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Utah Statesman

Campus Voice Since 1902

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Utah State University, Logan Utah

Friday, Jan. 21, 2000

Fire in New Jersey dormitory kills 3, injures 58

KINIGHT-RIDDER TRIBUNE
Media Services

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. — Screams drowned out the fire alarm, choking smoke filled the halls and flames shot through a Seton Hall University dormitory early Thursday as hundreds of freshmen fled in terror.

One girl plunged through a wall of flame at her door, and at least two students leaped from windows to escape a blaze that left three male students dead and 58 people injured.

The fire, whose cause had not been determined, originated in a sofa in a third-floor lounge in Boland Hall on the South Orange, N.J., college campus at 4:30 a.m., forcing countless students into frigid darkness.

"The screams we heard could have been some of the people dying," said Greg Edwards, 18, of Valley Stream, L.I. "I'll never forget the screams. It was the worst thing I've ever heard."

A recent spate of false alarms led many students at the Catholic college to ignore the warning at first.

"When people came out with black stuff on their faces and yelling, 'Help me! Help me!' — that's when reality set in," said 18-year-old Vanessa Gomez.

Lisa Sepulveda, 18, of New York City, said she passed a burned young man moaning as she fled the residence hall. "He looked like he had painted his entire body; it was purple and blue and orange."

The dead victims were all 18, from New Jersey and third-floor residents of Boland, a freshman dorm. They were identified as Frank Caltabilla of West Long Branch, John Giunta of Vineland and Aaron Karol of Dunellen.

Frantic parents rushed to the college to find their children, 18- and 19-year-olds who seemed much younger as they stood crying in pajamas, hugging their mothers and fathers.

The blaze apparently started in the third-floor lounge in the north wing of the 600-student

Jump to FIRE, Page 3

A new look:



Camilla Williams, an employee at the Merrill Library, enters the library Thursday. The library is undergoing renovations.

Merrill Library to see a series of changes

KATHRYN SUMMERS
Staff Writer

The Milton R. Merrill Library is getting a makeover.

Several things have been changed and rearranged to make the Utah State University library building more user-friendly.

"Our primary interest was to get our reference desk down to the first floor where students could see it and get assistance as soon as possible," said Deputy Director of Libraries Robert Murdoch. The reference desk used to be located on the second floor.

Twenty-four computers from the second floor, used for research and access to electronic reserve material, have been moved to the first floor by the reference desk, according to Max Peterson, the director of libraries.

The circulation department has also been moved, making it "much clearer how to get in and out of the darn building," said Jan Anderson, campus services librarian. The circulation desk now faces the front doors. The area where the circulation desk used to be will be carpeted and used for study space.

Some changes were also made to help disabled students who use the library. The circulation and reference desks have a lower section for wheelchair access, Peterson said.

The remodeled entrance is also easier for disabled students, Murdoch said, because they don't have to deal with the gates.

The "fishbowl" on the third floor, a large group study area, was removed to make room for a suite of offices for the Dean of Learning Resources and her staff, Anderson said.

Peterson said what used to be Copy Center 5 on the second floor will be turned into a smaller version of the "fishbowl." It will be furnished for group studying and perhaps even decorated with an aquatic theme.

Another change is the addition of a computer teaching classroom, Anderson said. A room on the first floor will become a computer lab for classes to learn from librarians

how to access electronic resources, so students don't have to ask librarians how.

"In library jargon, we say bibliographic instruction," Anderson said.

According to Anderson, there will be 30 computers in the teaching lab. The Cazier Science and Technology Library also has a teaching lab with 24 computers.

Another change on the first floor is the addition of learning and teaching exhibits, where the periodicals used to be toward the south end of the building.

The space will be used to display art, especially by local artists, and learning exhibits, Peterson said. The space will serve as a study area when not occupied by exhibits.

All the signs in the library will be redone and heavy use areas recarpeted, Peterson said.

The remodeling, which began in the summer, should be finished by the end of February, Murdoch said.

All floors but the second have new floor coverings, so the library is "brighter, quieter, and more students come in," Murdoch said.

The library faculty is pleased with the changes which allow them to better serve the patrons, Anderson said.

The price of the remodeling is about \$100,000, Peterson said.

"It's a cooperative effort between library, physical plant and the furniture people," he said.

The funds have been "kind of patched together," he said.

Ideally, Peterson would like to have a new building, but that could take a long time. He said there are plans to move the construction of a new library up on the list of university projects. In the meantime, the library is trying to gain Association Research Library status, reserved only for very high quality libraries.

Peterson said USU was named as a Carnegie Research Institution and "the library should be able to support that." To show the library is in the same class, it needs to gain ARL status. Peterson said he hopes this will happen by 2001.

Man saved from Holocaust by dentistry

DOUG SMEATH
Senior News Writer

The Holocaust and official persecution of Jewish-Europeans may be a thing of the past, but Eastern Europe is still a place of inequality and unfairness for Jews, one Holocaust survivor told Utah State University students and faculty.

Benjamin Jacobs, Holocaust survivor and author of the book, "The Dentist of Auschwitz," spoke Thursday in a packed Taggart Student Center Ballroom as part of the Associated Students of USU Arts and Lectures Series.

Jacobs grew up in Poland, a place he said was unlivable for Jews. Living conditions for Jews only got worse moving east, he said.

Although "it hasn't changed yet," he said things are changing. Speaking of the "generation of my time," Jacobs said people around the world were filled with prejudice.

"Forgive me for including the United States," he said. The only way to change that is to learn about other people's experiences and keep an open mind, he said.

"Your concern should also be intellectually raised so we don't continue to point to each other because he has different skin, a different persuasion, speaks differently or, God forbid, (is) physically

different," he said.

In fact, Jacobs said he left Poland after the war because attitudes had not changed. He said he was in Warsaw one day when he saw a woman selling paintings. He bought one.

After speaking to the woman for a while, he said he could tell she was liberal and intelligent, so he told her he was a Jew.

Then, he said, he asked her a question: If the Jewish victims of the Holocaust could be restored to their places in Poland, the dead restored to life, how would the Polish public feel?

Jacobs said her answer was the reason he left Poland.

"She was embarrassed. She told me the honest truth: 'We would not want to have you back. We would be unhappy.'"

Jacobs said he grew up in a family that was "half Jew, half not," not Orthodox, not Hasidic, but what would today be called a secular Jewish family.

At the time the war started, Jacobs said he was trying to figure out his religious beliefs and his plans for the future. That future was decided for him when he and his father were arrested by Nazis.

His brother, sister and mother were left behind in the ghetto, a place he said had become like a prison. Jews there were hungry and not allowed to visit friends outside.

As he was being arrested, Jacobs said he thought it might be for the best. He knew he was being sent to a labor camp. To work, they had to be fed. But when they arrived at the labor camp, he said his optimism left.

"We realized this is not about work," he said. "This is about death and work. Destruction."

He called the labor camp the second level of Nazi destruction of the Jews.

Jacobs and the others in the camp worked building a railroad eastward for the Nazi plan to invade and destroy the Soviet Union, he said.

"You start to accept it," he said. "All for one reason: hope."

That hope was short-lived. In 1943 he was transported to the third level of destruction — the Auschwitz concentration camp.

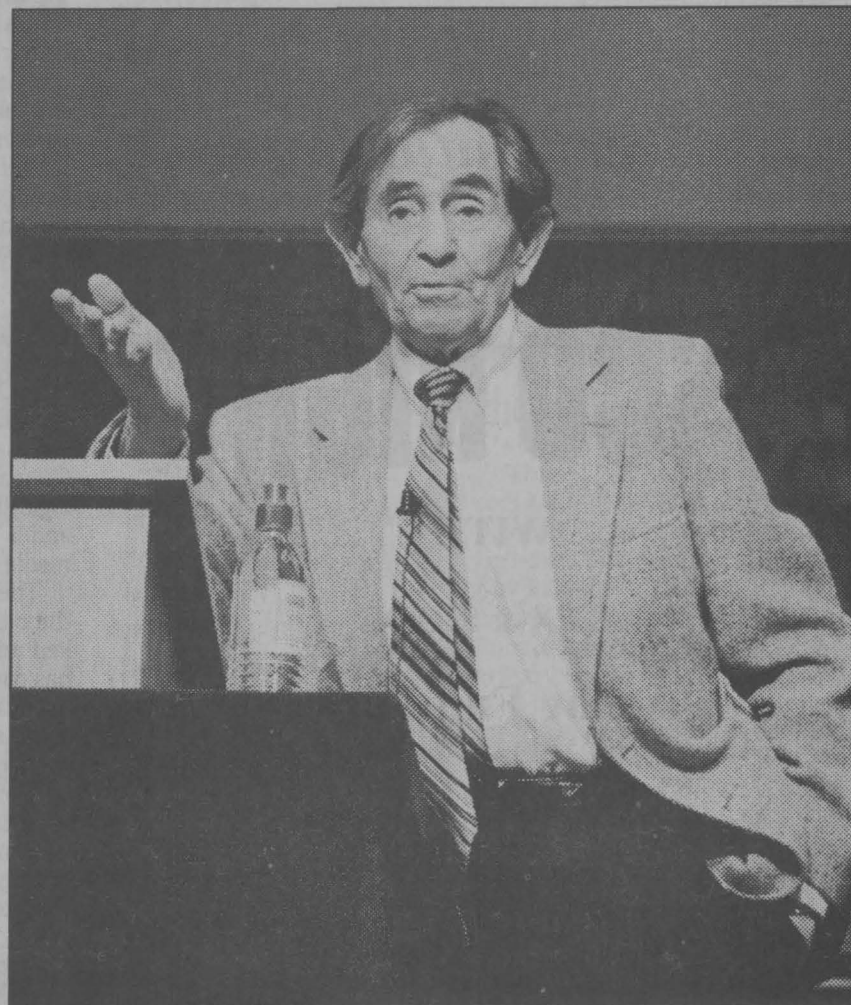
In other labor camps, Jews and other prisoners at least knew they would be fed. Not so in Auschwitz, Jacobs said.

He said from day to day they never knew whether they would be taken to the "showers," where they would be killed by gas.

In Auschwitz, Jacobs survived only because of daily miracles. Among these was a young Polish girl he befriended.

"(She) must have been sent to us from

Jump to HOLOCAUST, Page 3



Holocaust survivor Benjamin Jacobs speaks to students and faculty in the Taggart Student Center ballroom at USU Thursday as part of the Arts and Lectures Series.

Candidates bicker in Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — A year before the next presidential inauguration, a bickering band of White House candidates crisscrossed the state Thursday to rally supporters for their first election test. The top Republicans tangled over abortion in the runup to Iowa's caucuses.

In a rare convergence of nearly the entire presidential field, the Iowa air echoed with incrimination after Republican front-runner George W. Bush was asked what he would do if a relative was raped and was considering abortion.

"I would hope I would be able to evoke enough sympathy in a rape case to help comfort her as a friend. It's up to her," said Bush, who reiterated that he is opposed to abortion except in case of rape, incest and when the mother's life is in danger.

Four of his words — "It's up to her" — were seized upon by rival Steve Forbes as evidence that Bush is not committed to eliminating abortion. "I think it's part of a pattern where he is not willing to truly fight for the life issue. It's part of a pattern that demonstrates, I think, that he's abandoned the fight," Forbes said in a telephone interview with his campaign bus.

On the Democratic side, Bradley said he is the only candidate willing to take "the risk of leadership" on issues such as health care reform. Vice President Al Gore, gaining steam against Bradley, accused his sole rival of showing disrespect to the caucus system.

The Iowa contest is raw grass.

roots politics: About 10 percent of the state's 1.8 million registered voters gather in living rooms, schools, churches and even grain elevators to announce their support of candidates in full view of friends and neighbors.

Though technically designed to pick county delegates in a

Seven of the eight major Republican and Democratic presidential candidates will compete Monday, hoping for a jump start down the road that ends with the Jan. 20, 2001 presidential inauguration. Arizona Sen. John McCain bypassed the caucuses to focus on New Hampshire, though he has a huge stake in the Iowa

country."

Bush, however, said he doesn't discuss the issue on the stump because "we're moving forward."

Forbes needs to narrow Bush's lead in polls to get a boost into New Hampshire, said Reed and other analysts. Courting conservative voters, Forbes toured a center that counsels against abortion. "On the issue of (abortion), Governor Bush and Senator McCain are pacifists," he said.

The conservative millionaire opposes abortion, with the sole exception being when the mother's life is at risk. Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer said the governor's response to the question about a raped relative "is consistent with his long-stated position. He is opposed to abortion except in the case of rape, incest and the life of the mother. He's pro-life."

With Forbes on the attack and reporters peppering him about abortion, Bush issued what may be his clearest denunciation of the Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion. "Roe vs. Wade was a reach. (It) overstepped the constitutional bounds as far as I'm concerned," said Bush, who appeared irked at the intensity of abortion questions.

Forbes said he picks up "hesitancy" in Bush's replies. "You saw it in his unwillingness to pledge to select pro-life running mate," Forbes said.

Public polls show Bradley trailing Gore by about 25 percentage

Jump to Iowa, Page 10



process that ends with the presidential conventions, the caucuses are an early barometer of campaign organizations. Momentum is gained and lost in Iowa.

The love affair is brief: Within hours of the vote, the candidates and their entourages flee Iowa to prepare for New Hampshire's primary eight days later.

"Iowa is the center of the political universe right now," said Republican consultant Scott Reed,

results.

Bush has led Forbes by about 20 points in most polls, a margin he may have to sustain to claim momentum for his dead heat race against McCain in New Hampshire.

Confident of his chances, Bush didn't bother to mention McCain or Forbes in his main speech. A question-and-answer session prompted him to say that President Clinton's impeachment left him "embarrassed for our

ABC, 'New York Times' announce news alliance

NEW YORK (AP) — ABC News and *The New York Times* are the latest media heavyweights to announce a news alliance, saying Thursday they will collaborate on a daily political Webcast and share other resources.

Journalists from the *Times* will appear on ABC News broadcasts and help the network produce stories on technology and health for "20/20" and "Good Morning America."

The agreement comes two months after a similar deal announced by NBC and *The Washington Post*. ABC, CBS and Fox last month also said they were sharing video footage of domestic news stories.

The centerpiece of Thursday's deal is a 15-minute Webcast, "Political Points," that will appear at 1:30 p.m. EST Monday

through Friday on both ABCNews.com and NYTimes.com. It will debut Monday to coincide with the Iowa presidential caucuses.

Michael Oreskes, Washington bureau chief for *The New York Times*, and Mark Halperin, political director for ABC News, will be the moderators. "Political Points" will include audio, video and text material.

The *Times* and ABC both took pains to say theirs was a "limited editorial partnership" that would not infringe on their independence. Both ABC and the *Times* will be able to veto anything they are not comfortable with.

"I don't think there is anyone who could doubt the independence and autonomy of *The New York Times* and their editorial decisions," said

Jump to MERGER, Page 10

Suicide shakes Kohl party amid slush fund scandal

BERLIN (AP) — The senior accountant in parliament for the scandal-plagued Christian Democrats committed suicide Thursday, stunning lawmakers as new questions arose about the financial dealings of the party that has dominated post-war German politics.

Party officials sought to quell speculation that the death was linked to the scandal, saying a suicide note had been found citing "personal motives."

Berlin prosecutors, however, said they were conducting a preliminary investigation into possible breach of trust based on the note. The Berlin B.Z. tabloid reported the note refers to Wolfgang Huellen's concerns that an upcoming audit would reveal he had diverted money from official accounts.

Huellen's suicide — disclosed hours after lawmakers sparred in parliament over the affair — compounded the sense of despair consuming the conservatives since their former leader, ex-chancellor Helmut Kohl, admitted last month that he managed secret accounts in the 1990s.

A parliamentary committee issued a summons Thursday for Kohl to testify in its investigation into whether the \$1 million he acknowledges having taken — or millions more in other allegedly illicit funds uncovered since — were tied to political favors.

Kohl has repeatedly denied such charges, but his refusal to reveal the source of the cash has kept alive suspicions of bribery.

Kohl, who was humiliated into resigning this week as honorary party chairman, said on national television last month that the money he accepted came from "patriotic" donors wanting to help build up the party in the former communist eastern states.

Huellen, 49, was found hanged in his Berlin apartment.

Senior party lawmaker Joachim Hoerster, who announced the death to reporters at the Reichstag building, said the suicide note referred to "personal motives." ZDF television reported Huellen's letter also referred to family problems.

Oil spill heads for Rio's swamps

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — A huge oil spill spreading across Rio's postcard-famous Guanabara Bay has reached ecologically vital mangrove swamps and is threatening animal life, media reports said Thursday.

The Globo TV network said the oil that gushed from a broken refinery pipeline days ago has covered 16 square miles, including the Guapimirim mangrove swamps in the interior of the bay.

The 35,000-acre swamp area is environmentally protected and is home to endangered animal species such as the yellow-throated alligator and the blue egret.

Television footage showed egrets covered with oily muck dying on the beaches. Fishermen

and petroleum workers raced to contain what environmentalists say is the state's worst ecological disaster in a decade.

On Tuesday, a leaking pipeline at the Reduc oil refinery belonging to federal petroleum giant Petrobras dumped at least 130,000 gallons of crude oil into the bay. State environmental officials say the real amount could be twice that much.

The oil could poison the mangrove tree roots, mainly harming birds, fish and crustaceans, said biologist Mario Moscatelli of the state Environmental Affairs Department.

Officials have said it would take three years for the swamps to return to normal if hit by the oil.

WorldGLANCE

> Last U.S. military plane leaves Haiti

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A U.S. Air Force C-141 carrying a lone soldier and 15,000 pounds of equipment left Haiti on Thursday, marking a symbolic end to a mission that began with the 1994 U.S.-led invasion and restored elected government in this Caribbean nation.

"We're concluding our permanent mission here in Port-au-Prince," said Army Lt. Col. Ray Duncan. Without ceremony or fanfare, crews nearby loaded a hydraulic lift, generator and other equipment onto the plane.

The U.S. Support Group was the extension of a contingent of 20,000 troops President Clinton sent to Haiti in 1994 to restore the elected government of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide after a bloody three-year military dictatorship.

Unlike the invasion force, the Support Group's mission was humanitarian — building roads, bridges and schools, drilling wells and giving health care to the poorest of Haitians.

Few deny that the presence of uniformed Americans had a calming effect on Port-au-Prince, and some Haitians fear the pullout will increase the risk of unrest as Haiti prepares for legislative elections on March 19. A police training mission run by the United Nations ends March 15, when an unarmed U.N. training mission takes over.

But U.S. officials say Haiti has largely policed itself since a local police force was deployed under U.N. supervision in 1995.

Duncan, the Support Group commander, stressed that the U.S. military was not abandoning Haiti, but rather relocating. Washington is now sending units of between 150 and 200 non-combat reserve troops — engineers and medics — on temporary humanitarian missions.

The first "New Horizons" mission began Saturday near the northern city of Cap-Haitien and runs until March 31. A second, from May to October, will operate near the south coast town of Jacmel.

The temporary deployments will save \$20 million a year, said Duncan, who along with a three-member "rear unit" will leave Haiti Jan. 31 on a civilian flight.

> Murder case may never come to trial

MIAMI (AP) — Murder charges against SabreTech in the ValuJet crash may never come to trial because of the defunct jet repair company's finances, a state prosecutor said Thursday.

"After the federal sentencing, I don't know what's going to be left," Assistant State Attorney Gary Winston said in court. Circuit Judge Ronald Dresnick set Oct. 23 for the murder trial to begin.

SabreTech faces a \$4.5 million fine on last month's federal hazardous materials conviction and has no deep pockets to pay in that case, defense attorney Martin Raskin said.

"While the numbers are not public, we've maintained for a very long time that SabreTech was driven out of business and there is no big pot of gold," he said.

The maximum penalty for the corporation in the murder case over the deaths of 110 people in the Everglades crash would be a \$1.5 million fine.

Still, Winston said the state is prepared to pursue the case. "This is less about the money and more about the point. The point is airline safety," he said outside court. "No one else should ever feel that their life is in danger by going on an airline that's transporting hazardous waste illegally."

Sentencing is expected this spring in the federal case, which produced guilty verdicts against the company on eight counts of causing the transportation of hazardous materials and one count of failing to provide training in handling hazardous materials. SabreTech failed to install safety caps on and improperly packed explosive-tipped oxygen generators blamed for causing a cargo fire on the DC-9 that crashed May 11, 1996.

> Organic foods subject to national standards

PACIFIC GROVE, Calif. (AP) — Consumers gobbling up organic products at an unprecedented rate should have a better idea of what they're eating when the nation's first organic labeling rules roll out this year, a federal agriculture official said Thursday.

"This will not be a perfect rule, a holy grail, but it's a place to start so that farmers and consumers and the government can have some agreement on what organic means," said Keith Jones, who heads the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Organic Program.

Jones said the rules — expected to take effect this summer — will require organic producers to go through a mandatory planning process, to use materials from a restrictive list and to have their farming practices verified by an authority.

Enforcement, he said, will be handled by state, county and private agencies that currently oversee the industry but use a hodgepodge of rules and guidelines.

"We have empowered certifiers in this rule. But we're also going to ask certifiers to step up to the plate and take action," said Jones, speaking at the Ecological Farming Conference in Pacific Grove, Calif., the nation's largest annual gathering of organic farmers.

Katherine DiMatteo who heads the Greenville, Mass.-based Organic Trade Association said that despite existing self-regulation, her industry needs the promised federal regulations.

"Without the government, we would not be able to enforce this program universally," she said.

> Woman killed by package bomb in Boston

EVERETT, Mass. (AP) — A package bomb exploded in a house in this Boston suburb Thursday, killing a woman.

The package was left at the house around 12:30 p.m., and it exploded after the victim brought it upstairs, said Middlesex District Attorney Martha Coakley. She wouldn't say whether it was delivered by a mail carrier.

"We are pursuing leads in the case," Coakley said. "We have no reason to believe it is a random event."

Nearby residents were evacuated while agents from the FBI and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms investigated the scene. State police detonated the trunk of the woman's car to make sure there wasn't a bomb in it.

Tom Dubitsky, a musician who lives down the street but did not hear the explosion, called the area a "great neighborhood" with families, children and schools. The residents are of mixed ethnic backgrounds, he said, "a big melting pot, everyone gets along."

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Emert hosts forum on handling relationships



President George H. Emert introduces a forum on relationships at home, work, and school Tuesday in the Morgan Theatre

BROOK COX
Staff Writer

Everyone deals with stress in their lives, in fact it is practically impossible not to, but stress doesn't have to lead to abuse. Relationships with others at home, work and school was the focus of Utah State University's President's Forum Wednesday.

Four out of 10 American workers view their jobs as the biggest stress in their lives and even though the economy in Logan has been robust, the bankruptcy rates are at a high, said USU President George H. Emert. By having this forum, Emert said he hoped to "raise our level of awareness of the struggles each of us go through" and to bring home some solutions.

Families experience stressful events, but they don't need to have stressful routines, because they may lead to hurtful consequences, said Deborah Ascione, lecturer from the department of Family and Human Development. Dr. Frank Ascione, a professor in the department of Psychology, told a story of a girl named Mary Ellen. Mary Ellen was severely abused as a child, until a neighbor finally got tired of no one doing anything about it and decided to do something himself by calling a social worker.

"It takes the help of the whole community," Ascione said.

Many cases go unreported, but more cases are beginning to be reported. From

1996-1999 the Division of Child and Family Services statistics show that 31,752 substantial cases of child abuse and neglect were reported in Utah.

There are many forms of abuse and many ways to detect abuse in a home. "A pet's condition can be a barometer of a family," Ascione said.

It can be an indicator of problems in their lives at home.

People are beginning to recognize the problem of stress and how it can cause domestic abuse. It is estimated that businesses lose \$100 million per year in lost wages, sick leaves, absenteeism and reduced productivity related to domestic abuse. Brandy Quarez, a CAPSA representative, said it is sad that domestic abuse gets noticed more when it starts to affect the work force, but whatever the reason it needs to be recognized.

Everyone has stress, but "under no circumstances is the choice to abuse all right," Quarez said.

Steven Vigil, clinical director at the Intermountain Specialized Abuse Treatment Center, said people can be described by four different colors. Red people are passionate and impulsive. White people are givers. Blue people love boundaries and rules and green people are earthy and kind.

"Before we can deal with stress, we need to know who we are," Vigil said. "Learn who you are and how you process the world."

NewsBRIEFS

➤ Growth in Cache Valley needs regulation

With the last 10 years resulting in phenomenal growth in Cache Valley, Bobbie Coray, director and president of the Cache Chamber of Commerce, is working to see that continued growth is regulated.

Coray said she has a vested interest in how the valley looks to out-of-towners who may be looking to set up business here.

One of her concerns is maintaining open space in the valley. She said she is especially concerned with the pastoral land that lines the road out of the valley toward Wellsville Canyon. If that land is developed, she said, "in 15 years it'll take us 36 to 40 minutes to get out of the valley."

Development would also alter the beauty of the valley, she said, one of the two strongest assets of the area. The other is the pool of young, highly-educated people.

But, she said, Cache Valley's population is growing from within at a high rate. In fact, 67 percent of Utah State University students want to stay in the valley after graduation, according to Coray. With this kind of growth, the quality of life that attracts people to Cache Valley will be lost if planning isn't done now for the future, she said.

➤ Alcohol out for spring bash at U. of North Dakota

Many people questioned why officials at the University of North Dakota would want to move a traditionally raucous pre-finals, year-end party to campus, but it didn't take students long to solve the mystery.

Moving the event to campus would, under university policy, make it alcohol-free.

SpringFest, sponsored by the university's program council, has been held in a city-owned park since 1991. Complaints from nearby residents about partygoers' lewdness, trespassing and noise, as well as surging attendance, prompted the move.

School officials decided alcohol consumption was at the root of many complaints and decided they could better police crowds if the festivity were moved to campus. This year's party is scheduled for May 6. Many students said they don't have a problem with dropping alcohol from the party, but they fear its absence will cut attendance, which was about 6,000 last year.

"Because of the change in location and the apparent change in attitude of (putting on the party), there probably won't be as many people there," said UND senior Craig Hashbarger about this year's party. "And the people are what make it fun."

➤ Georgetown auctions off seats for web design course

Seats in a Georgetown University Web design course are going to the highest bidders on an Internet auction site.

It is one of the first times a university has turned to an outside company — in this case, www.reverseauction.com — to sell spaces in one of its courses. The university decided to sell the 16 spaces in the certificate course in multimedia to determine its market demand. Georgetown officials said they weren't sure how popular the course would be and, as a result, didn't know how much to charge for it.

"So we thought the best way is to let the world decide," Christopher McDonald, director of the Networked Media Center at Georgetown told *The Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Students who don't win seats through the auction will be asked to pay \$10,000 to take the course, which will cover Web page layout, color theory and printing issues.

➤ Trustee professors first chosen at Utah State

Three Utah State University professors have been selected by the USU Board of Trustees to be honored as the first-ever Trustee Professors. They are Kay Baker, electrical and computer engineering; Anne Butler, history; and Robert Sidwell, animal, dairy and veterinary science.

"This prestigious honor is reserved for the university's most outstanding senior faculty members," said Lowell Peterson, chair of the USU Board of Trustees.

To be eligible, a person must be a full professor who has been at USU at least 10 years.

Briefs compiled by
USU AND STATESMAN STAFF REPORTS

FIRE

Continued from Page 1

dorm, spreading quickly into a hallway and sending black smoke through the building.

"This was a pretty intense and fast-moving fire," said Essex County prosecutor Don Campolo.

Local fire investigators and agents of the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were probing the cause. There was speculation that someone had been smoking on the sofa.

An accelerant-detecting dog failed to detect any apparent evidence of arson, authorities said.

"This is an investigation that's going to take some time to complete," Campolo said.

Two of the dead were found

in the lounge; they may have tried to put the fire out, authorities said. The three sofas in that room were just charred frames; the hallway was blackened by soot. Dorm room doors left open by fleeing students revealed normalcy — computers, books and sneakers — juxtaposed with the horrific scene.

The third victim was found in a nearby room; emergency personnel had attempted to revive him, said Campolo.

"I actually went back to sleep after I heard the alarm, and my roommate had to wake me up and tell me it was real," said Pete Tornatore, 18, of Marlapan, N.J.

"It could have been us," said George Kelly, 18, of Wildwood N.J., hugging his girlfriend who was clad in Winnie-the-Pooh slippers.

HOLOCAUST

Continued from Page 1

heaven," he said.

The girl and her friends came upon Jacobs and a group of prisoners working. He said she took a liking to him and brought him food and medication and sent letters he wrote to his family.

Eventually the girl was also arrested and sent to Germany to do domestic work. Jacobs said she never returned.

Another miracle Jacobs said kept him alive was the reason for his book's title.

When World War II broke out, Jacobs had just finished his first year of dental school. He was preparing to return for his second year when he was arrested.

Before he left, his mother brought him his dental supplies and told him to take them in the satchel prisoners were allowed to bring, though Jews were not allowed to practice dentistry or medicine.

"This was the really biggest miracle leading to my survival," he said.

One night, after returning to camp from a day of hard work, Jacobs said he felt he had lost his last hope and strength. His hands were cracked and bleeding from work.

It was then, as he was trying to clean himself, that he was approached by a friend.

The friend told him he had heard of plans to start a dentist's office at the camp. The next morning, Jacobs' name and number were called.

The Nazi officer who inspected him was "two-faced," Jacobs said. Sometimes he was mean, sometimes he was nice.

That day, he was nice.

After inspecting Jacobs' dry, bleeding hands, the officer told him he couldn't treat patients. What he told him next, Jacobs said he almost didn't believe.

"He told me to stay in camp two weeks and do nothing, just let my hands heal," he said.

Soon, Jacobs was the dentist of Auschwitz, though that task developed into a job he despised.

Jacobs said his job was to remove the gold fillings from the teeth of dead prisoners. He said he only did it because if he didn't, he would have been shot and someone else would have done it.

Jacobs said he was the only member of his family to live through the war. His father was beaten and kicked in Auschwitz for not working hard enough, though he had a high fever and couldn't get up to work. He was thrown onto the concrete and fell into a coma, from which he never awoke.

His brother, who was sent to another camp after Jacobs and his father were arrested, survived to leave the camp and be reunited with Jacobs. Soon after, he died because of the malnutrition and mistreatment he experienced.

"Maybe it wasn't just that," Jacobs said. "Who knows why people get suddenly sick and suddenly die?"

Jacobs said the last time he heard from his mother and sister was a letter given to him by the girl he befriended at Auschwitz.

The letter said, "When you receive this letter, Mama and I will no longer be alive."

Jacobs' mother and sister were told they were being resettled, but they knew they were going to be killed, he said.

USU student will design involvement center

LARA GALE
Staff Writer

A Utah State University student will have the opportunity to design the student involvement center planned to replace the old information desk in the Taggart Student Center.

Interior design students in Design Details, a senior level class taught by Brent Windley, staff architect for USU, will create and enter original designs for the new center in a contest sponsored by the TSC. Cash prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place winners, and the first place winner will be able to work with Windley to create construction plans based on his or her design, Windley said.

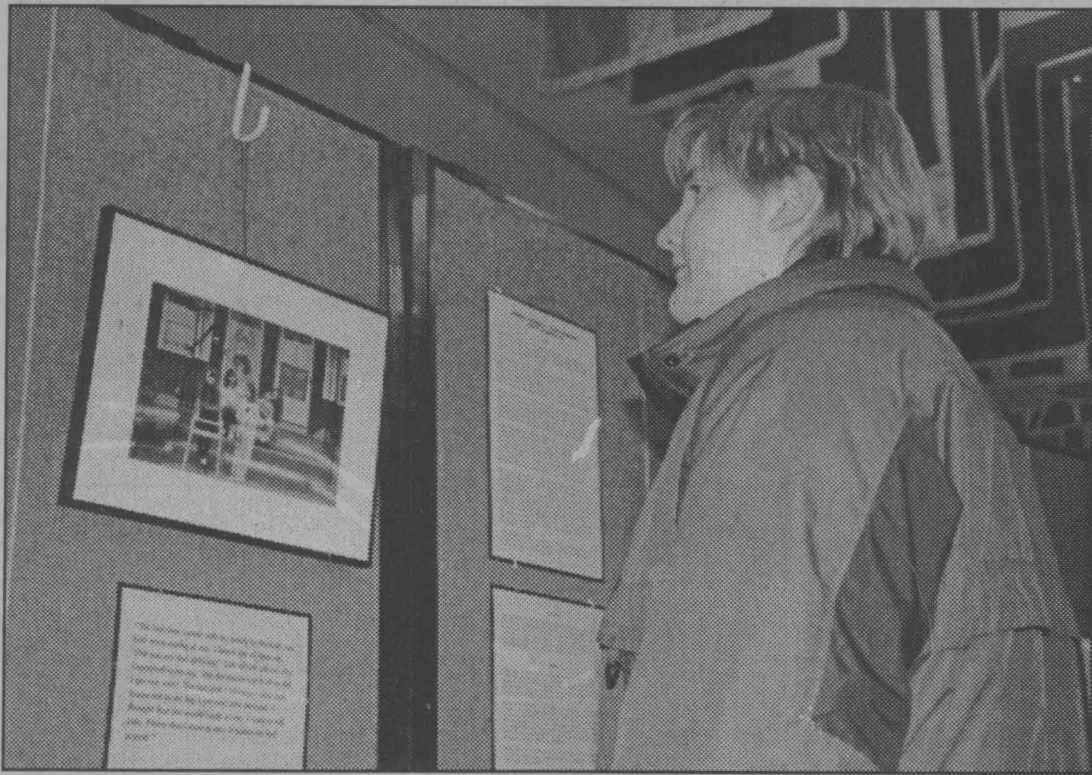
When the designs are complete, students will present them to a panel of judges including Gary Chambers, assistant vice president of student life, and a student committee headed by Christina Domichel, public affairs vice president of Associated Students of USU, who will make the final decision.

The students participating in this project will experience the designing process as if they were hired professionals, Windley said. The designs will be expected to make best use of existing architecture and available space while complying

ing to the vision of the ASUSU committee heading the project, Windley said. The students will have to come up with all the necessary information individually.

Windley said the size of the project makes it ideal for his students. It is small enough to be completed in one semester, but complex enough to provide a real challenge for the students.

Designing the student involvement center is one of two projects the class will be working on this semester. Half of the class will participate in a similar competition to redesign Dairy Sales, Windley said.



Wensdae Miller, a USU graduate student, looks at the photo display in the Sunburst lounge Thursday.

Photo-text exhibit honors families from all walks of life

BROOK COX
Staff Writer

Twenty pictures with stories that describe the lives of families, entitled In Our Family, is being displayed for the last day today in the International Lounge of the Taggart Student Center. The photo-text exhibit has been on display since Tuesday.

One purpose of the exhibit was for people to stop by and learn about different kinds of families, said Janet Osborne, director of the Women's Center/Reentry Center. The exhibit was chosen to be shown during Human Rights Week because, "we thought the diversity within the family would fit for the week."

She hoped people would read about the families and look at what characteristics are important to them and compare them to their own family's characteristics. Phrases

such as, "beautiful pictures," "I'm glad I could see these with my daughter," and "great idea," were common comments in the exhibit's guest book.

"We need to evaluate our perceptions of the family and learn about different kinds of families," Osborne said.

Government, religion and schools all have definitions of what a family is, but they can all be different. The In Our Family photo-text exhibit can be used as a resource for understanding what a "family" means in our complex and rapidly changing world, according to the Family Diversity Projects brochure.

The project was sponsored by Utah State University organizations including, the Women's Center, AA/EO, Counseling Center, Disability Resource Center and Multicultural Student Services and churches around the community including Cache Valley

ALL KINDS OF FAMILIES

The In Our Family exhibit features families of all kinds, including:

- Adoptive Families
- Foster families
- Single-parent families
- Multi-racial families
- Families dealing with illness and/or death
- Families living with physical challenges
- Families living with mental illness
- Interfaith families
- Multigenerational families

Unitarian Universalist Church, Faith & Fellowship Center, First Presbyterian Church and St. John's Episcopal Church.

ENTERTAINMENT

Alumnus Author

Glenn Latham, a USU alumnus and professor, has recently published his book *Christlike Parenting*. Check out Monday's Statesman to learn more.

Sundance Film Festival

Indie cinema stars shine on Park City for annual festival

ANDY MORGAN
Staff Writer

If you are a film buff or someone who enjoys movies for what a good flick should be — an outlet for superb acting and directing — then you'll want to hit the Sundance Film Festival. The festival runs from Thursday through Jan. 30 and if you have some cash and not a lot of homework, you could be privy to more than 100 independent films slated for premiere.

Listed below are some of the movies showing during the 10-day festival. More information can be found on the festival's Web site at www.sundancefilm.com and tickets can be purchased daily by calling the main box office at 801-521-2525.

AMERICAN PSYCHO

This film adaptation of Bret Easton Ellis' (*Less than Zero*) controversial novel is making its world premiere at the film festi-

val. Due to hit theaters in April, the graphic tale of a Wall Street yuppie turned nighttime serial killer is directed by Mary Harron (*I Shot Andy Warhol*) and stars the relatively unknown Christian Bale, Reese Witherspoon, Willem Defoe and Jared Leto.

WHAT'S COOKING?

During Thanksgiving, African-American, Jewish, Latino and Vietnamese households are melded in a movie about the

intricacies of family, class, race, ethnicity, sexuality and religion. Directed by Gurinder Chadha, this film also stars Joan Chen, Julianna Margulies, Mercedes Ruehl, Kyra Sedgwick, Alfre Woodard and Lainie Kazan.

THINGS YOU CAN TELL BY JUST LOOKING AT HER

In the tradition of Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, director Rodrigo Garcia has assembled an all-female cast to relate the story of several San Fernando

Valley residents whose lives seem to overlap. Five separate but connected vignettes highlight the emotion and drama of life we don't normally view. Starring Glenn Close, Cameron Diaz, Calista Flockhart, Kathy Baker, Amy Brenneman and Holly Hunter.

THE VIRGIN SUICIDES

Sofia Coppola, the daughter of film mastermind Francis Ford

Jump to **SUNDANCE**, Page 6

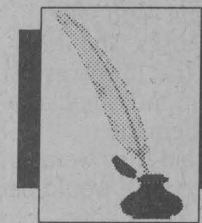


Free transit

With the limited amounts of parking on campus many students like Stephanie Nelson (left) and Emily Keller (right) who live off campus park below the stadium and ride the busses to campus. The Aggie Shuttle also loops around the Utah State University campus to drop students off at different buildings.

The short and short of it

LIFE SENTENCES / Bryce Casselman



Conference Center, the big mirrored building next to the Merrill Library, and watch people pass by.

He said he could tell how vain people were by how long they looked at themselves as they walked by. In the same breath he proceeded to tell me he saw me walk by the other day and look longer than anyone else.

I am okay with this, I really am. Why, you might ask? Because I'm short, very short, and being good looking and short is like being a really mean looking Doberman pinscher that can only meow. It just isn't the same.

Height is a funny thing. With today's technology you can change most anything you want about yourself. You can change your eye color, your hair color, your skin color (i.e. Michael Jackson), your body fat content and even your sex, but there's just nothing a person can do if they're dwarfish.

Now, don't get me wrong, there are a lot of good things about being stubby. Some examples: it's really easy to get something that falls under a

table, there's some real advantages in spelunking and if I ever make it big in Hollywood, there are those coveted Danny DeVito and Joe Pesci roles. I mean, what would the *Star Wars* movies be without the Jawas and the Ewoks? OK, bad example.

I would like to hear, just once in my lifetime, someone who is describing me to start out with something other than, "Well, he's short..."

If I have to hear one more fourth-grader come up to me and announce proudly, "I'm taller than you," I think I may just contact Dr. Kevorkian to assist me in a new level of euthanasia for the pain of being terminally short.

Do you remember that point during puberty when the clothes in the kids' section didn't fit and the sizes in the adult section weren't even close? Well, this is eternity for slight of height individuals. I like to call this "In-Between Hell."

The ramifications of this are much deeper than can be seen on the surface. Do you know how hard it is to ask a girl out on a date while wearing generic Keds, a slightly tight pair of brown Tuffskins, and a T-shirt so oversized that the collar falls

off your shoulders, giving the appearance that your wearing some kind of strapless evening wear? Not a pretty picture.

I must say that deep down inside, I really don't mind being short. Actually a few months ago another meowing-Doberman short guy started working in a department next to mine and the funny thing is, I felt threatened by him.

It was really strange, I had to be the only short, good-looking guy on the floor. I have since started counseling about it at GCA (Gary Coleman Anonymous) and I have stopped most attempts at getting him fired.

I might seem a little sensitive about this subject, seeing that I'm 5 foot 3 and five-sixteenth inches tall, but I'm really not. I think being short is funny, like most things in life and you've got to focus on the positive. I'm good looking, so I will continue to check out my handsome face as I walk by any reflective surface I come across because, frankly, it keeps me sane.

Bryce Casselman, features writer for the Statesman, is a junior majoring in journalism. Send comments to yanobi@hotmail.com

U of U presents Ballet Showcase next weekend

CORRINE KATOR
Senior Features Writer

The University of Utah Department of Ballet is presenting its traditional Ballet Showcase in the Alice Sheets Marriott Center for Dance Jan. 27 through 29 at 7:30 p.m., with a matinee at 2 p.m. Saturday.

According to a press release from the ballet department, "the program will feature numerous works in contemporary, classical and jazz ballet choreographed and performed by U. of U. ballet students."

University of Utah ballet professor Maureen Laird said the students do all of the work for the showcase pieces, from conceiving the choreography ideas to auditioning dancers.

Laird said the show's 16 pieces present a wide variety of styles. The first piece is a large jazz production with 20 participants that highlights some of the university's top dancers. Other pieces include a light, whimsical pas de deux, a highly spiritual piece inspired by a psalm, and a piece about the stages of a romantic relationship Laird said.

Audiences will also enjoy a variety of music, Laird said, even recognizing some very

contemporary songs "right off the radio." Laird predicts an enjoyable experience for audiences.

"It will be fun," she said. Ceselie Goodwin, spokesperson for the ballet department, said the Saturday matinee will include an opportunity for audience members to go backstage after the performance to meet the dancers and choreographers. Laird said this part of the showcase has been popular in the past for Girl Scout troops and other groups who come for the matinee. She said the children enjoy the personal touch of being able to meet the performers, asking questions and even getting some autographs.

Tickets for the showcase are \$8 general admission, \$5.50 for senior citizens and U. of U. faculty and staff and \$4 for students (elementary school through college). Tickets are available at Kingsbury Hall on the U. of U. campus, at all ArtTix outlets and at the door.

The Marriott Center for Dance (MDC) is located at 330 S. 1500 East, north of Rice-Eccles stadium on the U of U campus in Salt Lake City. According to the release, "convenient free parking is available in adjacent lots south of the MDC."

Out

Friday DANCE

Beach Party
LDS Institute
8:30 p.m.
\$2 if registered for Institute, \$4 if not

DANCE

Swing Dance
HPER Room 215
Free lessons from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.
9 p.m.
\$3 couple, \$2 single

BAND

Three Thirds
Pier 49
245 North Main St.
9 p.m.
all you can eat pizza \$5

CONCERT

Elaine Paige
and the Utah
Symphony
Abravanel Hall
Salt Lake City
8 p.m.
\$19 to \$36
Also plays Saturday

MOVIE

Dinner and a movie
Faith and Fellowship
Center
The Matrix
6:30 p.m.
Free

Saturday

MOVIE

Pizza and a movie
Sponsored by LDSMSA
LDS Institute Building
Day care provided
7 p.m.
\$1

Tuesday

ACROBATS

Peking Acrobats
Abravanel Hall
Salt Lake City
7 p.m.
\$11 to \$20

Wednesday

CONCERT

Chamber Music Society
of Logan
Borromeo String
Quartet
Eccles Conference
Center Auditorium
8 p.m.
\$5 with USU ID
\$15 without

Thursday

THEATER

Festival of New Plays
Lytic Theatre
28 West Center St.
8 p.m.
Free with USU ID
\$5 without
Runs through Jan. 29

If you have information you would like featured in Steppin' Out, please e-mail it to editor@statesman.usu.edu or call 797-1742

steppin' out

Timeline: The best since Jurassic Park

ANDY MORGAN
Staff Writer

Michael Crichton is keeping up with current events.

Jurassic Park dealt with genetic engineering, Rising Sun explored the relationship between the United States and Japan, Disclosure peered into the sensitive realm of sexual harassment and Airframe combined the terror of recent airplane crashes and the ever-present overkill by the media.

With Timeline, Crichton has constructed the best techno-thriller since Jurassic Park. Combining quantum physics and medieval history, the novel rivals the 1990 dinosaur adventure, if not gaining new ground as far as sheer magnitude and grandeur are concerned.

Crichton will tell you it ought to be this way since he took twice as long to write Timeline than he has with his other

Book REVIEW

/ Grade: A-

books. However, hardcore Crichton fans won't complain. They would rather have the 58-year old author take his time and compose a worthy read, rather than leave fans depleted and angry like Thomas Harris did with this year's Hannibal, the sequel to Silence of the Lambs.

Set in modern and medieval France, as well as New Mexico, the story revolves around a group of graduate students interred in the reconstruction of a 14th century castle. Their leader, Edward Johnston, a professor of history at Yale University, has formed a partnership with a research company (ITC) owned by businessman/genius, Robert Donniger. ITC funds the rebuilding project in southern France

and the research group hands over their information to ITC.

Although seemingly benign to the grad students, Johnston questions ITC's intentions after a visit from their corporate attorney. Thus, he ventures to Black Mesa, New Mexico, the site of ITC's facilities, to ascertain Donniger's true wishes for the castle reconstruction.

Donniger is part Bill Gates, part Lex Luthor. He is overconfident, adores himself and enjoys the control that being on the forefront of technology and being a billionaire offers. He has no fear and gives no thought to sacrificing anyone or anything that hedges his ultimate vision.

The graduate students continue working despite the absence of their mentor. Days pass without any communication from the professor and grumblings soon arise as to the future of the project. Yet, after a remarkable and enigmatic discovery amongst

the castle ruins, it becomes imperative they contact Johnston and discover the secrets ITC is keeping.

Only problem: Johnston has disappeared and ITC suddenly wants the graduate students to assist them in a "rescue mission." Thus, the journey begins and Crichton again snares the reader into a gripping page-turner that seeks to unravel the myths of the Middle Ages.

Crichton is criticized for being a fence sitter. His writing is not entirely literary and his work is not limited to the dense plot lines and tiresome dialogue that pervades today's fiction. While a quagmire, he is not perfect and Timeline has moments where it loses its grip. However, most of the potholes are not noticeable and do not disrupt the flow of action.

In the end, Timeline is Crichton at his best; smart, savvy and entertaining.

Logan climbing gyms provide indoor exercise environment

JIM WOLVERTON
Staff Writer

Have you ever sat in class wishing you were climbing the face of a large rock? Well, it's not as rare as it sounds.

Rock climbing has become one of the top five fastest growing sports in America, according to the American Sports Data Homepage (www.americansportsdata.com).

There is a problem with rock climbing and Logan, though. The sport requires access to rocks.

Since most rocks are found outside, severe winter weather in Logan can limit a climber's activities. Solution: indoor climbing gyms. Logan just happens to have two.

One gym is located in the Utah State University Fieldhouse. It's set up with holds and small angles on all walls of the room with a protective mat on the floor.

The gym is operated by the USU Outdoor Recreation Center, and according to Natalie Grout, ORC climbing gym supervisor, it is supervised by volunteers.

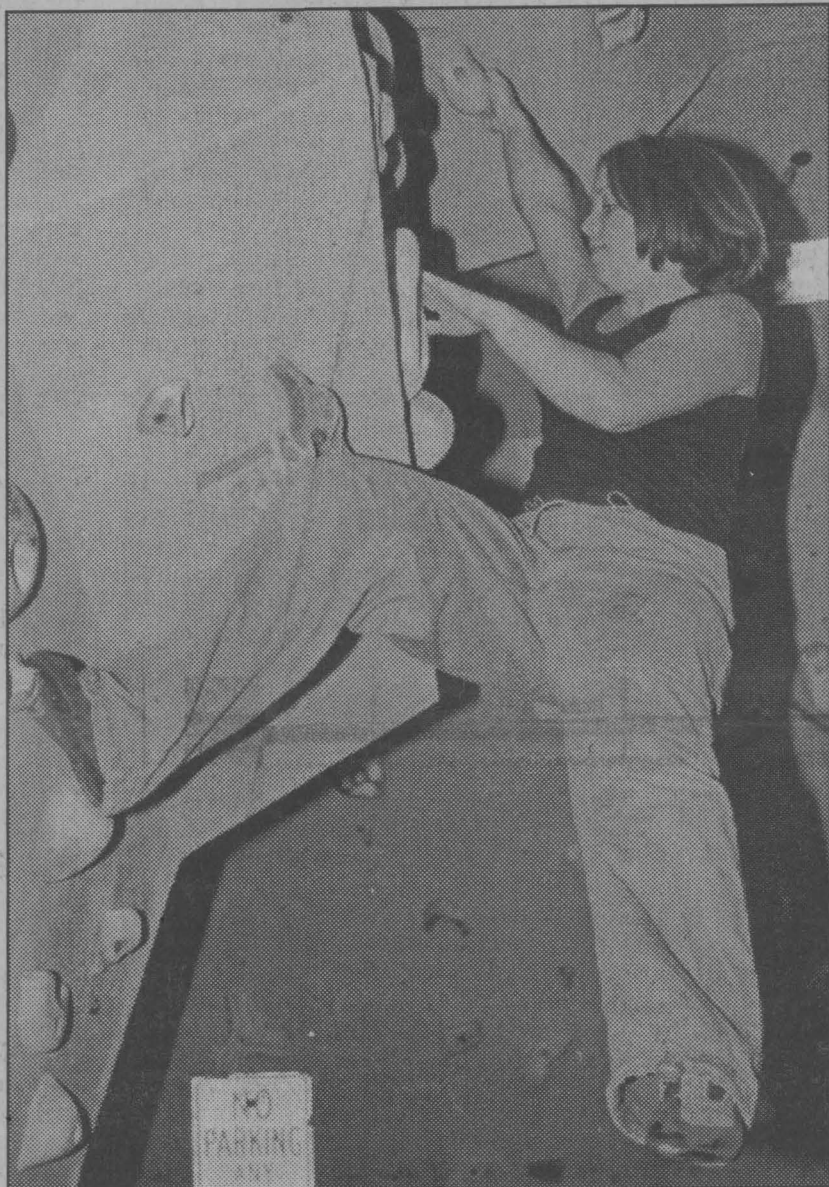
"This gym is for bouldering around and taking a break to get some exercise," Grout said.

To use the gym, climbers may purchase a pass at the ORC for \$20 that allows climbers access to the facility during the semester.

Adventure Sports on Main Street also has a full service climbing gym. Classes, competitions and gear are all available at the gym.

Built in 1997, the wall has a variety of angles from overhanging to vertical wall and numerous realistic, rocky features, according to Charlie Odette, co-owner of Adventure Sports.

"It's the best training facility in town," Odette said. "There are a lot more climbers in Logan than I ever imagined and the sport is growing and expanding so much it's become



Utah State University student Heather Parkinson navigates on one last route before ending her workout at Adventure Sports' indoor climbing gym.

corporate America, which is the opposite of what climbers wanted when we started," he added.

"People are realizing the importance of anaerobic exercising. You may burn more calories running than the actual climbing workout but in the recovery stage of the exercise the body burns three times as many calories than a daily aerobic exercise," Odette said.

The gym at Adventure Sports is home to national climbing competitions endorsed by The American Sport Climbers Federation, a national climbing organization.

Climbers are judged on the difficulty of climbs and the number of attempts one makes

on a particular set of moves. The climbers are allowed six hours to climb as many routes as possible. They then choose their 10 best climbs and points are awarded.

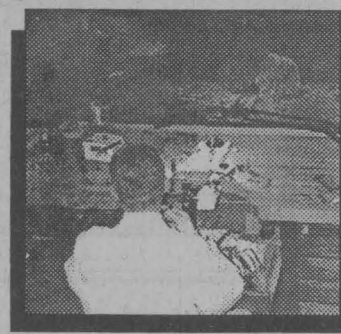
The first climbing competition of the year will be Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Registration is \$20 and the first 25 climbers to register will receive a locking carabiner.

According to Odette, prizes for the winners are donated and include a hangboard, spot pad, shoes, harnesses and clothing.

"In the past, everybody that has come out has won a prize," Odette said. "We have so many prizes and not enough participants so we give it all away."

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'Green Mile' great time machine experience

Movie REVIEW

THE GREEN MILE / Grade: A

ANDY MORGAN
Staff Writer

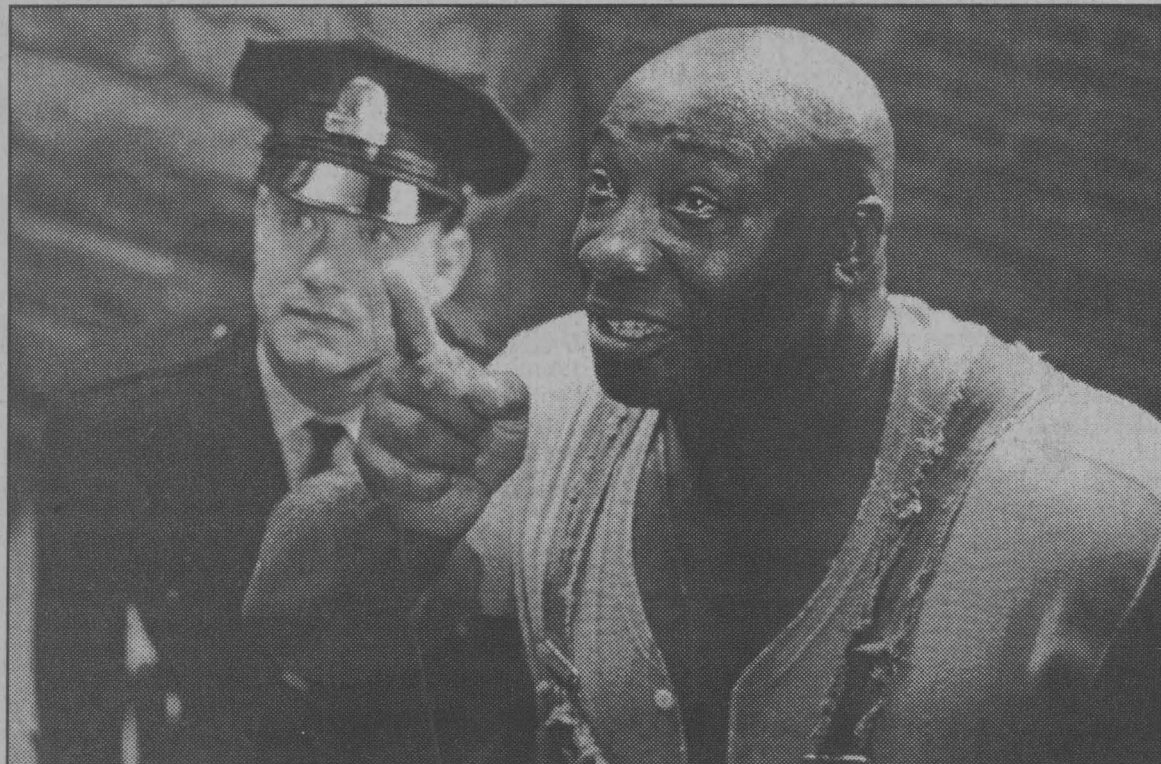
The best films serve as a time machine for the moviegoer. Somehow, talent is combined on many levels so audience members feel as if they have opened a window to the past, allowing the sights, smells, tastes and emotions of the story to come pouring into their minds.

From the first frame, a journey ensues and viewers are glued to their chairs, giving no thought to time or their popcorn and after the end credits are scrolling up the screen, they say, "Whoa, that was good."

The Green Mile, directed by Frank Darabont (*The Shawshank Redemption*), is a three-hour time machine that explores the lives of several death row guards before the execution of a wrongfully accused man. Based on the novel by Stephen King, this prison film is clearly one of 1999's best films.

Tom Hanks, revving up for his fourth Oscar nomination in six years, portrays Paul Edgecomb, a tough but levelheaded prison guard on the "green mile," a strip of green linoleum leading from the cells to the electric chair. Edgecomb suffers daily from a painful urinary infection and despite the ongoing pain, he manages the mile effectively, earning the respect of the inmates, guards and warden (James Cromwell).

Things change, however, when John Coffey (Michael Clarke Duncan) is brought to death row,



Prison Guard Paul Edgecomb (Tom Hanks) and convicted rapist John Coffey (Michael Clarke Duncan) star in the remarkable story of *The Green Mile* set on death row in a Southern prison in 1935.

being sentenced to the brutal rape and murder of two young girls. The prison guards, Brutus (David Morse), Dean (Barry Pepper) and Harry (Jeffery DeMunn) are in awe of this gigantic man. Expecting Coffey to be a troublemaker, Edgecomb soon realizes this monolith of a man is humble, kind and polite.

Normally death row is a quiet and somber place, but with the addition of a new guard, Percy Wetmore (Doug Hutchinson) and a new prisoner, "Wild Bill" Wharton (Sam Rockwell), life on the green mile takes a turn for the surreal.

Wetmore enjoys tormenting

the prisoners and "Wild Bill" enjoys tormenting Wetmore. All the while, the guards are prepping for two executions, that of Arlen Bitterbuck (Graham Greene) and Edward Delacroix (Michael Jeter).

Meanwhile, Edgecomb is still suffering from his urinary infection, something that hasn't gone unnoticed by Coffey. While the others have gone to the infirmary after an attack by "Wild Bill," Coffey seizes Edgecomb and by some miracle, heals the prison guard's malady.

If things were strange before on the green mile, they start to boil over and Edgecomb begins to question whether Coffey is truly

guilty or not. The rest of the guards begin to wonder as well, after they see Coffey resurrect Delacroix's pet mouse from the dead.

As the execution draws near, the truth is revealed and each person who is exposed to John Coffey walks away with a lighter heart and a blessing.

The Green Mile is littered with talent, and each member of the cast brings to life his or her part. Darabont's eye for detail and authenticity is amazing, as is his sense of pace and timing. This film is movie making at its best and you are guaranteed to be wiping your eyes at the end.

SUNDANCE

Continued from Page 6

Coppola, leaves the world of fashion and acting by writing and directing *The Virgin Suicides*. What is this movie about?

No, it doesn't chronicle the lives of young island teenagers tossed into a volcano. Rather, think of the most popular, unattainable girl you knew in high school and imagine she lives with the Manson family. Starring James Woods, Kathleen Turner, Kirsten Dunst, Josh Hartnett, Scott Glen and Michael Pare.

THE BIG KAHUNA

Kevin Spacey, one of today's finest actors, is receiving the Piper Heidsieck award for independent vision at Sundance this week. Spacey, who has appeared in several films (*The Usual Suspects*, *The Negotiator*, *American Beauty*) and several stage productions ("Lost in Yonkers," "The Iceman Cometh," "Glengarry Glen Ross") that have earned him respect in both avenues of entertainment and art.

Spacey teams up with Danny DeVito to bring the lives of two salesmen and their discussions about careers, sex and the purpose of life. *The Big Kahuna* is director John Swanbeck's first

feature film, however, he has worked with Spacey in the past, as well as being somewhat of a protege to director Mike Nichols.

THE BOILER ROOM

This film boasts young talent in Giovanni Ribisi (*Saving Private Ryan*, *The Other Sister*, *The Mod Squad*), Vin Diesel (*Saving Private Ryan*, *Pitch Black*), Nia Long (*Boyz in the Hood*, *Soul Food*, *Friday*), Ben Affleck (*Good Will Hunting*, *Armageddon*, *Forces of Nature*) and Tom Everett Scott (*That Thing You Do*, *American Werewolf in Paris*). Directed by Ben Younger (his first feature film), the film chronicles the life of a young man who runs a back-door casino for local college kids. Upon the urging of his father, he cleans up his act and obtains a job in the investment and banking world. However, he soon discovers the place where he works isn't a normal bank.

HAMLET

You will never guess who is in this flick. No, not Mel Gibson, rather Ethan Hawke. Maybe I just don't care for Hawke's career choices after *Dead Poets Society*, but it's no surprise to me he's in a "modern" adaptation of a classic piece of literature. Along with Hawke, Kyle MacLachlan, Diane Venora, Liev Schreiber, Bill Murray and Julia Stiles headline this cast.

Directed by Michael Almereyda.

HAPPY ACCIDENTS

Happy Accidents stars Marisa Tomei and Vincent D'Onofrio as two quirky New Yorkers who fall in love after meeting in Central Park. Things in their relationship are going well until D'Onofrio announces he's a time traveler from the year 2470. Directed by Brad Anderson.

COMMITTED

Starring Heather Graham (*Boogie Nights*) and Casey Affleck (*Good Will Hunting*), this film revolves around the wife of a serious deadbeat husband. After he leaves to "find himself," his wife — who is totally committed to the relationship — sets off to track down her delinquent hubby in Mexico. Directed by Lisa Krueger.

DARK DAYS

A documentary regarding countless numbers of homeless people living in communities under the streets of New York is different and bold. Directed by Marc Singer, who lived with the subjects of his film for two years, and used homeless people as his crew on the project.

SCOTTSBORO: AN AMERICAN TRAGEDY

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and show times.

Daniel Anker reveals another appalling illustration of United States appalling injustice to black Americans. The documentary revolves around nine black men who were accused of raping two white girls while riding the rails in Alabama in 1931.

The above list is just a sampling of the films at Sundance this year and the competition is proving to be tough with so many excellent actors and directors combining talent. Again, you can find more information on the Web or by calling the above listed number.

Andy Morgan will be mingling with celebrities at Sundance. You can e-mail him at lordofthejazz@hotmail.com

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THE HOBSON HUT / Casey Hobson



OK, we're back, and for those of you just tuning in, we're taking calls about anything you want today on the Hobson Hut radio show.

My number is 1-800-5150-hut. Again, that's 1-800-5150-hut. Let's take a caller. This is Casey, you're on the air.

"Yeah, Casey, this is Pete from St. Louis. I was just wondering if you'd heard anything more about this John Rocker character. Has commissioner Bud Selig decided what he's going to do with him? I mean, this guy is one muffed up sack of (censored)."

OK, easy on the expletives there. This show's been on probation since we had Mike Tyson on last month. Sheez, the thought of that show still makes me cringe.

For any listeners who might have spent the holiday season in a cave, Atlanta Braves' reliever John Rocker blasted New Yorkers — especially minorities and homosexuals — in a December edition of *Sports Illustrated*. Selig ordered him to undergo counseling and psychological testing, and he has done so. Now Selig is deciding what to do with the guy.

My guess is that Selig will lower the sledge hammer on Rocker. He's been encouraging baseball to become more minority friendly for quite sometime now, and he'll probably use Rocker's incident as a case-in-point scenario.

Unfortunately for Rocker, as putrid as his remarks were, he's being punished for something he has the right to do. If he wants to make an as ... whoa, that was close. I hope those Federal Communication Commission boys aren't listening today.

Anyway, like I was saying, if Rocker wants to make a horse's pa toot out of himself, then so be it. That's his God-given right as an American. Were his remarks sick and wrong? Absolutely. However, once we take away his freedom of speech, or anyone else's for that matter, then society as a whole will be in a world of hurt.

"So, you don't think he should be punished, either by the league or by the Braves' organization?"

No. How can you punish a person for something the Constitution clearly states he or she has the right to do? The First Amendment clearly protects free speech — for better or for worse. In sickness or in health. When it comes right down to it, Rocker has committed no crime. He's merely been stupid, and if we start incarcerating people on charges of stupidity, then half of society will be found guilty.

"So what should be done?"

Ignore him.

"That's it?"

Yeah, ignore him. Why give him an attention. I'll bet you don't sit around that water cooler at work and gab when no one is listening. That's because where there's no forum, there is no speaker. If a tree falls in the forest and no one is there to hear, then no one cares if it makes a sound. It doesn't matter.

"Well, what about all these groups of people Rocker has offended? How do we get justice?"

Look, one of the other things the 1st Amendment indirectly guarantees is that someone, somewhere is going to have some pretty disgusting comments thrown their way as a result of this free speech. It's a fact of life. Someone once called me a chauvinistic prick for what I wrote about the Laker Girls in one of my columns. I simply said they should get some more airtime, and this person flew off. I didn't lose sleep over it, and I certainly didn't hit her down and demand she be punished. She's entitled to her opinion, and she's entitled to voice it.

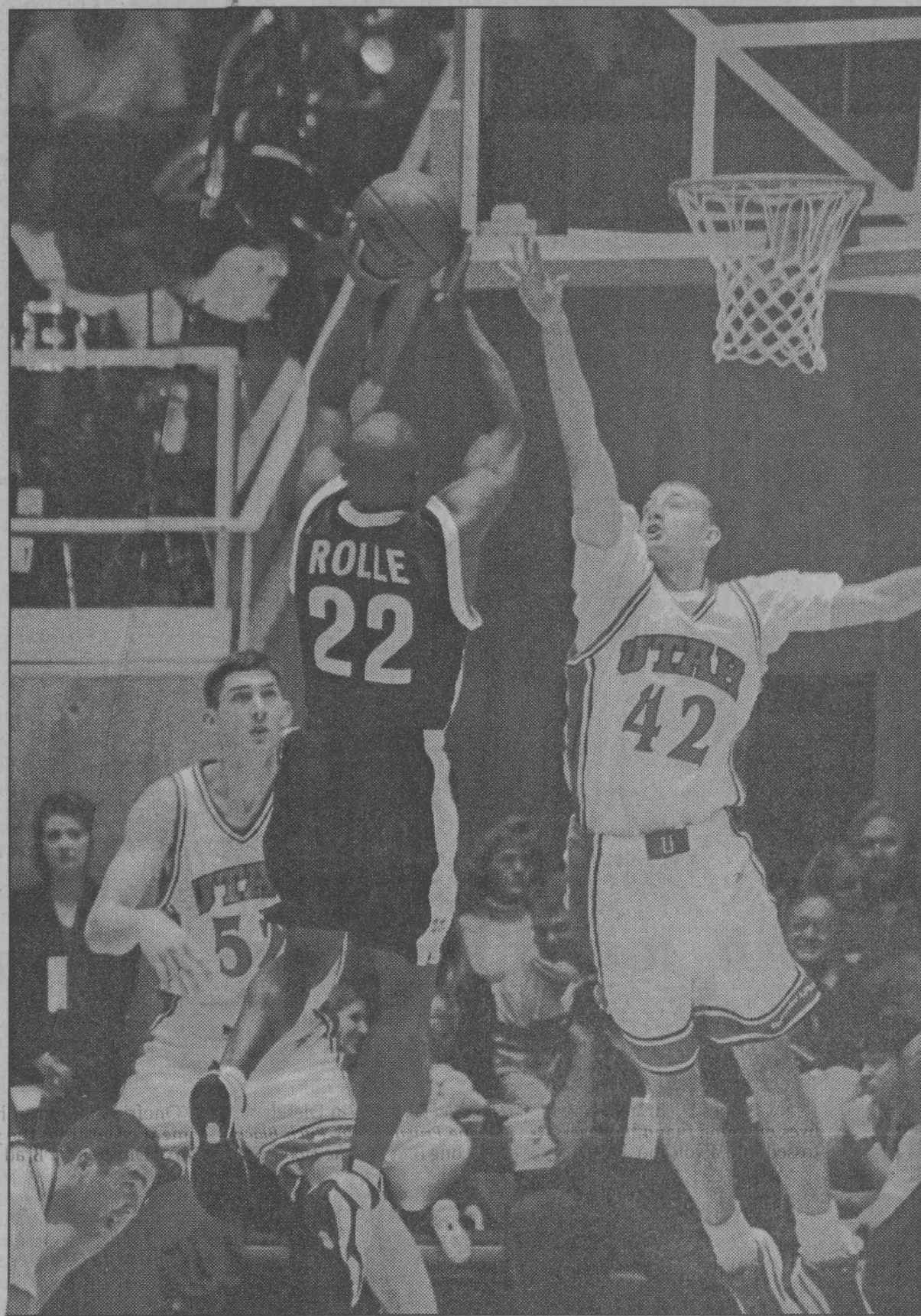
I'll tell you what these minority groups ought to do, if they were really concerned about it: They'd encourage him. They'd allow him to continue spouting off and making a horse's pa toot out of himself. People would see just how ignorant his way of thinking is, and draw their own conclusions. That would do more good for the minority movement than any type of enforced punishment Bud Selig could place on him.

The majority of the people in this country are intelligent, and they recognize ignorance when they see it.

"OK, well thanks for the hel"

Alright, thanks for the call, Pete. We have to go to a commercial break, but we'll be back in a bit. You're listening to the Hobson Hut radio show ...

Casey Hobson is the sports editor for the Statesman.

USU wins first road game of season, trip

USU's Troy Rolle takes a jumpshot over Utah's freshman forward Mike Puzey during USU's 77-44 loss at Utah on Dec. 7.

Aggies kick off four-game road trip with 61-57 victory over Santa BarbaraAARON MORTON
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite blowing a 16-point second half lead and shooting a poor 11-of-22 free throws, Utah State University held on for a 61-57 win over the University of California at Santa Barbara.

The win gave the Aggies (12-5 overall, 3-0 Big West Conference) their first win on the road this season to stay undefeated in the BWC.

Utah State ended the game on a 10-0 run in the last four minutes, stopping the Gauchos' red-hot offense with a zone defense.

"We found a way to ground it out," USU head coach Stew Morrill said during an interview on KVNU.

USU had a 16-point lead about four minutes into the second half when UCSB (4-10, 0-3) came screaming back, holding the Aggies without a field goal for 7:20 during an 18-0 run.

"All of a sudden from 16 up to six down," Morrill said.

"We relaxed. It goes to show you on the road you can't relax," USU forward Shawn Daniels said.

Dimitri Jorsen stopped the bleeding with two free throws and a reverse lay-up. But the Gauchos, led by Brandon Payton (Gary's brother), who had 11 of his 12 points in the second half, kept pushing and earned their largest lead of the game — six — with about four minutes left in the game.

After a Daniels free-throw, Tony Brown cut the lead to two on a trey. Rolle then drove to tie the game at 57 with 2:45 left.

UCSB looked to take control as Payton hit a 3-pointer with 1:37, but it didn't count — Gauchos' head coach called timeout just before his guard hit the long jumper.

"That's the break we needed," Morrill told his team.

Both Rolle and Brown hit one of two freebies to inch the lead to two with 24 seconds left. Adama Ndiaye then dropped the ball out of bounds. In foul trouble throughout the game, he committed two turnovers and missed two from the charity stripe down the stretch.

"When you get foul trouble, it's hard to keep your

**USU 61
UCSB 57****High Scorer:**

Both Shawn Daniels and Tony Brown scored 14.

Key Stat:

USU went on 10-0 run to end the game.

Turning point:

With the game tied 57-57, UCSB's Payton made a 3-pointer, but it didn't count as coach Bob Williams called timeout.

USU hockey to face toughest test yetREUBEN WADSWORTH
Sports Writer

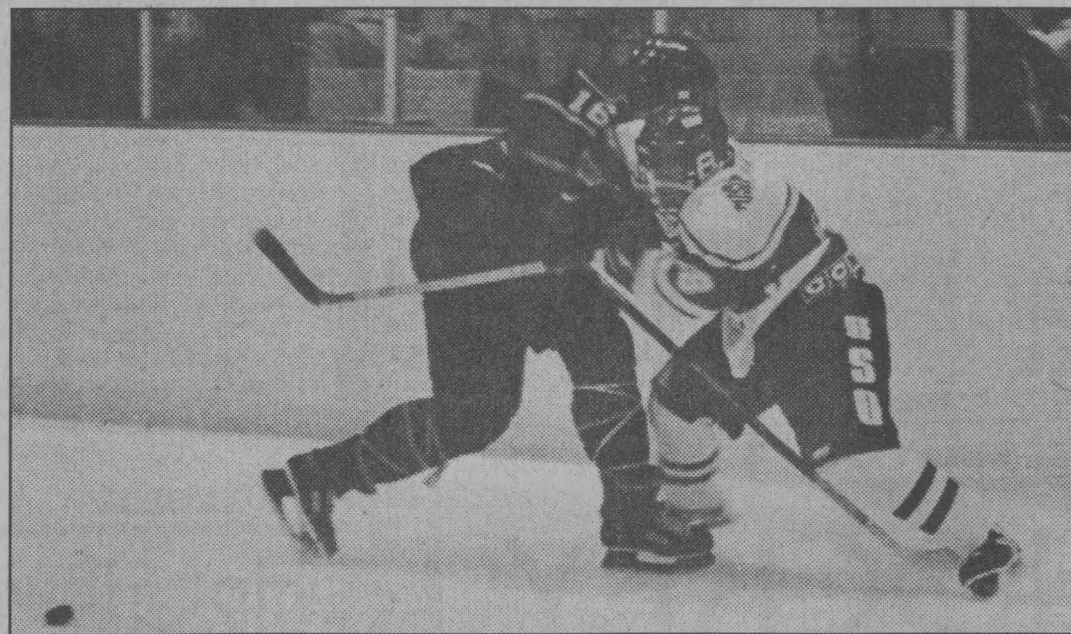
The Utah State University hockey team may have its most difficult test of the season this weekend as they face Colorado State University as well as the Provo Icecats (Brigham Young University).

The Aggies will take the ice in Provo on Friday night and face-off against CSU Saturday at 8:30 p.m. at the Ogden Ice Sheet.

The CSU Rams were formerly ranked No. 1 in the Western Region of the American Collegiate Hockey Association's Western Division until they lost to Weber State University in December. The Aggies, with their unbeaten record, took over the top spot after CSU's loss.

Utah State is the only undefeated team in NCAA division I-AA hockey. Aggie Kelly Froerer said if the team goes undefeated, it will be a new national record.

USU defenseman Danny Wilson predicts the game against the Rams will be one of the best games of the season because of the two teams' 1-2 rankings.



USU's Scott Hancey fights for the puck against Weber State's Sparky Parks in a game earlier this season.

1-2 rankings.

Teammate Aaron Burrell said it is the most important game so far in the history of Aggie hockey because it will be the hardest test the team has faced to see if it can keep its 16-0-1 record unblemished.

"It will be a good, tight game," Burrell said of the CSU match-up. "I'm nervous already."

USU goaltender Eric

Moldenhauer said his team doesn't know much about the Rams, and can't predict the outcome of this one like they have in most of their previous games.

Froerer said his team would have to come out against CSU the same way it did against Weber two months ago in order to get the victory.

A sell-out crowd will also

help the Aggies' chances of winning, Wilson said.

"The fans are like a sixth man on the ice," Burrell said. "They pick us up when we feel down."

Moldenhauer said he was pleased to see the team's game against the Icecats on Saturday was nearly a sell-out, considering there was a basketball game on the same night.

Track team sends vaulters to Summit in RenoJEN LONGSON
Sports Writer

The Utah State pole vaulters are headed to The Pole Vault Summit in Reno, Nev., on Friday and Saturday where they will be more than 2000 other pole vaulters from around the country.

"The Pole Vault Summit is not only a competition, it is also a learning experience for the athletes," head coach Greg Gensel said.

USU will have seven athletes attending—Shae Bair and Deborah Barker from the women's team and Mark Calvin, Maurice Jenkins, Jerome Jenkins, Christian Lee and Ross Martin from the men's team. Bair and Calvin are co-captains for the respective teams.

"This is an opportunity our athletes have to check out the competition," Gensel said. "It's also a time to share with each other what they have."

While Utah State's seven competitors are in Reno, the rest of the track and field team will be preparing for its next competition next Thursday.

Aggies IN ACTION**Thursday****Basketball**

Utah State 61
Santa Barbara 57

Friday**Hockey**

USU at BYU, 7:15 p.m.
Women's Tennis
USU at Utah, 5 p.m.

Track and field
Pole Vault Summit,
Reno, Nev.

Saturday**Basketball**

USU at Cal Poly, 8 p.m.
Radio: 610 am, 94.5 fm
Hockey
USU vs. Colorado, The

Ice Sheet in Ogden
Men's Tennis
USU at Utah, 6 p.m.
Track and field
Pole Vault Summit,
Reno, Nev.

Sunday

No games scheduled

Check the Statesman every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for complete and in-depth looks at all Aggie sporting events. Find us on the Web at www.statesman.usu.edu



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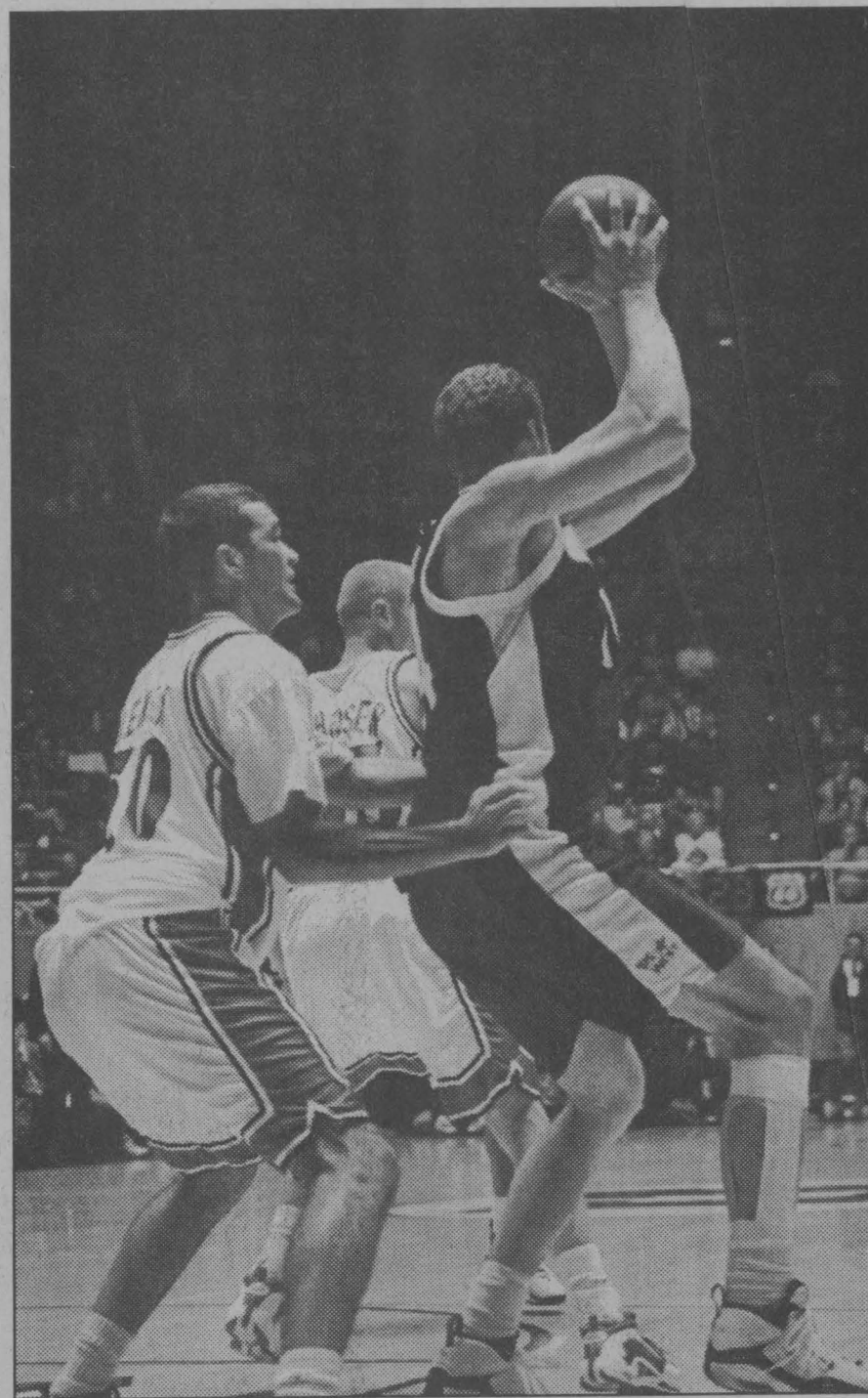
➤Saturday, Jan 22 vs. Colorado St.

8:30 p.m. (Colo. St. ranked No. 2!)

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the door.



USU center Dimitri Jorsen backs his way into the lower post against University of Utah defender Alex Jensen in the Aggies' 77-44 loss to the Utes on Dec. 7 in the Huntsman Center in Salt Lake City. Jorsen scored 10 points, grabbed five rebounds and blocked one shot in Utah State's 61-57 victory over Santa Barbara on Thursday night, USU's first road win.

ROAD TRIP

Continued from Page 7

intensity in the game," Daniels said.

Brown took advantage and iced the game with two more free-throws with seven ticks left on the clock.

In contrast to the drama in the second half, the Aggies owned the game early as they went around the best defense in the BWC (lowest opponent's field goal percentage) by shooting deep and running the fast break. Bernard Rock had two 3-pointers and Rolle, Brown and Bobb contributed one each, Rolle's coming from NBA range out.

"We were extremely aggressive and active," Morrill said.

USU raced out to a 6-2 lead capped by a Dimitri Jorsen dunk and a Bernard Rock long 2-point. Fast break points and treys lifted USU to a 29-18 lead.

The Gauchos cut the lead to six after Mark Hull scored the old-fashioned 3-point-play on a fast break.

However, three straight turnovers by UCSB stalled the run and the Aggies quickly took advantage. USU scored five straight points before Dion Bailey put an exclamation point on the run, as he took the ball away for one of the Gauchos' 13 turnovers, sprinted down the sideline and dunked the ball plus the free-throw to extend the lead to 37-23 — the largest of the first half for the Aggies.

"He loves to dunk, like all kids," Morrill said.

USU's lead grew to 45-29 on a Jorsen hook shot.

That's when the Gaucha defense kicked in, shutting down the USU's attack. The high mark for UCSB was a 3-point play by Payton to take a 47-45 lead.

The Aggies will now take on California Polytechnic State University (5-9, 0-2) at Mott Gymnasium in San Luis Obispo Saturday night at 8 p.m. The Mustangs return all five starters from last year's team that took a 97-73 beating in Logan last season. USU is a perfect 4-1 against Cal Poly.

BASKETBALL SUMMARY

USU	Min	FG	FT	Reb	A	TP
Daniels	36	6/11	2/7	10	1	14
Jorsen	29	4/8	2/2	5	0	10
Rolle	31	2/5	2/3	2	6	7
Rock	27	4/11	1/2	4	0	10
Brown	30	4/11	3/4	3	4	14
Stewart	4	0/0	0/1	1	0	0
Thomas	9	0/2	0/0	0	2	0
Ray	11	0/1	0/0	1	0	0
Bailey	13	1/2	1/1	4	1	3
Bobb	10	1/2	0/2	0	1	3
TOTALS	200	22/53	11/22	32	15	61

UCSB	Min	FG	FT	Reb	A	TP
Hull	28	2/9	4/4	8	0	8
Ndiaye	21	1/5	0/2	6	1	2
Jordani	24	1/6	1/2	4	0	4
Allen	29	4/6	2/2	3	2	10
Ashe	21	3/9	2/2	2	2	10
Bryant	6	1/1	0/0	2	0	3
Bell	24	2/4	1/3	5	5	5
Payton	14	3/8	5/8	0	0	12
Ward	14	1/1	1/2	1	2	3
Vukovich	1	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
Carmichael	18	0/1	0/0	8	1	0
TOTALS	200	18/50	16/25	40	13	57

3pt FG: USU 6/16 (Brown 3/7, Rolle 1/4), UCSB 5/11 (Ashe 2/4, Payton 1/3).
Steals: USU 3 (three with 1), UCSB 7 (Allen 3).
Blocks: USU 3 (Daniels 4, Jorsen), UCSB 3 (Carmichael 2, Ndiaye).
Attendance: 1,050

Air Jordan could be in for a big surprise

SPORTS TALK / Jim Litke



Two guys in different sports came into a lot of power yesterday. One of them used to be a player. The other one used to be an owner. Neither knows exactly what he is getting himself into. And the future of their sports may hang in

the balance.

Who said the millennium wouldn't start with a bang?

Wednesday in Washington, Michael Jordan promised a new magic trick. He said he would turn the woeful Wizards into NBA champions, in exchange for a future piece of the club.

Being Jordan, he already had a plan. He streamlined the chain of command: He said he will report to majority owner Abe Pollin; everybody else will report to him.

"I don't get to play. I don't get to wear a Wizards uniform, but I will have influence with the players who wear the uniform," Jordan said.

Soon after that, in Phoenix, commissioner Bud Selig was showing around the stick he'd just been handed by the owners to restore competitive balance to baseball. With the sweeping powers contained in baseball's "best interests" clause, Selig can block trades; redistribute wealth and fine teams like they'd been caught dumping toxic waste.

And as Selig noted, the stick only comes out after he's convinced that dangling carrots in front of people won't make them behave.

"I'm not," Selig said, "going to get into the specific things I can and cannot do."

Everybody likes to say there are already enough rules on the books; that all that's needed is for somebody to enforce them. We are about to find out if that's true.

Jordan is going to try to build a basketball empire from lower than scratch. He needs better players, starting last week, and the Wizards (we're not making this up) don't have significant cap room until the 2002-3 season.

But let's say Jordan is shrewd. And let's say cutting through the red tape of running a franchise is as easy as he makes it sound, running from the practice court to the telephone. And let's say he actually scares a few of those high-priced problems away in practice and dumps their contracts on somebody else.

He still has to acquire a few players of his own. And wait until Jordan discovers how many problems and how little heartache all that ownership money will buy.

Then it won't matter that Jordan could still dribble around any of them with one hand tied behind his back. Or that he could dunk over any two — laid end to end — while still wearing a business suit. He cannot balk at the going rate for talent. Not with a straight face, anyway. He himself is only a few years removed from strong-arming an owner out of \$33 million.

The difference, of course, is that he was worth it. Wait until he finds out how much that's worth to some kid and his money from Michael Jordan, no matter how much they respect him and appreciated him as a player,"

said Jerry Reynolds, his counterpart with the Sacramento Kings.

"In the (negotiating) arena, it is, was, and always will be about money."

Jordan carries quite a few banners into this fight. Just by returning, he brought the President out and some buzz back to the NBA, a neat trick at a time when interest is slipping and crowds are off by about 10 percent. And a successful segue into ownership would raise the ceiling for former players, much like Jerry West did by walking off the court and into the Lakers front office to become just as valuable an executive as he was a player. But it won't happen without a lot of pain.

Selig, too, is going to suffer some headaches as he's serious about putting baseball back on sound footing — both financially and competitively, since they go hand in hand. A cynic would suggest he was given the power to wield against the players in future labor wars. That's still something to worry about in the distance.

As things stand, the teams with the top 10 payroll coming out of spring training could start the playoffs the next weekend and send everybody else home. That's baseball's biggest problem. To restore some balance, Selig is going to have to whack some people, risky business in a business in which every one of the owners who elevated him from within their ranks interpret the "best interests" of baseball to be their own.

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

PROTENNIS

Hot Hewitt reminiscent of Connors

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

— One of the raps against Lleyton Hewitt, the hottest player in tennis, is that he burns too much energy on court and is bound to flame out.

They used to say that about a fiery kid named Jimmy Connors.

Hewitt's detractors, among them Pete Sampras and Andre Agassi, also like to point out that he possesses no "big weapons" — no booming serve, no killer return, no crushing groundstrokes.

Sort of like Bjorn Borg, the preeminent human backboard.

Then there are the stodgy critics who take offense at Hewitt's cockiness, his challenges of line calls, even the backward baseball cap that hides his long blond hair.

Compared to John McEnroe, Hewitt is a veritable choir boy.

At 18, Lleyton Hewitt is a slim, 5-foot-11 Australian who doesn't volley like Patrick Rafter and doesn't whack aces like Mark Philippoussis. All he does

is win, whittling down opponents stubbornly and tirelessly like a boy cutting down trees with a pocket knife.

Hewitt won a tournament in his hometown of Adelaide two weeks ago, then he won another in Sydney. On Thursday, in the second round of the Australian Open, he ran his winning streak to 12 matches with a masterful 6-0, 6-0, 6-1 performance against Alex Corretja.

Triple bagels in tennis are as rare as perfect games in baseball. In the 32 years of the open era, only five have been recorded — the last by Sergi Bruguera against Thierry Champion en route to the French Open title in 1993. No one in the 95-year history of the Australian Open had ever done it.

Against the Corretja, who is certainly no slouch and who prides himself on his professionalism, Hewitt came as close to perfection as possible, yielding only at 4-0 in the third set when Corretja finally held serve.

It was characteristic of Hewitt that he was disappointed that he gave up even that much, and that he kept pumping his fist right down to match point.

"I'm out there for every point," said Hewitt, who was ranked No. 22 at the end of 1999. "I'm not the type of player to hold back on anything. I'm out there to win every game and give 100 percent."

Connors used to say the same thing.

That is not to suggest that Hewitt's career will rocket along the same trajectory as a Connors, a Borg or a McEnroe. He still has to prove he can win one major trophy, much less a collection of them. And the criticisms of his game are valid, especially that he hasn't learned to shoten points by going to the net when he has a chance.

But Hewitt possesses what few other players do: the speed and spirit of a champion, and a willingness to fling his body all over the court in pursuit of every point.

Selig may have league's fate in hands

PHOENIX (AP) — If baseball owners go to war with their players again in two years, Bud Selig will have unprecedented power — maybe enough to win the salary cap many teams want.

Or, if he wants to avoid a war, he'll have the power to negotiate an extension of baseball's labor contract.

"The developments of the last two days in any historical context are staggering, inconceivable 10 or 12 years ago," Selig said Thursday after a two-day meeting reversed years of erosion of the commissioner's authority. "I don't think people understand the significance of what's happened here in the last 24 hours."

Owners voted Thursday to give all their Internet rights — including radio broadcasts and video when technology becomes available — to the commissioner's office.

A day earlier, they gave Selig power "without limitation" to ensure "there is an appropriate level of long-term competitive balance among the clubs" and told him to use it.

He can override all of baseball's rules — even blocking trades — and attempt to impose a salary cap if he thinks bargaining with players after the 2001 season has reached an impasse.

"It will strengthen the position of major league baseball," Houston Astros owner Drayton McLane said. "He's had best-inter-

ests power over the integrity of the game. Now he has best-interests power over the economics of the game."

Baseball, which has had eight work stoppages since 1972, is still recovering from the last one, a 232-day strike in 1994-95 that wiped out the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

'The developments of the last two days in any historical context are staggering, inconceivable 10 or 12 years ago.'

• BUD SELIG •
BASEBALL
COMMISSIONER

payroll last year — \$92 million — Florida spent less than one-sixth of that, \$15.15 million.

Under the current contract, approval of the players' association is needed for any revenue-sharing changes, one of the reasons large-market teams didn't object to Selig's new power, several high-level baseball and team officials said on the condition they not be identified.

They think the union wouldn't approve radical change because it would take money away from baseball's biggest spenders, who raise the top salaries, the officials said.

Selig has also gained the power to ignore the ownership hawks who want a salary cap at all costs. He could negotiate the best extension he can get with the union and say it's in baseball's best interests to avoid another work stoppage.

Union head Donald Fehr wouldn't comment extensively on Selig's increased power, other than to say the players' association had a duty to ensure that "the collective-bargaining process and our agreements are adhered to."

Selig, while not saying what he would do, agreed with commissioner Bowie Kuhn's June 1976 decision to stop Oakland owner Charlie Finley from selling pitcher Rollie Fingers and outfielder Joe Rudi to Boston for \$2 million and pitcher Vida Blue to the Yankees for \$1.5 million.

"In his mind, at that time, he was protecting the best interests of the game," Selig said. "In the end, I was supportive of Bowie's decision."

Selig said he would await the report of baseball's latest economic study committee, expected by opening day, before using his new power.

"I will do it very judiciously, but I will do it with great determination," he said. "I will do it as situations come up."

With the elimination of the league offices, baseball's staff, including umpires, will be centralized under Selig. However, Selig doesn't expect the biggest distinction between the leagues — the designated hitter — to be resolved any time soon.

"The American League still

likes the designated hitter," he said, adding "it will take some type of catalytic event like realignment" to cause its adoption by the National League or to eliminate it. The union would fight the end of the DH, which allows older, high-salaried players to remain active.

The Internet decision is much like moves made decades ago by baseball and the other major sports to give their national broadcast rights to their central offices. While billions of dollars in television money have fueled the sports for the past 30 years, owners think the Internet — with the possibility of world-wide video transmission on broad band — will lead to big money someday.

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Triathlete fights cancer for spot on Olympic team

LINCOLN, Mass. (AP) — Triathlete Karen Smyers is in the fight of her life. Two fights, in fact.

She's trying to win a spot on the U.S. Olympic team. At the same time, she's battling thyroid cancer.

A month after undergoing six hours of surgery, she is working out three hours a day. With permission from her doctors, she is putting off further treatment so she can train for the Olympic trials in April and May.

Smyers hopes to compete in the 2000 Olympics, the first time the triathlon will be included in the games as a medal sport. At age 38, Smyers figures this is her only chance to go to the Olympics.

"If this is my last shot, I've got to go for it," she said.

The cancer diagnosis and surgery are the latest in a string of recent setbacks for Smyers, whose first 13 years as a professional triathlete were remarkably free of injury.

In the past 2 years, Smyers suffered a hamstring injury, broke six ribs when an 18-wheeler hit her bike, and broke her collarbone in another bike crash.

"Luckily, I'm not new to overcoming obstacles," she said Thursday.

Smyers has even turned some setbacks to her advantage.

While recuperating from the hamstring injury, she gave birth to her first child, Jenna, now 20 months old. And it was a job layoff that gave her the time to pursue being a professional triathlete.

A swimmer at Princeton, Smyers began competing in triathlons after going to work for a Boston computer company. She was a strong amateur, but blossomed into an international standout when the computer company faltered and her work hours were halved.

She became a four-time world champion, winning the grueling Ironman competition in 1995 and four other times placing in the top four. This year, the U.S. Olympic Committee named her triathlete of the year.

Her career was uninterrupted by injury until the spring of 1997, when Smyers severed her hamstring while replacing a storm window in her home in this woody Boston suburb.

Three months after the child's birth, Smyers was riding her bike when she was struck by an 18-wheeler, breaking six ribs and separating her right shoulder. That knocked her out of competitions for the rest of 1998 — and prevented her from

lifting her daughter for weeks.

Smyers returned to competition in 1999, and in October finished second in the Ironman in Hawaii. She finished the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike race and a 26.2-mile run in 9 hours, 20 minutes, 40 seconds.

It was a remarkable feat, considering her past injuries and that a month earlier she'd been told she might have cancer.

"That was the first time I ever heard the c-word in conjunction with me," she said.

Smyers had gone to a doctor with a bout of bronchitis and mentioned that her glands or thyroid felt swollen. The doctor sent her for an ultrasound.

Terrified, she and her husband, Michael King, searched the Internet for information and discovered that thyroid cancer is one of the more curable types, with a survival rate of 95 percent.

Still, she was down for a while.

"I kept thinking, 'Jeez, why should I keep training if I've got cancer?'" she said.

Because thyroid cancer is slow-growing, her doctor said she could finish the triathlon season before getting a biopsy. So she competed in the Ironman, and then went on to her final triathlon of the season in Mexico.

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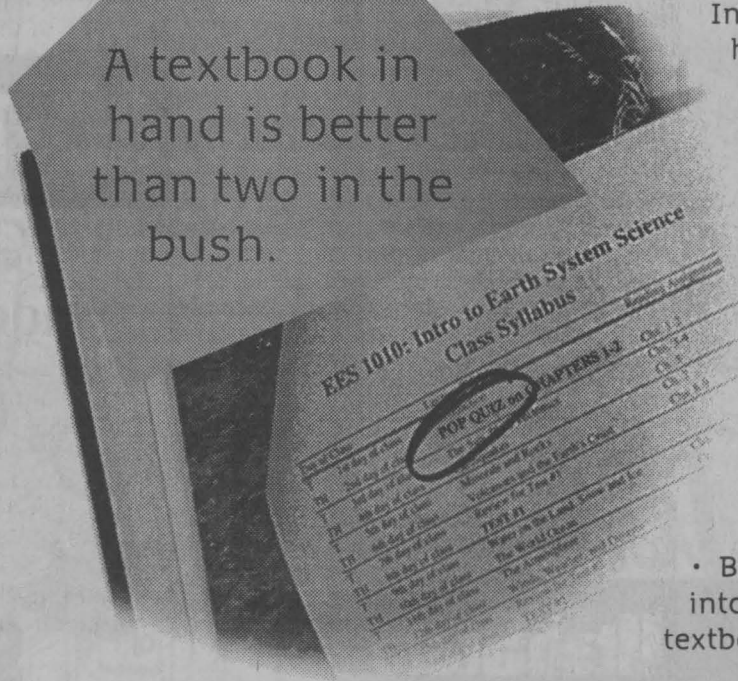
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Clinton proposes \$31 billion to make college more affordable

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton proposed a \$31 billion plan Thursday to make college education more affordable and upbraided Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott for suggesting that no major legislation would be enacted this election year.

The centerpiece of the proposal was a \$10,000 tax deduction to help millions of Americans pay for tuition, books and university fees. "When we make college more affordable, we make the American dream more achievable," Clinton said.

Joining Clinton for the White House announcement, on the first day of the last year of his presidency, were Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is running for the Senate from New York, and a fellow New York Democrat, Sen. Charles Schumer.

"Some in Congress, I note, are saying that because this is an election year we really shouldn't try to do anything for the American people," Clinton said. "Nothing, not a national election or a Washington snowstorm, should get in the way of making a college education more affordable for all Americans."

The president was referring to a comment Lott, R-Miss., made to reporters a day earlier. Lott said "everyone needs to acknowledge ... there won't be a lot of time for big, new initiatives" on a shortened congressional calendar this year.

Skeptics question whether the policy proposals Clinton has made before his State of

the Union address Jan. 27 can pass the Republican-controlled Congress. But White House officials, seeking to address those concerns, seized on Lott's statement and insisted voters want action on education.

"Members of Congress who have been in their districts understand that education is the top priority for most Americans," White House press secretary Joe Lockhart said. "I think there will be a political cost for those who want to walk away."

Lott fired back, saying that Congress would move ahead to balance the federal budget, protect Social Security and Medicare, improve education and health care and the national defense.

"In addition," Lott said, "We will continue to resist at every turn the Clinton-Gore liberals' call for more government, less freedom, and higher taxes."

When Clinton's \$30 billion "College Opportunity Tax Cut" is fully operational in 2003, a family earning \$120,000 or less annually could receive a tax deduction of up to \$10,000 for tuition, fees and job-related training. Alternatively, taxpayers could seek a maximum credit of \$2,800 a year. A similar proposal sponsored by Schumer died in Congress last year.

While the White House accused

Republicans of threatening to put politics ahead of progress, officials played down the political benefits of the event to Mrs. Clinton's campaign and noted that she long has advocated education initiatives.

The president's proposal included \$35 million for the college Completion Challenge grants, designed to spur college dropouts to return to class; \$40 million for a new initiative to help minorities pursue five-year dual-degree programs in fields where they are underrepresented; and \$716 million for Pell grants.

Clinton also will seek a combined \$400 million increase for initiatives such as the Gear Up program, which helps disadvantaged youths stay in high school; and TRIO, which helps them stay in college; and Job Corps, a national education and job training program targeted at impoverished youths.

Rep. Bill Goodling, R-Pa., chairman of the House Education and Workforce Committee, applauded Clinton for "finally (deciding) to embrace some of the Republican priorities," such as increasing funding for Pell Grants.

"I am disappointed, however, that the president still sees the need to create new federal programs ... when existing programs could be used," Goodling said.

'When we make college more affordable, we make the American dream more achievable.'

• **BILL CLINTON** •
U.S. PRESIDENT

Street fighting rages in Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Chechen snipers pinned down Russian troops trying to advance in the shattered streets of the rebel republic's capital Thursday, even as tanks and helicopter gunships blasted the high-rise buildings where the sharpshooters were holed up.

A top Russian general was reported missing. Maj. Gen. Mikhail Malofeyev, head of a combat training unit, was not listed among the dead or those taken prisoner by the rebels, a spokesman for the Defense Ministry said.

Officers in Grozny said Malofeyev had disappeared three days ago, when his unit was ambushed here.

Meanwhile, federal forces claimed to be making progress toward taking Grozny. Lt. Gen. Stanislav Kavun said troops had control of "a considerable part" of the Chechen capital, the

ITAR-Tass news agency reported. He said about 700 rebels remained — as opposed to other estimates of about 2,000 — and that they were "suffering heavy losses."

Russian forces also repelled rebel attacks in Duba-Yurt, a settlement near the mouth of the strategically key Argun Gorge in the steep southern mountains that shelter rebels, the news agency ITAR-Tass reported.

Top Russian officers had said in recent days that Russia was just days away from establishing full control over Grozny.

However, Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev said Thursday that the goal was not to meet any particular deadline, "but to completely eliminate the rebels and minimize casualties among Russian soldiers," the Interfax news agency reported.

MERGER

Continued from Page 2

ABC News President David Westin, "and there shouldn't be any doubts about the autonomy of ABC News. I don't think the audience will have any problems with this."

Both organizations said neither could fully explore the possibilities of the Internet alone. ABC couldn't match the *Times*' print capabilities and the newspaper didn't have

ABC's video skills, they said.

"I saw this as an editorial matter first and a business matter second," Westin said.

The Webcast will work as a test case to determine how well the two organizations mesh so there can be more cooperation in the future, Westin said.

There was no immediate word on whether CBS was pursuing a similar alliance with a newspaper after the announcements by NBC and ABC.

Another media alliance, between CNN and *Time* magazine, ran into trouble two years ago when *Time* printed material from a CNN story alleging nerve gas was used against American defectors in the Vietnam War. CNN and *Time*, which are both owned by Time Warner, later retracted their stories.

"We're determined to be very careful," Oreskes said. "I wouldn't want to do anything on the show that couldn't be in *The New York Times*."

IOWA

Continued from Page 2

points in Iowa. Winning by a such a large margin could help Gore separate from Bradley in New Hampshire, where polls show the pair locked in a tie.

Gore has hammered away at Bradley's health care plan and agriculture record, attacks the former New Jersey senator said has hurt his standing in polls. "To a certain extent, voters might be persuaded by that," Bradley told reporters Thursday.

Trying to lower expectations, Bradley said the vice president has a huge advantage Monday because Iowa is a state that favors "entrenched power."

Gore suggested the comment was an insult to the caucus system.

"Fighting for people is what the Iowa caucuses is all about," Gore said at a campaign stop in Council Bluffs. "Fighting to reduce the high cost of phar-

maceuticals. Fighting to save Medicare. That's not entrenched power. That is fighting for people."

In other developments:

—Bush said he was attacking McCain's tax plan in a TV ad, not the senator himself. "He's my friend during the campaign and he's darn sure going to be my friend after the campaign," Bush said.

—Bradley released two new TV ads with Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., and former Boston Celtic star Bill Russell praising him.

—Bauer said Forbes has stolen his issues and words. "He has purloined my rhetoric," the conservative activist said.

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OPINION

Voices & Views

NOAM CHOMSKY, AUTHOR, 1992:
"If we don't believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don't believe in it at all."

Quotes 'n NOTES

Wanna buy \$100?

Internet marketer Mike Enlow recently performed an experiment to prove how hard it is to make money on the Internet. He put up a web page offering free \$100 bills to anyone who'd pay the postage to have it mailed to them. There were no takers. Enlow says: "I've always said that if you don't do everything exactly right, you can't even sell \$100 bills." Enlow is now on a mission to correct false beliefs that exist about the Internet.

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About LETTERS

Length should be limited to 350 words. All letters may be shortened, edited or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.

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Writers must sign all letters, with phone number (or e-mail address) and student number clearly stated.

Letters representing groups — or more than one individual — must have a singular representative clearly stated, with all necessary ID and information.

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Letters can be hand delivered or mailed to The Statesman in the TSC 319, or can be e-mailed at editor@statesman.usu.edu

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Thanks to Cache volunteers, supporters

On behalf of Logan Community Parks and Recreation, The Volunteer Center would like to thank the following individuals and groups who helped to make Cache in 2000, Cache Valleys New Year's Eve Celebration, a success.

Our thanks to: 61 KVVU, all the volunteers, Allen-Hall Mortuary, Bob Morrow, Bobbie Coray - Cache Chamber of Commerce, Cache Citizen, Cache County, Cache historical society, Cache Valley Mall, Christopher Harvey, City of Logan, Convergys, Dave Bennett-The Volunteer Center, Dave Johnson-Cache Valley Mall, Debbie Petersen-Center Street Celebration, Dee Hadfield, Diane Astle -Logan City Human Resource Department, Donna Campbell-Center Street Celebration, Earl Rausch -The Valley Channel, Eric Collins-Logan City Police Department, Fireworks West, Herald Journal, Jaron Hartman, Jason Reese -Music-Jay-Clark-Voyager Productions, Jay Monson-LDS Church, Jeff Compton, Jennifer Hartman-PTA, Jim Chapman-Crestmark Productions, Jim Reese-Center Street Celebration, Jim Smith-Cache County Joe Francis- Cache Valley Mall, Jon Coulam-Logan City Facilities Manager, Judith Anderson-Utah Festival Opera Company, Ken Souter-Pepsi Cola, Kristine Petersen-LTD, Lance Buck-Coca Cola, Laurie Tanner, LeGrande Johnson Construction, Lisa Heaton-PTA, Logan City Light and Power, Logan City Street Department, Logan Parks and Recreation After

To the EDITOR

School Staff, Logan Parks and Recreation, Lyle Powell, Lynn Lemon-Cache County, Mikelle Hunt-The Volunteer Center, Patty Halaufia-Utah

State University, Paul Dextras-Logan City Fire Department, SE Needham Jewelers, Teresa Harris, Terri Moore-USU Student Services, The Utah Statesman, Tyler Howell-Convergys, US West, Utah State University, Woodruff Elementary School-Mr. Smith's 4th Grade, and Ronald Jenkins.

The Volunteer Center offers our special appreciation to the 147 volunteers who contributed 352 volunteer hours to help with the Cache in 2000 events. We could not have had this celebration with out all the help we received from you!

We would especially like to thank the Logan Parks and Recreation staff for all of their efforts and hard work.

The Volunteer Center would like to extend a special thanks to Jennifer Hartman, Lisa Heaton, and their families for all of the volunteer help they put into Cache in 2000.

Thanks to our fellow non-profit organizations and other community organizations that helped to promote this event.

Our thanks to the entire Volunteer Center Staff for all of the hours spent recruiting, promoting, and organizing the volunteer efforts.

On behalf of all of these organizations, thank you for all of your help and support in making this event a success.

We wish each and every one of you, a happy and prosperous New Year!

MIKELLE C. HUNT
PROJECT COORDINATOR CACHE IN 2000

Seven years in a row, a January Thaw causes strange warm weather

WEATHER WATCH / Zane Stephens



A weather singularity is a weather event which occurs on or about the same time of year with some statistical frequency. Three

somewhat pronounced singularities include: 1) the Arizona Monsoon, 2) Indian Summer, and 3) the January Thaw. Both the January Thaw and Indian summer are more pronounced in New England, though both can be observed with slightly less frequency in the western states.

The Arizona Monsoon brings a large increase of thunderstorm activity to the usually dry deserts of Arizona. This activity takes place in July and August as a large high pressure over the northern Pacific Ocean shifts farther north allowing a high pressure over the southeast-

ern United States to shift westward. Subtropical moisture from the Gulf of Mexico streams clockwise around the high pressure northward into normally arid Arizona.

April through June precipitation for Tucson and Phoenix average about a quarter inch per month. July and August precipitation averages increase to more than two inches per month. By early September the high pressure reverts to the former location and the moisture stream is shut off over Arizona. Over half of Arizona's precipitation takes place during the summer monsoon. If the high pressure doesn't shift westward and the moisture doesn't reach Arizona, then dry and possibly drought conditions are likely.

Indian Summer is an autumn warming usually taking place in October or early November. The warm fall weather follows the first heavy freeze and cold spell with

temperatures at least 10 degrees above the seasonal average. It is less likely to take place statistically than the January Thaw but is still observable during many Fall seasons.

The January thaw finds its origins in New England folklore and was previously described as a period of two or more consecutive days of much warmer than normal temperatures usually occurring in mid to late January. New England climatology records show the January Thaw occurs slightly more than 50 percent of the time.

An arbitrary definition was set stating a January Thaw occurs when maximum temperatures are 10 degrees above normal for two or more consecutive days. Utah State University's data was checked back to 1895 and was found to have occurred 56 out of 106 years. The warm respite from cold winter temperatures takes

place approximately 53 percent of the time at the USU station.

Most New England locations have a January Thaw between Jan. 19 and the 28 with the greatest chance taking place on the Jan. 25. USU peaked earlier with a thaw more likely on the 14th and a second peak on the 19th. A thaw has occurred on Jan. 14 19 times since 1895.

The least likely dates to have unseasonably warm weather were the Jan. 10 and the 29 through the 31. Thaws only took place five times on the Jan. 10 and six or less at the end of the month. Warm temperatures are also unlikely the first four days of the month.

It's common for January Thaws to run in groups. Three or more consecutive years took place in the early 1910s, early 1920s, mid 1930s, late 1940s, mid 1960s, early 1970 and late 1990s. The longest consecutive thaws have

been between 1994 and present. The thaw returned again this January on the Jan. 11 and 12 making this the seventh consecutive year.

The causes of the January Thaw are unknown. One theory says the thaw is brought on by a northward shift of high pressure in the eastern United States. This shift seems to bring warmer air northward into various regions of the United States. What causes the shift is unknown but the change could be related to temperature fluctuations in sea surface temperatures.

Is a January Thaw going to occur next year? Statistically, northern Utah is due a cold January as the last seven years have had pronounced thaws. Only time will tell if the seven consecutive January Thaws will become eight.

Stephens' weather column runs twice a month in The Utah Statesman.

Close isn't good enough

NATIONAL CRITIQUE / The Los Angeles Times



The following editorial appeared in Thursday's Los Angeles Times:

The Pentagon blames a pair of malfunctioning sensors for Tuesday's failure of a \$100 million test of a missile interceptor system that it hopes can defend the country against intercontinental attack from rogue states. The test, which followed a claimed successful test in October, saw an interceptor rocket fired from Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands try to destroy a mock warhead launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base. It may have come very close to succeeding, but in the warhead-killing

business close isn't good enough. An interceptor must strike an incoming warhead directly. Until that feat can be demonstrated with some consistency, deployment of what's known as a National Missile Defense system makes no sense.

Congress strongly supports development and rapid deployment of a system, as do the major Republican presidential candidates. President Clinton, while less enthusiastic, has boosted the budget for the program and promised a decision on deployment by June. The antimissile system isn't designed to protect against attacks from Russia or China. Using 100 or so interceptors, it aims to defend against limited attacks from such

Jump to MISSILE, Page 12





MISSILE

Continued from Page 11

potential aggressors as North Korea and Iran, both of which are continuing to develop long-range missiles. Russia's huge intercontinental missile arsenal could easily overwhelm the planned system. While some incoming Russian warheads might be destroyed in flight, many others would get through. China has far fewer ICBMs, but as one of its defense officials told Times correspondent Jim Mann this week, if the United States deployed a missile defense system, China could boost its missile production to offset that deterrent.

Even though both Moscow and Beijing implicitly recognize that a U.S. system would not significantly affect the balance of power, both bitterly oppose its development. Some NATO allies too have objected, citing a "double security standard" that would leave the United States more secure than its part-

ners. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott gave the right response: "Why would the United States be a better ally if it were vulnerable to North Korean missiles?"

A third test of the interceptor is planned for April. Then comes the decision on whether the technology is reliable enough and cost-effective enough to go ahead with deployment by 2005. If so, construction could start on radar sites in Alaska. Ultimately the program could cost up to \$16 billion.

The potential missile threat from rogue states can't be ignored. But that threat can be met only with a missile interceptor system that has been shown to work in all of its aspects. Rushing ahead with anything less would provide neither deterrence nor defense.

This column appeared in Thursday's Los Angeles Times and was distributed by The Los Angeles Times Washington Post media services.

DELETED

Continued from Page 11

esteem issues. Can't somebody stop the hurting?

SAVED: 10 cents a minute on long distance calls with 10-10-789. Oh, sorry, I've seen too many of those lately. But that reminds me of ...

DELETED: All the local commercials that end with the word "needs," as in: "Call Big Hank's for all of your forehead-tattooing needs," or "Come to Doggie Digger for all of you and your family's pet burial needs." This town "needs" a new interchangeable script in which to plug countless retailers. Also (speaking of "needs" and commercials), no more S.E. Needham Jewelers ads featuring Arbuckle G. Needham MCXVIII, the heir to the Needham frequent flier miles to Antwerp, Belgium. At least not until it is established that "jewelers" doesn't rhyme with "fullers" and "millennium" is not "millAYnnium." Sorry to be the Pronunciation Police here, but the commercial runs every five minutes while I'm driving around in the car listening to Dr. LAYra.

SAVED: The "Voice of the Aggies" Al Lewis. Any place there is a basketball or football game in progress (varsity, intramural or dorm-room trashcan

ball), there is Al. His style is emotional and biased toward his team enough to make Hot Rod Hundley himself seem to yo-yo the Dribble of Neutrality. The listening public is always half-expecting him to charge the floor and choke the zebras Latrell Sprewell-style.

Sometimes "The Aggie Sports Network" runs into difficulties and makes him sound like he's calling the game from underneath a gravestone outside the Spectrum, but still he soldiers on, hilariously giving orders to his crew of lackeys while still on the air.

He never fails to keep the listeners interested by his sheer enthusiasm for the games and his beloved Aggies.

DELETED: The sports-righteous gasbags who whine that students don't spend as much time rooting for the Aggies as Big Blue or the Synchronized Flag Squad.

You see, O Gasbags, sports teams are for our ENTERTAINMENT. I haven't seen the basketball or football teams clapping for encores at USU Symphony concerts or school theatrical productions lately either.

By all means, let those who wish to leave off studying to jump and scream have every chance to do so, but don't castigate anyone for doing something besides watching us strug-

gle with Idaho Tech if they don't feel like it. Anyway, I'd rather watch the UNC Tarheels on TV than walk across the street to watch our team for free — it's MY entertainment choice. Like many, I'll also drive the 40-odd miles to root for our hockey

team (and pay money for a ticket too). The teams suffering from low attendance need to get a crowd the old-fashioned way — earn it by being entertaining, not by guilting everyone into their seats.

Well, space permitting, I

would have saved the whales and deleted mankind's desire to spend money on atomic weapons and Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo, but space is gone and Newsweek already did such stuff anyway. Also, I have been informed that Arbuckle G.

Needham "the GrAYt" is the current King of Cache Valley, and he now wishes to DELETE.

Kevin Peel is a senior majoring in English. His column appears every Friday in The Utah Statesman.

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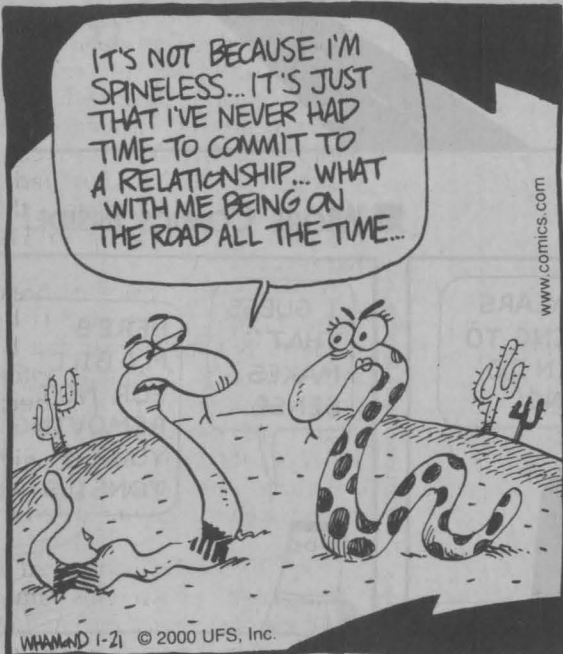
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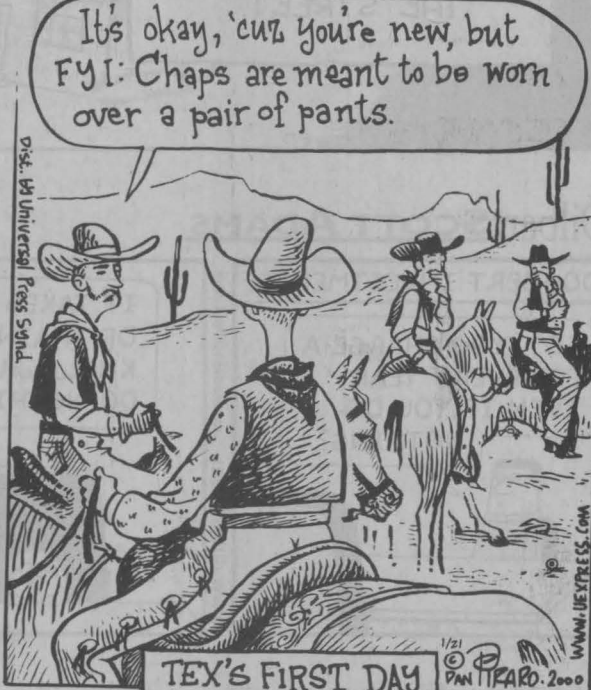
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National Student Exchange now accepting applications for academic year 2000-2001. Universities of Hawaii, Maryland, Georgia, Maine; Oregon State; CSU Los Angeles, Northridge, San Luis Obispo, Virginia Tech; Hunter College, NY; just a few of 150 schools to choose from. Contact Academic Services, TSC 302, 797-1132.

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PERSONALS

Be a student host at the 10th annual Career Fair held on Wednesday, March 1. Sign up at Career Services, Ground Level, University Inn. SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!

Graduating this year ??? Recruiting deadlines start as early as the middle of January. Start your job search NOW at the Career Services Office located on the ground level of the University Inn.

Want next summer's job to relate to your major and help you to get a better job after graduation??? Start your internship application process NOW!! Come to the Career Services Office located on the ground level of the University Inn.

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THE SIXTH SENSE (PG13) Fri&Sat 7:15, 9:15
Sat 2:30, 4:30

POKEMON (G) Sat 2:20, 4:20

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Friday, January 21

▲International Tea Party, TSC,
in front of Room 326, 3:30 p.m.
Everyone invited.
▲Free Dinner & Movie, Faith &
Fellowship, 6:30 p.m., The
Matrix.
▲Beach Party Dance, LDS

Institute, 8:30 to 11:30 p.m., \$2 w
ID, \$4 w/o.
▲PIKA Party, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.,
\$3.

Sat M

Saturday, January 22

▲LDSMSA, "Pizza and a Movie"
7 pm, TARZAN, Free child care
provided. Institute.
▲USU Hockey vs. Colorado
State, 8:30 p.m., Ogden Ice Sheet
▲Edith Bowen Fourth and Fifth
Grade - Teton Science Center

Chili Dinner Benefit Jan. 22, 5 to
7:30 pm, Edith Bowen
Laboratory School Cafeteria.
Buffalo or vegetarian chili, a
drink, cookies, and ice cream will
be served. Tickets may be pur-
chased at the school office or at
the door the night of the dinner.

Monday, January 24

F.Y.I.

- Come party with PIKA at the first party of the new millennium. DJ NIK will be there, Jan 21, 10:00 pm to 2:00 am. \$3.
- Blood Drive, Jan. 24 and 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., LDS Institute.
- USU ColdFusion User Group, First Meeting! Presentation by Mike Neimer from Allaire Corporation, January 25, 6 p.m., Education Bldg. 282
- Are you interested in becoming a private tutor? Need help advertising your tutor services? To qualify, you must have an over- all 3.2 GPA, and received at least an A- in the class that you are interested in tutoring. For more information contact Academic Services, TSC Room 302 or call 797-3373.
- USU Fencing Club will be starting a beginning fencing class Feb. 1, 7:30 pm, HPER Room For info contact Nate 755-0816 or slpwq.
- A parent locator service is sponsored by Women's Center for USU student parents. This is an emergency contact service to enable student parents to be contacted on campus by day care providers and/or schools. Students should bring class schedules to the TSC Room 310, info. 797-1728.
- USU Women's Center Advisory Board is now seeking nominations for the "Women Over 65 Achievement Awards." Women eli- gible for recognition must reside in Cache Valley, be 65 years of age or older, and have made outstanding contributions to the advancement and equality of life for women on a local or state or national level. Info. TSC Room 310 or call 797-1728

- PINNACLE, National reentry honor society is open to students 26 years of age or older, class rank of junior or senior, 5 year or more gap at some point, in their education, 3.0 overall USU GPA, involved in campus and or community activities, and be required to pay a \$20 one-time national membership fee. For info, contact the USU Reentry Student Center, TSC Room 310, 797-1728 or email: reentrycen@admissions.usu.edu.
- The Val R. Christensen Service Center is seeking new volunteers for the new semester. Interested volunteers can sign up in the service center TSC Room 327.
- Attention all persons interested in a Nutrition and Food Science Major!! Meet with a peer advisor in NFS Room 109, Mondays 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesdays 10 to 11 a.m. or Fridays 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for information about course requirements, program entry, career opportunities, etc. for information e-mail SLH9R@ccusu.edu
- Help needed immediately! Improve yourself, help someone else Volunteer Services needed in the Disability Resource Center. Improve your not taking skills by taking notes for a disabled student. Improve your reading skills by reading a text onto tape for a blind student. Volunteer hours are great on your resume and doing good is great for you. Gift certificate stipends are available for some types of volunteer services. Contact the Disability Resource Center 797-2444, TSC Room 104.
- USU students who are trying to lose or maintain weight can learn how by participating in an eight week workshop offered free of charge by the USU Student Health Center. Learn more about nutri- tion, exercise, stress management and developing a healthy body image. Workshops will begin Jan 24. Before the workshops begin stu- dents need to sign up and pick up more information at the Health Center (TSC Room 102) or phone Cynthia Allen, at 797-1627.

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