

Racial rhetoric and the election: Can words hurt a candidate's election chances?

By LISI MERKLEY

Larger issues like the economy and immigration have frequently had racial sub-issues in past presidential elections. This year's election, however, features race as one of the main issues as President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden face off in a heated contest.

The deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery led to protests across the U.S. in a presidential election year also plagued by a pandemic that has been traced to China. The responses and rhetoric of both presidential candidates around these issues will likely play a role in how voters view them, and maybe how they vote.

Black Americans and the presidency

Both candidates have adapted their campaign strategies to encompass the recent uptick in protests surrounding racism and police brutality, but their rhetoric shows different purposes in addressing these issues, according to BYU political science professor Ethan Busby.

For the Trump campaign, addressing racism might be aimed more at "reassuring white Republicans that he's not racist" because Republican candidates are typically unlikely to receive a large portion of the minority vote, Busby said.

According to a Pew Research Center report from June, more people of color are registering to vote. In 1996, white voters made up 85% of registered voters, while today they make up 69%. However, this increase in registered voters among non-white groups is not evenly represented among the parties. More than 40% of Democratic voters are not white, compared to just under 20% of Republicans.

Trump's "Platinum Plan" promises to give Black Americans more jobs, increased higher education opportunities and "safe urban neighborhoods with highest policing standards."

This plan is not the only time Trump



President Donald Trump, left, and Democratic candidate Joe Biden speak at the final presidential debate on Oct. 22. Both candidates have made headlines for their rhetoric and policies around race after the protests this summer.

has mentioned policing and law enforcement. He has taken on the phrase "law and order" first used by Richard Nixon in 1968. Nixon used this phrase to garner the support of white southern Republicans and show he was on their side when it came to racial concerns. Busby said regardless of Trump's intentions, this phrase still carries many racial connotations and sends similar signals to white Republicans today.

"On the other side of that coin, I think it also sends signals to communities of color. It sort of brings up memories of, you know, brutal police crackdowns during race riots and it brings up sort of concerns about policing and equity in the justice system," Busby said.

More publicly, the Trump campaign chose to feature several Black supporters during the Republican National Convention, held Aug. 24-27. According to The New York Times, the convention had 19 people of color speak.

On March 15, Biden committed to choose a female vice president if he were to become the Democratic party's

nominee. Over the course of the summer as protests around police brutality and racism grew, he narrowed the list down to four Black women and eventually choose Kamala Harris, whose immigrant parents are from India and Jamaica.

But Biden's VP choice doesn't make him immune from slip-ups when it comes to how he addresses race and racism in the U.S., and some have concerns with his past politics, like his opposition to school busing and his support of a 1994 crime bill.

In a May interview on the "Breakfast Club," Biden implied Black voters shouldn't be voting for Trump at all. "If you have a problem figuring out whether you're for me or Trump then you ain't Black," he said.

Biden later apologized for that comment.

According to Busby, the difference between Biden's and Trump's rhetorical missteps when it comes to race lies in Biden's history of building relationships with the Black community. "He can make a gaffe like that and still maintain the support of African



AP Photo

Americans, for example, because he has a long history of reaching out to African American communities and a connection to prominent African American leaders like Barack Obama and others," Busby said.

Busby also said that while Trump's campaign might address race to reassure white Republicans the president isn't racist, Biden's comments are aimed at encouraging non-white Americans to engage in his campaign and eventually vote for him. "Increasingly, I think it's challenging for Democrats to win national elections if they can't get people of color really excited about their campaigns."

Interestingly, Biden's plans for Black Americans also address small business ownership for minorities and expanding access to higher education. However, his plan addresses racial inequalities in ways the Trump plan does not and points to fixing racial discrimination in housing, education, banking and health care.

Contrary to Trump's message of "law and order," Biden's plan for Black America seeks to "strengthen

America's commitment to justice."

The 'China Virus'

The current coronavirus pandemic was first identified in Wuhan, China, and since then governments across the globe have been working to end the pandemic. While both candidates have differing plans on how to handle the pandemic, the way they refer to the virus is different.

Trump has frequently bypassed using the term "coronavirus" and referred to the virus as the "China virus," "Chinese virus" or the "Kung flu." Most recently on Oct. 7, the president tweeted using the phrase "Chinese plague" and blamed the pandemic on China in a video posted from his Twitter account. BYU English professor Brian Jackson said there are multiple reasons for this.

First, he turns the common noun, coronavirus, into a proper noun, "which reassigns its value from impersonal nature to a specific national and cultural context." This calls back to COVID-19's assumed origins in China.

See RACE on Page 2

What's on the ballot in Provo? Amendments, propositions and bonds explained

By MARTHA HARRIS

Provo voters will have the chance to vote on nine measures, including seven Utah constitutional amendments, during the November 2020 general election.

On average, only four measures have appeared on each ballot for the general elections in Utah from 1995 to 2018, according to BallotPedia. There are seven Utah constitutional amendments, one county proposition and one Provo-specific measure for Provo voters to vote on during the 2020 general election.

Constitutional Amendment A

Amendment A would change gender-specific words in the Utah Constitution to be gender neutral. For example, in Article 1 section 1 the word "men" would be replaced with "persons." This amendment would only affect six out of the 237 sections in the Utah constitution, as a majority of the constitution already uses gender-neutral language.

The House and Senate voted unanimously for the proposed amendment at the 2019 Legislative General Session. No rebuttal or argument opposing the amendment was submitted to Utah's voter informational pamphlet.

Constitutional Amendment B

Amendment B is intended to clarify that a state legislator must be at least 25 years old at the time they are elected or appointed to office. The Utah Constitution currently doesn't clarify exactly when a person needs to be 25 in order to be eligible for office, only that they must be 25 years old. This amendment would clarify that a person does not need to be 25 when they file to run or at any other time before



Preston Crawley

Provo residents will have the chance to vote on nine measures this election. Scan this image with the **Universe Plus** app to read a Spanish translation of the story.

their election or appointment.

The House and Senate voted unanimously for the proposed amendment at the 2019 Legislative General Session. No rebuttal or argument opposing the amendment was submitted to Utah's voter informational pamphlet.

Constitutional Amendment C

Amendment C would remove language from the State Constitution that allows slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime. While slavery and involuntary servitude are otherwise banned in the constitution, this amendment would close the remaining loophole.

This amendment wouldn't impact Utah's prisons or criminal justice system. Democrat Rep. Sandra Hollins and Republican Sen. Jacob Anderegg wrote in their argument in favor of the amendment that other states have voted to remove similar language from their constitutions and haven't experienced any problems with their corrections systems.

The House and Senate voted unanimously for the proposed amendment at the 2019 Legislative General Session.

No rebuttal or argument opposing the amendment was submitted to Utah's voter informational pamphlet.

Constitutional Amendment D

Amendment D would allow municipalities (cities and towns) to sell or supply water outside of the municipality's boundaries. The amendment would also allow municipalities to define and set their water supply borders. The original purpose behind prohibiting cities and towns from selling water outside of their boundaries was to make sure that there was enough water for the people living in the city or town.

The House and Senate voted unanimously for the proposed amendment at the 2020 Legislative General Session. No rebuttal or argument opposing the amendment was submitted to Utah's voter informational pamphlet.

Constitutional Amendment E

Amendment E would grant individuals the constitutional right to hunting and fishing within the state. The amendment would also declare hunting and fishing as the preferred way of managing and controlling wildlife.

Hunting and fishing methods would still be regulated by the state.

The amendment wouldn't affect trespassing or property rights laws, or the state's duty to manage its lands and natural resources.

The proposed amendment passed 21-7 in the Senate and 59-11 in the House at the 2020 Legislative General Session.

Constitutional Amendment F

Amendment F would allow the state legislature more flexibility on when it begins its annual 45-day session. The Utah Constitution currently requires the session to begin on the fourth Monday in January, but the amendment would allow legislators to pick any day in January to start.

Legislators have changed the start date in the past to accommodate the 2002 Winter Olympics and proponents of the amendment argue that similar changes will be needed in the future.

The proposed amendment passed unanimously in the Senate and barely passed in the House with a 50-24 vote. No rebuttal or argument opposing the amendment was submitted to Utah's voter informational pamphlet.

Constitutional Amendment G

The current Utah Constitution states the money the state receives from income taxes can only be used for education funding. Amendment G would allow the state to also use that money for other state programs that support children or people with a disability.

Education groups like the Utah State Board of Education and the Utah PTA have supported the amendment. The proposed amendment passed 26-2 in the Senate and 67-5 in the House at the 2020 Legislative General Session.

Proposition 9

Executive and legislative decisions

in Utah County are currently made by three full-time commissioners who make up the Utah County Commission. Proposition 9 would move Utah County into a mayor-council form of government, consisting of five part-time council members to form the Utah County Council, and one county mayor. The mayor would be the county executive and the council would hold the legislative power.

Proponents for the proposition have argued that the mayor-council form would offer better representation and accountability, as the five council members would represent five geographical areas in Utah County. Over a dozen Utah County officials have voiced their support for the proposition.

Opponents of the proposition have argued that it would lead to an expansion of government and higher taxes. Some Utah County officials wrote in a rebuttal that the proposition would not increase taxes, but would keep the same budget and redistribute the mixture of full-time/part-time staff.

Provo City School District

The Provo City School District General Obligation Bond is for \$80 million to partially rebuild Timpview High School. A similar bond was proposed last year and failed to pass the 2019 general city elections. The proposed bond would increase property taxes by an average of \$70 per year, or \$.83 per month.

The Provo City Council has formally supported this bond after much debate.

The general election is on Tuesday, Nov. 3, and the registration deadline was Oct. 23. However, as of 2018, Utah voters can register at polling locations on the day of the election. Early voting started on Oct. 20 and absentee/mail ballots must be received by Nov. 2.

RACE

Debates highlight racial rhetoric

Continued from Page 1

Second, this renaming plays into one of Trump's common strategies of the "epitheton," which refers to adding adjectives or phrases to further characterize. In Trump's case, Jackson said it is used to convey blame or contempt. Trump has referred to his political rivals using this same strategy: "Sleepy Joe," "Crooked Hillary" or "Little Marco."

Third, this strategy deflects the blame from the U.S. and any potential mishandling of the virus away from Trump's administration.

However, Jackson said the use of the term "Kung flu" is worse than the other terms. "It continues an unfortunate legacy of anti-Chinese sentiment in the United States that has rolled on since the mid-nineteenth century. It's quite a feat to create a neologism that is both racist and scientifically misleading at the same time."

During the pandemic, Asian American communities have faced increased levels of harassment and racial profiling. The Asian Pacific Planning and Policy Council, Chinese for Affirmative Action, and the San Francisco Asian American Studies Department have been tracking some of these incidents. Just one week after launching their self-report form, they received 673 reports of coronavirus discrimination.

"A passenger on the subway platform was yelling about wanting to 'kill Chinese' for 'creating coronavirus.' I was with my 10-year old biracial child; there were three or four other Asian women on the platform, at least one was wearing a face mask. I caught his eye, and then he said he should push us onto the train tracks," one report read.

While there is no evidence that Trump's rhetoric directly impacted the rise in such cases, the group saw more reports after Trump began publicly using these terms and believed these terms and the president's "anti-Chinese rhetoric have entrenched racism and xenophobia in the public's perception of the coronavirus pandemic."

In comparison, Biden generally refers to the virus in scientific terms like "coronavirus" or "COVID-19."

White supremacy

Trump and Biden met for the first debate of the presidential election season on Sept. 29. During the debate, Biden said Trump never condemned white supremacy or neo-Nazis. When debate moderator Chis Wallace asked Trump to condemn white supremacists and right-wing militia groups, the president refused to directly condemn the groups.

While Trump has made statements condemning white supremacy (and later condemned white supremacist groups in a Fox News interview two days after the debate), his hesitancy to do so

in the first public debate left some questioning his motives.

According to Busby and BYU political science professor Adam Dynes, this is a pattern for Trump. Dynes gave the example of the president's comments after the 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville where white supremacists and anti-racism protestors clashed, leaving one dead and many injured.

On Aug. 14, 2017, the president delivered a statement condemning the violence and hatred at the rally. "Racism is evil. And those who cause violence in its name are criminals and thugs, including the KKK, neo-Nazis, white supremacists, and other hate groups that are repugnant to everything we hold dear as Americans."

However, the next day at a news conference, Trump said there "were very fine people on both sides" and blamed both sides for the violence.

According to Dynes, this tactic is commonly used by Trump to support those who support him and oppose those who oppose him, and these incidents are in line with his campaign's strategy to get his supporters out to vote.

Busby added that Trump usually makes these statements after receiving criticism and facing pressure for things that he said. It is Trump's pattern to sometimes take "maybe a more muddled, unclear position and then afterward really kind of fix it." One of the political reasons for this pattern could be trying to show Trump doesn't support white supremacists while not alienating white groups who might have concerns about racial progress.

"I think it is clear that his political coalition includes people who are maybe uneasy or unhappy with the current state of racial affairs in the United States that feel like they've been left behind. Whites who feel like they've been left behind, (and) whites who feel like racial progress has come at their expense," Busby said.

How will this affect voters?

While racism has been a larger topic in this year's presidential election, how the issue will affect voters has yet to be seen.

Dynes said a voter's party affiliation is still more likely to determine how that person votes than the recent rhetoric around race. "(But) people's racial considerations can also impact which party they identify with to begin with."

However, Dynes said Trump's rhetoric might turn away some voters, specifically moderate Republicans. "At the same time, it might attract some voters, and it seems to speak to (some parts of his base)," he said. "My sense of it overall, it hurts President Trump more than it helps in his reelection efforts."

On the left side, Busby said Biden's hesitancy to push Trump harder to condemn white supremacy during the debate, and Biden's gaffes about race leave some communities of color wanting to see the former vice president be more forceful in his own statements condemning racism.



Rebecca Nissen

A customer fills his truck with gasoline at a Maverik gas station in Springville. One of the big issues for the election is how both candidates will handle climate change.

Presidential candidates differ widely on future impact of environmental policies

By REBECCA NISSEN

America's election season includes a lot of discussion about the impact of climate change on the environment. Though not as hotly discussed as other topics during the recent debates, research shows that the action taken — or not taken — in the next few years could greatly impact the lives of people worldwide.

Trump's actions

Positions taken by both President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden on environmental policies are very different. Trump's actions regarding climate change have been focused on benefiting the working class. Changes that have been made since he was in office include pulling out of the Paris Accord, in addition to rolling back some Obama-era policies.

Throughout the first presidential debate, Trump continued to push his plan to address the nation's wildfire disasters through the Billion Tree Project.

During the vice presidential debate, Vice President Mike Pence further explained that he and Trump hope to reduce CO2 emissions through fracking, natural gas, and innovation. Pence did not share details.

Biden's plans

During the presidential debate, Biden proposed "\$2 trillion in green jobs," "ending the use of fossil fuels to generate electricity by 2035 and zero-emission of greenhouse gasses by 2050." Biden said he plans to transition the federal motor vehicle fleet to electric power, and will place "500,000 charging stations along all of the highways." He continued to say that the first thing he would do for the environment

would be to "(re)join the Paris Accord," an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change dealing with greenhouse-gas-emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance.

The agreement was signed in 2016 in the first year of President Barack Obama's administration, but Trump pulled the U.S. out of the deal last year.

During the vice presidential debate, candidate Kamala Harris clarified that Biden would not ban fracking.

According to researchers, the consequences of these actions play a large role in defining the sustainability and health of the United States.

How the public feels

Emilee Severe, a senior and president of the BYU Environmental Science Club, remarked on the lack of support Trump has shown for environmental policies.

"He's not really well known for the policies that he's implemented, but all the policies that he's rolled back. And so, that's alarmed a lot of people in the environmental community," Severe said. Then speaking about Biden, she said, "Climate change and environmental policies are really at the core of his election campaign."

Zachary Bryan, a sophomore studying pre-business, shared his opinion regarding how the two leading presidential candidates are approaching these environmental policies.

Bryan said he doesn't agree with Biden's campaign, but he also doesn't agree with "the regulations and policies (Trump) has been rolling back."

"While I appreciate the idea of helping the economy, I believe that we also have a responsibility to care for the environment," Bryan said. However, he also emphasized

that he does not appreciate "excessive government spending."

Ben Abbott, an assistant professor of Plant and Wildlife Sciences, said although Democrats and Republicans have different opinions on the cause of climate change, many people from both parties still don't know how the system of climate change works.

"Neither side understands it very well," Abbott said. He noted how climate change is a scientific issue that people may or may not accept based on their culture. "What we should really do is look at the science."

Abbott said while environmental policies have become a partisan issue, it is not a partisan issue for researchers. The scientific process that he and others follow has an "extreme level of scrutiny" that must be passed for research to be published. According to Abbott, scientists have shown that "humans are causing climate change." He stated further that the consequences of "continuing down" the current path would be bad. However, Abbott noted that changes don't only need to be made on a national scale.

"Economically, many legislators look to the state level to say what is possible," he said.

Community involvement

George Handley, the current chair of the Provo City Council, said Provo is in "control of (its) own fate in some ways." He said the city is "less vulnerable to political swings from left to right."

Although changes to help the environment can and are being made at the local level, Handley said that change also depends on decisions made both nationally and internationally.

"In the meantime, there are all kinds of real practical local impacts that can have for the

better," Handley said.

BYU economics professor Arden Pope III is among researchers studying environmental impacts. One of the research projects conducted by Pope, Joel Schwartz, and Michael Ransom examined air pollution in Utah County from the spring of 1985 to the winter of 1989. The study found an association between the number of deaths and the amount of pollution in Utah Valley.

In an interview, Pope said the studies he and his colleagues conducted were "quite controversial" at the time, particularly because Geneva Steel was one of the county's largest employers and biggest polluters. However, there have since been multiple studies published that have done a similar sort of analysis.

Even more recent studies have shown that air pollution contributes to disease. Environmental issues could also branch into and impact other policies. There could even be a potential connection between air pollution and the number of COVID-19 deaths, he said. However, Pope noted that it's too soon to be forming reliable scientific conclusions about a strong association between the two.

In order to address the issues regarding the correlation between air pollution and death, steps must be taken to improve the environment. According to Pope, Handley and Abbott, wisely working to improve the environment should not negatively impact the economy.

"The simple story of 'Oh, it's either the economy or the environment' is simply not true," Abbott said.

Handley's opinion fell closely in line with Abbott's. "I'm rather persuaded by the arguments that moving in a green direction doesn't necessarily mean hurting the economy."

THE UNIVERSE

Serving the Brigham Young University Community

October 27 - November 2, 2020 ■ Volume 74, Issue 9 ■ universe.byu.edu
152 BRMB, BYU, Provo, Utah 84602

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The Universe is a product of The Daily Universe and is an official publication of Brigham Young University and is produced as a cooperative enterprise of students and faculty. It is published as a laboratory newspaper by the College of Fine Arts and Communications and the School of Communications under the direction of a professional management staff.

The Universe is published weekly except during vacation periods.

The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the student body, faculty, university administration, Board of Trustees or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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Advertising & Circulation 801-422-7102

Police Beat

BYU

THEFT

Oct. 17 - A child's bicycle was stolen from Wyview Park.

Oct. 18 - A student tried buying shoes over social media at Heritage Halls. After sending the payment the student was blocked by the seller, and no merchandise was received in exchange.

Oct. 19 - A wallet was reported stolen from a student's unlocked vehicle in a parking lot near the Life Science Building.

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Oct. 17 - A fire was reported near the Y trail. The area was checked and no fire was found.

DISTURBANCE

Oct. 15 - Students were caught

riding down the bell tower ramp in laundry baskets.

Provo

PROPERTY THEFT

Oct. 17 - Property theft was reported near 2100 West on Center Street.

Oct. 18 - Property theft was reported near 1100 South on State Street.

Oct. 18 - A bicycle was reported stolen and the U-lock broken near 600 West and 1720 North.

Oct. 18 - A bicycle was reported stolen near 600 East and 600 North.

Oct. 18 - Property theft was reported at a residence near 3900 North on Foothill Drive.

Oct. 19 - Property theft was reported near 1300 North on State Street.

Oct. 21 - Vehicle parts were reported stolen near 900 East and 700 North.

Oct. 21 - Vehicle parts were reported stolen near 400 South

and 1600 West.

Oct. 21 - Property theft was reported near 1000 North and 500 West.

Oct. 22 - Property theft was reported near 400 North and 100 West.

Oct. 22 - A bicycle was reported stolen from a residence near 1200 West and 580 North.

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT

Oct. 19 - An automobile with the key left inside was reported stolen from a residential driveway near 800 East and 2620 North.

Oct. 21 - An automobile with the key left inside was reported stolen near 300 South and 2470 West.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Oct. 18 - Forcible sexual abuse was reported near 200 West on Cougar Boulevard.

Oct. 19 - An individual reported being raped by someone they were in a relationship with near 600 South and 500 West.

Signs and symbols in 2020 presidential campaigns



Associated Press

People walk outside the Curb Event Center at Belmont University Oct. 20 ahead of the Oct. 22 final presidential debate.

By MADDIE MEHR

There's a lot more to presidential debates and speeches than what candidates say out loud.

"Whether or not we see the influence of symbols, they're there. We may not be able to articulate that influence, but it certainly plays a part in our own interpretation of political messages," said BYU communications professor and media scholar Scott Church.

One of Church's research interests is a field called semiotics. "To someone I'm not teaching I would say (semiotics is) trying to understand what something means to us as an audience. What something means to our politics, to our attitudes, to our values. How language and image can come together to create a certain meaningful message to an audience."

Church teaches a class called Popular Culture and Media, in which he helps students analyze subliminal messages in pop culture "texts," which may include everything from fashion and films to shopping malls and architecture, the course syllabus says. Church said it's also important to pay attention to these messages in politics.

"It's not just about policy anymore," Church said, explaining that in today's era of televised debates, image plays a much greater role than in the day-long, in-person debates of Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas.

Underlying messages used by candidates include clothing, colors and hairstyle, Church said.

"(Former Vice President Joe Biden) is a savvy politician. He knows the power of signs and symbols, and that is most obvious in his masks that he wears," Church said.

Church also pointed out Biden's choice of Kamala Harris as his running mate, who could potentially be the first Black woman to serve as vice president of the United States, as a semiotic move, as well as Biden's meme-inspired dance to "Despacito" during a speech to Latino voters.

The signs and symbols used by President Donald Trump are also important to note, Church said. "He is trying to create himself into an icon, a business and a political icon. That's why it's very important for him to maintain that hairstyle."

Public speaking professor and bestselling author Kurt Mortensen said looking for unspoken messages in the candidates' behavior can help viewers find deception.

"It takes a lot of mental bandwidth to lie, so you're going to see in your face that it's going," Mortensen said. He said to look for made-up facial expressions in candidates because when someone is pretending to show anger they will often hold the expression too long.

Other signs of possible deception include vocal filters, repetitions, slower sentences or increased blinking, according to Mortensen. He also said when people lie they tend to distance themselves and take up more space. However, he said identifying one of those signs doesn't prove the politician is lying.

Mortensen said viewers should observe the speaker

in a relaxed environment and identify what mannerisms the speaker does naturally. Then, he said, audiences should look for "clusters," three or four of the abnormal behaviors like avoiding eye contact, increased stuttering or significantly slowing down mid-speech. Even then, Mortensen said it is difficult to detect deception in politicians because, like rule-breaking teenagers, they practice their lies.

"It has to be a question that throws them off, hits an emotional trigger, that's where you're going to see a lot of these things come out," Mortensen said.

Ultimately, Mortensen said the effect of these unspoken messages is limited because most viewers who watch the debates and speeches have already made up their minds.

Political science professor Quin Monson, who does research in public opinion, campaigns and elections, said debates have a small impact on voting and most people will hear about the debate from friends and family or from after-the-fact news coverage.

Church said it's important to recognize signs and symbols used by politicians not only to reach a more informed decision on a candidate but also to become more media-literate in general.

"It's also important as well to try to be mindful of these things and take a step back and understand that they're persuasive, but also how they're persuasive," he said. "And being able to ask those questions can help us do the needed research and be more informed to make the best vote possible."



Lauren Johnson

Utah voters can use resources such as the Utah Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission website to become more informed about the judges on their ballot.

Judging Utah's judges: Judicial confirmations on the ballot

By KAELA CLEARY

Utah voters have the opportunity to evaluate their local judges during the November election, and the Utah Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission (JPEC) is here to help.

According to the commission, one of its goals is to "collect and disseminate valid information about each judge's performance so that voters may make informed decisions about whether or not to retain that judge in office." It also provides judges with feedback about their performance, which improves the quality of the judiciary as a whole.

"Voters just get a yes or no question on their ballot and are asked if the judge may continue to serve another term," said Jennifer Yim, JPEC's executive director.

Before appearing on a ballot, Yim said Utah judges get appointed, not elected, by a bipartisan nominating commission. A list of qualified candidates is then given to the governor. If the state Senate

approves, there's a new judge on the bench to serve for a 3-year term, she said.

Yim said voters can see JPEC's merit-based evaluations for each judge online. She recommended voters treat judges like any other candidates on the ballot, and extend research beyond just looking at evaluations.

This year almost every judge on the ballot has a unanimous vote of approval from the nominating commission, except for Tooele Justice Court Judge John Dow who received a 9-3 vote. According to the JPEC 2020 report on Dow, last fall he sent a "short, graphic video by group text to court staff," which resulted in a lower recommendation to retain him.

"The Commission finds the judge's actions deeply concerning, though it recognizes that the judge has taken responsibility for his actions," the JPEC's 2020 report says about Dow.

Yim said Utah judges are not allowed to campaign and promote themselves.

"I would rather have my judges busy doing their jobs as judges, not taking the time

to campaign to raise money, which I think could potentially influence their ability to be impartial," Yim said.

Utah County Clerk Amelia Powers Gardner said the best way to make sure the court system is fair is to have a type of check and balance on judges.

"Judicial retention on our ballot is that check to make sure that we have judges in our community that reflect what the community feels is the best interpretation of the law," Gardner said.

Yim said judges are essential to be informed about because they are heavily involved in decision making when it comes to social justice issues and equal justice issues.

"(Citizens) care very strongly, very deeply about those issues and citizens don't get an opportunity to weigh in on every aspect of their justice system in official ways. But voting on judges is one way that they do have a say," Yim said.

Voters can visit JPEC's website for information about judges who appear on the 2020 ballot.

TODAY

UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL
Tuesday, October 27,
11:05 a.m.

This event will be streamed live and available for viewing on BYUtv.



President Dallin H. Oaks

*First Counselor in the First Presidency,
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*

Dallin H. Oaks was sustained and set apart as first counselor in the First Presidency and president of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in January 2018.

A native of Provo, President Oaks is a graduate of Brigham Young University and of the University of Chicago Law School. He practiced law and taught law in Chicago. He was president of Brigham Young University from 1971 to 1980 and a justice of the Utah Supreme Court from 1980 until

his resignation in 1984 to accept his calling to the apostleship.

President Oaks has been an officer or member of the board of many business, educational, and charitable organizations. He is the author or coauthor of many books and articles on religious and legal subjects.

President Oaks is married to Kristen McMain Oaks, who has a doctor's degree from BYU. His family includes his wife, June (who died 1998), also a BYU graduate; six children; 29 grandchildren; and 65 great-grandchildren.

Selected speeches available at speeches.byu.edu.

NEXT: UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL

Jamie L. Jensen
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BYU College of Life Sciences*



November 3,
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Preston Crawley

The BYU College Democrats and Republicans clubs are both preparing for the upcoming presidential election. Both clubs have had to adapt to holding events during the pandemic and the unusually heated election.

BYU College Democrats hope to make an impact before election

By MICKEY RANDLE

A group of students BYU students gathered one Thursday in September for a discussion about issues they believed would impact the rest of their lives. It occurred, like most meetings mid-pandemic, via Zoom but was nonetheless well attended, at least for an academic club.

Sara Kroger, the co-president of the BYU College Democrats, opened the meeting by playing popular music while the attendees digitally filed in. Kroger mentioned that her co-president, Abby Ryan, was self-isolating due to exposure to the COVID-19 virus, and could therefore not attend the meeting.

Kroger was followed by the introduction of several other masked students who had gathered in the same room and stood in front of a green screen. They announced their names, positions, and the issues they are passionate about, which included LGBTQ rights and environmental policy.

As the 2020 election approaches, college Democrats nationwide are in a unique position.

According to a study conducted earlier this year, a large number of college students were uninterested in voting during the 2020 election season. However, following the outbreak of the COVID-19 epidemic and the killing of George Floyd, a different study conducted by the Knight Foundation shows divergent results.

A sample of 4,000 college students nationwide suggested that seven in 10 are "absolutely certain" that they will vote in the upcoming election. Of those, 81% who identify as Democrats say they will definitely vote. A majority of all students plan to vote for Joe Biden, though overall enthusiasm for both candidates is reported to be low.

The BYU Democrats, however, live in a state that consistently votes red. BYU also leans to the right on the spectrum of politics, if not in physical majority then certainly in reputation, at a time when political division is at an all-time high.

Gracia Lee, the club officer in charge of social media, feels the division. She said she often gets angry messages via the club's Instagram page. Lee said most of these messages don't come from current BYU students.

Lee has been a member of the College Democrats since her freshman year. She identifies as a woman of color, though she notes that she is often mistaken for a white person. Lee said that's one of her reasons for being active in the club.

"I've been surprised to see such a large 'Students for Trump' movement, to be honest," Lee said. She also referenced videos and pictures of gatherings on behalf of Students for Trump group meetings showing students who are not wearing masks and who do not appear to be social distancing.

Still, the BYU Democrats is the largest academic club on campus, according to Lee and other club officers. They said they have a harmonious relationship with the College

Republicans, whom they work with to plan events like debates.

Lee said some students view the club as a sort of haven for students who may belong to marginalized communities, citing LGBTQ students as an example. She also noted that the club is not for the far left and that quite a lot of the leaders are moderate Democrats. The main goal of the club, according to Lee, is to ensure that everyone can get involved in politics.

Luke Romney, a freshman from Salt Lake City, was invited to become a club officer shortly after creating the Instagram account BYUQ24, which he said is dedicated to fostering a community between queer students and allies in the BYU class of 2024.

Romney's responsibilities deal entirely with voter registration. He said this will be a difficult task at BYU because a large number of students are not from Utah. This means requesting an absentee ballot, which can take a number of steps. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, even students from Utah plan to vote by mail. Romney said this can even include printing out various documents. He plans to do his best to help students navigate the registration process.

Romney plans to vote for Biden.

"It's essentially a matter of policy. In my personal opinion, that's why you should vote for people. The things that he's promised to push and prioritize in his presidency are things that are important to me."

As a Democrat and member of the LGBTQ+ community, Romney says he does feel some political contention on campus. He thinks it's unfortunate that issues like wearing masks have become politicized. Still, Romney notes that his overall experience at BYU has been positive.

As far as cooperation with the Republican Party goes, Trenton Borders is perhaps the most involved. Borders works closely with the BYU College GOP to plan events like debates.

Borders is a finance major who has been interested in Democratic politics for a while, noting climate change as a particularly significant issue. He believes that there is some on-campus tension between the two ideals, but said he does not feel this persistently.

Borders said most of the conflict comes from un-sanctioned groups, like the aforementioned Students for Trump movement and other initiatives that feel BYU as a whole is becoming too liberal.

Like the other members of the BYU Democrats, Borders stressed the need for political involvement rather than partisan conflict.

"Having a moral leader in the White House, making good policy decisions, leading less-developed nations to climate and human rights policies, I think those are real moral choices that we can make as a country and I think that we have an obligation to do so as one of the wealthiest countries in the world," Borders said.

The BYU Democrats focus on political involvement in the general sense. Other students take a more direct approach.

Broderik Craig is one such student. He attended a Utah for Biden training meeting via Zoom and organized the BYU Students for Biden chapter.

BYU Students for Biden is not directly affiliated with the BYU Democrats, though it does promote events organized by the initiative, and gave time to a representative during their opening social.

Craig said all of the campaign's events have been or will be virtual, due to the pandemic and the fact that the club is not directly affiliated with BYU either. The events include debate watch parties and policy discussions.

BYU Students for Biden is, according to Craig, about becoming an informed voter. The students behind the initiative said it's important to educate fellow students, especially to let them know that they have the power to choose a candidate who represents them.

"Trump does not represent our values, especially as Latter-day Saints. When it comes to his policies, to his character, he's just not what we need as president, and to represent us at BYU," Craig said.

Among those who agree with Craig is Aurora Golden-Appleton, who is also involved with the BYU Students for Biden campaign after spending a summer working with the state senate.

"I believe Joe Biden is a principled candidate who is in the single best position to maintain and improve American democracy for all at this current precipice, and that's why I'm supporting him," said Golden-Appleton.

BYU professor Jacob Rugh recently reported projections based on a small survey that Biden will win many of the voting precincts surrounding BYU. If so, it would be the first time a Democratic candidate has won in two generations.

BYU College Republicans wary of sharing their support online

By NICK GLEDHILL

Members of the BYU College Republicans club are confident that President Donald Trump will be re-elected on Nov. 3, and club president Samuel Crofts said 2020 is an especially important election for students in Provo.

"For a lot of people our age, these are really formative years in terms of our opinions," Crofts said. "Lots of people are telling you how to think or to feel, so elections are a good way to evaluate what issues are important to you."

While Crofts said Trump isn't a perfect candidate, he feels optimistic about his re-election.

"Donald Trump is our guy," Crofts said. "He best reflects the ideals of the BYU College Republicans. There's a lot of debate on what the proper role of government should be, and Trump offers a better plan for the proper role of government."

Crofts recommended that any student still on the fence consult their non-political friends and economics professors in making their decision. Both Democrat and Republican pundits and commentators have described the 2020 election as a "battle for the heart and soul of America."

John McHenry, a junior in Middle-Eastern studies and Arabic, agrees with this assertion.

"This is an absolutely important election," McHenry said. "There's a big divide in the country right now, and I think the issue is becoming more about whether or not we want to preserve the traditional America that our grandparents had or not."

McHenry, like Crofts, is optimistic about Trump's chances of re-election.

"He was the best candidate

in 2016 and he's the candidate today," McHenry said. "He has taken a hard stance on two major policies: immigration and trade. His best hope of re-election is to stick to the issues that got him elected in the first place."

Yet, like many Americans across the country, McHenry is hesitant to share his political beliefs on social media for fear of the response he may get.

"I don't talk about my political views online," McHenry said. "I don't see a point in that. I fear I might be ostracized by those in my friend circles. It may create a wedge between me and others."

Other Republicans on campus are emphasizing different ideals, such as American exceptionalism. Isabelle Walker, a freshman studying anthropology, said the 2020 election is particularly scary to her.

"I feel like the election is about American values at its core and loving America," Walker said. "Values like American exceptionalism and patriotism are at stake. I know so many people in the middle politically that have decided they're going with Donald Trump because of his stance on American exceptionalism."

Walker's reference to American exceptionalism comes from Trump's proposed "1776 Commission," an educational commission for the support of patriotic education the president said on Sept. 17 he would create by executive order.

"Looking at history objectively is important," Walker said. "But I think appreciating America is important, and today's 'cancel culture' of American values is scary to me."

Walker said she feels optimistic about Trump's re-election, adding that he is the only candidate who has a clear plan

for the next four years.

"I feel like Joe Biden is vague in the things he wants to accomplish, and I believe the last debate reflected that," Walker said.

She reflected on how the election has affected her and her hesitancy to openly speak about her political beliefs on campus.

"I'm from Arkansas," Walker said. "There, I would talk freely about my politics. Here, I feel almost scared to wear my Trump gear and announce my support for Donald Trump. I haven't been able to be as bold for Donald Trump as I have back home. I'll often hear my professors denounce Trump during class when politics have nothing to do with the lecture."

English student and Republican Sydney Hendershot has also noticed the effects of the election coming to campus. She said this is one of the most important elections the country has ever had.

"There are a lot of things each side is promising," Hendershot said. With Democrats trying to fend off the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett, Trump's new Supreme Court justice nominee, in the days before the election, "Trump is trying to shoehorn (in) a new justice, I'm just excited."

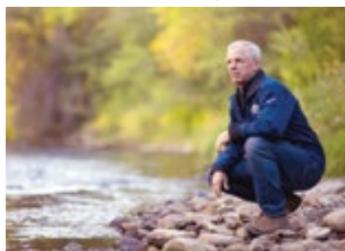
Like her Republican counterparts, Hendershot is confident that Trump will be re-elected for an additional term.

"I don't think the Democrats are putting their best foot forward," Hendershot said. "As they make their policies more severe, people will look for someone more moderate." Hendershot said. "I'm not a huge fan with the way Trump has handled the recent protests, but I think he will be re-elected. He gets hated a lot more than he deserves."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BYU COLLEGES

IRA A. FULTON COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Professor develops software with NASA that predicts severe weather patterns



Jim Nelson

A BYU professor teamed up with NASA to develop software that uses predictions of severe weather patterns to save lives across the world. Jim Nelson and his colleagues at the Group on Earth Observations Global Water Sustainability Partnership have developed a technology that predicts the way that every river on earth rises and falls.

The BYU software program, called NASA SERVIR, has already been distributed to more than 30 countries, applying satellite monitoring and mapping systems that help people respond to floods, wildfires and other disasters. The program is even accessible in remote conditions through cloud servers. SERVIR has already been put to the test. It prevented an enormous loss of life in July when it predicted a flood in Nepal and contacted emergency agencies there.

J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SCHOOL

Alum chosen to mentor youths in developing Ukraine democracy



Scott Smith and youths

A BYU Law alum was chosen to mentor and teach young law students in Ukraine's emerging democracy. The Leavitt Institute for International Development sent Scott Smith on a two-week trip to Ukraine in spring 2019. Smith and a colleague from Nebraska visited groups at 14 universities in Kyiv and Kharkiv to teach about general principles of Western democracies as well as how to apply those ideas in Ukraine.

Smith said the students he met with reminded him of America's founding fathers because of their earnest commitment to and belief in the power of democracy. Ukraine became part of the Soviet Union after World War II and only gained independence in 1991 at the end of the Cold War, putting this brand-new generation of lawyers in an uncertain situation much like the one early American patriots dealt with in the Revolutionary War.

COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES

Students fight wildfires with preventive seed enhancements



Matt Madsen and student

Students studying plant and wildlife sciences are fighting wildfires with preventive seed enhancements. BYU professor Matt Madsen and his students studied how wildfire-ravaged landscapes in the Great Basin become the perfect breeding ground for extremely flammable weeds, perpetuating a cycle of wildfires. This team hopes to stop that cycle by reintroducing native fire-resistant plants in an enhanced way that has never been used before in landscape restoration: by utilizing seed coatings usually used for commercial farming.

One species they're working with, bluebunch wheatgrass, has already shown a 60% increase in plant emergence from using the seed-enhancers. Madsen is confident the plants will begin a new cycle of positive growth if they survive this first year on the landscape.

BYU Football gives fans a show

Rankings climb with 52-14 win over Texas State



Preston Crawley

Clockwise from top: Quarterback Zach Wilson runs with the football against Texas State on Oct. 24 at LaVell Edwards Stadium. Lopini Katoa celebrates after the opening touchdown for the Cougars. Zach Wilson scans the field for a receiver. Dax Milne takes a bow after catching a 45-yard touchdown pass from Zach Wilson for his fifth score of the season.

By MAX CLARK

Six thousand fans were scattered throughout LaVell Edwards Stadium as Zach Wilson led the No. 12 BYU Cougars to a convincing victory over the Texas State Bobcats, 52-14, and extended their undefeated record to 6-0.

The win was enough to move the Cougars up one spot in both national polls. BYU now sits at No. 11 in the AP Top 25 and No. 10 in the Amway Coaches Poll.

Texas State opened the game with a quick drive down the field, culminating with a 19-yard touchdown pass to Marcell Barbee. The Bobcats came out hot, finding weak points in the BYU defense that they would struggle to attack later in the game.

The Cougars then responded with four consecutive touchdown drives, outscoring the Bobcats 35-0 the remainder of the first half.

Lopini Katoa opened the scoring for the Cougars with a four-yard rush, scoring the 20th touchdown of

his career and fourth of the Cougars' 2020 campaign.

Wilson nearly snapped his no-interception streak with an intended pass for Dax Milne late in the first quarter, but the pick was negated by a pass interference call on Texas State's junior cornerback Jarron Morris. The penalty proved fatal for the Bobcats, as Wilson and the Cougars marched down the field and scored shortly thereafter with a 33-yard touchdown reception for freshman Keanu Hill, his first as a Cougar.

The Cougars continued their successful trickery this season with a pass from receiver Neil Pau'u to quarterback Wilson for a gain of 16 yards. Wilson's reception set up Tyler Allgeier for a rushing touchdown from inside the red zone.

Wilson fumbled a snap on the BYU 10-yard line on the next drive, setting the Bobcats up for first and goal with four minutes to go in the second half. BYU's defense came up with a huge stop, however, keeping the Bobcats from converting and forcing a turnover on downs.

The Cougars regained possession

where they originally lost it and ran a quick two-minute drill to increase their lead 35-7 at the half. Wilson connected with Milne for a 45-yard touchdown on the drive, giving the receiver his fifth score of the season.

Texas State held BYU to three downs to start the second half, but gifted BYU an automatic first down after roughing BYU kicker Ryan Rehkwon on his punt.

Wilson then led the Cougars down the field for their sixth touchdown of the night. He completed a 30-yard pass to junior tight end Isaac Rex to give the Cougars a 49-7 lead.

The Cougars scored on all but one drive before pulling Wilson to give Baylor Romney some reps in the pocket. Wilson finished the game completing 19-of-25 pass attempts for 287 yards and four touchdowns. Wilson's fumbled snap was the Cougars' only turnover while the Heisman contender was under center.

Isaiah Kaufusi hauled in a pick-six for the Cougars immediately following Rex's touchdown. It was his first interception of the season and

BYU's first touchdown on defense since 2018.

After punts from both sides, the Bobcats got back on the scoreboard for the first time since their opening drive, ending the Cougars' 49-0 run. Barbee scored his second touchdown of the night on a 20-yard reception.

Rehkwon rushed for 49 yards on the following drive after keeping the ball on fourth-and-inches, setting up kicker Jake Oldroyd to secure another three points for the Cougars.

BYU forced a second interception on Bobcat quarterback Brady McBride, with redshirt senior Jared Kapsi securing the pick this time, his first of the season. The turnover all but sealed the 38-point win for BYU.

The four-touchdown performance from Wilson helped maintain his spot in the Heisman race and gained more NFL attention for the junior, who is climbing as high as the first round in some draft projections.

The Cougars will look to keep the unbeaten streak alive when they host Western Kentucky on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 8:15 p.m. in Provo.

'It feels good to be back' – fans return to Stadium



Preston Crawley

BYU football fans attend the first game of the season with fans allowed on Oct. 24.

By CALEB TURNER

BYU Football played its first home game of the season with fans in attendance against Texas State on Oct. 24, with 6,000 people in the crowd due to COVID-19 guidelines.

"It feels good to be back in LaVell Edwards Stadium finally," John Hunt said on Twitter.

BYU originally intended to allow 6,000 fans at the home opener against Troy on Sept. 26, but was forced to go without a crowd due to the pandemic risk level in Provo.

It wasn't until the fourth home game almost a month later that fans were allowed at long last.

"It's been so long since we have been," Twitter user @mermakeupRae said. "The disappointment that we keep being met with by the fans not being able to go has made it hard."

Though football was obviously the main attraction, fans expressed excitement over many aspects of the game-day experience, including the food and atmosphere.

"We're excited for the Cougartails, bright lights and finally being home with our Cougar family in LaVell's House," Derek Chandler said on Twitter. "It's a special spirit and feeling in there."

BYU encouraged fans to adhere to three main guidelines in order to maintain safety and health in the stadium: wear a mask, social distance and stay in their assigned seat.

The team released a series of videos featuring players reiterating these three main guidelines ahead of the game.

Concessions were limited during the game, and vendors were not allowed to accept cash. The water fountains were taped off, but each fan received a complimentary water bottle when they entered the stadium.

The marching band and cheerleaders returned to the stadium along with fans, helping to create the classic game-day atmosphere with songs and loud cheers before and after big plays.

The Cougarettes dance team performed live for the first time this season during a timeout in the first half, but Cosmo, the mascot, was not a part of the routine.

Singer Alex Boyé joined the BYU marching band in a performance of "My Shot" from the Broadway musical "Hamilton" during halftime.

Activities and games such as the T-shirt toss returned to keep fans entertained during the time between drives and quarters.

In a year and semester full of new and different experiences, a sense of normalcy and comfort returned to LaVell Edwards Stadium with the return of fans and the college football atmosphere in Provo.

The 6,000 fans allowed were just a tenth of what the stadium can hold, but the anxious crowd and marching band were able to fill the air with sound and cheering.

One fan on Cougarboard even said that he preferred the spaced-out seating with fewer fans in the stadium.

"Man, I could get used to this," Cougarboard user kccougar said. "I brought the big stadium chairs with my feet up on the bench in front of me. This may be the most comfortable game experience ever."

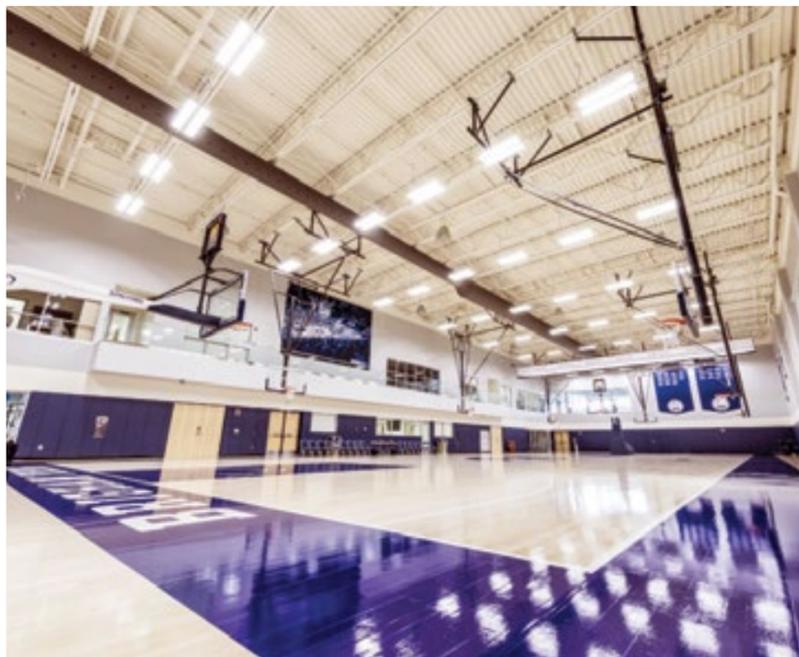
BYU has three remaining home games against Western Kentucky, North Alabama and San Diego State. The team has mentioned hopes to be able to allow an increased number of fans at future games.



BYU Photo

Caleb Lohner dunks in practice as Matt Haarms looks on. Lohner is an athletic and versatile forward for head coach Mark Pope to add into his squad.

Inside the BYU Basketball 'bubble'



BYU Photo/Nate Edwards

The annex has a full-length replica of the Marriott Center floor, as well as half court shooting areas at both ends. It has proved to be much more valuable than just a practice facility in the last few months.

Getting to know BYU Basketball transfer Caleb Lohner

By CAMERON MUH

High-flying, athletic forward Caleb Lohner joins a Cougar team coming off a season that had high NCAA Tournament hopes, going 24-8 before the season was cut short.

Originally signing with the University of Utah, Lohner received a release from the Utes and was able to sign with BYU in the offseason.

"I chose BYU because I want to win," Lohner said. "And I want to be surrounded by guys that are going to push me to be the best I can be, every day in practice."

Lohner has a reputation as a winner himself. In two seasons at Wasatch Academy in Mount Pleasant, Utah, his dominant team went 53-6. Last season for the Tigers he averaged 14.3 points, 5.8 rebounds, 1.7 assists and 1.3 steals per game.

"Playing for Coach David Evans and all the guys we had on our team last year was so fun," Lohner said. "The development, competing in

practice every day, traveling around the country and playing games was so fun."

The fun continued for Lohner as he made the move to BYU over the summer. Lohner said one of head coach Mark Pope's mantras is to get better every day, which means "getting in the gym every day, working hard and having fun doing it."

Pope talked about Lohner's impact on the team in a recent press conference.

"Caleb brings a sweet spirit into our practices in the sense of he just wants to get better and he's clearly got a really high ceiling," Pope said.

The environment and possibilities at BYU have stuck out to Lohner so far in his time in Provo.

"I think all the different opportunities, and the cool people you meet and the people you can have an influence on — BYU has so much to offer in every aspect of life," Lohner said. "Being part of the BYU Athletics family, I've only been here for a few months and I've already seen all the love, all the support and all the resources I have."

He also said that playing at BYU "is the coolest thing in the world and such a blessing."

Lohner plays a variety of different positions. He can play down low in the post, knock down mid-range jumpers, or spread the floor and shoot the three.

At 6-foot-8, 215 pounds, Lohner looks to bring versatility to the team.

"I love to be able to help the team in whatever way they need me to," Lohner said. "I think with the body I have, and the athleticism, there are so many different things I can do for the team, whether it be on defense or offense, just everything."

Lohner was the last transfer of the summer, signing in late June. Also joining the Cougars were Gideon George, Matt Haarms and Brandon Averette.

Off the court, Lohner is interested in film and cinematography. He loves music, enjoys fruit snacks as a pre- or post-game meal, and said that Hawaiian barbecue spots Mo' Bettahs or Sweets are his favorite places to eat in Provo.

By CAMERON MUH

Professional leagues like the NBA, WNBA, and MLS have successfully completed recent seasons in "bubble" environments due to COVID-19. Similarly, the BYU basketball teams have their own bubble right here in Provo.

The Marriott Center Annex, which was fully funded by private donations, acts as team headquarters for the men's and women's basketball teams. Both players and coaches have spoken to its importance during the pandemic.

Earlier this summer, men's basketball forward Matt Haarms talked about how the team goes straight from their apartments to the annex, calling it a sort of "tunnel" to avoid exposure to the virus.

"We've been really fortunate because we've had this annex and we can lock it down where nobody can come in here and we can kind of be

in a bubble," women's basketball head coach Jeff Judkins said. "We've had good opportunities to be able to do more things than other programs probably."

Throughout the summer and into fall semester, the annex was closed to the public. Entry is via fingerprint access only, and all media availability sessions have been held over Zoom, both of which have been key in helping keep the teams healthy and maintaining the bubble.

"You know this annex has been really, really good for us," men's basketball head coach Mark Pope said. "It gives us a chance to kind of get in here and be quarantined, to be safe when we're working out."

The Marriott Center Annex, dedicated on Feb. 7, 2017, stands adjacent to the BYU Broadcasting Building and connects to the east end of the Marriott Center. At 38,000 square feet, it houses office suites for both coaching staffs, meeting rooms, a

training room, a strength and conditioning center which boasts cryotherapy and hydrotherapy, team lounges, film rooms, and the main practice facility courts.

"I'm grateful to the university administration and the Board of Trustees who were incredibly supportive in our efforts to build this remarkable facility," Athletic Director Tom Holmoe said upon its completion. "I'm also appreciative of the many donors and skilled construction workers who made this dream a reality. This is an exciting day for BYU Basketball."

The annex gives players 24/7 access, so they can come in and work out before their morning classes, or get shots up late into the night.

While the original purpose was to centralize the teams' facilities and give them an alternate practice site when the Marriott Center was unavailable, the annex has been a crucial piece in helping both teams safely prepare for their upcoming seasons this year.

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Left, Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden speaks to a Pennsylvania crowd on Oct. 24. Right, President Donald Trump boards Air Force One to travel to Florida Oct. 23. Both candidates have shared different plans for the U.S. economy.

AP Photo

U.S. economy has changed 180 degrees since January: How will it impact the election?

By NATHAN WANLASS

The economy is usually a relevant issue during a presidential election, even during war time or, in 2020, the war against COVID-19. If employment and wages are up, the incumbent's chance of reelection historically rises.

Unfortunately for President Donald Trump, COVID-19 changed the framework of the economy, creating an entirely different political landscape than what existed in January.

COVID-19: An economic hit

When the global pandemic spread across the United States, many employers had to lay off their workers. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate went from an impressive 3.5% to a dismal 14.7% in the span of two months.

Not all states have been impacted equally, and Utah has done well in its overall economic stability. Val Hale, executive director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, highlighted Utah's low unemployment rate — which is second only to Nebraska in the United States.

"There is no doubt that COVID-19 had a fairly dramatic impact," Hale said. "Depending on the industry, some businesses have thrived and others have been decimated. The hospitality industry was hit hard, but outdoor recreation, restaurants and mail-order industries are hitting record-highs."

Hale said he doubts Utah's local and national election results will be changed by the economy alone, but economic disaster has a great potential to change the national election in other states.

"If you look at Hawaii, it has a tourist economy," Hale said. "The state completely shut down and wouldn't let anybody visit. People are much more passionate about COVID-19 response right now — either the state has done too much or too little."

The shift in focus from the economy to COVID-19 is not surprising given the virus's contagiousness. Hale said that has hurt Trump's chances of reelection.

President Trump's economy

"A lot of people in January were thinking 'unless something crazy happens, Trump is sitting pretty and has a really good chance to win,'" Hale said. "Of course, COVID-19 hit and nationally it's really impacted the economy."

The economy was in an excellent place before the pandemic arrived. According to reports from the White House, approximately 7 million jobs had been added to the economy

since Trump took office. Unemployment was reduced by 1.4 percent, and poverty rates for Hispanic Americans and African Americans had hit new lows.

The pandemic has thrown economic uncertainty into an election. Polls suggest that likely voters think Trump has an edge with economic policy, but think candidate Joe Biden would do a better job with the pandemic, which would alleviate economic turmoil.

Republicans and Democrats hold dramatically different views on economic policy. Republicans try to minimize government intervention in the economy, while Democrats try to enact government policies to help spur economic growth.

Trump's economic policy

A clear example of this comes from tax policy. Republicans generally favor tax cuts, while Democrats generally prefer tax increases. Mark Showalter, a BYU economics professor, explained the difference between how each theory is supposed to work.

"Tax cuts have two effects," Showalter said. "General tax cuts allow individuals to keep more of their earnings, which gives great incentive to work and to invest."

Showalter said lowering taxes too much is a short-term solution to economic growth. If the government doesn't receive enough taxes to fund programs like Medicare and Social Security, it might have to borrow more money in the long run.

"You want a tax policy that minimizes disincentives while still raising money for the payments needed," Showalter said. "For example, much of the tax code Trump championed in 2017 was very reasonable and helpful to the economy."

Trump's tax plan cut taxes for 82% of American families, 20% of small-business owners, and lowered the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%. Showalter said that while this tax plan was reasonable, Trump's tariff policies have been much more controversial.

Tariffs are taxes on imported goods. In an effort to keep Americans buying local products, Trump raised tariffs on other countries, particularly China. This has hurt some businesses since American goods are more expensive than what other countries offer. It especially hurt the agricultural business in the United States.

"The problem with (Trump's plan) is tariffs beget tariffs," Showalter said. "The United States will start taxing Chinese goods, then China will start taxing U.S. goods. You can get into what's called a 'trade war.' From an economist standpoint, tariffs are always a lose-lose situation."

While Trump hasn't laid out his specific economic plan, it is likely that he will continue

to impose high tariffs on China and support a lower tax rate.

Biden's economic policy

"Conceptually, raising taxes can improve economic outcomes if it doesn't create too many disincentives for work," Showalter said. "The government can use those revenues to build infrastructure like roads and ports. If the system of infrastructure in the United States is more functional, it could improve economic outcomes overall."

According to the Washington Post, Biden's tax plan will not directly impact middle-class workers, but employers may be forced to lay off employees to budget for the tax increase. Biden said he would raise taxes from 37% to 39.6% on people making more than \$400,000, and would raise corporate tax from Trump's 21% to 28%. These tax increases would fund government programs.

"One of Biden's proposals is to make preschool available for everyone," Showalter said. "In theory, poor households will have better schools, which will start them on a good economic path because of better education. They will have higher earnings down the road. This could lead to higher paying jobs which means they will pay more taxes in the future."

Showalter acknowledged that while Democratic policies sound excellent on paper, government programs might not go as planned.

"These investments don't always work," he said. "The government can waste money on useless projects that only make some people richer and some people poorer. That is the judgment the government has to make."

Biden has made a few statements regarding Trump's tariff policy.

"It's in our interest for China to be stable. It's not in our interest for China to take advantage of us. We make up to 25% of the world economy and we've lost all our friends. (We) must insist we play by international rules," Biden said in an interview with CNN's Jake Tapper.

Vote and plan

No matter which side citizens choose to vote for, this election is definitely one to remember. The COVID-19 pandemic is changing the way people do business. The economy is still struggling in some states, and Americans are looking for solutions.

Hale said students need to prepare for their future careers, especially if they are graduating this year.

"Right now, the pandemic is controlling everything," Showalter said. "Students who plan on graduating in April are likely to graduate into a poor labor market. The outcome of the election isn't going to have that much of an effect on economic outlook in the immediate future. You have to be making career plans now."

Immigration in the 2020 election

By EMILY ANDERSEN

BYU marketing major Edgar Columna immigrated to the U.S. from the Dominican Republic when he was 5 years old. Even though he has lived in the U.S. for most of his life, he said his college experience has been greatly affected by the fact that he's an immigrant.

Columna said this has helped him to have empathy for those trying to enter the country now. "If we can, for a second, not look at how people come into this country but the reasons why and the benefits to this country, I think it might put the legality of it a little bit more into perspective," Columna said.

Immigration is a hot button issue this election season, and Americans are fairly divided on the question of how many people the United States should be allowing to immigrate.

According to a Gallup poll taken between May 28 and June 4, about one third of Americans believe there should be more immigration, about one third believe there should be less, and about one third believe the amount of immigration should stay at the present level.

BYU immigration law professor Carolina Núñez said that historically, the issue of immigration tends to be more divisive during times when the U.S. economy is struggling.

"I think there are a lot of people who assume that if you have more immigration, then that means there are fewer jobs available to U.S. workers, and I suppose on some level that's true," Núñez said. "(But) immigration actually can be a huge boost to the economy. Immigrants are disproportionately entrepreneurial. They start businesses."

As far as voting goes, Núñez said she believes that even though most people aren't single-issue voters, immigration is a big issue that affects a lot of other aspects of an election, and President Donald Trump's policies have made it especially important this year.

"While people may not specifically talk about immigration or think about it in the moment that they're in the voting booth, I think it's part of this whole package that comes with the Trump campaign platform."

One of the first immigration decisions Trump made shortly after his inauguration was his executive order in 2017 banning travel into the U.S. for immigrants and refugees from multiple countries. After the ban was fought by various state supreme courts and revised by multiple presidential proclamations, the executive order still bans all individuals from North Korea and Syria, as well as placing specific restrictions on immigrants and visitors from Iran, Libya, Yemen, Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, and Venezuela.

While Americans are divided on how much immigration there should be, 77% believe that immigration is good for the country, according to the Gallup poll mentioned above. Skyler Beltran, the vice chair of the Utah County Republican Party, said his party aims to welcome immigrants who enter America legally but is also concerned with enforcing immigration laws.

"The president made it clear while campaigning that he would make immigration reform a top priority if elected. The president's plan included additional border wall completion, additional resources for border police and a merit based citizenship process. He has and continues to deliver on his promises," Beltran said.

One of Trump's major promises during his 2016 election campaign was that he would build a wall along the southern border of the United States. The construction on this wall has been ongoing throughout Trump's presidency, but according to a Washington Post article published in February, it is not as close to being completed as the Trump administration had promised it would be by this point in the presidency.

He and his administration were also harshly criticized over a policy he instituted aimed at turning back waves of immigrants from Central America by separating them from their minor children once they crossed into the U.S. To date, thousands of children remain separated from their parents despite Trump's recent comments that he would like them all to be reunited with their families.

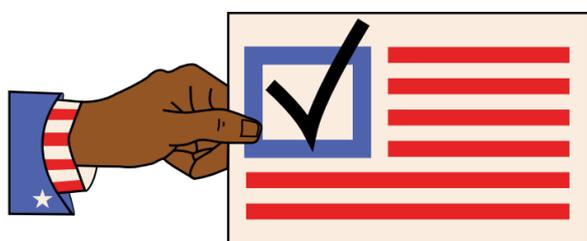
Another controversial immigration decision made during the Trump presidency was the announcement this summer that students in the United States on a student visa would not be allowed to stay if all of their classes were being held online in the fall.

Democratic candidate Joe Biden responded to the original announcement in a tweet, stating that "Across the world, people come to this country with unrelenting optimism and determination toward the future. They study here, innovate here, they make America who we are. Donald Trump doesn't get that — we need a president who does."

The new rule was reversed about a week later after it received national backlash. Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology sued the U.S. government, seeking to have the ruling declared unlawful. Many college students, even those who were not foreign students themselves, took to social media to express their opinions on the ruling.

Columna said he wishes people understood how hard it can be for immigrants to find their place in American society.

"Life is really complicated for certain people. And if we were to simply do the act of putting ourselves in other people's shoes just for a second, I think it can change our mindsets and our perception of things."



2020 ELECTION

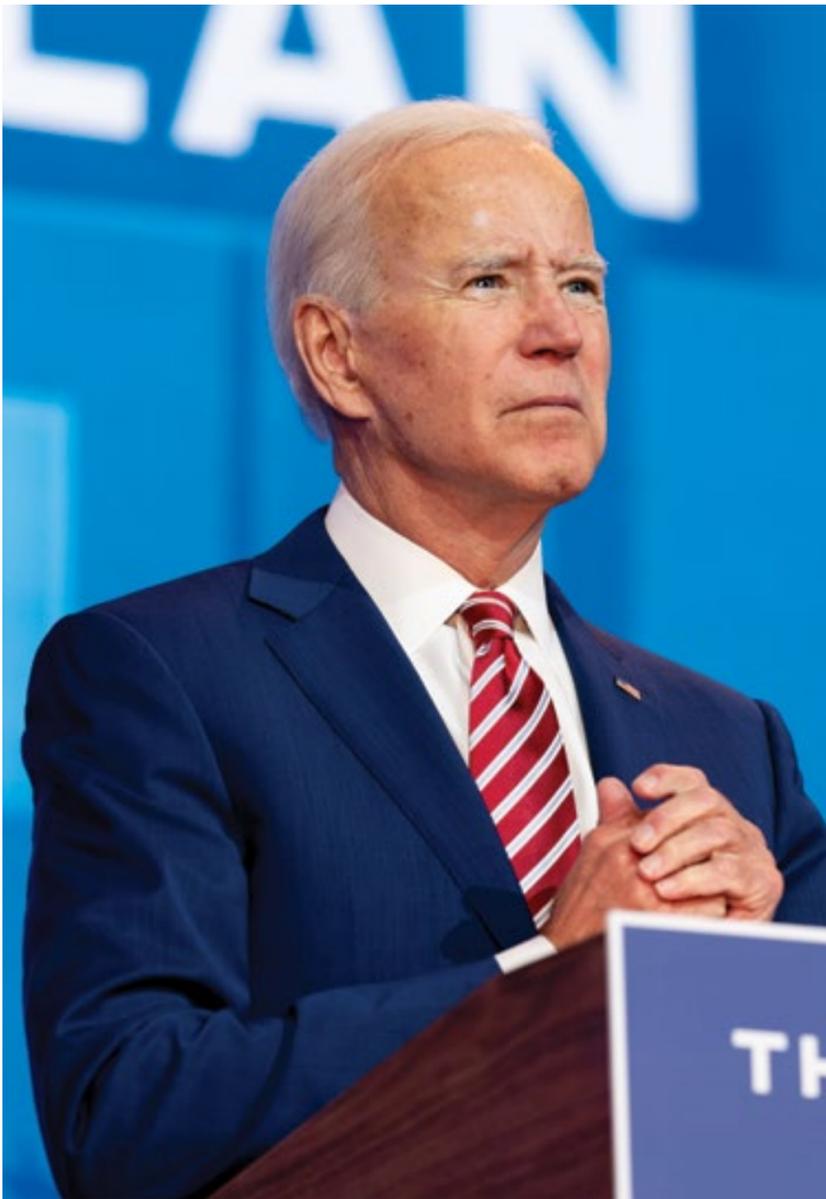
As the Nov. 3 election creeps closer, the Daily Universe continues to highlight issues that will influence voters and provide important election coverage. Scan the image on the left with the **Universe Plus** app to read more about the upcoming election.



Scan the headline of this article with the **Universe Plus** app to read a Spanish translation of the story.



Joseph Robinete Biden Jr.



Associated Press

Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden speaks about the coronavirus, Oct. 23.

QUICK FACTS

- Age 77 (born Nov. 20, 1942)
- Education: University of Delaware, B.A. (double major, history and political science) Syracuse University, law degree
- 47th vice president of the United States, 2009-2017
- United States senator from Delaware, 1973-2009
- Awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama, Jan. 2017

FAMILY

- Spouse: Neilia Hunter (killed in car accident Dec. 1972)
Children: Beau (died of brain cancer May 2015)
Hunter (married to Melissa Cohen)
Naomi (killed in car accident Dec. 1972)
- Spouse: Jill Tracy Jacobs (married 1975 - current spouse)
Children: Ashley (married to Philadelphia surgeon Howard Krein)

INFLUENCED BY

- Jean Biden: mother, personal champion; helped him overcome a debilitating childhood stutter; campaigned for him during successful Senate and vice presidential races
- President John F. Kennedy: Biden admired and sought to emulate Kennedy's political trajectory and social/family values
- President Barack Obama: former political foes; after serving in the White House together for 8 years, Obama called him "my brother"

CALIFORNIA SENATOR KAMALA HARRIS



Kamala Harris

- Born in Oakland, California
- U.S. senator since 2017
- Attorney General of California, 2011-2017
- B.A. from Howard University, political science and economics
- J.D. from UC Hastings College of Law
- Member of American Baptist congregation in San Francisco
- Married to Douglas Emhoff, stepmother of Emhoff's two children

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Biden wants to create a \$20 billion grant program to encourage states to put more money into preventing crime than jailing criminals. He also wants to expand government funding for mental health and substance use disorder services and research.

The Trump administration expanded Project Safe Neighborhoods to encourage U.S. Attorneys to work with their communities to develop customized crime treatment plans. During Trump's administration the Department of Justice also announced a \$98 million hiring program to increase the number of full-time law enforcement officers.

"People deserve to have affordable healthcare. Period."

SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS

- Expand background checks
- Take on the gun lobby
- Keep guns out of the hands of domestic abusers, other violent criminals and the severely mentally ill
- Take on the gun lobby by removing the industry's sweeping legal protection for illegal and irresponsible actions and revoking licenses from dealers who break the laws
- "The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed upon. Period," said the Trump campaign's official website
- Legalize right to carry in all 50 states
- Fix current system regarding background checks
- No gun or magazine bans
- Expand mental health treatment centers

GUN POLICY

- Supports background checks and the banning of semi-automatic gun manufacturing and selling
- He also supports restricting fugitive gun possession
- Trump eased the selling of certain firearms overseas
- Suggested that arming trained teachers would help protect students after school shootings

"Anyone who is responsible for that many deaths should not remain as president of the United States of America."

THE ECONOMY

- "Build Back Better" economic recovery plan
- Move manufacturing back to America
- Build clean energy future
- Ease burden of care for working parents
- Advance racial equity
- Minimum wage should be at least \$15/hour
- High-earning Americans should pay the same amount of taxes as the middle class
- Remove Trump tax breaks for corporations
- Coronavirus infrastructure bill
- Wants a coalition with international allies to pressure China
- Proposes forgiving student debt for poorer grads
- Continue to make tax cuts
- Coronavirus infrastructure bill
- Extend 2017 tax overhaul for individuals
- Has not dialed back China trade war rhetoric yet
- Scrap loan subsidies and forgiveness for public service
- Create a single income-driven repayment program
- Eliminate waste in federal spending

"These 500 plus kids came with parents. They separated them at the border to make it a disincentive to come to begin with. ... It makes us a laughingstock and violates every notion of who we are as a nation."

ENVIRONMENT

- "Joe is about saying we're going to invest that in renewable energy, were going to be about the creating of millions of jobs, we will achieve net zero emissions by 2050, carbon neutral by 2035 - Joe has a plan," Kamala Harris said in the vice presidential debate.
- "Nobody's going to build another coal fired plant in America. No one's going to build another oil fire plant in America. They're going to move to renewable energy, number one. Number two, we're going to make sure that we are able to take the federal fleet and turn it into a fleet that's run on their electric vehicles. Making sure that we can do that, we're going to put 500,000 charging stations in all of the highways that we're going to be building in the future. We're going to build an economy that in fact is going to provide for the ability of us to take 4 million buildings and make sure that they in fact are weatherized in a way that in fact will they'll emit significantly less gas and oil because the heat will not be going out," Biden said during a debate.
- Trump "rolled back the Obama Clean Power Plan" to decrease pricing.
- Trump pulled the U.S. out of the Paris Climate Accord and has "rolled back a number of Obama environmental records."
- "As far as the fires are concerned, you need forest management." Trump emphasized the Billion Tree Project.
- "Trump and I are gonna always put American jobs and American workers first," said Pence.
- Trump signed the Outdoors Act

"No one should be going to jail because they have a drug problem. ... We should fundamentally change the system and that's what I'm going to do."

IMMIGRATION

- Biden plans to reform the immigration system through legislation and undo many of the Trump administration's immigration policies, including the separation of families at the border and the administration's asylum policies. Biden also supports reinstating DACA and plans to work to make DACA recipients eligible for student aid. Biden's campaign website also states he will rescind Trump's travel bans.
- Trump is known for planning to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. His administration tried to end DACA, but the Supreme Court ruled against that action in June. His campaign website says there have been "269,419 arrests of illegal aliens" under his administration. His administration has focused on removing illegal immigrants and stopping the flow of those migrants as well. In his first term, Trump also instituted travel bans on certain countries including all North Koreans and Syrians.

"I'm going to shut down the virus, not the country."

SOCIAL SECURITY

- Social Security should be preserved
- Provide a higher benefit for the oldest Americans
- Implement a true minimum benefit for lifelong workers
- Protect widows and widowers from steep cuts in benefits
- Eliminate penalties for teachers and other public-sector workers
- Leave Social Security alone

President Donald John Trump

QUICK FACTS

- Age: 74 (born June 14, 1946)
- Born in Queens, New York
- Education: New York Military Academy, Fordham University, Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, bachelor of economics
- Executive producer and host of American reality television show, "The Apprentice"
- Real estate developer
- Former owner of Miss USA Pageant

FAMILY

- Spouse: Melania Trump
Child: Barron Trump
- Ex-wife: Maria Ann Maples
Child: Tiffany Trump
- Ex-wife: Ivana Marie Trump
Children: Donald Trump Jr. (divorced from Vanessa Haydon, five children)
Ivanka Trump (married to Jared Kushner, three children)
Eric Trump (married to Lara Yunaska)

INFLUENCED BY

- Roy Cohn: Trump's attorney who represented him during a racial discrimination lawsuit in the 1970s. Cohn is also famous for investigations into Sen. Joseph McCarthy's Communist activity during the Second Red Scare
- Hugh Hefner: Founder and chief creative officer of Playboy Enterprises
- Norman Vincent Peale: Trump's childhood pastor and author of "The Power of Positive Thinking," which teaches ideologies very influential in Trump's life

VICE PRESIDENT MIKE PENCE

- Born in Columbus, Indiana
- 50th governor of Indiana
- Successfully advocated the largest tax cut in Indiana history
- B.A. in history at Hanover College
- J.D. from Indiana University McKinney School of Law
- Raised Catholic but now identifies as an evangelical Christian
- Married to Karen Pence, father of three children



Mike Pence



Associated Press

President Donald Trump speaks during a campaign rally, Oct. 24, in Lumberton, N.C.

FOREIGN POLICY

- The rise of the Chinese economy has concerned Biden
- "Abusive trade practices" may allow China to take the lead in technology development
- Agrees with Trump in his criticism of China's trade practices, but says his tariffs are erratic and self-defeating
- Called Trump's Autonomy act weak and ineffectual. Biden says he will make stronger sanctions against China for its Hong Kong interference
- Says he's spent more time with Chinese president Xi Jinping than any other world leader. VP experience gives him the edge

- "America First" when it comes to trade. The Trump administration has placed high tariffs when it comes to trading with foreign nations, especially China. Specifically, a 45% increase on Chinese exports.
- American tariffs on China has led to a trade war
- Hong Kong Autonomy Act has imposed sanctions on mainland China for violating Hong Kong's autonomy
- Trump said that the U.S. would "not seek to impose our way of life on anyone, but rather to let it shine as an example. We will shine for everyone to follow"
- Emphasizes fighting terrorism, both foreign and domestic, securing the nation's borders as well as expanding the U.S. military
- Cut State Department Budget, increased Defense Department Budget

HEALTH CARE

"What I proposed is that we expand Obamacare, and we increase it. (I) want to allow people with private insurance to keep it still. They will under my proposal. (Trump) doesn't have a plan."

"I'll get rid of the individual mandate... That was the worst part of Obamacare. I'm cutting drug prices, drug prices will be coming down 80 or 90%. We are going to allow our governors now to go to other countries to buy drugs."

"I'm the least racist person in this room."

COVID-19

"We should be providing all the protective gear. We should be providing the money the House has passed in order to be able to go out and get people help. They need to keep their businesses, open, open schools that cost a lot of money."

"We got the gowns, we got the masks, we made the ventilators... and now we're weeks away from a vaccine. We're doing therapeutics already, fewer people are dying when they get sick. People that would not be necessarily on my side, said that (I) did a phenomenal job."

"We have a vaccine that's coming. It's ready. It's going to be announced within weeks, and it's going to be delivered."

MEDICARE

- Protect and build on the Affordable Care Act
- Keep private insurance
- Only poorest Americans will qualify for Medicaid
- Opposed to Medicare for all, wants to create public option
- Lower Medicare eligibility age to 60
- Keep Medicare
- Keep healthcare competitive
- Budget proposes spending cuts to Medicare, Medicaid

"They say the stock market will boom if I'm elected. If he's elected, the stock market will crash."

RACIAL ISSUES

The Biden campaign contains specific agendas for different minority groups across the country, but Biden also plans to rebuild the economy after COVID-19 by "advancing racial equality." This involves investing in programs that help people of color start businesses and own homes, and ensure they receive fair compensation at work. Many aspects of Biden's plans to address racial inequality in the nation overlap with some of his other main plans.

President Trump plans to add 3 million new jobs for the Black community and 500,000 new Black owned businesses. Part of his plan for Black Americans, as outlined on his website, involves cutting taxes to help small, minority-owned businesses and reducing health care costs and disparities. His plan also addresses defending religious freedom. Smaller aspects of the plan are to make Juneteenth a national holiday and prosecute the KKK and antifa as terrorist groups

"We have to recover. We can't close up our nation. We have to open our schools. We can't close up our nation, or you're not going to have a nation."

POLICE REFORM

Biden proposes a \$300 million program to improve community policing, which he defines as having police officers who build real relationships with the people in their communities.

"I do not support defunding police. The better answer is to give police departments the resources they need to implement meaningful reforms, and to condition other federal dollars on completing those reforms."

Trump signed an executive order that banned police from using chokeholds except in situations where law permits the use of deadly force, and aimed to create a national database of police misconduct and provide extra funding to police departments that meet certain criteria.

"I strongly oppose the radical and dangerous efforts to defund, dismantle and dissolve our police departments, especially now when we've achieved the lowest recorded crime rates in recent history."

"There has been nobody tougher on Russia than Donald Trump."



All quotes are credited to the Oct. 22 presidential debate where candidates were asked to speak on topics ranging from COVID-19 safety procedures and vaccines to institutional racism in the United States.



WEEKLY QUESTION

Daily Universe editors post a question on Instagram each week asking readers their view on a specific topic. Here's what they had to say. Responses are unedited.

Should trick-or-treating be happening this year, or are there safer alternatives?

Halloween being canceled is okay bc it's low key a satanic day at least for some people lol
@THEFOSTERR

Nah, just buy yourself a bag of cheap candy and watch a movie
@ALIAEBBERT

Those willing to risk should and those who don't shouldn't
@MALIAVICK

If we found ways to send kids to school in-person, then we should find ways for them to trick or treat.
@LINDSEYREESHENRIE

If people stay away from each other as households and make sure to wash hands a lot
@CUMMINGSKARISSA

Maybe leave treats on the doorstep that kids could grab without touching others?
@HAILEYSUE32

Shouldn't happen but we live in a privileged community. -therefore, they won't care.
@RZEGARRA2706

Yes trick or treating should still be an option. Those who don't want to don't have to.
@JEPPYD

Alternatives for sure
@MADDIEDLARSEN

Honestly... this is the hardest question on here yet. I do not have an answer
@P_GROVE_

It's for kids anyway, they should still be able to do it.
@ITS_PRONOUNCED_HEYMIN

Absolutely! Let people have their freedom
@BRAYDEN_COOK3

Trick or treat with masks!!!!
@KAITIETCINDRICH

READERS' FORUM

Please, use your turn signal

I felt the fury build up inside of me as I watched the Subaru speed past me, weaving back and forth on the tight streets of Provo. There was not a single turn signal being used. Turn signals aren't just decorative lights on our cars. Turn signals save lives.

A study from the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) found that over two million accidents annually are caused by drivers who fail to use their turn signals properly. This means that accidents resulting from failure to use a turn signal account for over a third of an average six million automobile accidents per year. That number should be alarming to you. Using a turn signal may be an inconvenience at times or may seem unnecessary in certain circumstances. But a third of accidents could be prevented by an action that takes less than a second and could save you the cost of a ticket.

Using your turn signal properly is the first step to showing respect and compassion to strangers around you. Start today by being mindful of your own actions on the road. After all, "World Peace starts with using your turn signal."

—Whitney Miceli
Houston, Texas

The greeting rut

As I walk to chemistry, a classmate from religion walks past heading the opposite direction. Custom dictates this exchange: "Hi, how are you?" "Good, and you?" And we both move on, me to the Benson building and my classmate to the Wilk. Reflecting on this routine, I've decided I just don't like it. "How are you?" could lead to a valuable conversation, but the question has become a greeting rather than an opportunity to connect.

How do we as a society change this exchange to one that's more meaningful? When I'm checking on a friend, I genuinely want to know how they are feeling because I want to offer help if needed, if nothing else than by being present and listening. On the other side of the conversation, when I reply to someone else's inquiry with a simple "good," I'm indicating that everything is going fine when life is always more complicated than that.

We must be more deliberate in our dialogue. Often we are in a hurry to get to class and don't have time for a meaningful conversation. Even so, we can avoid asking someone else the habitual "question" when time is short, but on the receiving end, we can be mindful of our response. As we begin to make time to associate with others, acquaintances can become friends.

—Camille Lim
Visalia, California

date someone who gives you chills just by the way they look into your eyes



It's spooky szn. 🍁🍁🍁



i'm ready for spooky szn



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

@thicc_and_dying
I'm putting a Christmas tree up on November first in an attempt to spark some joy and none of you can stop me

@ummcherish
I don't understand how there are people my age who have kids and I literally can't even remember to eat sometimes

@galaaaaaaan
professors should not apologize for not being crazy tech-savvy with zoom, you are amazing and we appreciate you and your efforts in the craziest semester in history

@ronnui
I can't believe we're still in the same pandemic as the everything-is-cake crisis

@dreamer_kay72
Not me rushing to finish breakfast, then remembering I can just keep my camera off and eat during class

@_blackberryjam
i cannot be the same person who woke up at 4:30 for four years straight to go to SEMINARY

@paynebunker
would anyone believe me if i said that 3 years ago, everyone watched the campus snap story and brought it up in everyday conversation

@janaeae_21
We have reached the point in the semester where I constantly tell myself that done is better than perfect through tears bc I have absolutely no desire to do a single bloody bit of homework

@dallimm
thinking about how when I was an EFY counselor they told us to "yell ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR" before the "drop" of any song at the dance to help "get the kids hype"

@Kate_Foster14
Yeah I ex(anxiously bounce my leg all day) ercise

@ANDROMELITE
MY BOYF- MY FRIENDS THAT ARE BOYS.

@shelbyshiple
Been working real hard to lower my expectations for men but it's extremely difficult when I've been in love with Percy Jackson for 12 years

Tweets are unedited.

OPINION OUTPOST

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

Trump's second term

Many people may find it hard to understand, but just over a week before the election, some voters remain undecided. To them we would say: A vote for a second Trump term is a vote for an America in decline and an American democracy in danger. This is not a matter of conjecture; it is a judgment based on President Trump's record and promises.

—Editorial Board
The Washington Post

Court packing

Judge Amy Coney Barrett's nomination to the Supreme Court was unanimously approved Thursday by the Senate Judiciary Committee. Unanimously? Yes, the Democrats pulled a stunt by boycotting the roll call to hold a press conference. The Democratic seats in the hearing room instead held poster-sized photos of Americans "whose lives will be turned upside down," Mr. Schumer said, if Justice Barrett fulfills "the long-held Republican goal of destroying the Affordable Care Act."

But the blue-ribbon scheme also signals he doesn't want to alienate the left by rejecting the idea out of hand. Hardly

forthright leadership. It raises the realistic fear that eventually Mr. Biden would roll over for the court-packing left.

—Editorial Board
The Wall Street Journal

Utah's constitution

Utah is still enough of a democracy that the voters have to approve any proposed changes to the Utah Constitution. The Legislature is not empowered to do so on its own. And, in the case of two of the constitutional amendments that are on this year's general election ballot, that's a good thing indeed.

There are seven proposed changes to Utah's basic charter of government at the end of the ballots that most of us have received in the mail. Five of them

are basically housekeeping details, clarifying the process of state government or bringing the language into compliance with 21st-century (or, maybe, 20th-century) standards. Voters should approve those.

—Editorial Board
The Salt Lake Tribune

Political ads

Utah's candidates for governor have a fresh message for the nation ...

Republican Spencer Cox and Democrat Chris Peterson released two PSA videos on Twitter assuring voters they

had respect for one another even while pushing different solutions. "We can disagree without hating each other," Cox says, followed by Peterson summing up, "Win or lose, in Utah we work together."

—Editorial Board
Deseret News

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

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

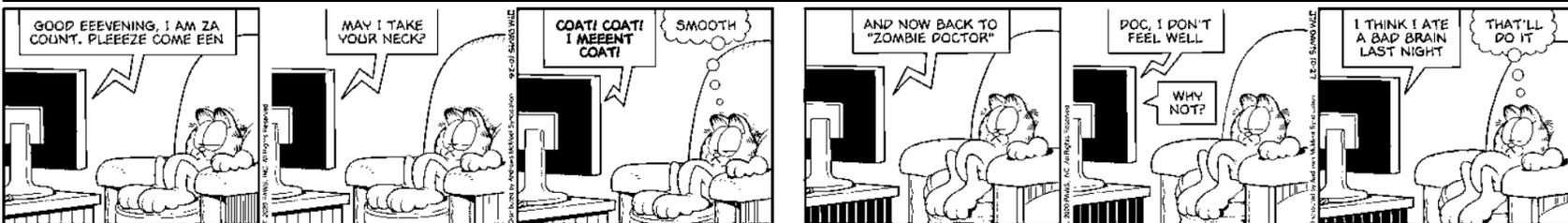
- All letters should be submitted by email to universe.ideas@gmail.com. The topic of the letter should be included in the subject line.
- Letters should also include the author's name, hometown (for students), campus position (for faculty and staff) and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published.
- Letters should be no more than 250 words and may be edited for length, clarity or style.

Opinion editor Kenzie Holbrook can be reached at universe.ideas@gmail.com.

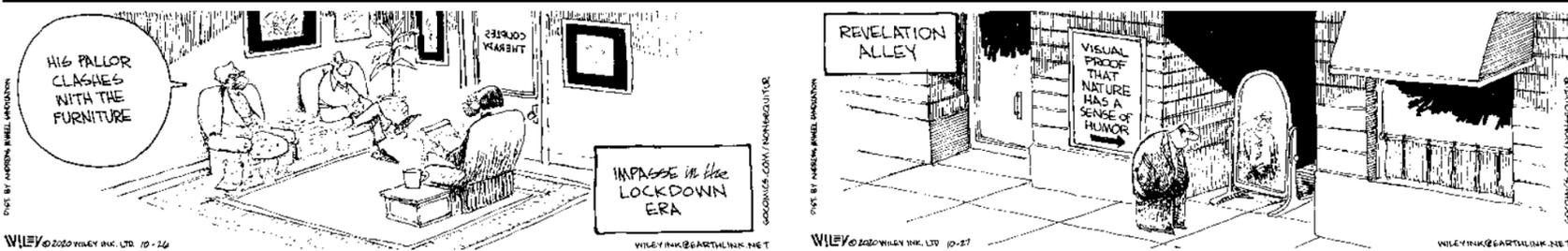
Dilbert®



Garfield®



Non Sequitur®



Peanuts®



Pickles®



Zits®



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.

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	1	3	4	8				
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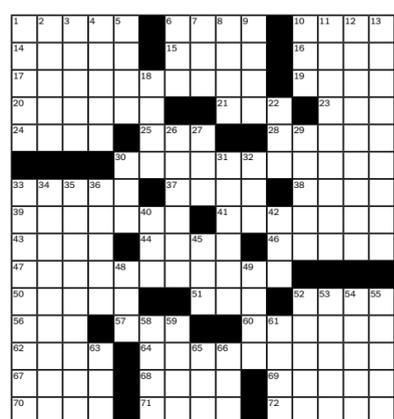
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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0921

- ACROSS**
- 1 Musical pieces for one instrument
 - 6 Enthusiastic
 - 10 Shoot out
 - 14 Literary heroine who cries "Curiouser and curiouser!"
 - 15 Apex predator of the ocean
 - 16 Bear whose bed is too soft, in a children's story
 - 17 Time to watch boxing on TV
 - 19 Vases
 - 20 To the greatest extent
 - 21 "Hmm, I'm intrigued..."
 - 23
 - 24 Like getting a \$2 bill in change
 - 25 Gulped
 - 28 Modern request to attend...
 - 30 One rushing in to save the day
 - 33 Mess up
 - 37 "... your price!"
 - 38 One of the housewives on "Desperate Housewives"
 - 39 Tears out of the ground
 - 41 Ingratiates
 - 43 Noggin
 - 44 ___ at hand
 - 46 It's on the plus side
 - 47 It makes your pupils constrict
 - 50 Hawaiian kind of porch
 - 51 Floral wreath
 - 52 Stay in touch?
 - 56 Venusians and Martians, in brief
 - 57 Motion accompanying the words "There, there"
 - 60 Martial art with a belt system
 - 62 Carry
 - 64 "Precisely!"
 - 67 Greek counterpart of Cupid
 - 68 Citrus fruit that won't win any beauty contests?
 - 69 First-stringers
 - 70 Snakes spawned by Medusa's blood, in Greek myth
 - 71 Requests
 - 72 Carried
- DOWN**
- 1 Less risky
 - 2 Tony who played for 15 seasons with the Minnesota Twins
 - 3 Large hybrid cat
 - 4 Brownish-yellow
 - 5 Goes down, as the sun on the horizon
 - 6 Kind of pond in a Japanese garden
 - 7 Small work unit
 - 8 Sound in a long, empty hallway
 - 9 Alliance HQ'd in Brussels
 - 10 Bird in Liberty Mutual ads
 - 11 Annual New Orleans celebration
 - 12 Paradoxical response to a door knock
 - 13 Pepsi Challenge, for one
 - 18 Witness to the first rainbow in the Bible
 - 22 Rooster's mate



PUZZLE BY DANIEL LARSEN AND THE WAVE LEARNING FESTIVAL CROSSWORD CLASS

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

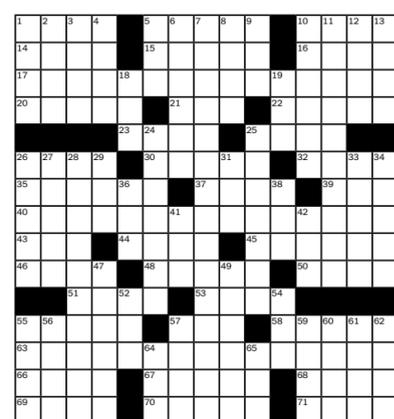
WASP RESTS GNP
 OPIE ALLOW FUEL
 RIFE DIANA ENVY
 DETROIT TIGERS
 ICE DOE AMISS
 SERVE SITTIGHT
 ILK ECO HEY
 SPLITTICKET
 OWL WIT KEG
 WAITTIME IOTAS
 EDGED SAT RNA
 HASITBOTHWAYS
 BOTS SHILL IDOS
 FREE LARVA RENO
 FED AIDES EDEN

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0922

- ACROSS**
- 1 Solemn affirmation
 - 5 Chocolate-and-coffee blend
 - 10 Some G.I. wear, informally
 - 15 "Sex-x-xy!"
 - 16 Actor Epps of "House"
 - 17 Source of 40-Across's 63-Across
 - 20 "Same here"
 - 21 Takes too much, in brief
 - 22 Taboos
 - 23 Squirrel away
 - 25 Direction headed by a covered wagon
 - 26 Kind of radio
 - 30 Fine dishes
 - 32 Blow a whistle
 - 35 Outcast
 - 37 Big order for a wedding reception
 - 39 "You're oversharing"
 - 40 Comic book character with the title role in a blockbuster 2018 film
 - 41 ___ gin fizz
 - 45 "Sex-x-xy!"
 - 43 X amount
 - 44 Not keep a secret
 - 45 Like some modern spirituality
 - 46 Captors of Frodo Baggins
 - 48 U.S. women's soccer star Carli
 - 50 Just slightly
 - 51 Alternative to "lol"
 - 53 What kites do in the sky
 - 55 How Lindbergh flew to Paris in 1927
 - 57 Edge of fashion
 - 58 "Ta-ta!"
 - 63 See 17-Across
 - 66 x and y, on a graph
 - 67 Place to "remember"
 - 68 Many a prom night rental
 - 69 Locked (up)
 - 70 Bluefins and others
 - 71 The Avengers, e.g.
- DOWN**
- 1 Worker protection org.
 - 2 Some draft picks
 - 3 "Mr." in "The Wind in the Willows"
 - 4 Sandwich that takes two hands to handle
 - 5 Ed.'s inbox filler
 - 6 "Pick me! Pick me!"
 - 7 Late portrayer of 40-Across
 - 8 Moves like a rabbit
 - 9 Broke a fast
 - 10 Run with someone, as a show
 - 11 "You said it!"
 - 12 Bazaar
 - 13 Planets in the sky
 - 18 Quaint contraction
 - 19 Prez before J.F.K.
 - 24 Alter ego of 40-Across
 - 25 Home of 40-Across
 - 26 Probably gonna, more formally
 - 41 Low-___
 - 42 It stopped flying in 2001
 - 47 Most logical
 - 49 Playground joke intro
 - 52 That thar ship
 - 54 Worrying sound when you bend over
 - 55 "Immediately!"
 - 56 Fancy-y-y
 - 57 Streaming service with "The Handmaid's Tale"
 - 59 Shed
 - 60 To's injury
 - 61 Disaster relief org.
 - 62 "Let's take it ___ the top"
 - 64 One may be tipped out of respect
 - 65 Refusals



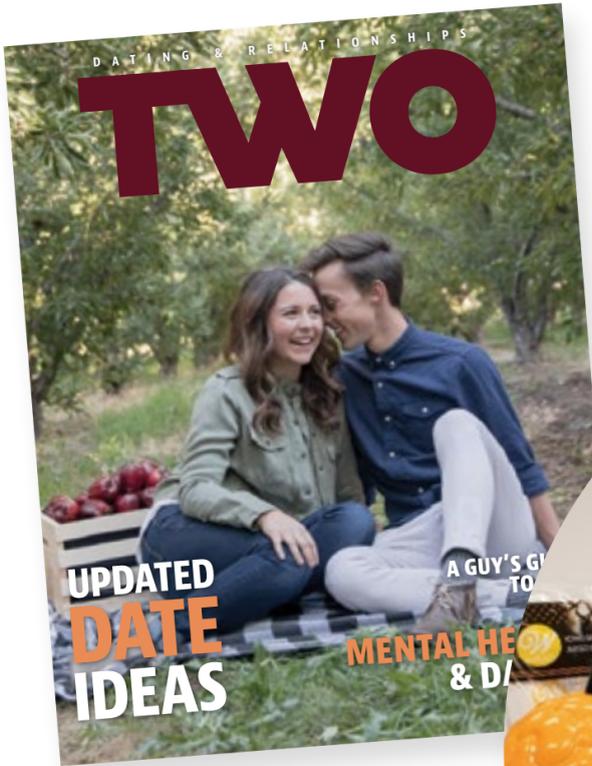
PUZZLE BY JEREMY NEWTON

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PIT POSH SCOTT'S
 ADO ROKU LOUVRE
 PORKYPIG OUTLIE
 ALIA MAUL ICK
 SCROOGE MCDUCK
 THRU CHINESE
 ICY MERE INHD
 KEEP YOUR PANTS ON
 ELLA ROLE ETA
 ALLISON SPAT
 WINNIETHPOOH
 CAN ALDO MRED
 ALGORE YOGI BEAR
 SLAYER ERIN AVE
 ASTERS DANK DEW

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