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Crushed in Cruces

Softball loses two of three

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Oscar night

'American Beauty' takes home five awards

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Utah Statesman

Campus Voice Since 1902

Statesman
ONLINE

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Utah State University, Logan Utah

Monday, March 27, 2000

'Free printouts' could be no more after this year

LAURA BELLAMY
Senior News Writer

After nearly two years of debate, the "free" printout issue may be coming to a close.

At Tuesday's Associated Students of Utah State University meeting, council members will debate a bill that would eliminate all "free" printouts at university computer labs.

To compensate for the elimination of copies, the price of printouts would be reduced from 5 cents to 3 cents, according to the bill.

At the meeting, which is at 5:48 p.m. in the Taggart Student Center, Room 326, the Executive Council will hold an open forum where interested students will have a chance to express their opinions.

"If students have any views or opinions they want to talk about, this is a time for them to express their opinion," said Kalem Sessions, engineering senator and the bill's sponsor. "Students really have a good opportunity here to influence the student government's decision."

The printout issue has been a topic of debate for two years because of the number of students it affects, Sessions said. Last year's Executive Council voted to reduce the number of copies from 100 to 35 in order to wean students off of the "free" printouts.

According to Sessions, this bill will finish what last year's council began. One reason students have been so upset about the reduction of "free" printouts is because they are losing a service their computer fee goes toward. According to Sessions, this is not true.

"The printouts were never free in the first place," Sessions said. "Computer services never made room in their budget for them."

Sessions said by eliminating free printouts and reducing the cost per copy, students will actually be saving money.

"With the reduction in cost, by the time a student has made 88 copies, they will be saving money instead of just getting 35 free copies and then paying a higher price for the rest of them," Sessions said.

According to Sessions, the bill will not only benefit students, but will also help the computer labs.

"Potentially, it would free up \$70,000 in funds," Sessions said. "Those funds could go towards buying software for Internet technologies, which are more marketable skills for students."

According to Sessions, the majority of requests Computer Services receives is for Internet related software. Computer Services would spend additional funds purchasing programs students are using to train themselves in Web design and technology, he said.

"Computer Services would also know their exact cost better and so they're able to plan their budget," Sessions said. "They can then better utilize funds if it is at 3 cents."

According to Sessions, Computer Services has had a fluctuating budget in the past because the number of students using "free" printouts varies each semester.

"They never know how many kids will use all of the copies or not even touch them," Sessions said. "It makes it difficult for them to calculate an actual budget."

Sessions said the student forum will, hopefully, answer any questions students have as well as allowing them to express their opinions.

"I see this idea evolving as people think of new ways to better handle the situation," Sessions said. "Students can help us with that."

'Potentially it would free up \$70,000 in funds. Those funds could go towards buying software for Internet technologies, which are more marketable skills for students.'

• SHANE SESSIONS •
ASUSU
ENGINEERING SENATOR

Tuition increase won't go to faculty

LARA GALE
Staff Writer

Utah students will be paying 4 percent more for tuition next year, but this won't provide any faculty salary increase beyond what the legislature approved at this year's session.

The legislature granted higher education \$31.5 million, including a nearly 5 percent salary increase. This falls short of the \$43 million requested by the Board of Regents to bring salaries up to par, but is high enough that students have to pay 4 percent rather than 3 percent more in tuition this year to help pay for it. The legislature requires that tuition increases pay for at least one quarter of annual higher education compensation increases.

In addition, fees were raised by 3 percent, a figure defended by Associated Students of Utah State University officers who could have raised them an additional 1 percent to match the tuition increase.

All together, a resident student taking 15 credit hours next year will pay \$973.66 tuition, \$74.84 more than last year, and \$228 in fees for a total of

\$1,201.66 per semester, according to the 2000-2001 Tuition and Fee Schedule.

The Board of Regents considered three factors to come up with the 4 percent increase: inflation, the national cost of higher education and the needs of higher education, said Jay Gogue, USU provost.

Inflation was low this year and alone would have required only a 2 percent tuition increase, Gogue

said. He said tuition is rarely increased just enough to match inflation.

The national cost of higher education increased 5.8 percent last year,

Gogue said. However, this number is generally assumed high because private schools are figured in and often raise costs at a higher rate than public schools.

Gogue said in the fall the Board of Regents looked at raising

tuition somewhere between those two numbers and came up with a 3 percent increase.

Concerned this would not be enough of an increase to provide needed funds for salary equity, ASUSU officers attempted to be proactive and offer that USU students pay an even higher percentage — if the state would match it and send every penny back to USU for staff and faculty salary equity. The state legislature rejected their plan, Gogue said.

In the future USU might look at increasing student tuition higher than the statewide increase to help with salary equity if it can be sure the extra revenue will come only to USU and not be sent into the pot for all nine of Utah's institutions, said Blythe Ahlstrom, USU assistant provost.

All revenue generated by state higher education tuition is allocated by the legislature, with a certain percentage being sent to each school, so there is no way to guarantee any extra revenue created at USU would return to USU, Gogue said.

MONEY MATTERS

\$973.66 — Cost of tuition for 15 credits Fall Semester 2000

\$74.84 — Additional amount students will have to pay for tuition Fall Semester compared to this semester

\$228 — Currently planned cost of student fees next year (some fee increases will be put to a student vote this semester)

\$1,201.66 — Total cost per semester for 2000-2001 school year

Alumni Association to host etiquette dinner

KATHRYN SUMMERS
Staff Writer

The Utah State University Student Alumni Association will sponsor an etiquette dinner Wednesday to help students learn or brush up on the appropriate behavior for a business-type meal.

"People get more and more casual in their dining habits at home and they don't know how to handle a formal dinner," said Patty Halaufia, alumni director of major events who will be a hostess at the dinner.

The dinner will include a social cocktail hour, a four-course meal and instruction on proper manners followed by a question and answer session.

Halaufia wants students to learn that the purpose of a cocktail hour is to meet people, not eat. She will cover some of the more elementary dining manners such as how to eat a hard roll and soup, which silverware to use when and how to excuse one's self during a meal.

She will also talk about appropriate attire for a business meeting and give exam-



The Alumni Association offers students the opportunity to learn proper etiquette and social skills at the table.

ples.

Employers will often take potential employees to dinner to see how their social skills are. Halaufia suggested that any student in the job market learn proper etiquette.

Table manners used to be taught in the home, but fam-

ily dinner is becoming a thing of the past, she said. There is no opportunity to learn what is appropriate. This dinner can help people who feel clumsy in a social setting.

Even if people feel they have good manners and know it all, this dinner would

be a good memory refresher, Halaufia said.

Everyone is welcome, but it is necessary to RSVP. Call 797-2053 before noon on Tuesday if you are interested in attending the dinner. It will be Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the USU Alumni House. The cost is \$8 per person.

Manhattan monks visit USU, share art of meditation

JESSICA WARREN
Staff Writer

"Blissfull light" and assorted other benefits of meditation were described Saturday morning by two ordained Buddhist monks.

Barbara Smith and Stacey Schindler taught a beginning meditation class and shared the importance of it in their own lives.

Smith and Schindler met in a meditation class. They now travel around independently sharing meditation with others.

"It has changed my life," Smith said. "I like my life to be happy, I like to experience joy and ecstasy, I like my life to work out."

Meditating allows a person to tap into the light within every person, she said.

The technique they taught is called Chakra Meditation. They said there are seven chakras, or doorways. However, because it's such a large topic, they focused on three chakras: the navel center, for power; the heart center, for love and balance and the third eye center, for wisdom.

These doorways release kundalini — energy located at the base of the spine, they said. This energy is said to protect the physical body. The energy one gets from the chakras help in careers, relationships, school and day-to-day life, they said.

The songs they used for the class were designed for Utah, a place described by Smith as a power place — an easy place to meditate.

When in meditation, the idea is to stop thought and focus, Schindler said. "We're so conditioned to think, that's all we do," Schindler said.

Focusing is the key to meditation, whether it be a candle flame, a flower, a rock or whatever one chooses. Fifteen minutes is a good time to start out with, Schindler said.

Smith and Schindler said to be relaxed but poised and alert to avoid falling asleep. Sitting cross-legged on the floor or in a chair using a cushion is helpful. The meditator should also keep his or her back straight, Smith said.

Meditating in the morning is best, according to Schindler. Other optimal times are at sunset or just before bed, she said.

"I never leave the house without meditating," Schindler said.

Showering just before meditating is good because it refreshes the body making it easier to concentrate, Schindler said.

Also, meditating right after a big meal is not a good idea because it makes it more difficult to focus with your stomach digesting. Also, it is best to create a place to meditate each time — one that is welcoming and "pretty," Schindler said, is best.

The effects of meditation on these

two women have changed their lives, they said.

"I was a dependent female and then I started meditating and I realized I could be anything," Smith said. "Meditation takes away the limits."

"Every day its like a lifetime goes by. You change so rapidly," Schindler said. "You're able to do things that you otherwise would never think you could do."

She said it puts clarity into her life and purifies the negativity.

Both Schindler and Smith encouraged empowerment.

"There's nothing wrong with making money, there's nothing wrong with having sex," Schindler said.

They said money gives freedom from worries and stress in life. And meditation helps give direction in life. It changes the definition of who you think you are, they said.

"You're not so much categorized into your likes and dislikes," Schindler said. Instead of reacting to a situation and going into a state of confusion, one can choose to go to a place of light, she said.

Meditation, according to Smith and Schindler, is a vital part of their lives that brings them peace. It helps them bring their consciousness to a state of light.

"Light's essence is bliss," Smith said. For more information about meditation, e-mail Smith and Schindler at manhattan_meditation@yahoo.com.

Students to vote on fee increase

LAURA BELLAMY
Senior News Writer

This year the Associated Students of Utah State University elections have a full ballot with a new student fee being put to a student-wide vote right along with the student government candidates.

The proposed fee is a \$3.50 increase for students taking 1 to 6 credits. It will entitle part-time students to free admission to all USU music department produced concerts and USU theatre productions.

According to Student Advocate Matt Malouf, because the fee is new, it must be put to a general student vote.

"We have student votes for anything that is considered a new fee," Malouf said. "If we have a new fee, then students should have the opportunity

to say something about it."

When students log on to vote for ASUSU candidates, a question will appear at the end asking them to approve the new measure, said Public Relations Vice President Christina Domichel. The vote needs a 50 percent approval of all those who vote to pass.

"It then goes to (President George H. Emert) just like tons of other things that committees pass," Malouf said. "But, we do already have the support of the administration."

According to the proposer of the fee, Stan Albrecht, the new funds will also help to increase the number of performances as well as the quality.

"This request will allow us

Jump to Fees, Page 3

If You VOTE

The actual ballot will read:

'I agree to the proposal that students taking 1 to 6 credits, pay the Music and Theatre Department Concerts fee (currently being paid by students taking 7 credits or more). This fee is \$3.50 for those taking 1 to 6 credits.'

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WORLD & NATION

Putin headed for sure victory

MOSCOW (AP) — Vladimir Putin appeared headed for a narrow victory Monday in Russia's presidential election after a surprisingly strong showing by the Communists threatened to force him into a runoff vote.

While Putin would almost certainly win a second round, it would have been a humbling setback for the former KGB officer, who has soared from nowhere to become the nation's most popular politician in a few months. Putin's call to strengthen the authority of the state and the security forces worried some Russians, who fear the country's democratic reforms could be rolled back.

With 59 percent of the vote from Sunday's election counted by early Monday, Putin had 50.67 percent of the vote, just enough to ensure out-

right victory and avoid a second round against the next highest vote winner. Communist chief Gennady Zyuganov was second with 30.51 percent.

The state-run RTR television network predicted an outright Putin victory with no runoff vote. Liberal economist Grigory Yavlinsky was projected to take third place with about 7 percent of the vote.

Zyuganov accused the government of falsifying the results, saying the Communist vote was more than 40 percent. There were no immediate reports on the fairness of the election from international monitors.

"They have set up a zone of blanket fraud to cheat citizens," Zyuganov said.

Putin looked likely to fall well short

of his campaign's hopes for a huge victory and a strong mandate for his call to impose strong government at home and to revive Russia as a global power.

Putin's campaign may have suffered from the widespread assumption that he would win, convincing many of his supporters that there was no need to vote. But the fairly strong vote for Zyuganov was also seen as a protest by Russians unhappy about Putin's apparently inevitable victory.

Putin, looking relaxed, said he was confident of victory as he voted at a Moscow polling station. "Tomorrow is Monday, a hard day, and I will have to go to work," he said.

Putin later acknowledged the Communists had done well despite their cash-strapped campaign and that his government would have to take popular discontent into account.

"That means that our policy must

Jump to PUTIN, Page 11

WorldGLANCE

➤ 500 arrested during Belarus protest

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — More than 100 opposition activists remained in custody Sunday after a raucous demonstration that saw police club protesters with nightsticks, beat journalists and send armored cars into the capital, an opposition group said.

Police detained more than 500 people during Saturday's demonstration, the Belarus Popular Front said. The arrests came after thousands of people broke from a prearranged protest area and moved toward a central square, sparking a melee.

Central Minsk was sealed off, and hundreds of police poured in to disperse the demonstrators. Some protesters hid in stores lining the chaotic street. Police hit and arrested journalists who were covering the event.

Authorities did not release information on detentions, but the Popular Front said Sunday that police were still holding more than 100 protesters and would press charges on Monday.

Popular Front leader Vyantsuk Vyachorka said one prominent opposition politician — Anatoly Lebedko, a deputy speaker in the opposition-controlled shadow parliament — was severely beaten and was still in police custody Sunday.

Meanwhile, the Belarus Association of Journalists said Sunday that 27 reporters were arrested during the street fighting. The group said it will sue the Interior Ministry for the rough treatment, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

Opposition leaders have announced a series of rallies this spring to protest President Alexander Lukashenko's autocratic rule and plans to merge his country with Russia.

➤ Gas prices up a half cent in two weeks

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gasoline prices edged up a mere half a cent in the past two weeks, and the increases may be coming to an end, an industry analyst said Saturday.

The average retail price of all grades of gasoline, including taxes, was about \$1.59 per gallon as of Friday, an increase of only a half cent from March 10, according to the Lundberg Survey of 10,000 stations nationwide.

Crude oil prices are down, which affects all petroleum products, analyst Trilby Lundberg said. But she warned that when demand for gas increases rises, prices usually do, too.

"This could be the end or just a lull in the price hikes," she said. "Spring and summer demand for gasoline could be an up factor for the price of gasoline apart from the prices for crude oil."

While the nationwide average cost of gas rose half a penny, there are starkly different regional trends. For example, "Prices are down more than 6 cents in the Midwest but up nearly a dime in the West," Lundberg said.

Prices at self-service stations averaged nearly \$1.55 for regular unleaded gasoline, \$1.64 for mid-grade and \$1.75 for premium.

Full-service prices were about \$1.84 for regular, \$1.93 for mid-grade and \$2.01 for premium.

➤ Visor versus Palm in handheld electronics

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — The hot market for handheld electronic devices has rested in one company's Palm for years. Upstart challenger Handspring Inc. hopes people will see another world of possibilities when the Visor appears Monday in stores nationwide.

Handspring's electronic personal organizer has been selling briskly on the Internet since last fall. Add-ons called "Springboards" are planned to turn it into everything from a phone to a digital camera to a music player.

Monday's move into wider circulation is Visor's first serious test.

"We've got some explaining to do ... about how we're really different," said Greg Woock, Mountain View-based Handspring's vice president of North American sales.

"The biggest differentiator, the thing that makes us not like any other device, is our Springboard expansion slot. It pops in and out of the back of the Visor and allows you to extend the software and hardware capabilities."

More than a dozen such products are in development for the Visor, although only three — a golf game, extended memory and backup module — are currently available. Modules that can turn the device into a cellular phone and pager are expected by Christmas, Handspring executives say.

First up is the \$149 base Visor model with 2 megabytes of memory that can store 6,000 addresses, 3,000 appointments and 200 e-mail messages. A model with 8 megabytes of memory, doubling the storage capacity, sells for \$249.

Palm also faces a fresh assault from Microsoft Corp., whose Windows CE failed to catch on as an alternative to the Palm operating system. A slimmed-down Windows CE version called PocketPC will be in new devices shipping in mid-April.

➤ Kingdome destroyed to make room for others

SEATTLE (AP) — The Kingdome, which went from engineering marvel to anachronistic eyesore in just 24 years, was demolished in a controlled implosion Sunday to make room for a new, more expensive stadium.

Thousands of spectators cheered from office towers and hill-sides around the city as a series of blasts crumbled the massive concrete structure into a mound of rubble and dust.

"It sent chills down your spine. Forget TV, you had to be here to see it," said John Geoffrey of Amazon.com, whose headquarters overlooks the site.

Sparks from a 21.6-mile web of detonation cord flickered over the ribbed surface of the dome, followed by 5,800 gelatin dynamite charge explosions. The 25,000-ton roof collapsed into a billowing dust cloud in less than 20 seconds.

"It just happened so fast. Everyone started clapping. They were just gasping and yelling and clapping," said Susan Clark, one of about 130 people who watched the implosion at a fundraiser from the 11th floor of the nearby Smith Tower.

"The little flashes of light going down between each section (of the roof) like lightning bolts — that was pretty exciting," said Cheryl Winchester, 33.

The Kingdome — dubbed the mushroom, the concrete cupcake and other less charitable terms over the years — was completed in 1976 at a cost of \$67 million. The Seahawks made their debut in the Kingdome that year, and baseball's Mariners arrived a year later.

The dome was a necessity in the Rainy City, but fans complained that the concrete stadium was too small for football and not intimate enough for baseball.

What's more, it leaked. And in 1994, four 15-pound ceiling tiles crashed into the stands just hours before a Mariners' game.

OPEC nears consensus on oil output

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — OPEC oil ministers were close to reaching a consensus Sunday on the need to boost output to rein in galloping petroleum prices and mollify the United States and other oil-importing nations.

Although the ministers refused to confirm the size or timing of any such increase, Kuwait's oil minister, Sheikh Saud Nasser al-Sabah, said OPEC is likely to raise its official production by as much as 1.7 million barrels of crude a day.

The 11 ministers from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet Monday to decide whether to extend cuts in output made in 1998 and 1999 that have propelled oil

prices to their highest levels since the Persian Gulf War.

The United States is hoping for an even bigger increase in production than what appeared to be under discussion. High prices for gasoline and home heating oil have become a hot political issue in this American election year, and Washington has applied intense diplomatic pressure to try to persuade OPEC member countries to open their taps further.

OPEC ministers met privately in small groups in an effort to resolve differences ahead of Monday's semi-annual meeting.

"We are arriving to a consensus," Venezuelan Oil Minister Ali Rodriguez told reporters at a downtown hotel.

Any official increase would not be as large as it may seem because of the more than 1 million "unofficial" barrels that OPEC members are currently pumping each day. This cheating on production quotas means that a daily increase of 1.7 million barrels would add only about 600,000 barrels of actual new oil to the market.

OPEC produces more than 26 million barrels of crude each day, or about 35 percent of the world's supply.

The United States and other oil-importing countries are hoping OPEC will raise production by 2 million-2.5 million barrels per day. Many industry analysts worry that OPEC won't produce enough to let consum-

ing nations replenish their meager oil inventories and simultaneously meet higher seasonal needs for gasoline.

The United States has been lobbying hard for a production increase to stabilize domestic fuel prices that recently hit nine-year highs.

American motorists now pay an average of \$1.59 per gallon for unleaded gasoline, an increase of nearly 60 cents since prices bottomed out at 99.8 cents per gallon in February 1999, according to a Lundberg Survey of 10,000 U.S. gas stations released Saturday.

Analysts warn of possible shortages and \$2-a-gallon gas, already appearing in some areas, during the peak driving season this summer.

Probe into cult deaths in Uganda hampered by logistics

RUGAZI, Uganda (AP) — The investigation into the suspicious deaths of at least 490 members of a Christian doomsday sect was tangled in logistical confusion Sunday as a leading legislator speculated that sect leaders were behind the deaths.

Local police guarded a half-open grave at the sect's remote compound in southwestern Uganda, awaiting the arrival of a pathologist from the capital of Kampala and investigators from a nearby town to continue exhuming the burial pit.

But Uganda's chief pathologist never left the capital, police said.

"Logistics were a problem," police spokesman Mugenyi Assuman said by telephone from Kampala.

Meanwhile, a team of investigators standing by for the pathologist in

Rukungiri, 19 miles from the compound, were never informed of the delay.

Senior Ugandan officials have quoted a 17-year-old sect member as saying the sect's two top leaders — Cleodonia Mwerinde, 40, and Joseph Kibwetere, 68 — may have fled the area March 17, when a fire in a sect church killed 330 members. Those reports are unconfirmed.

The deaths in the village of Kanungu were initially viewed as a mass suicide. However, officials, police and villagers have speculated that the two leaders fled as the sect grew increasingly divided over the fact that the world did not end Dec. 31 as was predicted and wanted back their belongings, which they had surrendered on joining the sect.

Jim Muhezi, a leading member of

parliament and a onetime head of Uganda's internal security agency, theorized Saturday that sect leaders cracked down viciously on the defiant, poisoning some, and urging the mass suicide to curb further defections.

Muhezi had also criticized the investigation into the deaths of hundreds of members of the Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments.

Asked by reporters why 153 bodies in a sect compound in nearby Buhunga were exhumed and hastily reburied Friday without being identified, Muhezi replied: "You're guess is as good as mine. It's a poor investigative job."

Authorities in this East African nation say their probe has been hampered by lack of equipment, vehicles and staff.

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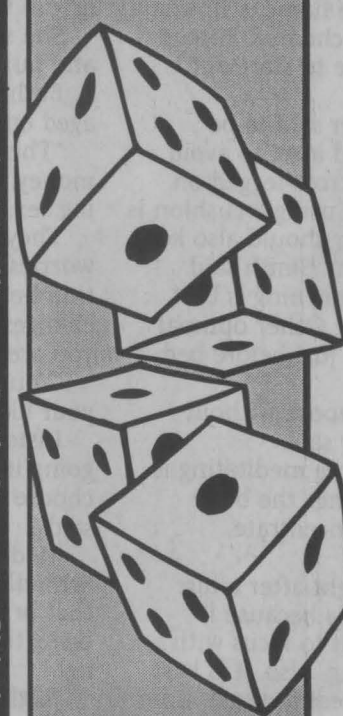
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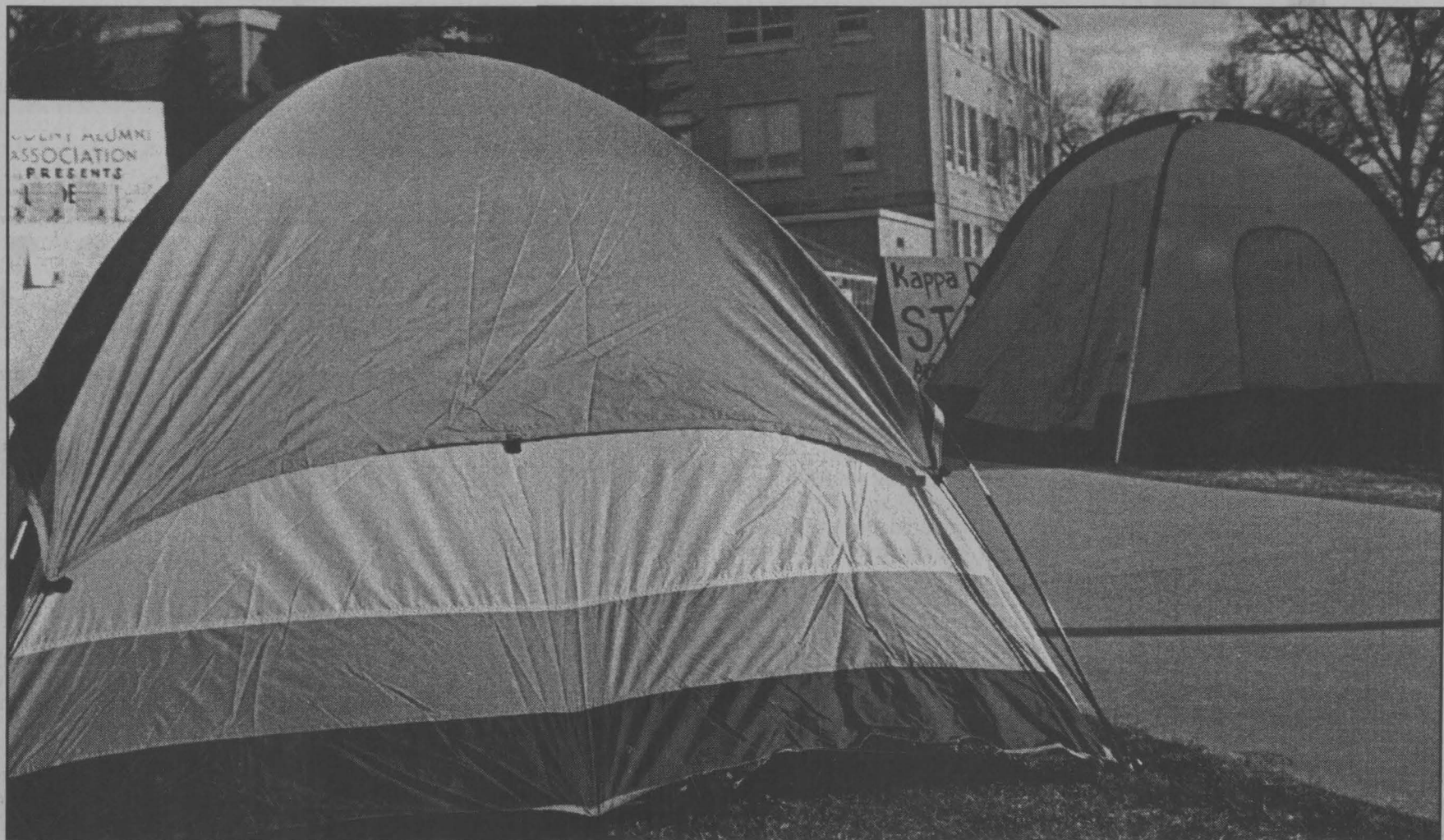
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Homeless?

Tents line sidewalks and roads around campus reserving spaces for Associated Students of Utah State University candidates. Candidates are gearing up for the last week of campaigning before Wednesday and Thursday's final election.

Attorney, detective frustrated at silence in abuse case

LOGAN, Utah (AP) — Since Jay Toombs was charged with sexual abuse, Logan Police Detective Rod Peterson says he has received more than a dozen calls from other alleged victims and their parents.

Peterson said some claims date back 20 years. But what frustrates Peterson and Cache County Attorney Scott Wyatt is that so many people did not tell police earlier.

"Pedophiles repeat. That much we know," said Wyatt.

Toombs was charged in February with three counts of aggravated sexual abuse of a child, a first-degree felony, stemming from allegations that he fondled a boy over three years until the boy's parents found out in 1994.

This month, Toombs was charged with sexually abusing another child in 1989.

Toombs and his attorney, Gil Athay, wouldn't comment. Toombs is free on bond, awaiting a preliminary hearing in on Wednesday.

A former Scoutmaster and private investigator who taught clogging dance classes, Toombs is well-liked, even by some who claimed he once

abused them or their sons, Peterson said.

"They've forgiven him. They believe him, that he's repented," Peterson said.

Wyatt had considered charging a West Valley City counselor and two Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints bishops for failing to report the abuse, but did not.

Clergymen aren't required by law to report abuse when they learn of it from a perpetrator, but are if they hear about it elsewhere, Wyatt said.

Had the four-year statute of limitations not lapsed, Wyatt said he would have charged against Vickie Cooper, a substance abuse counselor at The Utah Boys Ranch who runs self-improvement workshops on weekends, with failing to report the abuse.

Wyatt said Cooper heard many times that Toombs was abusing boys; Cooper denies it. She said she heard of one incident in the 1980s, before she knew Toombs, and was not obligated to report it.

"He is not a predator. He's a very loving father," Cooper said. "He has had problems in the past. As far as

I'm concerned he has taken care of it legally, spiritually ... in every possible way."

The mother of the boy allegedly abused for three years said she and a counselor from Mormon Social Services reported Toombs to police late last year. And she said she told Cooper, two bishops and Toombs' family between 1991 and 1999.

"I didn't want to see him go to prison. I wanted him to get help," she said. "I was always told to be patient with Jay, he was a good man. I was even given priesthood blessings that I had been chosen to help him."

The bishops told her that church officials decided Toombs didn't need to be reported as long as he was repentant and getting professional help, the mother said.

The bishops referred questions to church attorney Von Keetch, who said the bishops acted appropriately and made sure local law enforcement knew of the abuse, although neither called police.

Keetch said one, Robert Owens, knew the Cache County Sheriff's Office investigated Toombs in 1989 and the second, Brent Bryner, made

sure a counselor notified authorities in 1997.

But the mother said she told Bryner of the abuse four years earlier.

The earlier investigation by the sheriff's office was dropped. Wyatt said the deputy said he was unable to substantiate allegations that Toombs kissed and fondled a 12-year-old boy.

That boy's mother said Toombs was always "too good to be true."

"He was always coming to get him, wanting him to be his son, wanting him to stay overnight."

Jerry Toombs, Jay Toombs' brother and a Mormon stake president, said he and his father were never warned about his brother's alleged abuse.

Keetch said Jerry Toombs was told of suspicions, but learned that law enforcement had already investigated.

Last year, Jerry Toombs made a controversial recommendation that convicted child abuser Shonn M. Ricks be allowed to serve a Mormon mission after spending 14 months in prison. The mission call was withdrawn after the victim's father complained.

Self-described Gypsy leader sues state's motor vehicles division

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A self-described leader of 200 Gypsies in Utah says state automobile officials are trying to "eradicate" his family by ruining its reputation as car dealers.

Jimmy Marks and 19 family members filed a multimillion-dollar lawsuit in federal court this month, alleging the Motor Vehicle Enforcement Division violated the group's civil rights. The purported

violations culminated with a raid on nine Gypsy homes a year ago.

In March 1999, the state raided nine Gypsy homes in Salt Lake and Weber counties. Marks' lawsuit claims armed officers roused half-naked sleeping women from their beds, groped and leered at them.

He claims they put a gun to the head of a 78-year-old man, causing a stroke several days later, and pointed guns at Marks granddaughters.

And he says MVED officers took family photo albums, jewelry, cash, and gold coins, which have disappeared.

Deputy Davis County Attorney William McGuire, who participated in the searches of three Salt Lake County homes, called the lawsuit allegations "totally incredible."

"I was there. Nothing like that occurred ... The officers were gentlemen, and there were female officers

present," said McGuire in a copyright story in The Salt Lake Tribune on Sunday.

State officials compare Marks' group to a sort of mafia, investigating the group for alleged racketeering and fraud.

"The lawsuit is an attempt by an organized-crime organization to stop us from doing our jobs," said MVED Capt. Kent Jorgensen. "But it's not going to work."

FEES

Continued from Page 1

to maintain and increase the quality of existing programs offered to students in the face of rising production costs, royalties and licenses in the four years since the fee was proposed," he

said.

According to Malouf, the proposed creation of a Student Recreation Center will also go to a student vote, but not for another month. That vote has been moved from the final elections to April 12 to 13.

According to Malouf, the vote was moved because ASUSU hadn't received

enough information from the developers and because it wanted more time to inform students.

"We understood that we might lose voters if we moved it, but it wouldn't have been ready for a vote," Malouf said. "Another consideration we took into account was that we wanted students to understand what this was all

about, even if it took more time."

Students can get a ballot to vote by going to the ASUSU home page at www.usu.edu/~asusutsc/home.html

An additional fee increase to go to the Student Recreation Center will be put to a student vote in April. Look for more fee increase information in an upcoming issue of the *Statesman*.

NewsBRIEFS

➤ Student Services conducts stress test

Student Services will be conducting a stress test of the computer registration system today from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. The goal of the test is to replicate the load which the IBM mainframe experienced during the peak Spring 2000 registration period. The computer center has made some changes since then and would like to see if the problem is now resolved.

Students Services would appreciate the help of students and faculty in conducting this test. All are encouraged to log on to the QUAD system at this time to change their current addresses and look up grades.

➤ HASS Senator candidates sign up

The HASS Senator race now has five candidates and primary voting will take place this week. The candidates are Bradley W. Armstrong, Jeff Crockett, Myke Bybee, Janalyn Hillam and Sarah Dallof. For bios of the candidates, see Page 14.

➤ ASUSU primary elections results

The results for the ASUSU Primary Elections are as follows:

Athletics Vice President

- Michael Shipley — 382
- Jake Chase — 372
- Clark Jessop — 299

Graduate Studies Vice President

- Eric B. Worthen — 25
- Sam Winward — 20
- Robert Fanchowiak — 9

College of Agriculture Senator

- Katie Jo Collett — 40
- Rachel Porter — 27
- Scott Wangsgard — 17
- Alan Spaulding — 5

College of Science Senator

- Brandon Hart — 58
- Chad Bingham — 45
- Nate Ostler — 17
- Andrew Allen — 16

The top two candidates in each office will go on to the final elections, which will take place this week.

➤ Environmental journalist to speak

JoAnn Valenti, a BYU professor and environmental journalist, will speak as part of the Media and Society Lecture Series Tuesday.

Valenti will speak from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Eccles Conference Center Auditorium. She will be speaking about the role of gender in journalism, specifically environmental journalism.

Valenti is the founder of the Society of Environmental Journalists.

Briefs compiled by
USU AND STATESMAN STAFF

PoliceBLOTTER

Information detailed in this section is a Statesman staff report obtained from USU Police incident reports.



Friday, March 17

- An individual reported the theft of a Coca-Cola machine from the Taggart Student Center.



Saturday, March 18

- Police responded to the report of an injured individual at the field west of the HPER Building. The individual was transported by ambulance to Logan Regional Hospital for further treatment.



- Individuals with stunt bicycles were seen entering the Veterinary Science Building.



- Police were notified of an elderly lady who had fainted in the Spectrum. She was transported to Logan Regional Hospital for further treatment.

- Police responded to the Jones Education Building on the report of some individuals running in the building.

Monday, March 20

- Police responded to a vehicle that slid on a patch of ice and struck a parked vehicle.

- A dog was seen in a parked vehicle with all the windows up.

Tuesday, March 21

- An individual was seen on campus who had been banned from it.
- Police responded to a report of an odor of marijuana in Mountain View Tower.

- Police responded to a kitchen fire that was extinguished in Merrill Hall prior to police notification.

- An individual complained that someone in Valley View Tower's parking lot was making unnecessary noise that was disturbing them. Police responded to the area, but were unable to locate the individual.

Wednesday, March 22

- Police received a report of an abandoned bicycle on Old Main Hill.

- Police received an emergency call reporting that an individual lost consciousness in Old Main, Room 201.

Thursday, March 23

- Police were contacted concerning damage that was done to an Aggie shuttle. Damage is estimated at \$800.

- A child was reported missing. He was located and returned to his father.

- Police received a report of skateboarders in the Parking Terrace. Three individuals were warned of the policy on campus regarding skateboards, rollerblades and bicycles.

If you have any information about these or any other crimes, contact the USU Police at 797-1939 or to remain anonymous, call 797-5000.

LIFESTYLES

Polynesian Culture

On Wednesday, take a look at the culture and people from the South Seas in Features.

And the Oscar goes to...

'American Beauty' taking home top honors at 72nd awards

BOB THOMAS
Associated Press

Kevin Spacey won his second Academy Award Sunday night for playing an alienated suburban husband in *American Beauty*, and Hilary Swank, who portrayed a woman passing as a man in *Boys Don't Cry*, won best actress.

Michael Caine, the kindly orphanage headmaster in *The Cider House Rules*, won his second best supporting actor Oscar at the 72nd Academy Awards. Angelina

Jolie, the disruptive mental patient in *Girl, Interrupted*, won for supporting actress — a generation after her father took home an Oscar.

The Matrix, the story of a computer hacker who discovers life is a big illusion, won four Oscars — for film editing, sound, sound effects editing and visual effects.

"Everyone put their heart and their soul into this movie," said Swank, 25, who bested a field including Annette Bening of *American Beauty*, Meryl Streep of *Music of the Heart*, Janet McTeer of *Tumbleweed* and Julianne Moore of *The End of the Affair*. "I'm stunned and I'm speechless," Spacey said.

With all but the top three awards to be presented, leading nominee *American Beauty* had won for original screenplay, by Alan Ball, and for cinematography, while co-favorite *The Cider House Rules* earned the adapted screenplay Oscar for John Irving.

Irving offered thanks for recognition of a film that deals with abortion and concluded by thanking "everyone at Planned Parenthood and the National Abortion Rights League" — which got thunderous applause.

Caine, 67, who previously won as supporting actor for *Hannah and Her Sisters* in 1986, seemed overwhelmed by the applause that greeted the announcement by Judi Dench and he saluted his fellow nominees.

"I'm basically up here guys to represent you as what I hope you will all be — a survivor," Caine told the star-studded Shrine Auditorium audience.

The 24-year-old Jolie thanked her father, Jon Voight, a best actor winner for 1978's *Coming Home* and a

nominee for 1969's *Midnight Cowboy*, saying: "You're a great actor, but a better father."

Pop star Phil Collins scored the best original song award for his sentimental "You'll be in My Heart" from the animated Disney film *Tarzan*. It was his first win in three nominations.

Collins thanked his three children who, he said, "really wrote this song for me."

The award followed a rousing performance of the bawdy "Blame Canada" from *South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*. Robin Williams led the chorus in a production number, even though the show's producers swore there would be none.

Best original score went to John Corigliano for *The Red Violin*. The art direction trophy went to *Sleepy Hollow*.

Topsy-Turvy, a drama about the creation of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta *The Mikado*, won two awards — for makeup and costume design.

The live action short award went to *My Mother Dreams the Satan's Disciples in New York* and animated short Oscar went to *The Old Man and the Sea*. Documentary honors went to the short *King Gimp* and the feature *One Day in September*.

Spain's *All About My Mother* won best foreign film, prompting one of the night's humorous moments. When director Pedro Almodovar's acceptance speech began to run long and presenter Antonio Banderas pretended to pull him off the stage.

American Beauty topped most critic lists going into the ceremony, and it was named best picture in Friday's controversial Wall Street Journal poll of 356 of the 5,607 voting Academy members.

Scientific or not, the survey was *American Beauty's* clincher for best buzz going into the Oscar show, broadcast on ABC with Billy Crystal as host.

The poll's other favorites also seemed to reflect pre-Oscar conventional wisdom: Denzel Washington for leading actor in *The Hurricane*, Swank for leading actress in *Boys Don't Cry*, Caine for supporting actor and Jolie for supporting actress.

When the nominations were announced, *American Beauty* and *The Cider House Rules* were leading contenders for best picture. The standing of *The Cider House Rules* heightened as Miramax put on an ad blitz. DreamWorks countered with a campaign for *American Beauty*.

The awards show capped one of



'American Beauty' star Kevin Spacey, pictured with Mena Suvari, walked away with the Best Actor Oscar. The film also won for direction, Cinematography, Screenplay and Best Picture.

the most bizarre Oscar seasons.

First, a large number of the ballots were delayed in the mail, and the academy had to print new ballots.

The academy also extended the voting deadline a few days to last Thursday, meaning the accountants had to work overtime on awards weekend.

Then a shipment of 55 shiny new Oscar statuettes from the Chicago manufacturer disappeared from a loading dock at Roadway Express on March 8. Salvage man Willie Fulgear stumbled across 52 of the missing awards while rummaging through a trash container.

Three Oscars remain missing.

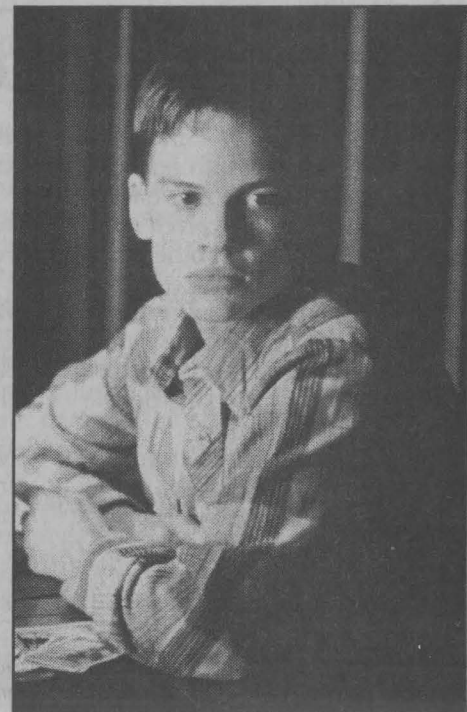
Fulgear, 61, became an instant celebrity. He was given a \$50,000 reward by the shipping company and two tickets to Sunday's show.

"Willie got \$50,000 for finding the 52 Oscars. That's not a lot of money when you realize that Miramax and DreamWorks are spending millions of dollars just to get one," Crystal quipped as he pointed out the Oscar hero during the program's opening number.

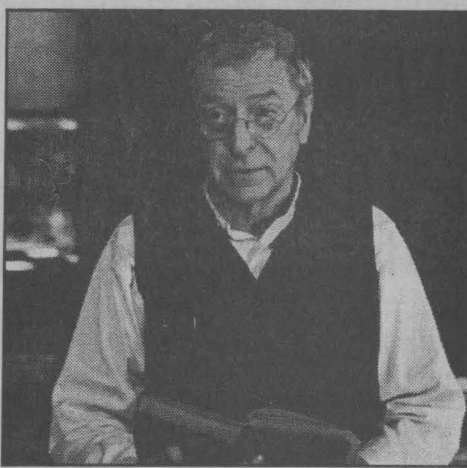
A Roadway Express trucker was charged with stealing the statuettes.

The academy earlier announced the evening's special awards: Warren Beatty was named for the Irving Thalberg Award for a high level of producing.

Andrzej Wajda, premier director of Poland, won an honorary award "for showing both the loftiest heights and the darkest depths of the European soul."



Hilary Swank, star of 'Boys Don't Cry,' took home the statue for her role as Brandon Teena.



Michael Caine walked away with the Best Supporting Actor award for his role as an orphanage doctor in 'The Cider House Rules.'

Livin' la vida license-less in the good old U.S.A

IN MY WORLD / Heather Fredrickson



I have a confession to make. I'm 24 years old. I don't have, and have never had, a driver's license.

That adds up to, what? Eight years of bumming rides off people? Eight years of paying to ride the bus with 50 people who obviously never learned to use indoor plumbing? Eight years of walking till the shoes were out of rubber? Eight years of "Why don't you have your license?" What was I thinking?

Mind you, life without wheels isn't all that bad. I've never had to buy gas or get out of the car and take in the fumes at a gas station. Still got all my brain cells. I think. I've never had to pay car insurance. I've never been pulled over by a cop. And boy, am I ever looking forward to that one!

This weekend, while my friend Dayna and I were surviving food poisoning in Roy, Utah, I listened as she told me of a harrowing experience she had with a cop on that same stretch of road some years ago.

Returning from Ephraim, Utah, Dayna thought she was in the 75 m.p.h. zone and cranked her speedometer up to 80. She changed lanes a couple of times and passed an unmarked cop.

Without skipping a beat, he flipped on his light and pulled Dayna over. He went on to yell at her about how she's going to kill someone driving like that and he hoped it would be herself. Turns out she was in a 65 m.p.h. area, and she argued him down from a reckless driving charge

to speeding.

So, let me get this straight. In a 65, she's dangerous, in a 75, she's OK? How does this work? Wait, don't tell me. I don't have a license, so I don't have to worry about it. Not yet, anyway.

This is my fourth year at Utah State, and every year, without fail, I've met at least one guy who finds it impossible to comprehend how I can survive wheel-less.

I've had about nine offers from guys to teach me how to drive, but every one has fallen through. I know I'm a woman, and that can be a scary thing when it's me behind the wheel, but I'm really a very good driver. My Daddy said so. And he's ALWAYS right!

The LTD really isn't that bad. It provides a necessary service to people like myself, although it would be better if I could get around the whole valley on a bus that appears more often than once every half hour until later in the day and maybe on Sundays, but I hear they're working on it.

I'd throw in 25 cents to get from here to a movie theater out near Smithfield every now and then on a Saturday night.

So once they get that all figured out, it'll be just like it was before I hit

the magical age of 16. Um, yeah. That would be great. Like I was saying, when do I get the keys? Seriously, driving seems like some kind of lost art, doesn't it? People used to spend a lot of time getting to know their car — lost afternoons under the hood, wiping the finish with a (clean) diaper — all to benefit the driving experience. Most of us now wouldn't have the time to wash the car let alone check, or change, our own oil. No Sunday drives, no drive-ins ... what do I want a license for again?

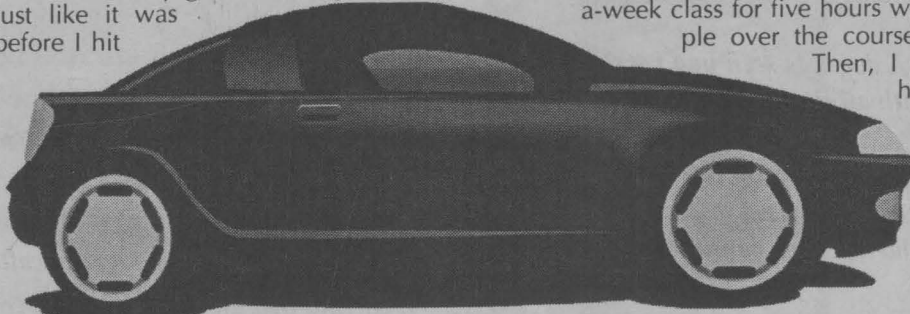
Oh yeah. Mobility.

Not that walking and bus riding hasn't served my needs valiantly for several years now, but what if I run out of laundry detergent, potatoes, feminine hygiene products (sorry guys, it was the only thing I could think of that would be a real emergency) and milk on a Saturday night and none of my roommates can help out? Then I'm S.O.L., right? Nope. That's where the big brother comes in.

But he's moved to Texas, so enough about that.

I finally decided last semester that I'd had enough, and I forked over more than \$200 to a high school (eeeeeeek!) teacher to attend a once-a-week class for five hours with 20 other people over the course of four weeks.

Then, I got a couple of hours in a real car (woo-hoo!) on the range at Sky View (thanks for the ride out there, Graham) and two or three more on



the road with the high school teacher.

It was money well spent, I suppose. I didn't hit anything, anyway. And I learned a lot. Most of it was done on paper, but any way you get knowledge, it's a good thing, right? Yeah.

For instance, did you know it's illegal to drive in the dark without turning on your headlights? I know that will come as a shock to many of you out there, but it's true! I swear! Check it out. I'm not lying.

After the class was done, I ran out and got my learner's license. My brother took me out a couple of times last November in his 1973 Dodge Dart Swinger. The steering was soft and the brakes weren't the best, but it was an automatic. I was in heaven. But the beast leaked power steering fluid like a baby leaks strained peas from a jar, and I sold it for a paltry 100 bucks.

Now, I find myself in possession of yet another hand-me-down car from the great and benevolent brother: a 1988 Acura Integra. Red. Stick. The not-yet-licensed driver owns a little red sports car that she hasn't quite figured out how to drive yet.

Ain't America great?

Heather Fredrickson is the Copy Editor for the Statesman. She will take her road test as soon as she can find an automatic to borrow for the event. In the meantime, she's content to practicing in the little red sports car while driving her roommates' boyfriends insane while asking for tips on how to drive it.

She is also anxiously awaiting her first run-in with a cop. E-mail her at SLR4H@cc.usu.edu.

Gastric bypass surgery offers new chance for severely obese

SANDRA G. BOODMAN
The Washington Post

It's not surprising that surgery for obesity, known as bariatric surgery, has become increasingly popular. Even though weight loss is a \$33 billion-a-year industry, Americans have never been fatter: One in five is obese, defined as being 30 or more pounds overweight.

The ranks of the fattest, those who are morbidly or severely obese (the terms are used interchangeably) because they are at least 100 pounds overweight, have doubled in the past 10 years. Many have been fat all their lives and come from families where obesity is common.

Being fat is not only a source of enormous emotional pain and stigma, it is also one of the leading causes of premature death. Overweight and obesity are linked to a staggering array of disabling and expensive diseases: several kinds of cancer, heart problems, high blood pressure, arthritis, asthma, diabetes, stroke and infertility among them. Scientists know that many, but not all, of these conditions can be ameliorated by

losing weight.

That's particularly true for the morbidly obese, who have dozens, if not hundreds, of pounds to lose. Many people who are severely obese, can recount a litany of diets, drugs, therapies and bizarre and even dangerous remedies to which they've resorted. Most are yo-yo dieters, some of whom lose huge amounts of weight — sometimes 100 pounds or more — only to regain it all. Others have simply given up and gotten progressively fatter.

In the past decade, as science has searched mostly in vain for new drugs and other ways of treating obesity, doctors have begun turning to another remedy: gastric bypass surgery. Although there are several dozen variations of the gastric bypass, all obesity operations are designed to shrink the size of the stomach, which stores and processes food, from a capacity of 30 to 50 ounces to one to two ounces, the equivalent of five bites. The surgeon then reroutes a portion of the small intestine, attaching a Y-shaped piece to the new, smaller stomach. This allows food to bypass the duodenum and part of the

jejunum, reducing the absorption of calories as well as vital nutrients, including calcium and B vitamins by shortening the length of the small intestine through which food travels.

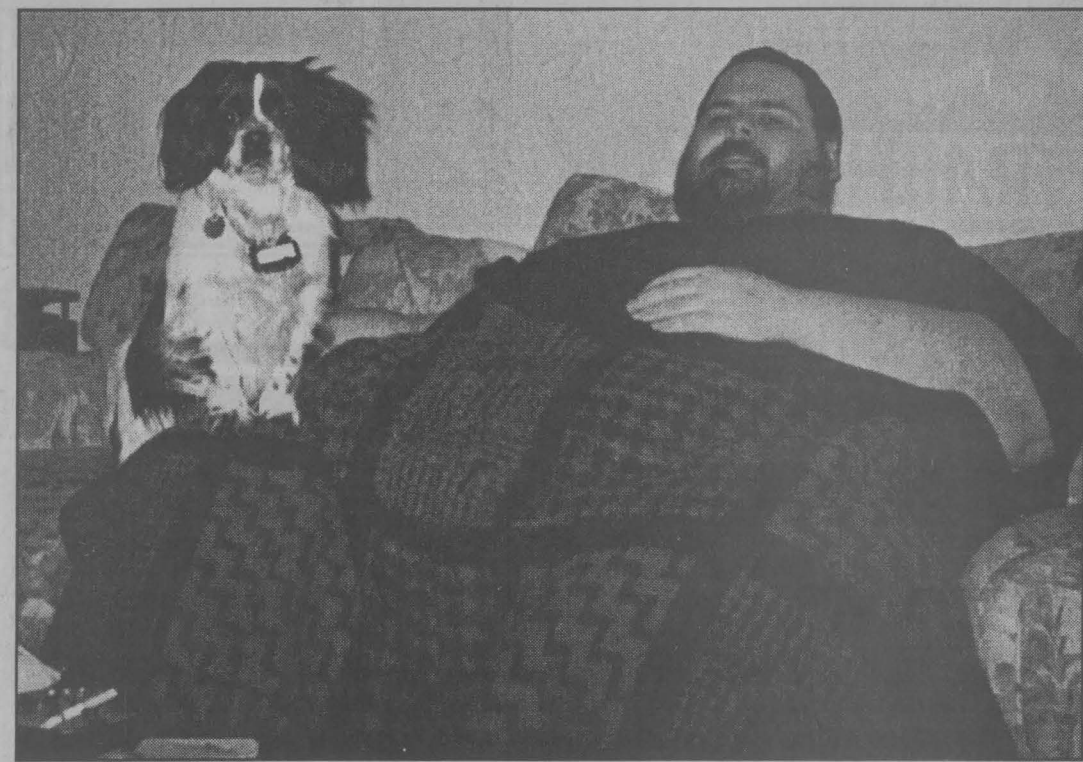
In many patients the bypass causes "dumping," a sick feeling characterized by nausea, sweating, faintness, diarrhea and dizziness, when patients eat one bite too much or consume sweets.

While surgery is too drastic, expensive and permanent a solution ever to attract the legions of desperate dieters who snapped up the hugely popular weight-loss drug combination fen-phen or the multitudes who have flocked to high-fat, low carbohydrate fad diets, the procedure is generating considerable interest. Some of that interest is fueled by the Web, home to dozens of obesity surgery sites and chat groups. And some of the buzz has been created by the experiences of such celebrities as Roseanne Barr, who underwent surgery in 1998 and has credited the operation with "changing my life."

Georgeann Mallory, executive director of the 520-member American Society for Bariatric Surgery, estimates that about 40,000 patients, most of them women, undergo obesity surgery annually, an increase of about 20 percent from two years ago. "Our members tell us that it's definitely on the increase," she said.

Many bariatric surgeons — and a growing number of physicians who treat weight loss with less-invasive methods — contend that surgery is the only way many morbidly obese patients can lose weight and keep it off. But surgery should be considered a last resort, they say, and the risks of the operation must be balanced against the consequences of obesity and its attendant diseases.

"For people who really need surgery, the people who are 200 and 300 pounds overweight, it's not a question of diets or willpower," said Edward



Before his surgery in 1998, Erik E. M. Meyers was unable to work and stayed in his house for months at a time.

H. Livingston, director of bariatric surgery and vice chairman of the department of surgery at UCLA Medical Center. "Nothing else works for them."

"As little as five years ago at most professional obesity meetings surgery wasn't taken seriously, but that's changing," said Kelly Brownell, director of the Yale University Center for Eating and Weight Disorders. The change has been spurred in part by the findings of a large long-term Swedish study involving more than 1,600 patients that American obesity researchers are watching with interest. Launched in 1992, the Swedish Obese Subjects study has found that patients who underwent gastric bypass lost considerably more weight and had greater improvements in their physical and mental health than those treated in a conventional obesity program emphasizing diet and exercise.

"We know that eating is a habit, a behavior," said Joseph D. Afram, chief of surgery at Columbia Hospital for Women and one of Washington's busiest bariatric surgeons, who recently operated on an entire

family. "The only factor that can control your overeating is a smaller stomach. But after surgery, patients have to change their behavior. They have to eat very slowly, taking about five bites in 10 minutes. They can't eat and drink at the same time. And they'll find if they eat one bite too much or they eat certain foods such as sweets, they'll get sick."

Modern gastric bypass surgery was developed 40 years ago by Edward E. Mason, a surgeon at the University of Iowa and the founding president of the bariatric surgeons society. Mason observed that patients who underwent irreversible operations to remove large parts of their stomachs or intestines to treat cancer or severe ulcers lost a lot of weight and remained underweight regardless of what or how much they ate. They also suffered from severe "dumping" every time they ate. After several modifications of the procedure — and a period when obesity surgery fell out of favor because of deaths from a different, dangerous operation confusingly called the intestinal bypass — doctors in the early

1990s began performing a modern version of the gastric bypass. The most common procedure, named after a French surgeon, is called the Roux-en-Y, and accounts for most of the operations performed today in the United States.

Gertrude Brummitt, 50, of Mount Rainier, Md., is all too familiar with the humiliations faced by super-obese patients who need medical attention. Several years ago when she fell and hurt her arm, paramedics had to summon a firetruck to round up the nine people necessary to hoist her 500-pound body into the ambulance. "I heard all the fat jokes," recalled Brummitt, who underwent an extensive gastric bypass in March 1998.

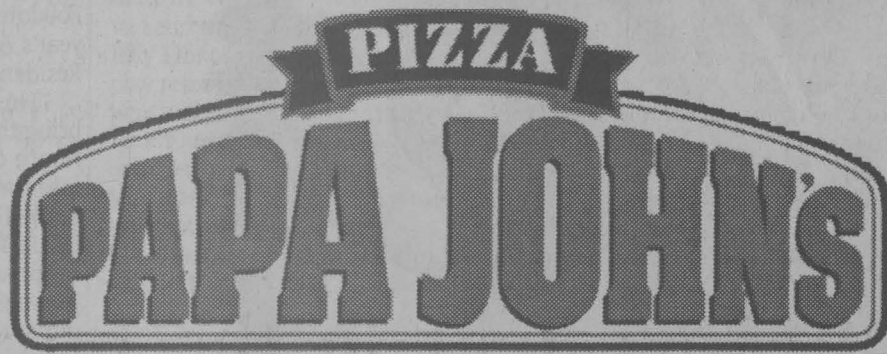
Since then Brummitt has lost 250 pounds and hopes to return to work later this year after three years on disability. "Now I can sit in a chair, get into bed by myself and cook and clean and hold a baby in my lap," said Brummitt, who was bedridden before her surgery. She no longer suffers from cellulitis, a spreading bacterial infection beneath the skin, or asthma or blood clots.



Erik E. M. Meyers, 32, once weighed 740 pounds. His surgeon performed what doctors consider to be the most drastic form of obesity surgery — so far he has lost about 500 pounds, 325 of them in the first year.

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No, they're not talking to themselves

VALLI HERMAN-COHEN
Los Angeles Times

They're not crazy. And they're not secret agents. They are anxious cell-phone users. Upon closer inspection, you'll see little wires coming out of their ears. The wires are attached to the phones. The phones are tucked into pockets.

Why? These folks are trying to put maximum distance between their brains and any radiation emitted by their convenient little gadgets. After a number of studies over a period of six years that examined whether cell phones present a health danger, troubling questions remain about how much radiation the devices might be sending into the brain, possibly causing cancer or tumors.

A growing number of users have taken to heart recommendations to keep the phone and its antenna at least several inches away from their heads. "There is a danger that people will think that you are a disturbed individual talking to yourself," said California state Sen. Tom Hayden, who uses an ear wire. "I think it's funny and irrelevant, and we'll get used to it."

The cell phone studies were completed late last year by Wireless Technology Research, an independent research group in Washington, D.C., under the sponsorship of the wireless phone industry's trade association, which remains confident that its products are safe.

"The overwhelming majority of those studies showed that radio frequencies at the wireless phone level weren't considered toxic to the body," said Jo-Anne Basile, vice president for external and industry relations at the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association in Washington, D.C. She said a Web site, www.phonefacts.net, contains the details of government and



The ear wires are big with some of the real estate crowd, including agents Moe Abourched, left, John Breidt, Kimberlee Gerston, Matt Epstein and Cathy Cressy. "I insisted that everyone I work with get one," said Epstein.

association findings.

The studies inspired an investigation on ABC's "20/20" in October and also caught the attention of Hayden, who plans to introduce state legislation within the next several weeks that could require cellular telephone sellers to post information about possible health risks, and to offer headsets or hands-free earpieces for sale with the phones.

For the last several months, Hayden has been wearing an earpiece and keeping his cell phone in his jacket side pocket. He's become a role model to his associates but doesn't make a big deal of it.

"I don't go on and on about it because you know, I'm not big on personal moralizing and preaching," he said. "I think they know that I've done my homework and that I wouldn't be introducing legislation if it wasn't a serious matter."

His bill asks that California cell-phone retailers offer a hands-free earpiece or headset for sale with contracts or phones. Further, cell-phone manufacturers would have to provide retailers with a sign that advises consumers about the "possible link between cellular telephone service usage and brain tumors and memory loss and that federal studies are inconclusive."

"If there is an alternative to being a guinea pig in a giant experiment to determine if you should microwave your brain, I figure we should take some action," Hayden said. "Why not be better safe than sorry?"

Ironically, these concerns have become an effective catalyst for safer driving. Laura Kovach, an account executive at Anthony Mora Public Relations, said the scare compelled her to use the earpiece that came with her phone.

"Not only is it good for keeping that radiation supposedly away from your head, but it allows you to be a more conscientious driver and be hands free," she said.

Converts to earpieces are liking the freedom that it gives them. "It's definitely a lot easier," Whiteley said. "I'm sitting here eating lunch and talking to my roommate at the same time."

Some, like Epstein, are prepared to endure the stares until either headsets become more widespread or the studies are more conclusive.

"I know a lot of this is up in the air," Epstein said. "As a case study, I'd rather be alive. If I find out in a few years that the reports are false — fine. So what if people think I look like Madonna wearing my headset?"

Wild horses, folklore come to USU

MEDIA RELATIONS
Utah State University

A folklorist from the Nevada Arts Council will be in residence at Utah State University March 20 through 31, working with USU's Folklore Program and Archives. Andrea Graham, Folk Arts Program coordinator for the Nevada Arts Council, has been selected by the American Folklore Society (AFS) to be this year's AFS Public Sector Resident.

"This is a wonderful way to bring the excitement and experience of active folklore work into the academic arena," said Barre Toelken, director of USU's Folklore Program. "The resident has an opportunity to pursue research interests and our students and faculty benefit immensely from the collegial exchange."

USU's Folklore Program will host a reception in Graham's honor March 24, and anyone interested in meeting her is invited. The reception will be held in the Fife Folklore Archives, Merrill Library, room 102, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Anyone who would like to talk with Graham about her public sector work or wild horses can contact her at USU at (435) 797-2869 or 797-3493.

Graham has 20 years experience working in the folklore public sector. She has been a consulting folklore fieldworker, reporter for a local newspaper, freelance writer and, since 1990, has coordinated the Folk Arts Program for the Nevada Arts Council. She directs the annual Nevada Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program and produces public programs, festivals, exhibits and concerts that celebrate the diversity and rich cultural heritage of Nevada.

While at USU, Graham will research the heritage of wild horses in the Great Basin, including the folklore and traditional culture surrounding wild horses in the West. This project stems from a U.S. Forest Service/National Endowment for the Arts grant to study arts projects in rural communities. This grant culminates in an exhibit of hand-colored photos of wild horses by photographer Paula Morin, accompanied by text taken from interviews with people who work with and around the horses.

The residency program, originally developed in collaboration with Indiana University, has alternated between Utah State University and Western Kentucky since 1996. Toelken said.

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Student Services says...

Did you know women over 65 years of age are wonderful! Join us in honoring the following at the Over 65 Program, Monday, March 27, 7 p.m., in the TSC Stevenson Ballroom: Carol Funt, Bonnie Nielsen, Lorye Painter, Jan Pearce and Sarah Ann Skancky.

The Polynesian Student Union will be holding their annual Luau on Friday, March 31. Tickets are available at the USU Ticket Office. Join us in celebrating traditional island dancing and an authentic Polynesian meal.

Did You Know? There is help for those end of the term papers? Free help in the ARC, TSC 304A, on Mon and Wed 6:00-8:00p.m. Great Math tutors are available from 9:00a.m.-9:00p.m. in TSC 394A. They're Free!

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Women's hoops

NCAA TOURNAMENT
All the women's game updates
and round-ups on Page 9.

USU drops 2 of 3 in Big West opener

AARON MORTON
Assistant Sports Editor

The Aggies' offense was slowed to a halt as Utah State University's softball team opened up its conference season losing two of three games against New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, N.M., Saturday and Sunday.

The Aggies (10-19 overall, 1-2 Big West Conference) split a doubleheader Saturday, winning 5-3 and losing 4-0 against the southern Aggies before losing again Sunday, 3-0.

In the first game, USU started the top of the first inning with two runs. Four different batters contributed to the scoring as Breanne Nickle's single brought in catcher Heather Curtis and Stephanie Vasarhely took advantage of Eva DeJarnette's ground out to extend the Aggie lead to 2-0.

In the second inning, Vasarhely struck again, this time batting Tiffany Pugmire and Markean Neal in with a double.

NMSU (16-16, 2-4) cut the lead to one with a three-run inning in the fourth, but USU pitcher Kristin Hommel held the southern Aggies scoreless for the other six innings with only five hits. Hommel, who is now 4-8 on the season, struck



Sophomore Tiffany Pugmire takes a swing during practice this spring. USU's offense struggled in both losses to New Mexico State.

out 11 batters.

USU scored an insurance run in the sixth inning, but it was the last one they would score in the weekend as they were shutout in the remaining two games.

In the second game Saturday night, the USU bats only managed five hits. Only senior Sandy Taylor hit well, smacking a double and a single in three at bats. The visiting Aggies also had two errors

in the nightcap, in contrast to the perfect fielding in the first and third games.

Freshman pitcher Xochitl Ramirez (3-4) allowed four hits in four innings before Amy Settlemeir relieved her in the fifth inning.

NMSU's Amber Mosher shined in the final game of the three-game swing as she allowed only five hits (not allowing more than one hit in an inning) and didn't allow a

single walk.

As in the first game, the southern Aggies scored all three runs in one inning, this time in the third. One scored on a wild pitch while the other two came in on a home run by Mosher.

Hommel picked up the loss, giving up three runs in nearly three innings. Junior Kelly Warner replaced Hommel in the third inning and pitched more than three shutout

innings.

USU will have a stop in Salt Lake City for a non-conference doubleheader against the University of Utah before coming home to play the University of the Pacific for three games. At LaRee and LeGrand Johnson Field, the Aggies will battle the Tigers in a doubleheader Saturday (1 and 3 p.m.), before finishing it out with a game Sunday at 1 p.m.

NCAA TOURNAMENT

North Carolina and Florida round out unlikely Final Four match-ups

(AP) Two long shot teams who were on the NCAA tournament bubble two weeks ago are headed for the Final Four along with the last No. 1 seed in the field and a racehorse team that nearly went out in the first round.

North Carolina and Wisconsin, both No. 8 seeds, join No. 1 seed Michigan State and No. 5 Florida in the climax of the college basketball season with the national semifinals set for next Saturday at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

For the Tar Heels and Badgers, the Final Four berths are payoffs for peaking at the end of difficult seasons. For the Spartans and Gators, the trip to Indianapolis is an opportunity to punctuate successful seasons.

At No. 8, Wisconsin and North Carolina are the lowest seeds to reach the Final Four since No. 11 LSU made it in 1986. The last No. 8 to get this far was Villanova, which won the national championship from that spot in 1985.

Wisconsin (22-13) vs. Michigan State (30-7)

Wisconsin finished sixth in the Big Ten but has lost just three games since Feb. 2, all of them to conference champion Michigan State, winners of nine straight.

"We haven't figured out a way to score against them yet," coach Dick Bennett said.

"Michigan State is one of the premier defensive teams in the country. They're hard to score against."

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo knows the three earlier games don't matter much now against a Wisconsin team that is in the Final Four for the first time in 59 years.

"I don't think it's ever easy to beat a team twice or beat a team three times," he said. "We know it's going to be tough to beat a team four times. They are on a roll and making shots now."

These are two grind-it-out teams with Michigan State depending on the senior leadership of Mateen Cleaves, Charlie Bell and Morris Peterson and Wisconsin riding the hot 3-point shooting of Division II transfer Jon Bryant.

Take it from Mike Kelley, the Badgers aren't going to roll over now.

"We had a chance for a letdown after Fresno State, after Arizona, and after LSU," he said. "We could have fallen to that temptation, but we didn't. We are a very competitive group. It doesn't matter if it is basketball or bridge, we all go out to win."

North Carolina (22-13) vs. Florida (28-7)

For the Tar Heels, this marks a 15th trip to the Final Four and third in the past four years. It was one of the least expected. Coach Bill

Jump to FINAL FOUR, Page 9

Florida 77, Oklahoma St. 65

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Florida filled the final spot in one of the most unlikely Final Fours in years, wearing down yet another higher-seeded, more experienced team.

With seven sophomores and freshmen in the 10-man rotation, the fifth-seeded Gators beat third-seeded Oklahoma State and its seven seniors 77-65 Sunday in the East Regional final.

Led by 34-year-old coach Billy Donovan, the Gators will play resurgent North Carolina, which beat Tulsa 59-55 in the South Regional final, on Saturday in Indianapolis.

Wisconsin, like North Carolina an eighth seed, will play Michigan State, the only No. 1 seed left, in the other semifinal.

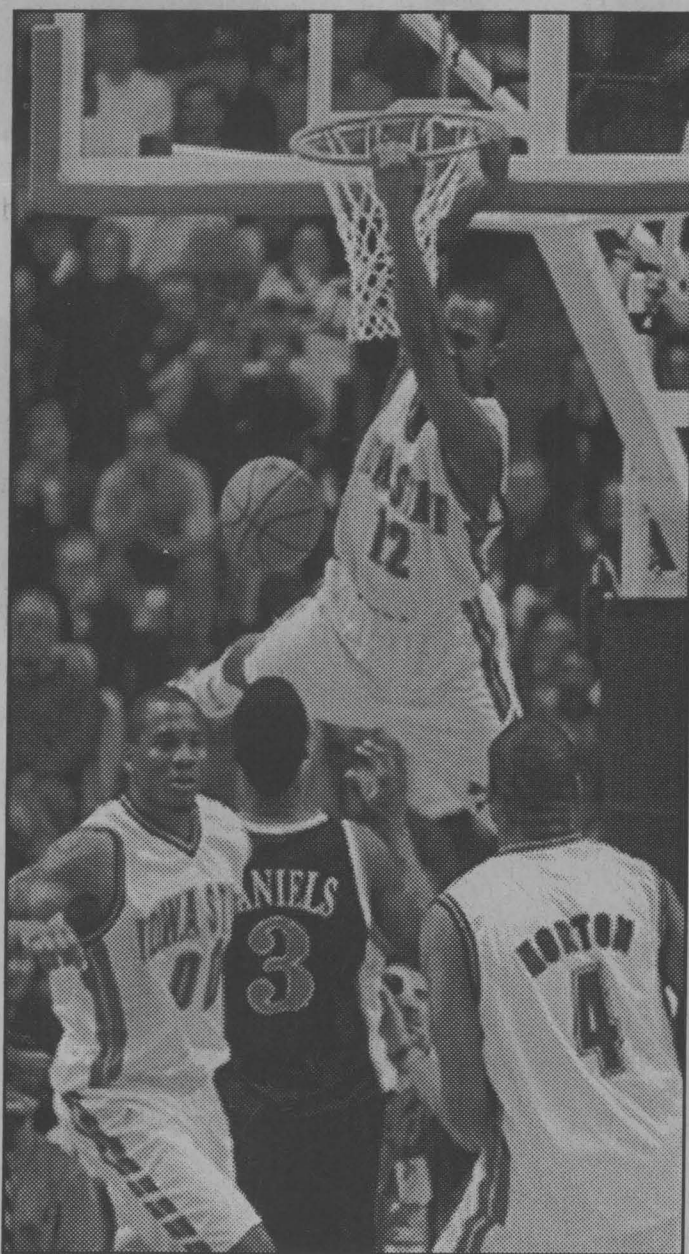
The Gators' only other trip to the Final Four was in 1994, when most of the current players were in grade school and Donovan was about to become the youngest head coach in Division I at Marshall.

Using the same press that wore down fourth-seeded Illinois in the second round and top-seeded Duke in the regional semifinals, Florida (28-7) forced Oklahoma State (27-7) into turnovers and also wore the Cowboys down.

North Carolina 59, Tulsa 55

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — In a dazzling turnaround for a team that barely made the tournament, North Carolina is returning to the Final Four.

Only this time, the Tar



Iowa State's Brandon Hawkins hangs on the rim in an earlier NCAA game. ISU was eliminated by Michigan State Saturday.

Heels are underdogs. And, even stranger, they're being led by a freshman.

Joseph Forte, the first freshman to lead North Carolina in scoring, had 10 of his 28 points during a 14-4 second-half run that broke open a tie game and sent the

Tar Heels to a 59-55 victory over Tulsa in the South Regional final Sunday.

"You can only dream about this," Forte said.

North Carolina (22-13) earned its record-tying 15th Final Four trip and third in the last four years.

Baseball club upbeat about first season

REUBEN WADSWORTH
Sports Writer

This is the first year of real college baseball at Utah State University, said club organizer Ben Wolford.

Wolford was the driving force in organizing a club baseball team this year and is now the team's head coach. USU has had a team before, but it didn't play by the rules and fielded players that weren't USU students, he said. According to Wolford, that team mainly played city league teams while the team this year plays college opponents.

The new club has already competed in four games, two against Colorado Northwestern Community College (CNCC) and two against Weber State University on Saturday. The club split its two games with CNCC, losing the first by a score of 11-0, then came back to win the second 9-1.

The club was defeated by Weber State 9-5 and 4-1 on Saturday. Wolford said his squad played the Wildcats close each game, but Weber had a couple of lucky hits.

To start the club, Wolford first received approval from Deann Williams, who is in charge of club sports. Then he put some signs up to advertise tryouts, he said. He was surprised with the lack of interest at first. Only about 30 men showed up for tryouts. He had to cut some of them, he said, but the majority were kept on the team.

Now, with the help of assistant coaches Spencer Smith and Rhett Ogden, Wolford is trying to build a strong program.

Wolford said even though the club is in its first year, he expects it to be competitive because there is a lot of talent on the team.

Both coaches and players are students. Wolford is a double major in Liberal Arts and Sciences and expects to graduate in December.

Spirits are high on the squad, Wolford said. The team works well together and its main philosophy is to have fun, he added.

As with all club teams, those participating with the new USU baseball team have to pay dues, but the squad has already landed a few local sponsors and hopes to add more soon, Wolford said.

The team practices three to four times a week. On a number of occasions the squad has had to practice in the field house due to inclement weather.

Games will be held on the field next to Maverik and Kate's Kitchen in Providence. The team's first home game is this Friday against Boise State University.

Aggies AND OTHER ACTION

Saturday

Softball (game one)
Utah State 5
New Mexico St. 3

Softball (game two)
Utah State 0
New Mexico St. 4

Sunday

Softball (game three)
Utah State 10
New Mexico St. 11

NCAA Tournament

South Region Final
North Carolina 59
Tulsa 55

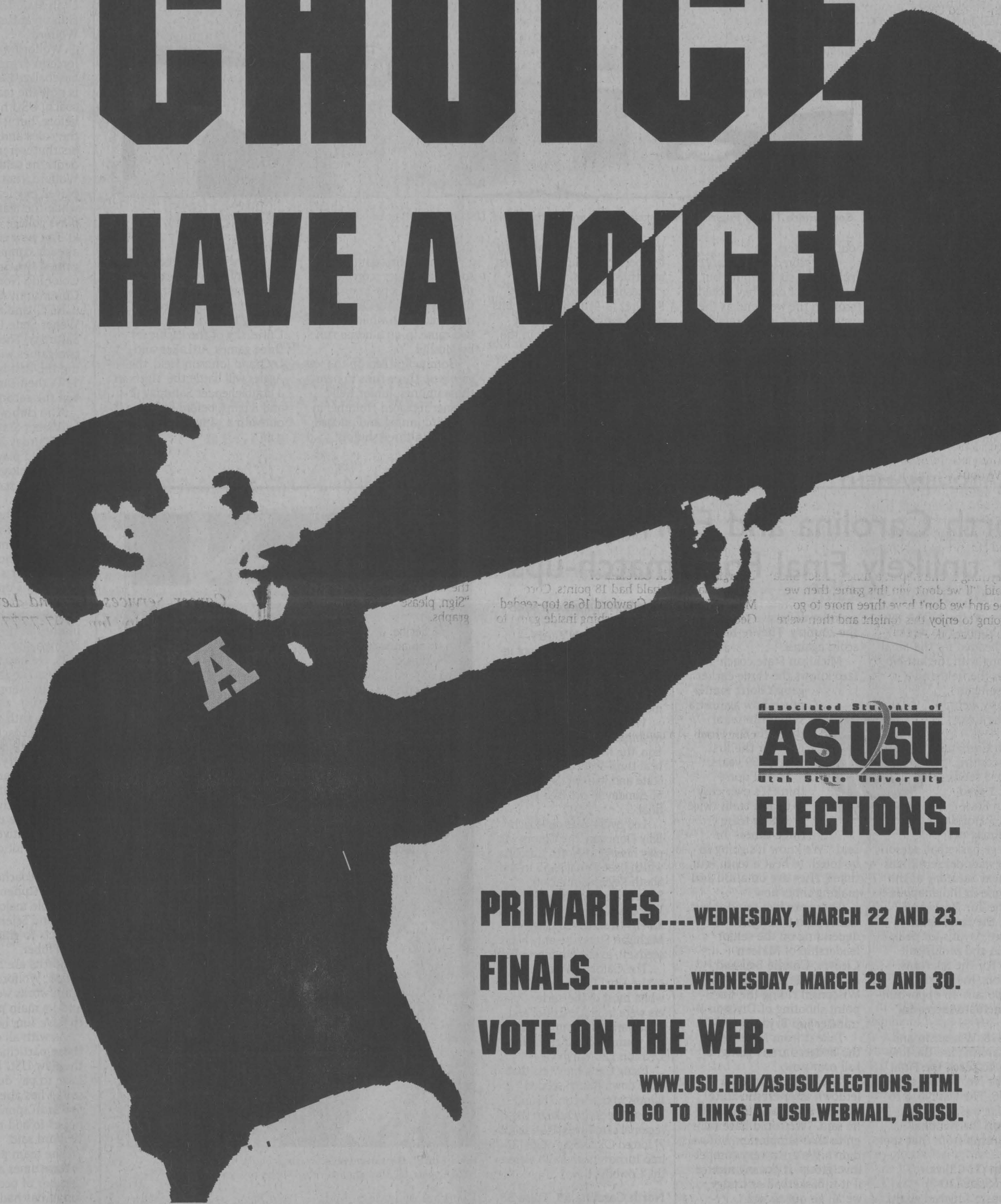
East Region Final
Florida 77
Oklahoma St. 65

Midwest Region Final
Michigan St. 75
Iowa St. 64

West Region Final
Wisconsin 64
Purdue 60



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Forum - HUB
noon
Forum - Institute
6 p.m.**

**Thursday
announcement
6 p.m., Int'l Lounge**

Tennessee, UConn continue rolling in NCAA women's play

(AP) Tennessee again dominated Virginia in the NCAA women's basketball tournament. Connecticut was just plain dominating.

As the tournament field went from 16 to eight on a long day of regional semifinals Saturday, the two favorites showed no signs of slowing down.

Tennessee, the No. 1 seed in the Midwest Regional, forced a flurry of early turnovers in beating fourth-seeded Virginia 77-56 to move to within one game of its fifth Final Four in six years.

"The first five minutes were like a nightmare," said Virginia coach Debbie Ryan, whose team committed 10 turnovers while falling behind 15-2. "I think our team learned a lesson today about playing at this level."

Connecticut, the top seed in the East, rolled over fifth-seeded Oklahoma 102-80 to stay on track for its fourth Final Four appearance. The Huskies swarmed all over the Big 12 tri-champions on defense, making 21 steals and forcing 33 turnovers.

Tennessee (31-3) will play third-seeded Texas Tech (28-4) in the regional final Monday night. Texas Tech overcame a 17-0 deficit to beat second-seeded Notre Dame 69-65.

Third-seeded LSU (25-6) stands between Connecticut (33-1) and a trip to Philadelphia for the national semifinals. LSU came up with a big second half to beat second-seeded Duke 79-66.

In the Midwest Regional, Louisiana Tech extended coach Leon Barmore's career by one more game, beating Old Dominion 86-74. Tech will face Penn State, which beat Iowa State 66-65.

And in the West, Georgia steamrolled North Carolina 83-57, while Rutgers defeated Alabama-Birmingham 60-45.

Tennessee ran its record against Virginia to 10-1, with seven of those victories coming in March. Now the Lady Vols will play in the round that has haunted them for a year.

They lost to Duke in the East Regional final last year, denying them a chance to win a fourth straight national championship.

"We've tried for a year to be playing on Monday night to get to a Final Four," Tennessee coach Pat Summitt said. "The freshmen may not understand how much we wanted to be in that game. We don't care who we play. We just want to bring our game."

Connecticut has won its three NCAA games by an average of 44 points. But after losing to Iowa State in the third round last year, the No. 1-ranked Huskies are taking nothing for granted.

"Everything is one step at a time," junior Shea Ralph said. "If we don't win this game, then we go home and we don't have three more to go. We're going to enjoy this tonight and then we're going to get back down to business tomorrow."

EAST Connecticut 102, Oklahoma 80

Connecticut displayed its usual balance and took control with an early 18-0 run. Ashja Jones and Tamika Williams led the Huskies with 16 points each and Svetlana Abrosimova scored 15.

In reaching 100 points for the second time in NCAA play and the ninth time this season, UConn hit 18 of its first 25 shots and finished 40-for-70 (57 percent).

LSU 79, Duke 66

Marie Ferdinand scored 15 of her 22 points in the second half and sparked a 12-0 run that put the Lady Tigers ahead to stay with about 13 minutes left. Sharp passing was critical for LSU, which had assists on 22 of its 30 baskets.

DeTrina White added 19 points and 11 rebounds for LSU and April Brown had 16 points. In its three tournament games, LSU has outscored its opponents by 57 points in the second half. They've been outscored by nine in the first half of those games.

Duke (28-6), the national runner-up last year, was led by Lauren Rice's 17 points.

MIDWEST

Tennessee 77, Virginia 56

Virginia (25-9) recovered from its horrible

start and trailed just 45-42 after Lisa Hosac's 3-pointer capped an 11-0 run. But the Lady Vols responded with a 20-3 run to put it out of reach, much to the delight of the pro-Tennessee crowd at The Pyramid in Memphis.

All-American Tamika Catchings led Tennessee with 28 points and Semeka Randall added 19. Svetlana Volnaya scored 18 for Virginia.

Texas Tech 69, Notre Dame 65

Texas Tech got off to an even worse start than Virginia, yet still found a way to get past the Irish (27-5).

The Lady Raiders chipped away at the lead with outside jumpers and went ahead to stay after Notre Dame's 6-foot-5 Ruth Riley went to the bench with her fourth foul and the game tied at 50.

Aleah Johnson has 18 points for Texas Tech, which did not score until Plenette Pierson's breakaway layup with 13:06 left in the first half. Riley scored 19 before fouling out. She had nine in her team's opening run.

MIDWEST

La. Tech 86, Old Dominion 74

Betty Lennox, undaunted after misfiring on nine of her first 10 shots, scored 25 points as Louisiana Tech (31-2) extended Barmore's coaching career. The 18-year coach said he'll retire after this season. Tech is seeking its third straight Final Four appearance and the 10th under Barmore.

Old Dominion pulled to 52-46 on Lucienne Berthieu's layup with 14:43 left, but Catrina Frierson scored on a follow shot and Lennox on a 3-pointer for a 57-46 lead. After two straight Old Dominion baskets, Tech's Christie Sides made a 3 from the left wing and Lennox, who had left the game briefly because of leg cramps, returned to make another 3.

Penn State 66, Iowa St. 65

Helen Darling scored the winning basket with 12.6 seconds left and finished with 21 points to lift Penn State (29-4) within a game of its first Final Four trip.

Iowa State (27-6) led 65-64 after Angie Welle sank two free throws with 27.8 seconds left. Penn State's Andrea Garner then missed a jump shot from the left baseline and Megan Taylor seemed to have the rebound for Iowa State. But Darling stripped the ball from Taylor and bounced in a shot off the front rim.

Garner, Penn State's shortest starter at 5-feet-7, also had 11 rebounds, six assists and three steals. Maren Walseth added 14 points for the Lady Lions.

WEST

Georgia 83, North Carolina 57

Tawana McDonald had 18 points, Coco Miller 17 and Shala Crawford 16 as top-seeded Georgia (32-3) used a punishing inside game to move within one game of its fourth Final Four appearance in six years.

Juana Brown had 19 points and Jackie Higgins 14 for the fifth-seeded Tar Heels (20-13), who had won eight of nine.

North Carolina's leading scorers, LaQuanda Barksdale and Nikki Teasley, scored just six points each — a combined 21 below their season averages.

Georgia led by 13 at halftime and needed less than six minutes of the second half to push it to 20. Coco Miller hit a 3-pointer and a jumper, twin sister Kelly Miller hit two jumpers and McDonald sank four free throws to make it 56-35 with 14:07 left.

Rutgers 60, Alabama-Birmingham 45

Usha Gilmore scored 18 points and Tasha Pointer added 11 points and nine assists as second-seeded Rutgers (24-7) pulled away in the final seven minutes to advance to the round of eight for the second straight year.

Rutgers has never been to the Final Four. Deanna Jackson scored 17 points for 11th-seeded UAB (21-13), but she and the rest of the Lady Blazers couldn't hit their shots after pulling to within 44-43 with 7:18 to play.

A layup by Davalyn Cunningham started a 16-2 Rutgers run to end the game.

Tokyo Dome speaks to sluggers in any language

TOKYO (AP) — Mike Piazza took one look at the left-field wall and took aim. At a cozy 317 feet from home plate, it made for an easy target.

The New York Mets and Chicago Cubs saw a lot to like about the Tokyo Dome, where they'll open the major league season Wednesday night. Especially the sluggers.

"The ball flies, at least when Mike hits it," Mets teammate Todd Zeile said.

Most players got their first peek at the 50,000-seat ballpark during workouts Sunday. To some, the place playfully nicknamed the "Big Egg" seemed pretty foreign.

Two rows of benches in the dugout. Black dirt on the pitcher's mound, brown dirt around the bases. A chain-link fence for a backstop. No warning track.

And that was before the Seibu Lions and Tokyo Giants claimed the field for an exhibition game. They set up side-by-side cages for batting practice, and inside them catchers sat on wooden benches. Later, a rookie wearing No. 122 walked past.

"You don't see that very often," observed Joe McEwing of the Mets.

Others found the park more familiar.

"You look up at that puffy, white roof and see those blue seats and it looks just like the Metrodome," said Cubs pitcher Rick Aguilera, who spent most of his career in Minnesota.

"The only thing missing were the homer hankies," he said.

And, like the Metrodome, it's loud. A few thousand fans, most of them kids, watched the workouts and screamed — "Sign, please" — for autographs.

The decibel level was doubled by an announcer standing on the dugout roof with a hand-held microphone, commenting on the festivities. Most Japanese games feature lively cheerleaders, too.

"There is a noise factor here," said Mets manager Bobby Valentine, who managed Chiba Lotte in the Japanese league in 1995.

Piazza created a huge stir when he strolled over to the third-base stands to oblige the children.

Japanese players traditionally do not sign autographs. The chance to get a souvenir from Piazza, extremely popular in this country since his days of catching Hideo Nomo with the Dodgers, made him a bigger hit.

Even the man who stitches players' names and numbers onto the Mets jerseys was busy signing.

Guthridge thinks Carolina can handle the up-and-down style the Gators play.

"I think the experience in playing against some athletic teams in our league and in non-conference has helped us," he said. "We are not bad athletes. The coach is a bad athlete, but we've got some pretty good athletes on our team."

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FINAL FOUR

Continued from Page 7

Guthridge was under fire during a difficult 13-loss season that had some people believing North Carolina would not be invited.

The Tar Heels stumbled in with four losses in six games and a mediocre 7-8 record in the season's final weeks. Their No. 8 seed matched their lowest in 22 years of being seeded and they had been a No. 1 or 2 seed in their previous seven Final

Fours.

"Obviously, since we were an eighth seed, this was unexpected," Guthridge said. "But I believed and the team believed and that's why we're going."

The four-game winning streak in the tournament was the first all season for North Carolina. "We became a team and started playing together," senior point guard Ed Cota said.

Seven-foot Brendan Haywood gives North Carolina a presence inside and Joseph Forte is the first freshman in school history to

lead the Tar Heels in scoring. And, yes, that includes a fellow named Michael Jordan.

Under fourth-year coach Billy Donovan, Florida turns games into track meets with a go-go style and a freshman-sophomore dominated roster that can sustain it.

The Gators are led by sophomore Mike Miller, who saved their tournament with a game-winning shot with a fraction of a second left in the opener against Butler. After that, Florida took down No. 1 seed Duke and No. 3 Oklahoma State to win the East bracket.

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Once an open race, Academy Awards down to solid favorite

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Once upon a time, the 72nd Academy Awards race was wide open. But by the time Sunday's ceremony rolled around, there was little doubt around Hollywood that a modestly budgeted film about family dysfunction would win top honors.

American Beauty had already topped most critic lists going into the weekend. Then came its best picture win in Friday's controversial Wall Street Journal poll of 356 of the 5,607 voting Academy members.

Scientific or not, the survey was *American Beauty's* clincher for best buzz going into the four-hour Oscar show, broadcast on ABC with Billy Crystal as host.

The poll's other favorites also seemed to reflect pre-Oscar conventional wisdom: Denzel Washington for leading actor in *The Hurricane*, Hilary Swank for leading actress in *Boys Don't Cry*, Michael Caine for supporting actor in *The Cider House Rules*, and Angelina Jolie for supporting actress in *Girl Interrupted*.

After the nominations were announced Feb. 16, it appeared that *The Cider House Rules*, a period piece about a New England orphanage, had the edge for best picture.

After all, it was the kind of poignant, panoramic movie Academy voters traditionally favor. Its standing heightened as Miramax poured money into trade paper and newspaper ads for *Cider House*, a technique that had succeeded with the company's winner last year, *Shakespeare in Love*.

DreamWorks countered with its own campaign for *American Beauty*, and the tide shifted. The awards show capped one of the most bizarre Oscar seasons. First, Academy voters complained that they hadn't received their ballots for the final vote. By the time a large supply of the ballots was found in a post office, the Academy had printed new ballots. The Academy also extended the voting deadline a few days to last Thursday, meaning the accountants had to work overtime on awards weekend. Then came The Mystery of the Missing Oscars. A shipment of 55 shiny new Oscar statuettes from

the Chicago manufacturer disappeared from a loading dock at Roadway Express on March 8. Salvage man Willie Fulgear stumbled across 52 of the missing awards while rummaging through a trash container. Three Oscars remain missing.

Fulgear, 61, became an instant celebrity. He was given a \$50,000 reward by the shipping company and two tickets to Sunday's show.

A Roadway trucker was charged with stealing the statuettes.

Weeks before the awards presentations, the Academy announced the evening's special awards: Warren Beatty was named for the Irving Thalberg Award for a high level of producing. Among his producer credits: *Bonnie and Clyde*, *Shampoo*, *Reds* and *Dick Tracy*.

Andrzej Wajda, premier director of Poland, won an honorary award "for showing both the loftiest heights and the darkest depths of the European soul."

His films include *Landscape after Battle*, *Man of Marble* and *Man of Steel*.

Then came The Mystery of the Missing Oscars.

A shipment of 55 shiny new Oscar statuettes from

'Wild Wild West' gets voted worst picture in Hollywood

LOS ANGELES (AP) — On the eve of the Oscar ceremony they love to dishonor, the Golden Raspberry Foundation let out its annual Bronx cheers and picked *Wild Wild West* as Hollywood's worst offering for 1999.

Loathed as "a wretched

remake of the mid-1960s TV hit," the movie starring Will Smith led in dis-stink-tion with five Razzies — worst picture, director, screenplay, song and screen couple (Smith and Kevin Kline).

"It swept, to the surprise of no one who saw it," foundation president John Wilson said. "It personifies what you need to do to win a Razzie in modern Hollywood — spend too much, entertain no one and fall flat on your face."

Wild Wild West beat out *Big Daddy*, *The Blair Witch Project*, *The Haunting* and *Star Wars: Episode 1 — The Phantom Menace* in the worst-picture category.

Razzie nominees and winners are picked by 465 foundation members, who are industry workers, journalists and moviegoers in the United States and abroad.

Foundation members gathered Saturday at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, site of the first Academy Awards, for their 20th annual spoof of the Oscars taking place the following day

at the Shrine Auditorium.

Winners never show up to collect the gold-painted, golf ball-sized plastic raspberry atop a film canister, which Wilson said are worth about \$4.27.

This year, however, actor Robert Conrad planned to be on hand. Conrad played James West in the *Wild Wild West* TV series — the same character Smith played.

The Razzie for worst actor went to Adam Sandler for his role as "an amazingly idiotic adoptive father" in *Big Daddy*, and Heather Donahue's portrayal of "the increasingly irksome director of a doomed documentary" in *The Blair Witch Project* got the worst actress nod.

Donahue faced serious competition from Catherine Zeta-Jones, who was nominated in the worst actress category for two films, *Entrapment* and *The Haunting*.

Worst supporting actors were Denise Richards of *The World is Not Enough* and Jar-Jar Binks (voice by Ahmed Best) of the *Star Wars* prequel.

HOLLYWOOD'S LOSERS

Wild, Wild West — Worst picture, screenplay, song and screen couple

Adam Sandler — Worst actor for "Big Daddy"

Heather Donahue — Worst actress for "The Blair Witch Project"

Denise Richards — Worst supporting actress for "The World is Not Enough"

Jar Jar Binks — Worst supporting actor for "Phantom Menace"

* Information courtesy of ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Election' gets voted best indie

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — The high school satire *Election* was voted best feature film Saturday in the Spirit Awards ceremony by the non-profit Independent Feature Project/West.

Election director Alexander Payne also won a Spirit Award for best director, and Payne and his *Election* co-writer, Jim Taylor, won for best screenplay.

Hillary Swank, who plays a young woman who lives life as a young man, won best actress for *Boys Don't Cry*. And Chloe Sevigny, who plays Swank's girlfriend, won the Spirit Award for best supporting actress.

Richard Farnsworth won for his lead role in the lawnmower-traveling man in *The Straight Story*. And Steve Zahn won for his zany portrayal of a fugitive on the run in *Happy, Texas*.

Blair Witch Project got best first feature made for under \$500,000 and *Being John Malkovich* got best first feature made for more than \$500,000.

A list of Spirit Award winners:

- BEST FEATURE FILM *Election*.
- BEST DIRECTOR Alexander Payne, *Election*.
- BEST SCREENPLAY Alexander Payne and Jim Taylor, *Election*.
- BEST FEMALE LEAD Hillary Swank, *Boys Don't Cry*.
- BEST SUPPORTING FEMALE Chloe Sevigny, *Boys Don't Cry*.
- BEST MALE LEAD Richard Farnsworth, *The Straight Story*.
- BEST SUPPORTING MALE Steve Zahn, *Happy, Texas*.
- BEST CINEMATOGRAPHER Lisa Rinzler, *Three Seasons*.
- BEST FOREIGN FILM *Run Lola Run*, Germany

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Protest follows funeral for black man killed by officers

NEW YORK (AP) — Furious protesters hurled bottles and clashed with police Saturday after the funeral for an unarmed black man shot to death by an undercover officer, the latest police shooting to inflame tensions between Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the minority community.

Police used batons to knock back bottles thrown outside a Brooklyn church as the funeral Mass ended. One officer was seen holding his head, wrapped in a bandage. In all, 23 police were injured, some suffering torn ligaments or broken bones, others had to have shards of glass rinsed from their eyes.

Police said 27 people were arrested on charges ranging from disorderly conduct to inciting a riot during the clash which included the burning of an American flag. They were expected to be arraigned on Sunday. Five civilians were injured, police said, but details of their conditions were not immediately released.

A miles-long procession of more than 3,000 protesters and mourners led by the Rev. Al Sharpton had followed a hearse carrying the body of 26-year-old Patrick Dorismond from a funeral home to Holy Cross Roman

Catholic Church in for the service.

Dorismond's shooting March 16 was the third time in the past 13 months that an unarmed black man has been fatally shot by undercover officers.

Giuliani has been criticized for releasing information from Dorismond's police record, including sealed juvenile files, and for not visiting Dorismond's family.

As Dorismond's coffin was carried inside, a few protesters surged forward and snatched the U.S. flag that had draped it, tore it to shreds and then set the pieces on fire.

"It's our blood, it's not cheap. We must let them know this must stop," said Michel Eddy, a 26-year-old Haitian immigrant.

With car horns blaring, protesters chanted, knocked down police barricades, and many demanded Giuliani's resignation.

A car driving the wrong way on a nearby street was plastered with banners, including one that read: "If you shoot one of my children, I shoot five of you," and others threatening Giuliani's family.

Another protester walking through the crowded street

shouted: "Rudy, I'll blow you up to kingdom come, cut you with a chain saw, and feed you to the dogs!"

As the two-hour service ended around 2 p.m., a group of unarmed community affairs police and uniformed officers outside the church began having increasing difficulty controlling the crowd. Within half an hour, about 25 officers in riot helmets carrying batons entered the crowd and were met by people throwing bottles and knocking down police barricades. The face-off with hundreds of protesters escalated quickly.

Giuliani issued a statement praising the restraint of officers involved in the confrontation.

"Unfortunately, when you allow demagogues to take over for political and divisive purposes, the American flag gets shredded and burned; steel barricades are hurled and bottles are thrown injuring police officers and civilians," he said.

The Dorismond shooting has become a major issue in his campaign for the U.S. Senate against Hillary Clinton. The first lady said last week that the GOP mayor's "utter failure of leadership" was a sign that he couldn't be trusted.

PUTIN

Continued from Page 2

be more balanced, take into account the existing realities and aim at increasing living standards," he told a news conference.

The tough, man-of-action image that Putin cultivates appeals to many Russians, tired of the uncertainty and mayhem of the final years of former President Boris Yeltsin. Putin has promised to end massive corruption, revive the economy after years of recession and restore the political and military influence that Moscow wielded before the Soviet collapse.

"I'm tired of all this disorder," said Vladimir Prishchev, a pensioner casting his ballot for Putin in Russia's Pacific port city of Vladivostok, where graft is rampant and life miserable for most people. "When Putin takes charge of something, he takes it to the end."

Some Russians, particularly liberals, fear Putin may trample Russia's fragile democracy and restore the iron control the secret police enforced during the Soviet era.

But some Russian reformers and Western officials and businessmen have praised

Putin as a pragmatic reformer who will restore stability in Russia and improve people's lives by making reforms work.

With a trademark poker face, Putin comes across as stern and colorless, often cold. He is described often as resembling the archetypal "chekist" or secret policeman — which appeals to many Russians who believe tough government alone can clean up the country and restore stability.

Putin insists he is a democrat, but he has been vague about his plans beyond stressing the need for strong government. Some analysts say Putin has few specific plans because of his rapid rise to power and it may be months before his intentions are clear. Nor is Putin likely to turn things around quickly after decades of authoritarianism and economic disintegration, they add.

Yeltsin, who stunned Russians by resigning six months early and dubbing Putin as his political heir, said Sunday he was confident that the younger leader would continue the reforms set in place after the Soviet collapse.

"Everybody is waiting for change," said Yeltsin after casting his ballot. "There will

be some changes, but the main thing is the course of reform must stay, and it will stay. I am convinced of that."

Putin, who rose through a series of mostly obscure government posts in the 1990s and has never held elected office, was appointed prime minister by Yeltsin in August. He gained immediate popularity for his vigorous image and his tough handling of the war in Chechnya. Putin was named acting president when Yeltsin resigned on Dec. 31.

Little is known about Putin and extensive checks by journalists and others in recent months have produced more questions and few insights. Unlike many prominent officials,

Putin has not been linked to major corruption, boosting his image in the eyes of Russians who have seen political insiders amass vast fortunes while living standards for most people plummeted.

The election campaign was lackluster because a Putin victory seemed inevitable. The other candidates appeared resigned to not winning and there was little in the way of campaign rallies and trips. State television lavished Putin with daily coverage, boosting his chances.

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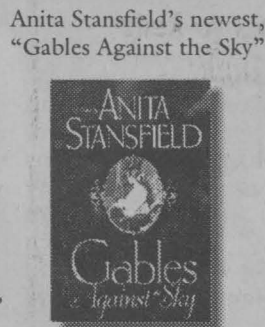
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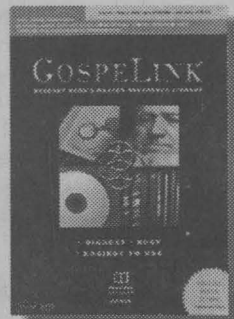
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recycled newsprint.Fashion show
lacked class

For a class assignment, I had to attend the Fashion show that was held on Friday. I was not exactly sure what to expect, but what I got was absolutely disgusting. Granted, the girls were beautiful and some of the outfits were cute, but others were outright offensive. Who really wants to see someone in handcuffs flaunting across the stage? And her friend that saw it appropriate to flip the audience off was even more offensive. Doesn't that department have ANY class? Though I didn't expect to like all the clothes there and knew that people have different opinions of what is fashion and what isn't, I thought that those two items were completely out of line, regardless of what your opinion is on fashion.

Another thing, I have just one word for everyone that was in the show, BRA! They work wonders, I promise. I know that everyone has their different opinions and ways of expressing themselves, and they are entitled to that, but is it too much to ask that people have class when they do?

I think it is funny that that department wouldn't be a little more discriminating when choosing who they want to represent them in front of the whole school. It looked more like Hollywood Boulevard than it did the TSC. In the future, I would hope that people remember what it means to have class. That is something that should never go out of style.

Katie Limb

Positive reasons to
drain Lake Powell

Friday's letter "Glen Canyon does have positive effects" contained a few matters on which I feel obligated to respond. As the writer of the letter is from Page, Ariz., a town owing its entire existence to Glen Canyon Dam, his opinion is, to a degree, a biased one. Likewise, I would like to state my biased opinion, shaped by years of floating most of the canyon country's rivers, hiking many of its canyons, and seeing nearly all of them eventually wind up in the dead cesspool of Lake Powell. However, instead of focusing on these personal, selfish reasons that I believe Lake Powell should be drained, I will examine some of the elements of Friday's letter.

The letter states that, were Lake Powell drained, we would be faced with mud flats, a bathtub ring, and garbage. True. It is, however, ridiculous to use this as reason to not drain the lake. Silt levels are only increasing and will eventually inundate the entire reservoir. This process may be seen in action if one goes to where the Dirty Devil, Colorado or San Juan rivers enter the lake. What is found at these places? Mud flats, bathtub rings, and yes garbage! Perhaps we could give Page's economy a further boost by draining Lake Powell and beginning a massive cleanup, providing thousands of jobs.

The letter also mentions Navajo Power Plant's use of lake water. The amount required is negligible, and could even be economically pumped from river level, keeping Las Vegas supplied with power for all their necessities. The similar Huntington Power Plant in Emery County has no large reservoir nearby, and functions quite well, I believe.

There are many other reasons aside from the restoration of a beautiful canyon, too numerous to detail here, to drain Lake Powell. In the long run it is a temporary structure (its strength already threatened during the floods of 1984), whether we drain it now, or leave the job of a much greater cleanup to our descendants in a few hundred years.

Paul Nelson

Firearm debate lacking
innovative solutions

I would like to respond to the article on gun owners' rights and concealed firearms on campus that appeared in *The Utah Statesman* in last Wednesday's edition. Gun violence, like the use of illegal drugs in America, is a serious one. Still, despite being illegal to possess — whether on or off campus — drugs are highly accessible to anyone in America. As you read this, students on this very campus currently have illegal drugs in their possession. This should give us all reason to ponder the effectiveness of the "war on

To the
EDITOR

drugs", and force us to question how effective similar legislation will be on other social issues like gun control.

As usual, the ongoing debate over concealed firearms on campus is lacking in any innovative solutions. The usual mindless rhetoric of outlawing guns to solve this problem may in fact be a symptom of the real problem itself. Let me explain.

As should be obvious to most, the problem of gun violence in America is both serious and highly complex. Problems that are inherently complex in nature demand solutions equally complex to attain desired outcomes. The standard approach of passing more gun control laws to fix the ongoing problem of gun violence in America is like fixing the hard-drive on a computer with tools left over from the stone-age. Further, attempting to solve the problem of gun violence with such simple approaches may indicate how mindless our society really is. Worse yet, a mindless society cannot elect into office anything else except equally mindless politicians.

This presents a very serious problem: solving these complex problems will require the work of intelligent, problem solving politicians. But how can these politicians get elected into office with such an uninformed and mindless public? I argue that the real problem of gun violence in America, along with many other social ills, is the result of an uninformed society that lacks the mental means necessary to elect qualified politicians into office. Therefore, gun violence can only be solved by a society with the necessary mental means to elect qualified politicians into office.

Jim Edgren

Powell a beautiful
landmark

I am so sick of hearing all of these people talk about draining Lake Powell.

Powell is a beautiful landmark. I assure you that if and when they do drain it, the remnants of Glen Canyon will be ugly and disgusting. Just think of how much oil residue will be left over after 20 years of boating, not to mention all of the garbage and other unmentionable things people dump overboard.

If the supporters of draining Lake Powell can post signs that promote their ridiculous vision then why are people that don't agree with them ridiculed and looked down upon? Vandals, immature losers? I think not. Using their right to protest against a cause they don't believe in ... Yes! Tearing down the signs and replacing them was a formal protest as well as a slap in the face to anyone promoting "The Drain."

In no article have I read that the protesters' fliers and posters were also vandalized, most likely by the draining people. Only one hour after I saw the signs on the ground and the new "save the lake" signs posted they were all removed, obviously by some organized crime ring of immature, lunatic vandals.

Brian Decaria

Lake Powell provides
fond memories

I would like to commend Johnathan Nelson for stating his opinion against draining Lake Powell. Lake Powell holds many fond memories for me. It is a beautiful place of recreation. Like Mr. Nelson, I think it is a little too late to consider saving Indian ruins. They have been underwater for decades, and by now I am sure they are destroyed. Also, I would like to point out that civilizations come and just as quickly go. When one civilization goes, another comes in its place. Our civilization is dominant now. The people of the past are gone. Draining Lake Powell would certainly tear down our own civilization of today. It would take away from not only awesome recreational opportunities, but it would deplete major sources of power and water.

Obviously draining Lake Powell would hurt our own society of today immensely more than it would help the ecosystem or preserve remains of the past. While I do believe in preserving the environment, I also believe that it is more important to consider the needs of mankind before considering the needs of animal kind. I believe that as we consider the needs of our own civilization first in an educated manner,

Jump to LETTERS, Page 13

Voices and Views

NOAM CHOMSKY, AUTHOR, 1992:

"If we don't believe in freedom of expression for people we despise, we don't believe in it at all."

Nobody
cooks
anymore

SLIGHTLY OFF CENTER / Dennis Hinkamp



Cooking shows are popular for the same reasons pornography has

so many fans. People like to watch stuff that they can't do themselves. If you are like most people, cooking is a religious experience — you only do it at Christmas and Easter.

Even this is debatable. Defrosting a pop-up timer turkey and baking it, then opening a can of jellied cranberry sauce doesn't count, neither does squirting a can of whipped cream on top of a frozen pumpkin pie, nor do bake 'n' serve rolls or poppin' fresh dough.

If you are like me, you probably think that not using an electric can opener and heating something in a non-disposable container means the meal is practically homemade. Well, this is only because our expectations have been systematically lowered over the years.

I'm still suffering psychological damage because my parents tricked me into thinking frozen pot pies were a special treat when I was a kid.

Imagine my surprise when I got out on my own and found out you could buy them six for a dollar on sale. I had a special treat just about every day in college. Likewise, it wasn't till I got older that I questioned the true meaning of a TV dinner. What was the connection between a meal in a tin tray and television? In retrospect, I guess it's because both TV dinners and TV are bland and without substance.

One of the positive results of all this is that airline food is starting to look pretty good compared to the pre-fab stuff most of us eat at home.

Probably the low water mark in non-cooking history happened last month when Campbell's introduced it's new "Ready to Eat" line of

soup. I guess life is just getting too hectic to expect people to add that extra can of water.

The directions on the can label say "Do not add water, place in pan and heat." Simplicity at it's finest.

Gee, at least we'll have something to tell our kids. "I remember when I used to have to add my own water to soup. Yep, that was real eatin'."

Ready to eat soup is silly but at least it isn't as obscene as cheese in an aerosol can. I mean, destroying our ozone layer for beehive hairdos and winter-green armpits seems reasonable compared to destroying it for tacky hors d'oeuvres.

It's just the ultimate conclusion to an emerging trend that started with "instant" everything.

One of my favorite jokes remains the observation by comedian Steven Wright: "I put instant coffee in a microwave oven and I went back in time." How much faster is instant coffee than brewed? You still have to heat the same amount of water.

Microwave popcorn is convenient, but it should be called "grease in a bag." At least Jiffy Pop gave you something interesting to watch. Cooking and eating are two things that ought to be relaxing. What we really need are more instant things that give us more time to cook and eat.

Instant meetings would be nice, instant leaf raking, window washing, car vacuuming, house painting and grocery shopping too; or instant grocery and bank checkout lines and instant disposal of people who write checks in the "cash only" checkout lines.

At the rate we are going, by the year 2002 restaurants will have to stop putting "home cooking" in their advertisements. It'll just scare people away.

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

Spring offers
budding social
opportunities

SOCIAL CALENDARING WITH ANN / Ann Bluemlein



Spring is definitely in the air and the hormones are flying. Even

if you aren't interested in romance, this is an excellent week for social calendaring.

Don't be shy. Make an appointment with your roommate to go to a play. Or call that old friend from last semester and plan a concert. Invite that cute person to dinner and an event. Be brave!

Now haul out your planner and set up these social engagements for this week — there are many good opportunities.

Monday — Spring organ concert at Kent, 7:30 p.m. free with ID. Selections include the classic (and my favorite) "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring," and other Bach works. Sit way up at the top and comment (quietly) to

your companion about the social etiquette behavior of the other concert-goers.

Or go to a store and look at the spring flowers and plan a garden in your mind. Better yet, buy a small flat of flowers and plant them. Flowers can make you happy — and they are pretty cheap.

Tuesday — The USU Outdoor Center is having a slide show of hiking the Appalachian Trail. Free — at 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Rec Center (by the stadium).

Or count out how many days of school are left, subtract holidays and weekends. Make a goal about finishing the semester. Plan out how many dates you 'could' have before summer starts. Get started on date plans.

Wednesday — Concert of wind instruments at 7:30 p.m. in Kent. Free with ID. Another great chance to invite someone over for dinner and do something cul-

Jump to SPRING, Page 13

Thousands crowd to watch launch of Amistad replica

MYSTIC, Conn. (AP) — More than a century ago, Sengbe Pieh led slaves aboard the Amistad in a revolt in which they overthrew their captors in an effort to return to their homeland.

On Saturday, the launching a replica of the 129-foot schooner gave Pieh's great-grandson hope for the future and optimism that his ancestor's fight for freedom would soon be heard around the world.

"It's unbelievable that an icon of slavery is being transformed in this millennium into an icon of partnership, faith in each other and of human rights for all of us," said Samuel Pieh, who runs an organization that works to improve relations between Africa and the United States.

Thousands, including American and Sierra Leone dignitaries and descendants of the Amistad captives, watched and cheered as the 138-ton vessel was lowered into the Mystic River.

The ship was christened with water from Cuba, Long Island and Sierra Leone — where the slaves were sold, captured by American authorities and finally returned home.

Shirley Yema Gbujama, the minister of social welfare, gender and children's affairs in Sierra Leone, and African-American actress Ruby Dee broke the bottle of water over the ship's bow.

A brass bell tolled for each of the ship's 53 captives.

The six-year, \$3.1 million marked the beginning of the unending task of teaching histories, forgotten stories and improving race relations, organizers said.

"She represents friendship, which is the translation of the name Amistad, cooperation ... all of the good stuff," said Warren Marr II, who began in 1976 to push for the project.

The slaves took control of the original Amistad near Cuba in 1839. Their story was depicted in a 1997 movie by Steven Spielberg.

LETTERS

Continued from Page 12

we will know how to meet the needs of animal life. It is important for us to remember that our own needs must be met first.

Kandice Knight

To drain or not? Mission accomplished

First, I would like to clarify some points regarding the letter to the editor from Aleishia Baker (3/24). Secondly, it seems that the "cheap talk about draining 'Lake' Powell" (Nelson, 3/24) does not seem to be so cheap when you consider the discussion and controversy that it has raised. The fliers advertising the "Drain 'Lake' Powell?" meeting and lecture were posted twice.

However, the first time they were hung they did not last long, and were torn from the places that they had previously been hung. This prompted volunteer reaction, and fliers were hung a second time the evening before the event. The second time, fliers were posted in abundance in addition to the chalk advertisements to make sure that all were well-informed of the event.

So, the advertising was a success! The lecture by Richard Ingebretson, president and founder of the Glen Canyon Institute, was well-attended and sparked good questions and comments from both sides of the argument. Anyone who took notice of the fliers may have seen that the main message, "Drain 'Lake' Powell," was followed by a question mark.

The lecture and fliers were meant to open a dialogue: to get people to discuss their concerns, and the pros and cons of draining 'Lake' Powell. Judging from the recent flood of letters to the editor, this goal seems to have been accomplished! Whether this reservoir is going to be drained or not, all sides of the issue should be examined, and all concerns attended to.

Tony Stout

SPRING

Continued from Page 12

tural! And you people in that music class where you have to go to all those concerts—this counts!

In the Black Box theater (Studio Stage) there is a play at 8 p.m. through Saturday, free with ID. But get there early for seats — they often sell out. Some adult themes, so be warned if that bugs you.

If you don't mind a drive, drive south and see "Fiddler on the Roof" for free through Friday. It's at the LDS Stake Center, 800 S. 600 East in River Heights. Show starts at 7 p.m. and is sure to be entertaining.

Thursday — Go to the show (above) you missed. Or watch "E.R." Or do homework. Or ski naked. Or make weekend plans. Or nap. All of these are good (except maybe the skiing).

Canyon Winds concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Eccles Conference Center. Go and be inspired by the beautiful music.

Friday — Make plans for a big dinner with friends. Go watch the stars. Watch movies (get to Hastings EARLY for good video selection on Friday nights).

Weekend — Remember its General Conference weekend and you can watch church on TV!! Plan yummy brunches and invite friends over. Make sure your couch is comfortable. Stock up on chicken and broccoli casserole or Jell-O or frog-eye salad. Make it an event and be social and spiritual at the same time!

Ann Bluemlein is a graduate student in the Journalism (and communication) department. Tonight she is dyeing her hair. E-mail her to see how it turned out at slzk7@cc.usu.edu.

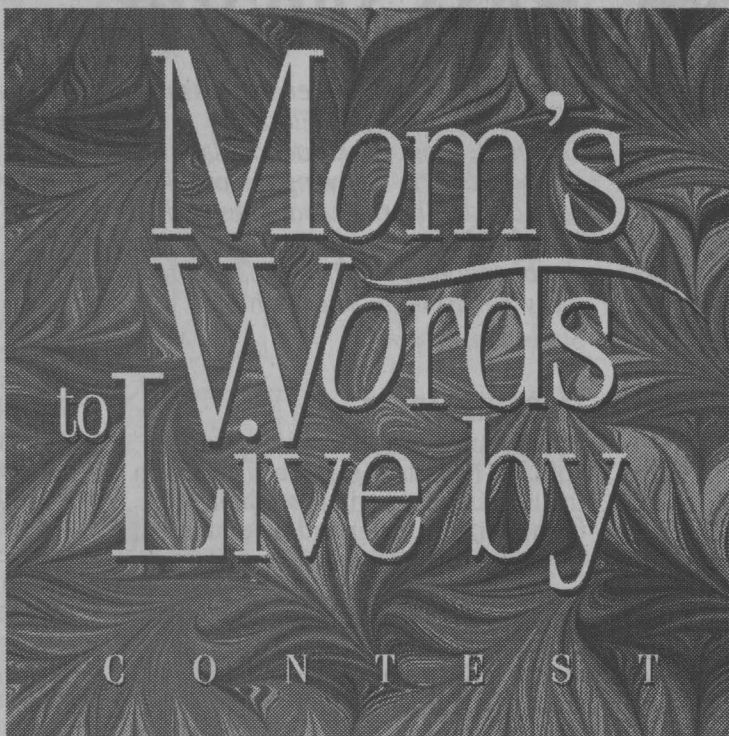
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Write down your mother's advice on the Entry Form below. You may also submit a photo of you and your mom with the entry. Bring your form to the USU Bookstore, Aggie Apparel Shop, by 12:00 noon, Thursday, April 6, 2000.

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.

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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.

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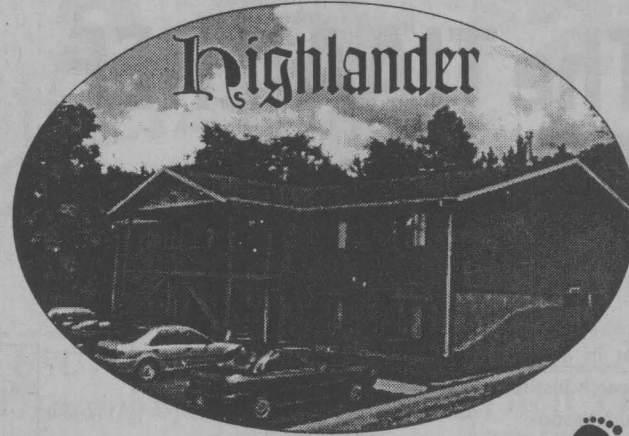
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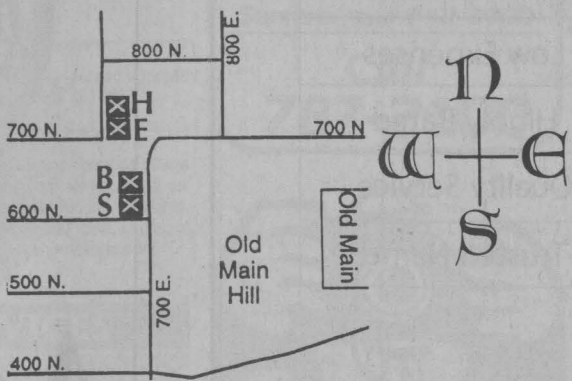
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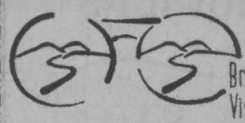
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HASS Senators profiled before election

The office of HASS Senator was re-opened by the ASUSU Elections Committee last week due to a lack of candidates. The following are profiles provided by the candidates and are presented here in a format similar to the biographies of all candidates previously published in The Utah Statesman.

HASS SENATOR

Brad Armstrong is a senior from Logan. The history major has served on the HASS Council and has volunteered in the Service Center and is recruitment chair for Sigma Gamma Chi.

Armstrong said he hopes to develop stronger publicity, hopes to promote awareness, will plan alumnae days for career exploration and networking, will bring HASS departments more closely together, and will give HASS clubs more visibility.

"I plan to establish and promote strong publicity and awareness of the College of HASS," Armstrong said, "through which all students can discover what the various departments and organizations provide."

Myke Bybee, a junior from Farmington, has been STAB ORC chair, founder of Ecological Coalition of Students and a regional coordinator of the Sierra Student Coalition; founder and captain of USU's Ultimate Team, and has been a lobbyist for the Sierra Club in Washington, D.C.

He said he will promote student awareness and involvement in ASUSU decision making, will encourage academic freedom and diversity on campus, will support groups "outside of the mainstream," and will provide an alternative viewpoint to "the usual ASUSU establishment."

Bybee said, "I want to bring the voice of students into ASUSU, to promote student involvement, to subvert the dominant cultural paradigm, and encourage diversity of ideas and free thinking."

Jeffrey Crockett, a senior from Garland, is a liberal arts major who is currently a member of the ASUSU Extensions Committee, and Institute recruitment representative.

He said he has goals to provide "true representation" for the College of HASS; work to represent the non-traditional Extension students in the college; promote the activities and events of the clubs within HASS through co-sponsorship; write legislation in the senate and make information about HASS and legislation available through the web and e-mail updates.

"I will represent and be a legislative voice for students on campus and for non-traditional extension students I will focus on making the Academic Senate a source of legislation and promoting the events of the organizations within HASS through co-sponsorship," Crockett said.

Sarah Dallof is a freshman from Layton who has been on the HASS Council, was HASS Faculty Relations

Officer this past year, was a STAR Volunteer and Kappa Delta Assistant Treasurer.

She said she has goals to increase awareness of scholarships available for HASS students, continue working to bring in prominent alumni for networking, poll students before voting on issues, unify HASS through socials, programs and activities and "inculcate the Dinner for Twelve Strangers program which introduces students to successful alumni."

Dallof said, "The college of HASS is one of the largest and most diverse on campus. As HASS senator, I will unite the many majors and improve the college experience for each student through programming and legislation."

Janalyn Hillam, a senior from Taylorsville, has been LDSSA Publicity vice president, STAR Volunteer, A-Day committee member, Special Olympics Volunteer, Lambda Delta Sigma pledge trainer and other high school and church experiences.

She said she would: provide activities that involve all departments; have better publicity regarding legislation and events; establish activities for undeclared students; and address student concerns.

Hillam said, "My ultimate goal is to unite the college of HASS by creating activities and providing effective publicity that will bond the students in all the different departments. I want to be an active voice for the students."

Supreme Court tackles school prayer case

SANTA FE, Texas (AP) — Amanda Bruce thinks she knows why so few classmates and neighbors have joined her in speaking out against public prayers at high school football games.

"They're scared they'll be shunned by the community or be labeled an atheist or devil worshiper like I was," said the 18-year-old senior, who wrote newspaper columns against the practice.

Nearly five years after two families filed a lawsuit against the Santa Fe school district over the prayers, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the case on Wednesday. It will be the court's first major school prayer ruling since 1992, when it barred clergy-led invocations and benedictions

at graduation ceremonies.

At issue is whether public school districts can allow students to initiate and lead prayers over the public-address system before the football games. A decision is expected by late June.

For some of the 10,000 residents of Santa Fe, a bedroom community 40 miles southeast of Houston with more churches than restaurants, the Supreme Court's decision has profound personal implications.

If prayer at sporting events is upheld, "it probably will destroy my faith in the Constitution and what this country stands for," said Debbie Mason, a Baptist who testified for the plaintiffs in the lawsuit.

On the other side, school board President John Couch II foresees trouble if prayer is disallowed.

"It would be a huge disappointment not only for us but for the nation," he said. "Students and private citizens would have their rights taken away from them on public property. I think it would be the start of further downfalls."

Gov. George W. Bush, who

is seeking the Republican presidential nomination, and state Attorney General John Cornyn filed briefs supporting student-led prayer.

The identities of the two families who filed the lawsuit — one Catholic and one Mormon — were sealed by the courts.

'They're scared they'll be shunned by the community or be labeled an atheist or devil worshiper like I was.'

• 18-YEAR-OLD •
COLUMBIST

Their lawsuit alleged that the school district's policy of allowing students to lead prayers at home football games violated the First Amendment by creating a "pervasive religious atmosphere."

Mason, whose four children attended Santa Fe schools, said

about 25 families, angered by numerous incidents including distribution of Gideon Bibles at Santa Fe High School, considered joining the suit but most dropped out as the conflict drew widespread attention.

A year ago, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a federal judge's ruling that "nonsectarian and non-proselytizing" prayer could be allowed at public school events such as graduation.

The judge had also allowed the same limited prayers at football games. But the 5th Circuit said those prayers are out of bounds, ruling that the games are "hardly the sober type of annual event that can be appropriately solemnized with prayer."

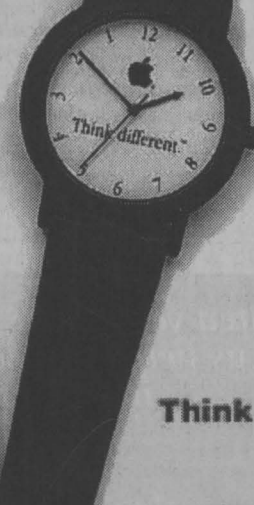
The Supreme Court is limiting its review to only the prayers-at-football games issue.

The school district responded to the 5th Circuit ruling by crafting strict guidelines banning pre-game prayer, and warned senior Marian Ward, elected by fellow students to deliver brief messages solemnizing football games, that she would be disciplined if she prayed.

Ward's family filed suit in September, arguing that the guidelines violated her free speech rights. A U.S. District Court judge agreed that the guidelines the school had written were unconstitutional and ruled that the school could not censor Ward's speech.

Ward was given a standing ovation when she delivered a prayer before the school's football home season opener.

Earlier this month in Texas' Republican primary, 94 percent of voters approved a nonbinding resolution backing student-initiated prayer at school sporting events.

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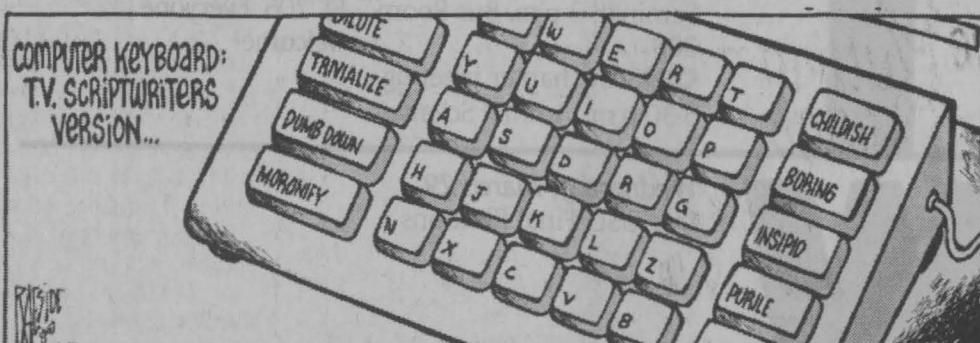


Stroke of Mid-Knight **BEN MINSON**

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Left Coast **RAESIDE**



Dave's busy remembering nursery rhymes

DAVE'S WORLD / Dave Barry



Today, I'd like to share with you my thoughts on the presidential campaign. Unfortunately, I don't have any, because my wife and I just had a baby.

The birth went very well from my perspective, which was the perspective of a person keeping an eye on the contractions via a hospital bedside computer monitor. My wife, who was experiencing the contractions in person, found it more challenging, although I know she appreciated my helpful reports:

ME (watching the monitor): OK, you're having a contraction now.

MICHELLE: AAAAAAAAAAARRRRRRGGGGGGHHHHHHH

ME: It looks like a big one.

MICHELLE: AAAAAAAAAAARRRRRRGGGGGGGGGGGGHHHHHHHHHHH

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

The contractions went on for what seemed like two years, although it was really only

about 14 months. In theory, the baby was supposed to be headed toward the exit at that point, but this particular baby seemed to like it in there. This baby was still up in the vicinity of Michelle's sinus cavities.

So with month 15 of labor looming, the doctors decided to remove the baby via Caesarian section, a medical procedure named for the Roman emperor Julius Section. They put up a curtain, with Michelle's head on one side and the rest of her body on the other. Michelle and I both stayed on the head side, so we saw nothing; the doctors could have been over there grafting on extra legs, or replacing Michelle's spleen with a harmonica, and we would have had no way of knowing.

Finally, the doctors shouted "Stand up, Dad!" This was my signal to stand up, look over the screen, and pass out.

No, seriously, I managed to remain conscious, because I was dying to know the baby's gender. There's a test they can do to determine the gender ahead of time; I think they insert a tiny photo of Leonardo DiCaprio into the uterus, and if the baby punches it, it's a boy. We had not had this test done. We

had, however, heard many strong opinions from total strangers. For some reason, total strangers feel compelled to do two things whenever they see a pregnant woman:

1. Touch her belly, as though her navel were an elevator button; and
2. Look her over, the way state-fair judges examine a cow, then loudly declare the baby's gender.

There was absolutely no doubt in anybody's mind that this baby was a boy. During the pregnancy at least 600 total strangers assured us of this fact. NOBODY thought it was a girl. So you will not be surprised to learn that when the moment came, the doctors reached in and pulled out 7 pounds, 9 ounces of Sophie Kaufman Barry.

As a trained journalist, I can state with total objectivity that she is the cutest little girl in the history of the world. The doctors took one look at her and immediately decided that they would shut down the hospital birthing unit, because this baby was so perfect that there was clearly no point in making any more.

OK, they didn't say that, but they agreed, under intensive interrogation from the father,

that the baby was pretty darned cute. She is also, of course, very gifted. I know this because the next morning, I carried Sophie over to the hospital-room window, and we looked out, and I told her that this was the world, and she should not get involved with it. I also told her that our policy regarding boys was that she would never be allowed to date or look directly at them. I could tell by her facial expression that she understood me completely. Although it might also have been gas.

So now we're in that mode -- you parents know the mode I'm talking about -- where you don't sleep much, and you find yourself celebrating a baby poop the way the French celebrated the liberation of Paris, and you walk around the house at 4:30 a.m. with the baby on your shoulder, trying to remember the words to lullabies. ("And if that Billy goat don't shed, papa's gonna buy you... a squirrel named Ed.")

My point is that lately I haven't had time to follow the presidential campaign, or to assess the current crop of candidates. I'm sure they're all fine men. But they're not getting near my daughter.

Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami FL

Candidate profiled

Due to an error, the following information was not forwarded by the ASUSU Elections Committee to The Statesman and was not printed with other candidate's biographical information last Wednesday. It is presented for your review today.

SERVICE VP
Alecia Fredrickson

Fredrickson is currently on the Val R. Christensen Service Center Council, serving as director of the USU Special Olympics Invitational.

Fredrickson said she has goals to improve the Service Center through leadership training, reflections and evaluations of each program, widening diversity and finding funding through grants.

"My position as the director of Special Olympics has prepared me for the office of Service VP," she said. "I plan to help others experience quality service with a purpose to better ourselves and the community around us."

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Achievement Award" ceremony, 7 p.m. TSC Ballroom.
• Pride! Alliance 7 p.m. TSC Room 335 Dr. Richley Crapo will be speaking

T

Tuesday, March 28

- Partners in Business Student Host Meeting for Human Resources Seminar, 3 p.m. Bus Room 320
- PRSAA chapter meeting, 5:30 p.m., Animal Science

Room 115, Professor Robyn Kratzer to speak
• Career Services at ASFHD activity, 4:30 p.m. FL 206. Everyone welcome!

W

Wednesday, March 29

- ASUSU Final Elections

F.Y.I.

• **Student Health Insurance representative** from GM-Southwest will be here on campus April 30 in the morning. If you have any issues or problems please contact Steve Jennings 797-0066 or e-mail jennings@admissions.usu.edu

• **LUAU** March 31, 5 pm. Tickets available NOW USU Ticket office. Luau Dress Rehearsal Saturday @ Weber, 9 am. MANDATORY. This is Polynesian Week. Join the fun activities and contests on the TSC Patio everyday at 12:30 p.m.

• **Val R. Christensen Service Center** is now accepting leadership applications for the 2000-01 school year. This is a great way to get involved. Pick up your application in TSC Room 327 Deadline April 6.

• The BLM has internships available in Archeology, Law Enforcement, Natural Resources, Physical Science, Rangeland Management, Recreation Planner, and Wildlife Biology. Contact Career services 797-7777.

• **Reception Welcoming B. Byron Price** - Executive Director of the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyo. and Robert Thacker - Editor of *American Review of Canadian Studies*. March 28, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Caine House at 691 E. 500 North. Also join us for a presentation "Western Art Museums" by B. Byron Price March 29 12:30-1:30 pm Nora Eccles Harrison Museum of Art, 650 N. 1100 East, Logan, UT Info. Mountain West Center for Regional Studies 797-3630.

• **ATTENTION FEMALE STUDENTS AND FACULTY!** We are currently recruiting volunteers for a nutrition study. Must be 18 to 45, taking birth control pills, NOT pregnant and NOT breastfeeding. Involves blood draws. Compensation provided. Contact Angie at 797-0896 or nfs306@hotmail.com.

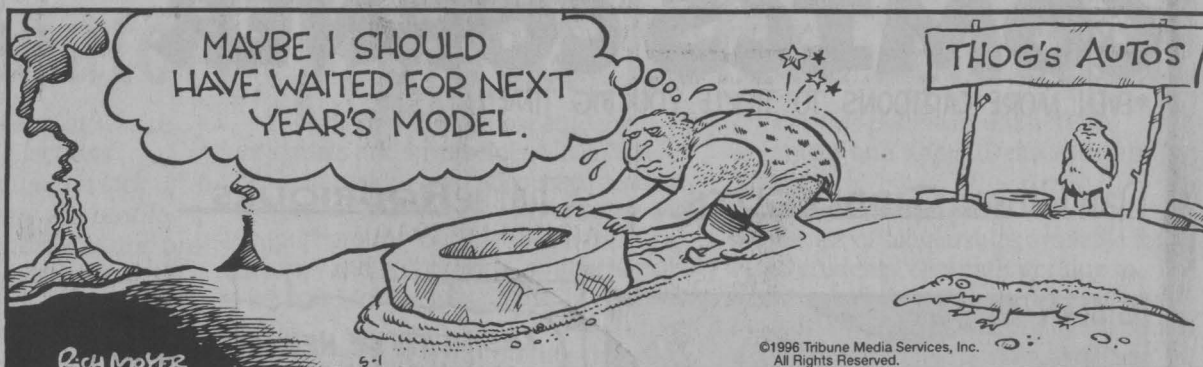
• **Peer Assistant** to assist with general academic advising, work with advisors. Must have completed one year at USU; be able to maintain confidentiality, minimum 3.3 GPA. Good interpersonal skills. \$525 stipend per semester. Pick up application in TSC Room 304, Deadline March 31.

• **Join STICKS!** Volunteer 1 to 2 hours a week to tutor in schools throughout the valley. For more information, and sign up, stop by the service center.

• Mark your calendar for the **Infancy, Childhood and Adolescence: Current Directions in Theory, Research and Application** 17th Annual Conference here at ECC, May 15 through 19; This conference provides compelling and cutting-edge information on topics related to both normative and deviant development, including factors related to child maltreatment and family/school environments. Info 797-9801

• The 2000/01 Graduate Scholarship applications are now available from the USU Women's Center. This is for Graduate reentry women with a gap of five or more years between undergraduate degree and entering graduate school. Contact 797-1728 or TSC Room 310.

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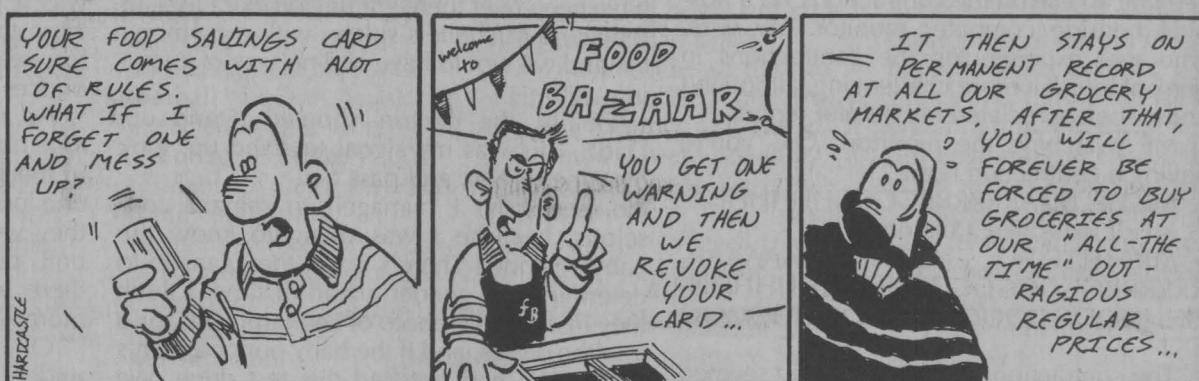
AG-gravation **NICK PERKINS**

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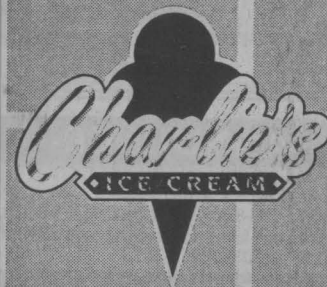


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COIN BUSTERS

40 Oz. Assorted
Malt-O-Meal Cereals

\$2.69

13 to 14 Oz. Assorted
Clover Club Potato Chips

3 for \$5

7 Oz. Assorted
Jeno's Frozen Pizza

79¢

In Store Coupon

Fresh Deli
8 Piece Fried Chicken

\$2.99

Offer Valid Until April 1, 2000
Only Good At Lee's Marketplace

Pint Red Ripe
California Strawberries

89¢

20 Oz.
Aquavista Water

BUY ONE GET ONE
FREE

9 Roll
Western Family Bath Tissue

\$1.99

12 Oz. Spaghetti, Macaroni or Sea Shells
Western Family Pasta

4 for \$1

Prices Effective Mar. 27-Apr. 1, 2000

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
27	28	29	30	31	1