



The Herald Journal

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MARCH MADNESS

More Aggie reactions, plus a full roundup of NCAA action

— B1



CHEERS!

Reversal of recent legislation allows 100-year-old Richmond liquor store to stay open

— A3

Disappointing seed

Aggies 'surprised' with selection for NCAA Tournament

By Shawn Harrison
sports editor

After putting together the best season in school history record-wise, the Utah State men's basketball team watched in shock as it found out where and who it would be playing in the upcoming NCAA Tournament. The Aggies, who are ranked No.

23 in The Associated Press Poll and No. 17 in the USA Today/ESPN Top 25 Poll, got little respect when it came to seeding. USU received a No. 12 seed and will take on fifth-seeded Kansas State in Tucson, Ariz., on Thursday evening. The approximate start time is 8 p.m.

"The more things change, the more they stay the same," Aggie head coach Stew Morrill said. "A 12th seed is a little bit of a surprise. We were thinking an eight or nine seed, 10 at the worst. Obviously, it will be a challenging game."

USU brings a 30-3 record into the game, having won the regular season title and conference tourna-

ment in the Western Athletic Conference. The 30 victories ties the most in school history, matching the 2008-09 team that went 30-5.

The Wildcats began the 2010-11 season in the top five in the national rankings, suffered through some rocky times and fell completely out of the Top 25. Last week Kansas State (22-10) was ranked 19th in the AP poll and 23rd in the USA Today/ESPN poll.

"We have a veteran team," Morrill said. "This is our third straight time at the NCAA Tournament. It is our third straight time with a big

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Eli Lucero/Herald Journal

Utah State's Pooh Williams reacts as he watches the NCAA Selection Show on Sunday afternoon to see where the Aggies will play in the NCAA Tournament. The 30-3 Aggies received a No. 12 seed and will take on fifth-seeded Kansas State this Thursday night.

Weather



High: 45
Low: 28

— Page A10

Update

Parenting

Depressed dads often spank kids

CHICAGO (AP) — Just like new moms, new fathers can be depressed, and a study found a surprising number of sad dads spanked their 1-year-olds.

About 40 percent of depressed fathers in a survey said they'd spanked kids that age, versus just 13 percent of fathers who weren't depressed. Most dads had also had recent contact with their child's doctor — a missed opportunity to get help, authors of the study said.

The American Academy of Pediatrics and many child

See DADS on A6

Greatest Hits

Articles and visual presentations receiving the most "hits" at hjnews.com for the week of Friday, March 4, through Thursday, March 10:

1. Soldier surprises daughter at school after early return from Afghanistan (1,538)
2. Steeple removal uncovers 1967 capsule in Providence (1,292)
3. Agents make major meth bust in Logan (1,101)
4. Logan soldier receives Purple Heart in Afghanistan (1,005)
5. Leo Bravo pleads guilty to reduced sex abuse charges (925)
6. USU students speak out on immigration bills (882)
7. Brown relief case reopened (849)
8. Wesley named WAC Player of the Year (725)
9. One special senior (651)
10. USU says it wasn't duped in Brigham City land deal (628)

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Cache people, places & things



Jennifer Meyers/Herald Journal

Chris and Jen VanDam of Lewiston learn about a Remington Model 700 sniper rifle from Sgt. Mike Peterson while attending the Citizens Academy on Wednesday.

Beyond the police tape

Couple excited to learn more about local law agencies

By Matthew K. Jensen
staff writer

A typical Wednesday night for the VanDams might include a ride in a patrol car, a visit to a jail cell or a brush with the SWAT team.

But the Lewiston couple aren't America's most wanted, and they're not hardened criminals. Chris and Jen VanDam are on a date. The two signed up for the 10th annual Citizens Academy

offered by the Cache County Sheriff's Office and say they are looking forward to spending each Wednesday night together for the next two months. The academy gives students an inside look at the largest law enforcement agency in the county and a chance to be part of the action.

"I just thought it would be neat to come out and see the different aspects of their jobs," said Chris VanDam. "We always see the sheriff's deputies on the side of the road, pulling

people over, and we thought it'd be cool to see the other stuff they do. And it gives us an excuse to get out once a week."

Each class covers different topics. On day two last week, about 18 students learned about the use of deadly force, SWAT operations, and the day-to-day tasks carried out by dozens of employees who work in the sheriff's support services division. In the first session, Sheriff G. Lynn Nelson told the group deputies perform a variety of tasks that go largely unnoticed by the public.

"I think they're under-appreciated," said Jen VanDam. "You get to see sides you didn't even

See LAW on A10



Second in a series



AP photo

A time to pray

In this photo taken during a government-organized visit for foreign media, a pro-Gadhafi fighter performs his evening prayers in the desert as a plume of smoke rises from the burning oil refinery in Ras Lanouf, 380 miles southeast of the capital Tripoli, Libya, on Saturday. Read more about recent developments in war-torn Libya on Page A5.

Trembler, tsunami death toll up to 10K

SENDAI, Japan (AP) — The estimated death toll from Japan's disasters climbed past 10,000 Sunday as authorities raced to combat the threat of multiple nuclear reactor meltdowns and hundreds of thousands of people struggled to find food and water. The prime minister said it was the nation's worst crisis since World War II.

Nuclear plant operators worked frantically to try to keep temperatures down in several reactors crippled by the earthquake and tsunami, wrecking at least two by dumping sea water into them in last-ditch efforts to avoid meltdowns. Officials warned of a second explosion but said it would not pose a health threat.

Near-freezing temperatures compounded the misery of survivors along hundreds of miles of the northeastern coast battered by the tsunami that smashed inland with breathtaking fury. Rescuers pulled bodies from mud-covered jumbles of wrecked houses, shattered tree trunks, twisted cars and tangled power lines while survivors examined the ruined remains.

One rare bit of good news was the rescue of a 60-year-old man swept away by the tsunami who clung to the roof of his house for two days until

See DEATH on A8

Cache Valley farmers weigh potential water shortage in SW region

By Kevin Opsahl
staff writer

Cache Valley farmers and others are concerned about their water supply in the midst of a new report from an environmental think tank that paints a bleak picture of water supply in the Southwest over the next 100 years.

The report is called, "The Last Drop: Climate Change and the Southwest Water Crisis," by the Stockholm Environment Institute. Economists Frank Ackerman and Elizabeth Stanton state that "water demand

in the Southwest will outstrip water supply in the near future."

Jon White, chairman of the Cache County Council and a farmer of hay, grain and cattle, said Cache Valley is "sitting quite well" with its water situation today.

"We're probably the only area that doesn't have it used up now," White said. "We're blessed because we have storage, and we have it up in the mountains pretty good. We have late run-offs."

White cited the Porcupine

See WATER on A10

