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## The Utah Statesman, February 11, 2020

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# BRONCOS BUSTED

USU survives foul trouble to  
secure win against BSU

By Sydney Kidd  
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State University men’s basketball team entered the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum on Saturday night looking to avenge last month’s fall-apart loss to the Boise State Broncos, and despite going 2 for 19 from three and having three players get into foul trouble, the Aggies managed to walk away with a 70-61 win.

The game got off to a pretty quick start for Utah State. By halftime the team held a 35-24 lead and were out-rebounding the Broncos 24-15.

But when senior guard Sam Merrill picked up his fourth foul just 40 seconds into the second half, Boise State would use the 13 minutes without Merrill on the court to come within five points of the Aggies. Still, Utah State was able to withstand the Broncos onslaught with the reigning Mountain West Player of the Year sitting on the bench.

“Coach Smith and one of our other assistants just brought us in and just said, ‘Hey, we all need to be players now and we need to pick up the slack,’” said sophomore forward Justin Bean. “You can’t replace a guy like Sam Merrill, but I think collectively we were able to do that for a while.” Even when Merrill subbed back in, Boise State continued to close the gap. The Broncos came within one point of the Aggies with only a minute left in play.

In that final minute, Utah State was sent to the line numerous times allowing them to make six free throws. Those free throws, combined with a Diogo Brito layup scored on a fast break, enabled the Aggies to pull away and secure the victory.

Fouls plagued both teams all the way to the final buzzer. On Boise State’s side, two players fouled out — the first being senior forward RJ Williams, who picked up his fifth foul with 13:42 left in the second half. Williams averages more than 11 points a game for the Broncos. On Saturday, he left the game only scoring four.

The second Boise State player to foul out was redshirt senior Robin Jorch. Jorch left the game at 4:29, which forced the Broncos to play small-ball while trying to guard sophomore center Neemias Queta under the basket.

Utah State had its fair share of fouls as well, but none of the Aggies ended up fouling out. In addition to Merrill picking up four fouls, Bean and sophomore guard Brock Miller each managed to get four as well. By the final buzzer both teams had racked up a collective 49 fouls.

Despite having to play more carefully, Bean still had a strong game off the boards. The forward finished the night with 16 rebounds and scored seven points for the Aggies.

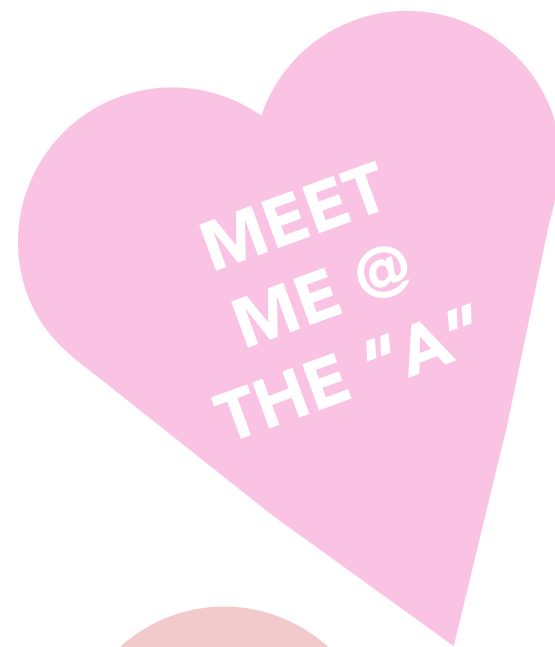
“At the end of the day we just had to be the toughest team and just come together and make winning plays,” Bean said.

Queta led the team with 21 points and five blocks. The big man from Portugal also grabbed eight rebounds.

According to Queta, defense was what won them the game.



PHOTO BY Amber French  
Sam Merrill goes up against Boise State center Robin Jorch in Saturday’s game. Merrill fell into foul trouble, sitting out most of the second half.



“We held them to 35 percent,” Queta said. “By doing that we can win a lot of games.”

In their last matchup with Boise State, the Aggies gave up an 18-point lead in the final 4:30 of the game.

Queta said the thing that made this game different from the last time was being able to “make plays on the offensive end whenever we needed it and make stops on the defensive end.”

With this win, the Aggies are now in a three-way tie for third place in the Mountain West. Utah State will take on second place Colorado State on Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. in Fort Collins, Colorado.

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## Relationship Q&A

By Alek Nelson  
MANAGING EDITOR

While we would like to think we can figure out relationship problems on our own, it’s often helpful to get some outside advice, whether its from family and friends or maybe even a therapist.

Kay Bradford is a professor in the Human Development and Family Studies Department at Utah State University. With a Ph.D. in marriage, family and human development, his research focuses mainly on relationship education and how it can help those in relationships. We had the opportunity to ask him a few questions via email:

Q: What got you interested in studying relationships and family life?

A: I find the power of people’s relationships fascinating. Relationships grow in importance in our lives.

Q: If you had one tip to give young adults that are dating, what would it be?

A: Be real, your best self, and look for the best in the other. Research shows us that the better you know a person, the better the relationship.

Q: What would you say is the biggest detriment to relationships today?

A: Even in a great relationship, the other person can’t make us happy. We bring who we are to a relationship. Again, be your best self!

Q: How can couples learn to communicate better?

A: I hear, “We can’t communicate,” but couples communicate constantly, for better or worse. Especially if you disagree, consider her/his point of view. She/he may return that favor, or probably already does that for you.

Q: What are some tips for handling disagreements in a relationship?

A: As cheesy as it sounds, try reflecting back what the other person said. It could be a revelation.

Q: What are some signs of a healthy relationship?

A: Look for respect, trust, and honesty. If those things are there





news

True Aggie Night now wheelchair accessible

**By Karcin Harris**  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

As of Friday, Utah State University now provides wheelchair ramps on True Aggie Nights, thanks to efforts from the USU Division of Student Affairs and the Student Alumni Association. The goal of the ramps is to make the tradition more accessible for every student.

Tarren Jessop, the Utah State University Student Association Student Alumni vice president, was at the front of this movement. Jessop has been working on increasing inclusion for years and said fostering a more inclusive experience for every Aggie was the goal she emphasized when running for vice president last year.

“Every year, I would receive feedback that we could be doing more to include our students with disabilities and mobility limitation at our events like True Aggie Night,” she said. “The True Aggie tradition is such an iconic part of USU’s culture, and it felt like the right place to start.”

Jessop said she is glad they began this project so early, as they faced their fair share of hurdles throughout this process.

“Making True Aggie Night wheelchair accessible has been attempted in the past, but due to unforeseen obstacles, the project’s progress and completion was delayed and postponed,” Jessop said. “This year, we recognized that if we were to finally accomplish this goal, we would need an early start.”

She added the ramps are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, including a slip resistant surface and having a handrail attached to keep participants from taking a tumble off the “Block A.”

“We often have older alumni return to take part in True Aggie Night alongside our current students, and we are glad that this system will allow them to safely participate as well,” Jessop said.

The ramps were largely funded by contributions of community members, students and alumni.

“This is a great example of how Utah State can unify multiple generations,” Jessop said. She said the ramps show how far the Aggie family has come in terms of inclusion and accessibility and how much the community cares about traditions.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

The Block A outside of Old Main sits atop the fall leaves on campus. Students kiss on the A on the traditional “True Aggie Night” under the full moon. The ramp is now wheelchair accessible.

She said Aggies young and old can come together over their shared memories of becoming True Aggies, and she wanted to extend the invitation to make a True Aggie Night become a memory to all students and alumni.

“We always hope to maintain university traditions to the best of our abilities,” Jessop said. “I think these ramps show we can do so while still adapting and growing to fit our students’ current needs. I hope this small act can help at least one student feel more at home on campus and truly valued by the

Aggie Family.”

Jessop said she hopes USU will continue making events more accessible for all students.

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House passes Puerto Rico aid in face of Trump veto threat

**By Andrew Taylor**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Democratic-controlled House on Friday passed a \$20 billion-plus aid package for Puerto Rico, where a swarm of earthquakes last month set back the island territory’s slow, troubled recovery from the hurricane devastation of 2017.

The legislation, approved by a mostly party-line 237-161 vote, would provide more than \$5 billion in emergency appropriations, mostly for housing aid, rebuilding infrastructure, and repairing roads and bridges. It also includes \$16 billion worth of tax breaks, mostly designed to extend refundable child tax credits for low-income families and to give the island’s residents equal access to an earned income tax credit for low-income earners.

But the White House has promised to veto the legislation, charging the island’s government of mismanagement and weak financial controls. It arrives in the Senate as a dead letter anyway. Puerto Rico’s non-voting congressional delegate, Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon, a Republican, urged Democrats to look for common ground in hopes of getting agreement on an aid package the White House might accept.

The Trump administration has been slow to release \$44 billion in money that’s already been approved for Puerto Rico, stoking the ire of Democrats, who mounted a high-profile campaign to



AP Photo/Carlos Giusti

In this Friday, Jan. 10 photo, children play on a hay farm where residents from the Indios neighborhood of Guayanilla, Puerto Rico, have set up shelter after earthquakes and amid aftershocks in Guayanilla, Puerto Rico. A 6.4 magnitude quake that toppled or damaged hundreds of homes in southwestern Puerto Rico is raising concerns about where displaced families will live, while the island still struggles to rebuild from Hurricane Maria two years ago. (AP Photo/Carlos Giusti)

try to force the administration to release aid more quickly. A White House veto threat took note of huge balances of unspent aid.

“Over the last three years, we have allocated more than \$40 billion for Puerto Rico disasters, and less than half of that has been spent,” said Rep. Kay Granger, R-Texas, the top Republican on the Appropriations Committee. “And we have all seen recent press reports about warehouses in Puerto Rico full of water, diapers and food that have not been distributed to residents in need.”

Democrats, however, see a double standard. Trump has trumpeted aid efforts to disaster-slammed states, especially in coastal southern GOP strongholds. But he has feuded with Democratic elected officials in Puerto Rico and has supported aid to the island after the urging of GOP office holders such as Florida GOP Sens. Rick Scott and Marco Rubio,.

“Don’t come here and say that ‘We have been there for Puerto Rico,’” said Rep. Nydia Velasquez, D-N.Y. “This administration has done everything within their power to withhold the money flowing to Puerto Rico.”

The Puerto Rico aide issue is also infused with politics, as the population of Puerto Ricans on the mainland is growing while the island has steadily lost population during a long economic decline made worse by natural disasters. More than 200,000 residents of the U.S. commonwealth have relocated to Florida, New York and elsewhere.

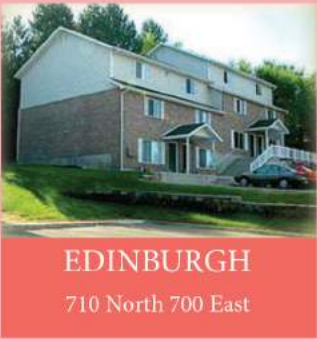
Friday’s debate exposed bipartisan frustration with the federal bureaucracy for disaster victims, particularly the Federal Emergency Management Agency, over delays in aid to rebuild schools, hospitals, roads, and the island’s heavily damaged electrical grid.

@APAndrewTaylor

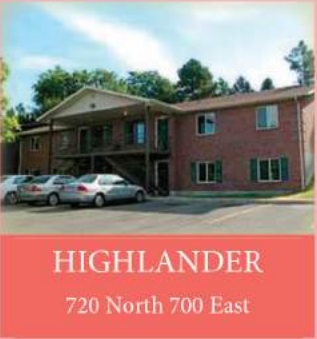
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# student life

## When the lovebug bites

Maintaining friendships and relationships while dating

By William Bultez  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

We've all been there. Your friend finds a significant other and suddenly you're no longer a priority. You vow you won't do the same, but chances are, if you find a significant other yourself, you will do the exact same.

Once we begin dating someone or get married, it is all too easy to forget our other friends. Even if you make an effort to keep in touch or make time for them, it will never be the same, unless you're single together again.

"It's an interesting dynamic once you get married," said Jenelle Graham, a student at Utah State University. "You almost get sucked into your own little vortex where it's just you and your spouse."

Graham said she had been married for about three months before she realized she had alienated her friends. At one point, after being the only person either talked to for a long time, the couple decided they needed to branch out more and reconnect with their old friends. Although she now makes a greater effort to see her friends more often, she lost a group of friends she referred to as "stage-of-life friends."

Some friends are not destined to be lifelong friends. Some will last only as your current circumstances persist. Once a life-changing event

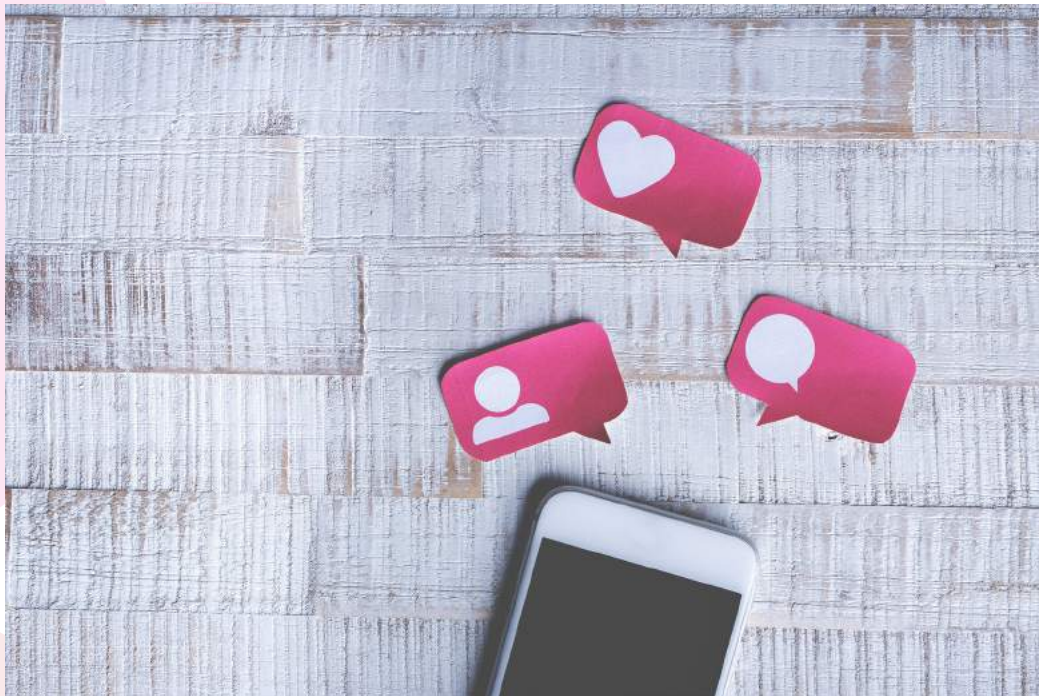


PHOTO COURTESY OF Christian Dina

like marriage blows through, they will move on. They're not being bad friends or unsupportive, they are just unable to adapt to their friend's major lifestyle changes.

Despite this, Graham said, "Remember how important having friends besides your spouse or significant other is. Having a support system that you don't live with is so imperative."

In order to do this, she sees her best friends at least twice a month for dinners or game nights, while texting and staying connected on social media with friends who have moved farther away. In addition, she has found new married

friends who understand their busy lives. But for the most part, her single friends have been married and are easier to spend time with now.

"Just because you marry your best friend don't exclude your past friends," said Jessica Jacques, another student at USU. "You need to maintain your friendships."

Jacques moved to Logan from Vernal in August to go to school. Having friends in common with her husband made it easier to stay connected, although the 4-hour drive now complicates those relationships.

She agreed that married people still need a break from

their spouses every now and then, so connections with old and new friends are important. She keeps up with them by throwing parties at each of her friends' houses, going on double dates and having girls' nights out. Jacques also does what she can to meet up with her single friends although it can be difficult.

Although all friendships are not meant to last, it is important to not lose potentially long-lasting friendships due to a relationship.

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## TWEETS of the WEEK



@thespaceman712

Anybody else walk outside today and like... literally CHOKe on the air cause it's so cold??



@tropcberysprite

looking for someone who will rene-gade to the scotsman w me



@jadenjohnson00

What's better than a win over Boise State? THREE wins over Boise State.

Good work, @USUGymnastics @USUWBasketball and @SUBBasketball

## LGBTQ+ community members share their thoughts on dating in Utah

By Darcy Ritchie  
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

It's no question that dating can be hard, but it's even harder for members of the small LGBTQ community in Logan, Utah.

Henry Fye, a gay freshman at Utah State University, described his overall dating experience in Logan so far as negative.

"I feel like the LGBT community in this area is really small, so there's not really any options," Fye said. "It's nonexistent pretty much."

When asked how many openly gay men he had met so far at USU, he answered that he could count them on one hand.

USU student Nat Skousen, who identifies as pansexual questioning and nonbinary trans-femme, agreed.

"Dating is hard here simply because it's hard to meet people in the LGBTQIA+ community who are visible, single or willing to date," Skousen said. "That, coupled with the challenges of dating



PHOTO BY Allie Gibson

Nathan and Drew Osterhout-Taylor recently got married last year.

in general, it's difficult to be in a relationship."

Skousen also said Utah's conservative culture causes visibility to be difficult for members of the LGBTQ community.

"We live in a very conservative area, and while we have

Pride and organizations dedicated to deconstructing stigma and discrimination," Skousen said, "it still definitely occurs — and from anybody."

Finding open and visible members of the community is a struggle for most students

in the area, and while dating apps help with visibility, opinions on the apps are mixed.

Brinleigh Cahoon, a bisexual USU student, has found dating apps to be helpful.

"Dating sites have definitely helped," Cahoon said. "Tinder is alright, but for my gay side, I like the site Her."

Even with the dating apps, Cahoon still identified finding people to date in Utah as her biggest challenge.

"The sites definitely make it easier, but sometimes I see a girl, and I'm getting gay vibes. But I don't want to seem predatory, so normally nothing happens," Cahoon said.

On the other hand, Fye's experience with dating apps has been unsuccessful.

"I've used Tinder. Not very good. You can only go so far talking on an app," Fye said. "It just never really goes anywhere."

Though much of the LGBTQ community in Logan struggles to find dates, there are other students who have had great success and are in steady relationships.

Chantelle McCall met her

girlfriend when they lived on the same floor in Valley View Tower during her freshman year. They have been together for two years now.

Being in a steady relationship is difficult no matter what, but McCall identified the conservative culture in Utah as a challenge unique to relationships for the LGBTQ community.

"Walking around holding my girlfriend's hand in the grocery store, you definitely get a double take. Everyone has to go, 'Oh, they're holding hands. They're together,'"

McCall said. "Holding hands with her in public is almost uncomfortable, and I shouldn't let it bother me, but also, it's kind of hard to ignore people watching."

For those in the community struggling with dating, McCall advises them to get involved and meet more people.

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PHOTO COURTESY OF Henry Fye

Fye, pictured far right, with his friends at McDonald's during a night on the town.

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sports

# Legends of the present

## The lasting impact of Sam Merrill and Neemias Queta

By Jacob Nielson  
GUEST SPORTS WRITER

“Winning team, losing team, winning team, losing team!” The epic chant echoed throughout the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum Saturday night, signifying a big conference win for Utah State over Boise State and sending the crowd into a frenzy. On a night we celebrated Aggie legends of the past – Wayne Estes and LaDell Anderson among others – we were able to witness the legends of the present, Sam Merrill and Neemias Queta, dawn the blue “State” across their jerseys and lead the team to victory.

In February of his senior year, Merrill is on the last leg of his illustrious college career. The sharp-shooting captain is four points away from eclipsing the 2,000 points mark and six points away from surpassing Estes as the third leading scorer in Aggie history. But his skills go beyond just his shooting. The 2018-19 Mountain West Player of the Year’s ability to defend opposing teams’ best guards, his leadership on the court and a fierce competitive drive have made him a true star.

By the end of his sophomore year, Merrill had already proven himself as the Aggies’ go-to player, but in order to push this team over the top, they had to fill in some holes. Craig Smith was hired in the summer of 2017 as the new head coach of the program and one of his first orders of business was bringing in a 7-foot lanky kid from Portugal: Neemais Queta.

Queta, the 2018-19 defensive player of the year in the Mountain West, is likely to go pro after this season. In his two seasons with the team, he has become the perfect complement to Sam Merrill, along Rudy Gobert to Donovan Mitchell on the Utah

Jazz. His stifling defense, whimsical offensive abilities and giant heart have given this team a devastating one-two punch. Last year, the dynamic duo led them to a conference championship and an NCAA Tournament appearance, and this year is keeping them in the tournament conversation. Queta has been hampered by a knee injury this season, but has been healthy for several games now, and is looking as good as ever.

So that is what we have: two guys that embody what Utah State is all about. Merrill, the low-key, humble guy who has a drive to win that is unmatched. And Queta, who treats everyone he meets off the court like a million bucks but will swat the soul out of anyone who tests him on the court. Regardless of what happens down the stretch this year, Merrill and Queta will be revered in Aggie history forever. But their story is not yet over.

Teetering on the bubble of making the tournament these final five regular season games for the Aggies are critical — needing to win most — if not all of them. Getting the win at Colorado State Feb. 4, taking care of business against the last four teams, then showing well at the conference tournament is likely what it will take to get into the big dance. But with these two guys on our side, we are fully capable. We have already seen it happen this year. Sam led the team to epic wins against LSU and Florida. Queta put the team on his back against UNLV and Boise to secure vital conference victories.

The circumstances may be difficult, but this is what you want to see. One team — a great team — led by two great players, who have this final opportunity to do something special together. To make the NCAA Tournament, and to lead Utah



State to its first tournament win since 2001. The team’s back may be against the wall, but it control its own destiny, and that’s all you could ask for, really. So savor these last games, however many there are left, of Sam Merrill and Neemais Queta representing the Aggie blue and fighting white. They may just do something special, and make our squad the winning team, just like the crowd chanted Saturday night.

# USU football adds 24 new players

By Jason Walker  
SPORTS SENIOR WRITER

On national signing day, Utah State football head coach Gary Andersen announced his second recruiting class since returning to Logan. The 2020 class includes 24 individuals, 19 of which will join the 2020 roster.

The largest group consists of 15 high school signees. Six of those are defenders — Luke Marion (S), Breaker Mendenhall (S), Jakob Robinson (CB), Bowen Fjord (S) and Poukesi Vkauta (DT) — the majority being defensive backs. Four are offensive players — John Gentry (RB), Broc Lane (TE), Elelyon Noa (RB) and Justice Ena (OL). Another four are special teamers — Jacob Garcia (LS), Stephen Kotsanlee (P), Joey Rouly (PK) and Ryan Marks (PK/P). The final player, Otto Tia (ATH) does not have a designated position.

Five of these high schoolers — Vakauta, Tia, Marks, Fjord, and Ena — will not be enrolled at Utah State University this fall. Instead, they will serve two-year proselytizing missions for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. But in return, Utah State will be

getting four returned missionaries for the 2020 roster. Mata Hola (LB), Josh Sterzer (TE), Izzy Vaifo’ou (LB) and Crew Wakley (ATH).

All of that works out to 14 freshman, who as of national signing day, plan to enroll as freshman and play with the football team in 2020. To those incoming freshman, Andersen officially landed five transfer students on Wednesday. Three are junior college transfers and two are four-year university transfers.

The three junior college players are sophomores James Hansen (DT) from Riverside CC and Justin McGriff (WR) of ASA College of Miami, along with Xavion Steele (CB) from Fullerton JC. The two four-year school transfers are Keegan Duncan (LB) of Boise State and graduate transfer Marcus Moore (DB) formerly of UCLA.

There are plenty of things to note in terms of trends, but one that stands out initially is the length and size Andersen brought in; only four of the 24 names are listed below 6-foot, and more than half stand 6-foot-3 or taller.

“We wanted to recruit length, we got that done. We wanted to recruit speed, we got that done. We wanted to recruit football intelligence, I believe we got

that done,” Andersen said. “And most importantly, we wanted to recruit kids that truly believe and love the game of football. Those were high bullet points for us as we went through this recruiting cycle. I believe we have met those, but time will tell.”

“They will compete to play. I don’t look at one of them and say, ‘That is a guaranteed developmental guy that has no chance to get on the field and play for us.’ There is going to be a lot of competition from these kids for them to get on the field and play, whether it’s special teams, offense or defense.”

The addition of four special teams players, particularly three of the kicker/punter variety, are timely. Three-year starting kicker and program scoring champion, Dominik Eberle, will graduate this spring, leaving big shoes to fill.

“We need some immediate help in that position,” Andersen said. “We lost some really good players there, and we need to create competition in that area. We are excited about that.”

Andersen’s comments on the freshmen left the likely possibility of redshirting and development time for some, but he left no such room for his transfer signees. Those players will be expected to jump in and

contribute immediately. “With the junior college signees, it’s not their choice, they have to help us,” Andersen said. “If they don’t help us, then I failed, the recruiting guys failed, the recruiting coach failed and these young players failed. They need to help us and that’s why we recruited them, and I expect them to be able to do that.” According to 247Sports.com, Utah State’s recruiting class currently ranks No.9 in the Mountain West and No. 117 nation-wide. Last year, USU ranked fourth and 90th in those two categories. The site rates 11 enrollees and signees as three stars with no four or five-star athletes.

@thejwalk67

ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

VS COLORADO STATE

2.12.20 - 11 AM

VS FRESNO STATE

2.15.20 - 2 PM

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

VS SOUTHERN UTAH

2.14.20 - 7 PM



#AGGIESALLTHEWAY

WOMEN'S TENNIS

SPORTS ACADEMY & RACQUET CLUB

VS BYU

2.14.20 - 12 PM

VS NORTHERN ARIZONA

2.16.20 - 11 AM



# USU gymnastics beats Boise State in home opener

By Dalton Renshaw  
SPORTS CONTENT MANAGER

Utah State's gymnastics team earned a home win in its first appearance at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum of the 2020 season, and in

the process, beat Mountain Rim Conference-rivals Boise State for the first time since 2012, 195.675-193.850.

Prior to Friday, No. 35 Boise State had won 35 of the last 36 meetings with Utah State. The 32nd-ranked Aggies (2-6, 1-4 MRGC) grabbed its second win in three contests, also beating Air Force on Jan. 25.

“We were really excited to get back in the Spectrum and do what we

did tonight, and it was a great crowd,” said third-year USU head coach Amy Smith. “It was awesome. We had three solid events and closed the meet incredibly strong on floor, so that was really fun to see the girls do that. It was a great night.”

Junior Leighton Varnadore won the all-around with a total score of 39.200 and teammate Sofi Sullivan continued to dazzle in her freshman campaign with a second-place finish of 39.175.

“It felt really good to be home,” said junior Autumn DeHarde. “We hadn’t beat Boise State since 2012, so it was really exciting.”

DeHarde captured two event titles to lead the Aggies, placing first on floor with a career-high-tying 9.925 and winning the beam with a 9.850. She now has nine career beam titles, which is tied for third all-time in school history.

“It felt really good,” DeHarde said. “I just went out there and had fun, because that’s what I love to do. Floor is my favorite event to compete, and I love just going out there and showing it off.”

Utah State lost just one of four events on the night: Boise State’s Gabriela Bouza scored a 9.875 on the vault to capture the title in that rotation. Hope Masiado finished third in the all-around with a score of 38.300 and was Boise State’s highest finisher through all competitions.

Next up for the Aggies is a clash with Southern Utah at home on the evening of Valentine’s Day. The last Utah State met with Southern Utah was also the Aggies last loss, by just seven-tenths of a point.

## Total Results

Vault: 1. Gabriela Bouza – BSU, 9.875; 2. Leighton Varnadore – USU, 9.850; 3. Sofi Sullivan – USU, 9.800; T4. Rebecca Wells – USU, 9.775; T8. Autumn DeHarde – USU, 9.700; T8. Grace Rojas – USU, 9.700; 11. Mikaela Meyer – USU, 9.675.

Bars: T1. Brittany Jeppesen – USU, 9.850; T1. Gabriela Bouza – BSU, 9.850; T1. Maddi Nilson – BSU, 9.850; T4. 9.825; 6. Sofi Sullivan – USU, 9.750; 8. Leighton Varnadore – USU, 9.700; 9. Jessica Gutierrez – USU, 9.650; 10. Maia Fishwick – USU, 9.100.

Beam: 1. Autumn DeHarde – USU, 9.850; T2. Sofi Sullivan – USU, 9.825; T2. Gabriela Bouza – BSU, 9.825; T2. Hope Masiado – BSU, 9.825; 6. Leighton Varnadore – USU, 9.750; 7. Taylor Dittmar – USU, 9.700; 8. Carley Bayles – USU, 9.650; 12. Grace Rojas – USU, 8.825.

Floor: 1. Autumn DeHarde – USU, 9.925; 2. Leighton Varnadore – USU, 9.900; 3. Rebecca Wells – USU, 9.850; T5. Mikaela Meyer – USU, 9.825; T8. Sofi Sullivan – USU, 9.800; 10. Ariel Toomey – USU, 9.720.



PHOTO by Hailey Larson  
Utah State sophomore center Neemias Queta (left) stops to sign autographs for young Aggie fans after Saturday’s win against Boise State.

## The Score

USU results for the week of Feb. 3- Feb. 9

| Results  | Top Performers  |
|--|---|
| Softball 1-4 across five games in Fullerton, CA.                     | Mazie Macfarlane: 6-15, 2 runs, 1 RBI<br>Stephanie Reed: 5-16, 3 runs, 2 RBI<br>Alissa Noble: W, 7 IP, 3 ER vs LMU  |
| Women’s Basketball L, 69-45 -- at UNLV<br>W, 58-56 -- at Boise State | Steph Gorman 20 points vs Boise State<br>Marlene Aniambossou 14 points, 7 off. rebounds vs UNLV   |
| Men’s Tennis L, 6-1 -- at Utah                                       | Arvid Hjalte singles (7-5, 6-3)   |
| Gymnastics W, 195.675-193.850 -- Boise St.                           | Leighton Varnadore: W all-around 39.200<br>Autumn DeHarde: W in floor and beam  |
| Indoor Track & Field Four titles at Boise State                      | (M) Hunter Simonsen 2.06 meters high jump<br>(M) Kyle Morris 18.19 meters shot put<br>(M) Bridger Altice 5,000m (15:05.66)<br>(W) Arianna Steiner 5,000m (18:04.45) |
| Women’s Tennis W, 6-1 -- IDAHO STATE<br>W, 6-1 -- UTEP               | Neemias Queta: 21 points vs Boise State and UNLV<br>Sam Merrill 20 points vs UNLV   |
| Men’s basketball W, 69-54 -- UNLV<br>W, 70-61 -- Boise State         |   |



PHOTOS by Amber French  
Sophomore Grace Rojas (top) celebrates after a successful attempt on the bars in Utah State’s win against Boise State. Junior Autumn Deharde (left) receives an award for her efforts in Utah States’s win against Boise State. Freshman Sofi Sullivan (bottom) demonstrates some swagger after her routine against Boise State.







in the relationship, then caring, fairness, and good communication are often there, too.

Q: What are some signs of an unhealthy relationship?

A: Manipulation, dishonesty, and control are “EXIT” signs in a relationship.

Q: Why is visiting a marriage and family therapist useful for couples?

A: While therapy can help couples see their strengths and challenges, relationship education is a great option for most.

For singles in Utah, I strongly recommend our free class, “How to Avoid Falling for a Jerk or Jerkette.” Taught through USU Extension, these classes are available in many counties in Utah. We also have free classes for healthy couple relationships, parenting/fathering, and blended families: [https://healthyrelationshipsutah.org/class\\_descriptions/smart-dating-class-description](https://healthyrelationshipsutah.org/class_descriptions/smart-dating-class-description).

—alek.nelson@aggiemail.usu.edu

 @nelsonalek

PHOTO BY **Iain Laurence**

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FEBRUARY 1 - 15

EVENT DATE //

APRIL 8-9

TIME //

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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# PHOTO GALLERY



PHOTO BY Chantelle McCall



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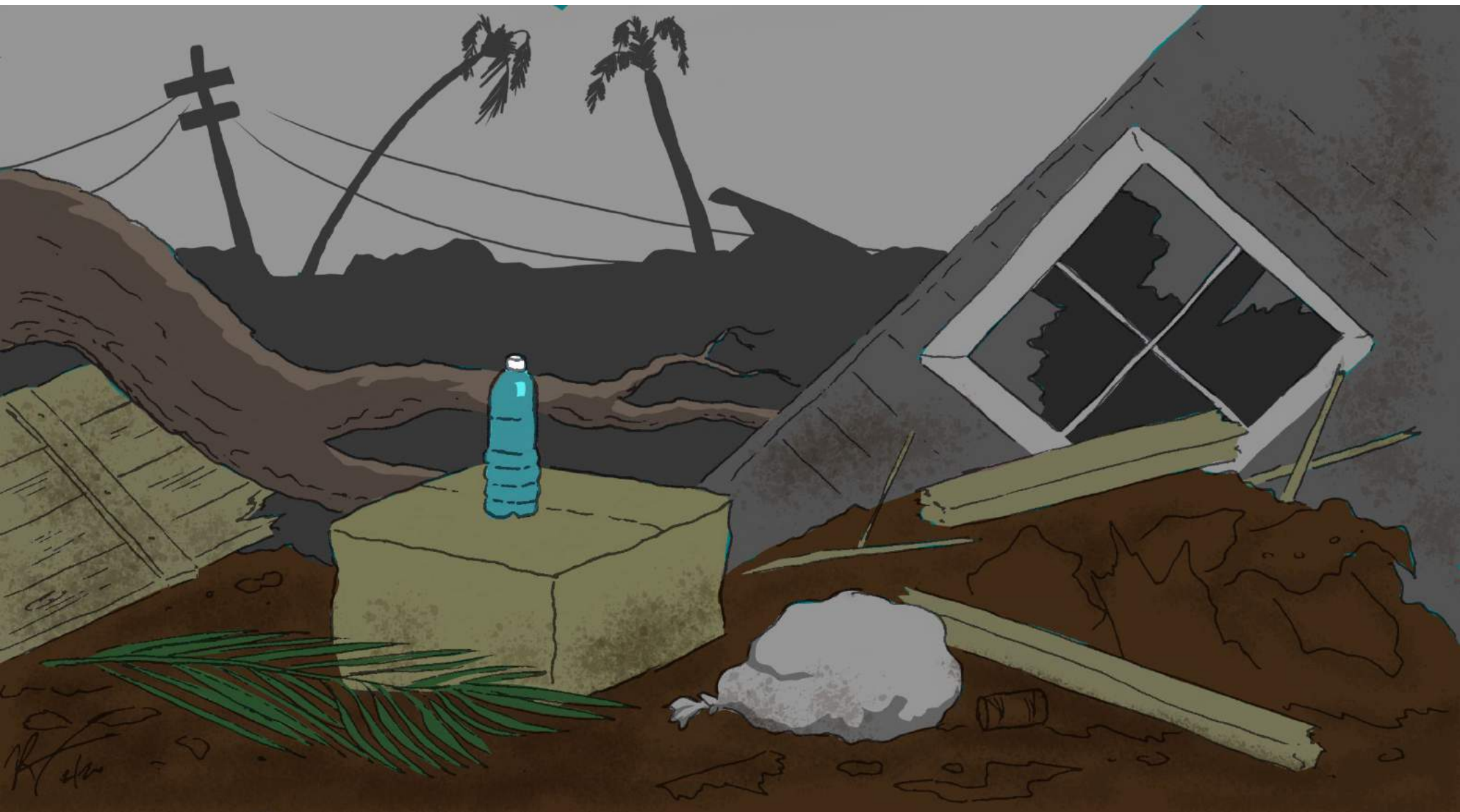
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# opinion



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

GRAPHIC BY KEITH WILSON

## Why everyone should learn economics

By Kristian Fors  
OPINION COLUMNIST

*“It is not from the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer, or the baker that we expect our dinner, but from their regard to their own interest.”*

- Adam Smith, The Wealth of Nations

No educational subject excites me more than economics.

The word “economics” probably brings to mind images of money, banking and Wall Street, but the field is so much more than that. Economics applies to everything.

While it certainly does have extensive monetary applications, economics is fundamentally a guide to rational decision making. The insights it provides can be enlightening in a world driven by costs, strategies and opportunities — a beacon of light that can be used to navigate life’s storms.

Fundamental to economics is the idea that everything has

an associated value and cost.

When you decided to read this article, you gave up the opportunity to participate in a different activity. This is known as an opportunity cost.

In life, we are all constantly forced to weigh opportunity costs. Each of us has a finite amount of time and resources, and it is up to us to figure out how to optimize these resources. Questions like whether to declare a second major, whether to go to graduate school, and whether to graduate early can all be elucidated with an economic mindset. To look at life through the lens of maximizing utility enables one to be more effective in his or her endeavors.

Economics also provides the framework necessary to approach public policy issues in a more enlightened way.

One example of how economics can be used to analyze policy pertains to price gouging in events of crisis. At face value, price gouging seems like an immoral act, but the reality of the situation is far more nuanced than that.

Imagine that a hurricane

price back down to pre-crisis levels. If price gouging is not allowed, however, there will be an undersupply, leading to dehydration and suffering.

Another example is the prisoner’s dilemma — a classic economic scenario in which two criminals are captured

decide to keep quiet, they will both receive small sentences by virtue of there being no confession, generating the best outcome for everyone involved.

On the surface, it would seem that the rational thing to do is to stay quiet, but this

reduced significantly while the other partner is punished.

Even though it sounds obvious that it would be in both prisoners’ interest to stay quiet, the incentive structure does not encourage that.

Humans are not purely rational by nature, and we often make choices that go against our better interests. Economics is a guide on how to maximize our happiness function, even though we’re all different and have different things that make us happy. It also allows us to be more effective agents of change by enabling us to assess the world around us in a more analytical way.

You’re only here once, so you might as well optimize the resources you’ve been given. Sign up for Economics 1500 this Fall!

*Kristian Fors is a student at Utah State University majoring in Finance and Economics and is an opinion columnist for the Utah Statesman. He can be reached at krhors@gmail.com.*

***Humans are not purely rational by nature, and we often make choices that go against our better interests. Economics is a guide on how to maximize our happiness function, even though we’re all different and have different things that make us happy***

— Kristian Fors

hits an area of America, and there is a low supply of water bottles in the crisis zone. The allowance of price gouging to come and sell their water at ludicrously high levels will attract more sellers to the area. As these sellers enter the market, they will be forced to compete with each other, eventually reducing the

and interrogated in separate rooms. Each prisoner is informed if they tell on their partner, they will receive a reduced sentence, while the other prisoner is hit with the full extent of the law. If both the prisoners tell on each other, they will each receive medium-length sentences. Finally, if the prisoners both

geous for him to tattle. If the criminal’s partner decides to snitch, it is better for the criminal to confess to minimize his overall sentence and bring his partner down with him. If the criminal’s partner decides not to snitch, it is more advantageous for the criminal to confess because his personal sentence will be

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New puzzle and solution are courtesy of [sudokuoftheday.com](http://sudokuoftheday.com).

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   | 5 | 7 |   |   |   |
|   | 4 |   | 2 | 6 | 3 |   |   |
| 1 |   | 7 | 4 |   |   |   |   |
| 3 | 6 |   |   |   |   | 4 | 5 |
|   |   | 2 |   | 5 | 7 |   |   |
| 7 | 9 |   |   |   |   | 6 | 2 |
|   |   |   |   | 9 | 4 |   | 1 |
|   |   | 1 | 3 | 4 |   | 9 |   |
|   |   | 6 |   | 5 |   |   |   |

SOLUTION FOR : 2/04/20

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.

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

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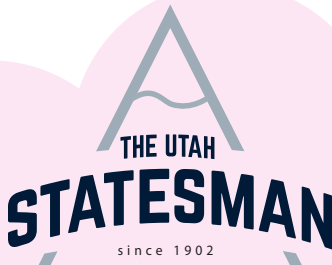
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# calendar

|  |  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| <div>2/11</div> <div><div>Learn About Utah Campaigns!</div><div>3:00 pm</div><div>David B. Haight Center</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Department of Physics Colloquium</div><div>3:00 pm</div><div>SER Building</div><div>Room 244</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Space Dynamics Laboratory/USU Lecture Series</div><div>4:30 pm</div><div>Engineering Building</div><div>Room 201</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> | <div>2/12</div> <div><div>Women’s Basketball vs. Colorado State</div><div>11:00 am</div><div>Dee Glen Smith Spectrum</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>If I Can, So Can You!</div><div>12:30 pm</div><div>Merrill-Cazier Library</div><div>Room 208</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Spring STEM Career Fair</div><div>3:00 - 7:00 pm</div><div>TSC International Lounges</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>“Breathe Easy” Workshop</div><div>11:00 am</div><div>TSC Room 309</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Entrepreneur Leadership Series: Claire Roberts</div><div>6:00 pm</div><div>Eccles Conference Center</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> | <div>2/13</div> <div><div>Churros and Chocolate with Latinos in Action</div><div>9:30 am</div><div>TSC Outdoor Fountain</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Year of the Woman: Intuitive Eating Workshop</div><div>12:00 pm</div><div>HPER Room 114</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>US-Iran Relations Panel</div><div>4:00 pm</div><div>David B. Haight Center</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Jazz Night at Elite Hall</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>Elite Hall</div><div>Hyrum, UT</div></div> | <div>2/14</div> <div><div>Valentine’s Day</div><div>Utah Women Voter Registration Day</div><div>Gymnastics vs. SUU</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>Dee Glen Smith Spectrum</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Jazz Night at Elite Hall</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>Elite Hall</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>TSC Ballroom</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> | <div>2/15</div> <div><div>Music Box Concert Series: USU Flute Studio and Special Guests</div><div>11:00 am</div><div>Chase Fine Arts Center</div><div>Dalby Rehearsal Hall</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Women’s Basketball vs. Fresno State</div><div>2:00 pm</div><div>Dee Glen Smith Spectrum</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> <div><div>Jazz Night at Elite Hall</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>Elite Hall</div><div>Hyrum, UT</div></div> <div><div>Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour</div><div>7:00 pm</div><div>TSC Ballroom</div><div>Logan, UT</div></div> | <div>2/17</div> <div><div>Presidents’ Day</div><div>No School</div></div> |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|

happy  
valentine's  
day!