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NEWS | USU alum makes campaign stop

Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox is running for governor, which included a visit to his alma mater, USU.

see PAGE 2

STUDENT LIFE | Academy Awards Recap

Who won big at last week's Academy Awards ceremony? Catch up on Hollywood's biggest night.

see PAGE 3

SPORTS | Leaping to high scores

USU's gymnastics team continues to score well, including defeating No. 20 SUU.

see PAGE 4

DOJ finds USU at fault in Title IX investigation

Failure to address sexual assaults caused ‘negative academic, mental health and social consequences.’

By Joshua Wilkinson

NEWS STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday, the U.S. Department of Justice and Utah State University announced a settlement to conclude a three-year DOJ Title IX compliance review into USU's handling of sexual misconduct reports between 2013 and 2017.

The investigation, which the DOJ initiated on Jan. 12, 2017, revealed USU was at fault between 2013 and 2017 for “failing to investigate and resolve sexual harassment of which it had notice, often leaving the complainant, and the larger community, vulnerable to sexual harassment.”

Along with the settlement details, USU released a statement on Wednesday through the USU President's Office. USU President Noelle Cockett said the university is committed to implementing the changes specified in the settlement.

“Today, I reaffirm our commitment to ensuring that Utah State is a safe campus,” Cockett said. “We will not tolerate sexual misconduct in any form, and we will remain persistent in our education and prevention programs to help students and employees understand and embrace their responsibilities.”

A wake-up call

In recent years, USU has been the subject of several high-profile sexual assault cases, including former USU football player Torey Green. In 2016, the Salt Lake Tribune broke a story covering Green's sexual assaults, the failures of USU and the Logan City Police Department to investigate the allegations against Green.

Although later sentenced to 26 years to life in prison, the case and other events prompted USU administrators to conduct an internal inquiry on USU's response methods to sexual assault.

“It was a wake-up call,” Cockett said. “We found shortfalls. We absolutely found shortfalls.”

Under then-USU President Stan Albrecht, the university formed a sexual violence task force in 2016, of which Cockett, then serving as USU provost, acted as chair. Later that year, Cockett became USU president and continued to lead the task force.

Cockett said the USU internal inquiry and the eventual DOJ investigation all examined the same time period of 2013 to 2017.



The U.S. Department of Justice concluded its Title IX review on Wednesday.

According to Cockett, USU had already identified the majority of the changes the DOJ would eventually ask USU to make.

“We all came up with the same conclusions,” Cockett said. “We needed a massive overhaul.”

The DOJ

The Department of Justice opened their inquiry into USU in September 2017. According to the DOJ's report, USU's failure to adequately address severe instances of sexual assaults caused the directly affected students to suffer “negative academic, mental health and social consequences, including withdrawal from their classes or from the University altogether.”

The report notes several incidents which occurred from 2013 to 2017, including actions the university failed to take against several football players and fraternity members during that time period.

The DOJ opening an investigation at USU was not inevitable. According to S. Daniel Carter, president of Safety Advisors for Educational Campuses, most Title IX compliance reviews are handled by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, which has investigated over 400 universities through Title IX cases.

see “TITLE IX” PAGE 6

Men's hoops brings down the doghouse in Fresno



Diogo Brito played in the team's presvious game against Fresno State in Logan. On Saturday in Fresno, Brito had 10 points and 7 rebounds.

By Sydney Kidd

SPORTS STAFF WRITER

The Utah State University men's basketball team improved its record to 21-7 on Saturday night with a win over Fresno State.

But it wasn't easy.

Fresno State went on several runs to pull up within a point or two of the Aggies multiple times throughout the game.

In the first half, Utah State had a comfortable double-digit lead of 21-8. But in the seven minutes which followed, the Bulldogs outscored the Aggies 15-5, coming within three points of USU with less than 1:30 left in the half.

A layup by sophomore center Neemias Queta and a three pointer by guard Sam Merrill increased Utah State's lead to 31-23 at the half.

But even in the second half, Fresno State wouldn't go away. The

Bulldogs came within three or less points of Utah State three more times before the Aggies were able to pull away one final time to secure a 71-59 victory.

Freshman guard Sean Bairstow assisted in Utah State's final run with two back-to-back dunks.

Merrill led the team with 24 points and four assists. The senior has now scored 20 or more points in 13 games this season. After Saturday night's game, Merrill sits at 2,052 career points, just nine away from the fourth-most in the history of the Mountain West conference.

Sophomore forward Justin Bean and senior guard Diogo Brito also scored in double digits, recording 15 and 10 points respectively. Bean also recorded 11 rebounds, making the contest his thirteenth double-double of the season.

The match up against Fresno State was a bit quieter than usual for Queta, who only put up five points. Previously, the center was averaging 66 percent on field goals, but against Fresno he went 2-6. And while there was a sort of back-and-forth offensive rhythm during the game, Utah State was able to dominate the boards. The Aggies out-rebounded Fresno 44-29 in total and 13-6 on offensive boards.

Utah State also shot 44.1 percent on field goals and 40.9 percent on three-pointers. By comparison, Fresno State shot 37.7 percent on field goals and 36.4 percent from three.

The victory gives Utah State a 10-5 conference record, meaning, if Boise State loses to San Diego State on Sunday, the Aggies would be the lone second place team in the Mountain West.

Utah State will take on Wyoming on Wednesday in the Spectrum. Last time the teams met, the Aggies won 68-45. Game time is scheduled for 7 p.m.

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A STOP ON THE TOUR

Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox campaigns at USU on gubernatorial tour

By Taylor Cripe
NEWS STAFF WRITER

Lt. Gov. and gubernatorial candidate Spencer Cox spoke at Utah State University on Feb. 6 about why he’s running for governor and the issues his administration will focus on, principally infrastructure growth and education.

“Where infrastructure precedes growth and density, the quality of life stays high,” he said. “When the opposite is true, the quality of life goes down.”

Cox said the role of the state is not to tell communities where to build but to help with infrastructure projects like water and transportation. However, he said none of that matters if the state can’t get education right.

“We have a teacher shortage in this state,” Cox said. “Around 48% of our teachers leave the profession in the first five years. I can’t think of any other employment group where the numbers are that high.”

There are two problems the state needs to address with education, Cox said. The first one is compensation. “My own brother was a teacher and realized he could not raise four kids on a teacher’s salary here,” he said.

To solve this problem, Cox said the state needs to get teacher’s salaries to \$60,000 over the next few years. He said this is doable if lawmakers can be intentional about it and focus on the issue.

The second problem that needs to be addressed for Utah teachers is that the joy has been taken out of teaching, Cox said. Despite having the best economy in the country and having economic diversity in almost every job sector, the exact opposite has been done with education, he said.

Unlike other sectors where regulations have been lowered, Cox said we are over-regulating teachers. “High stakes testing, school grading — all these things being done to hold teachers accountable have turned them into robots.”

The solution, according to Cox, is to get rid of regulation and allow teachers to thrive and focus on individualized learning with smaller classrooms.

Shaylee Reynolds, the Huntsman Scholar Program assistant, said she loved what Cox had to say about education.

“My husband and I both work in education, so what he had to say really resonated with me,” she said.

Another event attendee, USU senior Dylan Passmore, said for Utah to continue to be successful, a governor like Spencer Cox is needed.

“Along with education, I hope Cox helps the economy keep up with the speed that it’s had in the past,” Passmore said.

Jeannie Johnson, an associate professor in the Political Science department, said the most impressive thing about Cox is his connection to two vital segments of Utah.

“He comes from a rural upbringing,” Johnson said. “I focus on the high-tech emerging technology sector, and I have been wildly impressed with the Lt. Gov.’s ability to connect those two communities.”

“Politics is fundamentally broken in our country,” Cox said. “It’s become a competition to tear other people down.”

Cox said he is running to make a difference in a continually bitter and divisive political process.

“The system only works if everyone gets involved,” he said. “That’s the grand experiment and it’s not working as well now. When that happens, only the extreme elements of the party show up.”

Cox, who has served as Lt. Gov. of Utah for almost seven years, said he almost told Gov. Gary Herbert “no” when asked if he would take the position in 2013.

“I told my wife I was going to say no, and she said maybe we should rethink that,” Cox said. “She said one of the biggest problems we have today is that people doing these jobs really want them. I think we might need more people who don’t want these jobs.”

According to Cox, studies done by political scientists demonstrate how moderate candidates tend to accomplish their initiatives in congress. Unfortunately, he added, the country is so polarized that studies show there are only seven or eight true moderates left.

“The country is probably the most divided it’s been since the Civil War,” Cox said.

Cox believes the problem stems from the fact that the nation is lonelier than at almost any other time in history.

“We have fewer true friends and, again the data is very clear on this, fewer people we can share our hopes and dreams with,” Cox said.



PHOTO BY Madeline Payne

Lt. Gov. and gubernatorial candidate Spencer Cox campaigned at Utah State University on his gubernatorial tour.

Despite these issues, Cox said Utah is still different from the rest of the nation. “We still care about each other, we lead the nation in volunteerism and charitable giving and there’s not a close second,” he said.

Cox said Utah has these values because they hold elected officials to a higher standard, adding that, historically, negative campaigning has not worked in Utah like it has in other places.

On the issues, he said the state does have a few challenges. Concerning the challenges facing growth, Cox said he has a simple formula that “has not failed me yet.”

According to the Salt Lake Tribune, the latest polls for the gubernatorial race show Cox leading over other Republican candidates.

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Discussion on identity politics causes uproar

By Tayloe Cripe
NEWS STAFF WRITER

A discussion focused on “cultural harms of social justice and identity politics” at Utah State University sparked controversy Feb. 6 when students from the school’s Anti-Racist Solidarity Group petitioned to protest the discussion, “A Christian and an Atheist unite against the death of intellectual diversity.”

The discussion was hosted by the USU chapter of Ratio Christi and is part of a Utah university tour featuring speakers Corey Miller and Peter Boghossian. Miller is the founder of Ratio Christi, a Christian advocacy organization in colleges. Boghossian is a philosophy professor at Portland State University.

The group sent a letter to USU President Noelle Cockett asking that, in the future, USU “consider and prioritize student well-being and academic integrity for future forums.”

USU’s Ratio Christi chapter is headed by student Matthew Markham. Markham said the goal of the event was to suggest all worldviews have a right to be expressed.

“I think it’s important to have these conversations,” Markham said. “It’s important to dialogue with people of different views or beliefs.”

While the Anti-Racist Solidarity Group’s letter did not ask Cockett to cancel the event, it did indicate that allowing a speaker like Boghossian on campus in the first place made students feel unsafe and “undermines the work of multicultural and minority students.”

“Boghossian is an individual who has been investigated and proved to have used academia to mislead the academic community with the interest of diminishing fields of studies he disagrees with,” the group’s letter said. “His actions further marginalized groups that are already vulnerable and historically, systematically discriminated against, which is both unacademic and unethical.”

According to The Atlantic, Boghossian — along with two other scholars — penned 20 fake research papers in 2018 to prove academic journals will publish anything that aligns with their political ideologies. Areas targeted include gender studies, queer studies and fat studies.

For example, one research paper claimed to have studied “dog rape” and stated dogs suffer oppression based on perceived gender.

Boghossian was disciplined by PSU following the penning. According to a letter attached to his Twitter account, Boghossian was banned by PSU from engaging in human-subject related research and forbidden from engaging in any sponsored research as the principal investigator.

Tim Vitale, USU’s associate vice president of communications said Cockett met with students from the group and issued a response to their letter.

“I am personally committed to fostering an inclusive campus where everyone feels safe and feels they are an important part of our aggie family,” Cockett wrote. “In keeping with the First Amendment, USU does not censor speakers or ideas.”

She said USU provides broad-scope support, programming and funding for events that reflect the university’s firm commitment to be an inclusive campus.

Cockett also added she and the university support the group. Representatives from the Anti-Racist Solidarity Group could not be reached for comment. The petition from the group is no longer available online, and how many signatures were acquired for the letter is unclear.

The event, though sparsely attended, went ahead as planned. “What happens at a university does not stay at a university,” Miller said. “What happens upstream at a university always goes downstream into the culture. When it comes to a topic like this, it’s difficult. I understand why people may be a bit apprehensive or even feel unsafe.”

However, Miller said the term “social justice” is often used in bad faith, and its values should be questioned.

Boghossian said he is confident the ideology surrounding social justice and identity politics will burn itself out.

“If you do not know the arguments against your position, not only do you not know the arguments, you do not even know your own position,” he said.

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David and The Oscars

‘Parasite’ overcomes barriers at Academy Awards



Director Bong Joon Ho won several Oscars for his work on “Parasite,” the first foreign film to win best picture.

By William Bultez
STUDENT LIFE COPY EDITOR

The 92nd Academy Awards were for the underdogs, especially Bong Joon-ho, director of “Parasite,” who won all three of his first Oscar nominations.

His Korean thriller pulled in four total wins, including best picture. This prize was almost sure to go to the war drama, “1917,” after it won best picture from the American Film Institute, the British Academy Film Awards and the Golden Globes.

“1917” itself was nominated for ten Oscars and won three: sound mixing, visual effects

and cinematography.

But the huge upset does not compare to the fact that “Parasite” was the first non-English-language film to win best picture. In 92 years of the Academy Awards, only 11 international films have even been nominated for the award.

“Parasite” is now tied with “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” (2000) and “Fanny and Alexander” (1982) for most wins by an international film.

“I feel like a very opportune moment in history is happening right now,” said Kwak Sin Ae through a translator after accepting the grand prize.

Another major upset occurred in the music department. Hildur Guðnadóttir won best original score with her haunting cello-heavy score for “Joker,” becoming the first woman to win the award. She became only the ninth woman to be nominated for any scoring category in Oscar history.

And it was not an easy win. She went up against film scoring giants John Williams, Thomas Newman, Randy Newman and Alexandre Desplat who, between them, have exactly 100 Oscar nominations and nine wins.


This was Guðnadóttir’s first Oscar nomination. “To the girls, to the women, to the mothers, to the daughters who hear the music bubbling

TWEETS




of the

WEEK




@savyknapp

The only queen I recognize is Noelle Cockett @USUAggies #gwaggies




@avocadoanxiety

Maybe I'd sleep better at night if my mind's go-to background music wasn't the Mii Channel Theme.



@USUathletics

#SM2000



within,” Guðnadóttir said with the trophy in hand, “please speak up. We need to hear your voices.”

Despite the surprises, some awards followed protocol, such as Joaquin Pheonix’s performance in “Joker,” Laura Dern’s role in “Marriage Story” and Roger Deakins’ cinematography for “1917.”

Also, as in years past, Netflix was notably snubbed. Despite garnering 24 total nominations, the popular streaming service took home only two Oscars: best supporting actress for

see “Oscars” PAGE 6

5 shows to de-stress with this semester

By Dara Lusk
STUDENT LIFE STAFF WRITER

We’re now a month into the new semester, which means we’re all in need of a little distressing. Here’s a list of five great shows on Netflix and Hulu to unwind with at the end of the day.

“Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt” (2015-2019)

From executive producer Tina Fey comes the Emmy-nominated Netflix original comedy, “Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt.” The show centers around Kimmy Schmidt who has recently been rescued from a doomsday cult where she was captive for 15 years. Now free and an adult, she is determined to make the world a better place as she starts a new life in New York City. The show also

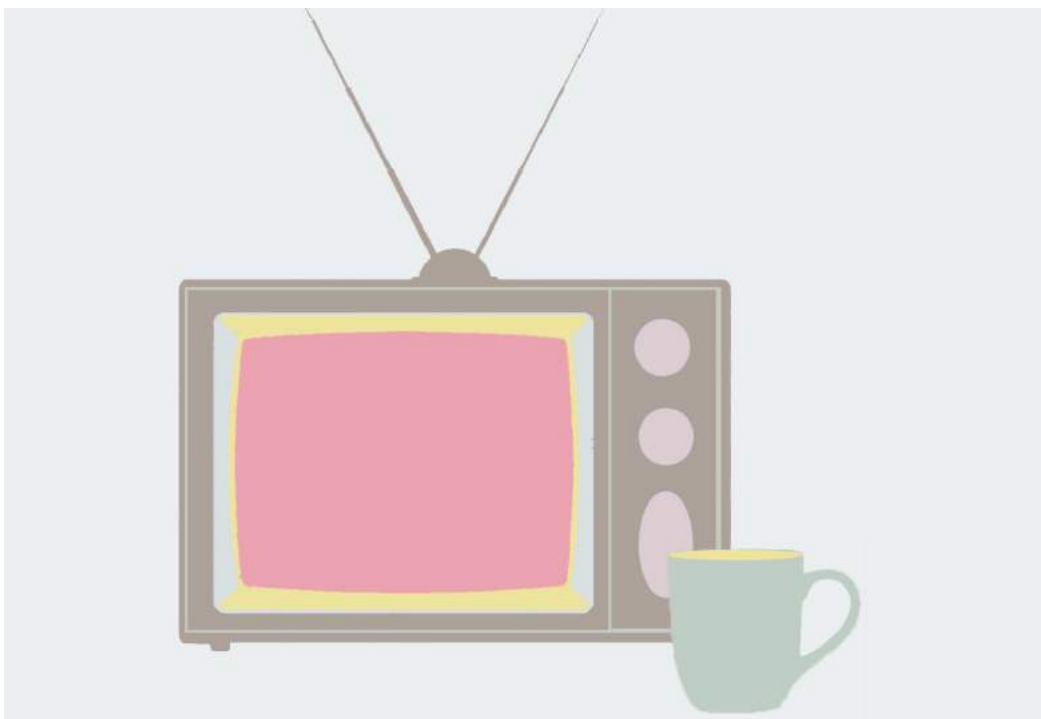
includes characters such as Titus Androemdon, Kimmy’s gay roommate, who is trying to make his way as a Broadway actor; Jaqueline Voorhees, the spoiled trophy wife of a wealthy New York Businessman; and Lillian, the loony landlady fighting gentrification.

“Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt” is a light, heartwarming watch because of its optimistic outlook on life and exaggerated comedy. It can be found on Netflix.

“The Good Place” (2016-2020)

Have you ever wondered what happens when you die? Well, this zany comedy shows the hilarity that ensues when someone is sent to the wrong afterlife. Upon death, Elanor Shellstrop arrives in the “good place” only to quickly realize she is not supposed to be there because of the horrible things


see “Destress” PAGE 6



GRAPHIC BY Regan Johnson


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California Dreamin'

Softball sweeps five games in the Golden State over the weekend

By Adam Larson
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Utah State softball dominated over the weekend at the Golden State Classic. The Aggies recorded their first tournament sweep since 1980, as well as just the seventh no-hitter in program history, thrown by sophomore Kapri Toone.

“It was a great weekend, going 5-0. The kids played really well the whole weekend,” said USU head coach Steve Johnson. “We won every game in a different way, every game had its different battles. Our team played excellent this weekend. It’s what we expected going into the season, and hopefully we can use this as momentum to carry on for the rest of the year.”

The first game of the weekend happened to be the closest, as well. Utah State took on Hawai’i in a game that saw both teams score six runs in the third inning. The Aggies finished the game with six doubles, one triple and three home runs while only drawing a single walk in the contest. Utah State held on in the seventh thanks to junior Delaney Hull. She came in to pitch a scoreless inning and earned her first save of the season, closing out a 11-10 win over the Rainbow Warriors.

The Aggies took on Portland State in their second game, falling behind early in the first



PHOTO by Chantelle McCall
Sophomore pitcher Kapri Toone (33) threw just the seventh no-hitter in program history against San Diego on Saturday.

inning. But Utah State wouldn’t allow another run in the game, retiring 14 straight batters at one point. The Aggies tied the game in the third, scored another three in the fourth and topped it off with one more in the fifth to take the 5-1 victory over Portland State.

Utah State’s first game Saturday was a quick one. The Aggies took it 8-0 over San Diego in their first run-ruled game of the season. Sophomore catcher Gabriella Jimenez and ju-

nior outfielder Stephanie Reed led the team with three RBI’s each while pitcher Toone dominated the game, allowing only two base-runners in the no-hitter.

Game two for Utah State was a bit closer as it took on UC Davis. The Aggies broke a 1-1 tie in the sixth inning after sophomore short-stop Lexi Orozco put down a sacrifice bunt and advanced to third on an overthrown ball. The inning ended with senior second base-

man Ryann Holmes knocking in a home run to put Utah State up 5-1. The Aggies would hold off UC Davis to win the game 5-3.

In its final game, Utah State scored a run before even recording a hit. Three walks and a hit-by-pitch brought home the first run of the game. Utah State dominated the game defensively, never allowing more than four batters to the plate in an inning. No Seton Hall player made it past second base in the game. The Aggies used the second run-ruled game of their season to finish the tournament a perfect 5-0 with the 8-0 victory over the Pirates.

The Aggies are now 6-4 on the season just two weeks into the campaign. They travel to Phoenix, Arizona next weekend for the Grand Canyon Purple Classic to take on Grand Canyon University and CSUN two times, then finish with a single game against the University of Drake.

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Gymnastics continues winning ways

By Dalton Renshaw
SPORTS CONTENT MANAGER

After a brutal stretch of games that opened the season, the Utah State University gym-



PHOTO COURTESY of Wade Denniston/USU Athletics
Utah State freshman Sofi Sullivan leaps of the beam during her routine in Utah State’s road win against Air Force on Jan. 25.

nastics team has been flying, winning three of its past four meets — in which it faced four ranked-teams in five games.

The Aggies took down No. 20 Southern Utah University 196.525-196.450 on Valentine’s Day. The win snapped a five-meet losing streak against SUU (4-5, 2-3) — which dated back to March 24, 2018 — and was the third-highest score in program history.

On Jan. 31, the Aggies lost to the then-No. 23 Thunderbirds in St. George 195.875-195.175. Since then, Utah State (3-6, 2-4) has grabbed two straight against Boise State and SUU, and recorded a 49 or better on each event for the first time this season.

“It was incredibly exciting, but in the same breath, we see them do this every day in practice, so it was just really cool to see them finally settle in and do what we see every day,” said third-year Utah State head coach Amy Smith. “That’s what we’ve been working on, being intentional in practice and having that show up in competition, and they did a phenomenal job of that tonight.”

Freshman Sofi Sullivan was one of two Aggies to post a score in every rotation and finished as the all-around champion with a score of 39.300. Teammate Leighton Varnadore bested her in two rotations — vault and floor — but finished just one-tenth of a point shy of Sullivan at 39.200.

“It was super exciting,” Sullivan said. “I feel like how we’ve been training in the gym really translated to tonight, but we have so much more to show, and that’s really exciting.”

Sullivan tied for first on bars (career-best 9.875) and tied for third on beam (9.850). Utah State junior Autumn DeHarde captured the beam and floor titles with a 9.925 in each event and also placed third in the all-around with a score of 29.650. The lone event title that wasn’t captured by an Aggie was on vault as Southern Utah’s Caitlin Kho and Morgan Alfaro each had a 9.850 to place first.

For her efforts, DeHarde was named the Mountain Rim Gymnastics Conference (MRGC) Beam and Floor Specialist of the Week on Monday. It is the third and fourth time this year — and seventh and eighth time in her career — that DeHarde has garnered MRGC weekly honors.

The Aggies moved up to No. 26 (from No. 31) in the rankings over the weekend and will travel to Boise State on Friday to meet the Broncos for the second time this season.

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ATHLETICS HOME EVENTS

MEN’S BASKETBALL

DEE GLEN SMITH SPECTRUM

VS WYOMING

2. 19. 20 - 7 PM



#AGGIESALLTHEWAY

MEN’S TENNIS

SPORTS ACADEMY RACQUET CLUB

VS LOUISIANA-LAFAYETTE

2. 24. 20. - 11 AM

Numbers never lie

Analyzing the Aggies’ early season shooting problems.. or lack thereof?

By Sydney Kidd
SPORTS STAFF WRITER

Shooting struggles have been a topic of conversation surrounding the Utah State men’s basketball team for most of the season — but the stats tell a different story.

The Aggies, for the most part, are not shooting exponentially worse than last year. But they are shooting less.

The Aggies are averaging 45.4% on field goals and 32.2 from the three-point line. Compared to last year’s averages of 47.1 and 35.5%, percentages have gone down. Utah State still has four games left in the regular season and the Mountain West tournament, so these numbers could still increase before this year is inked in the record books. That being said, Utah State has currently scored roughly 680 points less than last

year. It’s unlikely they will be able to match or exceed last year’s total by the end of the season.

There could be a couple potential factors playing into the decrease in shots. For one thing, Utah State started the season on everyone’s watch list, and so did senior guard Sam Merrill. Merrill is the highest scorer for Utah State, averaging 18.4 points per game. This has made him a critical target for opponents to shut down.

“Sam just has so much gravity on offense that sometimes all five guys want to go guard him,” junior guard Abel Porter said.

It seems having Merrill heavily guarded may have worked out in favor of Utah State’s opponents, at least a little. Last year, Merrill made 228 of 495 attempted field goals. This year he’s made 138 of 315. And while there could be several reasons behind Merrill shooting less, it’s safe to assume him drawing a lot of attention

from the defense has had something to do with it.

Even so, last year Merrill was averaging 20.9 points per game and was still drawing plenty of attention when he put up all those shots. But last year, defenders had another dangerous Utah State player to worry about every game.

Sophomore center Neemias Queta is the Aggies’ “King of the Key”. Utah State’s big man averages 12.4 points per game and has a field goal percentage of 66 percent. Queta missed the first nine games of the season due to a knee injury. He missed another three games throughout December and the beginning of January dealing with a reaggravation of the injury. As Queta is one of three Aggie players averaging over 10 points per game, his absence was noticed.

Not only did missing Queta down below restrict points in the paint, it also freed up opponents to focus more on other players — including Merrill. But even with Queta back, fans still lament about the shooting struggles plaguing the team. There are a few reasons which may explain why the team doesn’t look as sharp this year.

For starters, Utah State had a slow start to conference play. After winning its first two conference games, the Aggies went on a three-game losing streak. By Jan. 17, the team had a conference record of 3-4 and was ranked No. 7 in the Mountain West.

Since then, Utah State has improved its conference record to 9-5 and is currently tied for second place with Boise State. But every now and then, the team had an off night — like when the Aggies went 2-19 from three against Boise State on Feb. 8 — and it seemed to reinforce the idea that shooting is a severe struggle for this team. While “severe” might be an exaggeration, certain players have definitely had their challenges with getting the ball into the basket this season.

Porter is one of the biggest examples of this

when looking at the stat sheet. The junior’s three-point percentage has plummeted from 40.5% last year to 20.9% this campaign.

But this might not be any fault of Porter’s. This season the NCAA moved the three point line back to match the international distance of 22-feet and one inch. According to head coach Craig Smith, it’s been a hard adjustment for many players.

“That’s really affected three point shooting all around the country,” Smith said. “I think they thought it was going to space the floor even more, and it’s done the opposite because so many teams are struggling consistently — with the exception of maybe a player or two.”

According to Smith, establishing a rhythm and getting plenty of reps in are key to overcoming scoring slumps.

Despite Porter’s shooting woes, he has managed to increase his average number of points per game this year from 5.5 to 6.4.

Sophomore forward Justin Bean has also seen a major boost in his stat line this year. Bean is currently averaging a double-double and has scored almost three times as many points this season than last.

So even though this season feels drastically different than last year’s out-of-the-shadows, Cinderella season, Utah State isn’t doing too bad in the conference standings, or in the stat books.



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PHOTO by Tim Carpenter

Abel Porter attempts a three-pointer as teammates from the bench await the result in Utah State’s game against Fresno State on Dec. 7, 2019.

The Score

USU results for the week of Feb. 10 - Feb. 16

Results

- Men’s Basketball
- W, 75-72 -- at Colorado State
- W, 71-59 -- at Fresno State
- Women’s Basketball
- L, 67-61 -- COLORADO STATE
- L, 79-61 -- FRESNO STATE
- Men’s Tennis
- L, 6-1 -- at Utah
- Gymnastics
- W, 196.525-196.450 -- vs SUU
- Women’s Tennis
- L, 5-2 -- BYU
- L, 5-2 -- NORTHERN ARIZONA

Top Performers

- Sam Merrill wins Mountain West player of the week averaging 28.0 points, 4.5 assists and 4.0 rebounds per game.
- Marlene Aniambossou scored a career-high 18 points vs Colorado State
- Arvid Hjalte singles win (7-5, 6-3)
- Sofi Sullivan won all-around 39.300
- Lucy Octave singles win (4-6, 6-3, 6-2)
- Annaliese County singles win (6-2, 6-4) vs BYU
- Hannah Jones singles win (6-1, 3-6, 6-4)
- Sidnee Lavatai singles win (6-3, 6-3)



PHOTO by Amber French



PHOTO by Tim Carpenter

Sam Merrill lines up to take a free throw with teammate Abel Porter looking on in Utah State’s game against Fresno State on Dec. 7, 2019.

“Title IX” FROM PAGE 1

According to Carter, the DOJ only conducts infrequent reviews, which are typically broad in scope and are “for the most serious systemic instances of Title IX violations.”

Likewise, Cockett said the DOJ investigates not just isolated incidents but reviews whether or not university systems are in compliance overall, while the OCR typically focuses on a single incident or victim.

Cockett said it was not clear why the DOJ got involved at USU as opposed to the OCR.

“Knowing why they were here was very intriguing to us,” Cockett said, “but it fundamentally does not change in any way how we shared records, the way we had conversations or our willingness to move forward.”

Terms of settlement

The settlement, which USU released on its sexual misconduct prevention webpage, outlines a series of changes USU must implement. The DOJ has given USU specific time frames to implement the changes.

The failure to do so would be highly consequential. According to Cockett, the DOJ could impose fines, hold up funding and limit federal grants, loans and other federal aid.

“I have no desire to have that be their decision,” Cockett said.

Some of these changes include updating and revising the sexual misconduct policy for investigation and disciplinary actions.

Other changes are focused on education, including a mandatory in-person training for all incoming students attending a regional campus beginning in fall 2020, an annual online training for all undergraduate and graduate students and an annual in-person training for “all responsible employees” of the university as defined by Title IX.

Cockett said USU is already in the process of making many of the changes or has already made the changes specified in the settlement.

“It’s primarily an expansion of training programs we were already doing,” Cockett said. “We have a little bit of mixed feeling about [the annual trainings] effectiveness, but we agreed.”

The DOJ acknowledged USU’s efforts to strengthen sexual assault prevention and response measures prior to and during the compliance review, but Cockett said these changes do not make up for past failures on the part of the university in a video released with the statement.

“While we have done much to improve over the last three years, I know that doesn’t undo the impact of our past university-wide failures,” Cockett said. “To those affected, I personally apologize. We should have done better. I should have done better.”

Responses

According to USU spokesperson Tim Vitale, the public response

to the settlement has been broadly positive. Likewise, Vitale said the university is committed to transparency about USU’s past failures and efforts to improve.

“We’re not going to hide from the spotlight. We need to talk about this,” USU spokesman Tim Vitale said. “I think that’s the path forward: talking more about it.”

Other responses have expressed patient optimism about the future of sexual assault responses by USU.

“I know Utah State has been working already for several years towards making changes,” Carter said. “These changes in culture and systems, they don’t take place overnight. They take time.”

The DOJ also released a statement on the settlement.

“No student should feel unsafe because of a school’s failure to address sexual violence and its devastating impacts,” said DOJ Assistant Attorney General Eric Dreiband. “We look forward to working with USU to implement this agreement and to ensure that students can learn in a safe and healthy environment.”

Along with the settlement, USU released a video of Cockett’s statement on the USU sexual assault resources webpage. USU also produced a timeline detailing the events surrounding the DOJ’s compliance review.

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PHOTO BY **Chris Pizzello/Invision/AP**
An Oscar statue is pictured at the press preview for the 91st Academy Awards Governors Ball, Friday, Feb. 15, 2019, in Los Angeles. The 91st Academy Awards will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

“Oscars” FROM PAGE 3

“Marriage Story” and best documentary feature for “American Factory.” Although Netflix has seen success with their documentaries in recent years, “Marriage Story” was the first narrative film from Netflix not named “Roma” to win an Oscar.

Not even the legendary auteur, Martin Scorsese, could lift Netflix’s “The Irishman” above 2019’s competition. Despite walking into Dolby Theatre as a front-runner with ten nominations, the crime epic went home completely empty-handed.

John Williams, nominated with his score for “Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker” continues to hold the record for most Oscar nominations for a living person at 52. He is followed by director Woody Allen with 24.

Another notable moment from the night was Phoenix’s speech about injustice when he took the stage to receive his award for best actor. “This form of expression has given me the

most extraordinary life,” Phoenix said. “I don’t know what I’d be without it. But I think the greatest gift that it’s given me, and many of us in this room, is the opportunity to use our voice for the voiceless.”

He spoke about the fight against injustices towards minorities, women, animals and the environment, calling humanity to “use love and compassion as our guiding principles.”

“I think that’s when we’re at our best,” Phoenix continued, “when we support each other, not when we cancel each other out for past mistakes, but when we help each other to grow, when we educate each other, when we guide each other toward redemption. That is the best of humanity.”

Phoenix, fighting his emotions, finished his speech with a lyric his late older brother, River, wrote: “Run to the rescue with love, and peace will follow.”

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“Destress” FROM PAGE 3

she did while she was alive. Along with her soulmate, Chidi, and their serene neighbors, Tahani and Ji’anu, she has to become a better person so the angel, Micheal, doesn’t realize who she really is.

This show has a strange, surreal sense of humor that constantly jumps right to the extreme, making it easy to forget your own troubles while watching. It can be found on Netflix and Hulu.

“Brooklyn Nine-Nine” (2013-)

With a similar premise to the popular “The Office” (2005 — 2013) and “Parks and Recreation” (2009 — 2015), “Brooklyn Nine-Nine” centers around the day-to-day work life of a department in the New York Police Department, who only occasionally do their jobs. Detectives Jake Peralta, Amy Santiago, Charles Boyle, along with Sergeant Terry Jeffords, administrator Gina Linetti, and captain Ray Holt, work to clear the streets of crime while competing between themselves and balancing complex friendships and relationships.

The show’s exaggerated characters and situations is a great way to unwind after a long day of classes. It can be found on Hulu.

“How I Met Your Mother” (2005-2014)

Fans of “Friends” will appreciate this sitcom following a similar premise: five friends navigate their way through relationships

and adulthood in New York City. The group consists of Ted, an ambitious architect, Marshall, a lovable lawyer, Lily, a kindergarten school teacher, Barney, a charismatic playboy with a mysterious job, and Robin, an aspiring news anchor. The five vastly different personalities mix for a dynamic, lighthearted sitcom that highlights the frustrations of relationships.

This show is a fun ride with plenty of laughs and awkward situations to relate to. It can be found on Hulu.

“That ‘70s Show” (1998-2006)

Featuring the rise of hippies and tie-dye, the ’70s were a crazy time in history. Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, President Nixon and outrageous fashion. What better way to experience it than through the eyes of six Wisconsin teenagers growing up in the middle of it all? “That ‘70s Show” captures all the adventures of growing up at this strange time through Eric Foreman, Steven Hyde, Donna Pinciotti, Micheal Kelso, Jackie Burkhardt, and Fez as they work their way through the many ups and downs of high school.

The show is a satire on the time period, exaggerating many aspects to create a retro feel very different from our world today. It can be found on Netflix.

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USU men's basketball versus Boise State gallery

Photos by Hailey Larson



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PHOTO COURTESY AP Photo/Susan Haigh
Connecticut state Sen. Matthew Lesser, D-Middletown, announces new legislation that would cap out-of-pocket costs for insulin and diabetes supplies at \$100 a month during a news conference at the Legislative Office Building Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020, in Hartford, Conn. Lesser was joined by a bipartisan group of legislators, residents with diabetes and their families who described how they struggle financially to cover the cost of the life-saving drug.

Letter to the editor: Rising insulin prices

By Morgan Talbot
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In the state of Utah, the prevalence rate of diabetes has increased by almost 50% in the past 20 years (Reither, Fedor, Abel, & Hatch, 2009). For patients struggling with diabetes, insulin is not just a prescription but a means for survival (Hirsch, 2005). However, in today's economy insulin has become so

expensive that many diabetic Utahns have resorted to rationing this necessary medication in an effort to save money, risking possible harm and death in the process (Conner, Pfister, Elliott, & Slama-Chaudhry, 2019). Such high prices were not always the standard for insulin. According to local diabetic patients, the price of insulin has increased 100%, which presents a significant

financial burden on families. One family stated, that in the year 1995 the price of insulin was around \$25-\$30 a vial. These families now state that the price of insulin can now range from \$200-\$500 per vial, with each vial lasting about 2-3 weeks (A. Talbot, J. Luekenga, J. Bennet, L. Cook, Personal Communication, Feb. 1, 2020). Utah needs to react to these high prices before any addi-

tional harm or unfortunate deaths occur. On January 29, 2020 Republican Norm Thurston presented a bill to the Utah House that would increase Utahn's access to affordable insulin. This bill would include an incentive for health benefit plans to reduce their required copayments for insulin from their payers. This bill would also include coverage of diabetic supplies such as glucose

monitors, and testing strips if deemed medically necessary. (H.B. 207, 2020). It should be noted that while this bill does not cover those without health insurance, it is a step in the right direction in providing obtainable access to insulin.

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HOMELESSNESS IN LOGAN

To change the climate around homelessness in Logan, the city should take responsibility

By Taelor Candiloro
OPINION EDITOR

At 4 a.m. on Jan. 23, a number of volunteers from the Cache Valley area spent their morning traveling in teams to interview homeless individuals in the community for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual Point-In-Time survey. Data collection may be a crucial part of assessing the scope of homelessness in our communities, but our attempts to simply outline the degree to which our peers are struggling is only as valuable as the resources we make available to them, and Cache Valley is falling far short of providing adequate resources.

Cache County is home to a little more than 127,068 people, according to the most recent census data. As Logan remains the most population dense area in Cache County, it also remains important to understand that bussing our homeless community mem-

bers down to the closest shelter in Ogden may not be the most efficient or effective long-term solution, especially for people who've lived in Logan for quite a while. If someone becomes homeless after living much of their life in Logan, it would be counterintuitive to go so far from other resources they may be more familiar with, including friends, family members, etc.

Not only might the lack of shelter facilities be costing human lives during the coldest months of the year, but it turns out that it also costs the city of Logan money. In 2018, the state legislature passed a state law (SB 235) that requires all Utah cities and counties without homeless services to "redirect a portion of sales tax revenue to cities

that do have homeless shelters."

When it passed, Logan's finance director, Rich Anderson, said the city would take

Not only might the lack of shelter facilities be costing human lives during the coldest months of the year, but it turns out that it also costs the city of Logan money.

— Taelor Candiloro

money from the low-income housing RDA fund to replace the loss of revenue – a total of \$100,000.

Local news sources have clearly outlined a debate around how to best serve the Cache Valley community, spanning at least two years, with little to no resolution. In 2018, Bear River Association Government (BRAG) Homeless Coordinator Stefanie

Jones made clear that taking money from affordable housing programs would be counter-intuitive to any effort to remedy homelessness in the

area, but it remains unclear if Logan city officials have heeded her warning.

Ultimately, the recent Point-In-Time survey outlines that there are people in the Cache community that could use homeless services. This also does not include those that may have found themselves homeless in Cache Valley and been forced to leave for the Ogden shelter services before

the survey took place.

While the city attempts to list services such as CAPSA's (Citizens Against Physical and Sexual Abuse) shelter to save themselves money, the CAPSA shelter is limited to those seeking refuge from domestic violence and is not always available to the general homeless population.

While it is possible for people to find themselves without shelter due to abusive relationships — situations that CAPSA does provide help for — non-profit organizations cannot be expected to bear the weight of an issue that does not fall within the capability of their resources. CAPSA does great work in the Logan community, and they deserve to work alongside

other services designed specifically for the local homeless population.

While the official numbers from the Point-In-Time survey won't be posted until August this year, the Leader reported "more than half of unsheltered homeless households surveyed were families, and about 42% were experiencing homelessness for the first time."

A variance of factors contribute to homelessness in Utah, including divorce, job loss, mental illness and physical disability. But until we, as a community, can account for the variability in cause, there needs to be a centralized tool for all to use regardless of circumstance. Logan should start by building a shelter and then expand based on the needs that present themselves.

Taelor Candiloro is an undergraduate transfer to the Anthropology department at USU.

		7	4					
				2	9			6
4		3					9	2
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3			8		2			5
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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: 02/11/2020

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



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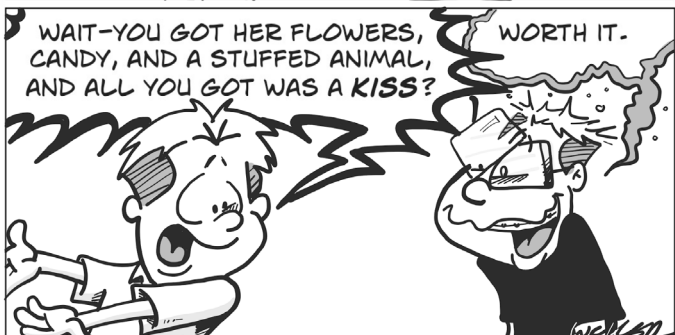
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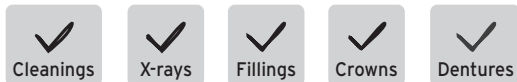


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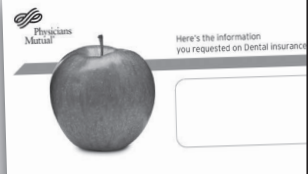
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<div>CHaSS Senator Candidate Debate</div> <div>6:00 pm</div> <div>Old Main Basement</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Alumni Lunch Series: Lexie and Lindsay Kite</div> <div>11:30 am</div> <div>Merrill-Cazier Library Room 101</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Gallery Walk with Pilar Pobil</div> <div>12:00 pm</div> <div>Merrill-Cazier Library Room 101</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Science Unwrapped: Pollinators</div> <div>7:00 pm</div> <div>Eccles Science Learning Center Auditorium</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>USU Geoscinces Rock and Fossil Day</div> <div>10:00 am</div> <div>Geology Building</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Geosciences Speaker Week</div> <div>3:30 pm</div> <div>Geology Building Room 105</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>
<div>44 Years since the Termination of Executive Order 9066 with Yukio Shimomura</div> <div>6:00 pm</div> <div>TSC International Lounge</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Math and Stats Tutoring Workshop</div> <div>11:30 am</div> <div>Huntsman Hall Room 307</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Dr. Eyler Book Signing</div> <div>4:30 pm</div> <div>Distance Education Building Room 003</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Wasserman Festival</div> <div>7:30 pm</div> <div>Ruseell/Wanlass Performance Hall</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>		
<div>Fry Street Quarter</div> <div>7:30 pm</div> <div>Russell/Wanlass Performance Hall</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>	<div>Entrepreneur Leadership Series: Nate Murray</div> <div>6:00 pm</div> <div>Eccles Conference Center</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>				
	<div>Men's Basketball vs. Wyoming</div> <div>7:00 pm</div> <div>Dee Glen Smith Spectrum</div> <div>Logan, UT</div>				

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Deadline for calendar submissions is Sunday at midnight.

TRUTH IN TUITION

MARCH 11

11:00 AM, TSC Ballroom

Join President Noelle Cockett and Student Body President Sami Ahmed for a discussion about potential tuition changes

Utah State University is proposing to increase student tuition rates. This would be an increase of 2.8%-4%, which is an increase of \$49-\$131 per semester, depending on the campus, for a full-time resident undergraduate student. All concerned students and citizens are invited to a public hearing on the proposed increase to be held in the TSC Ballroom on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 11 a.m. This will be broadcast to all campuses.

