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## The Utah Statesman, April 3, 2000

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### Do-gooders

Many Logan community members enjoy helping others

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Both the softball and baseball teams felt the pain of defeat

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# Utah Statesman

Campus Voice Since 1902

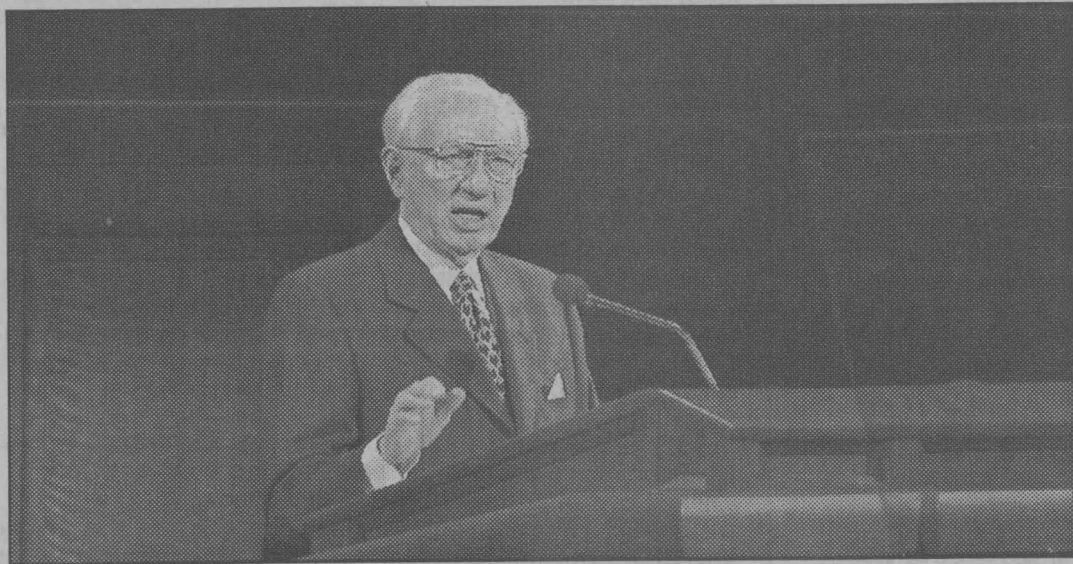
Statesman  
ONLINE

www.statesman.usu.edu

Utah State University, Logan Utah

Monday, April 3, 2000

## LDS church holds meeting in new building



Gordon B. Hinckley, President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, announced Sunday afternoon that worldwide membership in the Church is rapidly approaching 11 million.

VICKY CAMPBELL  
News Editor

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints plans to add six temples to its collection, including one to be constructed in Aba, Nigeria.

"And so we shall go on in the process of bringing temples to the people," said Latter-day Saint President Gordon B. Hinckley during the church's 170th Semiannual General Conference.

The other temples will be located in Asuncion, Paraguay; Helsinki, Finland; Lubbock, Texas; Snowflake, Ariz.; and one in the Tri-Cities area in Washington state (near Pasco, Richland and Kennewick, Wash.), he said.

According to the church, the six temples will bring the total number of Latter-day Saint temples worldwide to 121; 76 operating temples, 34 temples under construction and 11 temples still in the planning stage.

Hinckley said the church plans to dedicate 36 temples this year, which are used by the church for marriage cere-

monies as well as performing other sacred church ordinances. A number of other temples, he said, will probably not be completed until 2001 or 2002.

The announcement was made in the church's new 1.5 million square foot Conference Center (covering an entire 10-acre city block) located on North Temple across from Temple Square in Salt Lake City.

The building, which seats 21,000 people in addition to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the church's General Authorities, is 40 times the size of the Tabernacle in Temple Square where Conference was formerly held, according to the church.

"A year or so ago," Hinckley said, "I expressed the opinion that we may not be able to fill (the

Conference Center) initially — but already we're in trouble."

The auditorium was filled to capacity during all four sessions Saturday and Sunday and 370,000 tickets were

requested. It has taken three years to build the Conference Center, which is still unfinished but will be formally dedicated in October of this year. When completed, it will

also house a small theater that will seat 900 (half the size of the Capitol Theatre in Salt Lake City) and have four acres of landscaped roof including fountains, waterfalls, trees and a 3-acre meadow with irrigation systems, according to the church.

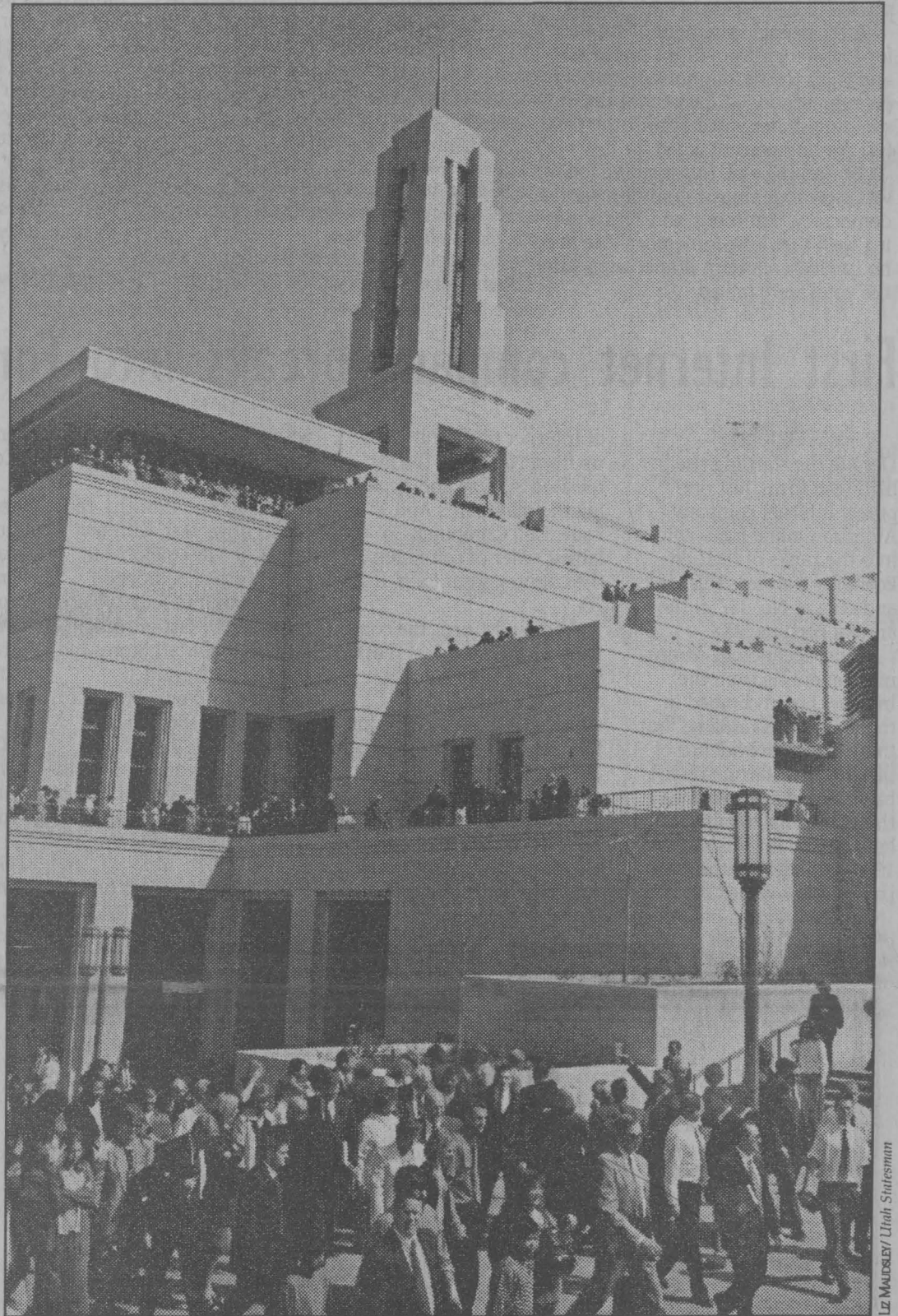
There are also facilities to translate up to 60 languages simultaneously, second only

Jump to **CONFERENCE**, Page 3

### QUICK FACTS

• An estimated 116,000 total cubic yards of concrete were poured for the new conference center.

• The King Truss — the main support beam for the building — weighs approximately 621 tons.



Thousands of people file out of the new Latter-day Saint Conference Center on the corner of North Temple and Main Street in Salt Lake City after the first session of General Conference on Sunday Morning. The 170th Semiannual General Conference, held this weekend, was the first to be held in the new building.

## Voting important: students should register soon

LARA GALE  
Staff Writer

The temporary life of college students may make voting and registering to vote a little more complicated for them than people in more permanent residence, but this doesn't have to stop students from participating in elections.

The first step is to register. A person only needs to register once to be eligible to vote unless he or she moves or changes his or her name. To vote, a person must register at least 20 days before the election.

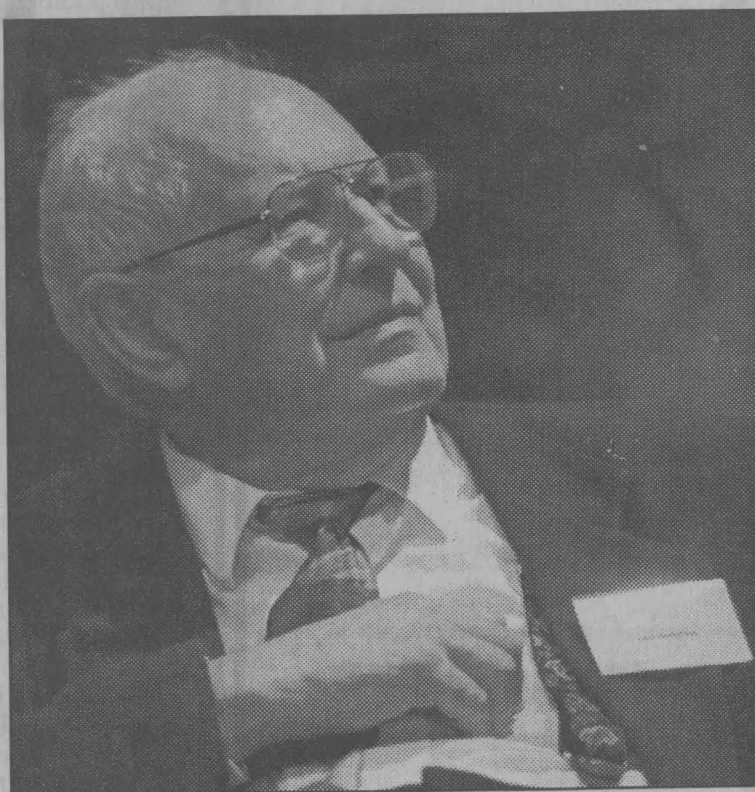
At Utah State University, registration forms are available in the office of the executive vice president of Associated Students of USU, Rian Winzler, executive vice president of ASUSU, said before election time, registration booths should be set up in the Taggart Student Center.

Forms can also easily be obtained at the Division of Motor Vehicles offices, most local post offices, most libraries, in the government section of the US West White Pages and over the Internet at [www.fec.gov/votereg-is/vr.htm](http://www.fec.gov/votereg-is/vr.htm), or at [www.rockthevote.org](http://www.rockthevote.org).

A person can only be registered to vote in one place, and can only vote for government officials of the place he is registered. A student registered to vote somewhere other than where he goes to school can change his voting residence at the county clerk's office, where he will be assigned to a new voting area, or precinct. He can also stay registered at his original residence and vote by absentee ballot. The residency chosen for voting applies only to voting and doesn't change a person's official residency.

An absentee ballot can be obtained by writing the county clerk of the place where

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Utah born and raised journalist Jack Anderson was honored with the Distinguished Service to Journalism award from USU's Communications Department with a dinner Friday night.

## Good work: USU honors Pulitzer prize-winning columnist

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Jack Anderson said the nature of the federal government has changed drastically during his 50-plus years in the news business.

But he cited one constant: the need for a strong, free press.

Anderson spoke during Utah State University's journalism and communication awards banquet Friday night. Anderson, who started his career at the Murray (Utah) Eagle, received

the school's Distinguished Service to Journalism Award.

Anderson said a free press is crucial because government tends to "oppress those who it has power over." He noted the Constitution doesn't guarantee a right to practice law or medicine or engage in commerce, but it sets up a watchdog role for the press.

"We've had moments of glory and moments of shame, but that is our function," he said.

## Wilderness groups join forces in rally to save Utah land

JESSICA WARREN  
Staff Writer

A dachshund wearing a shirt that said, "Wiener dogs for Wilderness" and signs proclaiming "Protect the West" and "4-wheelers 4 wilderness" adorned a Red Rock wilderness rally Saturday on the steps of the Utah State Capitol Building.

Organizations such as the Sierra Club, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Great Old Broads for Wilderness were on hand to show their support and educate others on the issues at a Red Rock Wilderness Rally.

Former Congressman Wayne Owens, known as the "Father of Wilderness," spoke on the progress of the Wilderness Act.

According to the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, the act calls for 9.1 million acres of federal public lands in Utah to be admitted into the National Wilderness Preservation System. The bill was introduced in 1989 by Owens. In 1999, the bill was reintroduced after another inventory by the Utah Wilderness Coalition was taken of the land involved, with some additional land being added, according to SUWA.

Ken Venables, with the UWC, said the goal of the legislation is to have better policing of the area, particularly with off-road vehicles using designated trails.

"Off-road vehicles are, in fact the number one threat to wilderness, in the top 10," Venables said.

According to Venables, the land designated in the bill still has trails and dirt roads that enable access to the land.

Also, land designated as wilderness can still be used for cattle grazing and mining.

"The whole issue of access is null and void," Venables said.

In looking at how Venables wants Utah land to be used and preserved, the Wilderness Act fits the bill, he said.

Susan Tixier, executive director for Great Old Broads for Wilderness, advocated the importance of preserving land for future generations. She said she is a defender of the members of society who are unable to enjoy wilderness for themselves because of health problems, allergies, etc.

Old Broads for Wilderness is an organization devoted to the future. For her, the Wilderness Act is "for all grandchildren for all time."

According to a press release from the Utah Wilderness Coalition, the rally was to send a message of support for the act to politicians.

Their concern, according to the press release, is that although polls have shown support by Utahns, Utah's members of Congress have not introduced legislation for wilderness protection.

Attendees had the opportunity to join wilderness organizations and volunteer time to help with their cause. People of all ages were in attendance — couples, groups, children, bicyclists and people with their dogs.



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# WORLD & NATION

## Two thumbs down

### Zions shareholders voted down First Security merger

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Zions Bancorp. shareholders voted down a proposed merger with First Security Corp. on Friday, killing a plan that started to look sickly in early March.

After a tepid statement of support for the merger from Zions president and CEO Harris Simmons, shareholders representing 45 percent of the outstanding shares voted against the plan. Just over 33 percent voted for it.

"If nothing else, this meeting today was a great demonstration of corporate democracy," Simmons said. "It's a meeting we'll sure long remember." He had no further comment immediately after the votes were tallied.

The vote is a blow to First Security, whose shareholders approved their half of the agreement last week.

The plan called for First Security shareholders to receive .442 shares in the combined company for each of their shares; Zions shareholders would have gotten one share in the combined company for each share they own.

"I am not surprised at all," said Eric Reim, a market analyst with U.S. Bancorp Piper Jaffray in Minneapolis. "I think what the vote reflected was the shareholders' belief that the way this deal was structured and with what has transpired, it did not make economic sense to Zions shareholders."

That was the word from the investment banking firm Goldman, Sachs Group Inc., which announced in March it no longer considered the deal fair to Zions' shareholders.

Originally worth \$5.9 billion in stock when it was announced in June, the

deal as of Friday valued First Security closer to \$3.4 billion. The drop came in early March, when First Security panicked investors with an announcement that first quarter earnings were expected to drop by as much as 27 percent.

"I think that what probably turned the tide on the no vote was the institutional investors, who were more swayed by the Goldman, Sachs letter," said George Paulson, a Zions shareholder who voted against the merger.

The letter spurred Zions managers to postpone their shareholder meeting until Friday in case investors wanted to change their vote. That move drew ire from First Security CEO Spencer Eccles, who suggested Zions managers were reneging on their end of the deal.

"We're disappointed that the Zions' shareholders voted against the merger," First Security spokeswoman Jackelin

Jump to MERGER, Page 14

## WorldGLANCE

### ➤ Opposition leader is new Senegal president

DAKAR, Senegal (AP) — Longtime opposition leader Abdoulaye Wade was sworn in as president of Senegal on Saturday, ending the 40-year rule of one party here.

About 80,000 people filled the national stadium in the capital, Dakar. They cheered wildly and chanted "sopi" — "change" in the Wolof language.

"My election has opened up a new era, that of democratic change," Wade said after he was sworn in by the president of the constitutional court. "Henceforth the people of Africa will know that democratic change is possible and will fight for it."

The election was a rare peaceful and democratic power transfer on a continent plagued by election fraud, coups and civil wars.

Former President Abdou Diouf, who came to power in 1981, did not wait for the official results before conceding defeat to his rival in a runoff ballot last month. Wade won 58.5 percent of the vote to 41.5 percent for Diouf.

Throughout Saturday's ceremony, thousands of excited spectators flooded the field to try to get a better view of the proceedings. Security officials, who initially fought back spectators with batons, eventually gave up and allowed them to fill the field. At least 10 people were injured.

### ➤ Colombian rebels free 74 prisoners

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Leftist rebels stormed a provincial jail, detonating a powerful car bomb to rip a hole in the prison wall and free 74 prisoners, officials said Sunday.

Guerrillas from the National Liberation Army and the People's Liberation Army unleashed automatic fire Saturday night against guards at the Modelo jail in Cucuta near the Venezuelan border, said regional police commander Col. Rafael Cepeda.

Prisoners inside the jail joined in the onslaught and fighting continued in the streets for more than an hour. A total of 74 inmates escaped, taking one guard with them as a hostage.

Two prison guards were wounded and four prisoners were killed, said Gen. Alfonso Arellano, operations director of the Colombian National Police.

Most of the escapees were militants of the two rebel groups or the country's largest guerrilla group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC.

### ➤ Remaing Beatles to reunite for book

LONDON (AP) — Thirty years after they split up, the three surviving Beatles have written a book setting the record straight about the "Fab Four." Sir Paul McCartney's spokesman said Sunday.

McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr have spent six years writing the 360-page "Beatles Anthology," to be published in Britain and the United States in the fall. The book will provide the frankest account of how the band ruled the pop world in the 1960s.

"We're talking a huge volume of work, it's encyclopedic — it weighs something like two kilos (4.4 pounds)," said Geoff Baker, McCartney's spokesman.

"It goes across the board, everything is in there. It is about the Beatles as a band, the music, but it deals with everything else — the tours, the drugs, the disputes," Baker said. "This book answers all the questions."

Yoko Ono, the widow of John Lennon, the fourth Beatle who was shot to death in New York in 1980, will receive a quarter share of the profits, the newspaper said.

"It will dispel some of the myths ... as every Tom, Dick and uncle of a friend has been writing books on the Beatles since 1963," the newspaper quoted McCartney as saying.

Among other things, the book will counter the widely held belief that McCartney wanted the band to split up. Lennon was actually the first to walk away, Baker said, leaving McCartney, 57, Harrison, 57, and Starr, 59, have collected 1,200 photographs, mostly unpublished, for the book, Baker said.

### ➤ Dixie Chicks song banned by some

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Dixie Chicks has some people steamed over its new country single about two women who kill an abusive husband.

"Goodbye Earl" is stirring a debate over whether the record sheds light on the problem of domestic violence or condones a murder by the abused victim.

In the song, the wife poisons her abusive husband's black-eyed peas.

Some radio programmers are airing the single less frequently than might be expected of a new song from the popular trio, the Los Angeles Times reported Saturday.

Lon Helton, country music editor for Radio & Records, said about 20 of 149 country stations that the trade newspaper tracks are still not playing it.

"My question is, what do we do a song about next: school shootings?" remarked John Pellegrini, program director of York, Pa., station WGTU-FM, which is not playing the record.

Dixie Chicks manager Simon Renshaw said Sony Nashville and Monument Records officials were reluctant to release it as a single when the album came out, but relented once the trio decided to sing it at the Grammys.

### ➤ Actress Halle Berry surrenders to police

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actress Halle Berry, charged with leaving the scene of an accident that injured another driver, surrendered Saturday to sheriff's deputies.

Berry went to the Lennox station of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, where she was booked on a misdemeanor warrant and released, Sgt. Ronald Fernstrom said.

The charge, filed Friday by the district attorney's office, is the result of a Feb. 23 crash at a Sunset Strip intersection in West Hollywood. If convicted, the 31-year-old star of the cable TV movie "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge" could face up to one year in county jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Authorities contend that Berry's rented Chevrolet Blazer ran a red light, struck another car and then left the scene. The actress suffered a gash in her forehead that took 22 stitches to close.

The other driver, Hatal Raythatha, has sued Berry for negligence. She suffered a broken wrist and contends she also had back and neck injuries.

## First Internet company breaks into Fortune 500

NEW YORK (AP) — Despite the startling rise in high-tech firms, just one purely Internet company — America Online Inc. — broke into the ranks of the Old Economy stalwarts this year, and only at No. 337 in the annual Fortune 500.

Other technology companies benefiting from the Internet boom climbed in the magazine's rankings, but there was little evidence of the Internet startups that have turned twentysomethings into millionaires because the list is based on 1999 revenue, not the companies' stock values.

MCI Worldcom Inc., one of the world's largest carriers

of Internet traffic, hit No. 25, up from No. 80, in the list released Sunday and appearing in the magazine's April 17 issue. Dell Computer Co., the largest seller of computers in the country, went to 56 from 78.

Microsoft Corp., the company with the highest market value, rose to 84 from 109, and Cisco Systems Inc., which makes equipment for the Internet, advanced to 146 from 192.

AOL wasn't the only history-maker. Amgen Inc. became the first biotechnology company, landing at 463. And Hewlett-Packard Co., No. 13, was the highest-ranking Fortune 500 company

with a female chief executive, Carleton Fiorina.

General Motors Corp. remained No. 1 for the 12th consecutive year, with revenues of \$189 billion, but Ford Motor Co. dropped from second to fourth place, displaced by fast-growing retailer Wal-Mart Stores Inc., previously in third.

GM's lead over Wal-Mart, which had \$166 billion in revenue, may look sizable, but Wal-Mart has had annual growth in the double digits for more than a decade, while GM's revenue dropped in 1998.

In third place was oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp., following the merger of Exxon Corp.

previously No. 4, and Mobil Corp., ranked No. 6 in 1998.

General Electric Co. remained fifth in revenue, but led in profits, stuffing its coffers with \$10.7 billion. The grandfather of computer companies, International Business Machines Corp. stayed in sixth place, followed by Citigroup Inc., also unchanged from last year.

AT&T Corp. climbed from 10th to eighth, pushing down Philip Morris Cos. Inc. to ninth. Boeing Co. fell from ninth to 10th.

Investment bank Goldman Sachs Group Inc., which went public last year, is the highest-ranked newcomer, at No. 54.

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## USU students not as concerned about politics as professors were

BILLIE READ  
Staff Writer

Several professors at Utah State University feel students on this campus are not as concerned about politics as people were during the years they attended college.

Professors Jay Anderson, Peter Galderisi, Michael Lyons and Robyn Kratzer all said they voted, but their reasons for this activity differ.

Anderson, a history professor, said voting was important during his college years because he and his peers "were going to change the world."

Galderisi and Lyons, political science professors, said they were unable to vote while in college because the 26th amendment had not been passed. This amendment gave 18-year-olds the right to vote. Galderisi said even though his vote probably did not matter, he and his peers voted for reasons of "self-gratification." Lyons said he and others his age voted out of "patriotic commitment."

Kratzer, a professor in the

Journalism and Communication department, said voting was extremely important and was done to "promote change."

People that are older have a higher sense of obligation to vote because of their experiences, Galderisi said.

Each professor recalled events that impacted him or her in a unique way.

Anderson said when he was attending college, he was active in politics and involved in the Civil Rights Movement. Anderson saw many changes and said he still believes voting is important.

Kratzer and Galderisi both attended college during the Vietnam War, and said the war was a major concern for both of them. Kratzer attended the University of Iowa and Galderisi earned his doctorate at Cornell. Kratzer's schooling continued into President Richard Nixon's term, and she said most everyone was concerned about voting because they were dealing with a "corrupt institution that they didn't agree with or support."

Lyons said the event that had the most impact on him was the increase in oil prices and the effects it had on the economy. The increase happened during the mid-'70s while he was attending graduate school at the University of California in Santa Barbara. He said everyone was in "despair" and felt their prospects for the future were terrible.

Anderson and Lyons attribute some of the youth's apathy to the area. Anderson said, "Utah is a theocracy" run by the Latter-day Saint church. He said that making changes through voting is difficult in this state and it frustrates some of his students.

Lyons said students may find voting more interesting if they were able to "reflect on the philosophies of both the Democratic and Republican parties." He said the Republican party is so dominant that students are unable to see both sides.

Galderisi said he believes most students at USU "don't care" and some are "turned off" from politics.

## Voter turnout seen significant decrease

LARA GALE  
Staff Writer

With state and presidential elections coming up, this is a big year for the American voice. But if history is any indication, playing a part in the democratic process may not be the first thing on most college students' minds.

Voters ages 18 to 24 have historically shown a low turnout at the polls; in recent years numbers have dropped even lower, according to the U.S. Bureau of the Census. In 1964, nearly 51 percent of eligible voters in this age category voted.

Since then, turnout has gradually decreased, hovering between 40 and 20 percent. In the last election, 32.4 percent of eligible 18 to 24-year-olds, voted and less than half were registered to vote.

Of all age groups combined, just over half of those eligible exercised their right to vote in the last election. While numbers have been this low before and tend to fluctuate, Census Bureau data shows the overall trend is downward.

More than one in five didn't go to the polls last election because they were busy, according to a Census Bureau report. Another 17 percent of non-voting registered people reported not voting because of apathy about the political process.

Cache County Clerk Daryl Downs said students who cite these as reasons for not voting need to learn more about the political process.

"They don't understand their own freedom if they don't appreciate the right to have a part in the process," he said.

He said far from being an inconvenience, the right to vote should be appreciated as a way to help directly control our quality of life.

A large segment of the population falls between the ages of 18 and 24 — large enough to "make a huge difference," said Sarah West, voter outreach coordinator at the State Capitol.

"There is such a large population that if students were involved they could affect races, or even the outcome,"

said West. "And that's what democracy is all about."

College students, with their tendency to move around a lot, are a particularly hard group for politicians to reach, she said, and hot issues addressed during political campaigns, like social security, often don't affect them.

"Students don't get involved because politicians aren't talking to them," she said. "But it's kind of a double-edged sword." If students had a more active voice in politics, their concerns and issues would more likely be addressed, she said.

West works with groups of college students who volunteer to bring this message to their peers. She said these students encourage their peers to get involved in the political process not just by voting, but also by serving as campaign volunteers. Because people vote for representatives who will keep their interests in mind, West said she suggests students read about the issues to choose a candidate they like and help support his campaign.

A 21-year-old college student organized Republican presidential candidate Alan Keyes' campaign, she said. State candidates, too, benefit from the help of college student supporters.

For students who aren't interested in politics, simply voting can help them feel more connected to the government, when otherwise it can seem like a very distant entity, she said. Even if a student votes and does nothing else, it's important he reads about the candidates and makes a responsible decision, she said.

Information about presidential candidates is easily found in newspapers, magazines and on Web sites. State candidates are a little harder to find information on. Downs said students can call the Cache County Clerk's office for some information about state candidates, but they also need to actively search by reading and watching the news because no government source is responsible for dispersing information about the candidates or their views.

## NewsBRIEFS

### ➤ STAB presents double feature

The Student Activity Board (STAB) will be presenting a double feature movie night tonight at 7 p.m. in the Kent Concert Hall. STAB will be showing edited versions of *The Thomas Crown Affair* and *The Matrix*. *The Thomas Crown Affair* will show at 7 p.m. and *The Matrix* at 9:30 p.m. Admission is free.

### ➤ Kappa Delta hosts Star Search

Kappa Delta is hosting Star Search tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Taggart Student Center Ballroom. Tickets can be purchased in the TSC Ticket Office.

### ➤ RHSA holds Death on Deck

The Resident Hall Student Association (RHSA) will be hosting a Death on Deck Murder Mystery April 7 at 6 p.m. The event will be held in the Taggart Student Center Ballroom and all proceeds will benefit RHSA and on-campus residents. Tickets are \$7 with a Resident's Club Card and \$9 without. They can be purchased in the TSC Ticket Office.

### ➤ USU celebrates mothers with weekend

Mother's Weekend 2000 will be held Saturday, April 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$15 per person. The guest speaker for the event will be Margaret Parry, founder of Teach for the Cure.

Musical guest will be Paul Cardall, a contemporary jazz pianist and composer of "The Christmas Box" and "The Looking Glass." The event will also include lunch, a USU Bookstore raffle, CD signing, photo opportunities and more.

For information and tickets contact the USU Parents Association in Taggart Student Center Room 302 or at 797-1128.

### ➤ Police officer on leave for shooting

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A Salt Lake City police SWAT team officer is on administrative leave for shooting to death a knife-wielding man after a three-hour standoff.

The man, who was not identified by police, may have taken too much medicine for manic depression, Salt Lake Police Capt. Scott Atkinson said.

Officers responded to a domestic dispute complaint Friday night.

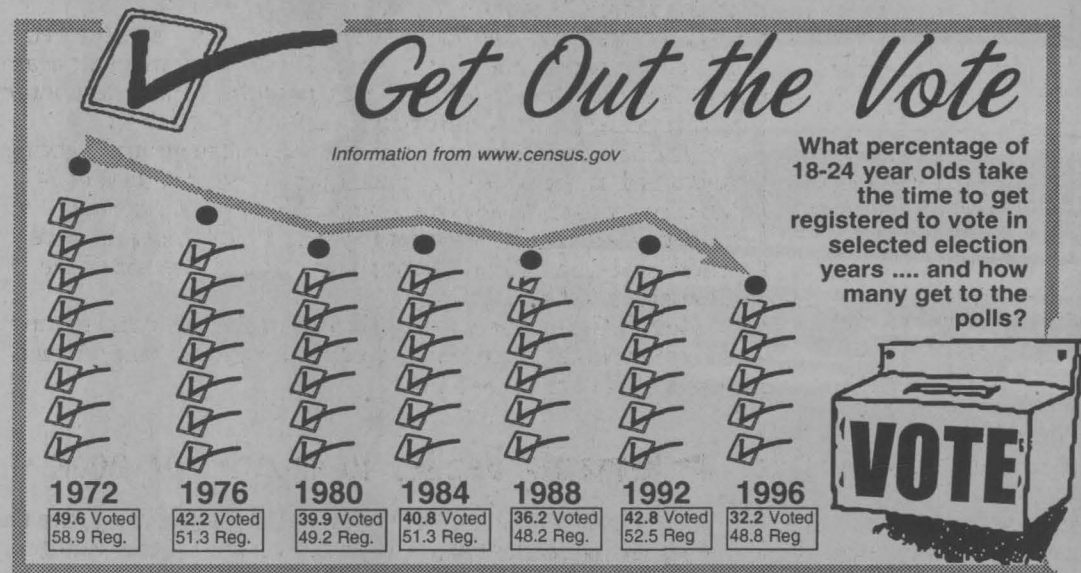
"(Officers) found the victim in the front yard yelling and screaming and carrying on," Atkinson said. He brandished a pair of hunting knives and threw things at officers, then retreated to the house.

For three hours officers tried to negotiate before launching tear gas into the home early Saturday morning. Suspecting the man may have attempted suicide, officers entered the house and the man rushed at officers with a kitchen knife.

"Again, we hit him with a bean bag and that momentarily stops him. He continues to advance. The officer fires," Atkinson said. The officer who fired wasn't identified.

It was the first police shooting death in Salt Lake City this year and the third in the state.

Briefs compiled by  
USU and STATESMAN STAFF



## REGISTRATION

Continued from Page 1

a person is registered to vote. The county clerk will mail out the ballot, which the voter fills out and returns no later than the day before the election.

Daryl Downs, Cache County clerk, said enough options are available that any

eligible person who wants to vote should be able to. He said students should watch the papers and the newscasts to keep up on political events. Below are some important dates:

**May 5 to May 6:** Democratic Party State Convention (State elections)

**May 6:** Republican Party State Convention (State elections)

**June 7:** Last day to register to vote for primary elections

**June 16, June 19:** Voter registration at satellite registration sites from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**June 27:** Primary election day (State elections)

**Oct. 18:** Last day to register to vote for general elections.

**Nov. 6:** By-mail absentee ballots must be postmarked

**Nov. 11:** General Election Day

## CONFERENCE

Continued from Page 1

to the United Nations, according to the church.

"We hope that those not of our faith will come here, experience the ambiance of this beautiful place and feel grateful for its presence," Hinckley said.

In addition to his announcements, Hinckley appealed to church members to be more tolerant, neighborly, friendly and more of an example than they have been in the past.

"We are greatly misunderstood, and I fear that much of it is our own making," he said. "Let us teach our children to treat others with friendship, respect, love and admiration. That will yield a far

better result than will an attitude of egotism and arrogance."

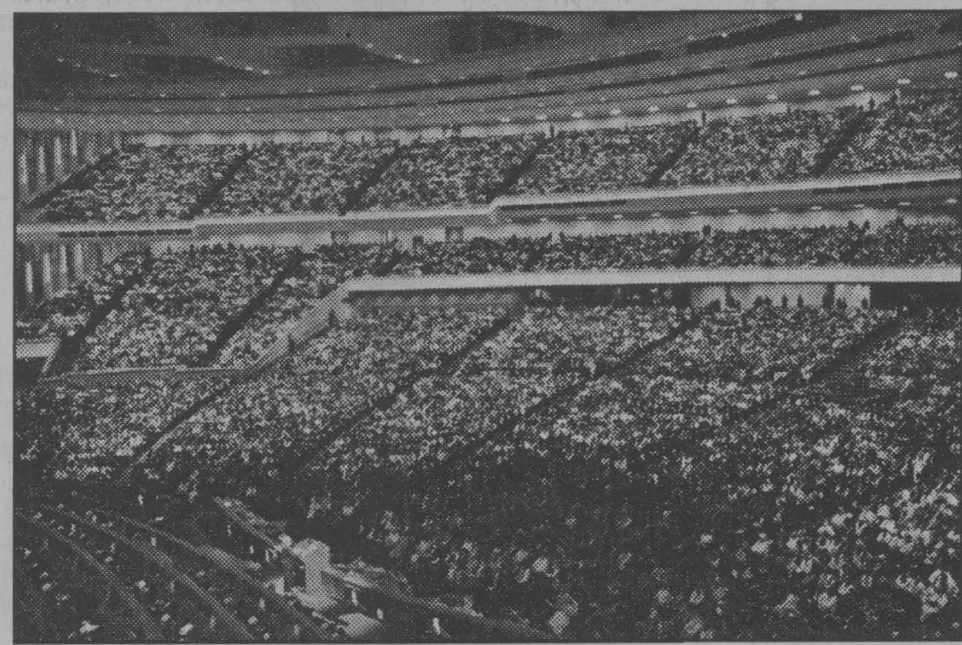
He also spoke of the black walnut tree used to build the pulpit in the Conference Center.

He said he planted the tree in his backyard 36 years ago and for some reason it died last year.

"Here I am speaking to you from the tree I grew in my backyard where my children played and also grew," he said.

He expressed gratitude for being able to have "a small touch of mine" in the new building where "the voices of prophets will go out to all the world in testimony of the Redeemer of mankind."

For full-text copies of the Conference talks, as well as photos, visit the church's Web site at [www.lds.org](http://www.lds.org).



Saturday and Sunday marked the first semiannual General Conference of the century for the Latter-day Saint Church. It was held in the new Conference Center which seats 21,000 people.

## PoliceBLOTTER

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

### Friday, March 24

• USU Police Department received a report of an individual who had put handcuffs on himself and did not have a handcuff key to remove them.

• Individuals reported fliers for a party at the Pi Kappa House were being placed on vehicles. Student services had not been contacted about this activity.

### Saturday, March 25

• The phone alarm near the tennis courts was activated. No one in the area needed assistance upon police investigation.

### Monday, March 27

• USU Police responded to a report of a fire in a university bus engine, which had been extinguished prior to police notification.

• USU police received a report of a prank note that was left at the University Inn.

### Tuesday, March 28

• Police responded to Mountain View Tower on an elevator that was stuck on the first floor. Those inside were able to free themselves, and the elevator was operating normally when the police arrived.

• A dead bird was found hanging in

the stairwell of Merrill Hall.

### Wednesday, March 29

• USU police responded to an intrusion alarm from Old Main.

### Thursday, March 30

• Police received a call of a smell of gas in the Industrial Science building.

• Police received report of several Housing incidents with information leading to a suspect.

• An individual reported that the windshield of her car was damaged while it was parked. Damage estimate is \$300.

• Police responded to a report of an individual that accidentally spilled a chemical on his face. Paramedics responded and the individual was treated.

• USU Police Department received a report of a smell of gas in Room 108 of the SEER Building.

• USU Police Department responded to a fire alarm at Snow Hall.

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.



## CommunityWATCH

### Local businessman honors students' achievements

CORINNE KATOR  
Senior Features Writer

Jeff Parker eats lunch every day. But on Mondays, lunch is special.

Each Monday, Parker, the owner of Jeff Parker Car and Truck Country in Logan, eats lunch with two students from elementary and middle schools in Cache Valley. The students are there as part of the Student-of-the-Month program Parker initiated with local schools.

Parker said the Cache Education Foundation contacted him and other business leaders six years ago and asked them for support. Parker responded with donations of funds and with the Student-of-the-Month program.

Parker said he struggled in school as a boy. Although he worked hard and got along well with his teachers, he never was "real academic." Parker said he thinks such students need some recognition, a reward for their efforts.

His Student-of-the-Month program is designed to honor not the top students, but those who have worked to improve their grades or citizenship. The students are selected by their teachers for completing goals they have set for themselves.

Kelly Rindlisbacher, principal of Spring Creek Middle School, said he especially likes the program because it honors students whose efforts

don't often get recognized. Rindlisbacher referred to the students as "Most Improved Students" rather than as Students-of-the-Month. He said Parker's program aims at recognizing those who can use "a little shot of good attention."

To reward the students, Parker said he makes them a certificate of achievement, and then he and his wife, Lisa, take the students to lunch at a local restaurant. He said the students always bring a friend along to help them feel more comfortable.

Rindlisbacher said bringing along a friend is also a good way for the students to get recognition from their peers. Parker often brings baseball caps to the boys and flowers to the girls.

After lunch he takes the kids out to his dealership to see his collection of animals and Western artifacts. Parker said he likes to talk with the kids and "just spend some good time with them." At the end of each school year Parker and the schools hold an awards ceremony to honor the year's Students-of-the-Month.

Parker said the program has grown over the last six years. He began working with two schools, and today he involves three middle schools and three elementary schools from throughout the valley. With six students-of-the-month and only four

Mondays in a month, Parker has had to enlist the help of one of his employees. Jeremy Zesiger, a student at Utah State University, takes two of the students and the Parkers take the other four.

Parker said he and his wife have been happy to help the valley's schools. They see it as a way to "give back" to the community, he said.

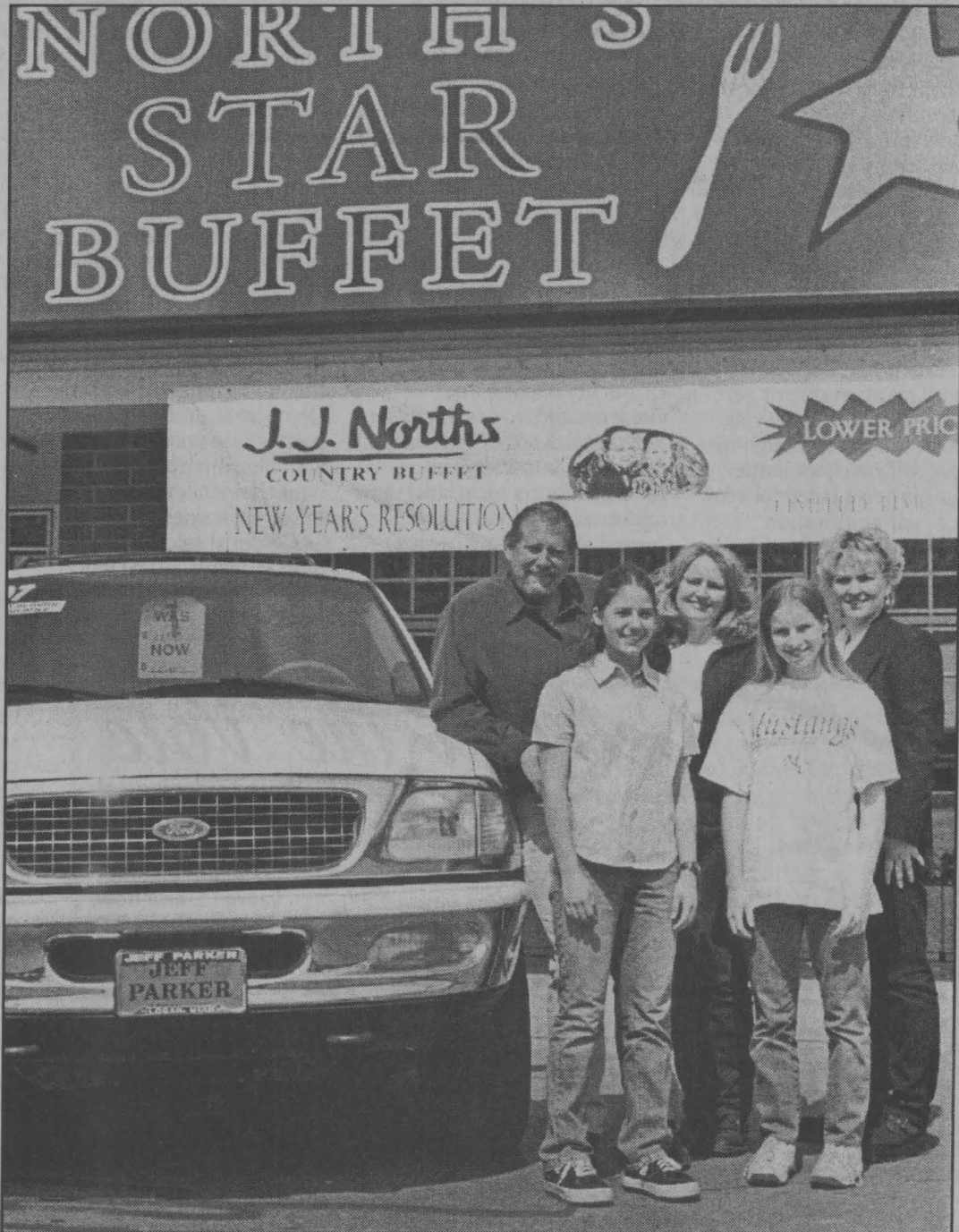
"We've done lots of things in the community," Parker said, "but this Student-of-the-Month program that we initiated has been the neatest, most gratifying thing we've done."

Parker has received some positive feedback on the program. He said he gets letters of gratitude from parents and recently received a letter from Governor Leavitt thanking him for being civic-minded.

Rindlisbacher said the school also appreciates Parker's effort.

"I think it's a great program," he said.

Some of the best feedback Parker gets is from the students. Parker said he often sees the students around town and enjoys talking with them and "seeing them grow up." A press release from Parker's dealership said Parker is greeted by students wherever he goes. Whether in the grocery store or at the park, the students stop to say "hi" because they know they have found a friend.



Jeff Parker, owner of Jeff Parker Car and Truck Country, and his wife Lisa Parker, reward students Lisa Ferrara, front left, and Jill Stokes, with their counselor Kristin Nielsen, back right, from South Cache Middle School by taking the girls to lunch at North's Star Buffet last Monday. Parker rewards two new students each week.

### Protecting the Little Ones

BRYCE CASSELMAN  
Staff Writer

Cache County's Children's Justice Center deals with abused and neglected children on a daily basis, offering a non-threatening environment for investigation work and a brighter future for the children who enter its doors.

The main purpose of the facility is to have a comfortable environment for children that have been through a traumatic experience to go to for examination, as opposed to a police station or a hospital, said Bill Burnard, the director of the justice center.

The facility is a "one stop shopping center to do all the interviewing for those involved, in a non-traumatic environment," Burnard said.

During 1998 the Center received 340 reported cases of abuse in Cache Valley. The included 123 sexual abuse cases and around the same number of cases dealing with physical abuse, said Burnard, not all of which are substantiated, but all worthy of an interview.

"The Children's Justice Center is not about the past, but the future and making it better," Burnard said.

The Center deals with children from infants to 17-year-olds and is equipped with two rooms with state of the art video and tape recording systems, Burnard said. Police and parents can watch and interact with the interview, which can also be used as evidence, which keeps the child out of court and reduces the trauma they experience. With correctly executed interviews, less than 10 percent of all cases go to court, Burnard said.

"It's really gut wrenching to try to watch the kids talk about it," said Burnard, but "as you see the kids come through here, there's no doubt in your mind that you're doing the right thing."

Burnard has volunteered for the Center for four years and became the director a year ago, seeing the new facility being built from the ground up.

"I poured the foundation myself," Burnard said. "It is the ugliest part of the building."

According to Burnard, every part of the Center was donated, from the framing, spearheaded by Tom Dickinson and the Logan City Building Inspectors, to electricity donated by Doug Maughan and several other local businesses.

The building houses a conference center, offices, a surveillance room, two interview rooms, a children's room with dolls, a table and toys Burnard said. There is also a youth room with music posters, couches and a stereo, and both are highlighted with lava-lamps he added.

There will be a state of the art medical room once there is enough funding, said Burnard, where a nurse practitioner will be able to send pictures to a team at Primary Children's Medical Center and converse with them directly. Currently, children must go to the Children's Justice Center in Ogden to be examined since no doctors in town are willing to do so here, Burnard said.

Pictures chosen from a contest held in Cache Valley elementary schools with art depicting happiness decorate the walls of the Center.

"There are some light times," Burnard said.

"And some not-so light times," added Linda Powell, a volunteer at the Center and a junior at Utah State University, majoring in psychology.

Volunteering with the Children's Justice Center Program for almost two years now, Powell became involved because of a sociology class.

"I went to the training to see what it was all about and haven't been able to get away from it," Powell said.

Powell is now helping to create the Child Advocate Program for the center, where volunteers are invited into the home of the children that come through the center and provides a non-judgmental outlet.

Each volunteer is assigned to a child after 40 hours of training, which is followed by a monthly inservice meeting to stay current, Powell said. Some of the duties of the advocate are to take the child on special outings, assess the needs of the child and relate any further investigation that may be required she said.

Other volunteer opportunities available at the Center are transcription help, watching siblings of someone being interviewed and general secretarial duties, all performed on an on-call basis Burnard said.

For more information on how to become involved or volunteer for the Children's Justice Center, call 753-7017.

### Making the center a reality

The Cache County Children's Justice Center will be the site of a service project on Wednesday for students from Utah State University's landscape architecture program. Starting at 2 p.m. students will work to beautify the land around the center.

Though the center works with children who are victims of abuse situations, it is not affiliated with CAPSA.

The focus of the center is to help children and young adults deal with the feelings and emotions that come from abuse.

The center will provide information, education and help to the public.

### Keeping a watch on baby

DEBBIE LAMB  
Staff Writer

A child can bring a parent the most joy and cause the most stress. When a child does not progress as rapidly as the child next door adults may become concerned about any disabilities or developmental problems that could exist.

"Disabilities happen to every social economic group," Emma Speth, service coordinator said. "There's not a specific group of people that come to the center."

Baby Watch is a non-profit program sponsored through the Utah Department of Health that serves children from infancy to 3 years old who have developmental delays or disabilities, Paul Wightman, the Child Find specialist for Baby Watch, said.

"Baby Watch started out federally and it came into Utah through Gov. Leavitt and his wife," Speth said. "Mrs.

Leavitt was actually the one who founded the Baby Watch program. Baby Your Baby and Baby Watch is a little bit combined. Baby Your Baby does the prenatal care and Baby Watch does the postnatal care."

The program is run throughout Utah, with the main Baby Watch office located in Salt Lake City. The office, which serves Cache, Rich and Box Elder Counties, is located on the USU campus in the Center for Persons with Disabilities building behind the Edith Bowen Elementary School. There are 15 other baby watch offices throughout the state.

"The babies do not come here directly — it is through referrals," Speth said. "Anyone can refer a baby to the Baby Watch program as long as the parents know that they are referring the child to the program."

"We do an intake to find out what the concerns are of

the parents," Speth said. "Then it goes out to our nurses and they go out and do an assessment on the child. The names come back and are staffed at our staff meetings. A service coordinator and whatever specialists they need are next assigned to the family. They go out and do their assessments on the case."

The nurses assist with the assessments of the child, Wightman said. They also go in to get family history and medical histories to find out the concerns for the family, Speth said.

"Finding out the concerns of the family makes it possible for our specialist to go in, whether a physical therapist or speech/language pathologist go in and do further assessments focused on the concern and from there the assessment will tell what help is needed," Wightman said.

Three months before a

Jump to **BABY**, Page 7

### After-school programs help kids

CORINNE KATOR  
Senior Features Writer

According to the Logan Police Department, there were 793 juvenile arrests in Cache Valley in 1992. In 1996 the number of juvenile arrests rose to 1,232, and in 1998 the number increased again to 1,442.

One youth service organization in the valley is working to curb this trend. The Boys & Girls Club of Cache Valley seeks to reduce juvenile crime by providing service clubs and after-school programs for teens and children.

According to a brochure from the Boys & Girls Club, the majority of crimes committed by juveniles in Cache

County occur between 2 and 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday. The Boys & Girls Club provides supervision for children during these critical hours while parents are at work.

There are currently five after-school programs operating in Cache Valley for an average of three hours per day. These programs are located at the Edith Bowen, Hillcrest, Providence and Summit elementary schools and at the Cache Valley Learning Center.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cache Valley is "to promote social, emotional and physical well being of children ages five to 18 through supervised enrichment activities," says

their brochure. These activities include arts and crafts, tutoring sessions and physical activities.

Dennis Allen, a student at Utah State University, is the site director for the after-school program at the Cache Valley Learning Center. Allen said his site serves kids between the ages of five and 14.

"We have an average of eight to 20 kids, depending on the day," Allen said.

He said his site provides a variety of activities that are often based on a weekly theme. These activities include art, athletics, music, guest speakers, sports, and field trips.

Jump to **CLUB**, Page 5





Curtis Chong, the National Federation of the Blind's technology director, front, and Richard Ring, supervisor of the International Braille and Technology Center for the Blind, test and evaluate equipment from manufacturers.

## Providing help for the blind

KEVIN WASHINGTON  
The Baltimore Sun

People with sight seem fixated on the mouse as an aid to blind computer users. But Richard Ring and Curtis Chong say those who can see are looking in the wrong direction.

"We get a lot farther with the keyboard," says Ring, who tests hardware and software at the National Federation of the Blind's technology center.

Chong, the NFB's technology director, and Ring, supervisor of the International Braille and Technology Center for the Blind, are both blind and spend their days making side-by-side comparisons of devices and programs designed to help others who can't see.

On the second floor of a warehouse in South Baltimore, they rate the voices of screen-readers that translate written text displayed on a monitor, measure the speed of Braille printers (called embossers) that print on both sides of paper, and find out what programs work best with Windows 98 and NT.

"We're not as extensive as Consumer Reports," says Chong, "but we will find out the good things about something and the bad things about it."

The center has samples of about 200 devices worth \$2 million and publishes a 32-page catalog of hardware and software, augmented by advice that Chong and Ring dispense on the phone to any blind user who calls.

The two attend tech product conferences for persons with disabilities to get a look at the latest and greatest.

Some of the gadgets are fairly common, such as voice- and keyboard-based note takers, while others are rare and expensive. For example, there's a Belgian-made Interpoint 55

embosser, which can output up to 800 Braille characters per second and costs about \$77,000. NFB has one of three in the country; the others are owned by the Jehovah's Witnesses Watchtower Bible and Tract Society in New York.

Chong and Ring decline offers of free devices from vendors to maintain the integrity of the testing process. While they say most vendors are doing a good job, occasionally they get strange offerings from inventors.

"Someone came up with the crazy idea of a cane with a wheel on the end that would have a detector to tell people when they were coming to a puddle," Chong says. "It was a dumb idea."

While he frequently gets suggestions for Braille keyboards and voice recognition systems, Ring said a standard computer keyboard, properly designed with nubs on the "F" and "J" keys to guide the fingers, works just fine.

"We can input to our heart's content," Chong says. "It's getting the information out of the computer that's the problem."

Chong said the center's most important work revolves around Microsoft Windows because so many blind people use computers at work. While the operating system is friendly in some respects, he said, it needs auxiliary programs to unlock its potential for the blind. For example, the testers say the best of the half-dozen screen readers they've tested is JAWS for Windows, which costs about \$800 and tells the user what selections he has made on the Windows desktop, opens an application or gets on the World Wide Web.

JAWS depends upon the same keyboard shortcuts that any sighted user would turn to if he didn't want to use the

mouse, and its synthesized speech can be adjusted for pitch and speed.

Screen readers can also translate Web pages, which many advocates see as a great equalizer for the blind because the underlying HyperText Markup Language can be deciphered easily.

Another important computer tool is the Braille display machine, a flat box that sits under a keyboard and duplicates the screen text in Braille characters produced by plastic pegs that poke up through tiny holes. The machine can even display a "flashing" cursor by popping the proper pegs up and down.

Cong and Ring also preach to agencies that serve the blind: This year they'll teach three classes to show rehabilitation counselors what's available for their clients.

"It's surprising how limited knowledge of technology is" among those who work at agen-

Jump to BLIND, Page 7

## CLUB

Continued from Page 4

Allen said the kids from his site have taken field trips to such places as Willow Park and the local fire department. He said the kids especially enjoyed the trip to the fire department where they got to experience some actual emergency situations.

The literature from the Boys & Girls Clubs focuses on the club's ability to reduce crime, drug use and gang activity, but Allen said these concerns are not as dominant in the programs here in Cache Valley. He said this is because such problems are not as prevalent in this community as they are in the inner cities where Boys & Girls Clubs do much of their work.

Allen said his site does use the Smart Moves program, a program that teaches kids to make smart choices about alcohol, drugs and other health concerns. The brochure from Boys and Girls Clubs of Cache Valley, which was prepared in 1998, says the organization's long-term goal is to have a community-based Boys and Girls Club facility.

"Our center will become the focus of our operations, providing quality experiences to all valley children and offering expanded hours and facilities for evening, weekend, family and community-wide event(s)," according to the brochure.

According to Allen, this goal will become a reality in June. He was unsure of the details, but Allen said the Boys and Girls Club's sum-



mer program will operate from a new community center in Logan.

Allen, who has been working with the Boys & Girls Club since August, said he enjoys his work because it gives him a chance to make a difference in someone's life.

"I love it," Allen said. "Some days it's easier than others, but overall I really do love the job."

In addition to the work done by paid employees, the after-school programs also benefit from the help of volunteers. Allen said all of the volunteers at his site are students from USU.

Information about volunteering with the after-school programs or any of the other programs run by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Cache Valley is available by calling Fernando



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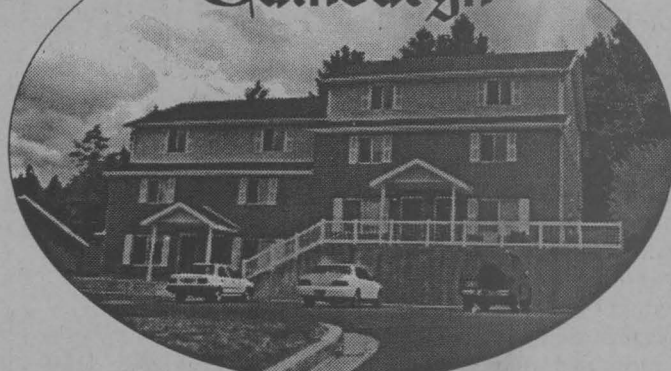
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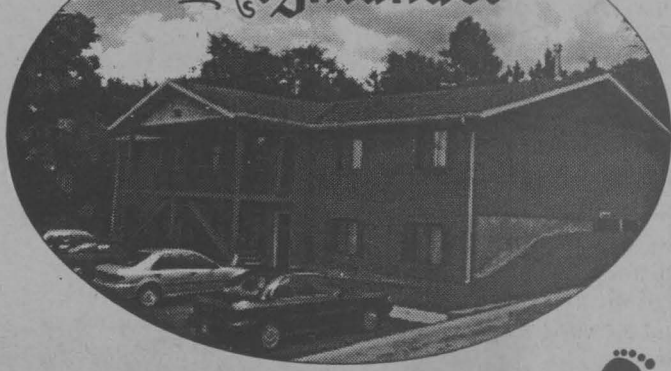
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# Cataloging the past as an intern at USU

**MEDIA RELATIONS**  
Utah State University

There are no "Quiet Please" signs in the Special Collections section of Merrill Library at Utah State University. Instead, the archive is bustling with students and community members who are part of a unique program in archival education.

According to Special Collection Director Ann Butters, these students and community members make up an integral part of the operation of the library's archive and, in return, the archive hopes to help them.

"There have been interns in Special Collections for close to 15 years now," Butters said. "It dropped off in the mid '90s and now we've decided to reinstate it."

According to Butters the program was started to give students an opportunity to see what is involved in working for an archive. Over the years, it has developed into a mutually beneficial program, with students making the material more widely available to all students, Butters said.

Manuscript Librarian Steve Sturgeon said the intern program has helped the library catch up on projects that might have gone untouched for three or four years and to build collections with other departments on campus.

"A unique thing about the program is that we're not an academic department, but we're still teaching students," Butters said. "We're an auxiliary department and we're still offering internships that provide equal opportunity for students. So yes, we're not an academic body, but there is a teaching component and educational aspect that fits into the overall mission of the university."

Students learn from the professionals on staff as well as through independent study as they complete different projects, Butters said.

"They are ultimately doing each of these projects by themselves and also, when

they're done, there is a product that becomes a part of the collection and is accessible to everyone," Sturgeon said.

According to Sturgeon, interns often have the first peek at newly donated documents as they reference and examine the materials.

"This program is unique in that it not only allows students to work with primary source historical materials, but also allows them to understand where those materials come from and how, seemingly, raw materials have already gone through several filtering steps before researchers even see them," Sturgeon said.

According to Sturgeon, former USU archival interns now work in a variety of places, including the Utah State Historical Society, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Historical Department, the Utah State Archives and the Ricks College library.

USU interns do diverse tasks as catalog and examine donated collections from the League of Women's Voters and the American Civil Liberties Union, identifying specific business ledgers and scanning and labeling old photographs and manuals into digital form.

Butters said that having the interns put the old material onto the World Wide Web is one of the more beneficial projects for everyone involved.

"It's a win-win situation in that these materials are now available to people from all over the world and, by having these photos and documents available over the Web, we minimize the damage done when people handle them," Butters said.

Butters said the interns are an integral part of the office, working throughout the week earning either stipends or university credit.

"In addition to teaching the interns about archival theory and practice, their work helps to make materials available to other students and the public for research use," Sturgeon said.

This is what attracted



Claire Malmstrom, a junior, works to record the content of different collections at USU. The work will make the information easier to find.

Claire Malmstrom, a junior majoring in history, to the program. Malmstrom said she works on a project where she writes information about a specific collection's content. Her job is to make the collection easier to understand for students, faculty or community members to decide if it is useful in their research or not. "That's happened to me before," Malmstrom said. "I think I've found something that will be useful and it ends up being something I really didn't want. I'm here to help that."

Malmstrom said this internship is a rare opportunity to actually prepare for a career as an archivist.

"I want to go into archival or a research-oriented field," Malmstrom said. "Here I have the opportunity to improve my educational background and my research and writing skills." Malmstrom said she

wants to pursue a career in archiving because of the window that such research opens into the past.

"I really like looking through the different things and learning about them," Malmstrom said. "You get to see what life was like back then. It's something that's gone, but not lost forever."

Marc Meyer, a graduate student in history, is referencing old business ledgers to determine their time frame and cultural significance.

"These ledgers could be helpful to anyone," Meyer said. "From undergraduate USU students to professional academics to local community members, these are wonderful documents to help you get a feel for what Logan was like more than a 100 years ago."

Meyer said he was attracted to the program because of his love for history and looking into the past.

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## BLIND

Continued from Page 5

cies to help the blind, Ring said.

Still, Chong worries that prospective employers focus so heavily on the technology a blind person needs that they don't consider what's really important — the qualities the person can bring to a company regardless of his vision.

Chong went shopping for a stove recently and discovered to his horror that the latest fash-

ion in expensive equipment is a smooth glass top with embedded burners and no protrusions to tell a blind person the location of the stove's "eyes." Nor, he said, are televisions and bank machines an advancement for the blind.

"Everything is digital now," Chong says. "With the old analog television, you could feel the dial changing the channels. — "What we're trying to get people to think about is nonvisual technology when they're designing."

## BABY

Continued from Page 4

child turns 3-years-old there is a 90 day transition meeting held with the child's local school district. At that time the preschool district director, the services coordinator and the parents meet to discuss the concerns of the child. The child is tested by the school district. After the test, an individualized educational planning meeting is scheduled to determine if the child qualifies for the district preschool program.

"If the child does not qualify for the district preschool program then parents can receive referrals to other programs," Speth said. "Seeing the growth and development of each and every child is the best part about the job."

Baby Watch is a positive thing in parents' lives, Speth said. Many of these families come in very distressed, wanting to know where their child is going to be in the next six months.

"They are very relieved once we get into the home and work with the children and they are able to see the progress," she said.

"There was a family who had a child who was severely delayed or disabled. Their physician knew nothing about us. They came across us through a day care provider."

Speth said. "They were just so happy to find our services because their pediatrician told them that their child would never progress; that he would have to go into an institution, that they should just give up on him. The family is forever thanking us, telling us that we are angels sent from God."

"I haven't had a parent yet wonder if they should be here," she said. "Parents usually know if there is something wrong with their child. It is more of a relief than anything once they find out what is wrong."

Volunteers could help with Child Find at the mall or fairs, Wightman said. Child Find is the mandated portion of the Baby Watch program time spent with the health department, physicians and agencies.

"Through these points of contact we are able to locate children and locate families to let them know we exist and are available for services," Wightman said.

Wightman said an average of 180 children are seen in the program each year. "If they aren't eligible for services we put them on tracking. In four to six months we send out surveys so we won't lose them," he said.

"The parents can call anytime to request another evaluation after they are on tracking," Speth said. "A child might not qualify for the program until a few months after the

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## SPORTS

## USU spring football

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS:  
The USU football team had their first self-scrimmage of the season on Saturday. See story on Page 9It's about  
time  
MLS got  
the hint

## NEVER BEHIND

/ Aaron Morton



There's hope yet for the fledgling Major League Soccer.

Sure, compared to the big four sports of football, basketball, baseball and hockey, MLS is the neglected little brother of sports leagues. Sure attendance has been falling slowly.

But there's still hope for soccer in America — at least for us hard-core soccer fans.

In recent years, soccer participation has increased exponentially. Almost everyone you know has played soccer some time in their life, whether as a 5-year-old kid or a 23-year-old kid playing intramurals for the first time.

But the game has never translated to television.

So when investors planned to launch an U.S. professional soccer league after the U.S.-hosted 1994 World Cup, they tried to attract more "casual" viewers. They tried several gimmicks like the shoot-out or the stadium clock to bring these viewers over.

What they didn't realize is that they are losing the fanatic soccer fans that are so important to ticket sales and consistent viewership.

Finally, after four years of being the laughing-stock of world leagues, MLS has made American soccer look like the rest of the world. New commissioner Don Garber has gotten rid of that outrageous shoot-out and allowed the referee to hold time on the field. The only deviation from world soccer is the 10-minute overtime period.

It's about time.

MLS has also started to try to reach out for more big-name international stars. Leading this year's core of overseas players are New York/New Jersey's German Lothar Matthaeus and Chicago's "Mad Bulgarian" Hristo Stoichkov.

Sure, most of these players are in the twilight of their career, but it's a start. MLS needs to loosen-up its air-tight salary cap to attract more international players and America's own players, keeping them away from the English Premier League and Germany's Bundesliga.

Moreover, MLS has restructured their television contract to be more fan-friendly. There is now a "Game of the Week" on the weekend and the MLS2 night show on ESPN2. Despite all this, ESPN's SportsCenter will probably still snub MLS by stuffing the league's highlights to the dreaded "Today's Best" spot at the end of the show.

All these improvements will hopefully shake up MLS's lackluster attendance. Stadium crowds have slowly fallen (17,406 the first year and 14,614, 14,312 and 14,282 the following three years).

These improvements and marketing maneuvers cannot offset poor play. And this is something that is becoming less common. The Dallas-Chicago and the Los Angeles-DC United (a possible MLS Cup 2000 match-up) games were both exciting and well-played.

Call me optimistic, but I think this little brother has a chance to grow up to beat up his older brothers.

Aaron Morton is the assistant sports editor at the Statesman. He really likes soccer — really — and you can e-mail him at sports@statesman.usu.edu

## Softball stumbles in home opener

AARON MORTON  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Utah State University softball team won its first game of a doubleheader Saturday against the University of the Pacific, but again the Aggie offense stumbled as Pacific won two of the three game series.

USU won 3-1 early in the afternoon Saturday in their first home game of the season, but the team was shutout in both the second game Saturday and the only game Sunday, 5-0 and 11-0.

"Offensively, we're playing consistently," head coach Pam McCreesh said.

The Aggies have been shutout in five of their last seven games.

Pacific improved to 17-16 overall and 3-3 in the Big West Conference, while USU dropped to 11-23 and 2-4. The Aggies take on Southern Utah University Tuesday at LaRee and LeGrand Johnson Field in a doubleheader, 2 and 4 p.m. Utah State will try to avenge two losses to the Thunderbirds in Cedar City earlier in the season.

## GAME 1: USU 3, PACIFIC 1

The Aggies overcame an early deficit thanks to some timely hitting and some good pitching from Kristin Hommel on their way to the two-run win.

"That's what we're capable of doing," McCreesh said. "We earned that game."

Hommel (5-10) pitched a four-hitter with one walk and five strikeouts. She got herself out of a jam in the second. The bases were loaded after a walk, a single and a player reaching on an error. Hommel allowed her only run when Kelly Lowry singled to center field, scoring Cindy Ball.

But then Hommel got three outs from the next three batters. From then on, she held the Tigers scoreless with two hits. Hommel said by the second time the line up came around, she knew the batters' weaknesses.

"Hommel was real strong," McCreesh said. "She was well rested and pitched a great game."

Two innings later USU took the lead when senior Sandy Taylor doubled in Tiffany Pugmire and Stephanie Vasarhely. Taylor advanced to third on the

Jump to STUMBLER, Page 9



USU's Breanne Nickle slides into third base during Saturday's doubleheader against Pacific. The Aggies won their first game against Pacific behind a four-hit performance from pitcher Kristin Hommel. Pacific won the next two games.

Women's soccer  
beats BYU for  
first time everAARON MORTON  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Utah State University women's soccer team defeated Brigham Young for the first time in the program's history Saturday during the second annual Eight-on-Eight Soccer Tournament.

The Aggies nipped the consistently nationally-ranked Cougars 4-3 in one of USU's eight games.

The tournament, which was played inside the Stan Laub Training Center (eight on eight) and on a football practice field (six on six), is part of the short spring soccer season for USU. In late March, the Aggies took second at a tournament in Las Vegas.

Head coach Stacey Enos split her team into two different squads, the older white team and the younger blue team. In Las Vegas, the two squads met in the semifinals. The more experienced blue team prevailed only to blow a 2-0 lead to University of Nevada-Las Vegas in the final, losing 3-2.

It was the white team, playing in their fifth game of the day, that upset BYU (the Cougars later exacted revenge on the blue team, defeating them 6-0). In the six-on-six outdoor game, USU managed to stay one step ahead of BYU.

Jump to SOCCER, Page 9



## Broncos buck Aggies with 11-4 victory

REUBEN WADSWORTH  
Sports Writer

The Utah State University baseball club's 11-4 loss to Boise State University Friday night came down to two factors: weather and errors.

USU assistant coach Spencer Smith said the weather was too cold, which caused players to lose concentration.

"It was a factor that shouldn't have been a factor," he said of the weather.

Aggie head coach Ben Wolford said his team is usually not as error prone as it was on Friday, calling the errors mental mistakes, not physical. The errors allowed the Broncos to score eight unearned runs.

BSU jumped out to a 3-0 run after the top of the first inning and continued the barrage with a four-run second.

The Aggies scored their first run in the bottom of the second when USU pitcher Jeff Thurgood's single sent Kenny Tucker home. They scored another run in the bottom of the third when Brian Wolfley's sacrifice fly allowed Ernie Rivers to tag and score from third.

After the first two innings of fireworks, both teams failed to score again until the fifth inning. USU scored two runs after two straight fielding errors by the Broncos, closing the gap to three runs at 7-4.

BSU put the game out of reach by scoring three in the sixth and one more in the seventh. The Aggies' overall season record fell to 1-4 with the loss.

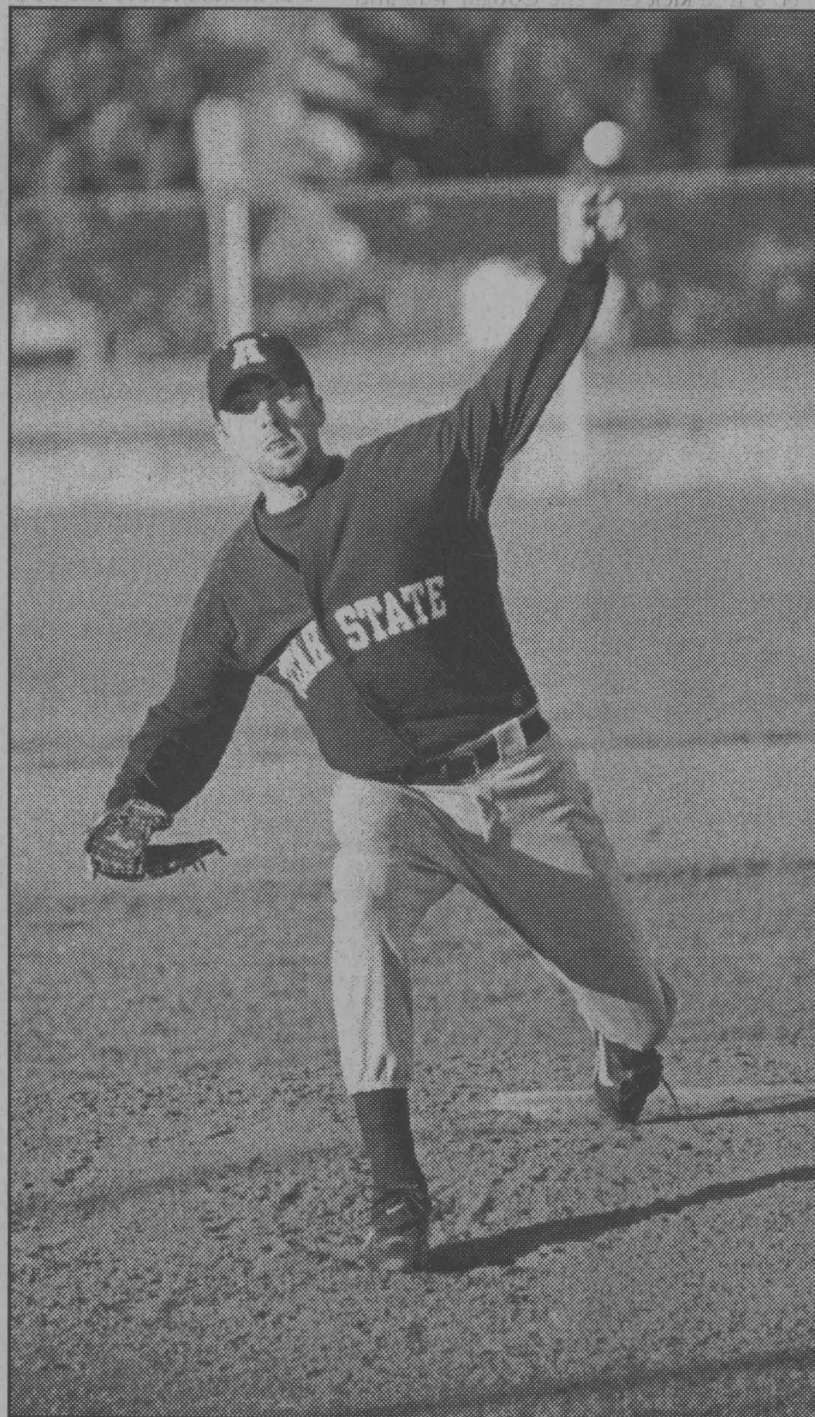
Smith said his team has the talent to win, they just need to utilize it better.

Wolford didn't think the Aggies were into the game like they should have been, yet he said they are showing improvement from past games. He said he thought the players were thinking about the errors too much after they happened and weren't giving full concentration to the game.

Wolford said the cold weather played a larger part in the game than it should have. Baseball is an all-weather sport, and his team has to learn to play through it, he said.

Wolford said he would like his players to forget the loss and get their heads into the next game.

USU plays a doubleheader against Colorado Northwestern Community College, the only team the Aggies have beaten this year, today at noon at the Providence field.



USU's Jeff Thurgood delivers a pitch during USU's 11-4 loss Friday against Boise State at the Providence fields. The Aggies play Colorado today at noon in Providence. Colorado is the only team Utah State has beat this season, compiling a 1-4 record.

## Aggies IN ACTION

Friday Baseball	
USU	4
BSU	11
Saturday Softball (game one)	
USU	3
Pacific	1

Softball (game two)	
USU	0
Pacific	5
Track	
USU men's team placed second (177 points) and the women's team placed third (152) at the	

US Collegiate Track and Field Meet in Davis, Calif.	
Sunday Softball	
USU	0
Pacific	11

Gymnastics  
USU placed fifth in the six-team field at the NCAA Regionals

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## STUMBLED

Continued from Page 8

throw to home but freshman Eva DeJarnette struck out to end the inning.

For the next two innings, the game moved quickly along with both teams going three up and three down each inning. The Aggies extended their lead in the sixth when Vasarhely scored again. She started the inning and Taylor doubled her to third. DeJarnette's sacrifice fly that scored Vasarhely was the first out of the inning. Again Taylor advanced to third, but she was picked off for the third out.

"(I) need to be smarter on the bases," Taylor said. "I was trying to be aggressive."

Taylor, Utah State's leading batter, went 4-for-5 in the doubleheader.

"I was hitting the ball well today," she said.

## GAME 2: PACIFIC 5, USU 0

USU recorded as many hits as Pacific, but were unable to recover

from the Tigers' three-run first inning.

In the top of the first, Erica Reynolds hit a three-run home run over the center field fence with two outs.

Neither team threatened to score until the top of the third inning when USU pitcher Xochitl Ramirez allowed a walk and a hit. Kelly Warner replaced Ramirez and got the next three outs.

The Aggies had great chances to score in the third and fourth innings but could not convert. In the second, Markean Neal was forced out at home and Vasarhely grounded into a double play to end the inning.

In the fourth inning, Utah State had runners at first and second with no outs. Taylor was picked off again, this time at second. Breanne Nickle singled to give USU runners at the corners with one out. Warner bunted to reach first, but DeJarnette was tagged trying to sneak home. Neal then grounded out to end the inning.

Pacific added insurance runs in the fifth and sixth. The Pacific's fifth run was a home run by Liz Niadna.

## GAME 3: PACIFIC 11, USU 0

The Tigers ran up 15 hits against the Aggies — a season high for USU opponents this season — and 11 runs, including seven in the first inning as they routed Utah State easily.

The Aggies used three different pitchers in the first inning as Hommel, Warner and Candee Bowden were shelled for seven runs and two hits. Six runs were credited to Hommel, and one run was credited to Warner on four hits.

"They hit it hard and hit it often," McCreesh said.

Utah State tried to answer in the bottom of the first as they had two runners on with no outs. But nothing came of it.

The visitors continued to pour on the runs in the second when Barbara Moody singled with the bases loaded to knock in one run. A walk and a wild pitch brought in runs number nine and 10.

"We didn't cut (the lead) down in the first," McCreesh said. "They came back in the second and we just didn't get our bats going."

## NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Different styles, one goal

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Michigan State and Florida both started the season in the Top 10 and never dropped far below. Now they're the only teams left.

Similarities over.

While the Spartans are most effective in a half-court game, where they can crash the boards and be physical, the Gators prefer to play at warp speed, using a 10-man rotation and full-court pressure.

Michigan State (31-7) was the only No. 1 seed to reach the Final Four and has lived up to the role in its bid for the national championship. The Spartans won every game in the NCAA tournament by at least 11 points, including Saturday night's 53-41 victory over Wisconsin.

Florida, seeded fifth, got a first-round scare from Butler before wearing down higher-seeded teams — Illinois, top-ranked Duke and Oklahoma State — with its hectic pace. The Gators (29-7) used the same style to end North Carolina's surprising run with a 71-59 win Saturday night.

"We like to run, too," Michigan State coach Tom Izzo said. "Maybe some of that is our style also. ... I think we have an understanding for that. I think these guys want to run,

too."

The Spartans can get up and down the court, having scored more than 80 points nine times this season. In the tournament, however, they have averaged 68.2 with the five starters averaging between 27 and 35 minutes a game and only two reserves averaging more than 10.

Florida has averaged 79.4 points in the five tournament games, just off its 84.1 mark for the season. The 10 Gators who create all that havoc on the floor average between 13 and 31 minutes a game.

Michigan State starts three seniors, while Florida has one on the team and plays seven sophomores and freshmen in the rotation.

"Our youthfulness has won us a lot of basketball games this year," said Kenyan Weaks, Florida's lone member of the Class of 2000. "I don't know if that's going to be a big problem in this game."

The Spartans were going to use an age-old method to prepare for Florida's full-court press Monday night.

"We always go against six or seven guys in practice and I'm sure we'll have a bunch of players out there today," Michigan State forward Andre Hutson said Sunday.

## Defense dominates football scrimmage

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY  
Athletic Media Relations

As expected, the Utah State University defense dominated a one-hour controlled football scrimmage at Romney Stadium on Saturday morning.

The Aggie defense limited the USU offense to just 123 yards on 52 plays, while coming up with two interceptions and 10 sacks. Blake Eagal, Tyler Olsen and Jared Solosabal each had two sacks, while Nate Putnam had one sack and an interception. Tony Walker recorded another pickoff.

"Our defense is way ahead of where our offense is," said USU head coach Mick Dennehy. "I like the way they

fly around, and I like the enthusiasm they are playing with."

Even with the limited production of the offense, Dennehy was not displeased with that unit. David Krueger rushed three times for 27 yards and had a one-yard touchdown, while Travelle Gaines carried five times for 25 yards. Brian Benza led the passing attack connecting on three-of-six attempts for 46 yards, while Steve Mullins hit three-of-four attempts for 27 yards. Ky Oday was the leading receiver with two catches for 30 yards.

"We got some first downs," he said. "We wanted to try to control the ball and get ourselves on film to see what we need to get corrected. I am

not disappointed."

The scrimmage was the first of the spring drills.

"All in all, I thought it was (a) pretty typical first exchange," Dennehy said. "We need to have a quarterback step up and take charge. As soon as one of those guys steps up, things will get cleaned up and that needs to happen in the next few practices."

Utah State will continue spring drills with practices on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and another scrimmage on Saturday. After another week of practice, USU will conclude spring drills with its annual Blue-White game in Romney Stadium on Friday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m.

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## SOCCER

Continued from Page 8

Tied at one goal apiece, Marnie Bartelson chipped a free kick over the Cougar wall and into the top right corner of the goal. After BYU tied it again, Jayme Gordy beat their keeper to a loose ball, knocking her to the ground on her way to tapping the ball into the net.

Junior defender Heather Cox's turnaround shot with about eight minutes left in the game gave USU the lead for good as the Aggie defense, led by goalie Michaela Miller, shut BYU down.

Miller, a junior, played goalkeeper for both the blue and the white teams because senior keeper Mackenzie Hyer was out with an injury.

And with the Aggies playing both inside and outside, the games sometimes overlapped, leaving midfielder Carrie Iverson to cover for Miller in the goal.

The tournament was comprised of teams from BYU, Weber State University, Dixie College and the University of Utah in addi-

tion to club teams Utah ODP (Olympic development program) and FC Utah (made up of former college players).

USU went 5-2-1 on the day, beating Utah 3-1; Dixie, 1-0; Utah ODP, 1-0; and FC Utah, 1-0, in addition to the BYU win. The Aggies also lost to Utah 3-1 and Utah ODP 7-3, while tying Weber 3-3.

Enos, who let her assistant Jen Kennedy coach the two teams from the sidelines, was impressed with Utah ODP.

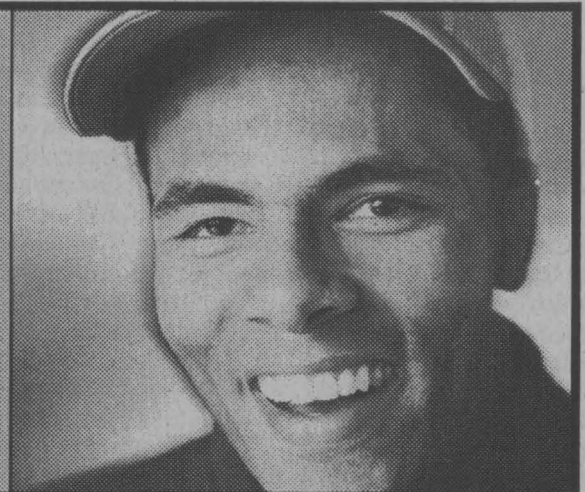
"I like this team," Enos said of the squad made up of some of Utah's best high school players.

The tournament is a good opportunity for USU and other teams to scout players, Enos said. And more Cache Valley players are being found on the ODP team. There are three Cache Valley players currently on USU.

Enos shook off the 7-3 loss to the high schoolers, saying that USU could learn a lot from a game like that. And they did, recovering to knock off BYU less than an hour later.

Utah State will finish off its spring season against the University of Montana and the South African national team both in Logan, April 15 and 28, respectively.

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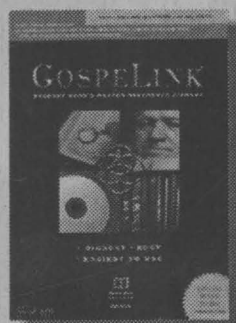
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## 'First day' filled with plot lines

(AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. will be in his new Reds jersey.

Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa will have the first faceoff in the Home Run Central.

Andres Galarraga, Kerry Ligtenberg, Moises Alou and Jason Kendall will be back.

And John Rocker, John Smoltz, Curt Schilling, Kerry Wood, Matt Williams, Darryl Strawberry and Richie Garcia will be among the missing.

The first full day of baseball in the new century — did those games in Japan last week really count? — is filled with a year's worth of plot lines.

"My son's skipping school on opening day. It's a tradition," Griffey said. "Cincinnati expects that a lot of kids are not going to be there."

Griffey renewed baseball's buzz in Cincinnati when he forced Seattle to trade him to his hometown team on Feb. 10. With their annual parade, the Reds — who started play in 1869 — get the most worked up about opening day.

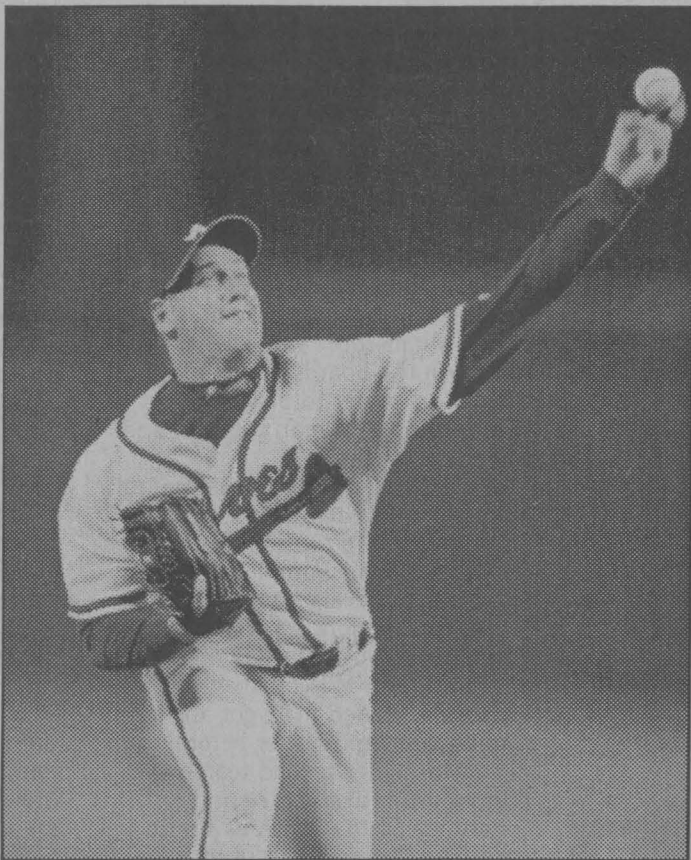
"I can't wait to see Junior get announced," Reds first baseman Hal Morris said Sunday, a day before the Reds open the North American portion of the baseball season against Milwaukee.

"In '91, there was tremendous excitement because we'd just won the World Series," Morris said. "I think this matches if not surpasses that."

While the New York Mets and Chicago Cubs split a two-game series at Tokyo last week — the first season opener outside North America — the other 28 clubs were still at spring training.

The rest of the NL schedule has the Cubs at St. Louis, San Diego at the Mets, Colorado at Atlanta, Los Angeles at Montreal, San Francisco at Florida and Houston at Pittsburgh.

In the AL, the New York Yankees are at Anaheim as they start the quest to become



Atlanta's John Rocker is just one of the many big-name major leaguers that won't be starting the 2000 season with their teams today.

the first team to win three straight World Series since the 1972-74 Oakland Athletics. They'll be missing Darryl Strawberry, again suspended for cocaine use, this time for a year.

"I think there's pressure because we're the Yankees," Chuck Knoblauch said. "It's a double-barreled thing, because we're the Yankees and we're the defending champions, so everybody is gunning for us."

In other AL games, the Chicago White Sox are at Texas, Cleveland is at Baltimore, Kansas City at Toronto, Tampa Bay at Minnesota and Detroit at Oakland.

Two openers are scheduled for Tuesday, with Philadelphia at Arizona and Boston at Seattle.

Fans will see new crews of mixed AL and NL ump's. The

new union, which replaced Richie Phillips' Major League Umpires Association, agreed to the merger as part of baseball's elimination of separate league offices.

Garcia, perhaps the most recognizable umpire, won't be on the field and Frank Pulli won't be, either. They are among 22 ump's still trying to regain their jobs, the result of Phillips' failed mass resignation plan.

Rocker also will be missing, serving a two-week suspension — an arbitrator cut it from four weeks — for disparaging gays, foreigners, minorities and New Yorkers in a magazine article.

Smoltz, his Atlanta teammate, is out for the season with a torn elbow ligament, but Ligtenberg, the Braves' closer in 1998, has returned from ligament-replacement surgery.

## Student Services says...

Are you wearing Beer Goggles? See how you score. Thursday, April 6, 2000 in the TSC Juniper Lounge from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Check out and participate in the Voices Against Violence Display. This 3-day display of educational materials concerning sexual assault is in the TSC International Lounge April 3 thru 5.

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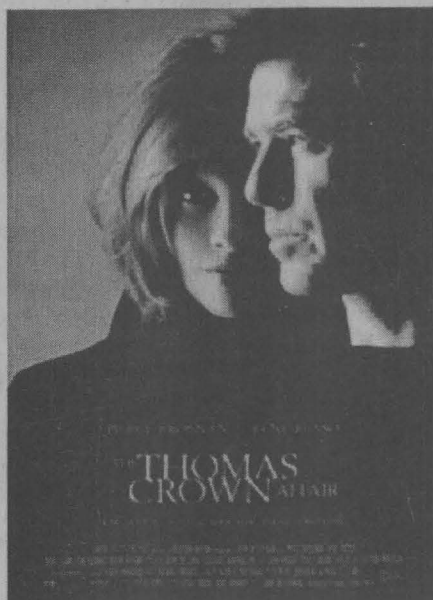
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# Hundreds march urging action on Confederate flag

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP) — More than 600 people set out Sunday on a five-day, 120-mile protest march to Columbia to urge state lawmakers to move the Confederate flag from the Statehouse dome.

"Take it down!" chanted some marchers.

"The people of South Carolina — white and African-American — want the flag to come down," said Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr., who had the idea for the march.

"The purpose is to say the people of South Carolina are in step, and we want the Legislature to get in step with the people of South Carolina," said the mayor, who carried the blue state flag with its

white palmetto tree and crescent as he led marchers into the street.

The marchers will walk only during daylight hours and plan to arrive in Columbia for a rally on Thursday, when pro-flag supporters have also scheduled a Statehouse rally.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has called for a tourism boycott of the state, saying the Confederate flag above the Statehouse in Columbia is a racist emblem. Flag defenders say it is a symbol of Southern heritage and honors Confederate war dead.

Only state lawmakers can move the flag from the dome, and several plans are under consideration.

Organizers of the "Get in Step" walk say it should be moved from the dome to a place of honor.

Vans and shuttle buses will take people to the march so they can join as long as they can. It will start each day where it ended the previous day.

Novelist Pat Conroy, a South Carolinian, was on hand for the start of the march. But he said he would pick up with the marchers again on Thursday in Columbia.

"They would find me dead on the highway if I tried to make the entire march," he said.

Conroy said South Carolina lawmakers do not like being told what to do, but predicted the march will

help resolve the issue.

"It's going to be such hideous publicity, including this right here, that it will help," he said.

One of those who marched Sunday was former Gov. John West, a state lawmaker when the flag was raised by the all-white 1962 General Assembly.

West, who served as governor from 1971 to 1975, led an effort to get lawmakers who raised the flag to ask for its removal.

"As I have had to say publicly, somewhat to my embarrassment, in hindsight one of the mistakes I made as governor is not taking it down," he said. "It was not an issue then. Had it been an issue, I would

like to think I would have taken it down."

Paula Byers of James Island said she had two great-grandfathers who fought for the South in the Civil War.

"The Confederate flag is my heritage, but it should have been taken down at the end of the Civil War," she said.

There was a single pro-flag demonstrator as the marchers left a park on the edge of the city's historic district after a brief rally.

Carter Sabo of Charleston stood with a Confederate flag and said he wanted to make sure the flag is given a place of honor at the Statehouse.

## Clinton pushes for census compliance

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton summoned all Americans on Saturday to make their presence felt by completing this year's census forms completely and accurately.

"Those who suggest that filling out your census form isn't essential are plainly wrong," Clinton said in his weekly radio address. "An inaccurate census distorts our understanding of a community's needs, denies people their fair share of resources and diminishes the quality of life not only for them but for all of us."

He added: "If we believe everybody in our community counts we simply must make sure that that everyone is counted."

Saturday was Census Day, April 1, the once-in-a-decade day on which Americans are asked to tell the government who and where they are.

This year's count is the 22nd national census since the first count was conducted in 1790. In his presidential proclamation of Census Day, Clinton declared the enumeration "plays a crucial role in helping us to maintain our democratic form of government."

In his radio remarks, he addressed the complaints of some Republican leaders about the extensive questions posed by the long census form, which goes to one of every six U.S. households.

"I know Americans are concerned about their privacy, and that's why I also want to stress that the information you provide is strictly, absolutely confidential," Clinton said. "Individual information will not be available to anyone outside the Census Bureau for any reason."

Rep. J.C. Watts, R-Okla., chairman of the House Republican Conference, said Republicans share the goal of a full and accurate census count.

"It's unfortunate that some in President Clinton's party have suggested otherwise and are trying to use the census to spread misinformation and score political points," Watts said.

He nevertheless asserted that "millions of Americans have expressed an unprecedented level of concern for their privacy when asked to complete the long form."

"While it may be the shortest long form in history, it has raised more questions than any of its predecessors," Watts said.

Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush said Thursday that he "can understand why people don't want to give over that information to the government. And if I have the long form, I'm not sure I would either."

The Census Bureau sent questionnaires to the country's 115 million households in March. Officially they want to know how many people are living and how they are living in each home on April 1.

Clinton said the count is crucial to the nation's development and well-being apart from its constitutional purpose of allocating seats for each state in the U.S. House of Representatives.

"We need the census to help decide how almost \$200 billion in federal funds will be invested in states and communities ... to help our hometowns determine where to build everything from roads to schools to hospitals to child care centers," he said.

Clinton said it is important that the long form be completed accurately because it is "critical for everything from helping communities design mass transit systems to providing 911 emergency services."

Additionally, the data are used to calculate cost of living increases for Social Security and military retirement and other payments to veterans.

As of Friday, 50 percent of census forms had been mailed back. Census officials hope to get 70 percent of the forms back by late April.

Clinton said he has already completed his form and found "it only takes a few minutes." He said Vice President Al Gore filed his on-line

## Reno's decision was not political, investigator says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prosecutor who once led the Democratic fund-raising investigation said Sunday he did not think politics motivated Attorney General Janet Reno to reject his recommendation for an independent counsel.

Charles LaBella, who lost his Washington assignment after recommending an outside investigation of President Clinton and other top White House figures, also said such an investigation might well have failed to produce criminal charges.

"The standard was information, sufficient information from credible sources. ... I believe we had substantial information from credible sources to warrant a full-scale investigation of many of these allegations," LaBella said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

Once an experienced prosecutor reviewed the allegations, LaBella said, "I think most of these, if not all of them, would have washed out."

He was brought in from California in September 1997 to head a Justice Department team looking into alleged fund-raising abuses, largely by the Democrats, during the 1996 presidential campaign.

The following July he wrote Reno that his investigators had uncovered information that merited follow-up by an independent counsel without links to the White House.

Reno declined to seek a special prosecutor.

"It was never politics. It was bureaucratic agendas, I think. Protecting turf internally at the Department of Justice," LaBella said.

"I don't think anybody was protecting anybody. I really don't believe that the attorney general, in any way, shape or form, was protecting anybody, or anybody else at the Justice Department was politically protecting anybody."

LaBella later transferred back to San Diego as acting U.S. attorney, then resigned a year ago after being passed over for a permanent appointment there.

In a report last month, The Los Angeles Times quoted the memo as saying Justice officials used "gamesmanship" and legal "contortions" to avoid an independent inquiry into Clinton-Gore fund-raising matters.

LaBella also accused his colleagues of "intellectually dishonest double standards" by giving special treatment to Vice

President Al Gore, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Harold Ickes, a former White House aide, the newspaper said.

Clinton's chief of staff said Sunday that Reno had done nothing and noted that the task force LaBella led was still in business.

"The Justice Department, I believe, followed the law in handling this case and did so appropriately," John Podesta said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

"They're continuing to investigate the matter, and I think they'll take appropriate action," LaBella contended Sunday that the newspaper report took his words somewhat out of context, but said: "I had field prosecutors who came in who resigned from the task force in frustration because they felt that there was legal gamesmanship being played."

He was asked about evidence that the White House might have peddled access for political contributions and Gore might have violated laws involving political telephone calls from the White House or committed other infractions. LaBella said his memo was meant as a starting point, not an end result.

"There's no question that

access was used as a quid pro quo for contributions. I don't think anybody's denying that," LaBella said. "The level of knowledge at the White House was clear that this was intended to attract donations. Which is not to say it's illegal. It was a fact of life."

Podesta, questioned about LaBella's comments, said: "Donors do get access to political figures on Capitol Hill. The presidency's donors, when he goes to fund-raisers, I don't think there's anything shocking about that."

LaBella said his main point was that the Justice Department was too close to the principals to have made the decision not to prosecute.

"At the end of the '96 election, we saw ... Clinton and Gore in the end zone. They won the game," LaBella said. "But ... they had chalk all over their shoes because they danced right along the sidelines, right into the end zone."

"The fact is, the Department of Justice spent four years and is still ... reviewing the videos to see who stepped out of bounds and who didn't step out of bounds."

"That's not the way it should be."

## Investigators say train engineer saw bus approaching crossing

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — Two crew members on a freight train say they watched in helpless horror as a school bus sped toward a crossing in the seconds before it was struck by the train's locomotive, investigators said Saturday.

The accident Tuesday morning just north of the Georgia state line killed three children. Five others including the bus driver were injured, and two children remained in critical condition Saturday.

The engineer and conductor on the CSX train said they watched helplessly as the bus sped toward the railroad crossing, said Ken Suydam, investigator in charge for the National Transportation Safety Board.

"Both saw the bus approaching at a rapid rate of speed and expressed concern to each other as to whether the bus would stop," he said at a news conference.

However, investigators do not yet know how fast the bus was traveling or if driver Rhonda Cloer tried to stop, Suydam said. The manufacturer examined the bus' anti-lock braking system and reported it was working properly,

Suydam said.

Cloer, released from a hospital Wednesday, still refuses to be interviewed by authorities, Suydam said. Her 5-year-old daughter was on the bus and was one of the two children in critical condition.

The train was traveling about 50 mph and first blew its whistle about 1,000 feet from the crossing and again continuously at 620 feet away, said NTSB investigator David Rayburn. The emergency brake was applied at 160 feet away.

The impact ripped the body of the bus from its chassis and dragged it 100 yards. Three children and the driver were ejected, and four other children remained inside the bus.

School buses are required by law to stop between 15 and 50 feet from railroad crossings.

Investigators have studied a videotape from a camera mounted inside the bus and have talked to a child who was wearing a lap-belt and was the least injured. According to the recording, several people were talking in the bus and the radio was playing, Suydam said, but he would not elaborate.

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# Uganda searches for answers to mass murder

KANUNGU, Uganda (AP) — "Let us go and burn."

The ominous words, scrawled across a blackboard in a sect compound where 530 people were incinerated two weeks ago, might have sufficed as a neat, if tragic, explanation for the fate of followers of a Christian fringe sect whose end-of-the-world prediction had failed to come true.

Then, three days later, the mutilated, strangled bodies of six men were discovered stuffed into a

latrine pit nearby. That led to a search that unearthed 388 more bodies this week and transformed an apparent mass suicide into the deadliest cult tragedy of modern times.

No one is certain how the killings of 924 or more people were orchestrated, all within a 50-mile radius among luxuriant green hills and volcanic lakes in southwestern Uganda. But police think they know who masterminded them: Credonia Mwerinde, a 48-year-old sect leader known as "the Programmer." Authorities believe she is still alive and on the run.

"It was that Mwerinde who had all those people killed," said the Rev. Paul Ikazire, a Roman Catholic priest who had left the church and joined Mwerinde's sect from 1991 to 1994. He said she was "obsessed with the desire to obtain the property of her followers."

In interviews this week across southwestern Uganda, friends and acquaintances — even a former common-law husband — portrayed Mwerinde as ingenious and greedy. Like an African version of the religious huckster Elmer Gantry, she founded a religious movement and sold her spiritual wares to the gullible and the searching, particularly among the ranks of disaffected

Roman Catholics. She gained daunting power over nearly 1,000 yielding followers, many of whom apparently later became her victims.

Before that, she had risen from grinding poverty and a fourth-grade education to become the owner of a shop that sold banana beer and bootleg liquor, earning a reputation for promiscuity and cunning along the way.

"She was able to fool many people," said Nalongo Rukanyangira, a childhood friend in Kanungu, 160 miles southwest of the capital, Kampala.

As an "apostle" of the Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God, Mwerinde secured the loyalty of sect members — and their possessions — by invoking visions she claimed to receive from the Virgin Mary.

Rukanyangira said Mwerinde once played her a cassette with a voice purportedly that of the Virgin Mary proclaiming that she was using Mwerinde to spread the Gospel.

It may have been no coincidence Mwerinde began receiving her visions only weeks after her business went bankrupt in mid-1988, according to her former common-law husband and business partner, Eric Mazima.

Once recruits joined, they were subjected to a draconian regimen that divided mothers from children and husbands from wives and deprived followers of sleep and food. A code of silence that allowed members to communicate only with hand signals and a ban on visits from outsiders served to quell dis-

content and challenges to her authority.

Mwerinde's success was evident in her widening girth — an attractive sign of wealth to Ugandans — and the expansion of the sect compound at Kanungu from one to 12 buildings.

"She was fat and smart. She grew fatter," Mazima said.

On March 14, three days before the Kanungu inferno, Rukanyangira entered the compound and caught a glimpse of what her friend had become: Dressed completely in red, Mwerinde handed out red sandals to followers who, one by one, came in silence to kneel at her feet.

For all the sway Mwerinde held over sect members, what still defies certainty is why a charlatan may have become a mass murderer. The reason for the slayings one month ago at sect compounds in nearby Rugazi, Buhonga and Rushojwa is unknown.

No sect member, past or present, has confirmed the common belief that the failure of the world to end Dec. 31 spurred members to demand belongings they had surrendered to Mwerinde to join the sect. In turn, the reasoning goes, that inspired an insurrection that was put down with murder.

Events leading up to the March 17 conflagration in Kanungu suggest a well-conceived plan — "mass suicide" as an alibi to cover up murders of nearly 400 men, women and children that already had been committed over the previous two weeks.

Starting in early March, the sect

started liquidating its assets. Neighbors say movement members sold at least 100 head of cattle and communal furniture and held sales at two of the sect's local shops.

At 11 p.m. the night before the fire, the sect's farm manager walked into the Kanungu police station and left the title to the compound's land and a cryptic goodbye note, according to local constable Willy Abiku.

The next morning, local police say, a teen-age sect member named Peter saw a man nailing shut the wooden windows of the chapel.

At about 10 a.m., Annet Kamkune told police, she saw white-and-green-robed sect members processing from the newly built church to the chapel. They chased her away, saying she couldn't join them for "prayers" because she wasn't a member.

Within minutes, the narrow, brick-and-tin-roofed building was engulfed in flames. Running from his farm, the last words Pius Kabaireho heard from among the 530 people burning inside were, "Oh Mama."

If not for the bodies of six men found in the compound's latrine, the notion that a peculiar Christian sect with hopes for the end of the world had immolated itself might have prevailed.

Why were the six men slain? Did they kill the others, then fall victim themselves? How could so few people strangle and bury so many?

And one more mystery: Who wrote the words "Let us go and burn" and, inches away, "Let us kill ourselves"?

As is the case with so many questions about this murder on a grand scale, authorities don't have the answer.



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## College of Science Faculty & Students Honored

The College of Science honors its top faculty and students  
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April 7th, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

David B. Haight Alumni Center.

E. Robert Heal (Math & Stat), Teacher of the Year;  
David B. Drown (Biology), Advisor of the Year;  
Charles G. Torre (Physics), Researcher of the Year;  
Scott B. Smith (Math & Stat), Graduate Student Teacher of the Year;  
Sedonia D. Sipes, PhD. (Biology) &  
Xiaoxin Chen, M.S. (Computer Science)  
Graduate Student Researchers of the Year;  
Tasha VonNiederhausen (Biology), Valedictorian; and  
Tyler L. Christensen (Biology), Scholar of the Year.

## Parents belonging to doomsday sect led children to their deaths

BUNYARIGI, Uganda (AP) — After her young grandchildren's abrupt departure, after the gas-fueled flames and the charred remains, 74-year-old Margaret Kibetenga wonders if there's something she could have done.

On Dec. 28, her daughter-in-law came to her mud-walled home to fetch two children she had left in Kibetenga's care. Saying she needed to take them to visit a sick relative, Jane Ayebare began packing her youngsters' belongings.

When Ayebare muttered something about the end of the world being near, Kibetanga thought little of it. Ayebare had joined a strange religious group, but as far as Kibetenga was concerned, she was still Catholic.

Of course, the world didn't end Dec. 31, as the sect had predicted. But for Ayebare and her four children, life ended 10 weeks later in the flames of a sealed chapel belonging to Uganda's doomsday cult.

They were not alone. Terrified, trusting or willingly marching off to glory, children

of the cult streamed out of hill villages by the hundreds to die trapped in the flames of the sealed church or by ropes and knives in the hands of grown-ups.

Children made up a large part of the bodies recovered from mass graves in southwestern Uganda since the March 17 inferno at the chapel at Kanungu alerted the world, and some Ugandans, to the Movement for the Restoration of the Ten Commandments of God. Authorities now are pursuing the sect's leaders, who they believe masterminded the murders of at least 924 people.

"I never took it seriously," Kibetenga now says, her eyes dropping to the ground.

For the movement, childhood was an occasion of sin. "These days ... the majority of the youths go to hell; only very few go to heaven in a day," its handbook states. The sect's leaders went to brutal lengths to ensure children wouldn't fall into what they believed were the clutches of Satan.

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- Grace C. Huerta, Assistant Professor, Secondary Education, USU
- Erica Liu Wollin, Staff Therapist, Counseling Center, USU
- Antonio A. Arce, Graduate Student, Sociology Department, USU

The President's Diversity Awards will be presented  
following the panel discussion.

This program is free and open to the public. The President's Diversity Forums are part of USU's continuing commitment to understanding and valuing diversity through interactive discussion. For further information or to request accommodations for people with disabilities, please call the Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Office at (435) 797-1266 no later than Friday, 7 April.

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PINION

## 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."

Quotes 'n  
NOTESRandom  
Numbers

232

Number of  
CDs the average  
American buys  
in his/her life-  
time.

345

Number of  
movies in the-  
aters the aver-  
age American  
sees.

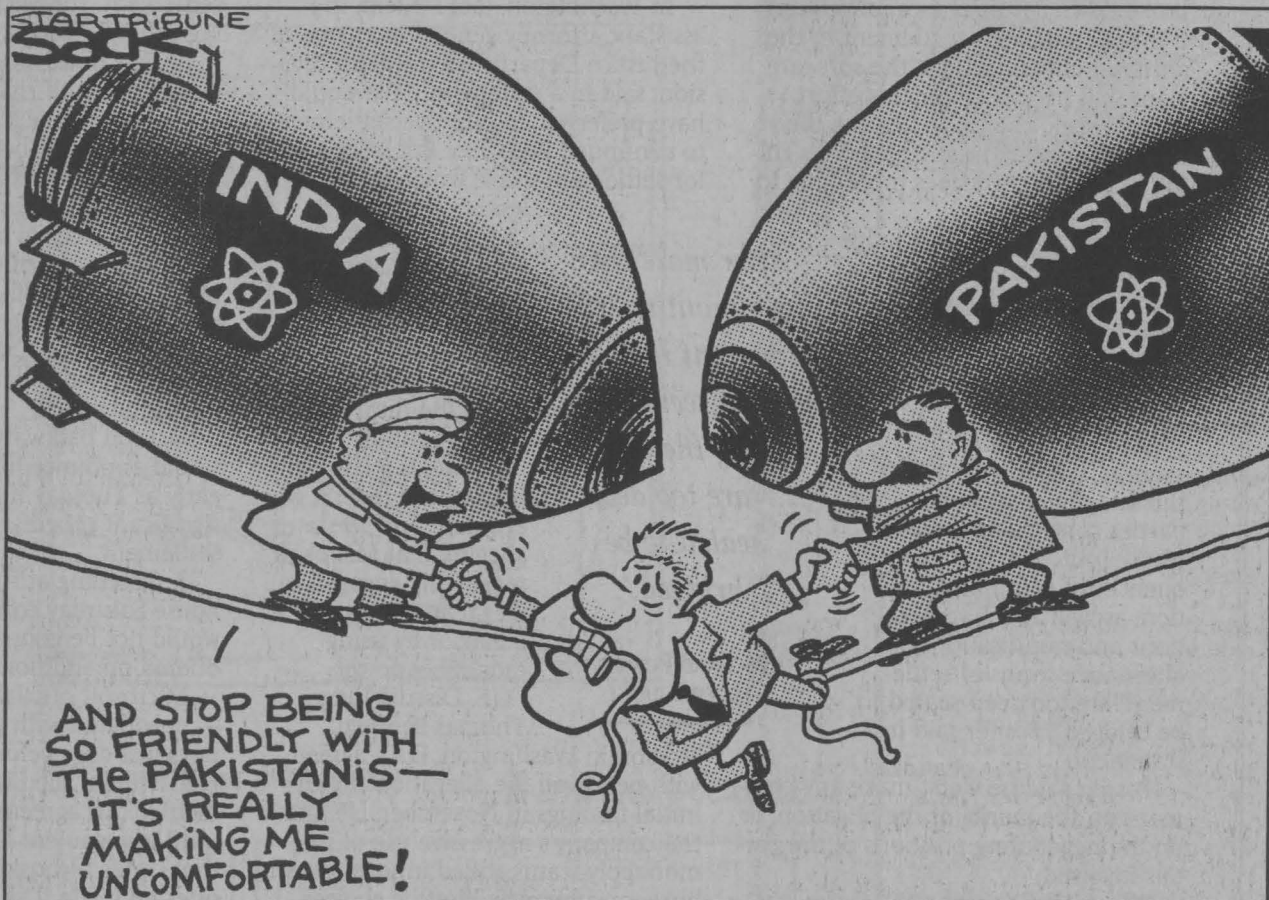
630

Number of  
movies on video  
the average  
American sees.

233

Number of  
times the aver-  
age American  
goes bowling.

668

Number of  
books the aver-  
age American  
buys.UNITED PRESS  
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EDITORTolerate those  
who are different,  
student asks

I am a senior here at Utah State, and I feel it is time I finally speak out on an issue that has continually troubled me; that is the attitude of intolerance that is dominant on this campus, in particular the intolerance towards homosexuals.

I would hope that I could say we have progressed far enough that we would not have to persecute others for their GOD-GIVEN characteristics. It has taken over a century for us to realize that those people with black skin are socially, mentally and physically equivalent to those with white skin. And on the same token, those of us who are born homosexual are just like those who are heterosexual.

Just as skin color is a God-given physical characteristic, so is homosexuality. And no one deserves social degradation simply because they are born different from those who consider themselves "mainstream."

I happen to be gay. Many people with whom I associate may not know it. And you know what? I am your normal everyday run-of-the-mill male. Being gay does not make me any less of a man. I lift weights, I like sports and I drive a four-wheel-drive vehicle. My friends even call me "mijo" which means "the man" in Filipino.

I was born with a particular character trait that may be somewhat rare in these parts. But do not judge me or other homosexuals as being evil or perverted. We are just like those of you who consider yourselves to be in the mainstream. I plead with you to understand and to be tolerant with those who are not like you. Get to know someone different and realize that they are people too.

Ryan Anderton

Students should be  
informed before party  
affiliation

I read the *Statesman* everyday. Everyday I see an article condemning Democrats. I am a native Californian and attending college in Utah has basically been a culture shock.

I love Utah, it is a beautiful place and I've met some wonderful people here. Although it isn't a diverse state with a variety of ideas, I have learned a lot about myself in my two years up here.

One thing really bothers me about Utah. I understand this state is largely influenced by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints religion. I respect that. For many people, religion is an important part of their lives. Obviously Latter-day Saint followers choose to follow the more conservative political

agenda. Or do they?

After talking with a local high school government teacher, I have found many young Republicans haven't made a choice. They have been told which party they are expected to support. This was realized when this teacher handed surveys to her students which, depending on the student's responses to the questions, would tell them if their views were more in line with Republican or Democrats. To their surprise, a majority of the students leaned toward the Democrats.

Do you know how the students responded? Asking the teacher "Are you gonna tell my parents?" or "Can I change my answers?" Whether this was the result of religion or parental pressure dictating their political preference, I think this is a disgrace.

Every individual has the opportunity to choose which party they want to support. I challenge everyone out there to explore different political parties. Not only the Democrat and the Republican parties, but the Green Party, the Reform Party and the other minority parties.

By becoming informed, you may find a party that may be closer to your personal beliefs than the one you currently associate with.

For those of you who have already researched the political agendas and decided to support George W. Bush, great. You have taken steps to become informed and are not merely jumping on the conservative Utah bandwagon. I think many of you will be surprised at how fascinating politics is.

Nonetheless, we will have an interesting election come November. I'd like to end by voicing my choice, Gore 2000!

Kata Vehar

Write-in votes should  
be published in  
'Statesman'

As I read the results of the ASUSU elections on Friday, I was disappointed that for the Presidential election, the results only listed Ben Riley, who ran unopposed. I recall several write-in candidates advertised by fliers and by word of mouth. Mr. Riley received 2,311 votes and according to Public Relations Vice President Christina Domichel, roughly 2,500 total votes were recorded. I would like to know who the 200 non-published votes are credited to.

As USU students, we are willing to have an individual gain the office of President through acquiescence. We should at least have the privilege of having the top 3 to 5 vote getters next to Mr. Riley published in an upcoming *Statesman*. It would be the classy thing to do.

Timothy Bethers

## Spring brings opera, 5K run

## SOCIAL CALENDARING WITH ANN / Ann Bluemlein



Happy April! This is the LAST month of classes! The end is in sight (if you can see beyond

those 14 term papers, 11 finals and nine group projects). Anyway — do try to take some time out and have a small social life.

I have to confess that my social life has picked up dramatically recently. Hehehehe. So the moral of this story is that TRYING to have a social life can EVENTUALLY lead to one.

So get out that planner and pick a few events to attend. Pick one that really interests

you and GO. If you have no interest at all in such an event, then just read this column for a few laughs and try to have a good week.

**Monday** — Hey, here is a chance to be environmentally safe. The Bear River Health Department is offering free environmental kits — including private water sample kit, Radon kit and lead based paint kit — all free at their office at 655 E. 1300 North. It's part of National Public Health Week.

Be healthy and go for a walk outside. Look at the birds. Look at the flowers. Notice where the cute/hot neighbors live. Tie your shoe in front of their apartment — check things out. Invite them to something later in the week.

**Tuesday** — If it is nice and

sunny go to the softball game at 4 p.m. at Johnson Field (on campus). Take some food. Cheer for your team. Make it a group activity.

Do your homework for the rest of the week so you can go to the upcoming social events.

**Wednesday** — Interested in flying gliders or soaring? The Cache Valley Soaring Association is meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Technology Building Room 108. Flying can be good.

Go to the Health Department and sign up for the 5K race or the walk which will be held Saturday. You get a new t-shirt, food and a chance at prizes. I am personally planning to walk at least half of the 5K with my friends Janice and Susan.

**Thursday** — Guitar concert at 7:30 p.m. in the Eccles Conference Center. It's classical guitar music — go and be enriched.

Also all you members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, today is the Palmyra Temple dedication day. You have to have a ticket so plan to get yours early. Rebroadcast at 7 p.m. to the Stake Centers.

Also tonight, *Hansel and Gretel* (the opera) opens at 7:30 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre downtown (28 W. Center), free with ID. Runs same time and place Friday and Saturday.

Go and get free bread at Great Harvest (before they close at 7 p.m.) and then have great seats for the show!

**Friday** — Some award-win-

ning percussionists are performing tonight (for free of course) at 7:30 p.m. at Kent. Cool music opportunity here.

Go to *Hansel and Gretel* and then out for Aggie ice cream. Food is always a great people-bringer-togetherer.

**Saturday** — Go be in the 5K race or at least go watch the participants and cheer really loud when they look tired (because I know I will look tired the entire time).

The Latter-day Saints Institute is doing an Easter concert at the Tabernacle at 7 p.m. Free, but seats usually go really fast.

Ann Bluemlein recently got a lovely bouquet of flowers from a man. For juicy details you have to e-mail her at: slzk7@cc.usu.edu.

Utah  
on  
the road

SLIGHTLY OFF CENTER / Dennis Hinkamp



Twenty  
years  
ago I  
packed  
up a  
green  
Honda  
Civic  
and

tediously explained to the U-Haul dealer over the phone that "yes, Honda makes cars now and there are lots of modern settlements west of the Rockies."

I lied about the car's power and ability to pull a big square box through the mountains and wind and headed towards Utah. And in doing so crossed what most Midwesterners and Easterners considered the edge of the flat earth.

I left an angry girlfriend, disbelieving relatives and frightened evangelists giving me the spiritual equivalent of malaria shots to ward off Mormon infection. What was supposed to be a Gilligan-like three-year cruise ended up being an extended shipwreck on the sitcom that is my life.

Of all those who had given me various warnings few had driven further than Colorado and considered everything between there and California to be just "fly over." Oh, there was the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas and Yellowstone, but Utah remained little more than a big float-on-your-back lake, roadside-attraction postcard, an Osmond colony and a Tabernacle choir.

Cut to my sitcom 20 years later and the island is over-run with cruise ships and crazy immigrants pillaging the landscape with home equity checks in their hands. Utah is almost, dare I say, "hip." To confirm this I hit the road during peak tourist season.

It is simultaneously appalling, delightful and insidious that on a scorching Southern Utah day I can be served a vegetarian black bean burrito by a woman with three nose rings in the town of Hurricane, Utah.

And on another musty night I walk down the streets of Kanab and hear religious karaoke songs at the city park. On the other side of town I walk for an hour without hearing a word of English spoken by passers by.

There's a waitress with a shaved head in Moab serving yet another black bean, vegetarian burrito and suddenly I see that my trip has a theme. In Springdale I hit my third cafe with black bean burritos and MTV fashion victims.

I drive on Highway 12 for two hours without seeing anything but out-of-state

license plates. It scares me that people are talking about Torrey, Utah, becoming the next Moab when I can remember when Moab wasn't even the next Moab.

It's hard for me to image a nuclear family of four sitting down in Paris, Frankfurt or London leafing through Euro-AAA guide books and picking Torrey, Utah, as their destination. But I stop there and while in search of a vegetarian black bean burrito I spot one of those Euro-families.

Les Griswalds are speaking French and I'm pretty sure the kids are saying something about how "dorky" they feel in this rented mini-van and how all their friends are going to Disneyland" and the parents are saying "Well, if everyone jumped off of a bridge ..."

When and why did Utah become so hip?

Cities burp, and weirdness and black bean burritos spew out over the west. If you could see it from outer space it would look like 4th of July sparklers shooting out from places like L.A. and San Francisco and Seattle with the sparks dying in places like Moab, Kanab and Torrey and Hurricane. People come here not so much to find the truth, but to escape it. The cities are Cuba and Utah has become the promise of a better life.

It's a sign of the times that you can live in a place for only 14 years and start getting nostalgic. I miss places with bad coffee and without black bean burritos; places like El Bambi and The Garden of Eaten' and Famous Dick's Cafe; the Moab newspaper called The Stinking Desert Gazette and I even miss the Nephi "Death Strip."

It's a strangely compelling irony that about the time I was born the government was still dropping atomic bombs near an area of the country that has now become a favorite of tourists world-wide ... some of them speaking Japanese.

If you want to see what Utah was like, take a drive on Highway 30 in the forgotten Northeast corner.

There's a stretch of road out there so open you can steer with your feet and never see any life other than the occasional suicidal jack rabbit. You won't see any cafes, espresso bars, LYCRA or people with a roof rack full of adventure toys. It's a great place to help me remember why I came to Utah in the first place.

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



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1<sup>st</sup> place: "Hard Running"  
Rand Marshall  
Theory and Practice of Writing

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "The Day Johnny P. Found Jesus"  
Shanan Ballam  
English/Theory and Practice of Writing

#### UNDERGRADUATE FICTION

1<sup>st</sup> place: "Smart"  
Leslie Thompson  
Public Relations

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "The Bridge Burner"  
Chris Plunkett  
Watershed Science

3<sup>rd</sup> place: "Silent Tears for Tyler"  
Emily Proctor  
English Professional Writing

#### GRADUATE NON-FICTION ESSAY

1<sup>st</sup> place: "Legacy"  
Rand Marshall  
Theory and Practice of Writing

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "Little Lumps of Misery"  
Pete Gomben,  
Forest Resources

#### UNDERGRADUATE NON-FICTION ESSAY

1<sup>st</sup> place: "Two Men, One Headstone"  
Gerard van Gils

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "One Last Ride"  
Benjamin Wilson Call  
Agricultural Education

#### GRADUATE POETRY

1<sup>st</sup> place: "A Way to Live"  
"Purchance to dream"  
"Wood Boat"  
Michelle Parkinson  
English

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "Eve and Her Bones"  
"Why Jesus Walked on Water"  
"On the Ferry from Galveston"  
Shanan Ballam  
English

#### UNDERGRAD POETRY

1<sup>st</sup> place: "The Danger of Empty Dreams in a One-Horse Town"  
"A Mellow Drama"  
"A Poem for Crazy Horse (Across the Great Divide)"  
Quinn Grover  
English/Professional Writing

2<sup>nd</sup> place: "Traveling to Capitol Reef"  
"Home from Goblin Valley"  
"With My Roommate, Fernanda, in the Dunes"  
Adrienne Platero  
English

3<sup>rd</sup> place: "Things Folding In"  
"In the Shadow of the Bison"  
"The Tomb"  
Nicole A. Grotapas  
English/Literary Studies

Please join us for a reading of the  
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refreshments served ~ everyone invited

Read the winning submissions at  
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## Judge gives up on Microsoft dispute

CHICAGO (AP) — Talks between the federal government and Microsoft broke down Saturday as a judge here trying to mediate a settlement in the antitrust lawsuit against the software giant said he was ending his effort.

Last week, the judge hearing the case in Washington postponed his ruling to give the two sides more time to talk.

Federal appeals court Judge Richard Posner said that since accepting the task, he had tried to find a common ground that might enable the two sides to settle their differences.

"After more than four months, it is apparent that the disagreements among the parties concerning the likely course, outcome, and consequences of continued litigation, as well as the implications and ramifications of alternative terms of settlement, are too deep-seated to be bridged," Posner said in a statement.

Posner said he won't make any comment on the merits of the litigation, or on the negotiating positions of the parties involved.

Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates was "disappointed" talks had stopped, company spokesman Greg Shaw said.

"Gates said that they devoted over 3,000 hours all told to the effort over the past four months and that

Microsoft offered significant concessions," Shaw said.

In Washington, Joel I. Klein, the assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department antitrust division, said in a statement: "We would have preferred an effective settlement to continued litigation. But settlement for settlement's sake would be pointless."

*'After more than four months, it is apparent that the disagreements among the parties ... are too deep-seated to be bridged.'*

• RICHARD POSNER •  
FEDERAL JUDGE

Klein said if the ruling goes against Microsoft, the Justice Department "will seek a remedy that prevents Microsoft from using its monopoly in the future to stifle competition."

At issue is a lawsuit filed by the federal government and 19 states alleging that Microsoft repeatedly engaged in illegal anti-competitive behavior by using monopoly power.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson in Washington, D.C., agreed with nearly all the allegations in an initial findings in November. He said the company's aggressive use of its monopoly status stifled innovation and hurt consumers by limiting choices.

On Tuesday, Jackson postponed his verdict in the case to give both sides more time to hammer out details of a possible out-of-court settlement.

Jackson has encouraged the parties

to make a deal, attorneys have said.

Both sides have reason to reach a settlement. For Microsoft, a harsh ruling could be used against the company in dozens of class-action lawsuits its faces from both rivals and clients.

The government, meanwhile, would have a long wait before the company is forced to change its behavior. Once Jackson issues a verdict, he would have to hold additional hearings to determine what kind of sanctions to impose. Microsoft would likely appeal any decision, possibly tying up the case for several years in a court that could ultimately overturn parts, if not all, of the initial judgment.

Jackson had warned lawyers that he would announce his final ruling as early as Tuesday if they failed to make significant progress toward reaching a settlement.

A recording at the federal courthouse Saturday confirmed the verdict would not be issued Tuesday but offered no additional information.

Microsoft officials — including Gates — negotiated with government attorneys just days before the Justice Department filed its original complaint in 1998. An agreement appeared likely until government lawyers complained that Gates reconsidered details in an offer he made. The deal fell through, and the government filed suit.

Once Jackson issues a verdict, he would have to hold additional hearings to determine what kind of sanctions to impose.

## Warships to begin training off Puerto Rico

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Warships will begin training Tuesday in waters off Puerto Rico but will steer clear of a controversial

training ground on the island of Vieques, the U.S. Navy said Sunday.

A total of 18 ships from the United States, Colombia, Britain, Canada and the Netherlands will participate in the maneuvers, Navy spokesman Jeff Gordon said. The exercises will take place on the high seas south of Puerto Rico, though some anti-mine training could be done as close as 12 miles from shore, he said.

"Vieques won't be involved at all," Gordon said. "This will all be way

off the coast."

Navy exercises have been a controversial issue in the U.S. territory since a bombing accident in the Vieques training ground killed a civilian security guard on April 19, 1999. Protesters have occupied the bombing range since then to thwart further exercises.

In March, the Navy was forced to move training to the Gulf of Mexico and Florida's Eglin Air Force Base because of the protests.

President Clinton has promised to order the Navy

out of Vieques by 2003 if the island's 9,400 residents vote for the expulsion in a referendum, likely to be held in 2001.

This week's training is part of an annual multinational exercise that began March 20 off the coast of Colombia, Gordon said. The exercise will end off Puerto Rico on April 10.

Between August and November, warships will sail around South America to participate in a second round of Unitas exercises with Latin American navies, Gordon said.

## Criminal immigrants await deportation to countries that won't take them

EL CENTRO, Calif. (AP) — Hoang Duc Nguyen's 10-month prison sentence ended five months ago, but he is still behind bars.

U.S. law says the 30-year-old immigrant must be deported, but the country he fled as a child refugee won't take him back.

That's left Nguyen in a legal no man's land, and he isn't alone.

An estimated 3,400 immigrants with criminal records are in similar holding patterns at Immigration and Naturalization Service detention centers and jails across the United States. Some have waited four years for authorities to decide what to do with them.

"I just want to get out of this place," Nguyen, who was born in Vietnam, said as he sat at a visitor's booth at the INS detention center in El Centro, about 120 miles east of San Diego.

About 60 of the 500 prisoners at the center cannot be returned to their countries. Instead, they're left living in a barracks-style jail in the desert that was designed to hold illegal migrant workers for a few days, not years.

The INS already is struggling with a record number of prisoners. Tougher immigration laws have more than doubled the numbers to 18,000 since 1996, when Congress eliminated a requirement that the INS release anyone who couldn't be deported within six months.

Those immigrants who are stuck here, like Nguyen, come from a handful of countries, including Cuba, Laos and Vietnam, that won't take them back.

"We keep hearing that the State Department is negotiating with these countries to try to send some of these people back," said Kim

Porter, an INS assistant district director in San Diego.

"We're at their mercy." Earlier this month, the chairman of a House subcommittee that funds immigration operations blasted the INS after Justice Department figures showed nearly 12,000 of the 35,000 immigrants with criminal records released over the past five years committed new crimes.

In response, the INS said many of the releases weren't at the agency's discretion because the incarcerated immigrants had won their deportation cases or because bond was allowed by immigration and federal judges.

Since last year, INS has freed about 1,000 convicted immigrants on bond under special review. But those awaiting review, and those deemed too risky to release, simply must wait.

## STUDENTS

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## MERGER

Continued from Page 2

Slack said Friday. She said the company would immediately begin studying its options, although she did not know what they were.

One possibility is litigation, which was raised by one First Security investor during Friday's meeting. Simmons said Zions does not expect a lawsuit from First Security management but could not rule out litigation altogether.

Renegotiation is more likely.

"It seems like both companies have put in a lot of work up to this date to try to get this merger done," said Joseph K. Morford, an analyst with Dain Rauscher Wessels of San Francisco. "That seems like an option worth exploring."

The two banks, Utah's largest, had already started to consolidate some departments and sell off redundant branches as ordered by regulators. Simmons estimated the failed merger would cost Zions about \$75 million in losses from the 9.5 million shares of First Security stock his bank owns, plus about \$25 million for attorneys and bankers fees.

Failure to seal a deal could leave either bank open to a takeover attempt from outside. Reim said First Security, with its declining revenue base, is more vulnerable.



# COMICS CORNER

\*EVEN MORE CARTOONS TO TICKLE YOUR BIG TIME!!

Charlie **RODRIQUES**



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## Win a new bureaucracy

**DAVE'S WORLD / Dave Barry**



Unless you are hiding in a drain pipe, by now you should have received your census questionnaire

from the federal government.

The census is a federal tradition dating back to 1790, when President Washington ordered all citizens to form a line and count off by ones, thus establishing that the U.S. population at that time was "eleventeen." In modern times, the census is taken by the Census Bureau every 10 years, as required by the Constitution. (For the other nine years, Census Bureau employees play pinocle while remaining on Red Alert, in case the Constitution suddenly changes.)

How important is the census to us today? Here's a quote from a letter my household received from Kenneth Prewitt, director of the Census Bureau:

"Huwag ninyong sasagutin ang Inggles na form na inyong tatanggapin sa koreo."

I did not make this quote up. More than half of Mr. Prewitt's letter to my household is written in various foreign languages. As far as I can tell, in this particular quote Mr. Prewitt is saying: "Anybody who gets sausage and eggs on the census form will end up (something bad) in South Korea." This is not a threat that the federal government makes lightly.

Why is the census so important? For one thing, it enables the government to locate its citizens so it can administer programs to

them. The census also determines our congressional representation, which is very important. For example, in the 1990 census, a homeowner named Ward A. Frondflinger Jr. of Lawrence, Kan., left his census form out on the dining-room table, and unbeknownst to him, his children filled it out and mailed it in, with the information that his household had 984 million members. Today, the Frondflingers are personally represented by 12 congresspersons and five U.S. senators, and they have their own naval base.

Contrast their situation with that of North Dakota, which, because of poor participation with the 1990 census, wound up reporting that it had a total of only seven residents (the actual number is believed to be much closer to nine). As a result, today North Dakota has zero representatives in Congress and may no longer even be part of the United States. (Somebody should go up there and check.)

So the "bottom line" is that it is in your best interest, as a citizen, to fill out your census form. Here's some information to help you:

Q. What kinds of questions does the census form ask?

A. Most citizens will receive the short form, which asks you only for basic information that the government needs to administer programs to you, such as your name, age, sex, race, weight and whether or not you wear thong underwear.

Q. What if I get the long form?

A. You had better know something about calculus.

Q. Is my census information confidential?

A. Absolutely. Nobody is allowed to see your personal census information except federal employees

and their friends.

Q. What are my choices regarding my race?

A. You may choose from any of the following federally approved races: Black, White, Beige, Blush, Bisque, Asian, Latino, Caucasian, Person of Color, African-American, Native American Indian, Spaniard, Original Hawaiian, Asian Minor, Native Alaskan, Person of Density, Indian Indian from India, Caucasian-Asian Hawaiian, Hispano-African-Alaskan Native Indian, Ohioan, Native Hawaiian Tourist, Munchkin, Italian Samoan, Wisenheimer and Presbyterian. Or, if you prefer, you may invent your own race, and the government will create a large bureaucracy to keep track of you.

Q. Why does the government need this information?

A. That is none of your business.

Q. I have an imaginary friend named Mr. Wookins. Should I include him on my census form?

A. Of course. The federal government spends billions of dollars on imaginary programs; these must be targeted to reach the people who really need them.

Q. Is there a place on the census form where I can tell the government how much I hate those stupid low-flow toilets?

A. The government has provided margins for this express purpose.

Q. What will happen to me if I fail to complete the census form?

A. In the words of Census Director Prewitt, "Matatanggap ninyo ang Tagalog na census form sa loob ng dalawang linggo."

Q. Can he DO that?

A. Do not tempt him.

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# Back Burner

**M**

**Monday, April 3**  
• Faculty Senate meeting on Monday, 3 p.m. in the Cazier Sci. Tech Library, Room 120. The agenda and materials are posted on the faculty senate web site.

• STAB presents: Edited Double Feature, April 3 at Kent Concert Hall. The Thomas Crown Affair, 7 p.m. and The Matrix, 9:30 p.m. Free with ID

**T**

**Tuesday, April 4**  
• Religion in Life, Richard E. Bennett, 12:30 p.m. Institute  
• Softball USU vs. Southern Utah, 2 and 4 p.m., Johnson Field

**W**

**Wednesday, April 5**

## F.Y.I.

- Kappa Delta Sorority presents a **Star Search Talent Show!** Tickets are \$3! Come see some great talent and support the prevention of child abuse!
- **Scores for sale** Tuesday, April 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the TSC Patio. Event sponsored by Habitat for Humanity.
- A fun, free **workshop for engaged and newly married couples** provided by the Family Life Center. April 6 and 13 at 7pm. Call for reservations, 753-5696 or 753-5426.
- USU Athletics, 7th annual **scholar/athlete luncheon**. Tickets are \$8, April 4, 11:30 am, TSC Ballroom.
- The Cache Valley Soaring Association informational meeting, April 5, 7:30 p.m. Technology Building Room 108 at USU. Anyone interested in **learning about flying gliders** and soaring is invited to attend. Information 713-4952 or e-mail cachesoaring@yahoo.com.
- **Are you wearing Beer Goggles?** Come see how you score. Thursday, April 6 in the TSC Juniper Lounge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- **"Are you caught in the Web?"** Nancy Williams speaking on positive & negative patterns associated with regular Internet use. April 6th in the TSC Auditorium @ 12:30 p.m.
- Chapter Two Books hosts **A Reading: Winners of the 2000 Creative Writing Contest**. April 6, 7 to 9 p.m. 130 N. 100 East Logan. Short Fiction, Poetry and NonFiction Essay.

- Refreshments.
- USU Music Dept. presents **classical guitarist Denis Azabagic** in Concert, April 6, 7:30 p.m. ECC \$5 or Free w/ID
  - **Dates to Remember:** Fall Registration begins April 10; August 16 Fee payment deadline (in person); August 28 Fall Semester begins.
  - **"Rock Around the World"** International Student Activity April 7, 8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. \$2 w/ID or \$4 w/o. Institute
  - **Tuition Waivers for 2000/2001** are now available from the Woman's Center. Eligibility: undergraduate reentry women and men with a five year or more gap in schooling, 3.0 GPA, enrolled 12 semester hours. Utah resident. Contact the Women's Center located in TSC Room 310. For information 797-1728. Deadline- April 21, 2000.
  - 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
  - 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.

Ick **RICH MOYER**



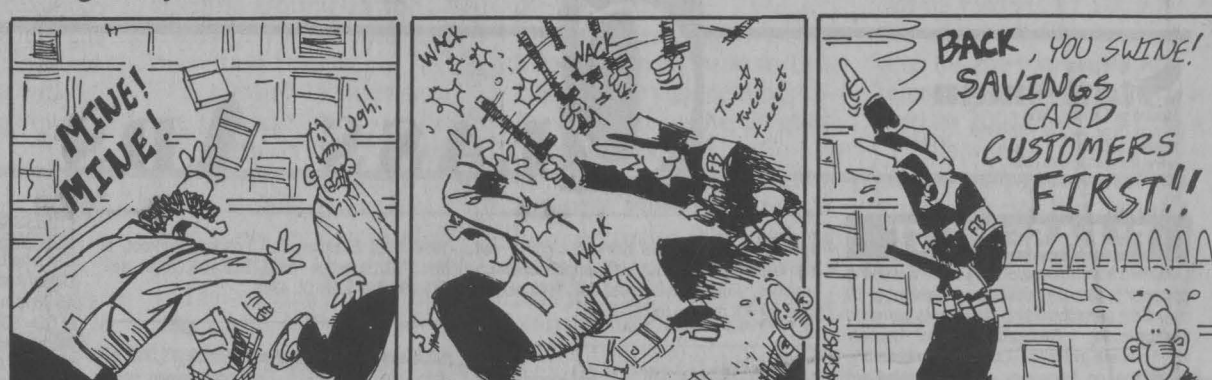
Dilbert **SCOTT ADAMS**



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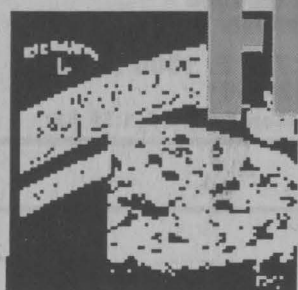
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**Prices Effective April 3-8, 2000**

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
3	4	5	6	7	8