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Wednesday, March 22, 2000

ASUSU debates office equity

DOUG SMEATH
Assistant Features Editor

Are all offices of the Associated Students of Utah State University Executive Council equal?

It was a question the council discussed, but in the end came to the same conclusion as councils in the past: nobody knows.

Director of Student Activities Randy Jensen, who serves as the faculty advisor of the council, presented those few in attendance at last night's meeting with the question.

Jensen said the issue has been addressed by councils of the past, but no consensus has been reached. He said it has led to confusion in debates of the past, including a current debate regarding allocation of space in the Taggart Student Center.

Several rooms have been offered to ASUSU, and discussion in past meetings has concerned whether to use this space for college senators — a group of council members who currently share one office though there are eight of them.

Jensen said this and other issues hinge on the question of which members of the council are "equal."

"I don't think we'll ever be able to say and think in the back of our minds that we're all equal," said College of Engineering Senator Kalem Sessions.

However, he said all members can have access to equal tools and opportunities.

ASUSU Athletics Vice President Sam Winward said the issue of equality is misleading. The question, he said, is not

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Students raise funds to build African schools

LARA GALE
Staff Writer

More African children will have access to education, thanks in part to the efforts of Utah State University students who have set a goal to raise \$10,000 for the Schools for Africa program sponsored by the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help.

Students in the USU Black Student Union (BSU) and a USU honors class, Race and Communication Issues in the United States and the New South Africa, are working together to raise money for the building of a two-room schoolhouse in a rural area of Africa.

Students in last semester's Race and Communication

Issues class were the first to get involved with the project, said Nick Eastmond, professor of Instructional Technology at USU who teaches the honors class. The class raised \$2,000 dollars toward the goal; this semester's is hoping to finish what they started and send IFESH a check for \$10,000. Eastmond said.

Eastmond's students have organized committees to run the fund raising effort. One committee has spent hours going door to door in apartments and dorms collecting donations, said Emily Malouf, a student in Eastmond's class. She said it has been very successful, and while they haven't counted the donations yet, she expects them to total from \$300 to \$500.

Jamie Prince, another student in Eastmond's class, said she was astounded by the positive response students had to the group's "dorm storming."

"It was inspiring to see people being so generous," she said. "It's just fun to see people

be cool like that."

Prince is a member of the Blue Kilts, which will play for a dance she and other students have planned for April 8 in the Nelson field house to benefit their cause.

The BSU is also planning to help the effort by hosting a benefit dance Friday in the field house. BSU members will cover the expense of renting the field house and hiring a DJ, so all ticket proceeds will go to the fund raiser. Tickets will cost \$2 for students with ID and \$3 for all others.

IFESH, an Arizona-based program dedicated to improving life in third world countries, began the Schools for Africa program in 1993 with a mission to build schools in

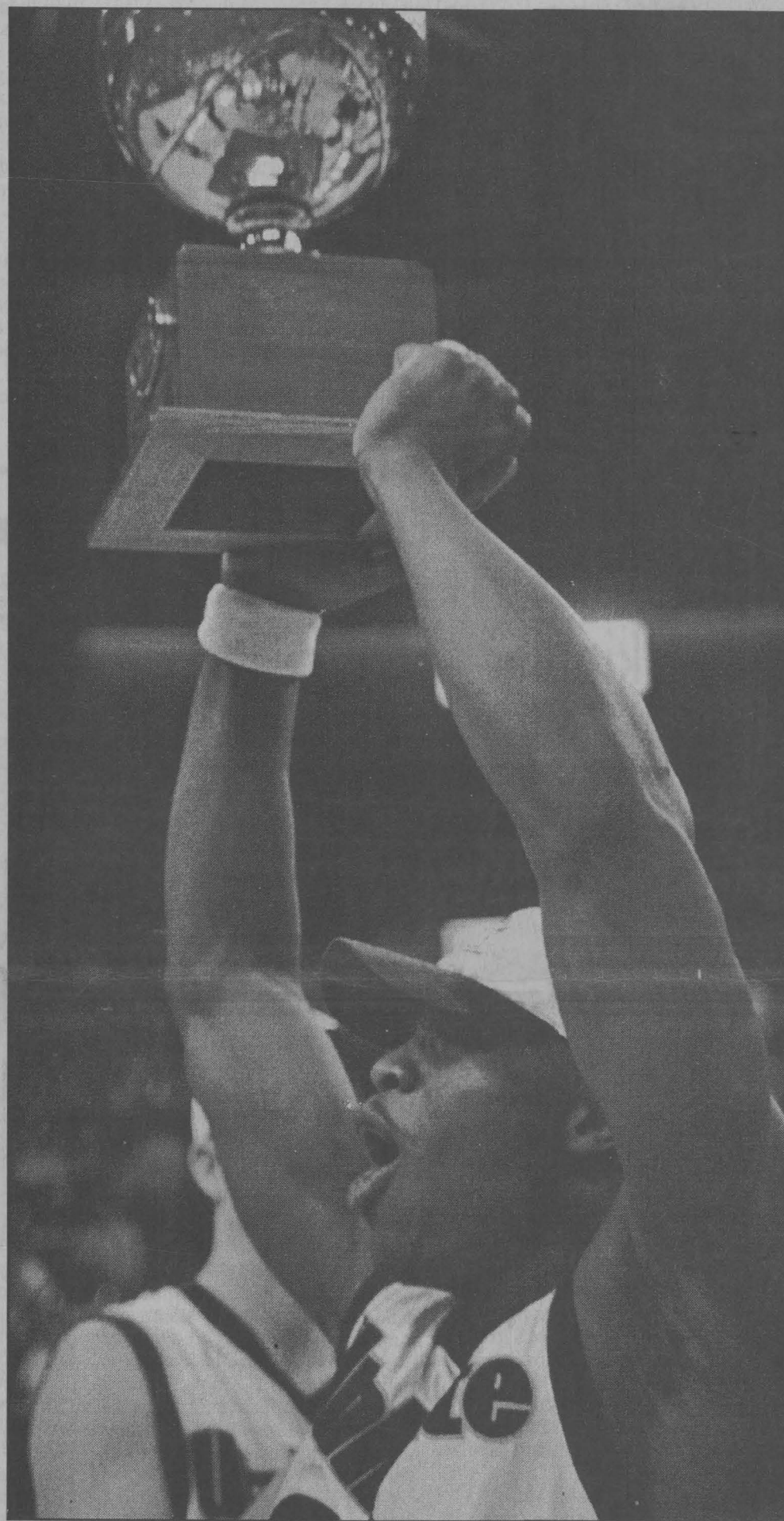
rural areas of South Africa where none exist now, said Howard Sullivan, senior project officer for IFESH. He said donations have picked up in recent years, and 120 schools have been built since 1997.

This is just a drop in the bucket; the need for these schools is tremendous, he said. IFESH works with the educational departments in Africa to identify sites for the schools. Thousands and thousands of schools are needed, he said. As soon as one is built, more students than it can hold are scrambling to register to attend, he said.

The materials for each two-room, one-toilet schoolhouse cost \$10,000. Charity organizations, churches and individual people have donated money for this part of the effort. Construction, labor, land for schools, teachers, supplies and books come mostly from the government or community where the school is built, Sullivan said.

'It was inspiring to see people being so generous.'

• JAMIE PRICE •
USU STUDENT



Victory!

Senior Troy Rolle raises the Big West Conference Tournament trophy over his head in celebration after the Aggies downed New Mexico State University 71-66 on March 11. More photos and story on Page 16.

Zac Lussen / Utah Statesman

USU to perform test on registration computer system

LAURA BELLAMY
Senior News Writer

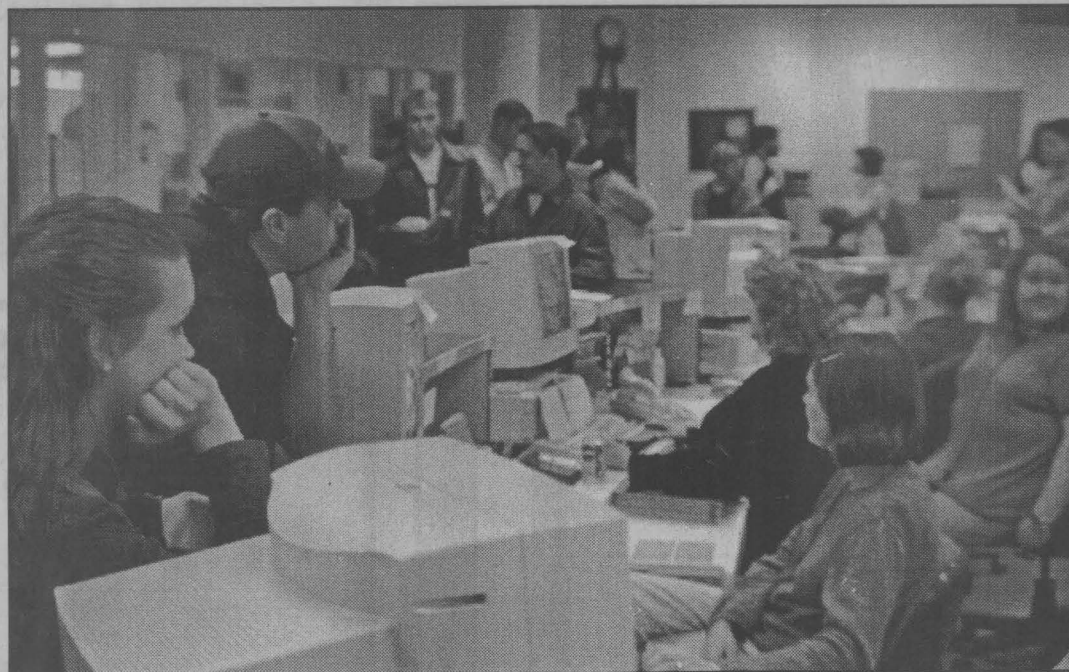
The morning of March 27, the Utah State University Registration office will try to overload and crash the registration system and they want students to help.

The registration office is trying to avoid the same computer problems they faced during spring 2000 registration by performing a stress test of the IBM mainframe which supports the information system, Registrar David Roos said.

Monday from 8 to 9:45 a.m., all USU students are asked to log onto the QUAD system in order to test the system's ability to handle heavy traffic, Roos said. The test will help the registration office determine if last semester's problems are gone.

"What we're really hoping for is to get a lot of students to help us with the stress test of the system," Roos said. "We're hoping to fix what failed the last time."

According to Roos, last semester the registration office upgraded, installing a patch on the operating system. The program worked well until the system was overwhelmed by students registering for spring



USU students stand in line waiting for the computer system to come back on line during Spring registration. The Registration office will soon be performing a stress test on the system to try to improve future performance.

semester.

"If we see symptoms of those problems again, we'll know that we need to get the system fixed," Roos said.

According to Roos, students can log onto the QUAD system or call the Touchline system to register for summer classes, check their grades, change their pin number and update their addresses. As long as students log on and use the sys-

tem in some way, they will be adding to the system traffic.

"During this time period, we're going to have the incentive of prizes for students," Roos said.

All students who are recorded logged in on to the system will be entered for a drawing and could win bookstore coupons, parking passes and Aggie ice cream, Roos said. Winners will be notified via

mail.

"There's a little bit of a hidden agenda there," he said. "In order for students to receive the prizes in the mail, they have to have updated their address."

Roos said he wants to try to replicate the load the system faces during peak hours of fall and spring registration, but it has been hard to tell students about the upcoming test.

Online voting for ASUSU candidates now available

LAURA BELLAMY
Senior News Writer

This year when students head to the polls for student government elections, they won't be heading to booths or ballot boxes but to the nearest computer terminal.

According to Public Relations Vice President Christina Domichel, primary and final election voting will be mostly online.

Students can vote through their Webmail accounts or by logging onto the Associated Students of Utah State University Web site at www.usu.edu/~asusutsc/home.html

According to Domichel, the voting was moved from the VMS system to keep up with the Internet age and to offer more convenience to students.

With the ballots on the World Wide Web, students can vote anytime between Wednesday at 8 a.m. to Thursday at 4 p.m.

"I think anything where you can vote at home and overnight makes it better accessible to students and hopefully will increase voter turnout," Domichel said.

Domichel said ASUSU also wanted to make voting online to keep up with student interest in the Internet.

"More students are using Webmail rather than Telnet, so it seemed kind of archaic not to move the voting," Domichel said.

Computer Services originally brought the idea to ASUSU, but it was something ASUSU had been thinking about for a while, Domichel said.

"We wanted to do it, but we didn't know about security issues after the mishaps at Weber and the University of Utah," Domichel said.

Last year during student elections, students at Weber and U of U got into the system and voted repeatedly for candidates they favored. Once the error was discovered students had to revoke, Domichel said.

"We've made it so security shouldn't be a problem," Domichel said.

According to Director of Computer Services Bob Bayn, the ballots will be hosted on <https://mva.usu.edu>, where a server similar to VMS will pro-

Jump to **VOTE**, Page 3

Supreme Court rules for tobacco

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government lacks authority to regulate tobacco as an addictive drug even though tobacco use may be "the single most significant threat to public health," the Supreme Court said Tuesday, throwing out the Clinton administration's main anti-smoking initiative.

The 5-4 ruling said Congress did not authorize the Food and Drug Administration to regulate tobacco. President Clinton and others immediately said Congress should pass a law letting the FDA reinstate its rules cracking down on cigarette sales to minors.

"If we are to protect our children from the harms of tobacco, Congress must now enact the provisions of the FDA rule," Clinton said in a statement issued while he was traveling in India.

But Mark Smith, spokesman for Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp., welcomed the ruling. "Business and industry throughout the nation ought to breathe a sigh of relief. The highest court in the land has confirmed that a federal agency cannot on its own go beyond its limits of authority set by

Congress," he said.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the court, said, "By no means do we question the seriousness of the problem that the FDA has sought to address." She said, "The agency has amply demonstrated that tobacco use, particularly among children and adolescents, poses perhaps the single most significant threat to public health in the United States."

However, she said, "We believe that Congress has clearly precluded the FDA from asserting jurisdiction to regulate tobacco products."

The ruling was a victory for an industry that has been under increasing pressure for selling a product the American Cancer Society calls the leading cause of cancer. Cancer society head John R. Seffrin said he was disappointed by the ruling.

The Justice Department also has a lawsuit pending against the industry, which has agreed to pay the states \$246 billion for the cost of treating smoking-related illnesses. Cigarette billboards around the country were

taken down last year as part of that agreement.

O'Connor's opinion was joined by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and Justices Antonin Scalia, Anthony M. Kennedy and Clarence Thomas.

Dissenting were Justices Stephen G. Breyer, John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Writing for the four, Breyer said the 1938 federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act's "basic purpose — the protection of public health — supports the inclusion of cigarettes within its scope."

The ruling throws out the FDA's rule requiring convenience stores and other places that sell cigarettes to require identification from anyone under age 27 seeking to buy tobacco products.

Other FDA rules put on hold earlier would have limited vending-machine cigarette sales to adults-only locations, such as bars, and would have limited cigarette advertising. All 50 states already ban tobacco sales to anyone under 18, and the FDA adopted that rule nationwide.

WorldGLANCE

➤ Settlement reached for Holocaust suffering

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The Dutch government said Tuesday it had agreed to give the Jewish community \$180 million to compensate for injustices they suffered in Holland after returning from Nazi death camps.

The settlement followed protests from Dutch Jews that an earlier offer of \$114 million — which the government called its "moral obligation" — fell far short of real redress for misappropriated Jewish assets.

The government also earmarked \$114 million for Dutch victims of Japanese World War II prison camps in the former East Indies colony, now Indonesia, and \$14 million for Dutch Gypsies persecuted by the Nazis, the Finance Ministry spokesman said.

"We are happy that this settlement has been reached," said Ronni Naftaniel, a spokesman for the Central Jewish Council, which negotiated the settlement with Finance Ministry officials.

Finance Ministry spokesman Jeroen Sprengers said the government increased the offer because "it was convinced by the arguments that were put forth by the Jewish community."

Naftaniel said the agreement covers 15 types of assets, including administrative costs for returned Jewish property and money confiscated from Jews by the Nazi puppet regime to run concentration camps.

The lion's share of the payment will go to Dutch Jewish war victims, most of whom live in the Netherlands, Israel and the United States. Naftaniel said the council will contribute \$23 million to an international fund for war victims.

The settlement followed a series of investigations into the treatment of Jews and other Nazi victims, exposing the neglect of their suffering and the plundering of assets following the Netherlands' liberation from German occupation.

Out of the Netherlands' prewar population of 140,000 Jews, more than 100,000 died in Nazi death camps during World War II or on the trains taking them there.

➤ Baltimore standoff enters fifth day

DUNDALK, Md. (AP) — After days of sporadic gunfire, a hostage drama that has shut down a neighborhood grew quiet Tuesday as police continued negotiating with a murder suspect who was holding three people in a house.

"It's hard to define what progress is. At least nothing disastrous has happened and that is good news," said Baltimore County police spokesman Bill Toohey.

The standoff began Friday when Joseph Palczynski allegedly forced his way into a home in a Baltimore suburb and took three people hostage, including the mother of his former girlfriend.

Palczynski is accused of kidnapping his ex-girlfriend, Tracy Whitehead, on March 7, killing four people over a two-day period and leading police on a manhunt for more than a week.

Toohey had no more information on a shot fired Monday inside the home. He said police did not believe anyone inside the house was seriously hurt.

"We believe no one is in any imminent peril in there," Toohey said. "We don't have an accurate, consistent picture of what's going on in there."

The standoff is wearing down the patience of residents in the four-block area surrounding the home where Palczynski was holed up. Police cordoned off the area but allowed some residents to leave Sunday.

One resident was arrested Monday while trying to sneak back into the area.

Others have found ways to reach their families without getting in trouble. Using a police escort, one neighbor tossed plastic bags of groceries over a fence to his wife and two children trapped in their home.

➤ Bus takes off with woman's 2-year-old

NEW YORK (AP) — A 2-year-old rode a Greyhound bus to New Jersey by herself after the child's mother got off in New York to get a snack and the bus left without her.

Yanitza Castro, 21, and her daughter, Yanitza Rivera, had boarded the bus Monday morning in Massachusetts to travel to their home in York, Pa.

When the bus pulled into New York's Port Authority Bus Terminal at midday, little Yanitza was hungry. Castro got out to get a snack, and returned to find the bus had left.

"I thought, 'Oh, my God, my baby is stuck on the bus all by herself,'" Castro said.

New Jersey State Police pulled over the bus about a half-hour later near New Brunswick and drove the girl back to her mother.

During the bus ride, Yanitza entertained other passengers with her Winnie the Pooh pillow. They assumed her mother was in a seat nearby.

"I think the people on the bus took good care of her," her mother said, "because she came back happy."

Report: Miss America winners getting skinnier

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Miss America is getting skinnier and skinnier.

Using the heights and weights from most of the winners in the pageant's 78-year history, nutrition experts from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health concluded that many are in the undernourished range.

The research was published in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Benjamin Caballero, director of the Center for Human Nutrition at Johns Hopkins, said pageant officials should screen out contestants who are too skinny in order to "promote a message of healthiness."

"The actual influence of pageant competitions on young women's decisions about diet and lifestyle is not well-documented," he wrote, "but it is likely to have a strong, if indirect, effect."

The researchers used the height and weight figures to calculate a measure, called body mass index, and concluded that it has generally fallen over the years. BMI is weight divided by the square of height.

In the 1920s, contestants had BMIs in the range now considered normal, which is 20 to 25, the researchers said. But an increasing number of winners since then have had BMIs under 18.5, which is the World Health Organization's standard for undernutrition.

The highest index was 22.4 for Miss America 1941, Rosemary LaPlanche; the lowest, 16.9, for Miss America 1986 Susan Akin.

The pageant was not held from 1927 to 1933, and vital statistics were not available for some of the years since 1990, when the pageant stopped listing contestants' heights and weights.

The more teen-agers in the car, the more trouble

CHICAGO (AP) — The more young people you pack into a car with a teen-ager behind the wheel, the more likely the driver will die in a crash, a study found.

The study, conducted by researchers at Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in Baltimore, confirms what many parents have long suspected.

The problem is "general foolishness and distractions" for drivers who are just getting to know the rules of the road, said Robert Foss of the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center. "Many people think alcohol is the problem. But for that age group, it's really not."

The study, published in Wednesday's Journal of the American Medical Association, was based on federal data from 1992 through 1997.

Researcher Li-Hui Chen and her colleagues found that 16-year-olds carrying one passenger were 39 percent more likely to get killed than those driving alone. That increased to 86 percent with two passengers and 182 percent with three or more. The rate for 17-year-olds was even higher: 48 percent, 158 percent and 207 percent respectively.

The rate was as much as 21 times higher during early morning hours when passengers were present.

Chen also found that the driver death rate increased significantly when the passengers themselves were in their teens or 20s.

While the death statistics relate specifically to drivers, Foss said other studies have shown that accidents involving new teen drivers also often kill or seriously injure

passengers and people in other vehicles.

The study was funded in part by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The findings — coupled with numbers showing teen accidents rates increasing after 10 p.m. and even more dramatically after midnight — are prompting safety

experts to renew their calls for stiffer restrictions on new drivers.

"It's pretty clear that states should not let them drive later at night for a while and not let them drive with teen passengers," said Foss, who thinks the curfew should be 10 p.m. "They need to focus their attention entirely on driving."

Ten states — most recently Washington

— restrict the number or age of passengers who can ride with new teen drivers. Twenty-eight states have driving curfews, most of them beginning at midnight. New York, which imposes a 9 p.m. curfew on drivers under 18, is among the states with the toughest restrictions.

Previous studies of young drivers in New Zealand, Canada and Florida found that so-called graduated driver licensing reduced crashes by 7 percent to 32 percent, Foss said. Graduated systems impose passenger restrictions or curfews on young drivers.

Foss, who wrote an editorial accompanying the study, said that in states with no such rules, "parents of 16- and 17-year-old drivers would be well-advised to impose the restrictions themselves."

'Many people think alcohol is the problem. But for that age group, it's really not.'

• ROBERT FOSS •
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA HIGHWAY SAFETY RESEARCH CENTER

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Campaigners for ASUSU offices talk to students in the Sunburst Lounge Tuesday afternoon. The candidates set up booths and encouraged students to vote for them in the primary elections, which end Friday. Students can vote through USU Webmail or on the USU Web page.

Many ASUSU candidates run unopposed

LAURA BELLAMY
Senior News Writer

The race for student body president may not quite be a race this year. Three offices in this year's student government elections are unopposed.

According to Associated Students of Utah State University Public Relations Vice President Christina Domichel, this doesn't mean that candidates have it easy.

"I think it's unfortunate that any office goes unopposed," Domichel said. "It removes the opportunity for choice. But those unopposed

are still campaigning."

According to Domichel, unopposed candidates will still appear on the voting ballots.

Domichel said this is because write-in candidates are always a possibility. Students always have the option of writing in a candidate for an office.

Domichel said that despite their lack of competitors, the unopposed candidates are still participating in all aspects of campaigning.

"I think they are more disappointed than anything else," Domichel said. "I think it's really fulfilling to know you've

won the support of the students body. Maybe there's a little relief, but it's more a feeling of disappointment."

According to Domichel, write-in candidates have won in the past. Students can vote for write-ins by writing their names on the ballots in select areas. In order to receive votes, write-in candidates need to register with ASUSU.

"The only reason they need to register, is so we can check their eligibility with their grades and such," Domichel said.

According to Domichel, write-ins can register in TSC Room 326 by the last day of

VOTE

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vide better security for the voting process.

The secure server provides 128-bit encryption which can better protect the private ballots from interception, Bayn said.

However, the Internet Start-up kit that is distributed to students who have personal computers on campus only supports 48-bit encryption.

To correct this, Bayn said he has included some 128-bit patch instructions for students to update their systems at <http://cc.usu.edu/~bob/ballot.html>

Bayn said this is just a precautionary measure and that security should not be a problem.

"I still believe that it would take a significant, coordinated effort to intercept any significant portion of the balloting via unsecure transmission," Bayn said. "I believe that voting via connections through the USU modem pool remains relatively secure from interception without encryption."

The voting site appears to be up and working already, but Domichel said students voting right now will not have ballots that count.

"The ballots are up, but we haven't moved them to the secure site yet, so students will need to vote again," she said.

Students still wary of online voting can vote in TSC Room 326 Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NewsBRIEFS

➤ USU recognizes women with speaker

As part of Utah State University's observance of Women's History Month, Frances Titchener, a professor in the History department, will speak about ancient women. Her speech is entitled "Nobody's Old Ladies: Tales of Some Ancient Women."

Titchener was named Carnegie Professor of the year in 1995 and offers a personalized tour of the contributions and triumphs of women in ancient times. She will address students Thursday from noon to 1:15 p.m. in the Science and Technology Library, Room 120.

➤ Career forum offers networking

Utah State University alumni from Nordstrom, Meier and Frank, Youth Corrections, American Express, Lisman Richardson Interior Design and other companies will be on campus today from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Family Life Building to network with students.

The College of Family Life forum is sponsored by USU Career Services and the students in the College of Family Life.

➤ HASS Senator position up for grabs

Students may still register for the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Senator student government office. The position will be reopened until Friday at noon because all candidates have dropped out of the race. In order to run for this office, candidates must be enrolled in the College of HASS.

Information is available in the Taggart Student Center, Room 326.

➤ Young named Olympic chairperson

Super Bowl MVP and quarterback for the San Francisco 49ers Steve Young has agreed to join the Salt Lake Organizing Committee to assist in recruiting 26,000 volunteers needed for the 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, according to a press release.

"We are thrilled that Steve has agreed to take on this additional responsibility," said Mitt Romney, SLOC President and CEO. "He has been an avid supporter of the Salt Lake Games and currently serves as a SLOC ambassador and volunteer host at the Olympic Medals Plaza."

➤ Students get punished with opera

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. (AP) — Students committing minor infractions at Eastern Connecticut State University now face punishment by Puccini. A group of offenders next month will be force-fed a taste of "Tosca."

Kirk Peters, associate dean of student affairs, created a policy that sends students to an opera or a symphony, rather than slap them with citations or fines.

Peters said Monday his colleagues initially questioned the Alternative Restitution Program when it began in the fall.

"Now they are sold on it," Peters said. "It's something the (students) don't want to do, so I feel it is a penalty. But I feel they are getting something out of it."

Briefs compiled by
USU and STATESMAN STAFF

University study says change in brain can cause change in vision

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — When vision declines with age, the cause may be due to changes in the brain as well as in the eyes, University of Utah research suggests.

The study, which involved young and old rhesus monkeys, also indicates driver license tests fail to detect vision-impairing brain degradation in elderly motorists.

"They test your optics — how well the eyes transmit information to your brain. But there is absolutely nothing that tests how well your brain is interpreting what you are seeing," said Audie Leventhal, a professor of neurobiology and anatomy at the university.

"If you have perfectly good vision when you are 80, you will pass your driver's test, but you may not drive as well" because your brain's visual cortex is less able to distinguish shapes and the direction of objects in motion, he said.

The study was released Monday and will be published in April's issue of Nature Neuroscience. Leventhal conducted the research with doctoral student Matt Schmolesky, research associate Youngchang Wang and assistant professor Mingliang Pu.

As people age, their vision can decline because of cataracts, retinal damage or other problems within the eye. The study shows that, regardless of eye damage, "the cells in your visual cortex that help you understand what you see don't work as well when you get old," Leventhal said.

"Once we've determined which cells in the brain don't do as well in the elderly, we can begin to work on treatments for limiting their breakdown," he said.

Judith Finkelstein, who directs the program on age-related sensory and motor disorders at the National Institute on Aging, which helped finance the study, said investigating the ways vision declines is important because the elderly population is growing, and old people use their eyes for everything from "driving to reading books and newspapers

and reading directions on medicine bottles. These can have life-and-death consequences, as well as quality-of-life considerations," she said.

Leventhal said a big part of vision is, "Where's Waldo?" — picking Waldo out of a bunch of other stuff.

"The job of the eye is to take a picture of the page with Waldo somewhere on it. The job of the brain is to find Waldo," he said.

That study found that in monkeys — and, by implication, in humans — the aging brain has more trouble interpreting what the eyes see — finding Waldo — even when the eyes remain healthy and can see the page containing Waldo.

While anesthetized, each monkey looked at a computer screen. Bars appeared on the screen and moved at different speeds and directions. Electrodes in the monkeys' brains measured the activity of nerve cells in the visual cortex — the outer portion of the back of the brain.

In young monkeys, certain brain cells fired a nerve impulse mostly when the monkeys saw a horizontal bar.

Others fired mostly when a vertical bar was seen. Yet others fired mostly when the animals watched angled bars.

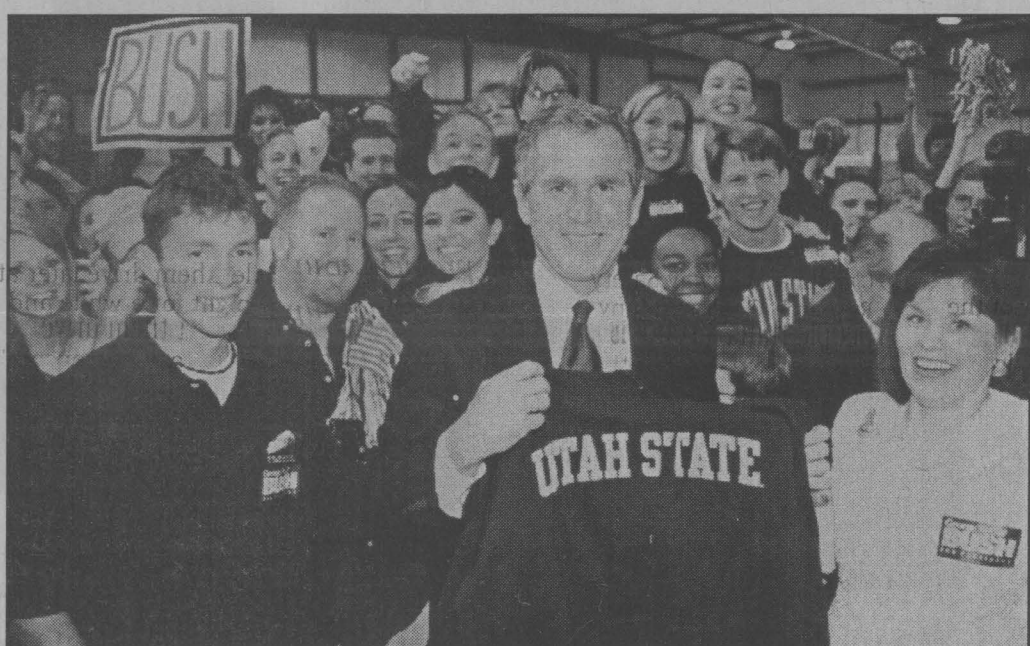
Other cells in young monkeys fired mostly to help interpret the direction of moving objects.

But in the old monkeys, various brain cells in the visual cortex were likely to fire regardless of the bars' direction or orientation.

That means that aging brain "isn't as good at telling the difference between things," Leventhal said. "You see it, but you don't understand what you see as well."

That may explain why elderly drivers looking at another vehicle "can't tell as well whether it's coming from the left or the right, how quickly it's coming or what kind of car it is," he said.

So license tests for the elderly should test how well they can detect motions and shapes, not just their eyesight, he said.



Go Bush!

USU students show support for U.S. Presidential candidate George W. Bush at a campaign rally in Provo on March 9. Bush is running against Democrat Al Gore in the 2000 election.

Liver transplant recipient starts summer camp fund for children

WEST VALLEY CITY, Utah (AP) — When Jeremy Lyman was fatally injured while riding his bike nearly three years ago, his family agreed to donate the 9-year-old's heart, liver, kidneys and corneas.

The vital organs saved the lives of four people and improved the sight of two others.

On Monday, the recipient of Jeremy's liver honored him by creating a fund that will send needy children from his former school to summer camp.

"He is my hero," said Jeri Wehrli, 54, as she announced the scholarship to students at Valley Crest Elementary in West Valley City. "Jeremy did such a wonderful thing and I want him to be remembered always."

ASUSU

Continued from Page 1

whether any office is more important than any other but whether any office has a disproportionate amount of work and responsibility.

"If anyone was to say that any office wasn't important to students, I think they'd be up in the night," he said.

College of Science Senator Dave Duke said he wasn't sure the issue could be addressed by the council.

"Barring a constitutional change, I'm not sure complete equality can be obtained," he said. Duke said because jobs and responsibilities are already set out, equality of responsibilities can't be created.

However, he said each member has one vote, creating equality of power.

ASUSU Extension Vice President Steve Palmer said the issue could go on for months and would still never be worked out. He said it is impossible for anyone to know

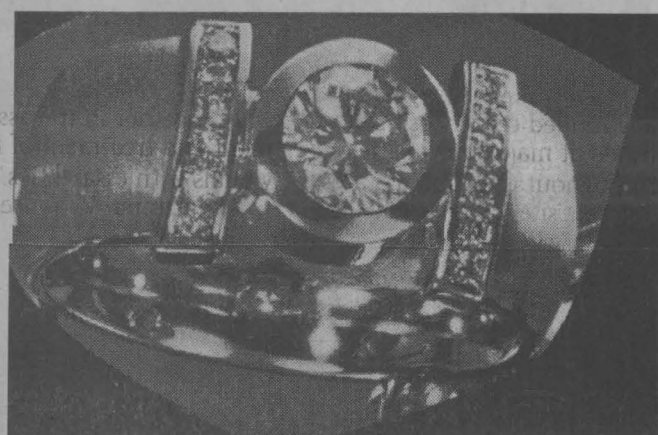
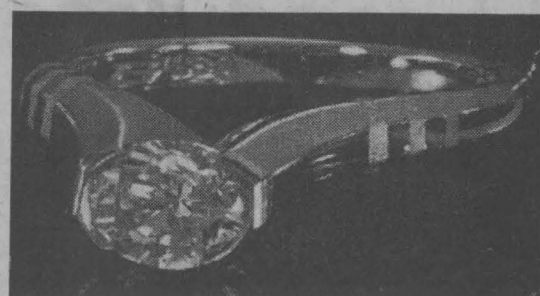
how much work any office does unless he or she actually wears the shoes of that office.

Palmer made a motion to leave the question as is for the current time. It passed unanimously.

The low attendance at last night's meeting became even lower after the vote when three members had to leave for an Arts and Lectures activity. Their absence brought the attendance below 11, the required quorum for passing legislation, so the meeting was adjourned early.

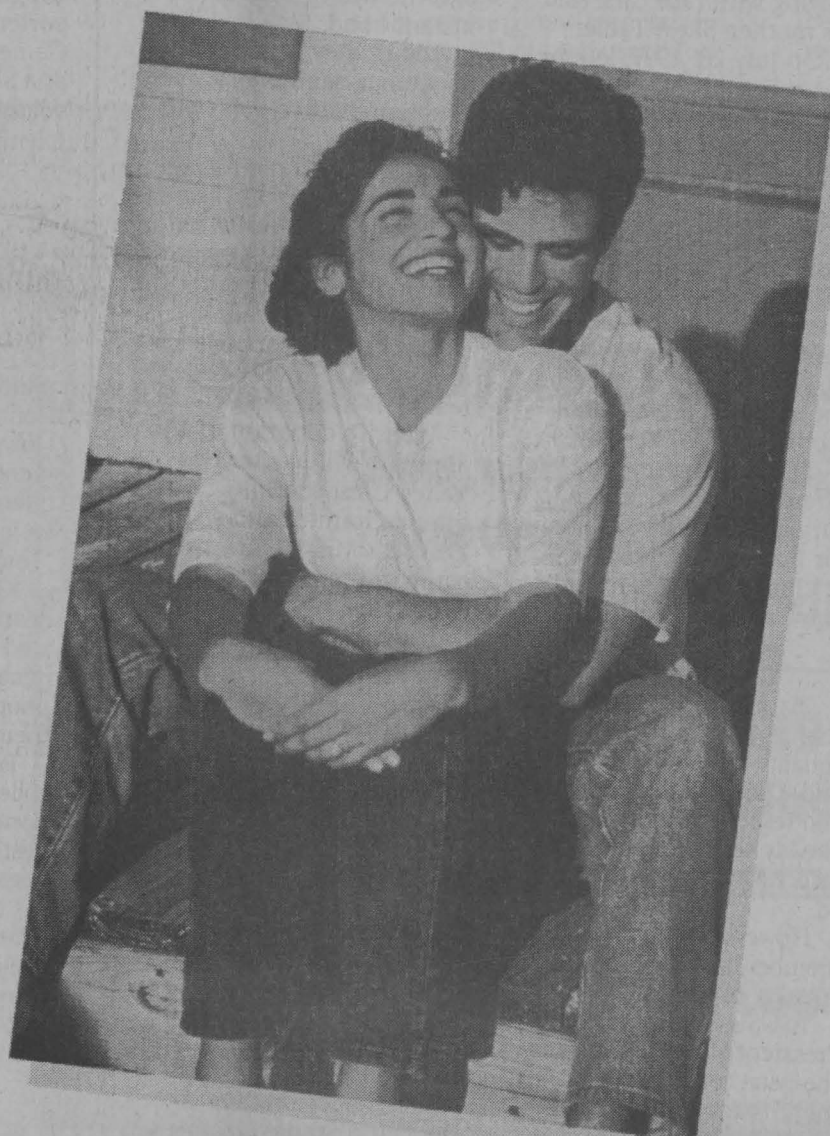
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Discovering new worlds and beating the odds

CORINNE KATOR
Senior Features Writer

"After this many years, I find I enjoy working with people as much as I did with cows."

This is what Gordon Richins, consumer liaison for the Center for Persons with Disabilities, had to say about his unexpected change in careers.

Richins was a dairy farmer in Fairview, Idaho, until he broke his neck in a farming accident in August 1987. After spending two years at home "going nuts," Richins decided to begin studying accounting at Utah State University.

Although a few classes changed his mind about accounting, Richins stayed in school and graduated from USU with a degree in Agricultural Business in 1994. Richins said he has been happy with his choice to attend the university.

"With the help of vocational rehabilitation and the Disability Resource Center here on campus, I was given an opportunity to pursue higher education which I took advantage of and haven't regretted in the least," he said.

In January 1997, Richins began working for the Center for Persons with Disabilities (CPD) on the USU campus.

As consumer liaison for the CPD, Richins acts as a "conduit between services at the Center and the consumers in the community." Richins said these consumers include persons with disabilities, families with disabled children and agencies providing services for persons with disabilities. He said that having a disability himself helps him in his job, giving him more insight into

the situations disabled people face.

Richins is confined to a wheelchair and has limited use of his hands, but with some special help he completes all of the duties of his job. The CPD employs a USU student to help Richins with opening his mail, running errands, filing and other physical duties.

Special hardware and software help him use his computer.

"Using a trackball mouse and voice-activated computer software, I am able to perform the essential functions of my position here at the CPD," Richins said.

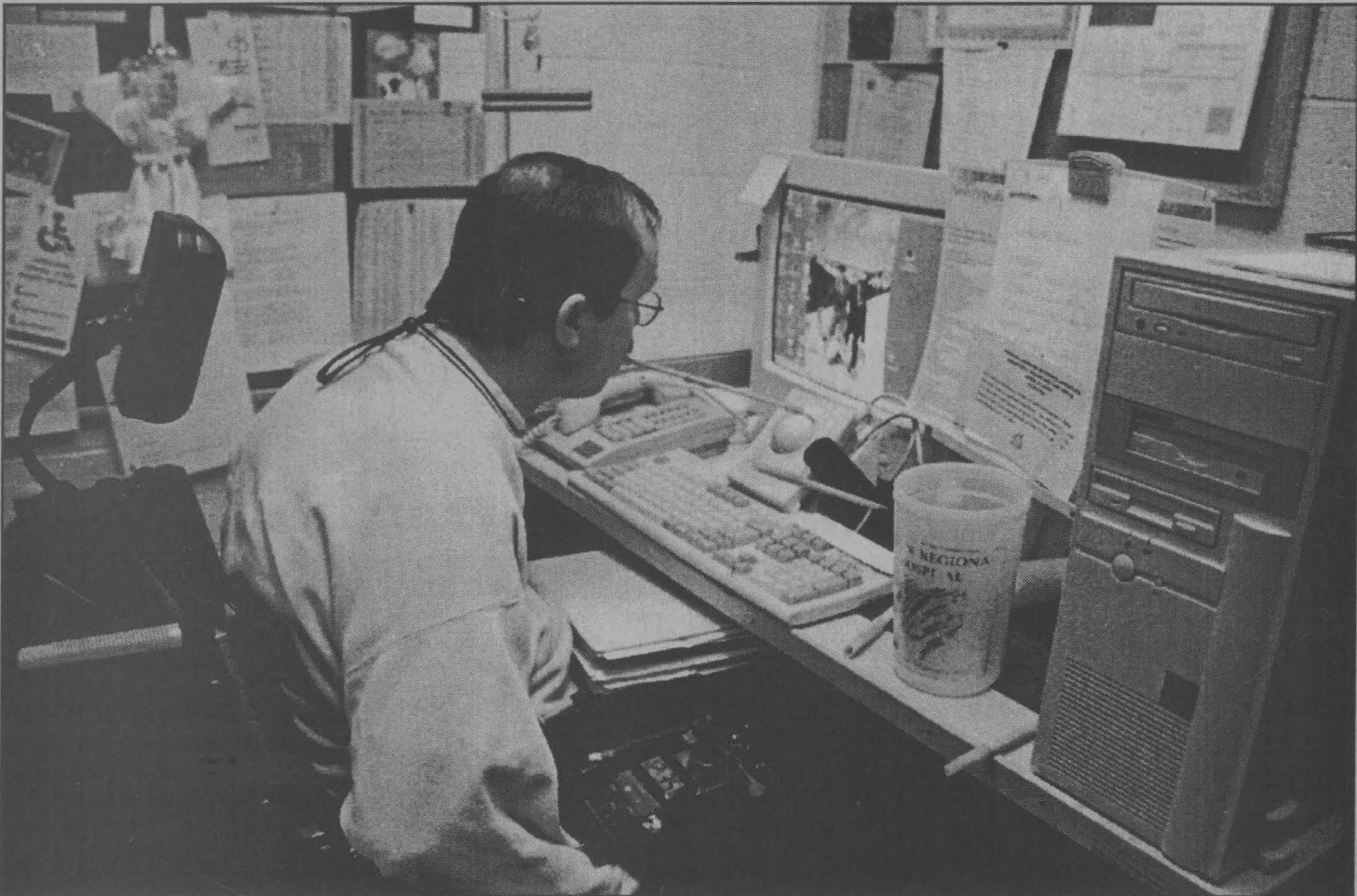
Richins isn't the only employee of the CPD who uses such hardware and software. Jim Hess, computer specialist, also uses voice-activated software and a trackball mouse to run his computer.

Hess, who designs and maintains databases for the CPD, was born with Cerebral Palsy. He said he has tried many other lines of work and finally found his niche working with computers.

"The computer opened up a whole new world for me," Hess said.

Hess has limited use of his hands, so he has had to overcome some physical barriers to do his work. Hess said he used to spend hours and hours typing at a very slow speed to program on DOS computers. When text-based DOS was replaced by graphics-based Windows, his work became much faster and easier.

Hess found that using a mouse in Windows was faster than typing, but manipulating the mouse was difficult for him and irritated his shoulder.



Gordon Richins, Consumer Liaison for the Center for Persons with Disabilities has special equipment and programs to aid him with his disability.

After watching some of his colleagues using trackballs, Hess decided he could use one too — with his feet. Hess jokes that other than occasionally having to clean the sock lint out of the trackball, the setup works just fine.

Hess said he feels fortunate to have landed his job at the Center for Persons with Disabilities. He said the people at the CPD are very accommodating.

"They're just a good bunch of people," he said.

That "good bunch of people" is committed to improving the quality of life for per-

sons with disabilities and their families, according to a brochure created by the CPD. This is accomplished through training, services, technical assistance and research conducted by the Center.

The Center for Persons with Disabilities was established as a University Affiliated Program (UAP) in 1972, according to the Center's Web site (www.cpd.usu.edu). University Affiliated Programs are federally funded centers established at major universities throughout the United States, says the site. They are dedicat-

ed to facilitating the independence, productivity and integration of people with developmental disabilities.

One of the major missions of the CPD is training. The Center's trainees include graduate and undergraduate students at USU.

According to the Web site, the CPD's interdisciplinary training division "provides trainees with the opportunity to learn how specialists from a wide variety of disciplines work together in the assessment and treatment of individuals with disabilities."

The Center's Web site and

brochure introduce the CPD's eight divisions and give an overview of the wide variety of activities the Center supports — from workshops for parents to biomedical research on the causes of autism.

Reading about the CPD's programs and wandering through its maze of hallways and offices proves that Richins was right when he said, "There's a lot going on here."

Richins and others at the CPD agree that their work is truly rewarding because they know they are enhancing the quality of life of so many people.

Finding a new source of Aggie information and news

NATALIE LARSON
Staff Writer

The official Web site for USU, www.usu.edu, has recently been forced to compete for attention from students due to other informative sites now available including USUOnline.com and TrueAggies.com.

TrueAggies.com primarily focuses on Aggie sports and other related articles. Jarod Eborn a USU student produced the site in collaboration with rivals.com.

"I am simply a small part of a network of Web site publishers for a large company, rivals.com, that has hundreds of sports-related Web sites," Eborn said.

According to Eborn, rivals.com is the company that designed and put the site together. They have done the same for multiple colleges and most professional sports franchises and benefit from the advertising they place on their sites he said.

"I'm not sure what the student response is," Eborn said. "I know there has recently been an increase in student traffic to the site as it is becoming more widely known."

The differences between TrueAggies.com and the official university site, according to Eborn, is that the official site only lists the schedules for events.

TrueAggies.com has a message board for fans and non-fans to discuss the games, exchange ideas and vent frustrations. There are links for more information and a chat room that is becoming quite popular for Aggie fans, especially those out

of state during games, he said.

"USU students might enjoy the site because it is a one-stop-shopping type of place for Aggie info. You can find game reports, stats, schedules, links to other info, message boards and links to rival message boards," Eborn said.

TrueAggies.com started out slowly but has picked up plenty of steam during basketball season.

"I imagine it will continue to grow as more people become familiar with it and get hooked on it," Eborn said.

"In the future, I plan on spending considerably more time on the site and providing a lot of original, exclusive content," he said. "Football season will be the beginning of a whole new site practically, because I'll be treating it as a unique electronic publication."

James Paul Neeley and Chad Parry are the creators of USUOnline.com. This site contains similar information to the official site arranged in a different format.

"The idea for starting the site came while staring at that wall of classifieds in the TSC. How could anyone find what they were looking for? I thought it would be great to have searchable online classifieds," Neeley said.

"After that initial thought, things just started to snowball," he said. "Chad and I began to see a lot of services we could create that would help make student life easier."

According to Neeley, the site was created to make a "one-stop shop" for local information.

USUOnline.com searches for phone numbers, addresses and e-mails all at the same time. Homepage listings are also available. A similar situation existed with the calendars, he said.

Calendar dates are compiled for sports, club activities and all other campus activities. A free forum for USU students to communicate is also available.

"We want to make finding and publicizing information a snap," Neeley said.

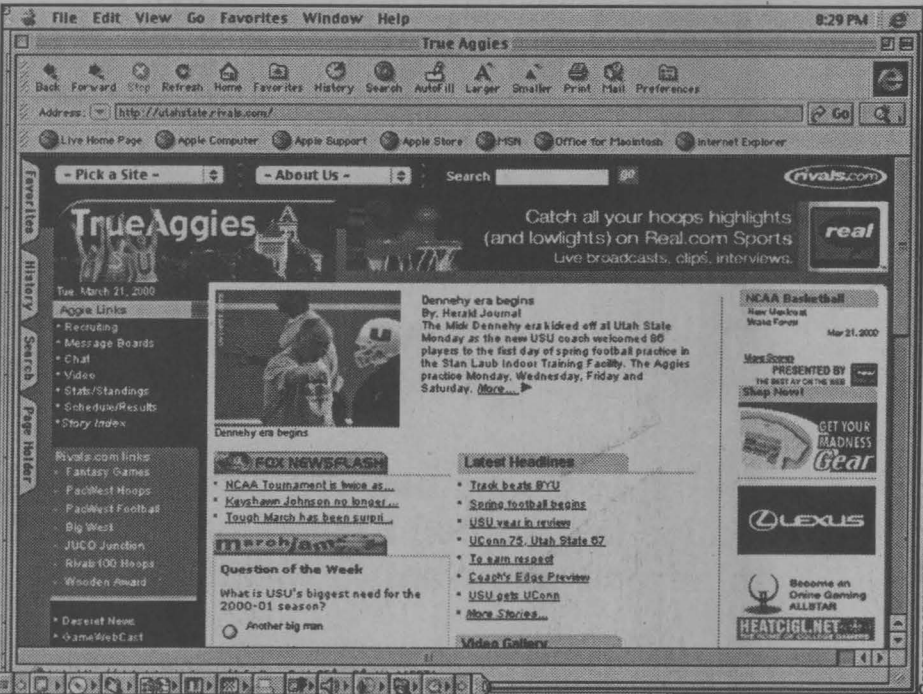
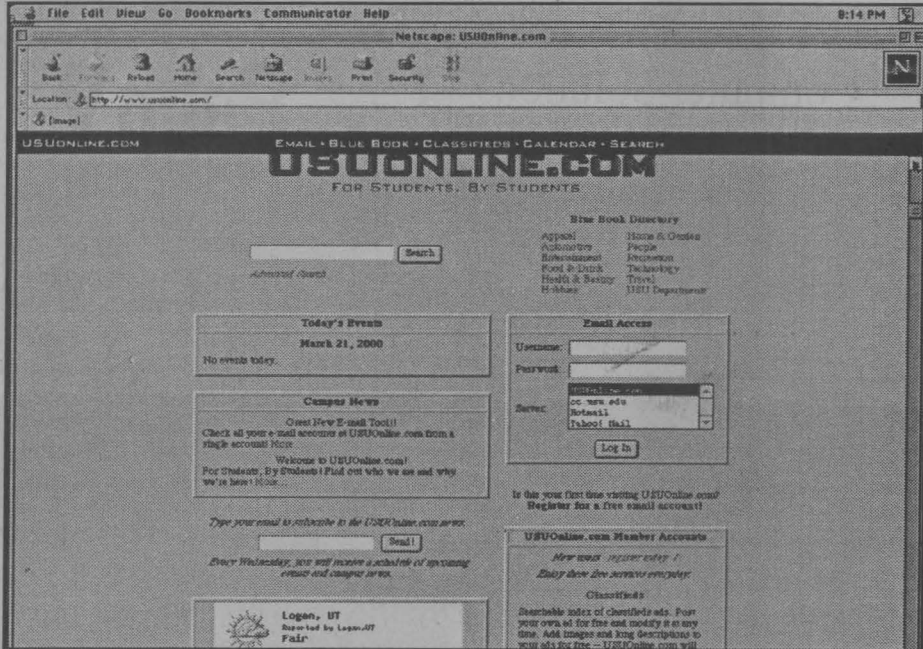
"The benefits for us come in the experience of learning how a site like this is put together and managed," he said. "I can't think of many jobs today where these types of skills won't be valuable. Most of all, we're just having a ton of fun doing it."

According to Neeley, the response from students has been positive.

Neeley and Parry make adjustments in response to requests from students, one of which will include a movie listing.

"The official USU Web page is great. The difference between our sites is that we are focused on different types of services. The official site is not enough only in that there are many Internet services for students that USU would have no stake in offering," Neeley said.

"An example would be a local business directory where students rate the service of the business," he said. "There is no reason for the university to spend time and money developing that type of service, but it is a service that would be great for students. That's where we come in."



USU's Computer Solutions takes honors and prizes in Apple competition

TARA BONE
Staff Writer

Utah State University's Computer Solutions Center ranked among Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania with second place honors in the 2000 Apple Computer, Inc. Worldwide Best Store Contest.

"It was a surprise to us all. We just go

along with our daily business and it was appreciated," Karen Johnson, Computer Solutions Center sales assistant, said.

Winners were chosen after undercover judges went into Apple stores to rate customer service, store atmosphere and the promotion of Apple packages.

Computer Solutions Center was rated in the United States Higher Education category.

From their national second place finish, Computer Solutions was awarded gift certificates, an employee pizza party, \$5,000 in Apple merchandise, and recognition at an awards ceremony in San Francisco on Jan. 4.

Apple, Inc. flew Johnson and Mike Brazfield, sales assistants, to the ceremony.

The Computer Solutions Center sells computers, computer software and all accessories,

including products for PCs and Macs alike Johnson said.

The center is affiliated with Information and Learning Resources on campus.

Johnson said Computer Solutions is for the convenience and service of students, staff and faculty. It is located in Room 135 of the Computer Center, north of the Cazier Science and Technology Library.

Threading their way into hair removal

TANARA IKENBERG
The Baltimore Sun

Women go to great lengths to combat facial hair. They pluck, wax and tweeze. Now they can even thread.

This trendy Eastern alternative — which uses a looped thread to yank out hairs at the root — is an alternative to other near-medieval methods.

"I'm a convert," says Linda West, 41, who has come to Usha Beauty Salon in Parkville, Md., to get her eyebrows threaded. "I'll never have them waxed again."

It might just be a matter of time until threading becomes even hotter than waxing.

"Waxing is about cutting out your pattern," says Jane Larkworthy, beauty director for Jane, a fashion and entertainment magazine. "Threading is each hair by each hair. It's more artistic."

The threader, holding one end of the thread taut in her mouth, plays the part of cosmetic cowboy, lassoing cut each hair with the looped ends of the thread.

Narine Nikogosian, of the hip Ole Henriksen Face and Beauty salon in Los Angeles, says threading has its perks. It doesn't pull the skin and is good for the circulation of the face, she says.

Threading is also chemical free, is more precise and can remove hairs too short to be waxed away.

The growing praise and media about threading coincides with the current obsession with eyebrows. Big-screen brows — sexy, arched, defined — are all the rage.

Usha Gupta, of Usha Salon, is one of Baltimore's reigning masters.

Give Gupta five minutes and eight dollars and she'll thread away those errant hairs. It'll take a little longer and cost a little more in both pain and cash for the upper lip and chin.

The exact origins of threading are difficult to trace. Some people, including Nikogosian, say it began in the Middle East. Others, among them Gupta, suggest it was brought to India by the Chinese more than two thousand years ago. Most agree that it's been practiced here for at least 10 years.

Any practice that involves ripping hair off your body is bound to smart a little.

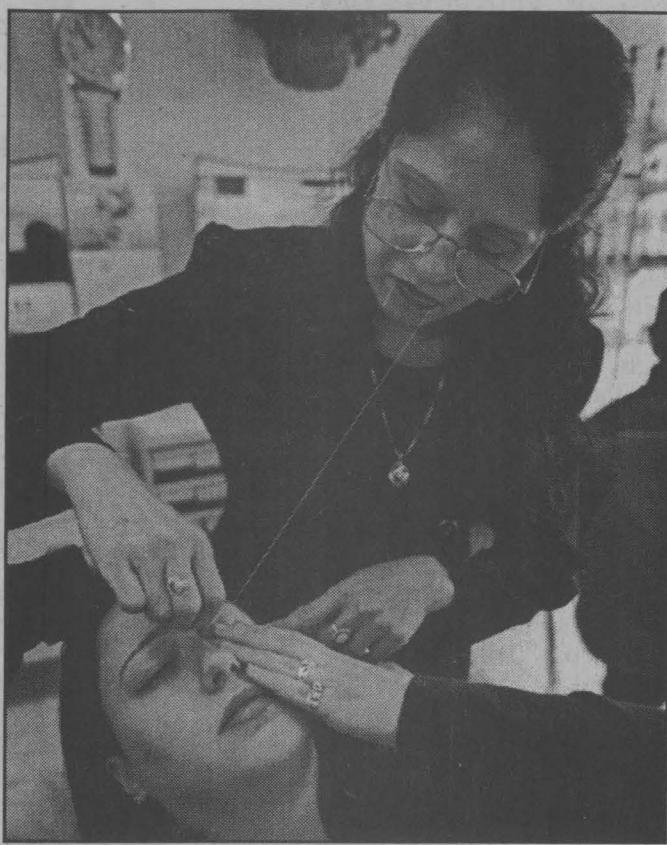
"Waxing is a quick pain," says Terrelle Gray, an Usha devotee who lives in Northwest Baltimore. Threading is a staccato pain more akin to tweezing, as the hairs are removed almost individually.

No matter what the agony factor, practically every client eagerly books her next appointment before she departs.

Some beauty consumers might be concerned about hygiene, as one end of the thread is held in the aesthetician's mouth.

"If (the thread) is long enough and the fiber is not a cotton, it should be OK as long as that area is kept away from the skin," says Lisa Donofrio, M.D., assistant clinical professor of dermatology at Yale University School of Medicine. And, reusing a thread is a no-

Jump to THREAD, Page 8



Unwanted body hair can be removed in an old process originating in the Middle East using a piece of thread to pluck hair from the skin.

CAREER NEWS

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SKATE

Continued from Page 6

police in avoidance of getting fined or losing a skateboard.

There is nothing worse than not being able to do what you love in a welcoming environment — to be herded out of parking lots and off of building terraces just because you have a skateboard.

"Skaters mind their own business," Leslie Burningham said.

They are athletes practicing their sport. They aren't thieves or drug dealers. They are just kids that want to do

what they love, skateboarding.

Some people feel threatened by skateboarders, and tend to treat them as criminals.

We all have parked our cars in an illegal spot or broken some other kind of school policy. We still treat ourselves like human beings, so why can't we treat skateboarders with the same respect?

Brianne Lunt is a communications major who is angry with the way society is run in general. If you would like to complain, e-mail her at blunt411@underwriters.com.

Spring Fashion Show

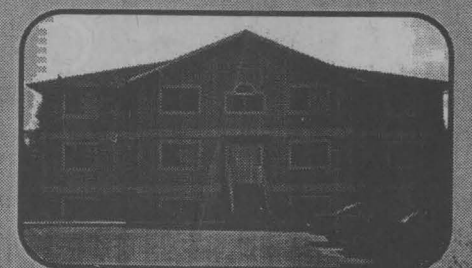
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Middle of the Block, at
the Sign of the Clock

Webbing helps students learn and develop

EMILY WAX
The Washington Post

At a tiny desk covered with crayons and folders, Emily Butler's notes erupt in dashes and circles and sketches, forming what resembles a giant spider web.

She plops the title of her story in a circle: "Alice the Penguin and the North Pole." From there she draws lines shooting out in every direction to describe the plot. "The bad guy steals baby penguin," one line reads, next to a picture of a stick figure hauling away a bird. "South Pole developer wants to buy North Pole," says another line. When it's all over, the third-grader at Glebe Elementary School in Arlington, Va., has a cluttered diagram that twists and turns and hiccups with the story's main ideas.

To the uninitiated, Emily's drawing might look like doodling. But she is practicing something called "mind-mapping," a technique for taking notes and organizing thoughts that is being taught in a growing number of classrooms at all grade levels. For students whose learning style is more artistic than verbal, mind-mapping is a more effective and appealing way to absorb and convey information than writing conventional notes and outlines, educators say.

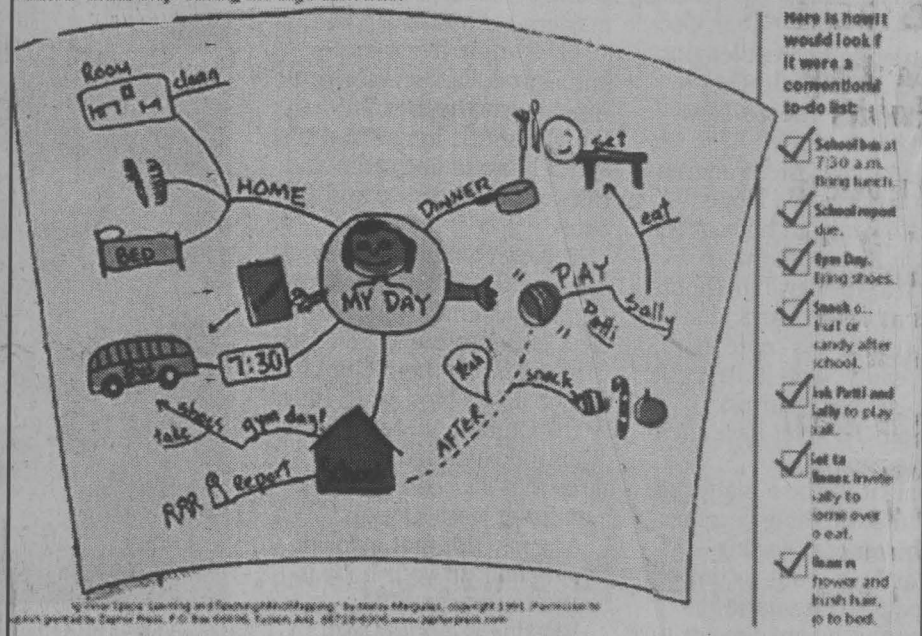
"Some kids, you can tell them to list something 15 times and they won't do it," said Denise Renirie, a teaching specialist in the Fairfax County, Va., school system. "But when you show them the mind-map, they will rush to complete it. A good teacher will show them both."

Renirie has introduced students of various ages to mind-mapping, using it to teach everything from the causes of the Civil War to the functions of the cell. The diagram she uses for the lesson on cells has drawings of trucks marked "transport" and "substance."

"Hey, I'm a linear person," she said, laughing. "It doesn't make that much sense

Sketching Notes

Mind-mapping is an approach to note-taking in which students draw lines and pictures to help them organize and remember information. In this example, a student has drawn a "mind-map" listing the day's activities.



A mind-map, also referred to as webbing, helps students organize thoughts and aids understanding.

to me. But to many students it's really easy."

Teachers typically present both mind-mapping and the regular style of outlining, telling students they should use whichever approach feels more natural.

Mind-mapping, also known as "webbing," was developed by British researcher Tony Buzan when he was a graduate student at the University of British Columbia in the 1960s and had become frustrated with his own system of scribbling down notes.

"I felt very limited. I couldn't remember anything I was writing down," Buzan said. From his research on the workings of the human memory, he concluded that some minds need visuals and symbols of associa-

tion in order to remember and organize facts.

"I realized that linear note-taking had neither of those," Buzan said. "So I came up with the creative chaos of mind-mapping. It's like a Swiss army knife for the brain."

Teachers say that webbing is designed to help students only at the stage when they're making an outline or learning standard facts. Advocates of the technique say that although it's being taught most frequently in elementary and middle schools, it can help students of all ages — or, for that matter, business executives charting five-year plans and families making grocery lists. Buzan also recommends webbing for foreign-language students with limited English.

THREAD

Continued from Page 7

no, she adds. Gupta says she uses a new thread for every customer and her threads are 100 percent polyester.

But what about more, um, sensitive places? Gupta says threading is done only on the legs, arm and (shudder) the bikini line, to capture pesky hairs that refuse to be removed by waxing or other methods.

As threading gets bigger in cities such as A., it's only a matter of time before starlets start singing its praises.

Gupta thinks Hollywood is definitely ready for threading. But she'd like to start at the White House with Hillary Rodham Clinton, who Gupta considers an eyebrow nightmare.

"Please," she says, "just let me go and do he eyebrows."

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No anonymous letters will be published.

Writers must sign all letters, with phone number 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.

Writers must wait 21 days before submitting successive letters — no exceptions.

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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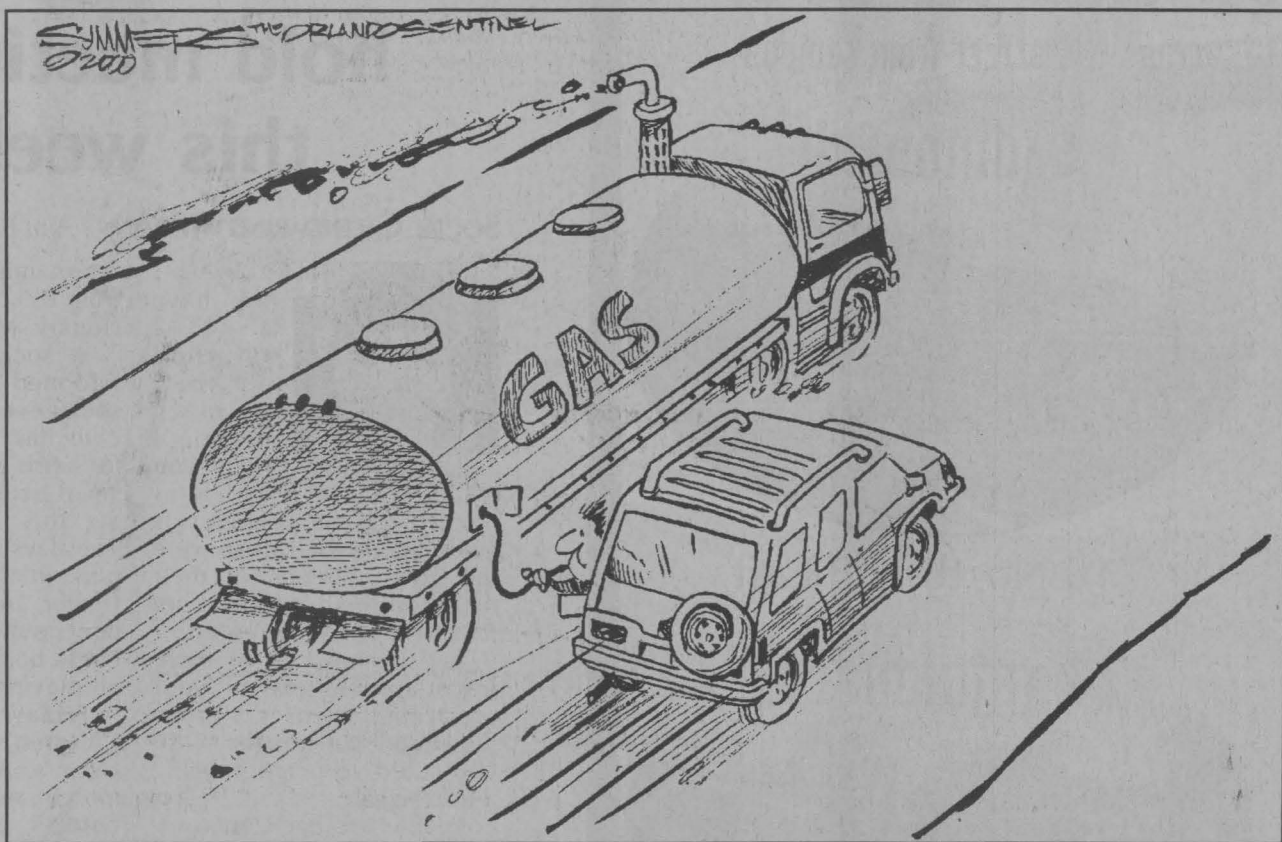
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Established in 1902. The Utah Statesman is published Monday, Wednesday and Friday and is the official student newspaper of Utah State University. The Utah Statesman is printed on recycled newsprint.

Senator praises
students for
rally at capitol

As a State Senator, I want you to know how disappointed I am that we didn't fund Higher Education at the level needed for salary equity and student body growth; its effects may even ripple into a one percent tuition increase for students. More importantly, I want you to know how much it meant to have students from all nine Universities and Colleges at the Capitol to voice their concerns about Higher Education funding.

It is rewarding to know University students value a quality faculty and a first-rate education and are willing to give their time to better the universities in Utah.

Indeed, it was my privilege to join the rally and support the young, energetic and bright leaders of tomorrow. The students held a rally of immense importance with dignity and respect. It is genuinely impressive to know that our students prefer, and are willing to fight for, the educational standards they know will prepare them for their future — whether it's in Utah, America or the international scene.

It is my great hope that students in Utah will remain active in the political process, not only during their college careers but will continue their involvement in their professional careers as well. I also hope that students would not be hesitant to contact me if they need any advice or assistance in becoming more actively involved.

I can be reached at the Capitol at (801) 538-1405 or via e-mail at pjulande@le.state.ut.us. I look forward to seeing all those bright, shining faces around the Capitol again in the future.

Paula F. Julander
Senate Democratic Whip
Senate District 1Vandals should leave
promotional signs
alone

It seems that certain deeply insecure people found it necessary to tear down the flyers advertising March 8's presentation in the TSC Auditorium on Lake Powell and the issues surrounding it. Why is this? It seems hard to believe that a college student should have that much time on his/her hands that recreational, random vandalism is needed.

Is it that they must censor and denigrate that which they disagree with? Are they afraid that some thought-provoking discussion might alter, or at least

To the
EDITOR

question, the beliefs of their fellow students? Whatever the case, their actions conflict with the open 'marketplace of ideas' that characterizes USU and which many of us appreciate. To whomever the pitiable, weak-minded vandals out there are: Get a life and get some respect. People who can't tolerate freedom of opinion and expression don't fit well here.

Jim Steitz

Student thanks honest
person for returning
sunglasses

Just minutes before leaving for Spring Break, I realized that my sunglasses (which were a gift from my wife) were nowhere to be found. I looked everywhere. I have been less than responsible in the past taking care of this same pair of shades, and they always turned up somewhere.

But this time I was sure they would not be found, and certainly not cheap to replace. The only conclusion I could come up with is that I had left them on campus the week before. I went the entire week wondering just where they could be, convinced that if someone found them, they would surely keep them. With little hope, the Monday following Spring Break, I checked with the UR lab assistants to see if someone had turned them in. And to my amazement, there they were.

I went to class very relieved, and directly after class, I went back to the lab and found myself writing this letter. I just want to thank whoever found my trusty sunglasses and handed them over. (I should also thank the UR lab assistants again for keeping them safe in the meantime.)

To some, a simple act of kindness, but I would be out a great deal if he or she hadn't remembered the golden rule. Whoever you are, thank you. I owe you one.

Dayne Dingman

Deaf student clarifies
comments made in
Statesman article

Thank you very much for allowing me to say a few words concerning my deafness and how I was raised up in that kind of environment. However, when I read the article, it sounded as though I was placing

Jump to LETTERS, Page 18

A honeymoon for three

IN THE HEADLIGHTS / Bryce Petersen



By the time I see the flashing lights behind me, it's four hours past my bedtime. Tired and cranky, I've been driving back and forth in Bend, Ore., for over an hour.

Apparently, we have a headlight out and it becomes clear why I couldn't see anything in the blizzard a couple of hours ago with lights in my eyes going 20 mph in front of big Chevys, who still wanted to go 50 mph with their fog lights and big tires.

We can't find the registration and Bettie can't find her license so she tells him our sad story instead. The old bum just sits in the back and mentions he's hungry and that Bend is huge and that he thought it was a little town while the cop checks us out on his computer.

It said you were on your honeymoon and to let you go was what he said when he came back. Even

the Man thought our story was sad. This year I found out that Spring Break can be a real adventure without fear of STD's, alcohol poisoning or tropical sun blistering skin made soft and tender by cloudy, snowy days in Utah.

This year my new wife and I embarked on a honeymoon/Spring Break full of rain, snow, poor planning, smelly hotels and pizza that would satisfy the most ardent thrill seeker.

Our trip was full of surprises — too many to fit in this space. I will omit the Seattle portion, where our pants sloshed with 90 extra pounds of water as I bought some worthless little muffin to have change for the bus only to watch it hydroplane away as I emerged from the store. I am not concerned with the junkies across from us when we finally caught the bus or the red light I ran or the ferry we missed or the endless rain or never catching up with my friends who live there.

Today, I am concerned with Bend, a sprawling hole of a town east of the beautiful coast of

Oregon and far enough from the mountains to erase all their beauty. It's the beginning of a flat dead drive to Idaho. The beginning of the road home. The beginning of the end.

We had just emerged out of a snowy, scary mountain pass and had finally arrived in Bend three hours later than we had hoped and imagined. Badly shaken by the day's events and exhausted by the drive, we stopped at the first dive we saw hoping to get a quick, cheap room and a bed to fall to sleep immediately in.

There was only a two-bed room left so we decided to hold out for something cheaper rather than listen to the bump and grind next door while paying enough to stay somewhere nicer. Besides, there was this poor, old hobbling bum that was being told that the place he was looking for was about six miles away. He was explaining that he had no money for a cab, he just spent \$60 on a Greyhound from Mt.

Jump to HONEYMOON, Page 18

In our
OPINION

The struggle for gun owners' rights goes on. This time, there is no question — it has gone too far.

Utah legislators have refused to make it illegal to carry a concealed weapon on the campus of Utah schools, and although the University of Utah Academic Senate has passed a resolution making it against school policy to carry a concealed weapon, the policy is unenforceable by law.

The Academic Senate voted 57-13 in favor of the resolution, stating the school's position against guns in schools and churches.

Unfortunately, the vast majority of those voting against the resolution were students.

Besides, they say, there's only been one incident in the past 25 years involving a weapons threat on

campus. Just one.

Guns

have no place on our school campuses. Those who claim there is no need for action because there has been no tragedy so far are thinking reactively.

While student representatives at the U of U continue wandering in blind innocence, saying there is no need to protect their students from guns because their corner of the world has yet to experience gun violence, students from elementary school and up, churchgoers worshipping with a false sense of security and countless innocent citizens across the country are falling prey to the violence of a gun-loving culture.

The Legislature and schools across the state need to open their eyes and realize there is a problem — a problem they can do something about.

C'mon
Logan, really
sound off

SLIGHTLY OFF CENTER / Dennis Hinkamp



March 13 through 20 is Utah Brain Awareness week. How do I know? I read it on

a Web page, so it must be true. It's too weird to be fake (www.utah.edu/brain) It has in fact been the decade of the brain. Dang, I always find these things out too late. So all of you out there who are not aware that you have a brain, make sure you get in touch with it this week. Find your right ear and take a hard left. Therein you will find the answer. I've seen most of y'all on the new Herald Journal Sound Off page and I would have to say "Way cool." Ranting is good for the soul. Anonymity is a bonus.

Let me just give you a little more to rant about.

They are serving beer at Sizzler now. This is sick and wrong. Why isn't Evan Olsen all over this? The family stuff-o-rama is selling fermented beverages? What's next? McDonald's with shots of bourbon?

So far there have been 1.2 million applications to be Utah's "smut czar." Strangely, 98 percent of the applicants have been men.

My favorite junk store downtown has been taken over by a lawyers' office. Somehow that seems fitting.

SUV's in the handicapped parking spaces? How does that work?

To all you trying to write checks and sneak 12 items through the express line at the supermarket: "Thanks for doing your banking on my time." You know, I don't think carrying \$20 in cash is going to make you a crime magnet.

Remember when MTV used to actually have music videos as the acronym implies? Geez, now they show

worse sitcoms and obnoxious sex shows than Fox.

Christopher Reeves was depicted as being able to walk again in a Super Bowl commercial. Kind of cool, but I would have been more impressed if they had shown Ray Charles and Stevie Wonder playing ping pong. Speaking of actors and musicians, what's up with leather pants? At what point in your career do these start sounding like a good idea? Have you ever seen Bill Gates in leather pants? I think Jerry Seinfeld is the only actor I have not seen with them on. Thanks Jerry, I take back all the bad things I said about you dating women 30 years younger than you.

I heard a political candidate say "What kind of mad man would actually use nuclear weapons?" Ummm, us? Of course, our nuclear weapons are peace keepers. I think the Japanese have been really good sports about the whole thing. Being addicted to their electronic gadgets is a small repatriation to pay.

You know, I used to be gay until my high school hired that heterosexual gym teacher. See how stupid that sounds? If gays are out recruiting people, they aren't doing a very good job. I mean, the U.S. Army offered me a free education and trips to exotic places and that didn't work. What do gays have to offer? A life of ridicule and Barbara Streisand movies?

People who don't observe cross walks should be sent to the island of telemarketers. If you want to play chicken with pedestrians, get off your cell phone and get your fat butt out of your car and let's discuss the fitness benefits of walking. For one, all of us who walk are saving gasoline so you can drive indiscriminately. So you should be thanking us.

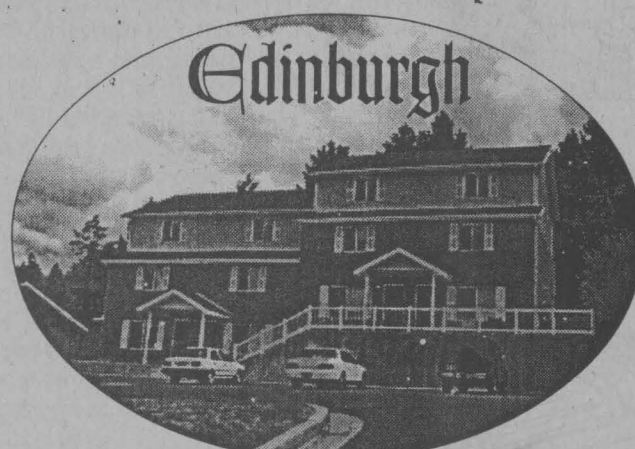
Dennis Hinkamp's column appears every Monday in The Utah Statesman.

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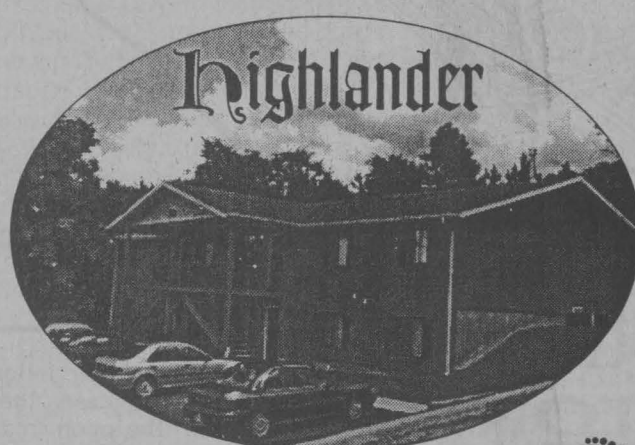
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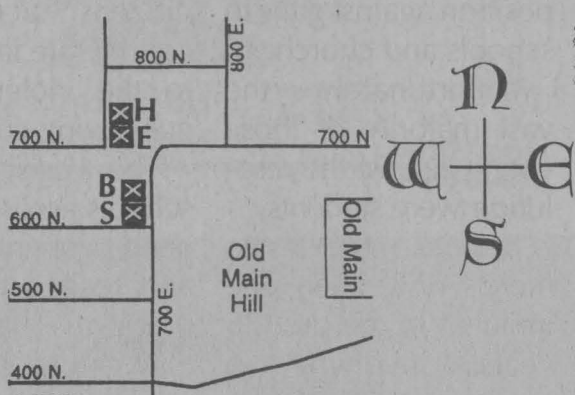
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675 East 600 North

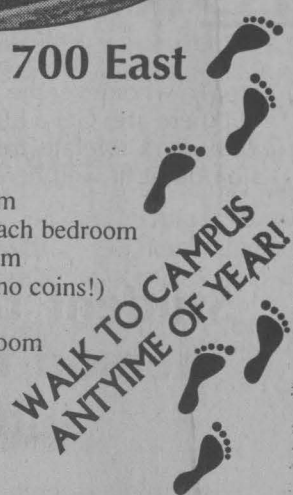


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USU Chess Club, Humane Society hold meetings this week

SOCIAL CALENDARING WITH ANN / Ann Bluemlein



A h, we have a l l returned a f t e r S p r i n g Break. I hope you all had as

much fun as me. London was awesome — the British were the great pilferers of their time and their museums are GREAT! So is the West End.

But anyway, on to more important matters — your social life! There is a pretty full moon out tonight — so you could go practice being a true Aggie.

People are back on campus. They are ready for a social invite. They are looking for things to do AFTER class (and sometimes instead of class). Be brave, invite someone to an event. Just pick one thing and go — if even by yourself. Life will be better because you did.

Wednesday — The Cache Humane Society is having its March meeting at 7 p.m. in the Whittier Center, Room 290. Find out how you can help animals. Everyone welcome.

Or go and sign up with the Logan Rec center for its Spring Ultimate Frisbee leagues. Cost is \$10 a player. Call 750-9877 for details.

Better yet, become a Boy Scout leader. The city sponsored troop is looking for leaders (great if you speak a foreign language!) Call Carlos at 752-6662 for details.

Thursday — Go see the film *God's Army* at Movies 5. It's by a Latter-Day Saint

return missionary filmmaker from BYU about being a missionary. Might be good.

A socially active reader informed me of this great social event: The USU Chess club has returned. It is not for nerds anymore — hot and smart people have been seen at this club. It meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5 p.m. in the Taggart Student Center 3rd floor by the student council offices. Look for chess board. New people of all playing levels welcomed.

Friday — The Cache Children's choir is doing Noah's Ark at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday. It does cost \$5, but I bet if you go late you can get in for cheaper. It's for a good cause — and when else can you see 150 kids acting like animals? (Don't answer that).

Go from 3:30 to 5 p.m. to the Folklore Room at the Merrill Library and meet Andrea Graham who is a professional folklorist being honored on campus. She is a wild horse expert. Probably free food.

Or go and do some star watching tonight (great snuggle-potential date here). Any place high up is good to get out of the city lights.

Saturday — A vacation day! If only they came more than one a week. For fun tonight try night skiing at Beaver, pool at the TSC or a rousing game of Twister (check Deseret Industries for great games cheap).

Ann Bluemlein achieved a life-goal and saw the Rosetta Stone last week. If you want to know how it looked, e-mail her at slzk7@cc.usu.edu

New devices to revolutionize the nation

KADE'S KORNER / Kade Minchey



Inventors h a v e blessed us with yet another new technology; this one is said to

revolutionize the gay population, it is being called Gaydar. Have you heard about this? Paul Harvey, syndicated newsmen, brought this to my attention a few weeks ago.

Harvey said that the Gaydar is this little device that looks somewhat like a beeper, however, instead of phone numbers appearing on a liquid crystal screen, the Gaydar has flashing lights, beeps and vibrations that occur when another homosexual is in close proximity.

I think this is a wonderful invention. Gays and lesbians no longer have to wonder about the social repercussions of hitting on a person of the same sex if that person is straight. Rather, they can just signal in their potential mates without all of the worry of committing a social faux-pas.

For their (gay people's) sakes, hope that gay-bashers don't get their hands on one of these Gaydars. That could create a legitimate need for hate crime legislation. So, perhaps the Democrats can pass a law that requires the licensing and regulation of these Gaydars.

I am sure the legislation would go something like this: If an individual has committed more than one hate crime against homosexuals, then that person will have a twenty day waiting period before they can legally purchase a Gaydar.

This law would then require gay-bashers to either buy their Gaydar on the street

or wait a few weeks to commit their crime. Therefore, making gay people everywhere safe.

This is such a good idea I would like to suggest that inventors come up with a Demogor. That's right, a tracking device for Democrats. Think of all of the wonderful benefits this would bring. Let me name just two of them for you.

First, the government could distribute these Demogors to all the homeless people. Think of it — the nation's poverty problem could be solved. The Democrats are always saying that they are the only compassionate people in the country. So, it must follow that they are the primary givers to panhandlers.

With Demogars the homeless panhandlers wouldn't have to waste half of their day begging to "conservatives." They could use this new technology and hone right in on the people that "care" about them.

Second, this could solve "Hillary's" (the N.Y. senate candidate) problem as well. See, Hillary held a news conference a few days ago where she condemned the New York police department and the mayor of New York for being insensitive. She said, referring to Mayor Giuliani, "the leadership of this city refuses to reach out."

I think I am going to send this article to Hillary's campaign headquarters, so she can take into consideration the advice I am about to give.

Hillary, you need to jump on this idea of the Demogor. (Don't worry I will only charge 30 percent of the profits for using my idea). This is what you do: get your hus-

Jump to GADGETS, Page 18

Mom's Words to Live by

C O N T E S T

Take part in Mother's Weekend 2000

Let your mother know an excellent piece of advice she has given to guide you down life's path. If your mother's advice and your submission is best, you'll win a **\$50 gift certificate** to spend at the USU Bookstore (perhaps, on your mom!)

Write down your mother's advice on the Entry Form below. You may also submit a photo of you and your mom with the entry. Bring your form to the USU Bookstore, Aggie Apparel Shop, by 12:00 noon, Thursday, April 6, 2000.

We'll post your entry in The Statesman on Mothers Weekend, April 14, highlighting the winner.

Additional Contest Information: USU Bookstore Management will select the winning entry. Bookstore employees and immediate relatives are not eligible to win. The USU Bookstore reserves the right to reject, edit, or shorten entries for reasons of good taste, or volume of responses.

Entry Location: USU Bookstore, TSC Lower Level
Aggie Apparel Shop

Deadline: 12:00 noon, Thursday, April 6, 2000

Additional entry forms are available at the USU Bookstore.

Photos may be claimed on or after April 17th at the Aggie Apparel Shop. Photos not claimed by April 30, 2000, will be discarded. The USU Bookstore is not responsible for lost or damaged photos.

**Utah State
UNIVERSITY
BOOKSTORE**

Entry Form: Print legibly or type in black ink. Limit wording to the space provided below. If you submit a photo, write your name and your mother's name on the back of the photo and attach to this form.

Your name:

First _____

Last _____

Phone number _____

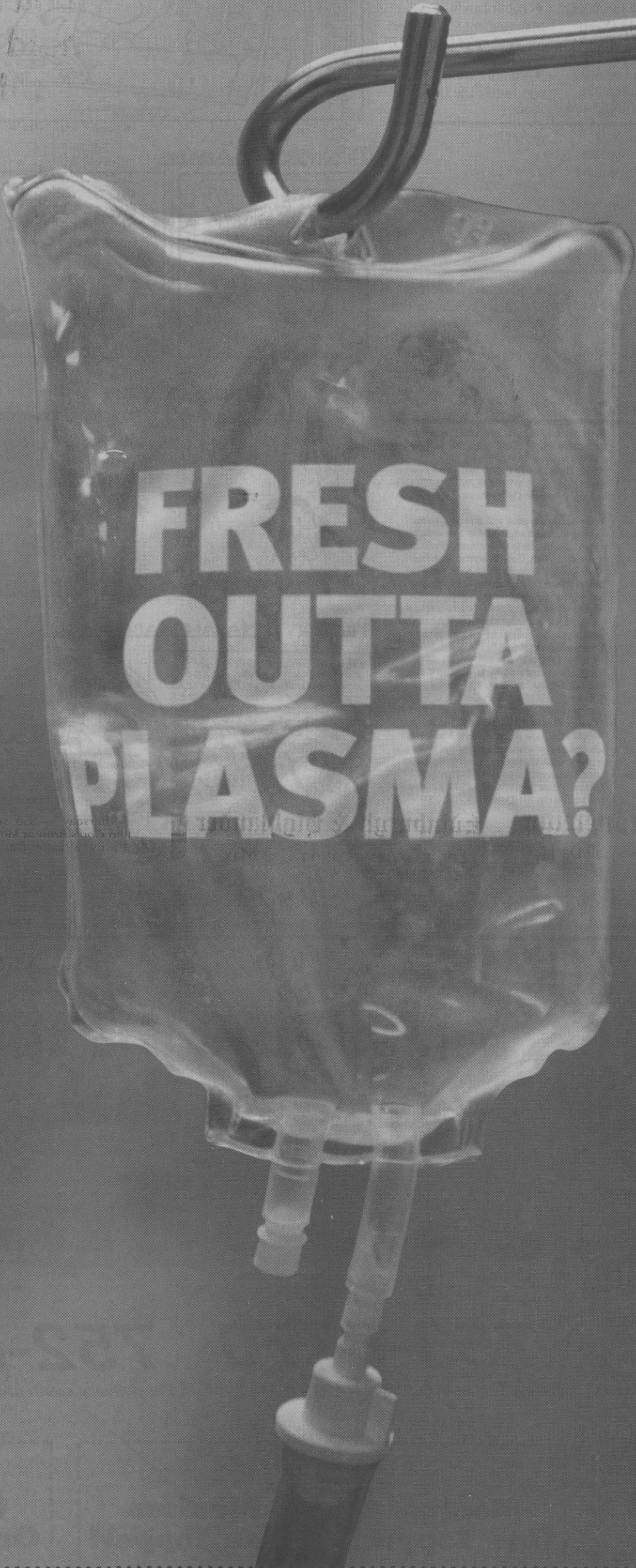
Mother's name:

First _____

Last _____

Mother, have I told you the best advice you ever gave to me...

For additional information, call 797-1639.



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W

Wednesday, March 22
♦The deadline for ASUSU HASS Senator has been extended until March 24, noon. If interested please fill out a candidate filing form in TSC Room 326.
♦"Life is Beautiful" 7 and

9:30 p.m. TSC auditorium.
♦"Public Lands Management for the Next Millennium", March 22, 7 p.m. ECC Rooms 205-207.
♦Alumni Forum 10:30 a.m., Family Life Dining room.

Th

Thursday, March 23
♦Convocation speaker Edith Yotoko-Villanueva 12:30 p.m. TSC Auditorium w/luncheon after in Center Colony room
♦Fun run 5 p.m. in front

of HPER.

F

Friday, March 24
♦International Tea party, March 24, 3:30 p.m., TSC third floor
♦Friday night free dinner & movie, "Far and Away", beginning 6:30 p.m., 1315 E. 700 North.

♦Vittles and Fiddlers or Real Men Cooking for the Whittier Community Center, 5 to 8:30 p.m., \$10 per person.

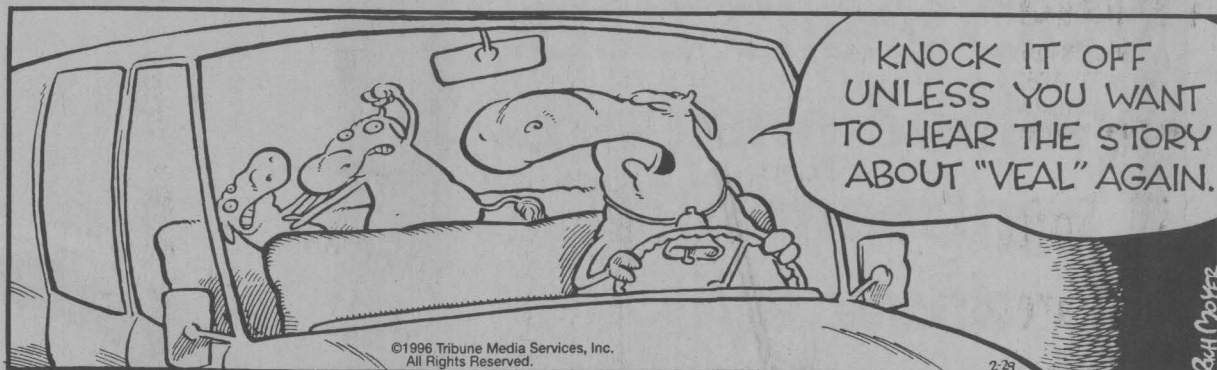
F.Y.I.

- LUAU March 31 5 pm ticket available NOW in USU Ticket office, Luau Dress Rehearsal Saturday @ Weber, 9 am. MANDATORY. Next week is Polynesian Week. Come join the activities and contests on the TSC Patio everyday at 12:30.
- Pride! Alliance speaker, Jim Martin PhD for Western University of Health Science will speak. He is currently conducting research in Utah on the relationship between biological factors and sexual orientation.
- Plum Creek Marketing will be interviewing March 24 for an Industrial Hygiene Internship. Contact Career Services 797-7777 to sign up for an interview.
- The Bureau of Land Management has internships available in Archeology, Law Enforcement, Natural Resources, Physical Science, Rangeland Management, Recreation Planner, and Wildlife Biology. Contact Career services 797-7777 for information.
- Dr. Donald Blowski, USU Mechanical Engineering Dept. will present an overview of ergonomics, March 25, 10 a.m. to 2 pm, TSC Room 221. \$4 for lunch and handouts. Contact Kent Muhlestein slmp5@cc.usu.edu.
- Super Saturday Service Project, March 25, 9 a.m., Institute, LDSMA Activity. Free childcare will be provided and free continental breakfast will be served. Wear your work clothes to make wooden toys for needy children and children in hospitals, and helping the elderly in the community.

- The Family Life Center Free workshop on **how to buy a home**, March 25, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required. 753-5696
- Help Stress Test the QUAD Student Information System. March 27, 8 to 9:45 a.m. WIN PRIZES! Look for more information in the Statesman article March 22.
- Peer Assistant to assist with general academic advising, work with advisors. Must have completed 1 year at USU; be able to maintain confidentiality, minimum 3.3 GPA. Good interpersonal skills.
- Join STICKS! Volunteer 1 to 2 hours a week to tutor in schools throughout the valley. For more information, stop by the service center.
- Summer credit workshops — Need a couple of extra credits to graduate? Check out **Summer Credit workshops** in the bulletin, for a quick way to get those needed credits. Stop by ECC Room 103 or contact Sonya 797-0462.
- Applications now available for the **Carl T. Degener Memorial Scholarships**. Three scholarships available to Juniors majoring in French, German or Spanish. Applicants must have a GPA in the major of 3.7. Pick up an application Main Room 204. Deadline: April 7.
- Applications now available for the **Jean Inness Scholarship**. One scholarship is available to an upper-classman majoring in French (or Spanish if there is no acceptable candidate in French). Applicants must have a 3.0 GPA. Pick up an application Main Room 204. Deadline: April 7, 2000.

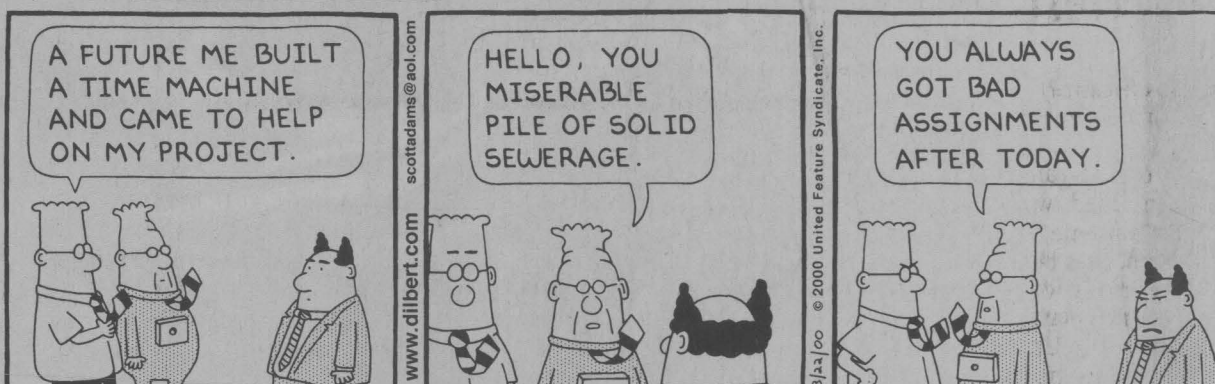
Ick **RICH MOYER**

■ MORE COMICS INSIDE!



Dilbert **SCOTT ADAMS**

■ MORE COMICS INSIDE!



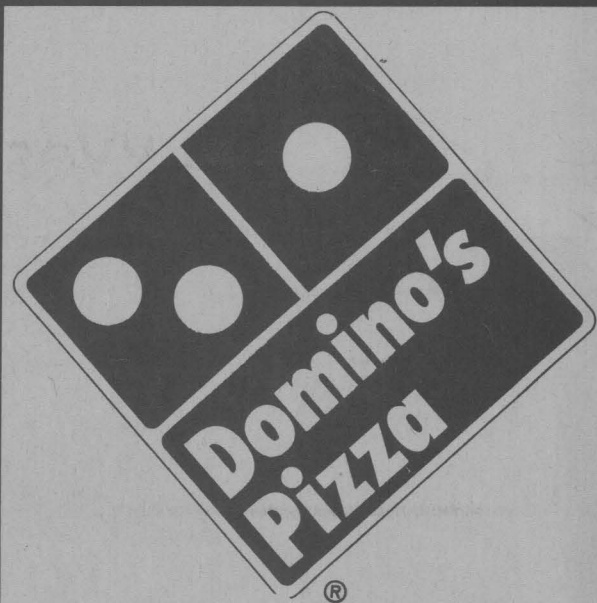
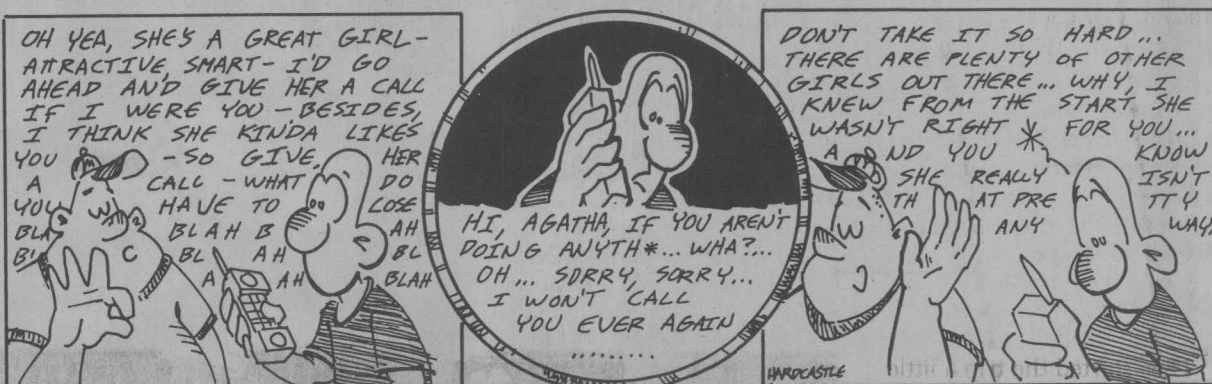
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USU Softball ends preseason 9-17, looks to Big West play

AARON MORTON
Assistant Sports Editor

After a 14-game road trip that included two tournaments and one doubleheader, Aggie coaches believe their team is ready for Big West Conference play.

Utah State University (9-17) competed in the National Invitational Softball Tournament in Sunnyvale, Calif., the Capital Classic Tournament in Sacramento, Calif. and played a doubleheader at St. Mary's College, in Moraga, Calif. The Aggies went 5-9 over the Spring Break road trip that included seven games against ranked teams — one of which was a 4-0 victory over Texas A&M University.

"We are capable of playing top-25 teams," assistant coach Kim Oslschlager said.

The USU Aggies defeated Texas A&M in a game where sophomore pitcher Kristin Hommel threw a six-hit shutout. Senior first baseman Sandy Taylor got the Aggies started on the right foot by driving in two runs on her 20th career home run.

"Texas A&M was an incredible game," head coach Pam McCreesh said. "We got some key hits. That's what they are capable of every game."

But that wasn't the case for USU in every game for the Aggies on the road trip.

They started the trip a little slow, only taking one of five games at the NIST tournament. The Aggie offense managed to score more than one run in only one of those games, the 4-2 win over Kent State University where USU held off a late Kent rally.

USU lost to the University of Nebraska, 4-0, the University of California (who were the eventual champions of the Sacramento Tourney), 4-1, University of Wisconsin, 3-0 and Arizona State University, 4-1.

The Aggies rebounded March 14 to sweep St. Mary's in a doubleheader, 3-0 and 7-3. Freshman Xochitl Ramirez pitched a six-hit shutout in the first game. USU then rode out a six-run lead to a victory in the second game.

The Aggie bats finally caught fire as five of the first six USU batters reached base. Freshman standout hitter Stephanie Vasarhelyi went 4-for-7 in the two games.

McCreesh said that all five starting freshmen have stood out because they have to.

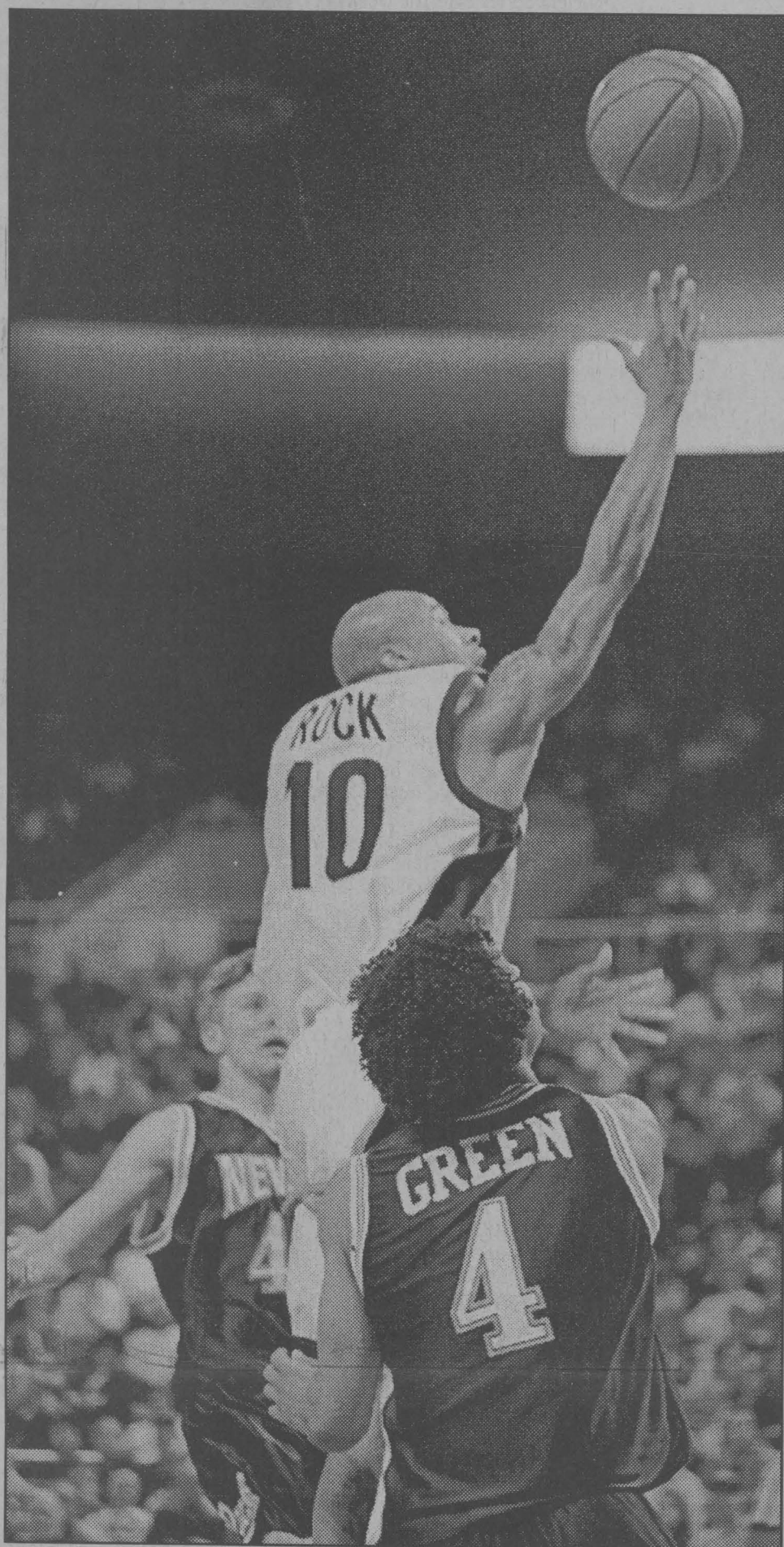
Utah State then traveled to Sacramento for their final stop. The Aggies dropped two close games to San Jose State University, 8-6, and Middle Tennessee State University, 5-6, before scoring the win over Texas A&M.

Eventual tourney runner-up University of Oregon then smashed the Aggies twice, once in pool play, 13-0 and once in the first round of the championship bracket, 9-1. USU recovered to edge Southeast Missouri State University 2-1 in the consolation semifinals before succumbing to Nebraska for the second time in a week, 7-0 in the final.

Positives to take out of the trip?

McCreesh said the team's pitching is more consistent and the defense did well, but the hitting is still a little inconsistent. But she said she is confident the team will continue to improve going into this weekend when they begin their Big West season at New Mexico State University.

USU's first home game is scheduled for April 1 against the University of the Pacific.



Skying in the air, junior point guard Bernard Rock (10) cuts through two Nevada defenders in the Big West tournament. Rock struggled to only two points on 1-of-7 shooting Friday.

ZAK LARSEN / Utah Statesman

In with the outdoor, out with the indoor for Utah State track

SYLVIA TURNER
Sports Writer

Two out of three isn't bad.

The Utah State University track team competed in three meets over Spring Break: Nationals, the LOBO Multi-Decathlon and Heptathlon and the U.S. Collegiate Track and Field Series.

The team stumbled in Fayetteville, Ark., at the Nationals meet, but rebounded for the next two. USU decathletes took the top three spots in the LOBO meet in Albuquerque, N.M., and brought home 10 first-place finishes at the U.S. Collegiate meet in San Luis Obispo, Calif.

USU sent just three athletes to compete at Nationals on March 11. James Parker placed sixth with a toss of 67 feet, 7.5 inches and earned his fifth All-American title in the weight throw.

On March 10, senior

Lance Thurston jumped 6 feet, 10 inches in the high jump placing 16th.

Senior Marcus Morgan finished eighth in the mile with a time of 4:14.78. Morgan rolled his ankle at the beginning of the race but finished with a respectable time.

Senior Jacob Pugsley finished first in the decathlon and set a personal record by earning 7,138 points. Freshman Joel Johnson also set a personal record and earned second-place with 7,049 points. Sophomore Brad Bair finished third at the multi-event with 6,144 points.

In heptathlon competition, senior Denise Jewkes set a personal record with 4,527 points for a third-place finish. Also setting personal records at the event were sophomore Marie Jorgenson (4,030 points) and senior Kristin Hoffmann (3,988 points).

Jump to TRACK, Page 14

Almost !

Aggies fight hard against defending champs UConn

WADE DENNISTON
Senior Sports Writer

It wasn't the way the Utah State University basketball team wanted to end the season, but the Aggies put up a good fight against the defending national champions.

Behind 14 points from both junior guards Khalid El-Amin and

Albert Mouring, fifth-seeded University of Connecticut was able to get by USU, 75-67, Friday in the opening round of the South Regional in Birmingham, Ala.

In the process of advancing to the second round (which they eventually lost, 65-51, to the fourth-seeded University of Tennessee Volunteers) the Huskies also were able to snap the Aggies' 19-game winning streak, which was the longest in the nation at the time.

No defending champion has lost an opening round game since the University of California at Los Angeles in 1996, and the Huskies made certain it wasn't about to happen to them as they handed the Aggies their ninth straight loss in the NCAA Tournament.

"We created the tempo of the game we wanted," said UConn head coach Jim Calhoun. "I thought pressure was the key element."

And full-court pressure is what hurt the Aggies in the early going of the contest.

UConn was able to get the ball out of junior guard Bernard Rock's hands many times throughout the first half, forcing junior forward Shawn Daniels to bring the ball

down the court at times.

Not only did Connecticut's pressure give Utah State (28-6) trouble when trying to get the ball across the half-court line, but it also forced the Aggies out of any offensive rhythm, allowing the Huskies (25-10) to build a 15-point lead in the first 20 minutes of the game.

USU missed eight of its first 10

shots of the game, and could have been down by even more had it not been for its spectacular free throw shooting. For the game, the Aggies buried 11 of their 12 attempts.

"We got a little nervous in the early going," said Aggie assistant coach Randy Rahe.

The lone senior on the USU squad agreed.

"We were mostly stunned," said forward Troy Rolle, who led the Aggies with 18 points. "Once we got going, we relaxed a little."

That was evident as Utah State was able to cut into the UConn lead before halftime, as

it went into the break down only 10 points, 39-29.

To start the second half, the Aggies got the ball and continued to cut into the Husky lead as they began the final 20 minutes on an 8-0 run, sparked by back-to-back 3-pointers from Rolle and sophomore guard Tony Brown.

After cutting the lead to 39-37 following a layup from Daniels, Connecticut called a timeout, then missed on its next shot once play resumed.

Although the Aggies were able to grab the wayward Husky shot,

Jump to NCAA's, Page 16

Aggies place 2nd in Big West

LYNNETTE HOFFMAN
Sports Writer

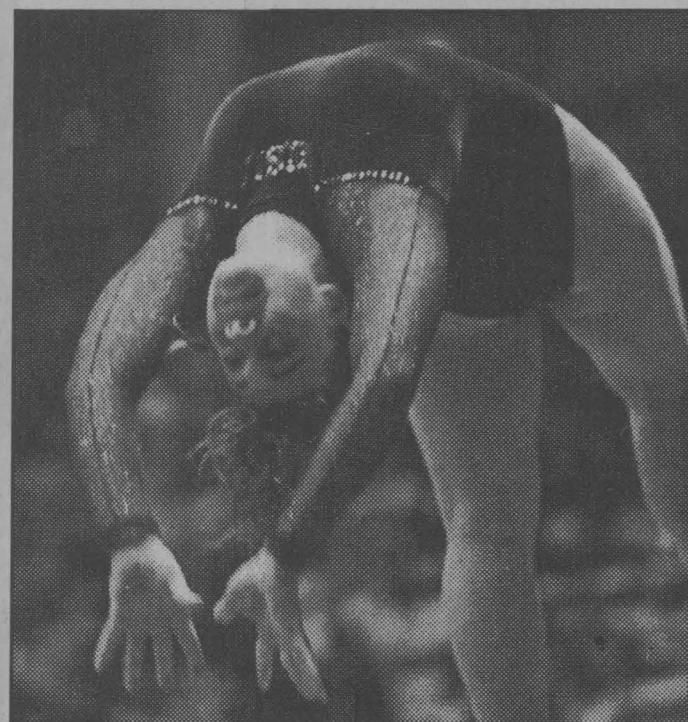
After only narrowly edging a win against Boise State University earlier in the season, the Utah State University gymnastics team lost the Big West Championship to BSU for the second year in a row.

Beam antagonized the Aggies in the first rotation, and nothing they did was enough to match BSU's score of 196.225. Still, USU pulled together for the remaining three rotations and finished strong, with 194.250, just ahead of California State University at Fullerton's 194.2. The University of California at Santa Barbara was fourth with 191.550.

When senior Jessica Porter sprained her ankle in the beam warm-ups, the team became tentative, said assistant coach Mark Lee.

That tentativeness turned into four falls, with only senior Christy Denson and freshman Tina Ellis staying on with solid 9.825s.

Porter came back with 9.825 on bars, and will be ready for the upcoming regional meet in Minnesota.



ZAK LARSEN / Utah Statesman

Kristen Fargo performs her beam routine Saturday night in the Big West Championships. USU was forced to count two falls on beam.

"She's just a key person for us on beam, not only because of her ability on the balance beam, but also because of her leadership ability," Lee said. "It kind of deflated the beam workers a little bit when she was unable to compete."

Yet the disappointment

from beam did not carry over to other events.

"We had an enormous let down, and at that point we were tentative," Lee said. "But the rest of the meet was brilliant."

"It was really hard to see

Jump to BIG WEST, Page 14

New head coach Dennehy opens spring football practice

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
Athletic Media Relations

New Utah State football coach Mick Dennehy welcomed 86 players to the first day of spring football practice on Monday. The group of players, included veterans, mid-year junior college transfers, high school signees, who had not enrolled in the fall and walkons.

The first day of practice went a little

more than two hours and took place inside USU's \$4.4 million Stan Laub Indoor Training Facility.

"It was a good first day," Dennehy said. "I think one thing that is obvious is that we have a lot to clean up. We threw out a lot of new material."

Dennehy, who is beginning his first year at the helm of the USU program after four successful seasons at Montana, is known for his high-pow-

ered offensive attacks. The first day did not exactly impress him however.

"We didn't throw the ball like we wanted to and we didn't catch it like we wanted to," he said. "It will be fun to go in and look at the film and see if our impressions are accurate."

Overall, Dennehy was pleased with the enthusiasm of the practice. He noted that there was a lot of conservatism on both the players' and

coaches' parts due to the newness of everyone.

"The enthusiasm was good," Dennehy said. "It was as spirited as you would like to see without the pads on."

Utah State will continue spring drills this week on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Spring practice will conclude with the annual Blue-White game on Friday, April 14.

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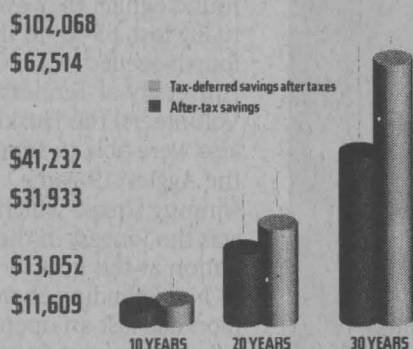
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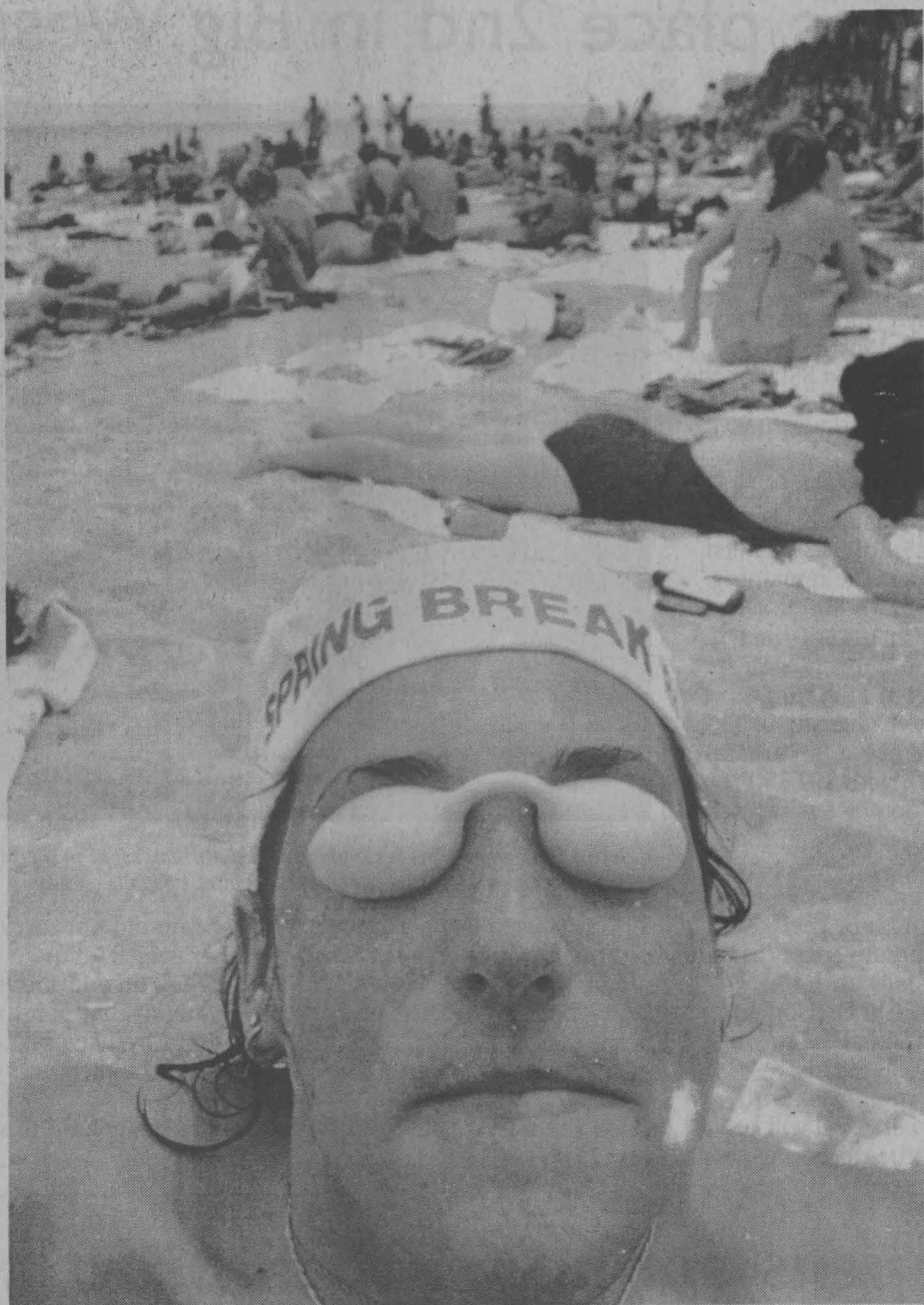
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TRACK

Continued from Page 13

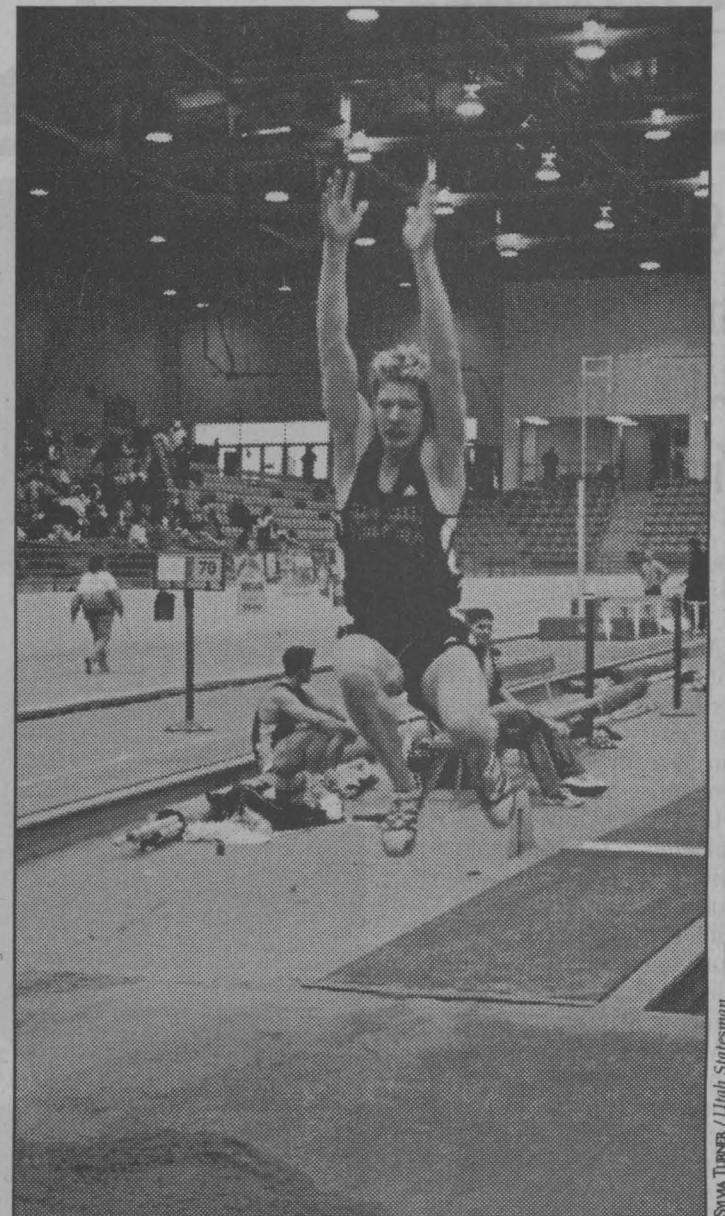
At the U.S. Collegiate Track & Field Series over the weekend, the USU men's team won the meet over Brigham Young University, California Polytechnic College and Sacramento State University, while the women's team placed fourth.

Top performances on the men's side came from a number of freshmen. Bruce McCannel set a school record and personal record in the triple jump with a leap of 49 feet, 5.5 inches and a personal record in the long jump of 23 feet, 8 inches. Both marks earned him second-place finishes. Neil War finished first in the javelin with his throw of 210 feet, 4 inches — a personal record.

Josh Sides set personal records in the shot put (56 - 2.25), hammer (173-11) and the discus (157-6) earning second, third and fourth place respectively.

Earning first place finishes for the Aggie men's team were James Parker in the hammer (200-03) and discus (185-11), Dave Hoffmann in the high jump (7-0.5), and Lawrence Ringwald in the 400-meter (47.65).

In women's action, junior Shae Bair won the pole vault and provisionally qualified for the NCAA Championships with her jump of 13 feet, 0.25 inches. Sophomore Kristi Conors set a personal record in the 400-meter with a first place finish of 56.96. Also earning a first place finish for the Aggies was junior Charlotte Wahlin in the ham-



Bruce McCannel competes in the triple jump at the Reno championships. He set a USU record last week at the U.S. Collegiate meet.

mer with a toss of 182 feet, 10 inches.

Other top finishers included Sandra Reategui who finished first in the 200-meters (24.32) and third in the 100-meters (12.16). April Fisher set

a personal record and finished third in the javelin (138-08). Holly Brimhall finished second in the mile (4:39.01), and Andrea Jeppsen placed second in the 60-meters (7.93).

Jazz rally to whip Nuggets, 96-85

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Karl Malone scored nine of his 28 points in a 19-3 game-ending run as the Utah Jazz defeated Denver 96-83 Tuesday night for their 11th win in 12 games.

Nick Van Exel hit a 20-foot jumper to put Denver up 80-77 midway through the fourth quarter before the Nuggets went cold. Malone hit a base-

line jumper and a three-point play in a 9-0 run that gave the Jazz an 86-80 lead with 2:56 to play.

Antonio McDyess hit a free throw before Jeff Hornacek hit a 3-pointer and then fed Bryon Russell for an emphatic fast-break dunk to make it 91-81 with 1:59 remaining.

Malone hit 10 of 11 free throws and grabbed 10

rebounds, Russell had 16 points and Hornacek and Howard Eisley added 12 points each for the Jazz, who shot 72 percent in the fourth quarter.

McDyess led Denver with 25 points and 12 rebounds while Keon Clark scored 19 points. Van Exel had 13 assists but scored just 8 points on 2 of-12 shooting.

Defenseman's swing gets him banned for 10 games

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — The NHL issued a zero-tolerance policy against irresponsible use of the stick on Tuesday, suspending New Jersey Devils defenseman Scott Niedermayer for 10 games for hitting Florida's Peter Worrell over the helmet with his stick.

The ruling, which will sideline Niedermayer through the Devils' first playoff game, comes a month after Boston defenseman Marty McSorley was suspended for the final 23 games of the regular season for hitting Vancouver's Donald Brashear on the side of the head with a two-handed swing.

McSorley's punishment was the harshest in NHL history but even that could not repair the embarrassment the league suffered from the attack in which Brashear received a serious concussion that sidelined him for the season.

While Niedermayer's attack against Worrell late in Sunday's game against the Panthers didn't seem as vicious as McSorley's blindside hit on Brashear, he was assessed a match penalty for attempting to injure. The league then showed on

Tuesday it was not going to tolerate it, even from a usually mild-mannered player.

"Mr. Niedermayer is a first-time offender, a factor that was considered — as were all the elements of the incident," said Colin Campbell, the NHL's executive vice president and director of hockey operations. "That consideration does not change the essential point here: A player has to be held accountable for striking an opponent on the head with his stick. We are determined to eliminate the irresponsible use of the stick from our game."

The suspension will cost Niedermayer \$152,343.74, with the money going to the Players' Emergency Assistance Fund. He will miss the final nine games of the regular season and the opening playoff game.

The length of the suspension surprised Niedermayer, but he said he is more than willing to accept the penalty if the league was making a zero-tolerance statement.

"I don't have a problem with that," he said. "The stiffer the penalties, the better. There are a lot of things that go on on the ice that shouldn't.

Somehow, that has to stop, including my situation.

"If they are going to be consistent and have punishments like this, that's fine with me at long as they are consistent with it and make it part of what they do," he added.

Niedermayer and Devils general manager Lou Lamoriello felt the suspension was not consistent with previous league precedents. Both noted that a similar stick incident earlier this season involving San Jose defenseman Jeff Norton against Devils forward Claude Lemieux resulted in a four-game suspension.

"As we all know, we had a recent incident," Lamoriello said. "It has caused a lot of attention. As to how much influence this had, I really can't answer."

Niedermayer had never previously suspended in eight NHL seasons, but he knew that was going to end because of the incident in the Devils' 5-2 victory.

Worrell and Niedermayer came together along the side boards with 1:45 to play.

Worrell, a 6-foot-6 enforcer for the Panthers, appeared to elbow Niedermayer in the face.

BIG WEST

Continued from Page 13

that happen," said sophomore Megan Woolstenhulme, "but we knew we had to pull it together. Part of that was just to prove that we are a good team and we can compete like we know how to."

Christy Denson defended her all-around title from last year, finishing the last home meet of her career with a score of 39.525, just off her career high, which is also the school record. She tied the school record on bars, with a 9.975 win, and was named the Big West Gymnast of the Year. Denson debuted her double layout on floor and placed second with 9.925, behind BSU's Tiffany Weston.

"Denson threw one of the best double layouts I've ever seen," Lee said.

Freshmen Kristen Bloom and Erin Maguire added a pair of 9.9s, and Stephanie Huff scored 9.85, helping the team earn a 49.325 on floor.

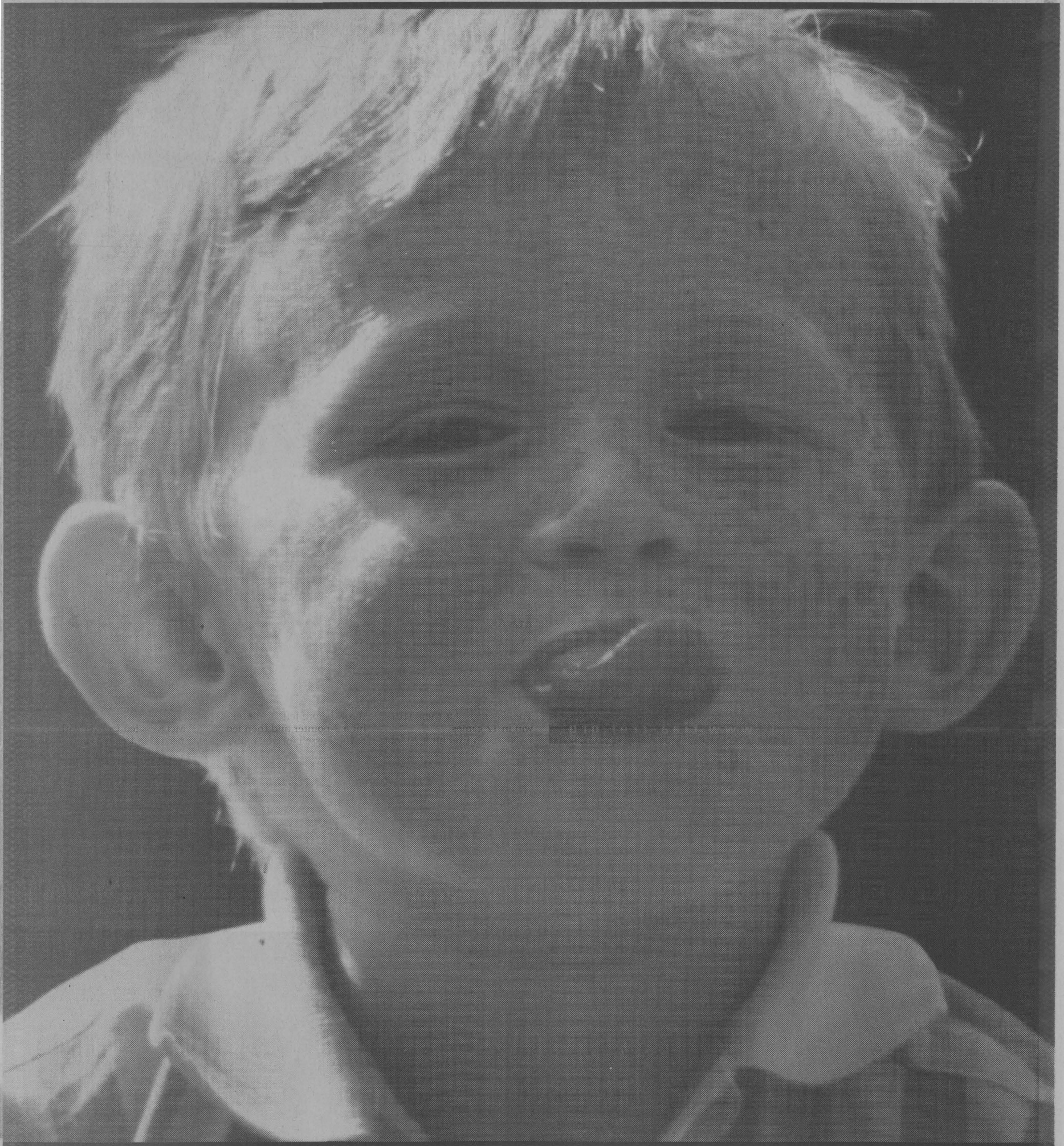
The Aggies also had a solid showing on bars, not having to count a score below 9.8. Woolstenhulme, who has improved steadily from meet to meet, vaulted better than ever, and tied BSU's Breanne Holmes for the win. Woolstenhulme's 9.875 was a career high. After an average first vault, she was motivated to improve.

"I felt it in my run that it was going to be good," she said.

The Aggies will continue to train for regionals, where they will have an opportunity to advance to nationals should they place in the top three of the six-team field.

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Utah State **BIG WEST CHAMPIONS**

Aggies sweep Big West tourney

AARON MORTON
Assistant Sports Editor

RENO, Nev. — An undefeated Big West Conference and Tournament season may have looked easy from a distance. It wasn't.

"We've never been a dominating team," head coach Stew Morrill said. "(We've been) finding a way to win close game after close game after close game."

The Aggies capped off their march to an undefeated regular season and a tournament championship — something no other NCAA Division I team did this season — with two close victories over Eastern Division rivals.

Utah State 71, New Mexico State 66

A Dimitri Jorssen dunk and a Troy Rolle steal put the icing on a remarkable season as the USU Aggies came from behind to win the Big West Conference title on March 11.

It was the usual even-scoring affair as all five Aggie starters hit double figures in scoring. Jorssen stayed out of foul trouble to lead Utah State with 15 points and five blocks. His reverse dunk in the closing minutes signaled the end was near for NMSU.

But the Southern Aggies didn't give up and some late 3-pointers kept the game close.

"They weren't giving up," Shawn Daniels said. "We had to wait for the horn to go off (to celebrate)."

Utah State 69, Nevada 64

Despite some spirited play from

the University of Nevada, USU gutted yet another road win in the semifinals of the BWC tournament.

The win extended the Aggie's road winning streak to nine — something that will be carried over to next season.

"That was like a lot of road wins this season," Morrill said.

The Aggies never dominated — their largest lead was only eight. But they did lead almost the entire game, from the 15-minute mark on.

Bench long-range bomber Curtis Bobb gave the shot in the arm the Aggies needed. He led all Utah State scorers with 14 — four 3-pointers and two free-throws.

"I was just fired up, ready to play," Bobb said. "I'm glad my team could get me the ball."

A few moments in time at Reno

NEVER BEHIND/ Aaron Morton



A dozen hundred USU fans and I witnessed something very rare over the Spring Break. Not even the early exit in the NCAA Tournament could erase the memories from the Big West Tournament. Here

are just a few.

The Aggie fans

It was something to behold, listening to the loyal, travel-weary Utah State University fans battle the local Nevada crowd. The Lawlor Events Center seats 11,140, but only 5,753 showed up to watch both semifinals — at least 1,200 of them were USU faithfuls.

And what looked like a

sparse crowd on ESPN quickly looked a lot more lively when the USU fans rushed the court after the championship game.

Morrill showed concern that the next BWC tourney will be farther away, in Anaheim, Calif., next year.

"The fans have been fabulous and I know they're just as delighted as we are," he said.

The Press Conference

The first words out of head coach Stew Morrill's mouth after winning the Big West?

"I'm happy. It's hard to imagine what these kids have accomplished. I'm not sure it will ever happen again."

Morrill hit it right on the dot. Try to remember that this is a team that was predicted to place only as high as fourth in the BWC Eastern Division. But they went on to win all 19 conference games they played.

The Championship Game

Upon returning to Logan, I, with some friends, watched the tape of the final game against NMSU. That was almost as thrilling as watching it live in Reno. I didn't have to sit on pins and needles — I could enjoy the game.

The highlights were fabulous: Was the best one Dimitri Jorssen's dunk with 7:08 left in the half? It stunned the ESPN commentators so much that they showed five replays. Or was it Shawn Daniels' block of a New Mexico State 3-pointer with Rock following up his missed lay-up? Or the intensity of Ray who stopped Aaron Brodts' hook shot at the halftime buzzer?

The Co-MVPs

Daniels and Troy Rolle were honored as the tournament's Co-MVPs. I instantly wondered how hard it would have been to choose an MVP. How can anyone choose the best player on this team — a team so unselfish on the court that if you looked up team in Webster's next edition, you would likely find it listed there.

"They have been the most unselfish group I've ever been a part of," Morrill said. "We don't have egos, we just have guys that are good men."

But, congratulations to Rolle, the team's senior leader and Daniels, USU's "power point guard."

The Celebration

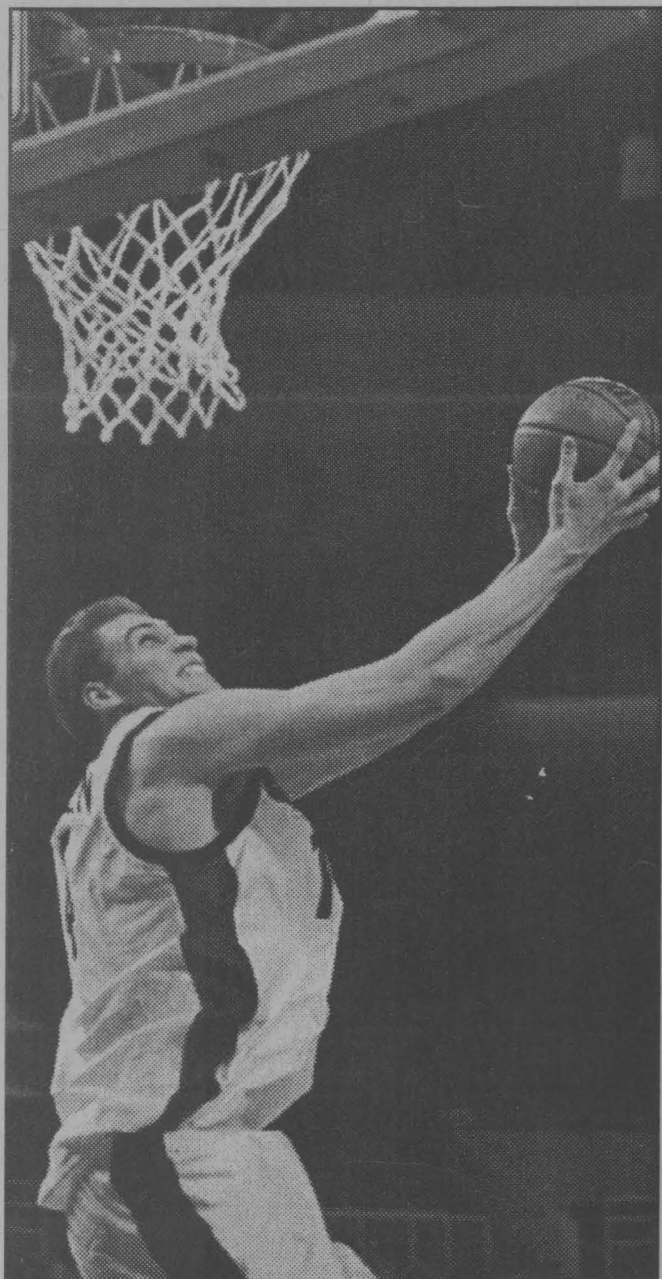
The post-game jamboree that ensued on the court was something that even the non-basketball fan could enjoy. It was great to see fans and players jumping up and down at center court. Morrill was carried on the shoulders of the fans to the rim to cut down the nets — this time in Reno — with chants of "Stew! Stew!" in the background.

It will be hard to forget Athletic Director Rance Pugmire, high-flying Morrill or Curtis Bobb's backflip before collecting his Big West Champion award.

"It's just hard to believe," Morrill told reporters while in the middle of the crowd.

But I think a lot of fans believed. I know I did.

Aaron Morton is the assistant sports editor of the Statesman. He welcomes comments at slzqr@cc.usu.edu



This Dimitri Jorssen dunk put the championship game away and brought USU fans to their feet. He led all scorers with 15 points.

Zak Larsen / Utah Statesman

The Cinderellas have taken over

FINALINE / Wade Denniston



All was well at the Big Dance after the opening rounds last Thursday and Friday.

The higher seeded teams were winning the games they were supposed to, and the wicked stepmother wasn't allowing Cinderella to come to the ball.

Sure, there were three lower-seeded teams (No. 11 Pepperdine University, No. 10 Gonzaga University and No. 10 Seton Hall University) that won first-round matchups, but look at the teams each played.

Pepperdine took on sixth-seeded Indiana University, amidst all the turmoil surrounding head coach Bobby Knight, and crushed the Hoosiers, 77-57. The Zags ousted the seventh-seeded University of Louisville (77-66), which couldn't win a

game away from Freedom Hall if it wanted to. And, the Hall used a driving layup from point guard Shaheen Holloway to send the seventh-seeded University of Oregon packing in overtime, 72-71.

But can we really say Cinderella has arrived at the dance with these three teams?

Probably not, unless we do it in later rounds.

Several times Cinderella seemed to be gearing up for an appearance at the ball, only to be brushed back by the evil stepmother.

Let's take a look at those teams that nearly rode their magic pumpkin to an upset, earning them the distinction of Cinderella.

No. 13 Southeast Missouri State University pushed No. 4 Louisiana State University to the limit, falling by just three, 64-61, in a West Regional game in Salt Lake City.

It appeared as if No. 15 Northern Arizona University was on its way to knocking off second-seeded St. John's

University, but a turnover at the end of the game sealed the Lumberjacks' fate, 61-56.

And what about those 12th-seeded Bonnies from St. Bonaventure University?

St. Bonaventure overcame a 13-point second-half deficit to No. 5 University of Kentucky, only to have the Wildcats pull out a gut-wrenching double overtime victory, 85-80.

It really looked as if Cinderella was going to arrive at the ball riding on 12th-seeded Butler University's carriage.

The Bulldogs led the fifth-seeded Gators from the University of Florida by one point in overtime, with a chance to go up three with two freebies from LaVall Jordan, an 83 percent free-throw shooter.

However, Jordan, who had just rejoined the team last Thursday night following the death of his great aunt, missed both charity attempts. Florida got the rock into the hands of Mike Miller, who hit the game winner with a short shot in the lane after receiving a pass on

the left side of the key with about three seconds left.

But, oh how the upset bug was alive and well in the second round though.

Two No. 1 seeds (Stanford University and the University of Arizona) were dismissed from the ball

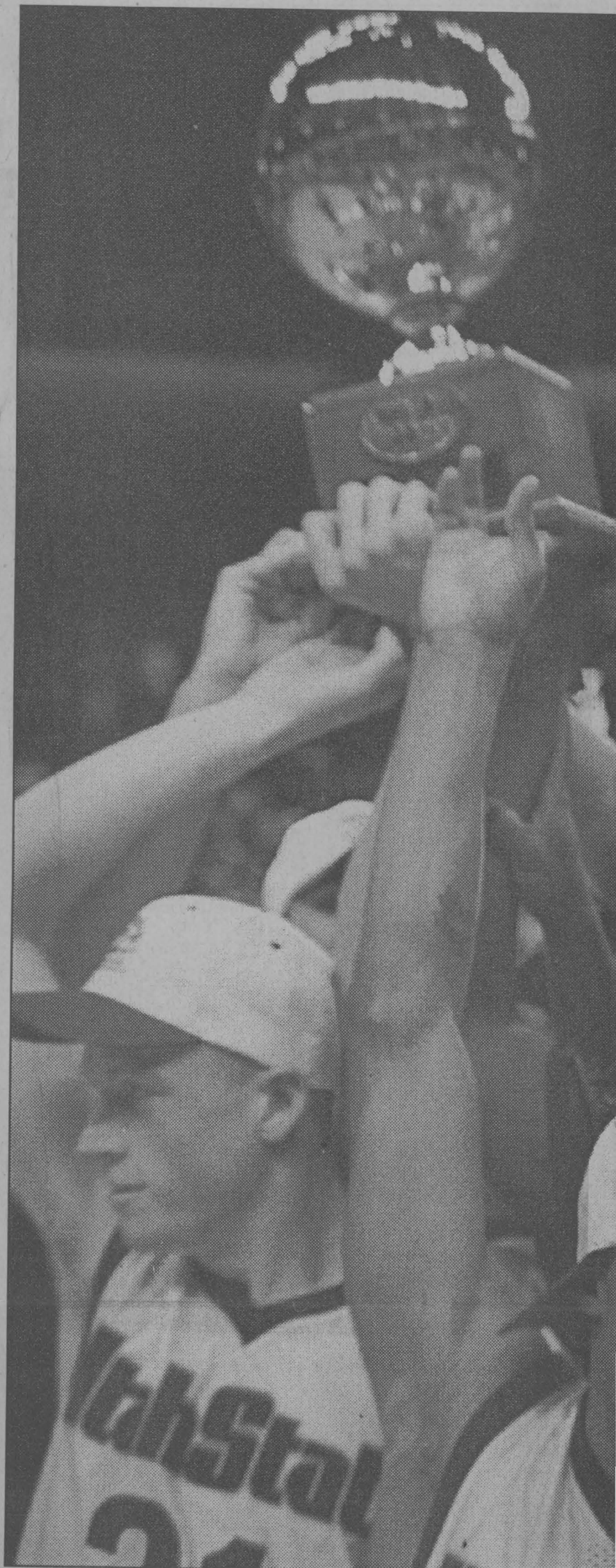
rather rudely as the University of North Carolina and Wisconsin University, both seeded eighth, sent the Cardinal and Wildcats home early.

Still, there was no sign of Cinderella.

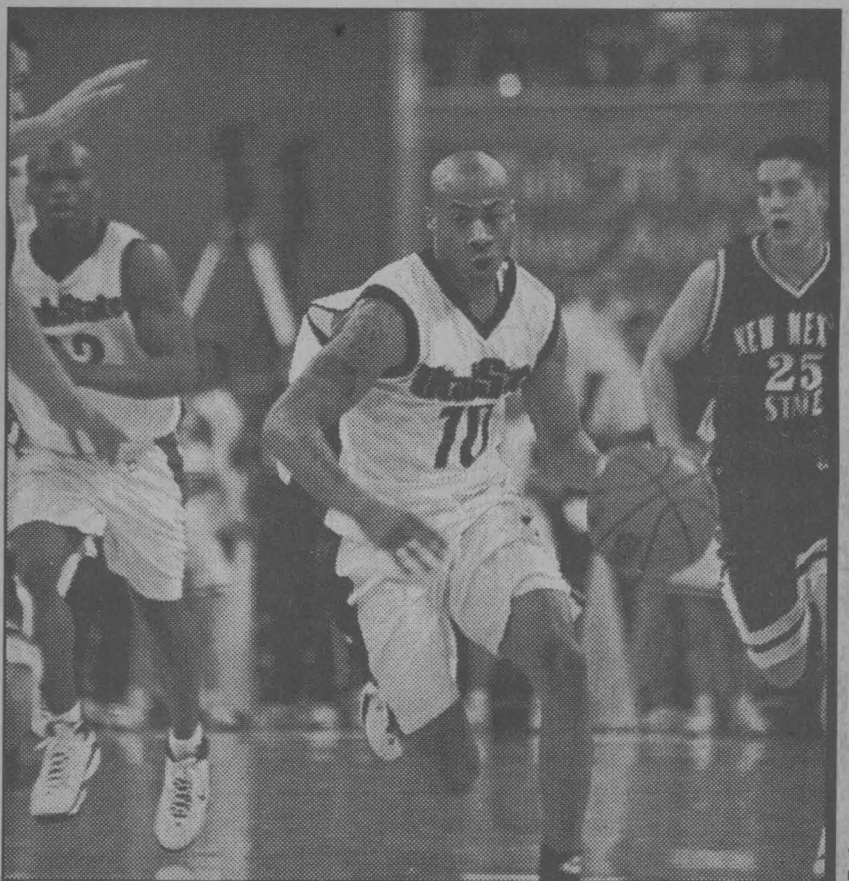
However, her first appearance came in Tucson, Ariz., thanks in part to Gonzaga's heroics over the Johnnies.

The Zags were able to defeat St. John's, 82-76, Saturday, enabling them to make their second consecutive Sweet 16 appearance.

Last year, Gonzaga barely missed a berth in the Elite Eight as it lost to last year's national



Aggie players celebrate with the the Big West Championship trophy.



Finding the open court, Bernard Rock (10) leads the break against New Mexico State. Rock, at times, looked better than BWC first-teamer Billy Keys.

champions, the University of Connecticut, by five points.

This year's team is basically the same one as last year, and the Zags can make a serious run to this year's Final Four if they can get by Purdue University on Thursday and the winner of Wisconsin and LSU, Saturday.

But Gonzaga isn't the only Cinderella team making it to the Sweet 16. Behind the 26-point performance, including seven 3-pointers, from Ty Shine who was filling in for the injured Holloway, Seton Hall beat second-seeded Temple University, 67-65, in overtime on Sunday.

In order for the Hall to

make it into the Elite Eight, it will have to get by No. 3 Oklahoma State University and its flashy point guard Doug Gottlieb.

With the absence of Holloway, who injured his ankle early in the game with the Owls, the Pirates could be in trouble with the Cowboys. But watch out OSU, perhaps that's what Temple thought when SHU's senior leader went down.

Let's hope midnight doesn't come too soon on these final Cinderella's.

Wade Denniston is the senior sports writer of the Statesman. He welcomes comments at

Zak Larsen / Utah Statesman

Utah State **BIG WEST CHAMPIONS**

No Aggie bored in Reno

Players, coaches found fun outside of basketball

WADE DENNISTON
Senior Sports Writer

RENO, Nev. — "The Biggest Little City in the World."

That's the slogan for Reno, Nev., which offers a variety of different activities for everyone to enjoy.

If you are an avid gambler, there are hundreds of casinos offering slot machines, blackjack tables or even a sports book.

Not into gambling?

Reno still has a lot to offer, whether it be golfing, skiing, dining, visiting the National Bowling Stadium or National Automobile Museum. Whatever it is, there's always something to do.

So, when the Utah State University basketball team wasn't on the court winning its second Big West Conference Tournament championship in three years at the Lawlor Events Center on the campus of the University of Nevada March 9-11, what was it doing for fun?

"With us not having transportation to get around anywhere, there's not too much you really can do," said Aggie junior forward Curtis Bobb. "You can hang out in casinos, but you don't really want to do that because then you start losing money. If you're not winning, it's not fun."

But, Bobb said he didn't shy away from trying his

luck at the many gaming opportunities.

"I gambled a lot," he said. "I won a few. The first couple of days I was losing, but then the last night I was there I was making a little (comeback)."

However, Bobb wouldn't want to make gambling an everyday occurrence.

"I wouldn't want to live there just because of the gambling," he said. "I'd throw away my scholarship gambling."

OK, so when the team wasn't trying to cash in at the casinos, where were they?

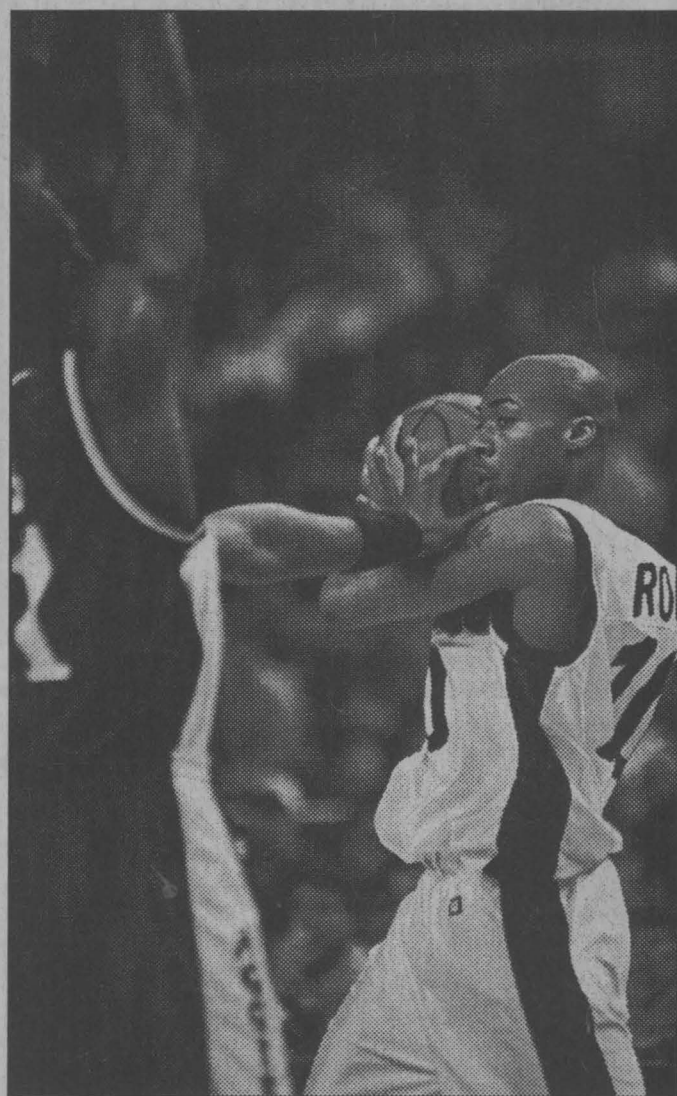
"A lot of us ... went to Circus Circus, played (some) video games, and just talked," Bobb said. "There wasn't too much to do, but we found things to do. Circus Circus was about the most fun thing we could do."

According to second-year assistant coach Don Verlin, the players were allowed a certain amount of free time where they could go to casinos if they were of age, spend time with family members or play video games.

The rules for this trip to Reno were no different than when the Aggies played there on Feb. 10, or when they went to Hawaii in November.

Verlin said the regulations that governed the team were laid out at the start of the year.

And there's just one phi-



Bernard Rock (10) tries to protect the ball from the reach of Billy Keys. Rock, like many players tried to pass the time in casinos.

losophy the coaches like to follow.

"If you treat them like men," said Verlin, "they'll act like men."

OK, we know the players had fun in their free time, but what about the coaching staff?

"We watched film the whole time," said Verlin, who has been with head coach Stew Morrill for seven seasons. "Our fun was getting ready for the

next opponent."

Verlin said the coaching staff spent all of its time in the "war room," a place where the coaches get ready for the upcoming opponent when playing on the road.

Although it was still work, the coaches didn't mind it at all, as was evident by the outcome of the Big West Tournament.

"That's what we consider fun," Verlin said.

NCAAs

Continued from Page 13

they weren't able to do anything on the opposite end of the court as they turned it over to El-Amin, who lobbed a pass to Mouring, converting for a 3-point play putting UConn back in control by five points.

USU wouldn't die as Daniels converted on a basket at the other end, but El-Amin answered back for Connecticut with a 3-pointer.

The Aggies made several small runs in the final 10 minutes of the game, but could never get close enough to the Huskies to pose any real threat.

"(We) just couldn't quite get over the hump in the last eight minutes," Rahe said.

Rolle said the game could've been

a different story had Utah State played the type of ball it typically plays.

"If we come out and play our game," he said, "we could have given them a run."

Daniels was the only other Aggie to join Rolle in double figures as he dropped in 17 points on 7-of-12 shooting from the field and 3-of-4 from the free throw line. Junior center Dimitri Jorsen added eight, but the duo of Rock and Brown could only combine for five points.

The starting backcourt for USU was only able to combine for 2-for-14 from the field, seven assists and eight turnovers.

Brown was just 1-of-6 from beyond the arc.

"(Brown) was a focal point (of Connecticut's defense)," Rahe said.

As a team, the Aggies hit on nearly

46 percent of their shots from the field (22-of-55), but allowed the Huskies to shoot 48.3 percent (28-for-58). UConn was also able to out-rebound USU by a margin of 15 boards.

"We were really struggling to rebound the basketball," said Utah State head coach Stew Morrill.

The fight the Aggies put up was impressive to Calhoun.

"USU is a very good team," he said.

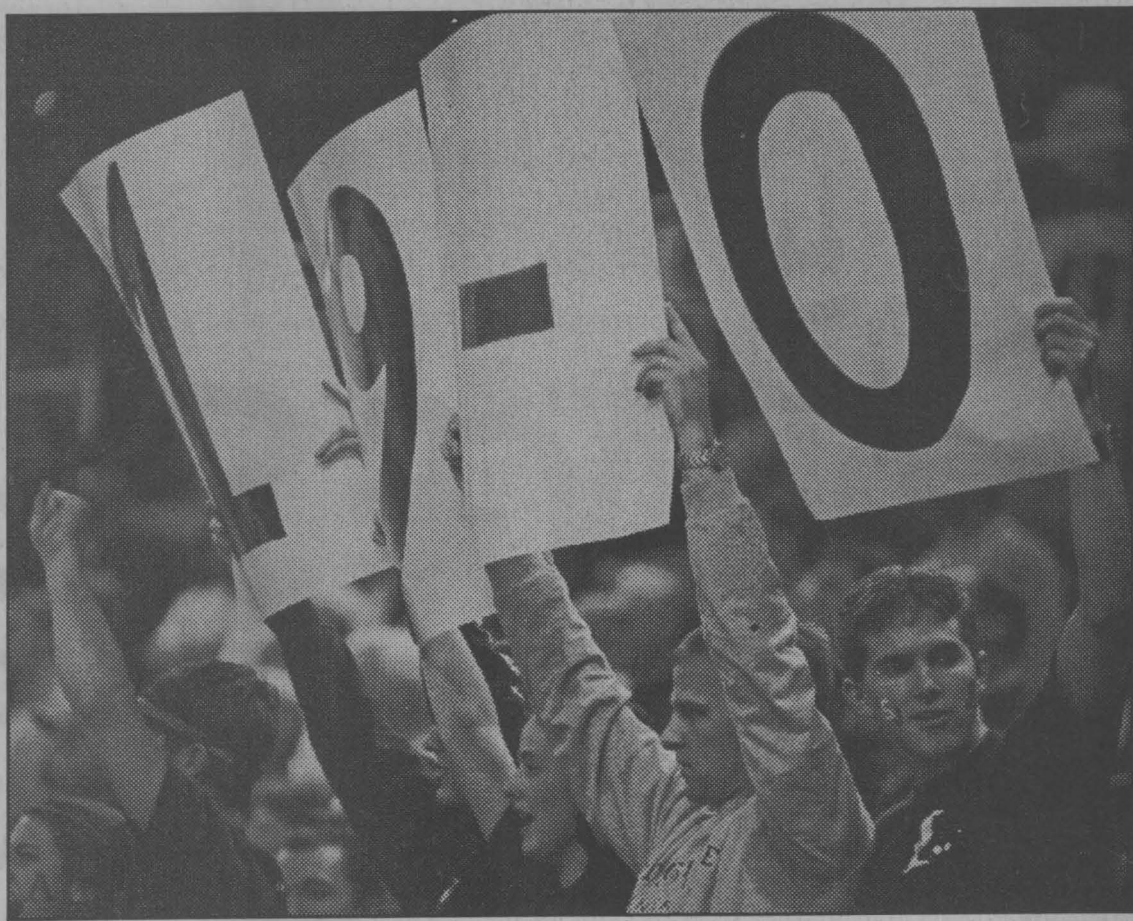
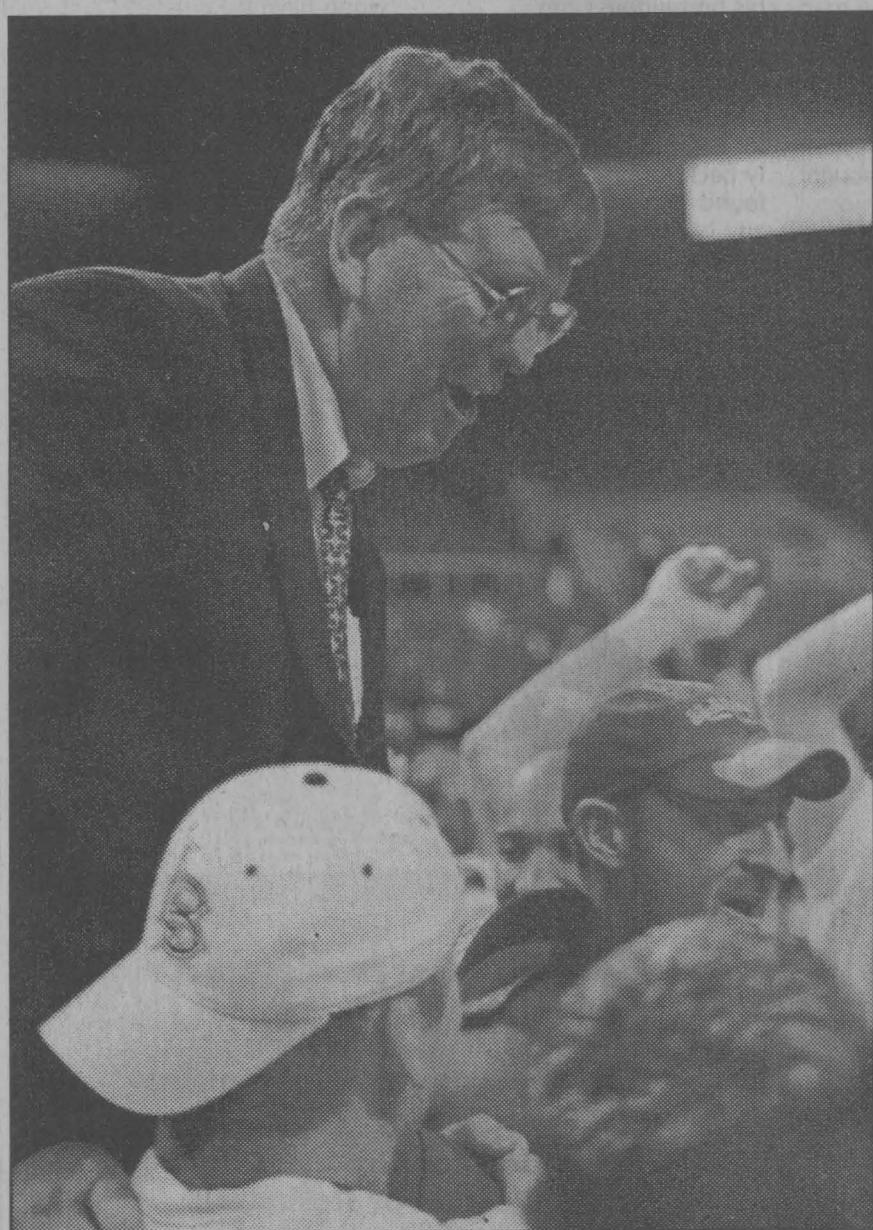
Even with the loss, which capped a remarkable season for USU, one in which many records were set, the Aggies have nothing to hang their heads about.

And ending the season in the Big Dance is something Utah State can use to build on for next season.

"It was a good experience," Rolle said of his teammates. "It's a good thing to have under your belt for next year."

(Left) Head coach Stew Morrill is carried off the court during the post-game festivities. Many fans chanted his name as he finished cutting off the nets in the Lawlor Events Center, in Reno, Nev.

(Right) Aggie fans spell out USU's record against Big West teams during the Aggies' March 11 win over NMSU. About 1,200 fans made the trip from Logan.



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NATO says U.S. jets used depleted uranium rounds in Kosovo

GENEVA (AP) — U.S. jets used 31,000 depleted uranium rounds — about 10 tons of the munitions — during the Kosovo war, a U.N. task force said Tuesday, citing confirmation by NATO.

Some specialists believe the rounds, which have been used as far back as the Persian Gulf War, are environmentally harmful, especially when people and animals inhale the dust that forms when the shells disintegrate on impact.

Target zones hit by depleted uranium — known as DU — should be marked and children kept away from them, said Pekka Haavisto, head of the U.N. Environment Program's Balkans Task Force.

Haavisto said NATO's confirmation that it used DU should not cause alarm, but conceded scientific knowledge

of its effects is limited. He said he was unable to estimate the number of people exposed.

"I'm very happy that this spring we have got finally from NATO the information, but we would have been more happy if we could have had this information already last summer," Haavisto said.

A set of NATO maps of areas where the munitions were used "is not precise enough to make field assessments," Haavisto said. He noted that U.N. experts last year carried out measurements in Kosovo, but found nothing because the exact locations were unknown.

Pentagon spokesman Air Force Lt. Col. Vic Warzinski said the figure of 31,000 depleted uranium rounds is the Pentagon's best estimate, and that the ammunition was

fired by A-10 aircraft in attacks on Serb armored vehicles.

In New York, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said the ammunition's use did not violate any international conventions.

In the past, the U.S. Defense Department has robustly defended the use of depleted uranium — a dense metal which provides enhanced armor-piercing capability — saying the rounds pose no more health risk than conventional anti-tank weapons.

The U. N. task force said the World Health Organization was preparing a general report on the health effects of depleted uranium and that the Royal Society, Britain's academy of science, was producing its own inde-

pendent study.

NATO secretary-general Lord Robertson wrote to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Feb. 7, acknowledging that DU rounds were used during last spring's air campaign against Yugoslavia.

He said the ammunition was part of the A-10's standard load, meaning that they were used throughout Kosovo on about 100 missions.

The major focus of the operations was an area west of the Pec-Dakovica-Prizren highway, in the areas surrounding Klina and Prizren and north of a line between Suva Reka and Urosvac, Robertson said. But he added that many missions used DU in other areas.

The round, Robertson said, uses a byproduct of the uranium refining process.

GADGETS

Continued from Page 10

band to buy a whole bunch of these things and distribute them around the state of New York.

That way, whenever the Republican leadership is being insensitive to the poor and underprivileged people of the State of New York they can just activate their Demogars and you can personally rush to their aid. No longer will you have to worry about the cruelties that the Republicans are causing to New Yorkers.

Ahhh, think about what a world it would be if we had the Demogar. The government could track down and ensure the needs of all. I am sure even George Orwell couldn't imagine the consequences.

Kade Minchey's political column runs every Wednesday in The Utah Statesman.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 9

all the other deaf people on a lower pedestal level and putting them in a "not good enough" scenario. That was not what I intended to say.

What I meant was some of us have benefits in different ways. To some, English is their first language while others it is ASL. Whatever the benefit may be, you need to use that to your full capacity and share that with others. That's what I meant by reaching your potential.

It said in Monday's article that I worked really hard to learn how to talk and then compared and related that principle to other deaf people who let their deafness become a stumbling block in achieving their potential. I happened to have a benefit to be able to talk. On the other hand, some deaf choose not to talk and some just simply can't. Because they don't talk doesn't mean they're not living up to what's expected of them. They are making a difference with their talents and skills in a way that most other people couldn't do otherwise.

I've learned that closeness is a matter of communication, communication is a matter of understanding each other, and understanding comes from a willingness and a desire to associate and know one another. By putting forth a little physical and mental exertion into understanding each other's culture and background, this world can be a better place.

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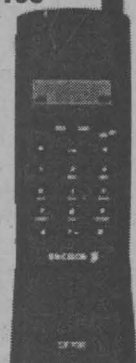
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HONEYMOON

Continued from Page 9

Shasta, Greyhound took all of his money and he couldn't afford to pay \$38 for a room and he couldn't afford to pay for a cab.

Often cursed by the disease of the Good Samaritan, I soon found that his huge golf tote, which was loaded down with smelly bags full of heaven-knows-what was inside my car, pinning him against the door. We were off, looking for his hostel. It's just up the road about five or six miles, he says and here's the address and she says this road should take us there.

Ten miles, a constant stream of jabber — I thought this town was little, it's huge. I was at Three Sisters years ago and it's small. I thought Bend was small too, but it's huge. I

can't pay \$38, the hostel is \$15. Imagine \$38 just for a bed. Greyhound won't budge. I pay them \$60 for a ride from Mt. Shasta and then they just drop me off and send me on my way with no money and nowhere to sleep — and not a single thank you later we're stopped at a pay phone looking at the map of Bend.

He is still crushed inside of the car and Bettie and the car keys are with me. I'm not worried because I don't think he'll run very far with my valuable stash of dirty socks, not with his horrendous limp.

I'm calm and enjoying the moment of peace while locating, on the map, the road which will end the madness for good. But soon we're nearly back to the hotel where we found him and we didn't see any of those stupid roads and by now our friend is just sitting in the back seat listening to his head phones while we fret and worry about where his stupid hostel is, why we can't just go to bed and what we've done to deserve this.

We decide to turn around

when I see the flashing lights. Thank goodness the guy was understanding, we could have been there forever.

Anyway, we found the road and drove the wrong way for a few miles like Utahns looking for numbers that move in an orderly fashion away from a center point. Finally, someone we asked gave us useful directions. He said it's five blocks past the turnaround, on your left, just before the Circle K. If you hit 14th Street you've gone too far. Easy, straight-forward directions, the only kind worth having.

So at the hostel, when the bum asked for my address, I gave him easy, straight-forward directions to my friend Steve's house and told him to drop by anytime he wants to do some laundry, take a bath, help himself to anything in the fridge, take a crap in a real toilet and make himself at home.

Bryce Petersen is a journalism major and a writer for The Utah Statesman. Comments can be sent to

breezelybruin@yahoo.com

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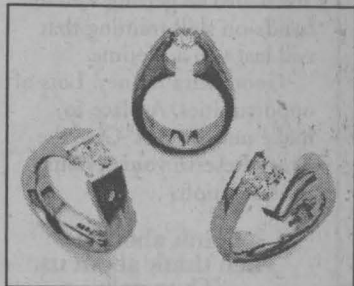
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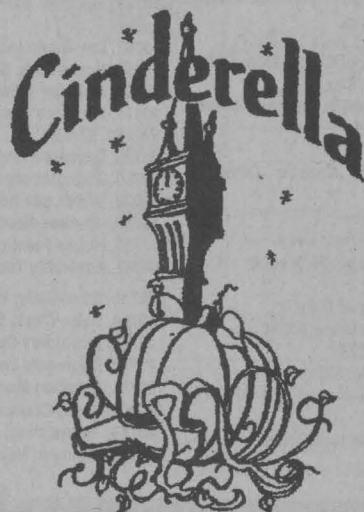
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Here's a look at ASUSU primary candidates

Election to narrow candidates down to 2 for each office; vote today and tomorrow

President

Benjamin Riley a junior from Payson, Utah, is majoring in business management. Riley is on the President's Leadership Council, served as a President's Ambassador, a Fall Leadership Facilitator, LDSSA President, Ombudsman Committee, and Mr. USU 1st runner up.

If elected Riley said he hopes to improve communication between student officers and the student body; support formula funding to augment the money appropriated to faculty and USU as a whole; address issues concerning computer resource funding and lobby the state for more funding for technology; increase student awareness of opportunities offered at Utah State through readily accessible student involvement center; and explore the possibilities of improving recreational facilities available to students.

"The best promise I can give you is that I will to the best of my ability listen to your voice and act accordingly," Riley said.

Executive VP

Rex Hansen is a finance and economics major from Firth, Idaho. He is a member of the Aggie Leadership Academy, P.A.B. volunteer, LDSSA Ex. council VP, Special Olympics Invitational Chair, Mr. USU candidate, Ombudsman committee, fee board member, fall leadership participant, and volunteer on various SAA activities.

Hansen said he plans to close the information gap between students and ASUSU; achieve a position on Logan City Council; create and advertise student information awareness web page which lists issues at ASUSU and offers a chance for feedback; organize pre-State legislation meeting with Cache County legislators to organize lobbying strategy for 2001 session; and increase student's awareness of on-campus resources such as on-campus lawyer.

Hansen said, "I want to obtain a student seat on Logan City Council, create and advertise student issue web site for review and comments by students, and organize pre-state session meeting with Cache legislators to strategically plan for 2001 session."

Sophomore **Andy Dilley** is a LAS major from Kenai, Alaska. He is a member of the public affairs board, Forums chair on the public affairs board, and lobbied the Utah State Legislature for Higher Education.

If elected he wants better student representation on Logan City Council; have student on the Logan City Council; lobby Utah State legislature for funding for heating plant and libraries; make student more aware of programs available to help them succeed; and make office more available to students.

"Despite the huge impact students have in Logan they are not well represented in the City Council," Dilley said. "I will try to get a student on the council. Our heating plant and libraries need better funding and I will lobby the legislature for necessary funding."

Public Relations VP

Betsy Spackman, a senior biology major, is from Prince William County, Va. Her experience includes ASUSU public relations account manager for legislation, ASUSU science council public relations representative, mortar board president, ASUSU fall leadership facilitator, A-team, new student orientation facilitator, ASUSU science council academic representative, VOICE Ecology recycling/environmental awareness committee chair and has received the ASUSU special service award.

Spackman said she plans to spread advertising throughout campus, from Old Main to the Fine Arts building; hold casual forums with ASUSU executive council and publicize existing forums; increase marketing research and surveys of student opinion; increase the use of the ASUSU web page and hotline using contests; and clean up advertising after events.

"As a fellow student I know how distant student government can seem. As your public relations VP, my goals are to increase awareness of ASUSU activities and legislation before they are enacted," Spackman said, "so that more student can be a part of the planning process."

Senior **Marni Jenkins** is a Human Resources major from Sandy, Utah. She is ASUSU athletics VP secretary, Big Blue crew council, ASUSU programming board member, sophomore representative for Associated women students of Snow College, and Ephriam Institute representative.

Jenkins said she wants to work with college senators to get an information board in each college; keep Aggie hotline and TSC marquee updated with weekly events; provide links from ASUSU web site to each organization on ASUSU; continue to offer incentives and gifts to student for visiting ASUSU web site; and enhance ASUSU design with Aggie hotline telephone number and web site address.

Jenkins said, "I want to inform student body of ASUSU activities and other USU events using the technology and resources currently existing, in addition, create new ways to inform

student of campus life."

Academic VP

Jim Stephenson is a junior majoring in biology from Holden, Utah. He has been a member of the academic council, served as chairman of the academic council, college bowl chairman, spelling bee coordinator, teacher and supervisor in the ESL program, Utah intercollegiate assembly delegate for USU, and United States Senate Internship on health policy in the office of Senator Orrin G. Hatch.

Stephenson said he would like to successfully implement current academic council legislation for mid-semester teacher evaluation format, book standardization guidelines, facilitate easier payment for computer printouts by working with computer services to allow cash registers in the computer labs; create an online database of all available scholarships and grants at USU; expand the college bowl and spelling bee programs to allow more students to compete in and be recognized for academic achievement; and honorably represent USU students in meetings and negotiations with USU administration and faculty.

"I am excited to be running for academic VP. I believe I have set forth a strong agenda. These proposals have the potential to have a very positive impact on student life at USU," Stephenson said.

Jenn Nelson from Seattle, Washington is a junior Business Administration major. She has served as financial coordinator for the Special Olympics, and LDS mission to Rome, Italy, IRC YSA recruitment committee, senior H.S. district leadership coordinator, junior class senator, sophomore class vice president, freshman class president, and held various ecclesiastical leadership positions.

Nelson said she wants to resolve the print-out issue in the way that will most effectively benefit the students; facilitate a book exchange that is easily accessible and well known to service more students needs; continue to pursue the implementation of mid-semester teacher evaluations to allow student the opportunity to give feedback while it still effects them; universalize the payment system in the libraries, computer labs and copy center; expand library and computer lab hours to be more user friendly (i.e. have library open earlier on Saturday mornings).

"As academic vice president," Nelson said, "I would like to improve the academic standard at Utah State by strengthening the student/administration relations, the services of the bookstore, and the resources of the libraries and computer labs."

Arts and Lectures VP

Cherissa Smith, from Hyrum, is a junior Political Science major.

She is currently on the arts and lectures council, serving as a cultural events chair, involved in the lectures series and poetry and a beverage, Utah intercollegiate assemble for two years, knows parliamentary procedure, familiar with legislative process, public affairs board, involved in promoting campus events, and concerned with student involvement in government.

Smith said her goals are to allow more student involvement in this office through such items as regular office hours and a comment box; assure quality events that those who speak or perform appeal to students; coordinate speakers/performers with campus events; and increase student attendance at cultural events.

"I will work to promote student involvement in USU by creating opportunities for students in planning the Arts and Lectures series. I also plan to assure the quality and accessibility of arts and lectures events."

Trine' Thomas is a sophomore Family and Human development major from Orem, Utah. She is on the President's leadership council, a university ambassador, a member of the organizations and traditions council, homecoming dance chair, CSCO council rep, Robins awards gala chair, student alumni assoc. member, and senior send-off PR co-chair.

Thomas said she plans to enhance the performing arts series; increase student access to the lecture series; make poetry and a beverage available all year; continue the quality of the lecture series; and instate a classic cinema program.

"My platform is to improve the office by enhancing the existing programs and instating a new classic cinema program. I would also like to increase student access to each program offered by the arts and lectures series," Thomas said.

Athletics VP

Freshman, **Clark Jessop** from Denver, Colorado is a undeclared major. He has been involved in sports all of his life, including varsity sports in high school, and high school student government.

Jessop wants to make

sporting events more appealing to the entire student body, not just the sports fanatics; promote club sports that are offered here at Utah State; improve relations between student athletes and the general student body; plan special events that will appeal to a wide variety of student; increase membership and participation in the Big Blue crew.

"I believe that athletics, more than anything else has the ability to unite a student body," Jessop said. "Either as a fan, or as an athlete, I believe that student involvement in athletics can make college a lot more fun. My goals are aimed to help achieve this."

Michael Shipley is a junior from Wellsville, majoring in business information systems. He is a four-year member and one-year captain of the USU cheer squad, a current employee of ASUSU, worked directly with the athletics department, worked with USU concessions and Big Blue to treat students to free food during basketball games, a ten-year resident of Cache Valley and as a result feels he knows about community support of the Aggies

Shipley said he wants to bring back and introduce new traditions that will put the "fan" back in fanatic and will make game day a major event on campus; increase community support and attendance at all athletic events by supporting and working with the Aggie ambassadors program, which promotes service and leadership within the community; organize a fund raising program for each sport in which students and alumni can pledge money for dunks, sacks, home runs, high scores etc., which in turn will be donated to a local charity selected by the team; promote an "X-Games"-type of environment at USU club sporting events; and provide the means by which students and alumni can share their ideas and opinions to improve sports here on campus.

"Students and fans need excitement and entertainment. Athletes need energy and support from their fans and community. Cache Valley needs athletes who will reciprocate that support. USU needs me," Shipley said, "as Athletics VP to pull it all together."

Senior **Jake Chase** from Logan, is a landscape architecture and environmental planning major. He is publicity chairman for ASUSU athletics VP, a member of Delta Sigma Phi, Sargent of arms for Delta Sigma Phi, judicial VP on the inter fraternal council, USU Mountain club president, and a STAB volunteer.

Chase wants to enforce student seating; club sport recognition and support; student awareness and support; increase tailgating; and create an athletics web page.

"I would push to preserve student seating, more and more kids and parents are taking student seats. Someone needs to stand for the students and preserve student seating. I would also like to see more involvement with club sport, tailgating and student awareness."

Activities VP

Sophomore Angie Domichel a Horticulture major from Salt Lake City, Utah. She has served on the STAB as a special events chair, Mardi Gras chair, Halloween Howl chair, Homecoming events and snowfest committees, A-Team new student orientation facilitator, Alpha Chi Omega executive board, and pan Hellenic council.

If elected, Domichel said her plans include implementing a monthly movie series with edited and unedited films; increase student input; enhance volunteer programs, continue big concerts; and strengthen diverse programming.

"As Activities Vice President, I will serve students by planning events based on input from fellow Aggies. If elected, I look forward to enhancing student life through diverse and fun filled programming," Domichel said.

Jet Thompson is a senior majoring in psychology, and is from Logan. He has been a STAB Events chair this past year, was co-chair of Mardis Gras and "Last Chance to Party." He also assisted with Moonlight and Music and the Civil Rights Forum the previous year. He has also been a peer counselor for National Depression Screening Day and helps with the PsiChi Council as a national correspondent.

He said he hopes to "bring back college radio," have a monthly movie series, college rock series, comedy series and "nooners in the Hub."

Thompson said, "As Activities VP, I will increase the number and expand the diversity of events by working with other clubs and organizations on campus to involve everyone. I will increase publicity of activities."

Extension VP

Jacob Lee McBride from Salt Lake City, is a junior Business major. He has served two years on LDSSA, one-year exec. council as president of Sigma Gamma Chi, experience with leadership in high school of, president of different clubs and organizations, and an LDS mission to Brazil.

McBride said he wants to improve and maintain relations with extension sites; represent the extension students and staff of ASUSU; strive to be aware of and resolve problems and concerns of extension students

and staff to the best of his ability; serve with honor and dignity as a member of the ASUSU Exec. council; and seek to improve the organization and programs of the ASUSU to benefit all.

McBride said, "I intend to truly strive to represent students as members of ASUSU. All student have a right to representation on campus or at extension sites."

Graduate Studies VP

Sam Winward is a senior majoring in Environmental Engineering from Soda Springs, Idaho. He is has served as ASUSU Athletics VP, LDSSA service VP, student recreation center chair, volunteer corps. chair, good working relationship currently with students, faculty and administration, and a desire to serve and work for fellow students.

If elected Winward said he will work to have the health insurance benefits applied to graduate students at no cost; work to obtain tuition reimbursement opportunities to extend to masters degree students; organize and carry out a career fair explicitly for graduate students; maintain momentum and motivation with GSS by providing quality activities, monthly graduate informers and well-run organized meetings; and represent all graduate students to administration and to ASUSU executive council fairly and equitably.

"I would like to have the opportunity to serve the graduate student. Representation is important, and someone willing to work hard and provide a strong voice is needed to stand up for important issues."

Robert Franckowiak is a physics major from Lovell, Wyo. He has had experience serving in the U.S. Navy, high school teacher and coach, and Physics graduate senator.

Franckowiak would like to increase awareness of and participation in the Graduate senate by all colleges; act as a conduit for policies, events, and concerns among the Graduate senate, the graduates, and ASUSU exec. council, and the USU administration; build upon the orientation program for incoming graduate students; and enhance the reputation of the USU graduate program to encourage a greater number of potential applicants.

"I would like to procure the concept that a university is a place for the exchange of ideas. In this way, we can create an atmosphere where different opinions can work together for the benefit of the whole."

Eric B. Worthen is an Instructional technology major. He is a graduate student senate publications chair, graduate student senator for instructional technology, he has a M.S. in agricultural systems technology extension education, and is currently pursuing Ed. S degree in Instructional technology.

He seeks to facilitate awareness of, and involvement in, issues effecting current and future graduate students; appropriate funding for the USU library system; fiscal responsibility and accountability; encourage enrollment in Master and Doctoral degree programs at USU; and address issues brought to him by senators and other graduate students.

"To serve my fellow graduate students as spokesperson for their interests and concerns. I pledge to be an active, honest, and responsible President of the Graduate Student Senate."

Organizations VP

Sharon Pewtress is a sophomore pre-med major from Grand Junction, Colorado. She has served on USU's first multicultural sorority: Theta Nu Xi, USU Ethnic Engineering and Science Student council, USU Society of Asian American Engineers and Scientists, USU Academic Scholars program, ASUSU Science Council, USU United campus volunteers, Miss Korea in the Miss International Pageant '99, and USU American Society of Microbiology.

Pewtress said she will provide a web site for all CSCO organizations and have them on line by 2000-01; have all campus wide student organizations registered under CSCO; recognize all old and new traditions (i.e. True Aggie, bonfire, themes, camp out, bourbon street, etc.); to incorporate a more diverse pool of students into existing organizations as well as new ones; more awareness, more categories for Robin's awards; and provide awareness to incoming freshmen and transfer students about existing organizations.

"I want to provide more awareness, diversity, and involvement in all organizations on campus. As well as recognize students individually and more interpersonal relationships with everyone so that USU organizations and traditions will rise to perfection in the fall millennium."

Chelsie Egbert from Preston, Idaho is a sophomore Public Relations major. She has served on the organizations and traditions committee, CSCO representative, homecoming committee chair, Robin's committee chair, LDSSA exec. secretary, extension committee,

OFFICERS

From previous page

Project Pals activity chair, and Howl committee chair.

Egbert said she wants to strengthen Aggie pride by educating and exciting the student body about the great traditions we have here at Utah State! Once and Aggie always an Aggie; unite CSCO with the representatives and educate the clubs about the point and funding system so it will run more efficient; educate the students about the variety of clubs here at USU, input something like a "CSCO Week" to get all clubs out recruiting; expand homecoming to involve whole student body and extensions, make it bigger, more advertising activities, make it a student alumni remembered event; and expand Robins awards by educating and advertising about the purpose and pride behind them and excite student body about the program and the formal dance.

"I will work with and for the student body and clubs to bigger and better them programs directed by the organizations and traditions VP including CSCO, homecoming, Robins awards, and traditions."

Service VP

Karen Gaufin a senior Parks and Recreation major from Orem, Utah. She was nominated for the Robin's Val R. Christensen Service award, Val R. Christensen service center publicity and recruitment chair, service center council, ASUSU programing board, LDSSA activities committee, "Let's Make a Deal" co-chair, project pals historian, Special Olympics fall invitational volunteer, USU Aggies special Olympics team head coach, and Associated women students of Snow College sophomore representative.

Gaufin said she wants to expand the current service center web page and include online registration for students; to provide better publicity for service center projects and programs; to implement monthly service projects and have a service day each semester; to make a job description available for volunteer positions; and to develop a "victory" file for the service center.

"I want to improve the recruitment and communication in order to make the service center even stronger that it is this year," Gaufin said. "When elected I will strive to accomplish these goals."

Student Advocate

Mindy Baughman a junior from Rock Springs, Wyo., majoring in Broadcasting. She has served as Miss Wyoming 1998 during which she spent the year as an advocate for the disability awareness, she served as a role model for youth in Wyoming to promote excellence in education and scholarship, clean living and healthy lifestyle, a volunteer spokesperson for Wyoming special Olympics, and a current member of PRSSA, mortar board, radio club. STAB volunteer fall semester.

Baughman said she wants to make herself available and accessible year round to the student body; keep free parking free; bring back more computer printouts; make more resources available to student; and encourage fun, free activities.

"Everyone is unique, so no student fits into a typical mold. By making myself available to the student body, together we can customize people's needs. Help me help you," Baughman said.

Bradley G. Bishop from Kuna, Idaho is a junior LAS (pre-med) major. He has served in the student advocate ombudsman committee, president of Sigma Chi fraternity, campus relations committee of LDSSA, worked in the health and wellness center, facilitator at fall leadership, participant in project pals and numerous service projects in the Greek system.

Bishop said he wants to "bring ASUSU to the students"; reestablish the student advocate advisory board; make Ombudsman a common name on campus; provide easy access to make complaints; and be the "students" voice.

"I will bring ASUSU to the students so that I am the student's voice. I plan to do this by revamping the student advocate advisory board, having membership from all campus organizations. This will provide an accessible line of communication between the students and their advocate."

College Senators

Agriculture Senator

Rachael Porter is a junior Agribusiness major from Morgan, Utah. She has served as Utah FFA State officer team, served the past two years on the Ag Council, served as executive secretary to the Ag Council, an Ag ambassador, collegiate 4-H treasurer, and collegiate FFA secretary.

Porter said she would like to help the Ag council accomplish their goals. She said she wants them to be able to take the council where they would like to see it go; truly be a voice for the students, know what students think; keep students informed on issues that will affect them; have Ag week to promote agriculture; and give others the opportunity to serve and grow whenever possible through committees, etc.

"Agriculture is my passion in life. I hold an 'inborn fondness for ag which even in hours of discouragement I cannot deny' as the FFA creed states. I would love the opportunity to serve you as a voice for agriculture though this upcoming year," Porter said.

Scott Wangsgard, from Young Ward, is a sophomore majoring in Agricultural mechanization. He is an Intermountain PAS officer, GGW club president, Ag Council member, and Ag Tech club member.

Wangsgard wants to maintain the tradition that the College of Agriculture is responsible for Ag week; unite the students in different College of Agriculture departments; maintain a successful committee system for running the Ag Council; help improve faculty/student relations; and take a simple, logical approach to students problems in the College of Ag., nothing is ever as complicated as it seems.

Wangsgard said, "I want to lead the College of Agriculture back to its roots. We are known for being simple, honest and hard working people and our college should reflect this."

Business Senator

Taylor Leavitt a sophomore Business Administration and Economics major from Salt Lake City, Utah. He has experience as legislation VP for the business council, student representative for business college professor of the year, ASUSU award for outstanding achievement and contribution to Utah State, 3.85 GPA, National Dean's list, College of Business Dean's list, President's Leadership Council, PLC "Rookie of the Year" Award, University Ambassador, STAB Special Events Chair, Co-head chair Halloween Howl, and Co-head chair Valentines Day Dance.

Leavitt said he would like every declared student enrolled in at least one business organization; make counseling more abundant to undergraduate students; establish a real estate licensing class here at Utah State for students; further establish the making of an organization-head collaborative committee; and to provide a more united, legislative active senate for ASUSU.

"I have enjoyed immensely working with the College of Business. Business senator is a position that requires a lot of energy and experience. I feel those are strong attributes of mine. I am one who thrives on seeing results, and would be a stalwart to achieve such in the goals I have set out," Leavitt said.

Emily Neibaur from Paul, Idaho is a junior majoring in Accounting. She has served on the USU Business Council, as faculty relations executive Vice President, ASUSU week of welcome committee, ASUSU event chair for Lets Make a Deal, Student alumni Assoc. Senior send off chair, and two years service with USU Business council.

Neibaur's goals are to provide networking opportunities and encourage involvement through the Alumni Fair, dinner for 12 strangers and other activities; organize activities that will enhance education for the students in the College of Business; address student concerns within the College of Business and concerns regarding ASUSU legislation; encourage student participation in clubs and organizations and improve student-faculty relations; and develop an international business organization, for COB students to promote cultural awareness and provide international business opportunities.

"My focus," Neibaur said, "is on increasing awareness and opportunities for students to be involved within the College of Business. I will work to maximize student involvement, address student concerns, and voice student opinions concerning current legislation."

Education Senator

Lori Pettit is a senior from South Jordan, majoring in Elementary and Deaf Education. She has served on Education council as the College of Education week chairperson, rush officer and president of a Lambda Delta Sigma chapter, served on the Institute of Religion Council, and taught English for two summers in Taiwan.

Pettit said she hopes to promote the College of Education through activities and service; unify the departments within the College of Education; inform students of current issues in education and ASUSU legislation; address student concerns; and strengthen the education council and make it applicable and accessible to students.

"As College of Education senator I want to be a representative voice of the students. In order to do that it is essential to keep the lines of communication open, serve the needs of the students, unify and promote the college."

Mandy Pratt from Nyssa, Ore., is a junior with a dual major in Elementary and Early Childhood Education. She is on the LDSSA Exec. council as the classroom enrichment VP, CVAEYC student chapter VP, and EEA assistant to an officer.

Pratt's goals are to establish a lecture series including quality speakers representative of the disciplines in the college; implement a selection process for education council that will allow at least two representatives from each department; move from only one Education Week to a variety of activities throughout the year; distribute questionnaires to students regarding the advising departments and suggestions for their improvement; and get applications online with a link to the College of Education web page.

"Unify departments, make education council move visible and dynamic, simplify application process without compromising high standards of admittance, supplemental advising, represent concerns to the dean, and support profes-

sional clubs and organizations."

Engineering Senator

George Tripp is a junior from

Grantsville, majoring in mechanical engineering. He is has served with the ASUSU academic council for two years, chaired the academic issues committee on that council, represented the students on the Friends of USU libraries board, wrote and promote student legislation for mid semester teacher evaluations.

Tripp said he would lobby the Utah legislature to ensure funding for the new engineering building receives highest possible priority; free up more student computing time during the last weeks of the semester; bring in more guest speakers from industry and technical research/work; recognize students in the college for displaying effort and achievement in difficult circumstances; lead the continued dominance of the College of Engineering over the College of Natural Resources in all aspects of campus life.

"As Engineering Senator I would work toward goals in four major area: organizing to attain sources, strengthening student morale, bringing students closer to industry and real world projects, responsibly representing student opinion."

Bill Hansen, an electrical engineering major, is a junior from West Weber. He has served as Senior Class VP of his high school, served in various religious leadership positions, is determined to set and achieve goals, responsible team oriented and hard working, and has good interpersonal communication skills.

Hansen's goals are to improve student involvement in student government; improve upon the College of Engineering image and association with the university; improve fee assessment and better explain fees; increase the number of computer copies; and continue traditions like Engineering week.

"I feel that many engineers want to be involved, but because of the nature of engineering they generally have no time to do this. I want to make it easier for them to be involved and also to represent the true student voice."

Family Life Senator

Danielle Gardiner a sophomore from Salt Lake City, Utah majoring in Family and Consumer Science Education. She has served on the Family Life Council, chair of the Family Life Council Public Relations, Chair Phi Upsilon Omicron organizations, VP AAFCS public relations, Kappa Delta Sorority, Panhellenic council VP Philanthropy, and A-Team Facilitator for new student orientation.

Gardiner's goals are to focus events around College of Family Life students; socialize students into chosen professions through Alumni networking and mentoring programs; encourage all clubs to play an active role in family life council; hold a faculty/student social every semester to strengthen ties between faculty and students within the College of Family Life; and complete an annual service activity to give back to the community while increasing awareness of the College of Family Life.

"As Family Life Senator, I will increase college awareness on campus and expand club and organization participation, while improving student relationships with faculty and alumni."

H.A.S.S. Senator

Jewel Merrill a sophomore history major from Ellensburg, Wash. She has served on the HASS council for two years with one year as special events co-chair, LDSSA activities co-chair, Ombudsman committee, A-team member, supplemental instruction leader History 1700 for 3 semesters, and 4.0 GPA.

Merrill said she will increase student involvement and awareness by posting weekly updates of ASUSU exec. council meetings on the Internet and/or through e-mail; establish greater college unity by regularly highlighting and awarding different departments and students; invite some of our exceptional HASS alumni to offer network opportunities for HASS students; help undeclared students feel more involved in the college by offering informative and useful activities; increase cooperation and co-sponsorships with HASS related clubs and organizations.

"Besides being the largest college, HASS is extremely diverse both as to departments and students. As HASS senator I will recognize and support the unique contributions that each group adds to the university."

Natural Resource Senator

PRIMARY ELECTIONS:
March 22-23

FINAL ELECTIONS:
March 29-30

Sanda Jane Keil from Grand Canyon, Ariz., is a sophomore in environmental studies. She has served as Forestry club president, natural resource council, national honor society president, squad boss of forest service fire crew, and ecological coalition of student members.

Keil said she will represent all of the College of Natural Resources Students' opinions and ideas to ASUSU; increase travel opportunities by expanding relationships with professional organizations such as Society of American Foresters, The Wildlife Society, Society for Range Management; promote active recruitment of potential Natural Resource students; expand the recycling program in the College of Natural Resources and them campus wide; and encourage more participation of students and professors in club activities and will increase interaction with outside organizations such as Geology club, ECOS, Bear River Institute, Mountain Club.

"I will be a listening ear and channeler of ideas. I am entirely dedicated to serving NR students in a way that will improve the college as a whole."

Science Senator

Brandon Hart from Rexburg, Idaho is a junior majoring in biology. He has served as academic chair for the science council, a member of the academic council for USU, member of Alpha Epsilon Delta, and member of American Society of Microbiology.

Hart said he will establish a "Lab Day" where students can meet with researchers to fill lab positions; ensure establishment of a mid-semester teacher and lab instructor evaluation process; follow through with implementation of upper-division pathogen physiology course; establish bimonthly college service projects; and establish a well rounded science council with representation from all intercollegiate clubs and organizations.

"I will take my experience and my drive to accomplish the goals at hand, working together with students and faculty we will see a more competitive college of science with high standards and highly qualified graduates."

Chad Bingham a pre-med biology major, is from Portland, Ore. He has served on the ASUSU Ombudsman council, student health advisory committee, biochemistry research assistant, recipient of URGO grant for undergraduate research, operating room volunteer at Logan Regional Hospital, physiology TA, best buddies activities chair, volunteer VRC service center, and on the Dean's List for two years.

Bingham said he would like to increase interaction between students and faculty through "brown nose" luncheons; provide more opportunities for undergraduate research by connecting faculty needs with student interests through a web site; bring students in contact with companies in the fields of science by increasing the number of science companies at the USU career fair; promote midterm evaluations of science professors; and encourage student involvement in College of Science activities and organizations.

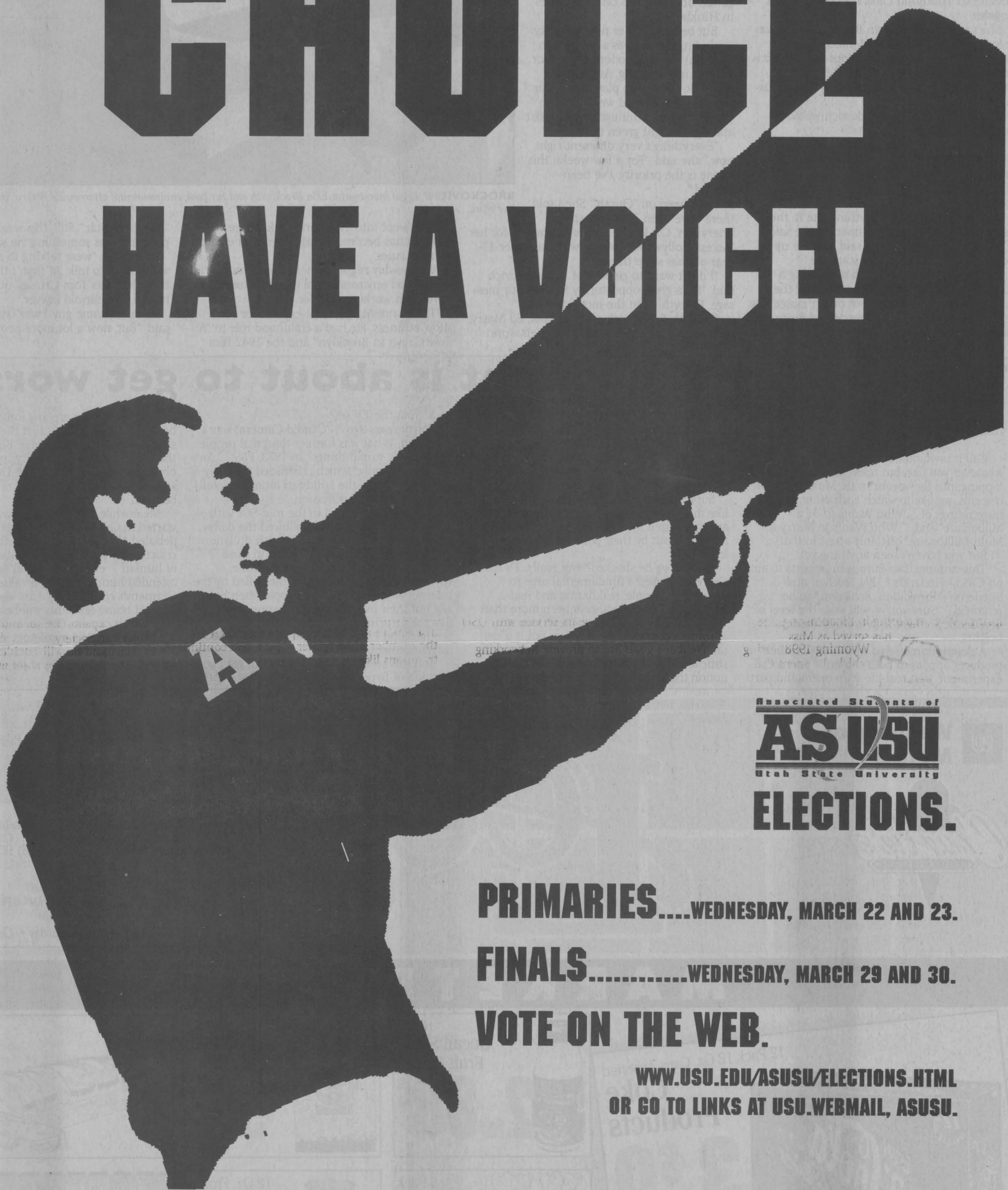
"As Senator of the College of Science, I will help students achieve their educational and professional goals by increasing student and faculty interaction, undergraduate research opportunities, and contact with employers."

Andrew Allen a sophomore from Ogden, majoring in public health. He has served as a high school senior-class VP, fluent in Spanish, Science sterling scholar, Young democrats of American officer, and S.T.I.C.K.S. Math tutor volunteer.

Allen hopes to plan fun, meaningful activities that will focus mainly towards the College of Science students; I would like to have different keynote speakers come to the College of Science once or twice a semester to speak about their work, benefits, how to gain employment, etc.; I know how expensive Kaplan preparation courses can be, I would like to see USU professors teach similar preparation courses; I would like to create a College of Science newsletter to inform students; and I would like to create an "Area Council" to discuss current issues affecting the different areas within the College of Science.

"The most important thing I can do as a Science Senator is create opportunities for students to become involved. Employers and graduate schools value your involvement in extracurricular activities. I will support student involvement and inform you of opportunities."

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Meet the candidates - look at bios

Tuesday, 11-1, TSC Int'l Lounge

Wave of celebrity doesn't swamp movie's real-life heroine

By MATT SURMAN
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Erin Brockovich is now a Hollywood name, but the morning after the glitzy premiere of her movie she wasn't sleeping in or drinking celebratory champagne from a crystal flute.

She spent Wednesday morning in the emergency room with her feverish daughter, like any typical parent, even one glorified on movie posters and bus placards.

And in the evening, at a fund-raiser and early screening of "Erin Brockovich," the film opening Friday that tells her story, she had no entourage and trod no red carpet, just the speckled one at the United Artists Oaks Mall Theater in Thousand Oaks northwest of Los Angeles.

She's still the same Erin Brockovich she was before Julia Roberts wiggled into the tight skirts and cleavage-revealing tops Brockovich is known for and became a character at once smart, outspoken, tenacious and driven to justice.

You'd guess the real Brockovich would be impossible to fluster. Almost.

At the Tuesday night premiere in Hollywood, "I was literally shaking," said Brockovich, still an investigator at the law office of Masry & Vittoe in the Los Angeles area.

"I've never, ever seen anything like it: the people, the attention, the cameras," she said. "One of the photographers said, 'Come up closer.' And I said, 'No, you scare me.'"

But she hadn't been afraid of wearing a body-hugging dress with two cutouts in the midriff, a dress she pulled out of her closet just before the premiere. The stress of celebrity had made her lose weight, and the previously

planned dress had to be ditched. It's a long way from the dusty streets of the California desert community of Hinkley, where Brockovich did the unglamorous work of legal investigation, door-to-door and through mud and muck, years before the case and the Universal Pictures-Columbia Pictures movie made her rich.

The movie tells the story of how the twice-divorced mother of three with a daring fashion sense and dogged persistence helped win a \$333 million lawsuit against PG&E, accused of poisoning the town's water.

Even as the movie is unveiled, litigation on the PG&E case continues in Hinkley.

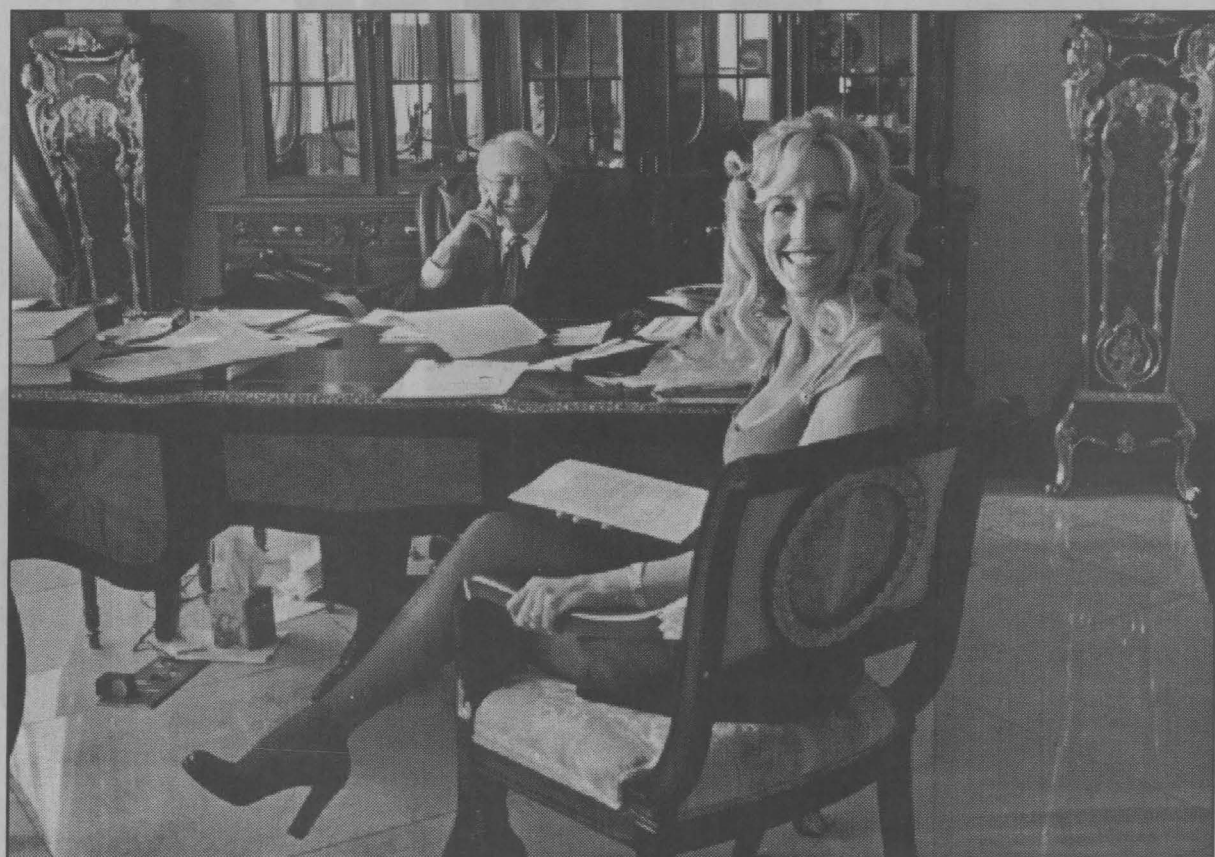
But because of her new celebrity (including a cameo as a waitress in the film), she can no longer go door to door investigating. And for the moment, she has to play movie star — a role she seemed well suited to Wednesday in a minuscule blue skirt and tight, bright green tank top.

"Everything's very different right now," she said. "For a few weeks, this movie is the priority. I've been zapped."

She's been on "Oprah." She's told there have been 300 requests for interviews. On Wednesday, she was late for her "Access Hollywood" interview because her 13-year-old has strep throat.

"I don't want to get sick of it," Brockovich said. "It's a great opportunity to send our message. Everything in the movie is true."

For both Brockovich and her boss, Ed Masry, the movie is mostly a vehicle for their work.



BROCKOVICH: Legal investigator Erin Brockovich and her boss, environmental attorney Ed Masry, in their Los Angeles law office.

Masry swept into Thousand Oaks three years ago and has become a major figure in environmental issues.

Wednesday night's benefit raised money for cancer and environmental groups, causes they have been working with for years.

This is not Masry's first experience with show business. He had a childhood role in "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" and the 1942 film

"Northern Star." Still, this week's Hollywood premiere was something, he said.

Reporters "were talking to anybody who would stop to talk. At first, I think they thought I was Tom Cruise," quipped the white-haired, 67-year-old lawyer.

"I'm the same guy I was last week," Masry said. "But, now a lot more people are listening."

TV's voyeurism quotient is about to get worse

By VERNE GAY
Newsday

Call it invidious, call it predictable, or call it whatever you like, but television increasingly is tapping into the voyeur in us. More and more, it seems, we like to watch each other. The huge ratings of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" and "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire" certainly attest to that.

But you haven't seen anything yet. This summer, two European imports to air on CBS — Holland's "Big Brother" and Sweden's "Expedition: Robinson," to be renamed "Survivor" — will raise the level of voyeuristic TV here to previously unseen heights.

A description offered by a "Big Brother" producer applies to both shows: "part social experiment, part real-life soap opera and part

competition."

"Big Brother" resembles an extreme version of MTV's "The Real World." A group of strangers shares a house with cameras monitoring every move — in every room — and each person votes to evict one of the group. "Survivor" strands a group on an island, and like the "contestants" on "Big Brother," they are scrutinized by omnipresent camera crews and voted out by their peers until only one is left.

Should we be shocked? Not really. TV has always displayed a fundamental urge to exploit real people, real drama and real tragedy, and we have always been more than willing to abide this urge. "Real" may not always make for great television, but it is certainly compelling. On some admittedly narcissistic level, what is more compelling than the notion that we are the ones who are staring

back from the TV set?

Thirty years ago, "Candid Camera" was a sensation. What was funnier than real people doing really stupid things? In 1973, PBS' "An American Family," which chronicled the daily lives of one clan, the Louds, in intimate detail, became a national obsession.

The ante was upped in the mid-90s with "The Real World," which followed the daily exploits of real 20-somethings, with titillation and the normal frictions of living in close proximity providing the drama. And the voyeuristic impulse has been intensified by the Internet — where ordinary people often literally put their lives online for anyone to see. (It's not surprising, then, that both "Big Brother" and "Survivor" feature significant Internet components.)

And this summer, U.S. viewers will get their next jolt of hyper-reality. If the reactions of the

Dutch and Swedes are any indication, we will be in for a wild ride. At first the Dutch were shocked by the premise of "Big Brother." But the shock turned to curiosity, and then to obsession. In the process, the Dutch learned something about themselves, or so they believed.

Meanwhile, the fireworks have already started in Germany, where "Big Brother" debuted March 1. For months the show was criticized by politicians who labeled it a form of human "experimentation" and said it offended human dignity, a value protected in Germany's constitution. Last week, producers decided house residents will be allowed to duck into a camera-free room for one hour a day. In turn, media regulators meeting in Munich postponed until Tuesday a decision on whether to order the show off the air.

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