

# THE GLOBE

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JUNE 15, 2011  
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Photo by David Bell

Michael Woodhouse uses the computer lab in the SLCC Veteran's Center.

## Helping SLCC veterans

David Bell  
Staff Reporter

In order to help individuals who have served our country in the military, the Veterans Center at Salt Lake Community College is available to aid veterans in their pursuit of an education. Known throughout the country as a military-friendly institution, SLCC was selected as one of just eight schools for the "Vets For Success" program, which has given the opportunity for such a unique center. It is a flagship for other centers of its kind in the country. Located on the first floor of the Student Center at the Taylorsville

Redwood Campus west of the cashier's windows, all veterans can receive some kind of educational benefit through the center.

"We have sixteen different benefits that the office monitors. Each one has a complicated (registration) process," Darlene Head-Goldman, Veterans Center Manager said.

Certain factors help determine what benefits each veteran receives, including what branch of the military a veteran was in and what situations a veteran was in during wartime. The benefits can also differ depending on whether a veteran saw active duty or not, whether they were in the reserves, or in a life-threatening situation, among many other variables.

One of the benefits that is currently available is the new GI bill called the Post 911 GI Bill. Under this bill spouses of veterans who were killed or injured in the service of their country can also

receive educational benefits. If a soldier is gone on active duty a spouse can receive up to \$4,000 in educational benefits.

Not all veterans at the school have self-identified through the college. In order to do this they need to come into the Veterans Center and be identified and entered into the college system. This is then verified through a processing center in Oklahoma. The Center encourages all veterans to contact them to see if they are identified with the college.

At this time there are 1,300 identified veterans attending SLCC, 875 of whom are using educational benefits. About four years ago there were only about 400 veterans at the school. There are so many now because of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many of the employees of the Veterans Center are veterans themselves, and some double as students.

"I've been working here about

a year now. I'm part of the work study program," said Wayne Baker, a veteran of the Navy. "It's been a positive experience."

In-house at the Center is a representative from the Veterans Administration (VA), who is there to help veterans with their benefits and to counsel them on things like applying for a home loan. The Center works closely with the VA.

"My dad is 100% disabled from Vietnam, so he can't afford to send me through school. The VA gives me benefits to go to school," said Michael Woodhouse, a student at SLCC.

The Center also works closely with the VA Hospital here in Salt Lake, which is rated as one of the best in the country. Representatives from the hospital come to the Center to educate veterans on their medical benefits.

"I'm really proud of SLCC and their support," Head-Goldman said.

## A new chapter in SLCC hoops

Ryan McDonald  
Staff Reporter

New Salt Lake Community College head basketball coach Todd Phillips jokingly recognizes that he has big shoes to fill in taking over a program that has had exactly one head man in the last 20 years.

"I think one of the cardinal rules for coaches in basketball is don't follow a legend," Phillips quipped. "You're supposed to be the guy after the guy that follows a legend," he said.

Ryan McDonald | Globe SLCC  
Head men's basketball coach Todd Phillips will be looking to continue a strong legacy as Bruins hoops enters a new era

All joking aside, Phillips fully realizes the incredible tradition that former coach Norm Parrish established in his 20 years on the Bruin bench. Having been Parrish's head assistant for the last three seasons, he is eager to continue that success, but is also excited to blaze a trail of his own.

In regards to his first few weeks at the helm, Phillips remarked, "It's been busy and crazy, but I

*New chapter/Continued on page A3*

## Writing for civil rights through the Utah Freedom Writers

David Bell  
Staff Reporter

In conjunction with KUED Channel 7, the Community Writing Center (CWC) at Salt Lake Community College is inviting all people to write about civil rights as part of a program called "Utah Freedom Writers." The writing campaign's name stems from a group of 400 Americans who, in 1961, risked their lives by riding buses in the segregated South. These civil rights activists became known as "Freedom Riders." The question that submissions to the writing campaign should answer is, "While we've come a long way, are we there yet?"

The submissions that the CWC is looking for are ones that relate to experiences that members of the community have had with civil rights, or the change in civil rights that writers want to see.

The CWC will be accepting these submissions until September 1, 2011. The CWC is looking for poetry, essays, or testimonials. They need to be 500 to 1,000 words in length.

"The purpose behind this is to get people writing," Nkenna Onwuzuruoha of the Community Writing Center said.

The CWC has posted some suggestions of topics for writers who are having a hard time getting started, such as, "Can you think of a time when you, purposefully or not, violated someone else's civil rights?"

In conjunction with the writing campaign, KUED is airing programs about the Freedom Riders. The station recently aired an "American Experience" program that told of the Freedom Riders in 1961, as well as a program about the fight for civil rights in Utah. The community stories will be placed on KUED's

website as well as the SLCC's Community Writing Center's website.

The Salt Lake Community College Community Writing Center is located at 210 East 400 South, Suite 8 in Salt Lake City. The CWC supports, motivates and educates people of all abilities and educational backgrounds who want to use writing for practical needs, civic engagement and personal expression.

The CWC offers different programs for community members, including workshops that include a one-on-one session for 30 minutes. In this workshop, CWC employees offer any kind of help that is needed to revise a draft. Community members can come in twice a week for this.

The CWC also offers DiverCity Writing Groups, which give members of the community the opportunity to gather together and write about important

issues. Some of these groups include the Gay Writes Group, the Environmental Group and multiple Literacy Action Groups, among others. Most of these groups meet throughout the city.

The CWC also has writing coaching classes at some libraries throughout the valley and at places like the University Neighborhood Partners (UNP) and the Heartland Center, where immigrant people stay. SLCC partners with the University of Utah to help educate these individuals.

The CWC also offers workshops for writing in such things as writing for change, Utah Arts Festival, book reviews, screen plays, and other genres of writing. "We challenge the notion of what is good writing," James Singer, Offsite Programs Coordinator said.

The CWC's website address is [www.slcc.edu/cwc](http://www.slcc.edu/cwc), and their number is 801-957-2192.





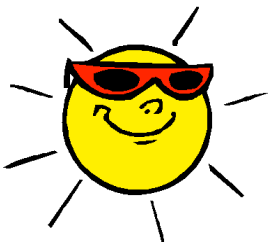
# STUDENT EVENTS

WED/15

SLCC Environmental Club Meeting, 3:30pm, TR Campus, Student Center Basement, Senate Chamber's Room, info@enviroclub.org

The Sound of Music, 7:00pm  
The Empress Theatre, 9104 West 2700 South, Magna, For more information, call 801-347-7373.

THURS/16



FRI/17

SLC Fashion Stroll 6pm, East Broadway, Salt Lake City. FREE event!! At 8:30pm, check out the Vitamin Water Inspirations Show. Featuring 8 SLCC Fashion Institute's top designers. For more information please visit http://www.slcfashionstroll.com/

SAT/18

Breakfast with the Birds, 8:30am, Tracy Aviary, Sugarhouse Park, A fundraising event for Tracy Aviary

MON/20

CHEAP FOOD! The Community Food Co-op warehouse, 3:30 – 6:30pm, The Community Food Co-op Warehouse, 1726 S 700 West, SLC. Meat, produce, and local products are sold at affordable prices. The sales are open to the public.

TUE/21

SLCC Tech Club Meeting 5:30pm, TR campus, Library lower level, Room 046

SUN/19

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Submit student events to calendar.globe@slcc.edu

Visit slcc.edu/campusevents/calendar.asp for more student events

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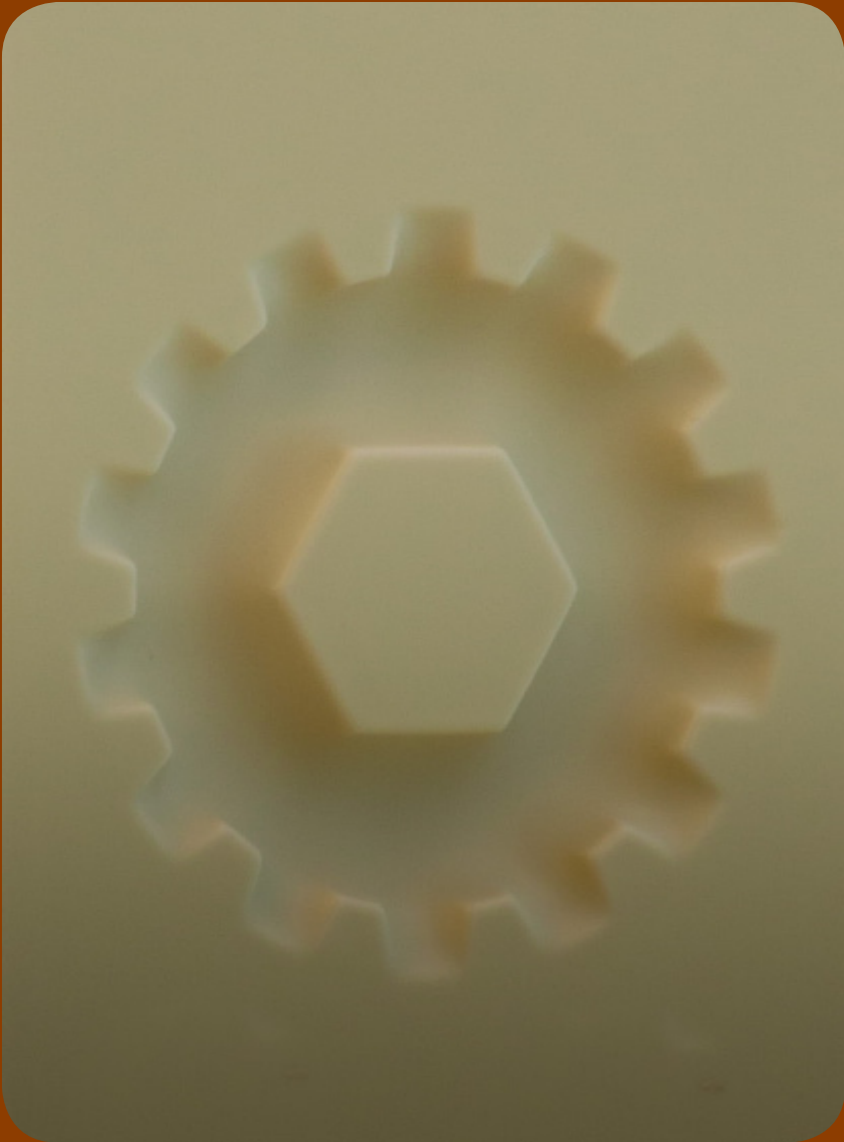
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Due to the high volume of requests for articles we receive, The Globe may not be able to reply to every letter. Due to our limited staff, The Globe may not be able to attend or cover every event or issue submitted. The Globe encourage emails/ notices of events. However, any request of coverage of an event or issue should be made within a time frame of at least one week.

# SLCC PICS



Each week a different picture from an SLCC campus will be featured. If you know the location and campus of this week's featured picture, enter to win a prize by emailing your answer to [contest.globe@slcc.edu](mailto:contest.globe@slcc.edu).  
Deadline for entries is Tuesday, June 21.

Entrants may only win once per semester. Mass Communication Center staff and SLCC faculty are not eligible to win.

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0719

ACROSS

1 Aids for treasure hunters

5 Babble on

10 "Ali \_\_\_ and the 40 Thieves"

14 "The Time Machine" people

15 Environmentalist in a Dr. Seuss story

16 Muscat's country

17 "Yes, go on"

19 William \_\_\_, Hopalong Cassidy player

20 Spotted cat

21 Supers oversee them: Abbr.

23 Dove's sound

24 1969 Stevie Wonder hit

27 Harvard color

29 T on a test

30 Wedding dress material

31 Sony rival

33 Famed '50s flop

37 Eggs in labs

38 Former host of TV's "Last Comic Standing"

41 The way, in philosophy

42 "You'll love the way we fly" airline

44 Con's opposite

45 Suffix with Oktober

46 On \_\_\_ with (equal to)

49 Salad greens

51 Big name in paint

55 Meadow

56 Dark shade of blue

57 Go over again with a blue pencil

60 Eye part

62 Location in a Donizetti opera

64 Scrabble piece

65 Actress Graff

66 Florence's river

67 Lemon peel

68 These: Sp.

69 Without ice, as a drink

DOWN

1 "Take \_\_\_ your leader"

2 Baldwin of "30 Rock"

3 Tending to cause an argument

4 Words before "And here I thought ..."

5 Great deal

6 CD-\_\_\_

7 Clamoring

8 La Brea attraction

9 University attended by J. K. Rowling

10 \_\_\_ for apples

11 BP partner

12 Louisiana waterway

13 Compound conjunction

18 Comfy footwear, for short

22 Like some Kraut

25 Suffix with depend

26 Club \_\_\_

27 Dummkopf

28 Four-star review

32 Electric guitar need

34 Longshoreman

35 Simplicity

36 Auction groups

38 Where Mount Fuji is

39 Utah city

40 Toast recipients

43 \_\_\_ Mahal

45 What many a young boy wants to grow up to be

47 Charlotte \_\_\_, capital of the U.S. Virgin Islands

48 Coke and Pepsi, e.g.

50 No idle person

51 Fast-moving attack

52 Hair-raising

53 Tough as \_\_\_

54 Citi Field player, for short

58 New Rochelle campus

59 Horse's gait

61 Card game based on matching groups of three

63 Letters after L



CAMPUS

campus.globe@slcc.edu

New chapter

Continued from page A1

wouldn't want it any other way. It's been good. It's been really exciting for me."

As exciting as it has been, Phillips concedes that it hasn't been a simple transition from assistant to his first college head coaching job.

"There is more to worry about," he said. "There are more things going on. As an assistant, you go home at night and you have your things that are on your plate, and that's it. As a head coach, you have an even bigger plate than that to worry about. You don't just have your little areas. I'm trying to switch from assistant mode to head coach mode. It's definitely been more stressful. Hopefully I don't get any gray hair," the 37-year-old

joked.

Whether or not gray hair actually comes, Phillips readily says that while he wants consistency within the program to remain, there will be some changes.



Courtesy of SLCC Athletics

Head men's basketball coach, Todd Phillips, will be looking to continue a strong legacy as Bruins hoops enters a new era.

"Obviously I'm going to do things a little different because I'm my own person," he said. "I think I'll be animated on the

bench. I think I will sweat the small things more than Coach Parrish did. He had a tradition and a legacy of doing things for 20 years and he knew how they'd work out. His experience

helped calm him down a little bit. My inexperience will fire me up and motivate me to work harder."

Perhaps another

motivation for Phillips is the knowledge that, as interim head coach, his job is only guaranteed for one season.

"There is some pressure there as an interim, but I also know what the expectations are and I'm excited to meet those," he said. "We have really high expectations for this year. We are really trying to push the envelope to meet those expectations."

Present during SLCC's 2009 national championship run, Phillips counts a second title as a goal he has as a coach for his team.

While winning ball games is incredibly important to Phillips, he knows that his leadership will be judged on more than just the Bruins' win-loss record.

"The good thing is that I know what our athletic department expects," he said. "I think

I fit into meeting those accomplishments really well. It's not only to win, but to have high-character kids on the floor, to have kids who will go to class. There's more than just one aspect to having a good basketball program. I guess I've embraced and enjoyed

trying to put all of that together."

As a new chapter in Bruins hoops begins, hope is high that the puzzle that Phillips puts together will be a winning one, and one that doesn't break any more cardinal rules.

The GLOBE

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slccglobelink.com

Online advising at SLCC

David Bell  
Staff Reporter

The days of waiting in long lines for academic and career advising can be over thanks to online advising. Started in the fall of 2009, the online advising program is relatively easy to navigate. All a student has to do is fill out an information release form. This form allows an advisor to release student information over the phone or through e-mail. The information that may be released includes progress of degree completion, class scheduling, academic standing, grades, and repeated courses, among other pieces of information.

Thus far, many students have taken advantage of on-line advising. "The number of students has continued to increase," said Joanne Thomas, Assistant Director of Academic and Career Advising. "We had to bring in another advisor."

The online advisors are particularly busy at the beginning of a semester and during the period when students are registering for the next semester. In January of 2011 the number of students that used online academic advising was 763. In February the count went down to 304, and in March it was 440 students. In April, however, the count went back up to 788. During spring semester the online advising program helped a total of 2,295 students.

Academic Advising has two advisors that staff the online advising program. One works three-quarters time, and the other works part-time as an online advisor and meets with students personally during the rest of the day. Both are experienced advisors with the school.

Online advising has a guarantee of response in 48 hours, though most inquiries are responded to within 24

hours during the lesser busy times of the year.

The questions that are most commonly asked on-line are, "How do I get started?" and, "What do I have left to graduate?"

If a student has other questions for the school there is a website that the college has called "Ask SLCC." This is offered through the contact center at the school. Using this site is also relatively simple, as a student just needs to type in their question. Listed on the site are the answers to the ten most commonly asked questions.

Ask SLCC says, "If the answer to your question is not available today, it may be tomorrow - so keep coming back."

Ask SLCC can be found by visiting slcc.intelliresponse.com or by calling 801-957-4073. Online advising can be contacted at onlineadvisor@slcc.edu, and 801-957-4978.



Habits of successful students

Danielle Cox  
Contributing Writer

Most students attending Salt Lake Community College are only part-time students' because they are also full-time workers. So how do you go about studying and being a good student with everything else on your plate? Here are a few tricks of the trade that can contribute to academic success.

**Form a study group.** Similar to the classroom, a study group will allow you to review information and get different perspectives on topics. Also, if done correctly, can be a great structure to complete assignments.

**Manage your time.** Using time wisely is a big one. Setting aside time to do homework everyday will lead to better grades. Salt Lake Community college offers free Time Management workshops once a month. Most professors recommend at least two hours of study time. Even more if you are preparing for an exam.

**Be an active learner** in the classroom. Unfortunately, for many, the classroom

becomes a time to work on homework for your next class, fall asleep, or day-dream about being on the fresh powder in the mountains. It may also become a time to consider what you're going to wear on an upcoming date. Classroom participation is essential to learning and knowing the material. Stay active in the class and take good notes that you can review later.

**Good writing skills are also essential.** Many employers and professors' agree that writing skills are among the most important and yet the hardest to come by. Carlyn Bond, a professor at Westminster College, says that having good writing skills is her best advice for students. She mentions that they are essential and what every employer looks for, since writing is used in every setting one can imagine.

**Seek out a mentor.** Not only can they help you with reviewing papers, but they can also help with your goals and career path. Having someone whose opinion

you trust, will guide you through those tough decisions we all have to face in school and in life.

**Have an organizer and planner.** These tools will allow you to keep assignments and appointments on track so you will be more prepared for due dates. The second you find out about an assignment, track it in your planner and continually update it with important information including deadlines and dates.

**Never miss class.** As they say, 80% of success is just showing up. By missing class you are vulnerable to missing important information, falling behind, and creating a bad habit.

**Keep your eye on the prize.** Work on things closely related to your career. Not only is this beneficial in the long run, but it will keep you motivated throughout the semester and through your studies.

Ray Emmett of Salt Lake Community College Institutional Marketing keeps track of student surveys and the effectiveness of certain

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ROGER EBERT  
CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

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KENNETH TURAN  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

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IN SELECT THEATERS JUNE 17

study habits. According to his information, it is shown that SLCC ranks at only a 2.8 GPA for sophomore students'. Most students' need

at least a 3.0 if they are planning to transfer to a four-year university.

By applying some of these techniques, you will

see a drastic improvement in your academic success and hopefully your GPA as well. Good luck during your semester!







# DC Comics to hit the restart button

Joseph Meyere  
Staff Reporter

The biggest problem comic book publishers have is getting new business. For someone to truly get into comic books they must face the daunting task of learning decades of history. Superman is well known for being the last son of Krypton, but newcomers will have to learn about his marriage, his childhood friend from the planet next to Krypton, the Legion of Super Heroes, his death, his resurrection, his time as two separate energy beings, the difference between him and Earth 2 Superman, Ultraman, Red Son Superman and Bizarro and the recent return and re-destruction of Krypton. And they wonder why they don't get new readers. DC Comics recently announced that starting in August they will be completely restarting their entire line of super hero titles from issue one. Each character will start at the beginning of their careers, being young fresh and ready for action. The looks and personalities of the characters will even be given a modern spin so

that new readers can easily start into this exciting world without having to read a single Wikipedia page. Reaction to this announcement is across the board among comic lovers. The debate rages across the valley in comic book shops like Dr. Volts Comic Connection (2040 E. 3300 S. Salt Lake City, Utah), where the usual topic is who can win in a fight, She-Hulk or Wonder Woman. While many of us



Photo by Andy Bork  
**Old school and the new side-by-side**

remember Marvel's attempt at this in 2000 with the creation of the *Ultimates* comic book line, a world where all their super heroes restarted in the year 2000, many are still skeptical as to whether or not DC can pull this latest stunt off. Other fans are suspecting that it's just another publicity stunt like the supposed death of Batman a few years ago, or the endless string of world

altering mini-series the company has produced. Honestly, it's about time DC made this move. Being a comic book reader myself, sometimes reading the things is like skipping in and out of *Lost* and wondering why you can't keep up. It's flat out impossible without a bank account resembling Lady Gaga to keep up with every little change and every subtle storyline. A restart from the ground up wouldn't just help new readers fall in love with these characters, but give old fans a chance to catch up, not to mention help make the stories make a lot more sense. Probably the worst part of this whole thing is what DC is telling us, which is next to nothing. The clever minds at DC knew that all they had to do was release a couple sentences of information and nerds like me would be talking about it for months in anticipation of the new releases. This cleverness will translate into clever storylines in their comic books as it always has. For more information on comic book events and a good start to become a reader, visit [www.drvolts.com](http://www.drvolts.com).



**Radio SLCC**  
Your Student Source

# Top 10 freshmen must have items

Joseph Baker  
Contributing Writer

- Going off to college, especially if it's your first time being on your own, can make any student nervous. It's hard to know what to take and what you'll need. There are some basics that every freshman should have when going off to college for the first time.
1. A laptop has become a must for college. Some classes even list them as a requirement. Don't fall for sharing one with a roommate. When you have a research paper due in three hours and someone else is using the computer, you'll wish that you had your own. Not to mention that if you think you may take online courses, a laptop will be even more useful. Along with your laptop, take adapters and at least one power strip. An extension cord will be useful as well.
  2. Having a mini-fridge in your dorm room will save you not only trouble, but money, too. By keeping a few quick meals and plenty of snacks ready in your room, you won't be tempted to go spend \$20 on one meal in a restaurant when you're ravenously hungry.
  3. Don't forget to bring comfort items. No matter how excited you are to be out on your own for the first time, there will be days that you get hit by homesickness. Bring photos, stuffed animals, pillows, books, and anything else from home that you think will comfort you when you feel down.
  4. Keep a bank account with a debit card. For safety reasons, never keep cash in a dorm room.
  5. Take a tool kit. It will be invaluable to you because not only will you probably have to assemble some furniture, but you'll certainly have to fix things. Your tool kit should include a hammer, both Phillips and flathead screwdrivers, pliers with a wire cutter, a heavy duty utility knife, a level, and a couple of adjustable wrenches. Duct tape is a good idea as well. It will help with everything from repairs to wrangling runaway power cords.
  6. Ear plugs will be useful, whether you have a roommate who snores or you have someone on your dorm floor who finds subwoofers at 3 a.m. a good idea. Ear plugs will allow you to sleep in peace or concentrate on course work when there's other noise around.
  7. Storage containers will keep your things together and out of the way in a tiny dorm room. Shoes, course work supplies, dishes, cleaning supplies, and anything else that doesn't need to lie around the room can go into storage containers and can be stowed beneath the bed or in the closet.
  8. Find stick-on hooks and picture hangers for the walls so you won't have to damage them with nails, tacks, or tape. Removable stick-on hangers are available in most stores now, and some varieties have poster hangers, too.
  9. Buy a closet shoe organizer. This isn't for shoes, it's for your toiletries. Shampoo, hair products, lotions, brushes, styling tools – anything that can fit can go in a compartment. Hang it on the inside of the closet door and everything will be in one place and out of the way, ready to grab when needed.
  10. Last but not least, take some kind of shower shoes. In a dorm, you'll have to share a bathroom with a lot of other people. Dozens of other students may have stood in that shower before you. Shower shoes or flip flops will keep your feet clean and eliminate any worries.

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# Apple soars with iCloud

Patrick Cassell  
Guest Columnist

The popularity of Apple's mobile devices has led to a proliferation of iPads, iPhones and iPod touches. You may own more than one of these and a computer. One of the things that causes consternation is when you try to get all your digital media in sync. First you have to sync all your iOS devices with your computer to get all your media on the computer. Then you sync them all again to get all that media on all the devices. There must be a better way. This is where Apple's iCloud comes in. This is a synchronizing service, which automatically shares contacts, calendars, email, apps, iBooks, iWork documents, photos and iTunes-bought music with all your personal iOS devices. All of this is free on any device with the upcoming iOS 5. The one paid iCloud feature is iTunes Match. iTunes Match will allow you to use iCloud to sync music not bought through iTunes with your iOS devices. iTunes Match will be \$24.99 per year. All of the features of iCloud will be available some time this Fall. Also, non-Apple apps will be able to use iCloud storage. If you want to get a peek at what is in store with

iCloud you can try "iTunes in the Cloud" now. All you need is an Apple device with iOS 4.3 or later and iTunes 10.3 or later. iTunes in the Cloud offers two main features. You can download any iTunes music, applications or iBooks you previously bought through iTunes, the App Store or the iBookstore. They are accessible through iTunes, the App Store or iBooks on your device. They can also be downloaded through the store in iTunes on your computer. The second big feature of iTunes in the Cloud is the ability to automatically download future purchases to your computer and iOS devices. To set this up, turn on automatic downloads in iTunes' "Store" preferences on your computer and in the Settings app under "Store" on your device. Automatic downloads will work over 3G on an iPad or iPhone if you switch the "Cellular" store setting on. Just open iTunes on your computer and verify that you are signed into the "iTunes Store" with your Apple ID. When you buy something on your device it will start downloading on your computer. When you buy something on your computer, it starts down-

loading on your device. It is amazing to see this happen in front of your eyes without touching the other device that is automatically getting what you bought. When the full iCloud is available this Fall you will be able to take advantage of all the features. Other than syncing of media, the iCloud will also provide backup for your iOS devices. You need a Wi-Fi wireless Internet connection to do this, but not a computer. Apple's website says once a day iCloud will backup your "purchased music, apps and books; photos and videos in the camera roll; device settings; app data; home screen and app organization; text and MMS messages; and ringtones." Apple's iCloud is replacing their MobileMe service. If you are on the iOS bandwagon, things are just getting better with iCloud.



# Salt Lake Community College

**Wasatch IronPen Literary Marathon and Ultra Marathon**  
June 24-26

Artists of the written word face-off in a 24-hour writing competition. Participants compete in one of three categories (Fiction, Non-Fiction and Poetry) or can take on the Ultra IronPen challenge and write in all three!

Writers of all genres and experience levels are eligible to register for the marathon beginning on June 1, 2011 at the SLCC Community Writing Center. For more information, call us at 801-957-2192 or check out our website ([www.slcc.edu/cwc](http://www.slcc.edu/cwc)) to register.

\* Registration fees: IronPen: \$10.00 Ultra IronPen: \$30.00  
\* Registration closes on Friday, June 24th at 5:55pm.  
Prompt available on Friday, June 24th at 6:00 p.m.  
Submissions due on Saturday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m.  
Arts Fest reading by winners, Sunday June at 2-3 p.m.

SLCC Community Writing Center  
210 E. 400 S. (Library Square Plaza)  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
[www.slcc.edu/cwc](http://www.slcc.edu/cwc) or call (801) 957-2192



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

arts.globe@slcc.edu

# Super 8 is out of this world

Stephen Romney  
Arts Reporter

Many film students, both here at SLCC and abroad were excited when they first saw the incredibly vague Super Bowl teaser trailer for this film. Who could blame them when it's a film written and directed by J.J. Abrams (*Star Trek*) and produced by Stephen Spielberg (*E.T.*), one of the legends of cinema? Seeing this film, it was obvious that Spielberg had his hand in this.

The basic story, without giving too much away, is set in the summer of 1979. While working on a short film, a group of friends become the witnesses of the derailment of a U.S. Air Force train. Shortly thereafter, there are strange occurrences that entangle their small town in a government cover-up. I know this may seem a tad confusing for the description, but this is a spoiler-heavy film.

The story in this film is paced very well and keeps you hooked all the way through. The focus of this film stays predominately on the group of friends who witness the crash and shows a very realistic reaction to an incident involving the extra-terrestrial; right in the middle of the Cold War no less. While all the adults are panicking, the kids that comprise the principal roles struggle in vain to continue their normal lives.

The strongest performances in this film come from the child actors who, at least in this reporter's opinion, act surprisingly adult and yet very childish at the same time. Their performances even rival that of the adults in the movie, which is rare for child actors.

The atmosphere of this film deserves some mention as well. It shows how much work went into capturing the time period

as well as removing the rose-colored glasses that films made in the 70s have placed on our perceptions of the era. If you took a scene from the movie, you wouldn't be able to tell that it was set in the 70s, given the realistic, yet somehow timeless dialogue.

The attention to detail is shown most strongly

with the actions of the military, the air of secrecy and ambiguity about their conduct. Adding to that is the anti-Soviet sentiments exhibited by some of the townspeople as they try to find the cause of the strange events.

The effects in this film evoke a very *Cloverfield*-esque form of suspense,

with the cause of the disturbances kept hidden until the third act. You see things happen, but they don't reveal the cause early on. Although a common horror film practice, it's employed exceptionally well here.

The best way to summarize this film is to say that it's a realistic take on the sci-fi realistic that came out during the 50s, which is both weird and not at the same time given the film's setting. While most of those sci-fi films are now cannon fodder for shows like *Mystery Science Theatre 3000*, this film really ramps up the suspense factor, resulting in some legitimately creepy moments throughout.

Overall, this is a very entertaining film with a solid story, great pacing and high quality special effects. On my rating scale, I give this film a 4/5. This is a summer film well worth watching.



Courtesy of Paramount  
Joe (Joel Courtney, center right) and his friends talk about the accident after a day of shooting their film.

Friday, June 17  
6 - 10 pm  
East Broadway  
Salt Lake City

SLC  
FASHION  
STROLL

Three great  
runway shows  
at 7:30, 8:30  
& 9:30.

SLCC students  
compete in the  
8:30 show.

Don't Miss  
Out!

## "MEET ROADIE" BY C.A.TRAHAN

HIYA. MY NAME'S JACK RHODES, BUT MOST PEOPLE CALL ME ROADIE.

LAST WEEK, I GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, AND WAS SOON AFTER HARASSED BY AN OUTDATED NARRATOR.

THERE'S LEAVING THE CHILDHOOD HOME AND THE TOWN YOU GREW UP IN.

THERE'S HAVING TO TAKE ON ALL THE DUTIES THAT YOU DIDN'T HAVE GROWING UP.

AND ULTIMATELY COPING WITH THE FACT THAT YOUR CHILDHOOD IS GONE FOREVER.

BUT THAT'S JUST THE TIP OF THE ICEBERG. THERE'S ONLY GOING TO BE MORE AND MORE

NEXT WEEK: *Read of Reflection*

## The Tree of Life

Joseph Meyere  
Arts Reporter

Artistic films are a unique genre whereas it's one of those genres that can't really be judged by the standards of other films. Artistic films aren't made to keep the masses entertained for large quantities of time with clichéd plots and characters.

God. The weirdest part is probably when it jumps ahead in time and shows some 10 minute clip that looks like a deleted scene from the movie *Dinosaur*. The pure shock and incongruence with the scene is almost like the film is trying to cleanse the audience's palette before moving on.



Courtesy of Fox Searchlight

These films are out to try and express something - and film just happens to be the medium. *The Tree of Life* falls directly in the middle of this category and pretty much defines the genre.

It's hard to describe what *The Tree of Life* is about. The film follows almost no conventional or unconventional plot devices whatsoever and is almost a series of loosely related images strung together by the same characters. The closest thing to a plot that could be pulled out of it is that Jack (Sean Penn, *21 Grams*) is remembering his deceased brother by remembering his own uneventful life. He particularly remembers one summer when he and his brother were younger, but not the summer when he died. In fact, it's not even the summer where anything really significant happened between the two brothers. A chunk of this movie is spent focusing on the tense relationship the kid has with his father (Brad Pitt, *Inglorious Bastards*).

Parts of the film take a real jump showing what can assumed to be the creation of the earth while some unseen narrator talks vaguely about

Despite how strange the movie is, it's still hard to qualify it as a bad movie. It's like looking at an abstract piece of art, filled with colorful shapes and angles and saying that it's a bad picture because it's not actually of anything. That's what this film feels like, some artist's expression without conventional form or substance, just ideas splatted together on a canvas. The beauty of the scenes themselves adds to this. Each one is beautifully captured, as every scene is given what looks like an excruciating amount of work to get the lighting and composition just right. It's a masterfully done effect that transcends just pointing a camera at something and shooting.

In the end the film is good, it's just not recommended to someone who wants to see sexy explosions every five minutes or some epic love story. *The Tree of Life* is a film to go into ready to think and introspectively explore the meaning of life and through a beautifully done piece of art.

*The Tree of Life* is rated PG-13 for some language and intense emotions.

You can  
save his life,  
donate  
blood-plasma.

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\$330  
your first  
month

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