



# Bridgerland

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A3

Local, state and regional news

## In brief

### Nature Center to host kids' mini summer camps

Stokes Nature Center is seeking applications for its Young Naturalist mini summer camps, which will be held Aug. 11 to 13.

"Who lives here?" is a camp for children entering grades one through three, and will take place from 9 to 11:30 a.m. "Animals of Logan Canyon" is a camp for children entering grades four through six and will take place in the afternoons from 12:30 to 3 p.m.

Participants will learn about animals in Logan Canyon and the habitats that support them. Students will observe wildlife in natural surroundings as well as in the classroom.

For more information or to register, please call 755-3239 or visit [www.logannature.org](http://www.logannature.org). Space is limited and pre-registration is required.

Registration costs \$24 per child (\$19 for SNC members). A limited number of scholarships are available.

### Broadbent pulls out of Municipal

## USU team first in UAV contest

By Kim Burgess  
staff writer

Students from Utah State University's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Team recently took first prize at a large international competition — receiving the highest score in the event's seven-year history.

Looking to improve from last year's second-place performance, USU's Open Source Autonomous Miniature Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Team (OSAM-UAV, pronounced "awesome U-A-V") put their all into winning the 2009 International Student Unmanned Aerial Systems Competition.

The event, which took place in late June in Maryland, challenges participants to build a

robotic airplane, or unmanned aerial vehicle, capable of flying, covering search areas, recognizing targets and changing tasks in-flight.

Besides taking the overall award, USU's team also won first prize in flight performance, first in journal paper and third in the Test Review Design presentation. The effort earned them \$14,000 in prize money and an invitation to visit Patuxent River Naval Base for a tour of the Global Hawk UAV.

"The team nailed the competition," said team leader Chris Hall. "We had an excellent flight and were very organized, even ready to take care of problems on the fly. There is no doubt in my mind that this is a direct

result of the amount of preparation, testing and forethought we put into the project. Our team really deserved to win, and we won very definitively."

The Aggies began working on the project in July 2008, conducting weekly team meetings throughout the school year to design and build their UAV.

"The competition is a motivation to speed up our research progress and an opportunity to test ourselves against competitors in the whole United States, or even around the world," said graduate supervisor Haiyang Chao.

Among the other participants were students from schools in Canada, India, Puerto Rico and across the U.S., including the University of California at Los

Angeles, University of Texas, Cornell University and MIT.

"The competition gave us the opportunity to make contacts with people who work higher up in the aerospace and UAV industry and to see many of the UAVs the government is currently using," said Hall. "AUVSI-UAS competition has really helped prepare us to work as engineers in teams."

Other team members on USU OSAM-UAV include Yiding Han, Long Di, Daniel Morgan, Cal Coopmans, Aaron Avery, Jeffery Anderson, Kaylon Anderson (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering) and YangQuan Chen, faculty advisor.

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