

THE UNIVERSE

Serving the Brigham Young University Community

Extramural teams reflect on season cancellations

By UNIVERSE STAFF

March 12, 2020, is a date that will long be embedded in the minds of sports fans throughout the world. Beginning with the NBA, professional sports leagues across the country began to accept the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic until eventually every professional sport was suspended.

The NCAA and universities throughout the country followed suit, and the remainder of the winter and spring seasons for all extramural, club and NCAA-sanctioned sports were canceled shortly thereafter.

“My initial reaction is similar to how I still feel now — confused, angry, but mostly sad,” women’s lacrosse senior Haley Harris said. “To go from playing lacrosse every single day to never being able to be a part of a team like this again is heartbreaking.”

Men’s soccer

The BYU men’s soccer team was riding the high of an undefeated fall season that ended in a national championship as players geared up for what head coach Brandon Gilliam called the “toughest spring schedule the program had ever faced.”

The team was excited to prove, once again, that it did belong atop the rankings of the college soccer world.

“There was just a ton of anticipation around (the spring season),” senior Seth Fankhauser said. “All of us were so excited at the prospect of showing out and proving ourselves against some big-name teams.”

Freshman Chris Jenkinson was particularly excited, having decided to postpone his mission service for a few months in order to gain valuable playing experience in the spring. Several members of his extended family had booked flights and hotels to come see him start as keeper in BYU’s spring season debut at UNLV on March 13.

The day before the team was to leave for Las Vegas, Gilliam received a phone call from UNLV head coach Liam Connors, who told Gilliam that the game had been canceled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

“To see my family’s love and support, and then to have to tell them my



Six BYU extramural sports teams’ seasons came to an abrupt end due to the COVID-19 pandemic. From top left, Emily Briggs, lacrosse; Weston Haas, lacrosse; David Nonu, rugby; Cade Hyde, racquetball; BYU men’s soccer team; Briana Arnold, lacrosse. Scan the image with the *Universe Plus* app to read a Spanish translation of this story.

Photos by Elisa Huhem, Addie Blacker and BYU Photo

season was canceled, it was crushing,” Jenkinson said.

Women’s rugby

BYU women’s rugby was looking forward to the remainder of the 2020 season after outscoring its first seven opponents, 415-0. The Cougars were ranked No. 1 in the Pacific Desert Rugby Conference despite not playing a single home game.

Speculation about COVID-19’s potential effect on the season floated around the Indoor Practice Facility as the team held what would end up being its final practice on March 13.

Shortly thereafter, universities across the country began to announce their move to remote learning in order to keep students safe from the virus. As a result, the rugby season came to an abrupt halt.

Within hours, team members were told that the remainder of their practices and games were canceled, as well as the postseason. BYU’s chance to defend its national championship vanished.

“(Once the news broke), we met up at Sonic and just kind of mourned,” junior Kacey Sorenson said. “We have some really motivated seniors. It was

hard to watch them absorb everything that was happening and knowing that they had put in so much work and heart into the sport and into the team. For me, that was the hardest part — seeing how deeply it impacted the seniors.”

The team received permission to hold an end-of-year banquet before squad members left campus, so they gathered in the Wilkinson Student Center to reminisce about their successful season and to honor the seniors. Although bittersweet, the event helped bring a sense of closure to the season.

See *EXTRAMURALS* on Page 6

BYU international students face added hardships during pandemic

By DIEGO CALDERON

COVID-19 is affecting more than 1,000 BYU international students that cannot go home because of various countries’ travel regulations.

U.S. officials have also implemented regulations to stop the mass spread of COVID-19 that have impacted BYU international students.

BYU has international students from many different nations, each of which is responding to COVID-19 in different ways. For instance, several countries like Spain, Peru and Canada have closed their borders through land, air and sea. However, in countries like Mexico, the borders are still open. In other countries, like Peru, individuals are required to quarantine for 15 days as soon as they set foot in the country.

Along with these restrictions, some international students do not feel supported and have reported facing racism on social media.

Helena He, a genetics and biotech student from Guangzhou, China, has seen how the Asian community has been impacted since the early stages of COVID-19 in Asia. She said before the use of face masks became mandated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were Asian-Americans who didn’t want to wear them in public because they were afraid of discrimination.

“I have experienced online discrimination,” she said. “Being in the community, I heard some people being told racist comments toward them, as well.”

For He, COVID-19 has not only affected her in Provo, it has also affected her family in China.

“My family is still in China. But, my father is still (stuck) at his hometown, Hubei, where the outbreak started,” she said. “The Chinese community is well aware of the situation, and we feel involved. We are making sure students have enough supplies, so in that sense, we are trying to take care of our students.”

Many international students are struggling with their student visa paperwork. Some need to get a new student visa, but because of their countries’ regulations, it is impossible to travel without constraints. Others are fearful about whether they will be admitted into their country of origin.

Israel Selway, an art student from London, and her family have been living in Canada, even though she is an English citizen. Selway, who is the president of the Women of Color Club, said COVID-19 is endangering her status as an international student and her status as a Canadian resident.

For Selway, her Canadian residence and student visa expire soon. Therefore, she needs to leave the country to issue her visa.

“But if I leave (the U.S.) and come back, and they (the U.S.) will see that



Flags from over 70 countries hang in the Wilkinson Student Center. Scan the image with the *Universe Plus* app to read a Spanish translation of this story.

Preston Crawley

the visa is from Canada, and my I-20 from England, but I am not a resident of Canada anymore. They will be like, ‘What’s going on?’” Selway said.

Because Canada’s borders are closed to people who are not Canadian citizens, it is hard for Selway to go home and work out her visa situation. If she travels to England to issue her visa, she will not be able to go back to the U.S. or Canada because

of migratory regulations due to COVID-19.

Additionally, there are still international students working on campus whose work hours have been reduced, creating financial issues. In many cases, students depend on their on-campus job as their source of income that allows them to live in Provo.

See *HARDSHIPS* on Page 4

Members and temple workers react to temple reopenings

By LISI MERKLEY

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints announced the phased reopening of some temples.

On May 7, the Church said 17 temples in Utah, Idaho, Germany and Sweden would be opening on May 11 for live sealings of previously endowed members. On May 11, that number was doubled to 34 temples, including the Seoul Korea and Taiwan Taipei temples. These temples will reopen starting May 18.

“With profound gratitude to our Heavenly Father that He has heard our prayers, we rejoice in announcing a careful, phased reopening of temples,” says a letter from the First Presidency sent to all Church members.

Prior to the announcement, many members were civilly married or planning a civil marriage because temples were closed. Now members can make appointments for sealings.

BYU student David McFarland and his wife were married civilly in his mom’s backyard on April 3. They are planning to be sealed when more restrictions are lifted and his wife’s family, which currently lives in England, can attend.

“We’re already married and in a stable condition, so there isn’t a rush to get it done,” McFarland said. “I feel secure that we will make those covenants when the world has returned to a more normal state.”

Pleasant Grove resident Mary Kate Dickey was in the middle of planning her wedding when the announcement was made. She had planned a civil ceremony for May 22, but she and her fiancé, Garrett Southam, now have an appointment to get sealed on the same date in the Provo City Center Temple. “Every week there are new changes and different plans,” she said. “I feel like I’ve gone through a roller coaster of emotions.”

Dickey and Southam can invite six other people to the sealing and decided to just invite their parents. “I think it will be a very special experience. We’ve both been hoping to get married in the temple our whole lives, so this is such a blessing.”

Temple workers were also surprised and excited about the announcement. BYU student Luiza Pradera serves in the Provo Utah Temple as an ordinance worker and hasn’t been asked to come back to the temple yet. So far Pradera has only received one email from the temple asking about her availability to work.

“I wasn’t expecting (the temple) to open anytime soon, but it was a happy surprise,” Pradera said.

While Pradera isn’t scheduled to work soon, she said she wonders what precautions the temple will take to prevent the spread of COVID-19 now that it is open.

According to the Church’s press release, temple visitors will be allowed to wear a mask and gloves and encouraged to wash their hands frequently and practice social distancing. The temples will also have hand sanitizer throughout the buildings, and workers will clean and sanitize each room after use. “Each temple presidency will take extra precautions to help protect temple workers and patrons,” the statement says.

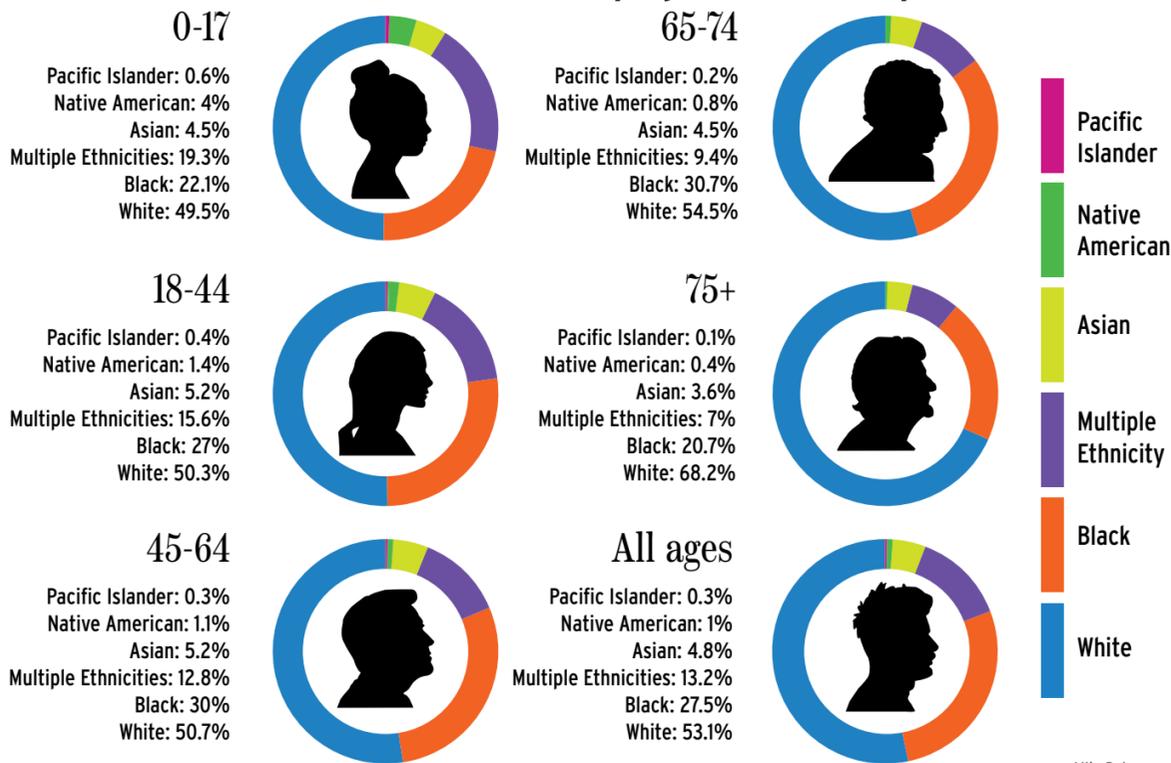
Along with the announcement that temples would be open for sealings, the Church also laid out its four phase plan about opening temples. Live sealings by appointment with strict measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is the first phase. Phase two will allow members to participate in all living ordinances, and phase three will open the temples for proxy ordinances with some restrictions. Temples will be fully operational in the final phase of the Church’s plan.

The Church plans to open other temples when local health directives allow. As more temples open, each temple will start at phase one.

COVID-19 OUTBREAK

Outbreak updates

COVID-19 cases by age and ethnicity



Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Governors disregarding White House guidelines on reopening

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Many governors across the U.S. are disregarding or creatively interpreting White House guidelines for safely easing restrictions and letting businesses reopen amid the COVID-19 pandemic, an Associated Press analysis found.

The AP determined that 17 states did not meet a key benchmark set by the White House for loosening up — a 14-day downward trajectory in new cases or positive test rates. And yet many of those have begun to reopen or are about to do so, including Alabama, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Utah.

Because of the broad way in which the nonbinding guidelines are written, other states, including Georgia, have technically managed to meet the criteria and reopen despite not

seeing a steady decline in cases and deaths.

Asked Thursday, May 7, about states reopening without meeting the benchmarks, President Donald Trump said: “The governors have great power as to that, given by us. We want them to do that. We rely on them. We trust them. And hopefully they are making the right decisions.”

The push to ease state lockdowns comes amid pressure from businesses that are collapsing by the day. Over 33 million Americans have applied for unemployment benefits over the past seven weeks, and joblessness surged to 14.7%, reported the Labor Department on May 8. Because of government errors and the particular way the Labor Department measures the job market, the true picture is even worse. By some calculations, the unemployment rate stands at 23.6%, not far from the Depression peak of nearly 25%.

Experts worry CDC is sidelined in coronavirus response

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has repeatedly found its suggestions for fighting the coronavirus outbreak taking a backseat to other concerns within the Trump administration. That leaves public health experts outside government fearing the agency’s decades of experience in beating back disease threats are going to

waste.

“You have the greatest fighting force against infectious diseases in world history. Why would you not use them?” said Dr. Howard Markel, a public health historian at the University of Michigan.

The complaints have sounded for months. But they have become louder following repeated revelations that transmission-prevention guidance crafted by CDC scientists was never adopted by the White House.

Trump says ‘no rush’ on more aid as jobless crisis grows

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said May 8 he’s in “no rush” to negotiate another financial rescue bill, even as the government reported that more than 20 million Americans lost their jobs last month due to economic upheaval caused by the coronavirus.

The president’s low-key approach came as the Labor Department reported the

highest unemployment rate since the Great Depression and as Democrats prepared to unveil what Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer calls a “Rooseveltian-style” aid package to shore up the economy and address the health crisis.

Some congressional conservatives, meanwhile, who set aside long-held opposition to deficits to pass more than \$2 trillion in relief so far, have expressed reservations about another massive spending package.

NBA teams start to reopen as testing plan begins emerging

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — The NBA took tiny steps toward a return to normalcy on May 8 as a small number of practice facilities reopened for workouts and at least one team received permission from the league to test players and staff for the coronavirus.

Cleveland and Portland were open for players who wanted to get voluntary workouts in, with Cavaliers forward Cedi Osman

among the first to be back on an NBA practice court since the league ordered those facilities closed seven weeks ago.

“Great to be back,” Osman wrote on Instagram, as he took a selfie standing in what appeared to be an otherwise-empty practice gym.

And the Orlando Magic revealed that they have been authorized by health officials in Orange County, Florida to test players and staff. In a letter, Orange County said it has more than enough testing resources.

Outside the outbreak



US investigating failed Venezuela raid

U.S. Congress members are pressing the Trump Administration about how much it knew regarding an attempted raid to overthrow Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro. Meanwhile, a former Green Beret who claimed responsibility for the raid is under federal investigation for arms trafficking.



US border policy may remain as virus eases

The U.S. policy of quickly expelling migrants apprehended along the Mexican border may have to stay in place after quarantine restrictions ease around the country, according to a Trump administration official. The policy has struck a chord with both President Donald Trump’s support base as well as immigration advocates — albeit for different reasons.



Utah gun advocate loses appeal

A Utah gun rights advocate challenging the Trump administration’s ban on bump stocks lost in a U.S. appeals court on May 7. Similar attempts to challenge the ban have previously failed. Bump stocks are gun attachments that allow semi-automatic weapons to fire like machine guns. Bump stocks were banned in 2019 after the Las Vegas shooting.

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White father, son charged with murder in Ahmaud Arbery case

Gregory and Travis McMichael were charged with murder in the February fatal shooting of Ahmaud Arbery, whom they had pursued in a truck after spotting him running in their neighborhood. Arbery, a black man, was unarmed at the time of his death.

The killing sparked outrage across the U.S. as a video of the shooting went viral on Tuesday, May 5. Many people called the incident a hate crime and condemned the stalled local investigation. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation became involved last week and announced the arrests of the McMichaels on May 7.

Arrest warrants for the McMichaels filed in court on May 8 confirmed, as the initial police report stated, that Travis McMichael “pointed and discharged a shotgun ... at Ahmaud Arbery.” But there were no new details.

The felony murder charges against the McMichaels mean that a victim was killed during the commission of an underlying felony, in this case aggravated assault. The charge doesn’t require intent to kill.



Veterans left in limbo on anniversary

Friday, May 8, was the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. Many veterans, most of whom are now in their 90s, celebrated the day in silence instead of with parades and remembrances.

Valentina Efreмова, 96, worked as a nurse for front-line Soviet soldiers. She still dresses for the occasion and carries a chestful of medals.

“We’re the last remaining veterans. We won’t be able to celebrate the 80th anniversary,” she said.

Off-campus housing contract arbitrations split

By JENNY GOLDSBERRY



Hannah Miner

A single student walks outside the Wilkinson Student Center in March after the campus was closed down. Some students fighting their rental contracts are no longer living near Provo.

A retired judge acting as an arbitrator ruled in favor of one student seeking to terminate her BYU off-campus housing contract due to COVID-19.

The Thursday, May 7, ruling was made by Anthony W. Schofield in an arbitration case overseen by the BYU Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution (CPCR).

Schofield ruled against another student seeking the same thing. These were the center's first two rulings in coronavirus-related housing arbitrations the center is currently overseeing.

The CPCR accepted amicus briefs from students from April 23-28, during which time they received 27 briefs. Amicus briefs are written statements from landlords and students, outlining on what legal basis students can or cannot terminate rental contracts. CPCR Director Benjamin Cook said this was being done "in fairness" to inform Schofield, the arbitrator deciding on the initial cases.

Each brief could represent a number of complainants. Some of these briefs were similar to that of Julie Brooks, a BYU law student trying to terminate her housing contract. "I worked with a team of attorneys, law students and regular BYU students," Brooks said.

In an email exchange, Brooks sent her amicus brief to Rosemary Thackeray, BYU assistant to the president. According to Thackeray, her job is to present data to the President's Council. In an email, Thackeray asked for Brooks' brief so that she could "share (it) with members of the BYU President's Council."

When the Universe reached

out to Thackeray, however, she said that the President's Council would not be reviewing the brief. "I personally asked for permission to share with others in case I wanted to share at some point," she said.

Key legal definitions from the Student/Landlord Contract section 23b were explained in both rulings. The section reads: "If the student leaves school due to a verified unforeseeable and unexpected catastrophic loss or serious illness, the student can terminate their own contract."

According to Schofield, the term "leaves school" means that the student does not enter campus. A majority of buildings on campus were closed, making it impossible for students to physically attend class. To "leave school" does not mean that a student withdraws his or her enrollment from the institution. He also pointed out that the BYU Off-Campus Housing Office encouraged students to consider leaving campus and returning home — an announcement that was emailed to landlords and tweeted by the university on

March 12.

Landlords represented in the first rulings complained about the term "verified" in the student/landlord contract. According to Schofield's ruling, an illness can only be verified by "some direct, personal impact of the serious illness." However, Schofield did not find it necessary that the illness be verified by a doctor but ruled that even a landlord knowing about the individual case of illness was enough to be a "verified" illness.

When it came to the term "serious illness," Schofield clarified that "a tenant can leave due to the illness even if the tenant is not personally sick with the illness." But he added that "the illness must have a direct, personal effect on the tenant."

The first student successfully terminated her contract in the first ruling. She had a roommate who was experiencing "COVID-19 like symptoms" and her landlord knew about it. By the time of the arbitration, she had already paid the month's rent for March and April, also subsequently giving up her security deposit

because she had left some belongings behind in her apartment.

In contrast, Schofield ruled that the second student's situation was not enough to terminate her contract. She did not have an instance of "serious illness" because she did not have

any direct contact with anyone experiencing symptoms. According to Schofield, it was clear that because approximately 60% of the tenants in the student's building continued living there, "performance of the lease is still possible for both parties."

Both students alleged to have lost work, one due to a furlough and the other due to reduced hours. Schofield did not classify this as "catastrophic." Instead, he cited the Merriam-Webster definition of the word, which reads, "a momentous tragic event ranging from extreme misfortune to utter overthrow or ruin."

CPCR Assistant Director Emily de Schweinitz Taylor said she doesn't know when all arbitrations regarding rental contracts will be finished. "We have not set an exact number of cases for Mr. Schofield to hear, but we intend for him to hear enough variety of cases to review the contract from several different angles," de Schweinitz Taylor said.

Each session is scheduled to take only 90 minutes, following a seven-day period for Judge Schofield to make a decision. Parties can still appeal these arbitration rulings in court.

Police Beat

BYU

THEFT

April 28 - A theft occurred at the Richards Building bike rack between March 5 and April 28.

April 28 - A theft occurred at the Wyview bike rack around 8 p.m. on April 28.

May 5 - A theft occurred at Wyview Park between May 2-5.

TRESSPASSING

April 28 - Richards Building soccer field at 8:02 p.m.

April 30 - Richards Building soccer field at 6:17 p.m.

CRIMINAL MISCHIEF

April 29 - A vending machine was damaged at the Wymont Terrace laundry building. Date and time occurred is unknown.

Provo

BURGLARY

Apr. 29 - A unlawful entry was reported at a home on 600 East at 5:18 a.m.

May 5 - A burglary was reported at a home on 700 North at 4:02 p.m.

THEFT

April 28 - A theft occurred at a home at 8 p.m.

April 28 - A theft occurred on Freedom Blvd at 6:09 a.m.

April 28 - A theft occurred on 500 West at 6:05 p.m.

April 28 - A motor vehicle was stolen at 6:31 p.m.

May 1 - A vehicle was reported stolen at 6 p.m.

ROBBERY

April 28 - A robbery occurred on the street on 500 West at 8:55 p.m. The robber was not holding a weapon.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

April 30 - An individual was sexually assaulted at 10:22 a.m.

QUARANTINE GOT YOU FEELING CRABBY?



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Applying for a student work visa during a global pandemic

By AARON FITZNER

Editor's note: Aaron Fitzner worked as the sports editor for the Daily Universe for until he graduated with a master's degree in communications on April 24. He has spent the past five years in the U.S. as an international student.

The spring and summer of 2020 were supposed to be some of the most exciting times of my life — my fiancée was going on her bachelorette trip to California, I would be celebrating my master's degree with my family that I haven't seen since Christmas, I was getting married in June before leaving to Hawaii on a honeymoon and I would finally get to work full-time in the United States. These are all big deals for a person from northern Canada.

The sports world came to a very abrupt halt on March 12, sending shocks around the globe and down my spine as we all started to realize the seriousness of this pandemic. At this point, I wasn't thinking much about immigration or wedding plans, and my devastation didn't go much deeper than being sad over not getting to watch Connor McDavid make opposing NHL defenders look like they weren't even skating, or annoyance at not getting to see the Toronto Raptors immediately run it back and make another playoff run. My tunnel vision didn't see far past that.

As things got more serious and work-from-home orders became the norm for seemingly every non-essential company, the question of our wedding came into play. Eventually, we made the difficult decision to postpone it for a year because we knew a June wedding just wasn't going to work. This was tough for me because as an extremely extroverted international



Daily Universe Sports Editor Aaron Fitzner holds up his Canadian passport. Fitzner has spent the past five years in the U.S. as an international student. Scan the photo with the **UNIVERSE PLUS** app to read a Spanish translation of this story.

student, I have close friends in all the places I've lived during my time as a college student — northern Canada, Salt Lake City, Minnesota, Nashville and Provo. This would have been the first time that all my close friends and family were in the same geographical location at the same time.

At the end of the day, with everything being canceled, I was grateful that I wasn't in this situation alone. After all, there were plenty of people that wouldn't be celebrating their weddings on their desired dates, and even more people with altered or canceled graduation plans. I was happy to know that no matter what, I was lucky

to still be working and have a job that would likely allow me to work from home through this pandemic.

International students aren't like U.S. citizens — well, in a lot of ways — but specifically when it comes to the legalities of holding a job and working with immigration hurdles. International students can't work off-campus without applying for an extension of their student visas. Even with this extension, international students can only work off-campus for a year before trying to apply for a non-student work visa.

As the pandemic worsened and copious amounts of people found themselves directly

affected by COVID-19 in some way, shape or form, I started to fear that my work visa — optional practical training (OPT) — would be delayed. I had diligently applied for OPT on time, but sometimes even the government, or U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services (USCIS) in this case, experiences setbacks.

When an international student graduates from their program, their student visa expires the same week of their graduation. These students then have 60 days to stay in the U.S. before they go out of status, meaning they will no longer be in the U.S. on a visa. For me, my visa expiration date was April 24. Once a

visa expires, international students are automatically terminated from their jobs until they leave the U.S. and search for work in their home country, or get an extension of their student visa — OPT.

My OPT was supposed to have been ready on April 24, the day before I was automatically terminated from my job, but it's been delayed because of COVID-19. The only route I had yet to trod down was the path of appealing for my work visa to be expedited. Expediting a visa only happens in very specific circumstances with strict exceptions, with one of those exceptions being gross financial loss. In my case, going without full-time work for months potentially meant I would be suffering from gross financial loss, so I went ahead and applied for the appeal.

When you call the USCIS office and appeal for your case to be expedited, they tell you that a decision will be made within the next five days. They then — either knowingly or unknowingly, I'm really not sure — change their tone of voice and sternly state that under no circumstance are you to call the USCIS and follow up on your case if you don't hear back from them within five days.

I appealed for my case to be expedited on April 8, and I have yet to hear from the USCIS as of April 24. I would call back to see where they stand with my case, but their sternness of voice tactic had too much of an effect on me.

I feel a lot like how Patrik Stefan of the Dallas Stars must've felt on January 4, 2007, when he found himself on a clear breakaway with no goalie in the Edmonton Oilers net.

The Oilers were down by a goal with time winding down, so they did what any hockey team would do — they pulled their goalie so they could put an extra skater onto the ice, bettering

their chances to score a goal and tie the game. By doing this, the Oilers left their net without a goaltender, meaning any shot on the net would count as goal — very typical of what every team does in this situation.

Stefan found himself crossing the blue line on a breakaway with no goalie in the Oilers net. All he had to do was gingerly shoot the puck into the goal and the game would be out of reach for Edmonton. As he skated towards the open goal, he stick-handled one too many times and the puck hit a divot in the ice, causing it to bounce over the blade of his stick. The Oilers gathered the puck with eight seconds remaining and scored a goal to tie the game before time expired.

After years of rewatching the video of Stefan missing the open net and laughing as my Oilers earned a point by sending the game into overtime, I now relate to Stefan.

For me, everything was going smoothly. There were no hurdles in sight as I raced toward my goal. As I came closer and closer to my goal of earning OPT, there was a divot, or roadblock, in my ice that I didn't see coming — a divot in the form of a worldwide pandemic that delayed my work visa indefinitely.

What isn't shown in the Stefan highlights that still find themselves going viral every year, is that Dallas actually went on to win that game in a shootout. The win didn't come during their expected time frame — during regulation — but it still came.

People choose to focus on Stefan's blunder, justifiably as it was an extremely rare play, but most importantly is that Dallas still won and earned what they needed to earn, regardless of the timing. That is still my expectation — to keep my feet moving and learn from what I've earned, regardless of the time frame.

HARDSHIPS

Far from home in a pandemic

Continued from Page 1

“For international students that are staying here, the main concern is our jobs. They either cut hours down or we lose our jobs. Because without having that support, you can't pay for groceries, rent and other expenses,” Selway said.

There are some international students who abstained from taking classes this semester so they can complete their visa work in their home country to leave for their mission.

Gabriela Jacinto, a psychology student from Peru, said that COVID-19 changed her plans to serve a mission.

She was called to serve in Taiwan. In her mission call, Jacinto was told to report to the Provo MTC on April 8. She is in Lima, Peru, because she had not planned to take classes Winter Semester or Spring Term. Now her plans remain uncertain because she cannot leave her home to finish her visa paperwork for her mission.

“I was not enrolled this semester because I needed to do visa work for my mission in Peru,” Jacinto said. “And it is affecting me because I cannot leave, and I cannot take any classes at BYU.”

Other international students are stuck in the U.S. Mia Lau, a 2020 neuroscience graduate from Hong Kong, said COVID-19 changed her and her family's plans.

“We're not going back because my twin sister is getting married here. I am graduating, so I'm applying for my OPT (Optional Practical Training, a one-year period during which an international student can pursue a job), so I can't leave,” Lau said.

Lau said she knew more about these adjustments because Hong Kong's government took steps early on to keep its citizens safe.

“They banned schools. Everybody had to work from home,” Lau said. “They'll use your phone to track where you are. You're supposed to update the government where you are every so often and they'll make sure you're under quarantine for like two weeks before you go back out in public.”

There are other cases in which students cannot go home to their families, nor can their families come to the U.S. to visit them.

Rachel Tuttle, a neuroscience psychology major at BYU, is an American citizen who spent most of her life outside the states in different countries like Colombia, Israel and Honduras. Her family is currently living in Madrid, Spain.

“I feel really jealous of people who are able just to drive to their houses,” Tuttle said. “I've been having a really hard semester and with everything that happened, I just really wanted to see my family — and now I can't.”

Amanda Galan, a Latin American studies major from Ecuador, cannot visit her family because the country's borders are closed.

“In Ecuador, COVID-19 is growing faster than any other country in South America. President Moreno already closed the borders through land, sea and air,” Galan said. “Not having an option to go home, or my parents to come here to visit me. I also don't have family here. It's hard.”

In contrast, Regina Garcia, a Spanish teaching student from Leon, Mexico, is finding it easier to cope with the pandemic because she has family nearby.

“Luckily for me, I had the opportunity to have family around, but many of my friends already left,” she said.

There are still BYU international students who see the COVID-19 effects in a positive way.

Vibalia Raj, a biodiversity and conservation student from Bangalore, India, has been affected because she cannot travel to India to see her family. She said she sees COVID-19 as an opportunity to grow.

“It is important that people understand that traveling, it's going to spread it more. Stay where you are, stay safe,” Raj said. “Especially people who are extroverts, like me, it is really hard for us, you just need people around you. But now, you are social distancing.”

For Raj, spending time at home can be a great excuse to see life more optimistic.

“I feel like this is the best time to explore yourself more because at this point you are restricted to do something you have always been doing. You have to take it positively, there is always something new you have never tried,” Raj said.

Unemployment benefits just out of reach for many BYU students

By JENNY GOLDSBERRY

BYU students are being furloughed from campus jobs, and many do not qualify for unemployment benefits.

More than 100,000 Utahns filed for unemployment benefits during the first week of May, according to the Utah Department of Workforce Services. That's just the number of individuals who qualified in order to file a claim, but the actual number of Utahns who have become unemployed since the pandemic began could be much higher.

At BYU, as more buildings close and others remain open only for reduced hours, some BYU students are finding themselves unemployed.

In an official statement, BYU said it anticipated shifts in the demand for student employees, including decreases in areas like the Missionary Training Center, and increases in areas like Physical Facilities.

“There are likely to be students who need to continue to work and we should accommodate them, while working to ensure that assigned work is productive,” the statement reads.

The statement was a prediction of things to come for some. Isaiah Rogers, a junior studying media arts, was an employee at the Cannon Center until he was recently let go.

“They kept me on as long as they could,” Rogers said. “They have switched out the student employees with full-time MTC dining employees.” (The MTC was closed at the end of March.)

In the meantime, Rogers returned home to California to work at a grocery store because California's minimum wage is higher than Utah's. “I have a better job waiting for me in the fall as a TA,” he said.

Employers across BYU have had to make difficult staffing decisions in response to the pandemic. BYU Media Relations Manager Todd Hollingshead said each employer must decide who the essential employees are.

“The university continuity manager asked all campus departments to evaluate their operations and identify



Preston Crawley

A student employee works on the soda machines in the Cougarreat. BYU Dining Services typically employs 2,000 students but has recently let some students go.

essential operations that would have to continue if the county or state issued a shelter-in-place order,” Hollingshead said. “Each unit was asked to review their conclusions with their dean or director so that BYU could quickly determine how to comply with such an order.”

A student can qualify for state unemployment benefits when he or she has had a job with the same employer for the last four quarters or longer. Many students would not meet the qualifications, because a minority of student employees choose to work through the spring and summer at BYU.

Hollingshead said that every spring and summer term, BYU sees fewer students than any other time of year. “Any given year, we average about 33,000 students in the fall and winter, about 10,000 students in spring and between 7,500 and 8,000 in summer,” Hollingshead said. With fewer students in classes, there are fewer students working campus jobs as well.

Dining Services Director Dean Wright said the changes in

his department have been drastic. During the school year, Dining Services typically employs 2,000 students, but that number has recently dropped to only 170 employees. He said his department, second in employment only to the Physical Facilities Department, wants to bring all the student employees back as soon as possible.

Shawna Martin is the campus-wide hiring manager for custodial services. Lately, she's also been managing student jobs in housing, and she's seen an increase in student hires, as student jobs have shifted to in-need areas. “We have over 1,200 students working for us now and before all this started, we had about 900,” she said.

In 2019, Martin's department also saw fewer student employees in the spring and summer; the number was close to 700.

BYU Physical Facilities saw the opposite. According to administrative assistant Stacey S. Meldrum, the department hired more students in the spring and summer. In the most recent fall and winter

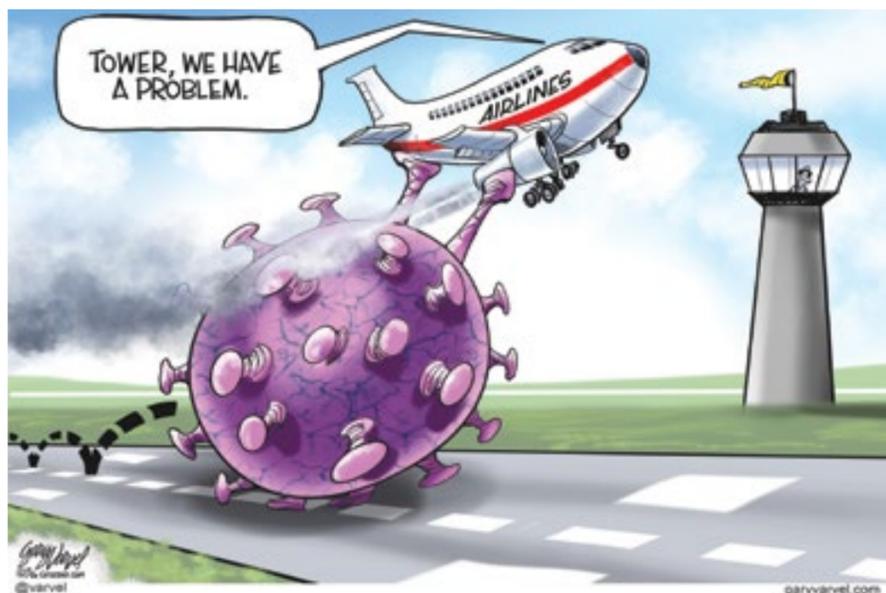
semesters, there were about 180 students working various jobs in the department. During the spring and summer terms, there are about 227.

BYU Human Resources helps employers across campus compensate for fewer student employees by allowing the students to work extra hours during the spring and summer terms. The BYU Holiday/Break Schedule outlines the dates that students can work extra hours.

“We follow that to the letter,” Martin said. This schedule allows for fewer employees to make up the work of those who decide to leave campus for the summer.

Students can know if they qualify for unemployment by visiting the Utah Department of Workforce Services website, where they will be prompted to enter their Social Security number. The site will then tell the user what benefit they qualify for — or whether they don't qualify. According to the site, the department receives 99% of all unemployment benefits claims online.

Bennett Chattanooga Times Free Press



Nurse: You've been in a coma since December 2019

BYU student: Oh boy I can't wait to see all the construction projects on campus as I walk to my Spring 2020 classes



Coronavirus: (existing)
Me: It won't come here
"1 month later"



me explaining to my mom that I won't be coming home when the quarantine is over



I Can't Wait To Walk Down The Aisle. 🙄



Workplace: "We have a team call at 9 am"



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

@jakerr35

Here are two weird Covid-19 curveballs that have come at me in rapid succession. 1) A lot of early-return LDS missionaries in my Spring term course (started last week). 2) Emails from students dropping the class to go back on missions.

@anika_wallace

sometimes when i pray i remind Heavenly Father that i haven't gone to a byu football game in two years because of my mission and then i politely ask Him to make sure football doesn't get cancelled and i know that's not really how it works but i think it's worth a shot

@ggoodman_

My mom just called me and told me all about wedding photography (she's a photographer) & food & all the little details that go into planning. I'm overwhelmed. If/when I get married, I know one thing for certain: there WILL be an abundant supply of pizza rolls at the reception

@zachary_ibarra

I was 40 pages into a book and decided I didn't really like it and don't need to finish.

Feeling EMPOWERED

@gracemiller418

Life is a Highway, it's just the I-15 through Lehi

@LdsMutual

So if your just a Pam looking for your Jim, does that mean we're going to be friends for years before we actually start dating?

@ben_asplund

one of my more impressive qualities is that i've written 3 papers about taylor swift in college (4 if you count one with a significant mention) and gotten A's on all of them

@whatitdObabey

im on a club penguin date rn and this is the most fun ive ever had

@jessiejensen

Sets phone down at 11:56pm
"Aaah, yes, going to bed before midnight. Well done, Me."

@hankrsmith

My carry-on suitcase confronted me today on why I had ghosted her the last 2 months. Emotional baggage is tough to deal with.

@joewheat27

"Social distancing doesn't have to make us socially distant" is the new live, laugh, love.

@SportyMcSports

If Mother's Day gifts were local sports teams:

BYU: Complete spa package

Utah: Hoover vacuum

USU: Tomato plant

WSU: Homemade coupon book

UVU: Socks

DSU: Sun tan lotion

SLCC: Candy bought a day late

Snow: Rom-Com DVD from 1996

Tweets are unedited.

STAFF OPINION

How the pandemic should change higher education

Few things are more invalidating as a college student than needing to receive a doctor's note to miss class when you are sick without getting docked points. Oftentimes students will come down with something as simple as a bad cold that doesn't warrant a doctor's visit but makes physically attending class hard. Weighing the pros and cons of missing a class with a mandatory attendance policy for something like a cold usually results in the sick student attending class and potentially spreading their cold to their classmates.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the dangers of having sick people up in areas like large lecture halls or even smaller classrooms, and it has shown that schools and professors are capable of using technologies like Zoom to teach even when students aren't physically in class. Once the pandemic is over, colleges should apply their new skills to help sick students stay home and recover while still being able to receive an education.

BYU's registration policy says, "Students are expected to attend classes for which they are registered," and class instructors can determine how attendance factors into a student's final grade. The policy puts the responsibility on the student to notify their instructor of any emergency absences. Allowing sick students to either use Zoom to attend class if they are sick or access a class recording at a later time does not go against the school's attendance policy; the student is still attending class. As long as the student notifies the instructor, the use of these technologies should not result in a loss of class points.

Giving students this opportunity will help them recuperate faster and continue to learn while eliminating the risk of spreading whatever cold or flu they might catch during a semester. These methods might not be as effective as in-class learning, but they are certainly better than missing class entirely or showing up sick and putting others at risk.

—Lisi Merkley
Universe News Desk Editor

OPINION OUTPOST

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

Unpreparedness

Perhaps the onset of a deadly virus and the ensuing lockdown caught most households unawares. It should not, however, have surprised the U.S. government, which each year assesses global threats and prepares emergency protocols.

Pandemics pop up every few decades with some regularity. Smaller, but still deadly, outbreaks occur even more frequently. Consider the threats of SARS, the avian flu, the H1N1 swine flu, MERS, Ebola and Zika, all of which plagued the globe in the past 20 years.

The troubling aspect of the COVID-19 outbreak isn't that it was unforeseen, but that the country was unprepared.

We're confident that with adequate testing and an effective vaccine, COVID-19 will fade in due time. We're less confident the damage couldn't have been mitigated by a faster and more coordinated response. And we're wholly unsure the country will have learned its lesson when all is said and done.

—Editorial Board
Deseret News

We are all guinea pigs

We are all guinea pigs now. We have no choice.

We have signed no informed consent forms and have no opportunity to say we aren't comfortable having our lives subject to two inescapably intertwined global experiments — one in biology and another in economics.

But, like even the most lowly lab rat, each of us has some choice in which path to take through the maze.

With people at the top worried about the economy and people at the bottom suffering from, at best, cabin fever, pressure on governments, businesses and individuals to ease up on the stay-at-home and business-shutdown rules are immense.

More of us are reasonably concerned about the long-term financial impact of closed restaurants, theaters and stores and the towering unemployment numbers that can do nothing but ripple through the economy.

The challenge here is to manage what we can manage and understand that, in many ways, it is the COVID-19 virus, and not any human being, that is setting the ground rules.

—Editorial Board
The Salt Lake Tribune

Tuition refunding

Among the many millions of people who have gotten a raw deal this spring are college students who were suddenly told by their schools to pack up, head home and spend the rest of the semester learning online. For some of them, especially foreign students with no place to stay and no way to get home, it was a nightmare.

It's been less than ideal, to be sure. But most college students have families and homes where they were able to go. They're still receiving an education, the same course credits as always and, for seniors, a degree — albeit one minus the big stage-walking event. Most of them have the devices and internet access needed to "attend" classes and the intellectual maturity to complete their work.

Colleges refunded money for the room and board that wasn't getting used. Yet some students are demanding partial tuition refunds too. Lawsuits have been filed against more than two dozen colleges and universities, including Ivy League and state schools, claiming that online courses simply aren't the same as those taught in classrooms, even when the same professors are teaching.

—Editorial Board
Los Angeles Times

Contact tracing in New York City

Much is uncertain about New York City's future amid coronavirus — the timeline for reopening, the timeline for development of treatments and a vaccine. But one thing has remained clear: In order to safely reopen, cities like New York must develop the capacity to regularly test portions of the population, trace the spread of the virus and isolate those who have been exposed.

And as the count of those struggling both in health and finances continues to mount, time is of the essence. New York needs contact tracing quickly.

By now, multiple localities have proved the importance of contact tracing in an effective COVID-19 response.

—Editorial Board
The New York Times

Economic lockdown catastrophe

Much of the media continue to treat the economic destruction as a sideshow and present a false choice between saving lives and jobs. But this is the fastest jobs collapse in modern history. The Great Depression drove millions of Americans into poverty and caused many suicides, and there's a substantial risk this could happen again.

The crowd that demands the economy remain locked-down until there's a vaccine, miracle therapy or daily testing of everyone in the country seem to think the government can replace the private economy.

That's a fantasy, and they are betraying the very low- and middle-income workers they claim to represent.

Average wages in April rose

sharply because so many low-income workers were laid off.

While they blame President Trump for the economic pain, Democratic leaders want to keep the economy sedated far longer to ease pressure on the health-care system.

It is important to stress that the strict lockdowns were a government policy choice. But the damage is done, and our focus isn't on recriminations. The issue is what to do now, and the public is wise enough to know that public health can't be sustained without a healthy economy.

Americans can see the destruction all around them. They know the virus will be with us for a long time unless there's a vaccine, so we have to learn to live with it and have a functioning economy.

—Editorial Board
The Wall Street Journal

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 Spencer McWilliams can be reached at universe.ideas@gmail.com.

Compton native Uriah Leiataua succeeds on and off the field

By JOSH CARTER

Uriah Leiataua didn't know hearing gunshots on a regular basis wasn't normal. He didn't realize watching his peers join gangs and use drugs in middle school wasn't something all kids experienced.

It wasn't until Leiataua left his hometown of Compton, California, to serve a mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that he found out his childhood was anything but normal.

"Being exposed to those kinds of things was just something I was used to," Leiataua said. "It wasn't that crazy to me."

Leiataua's perception of the world changed significantly after serving for two years in the Apia Samoa Mission and spending the following four years at BYU. Looking back, Leiataua realizes now more than ever that his family's support and example gave him the opportunity to succeed and reach his personal goals.

Leiataua recently became a first-generation college graduate, earning a bachelor's degree in experience design and management in April. In doing so, Leiataua followed the path set by his three older sisters, who graduated from UC Berkeley, Cal State Long Beach and UC Riverside.

The fourth of five siblings, Leiataua feels a sense of accomplishment from joining his older sisters as first-generation college graduates after having looked up to them his entire life.

"My sisters are crazy smart," Leiataua said. "They pushed me so much growing up. They were all so motivated and really wanted to break the stereotype surrounding Polynesians growing up in Compton."

While attending Dominguez High School in east Compton, Leiataua excelled academically. He took several advanced placement classes throughout his high school years and graduated in the top-three of his class.

Leiataua notes that his parents' examples also inspired him to excel in the classroom and strive to be the best version of himself possible.

"Both of my parents are devout members of the Church," Leiataua said. "They live by the principle of obedience, which was something that was instilled in us growing up. They devoted their whole lives to helping us stay focused and keep out any distractions."

Leiataua's parents, both Samoan natives, spent countless hours working a variety of odd jobs in order to provide for their five children. They also emphasized supporting their children in whatever extracurricular activities



Preston Crawley

Uriah Leiataua celebrates with the BYU football team after a November 2019 game against Liberty. Leiataua attributes much of his success to his family's influence.

they decided to pursue, which, for their only son, eventually included football.

Leiataua didn't start playing football until he reached high school, due to a combination of his parents' protective nature and a delayed growth spurt. Once he started, though, his potential quickly became apparent.

A combination of Leiataua's high football IQ and sheer size allowed him to dominate on the defensive line. Leiataua figured he could solve his opponents' offensive strategies the same way he solved problems in the classroom.

In his final two seasons at Dominguez, Leiataua tallied 24 sacks, 11 as a junior and 13 as a senior. He was named the San Gabriel Valley League MVP his senior season as well as a member of the All-CIF Defense First Team. He was tabbed a three-star recruit by ESPN, Rivals and 247Sports.

By the time he graduated from high school, Leiataua's success on the field and in the classroom had turned a lot of

heads. His scholarship offers included Stanford, Yale, UCLA, USC and Wisconsin. The one school he had his sights set on from early on, however, didn't make an offer until late in his recruiting process.

"I had actually committed to Stanford because I wasn't sure BYU was going to offer me," Leiataua said. "But then, a little while later, BYU did offer me. I was like, 'Finally. Let's do this.'"

Upon returning from his mission in Samoa, the same country where his dad served and his younger sister was serving until the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Leiataua redshirted his first year at BYU in 2016. After spending that first season observing newly hired head coach Kalani Sitake and his staff, Leiataua felt ready to contribute.

As a freshman in 2017, Leiataua played in seven games before missing the rest of the season due to a series of back injuries. As a sophomore in 2018, Leiataua continued to deal with his injuries while seeing limited playing

time in nine games and recording six tackles.

"He's gone through a lot," BYU defensive coordinator and defensive line coach Ilaia Tuiaki said. "He's battled through some injuries that have slowed him down a little bit, but he's always found a way to be a contributor. He's really come a long way."

While continuing to fight through his injuries last season, Leiataua showed increasing promise as he racked up 19 tackles, including nine solo stops and 2.5 tackles for loss. With a final year of eligibility remaining and Leiataua now feeling 100% healthy, Tuiaki is looking forward to finding out what his defensive lineman can accomplish.

"I'm excited to see him have a stellar senior year," Tuiaki said. "With his health coming back and with his leadership after being around the guys for so many years, he's starting to come into his own. We expect a lot from him."

Tuiaki attributes Leiataua's resiliency and work ethic to his upbringing.

"His family has always been super supportive," Tuiaki said. "We just happened to end up getting a really good product, on and off the field, as a result of great parents and a supportive family. He's a huge inspiration for Polynesian kids everywhere and especially to those coming out of rougher neighborhoods like Compton."

Leiataua continues to set big goals for himself, on and off the field. While his ultimate football goal is to play in the NFL, he also hopes to one day help his hometown.

"I'm putting all my focus and energy on having a standout senior year," Leiataua said. "I definitely want to get drafted into the NFL. I'm going to work as hard as I can this next year to make that happen. Apart from football, though, I want to somehow give back to the city of Compton. My family always talks about how special it is when Compton natives come back to help make it a better place. I definitely want to be a part of that."

EXTRAMURALS

Club teams react to season cancellations

Continued from Page 1

Men's lacrosse

BYU men's lacrosse was "on fire" seven games into the 2020 season, according to head coach Matt Schneck.

The Cougars notched a 6-1 record, scored 107 goals and earned a No. 11 ranking in the Men's Collegiate Lacrosse Association during the 2020 campaign. BYU also sat atop the Rocky Mountain Lacrosse Conference at the time of the cancellation.

"The team had just come home from a trip where they outscored their opponents by 40 goals," Schneck said. "They were one of the top teams in the country and they were hungry for more. I guarantee this season will be something they all remember and will always wonder, 'What if?'"

Schneck gathered his team to break the cancellation news.

"We all need to be prepared and diligent in our efforts to respect how serious the situation is," Schneck said to the team.

Although players had been preparing for the possibility of such news, they still couldn't believe what their coach was telling them.

"Tears were shed," Schneck said. "Athletes prepare for the conclusion of their season and, in some cases, for the conclusion of their career. This

came without warning and without preparation."

Men's rugby

The BYU men's rugby team's confidence was on the rise following a 3-2 start to the 2019-20 season as players began to find their footing with the home portion of the schedule still to come.

"We had played a very close game with Saint Mary's a few weeks earlier, just losing in the final seconds," senior captain Tosh Wilcox said. "We were just about to play Saint Mary's on South Field for our first home game. We were eager to get back and get a win, but then everything was canceled."

"I felt especially bad for our seniors," head coach Steve St. Pierre said. "They had given so much to the program and weren't able to finish their careers in the way they had dreamed."

With so much time and effort put into the season, and with the team seemingly trending upward, having it cut short was hard to accept.

Freshman Alma Schoenfeld was sad that the season had to end because of circumstances beyond their control. "It was all out of our power."

Racquetball

BYU racquetball senior Nic Smith was the team's best bet to win the 2020 National Intercollegiate Racquetball Championship. While it would have been Smith's fourth trip to nationals, it would have been his first time competing in the top division while being ranked as BYU's No. 1 player.

"I was excited to play some top opponents and try to claim a fourth All-American position," Smith said.

Just two weeks before the team was



Kaleena McKell

Members of BYU men's lacrosse team play against each other at practice. Just like NCAA teams, BYU's extramural sports teams had their seasons canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

to leave for Nationals in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, however, the event was canceled. The team had first received a group message from head coach Paul Snyder concerning the cancellation, which was then followed by confirmation at the final team dinner on March 13.

"It was kind of surreal," Smith said. "It didn't actually hit me until we had our last team dinner. Once we were together as a team, it became real and quite somber."

Snyder felt for seniors like Smith who may never get another chance to compete at the collegiate level.

"I understood the rationale for the decision, but it hurt," Snyder added. "It especially hurt my heart for the seniors and those who worked hard to make it on the nationals team who won't have that opportunity again."

Women's lacrosse

The BYU women's lacrosse team started March 13 off with speculation about COVID-19's potential impact on its season. As the day went on, however, rumor became reality when the Women's Collegiate Lacrosse Association made the official announcement that the season was over.

Team members were in different situations when they got the news. Head coach Nikki Dabrowski was getting her children ready for the day when she received the cancellation email. She then notified her team through a group chat.

Senior Jess Christensen was doing homework when she received the shattering news. Fellow senior Haley Harris was in a meeting for a group project assignment when she learned her lacrosse playing days were over.

Others, like senior Logan Coon, were already on their way home — initially to visit, but ultimately to stay.

A global pandemic had suddenly ended a season with great potential, as the Cougars were kept from their goal of reaching nationals. The initial reaction among most of the team was one of anger and frustration.

"I was livid," Coon said. "I'd been playing great games and had found my rhythm, so when the season was officially over, I was first livid, but then I was incredibly sad. I was especially sad that I wouldn't get to play with this group of girls anymore. My best friends had come from this team and we have made so many great memories. It was so sad to just see it all over in an instant."

2019-20 season

The 2019-20 season will forever be remembered as the year that athletes, coaches and fans alike were left wondering "what could have been."

While many of BYU's extramural senior athletes will have the option to return next season after being granted an extra year of eligibility, the emotions felt on March 12 and 13 remain unchanged.

"I thought I hated waking up at 6 a.m. to practice," women's lacrosse junior Mary Barton said. "I thought I didn't like traveling long distances to play games. And then, in the blink of an eye, it was all taken from me and I realized it was something I was choosing to do. I miss it."

Reporting: Sarah Houslian, Kevin Hatch, Chelsea Adams, Annela Southam, Elisa Huhem, Gabby Stockard and Josh Carter.

Dilbert®

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY SLIDE DECK?

I REVIEWED ALL 26 OF YOUR SLIDES, AND I CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT YOUR POINT IS.

I COULD PUT THE POINT ON SLIDE 27. OR JUST GIVE UP.

I HIRED A SCIENCESPLAINER FOR OUR MEETINGS.

HE'LL INTERRUPT US EVERY TEN MINUTES TO EXPLAIN, IN A CONDESCENDING WAY, HOW SCIENCE WORKS.

WHY DO WE NEED THAT?

IT'S JUST SOMETHING WE DO.

Peanuts®

I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT GOD REALLY CARES WHO WINS A GOLF TOURNAMENT!

OLGA KOR BUT HAS BEEN BUGGING ME FOR LESSONS!

Garfield®

I'M SCHEDULING A WAKE-UP CALL.

TIC TIC TIC TIC

NOVEMBER SOUNDS GOOD.

I LOVE YOU, GARFIELD.

WANNA KNOW WHY?

SURE, AS LONG AS YOU DON'T BREAK INTO SONG.

Pickles®

HMM... SOMETHING JUST OCCURRED TO ME.

WHY DO I LOOK SO DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE AROUND HERE?

WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS A BIG BLACK NOSE, FLOPPY EARS, AND DOESN'T WEAR ANY CLOTHES?

COULD IT BE THAT I WAS ADOPTED?

IF I WAS ADOPTED THAT MEANS I'M NOT RELATED TO THESE PEOPLE.

WE'RE NOT EVEN DISTANT COUSINS.

I'M NOT EVEN PART OF THEIR GENE POOL.

SNORT! SNYKX!

WOO HOO!

Non Sequitur®

HOW'S JACK DOING SINCE HIS SCHOOL WENT ONLINE?

PRETTY GOOD.

WHO CAN NAME A MAMMAL THAT LIVES IN THE WATER?

OH! THERE'S ONE.

HI...WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

MORRIS MANATEE. WELCOME TO THE EVERGLADES!

OK...GOTTA GO NOW.

MORRIS! HE LIVES IN THE EVERGRAPES!

I LIKE MORRIS!

UH... YEAH, I'M JEALOUS TOO.

JACK'S REMOTE CLASSROOM ADVENTURE CONTINUES.

HI, REAGAN!

HI, JACK!

WANNA GO SWIMMING?

SURE!

CAN I GO SWIMMING WITH JACK, DADDY?

UH...WHERE?

THE EVERGLADES.

HIGH-HEA-SURE.

WHAT... WHAT WAS THAT?

UH... LOOKED LIKE A FLYIN' MANATEE.

Zits®

ARE YOU GOING TO VOLUNTEER THIS SUMMER, JEREMY?

I CAN'T.

WHY NOT?

IT CONFLICTS WITH MY PLANS.

AND WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

NOT TO MAKE ANY.

WHY DID YOU STOP MOWING?

THE MOWER QUIT.

OUT OF GAS?

OIL?

BLADE STUCK?

NO.

NO.

NO.

THEN WHY WOULD IT QUIT?

WHO CAN SAY?

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.

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

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0406

ACROSS

- Rights org.
- "It was 20 years today..." (Beatles lyric)
- Separately
- Minnesota's "crazy" state bird
- Roosters' mates
- New... India's capital
- Another name for [see shaded squares]
- Souped-up engine sound
- "19," "21" and "25" singer
- Rod and... (fishing equipment)
- The "M" of MSG
- Give a quick greeting
- Another name for [see shaded squares]
- Refrigerated
- Praiseful poem
- Rug rat
- Fawn's mother
- "u r 2 funny!"
- Macho guy
- "We were just talking about you!"
- Incurred, as expenses
- Distinguishing features of Mr. Spock
- Place of banishment for Napoleon
- "... what is the meaning of life?" (modern query)
- Holder of peas
- Derrière
- City about 280 miles NW of München
- Pass, as a law
- French place of education
- Another name for [see shaded squares]
- Incurred, as expenses
- Distinguishing features of Mr. Spock
- Place of banishment for Napoleon
- "... what is the meaning of life?" (modern query)
- Holder of peas
- Derrière

DOWN

- ...mater
- Thick string
- Toss and turn, say
- Naked
- "Gotcha!"
- Throw in the trash
- 7 first word in a fairy tale
- Word often ending in -ly: Abbr.
- "If I may..."
- Emotionally detached
- French wine valley
- East... (U.N. member since 2002)
- Silverstein who wrote and illustrated "The Giving Tree"
- King: Sp.
- Certain Protestant
- Virtual reality chamber in the "Star Trek" universe
- Like many intramural sports
- Successors to LPs
- Klutz's cry
- John who sang "Candle in the Wind"
- Single and ready to mingle
- "Good going!"
- 2005 sci-fi movie starring Charlize Theron
- Actress Russell of "Felicity" and "The Americans"
- Hot pepper
- Played the first card
- Thin wood finish
- "Madama Butterfly," for one
- Train that makes every stop
- Lorna... (Nabisco cookie)
- Late Lakers great Bryant
- "Oh yeah?" who!
- Long jump
- Havana's home
- Skier's way up a mountain
- Org. that cleans up oil spills
- Drug to trip on

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALPS	AJAR	REACT
WOOL	POLO	ALLAH
NONO	BLOODY	MARY
SKYPE	LESAGE	
PRAYS	ZURICH	
GEYSERS	SEN	TAI
HADJ	ROAN	SLANT
ERGO	OGLES	ALTO
ARIES	ESAU	ZION
LEE	APR	KENYAN
STRATA	GYROS	
MISHAP	DUTCH	
EVENSTEIN	STEVEN	SALE
SERIF	RITA	AXIS
LEROY	ONEG	NIPS

The New York Times Crossword

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ACROSS

- Measure of time or airplane wings
- Makeup of the first house in "The Three Little Pigs"
- A tall one is exaggerated
- Fabled race loser
- Boxer Ali
- Big name in skin care
- Taiwanese PC maker
- Fred's neckwear on "Scooby-Doo"
- Time long past
- Dreaming state
- Lavish celebration
- Like the summer sun
- Knights' mounts
- Big name in smoothies and juices
- Beats again and again, in slang
- "Tippy" craft
- Relative of a paddle
- Practical state
- Sleeve's contents
- Takeaway of a fable
- Coif that might use pins and spray
- Classic catalog for air passengers
- Symbol of sudden, brilliant success
- It ends with diciembre
- Dalai...
- Crass state
- Like dissertation defenses
- Early stop for presidential candidates
- Indian flatbread
- Like unexplained house creaks, say
- Big name in bubbly
- Door handle
- Televised comedy event
- Otherwise
- Ousted Iranian leader
- Duel unit
- Researcher's specialty
- Comic con, e.g., stereotypically
- Viewpoints
- Refinement
- Like Mr. Moneybags
- Plant that yields a salve
- OSHA or the F.C.C.
- "Let's Go Places" sloganeer
- Felipe or Moises of major-league baseball
- Grease for baking
- The... (apt anagram for "they see")
- Iraq War danger, for short
- Bring down, as a flag
- TV viewers' vantage points
- Bring up the rear?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ABBA	BAS	MAKED	O
DRAB	RIO	EXITED	
DISC	GOLF	NETTED	
SEESAW	AHS	TAPS	
UNO	ACHE		
ROLLING	THUNDER		
BODE	ELLE	RHINO	
ASIA	SOAMI	ENDS	
LISPS	ORAN	EGOS	
LET	STAKE	ITS	SLOW
EASE	LIL		
GUAC	IRA	MAITAI	
ACTORS	CLAP	BACK	
BLANCA	DOT	ICEE	
SAD	DAY	CUE	SODA

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Asthma leads to honorable early release



By KENZIE HOLBROOK



Shane Amidan

Elder Shane Amidan served in the Louisiana Baton Rouge Mission.

Elder Shane Amidan spent 12 and a half months serving in the Louisiana Baton Rouge Mission before his mission president told him he needed to be sent home and honorably released.

“My mission president said it was time to move on and that I served honorably and faithfully, and it didn’t matter how long that I served but how I served,” Amidan said.

Of the 200 missionaries serving in his mission, Amidan said 40 were sent home for mental or physical health conditions.

March 10, during a mission leadership conference, was the first time coronavirus was discussed in Amidan’s mission. He said he wasn’t really worried and didn’t expect it to affect his mission.

“March 13 was the day that they canceled church for everyone worldwide and that was weird, but we were not quarantined,” Amidan said. “On Sunday, March 15, they let us go to members’ homes for sacrament meeting.”

Because Amidan has asthma, he started to worry about the possibility of having to return home.

“I was hearing rumors at the beginning of the next week that they were sending home missionaries in other U.S. missions with underlying health conditions, so I was getting a little nervous about things for sure,” he said.

By March 17, Amidan’s

mission was required to self-isolate, and then on March 20 he got the call from his mission president that he was being required to return home. “Because of my asthma I did not have a choice,” Amidan said.

Amidan said he was disappointed when he got the call, but through much prayer and study, he was able to gain peace and knowledge that this was part of God’s plan for him.

He received his flight plans on March 23 and was home on the night of March 25. Not only did Amidan have to come home a year earlier than he was expecting, but his family had moved from Richland, Washington, to Rexburg, Idaho, while he was gone.

Although coming home to a different state was a change for Amidan, he considers it a blessing to live close to his sister and brother-in-law, who are also in Rexburg. “It’s been good being home being with family and also being able to

contact friends,” Amidan said.

He didn’t expect to return to school until spring 2021, but now he is taking an online class through BYU-Idaho. “I plan on continuing to go to school and hopefully to get a job at some point, probably when the pandemic eases and it may be a little easier to work,” he said.

Amidan said the entire situation has been crazy but has also a learning experience. “I obviously wish that none of this happened and that I could still be on my mission, but I know that there is a reason for this, although I might not know exactly what that is yet,” Amidan said.

Focusing on the tender mercies the Lord has given him in the past few weeks is what Amidan said has helped him as he tries to stay positive through the whole situation. “Those tender mercies, I believe, are God telling me specifically that I served a great mission and that he accepted my work.”



Preston Crawley

Bryce Canyon, one of Utah’s five national parks, has already started opening certain areas to the public as part of the state’s phased reopening process.

What to expect as Utah’s national parks reopen

By ALICIA MATSUURA

Some Utah national parks have started allowing public access as the state loosens restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. But visits aren’t completely back to normal yet.

Vanessa Lacayo, a public affairs specialist for the National Parks Service (NPS), said that while many parks in Utah and across the country are increasing recreational access for visitors, the return to full operations will be phased and services will be temporarily limited for a time.

“We know that parks often serve as places where the public goes to be inspired, to find solace and to connect with nature,” Lacayo said. “With this in mind, we want to approach our phased reopening by balancing how we can protect these places and keep them safe for visitors and staff.”

Here is an overview of the current status of Utah national parks as the state begins its gradual reopening process.

Arches National Park

Arches National Park is closed to all public access until further notice. This includes the visitor center, park bookstore, campground, trails, backcountry areas and roads.

Ranger-led programs are planned to resume late summer if they can comply with social distancing guidelines.

The NPS encourages people to explore the park through digital tools like park videos, Arches’ wildflowers gallery and the albums of park photos on the park’s website and Flickr account. Past visitors are also encouraged to view albums from past visits and share their memories with family and friends.

Bryce Canyon National Park

Bryce Canyon National Park has already started opening certain areas to the public, including the main park road and all viewing areas to Rainbow Point. The trails within the Bryce Amphitheater area are also open as well as the restrooms at Sunset Point.

Areas that will remain closed until further notice are the visitor center, park campgrounds, Mossy Cave parking and trail area, backcountry trails including, Under the Rim, concessions, the Navajo Loop, and Horse Trail.

Canyonlands National Park

All public areas of Canyonlands National Park are closed for the time being. The campgrounds at Island in the Sky and The Needles will remain closed through May 31. Day use and overnight backcountry permits are not available until May 29.

Capitol Reef National Park

Certain areas of Capitol Reef have reopened to the public, including day use in the North District (Cathedral Valley) and South District (Waterpocket Fold). Overnight camping in Cedar Mesa campground and Cathedral Valley campground is also available.

Areas still closed are the visitor center, Gifford House, Fruita campground, Scenic Drive, all trailheads, trails and all canyoneering and climbing routes.

Zion National Park

On May 13, Zion National Park will start allowing recreational access to select areas within the park. Specific information regarding select areas will be accessible on the park’s website in the coming week.

The loosening restrictions on national parks support the White House guidelines for Opening Up America Again and coordination with the State of Utah, southwest Utah elected leaders, park partners and local businesses, according to the NPS website.

“We are asking the public to please recreate safely and responsibly, avoid high-risk outdoor activities, follow local area health orders, practice ‘Leave No Trace’ principles and avoid crowding,” Lacayo said. “I’m sure there are lessons to be learned as we move forward.”

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