

THE GLOBE



WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 2011
ISSUE 12/FALL '11

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THE RETURN OF HOOPS

Men's and women's basketball preparing for season openers

Timothy Janssen
Staff Reporter

Just because the only battles in the NBA we will hear about for the foreseeable future will take place in meeting rooms doesn't mean that basketball will be absent from the fall schedule. The regular season for Salt Lake Community College women's basketball begins Friday, November 4th as the Lady Bruins take part in a tournament on the campus of Southern Utah University in Cedar City. Head coach Betsy Specketer is entering her 16th year as head coach at SLCC. She led the 2009 team to a record of 25-5 and the 2010 squad to a remarkable 24-6 record.

Saturday, November 5 will see SLCC match up against Central Arizona, a perennial powerhouse that will open the season ranked fifth in the country.

"It'll be a good test for us,"

Specketer said. "I'm excited about it."

One of the first items of business for Specketer this season will be to adjust to life after Haley Holmstead, one of the greatest players to ever play at SLCC. Last year Holmstead was the team's go-to player when it came to scoring and leadership. She averaged 24 points per game while directing the offense in such a way that teammates could rely on her when the game was on the line. This year, as the team has a relatively new roster, minus Holmstead, the scoring responsibilities will be harder to establish.

"I think it's really hard to replace a player like Haley," Specketer said. "I don't think anybody's going match her in terms of scoring production."

Although the team is without the consistent scoring ability seen from Holmstead, the roster is packed

Lady Bruins' head coach Betsy Specketer instructs her team during a recent practice. SLCC will open its season this weekend in Cedar City.

Photo by Tyler Alexander

with talent in many different areas. Of the 14 players on the roster, four of them are returning sophomores. Katie Walker and Nicole Newbold are the team captains.

"The sophomores are great leaders [to this team]," Specketer said. "They've been a great example on the floor."

As a coach, Specketer certainly expects a variety of contribution from her players, not just in the area of scoring the basketball.

"We're a lot more balanced [this year]," she commented. "We're gonna be a little more athletic than what people have seen in the past. We're able to get out and run a little bit more, we're a little quicker, we're a little faster in transition."

In previous years, it was noted that Specketer's teams executed the half-court offense well, using the clock effectively to get good shots. Because of the team's balance in athletic capability this season, Specketer plans to see variety in her team's style of play.

"I think we'll get to the rim a

little bit more," she said. "We'll score in transition more. It'll be a different look."

Having been a coach for so long, Specketer realizes the truthfulness of the old adage that defense wins championships and she's excited to see how her team plays on that side of the floor.

"They (this year's group) show a lot more commitment on the defensive end," Specketer said. "Defense is going to be a huge factor, as well as rebounding."

A primary responsibility as a head coach is to make sure that the team continues to get better, develop and improve in all areas. With so many years under her belt, Specketer realizes that this is her biggest responsibility.

"We need to make sure that this team reaches its potential," Specketer said.

It is because of this that she wants their commitment to the team.

"I want them to dedicate

Hoops/Continued on page A4

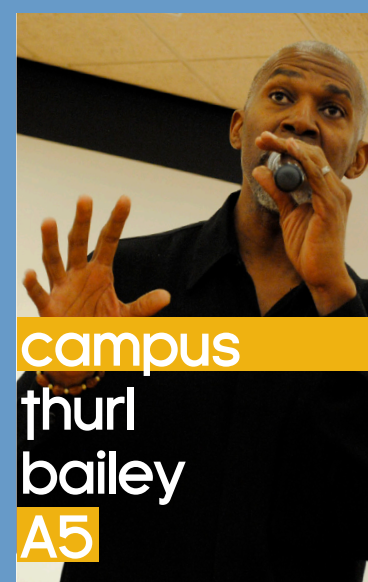
Jimmer, other NBA players to play at SLCC

Ryan McDonald
Editor-in-Chief

With the end of the NBA lockout nowhere in sight, many NBA players are banding together to play exhibition games in various cities across the country. Headlined by former BYU Cougar Jimmer Fredette, one of these groups will play at the Lifetime Activities Center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus on Monday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m. Plans for the exhibition were finalized on Halloween, just before "The Globe's" deadline.

According to a press release, joining Fredette will be Jazz players Paul Millsap, Al Jefferson, Derrick Favors, Devin Harris and first round draft pick Enes Kanter. Former All-Star Chauncey Billups and sharpshooter Stephen Curry are also slated to appear.

Tickets can be purchased at Smith's Tix outlets. They will also be available at the LAC ticket window on Monday. Net proceeds from the game will be donated to various charities.



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"Winston Man" encourages students to avoid tobacco

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

The Student Event Center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus played host to the humorously presented Great American Smokeout lecture last Wednesday to inform both the student body and faculty of the dangers of tobacco.

Guest speaker and former "Winston Man" Dave Goerlitz used comedy to talk about the tobacco industry.

"There's a lot of stink about tobacco and tobacco is tobacco, no matter what you call it," he said to open the lecture. "Kind of like lipstick on a pig is still lipstick."

Goerlitz, 62, has been paid in the past to influence both adults and children to think that smoking is cool and fun.

Goerlitz has been smoke-free for 21 years and his passion is to



Photo by Shad Engkilterra

Former "Winston Man" Dave Goerlitz addresses SLCC students about the importance of avoiding tobacco.

educate people around the world about the dangers of smoking and the manipulation that tobacco companies use in their advertisements. He has spoken to over 5 million children in seven countries and uses comedy and pictures from his past to make it

easier for people to understand and to help his audiences to stay engaged.

"Let me communicate something to you all. Tobacco will kill you, gang," Goerlitz stated.

"Tobacco companies are dream killers; Utah needs to wake up.

There's a lot of denial," Goerlitz said.

Some of the statistics cited in the lecture included that 90 percent of smokers start under the age of 14. 20 to 30 percent of children in Utah smoke, but parents in Utah believe it to be only eight percent.

According to the American Lung Association, the top five cigarette companies spent over \$12 billion in 2006 on advertising. These companies have managed to hide the fact that there are over 4000 chemicals inside of cigarettes and that 51 of them are cancer-causing.

"My job was to make smoking look cool and fun," Goerlitz said of his old career. "I didn't do the responsible thing as a parent and my kids were confused. Luckily they turned out great, regardless."

In closing his lecture, Goerlitz

Tobacco/Continued on page A5



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Actor Edward James Olmos to speak at annual Tanner Forum on Social Ethics

Marilei Puentes
Contributing Writer

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Week, actor, producer and director Edward James Olmos will be speaking on Wednesday, November 9 at The Grand Theatre at South City Campus at the 2011 Tanner Forum on Social Ethics. He will be giving a lecture from noon to 1:00 p.m. discussing activism and social justice in the nation.

Olmos is dedicated to being a voice for young Latinos and troubled youth. He encourages them to pursue their dreams and look forward to a better future through hard work. Born and raised in East Los Angeles, he is aware of the struggles that follow most young Latinos who live in similar cities. Olmos believes that no matter what “race” you are labeled as, in reality, there is only one race and that is the human race. Olmos looks to inspire people to become more united and to have more support each other.

Olmos debuted in the film “Bogard” which was released in 1974. In 1979, he won a Tony Award for his performance as El Pachuco in “Zoot Suit.”

Olmos has directed several episodes for the many television shows he has been a part of, including “Miami Vice” and “Battlestar Galactica.” He made his directorial film debut in 1992 when he released “American Me.”

Other notable roles include high school math teacher Jaime Escalante in “Stand and Deliver,” the tough but dedicated father role of Abraham Quintanilla in “Selena” and more recently, the intelligent but persistent Professor Gellar in the television series “Dexter.”

Olmos frequently makes visits to Boys and Girls Clubs, juvenile halls, detention centers and local schools, encouraging children to make the decision to keep moving forward in life. He stresses the fact that if he could become successful and live his dreams, anyone can.

Students and the public are welcomed to attend this free lecture to get to know the real Edward James Olmos and to understand that although he has done many things in the entertainment industry, he has a deep passion for informing the public about the needs and rights of America’s youth.

The Tanner Forum on Social Ethics is an annual event that was formed in 2000. Its purpose is to bring nationally and internationally known speakers to Salt Lake Community College to discuss and make the public more aware of social ethics.

2011 Tanner Forum on Social Ethics

Wednesday, November 9
Noon-1pm
The Grand Theatre
South City Campus

Hoops

Continued from page A1

[themselves] to getting better. I think they’re mature enough to understand that,” she said.

Although there is much work to be done, Specketer is aware of the talent her team has and is confident in their plans to continue a winning tradition. The ultimate goal for the team is to get to the national tournament and win it.

“As a whole, this program is used to winning,” Specketer said. “I don’t think that’s gonna change. We expect to win.”

Despite the loss of depth from last year, overall, Specketer has confidence in this year’s new-look team.

“I think the chemistry’s really good,” she said.

2011-2012 campaign will be his fourth overall at SLCC.

“We [ran] the same system and same mentality of what we need our guys to do,” he said of what his team’s style will be in comparison to Parrish’s. “I learned a lot from him and we won a lot of games.”

A year ago, the Bruins made it to the region championship game only to lose to the eventual national champion College of Southern Idaho. SLCC opens the season ranked 17th in the country. Bruin Arena will host the conference tournament in March.

Jayson Cheesman, Jordan Bernardo and Marquis Horne are the team’s returning sophomores and each has something to give in terms of their knowledge of the game.

“All three of our returners should help us a lot this year,” Phillips said. “Those guys have experience and know what our league’s like and the competition level. They know what it takes to win.”

Although this is his first tenure as head coach, Phillips certainly has standards set and goals in mind for his team.

“I expect a lot from them,” Phillips said. “I expect them to work hard every day, to get better, to play as a team.”

“You gotta pay the price,” Phillips explained about the importance of each game being a team effort. “I expect our team to do the things that are necessary to give them a chance.”



Photo by Tyler Alexander
Interim men’s basketball coach Todd Phillips teaches players at a recent practice. Phillips is entering his first season as head coach at SLCC.

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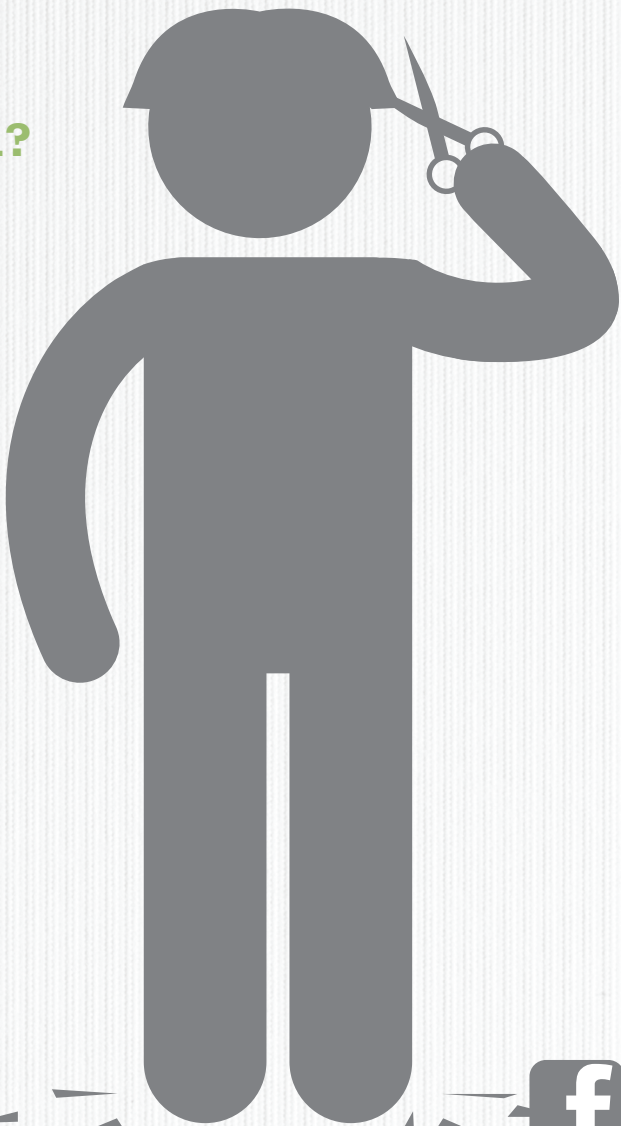
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Ex-Jazzman Thurl Bailey motivates SLCC

David Bell
Staff Reporter

Salt Lake Community College students had the pleasure of hearing ex-Utah Jazz player Thurl Bailey deliver a motivational talk last Thursday at the Student Event Center on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus. The event was co-sponsored by Student Life & Leadership, Asian Student Association, Pacific Unity Association and the Black Student Union.

Bailey played professional basketball for 17 years, three of which were in Italy. Now he is a TV commentator for the Jazz and a motivational speaker.

“I’m going to talk about potential,” he said to open his address. “I have to believe in the subject. The question is, do you believe in it?” Bailey asked the audience.

A talented musician, Bailey then sang a song that he had written. He then talked about learning from

your mistakes and the role that basketball has played in his life.

“Basketball was a tool to help me get where I wanted to go,” Bailey said.

He went on to tell how when he was a kid he was not allowed to bring home lower than a C grade. He told about how he never picked up a basketball until he was 13 and how his dad made him a homemade basketball hoop out of a plastic trash can. Though he started playing the sport at a later age, he related to the audience how his dad got him hooked on basketball and how it became his passion.

Because it was his passion, he thought that trying out for the junior high basketball team was a good opportunity, but he did not make the team the first two years he tried out.

He talked to the audience about how many people don’t do things because of the potential for failure. Then he talked about trying

to do what you failed at over and over again until you succeed. He tried to relay to the audience to go after what they are passionate about.

Students were there for a variety of reasons.

“Every year, the American Chemical Society, which the Chemistry Club is a member of, does a tree at the Festival of Trees for Primary Childrens Hospital,” Sarah Moore, a pre-med student said. “We do a sports memorabilia theme. We brought a couple of basketballs to have Thurl



Photo by Ann Chen
Former Utah Jazz player Thurl Bailey speaks to SLCC students about the importance of being motivated in life.

Bailey sign. Last year our tree was the highest selling one.”

There were also a few old fans in attendance to listen to Bailey’s talk.

“I really liked watching him (Bailey) play when

I was little,” Areyan Golmohammad, political science student said.

Baileys talk was entertaining for the audience and carried a positive message for the students.

Tobacco

Continued from page A1

gave insight on how students can quit smoking, gave examples of his past and how smoking has affected both his family and him. He encouraged the student body to take a stand against tobacco and to live a life free of addiction.

With the great response to the lecture event, student event coordinators hope students are inspired to participate in upcoming events.

November 8, 2011 will be the Great American Smokeout at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus Student Event Center. There will be games and prizes, surveys and pledges, along with plaster death masks that will later appear in the student art gallery. The event is free.



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Come see the tale of “Sweeney Todd”

Amber Midgley
Staff Reporter

The name Sweeney Todd is known to many as one to fear. He is a man of revenge and, frankly, insane ways of thinking. The production of “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” at the Midvale Main Street Theater proved no different. The cast members portrayed the show in such a way that it was difficult to not feel any sort of fear or passion for a man like Sweeney Todd.

The original Broadway production of the show opened in 1979. It ran a total of 557 performances and has since been charming its way through the country as an epic thriller and dramatic experience for audience members.

“Sweeney Todd” follows the story of a man named Benjamin

Barker (played by Jim Dale) who was convicted of a crime he did not commit. He served 15 years in jail. When he returned home he learned that his daughter Johanna had been taken by the town’s arrogant judge. He also discovers that his wife killed herself after merciless taunts from the townspeople. Full of rage, Barker strategically comes up with a plan for revenge on those who ruined his life. His first act was to change his name to Sweeney Todd and promote himself as the barber of Fleet Street.

The plot thickens as Todd’s close friend Mrs. Lovett (played by Eve Speer) graciously allows him to open a barber shop above her kitchen, where she takes his victims and bakes them into pies.

It is at this point that comedic relief comes in a bit of a strange way, as the duo sings “A Little

Priest,” a song devoted to eating people. Their charisma on stage is not only highly entertaining but gives the audience a more comfortable feel as they include them in their rants. These two characters interacted in such a way that audience members would forget any critique they had moments before.

The Midvale Main Street Theater has a huge impact on the audience’s ability to get involved in the production. It is not an enormous theater and because of this, the audience is able to really connect with the characters. It allows them to see the expressions of the characters and better understand what they are feeling. One might even be able to see the sweat of Sweeney Todd as he passionately speaks of his wife’s death. They might also see the minor details placed into the set

that wouldn’t have been seen otherwise. The actors, therefore, did not have to embarrass themselves with over-the-top acting, but spent more time simply being their actual character.

Possibly the most entertaining and cutting part of the show was the end as an unexpected twist is filled with traumatic music. The characters themselves were given a different side, which was captivating.

Overall, although the show was not perfect, but because of actors like Jim Dale and Eve Speer, it was completely worth it.

“Sweeny Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street” will be playing at the Midvale Main Street Theater at 7711 South Main Street (700 West) on Nov. 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th and 12th. The show begins at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

Free movies aren’t just on campus

Shad Engkilterra
Staff Reporter

On November 2, Student Life and Leadership is planning to show “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2” at the Taylorsville Redwood Campus in the Student Event Center from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. On November 3, students at the Jordan Campus will be able to see the film in the Pavilion from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The film will be shown on a loop as many times as possible during the scheduled hours.

These are two of the many free film screenings that students at Salt Lake Community College have an opportunity to view. Other screenings can be found in “The Globe” and at utahfilmcenter.org.

Over the course of the semester, readers of “The Globe” have had the opportunity to score tickets to “Cowboys and Aliens,” “Puss in Boots,” “Moneyball,” “The Three Musketeers” and several other films. There are usually two or three advertisements for free film screenings that are shown before the film is released to the general public.

These screenings do require a little bit of work to see. Vouchers need to be obtained by either picking them up from “The Globe’s” office on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus or by registering with gofobo.com and printing the voucher from the website. Directions on which method to use are stated in the ad.

Vouchers do not guarantee entrance to the film. To get an actual ticket, the person interested in seeing the film must show up at the theater and wait in line. Tickets are generally dispersed at 4:00 p.m. for evening shows, which means that someone who wants a ticket should get in line as early as 3:00 p.m. even though the theater asks that guests not line up before 3:30 p.m.

Films do get sold out rather quickly, so it is a good idea to be there early. Bring a book to pass the time or talk to the others that are waiting. After the tickets have been picked up, the guests are welcome to leave theater complex and return before the film starts.

For some of the previewed films, cell phones and other recording devices are not allowed in the theater. They are taken from the audience and held until the movie is over. Other films require only that the device be turned off; anyone caught with a device on during the film will be escorted out of the theater.

The Utah Film Center shows movies for free during the week, as well. For these films, there are no hoops to jump through. All that is required is that those wishing to see the film show up. Oftentimes there is a panel discussion afterwards or the director may be in-house to talk about the film.

Free/Continued on page A6

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IN SELECT THEATERS NOVEMBER 11

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The Organ Loft: The way silent films are meant to be seen

Stephen Romney
Staff Reporter

At the time of this writing, I have barely returned from an evening at The Organ Loft, located at 3331 S. Edison Street, where they screened the 1925 adaptation of “The Phantom of the Opera,” starring the horror icon himself, Lon Chaney Sr. As the year of the adaptation indicates, this is a silent film.

After watching it, I realized that it’s one thing to watch a silent film on a DVD, but it’s another thing entirely to sit in a theatre and watch the film with live accompaniment by a master organist on a massive Wurlitzer organ. This leads me to the point of this article, the importance of the silent film and the experiences provided by places such as The Organ Loft.

When I mention “The Phantom of the Opera,” most people immediately think

of the Broadway musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber because it is the most recent, romanticized incarnation of the story. However, the version I saw predates the musical by about 75 years. It was the first adaptation of the original novel by Gaston Leroux, which has since been overshadowed by the 1925 film and two musical adaptations.

The story is pretty much the same, as two businessmen become the owners of the iconic Paris Opera House, which is believed to be haunted by a spectre seeking to both aid and seduce the young singer, Christine. However, another man, Raoul, a childhood friend of Christine’s, also vies for her affections.

There is something that must be said about the acting in silent movies. It’s best to equate this to a sort of a ballet, as most of the emotion is relayed through pantomime. While some

of it may seem comedic by today’s superficial standards, the ability to convey emotion with facial expression and body language alone is something many actors strive for. This is something that is Lon Chaney’s strong suit, as he successfully conveys both the romantic desperation and the maddening rage that defines the character. He even captures some of the subtlety to the character that tends to be betrayed by some of the inter-titles.

One thing that must also be said about silent films is regarding some of the unique cinematography that was lost when sound was introduced. Since the camera wasn’t tethered to a huge train of sound cables, it could be placed anywhere and everywhere, which works to show the elaborate re-creation of the Paris Opera House that was built to scale using the original blueprints.

There is also the case of the creative use of shadows to add to the suspense of the film, embodying the fear that comes from those who encounter the Phantom, only to end up either dead, or in his manipulative web.

While this is a silent film, sound still plays a key part. That duty falls to the organist. The organist for this event being Blaine Gale. The organ is a far more powerful instrument than most people give it credit for, as it was designed as a precursor to the electronic synthesizer. The Wurlitzer organ that is housed in the Organ Loft is especially powerful, the pipe work lining most of the walls in the building from behind panes of glass. As the film played, Gale masterfully used the different modes of the organ to “fill in” the sound effects, matching the emotions of the scenes with both tone and volume. Like a stationary equivalent

to the one-man band, the instrument acted as a character in and of itself, a sort of narrator if you will.

In film study classes here at the college, it is often a requirement to watch many early classics such as “The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari” and the many works of people such as George Méliès. Unfortunately, the only way many of us get to see these films is through DVD versions that feature lackluster instrumental accompaniment that is often limited to instruments such as pianos and a string quartet. It is the kind of the experience offered by the people at the Organ Loft that really brings these films to the splendor that they once had. While they only have a season of screenings that runs from September to November, this is an experience I can’t recommend highly enough.

It’s the ephemeral nature of the screening that adds

to the magic of cinema, as it takes you back to a time where you couldn’t view these movies at home, where they came and went like a passing dream. You wish they can stay, but you know they can’t and so you enjoy it to the fullest while you can.

Although this was the last screening of “Phantom” there are two more events coming up at the Organ Loft. The first is on November 3rd and 4th, when three films will be screened. the first will feature the comedy of Harold Lloyd, with the latter two films being ones that were made right here in the state of Utah. After that, on the 17th and 18th of November, you can spend an evening with Buster Keaton, the only actor to never smile on camera over the course of his career.

For more information, visit www.organloftslc.com

Free

Continued from page A5

The Utah Film Center shows films that inspire thinking like “The Tillman Story,” the Harry Belafonte biography “Sing Your Song” and several Cannes Film Festival selections. They also have theme shows like Science Night on the second Wednesday of the month, where they have screened “The Last

Mimzy” among other selections. Future films include “Journey of the Universe” on October 27 and “Temple Grandin” starring Claire Danes on November 1 at the Salt Lake City Public Library downtown at 7:00 p.m. Temple Grandin, on whose life the film is based, will be present at the November 1 showing.

Adventure at the Anime Banzai

Maaike Bennett
Staff Reporter

It wasn’t Comic-Con, but enthusiasm abounded the weekend of October 21st-23rd as thousands met for the annual Anime Banzai, a convention filled with costumes, games and, you guessed it, anime.

The Anime Banzai, however impressive it is now, had humble beginnings that started closer to home than Salt Lake Community College students might know. It was born right here at SLCC, on the Taylorsville Redwood Campus.

In 2005, anime, the abbreviated word for animation in Japan, was “the next big thing.” Actually, it had been for nearly a decade or two before that time, even though the bug hadn’t bitten hard enough in Salt Lake to show.

The efforts of students in SLCC’s End of the World anime club changed all that, as they worked to create Utah’s first anime convention, which was held on October 15th, 2005. And the Convention hasn’t stopped since, although some changes have been made. As interest was garnered the shift from SLCC’s Student Center to the Sheraton Hotel downtown, and now to the Davis Conference Center was inevitable and the only way to handle the influx of interest. 2010’s attendance was upwards of 3,000 people.

This year marked the Banzai’s second convention at the Davis Conference Center, and the sixth year total of the Anime Banzai, “an educational convention focusing on Japanese anime (animation), manga (comics) and culture,” according to its website.

A few of the traditional activities were present this year, including the Swap Meet and multiple Iron Fanart competitions. In these competitions, a group of artists are given a theme to create an image by, earning a prize at the

end for best art piece. Cosplay Chess, a living, breathing version of chess including props and participants was there and Convention Survival was also part of the weekend.

Quite a few new events were added to the lineup as well. Some notable ones were panels discussing the 25 Years of Zelda, the Axis Powers Hetalia Fan Panel, a series in which countries are personified as people and the Studio Ghibli Fan Panel, covering the history of the team that brought forth movies from My Neighbor Totoro and Kiki’s Delivery Service to Spirited Away and Howl’s Moving Castle.

Social conduct was covered in How to Talk to the Geeky Opposite Sex, while conflict resolution was learned in How to (Avoid) Trolls.

This year the Anime Banzai bore the theme of “Steampunk,” a visual aesthetic in which Victorian-age high society meets Cyberpunk accessorizing, such as steam-driven mechanized robots, tinted-glass goggles and gears. With that in mind a variety of craft-oriented presentations were held. For those who are costume-inclined, a specific brand of dressing up called “cosplay,” meaning costume plus play, was presented.

Armor Options for All Day Wear, Basics of Patterning, Easy Steampunk Rings, Building and Fitting a Corset, Long Fitted Coats in Period and Clothes v. Costumes: Surviving Your Creativity were but a few examples from this year’s workshop lineup. Talented artist and author Tanglwyst de Holloway, aka Tonya Adolfson, was the presenter of many of these events. She has worked as a costumer for 23 years, much of it at Southern Utah University and the Utah Shakespearean Festival.

Make and Take Kitty Ears and Wigs 101 also existed among other events for those going the traditional cosplay route, and Cosplay Photography 101 was held for those on the other side of the camera.

This was also a great Con (“convention”) for individuals with the inspiration to write and create, as panels and instructions were presented regarding Dealing with Criticism, Creating Likeable Characters, Fanfiction to Fiction, Self-Publishing, World Building and a favorite in the form of Sacrificing Your Favorite Scene for the Sake of the Story.

There were also events for those learning how to start

Banzai/Continued on page A7

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Banzai

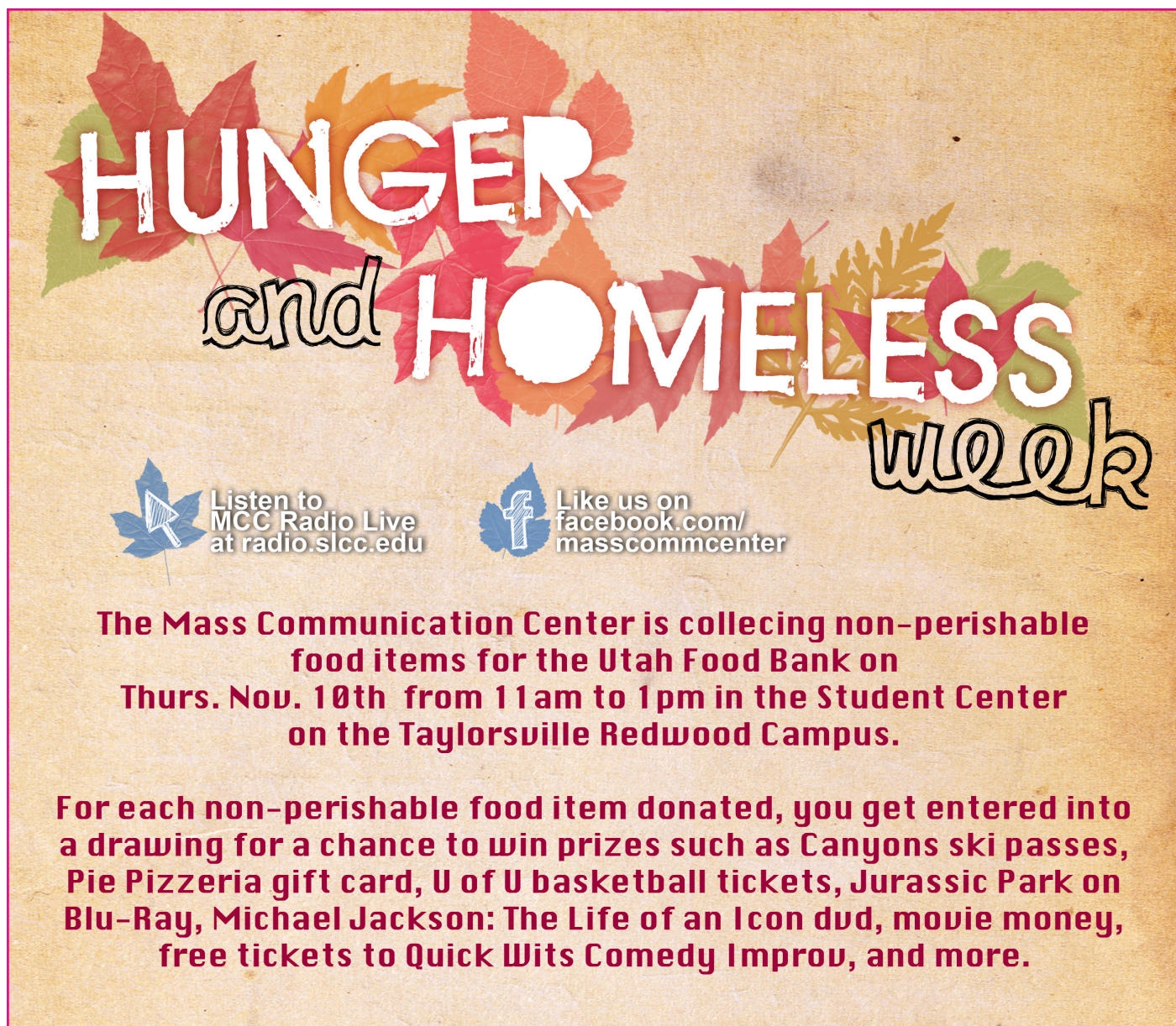
Continued from page A6

out in art and find careers in the industry. Con-goers could also be taught about creating a movie in 90 minutes with a handheld video camera or camera phone.

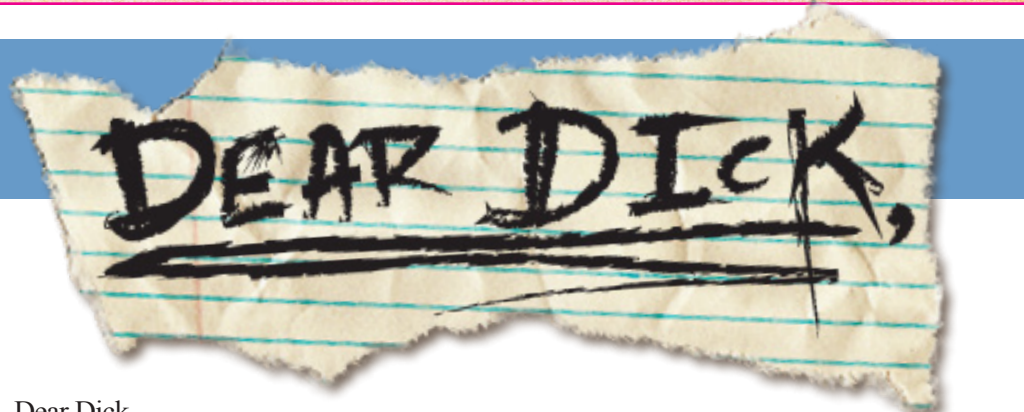
Special guests included voice actors such as Chuck Huber and Lisle Wilkerson, radio personalities like Steve Nunez and those working in animation production, like Jan Scott-Frazier. A real highlight as well was the appearance of artist Wendy Pini, one of the creators of the Elfquest comic book series and an individual who has laid the groundwork for women in the world of comics. She was present for panels as well as one-on-one discussion in the Artist Alley, a section set aside for local artist to display and sell their work.

The Anime Banzai was a thrilling event full of activities for fans of every shape and size. From the creative to the intellectual to those who were all about visual costuming, the Anime Banzai was an enjoyable event that will be coming back again next year with even more to look forward to.

To learn more about Anime Banzai visit their website, animebanzai.org.



OPINION



Dear Dick,

Why must you make it so hard for the rest of us? I'm not going to invoke the "nerdier-than-thou" debate, but I feel, as a nerd among many, that you're making us look bad.

It's hard enough that many of us are already awkward around women, but when we try to introduce not only women, but other people in general, to the things we like, you have to come along and act like a total....well, you, and give people more reasons to stigmatize us.

Do you really have to hit on every single girl that signs into Xbox Live? Is it necessary to hit on a girl that just happens to cosplay as your favorite character? And what's with the creepy anime that you keep asking Funimation to license? I swear, you're going to end up on an FBI watchlist. Potential life imprisonment aside, you also have the habit of acting like a complete jerk to anybody that isn't as heavy into a mythos as you'd like.

So what if they get the name of the actor for Q wrong? Who cares if they don't know the difference between Derpy Hooves and Rainbow Dash? What does it matter if they don't know a Spartan from an Athenian? My point is, if you keep up this elitist attitude, then you make it harder for the rest of us nerds to spread the happiness that these communities bring.

That's forgetting to be awesome.

Sincerely,
C.A. Trahan, on the behalf of the Lonely Nerds Brigade.



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OPINION

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Are the “Occupy” protests effective?

David Bell
Staff Reporter

Lately I have been watching the news and seeing the stories about the Occupy Wall Street protesters and I can’t seem to get a clear picture of what the protesters are trying to accomplish. There doesn’t seem to be a real clear picture of what the protesters want. It seems that the protesters are protesting for different things depending on where they live. It seems that the campaign would be more effective if it had a definite goal that was clear to everyone else. The news seems to only be reporting on what the protesters are doing. The only footage I’ve seen in New York is of protesters cleaning up the park so they can stay there and here in Salt Lake they pack up their stuff to be out of the way for the Farmers Market in the park on Saturdays.

When the market is finished the protesters come back. These things are all the news has to report on because that is all there is to report. These occupy protests need to be focused more on what they want to change. If that could happen maybe the media would be able to report accurately on what the occupy protesters wish to accomplish. This kind of occupy protest has been tried before in the United States In the 1960’s Native Americans occupied Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay because of disagreements regarding property rights. They were eventually made to exit their protest occupation of the island with no change in policies. In the 1930’s during the Great Depression the veterans of World War I were in demand of combat bonuses that the government had promised. The vets tried to occupy Washington D.C. and did



Photo by Andy Bork
The scene at Occupy Salt Lake in Pioneer Park.

for a while but President Roosevelt had the military drive them out with no bonuses given. These occupy protesters of the past had one issue that they wanted action taken on and it didn’t work either time. Neither Washington nor Wall Street will ever do anything to meet these protesters’ demands until they are a lot more focused and narrowed down. This way all the protesters across the country can be protesting the same things. If they don’t, nothing will come of what they are doing. Right now as I see it

the occupy protesters are just wasting their time. Washington and Wall Street are just pretty much ignoring what is going on, which means that the protesters are having no effect at all on these places or the people that control them. One positive I’m seeing is that a lot of diverse people are coming together and forming communities together. It seems that some good will come of Occupy Wall Street if different people can come together and learn that they can live together in a diverse but single society.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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“Puss in Boots” leaves the shadow of “Shrek”



Copyright Dreamworks
Stephen Romney
Arts Reporter

Many people get on my case when I talk about how mean-spirited the early “Shrek” films were. The one thing people tend to forget is that Jeffrey Katzenberg got his start at Disney and the original “Shrek” was one huge satire of Disney films. It is jam-packed with so many pop culture references, a common ailment with many children’s films nowadays. I’ll be honest here; I didn’t have high hopes for “Puss in Boots.” I personally thought that two sequels to “Shrek” were enough. Dreamworks then decided to milk this franchise for all it’s worth with a fourth film, a slew of Holiday specials, and now a spin-off. However, I found myself pleasantly surprised by this film. In fact, it might be just what the franchise needs to inject new life into this pool of pop culture stagnation. The story is set before the events of the second “Shrek” film and follows the more heroic adventures

of the sword-fighting feline Puss in Boots, with Antonio Banderas reprising his role. Puss pursues a pair of bandits, played by Billy Bob Thornton and Amy Sedaris, who have come into the possession of the fabled magic beans. This leads him to cross paths, and blades, with his old friend Humpty Dumpty (played by Zach Galifianakis) and the notorious thief Kitty Softpaws, played by Salma Hayek. The first thing that I have to say about this film is that this isn’t like the “Shrek” films at all. In fact, it keeps the connection very downplayed. While there is the self-referential humor of the previous films, this one isn’t as saturated with pop culture humor. Most of the parodies are only of movies such as “The Legend of Zorro”. Most of the time the film focuses on telling a simple adventure story that’s more akin to the family fantasy films. On that note, if you are someone who has avoided the “Shrek” franchise, you won’t be lost in the

slightest. The acting in this film, as per the usual faire of Dreamworks, is top notch. Banderas doesn’t miss a beat when it comes to playing the character that is almost a satire of his performance as “Zorro”. However, one performance I didn’t expect to take as seriously as I did was the performance of Humpty Dumpty given by Galifianakis, who actually does a good job portraying a character that you can both like, hate and like to hate at the same time. Hayek’s performance was also pretty good for someone cast as a Bondesque femme fatale. Overall, I was pleasantly surprised by how enjoyable this film was. It had a solid story with a nice blend of action and comedy without being a rehash of the past “Shrek” films. Instead of trying to exhaust its connection to the previous films, it sought to become more of its own entity, which worked well. I’m giving this film a 4/5. A solid and enjoyable family movie.

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