

Chinese singers find hope at BYU

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Students push for green measure

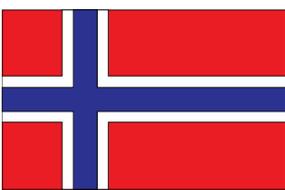
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World Press Freedom Index highlights global media challenges

Top 5 best countries for press freedom



1. Norway



2. Sweden



3. Netherlands



4. Finland



5. Switzerland

By KAITLYN BANCROFT

Third in a series

WASHINGTON — Myriam Ruiz was working for a small television station in southern Chile when employees of a large supermarket went on strike.

But Ruiz's station "couldn't say a word" about the strike because their station was sponsored by the supermarket.

"They were paying for the news," she said. "Our salary came from them."

Ruiz, now a journalism professor at Universidad del Desarrollo in Santiago, Chile, said she thinks this type of economic pressure still happens in some small cities, though she also said press freedom improved after Chile's dictatorship ended. Chile was under a military dictatorship from 1973-89, according to Britannica.

Press freedom remains a global issue. In the introduction to its 2016 report titled "Media: when oligarchs go shopping," non-profit Reporters Without Borders explores "a worldwide trend towards increasingly concentrated ownership of conglomerates that combine media outlets ... with banks, telecoms, property firms and construction companies."

Additionally, Reporters Without Borders' 2018 World Press Freedom Index states, "Hostility towards the media from political leaders is no longer limited to authoritarian countries such as Turkey and Egypt."

"More and more democratically-elected leaders no longer see the media as part of democracy's essential underpinning, but as an adversary to which they openly display their aversion," it reads.

The index

According to Reporters Without Borders, the World Press Freedom Index has been conducted annually since 2002 and measures the media freedom levels in 180 countries. It looks at pluralism levels, media independence, the environment and self-censorship, legal frameworks, transparency and the quality of the infrastructure that supports news production.

Each country within the index is assigned a score calculated from data on abuses and violence against journalists during the

evaluated period and from questionnaire answers completed by lawyers, media professionals and sociologists around the world.

"The scores and indicators measure constraints and violations, so the higher the figure, the worse the situation," the website states.

Norway's score of 7.63 means it ranks No. 1 in the world for press freedom, while North Korea's score of 88.87 means it has the worst press freedom in the world at No. 180. The U.S. is ranked No. 45 with a score of 23.37 compared to its 23.88 score and No. 43 ranking from last year.

The index's interactive worldwide map, at rsf.org/en/ranking, color codes each country by press freedom levels: white meaning "good," yellow meaning "fairly good," orange meaning "problematic," red meaning "bad" and black meaning "very bad." The map currently shows a concentration of white countries in Europe, with largely yellow and orange countries in the western hemisphere and red and orange countries in the eastern hemisphere. A concentration of black countries is seen in Asia and northern Africa.

Reporters Without Borders Communications Officer Noni Ghani said countries in red and black typically have "an extremely poor press freedom climate." This can include issues such as censorship, lack of plurality or independent media, and frequent violence against journalists.

Countries marked yellow and orange, however, range from a "satisfactory situation" to a "noticeable problem" in their press freedom. This typically means there is established media pluralism and media independence, and abuses against journalists are infrequent but do occur; however, there is usually backlash to those violations.

Top-ranked Norway is marked white on the map. The government facilitates open public discourse by regulating the concentration of media ownership and promoting transparency and pluralism, according to a 2018 article from Michigan State University's International Law Review. It states Norway's Media Ownership Act, which was passed in 1997, banned media groups from owning more than a third of the shares in any television station, radio station or newspaper.

See PRESS on Page 2

Top 5 worst countries for press freedom



1. North Korea



2. Eritrea



3. Turkmenistan



4. Syria



5. China

Paid family leave movement gains traction

By JENNA ALTON

Magna resident Stefanie Smith gave birth to twins in November and took advantage of a rare but increasingly widespread benefit for mothers in the U.S.: paid maternity leave.

Smith worked as an invoice analyst for O.C. Tanner, a company that started offering its employees six weeks of paid parental leave in 2018. Smith said she felt "super grateful" for the paid leave, especially because she could use previously-saved paid time off to stay home during the uncomfortable weeks just before the twins' birth.

"Having to stress about money and work and all of that would have been really difficult," Smith said. "Having the time off before but then knowing that I could take that time off because I had for sure six weeks afterward was a huge benefit."

On the other hand, Todd Smith, Stefanie's husband, did not receive any paid time off for the twins' birth. Like many parents, Todd Smith qualified for 12 weeks of unpaid time off through the Family Medical Leave Act, commonly known as FMLA, but the family couldn't go without a paycheck for that long. He ended up returning to work when he ran out of paid time off when the twins were three weeks old.

"Having him gone ... was difficult overall, because all of the sudden, I lose not only the extra hands to help with the babies, but I lose any mental support for me," Stefanie Smith said. "It just made the experience a whole lot more difficult."

The Smiths represent both sides of the paid parental leave issue in the U.S. Although many parents are still left without any paid time off after the arrival of a child, the movement toward paid parental leave is gaining traction. A growing number of U.S. and Utah companies offer paid family leave, and the issue is becoming increasingly prominent in both state and federal legislation — in February alone, both Utah and federal legislators introduced bills regarding paid family leave.

The basics of paid family leave

According to a report by the International Labour Organization, only two countries out of 185 countries and territories with information available do not provide cash benefits to women during maternity leave: the U.S. and Papua New Guinea.

The U.S. is the only country with a developed economy that does not pay maternity benefits, the report says. Other developed economies of the 42 listed in the report include Australia, the United Kingdom, Canada, Iceland, Japan and Spain.

FMLA requires some U.S. companies to provide for up to 12 weeks of unpaid time off for parents who welcome a child through birth, adoption or the foster system. Under FMLA, employers are legally required to provide their employees with a job when they return from leave, though they are not guaranteed their original position.

However, FMLA only applies to companies with more than 50 employees and employees who have worked with a company for at least a year and for 1,250 hours.

Both Todd and Stefanie Smith took advantage of FMLA, which typically runs concurrently with paid leave if paid leave is offered, but agreed it isn't enough.

"I don't feel like that's enough time bonding with your babies before you leave them full-time with somebody else," Stefanie Smith said.

Legislation for paid leave

Several states have implemented legislation to create paid family leave programs. Paid family leave is more comprehensive than paid parental leave; although policies differ, paid family leave generally covers parental leave and leave for those who need to care for a family member with a serious health condition.

See LEAVE on Page 3

Researchers turn science fiction into reality

By MADISON EVERETT

Think Iron Man.

That's what BYU researchers were thinking when they revealed a new class of mechanical devices called "developable mechanisms." These mechanisms are similar, in some regards, to those used in Iron Man's suit.

"You see this sort of thing in science fiction all the time, but sometimes those things have not been possible. This gives us the ability to do complex things and make them very compact," said engineering professor and researcher Larry Howell.

While the researchers find the idea of science-fiction becoming a reality fascinating, their goal is to benefit the world by implementing these discoveries in surgical tools, rockets, airplanes, drones and vehicles.

According to Howell, the team is working to move these mechanisms forward to be used in commercial products.

"Imagine a surgical tool that can go through a very small incision in the body, but yet have multiple functions," Howell said. "Imagine a surgical tool that's like a Swiss Army knife. It has everything integrated into one device."

Professor and researcher Spencer Magleby said the new technology allows the team to build complex mechanisms into an exterior without taking up any valuable real estate inside the structure itself.



BYU Photo

Above: Professor Larry Howell shows how a developable mechanism functions. Right: Howell and students explain developable mechanisms and how they work. Scan the photos with the *Universe Plus* app for a video.

"We are pretty inspired by what's the next cool and innovative thing," Magleby said. "We were inspired by Iron Man's suit. We used things like that to drive our thinking."

Magleby said restrictions can inspire creativity.

"You put yourself in a tighter and tighter box, and that forces you into new ways to get out of that box," Magleby said. "You have to force yourself to think out of the box."

With such a small mechanism,



Magleby said space becomes very valuable.

"I'm left with the real estate itself because it can't be sticking out or inside the tube," Magleby said. "So we pushed ourselves to say, 'What can reside on the tube itself?'"

Howell said these developments come over time and it is a continual process.

The team discovered curve folding while working with origami-based devices that can maneuver complex motions while also being compact.

"We began to discover that we can apply some of our origami principles

that had been flat to these curved surfaces, and that led to this next step which was developable mechanisms," Howell said.

According to BYU News, Howell and Magleby worked in collaboration with origami artist Robert Lang. Their work has generated national and international coverage ranging from solar arrays for NASA to bulletproof barriers for police.

Howell and Magleby also expressed their appreciation to the students for putting in time and effort into researching and making these discoveries.

UNIVERSE news briefs

FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



China accuses Canadians of stealing state secrets

China accused two detained Canadians on March 4 of acting together to steal state secrets, just days after Canada announced it will proceed with a U.S. extradition request for a senior Chinese tech executive.

China arrested the two Canadians on Dec. 10 in what was widely seen as an attempt to pressure Canada to release Meng Wanzhou, the chief financial officer of Chinese tech giant Huawei Technologies, who was arrested in Vancouver on Dec. 1 at the request of U.S. authorities.



Major faces charge related to wife's disappearance

An Air Force major bought a shovel, an ax, gasoline and a "burn barrel" a day after his wife was reported missing and then tried to destroy the receipt, according to investigators.

Andre McDonald, 40, was indicted March 3 on a charge of tampering with or fabricating evidence in the disappearance of his 29-year-old wife, Andreen McDonald, who police believe is dead, the San Antonio Express-News reported. Investigators believe McDonald intended to use the items to dispose of his wife's body.



Tornadoes kill 23 in Alabama

Rescue crews searched for victims March 4 amid homes smashed to their foundations, shredded metal dangling from trees and dead animals lying in the open after at least one tornado ripped through a rural Alabama community. At least 23 people were killed, some of them children.

It was the deadliest day of tornadoes in the U.S. in nearly six years. A twister carved a trail of destruction at least half a mile wide and about a mile long March 3.



Red Wings great Ted Lindsay dies at 93

Ted Lindsay, the Hall of Famer who provided muscle and meanness on the Detroit Red Wings' mighty "Production Line" of the 1950s and helped pioneer the first NHL players' union, died March 4. He was 93.

Lindsay died at his home in Michigan, said Lew LaPaugh, president of the Ted Lindsay Foundation, which raises money for autism research.

Known as "Terrible Ted," Lindsay was one of the game's best left wings, a nine-time All-Star who played on four Stanley Cup winners.



Spielberg's push against Netflix hits a nerve

When Steven Spielberg speaks about the business of Hollywood, everyone generally listens and few dissent. But reports that he intends to support rule changes that could block Netflix from Oscars-eligibility provoked a heated, and unwieldy, debate online.

It has found the legendary filmmaker at odds with some industry heavyweights, who have pointed out that Netflix has been an important supporter of minority filmmakers and stories, especially in awards campaigns.

Daily Universe marketing, advertising team takes top awards

By UNIVERSE STAFF

LA JOLLA, CALIF. — The Daily Universe's augmented reality initiative and its Two Magazine are among several Universe products to take top honors at the College Media Business and Advertising Managers national conference last weekend.

The national organization provides training and support for college media outlets. BYU students Madison Everett, Mireya Lavender, Eric Forbush and Michael Wade and Daily Universe Business Operations Manager Ellen Hernandez were presenters at the conference as well as being competition participants.

"Being recognized for our pioneering efforts has really solidified that we are moving in the right direction by implementing new technologies to create a new experience for our audience," Hernandez said.

The business team won four awards for their efforts this past year. They are:

- First Place in the "Best Special Section" category, for Two Magazine, the Daily Universe's dating and relationship magazine.
- First Place in the "Best Self Promotion Video Ad" category, for a video about implementing augmented reality into the newspaper.
- Second Place in the "Best Innovative New Idea" category



From left: Eric Forbush, Madison Everett, Ellen Hernandez, Mireya Lavender and Michael Wade celebrate their awards at the College Media Business and Advertising Managers. Scan the photo with the *Universe Plus* app for a video.

for a pioneering augmented reality project and mobile app, spotlighting features #BYUHacks, Simple Bites and MIXTAPE. These weekly newspaper promotions included digital content accessed through the Universe Plus app.

• Third Place in the "Best Audience Engagement Strategy" category, for the Universe's 12+ Days of Christmas Giveaway, an audience engagement campaign published in December that also featured the Universe Plus augmented reality app.

The Daily Universe team worked with students from BYU's award-winning AdLab to create the first-place-winning video. "With the video we

were able to harness the talents within the School of Communications, not just our lab," Hernandez said. "Really that award goes to students in the AdLab as well for their efforts, talents and skills."

The edition of Two Magazine recognized was produced by students Shaye Mullen, Megan Komm, Rachel Andrews and Katy Klima, Joan Phillips and Haley Moser, mentored by Universe Design Manager Warren Bingham.

The Daily Universe is believed to be the first university news outlet to incorporate augmented reality component, which ties print publications to digital features through a mobile app.

PRESS

US press freedom under increasing attack

Continued from Page 1

However, this act was abolished in 2016 in favor of the "Act relating to transparency of media ownership," under which the Norwegian Media Authority collects and systematizes information about ownership structures. Changes in media ownership are also subject to review by the Norwegian Competition Authority.

The 2018 World Press Freedom Index notes Article 100 of Norway's Constitution prepared the country for media freedom, and today "media are free and journalists are not subject to censorship or political pressure."

However, it also notes the Norwegian government cut media subsidies in its annual budget in October 2017.

Additionally, the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution has criticized the government's new criminal procedure code because it will not increase protection for the confidentiality of journalists' sources.

U.S. impact on global press freedom

The index shows the U.S. ranked at No. 43 with a score of 23.88, a two-spot drop from 2017.

Ghani said press freedom has been under increasing attack over the past few years, and President Donald Trump's administration has "further imperiled journalists' constitutional right to report."

She noted Trump frequently calls the press the "enemy of the people" and "fake news" in retaliation for critical reporting.

Ghani said the rise in anti-media rhetoric from the top ranks of the U.S. government has been coupled with an increase in local-level press freedom violations. However, she clarified "these threats to press freedom, though exacerbated by Trump's hostility towards journalists, predated his presidency."

For example, American whistleblowers face prosecution under the Espionage Act if they leak information to the press, and there is still no federal "shield law" guaranteeing reporters' right to protect their sources.

Ghani also said there is "no doubt" Trump's rhetoric impacts global press freedom. For example, Filipino president Rodrigo Duterte and Turkish president Recep Tayyip Erdogan have used Trump's rhetoric "to silence and discredit the media to justify their own misdirected policies and draconian laws," she said. "Authoritarian regimes all over the world can now take full advantage of Trump's war with the media by discrediting mainstream news coverage and calling it 'fake news.'"

She also said for a country that prides itself on being one of the world's leading democracies and a champion of the First Amendment, its president has set "an ugly precedent" for leaders around the world.

"When a leader as powerful as the President of the United States uses this language, the consequences are clear," she said.

However, Ruiz said Trump taking office has driven people to seek out good information from reputable sources, causing subscriptions to newspapers like the New York Times and the Washington Post to increase. The New York Times reported in August 2018 it added 109,000 digital-only subscribers during the second quarter of 2018. This effect has

been called the "Trump bump" by technology news website Recode.

She also said rather than calling the Chilean press the enemy of the people, she'd call it "the best friend of the people."

"There are many things you wouldn't know if the press wouldn't say it, and the people recognize that," she said.

Supporting press freedom

Ghani said Reporters Without Borders regards media freedom as a basic human right to be informed. The organization's website states press freedom guarantees human dignity, promotes democracy, promotes development and guarantees individual capacities.

Ghani said people can promote global press freedom by supporting organizations that defend those freedoms. This could mean joining membership networks, signing petitions, participating in protests or donating to press freedom causes or organizations.

Katie Townsend, the legal director for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, said it's important for people to support journalistic organizations that are doing great work they believe in.

"I think subscribing to those publications and reading them and being an advocate for factual information ... (is) something that everyone can and should do as citizens," she said.

Ruiz said it's important young people be taught how to demand good information, which can be difficult because of how much information is digitally available. It's also important to distinguish between the information people want and the information they need.

"When you give people what they want, you may fall into bad journalism," she said. "But when you're aware of what people need to know ... then you're making change for this society."

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LEAVE

Government, businesses push for more accessible parental leave

Continued from Page 1

California, New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island currently have paid family leave programs in place, according to a report by the Congressional Research Service. Washington, Massachusetts and the District of Columbia have all passed legislation to implement paid family leave programs.

In the Utah Legislature, Rep. Elizabeth Weight, D-Salt Lake City, introduced the Family Leave Amendments bill Feb. 28, which would grant six weeks of paid parental leave to state employees. She proposed a similar bill in 2018 that was held in committee.

The bill is limited as it would only apply to state employees; however, Weight said she has started the process for a summer study for the potential of statewide parental leave.

According to Weight, the program would be funded like Washington's program, which is jointly financed by employees and the employer for companies with more than 50 employees and employee-financed for smaller companies.

Legislation is also in the works for paid family leave at the federal level.

The nonprofit PL+US is working to push such legislation forward. It was founded in 2016 with one goal, according to its website: "win high quality paid family leave for everyone in the U.S. by 2022."

According to PL+US Legislative Director Shawn Gaylord,



Camera Shy photography

Todd and Stefanie Smith recently welcomed a set of twins to their family. Before the twins' birth, both Todd and Stefanie worked full-time and dealt with the complications of parental leave.

the organization functions more like a campaign because of its single focus on paid family leave.

"Working families need some relief when issues pop up that pop up in so many people's lives," Gaylord said. "Much of the world does this, some states already provide this kind of assistance, so we just think it's an idea whose time has come on the federal level as well."

Gaylord said the key federal paid family leave legislation right now is the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act, or the FAMILY Act. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-New York, introduced the FAMILY Act Feb. 12.

"Basically, it would create a comprehensive national paid family and medical leave insurance program," Gaylord said. "It would provide

everyone with access to paid leave to care for a new child or seriously ill family member or just their own health concerns that require some time away from work."

According to the National Partnership for Women and Families, the FAMILY Act would provide eligible workers with a portion of their wages for up to 12 weeks a year for family leave purposes.

The bill would create a family and medical leave insurance fund paid for by employees and employers, who would contribute a small amount of each paycheck to the fund. It would also create an Office of Paid Family and Medical Leave.

Gaylord said he's optimistic about the bill's progress, even though it's been a Democratic bill so far.

"There is growing interest

from both sides of the aisle in recognizing that this is a problem for American families, but there needs to be some kind of solution," Gaylord said. "The differences so far are exactly what that solution would be."

According to Gaylord, Democratic solutions center around a payroll tax paid by employers and employees. Republican solutions rely on tapping into Social Security money early or delaying retirement.

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Florida, introduced the Economic Security for New Parents Act in August 2018.

The act would allow parents to pull a portion of their Social Security benefits to pay for parental leave, according to Rubio's website. Parents who take the option would delay their Social Security retirement benefits.

"I'm optimistic that the fact that there's shared recognition of the problem that needs to be solved is a helpful step," Gaylord said.

A Pew Research Center poll found 82 percent of Americans say mothers should receive paid leave following birth or adoption and 69 percent say fathers should receive the same. Gaylord said the high public support for paid family leave makes it more likely paid family leave policies will progress in Congress.

Businesses joining the trend

As legislation progresses, an increasing number of businesses, including several in

Utah, are joining the movement to offer paid family leave. Mercer's "Survey on Absence and Disability Management," released Jan. 16, found 40 percent of surveyed employers now offer paid parental leave, up from 24 percent in 2015.

BYU human resources professor Troy Nielson said paid family leave can be beneficial for companies despite the initial costs. Such costs include the salary of the employees who take leave and the costs required to find temporary replacements.

"Companies that are magnets for attracting and retaining talent try to be there to help their employees in the most traumatic and stressful kinds of life situations," Nielson said. "So, yeah, will it cost the company something? Yeah. ... But they've probably earned that back multifold from that employee's loyalty."

According to Nielson, when an employee takes leave, companies usually do not bring in temporary help to cover the employee's roles. Instead, the employee's responsibilities are disseminated among team members or another employee will be temporarily promoted.

"From a company standpoint, if you're offering purely parental leave, ... if the birth rates in the culture tend to be low, then it doesn't have that much impact," Nielson said. "It still has some impact, but not as much as the cost to go find and hire new talent."

Gaylord emphasized paid

family leave can be a win-win situation for both employers and employees.

"We would make the case, and a lot of companies will agree, that there's a financial benefit for companies in not losing workers on a regular basis and having to spend money on recruitment and training and retention," Gaylord said.

There's currently a shortage of talent in the U.S. job market, according to Nielson, which may explain why more companies now offer paid family leave. He said big companies and tech companies, including Silicon Slopes firms, tend to offer paid family leave because of the high demand for talented employees.

Adobe announced a new paid family leave policy effective Jan. 1 that gives all eligible employees, primary caregivers and non-primary caregivers, up to 16 weeks of paid parental leave.

Utah-based Domo's website says the company now offers 10 weeks paid maternity leave and two weeks paid paternity leave. Weave, a tech start-up in the valley, announced last summer it would begin to offer 12 weeks paid maternity leave and six weeks paid paternity leave. Dell EMC, which has a Draper location, started offering four weeks of paid parental leave in 2017.

The paid parental leave movement goes beyond Utah's tech industries. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announced in summer 2017 it would begin offering six weeks of paid maternity leave. The University of Utah began offering six weeks of paid parental leave starting Jan. 1.

Overlooked

Stefanie Smith said she's grateful for the paid maternity leave her company offered her following her twins' birth. However, she added she would love to see paid leave more widely available, citing the difficulty of recovering from birth.

"It's not just emotionally hard, it's physically hard," she said. "It's just a difficult process all around."

If it were up to her, Smith said, more companies would offer paid parental leave and include fathers in the policies, too. She said paternity leave is an aspect of the equation that often goes overlooked.

"You need that time to bond as a family," she said. "You need that emotional support from each other, time to bond with baby. All of that is so important, so valuable."

Law offers limited family leave protections

Lehi resident Pauli Hannan was seven months pregnant when she found out the small company she worked for wasn't required to provide her with unpaid maternity leave. By taking 12 weeks off work for her child's birth, Hannan was potentially forfeiting her job and health insurance.

"Nothing was going to make them give me my benefits when I was gone or ensure that my job was there when I came back," Hannan said.

Hannan talked to her boss about maternity leave early in her pregnancy, and she was under the impression she could take time off through the Family Medical Leave Act, a law passed in 1993 that legally protects some parents to take up to 12 weeks of unpaid maternity leave.

However, the company's human resources department informed Hannan the company wasn't covered under FMLA because of its size.

"So here I am, panicking," she said. "Like, how am I even working for a company that is not supporting me and family? We live in Utah, for heaven's sakes."

Hannan worked out a plan with her bosses to take off the time she needed without giving up her job and insurance benefits, but is still bothered by the experience.

"Family is supposed to bring you so much joy," Hannan said, "yet in order to provide for them, the system is not set up in a way that makes it conducive or easy to have kids or to take time off work."

According to the U.S. Department of Labor, nearly 60 percent of employees meet the criteria to qualify for FMLA. However, the remaining 40 percent have no access to job-protected, unpaid family leave.

FMLA provides eligible employees with up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave in a 12-month period for the arrival of a child, according to the department. It also applies to employees who need to care for a close family member with a serious health condition, employees with a serious health condition themselves and those dealing with an emergency related to a close family member who serves in the military.

What is FMLA?

According to the department, FMLA requires employers to provide their employees with their original job, or an equivalent job with the same pay and benefits, after they return from leave. FMLA also ensures employers continue to cover their employees' group health insurance coverage while the employees are absent from work.

Shawn Gaylord is the legislative director at PL+US, a nonprofit that lobbies for paid family leave legislation at the federal level.

"It is not nothing that the Family Medical Leave Act exists," Gaylord said. "Even though it's better that we have it than don't have it, it really doesn't go far enough into solving this problem."

FMLA limitations

As Hannan learned, FMLA only applies to employers with 50 or more employees. Even under a covered employer, an employee can only qualify for FMLA after working for the employer for at least a year and accumulating 1,250 work hours in the year preceding the leave, according to the department.

Gaylord said FMLA has two main problems:

it does not cover everyone, and it is unpaid — a factor that especially affects those who need a wage replacement while taking family leave.

"If you're a high-wage worker in a specialized industry, then you can probably assume you will get your job or a job similar if you take some time off, even without FMLA," Gaylord said. "But for the lower wage side of the equation, it's not going to help you to have unpaid leave."

Current legislation

However, Gaylord, who closely monitors issues related to family leave on Capitol Hill, said legislators have pushed to address some of FMLA's shortcomings. Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-New York, has introduced what Gaylord coined as an "FMLA fix bill." Maloney first introduced the bill in 2018.

"My understanding is she'll be reintroducing it this year," Gaylord said.

According to a press release on Maloney's website, the FMLA Modernization Act would only exempt small companies from FMLA if they have less than 15 employees.

The act would also expand FMLA to cover parental involvement leave, which includes involvement in children's and grandchildren's school and community activities. Employees would be able to take up to 24 hours of parental involvement leave during a 12-month period.

Finally, the act would update the definition of a family member to cover relationships that "are not bound by blood or legal ties," including domestic partners, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles.

Currently, FMLA only covers unpaid time off for employees to take care of close family members — defined as spouses, sons, daughters or parents — with a serious medical condition.

"No one should have to choose between caring for their loved ones or losing their jobs," Maloney said in the press release.

According to Gaylord, Maloney is not the only legislator in Congress to introduce an FMLA fix bill.

A bipartisan group of four senators, including Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, introduced legislation in October 2018 called the Fair Access for Individuals to Receive Leave Act, or the FAIR Leave Act. According to a press release on Ernst's website, the FAIR Leave Act would ensure fair FMLA benefits for married couples who work for the same employer.

Although FMLA generally gives up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave to qualifying employees, married couples who work for the same company only receive a total of 12 combined weeks off for some FMLA-qualifying situations: the birth of a child, the placement of a child through adoption or the foster system and the care for a parent with a serious health condition, according to the department.

Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Arkansas, is part of the team of legislators who introduced the bill.

"The amount of unpaid leave afforded to parents of newborns shouldn't be limited simply because they both work for the same employer," Cotton said in the press release. "This bill corrects that discrepancy in the Family and Medical Leave Act and will treat parents fairly, whether or not they work for the same employer."

— Jenna Alton

TODAY

PERFORMANCE DEVOTIONAL
Tuesday, March 5
11:05 a.m., Marriott Center

This event will also be broadcast to the JSB Auditorium.



Hold On!

This week's devotional will be presented by BYU School of Music's **combined choirs** and **Philharmonic Orchestra**, who will perform a program of blockbuster favorites such as Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Holst's *Jupiter*; and Mack Wilberg's *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*.

The entire program has been selected to bring comfort, hope, and a positive burst of energy to the middle of winter semester.

NEXT: UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL

ELDER CARLOS A. GODOY
General Authority Seventy



March 12, 11:05 a.m.
Marriott Center
PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.

BYU officials say they support open records bill despite police decertification

By SAM BIGELOW & KATIE HARRIS

A BYU attorney and BYU's police chief told legislators they support a bill that would require private university police departments to comply with the state's open records access law.

The statements supporting the proposed legislation came only days after news broke that the state is planning to decertify the BYU police department. The state action comes partly because officials say the department has not complied with past demands for police records that municipal policing agencies must make publicly available.

Sen. Kurt Bramble, R-Provo, introduced legislation that would subject private university police departments, including BYU, to open records requests. A senate committee heard discussion on the bill Feb. 26 and passed it unanimously. No one at the hearing spoke in opposition to the bill.

Salt Lake Tribune attorney Michael O'Brien and Editor-in-Chief Jennifer Napier Pierce both attended the hearing and supported the bill.

O'Brien is a media lawyer who represents the Utah Media Coalition and is the acting counsel for the Tribune in a lawsuit, currently before the Utah Supreme Court, concerning BYU's records request denial from the Tribune in 2016.

BYU attorney Heather Gunnarson and Police Chief Chris Autry thanked Bramble for his work on the bill and expressed support for the changes it would make.

"We agree that university police should be subject to the same level of transparency and accountability as any other law enforcement office within the



Elliott Miller

BYU Sergeant Ryan Judd surveys the BYU campus. The Utah Department of Public Safety announced earlier this week that the BYU Police Department would be decertified in September.

state," Gunnarson said.

The statement seems to clash with the tone of a formal statement issued by BYU Feb. 26, stating the university's intention to appeal the decertification decision made by the Utah Department of Public Safety, calling the decision "confounding."

Bramble's proposed legislation follows the Utah Department of Public Safety's decision to decertify the BYU Police Department by September 2019.

According to a letter dated Feb. 20 to BYU President Kevin J. Worthen from Public Safety Commissioner Jess L. Anderson, the university police are to be decertified after failing to conduct an internal investigation between April 2016

and April 2018 regarding specific allegations of misconduct against a BYU police officer, believed to be former Lt. Aaron Rhoades.

According to court documents, the Tribune's lawsuit was first filed July 12, 2016, after BYU police refused to release internal documents the Tribune requested. The lawsuit followed allegations from the Tribune that Rhoades accessed case files from the Provo City Police Department for an honor code investigation of a student who was the victim of sexual assault.

According to the Tribune, Rhoades began accessing Provo and Orem police records for the Honor Code Office in August 2014 and stopped in June 2016

after the state announced its investigation into the BYU police department.

A March 7, 2018, letter from the Utah Attorney General's office says Rhoades would not be prosecuted after a Justice Division panel's review found the Department of Public Safety's investigation lacked "a reasonable likelihood of conviction."

Rhoades voluntarily gave up his police certification and left University Police in October 2018, the Tribune reported.

The letter also says BYU failed to comply with a subpoena during a Peace Officer Standards and Training investigation regarding the misconduct allegations. Additionally, Anderson said in a letter to the BYU Police Chief that the BYU police department is expected to comply with the Government Records Access and Management Act.

BYU's response to the state's decertification letter expresses surprise at the decertification order and says the university felt it had acted properly.

"BYU intends to pursue all available agency action and legal processes to remain in a position to keep its students safe," the university statement says.

The state's decision to decertify BYU police follows a years-long dispute between the university and the Tribune over open records laws.

According to a motion for

summary judgment filed by the university's legal representation in a lawsuit with the Tribune, the university argues BYU is not a government organization, thus making its police department immune from GRAMA, which allows for public access to records.

BYU's lawyers also argued in the Jan. 30, 2018, summary the university was also not responsible for the investigation into misconduct allegations since it is a private university, not a government organization.

In a Feb. 28, 2018, motion for summary judgment, the Tribune noted the Third District Court had ruled on Jan. 20, 2017, that the BYU police department is subject to open records laws because it was established by the government "to carry out the public's business of policing."

According to O'Brien, Third District Judge Laura Scott ruled in favor of the Tribune on July 13, 2018, after the newspaper appealed the Utah State Records Committee's decision that BYU's police department was not required to follow open records laws.

"We agree that university police should be subject to the same level of transparency and accountability as any other law enforcement office within the state."

Heather Gunnarson
BYU Attorney

"Judge Scott ruled that BYU as a law enforcement agency is subject to the state open records law," O'Brien said. "That decision has been appealed by BYU to the Utah Supreme Court, and we're in the middle of briefing that right now."

O'Brien also said a hearing date with the Supreme Court has not yet been scheduled.

The Honor Code investigation into the student victim began after Utah County Sheriff's Deputy Edwin Randolph delivered the student's case to BYU's Title IX office, which then referred the case to the Honor Code Office, according to the Tribune. Randolph later helped the suspect in the case obtain legal counsel and stated he was trying to help the victim

by reporting her to the university. Following a Peace Officer Standards and Training investigation into his conduct, Randolph retired.

Following the Tribune's reporting and an internal study, the university accepted 23 recommendations made by the Advisory Council on Campus Response to Sexual Assault. The Daily Universe previously reported that President Worthen announced on Oct. 26, 2016, the university would physically separate the Title IX office from the Honor Code Office, hire a full-time Title IX coordinator and extend protections from Honor Code investigations to sexual assault victims.

BYU was later required by the Utah State Records Committee to release a BYU police audio interview with former Missionary Training Center President Joseph Bishop, who was accused of raping a sister missionary in 1984, according to KSL. The university appealed the ruling after arguing it had released partial documents regarding the interview.

In October 2018, Bramble announced his intention to sponsor SB197, which would clarify the laws applying to private institutions with police powers.

The bill would require BYU and other private institutions with police powers to comply with GRAMA requests and redefines these agencies as government entities in such situations, according to Bramble.

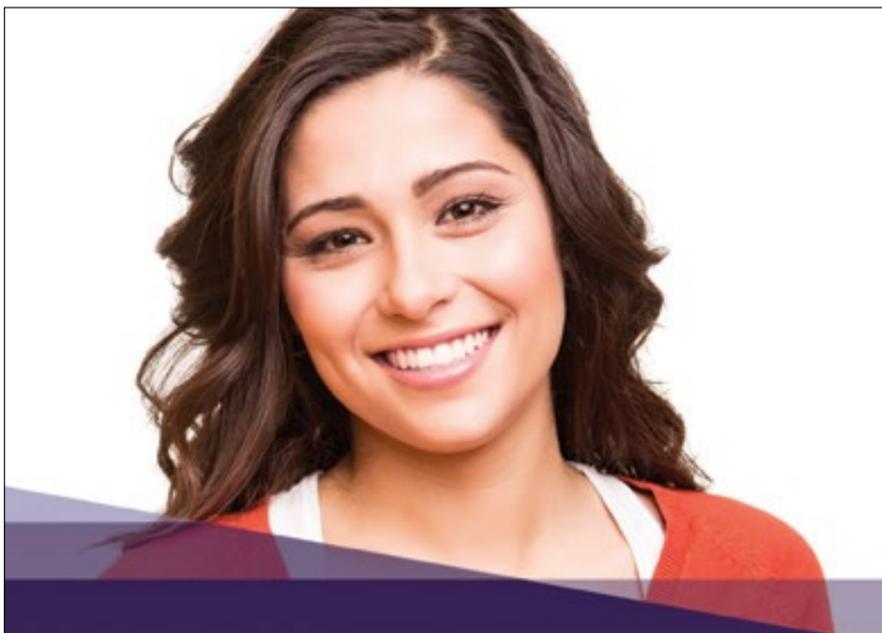
He also said BYU's Honor Code Office would not be subject to the same level of transparency. He said if the situation is a BYU Honor Code policy issue, the police should have nothing to do with it.

"If we are going to delegate the police powers of the state, which is the power to infringe upon citizens' liberties, that has to be done with sunshine," Bramble said. "That's what this is all about."

However, O'Brien said the legislation would not retroactively require BYU to give the Tribune the documents at the center of their lawsuit.

"There still may be a dispute there, which the Tribune will vigorously fight," O'Brien said. "We'll have to wait and see what happens."

Bramble said he introduced his legislation rather than repealing the provision he says currently allows BYU to deny GRAMA requests because "BYU has had a successful police department for over 35 years."



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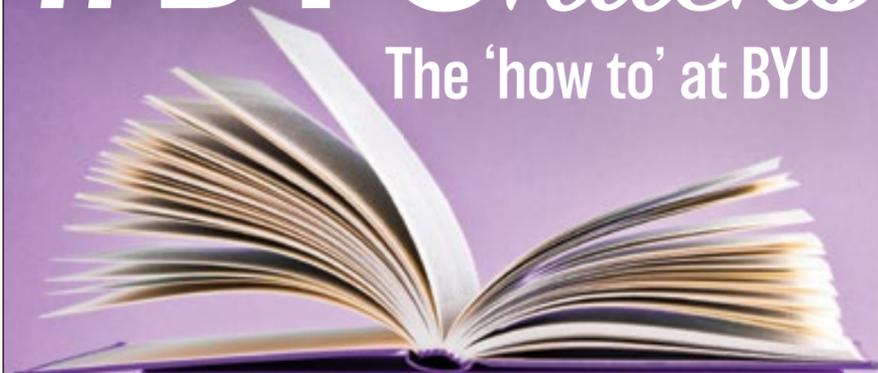
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#BYU hacks

The 'how to' at BYU



HOW TO

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Chinese couple goes full circle with the BYU Singers

By KAITLYN BANCROFT

Wenhao Mu had skipped work and gone to the train station only to discover he was at the wrong station.

The previous day, Mu and his wife, Weijing She, heard the BYU Singers perform when the group stopped in their city during its 2015 China tour. The BYU Singers performed a joint concert with the university choir Mu was then an assistant choir director for and in which She sang. This allowed them both a close-up experience with the BYU Singer's quality of sound and quality of character.

For example, Mu appreciated how the singers collaborated with each other, how they responded to the conductor and how they were "so willing to share" their confidence and happiness.

"We had never attended a concert like that," Mu said. "They were so polite and so willing to interact with us."

Mu was so impressed by the BYU Singers that he took time off from his job as an architect the next day in order to see them off at the train station, "but sadly, I went to the wrong station."

Mu thought that day might have been his last chance to see the BYU Singers for a long time. Four years later, however, not only are Mu and She BYU student themselves — both have joined the ranks of the BYU Singers.

'You have to move on'

Mu and She's journey to BYU really began in 2013, when Mu, who had not yet met She, traveled with a group to Dallas for the American Choral Directors Association conference. Though he was then studying for his master's degree in urban planning, he was also the assistant choir director for his university's choir.

The trip was arranged by an American businessman who was also a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Following the conference, the businessman arranged for Mu's group to travel to Utah, where they attended Music and the Spoken Word on Sunday and met with Craig Jessop, the former director of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square, then known as the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

The group then went to BYU,



Arianna Davidson

Weijing She, left, and her husband Wenhao Mu share their experiences as BYU students and members of the BYU Singers. The couple from China heard the BYU Singers perform in their home country in 2015, and later came to BYU and joined the BYU Singers themselves.

where they listened to the BYU Singers perform in the Harris Fine Arts Center.

"The campus just gave me that feeling: peaceful, quiet (and) safe," Mu said.

Mu met She upon returning to China and they married in 2014. He graduated from his master's program and began a job as an architect while She worked as a high school teacher. However, he spent weekends continuing to work with his university's choir, which is how in 2015, Mu and She came into contact with the BYU Singers during the joint-concert with Mu's university choir.

Weijing She said Ronald Staheli, then the BYU Singers conductor, spoke to her and Mu after the concert. Mu told Staheli he was working as an architect but wanted to study music, and he was confused about his future. Staheli took Mu's hand and said, "You have to move on. Don't give up."

Weijing She said it was fatherly gesture, and though they'd only known him for two days, they could feel Staheli's love, encouragement and support.

"I think that was the moment that we made the decision of, 'OK, we need to apply,'" She said.

Mu said he realized he couldn't continue with both architecture and music and decided to apply to music school in the U.S. He felt if he was rejected, it was OK because he would still have a job, "but if I can make it into one of them, my life is changed."

Mu was accepted to BYU and

another school and said he "pondered a little bit" when deciding where to attend, as the other school was well-known for its choral activities. However, the excellence of the BYU Singers, his positive impression of campus during his 2013 visit and the Church's choral activities were large parts of why he ultimately chose BYU.

Another reason Mu and She chose BYU is because during Mu's 2013 campus visit, he learned how much the Church values families. As families are "the most important thing" in Chinese culture, Mu said, he and She thought moving to Provo as a married couple would make transitioning to a foreign country easier. They came to Provo in August 2016, and Mu began studying for his master's in choral conducting while She was accepted that year into the master's in music education program. Mu joined the BYU Singers in 2016 and She joined in 2018.

Andrew Crane, who became conductor of the BYU Singers in 2015 after Staheli retired, said Mu sings baritone and She sings first alto and is the alto section leader. He called them both "absolutely first-rate musicians" with "excellent ears and musical knowledge."

"Personally, they are extremely conscientious, hard-working and kind," Crane said.

Why they sing

Coming to Utah wasn't without its challenges for Mu and She. When they first arrived in Provo, She booked an Airbnb



Sandefur Schmidt

The BYU Singers perform with Chinese singers in the Hangzhou Concert Hall in Hangzhou, China, during the BYU Singers' 2015 tour of China.

for three days so they could find housing, but when those three days were up, they still hadn't found a place to live.

However, after posting about their problem on Facebook, Mu said a family took them in for three weeks while they searched for housing, giving them food, driving them to see housing options and helping them get familiar with Provo.

Weijing She said deciding to study abroad was a difficult decision because they both had careers in China and they weren't sure what their future would be like. However, she said coming to the U.S. has been "like an adventure" and the glass has always been half-full during their time in Provo.

"The whole atmosphere here and the friendship from those friends on-campus and off-campus ... always gives you hope in your life," she said.

Additionally, although they're not members of the Church, Mu said they understand the relationship between music and spirituality.

"(The BYU choir conductors) all are trying so hard to reach... the soul of the singers," Mu said. "So I felt that all of the singers... in the ensembles at BYU are cultivated by the beauty of music."

Mu said most of his friends in China don't have specific religious beliefs. During summers at home when he works with the friends' choirs, he plans something similar to a devotional for each choir, where he explains that he goes to a religious university where they pray before each rehearsal. These prayers are not simply asking for success, but are expressions of

gratitude for blessings such as the beautiful music, the preparation of the choir conductors and the audiences they sing to. Then he'll ask the Chinese choirs if they have those feelings of love and gratitude because "that's the true meaning of singing together."

Mu said he's also given lectures to music teachers and choral conductors in China, and though he doesn't emphasize the Church, he tries to help them understand the uniqueness of the BYU choral program. For example, he recently recorded some of BYU's rehearsals and concerts and shared them online with his Chinese friends, and "they love the sound, (they) love the music and they can feel the power of this kind of excellent singing," he said.

Although the BYU Singers won't be involved in the upcoming tour of China this May involving multiple BYU performing arts groups, Mu said he's discussed China's cultural, political and religious situations with Crane. While the BYU Singers won't be missionaries in a traditional sense, he said they will be missionaries by way of sharing art like they were during their 2015 tour of China. Mu said while the BYU Singers didn't mention the Church, God or anything else religious during that tour, they were still "actually sharing some love and the power of God, or of someone who is always taking care of us."

Mu has had his own traveling experiences with the BYU Singers, touring with the group in Vietnam and Indonesia in 2018. He called this experience "like

a miracle" because he heard the BYU Singers on its 2015 international tour and then was able to participate in its next international tour.

"We shared every day why we traveled from the other side of the globe," he said. "Because we would like to let more people feel the love of God (and) feel the overwhelming power of music."

Several people even approached Mu after a concert in Indonesia and asked how they could study choral music at BYU.

"I told them 'If you love music, you need to try, and BYU is really the right place for you to study choral music,'" he said.

Hope from BYU

Both Mu and She said BYU has been the best student experience they've ever had.

"We are very grateful for the experiences here, that we're not just students but we are respected by everyone," She said.

Mu is now in his third year at BYU and graduates in April, while She is in her second year and graduates in August. Mu has applied to seven doctoral conducting programs in the United States, and was recently offered a full scholarship to the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York. He'll start their Doctor of Musical Arts program in conducting this fall.

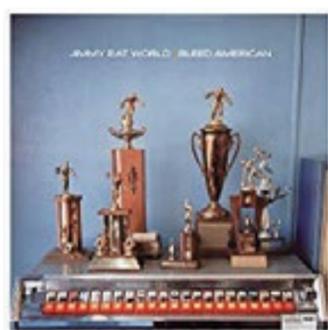
He said one of the most important things they've gained from BYU is hope.

"We don't know what our future will be like," Mu said. "But we are able to have hope in our lives. That's what we get from BYU."

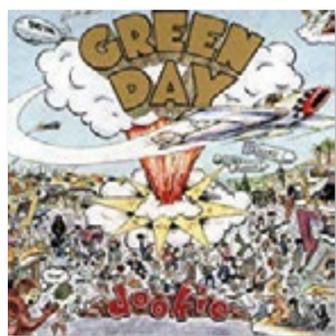
MIXTAPE

"You Remember These"

Formed in Mesa, Arizona in 1993, the band actually got their name when their guitarist's (Tom Linton) two younger brothers (Ed & Jimmy) got into a fight. Ed, after losing, drew a picture of the heavier Jimmy shoving the Earth into his mouth with the caption "Jimmy Eat World" at the bottom. The name stuck and so did the band atop the rock/alt/pop leaderboards for years with such hits as "The Middle" and "Pain". "The Middle" was written for a girl that emailed the band saying she felt like she didn't fit in at her school and the song proved to be a genre definer for the punk rock-emo anthems that followed over the next few years.



"The Middle"
Jimmy Eat World
Bleed American



"When I Come Around"
Green Day
Dookie

Originally known as "Sweet Children" when childhood friends Billie Joe Armstrong (guitar, vocals) and Mike Dirnt (bass) formed a band in 1986, they changed names to "Green Day" after adding a drummer. Green Day became popular in the underground punk scene while playing at the "924 Gilman Street" club in Berkeley, CA, but were later banned for being "sell outs" after signing with their first major record label. Shortly after, Green Day released their album, "Dookie" (1994) that sold over 20 million copies worldwide and ranked #193 on Rolling Stone's "500 Greatest Albums of All Time". "When I Come Around" was inspired by a dispute between Armstrong and his wife (then girlfriend) and went on to be Green Day's 2nd best selling song of the 90's behind only "Good Riddance".



"Move Along"
All-American Rejects
Move Along

Released in 2006, "Move Along" was written as an anti-suicide message about believing in oneself. Debuting in the top 50 of the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 and was there for 39 weeks and topped out at #15. The band formed in Stillwater, Oklahoma in 1999 and named themselves "the All-American Rejects" because "it was a random name that sounded cool" (according to one of their guitarists). A fixture of the pop/rock scene in the mid-2000's, the band has seen many of its albums/songs go multi-platinum and were ranked as #183 on Billboard's "200 Artists of the Decade" list.

Scan the album covers with the Universe Plus app to hear a sample of each song.



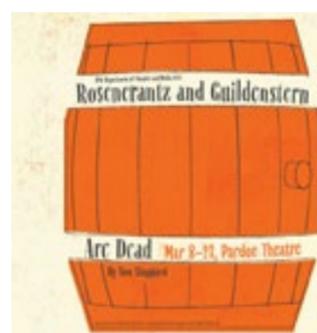
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Join us for an evening of script-in-hand readings of award-winning plays that intrigue, provoke, and enlighten. The readings will be from largely unedited scripts that allow the audience to engage with the work of master playwrights whose important voices might otherwise not be heard in our university community.

Doubt: A Parable | Wit | Company
Thurs.-Sat., Mar. 7-9, 7:30 p.m.
Nelke Theatre



Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead

This Tony Award-winning modern masterpiece follows the classic story of Hamlet as seen through the eyes of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two minor characters in Shakespeare's play. Sometimes funny, sometimes tragic, and always philosophical, Stoppard's most popular work forces us to confront the power of life and the meaning of death.

Mar. 8-9, 12-16, 20-23, 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 9, 16, 2:00 p.m.
Pardoe Theatre



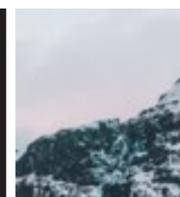
BRAVO! Cirque Éloize

Tues., Mar. 12, 7:30 p.m.
de Jong Concert Hall



Opera Scenes

Wed.-Sat., Mar. 6-9, 7:30 p.m.
Madsen Recital Hall



BYU Symphony Orchestra: Symphony Concerto Night

Thurs., Mar. 7, 7:30 p.m.
de Jong Concert Hall

US National Amateur
Dancesport Championships
Wed.-Sat., Mar. 6-9, all day
Marriott Center

BRAVO! Canadian Brass
Tues., Mar. 19, 7:30 p.m.
de Jong Concert Hall

BYU Jazz Ensemble
Wed., Mar. 20, 7:30 p.m.
de Jong Concert Hall

All events are ticketed.

BYUarts



Tweet Beat

#BYU #BYUprobs

Want to see your tweet in print? Tweet something about life around you with #BYUprobs or #BYU and hopefully it makes the cut.

Leave comments at universe.byu.edu or @UniverseBYU

@neenee10101

"Hey Edward! This is my girlfriend, and this is her friend...that you matched with on tinder" @HeardAtBYU

@hankrsmith

I just watched a guy see a girl, speed up to walk next to her for 10 seconds or so, then look over at her and say, "Hey, I didn't see you there! How are things?" Oh BYU, I love you.

@autumndaun_kang

"I would blow my life savings on a study abroad, but I don't have life savings. I only have debt" @HeardAtBYU

@kylecoug

"my mom didn't love me enough to get me an easy-bake oven" @HeardAtBYU

@classic_caitlyn

Teacher in my print publishing class today. If you're not familiar with the Silmarillion, it's basically the Old Testament of Middle Earth: great stories and messages, but not read nearly as often as the New Testament @HeardAtBYU

@lizzy_ericksen

"Today we're gonna wring out our organs" -my yoga teacher today and I'm kinda concerned @HeardAtBYU

@byu_fhss

"You're looking spiffy today." "Sometimes I decide to actually try." #ElevatorEavesdropping #heardatbyu

@dani_hogan1

"So, she said she's going to grad school in Northern Virginia, and I was like, "well, first off, that's not a state." @HeardAtBYU

@rynojay25

"Dude, I'm not gonna bromance his arm." @HeardAtBYU

@abigaillllllll

"does VASA exist outside of Provo??" @HeardAtBYU

@danlewburn

"He unfollowed me on everything and then a month later he started dating this girl. 79 days later, I counted, 79 days later he is ENGAGED!" @HeardAtBYU

@BrandonJayC

"I hate weddings. They're pointless." @HeardAtBYU by a Single guy

@steph5of9

Prof: "I want as many of you to comment on this as possible"
Student: "you might regret saying that"
Prof: "my life is already full of regrets, so" @HeardAtBYU

@yourfavrach

"do you take naps?"
"i fall asleep during movies, does that count?" @HeardAtBYU

@NormanMormon3

"The thing that's stressing me out most about going on a mission is having to sacrifice beauty for comfort when it comes to shoes." @HeardAtBYU

@lilabs4156

"He's either the greatest actor I've ever seen or he has multiple personality disorder" @HeardAtBYU

@nay_oh_mie

1: "Bro you got an 100% on the test? How'd you do it?"
2: "I sat down and said a FAT prayer before I took it." @HeardAtBYU

@_scosgrove

"If we pay 11% tithing maybe they'll put bigger doors in the marb" @HeardAtBYU

@kaitietc

"I'm pretty sure HE thought you guys were dating and then YOU GO GET ENGAGED TO SOMEONE ELSE?!" @HeardAtBYU

@my_anna

"Gosh there's so much water in my cros" @HeardAtBYU

@CollegeStudent

"babe, I just bought us one way tickets to Cuba!" @HeardAtBYU

@blackumasamurai

@HeardAtBYU
Wife's Friend: you've been married for ten months?
Wife: Yep!
Friend: You're one pregnancy into your marriage!

@lilabs4156

"Oh my gosh, be still my soul, he is so HOT" @HeardAtBYU

@YouSweetThing

"talking on the phone" "do you remember how when I went to the dentist before my mission they found that extra tooth in my mouth?" @HeardAtBYU

Tweets are unedited

READERS' FORUM

Social media

Mickey Mouse, roller coasters, Dole Whips, and churros: these are the captivating classics I expected to hear about as I eagerly listened to my friend's account of her recent trip to Disneyland. Quickly noticing her shallow tone, I asked why she wasn't more excited about her vacation. Her response, "Oh, I just didn't get any good pictures to post," caused me to question.

"The Happiest Place on Earth," I kept reminding myself. Happiest. If my friend really was in the happiest place on earth, why wasn't she happy? This unsettling conversation made me realize that unfortunately, the confining pressures of social media's influence not only affect my friend, but thousands nationwide.

The fabricated need to get the "perfect picture" is an all-too familiar trap. This flawed perception is perpetuated by millions of online users, dependent on double taps, retweets and favorites that serve as validating evidence of approval — as if the attempt to quantify joy was not an endeavor done so in vain. Imagine a world where that wasn't the case.

Living life for the amusement of others isn't living. Life is meant to discover, explore, create and love the many things worth loving in this world — for ourselves, free from the perceived pressure to let everyone around us know. This is not meant to undermine the good that comes from sharing amazing experiences with friends. Rather, I am referring to the societal delusion that posting is necessary for validation.

Imagine experiencing the beautiful sunsets this world has to offer through our own lens, rather than that of a lifeless device. Imagine cherishing the radiant smile of a loved one, sheltered from the preying eyes of Snapchat viewers. Imagine traveling to a magically captivating place, yes, even Disneyland, with the conviction to no longer fall victim to the pressing degradation of social media's lies. We would then be firm believers that if you didn't post, it really did happen. Imagine that.

—Rachel Seminario
North Salt Lake, Utah

World languages

Mamuyuth miñay? Ijan man maath'a. Odds are you have no idea what that means. Unfortunately there are thousands of languages, including this one, that are about to die. Of the roughly 7,000 languages that exist in our world today, it's predicted that about half will become extinct by 2100. However, there are so many cultural and intellectual connections with these languages that they need to be protected and preserved.

As you can probably guess, a lot of these languages aren't written down. Instead those who speak the language pass down their histories and stories orally. A lot of these stories and songs are in the language of their ancestors because that's what they spoke and knew. Now that so many of these languages are dying, there's no way to

preserve these oral accounts. These kinds of stories and histories could be lost as these languages die.

Each and every one of those languages has a unique culture attached to it. They can't be separated, and for good reason. They develop together. As people look to their surroundings and try to express what is happening, they use their language to explain what's going on. That creative process of expressing themselves is embodied in their language and stays with that culture. When that language dies, the culture and all of its rich history will go with it.

It may be hard for some people to see how dying languages affect them. Let's go back to the first sentence to see why it does.

That is the Kumeyaay language, a native language of my home town, San Diego, California. The language has as few as 50 native speakers. Growing up, I was able to visit parts of the Kumeyaay land and to see their culture. Though I wasn't part of the Kumeyaay tribe, I still saw how much it impacted them and their culture. It was sad to see how much of it was lost and how sad it made them. With all that is already lost, we need to work together to preserve languages while we still can.

—Matthew Wallace
San Diego, California

Microwaves in the Cougarreat

One day, after my classes were over, I found myself in the Cougarreat anxious to eat my chicken and rice. Before I could enjoy it, though, I needed to wait in line for about 10 minutes to access a microwave. It was too long. But as I sat down and began to eat, the line increased to over 25 people. Waiting this long to heat up last night's alfredo is unacceptable.

We need to increase the number of microwaves in the Cougarreat so the lines will be reduced, thus providing a greater experience for students. In college it seems like students have everything to do and no time to do it. I'm usually rushing from one class to another, and I'd rather not spend my time in between waiting in line. If there were more microwaves at the Cougarreat I wouldn't have to worry about that. We can save the lines for Chick-fil-A.

Shorter lines would also mean preserving harmony. Throughout my expansive 23 years on this earth, I've witnessed people brought to their wit's end who cause disruptions or are contentious with each other in line. These kinds of interactions are not beneficial if we want to keep the Spirit with us.

To some, increasing the number of microwaves at BYU might not be seen as a priority. But since the allocation of resources could be easily exercised, it just makes sense. Together we can work to make this happen. And if we do, the next time you enter the Cougarreat you too can enjoy the benefits of the reheated.

—Jared Pepper
Rome, Georgia

OPINION OUTPOST

The Opinion Outpost features opinions and commentary on the latest hot topics from national news sources.

Sexual misconduct on campuses

Last week, the Utah House of Representatives advanced legislation that aims to add another layer of protection against predation for college students. HB287 is not a comprehensive solution to a frightening problem of sexual misconduct on college campuses and elsewhere; however, it is a step in the right direction that should be paired with increasingly vigilant campus policies against exploitation of minors and young adults.

—Editorial Board
Deseret News

Air pollution

The death-dealing air

pollution that so often hangs over the Wasatch Front has many thousands of causes. With no single smokestack that could be plugged, no particular activity that could be banned, and no one political or regulatory act that could heap credit on a specific elected official or agency, doing anything to face the problem always seemed like someone else's job.

That's why it is such good news that at least some members of the Utah Legislature seem to be facing up to the fact that, with no silver bullet available to slay our air quality problem, it is time to get off as many shots as we can in as many different directions.

—Editorial Board
The Salt Lake Tribune

North Korea summit

Trump has been widely criticized for being too eager to "make a deal" and overconfident

in his ability to bond with foreign leaders. His decision to reject an unacceptable offer from Kim may reflect the counsel of harder-headed advisers, but the final decision was his. He has acted against type, and his critics should thank him for that.

—Editorial Board
Los Angeles Times

Venezuela

It must be clear that Mr. Juan Guaidó should be installed as interim leader only to allow for new, fair elections. Any suggestion that Mr. Guaidó was acting on behalf of Washington would undermine that message.

It may take more time, and it may require cutting a deal with Mr. Maduro that would grant him and his cronies safe passage to refuge elsewhere, but maintaining a vociferous front of the Venezuelan opposition and a broad array of countries of all ideological leanings remains, for now, the best

available option.

—Editorial Board
The New York Times

Open Meetings Act

Utah lawmakers are considering a bill that would dangerously erode the state's Open Meetings Act, allowing members of a public board to review the preliminary findings of an audit regarding their agency in secret with legal counsel to counter what are perceived to be errors. The result could be

secret deals to resolve inconvenient matters privately, without public knowledge or input, before the final draft of an audit becomes public.

—Editorial Board
Deseret News

Islamic State fighters

President Trump's hypocrisy seldom comes packaged in such a neat bundle as it did recently when he insisted that European

governments "take back" hundreds of their citizens captured while fighting for the Islamic State. Five days later, he proudly asserted the United States refuses to do the same in the case of an American woman who married three Islamic State fighters and is now in custody in Syria.

Those who cannot be convicted and go free will also impose a burden on intelligence and domestic security agencies. Unfortunately, there's no better option.

—Editorial Board
The Washington Post

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

The Universe encourages students, faculty and BYU staff to add their voice to ours by writing letters to the editor and guest editorials, or by submitting editorial cartoons.

- All letters should be submitted by email to universe.ideas@gmail.com. The topic of the letter should be included in the subject line.
- Letters should also include the author's name, hometown (for students), campus position (for faculty and staff) and phone number. Anonymous letters will

not be published.

- Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length, clarity or style.
 - Guest editorials should be 500 to 700 words and are encouraged from individuals with professional or academic expertise on the topic.
 - Original cartoons are also welcome.
- Opinion editor Josh Carter can be reached at universe.ideas@gmail.com.



Emma Wiles

BYU freshman swimmer Brynn Sprout swims a freestyle sprint at the pool in the Richards Building. Sprout is one of the youngest Olympic prospects to come out of BYU at age 18. She has been competing at the collegiate level for about four months.

Freshman qualifies for 2020 Olympic trials

By ROBERT JAMIAS

Brynn Sprout is everything you'd expect when picturing an Olympic prospect. She stands tall at five-foot-eleven with an athletic build. Her dad, Willie Sprout, says she's incredibly tenacious, and her coach, Yolanda Bates, says she's a natural-born leader.

What you might not expect of Sprout is her age. At just 18 years old, Sprout is one of the youngest BYU Olympic prospects. As a freshman, Sprout has only been competing at the collegiate level for about four months.

Sprout has always wanted to qualify

for the Olympic trials — she just never expected it to be so soon.

"It was at nationals when I got my cut," she said. "It had been a goal of mine. I wasn't expecting to get it that soon. It was a good surprise. I had a really good evening and it just came."

Sprout qualified for the trials after an impressive performance at the recent national meet. Sprout placed 11th with an official time of 1:02.67 in the 100-meter backstroke.

Sprout first began working toward her Olympic goal in high school under the guidance of her coach Lorena Diaconescu. Under Diaconescu, Sprout said she began to make the serious needed improvements to her backstroke.

Now at BYU, Sprout works closely

with her new swimming coach Yolanda Bates to continue the progress she began in high school.

"We're still getting used to each other because she's just a freshman," Bates said. "We're still trying to figure out what works for her and how can I can motivate her and keep her working hard."

While the swimmer-coach duo is still navigating their new relationship, Bates said she has high hopes for her athlete.

"As we work with each other and she develops, she is going to get better," Bates said. "I'm looking forward to our goal."

Bates isn't the only one looking forward to Sprout's upcoming appearance at the Olympic trials. Sprout's

father, Willie Sprout, is also rooting for his daughter's success.

"I remember when BYU (was first) interested to have her swim," he said. "We just felt like, 'Wow, that's amazing. I can't believe it.' Then being able to get the Olympic (trials), I was so happy for her."

While Sprout's talent in the pool is undeniable, her father asserts it's her tenacity that really sets the young Olympic prospect apart from her peers.

"She always was tenacious," he said. "When she ever started something, she tried her best. She just would get this determined, intense face, and she would just keep coming. She would never relent. She would never back down."

Hockey falls to USU in regional finals

By NATALIE ORR

BYU hockey came one step closer to nationals in Tempe, Arizona, when the team shut out Grand Canyon University at the ACHA West Regional Tournament March 1. However, the team fell to USU in the finals, marking the end of record breaking season.

The 2019 season brought drastic changes to BYU hockey, including a new head coach and a 19-9 record, a program high. Last season, BYU finished the season with a 12-12 record.

Team captain Barber Nixon said he felt this season would be different and had faith the team would make it this far.

"We didn't go into this season thinking, 'Oh, we want to finish ranked' or 'We just want a high record,'" Nixon said. "No, we wanted to go all the way."

The Cougars and Lopes faced off Nov. 9 on GCU's home turf and BYU won 2-1. Last year, No. 7 BYU went head-to-head against No. 6 GCU at the 2018 Western Division Regional Playoffs at Oceanside Arena, resulting in a 2-0 loss for the Cougars.

Since then, BYU captured the Wasatch Cup and the Mountain West Conference title for the first time in program history. This success led senior captain Ashton Shimbashi to believe the 2019 regional matchup would turn out differently.

"The team feels pretty confident because we've grown so much," Shimbashi said. "We're healthy and we've done so much preparation."

The Cougars shut out GCU 4-0 in the exact same arena March 1. Replacing



Mindy Pitcher

BYU forward Dmitri Wheeler takes a hit from a GCU defenseman in a game March 1. USU brought the Cougars' season to an end in the regional finals.

former head coach Ed Gantt, new head coach Dave Pitcher said he knew this win would be important for the team's morale.

"Grand Canyon was ranked slightly higher than us and we wanted to prove that we were capable and able to play at the national tournament," Pitcher said. "I think we sent that message by shutting them out."

BYU headed into regionals on a six-game winning streak and the team's momentum proved to be intact. Within the first 16 minutes of the GCU game, the teams remained even until right winger Chase Christensen found the back of the net, scoring the first goal of the game.

His groove carried into the second period when within five minutes,

Christensen struck again. A mere three minutes later, he logged a natural hat trick, leaving the Lopes trailing 3-0.

BYU gave GCU several opportunities to even the score because of penalties; however, GCU failed to convert during various power plays. With only 1:28 left in the third period, BYU topped off its win with one final goal by junior Chandler Cattelain, bringing the final score to 4-0.

Heading into the game, Pitcher said he felt the team would have the greatest success if no GCU player went without pressure.

"I told the boys before the game that I wanted a blue jersey on those guys every time they touched the puck and that's what we did," Pitcher said. "We

were all over them."

In addition to Christensen's stand-out performance, junior Jared Manzella logged a shutout, stopping all 25 shots on goal.

A particular advantage Pitcher felt his team had over GCU is that BYU is accustomed to playing on Olympic-sized rinks. According to measurements, an Olympic hockey rink is 15 feet wider than an NHL sized rink.

"My feeling is that our boys are pretty quick on Olympic-size ice and when we get on NHL size ice it makes them even faster," Pitcher said. "At least quicker to the puck because the rink is that much smaller."

The game marked the first time in the last two years the gap surpassed two goals between the rivals. It was also the first time the Cougars had only one game holding them back from advancing onto the ACHA D2 National Tournament.

Heading into the final game of the tournament on March 2, BYU prepared to face No. 9 USU for the seventh time this season. BYU won all but one of the teams' six previous matchups. Winning the Wasatch Cup and the regular season title in the Mountain West Conference included beating out USU in both occasions during the final game.

Headed into regionals as the ninth seed, USU needed to win three games to advance. On Feb. 28, the Aggies beat out No. 12 University of Texas-El Paso 6-4. The following night, USU scraped by with a 3-2 win against No. 4 MSU Denver, propelling them toward the finals against BYU.

Less than four minutes after the puck drop, BYU's freshman Hugh

Blum put the puck in the net, but USU quickly replied with a goal of its own. The Cougars successfully converted a power play late in the first period, giving them a 2-1 lead heading into the middle frame thanks to a Christensen goal.

USU took a 3-2 lead during the second period after scoring a pair of goals. Meanwhile, BYU hit a dry spell. In the final period of the game, the Aggies doubled their lead with a goal on the power play. BYU fought until the end, bringing the score to 4-3 with 31 seconds left in the game. In the end, the Aggies received the payback they desired after BYU beat them out for the previously mentioned titles.

Even though the team didn't end regionals on a high, Pitcher walked away with an important lesson: BYU belongs.

"We can definitely compete at that level," Pitcher said. "We all felt that we could win because we shut out GCU and they've been ranked in the top 10 all season long."

Pitcher is grateful to have a nearly identical team along with a few potential newcomers, as only two seniors will be leaving.

"The boys are close and we're tight knit," Pitcher said. "We'll carry that over into the next season and be off to a good start."

With the road to nationals closed, BYU can celebrate the fact that its season ended one step further than the last.

"I told our players after the game that we have to look at all the good things that happened this season," Pitcher said. "It had a lot of positives, a lot of big firsts."

Men's ultimate team glides over competition

By EMILEE ERICKSON

BYU Men's CHI Ultimate team is determined to remain one of the top ultimate teams in the country after beating the No. 2 seed Carleton College and No. 5 seed Pittsburgh at the Florida Warm Up tournament in early February.

Men's CHI Ultimate is the club team for BYU's men's ultimate, a sport previously known as Ultimate Frisbee. CHI stands for "competition, humility and integrity."

As a club team, CHI Ultimate it is not funded by BYU and has to cover its own costs. The team does not have access to campus gyms, practice fields or trainers.

The program hosts a number of clinics, leagues and high school camps each year that help raise money. Team alumni, parents and fans also participate in an annual fundraising drive. Through these efforts, the team raises about \$50,000 yearly. The players pay the rest of the fees through team dues each season.

"We pay for our plane tickets, but we are usually able to coordinate with local bishoprics to find members who house us while we are there so we don't have to pay for hotels," first-year player Logan Clarke said.

The team competes in four to five tournaments across the country every winter semester. CHI often gets put in pools with tough teams because the team



Joseph Merrill leaps for a flying disc while being defended. Merrill said the CHI Ultimate team has taught him he can do "incredible things." Scan the **UNIVERSE PLUS** app logo to read or listen to a Portuguese translation of this story.

Taylor Larsen and Jenna Brittner



doesn't play on Sundays.

"They allow us to participate in pool play or match play leading up to the bracket each Sunday," head coach Bryce Merrill said. "It's disappointing to not get the opportunity to go head-to-head with these teams in bracket play, but a number of tournament directors have gone to great lengths

to accommodate our schedule restrictions and give us the chance to compete against some of the best squads in the country."

USA Ultimate, the governing body of ultimate teams across the nation, hosts a three-round postseason each April and May where twenty teams compete in the national championships. With a current No. 3 ranking, CHI would be expected to qualify for this year's event and advance as far as the semifinals or finals. Unfortunately, both the national championship and the two qualifying tournaments leading up to it require

Sunday play.

CHI has earned a postseason bid in each of the last four years and has worked to petition USA Ultimate to allow the team to participate with a modified schedule. The request has yet to be granted.

"We'll continue to work with them to hopefully offer a system of modified scheduling similar to what has been provided by the NCAA and other national governing bodies," Merrill said.

The team is a mix of returning players and newcomers, many of whom played ultimate competitively in high school. This CHI team brings both experience and versatility.

"This year we returned a lot of players and our team is very young. I think that means that we play with a lot of energy and physicality, and we have a ton of potential this year and in the years to come to be a very good team," Clarke said.

Not only do the players gain knowledge and experience from competing with this team, but they also learn about themselves spiritually. According to players, CHI has provided many positive memories and lessons.

"It's taught me that I can do incredible things and that each of us can. We have such great potential, and it's really our choice to live up to that potential or to stay in the comfortable zone where we'll never grow," team captain Joseph Merrill said. "BYU CHI has also helped me trust God more and has strengthened my testimony."

The No. 3 ranked CHI's recently went 2-2 in the Stanford Invite tournament, which took place March 2. It is considered one of the most competitive tournaments as only top 20 teams are invited.



Ari Davis

Taysom Hill breaks a tackle in a game against Utah State. Hill applied the medical redshirt rule and sat on the sidelines in 2015 to give himself an extra year of competition on the field.

Officials clarify NCAA eligibility

By EMILEE ERICKSON

The NCAA is filled with rules and regulations that can be confusing and lead to misconceptions.

A common misconception is that NCAA eligibility requirements for freshmen are the same as college admission requirements. BYU assistant compliance coordinator Britanni Nelson said just because someone is admitted to a university does not mean they are automatically eligible to play an NCAA sport at a Division I school their freshman year.

"Likewise, just because someone meets the requirements to be eligible to play an NCAA sport doesn't mean that they will be admitted to the school of their choice," Nelson said.

Student athletes need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center to compete at any Division I school. Incoming student athletes are subject to academic initial eligibility standards that include standardized test scores, the number of core courses taken in high school and the grades earned in core courses.

BYU Athletic Director Tom Holmoe addressed the admission requirements for athletes wishing to attend BYU in his media address Jan. 29.

"It's already been lowered to admit a number of student athletes in most of our programs," Holmoe said. "It's an extraordinary school with great standards. I'm grateful that they give us the opportunity to bring in kids that are below a certain level."

Athletes wishing to attend NCAA-affiliated schools must also meet university acceptance requirements. These requirements might exceed or be lower than NCAA standards.

"Getting admitted to school and being certified as eligible by the NCAA are two totally different processes with completely different standards," Nelson said.

Each university has a compliance office, which ensures its department and university comply with NCAA rules and

regulations. The office works to educate about the rules, interpret what they mean, monitor them and consequently report violations when necessary.

BYU assistant athletic director of compliance Chad Gwilliam oversees an office of four full-time employees, including himself, and two law students who assist them.

"We help in all components of NCAA rules including but not limited to academics, financial aid, extra benefits, playing and practice seasons (and) amateurism," Gwilliam said.

Student athletes commit to academic achievement and the pursuit of a degree. They are required to meet yearly standards to be able to compete. These progress-toward-degree rules require athletes to advance toward graduation each year. College athletes' progress is monitored by grades, minimum credit hours per year and degree progress.

"Most of the time when student athletes might run into problems with NCAA eligibility, it has to do with switching majors or transferring from another school and less to do with grades," BYU compliance director Kyle Leslie said.

Starting in the 2019-20 academic year, NCAA revenue will be tied to academic achievement for Division I schools. The NCAA has always distributed funds to aid schools whose students need academic help; this is the first time the money schools receive from the NCAA will be determined by students' academic achievement.

Division I student athletes have five calendar years in which they can play four seasons of competition. The clock begins when athletes enroll as full-time students and does not stop if students transfer, redshirt or attend school part-time. However, leaves of absence for a mission, mental health or family issues do not count toward the five-calendar years.

Some student athletes who have experienced severe injuries pursue a medical hardship waiver to preserve a season of eligibility. If the NCAA grants a medical hardship, it gives the student athlete an additional year of competition eligibility.

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Simple Bites

EASY PARMESAN GARLIC ROLLS

For 1	For 2	4 or more	
2 rolls	4 rolls	8 rolls	frozen dinner rolls
1 tbsp	2 tbsp	4 tbsp	butter
1 tbsp	2 tbsp	4 tbsp	grated parmesan cheese
1 pinch	1/8 tsp	1/4 tsp	garlic powder
1/8 tsp	1/4 tsp	1/2 tsp	parsley
1/8 tsp	1/4 tsp	1/2 tsp	basil

Melt butter in small bowl.
Add cheese, garlic powder, parsley and basil.
Mix well until fully blended.
Grease or spray a small baking pan.
Dip frozen roll into mixture and place in prepared baking pan.
Rolls should be closer together in pan. Use appropriate sized baking pan for desired amounts.
Cover with dish towel and allow to rise in a warm area.
Rise until rolls are just above the edge of the baking pan.
Heat oven to 400 degrees and bake until golden brown.
Remove from oven allow to cool slightly.
Serve warm.

Scan the photos with the Universe Plus app to see a video demonstrating how to make this recipe.

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WHY IS YOUR EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SO LOW?

BECAUSE I'M RELATIVELY IMMUNE TO BRAINWASHING.

OKAY, I DIDN'T THINK YOU KNEW.

ASOK, YOUR EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT HAS BEEN A BIT SOFT THIS QUARTER.

I EXPECT A HIGHER LEVEL OF IRRATIONAL ENTHUSIASM FOR THE ENDLESS STRING OF THANKLESS TASKS YOU CALL YOUR JOB.

HOW'S THIS?

I ALSO WANT TO SEE AN UNNATURAL PREFERENCE FOR WORK OVER LEISURE.

Peanuts®

WOODSTOCK JUST RETURNED FROM THE OTHER END OF THE DOGHOUSE

SPRING MUST BE NEAR.

I JUST READ SOMETHING THAT AMAZED ME...

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE SPEND ONE-THIRD OF OUR LIVES SLEEPING?

SOME TYPES SPEND NINE-TENTHS OF THEIR LIVES SLEEPING...

I'M GOING TO PRETEND I DIDN'T HEAR THAT!

Garfield®

I LIKE TO THINK BEFORE I ACT

AND THINK AND THINK AND THINK...

I'M GOING TO READ A BOOK A DAY!

WOW, THIS IS LONG. MAYBE A BOOK A WEEK

OH, FORGET IT. I'LL GO SEE A MOVIE BASED ON A BOOK

OR JUST WATCH THE TRAILER

Pickles®

EARL, WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME THOSE PANTS WERE WASHED?

I DON'T KNOW. WHO KEEPS TRACK?

WHY DO YOU ASK? DO THEY LOOK DIRTY?

THERE'S A SMOOSHED MARSHMALLOW SANTA STUCK TO YOUR SEAT.

I THINK I NEED NEW GLASSES. I CAN'T SEE WORTH BEANS WITH THESE!

ME EITHER! I KEEP WIPING THESE LENSES BUT EVERYTHING'S STILL FUZZY.

OOOPS!

WE TELL NO ONE ABOUT THIS!

Non Sequitur®

FEEDING TIME ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE DENIERS' CRUISE

AND FOR THE SIDE, I'D LIKE A BAKED POTATO WITH BUTTER, CHEESE AND SOUR CREAM, BUT THE CLARE FROM MY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SAYS I'LL HAVE A SALAD

WAY MARRIED MEN LIVE LONGER

Zits®

I JUST BINGE-WATCHED A SEASON OF 'TIDYING UP' AND I'M PUMPED TO ORGANIZE SOMETHING!

LET'S TACKLE YOUR ROOM!

OKAY.

ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'D BETTER GO WATCH IT AGAIN...

IS THERE AN EPISODE ON AVALANCHES?

THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD ORGANIZE IS YOUR CLOTHING

THE BEST WAY TO DO IT IS TO TAKE EVERYTHING OUT OF YOUR CLOSET AND PILE IT ON THE FLOOR!

I'M WAY AHEAD OF YOU THERE, MOM.

SO YOU ARE.

Sudoku

Use the numbers 1-9 once in each row, column and marked grid of 9. Puzzles increase in difficulty from left to right. Solutions are at universe.byu.edu/sudoku.

7								4	9		2			7	1		7	6		9	8	3		7													
	6	9						3	7		1	7		8		6			7		4			6	2			7									
	4	1	2		8	5	6		2	4	5		3		7	2		4				1			2												
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8								2	6			8		3	9		6	8		7				9		9		4	6								

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0128

ACROSS

- Joint that a sock covers
- Small recess
- Karl Marx's "Kapital"
- Country star Tucker
- Theater worker
- Month with Columbus Day; Abbr.
- Giving away unwanted items rather than trashing them
- Second letter after epsilon
- Rage
- Luau dance
- Absorbs, as gravy on a plate
- Broccoli
- Clark of the Daily Planet
- Obsessive to a fault
- The Supremes' "I In the Name of Love"
- Extra job in the gig economy
- Gin's partner in a classic drink
- Look at, in the Bible
- Put in more ammunition
- Greeting in Tel Aviv
- Lessons, as pain
- Alternatives to Nikes
- Dramatically end a speech, in a way
- Result of a traffic ticket
- Many, many, many, many, many moos
- Hanker (for)
- Ex-senator Bayh
- "Hold your horses"
- Tear to bits
- Mind's I?
- Reaction to an overshare
- Crowdfunding site ... or a hint to the beginnings of 17-, 30- and 46-Across
- Goal
- Inventor Howe
- Prefix between tri- and penta-
- Martial arts master Bruce
- What a star on the American flag represents
- Slightly off

DOWN

- Initially
- Holden Caulfield, for "The Catcher in the Rye"
- Patella
- Chemical compound with the formula NaOH
- Made for ___ other
- Centers of atoms
- Components of archipelagos
- Second letter after upsilon
- Roosters' mates
- Therefore
- "Crime ___ pay"
- Real
- Alternative to a paper clip
- Hardy-har-hars
- Previous incarnation
- Disorder resulting in seizures
- Bagful carried by a caddie
- When repeated, a sneaky laugh
- Mil. branch with B-52s
- Paint layer
- Wood for a baseball bat
- Profound
- Classic typewriter brand
- Bosses
- Look smugly upon
- Madrid matrons
- Insurance type that often accompanies medical
- Dormmate, e.g.
- Punctual
- Existing; Lat.
- Coin with Lincoln on it
- Barely makes, with "out"
- Pinball fail
- Facts and figures
- Spying org.
- Band with the 1993 hit "Everybody Hurts"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PASHA OSLO SON
 FREED CAROM UZI
 TIFORAKING PAX
 TAO ABEL MERE
 NATIONALPARKS
 SCHMIDT NEAR
 HEAPS SKETCHUP
 URL TREAD INO
 TALKSHOW LOTUS
 ICED ABOUTME
 THEWOLETRUTH
 HEMI AMOR ECO
 ELM CIVILRIGHTS
 FLY ODELL TIARA
 TAS DORY SLYLILY

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0128

ACROSS

- Barred from competition, briefly
- Prefix with economics
- Sportsbook offering
- Liqueur with a licorice-like flavor
- Psychologist Alfred
- Stumble around in a daze
- Empty talk not backed by action
- Screenwriter James of "The African Queen"
- Santa ___, Calif.
- Slender
- Play loudly, as music
- Like all natural numbers; Abbr.
- Boost after appearing on a certain old Comedy Central show
- Malia Obama's sister
- Use an oar
- Lion in the heavens
- In effect
- Arkin of "Catch-22"
- Product from RCA or LG
- Something traced to draw a turkey
- Get, as from a will
- "___ the least I can do"
- Groceries holder
- Sedan alternative
- Symbol of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad
- Upper extreme, informally
- Stockpile
- Work without ___
- Gift for which you might reply "Mahalo"
- Happening now, as a telecast
- Sport hinted at by the ends of 17-, 24-, 36- and 47-Across
- Universal donor type, for short
- Paragon
- Christmastime
- Exchanges "I do's"
- Sounds from a pet owner's lap
- Column on a flight board, for short
- Practice swimming
- Trendy food from the Andes
- Toll method on the New Jersey Turnpike
- Uno + uno
- Kingpin on "The Wire"
- Excedrin competitor
- Do some mountaineering
- DVR button
- Molybdenite, for molybdenum
- Toothpaste brand
- Airport named for a president
- Venison
- Take some time to consider
- Break free
- Texter's segue

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MLKJR TSKS VALES
 EJEIO OHIO IDOE
 WINGS SPREAD EVER
 SCARES TWIBE
 CYD OWEN NISSAN
 REUBEN DID ERE
 YORE STPETE
 WATCHYOURSTEP
 HOPESORALOP
 GAB IPO CAREOF
 ADREPS FIAT AOC
 WHAMS NIMROD
 KEPI LANDSLIDES
 ERAT ESAULEERS
 REDS DALE STERN

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0129

ACROSS

- Orange Muppet
- Whirler on a whirlybird
- "Please ___" (secretary's words)
- Water with the Alps in its logo
- Men's gymnastics event
- Bit of volcanic fallout
- Apropos of
- Luke Skywalker's home planet
- Forced into bondage
- Fine point
- Poker variant in which the worst set of cards splits the pot
- The first "B" of B&B
- German mark
- Spanish rice dish
- Banishes
- Bottom of the barrel
- Primitive kind of diet
- Holiday guest that a couple might fight over
- Starting points in shipbuilding
- Get-up-and-go
- Payment of tribute?
- "Ciao!"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

25 Orange Muppet
 26 Whirler on a whirlybird
 28 "Please ___" (secretary's words)
 32 Water with the Alps in its logo
 33 Men's gymnastics event
 34 Bit of volcanic fallout
 35 Apropos of
 36 Luke Skywalker's home planet
 37 Forced into bondage
 38 Fine point
 39 Poker variant in which the worst set of cards splits the pot
 42 The first "B" of B&B
 44 German mark
 45 Spanish rice dish
 46 Banishes
 48 Bottom of the barrel
 49 Primitive kind of diet
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 51 Starting points in shipbuilding
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 59 "Ciao!"

Students pursue plastic bag tax in Provo

By MAXWELL ATWOOD

Utah native Annie Hayward has always enjoyed the outdoors. It wasn't until a year ago following a discussion with her husband that her perspective on the earth dramatically changed.

The discussion started when Hayward's husband shared his insights from his biology class, saying, "The earth gives so much to us, and we never give anything back." Hayward and her husband set a goal that day to be more conscious about protecting the environment, including by taking reusable bags to the grocery store.

Hayward began researching environmental issues pertinent to the Provo area, specifically those dealing with plastic bags, when she came across facts and statistics she called "nuts." Research collected by Sen. Jani Iwamoto, D-Salt Lake City, states Utahns use around 940 million plastic bags each year.

She also discovered Utah, along with states like Nevada, Colorado and Wyoming, doesn't recycle plastic bags because they get caught in the recycling machine gears, according to Rocky Mountain Recycling Vice President Larry Gibbons and Provo Sanitation Manager Bryce Rolph.

Hayward thought a possible solution could be a tax on plastic bags in Provo, an idea she pitched to the Earth Stewardship Club, BYU's environmental club. The group was enthusiastic to help and started the campaign Bag Responsibly to encourage local government to implement a plastic bag tax.

The club plans to present its idea for taxing plastic bags to Provo City Council in the spring or summer, Hayward said.

Currently, the club is trying to raise awareness about plastic bags' effects on the environment and how taxing plastic bags could aid in their eventual ban by gaining community support.

"It's tough," Hayward said. "I feel like all of my friends that are my age are like, 'Yeah, that's awesome,' but older generations — I think that's going to be the harder one."

Hayward said the club is in contact with George Handley, a Provo City Council member who is highly supportive of their efforts and the introduction of a plastic bag tax.

Because the Earth Stewardship Club is a student-run club with limited resources, Hayward has turned to other students who have used their various skills to push the campaign forward.

Rachel Lopez is a sophomore studying business at BYU and member of the Earth Stewardship Club. She currently does marketing work for a family cabinetry business, which she said is counterintuitive with an environmental initiative since the company is cutting down trees. However, she said she feels a sense of responsibility to give back.

"Something my dad always taught me was you have to be responsible, so if we want to continue our business, we have to look for ways to be sustainable and to give back," Lopez said. "I have always seen protecting the earth as an economic benefit as well."

Lopez said grocery stores that provide plastic bags are one obstacle. A good way to get stores on board with the initiative will be by educating them, she said, and she is currently working on a paper she hopes will do exactly that.

Plastic bags are not free for retailers. Retailers pay for bags and pass the cost to consumers. According to the Conservation Law Foundation, the plastic bag industry collects \$4 billion each year in profits from U.S. retailers. If a plastic bag tax were implemented, it could lead consumers to buy reusable bags, saving both the consumer and the store money.

Madison Healy, a junior



Emma Willes

Reusable produce bags act as an alternative to plastic bags. Members of BYU's Earth Stewardship Club are campaigning for a plastic bag tax in Provo.

studying biology who is planning to study environmental law, said she is helping the club with the legal aspects of taxing plastic bags in Provo. Additionally, she knows members of the Provo Sustainability and Natural Resources Committee who club members were able to meet with on Tuesday, Feb. 19.

"We were really looking for their feedback because a lot of them have been residents of Provo their entire life. We wanted to see what their insights were, what they thought, whether or not they thought it would be passed," Healy said. "We were able to get good feedback from them."

Healy said the committee was enthusiastic about the club's

efforts; however, committee members mentioned that realistically this is something that might not happen for a long time.

The only two cities in Utah with a plastic bag ban are Park City and Moab. Logan is currently considering its own ban.

"I feel like people in Park City care a lot about skiing, and they are seeing the direct effects of climate change there in their community," Healy said. "I feel like people here can easily be blinded to that, and they can just say, 'Really it's not that big of a deal.'"

Healy said club members will need to obtain four of the seven council members' votes to pass the plastic bag tax in Provo.

A tax on plastic bags could range anywhere from 25 to 50 cents, Healy said. The city will decide the logistics of where the money will go if the tax passes.

While taxing bags does not solve the issue, it does create a conversation about the efforts the city is taking to be more environmentally conscious. Healy said once a community recognizes and starts talking about an issue, it's more likely to be open to changes necessary to fix it.

HB320, sponsored by Rep. Mike McKell, R-Spanish Fork, in the Utah Legislature, would prohibit cities from regulating or charging fees for plastic bags and containers. The bill passed the House Natural Resources,

Agriculture and Environment Committee Feb. 25 but was put on hold by the House March 1.

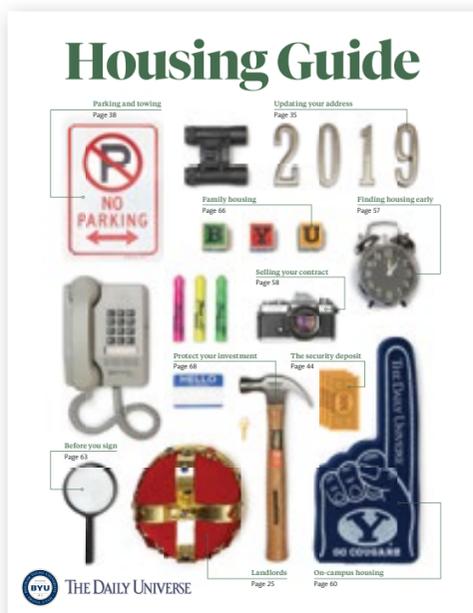
McKell has publicly stated the bill's aim is to achieve marketplace consistency. He is concerned some cities like Park City and Moab choose to ban plastic bags while others may choose to charge a fee and some do nothing.

All of those interviewed agreed that even if they are unsuccessful in passing a plastic bag tax in Provo, the process of pursuing it will at least raise awareness and call attention to the issue.

Members of the club started a petition seeking community support in favor of the Provo plastic bag tax.

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