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January 12 - 18, 2021

THE UNIVERSE

Serving the Brigham Young University Community

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Brigham Young University
Provo, Utah

What's next for America, GOP after Capitol breach?

By LISI MERKLEY

Counting the Electoral College votes is one of the roles of Congress that usually passes by with little note, but on Jan. 6 this previously little-known tradition was stalled by rioters who broke into the Capitol.

How did this happen? And where do American politics go next? At the center of these questions is President Donald Trump, claims of fraud in the 2020 presidential election, and both the Republican and Democratic parties.

Trump started his presidential campaign in 2015 as an outsider, but after he won the Republican Party's nomination and subsequently the 2016 election, many Republican politicians recognized his position as the party leader and backed him, like Utah Sen. Mike Lee. Others, like Sen. Mitt Romney, questioned his fitness for office throughout his presidency.

What caused the events of Jan. 6?

BYU political science professor Jeremy Pope gave partial blame for the day's events to Trump and some of his supporters in Congress for their continued rhetoric of a stolen election.

"The big, and most important, thing is that Donald Trump has encouraged his closest acolytes to engage in something that obviously ranged between protesting and riotous violence," Pope said.

While Trump and his supporters' claims of election fraud directly led to the riots, a longer history of polarization and misinformation slowly built up to those events.

BYU political science professor Lisa Argyle said misinformation will continue to be a problem as long as certain outlets "provide facts people want to hear rather than the truth."

"It will be very difficult to continue to have a functioning democracy if



Associated Press

Supporters of President Donald Trump and others swarm outside the Capitol on Jan. 6 in Washington, D.C.

Questions about what's in store for the Republican Party are on the rise as Trump's presidency draws to an end. Scan this image with the **Universe Plus** app to read about how BYU students are reacting to the Capitol breach.

we cannot collectively agree on what is factually true or even what types of evidence are necessary and valid in establishing true facts," Argyle said.

Pope said that while not all Republicans tow the party line, polarization and partisanship have partially led to the GOP's acceptance of Trump and his politics. For some the choice between Trump and the Democrats is a move "toward what they see as the lesser of two evils."

Typically, the president is seen as the head of their party, and Trump is no exception. "Republican politicians who disagreed with Trump faced enormous public opinion pressure to support him," Argyle said. "From a purely practical standpoint, most Republicans needed the financial

support of the party or would have faced strong primary challenges for opposing Trump."

This party pressure can be seen in some members of Utah's congressional delegation.

In October 2016, Sen. Mike Lee told The Daily Universe in an interview he thought Trump was "unelectable." "I think he needs to step aside," he said.

However, Lee's public opinions of Trump seemed to change in November 2017 when he was added to a list of Trump's potential Supreme Court nominees. For example, in an April 2019 CBS interview, he said he would support Trump in the 2020 race and believed he would win.

Both the Democrats and Republicans will have to adjust once

President-elect Joe Biden takes office on Jan. 20.

Post-Trump GOP

"Both parties are divided at the moment, but the Republican divisions are internally poisonous and have spilled out into the national agenda," Pope said. "They have embarrassed the country and now have to figure out how to get their house in order."

Where the Republican party goes after Trump's presidency is over could be determined by which factions of the party rise to power in both the 2022 midterm elections and the 2024 presidential election, Argyle said.

"Some leaders, such as Sen. Mitt Romney, have signaled a strong desire to move in a new direction. Others, such as Sen. Josh Hawley, have signaled approval of the direction the party has taken under Trump's presidency," Argyle said.

BYU College Republicans club member Parker Stohlton said he hopes the events of Jan. 6 will cause the party to "cleanse itself internally" by "getting rid of Trump enablers from elected positions."

"Over the past four years, the GOP has sold out to Trump time and time again. The previous four years (were) a buildup to Jan. 6," Stohlton said. "Republicans need to have faith in our Constitution. Republicans need to trust that our system of democracy works."

Back on Dec. 20, Sen. Romney acknowledged in an interview on CNN's "State of the Union" that the party has changed over the years, saying the party used to be more concerned about Russia and North Korea, balancing the national budget and being a leader internationally.

"We believed that character was essential in the leaders that we chose," he said. "We've strayed from that. I don't see us returning to that for a long time."

While Romney said he thinks most potential 2024 GOP presidential candidates emulate Trump, he sees the party eventually returning to its roots. "We'll get back at some point."

"After the insurrection at the Capitol, it is vitally important for both parties — Republicans and Democrats — to come together in forcefully denouncing these actions and penalizing those who facilitated it," Argyle said. "If Republicans do not join in denouncing these events and actors, polarization between parties will increase and the factions in the Republican party who oppose democracy will continue to grow."

See also Page 4 to read more about grappling with governing

COVID-19 pandemic alters the Utah film industry

By MICKEY RANDLE

The movie theater has been an American cultural staple almost as long as moving pictures have existed. Yet, the death of the institution is entirely possible and may happen sooner rather than later.

The idea that the film industry is constantly in a state of flux is not a new one. One study even asserts that the cyclical nature of the business is simply the way it works. This claim is based on the fact that theaters have been competing with new technology since the widespread adoption of the television set in the 1950s.

Movie theaters have, of course, responded with innovations like luxury seating and IMAX. Film studios have also done their part to keep people going to the movies by producing franchise content like "Star Wars" and Marvel. The fanbases for these types of films often prefer to watch the content in a community-based setting.

The streaming era further complicated things for movie theaters. A 2017 study reported that 58% of Americans subscribed to at least one streaming service. Among young people, the number was even higher.

The COVID-19 pandemic delivered what may end up being the biggest hit to theater commerce and the film industry in general. At the beginning of the outbreak, the production of many films was halted.

Reportedly, 93% percent of movie theaters saw their revenue decline by 75% when compared with last year's earnings. AMC Theaters, a nationwide chain, was forced to consider bankruptcy. The company's stock had plummeted 56% as of October 2020.

Movie theaters employ about 150,000 people a year. If the decline continues, over two-thirds of those people could lose their jobs. Utah theaters and film-centered businesses are no exception as a result of the pandemic. However, most have been able to adapt.

Movie theaters

Larry H. Miller Megaplex Theatre



Mickey Randle

The Salt Lake Film Society temporarily closed both of their locations including the Broadway Centre Cinemas because of COVID-19.

are almost exclusively located in Utah. Several of their theaters were closed per government restrictions in March. According to the chain's website, all theaters have been open since August.

Jeff Whipple, the Megaplex marketing vice president, said their theaters continue to be successful, but not without structural changes. All employees underwent specific training and masks are required inside of theaters.

Each theater also implements a social distancing policy. After patrons buy their tickets, a computer blocks off a number of seats surrounding them. Whipple said film studios have also assisted Megaplex by making a selection of older films available to be screened.

According to Whipple, the most successful initiatives have been curbside delivery of movie concessions and private movie screenings. This allowed customers to rent out a theater exclusively for their household.

Whipple said the business has been impacted by COVID-19, but the company has "taken extraordinary steps" to ensure that jobs were affected as little as possible.

The Salt Lake Film Society owns and operates two theaters, the Broadway and the Tower, in the Salt Lake area. These theaters feature independent and documentary films. Amy Beth Aste is the theatrical director of both theaters.

Aste said the CEO of the company took the pandemic very seriously from the beginning, taking extra cleaning precautions, and eventually shutting down both locations.

Starting in March, the company gathered revenue with online screenings. They also hosted a number of drive-in screenings, which ran through October.

Aste said the Salt Lake Film Society was forced to lay off all part-time employees in June. Eleven full-time employees remain and the business remains afloat due to ticket sales from online screenings and donations from community members.

Film-based institutions

Not all entertainment companies are subject to the same fate. Gavin Bohne runs a company called Big Cheese Entertainment which provides outdoor

movie screenings. Bohne said his business saw a 40% uptick in sales for the year.

According to Bohne, this success was due to an FM transmitter, which he purchased at the beginning of the pandemic. This allowed Big Cheese to hold drive-in screenings.

Big Cheese implemented approved sanitation procedures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for employees and required customers to sign risk acknowledgment forms.

"We've only got eight years under our belt. We are still kind of in growing stages, and any activities where we are reaching out and getting into the community only helps us grow. This year, I think, has got us into more backyards and more community events, so I think we will see continued growth from this," Bohne said.

Like Big Cheese Entertainment, the Utah Film Center found success by making changes. The organization is a non-profit located in Salt Lake City that provides cinematic education and screenings to the community. Patrick Hubley, the director of the Utah Film Center, said his team was keeping an eye on the virus since it appeared in the news.

As things grew worse in the United States and in Utah, the company canceled events and made adjustments. Hubley said they were in the middle of the Tumbleweeds Film Festival when they heard the news. The festival was not able to finish its second week.

"We basically had to rethink and reinvent the way we offer our programming because our events were mostly in-person opportunities. We had very little programming that was being offered online at the time so we really had to pivot and think about how we can continue to provide meaningful access to our community," Hubley said.

The Utah Film Center began to offer online classes in early April and was also able to put on drive-in screenings. Hubley noted that these were difficult to organize but ultimately received positive responses from patrons.

Hubley said that, in some ways, the Film Center has benefitted from

moving online. Online programming has, according to Hubley, become more accessible to those who live in places other than Salt Lake County.

"Overall, I would say that we've been pretty successful," Hubley said. "Our audience and supporters and funders are all pleased and appreciative of the efforts that we're making to continue operating and offering our programming."

According to Hubley, the future of the film industry is evolving because of COVID-19, and that it is impossible to predict the future of the Utah Film Center. Still, Hubley said he is taking the moment to evaluate and improve.

Film production

Film production in Utah has similarly been forced to adapt as a result of the virus. At BYU, students work on short films as part of capstone projects. These productions normally involve upwards of 50 students.

James May, a senior majoring in media arts, had to implement several abnormal policies while directing his film. May said the film department at BYU has released guidelines that helped him feel safe and faculty advisors were conscious of following the rules.

May held all of his production meetings on Zoom. He said while he did miss the in-person interaction, it did help him eliminate some unnecessary meetings. When the crew was required to meet in person, they utilized a student trained as a health and safety officer. This person would take temperatures and make sure social distancing procedures were followed.

Also unusual for a film set, May said different departments involved with production would set up separately. This meant that the camera department would enter the room, set up, and then leave to make room for the art department.

According to May, this did slow down production. However, May believes the quality of his film did not suffer as a result of taking these precautions. May hopes to premiere his 15-minute film titled "Maggie on Stratford Avenue" in September 2021.

COVID-19 OUTBREAK

How COVID-19 has spread in Utah

May 1-10, 2020

1,579
new cases

38,009
tests administered

122
people hospitalized

21
deaths

Sept. 1-10, 2020

3,912
new cases

43,911
tests administered

180
people hospitalized

23
deaths

Jan. 1-10, 2021

27,761
new cases

105,119
tests administered

984
people hospitalized

118
deaths

62,927
vaccines administered

Data from the Utah Department of Health.

BYU announces change to COVID-19 testing plan

By MADDIE MEHR

BYU announced changes to its Winter Semester COVID-19 testing plan on Jan. 5.

BYU has adopted a new testing plan developed by the Utah System of Higher Education. According to a message from University Communications, all students who live in on-campus housing or have in-person classes “are asked to take a COVID-19 screening test during the first 10

days of winter semester.” After the first 10 days, testing will be focused and random. Students who show symptoms of or have been exposed to others with COVID-19 will also need to get tested.

The number of students randomly selected for testing will be determined by the number of eligible students on campus, the current infection rate, and “the desired range of detectable change in COVID-19 infection (the university hopes) to see from one week to the next,” according to the testing plan.

Men’s March Madness will be played entirely in Indiana

ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana — The NCAA announced Jan. 11 that its showcase event, the Division I men’s basketball tournament, all 67 games of it, will be played entirely in or near Indianapolis. The hope is to limit the possibility that the coronavirus pandemic cancels the wildly popular and lucrative tournament for a second consecutive season.

The original plan was for the

67 games to be played at 13 sites across the country, starting with the First Four in Dayton, Ohio. Regional sites were set for Minneapolis, Denver, New York City and Memphis, Tennessee.

Dozens of restaurants of hotels are within walking distance of Lucas Oil Stadium, home of the NFL’s Indianapolis Colts, and Bankers Life Fieldhouse, home of the NBA’s Indiana Pacers. Many of those businesses and venues are connected by skywalks that allow players, coaches or fans to stay indoors.

New Utah governor unveils vaccine plan amid holiday surge

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SALT LAKE CITY — New Gov. Spencer Cox unveiled a plan Jan. 8 to ramp up Utah’s COVID-19 vaccine distribution as the state sees a post-holiday surge in new cases.

The Republican governor said he will issue an executive order requiring facilities to allocate their doses the week they are received and have local health departments manage distribution,

with an expectation of administering 50,000 doses a week.

The state’s 50,000 teachers and in-person school staff will be eligible to receive the vaccine as of Monday, Cox said. School districts will be expected to prioritize people over 65 or who have underlying health conditions.

Utah’s second phase of the vaccine rollout, which includes anyone 70 or older, will begin on Jan. 18. Former Gov. Gary Herbert, Cox’s predecessor, initially said people over 75 would be eligible.

UK prime minister orders new virus lockdown for England

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced on Jan. 4 a new national lockdown for England until at least mid-February to combat a fast-spreading new variant of the coronavirus.

Johnson said people must stay at home again, as they were ordered to do so in the first wave of the pandemic in March, this time because the new virus variant

was spreading in a “frustrating and alarming” way.

“As I speak to you tonight, our hospitals are under more pressure from COVID than at any time since the start of the pandemic,” he said.

All nonessential shops and personal care services like hairdressers will be closed, and restaurants can only operate takeout services.

As of Jan. 4, there were 26,626 COVID-19 patients in hospitals in England, an increase of more than 30% from a week ago.

Outside the outbreak

From the Associated Press



Oil companies lock in drilling, challenging Biden on climate

In the closing months of the Trump administration, energy companies stockpiled enough drilling permits for western public lands to keep pumping oil for years and undercut President-elect Joe Biden’s plans to curb new drilling because of climate change, according to public records and industry analysts.

The goal for companies is to lock in drilling rights on oil and gas leases on vast public lands where they make royalty payments on any resources extracted. Biden wants to end new drilling on those same lands as part of his overhaul of how Americans get energy, with the goal of making the nation carbon neutral by 2050.



Protestors swarm Statehouses across US

Protesters backing President Donald Trump massed outside statehouses from Georgia to New Mexico on Wednesday, leading some officials to evacuate while cheers rang out at several demonstrations as a pro-Trump mob stormed the U.S. Capitol.

Hundreds of people gathered in state capitals nationwide to oppose President-elect Joe Biden’s win, waving signs saying “Stop the steal” and “Four more years.” Most of them didn’t wear masks amid the coronavirus pandemic, and some carried guns in places like Oklahoma, Georgia, Arizona, Nevada and Washington state.



Rioters who stormed US Capitol have backlash at work

A printing company in Maryland saw the photo on Twitter Wednesday night: an employee roaming the halls of the U.S. Capitol with a company badge around his neck. He was fired the next day.

Others are facing similar repercussions at work for their participation in Wednesday’s riot at the U.S. Capitol. Some business owners are being trashed on social media and their establishments boycotted, while rank-and-file employees at other businesses have been fired.

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Meet The Daily Universe's Winter 2021 newsroom staff



Steve Fidel

With COVID-19 spacing and gathering restrictions continuing, The Daily Universe Winter 2021 editorial staff meets online for a virtual staff photo. First row, from left: Emma Gadeski, Sydney Gonzalez, Erin Johnston, Preston Crawley. Second row: Emily Strong, Cassidy Wixom, Addison Blacker, Maddie Mehr. Third row: Kenzie Holbrook, Whitney Bigelow, Britney Sam, Caleb Turner. Fourth row: Gabrielle Shiozawa, Lisi Merkley, Ally Arnold, Hannah Miner.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM BYU COLLEGES

Judge rules against BYU police decertification



David Scott

A BYU police car sits outside the Jesse Knight Building, which houses the main office for the University Police. An administrative judge ruled that Brigham Young University's police force will not be decertified.

By GABRIELLE SHIOZAWA

BYU's police force will not be decertified, an administrative judge ruled Jan. 5. This decision follows a two-year case from the Utah Department of Public Safety against the University Police. Allegations were made in February 2019 involving an inappropriate access of police records made by former Lt. Aaron Rhoades and a subsequent improper investigation from BYU. Judge Richard Catten dismissed the case, ruling that the University Police fulfilled the minimum requirements of an investigation and complied whenever possible. This was surprising given Catten's previously expressed inclination to rule against BYU. On Nov. 4, Catten said he favored the state in a summary judgment about the

case. Prior to the Jan. 5 decision, Catten indefinitely delayed a hearing scheduled for Dec. 2 so both parties could submit more arguments. In the ruling, Catten acknowledged the Department of Public Safety's concerns and discussed a difference in expectations between the two parties. Catten said the University Police hired attorneys and asked for a state investigation while the department expected the case to be turned over to the Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. "The inadequacy of the statutes and rules have unfairly affected both parties in this case," Catten said in the ruling on Tuesday. "BYUPD operates under a set of criteria that is certainly less than crystal clear and can leave them with doubt as to what actions are appropriate and required in certain circumstances."

The Salt Lake Tribune referenced a statement released by BYU spokeswoman Carri Jenkins Jan. 5 saying the judge "made the correct conclusion" in the case against BYU. The university previously cited a statement from the Utah Attorney General's office saying, "We are satisfied that the structure that allowed this to happen has been remedied."

Department of Public Safety commissioner Jess Anderson said BYU's non-compliance "erodes all integrity."

Anderson said the ruling can still instigate "an important change for the BYU community" and prompted state lawmakers "to revisit the relevant statutes and provide additional guidance about these processes."

The Department of Public Safety will decide whether to appeal Catten's decision within the month.

DAVID O. MCKAY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION Lee Robinson elected president of BYU Faculty Women's Association



Lee Robinson

A communication disorders professor was elected president of the BYU Faculty Women's Association. Associate clinical professor Lee Robinson directs the BYU Speech and Language Clinic and has been involved with the association for most of her 21 years at BYU. This will be the third leadership position Robinson has held. The Faculty Women's Association works to create a community for female BYU faculty and staff and improve professional life for women on campus. Women currently make up about 21% of BYU's full-time faculty. "We're trying to help women in various departments across campus feel like they have a community of women that they can go to and connect with," Robinson said.

COLLEGE OF FAMILY, HOME AND SOCIAL SCIENCES New research on childhood obesity



Kelsey Zaugg

A Ph.D. student has conducted groundbreaking research on the connection

between brain structure and childhood obesity. Kelsey Zaugg is studying in the BYU clinical psychology program, where she focuses her research on ensuring the psychological, physical and spiritual wellbeing of children. Zaugg has discovered, using MRI data and neuroimaging, that parts of the brain associated with how people process rewards are shaped differently in obese adolescents. These findings are in the process of being submitted for publication. "In life, we will not be able to remove all challenges children may face, but we can do our part to limit some of the vulnerabilities of children so they can face challenges with a strong foundation," Zaugg said.

COLLEGE OF NURSING Skin cancer study published in dermatology journal



The BYU College of Nursing's new research on skin cancer risks for college students in the winter has been published in a dermatology journal. Nursing professor Katreena Merrill and grad student Emily Graham found that only 9% of college students use sunscreen and that more than 50% of them use tanning beds, a percentage that increases during winter months. Tanning beds and unfiltered UV radiation from the sun expose skin to potential cancer by aging skin and damaging skin cells' DNA, Merrill said. "Many people think they will be fine in the winter, but it's just as important to protect yourself in the winter sun as it is the summer sun," Merrill said. "That's especially concerning in Utah, which has the highest incidence of melanoma in the country." The study was published in the latest issue of The Journal of the Dermatology Nurses' Association.



January 20, 2021

World of Law is a BYU Admissions Event that allows undergraduates to hear BYU Law professors present monthly on a variety of law-related topics and to meet the Dean and Director of BYU Law Admissions.



Our Speaker Will Be
Professor Paul Stancil

4:00 – 5:00 PM via Zoom

Before coming to BYU, Professor Stancil taught law at the University of Illinois College of Law for eight years and spent ten years in private practice as an antitrust and intellectual property attorney. Professor Stancil's research focuses upon the game theory of litigation, legislation, and regulation, and more specifically upon the role transaction costs play in determining legal outcomes. Professor Stancil teaches Antitrust Law, Federal Courts, and Civil Procedure. Professor Stancil received his bachelor's in economics and Spanish from the University of Virginia. He also earned his J.D., Order of the Coif, from the University of Virginia School of Law.



RSVP

TODAY

UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL
Tuesday, January 12
11:05 a.m.

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



President Kevin J. Worthen
Sister Peggy Worthen

Brigham Young University has framed much of Kevin J. Worthen's life. From a childhood fascination with Cougar sports to his years as a student, professor, and administrator, the 13th president of BYU has been inspired by the mission and ideals of the university. Born and raised in Carbon County, Utah, President Worthen received an associate degree at the College of Eastern Utah, where he was a co-captain of the basketball team. At BYU he received a bachelor's degree in political science and a juris doctor degree before leaving in 1982 to clerk for Judge Malcolm R. Wilkey of the D.C. Circuit Court and then for Justice Byron R. White of the U.S. Supreme Court. After a brief career at a law firm, Worthen returned to BYU in 1987 as a law professor. He

was dean of the Law School for four years before being named BYU's advancement vice president in 2008. In May 2014 he became president of the university. President Worthen has been a bishop and stake president and currently serves as an Area Seventy. He dated and married Peggy Sealey after his mission to Monterrey, Mexico. When the last of their children started school, Sister Worthen began pursuing a degree in English at BYU, graduating in 2003. She is known for her sense of humor, abundant energy, and a variety of interests, from sewing to hiking to reading. She has filled numerous Church assignments, including many years as a Young Women camp leader. The Worthens have three children and seven grandchildren.

Selected speeches available at speeches.byu.edu

NEXT: UNIVERSITY DEVOTIONAL

Elder David A. Bednar
*Member of the Quorum
of the Twelve Apostles*



January 19
11:05 a.m.

Grappling with governing



Rep. Burgess Owens

Rep. Burgess Owens positive Trump won election

By WHITNEY BIGELOW

Newly-elected Rep. Burgess Owens, from Utah's 4th Congressional District, joined Utah Rep. Chris Stewart in opposing the Electoral College vote from Pennsylvania shortly after the Capitol was breached on Jan. 6 and has consistently sided with President Donald Trump's claims that he won the presidential election.

Before taking office, Owens was an NFL player, a Fox News contributor and author.

The following is a brief timeline of his statements about Trump from late in his campaign through the present.

July 2020

The Salt Lake Tribune reported Trump's son, Donald Trump Jr., appeared at an Owens campaign event in late July to help gain support and fundraise.

"We need more pioneers and outsiders, like Burgess, in Washington, D.C.," Trump Jr. said.

Owens was running a close campaign against Democrat incumbent Ben McAdams, and the race drew attention from both the leaders of both parties.

August 2020

Owens endorsed Trump for president on the third night of the Republican National Convention.

"We need leaders who stand by their principles and won't compromise their values for political opportunities," Owens said in his speech. "We need leaders who stand up to the lawlessness supported by the radical left."

"During the Trump administration, business ownership by Blacks, Hispanics and females have reached all time highs," he said. "We're just getting started."

November 2020

Owens narrowly defeated

McAdams for the U.S. House seat representing Utah's 4th Congressional District in the November 2020 election.

Owens secured 47.7% of the vote, compared to incumbent McAdams' 46.7%; a margin of only 4,000 votes.

On Nov. 16, 2020 McAdams posted a video conceding the election. "I will do my part to ensure a smooth transition and commit to doing everything I can to help Burgess Owens succeed for the benefit of Utahns."

Owens was sworn into office on Jan. 3, 2021.

December 2020

Owens told The Salt Lake Tribune Dec. 31 he intended to vote against the upcoming Electoral College certification.

"I think it's the right thing to do," Owens said. "Seventy-plus percent of conservatives say that this (election) is not fair."

When asked if he really believed Trump won the election, he replied, "Absolutely. Yes, I do. There's no question in my mind that I think he won."

January 2021

Owens joined the group of 147 Republican members of Congress who voted not to certify the states' electoral votes.

He tweeted a joint statement on the morning of Jan. 6 expressing 37 Republicans' motivations for doing so.

"Proud to sign this statement alongside so many of my colleagues," he said. "We owe it to the American people to protect the integrity of our electoral system. Period."

That night Owens tweeted that he was "heart sick over what happened at the Capitol" and shared how he was looking forward to his first floor speech where he intended to tell the story of how his family members weren't denied the right to vote in the past.

"It is time for us to unite and focus on healing our country," he said.



Rep. John Curtis

Rep. John Curtis made Trump earn support

By WHITNEY BIGELOW

Republican Rep. John Curtis has given mixed feedback throughout Donald Trump's presidency, from disapproval of his personal conduct to condemning his protesting supporters.

"I didn't vote for President Trump," Curtis said in a video on Dec. 10, 2019. "So he's had to earn from me my support. Sometimes he has and sometimes he has not, but this is a congressman who has not unequivocally given him everything he's wanted."

Curtis entered office in 2017 as the U.S. Representative for Utah's 3rd Congressional District. His statements regarding Trump since then show his views about the president.

February 2019

"As I watched the speech tonight, I was reminded that we can do extraordinary things if we work together as a Congress across the aisles in a bipartisan fashion," Curtis said in a video response to Trump's 2019 State of the Union address.

"I hope as all of us listened tonight we reaffirmed our commitment to work together across the aisle to accomplish great things for this country."

December 2019

Curtis shared his thoughts on the calls to impeach Trump in a video posted Dec. 10, 2019, in addition to addressing the fact he didn't vote for Trump.

Curtis said if he had been in office during the Clinton impeachment, he would not have voted in favor of impeachment. "The bar for me for impeachment is incredibly high. I'm doing the will of the people."

"I've tried throughout this process to keep an open mind, but the articles of impeachment before me have made this vote a rather easy decision," Curtis said in a video statement regarding impeachment proceedings against Trump. "I will be voting

against these two charges."

"That said, my decision should not be inferred to mean that I'm happy with all of the president's actions, but that is not the vote at hand. I'm being asked to help remove a duly elected president and I do not feel that his actions have met that high standard."

January 2020

"I actually really liked what I heard from him," Curtis said in response to Trump's statement on tensions between the U.S. and Iran. "There seemed to be a lot of restraint; there seemed to be a thoughtful, careful response to the situation."

January 2021

Curtis released an official statement on Jan. 5 revealing his intentions to certify Utah's electoral votes, unlike 147 of his colleagues who objected to the Electoral College count in favor of President-elect Joe Biden.

"I have seen no evidence of wrongdoing within Utah and have no plans to object to Utah's Electoral College certificates," he said. "In fact, as I have watched the election process in Utah, I see within it a model for other states across the country."

In his statement, Curtis made clear that he was applying the same standards he used when Democrats made similar claims. "I will not use one standard for my party and a different one for the other."

Curtis made clear his anger with Trump's role in the invasion of the U.S. Capitol by a mob of Trump supporters and others.

"What happened was an act of domestic terrorism inspired and encouraged by our president," he tweeted. "Frustrations with elections I can understand, but the justification for the actions of the President and the mob I cannot."

"No American, no elected leader, and certainly no president who participates, inspires, or condones actions such as these has my sympathy or support."



Rep. Chris Stewart

Rep. Chris Stewart's support of Trump

By WHITNEY BIGELOW

The violent invasion of the U.S. Capitol has pushed away some of Donald Trump's most avid supporters, including Utah Rep. Chris Stewart who represents Utah's 2nd Congressional District.

"You have been a strong supporter of President Trump. Are you less of a supporter of the president today?" a KUTV interviewer asked.

"You know, honestly, I am," Stewart said. "It's really too bad because the policies that he's initiated, and the success that he's had ... I think yesterday is going to diminish and overshadow that to some degree."

March 2016

"If some of you are Donald Trump supporters, we see the world differently, because I can't imagine what someone is thinking," Stewart said to a group of students at the University of Utah on March 10, 2016.

"Donald Trump does not represent Republican ideals; he is our Mussolini."

November 2016

Shortly after Trump won the 2016 election, Stewart expressed confidence in his presidency on C-SPAN.

"He seems truly committed to helping some of those people who have been forgotten," he said.

February 2019

Trump declared immigration a national state of emergency in early 2019 in order to increase funding for border security, specifically the wall he promised to build between the United States and Mexico.

Stewart expressed his disapproval of this declaration on Twitter on Feb. 14, saying "whether the President has the authority or not, it sets a dangerous precedent and places America on a path we

will regret."

September 2019

Stewart was not in support of any impeachment proceedings for Trump's involvement with Russia's interference in the 2016 presidential election.

"He clearly asked the foreign opponent to — or the foreign government — to do an investigation of what he felt was corruption," Stewart said in an interview with CNN.

"To be honest, I don't think I would have said that. It makes me uncomfortable. But presidents do things that make me uncomfortable all the time. And you don't impeach them for it."

December 2019

Stewart staunchly defended the president during impeachment hearings.

"This vote this day has nothing to do with Ukraine," Stewart said on the House floor. "This vote, this day is about one thing and one thing only: they hate this president. They hate those of us who voted for him. They think we're stupid. They think we made a mistake."

February 2020

Dan Coats retired from his position as the director of national intelligence, leaving an opening for the position beginning in March 2020. The New York Times reported that Trump's national security advisor was pushing for Stewart to be nominated for the job.

January 2021

One of Stewart's first tweets of the new year declared he would not certify the results of the 2020 presidential election. "I believe there are critical questions that need to be answered," he said.

Following the invasion of the United States Capitol by pro-Trump protesters and others, Stewart condemned the protests on Twitter and called Trump's encouragement of the protests "inappropriate."

Rep. Blake Moore supports both Trump and Electoral College

By EMMA GADESKI

Utah Rep. Blake Moore of Utah's 1st District was sworn in just days before the U.S. Capitol was attacked.

Moore has consistently supported President Donald Trump, and the two have similar policy stances. The new congressman focused on maintaining election integrity on a state level rather than through federal intervention, declining to challenge President-elect Joe Biden's Electoral College win.

Outgoing 1st District Rep. Rob Bishop, another Republican, announced in 2019 his plan to retire, creating an opening for the office he has held since 2003.

Moore worked as an executive with the Cicero Group, a Utah-based management consulting firm, before being elected. He defeated Democrat Darren Parry and was sworn into Congress Jan. 3.

Moore supports Trump, but has disagreed with the president on federal intervention issues.

June 2020

Trump said he would deploy the U.S. military if states

couldn't control violence during protests following George Floyd's death.

Moore spoke against this plan during a primary debate on June 2. "Not in our country. Not in our state," he said. "Our response to these situations is best done at the local level where we know exactly what's going on."

September 2020

Moore has made a positive impression on Utah residents, who have noted his character and rhetoric.

Moore debated against his then-opponent Darren Parry on Sept. 24. The Deseret News reported that both candidates praised each other and kept dialogue civil during debates and on the campaign trail — "a stark contrast to the tone of national races."

Trump and Biden's debates were criticized for interruptions and insults. While Moore supports Trump, his conduct differs from the president's.

"Moore said he believes that is how politics needs to happen — respectfully disagreeing but abiding by civility," the article reads.

The AP quoted Sunset resident Craig Johnson



Rep. Blake Moore

commending Moore's character prior to the election. "The thing that really sealed it for me was Blake didn't have the vitriolic rhetoric that I heard from a lot of the other candidates. We need to be electing people of character."

October 2020

Trump endorsed Moore in October via Twitter. The two men have similar stances on political issues such as immigration, healthcare and the Second Amendment.

"Before any immigration

reform can happen, we must secure the border," Moore stated on his campaign website. "Streamlining legal immigration will benefit both the immigrants and the American economy, and those who go through the process legally will not be punished by those who do not."

Moore also praised the country's pre-COVID economy, saying that Americans were experiencing the best job market and highest economic growth in decades.

A hot foreign policy issue is

the Iran nuclear deal. It aims to restrict Iran's ability to develop nuclear weapons, lifting economic sanctions on the country in return.

Trump pulled out of the deal in 2018, as he felt it failed to protect U.S. national security interests. Biden plans to rejoin it. "The Iran Deal was one of the worst and most one-sided transactions the United States has ever entered into," Trump said.

If the United States revisits the deal, Moore told the Deseret News it's critical the arrangement has teeth. "We have to hold Iran accountable. We need to be strong. I am open to a diplomatic solution in any way, shape or form, but we can't let Iran skirt their responsibilities."

January 2021

Moore said in a recent press release he was saddened and troubled by the assault on the Capitol.

In a press release, Moore said he believes Trump's policies would have been the best way to rebuild the economy after the pandemic, and that he had looked forward to serving alongside Trump's administration.

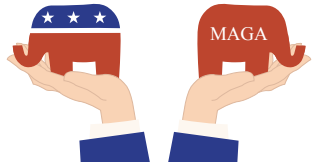
Moore said he and his Republican colleagues are

firmly committed to election integrity, and that they were dismayed by reports of fraudulent activity.

"Every abuse must be thoroughly investigated, and I will support legislation to safeguard our elections so that all Americans can trust in the security of our democracy."

However, when it came to certifying the Electoral College votes, Moore said he "could not in good conscience endorse federal intervention in state-certified elections."

Moore said adhering to the country's founding document and committing to "aspirational, pro-growth, and inclusive policies" are how Republicans won so many house seats in 2020, and how they will take back the majority in 2022.



Scan this graphic with the **Universe Plus** app to read more about how Utah's congressional delegation and students have reacted.

BYU Men’s Basketball: Inside the ‘best locker room in America’

By CAMERON MUH

BYU Men’s Basketball head coach Mark Pope came to Provo with a vision to create the “best locker room in America,” a mantra that has led the Cougars to success in both of Pope’s seasons so far.

Building what the team refers to as #BLRA has both tangible and intangible measurements that Pope and his coaching staff believe directly translate to success on the court.

“It really is a key to who we are and what we should do,” Pope said. “We believe that that wins, like we’re putting money down saying, ‘hey this wins.’ If you can actually develop a locker room like this, it really translates to winning.”

So what does it take to build the best locker room in America? What does it look and feel like? And why is it so valuable to BYU Basketball?

Components of the best locker room in America

#BLRA isn’t just a self-proclaimed title, but rather something that is actually noticed by the players.

Junior transfer Gideon George described it as teammates who push you, give you confidence, and a feeling of love and care from the team. Freshman Caleb Lohner added that #BLRA is a unity grown by working towards a common goal.

BYU is the third team that graduate transfer Brandon Averette has played for. He explained what #BLRA means to him.

“I feel that family-oriented feel. Like in the locker room, you know you have your brother’s back, and you know that your brother has your back,” Averette said. “We’re all excited to play with each other, you know, just rooting for each other. Turning down a good shot for a great shot or just trying to make your teammates better, and having fun doing it.”

Senior transfer Matt Haarms, whose Purdue team had a lot of success during his years there, shared his take on #BLRA and what he noticed about the BYU team he joined.

“It’s keeping each other accountable when it’s tough,” Haarms said. “I’m



BYU Photo

The BYU Men’s Basketball team is going into this season with a vision to create the “best locker room in America,” or #BLRA.

really recognizing that in this team as well. Guys are always listening, and even the guys that talk most and have the most say, they’re always willing to listen to one of their other teammates speak up.”

Being relentless and getting better every day

Assistant coach Cody Fueger said the relentless aspect of #BLRA is all about “being a great teammate” and caring about everyone, every day. Fueger added that it allows you to “count on your teammate.”

“That’s kind of what our deal is. We’re relentless at showing up every single day and giving it your best effort for the team,” Fueger said. “Everything is for the team. These guys are watching film for the team, to know what’s

going on, and getting better individually and collectively as a group. So, relentless is all day, every single day.”

Fueger said the mentality goes from top to bottom, starting with Pope. Members of the coaching staff want to see each other succeed, just as much as the players do.

“You want to see your teammate get better every day,” Fueger said.

A great example of a jump in performance from last season to this season is Alex Barcello, who Fueger said, “is in our offices, watching film and figuring out where he can get better every single day.”

“He’s on this court going as hard as you can every single day,” Fueger said of Barcello. “It’s not like specific shooting percentage or this and that, it’s just working on specific things to get him

better all around, but it’s an everyday attitude.”

Through 12 games, Barcello is averaging seven more points, three more assists and 1.6 more rebounds than he did in 32 games last season, but that’s not even the biggest thing that stands out to Pope so far this season.

“His box score is incredible and that’s the least impressive thing that he’s doing for us right now,” Pope said. “Just taking the mantle of leadership has really been extraordinary. It starts in the locker room. It’s off the court and of course stuff on the court.”

Haarms said he thinks it’s important to have a team that takes feedback from both coaches and other teammates. “It seems like this team has personalities that are willing to improve. It’s so important to have that on a team.”

Why is #BLRA so valuable?

The best teams buy into what the coaching staff preaches. They listen, gain trust in the system, and trust in each other.

One of the first steps in building a good team and the “best locker room in America” is recruiting, something Pope has said he and his staff were very “selective” about this offseason.

“Not just in terms of talent, but also in terms of guys that understand the culture that they’re trying to enter into, in terms of how we’re trying to build this basketball program and what we want it to mean,” Pope said. “We signed a handful of transfers this spring and all of them were excited about the possibility of coming to play for a team where guys were really fighting for each other, and were willing to fight their own personal agendas to kind of sacrifice for the team.”

Pope has also talked a lot about why building the best locker room in America requires a constant renewal of commitment.

“It’s not a one-time decision, it doesn’t work as a one-time decision,” Pope said. “You don’t just wake up one time and say, ‘you know what, I’m going to actually totally set aside my own agenda and trust the setting aside of my own agenda and living for this team is going to actually take me to all my individual goals.’”

“We try and help our guys believe in that journey of belief in the

enlightened self interest of giving yourself wholly to the team and the belief that you’re actually going to get paid back individually much greater than if you try and take from the team,” Pope said. “You have to reinforce that belief every single day, and then you gotta point every single time when it actually manifests itself so guys can keep believing, because every other voice in the world is trying to convince them that’s not the case.”

One of Pope’s overarching goals in building the best locker room in America is for each player to care less about his personal statistics and more about his efforts in strengthening the team. While a tall task that may be easier said than done, the coaching staff believes it is possible.

When asked about what it’s like to play for Pope, freshman Hunter Erickson responded with an answer that falls right in line with what the Cougars are aiming for.

“It’s all about being a team player,” Erickson said. “We’re not trying to make the play for ourselves, we’re trying to make the play for our teammates. Everyone wants you to shoot the open shot, no matter what. If my teammate’s missed five in a row, we’re all telling him to shoot the next open shot.”

#BLRA is best summed up by Barcello, who has emerged as a leader of the team.

“I just want to go out there and give it my all for these guys because that’s what each one of them do,” Barcello said.

This 2020-21 BYU men’s basketball team (9-3) has bought into the idea of building the #BLRA. It has created a locker room full of athletes who play for each other and play to win, with the potential to make a run in the NCAA Tournament, just as last season’s team looked poised to do.

“In terms of identity, like the core of who we are, I hope that never changes,” Pope said. “Being relentless and everything that means to us, this tenacious effort to get better every single day is like a DNA of us, and working every day towards the best locker room in America. That’s our DNA. That’s who we are. And I hope that this team can even be better at those three things than last year’s team was.”

Zach Wilson and other Cougars declare for 2021 NFL Draft

By CALEB TURNER

Several of the top players from this year’s nationally-ranked BYU football team announced plans to enter the 2021 NFL Draft, including quarterback Zach Wilson, wide receiver Dax Milne, offensive lineman Brady Christensen and defensive lineman Khyiris Tonga.

“After much thought, prayer and consideration, I am excited to announce that I will be declaring for the 2021 NFL Draft,” Wilson said in his announcement on Twitter on Jan. 1. “I pray that I will always make Cougar Nation proud.”

Wilson thanked his coaches at BYU one-by-one in his announcement, expressing gratitude for the opportunities he was given and the lessons he learned while in Provo. He became the starter midway through his freshman season in 2018 and led the Cougars to a 19-9 record in the games he started over his three-year career.

Wilson set the single-season record for pass completion percentage at BYU this season and also holds the record for career pass completion percentage. He is projected to be a Top 10 pick in the NFL Draft in May.

“Thank you for the best three years of my life,” Wilson said. “BYU is a special place. I’m forever blue.”

The decision to go pro became more likely for Wilson when his top receiver, Milne, announced his plans to go to the NFL on Dec 31. The two came to BYU at the same time, though Milne started as a walk-on player, and found themselves thrust into the spotlight early as freshmen in 2018.

Milne became Wilson’s go-to receiver in 2020 and his 1,188 receiving yards were the fifth-most in a single season in BYU history. He scored eight touchdowns and went for over 100 receiving yards in six of his 12 games.



Preston Crawley

Zach Wilson leads the Cougars in a game against Texas State on Oct. 24, 2020. Wilson announced Jan. 1 he would enter the 2021 NFL Draft.

“My journey of reaching for the stars continues as I am declaring for the 2021 NFL Draft,” Milne said on Twitter. “I will forever rep the Y and give it everything I have to make Cougar Nation proud.”

The final Cougar underclassman to declare for the draft during the last week of 2020 was Christensen. He was consistently ranked as one of the top offensive linemen in the nation, giving Wilson time to operate the offense and create opportunities in the run game.

“I am ready to fulfill my dream of playing in the NFL,” Christensen said in his announcement. “No matter where this journey takes me, I will always be a BYU Cougar.”

Tonga was the most recent BYU senior to announce his intentions to go to the NFL and not take advantage of the free year of eligibility the NCAA granted all athletes due to COVID-19. He is joined by fellow defensive players Troy Warner and Chris Wilcox as the seniors currently pursuing an NFL career.

Other seniors who will have to decide whether to return to BYU or try for the NFL include Matt Bushman, Zayne Anderson, Tristen Hoge and Isaiah Kaufusi.

“The last four years of my life at BYU have been a blessing,” Tonga said. “I am really excited to begin the next chapter of my life as I begin preparing for the NFL Draft.”



Emma Wiles

Dave Rose smiles through tears during his retirement press conference on March 26, 2019. Rose is now recovering from a recent stroke.

BYU basketball community rallies around former head coach Dave Rose following stroke

By CALEB TURNER

Longtime BYU Men’s Basketball head coach Dave Rose is recovering in the hospital after suffering a stroke on Dec. 31, and both current and former members of the team offered up prayers and support on social media for him.

“We love you Dave & Cheryl and Rose Family,” BYU Athletic Director Tom Holmoe said. “You’ve got thousands of friends around the world pulling for your recovery and sending up prayers of faith heavenward on your behalf.”

Rose was the head coach at BYU from 2005-2019, coaching multiple NCAA Tournament teams, including a Sweet 16 run in 2011 led by Jimmer Fredette. In 2009, Rose was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, though he returned to coaching soon after, and suffered a heart attack in

2019 soon after his retirement from BYU.

“Our thoughts and prayers are with coach and his family right now,” Fredette said on Twitter. “He’s one of the best men I know. Such a fighter.”

Current BYU head coach Mark Pope offered his own words of support and gratitude for Rose on Twitter. Pope served as an assistant under Rose from 2011-2015.

“Lee Anne and I have such deep love and gratitude for Coach and Cheryl,” Pope said. “They have been incredibly generous mentors and friends. They have given their whole heart to BYU. They have brought so much joy to so many people for so many years. We are praying for Coach and his family.”

Former BYU big man Eric Mika offered up prayers for Rose and invited others to do so in a tweet.

“Praying for a speedy recovery for coach,” Mika said. “If you guys get a second I ask you do the same.”



Challenger: James Free Press Bennett



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.

Are New Year's resolutions effective? Why or why not?

Even if you don't accomplish everything, it's still good to reflect on how to improve
@RACHELWINTERS32

It's hard to set a proper goal that's achievable and motivates us to follow it.
@STUDENTOFLIFE_BECKS

People get burnt out when they don't see quick results or improvements
@ALEX.MCSHREDDIN

Most times they are too long-term to stay on top of
@VIOLIN.CHICK.G

helpful for people to start trying to build habits that would be procrastinated other wise
@SHELSSLAY

It gives you time to reflect on something you want to improve and if you put forth the effort you will accomplish it
@CARSEN.POOL

Aiming high and falling short is better than no aim at all.
@INGRIDJSORENSEN

even if it doesn't work out, it's better for you to have worked on it for a month!
@TIALARSON02

You think of them once. Real goals should be made throughout the year, not just the beginning
@EMMAMAMA4

Goals should be made year round, but when they're piled in Jan they're ineffective :)
@EMMA.VAN

even if you don't follow through with your goals it still gives you a positive start to the new year
@_RACH_ELLE

Usually too ambitious
@RADJANIRAD

STAFF OPINION

BYU's no-spring-break model doesn't work during a pandemic

My biggest gripe during my four years at BYU has been the fact that BYU does not have a spring break — and no, “spring day,” as some students jokingly refer to the Friday we get off in March, doesn't count.

After just finishing our first full semester during the COVID-19 pandemic, my angst at the lack of BYU's spring break is higher than ever.

The idea of having to repeat the torture of last semester without such a break is a fairly dismal thought. Picture it — 15 full weeks of stress and deadlines non-stop.

Sure there's President's Day and Martin Luther King Jr. Day, but if those two holidays haven't offered enough of a break during a normal semester, I doubt they'll be much of a relief during a pandemic.

So why doesn't BYU have a spring break? With the decision to start Winter Semester 2020 a week late, the university has shown that a full 16 weeks apparently isn't necessary as far as academics go (and I've had more than one professor say they want a spring break as much as students).

The university has told the Daily Universe in the past that BYU doesn't have a spring break because of its tight schedule with Education Week and other summer commitments. That reason doesn't seem to make much sense in our current situation. There's a decent chance BYU's packed summer schedule may be moved online once

again. This, coupled with The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saint's decision to cancel EFY camps last year, will mean there's less logistical pressure for BYU to finish the third week of April (much earlier than most U.S. universities).

Many of the factors that put stress on students' mental health, like economic hardship and isolation, are at an all-time high for many students.

A spring break would be an effective strategy to address this need. It might not take away the added stressors of pandemic life, but it would mitigate the college-specific stressors students are facing.

We wouldn't want a repeat of spring break 2020, when thousands of college students picked up the virus during their travels and then spread it to their home communities, so how do we balance public health and students' mental health? A number of colleges have decided to forgo spring break and instead cancel class on a number of days throughout the semester, a trend dubbed “wellness days.” This would give students — and professors — the well-deserved break they need without putting them and the community at risk.

And wellness days could eventually be consolidated into an actual spring break post-pandemic. There has to be some silver lining to all of this, right?

—Sydney Gonzalez
Photographer

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

@Hookemcoughs

My favorite thing about ute, Aggie and BYU twitter after football season is most of us are jazz fans and join forces to annoy the crap out of other fan bases and not each other

@GetsBee

I liked doughnut falls and there weren't any donuts.

@calliomally

funny how i'm like that was a good date but then like eh don't wanna talk to them anymore lol, also then the next day i'm like why haven't they texted me???

@formerlyphread

Dear @MittRomney - next time you're in Provo, I'd v much like to treat you to a chocolate milk.

@WhereIsEmma

it's harder to get into BYU than it is to get into the capitol

@danbanbam

Can we go back to that weird part of the 2000's where sweatpants were fashionable.

@mrs_socialista

Can't today. I'm busy watching the season finale of the United States.

@r8chelmari

what a tragic day for me to look cute. No one is talking about how cute I am today. stolen election? No. Let's talk about my stolen attention.

@tmnson23

"I'm gonna be productive today" I say while eating breakfast at 11:30

@missmaddielou1

See THIS is why I am terrible at self care. I take 1 hour for a spa day and what happens? The fall of American democracy

@factaurial

me justifying attending college as a literal child: idk i just think it's so empowering i'll still have my entire 20s to waste after i graduate

@kirs_busse

twas the night before school starts & here's me shooting my shot trying to get add codes from art professors

@schuylermc1

Introverts don't want wild date nights. Introverts want pizza and brownies and murder mystery shows.

Tweets are unedited.



OPINION OUTPOST

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

Peaceful transition of power

The most pressing issue facing the nation right now is how to grind out the closing days of the Trump era without further irreparable harm to the Republic. No more Americans should have to lose their lives to a transition of presidential power.

In less than two weeks, America will officially scrape the mud of the Trump presidency from its shoe. But the president and his supporters

have shown themselves willing to burn down the house on his way out. Preventing this should be the chief focus of the nation's leaders — most especially those who have coddled and enabled him to push the nation to the brink.

A safe and peaceful transition of power should be the top priority of every American.

— Editorial Board
The New York Times

The end of Trump

If Mr. Trump wants to avoid a second impeachment, his best path would be to take personal responsibility and resign. This would be the cleanest solution since it would immediately turn presidential duties over to Mr.

Pence. And it would give Mr. Trump agency, a la Richard Nixon, over his own fate.

We know an act of grace by Mr. Trump isn't likely. In any case this week has probably finished him as a serious political figure. He has cost Republicans the House, the White House, and now the Senate. Worse, he has betrayed his loyal supporters by lying to them about the election and the ability of Congress and Mr. Pence to overturn it. He has refused to accept the basic bargain of democracy, which is to accept the result, win or lose.

It is best for everyone, himself included, if he goes away quietly.

— Editorial Board
The Wall Street Journal

New governor, new beginning

The former governors share a love of Utah and a belief that the heritage and shared values of the state make it unique among the United States,

poised with a promising future. A sense of the important, but not easy, decisions awaiting the new administration could be seen in the faces of those who occupied the governor's office in the past.

Now the governor and his team will need to take Utah's

heritage and principles to guide the policies necessary to deal with the difficulties of the day and meet the rendezvous with destiny. ... We join him in saying, “We will succeed together as one Utah. Let's go.”

— 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.

A turbulent relationship comes to a halt as Sen. Mitt Romney condemns Trump



Associated Press

After violent protesters stormed the U.S. Capitol, Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, joins other senators as they return to the House chamber to continue counting the Electoral College votes Jan. 6.

By CASSIDY WIXOM

Utah Sen. Mitt Romney spoke to the Senate floor on why he believed President Donald Trump was to blame for the violent “insurrection” that occurred on Jan. 6.

“We gather today due to a selfish man’s injured pride and the outrage of his supporters whom he has deliberately misinformed for the past two months and stirred to action this very morning,” Romney said.

Romney’s continual opposition to Trump over the years has caused a rise of disapproval for him in many Utah Republican eyes.

November 2012

The complicated relationship between Trump and Romney started off friendly. Trump originally endorsed Romney during his presidential campaign in 2012 and said Romney would continually mention Romney’s “choke” at winning in 2012 and used it to slam Romney in 2015 when both were thinking of running for president in the next election. “The Republicans cannot be so stupid as to give him a second crack,” Trump said.

March 2016

While Trump was running for President, Romney insulted him and his ability to be president. In a speech at the University of Utah, Romney claimed Trump is reckless, lacks the temperament to be president and is a “phony” in the business world. “If we Republicans choose Donald Trump as our nominee, the prospects for a safe and

prosperous future are greatly diminished,” he said.

November 2016

Trump and Romney were found dining together and discussing the potential Romney had at becoming Trump’s Secretary of State in November 2016. Shortly after the dinner, Romney had flipped his public opinion. Romney said after discussions with Trump, he believed Trump has the ability to “lead us to that better future.”

Although Romney did not become Secretary of State, their relationship appeared to be on the positive side for the first few months of Trump’s administration.

August 2017

Romney urged Trump to apologize for the way he responded to the August 2017 violence in Charlottesville, North Carolina after Trump said there was “blame on both sides” for the unrest.

Romney said there were “severe” consequences that could occur and concluded his post “Mr. President, act now for the good of the country.”

February 2018

Less than a year later, Trump endorsed Romney on his senator bid, saying he “will make a great Senator and worthy successor to Orrin Hatch.” Romney replied cordially, thanking the president for the endorsement in a tweet.

January 2019

Romney voted in favor of Trump approximately 78.6% of the time since Jan 2019. Differences in votes mainly occurred in regards to spending and funding bills proposed in Congress; specifically funding for the border

wall, appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and Defense, and other spending bills which Romney opposed.

Romney also opposed a bill Trump supported that disapproved the withdrawal of U.S. forces from Afghanistan and Syria.

February 2020

When Trump’s impeachment trial occurred, Romney made history by being the first senator to vote for the removal of a president from their own party. He gave a speech explaining his decision to vote to impeach Trump on the abuse of power charge.

Romney said Trump’s actions were “a flagrant assault on our electoral rights, our national security interests, and our fundamental values. Corrupting an election to keep oneself in office is perhaps the most abusive and destructive violation of one’s oath of office that I can imagine.”

December 2020

In December 2020, Romney criticized the Republican party for changing its course from their core beliefs.

Romney said the Republican party normally is a party concerned about balancing the budget, free trade and placing importance on the character of party leaders. But since Trump he came to power, he said “we’ve strayed from that.”

Romney issued a statement on Jan. 3 regarding why he would certify the presidential election results in favor of Joe Biden.

“The egregious ploy to reject electors may enhance the political ambition of some, but dangerously threatens our Democratic Republic,” he said.



Associated Press

Donald Trump stands with Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, in Salt Lake City in December 2017. The president interviewed Mr. Lee for the Supreme Court vacancy, according to the senator’s office.

Sen. Mike Lee’s view of Trump from ‘unelectable’ to ‘Captain Moroni’

By WHITNEY BIGELOW

Four Daily Universe reporters had Utah Sen. Mike Lee on speaker phone on Oct. 19, 2016 as they drove back to their hotel after the final presidential debate in Las Vegas, Nevada. They asked him about then-presidential candidate Donald Trump.

“I think he is unelectable and I think he needs to step aside,” Lee said.

Fast forward almost exactly four years. Lee made an appearance at the Latinos for Trump rally in Arizona on Oct. 28, 2020.

“To my Mormon friends — think of him as Captain Moroni,” Lee said to the crowd, pointing to Trump at his right. “He seeks not power but to pull it down; he seeks not the praise of the world or of the fake news.”

The following is a timeline of Lee’s statements regarding Trump’s presidency and policies from late 2015 to the present.

June 2016

NewsMaxTV host Steve Malzberg interviewed Lee about why he hadn’t endorsed Trump after Ted Cruz withdrew from the race, making Trump the clear Republican nominee.

“We can get into the fact that he accused my best friend’s father of conspiring to kill JFK. We can go through the fact that he’s made some statements that some have identified correctly as religiously intolerant. We can get into the fact that he is wildly unpopular in my state, in part because my state consists of people who are members of a religious minority church,” Lee said.

“Don’t sit here and tell me that I have no reason to be concerned about Donald Trump.”

October 2016

Lee reached a breaking point in October 2016, when a 2005 video was leaked, recording Trump making derogatory comments about women with Access Hollywood host Billy Bush.

Lee posted a response video in which he called on Trump to step down from the nomination, calling his conduct “distracting.”

“It’s occurred to me on countless occasions today that if anyone spoke to my wife or my daughter or my mother or any of my five sisters the way Mr. Trump has spoken to women, I wouldn’t hire that person. I wouldn’t hire that person, wouldn’t want to be associated with that person. And I certainly don’t think I’d feel comfortable hiring that person to be the leader of the free world,” Lee said.

“It’s for precisely that reason, Mr. Trump, that I respectfully ask you, with all due respect, to step aside. Step down. Allow someone else to carry the banner of these principles.”

It was later that same month that Daily Universe reporters had a phone call with Lee, and he expressed his disapproval of Trump’s assertions that he was behind in the polls because the election process was rigged.

“I think it’s frightening beyond my ability to describe,” Lee said. “It’s almost an anticipated repudiation of the outcome of the election. ... It delegitimizes the entire process in a way that is really dangerous.”

November 2017

The White House released Trump’s list of potential Supreme Court nominees on Nov. 17, 2017, and Lee was on that list.

Lee’s office reported that Trump interviewed Lee the following June for the Supreme Court vacancy position created by the retirement of Justice Anthony Kennedy.

“At a town hall meeting last week, Lee said that if he were asked to consider the job, ‘I would not say no,’” the Deseret News reported on July 3, 2018.

April 2019

Lee spoke with CBS News on April 23, 2019 about potential impeachment proceedings due to findings in the Mueller Report about Trump’s involvement in Russia’s interference with the 2016 presidential election.

“I don’t believe we’re dealing with impeachable conduct here,” Lee said.

When asked if Lee would support Trump in the 2020 election, he said, “yes.”

August 2020

“He is going to say things from time to time that are ideal, and other things that are not ideal,” Lee said about the president in an interview with FOX13.

He also said they have developed a good working relationship during Trump’s first term. “While this is not a president I expected to like, I’ve gotten to know him since then,” Lee said.

October 2020

Lee posted a video of his appearance at the Latinos for Trump rally in Arizona on Oct. 28, 2020.

“To my Mormon friends, think of him as Captain Moroni,” Leesaid.

January 2021

Lee did not join the eight senators who voted to not certify the votes. “Our job is to open and then count,” Lee said.

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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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1207

ACROSS

- Message to the office staff
- Old South American empire
- Mosquitoes and gnats
- Grp. that sets oil benchmarks
- Start a game of cards
- American living abroad, e.g.
- Traveled by subway?
- Mexican mister
- Seat at the bar
- ___ v. Wade
- Magnum ___ (greatest work)
- Like a recovering hosp. patient, perhaps
- “Would you call the elevator for me?”
- Japanese sash
- Piece of pizza
- Foreordained
- Chrissy of “This Is Us”
- Pet peeves?
- Wine region of California
- Dickens’s “___ House”
- “Naughty” and “nice” things for Santa
- Letters after nus
- “Hand me a flashlight”?
- Admits, as an offense
- Pouty expression
- “Well, lookee here!”
- “Person” that speaks in beeps and boops
- Home that might melt
- Use French fries as legal tender?

DOWN

- Cuts the grass
- Fencing sword
- Amish cousin
- Tentacled sea creatures
- Vow before a judge
- The latest
- Jargon
- Cher, e.g., voicewise
- Remove, as a sticker
- Part of an office telephone no.
- Period of rapid growth
- It’s a no-no
- Like some ski slopes and prices
- Pharmacy offerings
- Certain pueblo dweller
- ___ -evaluation
- Ending of seven Asian countries’ names
- Item in a purse
- Whom Cain slew
- Drawers for money
- Constellation with a “belt”
- Good amount of land to build on
- Golf ball stands
- Insurance giant
- Worker paid day by day, maybe
- Hairstyle that may have a pick
- Cuts the grass
- Fencing sword
- Amish cousin
- Tentacled sea creatures
- Vow before a judge
- The latest
- Jargon
- Cher, e.g., voicewise
- Remove, as a sticker
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PUZZLE BY BARBARA LIN

- Nail the test
- Dog walker’s need
- Reason some people move to the Cayman Islands
- More than amazing
- Dot’s counterpart in Morse code
- Ending of seven Asian countries’ names
- Long part of a rose
- Hurricane that was the subject of 2006’s “When the Levees Broke”
- Keeping a stiff upper lip
- Any minute now
- Should, informally
- Hot après-ski beverage
- Alternative to Chicago’s Midway
- Put forward, as a theory
- Dinghy or dory
- First word of a fairy tale
- Six years, for a U.S. senator
- Abbr. on a O button
- ___ buco
- Sweetie pie
- Leaf-turning time: Abbr.

Online subscriptions: Today’s puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay.

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1208

ACROSS

- 9-to-5 activity
- In heaven, say
- Like a Saturday crossword
- Person in a boardroom, informally
- It’s in the details, they say
- Arthur who wrote “Days of Grace”
- Meat substitute
- Cards in Monopoly
- Put the kibosh on
- French conductor Boulez
- Upscale hotel facility
- Electrical unit
- “___ relax” (“Breathe”)
- Web-footed diver
- Things that may be broken when moving?
- Pic picked in a parlor
- Gare de l’___ Paris railway station
- Senegal’s capital
- Where the sheep is in “Little Boy Blue”
- One totally unlike another ... or what each answer on the edge of this puzzle has?
- Inscribed stone markers
- Having no toppings, as a pizza
- Singer/songwriter DiFranco
- Rocks, in drinks
- Pooh’s morose friend
- Complete stranger, slangily (“Breathe”)
- Gregor Kafka character who transforms in “The Metamorphosis”
- Put in stitches

DOWN

- Rainy
- Big name in kitchen utensils
- Arena arbiter, informally
- Single-serving coffee pod
- Venomous snakes with zigzag patterns on their backs
- Drunken, in a way
- Not hidden
- Obsolescent home movie format
- They loop the Loop
- Rips into
- Shrewd
- Some French wines
- Take off, as a plane
- Unpleasant encounter
- Madison Square Garden team
- “Really?”
- Bird whose beak inspired Darwin’s theory of evolution
- Fend (off)
- Flying formations
- Accustom to difficulty
- Taiwanese electronics giant
- Like a Monday crossword
- In hell, say
- Off-hours activity

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PUZZLE BY ENRIQUE HENESTROZA ANGUIANO

- Method of successive improvement
- In some sense
- Like the year you ring in on December 31
- In a ___ of trouble
- Speedy shark
- Pizza joint in “Do the Right Thing”
- Hubbub
- Fancy notebook brand
- Fuel economy org.
- Foxlike
- Critic’s pick, for short
- Tourist city in New Mexico’s high desert
- Dublin’s land
- Like the year you ring in on January 1
- Land, as a plane
- Seasickness, e.g.
- Some belly buttons
- Forgo
- Bubbleheaded
- Cancel
- Prefix with aggression
- Exchange
- Little lie
- Kind of tear for an athlete
- Stephen of “V for Vendetta”
- Not rainy

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