual artist. Because, of course, the individual artist is the riskiest factor of all.”

In other words, stories are more valuable if they are written well and have meaningful

plots that rely on art rather than excessive violence. Powerful themes are created through the art of cinema. Instead of the horrific destruction and overwhelming reconstruction that takes place during or after a war, what if we started telling stories of friendship, fami-

ly, empowerment, teamwork, self-worth and growth without extended battle scenes? What would happen if the heroes decided to win the battle like Walter Beckett and Lance Sterling did in “Spies in Disguise?”

Does the violence in movies affect the way we interact with each other and the world around us, or does the violence in real life influence the content of movies?

I think we should seek entertainment that doesn’t glorify violence and magnify differences but provides ideas and solutions to get along. The need for our society to come together is getting stronger by the day; we can come together by remembering that all lives matter. As Walter Beckett says, “There’s a better way!” We don’t have to use violence, even when we’re catching the bad guys.

Emily White is a junior studying English and broadcast journalism.

“Many films today are perfect products manufactured for immediate consumption. Many of them are well made by teams of talented individuals. All the same, they lack something essential to cinema: the unifying vision of an individual artist.”

— Martin Scorsese

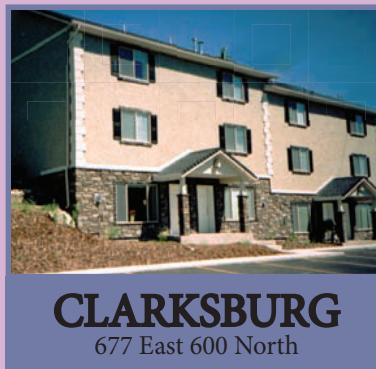
be violent when fighting the bad guys. This is a prominent position made in film and in our world today: it’s okay to be violent and aggressive when we’re fighting the bad guys. But what separates the good guys’ violent actions from the bad guys? I believe, as the

one source of entertainment. We should support the writers who create meaningful plots or successful stories. Academy Award-winning writer, director and producer Martin Scorsese said he feels the same and argues that the art of cinema is disappearing.

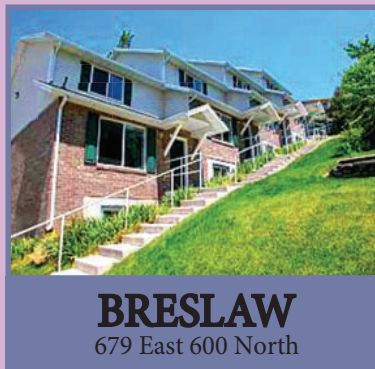
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		6				5		8
1		2	3	8				4
			2			1	9	
					6	3		4
	6	3	4		5	8	7	
5	4		9	2				
	8	7			4			
2				9	8	4		7
4		9				3		

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

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CALENDAR					
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TUESDAY 2/4	WEDNESDAY 2/5	THURSDAY 2/6	FRIDAY 2/7	SATURDAY 2/8	MONDAY 2/10
<b>Spring Career Fair</b> 10:00 am - 3:00 pm TSC Ballroom Logan, UT	<b>Sweater Swap</b> 11:00 am TSC Ballroom Logan, UT	<b>Lecture on the Bear River Massacre by Darren Parry</b> 7:00 pm Ridgeline High School Library 180 N 300 W Millville, UT	<b>Women's Tennis vs. Idaho State</b> 11:00 am Sports Academy & Raquet Club Logan, UT	<b>She Kills Monsters</b> 7:30 pm Caine Lyric Theatre Logan, UT	<b>The Last Five Years</b> 7:30 pm The Cache Logan, UT
<b>CIA Info Session</b> 5:00 pm Life Sciences Building Room 133 Logan, UT	<b>STEM Career Fair Preparation Workshop</b> 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Engineering Building Atrium Logan, UT	<b>High Stakes Bingo</b> 7:00 & 9:00 pm TSC Ballroom Logan, UT	<b>Women's Gymnastics vs. Boise State</b> 7:00 pm Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Logan, UT	<b>African Sanctus: A Mass for Love &amp; Peace</b> 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm Daines Concert Hall Logan, UT	
<b>Aggie Radio Theater Listening Party</b> 6:00 pm TSC Room 219 Logan, UT	<b>Entrepreneur Leadership Series: Maharba Zapata</b> 6:00 pm Eccles Conference Center Logan, UT	<b>She Kills Monsters</b> 7:30 pm Caine Lyric Theatre Logan, UT	<b>Roseburg w/ The Rompstompers &amp; Harbor Patrol</b> 7:30 pm WhySound Venue Logan, UT	<b>Men's Basketball vs. Boise State</b> 8:00 pm Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Logan, UT	
<b>Aggie Match</b> 7:00 pm TSC Ballroom Logan, UT	<b>Men's Basketball vs. UNLV</b> 8:00 pm Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Logan, UT		<b>She Kills Monsters</b> 7:30 pm Caine Lyric Theatre Logan, UT	<b>Mardi Gras</b> 9:00 pm TSC Logan, UT	
<b>She Kills Monsters</b> 7:30 pm Caine Lyric Theatre Logan, UT	<b>She Kills Monsters</b> 7:30 pm Caine Lyric Theatre Logan, UT		<b>True Aggie Night</b> 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm Block "A" Logan, UT		

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