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The Utah Statesman

"Campus Voice Since 1902" • Utah State University • Logan, Utah • www.utahstatesman.com

STARRING
VEGAS

Today's Issue:

Campus News



Find out what impacts the WISE Program of the Space Dynamics Lab have on space technology. **Page 1**

Features



Long distance relationships are intolerable for some while others make their relationships work. **Page 3**

Sports



USU men's basketball team tallies a few wins after a disappointing loss at the Western Athletic Conference Tournament in Las Vegas. **Page 6**

Opinion

"I don't fault anyone for their support of Invisible Children, but I think more careful scrutiny is warranted before we throw weight behind something as serious as military deployments into foreign countries." **Page 10**

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JUNIOR DISTANCE RUNNER BRITTANY FISHER was injured while rappelling in southern Utah. Fisher was taken to University Hospital in Las Vegas, where surgeons operated on her leg. Doctors are optimistic she will be able to walk again. Photo courtesy of Haley Evans

Athlete paralyzed over Spring Break

BY CATHERINE BENNETT
editor in chief

Brittany Fisher and a group of her friends headed south for Spring Break outdoor adventures, but early Monday morning her plans were changed when she fell about 60 feet to the earth while rappelling down a rock face.

A helicopter immediately transported her to University Hospital, in Las Vegas, where doctors confirmed she was paralyzed from the waist down.

A member of USU's track team, Brittany Fisher was set to go to a track meet in Arizona later that week.

"I woke up to my roommate saying Haley, don't freak out," said Haley Evans, a junior at USU who grew up with Fisher in Naperville, Ill. "When I found out, I honestly was just like mad. I wasn't mad at her, but I felt like she had been stolen away in the middle of the night. I felt like I just woke up and everything was different."

Evans was sleeping in the condo where the group was staying, when Fisher and a male USU student decided to go rock climbing between 2 and 3 a.m., Evans said. It was dark when they started rappelling from the top of the 80-foot cliff.

Fisher used a left-handed rappelling system, Evans said, and her hand got caught. When she started going too fast she reached up with her right hand to grab the rope and stop herself, but the friction gave her a second-degree burn on that hand. At that point, Fisher let go of the rope and she fell the rest of the way, landing on the ground at a diagonal — first landing on her feet and falling to her back, Evans said.

"It's honestly a miracle that she didn't hit her head," Evans said. "Nothing happened with her brain, she was never out of it. She was conscious and talking all the way until the helicopter got there."

The male who was with her at the time climbed back up the cliff to the car where they left their phones and called for help. He turned the hazard lights on so they would be found, Evans said.

Fisher broke the tibia of her right leg and endured a 10-hour surgical procedure Monday to insert a rod into her leg. Her left foot was completely shattered and doctors are scheduled to do surgery Monday, Evans said.

Fisher also broke her back in two places — at the T-5 and T-12 thoracic vertebrae.

➔ See **ATHLETE**, Page 2

Science Week celebrates milestones

BY STEVE KENT
news editor

Music and dancing will be as much a part of this year's Science Week as physics and chemistry demonstrations. A music competition, rock climbing and a dance will compliment lectures and exhibits throughout the week of March 19-23, according to event coordinators.

Mitch Morgan, Science Week coordinator and member of the Science Council, said the week will be a chance to show the community what the college does.

"I hope they can get a better understanding of what the College of Science is and what programs we have."

Morgan said the event he looks forward to most is the Smarty Pants Laser Dance, beginning at 9 p.m., Friday in the atrium of the Eccles Science Learning Center. The dance falls on the anniversary of the invention of the laser, he said, and the setting and theme will be unique.

"To our knowledge, there's never been a dance in that building before," Morgan said.

Science Senator Joe Watson said coordinators will set up lasers in the atrium and give out 2,000 glow sticks.

"The whole dance is free," Watson said. "We want everyone to come and have a good time."

Students are encouraged to dress in nerdy outfits, and prizes will be given for the nerdiest costumes.

Science Week events begin with the seventh annual String Theory Songwriting Competition. USU students compete with original music and lyrics performed on acoustic-only instruments. The competition will begin at noon in the TSC International Lounge, Watson said.

Last year, the contest drew 10 musical acts and 50-75 spectators, he said. Prizes include a \$50 gift card to KSM Music, a \$50 gift card to the USU Bookstore and a free meal card from Dining

Services.

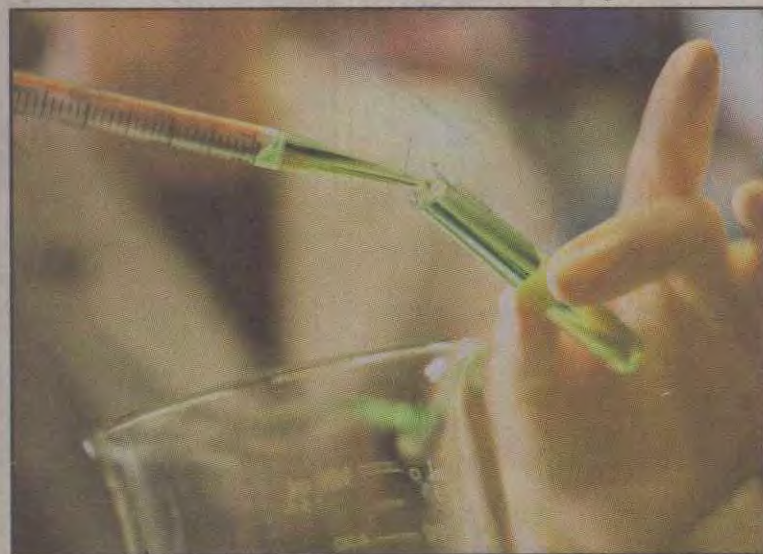
Monday at 7 p.m., Teaching Laboratory Supervisor James Coburn will provide a physics demonstration in ESLC 130. Coburn said the demonstrations include battery in a beaker, liquid nitrogen and a Ruben's

Tube, a device that demonstrates standing waves with fire.

Coburn said the comparison of helium and hydrogen balloons will be particularly exciting.

"What the Science Council was advertising is explosions,"

➔ See **WEEK**, Page 2



SCIENCE WEEK 2012 EVENTS include chemistry and physics demonstrations, a music competition and a dance in the Eccles Science Learning Center. Thinkstock photo

Orbiting space telescope maps the cosmos

BY JULIA STOCK
staff writer

A scientist who helped build a powerful space telescope at the Space Dynamics Lab remarked on the project's impact in a speech at the Logan Tabernacle on March 9.

"Keep your chair backs in the upright position because we are ready to take off," said Doug Thompson, former mayor of Logan, as he introduced John D. Elwell, the project manager for the Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer (WISE) telescope.

Elwell explained the specifics of the WISE infrared telescope that he worked on at USU's SDL in Logan. Elwell said it was launched at 6 a.m. on Dec. 14, 2009, and scientists received the first light image from it 15 days later.

Because of its wide-field capability, WISE covers more of the sky than any of its predecessors, including the Hubble telescope, he said, explaining that wide-field means the telescope takes broader pictures.

WISE completed its mission 13 months after its launch, having covered the sky completely two times, Elwell said. The telescope took about six months to complete each survey of the sky.

Elwell said WISE is basically a telescope with cameras, and "it has four cameras and each is pointing at the same target in space but with four

different colors."

Those colors combined create the infrared effect, Elwell said, adding that the telescope is special because of those infrared capabilities.

"WISE doesn't look at visible light like our eyes (do), WISE looks at infrared light, or heat," he said. "If you walk outside on a hot summer day and you feel the sunlight on your skin, your skin is actually protecting you from the infrared light."



THE RHO OPHIUCHI CLOUD appears as a swirl of colors as photographed by the WISE telescope, built in part at the Space Dynamics Laboratory at USU. Photo courtesy NASA

Elwell said also discussed some of the technical maintenance necessary to keep the telescope functional.

"We kept WISE cool the same way you keep a thermos cool on a hot summer day," Elwell said. "Because infrared is heat, we have to keep the cameras cold. Otherwise, if the cameras were at say room temperature, the cameras would blind themselves with their own heat. It's like going outside on a dark night and turning on the flashlight and shining it in your own eye."

Elwell said the Space Dynamics Lab has been a part of USU for the past 50 years. With more than 500 successful missions originating from the SDL, the lab has become more well known, he said.

"We've had experiments that fly on satellites. We've had experiments on the space station and experiments on the International Space Station and a lot of work done on the space shuttle," Elwell said. "If you add up 50 years of experiments at Utah State University from the Space Dynamics Lab, we've actually put more research expeditions in space than any other university in the world. And that's not a bad record for a little university up in the mountains of northern Utah."

The lab benefits students at USU who use it, he said. Successful projects like WISE improve researchers' abilities to bring future work of

➔ See **SCIENTISTS**, Page 2

Briefs

Campus & Community

Discussion examines effects of Iraq war

The ninth anniversary of the start of combat in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, is the focus of a day-long series of panels and programs March 19 at USU. The event "Out of Iraq" is intended to recognize the contributions of all those involved in the controversial war and to help foster a process of introspective reconciliation.

Journalism Professor Matthew LaPlante, a former national security reporter who served as an embedded journalist in war zones and one of the event's organizers, said the discussion will involve current and future effects of the conflict.

"Now that the United States has withdrawn its forces, what we'd like to do is to help develop an honest and safe dialogue about what this war meant to America and to the USU community," LaPlante said.

Afternoon and evening events will be held at the TSC Auditorium. They will include discussion panels and photo exhibits by war photographers. Students, staff, faculty and Cache County community members — particularly veterans of the war, natives of Iraq or others whose lives were significantly affected by the conflict — are invited to share their experiences.

Utah uv vetoes sex education bill

Gov. Gary Herbert vetoed a controversial bill March 16 that would have prohibited teachers from instructing students about contraceptives, premarital sex or homosexuality.

Despite pressure on both sides of the issue, Herbert acted against the measure that would have required teaching abstinence-only curricula in schools.

Herbert said the bill went too far in depriving parents the right to choose how their children learn about sexual activity, and public school instruction should supplement, not replace, lessons taught in the home.

"In order for parents to take on more responsibility, they need more information, more involvement and more choice — not less," Herbert said.

House Bill 363 passed the Senate by a 19-10 vote earlier this month. The bill's sponsor, Rep. Bill Wright, R-Holden, said during the legislative session that teenagers need to know that abstinence is the only guaranteed way to avoid pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases. He said the law was important to protect the innocence of students.

The Legislature still has the option of calling a special session to attempt to override Herbert's veto. Such an act would require a two-thirds vote.

Historian to speak about gold plates

Richard L. Bushman, one of the nation's pre-eminent scholars of early American and Mormon history, returns to USU on March 22 to deliver a talk "The Many Lives of Joseph Smith's Gold Plates."

The event, which is open to the public, will be held from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in room ESLC 130 and is sponsored by USU's Religious Studies Program.

Bushman is the Gouverneur Morris Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia University. His talk at USU will focus on the historical and cultural significance of the gold plates Smith said he translated to write *The Book of Mormon*.

The gold plates Joseph Smith said he possessed "have lived on in the imagination of believers and unbelievers alike," Bushman said. "What gives these plates their longevity and vitality in so many venues?"

ClarifyCorrect

The policy of The Utah Statesman is to correct any error made as soon as possible. If you find something you would like clarified or find in error, please contact the editor at 797-1742, statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu or come in to TSC 105.

From Page 1

Athlete injured over Spring Break may regain ability to run

"I got here close to 11 p.m. last night and she was asleep," said Braden Fisher, Brittany's older brother. "At first I just looked at her and sobbed. Thirty to 40 minutes later, she woke up and was like normal. There are times where she is her normal self, but there are moments where she sees the reality of her condition."

At this point, Brittany Fisher has some sensation in her toes and doctors are optimistic she will walk again, Braden Fisher said, but no one is completely certain.

She will be transported this week to a rehabilitation center in Colorado, he said, and stay there for 4-8 weeks. After that, she will spend the next 12-18 months fighting for the ability to walk again, her brother said, and maybe one day will again be able to run.

"You hear the good and the bad," Braden Fisher said. "Everything good is going for her with being young, athletic, having a good attitude and good health. It's the best it could be."

He said he is confident in his sister's

ability to come out of the situation she is in, but waiting for results is — and will be — the most difficult part.

"She kept asking all the people at the hospital if she would be able to run tomorrow," Evans said. "Honestly, she was amazing. Of course, there was a bunch of regret, and all these emotions hitting her, but Brittany was positive the whole time and was thanking everyone — the whole time — that was helping her."

Fisher will be missed on the track team as a major support to her teammates, Greg Gensel, USU head coach for track and cross-country, said.

"She's inspiring to everybody," Gensel said. "Before her accident, she would — and she still will be — she's a great worker. She has a great work ethic. She always encourages other people, both in running and just life in general. She's what you want in an athlete and a friend, because she's always very supportive of what you're doing and wants you to have success."

— catherine.meidell@aggiemail.usu.edu



BRITTANY FISHER STANDS ON A ROCK FORMATION in the St. George area prior to the rappelling incident that sent her to the hospital. Photo courtesy of Haley Evans

From Page 1

Week offers events for education and entertainment

Event calendar for Science Week 2012

Monday, March 19

String Theory Songwriting Competition

TSC International Lounge, noon
Physics demonstration
ESLC 130, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20

Science club exhibits

TSC International Lounge, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday, March 21

Movie screening: "PhD: Piled Higher and Deeper"

TSC Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 22

Rock climbing

TSC Patio, noon to 2 p.m.

Friday, March 23

Smarty Pants Laser Dance

ESLC Atrium, 9 p.m.

Coburn said. "Sure, there will be some explosions."

Physics demonstrations can help people overcome their negative perceptions and possibly take interest in science, Coburn said.

"People might know that physics can be intimidating, but physics can also be fun," Coburn said.

Students curious about the extracurricular activities offered in the College of Science can attend exhibits by science-themed clubs in the TSC International Lounge from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday. Among the groups presenting will be the Society of Physics Students and the Chemistry and Biochemistry Club, Watson said.

Club exhibits are designed to attract the interest of students regardless of whether they are studying science, he said.

"The lounge day is not geared toward science students," Watson said. "Science students are already

involved in that kind of stuff; they're already doing lab work. The demos are for any age group and any person can do these demos."

Tasha Prettyman, science senator in the Graduate Student Senate, said there will be a screening, in the TSC Auditorium at 7 p.m., Wednesday, of the 2011 comedy about two graduate students, called "Piled Higher and Deeper," a play on the term Ph.D.

A rock wall will be set up on the TSC Patio, from noon to 2 p.m., Thursday to celebrate geology, Watson said.

A banquet commemorating the life of Sir Isaac Newton will be held for students of the College of Science, at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday in the Skyroom. The banquet is the only Science Week event not open to all students, Morgan said. Tuesday marks the 285th anniversary of Newton's death.

— steve.kent@aggiemail.usu.edu

From Page 1

Scientists and students work side by side at Space Dynamics Lab



Photo courtesy of NASA

this nature and therefore increase the opportunity to bring more students to the SDL for employment, which provides more exposure to the "real world" of engineering, he said.

"We have about 100 students that come down and work alongside with us," Elwell said. "We are working to help develop the next generation of scientists and engineers for our country. "The difference in Space



JOHN ELWELL, PROJECT MANAGER for the WISE telescope (left) project at the Space Dynamics Laboratory, explains the project's impact during a speech March 9 at the Logan Tabernacle. MELODY SANCHEZ photo

Dynamics Lab today is that we are respected around the world."

Kyle Anderson, a student at USU, attended the speech with his wife. Anderson said his wife's father works for the SDL and worked on the WISE project.

"I didn't know anything about it, but it's really interesting to see that this type of stuff is coming out of Utah State," Anderson said. "I didn't actually give it a lot of credit. They were just a bunch of nerds talking about space. But it really is pretty cool."

Elwell said he was impressed by the amount of people in attendance at the speech.

"I hope that means the community is interested in and supports the work we do," he said. "The WISE mission in particular — because of the spectacular images — has been an easy one to present to the community."

In closing his speech, Elwell said the amount of the information collected by the WISE mission's survey of the sky is so vast that it will take a long time to process it all.

"It will definitely be a resource in astrophysics for generations and decades to come," he said.

— juliann13stock@aggiemail.usu.edu

Police Blotter

Sunday, March 11

- USU Police impounded several bikes for safe keeping purposes around the Engineering Building. All of the bikes had flat tires, rusted chains or missing tires. The bikes had been previously marked tags that warned they would be removed and impounded in seven days.

- USU Police responded to a hit-and-run traffic accident with vehicle damage. A vehicle was struck while parked in the parking lot adjacent Bullen Hall. Police are investigating and know of no witnesses at this time.

Monday, March 12

- USU Police received a lost item report. A student placed some personal items in a car in the Big Blue Terrace and after contacting a friend who the student believed owned the car, the student realized the items had been placed in the wrong car.

- USU Police responded to a suspicious incident at the Sci-Tech portion of the Merrill-Cazier Library involving a man in one of the women's restrooms. Police are investigating.

- While fingerprinting an individual, police learned that Beaver County officials had issued a failure to appear warrant for the individual. The individual was arrested on that warrant.

- USU Police responded to an intrusion alarm at the Business Building computer lab. Police determined that a USU employee had set off the alarm. Police determined everything to be OK. A report was filed with USU Police.

- USU Police were asked by Landscaping to conduct a property watch over night on several unplanted trees in pots near Old Main Hill.

Tuesday, March 13

- USU Police responded to the north end zone building for a report of some suspicious items found in the chiller room. This investigation is continuing.

- USU Police received a delayed report of a hit-and-run accident that occurred in the green lot near the Radio/TV building.

Contact USU Police at 797-1939 for non-emergencies. Anonymous reporting line: 797-5000 EMERGENCY NUMBER: 911

Wednesday, March 14

- USU Police responded to the Stadium west lot to assist a school bus into the lot that was stuck on a driveway. USU Police directed traffic around the bus until it was moved.

- USU Police responded to an emergency 911 phone alarm that occurred south of the Aggie Village playground area. Police made contact with a parent who informed the police that his young child accidentally pushed the alarm. The alarm was reset without any further problems.

Thursday, March 15

- USU Police received a report of a vehicle being driven recklessly on the old trailer court property. The driver was identified and warned.

- USU Police responded to a fire alarm at Jones Hall. This alarm was caused by a resident vacuuming a large amount of carpet cleaning powder from their hallway. The powder was cleaned up and the alarm was silenced and reset.

Compiled by Steve Kent

Aggie Life

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Keeping love alive at a distance

BY NADIAH JOHARI
staff writer

Two summers ago, Jesse Fowers was in a self-proclaimed semi-serious relationship while he was living in San Diego. When school started in the fall, he spent six weeks at USU before traveling to Europe for four weeks with a Huntsman Business School program. His girlfriend stayed in San Diego while he traveled from San Diego to Logan and then on to Europe.

Fowers said he decided to end the long-distance relationship when he got back from his trip. Fowers said the relationship wasn't going anywhere and he didn't want to string her along.

"I tried to make her the one," said Fowers, a senior majoring in international studies and economics. "I tried to make her the special girl, but she really wasn't, and I wasn't special for her, either. It was kind of a relationship of convenience."

The next summer, Fowers had a two-day layover in New York City. There, he met his future wife, who was traveling from Fresno, Calif., to visit her friend in New York City. Fowers said the two spent the rest of the day together, but decided to keep the relationship platonic.

Before Fowers left to board his plane the next day, he and his new love took a ferry to

Ellis Island to spend more time together.

From that time forward they kept in touch, and by Thanksgiving she moved to Logan, where they were married after knowing each other for four months, he said.

"I think if it wasn't long distance, the result would have been the same," he said. "If both

of you are committed and it truly is a good relationship. It'll be a good relationship whether you're next door neighbors or whether you live on the other side of the globe."

Brianna Rowland, a senior majoring in public relations, said she met her husband at age 16 in Calgary, in Alberta, Canada. Rowland, who is from

Canada, got to know her husband, who is from Provo, when he came to Calgary to visit his cousins, which happened to be friends of Rowland's.

After a week he returned to Utah, and they kept in touch over the phone and through MSN messenger. Eventually, she came to Utah to attend his prom, she said. She also came to

USU to play tennis while he was on an LDS mission in Taiwan. Upon his return, they became exclusive for six months before she left for her mission.

She said after her mission and back Logan, he was in Alaska and turned down a job offer in London to move to Logan.

"I got anxious about it," Rowland said. "I don't know



SOME STUDENTS ATTEMPT LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS while attending school, but these romances often fail. In USU student Jesse Fowers case, the distance in his relationship proved too much to maintain. TODD JONES photo illustration

66

"I got anxious about it. I don't know how nervous he was, but it was definitely either we're going to make or break it. We couldn't keep on doing long distance forever."

— Brianna Rowland, senior majoring in public relations

how nervous he was, but it was definitely either we're going to make or break it. We couldn't keep on doing long distance forever."

Mollie Bateman, who studied art at USU last semester, said

➤ See DISTANCE, Page 5

Student's life changed by Native American exposure

BY MACKENZI VAN ENGELENHOVEN
features senior writer

Nelson Hernandez's life changed the first time he visited a Native American reservation in Omaha, Neb. After moving to Utah from his hometown of New York City, a friend who worked as a teacher on a reservation encouraged Hernandez to visit. He knew Hernandez was a basketball enthusiast and that basketball was a large part of reservation life.

On the reservation, Hernandez said he was shaken by what he saw. He witnessed the poverty that plagued the reservation, as well as the struggles of talented athletes to receive their high school diplomas and move up to play in college.

"It was one of those moments where you feel like your whole life has been leading to," he said. "It was an experience that woke something inside of me that I didn't know existed. I cried, and I said a prayer, and I knew something was going to be different in my life from then on."

After his weekend on the reservation, Hernandez returned home to tell his wife he was quitting his job in order to start a program that would help young Native American students achieve their full academic and athletic potentials.

Hernandez formed a group of college athletes, both Native American and from other backgrounds, and traveled with them to reservations around the country to provide students with a motivational presentation about basketball that was designed to encourage students to finish high school to pursue careers as collegiate athletes.

"I am a basketball person," Hernandez said. "I knew my work had to involve basketball. I figured we could be positive examples and give kids the message as to how to stay away from drugs and alcohol."

With his group, Hernandez visited more than 100 reservations over the course of six years and talked to thousands of students. He said he's had many parents call him and thank him for his positive influence in their children's lives.

"I don't think I'm the most important person in the world when it comes to helping Native American kids," he said. "But I think I made a difference. We helped a lot of kids that feel like they have no hope understand they are not the only ones experiencing tough times. I think we made a difference."

During his travels, he said he met the Schimmel family, whose daughter Shoni was an incredibly talented basketball player with the potential to play at the collegiate level.

By the time Shoni was 14, she had national recruiters interested in her. At the time, Hernandez said he was tired of constantly traveling to do his motivational speaking but was looking for a way to stay involved in helping Native Americans.

"I knew people who had made great documentaries," he said. "And I thought 'What if we document her life and process as she grows up and becomes a basketball player?' It was a perfect storm as far as timing and meeting the family."

At the time, Hernandez had previous experience in the film industry and said he recruited a team of producers, including Kelly Ripa.

For two years, Hernandez said, his documentary crew filmed Shoni Schimmel's life as she became a rising star in the high school basketball circuit and went on to play at University of Louisville as one of the best female basketball players in the country.



USU STUDENT NELSON HERNANDEZ said he had previous film industry experience and recruited producers including Kelly Ripa to create a documentary highlighting Shoni Schimmel, a high school basketball star. CODY GOGHNOUR photo



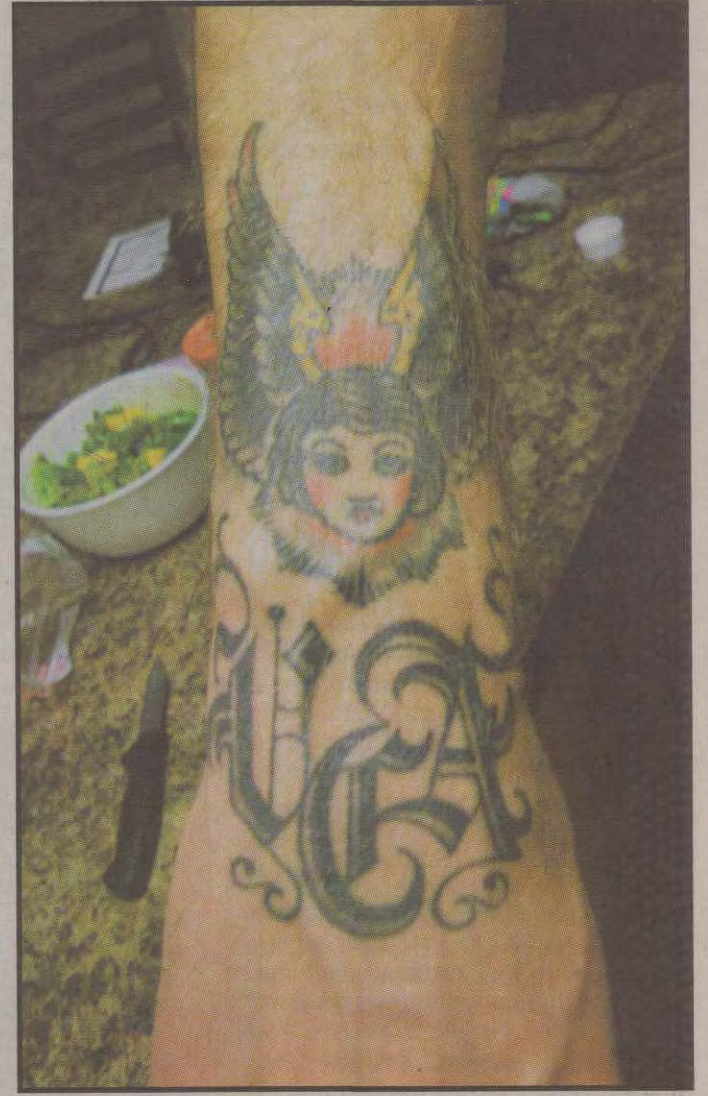
NELSON HERNANDEZ, A BASKETBALL ENTHUSIAST, built said after her witnessed the poverty of a Native American reservation in Omaha, Neb., he wanted to make a difference. CODY GOGHNOUR photo

"I wanted to show through the movie that kids can change their lives through basketball," Hernandez said. "And I wanted to show the reality of modern Native American reservations. Most people have no concept of it. They think they still live in teepees."


The film premiered April 26, 2011, at the Tribeca Film Festival, and also aired on TLC. It has received critical acclaim, and Hernandez said he was proud of the positive reviews. Though the film was what he called a "passion project" that gave him no money,

➤ See DOCUMENTARY, Page 5

Bold statements in body ink




A USU STUDENT HAD HIS TATTOOS completed while he was serving i He said each tattoo had a significant meaning during his service. He said the dragon represented tradition and the rifles represented fighting. Now he is working at a young-adult facility to help those who struggle with drug abuse and behavioral issues. He said he came across the job through another friend who had also worked there. *NATASHA BODILY photos*




CAREER FAIR '12

Career Services would like to thank the A-team and all the student hosts for their help in making Career Fair '12 a great success!




AARON RAY, A WEBER STATE STUDENT said he had his eagle tattoo while he was visiting his girlfriend in Hawaii. He said the tattoo represents freedom and independence. *NATASHA BODILY photo*



Single-itis?

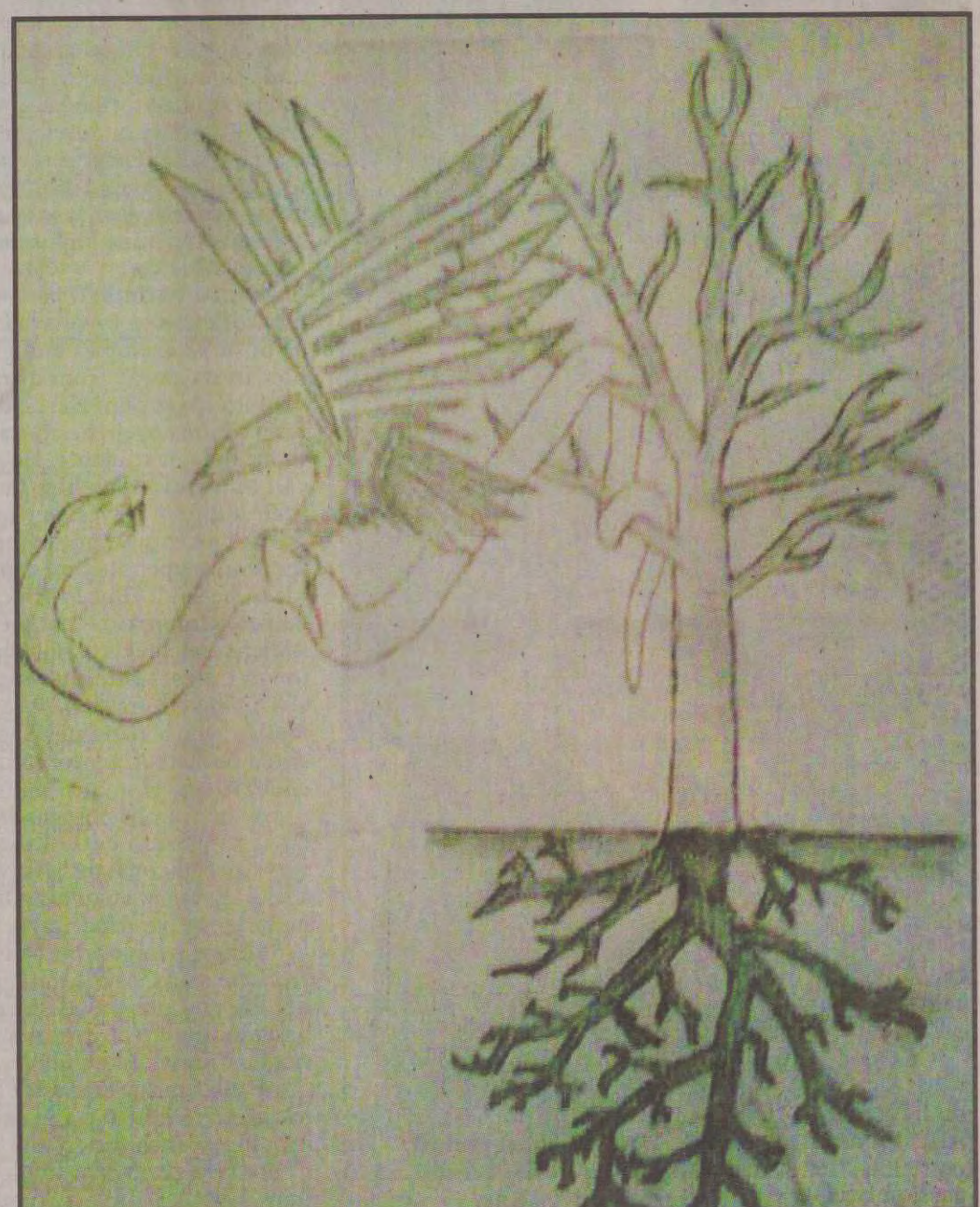
A few common symptoms of single-itis:

- Taking a long walk on the beach; the crashing waves as your only company.
- Riding alone on a bicycle built for two.
- Watching many full moons pass, yet you are still not a "True Aggie."

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AARON RAY SAID HE PLANS TO UPDATE HIS tattoo with this drawing. He said the new tattoo represents a lot of meaning for his personal life, but he did not elaborate on the meaning. *NATASHA BODILY photo*

Local bloggers stay connected with family and fans

BY MANDY MORGAN
staff writer

Social media provides a different format for social sharing and business networking. The growing number of social media sites is also a medium for showcasing personal and professional blogs.

Laura Harris, co-writer of a popular food blog with her sister Amanda Alldredge, blogs out of Utah County, sharing recipes with people on the Internet.

"It is something we started doing so we could share recipes," Harris said. "People just started asking for them as well, so we started our own specialized food blog. And it's been great."

Harris said she has enjoyed seeing where all of the hits come from for the blog — from all over the state, country and even the world.

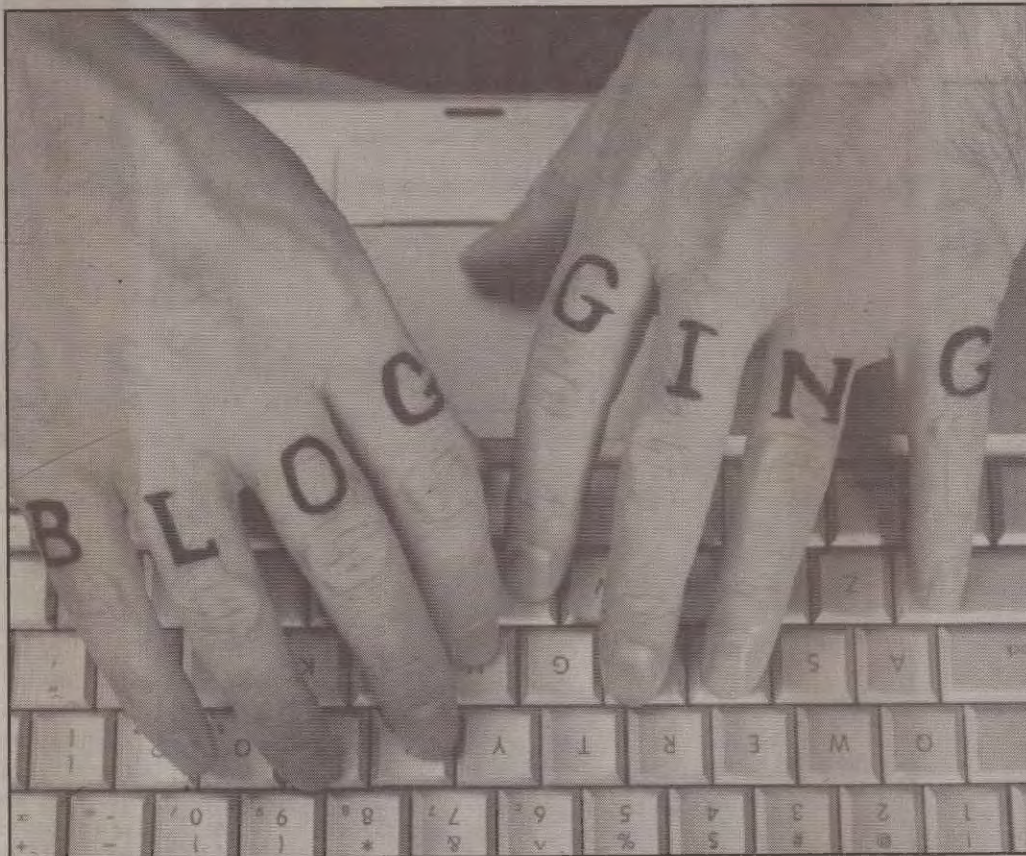
"I had misconceptions about blogs," Harris said. "But you don't need a ton of time to do it, it's a great thing to do when you just have a little bit of extra time."

She said her favorite part about blogging is staying connected with people. Whether it is family, or other people who love the recipes she and her sister put up, staying connecting is fun, Harris said.

The sisters' food blog is just one an example of the different uses blogs fulfill for anybody with access to the Internet.

According to a New York Times article, the first blog was created in January 1994 by Swathmore student Justin Hall. Over the following years, according to the article, webloggers, political blogging, advertisement blogging, personal blogging and mommy blogging started to grow.

Now sites like Tumblr, Blogger, Wordpress and others allow anyone who wants to blog easy access to start an online publication. The word blog is a portmanteau word — or combination of two words — for "web log" and, according to dictionary.com, is "a website containing the writer's or group of writers' own experiences, observations, opinions, etc., and often have images and links to other websites."



BLOGGERS IN CACHE VALLEY reveal the reasons why they love keeping and updating their personal blogs. Some have found major success in accumulating hits. Many bloggers say their online hobby is a good way to record their ideas and life events. *Thinkstock photo*

Some might wonder what the appeal is in creating such a public way of sharing information; however, there are many blogs not related to personal lives, such as Grammar Girl, which is an instructional blog for grammatical corrections and advice on how to become a better writer.

There are also blogs for personal assistance — many mothers keep blogs to give other mothers advice, also called the mommy blog — and some blogs are for classes and organizations to keep things organized in one electronic place.

For college students, blogging can be a big deal. Some students keep blogs because they

want to keep loved ones informed about their lives as college students.

"I started because I was coming to school, two years ago when I was a freshman," said Sarah Martin, a sophomore majoring in social work.

Martin said she figured it was an easy way to keep her family informed back home of her experiences as she lived and studied in Logan.

"I realized as I got into it, though, that blogging is more complicated than just writing what you are doing every day," Martin said. One aspect she said she didn't expect was being able to meet people through blogging.

"I like it because there are a bunch of people

with blogs who you wouldn't guess have them, and it's a way — an insight to their life — which you wouldn't get to know otherwise."

Martin knows there are people out there who are really serious about blogging, she said, "some blog about fashion and advice."

Emily Nelson, who is a junior majoring in political science, said blogging ended up serving as a huge blessing in her and her family's lives.

"I really had no interest in blogging," Nelson said. She said she never wanted to tell a lot of people know about her life.

"When my sister got cancer and we went to the hospital, we started having to tell people once she had to say what was going on," Nelson said. "She had so many people who cared about her once they heard about it. We were getting overwhelmed, trying to distribute information to people. And when it's emotional, it's hard to not have to say it just once, but over and over."

Nelson said she was therefore able to use a blog to document everything her sister went through over the next several months — gathering more and more followers all the time.

Because of donations from blog followers the family received enough support to help take care of her sister's funeral, and much heartache was saved for her parents, Nelson said.

"It really just changed our lives," Nelson said. "It was wonderful, and a great way to involve people who were willing to help, because we could let them know about any need."

Blogs can also be used to inform people about something important, or those who are recording day-to-day happenings can create support among people everywhere.

"I look back and I can see how I've grown," Martin said of her blogging experience. "I like it in that aspect. It's kind of like my little journal and I can just look back on it anytime and learn."

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From Page 3

Long distance relationships require dedication and commitment

art at USU last semester, said she decided to move to Weber State University to be closer to her family before moving to Sweden in May to marry her Swedish fiancé. She said she visited Sweden over the summer and met her fiancé at a church activity.

Bateman said she had to rearrange her schedule to keep in touch with him because of the eight-hour time difference between Sweden and the U.S., but they also wrote each other love letters. She said although

her family was supportive of her relationship, they were worried about the cultural differences.

"I also love his cologne," she said. "So he sent me a Sweden T-shirt with the flag on it and drenched in his cologne."

Kiley Kincaid, a junior majoring in special education, said she's dating a gentleman from Texas. Before coming to USU, both Kincaid and her boyfriend attended a community college in Illinois. However, he told her he was moving back

to Texas the week before he left.

She said initially they decided not to talk to each other, thinking they would never see each other again. Kincaid said her boyfriend eventually came back to Illinois, so they spent some time together and decided to make it work.

Since then, both travel back and forth to visit each other, and she said her boyfriend will move to wherever she is once he graduates next year.

Kincaid said the hardest

part of being in a long-distance relationship is being able to trust the other.

"You have to break trust to build it back up," Kincaid said. "We've both done some stuff that the other one didn't like and that makes us question our trust. If the other person wants to give them a second chance, you just keep building on it, and they just keep proving to you that you can trust them."

Kellen Hansen, a junior majoring in global communications, said he met a young woman from California through a mutual friend. They talked on the phone for three months before he flew to California to spend time with her, but she was unhappy when Hansen had to return to Utah, he said.

Hansen said she has a deeply rooted relationship with her former boyfriend, so she got back together with him and broke up with Hansen.

"I knew (the long distance relationship) wasn't ideal before," he said. "It's a lot of work just to be in a relationship in general, but to be that far apart, it would take

a couple of pretty special people for them to be faithful and actually make it work to the point that they can move to the same city and

actually carry out a regular relationship."

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LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS TO some students are not worth the hassle, especially when it's hard to trust a boyfriend or girlfriend. However, others say they have met their future spouses in far away places and after brief courtships heard wedding bells. *TODD JONES photo illustration*

From Page 3

Activist's film recognized at festival screening

Hernandez said he's proud of the result. "It was a great experience, and to see the film do so well is even better," he said. "It's still amazing to me that people want to watch something I made."

Currently, Hernandez has put his work with Native American reservations on hold to pursue his academic career. After attending several universities with no success, Hernandez said he found his passion at USU.

"For a while I lost direction in my life," he said. "But then I came to USU, and I was completely caught off

guard. Here was everything I wanted. Becoming an Aggie was truly the best thing that ever happened to me."

Hernandez, who is a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies, works as the video coordinator for Aggie basketball.

"Everyone at USU has been so supportive of me," he said. "I love Logan and feel blessed to be living here. Utah State is everything I want."

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Aggies win two-straight in CIT

BY TYLER HUSKINSON
assistant sports editor

USU 75, CSUB 69

Junior forward Kyisean Reed finished with 16 points, eight rebounds, three blocks

and three steals to lead the Aggies over the Cal-State Bakersfield Roadrunners 75-69 at the Dee Glen Smith Spectrum in the first round of the CollegeInsider.com Tournament.

"This game was a lot

more up and down, there was a lot more space on the floor, so I was able to read a lot more than I usually do," Reed said. "And I was able to anticipate a lot of things. It is good to play at home, and it is good that we have

earned another home game on Saturday night."

Roadrunner junior guard Zach Lamb, who finished with a game-high 31 points, hit a 3-pointer to cut the lead 63-61 with 4:28 to play after USU led by double digits most of the game.

Senior forward Morgan Grim gave USU its largest lead of the night with his third and-1 play of the game, but a crucial error by the senior in the waning minutes nearly cost USU the game.

Grim was called for an intentional foul on senior forward Rashad Savage on a fast-break layup, after Aggie senior guard Brockeith Pane coughed up one of his six turnovers at midcourt.

The Roadrunners' press gave USU problems all night. "Well, it got real interesting down the stretch in the second half," USU head coach Stew Morrill said. "We had a chance, we missed three 3's to go up 17 and maybe have the chance to put the game away. To their credit, they just kept pressing and kept coming at us, and we had some not real smart turnovers, but we got out of there with a win. We will look forward to playing on Saturday."

USU responded on the

ensuing possession with a layup by Grim and held on for the victory.

"We just kept working hard out there," Medlin said. "We just kept battling out there. We knew it was going to be a fight, and we knew they were a good team."

USU 76, Idaho 56

Make it two consecutive postseason wins for the USU men's basketball team.

Reed scored 15 points and pulled down 5 rebounds to lead USU over the Idaho Vandals 76-56 in the second round of the CIT.

Both teams struggled offensively in the first four minutes of the game, but the Aggies used 25-7 run over a 13-minute span to build a lead they did not relinquish.

"I thought that we came out with some energy and at this time of the year, that is critical," Morrill said. "Obviously, it is easier when you are at home, but it's not always a guarantee. I was just really pleased with our guys and how they approached the start of the game and basically built us a cushion we had the whole night."

Reed, who had 10 points

See AGGIES, Page 7



SENIOR POINT GUARD BROCKEITH PANE dribbles through Cal State Bakersfield defenders in the first round of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament on March 14, which the Aggies won 75-69. TODD JONES photo

TouchBase

AggieSchedules

Men's Basketball

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
USU vs. Loyola Marymount, 7 p.m., in Spectrum

Gymnastics

SATURDAY, MARCH 24
WAC Championships, 6 p.m., in Spectrum

Track and Field

SATURDAY, MARCH 24
UC Irvine Invitational

Softball

FRIDAY, MARCH 23
USU at Louisiana Tech, 5 p.m.
SATURDAY, MARCH 24
USU at Louisiana Tech, noon
USU at Louisiana Tech, 2 p.m.

Women's Tennis

FRIDAY, MARCH 23
USU vs. San Francisco, noon, at Sports Academy
SATURDAY, MARCH 24
USU vs. Louisiana Tech, 10 a.m.

Men's Tennis

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
USU vs. UAB, 9:30 a.m., in Boise, Idaho

Men's Tennis

MARCH 22-23
Cal Poly Intercollegiate, Arroyo Grande, Calif.

AggieScoreboard

Hockey

March 16
USU 0, Lindenwood 5
March 17
USU 3, Virginia Tech 3
March 18
USU 2, William Patterson 3

CITResults

Men's Basketball

SATURDAY, MARCH 17
Robert Morris 69, Toledo 51
Oakland 84, Buffalo 76
Mercer 64, Georgia State 59
Rice 74, Drake 68
Utah State 76, Idaho 56
SUNDAY, MARCH 18
Old Dominion 65,
USC Upstate 56
Fairfield 69, Manhattan 57
Loyola Marymount 84,
Weber State 78, OT

Records fall in Tucson track meet

BY TAVIN STUCKI
sports editor

Senior thrower Lindsey Spencer broke two school records at the Arizona-hosted Willie Williams Classic on Friday and Saturday.

Spencer took second in the hammer throw on Friday with a mark of 60.30 meters, passing former Aggie All-American Krista Larson. Spencer won the discus Saturday and claimed her second school record with a throw of 53.10 meters.

USU head coach Greg Gensel said she had a good weekend.

"She's been working really hard and coming back from an illness," Gensel said. "We're real pleased to see her start off the outdoor season this way."

Hunter Nelson led a trio of Aggies to a top-four finish in the 1500-meter run — Aaron Clements and Daniel Howell took third and fourth, respectively.

See TRACK, Page 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

2011-12 season ends in Salt Lake City

BY CURTIS LUNDSTROM and TAVIN STUCKI
staff writer, sports editor

USU 69, LTU 73

LAS VEGAS — In a record-setting season, the Utah State women's basketball team fell short of the record it wanted most: Western Athletic Conference championship.

Senior forward Ashlee Brown scored a game-high 24 points and pulled down 16 rebounds, but it wasn't enough to top a sharp-shooting Louisiana Tech team in the semifinal of the WAC tournament Friday as the Lady Techsters defeated the Aggies 73-69.

"I love Ashlee Brown," USU head coach Raegan Pebley said. "I wish I could clone her. I love her confidence, I love her swag, I love her game, I love her off-court persona. She's a stud. She's a champ, a warrior. I am so blessed that I got to coach her."

For the first 15 minutes the Aggies controlled the game, as Brown recorded 13 points and finished one rebound short of a double-double in the first half. The WAC Defensive Player of the Year dominated the offensive end of the court, scoring six points during a 9-2 Utah State run that turned a two-point deficit into a five-point lead — its biggest of the game.

Louisiana Tech responded in a big way. During the final five minutes of the first half and the first three minutes of the second half, the Lady Techsters used a 25-9 run to take control. Senior guards Jasmine Bendolph and Angie Felton combined for 15 points during the stretch and La. Tech made 10 of 15 field-goal attempts.

Over the next 14 minutes the Aggies were

unable to cut into the deficit. La. Tech led 62-52 with about six minutes remaining when junior guard Devyn Christensen twisted her ankle on offense.

With its leading scorer on the bench, USU found a spark and went on a 17-9 run. Aggie guard Brooke Jackson converted a three-point play after being fouled driving to the basket, then stole the ensuing inbounds pass to give USU a chance to tie the game or take the lead with 31 seconds left.

Christensen returned to the game but missed a potential game-winning 3-pointer with 22 seconds left.

"We had Ashlee (Brown) that was going to be an option," Pebley said. "We knew that they were going to play it, and it would be tough to get her open with a continuation with (Christensen) right there. Those are moments Devyn lives for, and she's heart-broken right now."

With the loss, the Aggies were eliminated from the tournament and finished the season with a 21-9 record overall.

"Our kids gave all that they had," Pebley said. "There's young ladies that are great faces of our program that I am honored to coach. When they put on that Aggie uniform, they do it with a lot of pride."

USU 69, Utah 58

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah State women's basketball team lost to Utah, 69-58, in the Women's National Invitation Tournament on Thursday.

Utah started things off with a bucket from sophomore guard Taryn Wicijowski, who finished with 10 points, five rebounds

See UTAH, Page 8



SENIOR FORWARD ASHLEE BROWN looks to score in USU's tournament loss to Louisiana Tech in Las Vegas. CURTIS RIPPINGER photo

BASEBALL

Mercy rule makes for five innings of perfection

BY MEREDITH KINNEY
sports senior writer

Utah State pitcher Kyle Durrant said he felt he was on top of his game during the Utah State home opener on Friday.

"I had to focus early to even come close to a perfect game," Durrant said. "I felt like I was in control of the game."

Durrant threw a five-inning perfect game in the Aggies' 15-0 victory over Utah Valley

University. The starter struck out 12 batters in the game and retired 15 straight batters. Three batters were able to hit the ball in play.

Utah State head coach Norm Doyle said his pitcher was fun to watch.

"He was outstanding," Doyle said. "He had complete control and was absolutely, totally dominant."

Durrant received run support from his teammates.

"We're hitting really well," Durrant said.

The Aggies scored 11 runs in the first three innings, putting two on the board in the bottom of the first. Utah State added six runs in the second and three in the third. Another three runs in the fourth inning secured the win for USU.

"We work together and have high expectations of each other," Durrant said.

The Aggies were led offensively by catcher Brent Jensen, who hit for two doubles in three

See BASEBALL, Page 8

GYMNASTICS

Aggies top T-Birds, take third at Arizona quad

BY MEREDITH KINNEY
sports senior writer

USU at SUU

Utah State gymnastics topped Southern Utah University for the first time since 2005 to kick off Spring Break. The Aggies beat the T-birds by just under a point 194.200-193.700.

Sophomore Paige Jones and freshman Sarah Landes each had a share of the vault title, Jones won the floor and all-around titles outright, and senior Rebecca Holliday won bars.

Opening on bars, junior Amelia Montoya and freshman Kaitlyn Betts each scored a 9.750, and Holliday landed a 9.800.

On vault Betts flipped to a 9.675 and Jones and Landes tied, each with 9.825. The Aggies' total score of 48.600 on the event was their second best of the season.

Holliday scored a 9.750 on floor before Jones tied her career high with a 9.850.

Freshmen Ashley Follet and Samantha Wagner were the top Aggie beam workers, each with 9.725.

USU at Arizona

The Aggies saw their final action of the week in a quad meet hosted by the University

of Arizona on Friday. USU picked up its top road score of the season on bars and second-best overall score of the season but ended up in third.

The meet was won by No. 18 Arizona followed by Bridgeport University in second. The Aggies held on to third place at 192.975, just ahead of the Air Force Academy at 192.175.

The Aggies were without junior Amanda Watamaniuk, who suffered a season-ending injury in practice.

Jones was the top Aggie, tying for second on bars. She also tied for fourth in the all-around — one spot ahead of Holliday.

"We started a little slow," Jones said. "We had a few uncharacteristic mistakes."

The Aggies opened up the meet on floor. Freshman Susie Miller scored a 9.725 after Montoya posted a 9.775.

"It was a good performance," Utah State head coach Jeff Richards said. "We faltered in the second half of our lineup."

On vault Jones registered 9.725 and Landes scored a 9.775.

Utah State was on bars for the third rotation when Landes and Montoya each landed a 9.825. Jones scored a 9.850.

"We were aggressive and confident," Jones said. "We hit."

On beam Wagner posted



AGGIE SENIOR REBECCA HOLLIDAY runs to vault at a meet earlier this season in the Spectrum. The Aggies will host the WAC Championships on March 24 in the Spectrum. CURTIS RIPPLINGER photo

a career-best 9.800 and Jones stuck a 9.775.

"Scorewise it seems to be our best event, but we have

the most talent on beam and floor," Richards said.

The Arizona meet was the Aggies' final regular sea-

son meet before the Western Athletic Conference championships March 24.

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From Page 6

Aggies to face Loyola Marymount in quarterfinals

at half, started the run with a layup in the post, and USU never trailed the remainder of the game.

Idaho's first field goal of the game came on a layup five minutes into the contest from junior forward Wendell Faines. USU held the Vandals scoreless for the next six minutes until sophomore guard Stephen Madison hit a baseline jumper with the shot clock winding down.

"We were hustling out there," Medlin said. "We were getting rebounds, and we were making them miss shots because of our energy. And that is what coach emphasized."

USU shot 51.9 percent from the field and 66.6 percent from 3-point land during the first half, and limited Idaho to 27.3 percent from the field and 16.7 percent from 3-point range.

"We were really aggressive defensively in the first half," Morrill said. "We had a lot of deflections and they were having a hard time scoring and that is what got us a nice halftime lead."

Idaho went on several small runs during the game, but the after the first half, USU never let its lead be less than 20.

"We had a lot of intensity on the defensive end and I think that halted their runs," USU freshman forward Ben Clifford said. "The big thing for us this game was to stop them in transition and we had three guys back instead of two."

After scoring one point against Bakersfield, USU's reserves scored 23 points on the night with Clifford scoring eight points.

"Everybody was involved," Morrill said. "I told them before the game, 'You are either going to be excited and ready to play or you're going to be completely flat. You've got to decide what you want

to be.' To their credit, they wanted to play and that's how they've been since we got beat in the (WAC) tournament."

USU shared the ball particularly well finishing with 21 assists. Senior guard Brockeith Pane notched a game-high 11 assists to one turnovers and chipped in seven points.

USU hosts Loyola Marymount University from the West Coast Conference on Wednesday at 7 p.m. as part of the CIT quarterfinal matches.

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USU JUNIOR FORWARD KYISEAN REED had 15 points and five rebounds in the 20-point win over Idaho in the Spectrum on Saturday. TODD JONES photo

From Page 6

Track opens 2012 outdoor season

In the women's race Stephanie Burt finished second, while Hannah Williams took fourth and Kim Quinn finished fifth.

Junior distance runner Brittany Fisher did not compete because she was injured in a rock climbing accident Monday morning. Gensel said USU probably would have had success in the 1500 even if his athletes weren't trying to run well for their injured teammate.

"I'm not saying that it didn't have anything to do with it," Gensel said. "They're here for a reason in running, and although we support Brittany and mean well — and what's best for her and everything — the kids know that they're here for a reason and that's to run. And they are prepared for that, so they ran well."

Kaylee Campbell took second in the steeplechase with a time of 11 minutes, 38.60 seconds, and Austin Neuner took fifth in the men's with a 9:53.44.

Gensel said the young Aggie steeplechasers ran well in their first outdoor meet.

"It's early in the season," he said. "We haven't had a chance to practice it outdoors, so that's good."

Camille Fehlberg won the 400 hurdles in 1:02.73 and Tyler Killpack finished second in the 800 in 1:54.23.

"We've got a lot of the people who didn't win events," Gensel said. "But, we've got a lot of people who stepped up and performed well."

Other performances include Silas Pimentel and Nic Bowens in the 100, clocking 10.57 and 10.58, respectively. Spela Hus took fifth in the shot put with a throw of 14.89.

The Aggies will next compete in UC Irvine's Spring Break Invitational on March 23-24.

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Our View

Legislature finally takes higher ed seriously

Each year as the Utah legislative session comes to end, along with residents throughout the state, we tally the score to find out whether the Legislature's actions are up to snuff. During recent years, a constitutionally imposed balanced budget requirement resulted in statewide budget cuts for all sorts of agencies and institutions — not the least of which was higher education.

Furthermore, when Sen. Bob Bennett, R-Utah, relinquished his senatorial status more than a year ago, Utah higher education lost a major advocate as far as funding was concerned — Bennett, former member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, championed many budgetary victories for USU, as well as for higher education in general.

The past couple of years have been rocky for state and federally funded Utah programs. Concurrent budget cuts for higher education have led to faculty pay freezes, rising tuition and several other hindrances to the university's ability to fulfill its best potential. Any talk within the Legislature of another round of cuts might have resulted in a coup of sorts; however, this year's session seemed to be quieter than recent years.

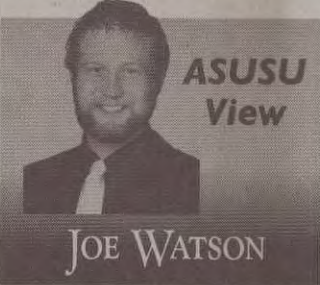
Although sex education, abortion waiting periods and laxer gun laws have caused a stir within certain spheres, we're pleased to report this year that no budget cuts have been imposed on higher ed. In fact, it looks as though faculty members may actually see a slight increase in their pay levels — according to the Utah System of Higher Education, employee compensation was the "top priority for the 2012 Legislative Session."

Another hot-button topic that surfaced earlier in the session came after Sen. Steve Urquhart, R-St. George, visited USU to meet with various faculty and administrators; it's likely the senator made similar visits to fellow state institutions. A mission-based performance funding bill was passed to reorganize the method in which state institutions qualify for funding. Essentially, universities will have to tighten the bootstraps and hold themselves to ever-heightening standards — something we as students can certainly stand behind.

Some faculty consider some of Urquhart's goals to be unorthodox, or at least far-fetched, but for the most part it seems Urquhart's valiant attempt to hold higher education accountable should pay off in the long run. As for now, the future of state funding for cutting-edge research as well as enrollment and retention initiatives looks bright. The question yet remains, however; and we already know our student fees will be substantially higher for upcoming semesters. What will our tuition payments look like come fall 2012?

Trust science, not infomercials

Have you ever been tempted to buy a product that sounds too good to be true? Did the salesperson quote some piece of scientific literature or rattle off some incredible statistic? Did this evidence provide the security to know it's proven to work?



There are two types of science: one that generates products, and one that is sought after because of an existing product. Many people are fooled because of this difference. Pick up any women's magazine and you will find somewhere that chocolate helps with weight loss, improves cognitive ability and has loads of antioxidants; yet, on the next page there will be an advertisement depicting Dove milk chocolate. We've all heard that late-night ad selling the latest gadget, pill or procedure that will help you lose 178 pounds.

We'd do anything to be the fit versions of ourselves, except that requires us to get off the couch. So, we listen to a spiel about how that pill works even when we're sleeping. It's science, so don't worry about it; yet, we're shocked when it causes heart failure. We talk ourselves out of the obvious healthy decisions true science teaches.

See ASUSU, Page 10

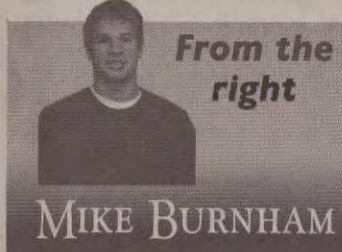


Kony campaign not the entire solution



A Column Divided

Two students take two angles on one political issue



A few days before Spring Break, I attended an event sponsored by Invisible Children — an organization dedicated to raising awareness about child soldiers and genocide in Uganda and central Africa.

If you haven't already seen it, their "Kony 2012" video spread quickly on the Internet and, as of right now, has more than 90 million views.

Their campaign focuses on the apprehension of one man, Joseph Kony, whose Lord's Resistance Army has conscripted thousands of Ugandan children into its ranks, forcing them to mutilate, rape and kill others.

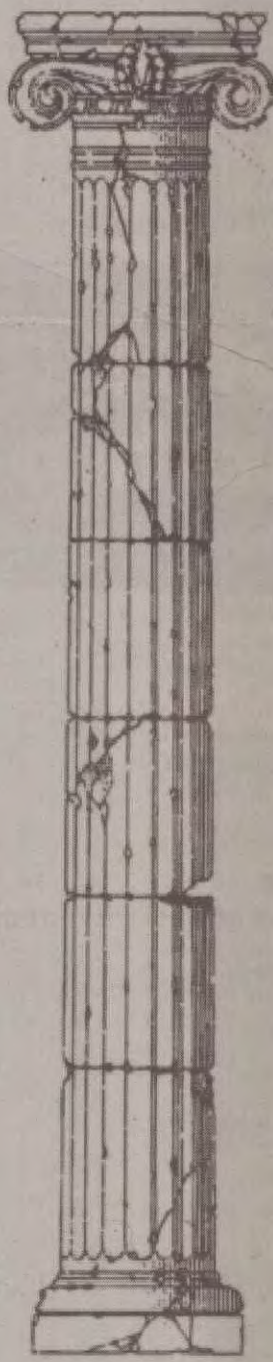
Kony is one of the world's most-wanted men by the International Criminal Court for crimes against humanity.

The event I attended at USU featured Grace, a young Ugandan woman who related her own heart-wrenching story of her and her family's losses — by Joseph Kony and the LRA.

I listened intently as she explained how she struggled to put her life back together, and how Invisible Children helped her attain an education through its scholarship program — all of which is admirable and laudatory.

There is no doubt that Joseph Kony is a warcriminal and an evil man who deserves to pay for his crimes. Invisible Children is a vehicle to motivate people

See LEFT, Page 10



A recent screening of Kony 2012 in northern Uganda generated so much anger it started a riot. Why?

"There is no historical context," reported a prominent Ugandan journalist. "It's more like a fashion thing."

That's my problem with the Kony movement. It's kitschy and gaudy — pop-politics calculated to appeal to the masses rather than reflect the reality of central Africa.

In saying this I mean no insult to Invisible Children — the non-profit responsible for the Kony movement. Instead, the target of my criticism is the average American.

Invisible Children produced dumbed-down pop-politics because it would catch our ear. A real discussion of central Africa's problems would have been largely ignored. How do I know? Because such discussions have been held on legitimate sources such as BBC, Al Jazeera and Foreign Affairs, yet, we don't pay attention to them. It was a slick YouTube video that, according to Ugandans, was more about an American and his child than Uganda.

What about the Kony campaign causes serious students studying politics and the president of Uganda to roll their eyes? It oversimplifies the conflict by narrowly focusing on a single figure.

See RIGHT, Page 10



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About letters

- Letters should be limited to 400 words.
- All letters may be shortened, edited or rejected for reasons of good taste, redundancy or volume of similar letters.
- Letters must be topic oriented. They may not be directed toward individuals. Any letter directed to a specific individual may be edited or not printed.
- No anonymous letters will be published. Writers must sign all letters and include a phone number or e-mail address as well as a student identification number (none of which is published). Letters will not be printed without this verification.
- Letters representing groups — or more than one individual — must have a singular representative clearly stated, with all necessary identification information.
- Writers must wait 21 days before submitting successive letters — no exceptions.
- Letters can be hand delivered or mailed to The Statesman in the TSC, Room 105, or can be e-mailed to statesman@aggiemail.usu.edu, or click on www.utahstatesman.com for more letter guidelines and a box to submit letters.

FAIR
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FROM THE LEFT, Page 9

to care about an issue like genocide, bringing attention to war crimes, and I certainly applaud their efforts.

But what left me with a bad taste in my mouth was Invisible Children's plan for apprehending Kony. They propose that we lobby our legislators to deploy U.S. forces into Uganda to work together with the Ugandan military to find and arrest Kony.

Though well-intended, I believe this is a bad solution.

It is worth noting that since October 2011, 100 U.S. military advisers are already deployed in Uganda and are working with the Ugandan army partially as a result of Invisible Children.

There is a danger in solely relying on a 30-minute video to inform one's view on a situation as complex as that of Uganda's. This conflict didn't occur in a vacuum, and there is a long history behind the rise of the Lord's Resistance Army. Furthermore, U.S. involvement in complicated, long-standing ethnic conflicts never goes well. Does Afghanistan or Iraq

sound familiar to anyone?

I believe what the CIA says when it talks about "blowback" or the unintended, negative consequences of U.S. intervention around the world. And though we like to believe that U.S. actions around the world are motivated purely by humanitarian concern, this is often far from the case.

As it happens, Uganda and other African countries recently discovered large oil reserves, which China is eyeing as it seeks to further develop its economy. A strong American presence will seek to counterbalance China's encroachment on U.S. influence and power in the region.

Let me be clear; I don't fault anyone for their support of Invisible Children, but I think more careful scrutiny is warranted before we throw weight behind something as serious as military deployments into foreign countries.

— Andrew Izatt is a sophomore majoring in economics and philosophy. Comments can be sent to him at andrew.izatt@aggiemail.usu.edu.

FROM THE RIGHT, Page 9

I support bringing Kony to justice, but it will do little to solve central Africa's problems. Hitler's death did not win World War II, nor did Fascism arise because of him; it was won due to the product of socio-political circumstances. Likewise, we won't solve Africa's problems, or even dismantle the Lord's Resistance Army, by incarcerating Kony.

Solving these issues takes a significant amount of time and energy from many people. In the big picture, capturing Kony is merely a drop in the bucket. Real change is more than liking a Facebook status, watching a half-hour pseudo-documentary or even purchasing an "action kit."

Many will criticize my comments, saying that at least people are trying to get involved and doing something is better than doing nothing. This is true, and I applaud people for doing what they know they can do. I believe that humans today reach out to help complete strangers more than ever before in history. I also believe, however, that we aren't doing enough. When are we going to take this seriously?

So what can you really do to make a difference? Start by becoming informed. For once, I agree with Bill Maher when he said, "If you watched that video ... and were shocked to discover that such terrible people live in the world, you need to fire whoever is home-schooling you."

Joseph Kony may be No. 1 on the International Criminal Court's list of people indicted, but he is one of many. Each one is the product of a certain environment. The social conditions creating such men pose the real threat. We need to be aware of these issues.

Second, we must examine how we live. We aren't alone, but the U.S. is a spoiled country. As long as we live comfortably, too many are content being bystanders as others grapple with the impossible circumstances they were born into.

I am not implying we should all book a trip to Africa or donate all our earnings to charity. The world needs entrepreneurs, artists and engineers as much as social activists. Whatever you do, though, give back somehow. Don't be a bystander. We can all do more than change our Facebook status or wear a trendy bracelet.

We'll be surprised by how many problems disappear if we are cognizant of them, but I may be preaching to the choir. In all likelihood, those reading this column aren't the ones who needed to.

— Mike Burnham is a junior majoring in international relations and economics. Comments can be sent to him at mike.burnham@gmail.com.

FROM ASUSU, Page 9

Compare this to our logical understanding of vaccinations. We have completely eradicated diseases like polio and small pox. Some people think vaccinations, such as hepatitis A, pose more of a health threat than not, but statistics show the opposite.

All sciences are not created equal. Understand that experiments can be set up with specific results in mind and that good science will design that experiment with the hypothesis in mind. Good science has been peer reviewed by many other scientists and not just backed by a few, wealthy companies. If you don't believe me, search "high-fructose corn syrup" in Google and compare the top result, an advertisement, to the other top results. This shows an example of science made to promote a product.

Scientific advancements should exist for the betterment of the quality of life stemming from the use of a product which is created from a skilled research and

development team, and not for the increase in sales based on a skilled marketing team.

I provide examples related to health and wellness because I am a biochemistry major, but science advertising happens in electronics, the automobile industry and in the beauty industry. While I don't think we need to be prudent in everything we buy, I do think looking into good science is a valuable practice. Educating ourselves on the reality of science in products we purchase will only fortify faith in those products.

I believe many of us take this research and skew it to fit our lifestyles, instead of observing its true advice by changing old habits. Try to take a before-and-after look at the Atkins diet. For years, the founder spewed out countless articles and had a lot of supporting evidence that this diet worked. However, when many people started developing symptoms of a disease known as Ketosis, the diet decreased in popularity.

This diet was appealing to many, due to the generous amounts of meat it allowed an individual to consume. A little bit of research would show the diet's negative effects. I think that we are quick to believe unchecked facts that we read in different forms of media and advertising. Take advice distributed through ad campaigns with a grain of salt. If you see the blurb, "research suggests," or "studies show," I suggest looking into the product's validity before accepting its promises as fact. Generally speaking, if an article or an author is cited directly, it's more likely to be accurate. Besides, at least you will be able to verify the facts. But you knew this, you're in college.

— Joe Watson sits on ASUSU's Academic Senate as senator for the College of Science. Comments on his column can be sent to statesmanoffice@aggiemail.usu.edu.

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David Murphy
Former CEO, Better World Books
David was CEO of the for-profit, socially and environmentally conscious Better World Books. He used second hand books to fight illiteracy around the world. He has also worked for 23 years in corporate finance, operations, and mergers and acquisitions. He has started several companies and been a CEO, CFO and COO of both privately held and publicly traded firms in the manufacturing, health care services and technology sectors. Additionally, David has served on both corporate and non-profit boards and was a key mentor and advisor to Better World Books through the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Notre Dame. David is also actively involved with several organizations in the social enterprise space.



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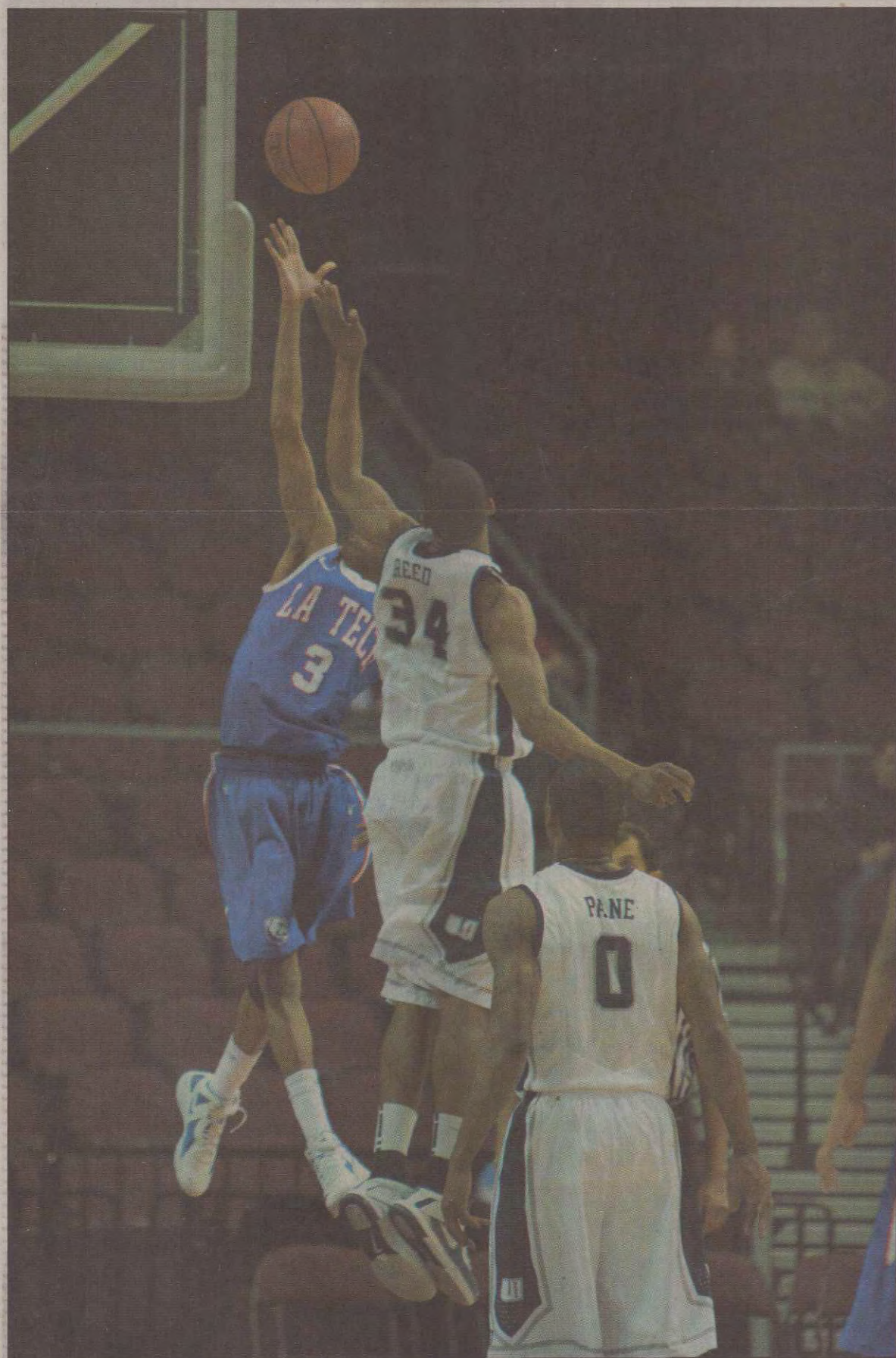
Aggies

lose their luck

in Fabulous

LAS VEGAS

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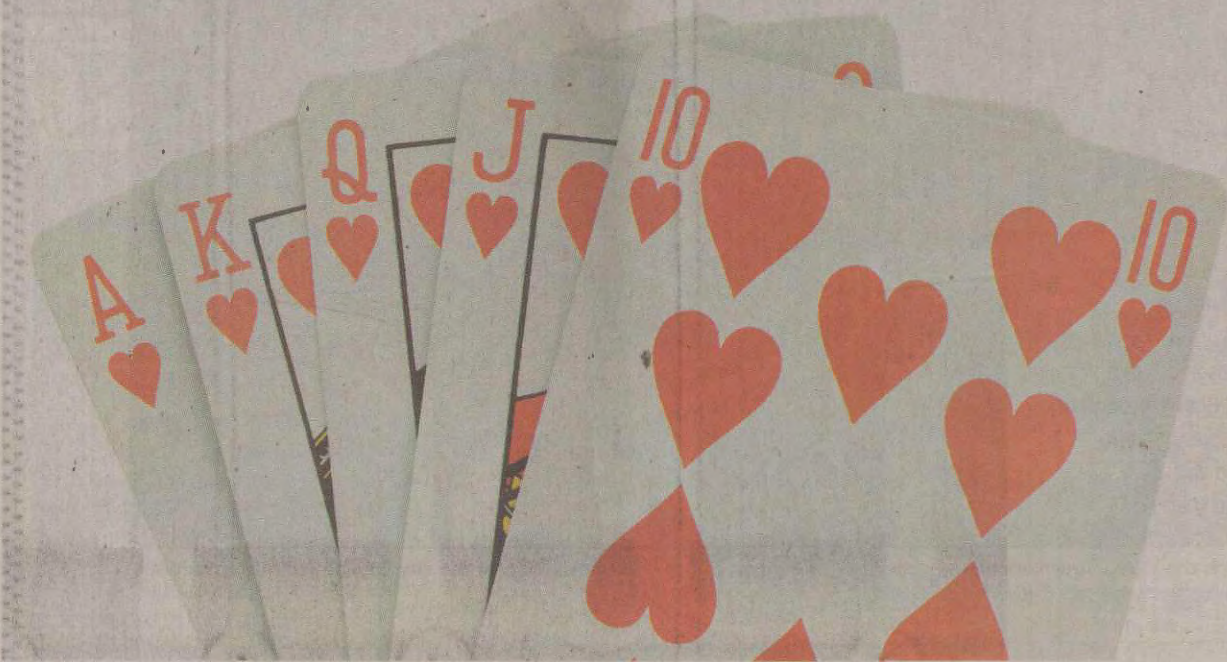
JUNIOR FORWARD KYISEAN REED goes up for a rebound against Louisiana Tech's Raheem Appleby in USU's first game of the Western Athletic Conference Tournament. The Aggies were eliminated from the tournament after narrowly losing 72-70. *MIKE JOHNSON photo*



SIGNIFICANTLY FEWER AGGIE FANS attended this year's WAC Tournament, but those who did belted the classic chants and cheers as the Aggie players fought against Louisiana Tech. *MIKE JOHNSON photo*



SENIOR FORWARD ASHLEE BROWN CHARGES past a member of Louisiana Tech's team in USU's second game of the WAC Tournament. They lost the game and ended their chance at the title 73-69. *MIKE JOHNSON photo*





SECTION F REGULARS Jeff Riches (left), Matt Sonnenberg (middle) and Pat Tebbs (right) encourage their favorite team from the USU student section in Las Vegas. This is the first year the USU men's basketball team has not won a WAC championship in the past five years. MIKE JOHNSON photo



BROCKEITH PANE MUSCLES past Louisiana Tech defenders. This year, neither USU basketball team made it to the final round of the tournament. MIKE JOHNSON photo



AJ GARCIA, A LAS VEGAS MUSICIAN, played his drums on the Strip. After WAC Tournament games ended, Aggie fans in attendance roamed the sites and got a head start on Spring Break. MIKE JOHNSON photo



EVERY YEAR, USU STUDENTS TRAVEL to Las Vegas, not only to watch the WAC Tournament and cheer on the Aggies, but to take advantage of the city life and famous attractions located on the Las Vegas Strip. The WAC Tournament proves to be a good reason to get away. MIKE JOHNSON photo

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FunStuff

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Loose Parts • Dave Blazek



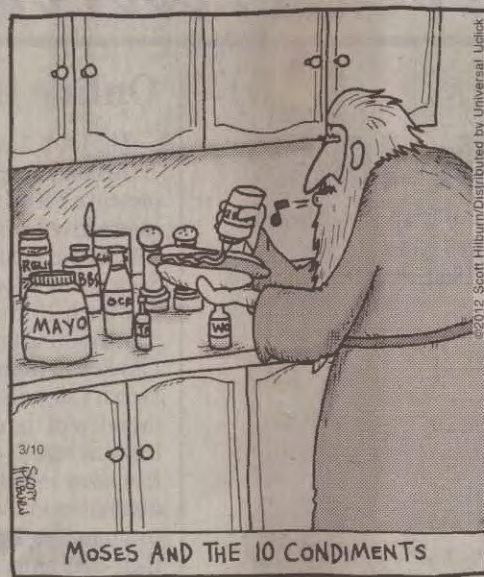
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Argyle Sweater

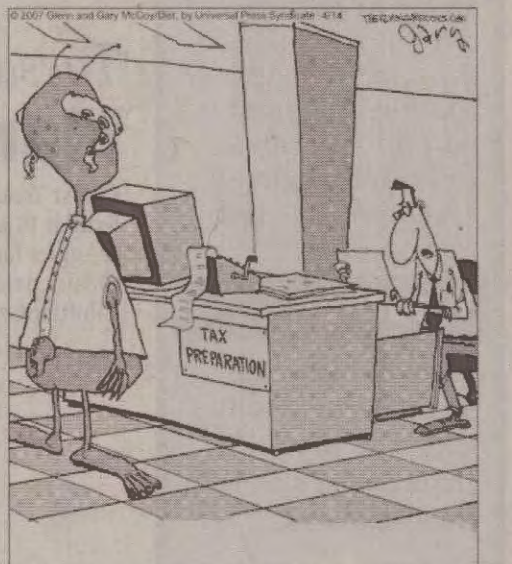


The Joke's On YOU!

We have a winner! The votes have been counted, and here's the best of the gags that were submitted:

"I've heard of foreign tax shelters before.... but this is new to me..."

The winning gag was submitted by: **David Eldredge, who wins a gift certificate!**



Here's this week's chance to win!

Check it out! Take a look at this cartoon ... the only thing missing is the punch line, the big finish, the gag! You need to supply that for readers of The Statesman. Send your gag line to: statesman@usu.edu, subject line: Gag line. We'll post those on our website, www.utah-statesman.com, as soon as we get them and folks can vote for their fave! Winner will receive a restaurant gift certificate! Deadline to send your gag: Tuesday noon.



SUDOKU

ANSWERS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE!

Hard

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FOR RELEASE MARCH 19, 2012

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

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By Patti Varol

ACROSS
1 Subdued color
7 Take a breather
11 Marx's "Kapital"
14 Christmas carol start
15 Queen Gables girl
16 All-Star starting pitcher
17 Airfare-plus-hotel stay, say
19 Convert dweller
20 Invoice total; abbr.
21 Thrilla in Manila fighter
22 "I'd be delighted"
24 Poultry hierarchy
27 Carnaro and Corvette
29 Sound from a snout
30 Comic actress
31 RR stop
32 Diagnostic scanner, briefly
35 Soul food pork snack
40 Comics cry of disgust
41 Cold War KGB rival
42 Stop in the Sahara
43 Commotions
45 Beachgoer's souvenir
47 Coins in one's pants
51 Texas city on the Rio Grande
52 NFL drive killer
53 "My lips sealed"
56 Note after fa
57 Ready to be kissed
61 Capote's nickname
62 "It's her relationship ultimatum"
63 Lack of comfort
64 Has way too much, briefly
65 Bygone royal Russian
66 Main course

DOWN
1 Mama's main man
2 Noted rib donor
3 Religious splinter group
4 "For shame!"
5 Seventh Greek letter
6 Inheritance
7 Pizza slice edges, geometrically
8 180 degrees from WSW
9 Becoming tangled, as a fishing line
10 Rat out
11 Classic role-playing game, for short
12 Extreme, as pain
13 Barcelona mister
18 Yellowstone grazers
23 Noah's handwork
24 On-the-job extra
25 Like villains
26 "Don't look at me!"
27 Elegant and stylish
28 "Dam!"
30 Yr.-end auditor
31 Hot springs facility
32 Flat-topped elevation
33 Equestrian's control
34 "Baby, You": Shirelles hit

ANSWERS FOUND ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE! GOOD LUCK!

36 Trips to environmentally protected areas
37 Part of CD
38 iTunes download
39 Destiny
43 Alias, to the LAPD
44 65-Across, e.g.
45 All there, so to speak
46 "That's a lie!"
47 Fettuccine topping
48 Prayer starter
49 Slightly above average grade
50 Backpack toter
53 Pein dish gel
54 Bit of chicanery
55 Sport with swords
58 Nashville-based awards org.
59 Country stopover
60 Badminton divider

BRIDAL FAIRE

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We Bought a Zoo (PG) 4:00 & 7:00 Sat. Mat. 12:50	War Horse (PG-13) 6:45 & 9:30
The Muppets (PG) 4:45 Sat. Mat. 12:00 & 2:20	Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) 4:15 Sat. Mat. 11:40 & 2:00
Chronicle (PG-13) 9:55	The Adventures of Tin Tin (PG) 5:00 Sat. Mat. 12:20 & 2:40
Man on a Ledge (PG-13) 9:40	

Statesman **Back Burner**

Today's Issue



Today is Monday, March 19, 2012. Today's issue of The Utah Statesman is published especially for Taylor Cardon, a freshman majoring in biology from Springfield, Utah.

Almanac

Today in History: On this day in 2003, the United States, along with coalition forces primarily from the United Kingdom, initiated war on Iraq.

Weather

High: 39° Low: 25°
 Skies: Partly cloudy with a 50 percent chance of scattered snow showers.



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**Monday
 March 19**

- ▶Lost Treasures of Utah State University Exhibit 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶Free Math and Statistics Tutoring 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Tuesday
 March 20**

- ▶Lost Treasures of Utah State University Exhibit 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ▶Aggies for Christ, 8p.m. to 10 p.m.
- ▶Salsa dancing, 9p.m. to midnight, Whittier Center

**Wednesday
 March 21**

- ▶CTI game, USU vs. Loyola Maramount, 7 p.m., Spectrum
- ▶Jazz combos, Performance Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Online training

The Utah Assistive Technology Program will present a **FREE online interactive training**, Alternative Input & High Tech Switches for Power Mobility, on March 21 from 3- 4:30 p.m. Training presented by Lisa Rotelli from Adaptive Switch Lab, will provide an overview of the designs and manufacturer's products that allow individuals with disabilities to use computers, communicate, interface with their environments and achieve greater independence through powered mobility. In order to participate, you will need a computer with high-speed internet access. If you are interested in participating please RSVP by Friday, March 16, to Storee Powell via email storee.powell@usu.edu, or call 435-797-7412. Participant instructions will be emailed to you.

Monday, March 19 -3:30-4:30 BUS 319 Study Abroad is pleased to announce that a representative, **Dr. Meyer, from our partner school in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, will speak** about Brazilian life and culture. All are invited to attend! There are opportunities to study in Brazil for Portuguese language as well as study in English-semester or summer programs.

The Cache Valley Center for the Arts Ceramics program will begin their spring classes on Monday, March 19. Classes are offered for all ages and all skills. If you are looking for something to do this spring that is relaxing and fun, consider signing up for a ceramics class. Sign up for a 10-week class or register your child for a 5-or 10-week session. For info or to register, visit CVCA online at www.CacheArts.org. All ceramic classes are held inside the Bullen Center Ceramic Studio located at 43 S. Main in Logan.

Running low on closet space? Do you have more shoes

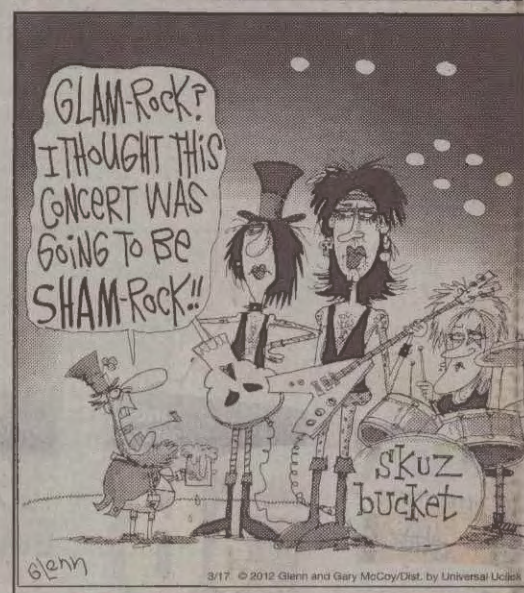
You Need to Know:

than you know what to do with? Give your old wardrobe new life while helping young girls feel empowered and beautiful! From now until March 27, Utah State students are accepting donations of gently used prom dresses and other prom-specific items (shoes, purses, hats, gloves, and jewelry) to be loaned to local teens during a Prom Dress Drive/Be Your Own Kind of Beautiful Event that will be held on March 28, 2012. The event itself will include a fashion show, hair and makeup tutorials, an advice booth, and a motivational speaker. Drop off dresses and accessories at the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority House (693 N. 800 E. in Logan), and contact Danielle Adams ((847) 849-0946) with questions.

Common Ground hosts ice fishing on Thursday, March 22 at 2:00 pm. Cost is \$3. We will be ice fishing at Hyrum Dam. Common Ground is a non-profit organization that provides outdoor recreation for people with disabilities. To sign up for this activity as a participant or volunteer, request transportation, or to learn about other activities, call 713-0288.

The Intensive English Language Institute (IELI) awards two \$500 scholarships each year to former students who have completed all of the IELI Level 4 course and are currently studying for a bachelors degree at USU. The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of intercultural involvement, academic scholarship, and financial need. Applications are available at the Intensive English Language Institute and the Office of International Students and scholars. Applications are due in the IELI office on March 21, 2012.

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Lee's 8 Piece (2 Wings, 2 Legs, 2 Thighs, 2 Breasts) Fried Chicken