

WEATHER

39
↓ 24
partly cloudy



SPORTS

Men's baseball season preview

Brian Mitchell, other seniors aim for conference tournament 1B



CITY

Man found dead in North Liberty

Officials are treating John Helbie's death as a homicide 3A

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

'A Raisin in the Sun'

Black Action Theatre to present "national treasure" 1C



The Daily Iowan

25¢

Thursday, February 25, 1999

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I.C. man charged in Washington state man's death

Officials used DNA evidence from blood found on the man's clothes to link him to the recent murder.

By Zack Kucharski
The Daily Iowan

Iowa City police have charged a man with first-degree murder in connection with the death of Benjamin Bailey, a Washington state native, whose body was found under a CRANDIC railroad trestle earlier this month.

Marc C. Plettenberg, 29, address unknown, made an initial appearance with a public defender in Johnson County District Court on the murder charge Wednesday.

A preliminary hearing of the case has been set for March 3 at 2 p.m. Plettenberg is being held on a \$500,000 bond.

Bailey's body was found in a ravine behind Moore Business Forms, 1960 S.

Riverside Drive, on Feb. 3 after an anonymous caller tipped police.

Preliminary autopsy results determined that Bailey died of blunt trauma to the upper body, said Johnson County Medical Examiner T. T. Bozek. The body was found with injuries to the head, face and neck, according to court documents.

The lethal injury was determined to be to the neck and throat, the documents stated.

A specific source of the injuries has not been determined, though the



Plettenberg

marks left by the trauma were those typically caused by hands or feet, said Iowa City Police Chief R.J. Winkelhake. Investigators found pieces of wood at the scene, which may have also been used in the beating, he said.

Plettenberg had been in Johnson County Jail since Jan. 29, when he was arrested for public intoxication and trespassing in the same area that Bailey's body was later found.

The break in the case came when officers discovered blood on the coat and pants that Plettenberg wore the day of his arrest, Winkelhake said.

The discovery was made when Plettenberg's personal belongings were seized under a search warrant on Feb. 7.

The clothing was submitted to the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation

along with samples of Bailey's blood. DNA tests matched the blood found on the clothing to the dead man's blood, Winkelhake said.

Though court documents state that Plettenberg "denied knowing or seeing Bailey," Winkelhake said there is "every indication that they knew each other."

No motive for the murder is known, Winkelhake said.

Investigators have not been able to notify Bailey's relatives about his death. Police have not identified the caller who reported the body, Winkelhake said.

Plettenberg has a long record of crimes in Johnson County, according to court records. Since 1988, he has been charged with 44 offenses in Johnson County, including more than a dozen public intoxication charges and five

charges of interference with official acts. He has been charged with felonies of forgery in 1995 and 1996, assault on an officer in 1995 and two charges of assault with intent to commit serious injury in 1996. The public intoxication and trespass charges from his Jan. 29 arrest are still pending.

Plettenberg had lived with his mother, an Iowa City resident, a few years ago. In 1996, she sent a letter asking court officials not to contact her regarding future offenses after a willful injury charge against Plettenberg was dismissed.

The Iowa City Police Department, the Johnson County Attorney's office and the state's criminal investigation division will continue their investigations.

DI reporter Zack Kucharski can be reached at: zkuchars@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

UISG election motto lost in dust

Accusations, mudslinging, backstabbing — it's not D.C., it's the UISG elections.

By Rebecca Anderson
The Daily Iowan

With election day drawing near, some UI Student Government presidential candidates say this year's election, whose motto is "keep it clean, keep it fair," is nothing of the sort.

So far, one ticket has been fined for campaigning early, one has been ejected from the race entirely and yet another is under investigation. As accusations and complaints pile up, some candidates say this could be the dirtiest election year in recent memory.

On Sunday, UISG presidential candidate Anthony LaForge filed a complaint with the Student Elections Board (SEB) claiming the Brian Norman/Nick Jeffers ticket violated the rules by campaigning in the dorms.

And while it may result in the ticket's expulsion from the race, to Norman this is nothing more than political bickering and backstabbing.

"There are a few tickets out there that think that's their priority," Norman said. "But there's nothing much you can do about it."

His ticket hung fliers, condoms and Gumby's pizza coupons on doors in the residence halls, which is a violation of

See UISG, Page 7A



CREATURES OF HABIT

UI freshmen, from left, Laura Schipper, Valerie Pelak, Michelle Francis and Amanda Hunter partake in their nightly smoking session in Hillcrest Residence Hall. Local organizations and citizens are trying to ban smoking in the dorms due to some students suffering health problems.

Dorm-smoking policy under fire

Some UI faculty and students are smoking mad about lighting up in residence halls.

By Carrie Johnston
The Daily Iowan

A grassroots coalition of teachers, students and Iowa City community members are targeting smoking — and the residence halls at the UI are next on its list.

"They need to stop smoking in the dorms. Case closed," said Dr. Kemp Kernstine, a lung surgeon at the UI Hospitals and Clinics.

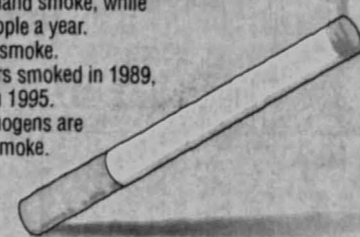
"And the students should do it — students should demand it."

Kernstine is a member of the Johnson County Citizens for Tobacco Free Youth, a coalition that focuses on preventing youth from smoking, eliminating cigarette advertisements and

See SMOKING, Page 7A

Smoking Facts

- 53,000 deaths each year can be attributed to secondhand smoke, while AIDS kills 42,000 people a year.
- 42% of UI freshmen smoke.
- 20% of U.S. teenagers smoked in 1989, which rose to 42% in 1995.
- More than 100 carcinogens are present in cigarette smoke.



Source: Dr. Kemp Kernstine, thoracic surgeon, UIHC DI/Dave Seiden



Brian Ray/The Daily Iowan

UISG candidates Matt McDermott and Monisha Shah address the Asian-American Coalition at a meeting Monday in the Lindquist Center.

UI Asian-American students aim for greater visibility with group

The Asian-American Coalition plans to make the university's Asian community more active.

By Quinn O'Keefe
The Daily Iowan

In the aftermath of the cultural center debate, the UI is opening theoretical doors to its newest cultural group.

The Asian-American Coalition, which was granted recognition last week by the UISG, is an umbrella group for all Asian Americans on campus.

The coalition already has an e-mail listserv of 500 people but does not

have any office space or a cultural center — yet.

"One of our longer term goals is to get a cultural center," said Anthony Pham, vice president of the coalition and a UI junior. "It is hard to contact people and get the word out without an office."

The coalition's first and most important goal is to make the UI Asian-American community visible and active, Pham said.

"The university will have to take us more seriously if we are organized," he said.

Another goal is to provide a "much-needed" psychological and social support group for Asian Americans, said

Ray Mescalado, coalition secretary and a UI graduate student.

He said many Asian-American students come to the UI from larger, more ethnically diverse communities and are not used to being such a prominent minority.

"Asian-American students coming from cities and especially the West Coast have a very different outlook of the Asian social block," Mescalado said. "To come to Iowa and see that there are not that many Asians is a very jarring experience for them."

The coalition held its first meeting

See COALITION, Page 7A

'Civil Action' attorney speaks at UI

The man on whom the book "A Civil Action" is based spoke Wednesday night to a packed house at the Union.

By Quinn O'Keefe
The Daily Iowan

He's no John Travolta, but noted environmental attorney Jan Schlichtmann was likened to a sitcom star and a game-show host after a lecture Wednesday night at the Union.

Schlichtmann spoke to a crowd of more than 800 in the Main Lounge in the Union on his journey for the truth. His lecture, titled "Can There Be Environmental Justice For All?," was about the well-known case on which both the book and movie "A Civil Action" are based. John Travolta starred in the movie version.

The lecture began with Schlichtmann joking about his unintentional fame. "I know why you invited me. It is obvious that you wanted to know what it was like to have John Travolta play you," he said.

All kidding aside, Schlichtmann entered into an "energetic" retelling of the case that made him famous and how it affected his life and state of mind.

The case reflected Schlichtmann's emotional attachment and the level of concern people should have about the environment, said Asa Ginapp, a student from Cornell College.

"I loved his energy," he said. "In my opinion, he was a great cross between Kramer from 'Seinfeld' and Alex Trebek."

Schlichtmann used the word "journey" to describe the case and how it brought on "truth" — an important part of his life.

"Not so long ago, the vision of truth came to me after a long and hard journey," he said.

Schlichtmann's "journey" started in Woburn, Mass., a small town that was polluted with toxins from two nearby Fortune 500 factories. During his litigation against the companies, Schlichtmann argued the run-offs caused 24 children in the surrounding area to contract leukemia.

The litigation for the Woburn case

See SCHLICHTMANN, Page 7A

speed read

Hill sweeps Grammys

LOS ANGELES — Hip-hop star Lauryn Hill broke a record for female artists with five Grammy Awards Wednesday, and the "Titanic" ballad "My Heart Will Go On" sailed on with four awards, including song and record of the year.

"This is so amazing ... this is crazy because it's hip-hop music," said Hill, who stepped away from the Fugees to win album of the year for *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill* and best new artist.

It was the first time a rap artist had ever won in those categories. PAGE 8A



U.S. missile shot down

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq shot down a missile fired by U.S. planes Wednesday, while other American missiles hit a civilian site, killing or wounding several people, Iraqi authorities said. PAGE 5A

New avalanche strikes

LANDECK, Austria — Helicopters rescued stranded tourists in western Austria, and another killer avalanche brought new heartache Wednesday, striking just miles from where rescuers were digging for victims of Europe's worst snowslide this winter. PAGE 5A

Lakers fire Coach Harris

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — The Los Angeles Lakers, mired at .500 12 games through the abbreviated NBA season, fired coach Del Harris Wednesday.

Jerry West, the team's vice president of basketball operations, said that one of two assistants — Kurt Rambis or Larry Drew — will handle the coaching duties for the rest of the season.

The team, which has lost three straight, made the announcement as it was adding Dennis Rodman to what on paper is one of the more talented rosters in the league. PAGE 1B



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READ, THEN RECYCLE

THE LEDGE
REAL NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

- Hemorrhoid victim turns to ice
 - Free vaccinations sought for every child by Clinton
 - Club hears trees talk at meeting
 - Police nab students with pair of pliers
 - Bishop thanks God for calling
 - Prevent injuries to baby — microwave safely
 - South determined to be center of new syphilis outbreak
 - Oldest survivor of Titanic sinking
 - Tulsan arrested with explosive, baby charged
 - Colon target of probe
 - Shops sell chicken soup to nuts
 - Jerk injures neck, wins award
 - \$1 million given to better slums
 - Here's how you can lick Doberman's leg sores
 - Utah girl does well in dog shows
 - Fish unaware of clear air controversy
 - Mrs. Idaho up for grabs
 - Lawmaker backs train through Iowa
 - Orioles beat Rangers as pitcher relieves himself
 - Seminal issue resurfaces in prisoners' suits
 - Bombing practice by sea lions decried
 - Congress votes for running trains over union workers
 - Vatican unveils procreation position
- source: <http://www.classifieds2000.com>

the **BIG** picture



Rodney White/Associated Press

Workers tape the mats in place Wednesday at the Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Des Moines, in preparation for the state wrestling tournament, which begins today.

The Daily Iowan

Volume 130, Issue 148

BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6063
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Fax: 335-6184

CALENDAR

Submit to: The Daily Iowan newsroom
201 N. Communications Ctr.
Deadline: 1 p.m. two days prior to publication of event.
Guidelines: Notices may be sent through the mail, but be sure to mail early to ensure publication. All submissions must be clearly printed on a Calendar column blank (which appears on the classified ads pages) or typewritten and triple-spaced on a full sheet of paper.

Announcements will not be accepted over the telephone. All submissions must include the name and phone number, which will not be published, of a contact person in case of questions. Notices that are commercial advertisements will not be accepted.

CORRECTIONS

Call: 335-6030

Policy: The Daily Iowan strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made. A correction or a clarification will be published in "Legal Matters."

LEGAL MATTERS

In an effort to make matters of public record known to its readers, The Daily Iowan prints police, public safety and courthouse dockets. Names, ages, addresses, charges and penalties are listed as completely as possible.

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newsmakers

Jesse 'the Mind' disses single mothers

NEW YORK (AP) — Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura took swipes at single mothers, back-room politics and St. Paul, Minn., in his appearance on CBS's "Late Show with David Letterman."



Ventura

Letterman asked about Ventura's recent confrontation with a college student who is a single mother. She complained about high tuition and wondered why "we weren't helping her more," the new governor recounted on Tuesday's show.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rapper Jay-Z explained why he was a no-show at Wednesday's Grammy Awards ceremony: He isn't happy with the way rap music is treated.

"They put rap on the back burner," Jay-Z, a nominee for three Grammys, said Tuesday from New York. "They televise one category, and you've gotta be happy."

"Maybe next year they'll pay more attention to rap," he said. "Not only the Grammys, but everybody in general — like the whole world."

Supermodel becomes super-giver

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) — Claudia Schiffer has donated \$2 million to build homes for Honduran victims of Hurricane Mitch.



Schiffer

The donation, made through the Spanish foundation Pueblos de la Tierra de Mallorca, will pay for construction of 112 homes, said San Pedro Sula Mayor Roberto Larios.

The supermodel's gift "will benefit many compatriots," he said Tuesday.

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — President Clinton is an all-pro at political hardball.

So how would he handle one of Randy Johnson's fastballs? Clinton will at least get a chance to meet the hard-throwing pitcher and the rest of the Arizona Diamondbacks baseball team when the president stops by the team's spring training complex today.

calendar

Lutheran Campus Ministry will sponsor the gospel music group "The Ambassadors" at Old Brick Church, 26 E. Market St., at 8 p.m.

South Asian Studies Program will sponsor a lecture titled "The Ramayan in Fiji: Exile and Sanatan Dharm, Colonial and Holy Books and Diasporic Consciousness" by Professor John Kelly in Room 230 of the International Center from 4:15-5:30 p.m.

Campus Crusade for Christ will sponsor "Real Life," a weekly meeting in the Terrace Room of the Union at 8 p.m.

Hawkeye Chess Club will hold a meeting in the third floor lounge of the Union at 7 p.m.

Campus Bible Fellowship will sponsor a discussion of Jesus' Audacious "I Am" metaphors in the Indiana Room of the Union at 6:30 p.m.

UI

briefs

Social Work will add Sioux City program

The UI School of Social Work announced Tuesday that it will provide a master of social work program in Sioux City, beginning fall 1999 and continuing through summer 2002. The program will be conducted on a "cohort basis," meaning a single class of students will be admitted to the three-year program; at the end of those three years, the students will graduate, and the program will no longer be offered. The program will admit up to 35 students, who will begin coursework this fall and earn degrees by the end of summer 2002. "The university is very pleased to return to the Siouxland to offer a master's program," Provost Jon Whitmore said. The UI had offered a master of social work program in Sioux City for several years in the 1980s but ended its program there when the federal funding that supported the program was discontinued.

horoscopes

Thursday, February 25, 1999

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Use your energy to start those changes that you've been planning for your home. Focus on pleasing those you love; be sure to ask for their help.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You will be restless; make plans to get up and go. You will win the hearts of those you love through your unselfish actions.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Unrealistic financial expectations may be the cause of an emotional setback. Don't promise to donate to a cause if you really can't afford to.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): You can expect to be excessively emotional; try not to start arguments. Control your nagging.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Changes regarding your position may not be as you expected. Problems with parking or speeding tickets should not be ignored.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Help children with projects they don't understand. Look into groups that will allow you to spend time with your offspring.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put any ideas of romantic interludes with the boss out of your mind. It will only ensure that you won't have a job in the future.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You'll have a greater interest in travel and foreign cultures. Sign up for a philosophy course that will offer you the mental stimulation and knowledge you desire.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will have problems with your stomach if you don't stay away from those spicy foods you love.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your emotional partner will be affectionate unless you're neglectful. In that case, you can expect the cold shoulder.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can expand on your ingenious ideas at work. Make your presentation, and don't be afraid to put yourself on the line.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Exhaustion is evident; you need a break. Look into a vacation that is conducive to rest and relaxation. You will enjoy trips that allow you to sit back and contemplate your future plans.

by Eugenia Last

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February 28 - March 2

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UI Field House 2/28 Time: TBA
IMU: Ohio State Room 3/2 7:00 pm

Information Tables
Celebrating Cultural Diversity Fair
UI Field House 2/28
Noon- 5:00 pm
IMU: Landmark Lobby 3/1
10:30 am - 1:30 pm
IMU: Landmark Lobby 3/2
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

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North
The motto called sheriff check on he
By Th
Johnson Department the death of whose body v Tuesday, as a Sheriff's that morning victim, John on her son be to reach him. A half h entered Hel where they fo preliminary a cated that H shot wounds. Carpenter

Tip
The \$30- the business up funding Liberal Arts
By Jo Th
UI officials the College of be left behind Tippi's dona the UI Co Administrat Funding fo liberal arts o English, histo be boosted b Alan Swanso

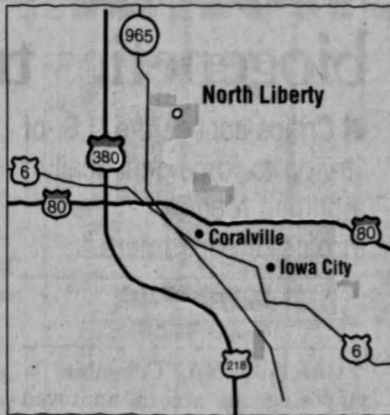
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By Th
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POLICE
Jeremy C. Holl Vernon Drive, w while intoxicated Street and First a.m. Scot T. Stock charged with pu Dubuque St. on John G. Yi, 29, was charged with E. College St. on Forrest K. Wa was charg degree burglary Feb. 18.

CITY & NATION

North Liberty man found shot dead in home

■ The mother of the victim called sheriff's deputies to check on her son.



By Steven Cook
The Daily Iowan

Johnson County Sheriff's Department officials are treating the death of a North Liberty man, whose body was found in his home Tuesday, as a homicide.

Sheriff's deputies were called that morning by the mother of the victim, John T. Helble, 28, to check on her son because she was unable to reach him.

A half hour later, deputies entered Helble's mobile home, where they found the man dead. A preliminary autopsy Tuesday indicated that Helble died from gunshot wounds.

Carpenter said the body was

investigators were at the scene Tuesday and Wednesday, Carpenter said. The DCI investigators had finished with their work at the crime scene Wednesday afternoon.

Carpenter wouldn't comment on where and how many times Helble had been shot. Officials sent several items to the DCI crime laboratory in Des Moines for analysis, Carpenter said. However, he declined to identify the items.

Officials conducted several interviews Wednesday but haven't come up with a definite suspect, Carpenter said.

"At the start of investigations, everyone's a suspect until we eliminate them," he said.

Neighbors of Helble said they knew little about the man.

"He was a very quiet guy," said Valerie Johnson, who lives three trailers away from Helble's home.

Helble graduated from Iowa City High School in 1989, was a member of First United Methodist Church in Iowa City and had worked at National Audio/Video Service, 526 Southgate Ave.

Carpenter said recent cases handled by the sheriff's department haven't been easy. He cited the murder of Iowa City resident Frank Lee Boyd in July 1998 and the recent investigation of a farm near Tiffin, which could be connected to the 1995 disappearance of Mason City anchorwoman Jodi Huisentruit.

"Nothing's fresh," Carpenter said. "The Boyd murder was a month old when we got it. This one's several days old. We've just got to step back and try to reconstruct it. These things take time."

DI reporter Steven Cook can be reached at: sacoo@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu



Doug Mills/Associated Press

President Clinton, shown at a press conference Wednesday, received donations from many Iowans and Iowa City residents to pay his legal defense team during the impeachment proceedings.

Supporters open their checkbooks for Clinton

■ Clinton's legal defense fund takes in another \$2.3 million.

By Jonathan D. Saient
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — While Bill Clinton was being impeached, supporters contributed \$2.3 million to help him pay his legal bills.

That's how much Clinton's legal defense fund took in between mid-August, after Clinton's first public admission of an improper relationship with Monica Lewinsky, and mid-February, when the Senate acquitted the president of perjury and obstruction of justice.

Iowans gave a total of \$13,482.33. The average amount was \$49.75. Of the 271 Iowans who listed their occupation, 236 said they are retired.

More money is expected. The fund recently sent out letters that noted: "The effort to impeach President Clinton is only the latest in a series of legal actions that have left the First Family with a staggering personal debt... If you are disturbed by the way politics is conducted today, then what better response than to offer the first family your own gesture of support?"

Overall, the fund raised \$4.5 million during its first year, from 50,000 contributions, trustees reported Wednesday. The money helped whittle the Clintons' outstanding legal bills from \$9 million to \$5.2 million.

One \$10,000 donor, Atlanta businessman J.B. Fuqua, said wealthy individuals who prospered under the Clinton administration have an obligation to help the president financially.

"We all knew when he ran for president the first time that he played around with women," Fuqua said. "I don't approve of it, but nevertheless that's a fact of life."

Clinton received 56 contributions of \$5,000 or more during the

Area donors

The following people are residents of Iowa City unless otherwise noted:

- Mary C. Abadi, homemaker, \$25
- Craig Adcock, UI professor of Art & Art History, \$100
- Dan E. Branson, retired, \$50
- Ruth C. Carlsen, housewife, \$50
- Kyran J. Cook, real estate appraiser, \$50
- George DeMello, UI professor of Spanish & Portuguese, \$50
- David C. Funk, unemployed, \$300
- John H. Haefner, UI professor emeritus, \$25
- Joel L. Horowitz, UI professor of Economics, \$50
- Daniel H. Hug, Coralville, retired microbiologist from Dept. of Veterans Affairs, \$20
- Marlene K. Janssen, North Liberty, UI administrative associate Hydraulic Research, \$25
- Hyman Joseph, UI professor of Economics, \$25
- Diane E. Joslyn, geologist, Aquadrill, Inc., \$500
- Katherine L. Muhly, retired RN, \$10
- Charles H. Nadler, lawyer/teacher, Kirkwood Community College, \$50
- Helena P. Ponselli, retired professor, Grinnell College, \$25
- Charles H. Read, retired, \$100
- Nancy R. Richards, UIHC social worker, \$20
- Robert F. Sayre, retired, \$25
- Thomas Scott, co-owner of River Products Company, \$250
- Eleanor P. Simmons, painter/self-employed, \$10
- Sally A. Smith, \$10
- John David Stokes, director of Building Services, Goodwill Industries of S.E. Iowa, \$100
- Rebecca S. Tuetken, Coralville, UI physician, \$25
- Miles Weinberger, UI professor of Pediatrics, \$100
- Gary Wirfs, \$10

Source: Associated Press

Tippie's gift may create funding ripple effect

■ The \$30-million donation to the business school will free up funding to the College of Liberal Arts.

By John G. Russell
The Daily Iowan

UI officials say students from the College of Liberal Arts will not be left behind in the wake of Henry Tippie's donation of \$30 million to the UI College of Business Administration.

Funding for the less-profitable liberal arts departments, such as English, history or philosophy, will be boosted by the donation, said Alan Swanson, senior vice president

of the UI Foundation.

The contribution will help the UI as a whole because it frees up other funding sources for other departments, Swanson said.

"The state takes care of the core things," he said. "Liberal arts is not as likely to get donations, but they are more likely to get state money since they deal with basic skills."

Swanson also said the donation will benefit smaller departments because it raises the bar for giving to the UI.

"Once we've seen a \$30-million gift, it raises the sights," he said. "We'll be able to ask for more."

But the liberal arts departments are keeping pace with their own

fund-raising efforts, said Ann Rhodes, vice president for University Relations.

"There are people with ties to liberal arts that have very strong loyalties," she said. "There is a core group of people who support it."

Contributions such as Tippie's play a big role in fund raising for the College of Education, said Donald Yarbrough, associate dean of education.

"What we find is that our grads have led wonderful lives and have been able to put away money," he said. "It's not as high a quantity as Mr. Tippie, but it turns into a sizable donation."

Yarbrough sees the donation as

one in a series of trends. Before the Pappajohn Business Administration Building was built, the Lindquist Center was the premiere building on campus, he said. Eventually, the tide tends to swing toward a different department, he said.

Fund raising through the UI Foundation is based on a 10-year cycle, during which goals are set for a particular department, Rhodes said. During the current plan, the business and engineering departments have priority status for new facilities. Rhodes said other departments will eventually move up on the list.

DI reporter John G. Russell can be reached at: grussel@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

Residents discuss fairness of sales tax at forum

■ Johnson County officials explained the effects of the tax.

By Steven Cook
The Daily Iowan

Most of the projects to be funded by the proposed local-option sales tax would be completed even without the tax — but not as quickly, Iowa City Mayor Ernie Lehman said Wednesday.

Two of the projects are the extension of Highway 965 and the widening of Mormon Trek Boulevard. The tax was discussed in an informational forum sponsored by the Johnson County League of Women Voters at the Coralville City Hall Wednesday night.

The chairman of the Johnson

County Board of Supervisors and five Johnson County mayors — from Iowa City, Coralville, North Liberty, University Heights and Hills — led the forum.

An election on the tax is scheduled for March 30, when Johnson County voters will decide whether to raise it by 1 cent.

The city and county heads fielded several questions from the approximately 20-member audience.

Iowa City resident Tom Gelman, of the pro-tax Local Options, Local Opportunities group, asked the panel about the implications of Iowa City's status as a regional destination on the tax.

Estimates of revenue from shoppers coming from outside the county range from 20 to 40 percent of the total tax revenue, Lehman said.

Even if it were 20 percent, that would still be 20 percent less money Johnson County taxpayers would pay for the slated projects, he said.

"So, folks that come into the community and enjoy what we have here will help pay for that," Lehman said.

Coralville resident Dow Voss, who said he was against the tax, asked the panel about the its fairness to lower-income residents. He said these residents pay a higher percentage of their total income on sales tax than those from a higher-income bracket.

"It hits middle-, working-class and small-income (groups) the hardest," Voss said. "Does it bother you that this source is very regressive?"

The regressiveness of the tax is why Iowa City would be using 25

percent of its tax revenue to stabilize water rates for the next eight years, Lehman said. Without the tax, the city plans to raise water rates by about \$85 over the next three years.

For a family of two, the tax would cost approximately \$115 per year, Lehman said. But the planned water rate hike would offset most of the amount paid in the tax, he said.

After the slated projects were finished, Iowa City resident Jim Clayton wanted to know what the cities would do with the money.

"I don't think there will ever be a time when a city won't have capital projects," Lehman said. "If that would happen, we would drop it in a heartbeat."

DI reporter Steven Cook can be reached at: sacoo@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

LEGAL MATTERS

POLICE

Jeremy C. Hollingsworth, 20, 10 Mount Vernon Drive, was charged with operating while intoxicated at the intersection of Court Street and First Avenue on Feb. 24 at 1:44 a.m.

Scot T. Stockman, 22, Coralville, was charged with public intoxication at 10 S. Dubuque St. on Feb. 24 at 12:25 a.m.

John G. Yi, 29, 402 S. Gilbert St. Apt. 723, was charged with public intoxication at 100 E. College St. on Feb. 24 at 1:44 a.m.

Forrest K. Wegner, 14, 8 Buena Drive, was charged with third-degree burglary at 2520 Mayfield Road on Feb. 18.

Robert C. Coughenmower II, 27, 113 E. Prentiss St. Apt. 304, was charged with tampering with records and possession of a schedule II controlled substance with intent to deliver at 113 E. Prentiss St. on Feb. 24.

COURTS District

Possession of stolen property — Dorothy L. McFedries, Riverside, no preliminary hearing has been set.

Operating while intoxicated — Jeremy C. Hollingsworth, 10 Mount Vernon Drive, no preliminary hearing has been set, Johnny D. Hunter, Coralville, no preliminary hearing

has been set. **Assault causing injury** — Brian R. McIntire, 935 E. College St. Apt. 6, no preliminary hearing has been set. Eddie J. Walker Jr., 1416 Lakeside Manor, no preliminary hearing has been set. **Murder, first-degree** — Marc C. Plattenberg, address unknown, no preliminary hearing has been set.

— compiled by John G. Russell

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NATION & WORLD

Psychiatrist: Killer poses threat

■ The jury probably will be given the case of John William King today.

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

JASPER, Texas — A white man convicted of dragging a black man to death will probably cling to his racist beliefs and could lash out violently again, a psychiatrist Wednesday told the jury that will decide whether the defendant should live or die.



Quijano

Other prosecution witnesses said John William King, the white supremacist convicted Tuesday in the slaying of James Byrd Jr. last June, acted up in jail by threatening to assault a police investigator and smashing a TV set.

A defense expert, however, said a life sentence would be appropriate for the 24-year-old former laborer.

Dr. Walter Quijano, a former chief psychologist for the Texas prison system now in private practice, said he based that conclusion on King's lack of drug use and the fact he used no weapons during previous crimes.

In Texas, a person serving a life sentence cannot become eligible for parole for at least 40 years.

"The probability of people at age 64 committing violence is very low," Quijano said.

A bailiff said King fell asleep during Quijano's testimony. King was sitting at the defense table, his head in his hand, when he apparently drifted off for a few minutes.

Dr. Edward Gripon, a forensic psychiatrist who testified for the prosecution after reviewing King's writings and photographs of his racist tattoos, said he doubts King will shake his beliefs.

"Anyone who has white supremacist or any other kind of racist feelings, if they are heavily invested in that kind of ideology, it's not going to just go away," Gripon said.

"I feel he would pose a continued



Adrees Latiff/Associated Press

Jasper County Sheriff Billy Rowles, left, escorts John William King, center, out of the Jasper County Courthouse Wednesday in Jasper, Texas. King, who was convicted of capital murder, could get the death penalty for his crime.

threat for future acts of violence." The jury probably will be given the case today.

Byrd, 49, died on June 7 when he was pulled nearly three miles

behind a pickup truck, chained by his ankles.

Two other men, Shawn Berry, 24, and Lawrence Brewer, 31, are awaiting trial in the slaying.

Study: Wait 18 months before having next baby

■ A gap of 2½ years is ideal for producing a healthy child, the CDC study says.

By Linda A. Johnson
Associated Press

Spacing your kids 2½ years apart may be ideal for producing a healthy, full-term baby, according to a study that found a sound medical basis for what many women are doing already, for altogether different reasons.

A study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that while having babies too close together can be bad for the infants' health, having them too far apart may be even worse.

Both situations raise the risk that the new baby will be premature or small, which can cause long-term health problems, even death.

The study calculated that waiting 18 to 23 months after giving birth to get pregnant again is best.

That works out to about 2½ years between children.

"Somehow the body knows that this interval is good for the health of the infant," said Dr. Bao-Ping Zhu, who directed the study.

Many mothers already space their children a couple of years apart. That way, they won't have two children in diapers and the youngsters will be close enough in age to play together when they get older.

Compared with babies born during the ideal interval, those whose mothers became pregnant again within six months had a 30-40 percent greater chance of producing premature or undersize babies. Those who waited 10 years for another child were twice as likely to have an unusually small baby and 50 percent more likely to deliver prematurely.

Telling mothers about this information could help reduce health complications in babies, said Dr. Robert A. Knuppel, chairman of

obstetrics at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School in New Brunswick, N.J.

The study was based on 173,205 births in Utah from 1989 to 1996. The results will be published in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

Dozens of previous studies have linked short intervals with a higher risk of small and premature infants, although none determined the best interval. The few studies on long-interval births were less consistent in their findings.

Zhu said babies conceived too soon probably have problems because the mother is recovering from vitamin depletion, blood loss and reproductive system damage from the prior birth — all while stressed by having to care for a newborn.

He theorized that the reason getting pregnant after a long interval is risky is that the body becomes primed for birth during the earlier

pregnancy, with the uterus enlarging and blood flow to the womb increasing, but those benefits decline over time.

Knuppel noted that 90 percent of the Utah women were white, so the results may not apply to minority mothers or those with high-risk pregnancies. Zhu agrees and is conducting a parallel study in Michigan.

The researchers took into account 16 factors that could affect outcomes, such as smoking and drinking, prenatal care and the mother's age, race and education.

Y2K problem threatens Russian military, CIA says

■ The problem is also severe for Chinese power and Mideast shipping, the agency reports.

By Jim Abrams
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Russian missiles, Chinese power systems and Mideast shipping could all face breakdowns because many foreign countries are failing to face up to the seriousness of the Y2K computer problem, the CIA told Congress Wednesday.

Air Force Gen. John Gordon, the CIA's deputy director, told a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that Russia appears particularly vulnerable, raising concerns about the safety of its missiles, nuclear plants and gas pipelines.

"We do not see a problem in terms of Russian or Chinese missiles automatically being launched" because of Y2K-related problems. But computer glitches could cause local accidents if temperature or humidity monitors

malfunction, or Russian missile early warning systems might put out incorrect information about foreign missile launches, Gordon said. He said the Pentagon has been consulting with the Russians on how to avoid that danger.

Separately, a special Senate committee on the Y2K problem was finishing a draft of a report finding that the United States, while well ahead of most of the rest of the world in fixing computers, is likely to experience some disruptions in health care, electric power and food distribution.

"All sectors of the economy, many of which provide goods and services that are vital to our health and well being, are at risk," Sens. Robert Bennett, R-Utah, and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., wrote their Senate colleagues.

Because older computers use only two digits to read dates, they will misread the year 2000 as 1900, resulting in possible erroneous data and shutdowns.

Both Gordon and the Senate report emphasized that it is difficult to assess what will happen on

Jan. 1, 2000. Within the United States, many companies have been reluctant to reveal their status out of fear of litigation, while many foreign nations are just beginning to deal with the Y2K.

There are some who "paint a picture of the collapse of society where roving bands of marauders travel the countryside looting supplies," Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., said at the Senate hearing. Inhofe said he didn't think that likely, although "I am sure that we will experience some disruptions in our daily lives."

Gordon said a major concern was a midwinter power outage that could have "major humanitarian consequences" for such countries as Russia and Ukraine. He noted that Russia's Gazprom Natural Gas Pipeline network supplies more than one-third of Europe's natural gas and is run by Soviet-era mainframe computers highly likely to contain Y2K imperfections.

China, he said, is belatedly addressing the problem, but with limited time remaining "will probably experience failures in key sectors such as telecommunications,

All sectors of the economy, many of which provide goods and services that are vital to our health and well being, are at risk.

— Senate committee report

electric power and banking."

Gordon said oil supplies are also worrisome because world ports and ocean shipping are among the sectors that have done the least to prepare for the Y2K problem.

Among the draft report's findings were that 90 percent of doctors and 50 percent of smaller businesses have not addressed the problem. Half of electric power companies had fixed their computers by the end of 1998, but "failure of some parts of the electric industry's system is likely."

However, a prolonged, nationwide blackout was not expected, and 95 percent of telephone systems are supposed to be Y2K-compliant in time.

U.S., other nations veto biogenetics trade pact

■ Critics accuse the U.S. of "trying to force genetically modified food down the throats of consumers."

By Frank Bajak
Associated Press

CARTAGENA, Colombia — Opposing an accord approved by more than 125 nations, the United States and five other countries scuttled efforts Wednesday to forge an environmental protection treaty on trade in genetically modified plants and animals.

Washington said it was protecting the world's food trade from potentially crippling regulatory burdens. But critics said it was doing the bidding of multinational businesses, whose laboratory-produced crops could one day sow ecological catastrophe.

The breakdown after 10 days of talks marked the first time in more than 20 years that a major international environmental negotiation has concluded in disarray, said Michael Williams, spokesman for the U.N. Environmental Program. The negotiations are to resume within 16 months at an unde-

termined time and place.

The European Union and more than 110 other nations at the U.N.-initiated talks agreed late Tuesday to forge a so-called Biosafety Protocol, an outgrowth of the 1992 Earth Summit in Brazil.

But the United States, Australia, Canada, Uruguay, Argentina and Chile blocked the proposed compromise, which would have permitted nations to restrict imports not only of experimental organisms but also of genetically altered crops such as soy, corn, cotton and potatoes.

"The United States has dominated these negotiations and they've now sabotaged them. They're obviously trying to force genetically modified food down the throats of consumers," charged Louise Gale, a spokeswoman for the environmental group, Greenpeace.

The United States, the world's main biotech exporter, wanted a narrowly focused treaty that "protected the environment and yet avoided unduly restraining international trade" in a rapidly growing multibillion-dollar industry, said U.S. delegation chief Melinda Kimble.

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WORLD

New avalanche strikes Austria

More than 60 people throughout Europe have died in avalanches this year.

By Alexander G. Higgins
Associated Press

LANDECK, Austria — Convoys of helicopters rescued stranded tourists in western Austria, and another killer avalanche brought new heartache Wednesday, striking just miles from where rescuers were digging for victims of Europe's worst snowslide this winter.

The latest torrent of snow — three stories high and 600 feet wide — smashed into the town of Valzur, where a dead woman and three survivors were pulled from the snow and debris. Five people remained missing, the Austria Press Agency said.

Seven miles away, in Galtuer, the death toll rose to 16, and rescuers searched for 15 others still believed to be buried by an avalanche Tuesday.

"This is a catastrophe such as we have not had for centuries," said Wendelin Weingartner, governor of Tyrol province in western Austria.

Authorities said among the dead in Galtuer were eight Germans, including two children, two Danes and six Austrians — all residents of the village of 700.

More than 60 people across Europe have died in avalanches so far this year, as the area endures its heaviest snows in decades. In Chamonix, France, 12 people were killed in an avalanche earlier this month.

Rescue squads couldn't reach the winter sports resort of Galtuer until Wednesday morning due to bad weather and blocked roads from earlier avalanches. The government began an air bridge between Landeck and Galtuer at first light Wednesday.



Associated Press

Rescue workers, including a doctor, recover the body of an avalanche victim Wednesday in Austria's western Tyrol resort of Galtuer.

A steady stream of helicopters landing and taking off from the Pontlatz Austrian army base took rescuers into Galtuer, and, by afternoon, soldiers in Landeck were quickly

loading the choppers with pallets of fresh fruits, vegetables and other foodstuffs. Survivors and tourists were flown out on the return leg. Many of the people arriving in

Landeck refused to talk to reporters. Some had tears in their eyes, others looked relieved and a few described digging in the snow in search of victims.

"My husband and I raced out and found two small children in the snow. They were probably dead," said a Belgian woman who gave her name only as Anita. Authorities never told her whether the children survived.

"I thought it was just a storm," said Hanno Heinz, 17, from Radstadt, Austria. He said the snow came with such force that it blew open the hinged windows of the hotel, dumping 4 inches of snow on the floor.

Approximately 1,000 people, most of them tourists, were evacuated Wednesday before bad weather and darkness stopped the flights. Heavy snow began to fall again late Wednesday. Six U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopters arrived in Landeck by nightfall but could not continue to Galtuer.

The Galtuer avalanche was the worst in Austria since January 1954, when 56 people were killed in Blons, a town in neighboring Vorarlberg province.

In Switzerland, a brief improvement in the weather allowed helicopters to move some 4,000 people out of areas cut off by snow. But another 100,000 were still stranded. The Swiss air force said it had 32 helicopters working, mostly taking supplies into the affected areas.

The body of a 42-year-old man killed by an avalanche Tuesday was found 300 yards below the remains of a farmhouse at Bristen, Switzerland, police said. Rescuers in Evolene, Switzerland, found the eighth and ninth victims Wednesday from avalanches Sunday; one person was still missing.

Kosovar rivals form coalition

The move comes as Serbs proclaim victory in not acceding to NATO demands for a peacekeeping force.

By George Jahn
Associated Press

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia — Setting aside deep mistrust that has hampered past efforts to press for independence, Kosovo's rival Albanian factions announced Wednesday they had formed a coalition to push harder to secede from Serbia.

The surprise announcement came a day after Kosovo peace talks concluded without any breakthrough on an internationally brokered deal to end a year of fighting that has left more than 2,000 people dead in the southern Serbian province.

Serb negotiators to the peace talks in Rambouillet, France, returned home to Belgrade and declared victory, saying they succeeded in keeping foreign troops out of the ethnic Albanian-majority province.

Serbs were jubilant about coming away from 17 days of talks without conceding to a key demand from the West — the deployment of thousands of NATO peacekeeping forces on Serbian soil to police any Kosovo agreement.

State media controlled by Yugoslav hard-line President Slobodan

Milosevic joined in the exultation, saying the Serbs had prevailed against enormous international pressure.

Besides the high casualty figures, some 300,000 people — mostly ethnic Albanians — have been displaced in the battles between Kosovo Albanian guerrillas seeking independence and the joint forces of Serb police and the Yugoslav army.

Kosovo is part of Serbia, Yugoslavia's major republic, but more than 90 percent of its population is ethnic Albanian. Most want independence.

No documents were signed at Rambouillet, and although the Kosovo Albanian delegation said it was ready in principle to sign at a new meeting, Serbs remained steadfastly opposed to the stationing of a NATO force on their soil.

But the announcement that rival Kosovo factions were ready to work together spelled success for a long-term American and European goal — getting ethnic Albanians to speak with one voice.

The new "government" that was announced included both KLA members and representatives from Ibrahim Rugova's Democratic League and Rexhep Qosja's Union of Democratic Movement.

A KLA representative to be selected later will be the premier-designate of the provisional government, the Kosova Press reported.



Boris Grdanoski/Associated Press

French soldiers practice close combat during tactical exercises Wednesday near Kumanovo, some 25 miles north of Skopje, Macedonia.

Kosovar Albanians have boycotted Serb government and public institutions for nearly a decade. Most have been loyal to Rugova, whom they consider their so-called president, but the KLA has gained in popularity over the past year at Rugova's expense.

Gunners shot down U.S. missile, Iraq says

U.S. and British planes attacked targets near Baghdad Wednesday after a violation of the southern no-fly zone.

By Walei Fahh
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi gunners shot down a missile fired by U.S. planes Wednesday, while other American missiles hit a civilian site, killing or wounding several people, Iraqi authorities said.

U.S. military officials said Air Force and Navy aircraft attacked two Iraqi surface-to-air missile sites near Al Iskandariyah, approximately 30 miles south of Baghdad, in response to anti-aircraft artillery fire and an Iraqi aircraft violation of the southern no-fly zone.

President Clinton said America would not be intimidated by Iraqi attacks against U.S. warplanes, calling them an attempt by Saddam Hussein to score "a symbolic victory." Speaking hours after the allied sorties, Clinton also said the United States had not given up hope of eventually restoring U.N. inspections of Iraq's weapons arsenal.

The inspections halted after U.S. and British planes carried out air

strikes on Baghdad and other sites on Dec. 16-19. The strikes came after U.N. inspectors had accused the Iraqi government of obstructing their search for weapons of mass destruction.

In a statement Wednesday, the U.S. Central Command said an unspecified number of F-15E and F/A-18 aircraft carried out the attacks; it did not say what kind of weapons were used. The sites are at the extreme northern edge of the southern no-fly zone.

The Iraqi Information Ministry said air-defense batteries shot down a missile fired by the U.S. planes but other American missiles "struck one of our civilian sites, killing and wounding a number of citizens."

Neither the Iraqi armed forces nor the Information Ministry gave precise numbers of casualties; it was not possible to confirm the reports independently.

U.S. and British planes conduct daily patrols in the no-fly zone that was established in 1992 to protect rebels from air attack by government forces.

Al-Iskandariyah is the home of a large military industrial factory, which has been attacked in previous confrontations between Iraq and the Western allies.

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WORLD BRIEFS

Austerity breeds anti-IMF sentiment in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — When the new Congress convened for its opening session this week, the first speech was a warning to the International Monetary Fund not to meddle in the nation's affairs.

Days earlier, the governor of a Brazilian state joked to reporters that he wouldn't visit Brasilia, the capital, if it meant sitting in the chair recently occupied by Stanley Fischer, the IMF's chief economist.

As Brazil negotiates with the Washington-based fund for help to fix its battered economy, a long-standing resentment of "yankee" influence is slowly reviving.

The hostility could make it harder for President Fernando Henrique Cardoso to make the budget cuts he promised to the IMF in return for a \$41.5 billion loan package.

"The IMF is the scapegoat," said Luciano Dias, a political scientist with Goes e Consultores Associados in Brasilia. "It crystallizes the popular discontent."

The most recent protest came from an unlikely source: Senate President Antonio Carlos Magalhaes, a veteran power-broker and conservative ally of Cardoso.

"We understand that the government must go to the IMF, but that doesn't mean the IMF can meddle in national problems, especially to create difficulties for the poorer classes," Magalhaes told the new Legislature.

A Rio newspaper columnist wrote his column in English, quipping that the local press has the patriotic duty to publish news in English so the IMF knows what's going on "before telling us what to do."

The resentment stems partly from a common view that the IMF learns examining Brazil's economy are number crunchers who

care little about the people. Critics cite the IMF's recipe for the economy: high interest rates to curb inflation and spending cuts to reduce the deficit. Analysts say the formula spells recession and higher unemployment.

Government orders race law overhaul after racial killing

LONDON (AP) — Declaring that the racially motivated killing of a black teenager shamed the nation, the British government Wednesday ordered a major overhaul of race laws.

The order followed Wednesday's release of an official report that said London's police force is riddled with racial prejudice.

"We should confront as a nation honestly the racism that still exists in our society," Prime Minister Tony Blair told a hushed House of Commons. "It is a moment to learn, to reflect and to change."

The government released the report of a judicial inquiry that said the police inquiry into the 1993 fatal stabbing of 17-year-old Stephen Lawrence was marked by "professional incompetence and institutional racism."

Five white youths suspected of killing Lawrence while he waited at a bus stop with a black friend have never been successfully prosecuted. All five denied involvement.

Home Secretary Jack Straw, the Cabinet minister in charge of the police, announced that laws making racial discrimination an offense will be broadened to include the police and all government departments.

He also ordered an inquiry into all unsolved murders in London and tighter disciplinary regulations for police.

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VIEWPOINTS

POLICIES

LETTERS to the editor must be signed and must include the writer's address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. *The Daily Iowan* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. *The Daily Iowan* will publish only one letter per author per month, and letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations.

Letters can be sent to *The Daily Iowan* at 201N Communications Center or via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu.

OPINIONS expressed on the Viewpoints Pages of *The Daily Iowan* are those of the signed authors. *The Daily Iowan*, as a non-profit corporation, does not express opinions on these matters.

GUEST OPINIONS are articles on current issues written by readers of *The Daily Iowan*. The *DI* welcomes guest opinions; submissions should be typed and signed, and should not exceed 600 words in length. A brief biography should accompany all submissions. *The Daily Iowan* reserves the right to edit for length, style and clarity.

EDITORIALS

'Freshman' to 'first-year' a welcome change at the UI

A quiet debate has been going on for some time in education circles about whether the term "freshman" is sexist. While it may seem to be silly at first glance, the changing of "freshman" to "first-year" student is an important step toward gender equality at the UI.

The issue was finally decided on Feb. 10 by Frederick Antczak, associate dean for Academic Programs in the College of Liberal Arts. In a memo addressed to the faculty and staff, Antczak outlined reasons for making the change, asking, "Why should we continue to use a term that explicitly excludes (women)?" He specified that the changes will take place primarily in materials produced by the UI, such as the full Schedule of Courses.

Many students and faculty may wonder why such a change is necessary, as "freshman" sounds like an innocuous term — one that is seemingly unrelated to the gender of the incoming students. The move appears to be yet another case of political correctness taken too far. But upon further examination of the origin of the word, "freshman," there does seem to be method to the administration's madness.

Using "first-year" student instead of "freshman" does more than lengthen the number of words used to describe incoming students. It offers an opportunity to erase from our language the effects of an educational system that was at one time accessible only to wealthy white men. "Freshman" was coined to describe a male-only institution. Because women and minorities were excluded, the term freshman was appropriate.

Now that schools are coed and multiracial, "freshman" is outdated and should be replaced.

The gradual shift from gender-exclusive words has been rejected by some as politically correct nonsense. Changing words always seems abrupt and unnecessary at first, but it is a gradual process. Eventually, the newness wears off, and the language seems more natural. Older textbooks that described women as "he," because male-only pronouns were once the convention, now seem almost antique.

With time, people will look back and wonder what all the fuss was about. By changing the subtleties of language, we can take a small step toward gender equality. The UI is a perfect place to implement such a change, especially given its lukewarm ratings from women groups on campus.

Greg Flanders is a *DI* editorial writer.

Last shot for deer control

The hunt is off. The problem persists. On Feb. 16, four animal-rights groups, along with several local residents, won a federal injunction to halt U.S. Department of Agriculture sharpshooters from completing Iowa City's plan to kill as many as 240 deer. The injunction is unfortunate, as the destruction of property and plants due to deer overpopulation will continue unabated for another year.

Take a walk in the woods behind Mayflower Residence Hall, for example, and see the future of Iowa City's greenery if the deer are allowed to roam unchecked. The condition of the flora has gone "from diversity to destruction," as Steve Hendrix, UI biology professor, puts it.

Like it or not, people and deer are here to stay. Iowa City residents must choose: Either learn to live with the destruction caused by a deer population that has tripled in the past three years or find a way to reduce the deer herd that will satisfy animal-rights organizations, along with the Iowa City City Council. Given the legal wrangling of the past months, finding a compromise will be a tall order.

The Iowa City/Coralville Deer Management Committee worked hard to complete an environmental assessment of Iowa City that covered numerous methods of deer removal, as well as the consequences of non-removal. Now it must return to the drawing board — to work with even larger numbers of deer.

Non-lethal deer reduction methods, such as birth-control drugs for deer and live relocation, are prohibitively expensive and largely unsuccessful. Killing deer with sharpshooters is certainly not aesthetically pleasing, but it is the reality Iowa City must face if the deer population is to be brought to manageable levels.

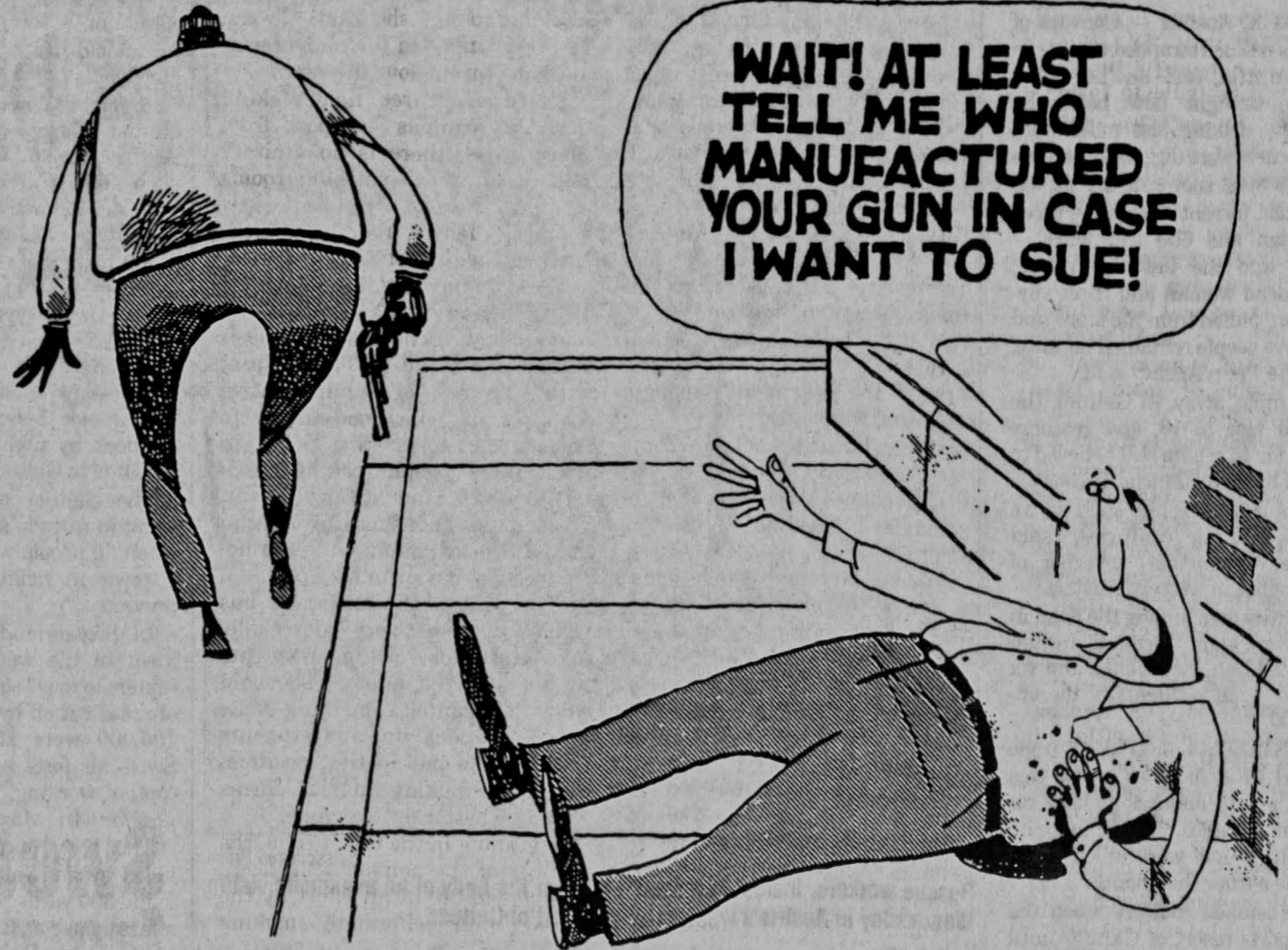
The committee will meet in the next few months to draw up next year's plan. It may want to look at our neighbors to the north for a model of deer population control.

The suburbs of Minneapolis have major deer problems similar to those of Iowa City. Minnetonka, Minn., is in the fifth year of deer-population reduction, using trap-and-shoot methods through private contractors. Though the area is not devoid of animal-rights activity, Minnetonka's plan has met little opposition. Minnesota food shelves were glad recipients of 5,000 pounds of deer meat, and fewer deer problems are reported. Also, plenty of deer are left standing.

Iowa City has a deer problem that will get worse the longer it goes without action. Killing deer is a grim solution, but equally grim are the harmful effects of deer overpopulation.

Tim McGovern is a *DI* editorial writer.

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Rocky road to eating disorder recovery

My roommate is totally obsessed with her weight. I think she has an eating disorder. How can I help her?

First of all, you are a great friend for wanting to help. Second, I think you are doing the right thing by seeking more information. Unfortunately, there is no magic formula for how to help your friend get better. If your friend's eating habits are causing you to worry, then it is appropriate to express your concerns to her with honesty and respect.

What do I say?
In a private setting, away from other activities or distractions, talk with your friend about specific things you see or feel. Share your memories of two or three specific times where you felt concerned, afraid or uneasy about your friend's attitudes or behaviors. Talk about the feelings you experienced as a result of these events. Do this in a caring, supportive, non-confrontational way. Here are three important tips:

- Use "I" statements: "I'm concerned about you because you refuse to eat breakfast or lunch. It makes me afraid to hear you vomiting."
 - Avoid accusatory "You" statements: "You have to eat something! You must be crazy! You are out of control!"
 - Avoid giving simple solutions: "If you'd just stop, everything would be fine! You just need to eat like everyone else does."
- When using an "I" statement, you are tak-

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE

ing responsibility for your concerns. "You" statements can come across as judgmental and may cause your friend to be defensive. For basic rights, such as "You deserve to be healthy," it is acceptable to insert a "you."

What if she gets angry?
Remember that she is experiencing a very emotional and difficult time. Let her know it is OK if she is upset with you. Remind her that the reason you are discussing these things with her is because you value her as a person and a friend, and you want to help her. She needs to know you believe in her and that you will continue to support her regardless of how she reacts to your concerns.

What if she won't listen?
At first, your friend may not be willing to change. Be caring, but be firm. Caring about your friend does not mean being manipulated by her. She must be responsible for her actions and their consequences.

Avoid setting expectations you cannot or will not keep. You will be a better friend by

HEALTH QUESTIONS

Ask them anonymously at <http://www.uiowa.edu/~shs/>. Click on "Ask a Question." Individual responses aren't possible, but most questions will be answered on the Web page and/or in the *DI*.

not giving in to her excuses or being tricked by her explanations. If you keep changing your expectations, what will encourage her to change to meet them? Be persistent! People who have recovered say it was critical that their families and friends continued to express their concerns, over and over, with love and respect.

If the need arises, tell someone. It can be a very difficult decision regarding whether to talk about your friend's condition with someone else. If your friend has an eating disorder, she needs professional help.

Recovery is a process. It involves help from a variety of professionals in the medical, nutrition and counseling fields. To get the process going, you might offer to help her find information about eating disorders professionals in your area by calling Eating Disorders Awareness and Prevention at 1-800-931-2237 and offering to go with her on her search to provide emotional support.

This could be a very stressful time for you also. You should not feel responsible for bearing this troubling time alone. There are support groups and people, such as the counselors at University Counseling Service (335-7294), who are available to help you through this difficult time, too. Thanks for believing in your friend.

There is hope. Recovery is possible!

Julie Gallagher is a registered dietitian with Health Iowa/Student Health Service.

Communication the key to an open exchange of ideas

WHILE none of the five tickets running for UISG's top posts lost the election based on their performance at Tuesday night's debate, none won the election because of it, either.

The debate, held before about 40, mostly partial audience members in a second-floor Union ballroom, provided little drama or surprises. And although no major gaffes or home runs occurred, some minor mistakes and even smaller victories did.

Here are some musings on a dull evening that appealed only to political insiders and wanna-bes and could not compete with the night's other big events (more on that in a moment):

Communication's the thing

The word for the night seemed to be "communication" — or more appropriately, the lack of it between the UISG and ordinary UI students. From their harping on the word Tuesday night, most of the candidates seem to think this is the most pressing problem facing the UI students. Not spiraling tuition costs. Not rampant alcohol abuse by their fellow students. Nope, the biggest issue facing students, according to the candidates, is

the lack of communication between the UISG and students.

It's true that most students probably do not know what the UISG even is, let alone what it does. Few on this campus are probably aware of the UISG's enormous power when it comes to funding student groups. But the UISG and its leaders have given students little reason to care about what they do. An excellent example of how the UISG's priorities seem a bit goofy is its effort to paint over campus graffiti while all but neglecting important issues such as tuition increases.

The UISG candidates need to learn that, if they give students real issues to care about, better communication between them and the students will follow. Presidential candidate George Hild seemed to understand this Tuesday when he landed a nice jab against his opponents, saying "communication" is a buzzword that candidates use when they have nothing else to campaign about.

Scheduling conflicts

Whose bright idea was it to hold the debate the same night and about the same time as two other major events — the debut of "Rent" at Hancher Auditorium and Tom Davis' final home game as the men's basketball coach? The UISG's Executive Cabinet, according to current Vice President Scott Shuman.

The reason that the debate was held when it was, Shuman explained during a later interview, was to give candidates enough time to formulate their platforms and to still have time left over to campaign. Although the schedulers were aware of the other events, the conflict "was not considered when we tried to do it... we tried to pick a date that would not interfere with the other campaign schedule," he said. That makes some sense, but it seems ridiculous to think that a better time and date were not available.

The debate was broadcast on KRUI, and, as Shuman joked, students could have listened to it while they sat at Carver-Hawkeye Arena cheering on the basketball team. Could have, but surely didn't. Holding the debate over a lunch hour would probably have attracted more people and

gone a long way toward boosting the UISG's image.

Dissing the DI

The *Daily Iowan's* name also came up a few times. While the candidates recognized the paper's role in informing the campus, they seemed concerned that the paper is too much of a critic and not enough of a booster. Let's hope it's neither — except on the Viewpoints page.

Speaking of which, presidential candidate Lana Zak mentioned that she would like the *DI* to give the UISG a regular feature in the paper, probably much like the columns Student Health Service and Student Legal Service provide for Thursday's editions, I assume. The candidates pride themselves on having already talked to practically every official at the UI and having already met with many student groups and leaders.

I'm starting to feel a bit left out. I wish Zak had actually talked to the *DI* about her ideas for a column before implying that

they had already been shot down. Zak and other candidates talked about communication, but I didn't see any.



BYRON R. BROWN

Letters to the editor

Anyone interested in communicating with the *DI* should submit a letter to the editor. Letters concerning the UISG presidential election should be sent by Friday. We'll try to publish every letter we get about the election in the March 1 and 2 editions.

The letters should be as brief as possible and include the writers' phone numbers. Letters must be confirmed before they can be published.

Letters can be sent by mail to *The Daily Iowan*, Letters to the Editor, 201N Communications Center; via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu, attention Letters to the Editor; or by fax, 335-6184. Hope to hear from you soon.

Byron R. Brown is the *DI's* Viewpoints editor.

readers

SAY What are your thoughts on the UI's decision to change the term "freshman" to "first-year" student?



"I don't care. It doesn't bother me any. I'll have to rag on my brother next year."

Bill Nolan
UI junior



"It makes sense. 'Freshperson' sounds stupid."

Ken Clinkenbeard
UI Main Library
instructional designer



"It would take away from the hierarchy of freshman, sophomore, junior and senior."

Rashad Malloy
UI senior



"It would be easier for an exchange student to use 'first-year' student, because you would know what year they are."

Joachim Smend
Exchange student



"I have never found the word 'freshman' to be offensive."

Jennifer Burrows
Iowa City resident

UI SMOKI

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CITY

UI to designate 26 floors non-smoking

SMOKING

Continued from Page 1A

fighting for smoke-free environments for citizens of the Iowa City/Coralville area.

The Coralville City Council approved a proposal by the coalition to ask Coralville to foster a citywide smoke-free environment on March 12-14. The group will request approval from the Johnson County Board of Supervisors today and from the Iowa City City Council on March 2.

According to the Office of Student Services and the Office of Resident Services, the UI's overall policy is a campus-wide ban on smoking, including inside buildings and UI vehicles.

However, smoking is allowed in some sections of the residence halls. Dorms are held to a different set of standards because they are different types of buildings compared to the rest of the campus, said Celine Hartwig, assistant to the dean of Resident Services.

Advocates of banning smoking in the dorms said it promotes a health risk not only for smokers, but for people around breathing in the smoke, said Kernstine.

"If you're exposed to secondhand smoke, unfortunately you're a smoker — whether you like it or not," he said.

The anti-smoking advocates also question the contradiction involving fire codes. Candles are prohibited in dorm rooms, while lit cigarettes are allowed. Lit cigarettes should be a major concern for UI officials, said Marc Linder, a UI

law professor.

"I would be very hesitant to spend the night in any given dorm when students are drinking and smoking at the same time," he said. "Why does the UI put up with it? They are just asking for a tragedy."

UI freshman Val Pelak, who smokes, lives in a Hillcrest dorm room that is designated for smoking. She said she disagrees that smoking is a serious fire hazard, even when combined with alcohol consumption.

"My friends and I have had many drunken sprees in my room while smoking, and there has not been any problem," she said.

Any dorm room can be a smoking room at any time during the course of the year if all residents agree, Hartwig said.

But by allowing smoking rooms to be randomly assigned in the halls, students are subjected to smoking neighbors and roommates, Linder said.

"It makes no sense to have smoking rooms higgledy-piggledy all over the floor, with no exhaust system and smoke wafting everywhere," Linder said. "If I were a student having to live in the dorms, I would sue the UI from here to hell and back."

The fact that students have no choice over living next to a smoking room is unacceptable, said UI freshman Conor Moran.

"I think smoking is really disgusting," he said. "It makes your clothes smell bad, your room smell bad and it makes your floor smell bad, too. When you open your door, it makes the hall smell just as bad as the room."

Smoking rooms are assigned by the UI when students fill out their applications as smokers, Hartwig said.

"If the people who live in a room fill out their housing applications as smokers, that room is designated a smoking room," she said. "It can also be changed in the computer at any time throughout the year."

There are three non-smoking floors on campus — apart from these areas, there is no limit or system to where smoking rooms can form, Hartwig said. This loose policy can lead to roommate problems and health concerns, she said.

That predicament hits home for UI freshman Abbie Theobald, a non-smoker whose roommates turned out to be smokers. Upset with the lack of administrative involvement, which caused her to enforce the no-smoking policy in her room, Theobald took her problem to the UI Student Government.

She likened non-smoking areas in the halls to swimming in the urine-free section of a swimming pool.

"The policies the university has right now are not very enforceable, and forces non-smoking residents to police it too much," Theobald said. "If I wanted something done, I had to speak up, and students shouldn't be put in that position. Banning smoking in the dorms would be better for everyone."

Beginning in the fall of 1999, the number of the non-smoking floors will rise to 26, in an effort by the UI to totally eliminate smoking from the halls — although it is uncertain when that goal will be met, Hartwig said.

DI reporter Carrie Johnston can be reached at: carolyn-johnston@uiowa.edu

Speaker advocates seeking truth

SCHLICHTMANN

Continued from Page 1A

lasted nine years, and during this time Schlichtmann said he lost everything.

"I tumbled right over the edge," he said.

But after his journey, Schlichtmann said he realized what was important — the truth.

"The truth is not something you have to go and get," he said. "The truth is all around us."

Schlichtmann currently works with similar environmental cases and advocates that communities should work together in order to make a difference.

DI reporter Quinn O'Keefe can be reached at: quinnegan2@aol.com

New group to address Asian-American students' needs

COALITION

Continued from Page 1A

as an officially recognized organization Tuesday in the Lindquist Center.

UI graduate student Susan Hwang, a founding member of the coalition, said the idea to form the group stemmed from a sparsely attended UI support group meeting called "Am I Invisible?" which was geared toward Asian Americans last October.

By the third meeting, it became apparent to those in attendance that a more visible and all-encompassing Asian-American group

was necessary for the UI.

"At that time, a lot of organizations served only specific Asian communities, such as the Vietnamese Student Association and the Asian-American Women's Group," Hwang said.

She said one of the coalition's goals is to pressure the UI to add Asian-American curricula.

"We are the only school in the Big Ten that does not have any Asian-American courses," she said. "We are the largest minority on campus — clearly there is a demand and need for such courses."

DI reporter Quinn O'Keefe can be reached at: quinnegan2@aol.com

UISG candidates trade accusations, complaints

UISG

Continued from Page 1A

a UI solicitation policy. Norman claimed this was not a violation of policy and wondered why LaForge made the complaint.

As a resident assistant for the dorms, LaForge said he was looking out for the interests of the students.

"It was a clear violation of residence hall policy," he said. "The dorms shelter people from this kind of solicitation."

This kind of response could be a sign of a dirty campaign, candidate George Hild said.

"This could be even worse than last year in terms of rules getting broken," Hild said. "(The Norman/Jefferis ticket) are kind of blinded by the desire to win."

In last year's race, current UISG President Brian White was fined \$100 for beginning his campaign too early. Hild's ticket received the same fine this year, but he said it hasn't tainted his campaign. Hild and his ticket traveled to local businesses during Winter Break asking if they would

display fliers once official campaigning began.

"We've made some mistakes, but we have moved on and continued the campaign," he said.

Because there are more candidates this year, the chance for backstabbing and mudslinging may be increased, Norman said.

"This time you have to watch your back in four different places," he said.

Because the Student Judicial Court has not ruled on Norman's appeal of the SEB's decision, the possibility still exists for the ticket to be disqualified. Even if the ticket is disqualified, this does not signal negative campaigning, candidate Matt McDermott said.

"Being a candidate myself, I really feel for both of those tickets," he said. "I really feel bad for anyone who gets disqualified at this stage of the game."

McDermott and presidential candidate Lana Zak said at the time the complaint against Norman and Jefferis was filed, they didn't support it.

Like Hild and LaForge, McDermott said breaking the

"This time you have to watch your back in four different places."

— Brian Norman, candidate for UISG president

rules can result in an unfair advantage.

"You want to make sure the playing field is level," he said. "But it did seem to be an honest mistake."

When candidates started hanging their fliers on top of his ticket's flier, the election took a negative turn, Hild said.

"For the most part I've been treated fairly," Hild said. "But I feel there has been some backstabbing going on."

It could be just rumors, Hild said, but he has heard of other candidates tearing down his posters and trash-talking him.

"They knew I had an advertising edge," he said.

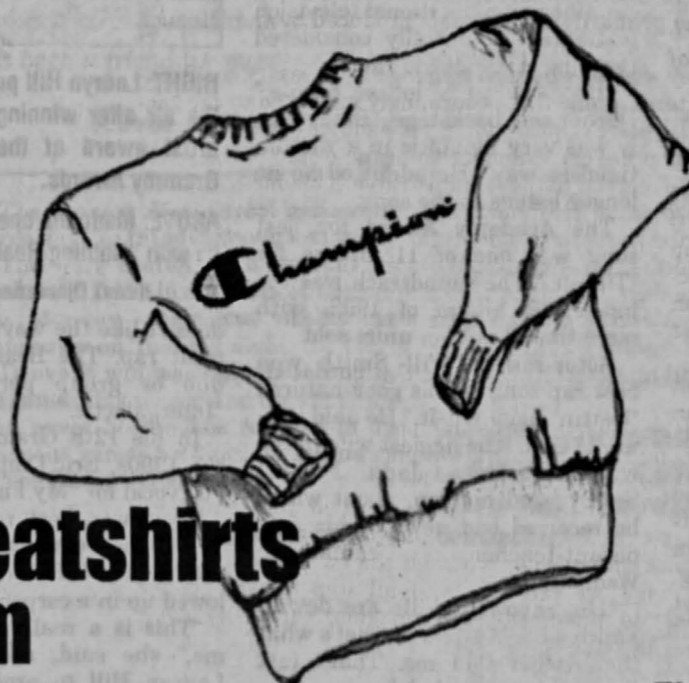
DI reporter Rebecca Anderson can be reached at: raanders@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

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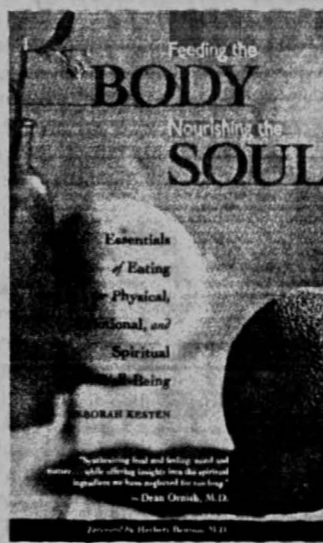
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PEACE CORPS

February 28 - March 2

Information Meetings
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UI Field House Rm.302 2/28 12:30 pm
IMU: Ohio State Room 3/2 7:00 pm

Information Tables
Celebrating Cultural Diversity Fair
UI Field House 2/28
Noon - 5:00 pm
IMU: Landmark Lobby 3/1
10:30 am - 1:30 pm
IMU: Landmark Lobby 3/2
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Contact us at 563.344.2279 or 1-800-441-2960.

NATION

Lauryn Hill snags five Grammys, Madonna gets three

Hill beat Carole King's record for most Grammys ever by a female artist in one night.

By Beth Harris
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Hip-hop star Lauryn Hill broke a record for female artists with five Grammy Awards Wednesday, and the "Titanic" ballad "My Heart Will Go On" sailed on with four awards, including song and record of the year.

"This is so amazing ... this is crazy because it's hip-hop music," said Hill, who stepped away from the Fugees to win album of the year for The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill and best new artist.

It was the first time a rap artist had ever won in those major Grammy categories.

Madonna, now that she's turned 40, won her first musical Grammys, including best pop album for her excursion into electronic, Ray of Light. She also won best dance recording and best short-form music video.

Shania Twain, Stevie Wonder, the Dixie Chicks and the Brian Setzer Orchestra each were double winners.

The 23-year-old Hill, who led with 10 nominations in nine categories, also won best rhythm and blues album. Her hit song, "Doo Wop (That Thing)" won best R&B song and best R&B vocal performance.

Hill's best new artist win was something of a misnomer since she won two past Grammys with the Fugees. She read a passage from the Bible and thanked her children for,

among other things, "not spilling anything on Mommy's outfit."

Hill, whose music mixes rap and R&B and touches on family and political issues, beat Carole King's record for most Grammys ever by a female artist in one night. King won four in 1971 for "Tapestry."

"My Heart Will Go On" also won the female pop vocal for Celine Dion and as best song written for a motion picture or television. James Horner and Will Jennings picked up the writing trophies.

Dion thanked James Cameron, director of "Titanic," for "letting this song be part of this magic moment — a beautiful movie."

Horner told the Shrine Auditorium and national television audiences he initially considered the song just a movie theme.

"It spoke to a lot of people," Horner said backstage. "It obviously was very romantic in a wistful, timeless way." He admitted he no longer listens to the song.

The Academy Award for best song was one of 11 Oscars for "Titanic." The soundtrack was the top-selling album of 1998, with more than 9 million units sold.

Actor-rapper Will Smith won best rap song for his good-natured "Gettin' Jiggy Wit It." He paid tribute to God, "the jiggiest wife in the world" (actress Jada Pinkett Smith), and his son, about whom he received bad news in his first parent-teacher conference Wednesday.

"His rhyming skills are down," Smith said. "I swear — that's what the teacher told me. That's just pure parental neglect."

In another rap category, Jay-Z's Vol. 2 ... Hard Knock Life won best album. The rapper had said he would skip the show because he



RIGHT: Lauryn Hill pumps her fist in the air after winning the best new artist award at the 41st Annual Grammy Awards.



ABOVE: Madonna opens the ceremony with "Nothing Really Matters."

Kevork Djanszian/Associated Press

doesn't like the way the Grammys treat rap. The Beastie Boys won duo or group performance for "Intergalactic."

In his 12th Grammy victory of the 1990s, Eric Clapton won male pop vocal for "My Father's Eyes."

Crow won best rock album for The Globe Sessions and paid tribute to A&M Records, just swallowed up in a corporate merger.

"This is a really nice thing for me," she said, adding, "I want Lauryn Hill to produce my next record."

The Dixie Chicks' "Wide Open Spaces" was an upset winner for best country album over the better-

known Garth Brooks and Twain.

"We're freaking out," the tearful trio said in accepting the award.

"You're Still the One" won best country song for Twain and husband Robert John "Mutt" Lange and female country vocal performance for Twain. Vince Gill won best male country vocal performance for "If You Ever Have Forever in Mind."

Best female rock vocal performance went to Alanis Morissette for "Uninvited."

The Setzer Orchestra, riding the swing revival, captured two pop honors, performance by a duo or group and instrumental per-

formance.

The male R&B vocal Grammy went to Wonder for "St. Louis Blues." The tune also earned him and two colleagues the award for instrumental arrangement with vocals. The two Grammys brought Wonder's career total to 21.

That ties him with Pierre Boulez, who also won two Wednesday night — orchestral performance and opera recording.

Only Sir Georg Solti, Quincy Jones and Vladimir Horowitz have won more.

Brandy & Monica won the R&B duo or group performance trophy for "The Boy Is Mine."

40th ANNUAL GRAMMY AWARDS



- RECORD OF THE YEAR:** "My Heart Will Go On," Celine Dion.
- ALBUM OF THE YEAR:** *The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill*, Lauryn Hill.
- SONG OF THE YEAR:** "My Heart Will Go On," James Horner & Will Jennings.
- NEW ARTIST:** Lauryn Hill.
- FEMALE POP VOCAL PERFORMANCE:** "My Heart Will Go On," Celine Dion.
- POP PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCAL:** "Jump Jive an' Wail," Brian Setzer Orchestra.
- POP INSTRUMENTAL PERFORMANCE:** "Sleepwalk," Brian Setzer Orchestra.
- POP ALBUM:** *Ray of Light*, Madonna.
- FEMALE ROCK VOCAL PERFORMANCE:** "Uninvited," Alanis Morissette.
- MALE ROCK VOCAL PERFORMANCE:** "Fly Away," Lenny Kravitz.
- METAL PERFORMANCE:** "Better Than You," Metallica.
- ROCK SONG:** "Uninvited," Alanis Morissette.
- ROCK ALBUM:** *The Globe Sessions*, Sheryl Crow.
- ALTERNATIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCE:** *Hello Nasty*, Beastie Boys.
- FEMALE R&B VOCAL PERFORMANCE:** "Doo Wop (That Thing)," Lauryn Hill.
- R&B PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCAL:** "The Boy Is Mine," Brandy & Monica.
- RAP ALBUM:** *Vol. 2 ... Hard Knock Life*, Jay-Z.
- COUNTRY PERFORMANCE BY A DUO OR GROUP WITH VOCAL:** "There's Your Trouble," Dixie Chicks.

NATION BRIEFS

Eighth-grader holds principal hostage

MARYVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — An eighth-grade boy described as a very good student took his principal hostage Wednesday afternoon and held him at gunpoint for about three hours before freeing him unharmed.

The boy surrendered about 90 minutes after releasing Montvale Elementary School Principal Jim Rattledge, Blount County Sheriff James Berrong said.

"He said from the very beginning, 'I do not want to hurt anyone,'" said Dr. Gary Pack, the Blount County schools superintendent.

Montvale Elementary School Principal Jim Rattledge was freed about 5:30 p.m., Berrong said.

The boy brought the gun to school and other students alerted Rattledge, who confronted the boy, Berrong said. The boy pulled the weapon when he was in Rattledge's office, Berrong said.

No shots were fired and the building was safely evacuated.

Pack described the boy as a very good student who is involved in school activities and has not had any previous disciplinary problems.

Ron Campbell, a former Blount County elementary school principal, said Rattledge is about 6-foot-5 and 350 pounds and cool under pressure.

When Campbell heard Rattledge was being held hostage, "I did not have a lot of doubt that he could handle it."

Big Tobacco under fire from unions

NEW YORK (AP) — The tobacco industry is under attack on yet another legal front: Unions are suing for billions of dollars to recover the costs of treating sick smokers.

The first of more than a dozen such lawsuits went to trial in federal court this week in Akron, Ohio, with 114 Ohio union health funds demanding \$2 billion and accusing Big Tobacco of using images such as Joe Camel and the Marlboro Man to sell cigarettes to less-educated, blue-collar workers.

"Blue-collar workers have a higher rate of smoking than the rest of the population, and we think that's not an accident," Patrick Coughlin, the unions' lead attorney, said Wednesday night. "The smoker has suffered and died prematurely, but it's the union health and welfare funds ... that have carried their burden."

The health funds in the 1997 class-action suit are led by Iron Workers Local Union No. 17 Insurance Fund.

The tobacco companies contend there is nothing illegal about their advertising. However, one defendant, the Liggett Group, an industry maverick, settled and plans to cooperate with the unions' case.

Over the years, plaintiffs suing the tobacco industry have run the gamut: flight attendants; the nations of Guatemala, Panama and Bolivia; a pediatrician with emphysema who is a lead plaintiff in a \$200 billion class-action suit on behalf of Florida smokers.

Union health plans are part of a ring of plaintiffs that some call "secondhand entities" — organizations or governments that claim financial damage, as opposed to individual smokers claiming cigarettes made them sick.

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Cedar Rapids

Iowa falls: The men's tennis defeated by Notre Dame, on Wednesday. Page 3B.

Section B

TELEVISION

Main Event

The Event: College Basketball, No. 2 Purdue at Minnesota, 6:30 p.m., ESPN

Golf

1 p.m. Match

College Baseball

8:30 p.m. Cincinnati

NBA

7:30 76ers

QUOTABLE

"It's kind of just turning 'You should what to do take it from — Wisconsin Wright on dep as the

SPORTS Q

Name the low who was nam the Year. See

SCOREBO

NBA

Boston

Orlando

Indiana

Toronto

Philadelphia

Sacramento

Detroit

Cleveland

NHL

Phoenix

Washington

Carolina

Toronto

Florida

Philadelphia

Los Angeles

Detroit

Chicago

St. Louis

MEN'S COL

1 Duke

DePaul

Arkansas

2 Auburn

5 Maryland

Clemson

8 St. John's

Notre Dame

10 Ohio State

16 Wisconsin

13 Kentucky

Vanderbilt

WOMEN'S C

11 Texas Tech

Colorado

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p.m. at Indiana.

KGAN Ch. 2.

Wednesday's

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SPORTS

Thursday

MCGWIRE SPEAKS: The home run king continues to defend Andro use, Page 4B

DI SPORTS DESK

The DI sports department welcomes questions, comments and suggestions.
Phone: (319) 335-5848
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Mail: 201 Communications Center
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

February 25, 1999

INSIDE

Iowa falls: The Iowa men's tennis team was defeated by No. 24 Notre Dame, 7-0, on Wednesday. Page 3B.



Section B

Headlines: Henson goes for win No. 700, Page 4B • Firing of Del Harris upstages Rodman, Page 4B • Tyson to remain in solitude, Page 3B

Lakers, not satisfied with play, fire Harris

The Facts: Los Angeles fired coach Del Harris after five seasons with the team.

The Impact: Assistant coach Bill Bertka will take over the coaching duties tonight when the Lakers face the Clippers.

By John Nadel
Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — The Los Angeles Lakers, mired at .500 12 games through the abbreviated NBA season, fired coach Del Harris Wednesday.

Jerry West, the team's vice president of basketball operations, said that one of two assistants — Kurt Rambis or Larry Drew — will handle the coaching duties for the rest of the season.

The team, which has lost three straight, made the announcement as it was adding Dennis Rodman to what on paper is one of the more talented rosters in the league.

West said longtime assistant Bill Bertka will handle the head coaching duties tonight against the winless Los Angeles Clippers before a decision is made on Drew or Rambis, both former Lakers.

"Particularly for me, the thing that makes it so awkward is that Del has been a friend for many years," West said. "The direction of a team is very important. We do feel like we have the talent here."

"I just feel the last two games we've played have not been acceptable. We just felt like there was a deterioration. I talked to (owner) Jerry Buss this morning and we just felt like the time was right now."

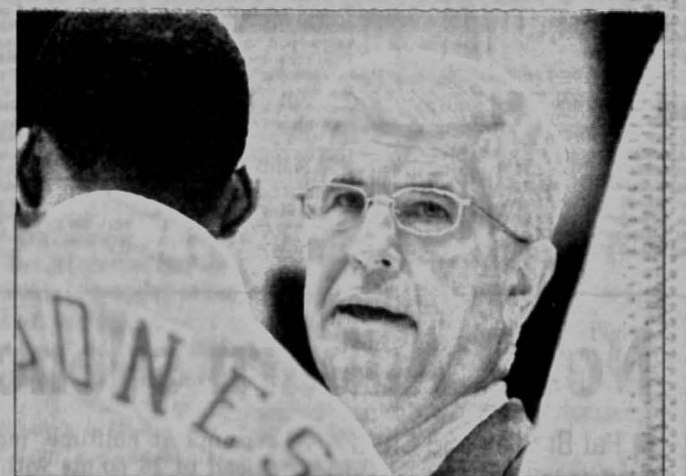
"Particularly for me, the thing that makes it so awkward is that Del has been a friend for many years."

— Jerry West
L.A.'s vice president of operations

The Lakers lost three games in three days in three different cities. They were beaten 92-89 Sunday at Seattle; 117-113 in overtime at Denver on Monday night, and 93-83 at Vancouver on Tuesday night.

Denver's win was only its second in 10 games this season and the Grizzlies had never beaten Los Angeles in 12 previous games between the teams. The losses left LA at 6-6.

See HARRIS, Page 2B



Kevin Karzin/Associated Press
Del Harris speaks with Los Angeles Lakers guard Eddie Jones on Feb. 16 during a game against the Charlotte Hornets. The Lakers fired Harris, who had been the team's head coach, on Wednesday.

TELEVISION

Main Event



The Event: College Basketball, No. 23 Purdue at Minnesota, 6:30 p.m., ESPN.



The Skinny: A win would help the Boilermakers secure a first-round bye in the Big Ten Tournament.

Golf

1 p.m. Match Play Championship, ESPN.

College Basketball

8:30 p.m. Cincinnati at South Florida, ESPN.

NBA

7:30 76ers at Bulls, Fox/Chi.

QUOTABLE

"It's kind of a girl thing. You kind of just turn (women) off, like, 'You shouldn't be able to tell me what to do.' I think it's easier to take it from a man."

— Wisconsin volleyball player Keylee Wright on asking the Badgers athletic department to hire another man as the volleyball team's new coach.

SPORTS QUIZ

Name the Iowa women's basketball player who was named the 1998 Big Ten Player of the Year. See answer, Page 2B.

SCOREBOARD

NBA		
Boston	111	Miami 91
Orlando	79	Charlotte 83
Indiana	104	Portland 94
Toronto	84	New Jersey 85
Philadelphia	94	Seattle
Sacramento	81	San Antonio
Detroit	89	Denver 97
Cleveland	73	Utah 87

NHL		
Phoenix	2	Nashville 2
Washington	1	Dallas 1
Carolina	2	Buffalo
Toronto	2	Calgary
Florida	5	Anaheim 2
Philadelphia	3	Edmonton 1
Los Angeles	3	Vancouver
Detroit	2	San Jose
Chicago	3	
St. Louis	1	

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
1 Duke	96	19 Florida 89
DePaul	64	South Carolina 61
Arkansas	104	20 Indiana 70
2 Auburn	88	Illinois 64
5 Maryland	76	22 Texas 62
Clemson	60	Baylor 52
8 St. John's	73	24 Syracuse 73
Notre Dame	53	Boston College 56
10 Ohio State	63	24 Temple 71
16 Wisconsin	54	Fordham 49
13 Kentucky	88	
Vanderbilt	63	

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
11 Texas Tech	83	22 Kansas 79
Colorado	71	Oklahoma State 72

SPORTS BRIEF

Strada earns honor, again

Iowa gymnast Todd Strada was named Big Ten Athlete of the Week for the second time this season.

The junior All-American earned his two best all-around scores of the year in back-to-back competitions last weekend. He won the all-around against Michigan State with a score of 57.250 and placed second at Nebraska with a 57.900.

Wrestlers ranked No. 3

The defending NCAA champion Iowa wrestling team regained the No. 3 spot in the most recent NWCA team rankings, which were released Wednesday.

Oklahoma State retained its No. 1 ranking, followed by Minnesota. Nebraska and Oklahoma round out the top five.

Intrastate rival Iowa State is ranked No. 7.

CORRECTION

Iowa men's basketball

The Iowa men's basketball team's final regular season game is scheduled for Saturday at 3:30 p.m. at Indiana. The contest will be shown on KGAN Ch. 2.

Wednesday's edition of *The Daily Iowan* erroneously reported that the game was to be held Sunday.

BASEBALL SEASON PREVIEW

Iowa aims for postseason play

■ The young Hawkeyes are looking to earn a conference tournament berth for the first time since 1991.

By Roger Kuznia
The Daily Iowan

Senior Brian Mitchell is so focused on the upcoming Iowa baseball season, he doesn't even think back to last year's disappointment.

After winning nine of Iowa's first 15 Big Ten games, the Hawkeyes were in great position to finish in the top four and secure their first conference tournament berth in eight years.

But Iowa failed to win any of its last nine contests and finished tied for sixth at 9-15.

Iowa head coach Scott Broghamer knows that last year was exactly that — last year.

"Last year is over with," said Broghamer, whose team is 1-3 thus far. "We've got a whole different group of kids and we're going to build off of that."

Broghamer is in his second year at Iowa. The fact that all the players know his system might be of help to the team.

"I feel much more comfortable, and hopefully that will show up in the things our kids do," Broghamer said.

One of team's big goals this season is to finally get to the conference tournament. Mitchell, along with the rest of the eight seniors, has never been involved in postseason play.

"I'd be very disappointed if we didn't," said Mitchell, a second-team All-Big Ten selection last season. "It's always been my goal to get there. Once you get there, all you have to do is get hot and then you move on."

The Hawkeyes will have to replace three key players from last



Brian Moore/The Daily Iowan

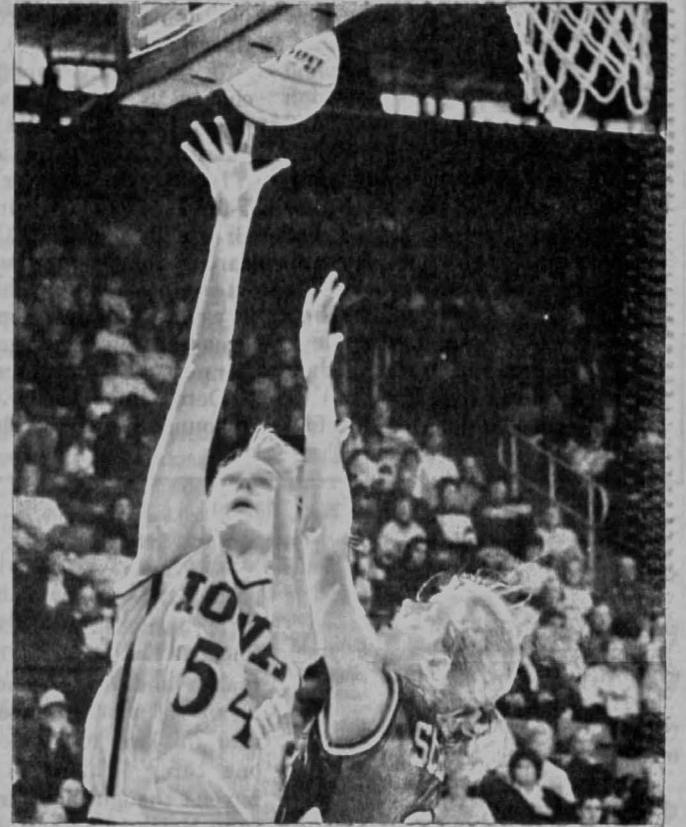
Iowa senior Wes Obermueller was a key contributor to the pitching staff last season and will return to the lineup to help lead a squad dominated by freshmen.

Mitchell, Terry Ramsey, Toby Humes and Kurt Vitense can all swing the bat well. "We definitely have the talent to do it," Mitchell said. "It's just a matter of being mentally ready. We have to have the attitude of domination and that we're going to outperform the competition."

Though Meccage is gone, Iowa returns a lot of experience to the pitching staff. Seniors Steve Rasmussen (3-5, 8.03 ERA) and Wes Obermueller (0-1, 8.16 ERA) are two of the team's top hurlers. Junior James Magrane (5-3, 6.17 ERA) will also provide some mound experience.

One thing Broghamer wants out

See BASEBALL, Page 2B



Brian Moore/The Daily Iowan
Amy Herrig lays the ball up against Northwestern earlier in the season. Iowa will face the Wildcats in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament on Friday.

Hawkeyes still hope for 'Big Dance' invite

■ If the Iowa women's basketball team wants an NCAA tournament berth, it must win this weekend's Big Ten tournament.

By Eric Petersen
The Daily Iowan

Bucks against the wall. One game at a time. Still alive.

Pick the cliché and the Iowa women's basketball team fits it.

Going into this weekend's sixth annual Big Ten Tournament at the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, the Hawkeyes (12-14, 7-9 Big Ten) are in the same situation they were in after the 1996-97 regular season — needing to win it all to be invited to "The Big Dance."

That year, they finished 14-12, tied for fourth place in the conference, not good enough to advance to the NCAAs without the automatic bid they'd

See IOWA WOMEN, Page 2B

What: Iowa (7-9) vs. Northwestern (5-11)

When: Friday, 3 p.m. CST

Where: RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Ind.

See conference team capsules on page 8B.

Swimmers to face biggest challenge

■ The Iowa men's swimming team will compete in the Big Ten Championships starting today.

By Todd Heffernan
The Daily Iowan

Since the Iowa men's swimming team opened its season in late October, coach John Davey and assistant Marc Long have been saying that everything is a "stepping stone" to the Big Ten Championships.

After a loss at Kansas nearly two weeks ago, the Hawkeyes have finally reached the top of the proverbial staircase.

The Big Ten Championships have arrived, opening with the preliminaries of the 500-yard freestyle at noon today in Bloomington, Ind. Even though the Hawkeyes have bolstered their lineup with the addition of freshman Ales Abersek at mid-season, they could be overmatched.

Five Big Ten teams are ranked in the nation's top 25, and excluding a win against Iowa State, the Hawkeyes

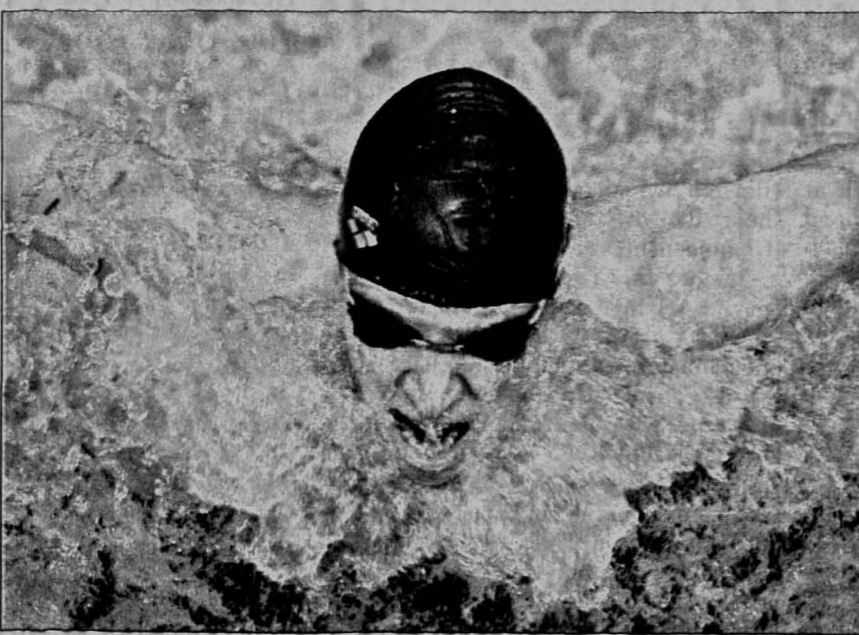
have lost to all the ranked teams they have faced this season.

Abersek has the Hawkeyes' fastest times in the 100-yard butterfly and the 200 butterfly in just four dual meet competitions. His 100 time of 49.62 seconds is the fourth-best in Iowa history, although Minnesota's Martin Zielinski swam a 49.53 two weeks ago in the Minnesota Challenge.

"The stage we're at right now is that this is the key meet for us," Long said. "This is where we shave and taper."

The Hawkeyes have worked toward this week's three-day meet the entire season, structuring their entire schedule so that the team would record its best times at this stage of the schedule. As of late, the swimmers have responded, with five season-best finishes against Northwestern on Feb. 8

See SWIMMERS, Page 2B



Justin O'Brien/The Daily Iowan

The Iowa men's swimming and diving team has structured its entire season around peaking at the Big Ten Championships, which begin today in Bloomington, Ind.

SPORTS

Tyson to remain in solitude

■ Throwing a TV earned the former champ another 20 days in solitary confinement.

By Derrill Holly
Associated Press

ROCKVILLE, Md. — Mike Tyson will spend another 20 days in solitary confinement for throwing a TV set in a jailhouse recreation room.

A two-member disciplinary panel on Wednesday ordered Tyson to remain isolated from other prisoners until March 16. He has been in solitary confinement since his outburst Friday.

He also has lost phone and visiting privileges and won't be allowed to participate in group activities at the Montgomery County jail. He will be in an isolated environment for 23 hours a day.

Tyson, accompanied by a senior jail staffer, appeared before the panel after officials accused him of disorderly conduct, destroying property and assaulting a correctional officer who was allegedly struck with shards of plastic from the shattered TV set.

He was not represented by an attorney because lawyers are not allowed at the proceedings.

"As a result of those hearings, Mr. Tyson was given ... 25 days full disciplinary restriction, effective Feb. 19," said Eric Seleznow, spokesman for the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Before his outburst, Tyson had been serving a one-year sentence in a cell among the jail's regular population of inmates who are awaiting trial or serving sentences of 18 months or less.

He was sentenced Feb. 5 after pleading no contest to charges he assaulted two men following a minor traffic accident in August. He has until March 7 to appeal the sentence, and Tyson's lawyer, Paul Kemp, said he would decide on the appeal by the end of the week.



Leslie Kossoff/Associated Press

Maryland Department of Corrections spokesman David Seleznow speaks to reporters Wednesday after Mike Tyson was ordered to remain in solitary confinement for 20 days.

At a news conference after the hearing, an emotionally upset Monica Tyson urged a review of her husband's punishment.

She said that two days before the outburst, jail officials reduced and then eliminated the dosage of Zoloft prescribed by his therapist, Dr. Richard Goldberg, to control the boxer's depression.

"Dr. Goldberg spoke to the therapist at the detention center and informed him that it would be medically inadvisable to discontinue the medication. However, the decision was implemented," she said.

The corrections department said Tyson was offered his medication "throughout his entire stay" at the jail, although the rules require inmates to see staff doctors to get it.

Kemp said the boxer did not want to see the jail's therapist because he already was under

Goldberg's care.

"We were upset that the disciplinary review board, with the misunderstanding about the medication, chose to make administrative recommendations for some penalties for segregation for this incident concerning the damaging of the television set," Kemp said.

Tyson also is on probation in Indiana for raping a beauty pageant contestant in an Indianapolis hotel room in 1991. He was released from prison in March 1995 after serving three years. Indiana officials are considering whether to revoke his probation based on his legal problems in Maryland.

In Indiana, Tyson's probation officer, George Walker, said authorities there still are awaiting to hear whether the boxer will appeal his sentence in Maryland before taking any action. "We're still waiting," he said.

Women's gymnastics

Tonight: Iowa (5-7) travels to Ames to take on the nationally ranked Iowa State Cyclones tonight at 7 p.m. at Hilton Coliseum.

Meet notes: The Hawkeyes' injury problems continue, as Shrutika Sulkar will compete in the all-around in place of Robyn Gamble, who is nursing a sprained ankle. ... Iowa is coming off a 194.275-187.725 loss to Minnesota. ... Iowa State is ranked 17th in the

UI ROAD BRIEF

nation, and the Cyclones are trying to rebound from a 194.275-192.300 loss to Oklahoma.

Athletes' comments: "We're rested up, and that's doing a lot for our confidence," junior Courtney Burke said. "Traditionally, ISU is a good team — they put up some good scores, especially at home. They have kind of a harsh crowd — they get a lot of people there. There's frat guys that sit by the beam and try to pull you off (by heckling). We have the intrastate

rivalry thing going with Iowa State. It's fun — it's easy to fall on, but when we hit, we really hit," sophomore Erin Fifield said. "It's one of our best events. Iowa State is scoring 192s, and we're definitely capable of that. These last couple of weeks, we've looked really good. We've really concentrated on form and precision. It's the best we've looked all season."

— Greg Wallace

SPORTS BRIEFS

First nine players chosen for 2000 U.S. basketball team

(AP) — Grant Hill, Tim Duncan, Kevin Garnett, Gary Payton, Tim Hardaway, Steve Smith, Tom Gugliotta, Allan Houston and Vin Baker have been chosen as the first nine members of the 2000 U.S. Olympics team, The Associated Press learned Wednesday.

Those nine plus three non-NBA players yet to be selected will represent the United States in the Americas Zone qualifying tournament June 14-25 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The United States must finish first or second in that tournament to qualify for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney.

Three more NBA players will be chosen after the 1999-2000 season, with Shaquille O'Neal believed to be an almost certain choice for one of the spots.

Turner Sports and the New York Post reported Wednesday that O'Neal — not Hardaway — would play on the qualifying team, but several NBA sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the report was inaccurate.

Houston Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich will coach the U.S. squad in both the qualifying tournament and the Olympics.

If the U.S. qualifies, it will use NBA players for the third time.

The original Dream Team won the gold medal in the 1992 Olympics at Barcelona, and an American team comprised entirely of professionals won the gold medal in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

A team of NBA players was selected to represent the United States in last summer's World Championships at Athens, but those players were replaced when they would not commit to playing in the event of a lockout.

The nine players were chosen last week during a meeting of USA Basketball.

coming to the rescue of former Iowa State star Troy Davis, a Fort Dodge police official said.

The Fort Dodge police have some leads but have made no arrests in the stabbing of Robert Lewis.

Lewis, a fullback who played on ISU's special teams, was in good condition Wednesday at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames.

Davis, who now plays for the New Orleans Saints of the National Football League, was in a fight outside the Laramie Ballroom following a concert there, according to Assistant Fort Dodge Police Chief Tom Francis.

The details of the fight were not clear, he said. Francis said "it wasn't standing toe to toe and swinging, but it was grabbing."

An unknown assailant had Davis in a hold and Lewis was trying to free him from that hold, Francis said.

"He was basically trying to get Troy out of the grasp of this other guy," Francis said. "Not that Troy needs much help, but there are some holds you can't get out of no matter how strong you are."

Davis, his younger brother Darren, who is on the ISU team, and Lewis and three other ISU football players drove to Fort Dodge last Saturday for a concert, Francis said. The stabbing took place after the concert had ended about 1 a.m. Sunday.

Arkansas prep dies

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Devin Cuningkin, who helped his high school basketball team win a championship, died Wednesday morning after apparently striking his head on the floor during the game.

Cuningkin, 18, fell and hit his head on the floor during the game, his step-brother, Tim Pledger, said. The player left the game with about two minutes left after scoring 12 points in Little Rock McClellan's 64-49 victory over Pine Bluff on Tuesday for the District AAAAA-South title.

Cuningkin was taken into the training room and after the game was taken to Arkansas Children's Hospital, where his condition deteriorated overnight. He died about 8:30 a.m.

"The team has voted to go on and play for him and do the best we can," McClellan coach Tom McKinney said. "One of the players said we're going to have an advantage next week. We're going to have six players out there."

McClellan faces Jacksonville in a state tournament game next week.

The Pulaski County Coroner's Office had not determined the cause of death. A medical exam was planned Thursday, county coroner Mark Malcolm said.

Cuningkin's family and school staff held a

vigil at the hospital through the night.

Cuningkin, a senior, had transferred to McClellan from Benton last year.

Pledger said his brother was hoping to get a college scholarship to play basketball.

"Of course, he had been playing since he was knee-high," he said. "He was going to be a good college basketball player."

McClellan held a team meeting Wednesday but did not practice. The team will practice Thursday.

World Cup will remain a quadrennial event

GENEVA — FIFA president Sepp Blatter said Tuesday he was delaying his plan to hold the World Cup every two years instead of quadrennially, saying soccer must first reorganize its competition schedule.

After meeting with Lennart Johansson, the president of the Union of European Football Associations, Blatter said it would take 18 months to come up with an international calendar that would allow soccer's premier event to take place biennially.

"We have not withdrawn the idea of having a World Cup every two years, we have just put it in the back yard," he said.

Blatter first suggested the idea two months ago, saying the biennial format could start in 2004, two years after the next World Cup, which is scheduled for Japan and South Korea in May 2002.

European soccer clubs have opposed the idea, not wanting to release their stars to national teams more often. UEFA spoke out against Blatter's plan, saying it would conflict with its quadrennial European Championship, held two years after each World Cup.

"UEFA has not closed the door," Johansson said. "It still does not support the idea, but it has not closed the door."

Soccer federations in Africa and the North and Central American and Caribbean expressed general support for a biennial World Cup, which would have to be approved by FIFA's executive committee. Blatter said he will present his idea to the executive committee but will not call for a vote until after an international calendar is set.

Soccer stars have been under increased strain in recent years because of often conflicting demands for their time among national teams and their clubs, who are involved in leagues as well as national cups and continental competitions.

IOWA MEN'S TENNIS

Hawkeyes whitewashed by Notre Dame

■ Iowa coach Steve Houghton was not discouraged after his team's 7-0 loss to the Irish.

By Lisa Colonno
The Daily Iowan

Going into Wednesday night's match at 24th-ranked Notre Dame, the Iowa men's tennis team knew it would be facing the toughest competition it had faced thus far. The Hawkeyes were just hoping to make a good showing.

And although the final 7-0 score in the Fighting Irish's favor did not reflect it, Iowa accomplished its goal.

"Perhaps in the most telling match of the night, sophomore Tyler Cleveland kept within striking distance of the nation's No. 2 player, Notre Dame's Ryan Sachire.

In his first loss of the season, Cleveland went three sets with Sachire, and lost a close match, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6.

"It was a great match," Iowa coach Steve Houghton said. "Tyler

lost pretty decisively to him in the fall, but this one went down to the wire. He played great. It was a great achievement. He really narrowed the gap with the No. 2 player in the country."

As a team, Iowa (4-2) remained competitive throughout the dual and even won a doubles match.

The No. 2 doubles team of Cleveland and sophomore Tom Buetikofer came away with an 8-5 victory over Trent Miller and Andy Warford. Notre Dame claimed the other two matches to secure the doubles point.

In singles, No. 3 player J.R. Chidley of Iowa lost to Matt Daly, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, and No. 6 player Jason Dunn lost to Notre Dame's Warford, 6-0, 4-6, 6-1.

"It is unusual to say, but I am not upset with the loss," coach Steve Houghton said. "Notre Dame is one of the best teams in the country. We were very competitive and did a good job of controlling points

throughout the matches. "After losing to a good team, it becomes clear what we need to work on and we need to be better at finishing off points, at the net especially."

The Hawkeyes travel to Lawrence, Kan., on Sunday, where they will take on the Jayhawks.

DI sportswriter Lisa Colonno can be reached at lcolonno@blue.weeg.uiowa.edu

Troy Davis involved in weekend stabbing incident

FORT DODGE — The Iowa State University football player who was stabbed in Fort Dodge last weekend was in the melee because he was

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SPORTS

McGwire again defends Andro use

■ The St. Louis slugger held his first news conference of spring training Wednesday.

By R.B. Fallstrom
Associated Press

JUPITER, Fla. — It was like Mark McGwire never left — big crowds for batting practice, a hundred reporters wanting interviews and questions about andro.

Dick Pound, a vice president of the International Olympic Committee, criticized McGwire earlier this month, saying baseball allowed him to become a "souped-up hero" by not banning androstenedione, a controversial muscle-building supplement that is prohibited by the IOC, the NFL and the NCAA.

"Major league baseball is not the IOC," McGwire said Wednesday during his first news conference of spring training. "And it has absolutely nothing to do with me hitting a baseball. I don't endorse the product. I never did. Someone stuck a nose in my locker."

With CNN-SI, ESPN News and Fox Sports Net broadcasting his remarks live, McGwire chuckled



James A. Finley/Associated Press
Mark McGwire adjusts his cap in Jupiter, Fla., on Wednesday.

and shook his head when he sat down in front of a microphone. He said he was willing to talk about the home run record only until the new season starts in April.

"I'm mentally prepared to talk about last year up until the last day of spring training," McGwire said. "Once the season starts, talking about 70 is gone. I think it's foolish to think I'm going to carry

this over and talk about last year."

Last year, about 20 reporters showed up for the first full-squad workout. But that was before McGwire hit 70 home runs — nine more than Roger Maris' old record.

"I couldn't believe the turnout from the fans," McGwire said. "That was amazing. Then all of you guys. I've never been in a first day of spring training like this ever."

During his hour-long news conference, McGwire's major revelation was that the most pressure he felt last season came after he topped Maris and had to fend off Sammy Sosa. McGwire had insisted that he didn't care who ended up with more homers.

"Sammy Sosa had a pretty damn good year and he was right there with me," McGwire said. "When I broke that record, I knew there was a lot of time left in the season, and I knew what he was doing."

Two major milestones are up ahead for McGwire. He needs 43 homers to become the 16th player to reach 500, and can become the first to hit 50 or more in four consecutive seasons.

Can McGwire top 70?
"Anything's possible," he said.



Doug Mills/Associated Press
Then-Illinois head coach Lou Henson walks with players Nick Anderson, left, and Kenny Battle following their victory over Louisville in NCAA tournament action on March 25, 1989.

Henson goes for win No. 700

■ If New Mexico State wins tonight, Henson will become the 13th Division I coach to reach 700 victories.

By Pete Herrera
Associated Press

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — There are times when Lou Henson wonders why he can't shake his craving for competition.

"Every now and then I think, this is ridiculous," Henson said. "I'm putting too much pressure on myself. It's not like I'm trying to save my job. I'm not 35. I don't have four kids (to support)."

What Henson, who turned 67 last month, still has is the ability to turn out winning basketball teams. He's done it so well for 36 years that he's one win away from becoming only the 13th coach in Division I to win 700 games.

Now in his second stint at New Mexico State, Henson's career record is at 699-353 going into tonight's game against Utah State in Las Cruces.

The impending 700th win has become a major topic in New Mexico. House and Senate members in the state Legislature gave Henson a standing ovation when he visited this week.

Henson's road to 700 started 44 years ago with his graduation from New Mexico State.

"I was trying to decide whether I wanted to coach or go into administration," Henson said. "I was thinking about getting a high school job somewhere."

Henson was a high school coach in the late '50s and early '60s. But the legacy of the dapper-dressing, success-driven and congenial Henson is what he accomplished since then at Hardin-Simmons, Illinois and New Mexico State.

He came out of retirement last season to take over the program at his alma mater. NMSU athletic director Jim Paul replaced Neil McCarthy with Henson, who agreed to be the interim coach for a salary of \$1 a month. After the season, Henson signed a four-year contract that will run through his 70th birthday.

"Even after 40 some years, you put pressure on yourself to do it. It doesn't change."

— Lou Henson

Once back, Henson realized he had lost none of his love for competition.

"Even after 40 some years, you put pressure on yourself to do it. It doesn't change," he said.

Arizona State coach Rob Evans, who played for Henson at New Mexico State in the late '60s and was his assistant for six years, said Henson absolutely hates to lose.

"He's the most competitive person I've ever been around," Evans said. "Very few people know he's a champion checkers player."

Henson honed his talent for checkers and dominoes while growing up in Okay, Okla. (population 300 when Henson lived there).

"There's nothing to do in Okay but play checkers and dominoes," he said.

Firing of Harris upstages Rodman

■ The new Laker joked that he could wear a "pimp-daddy" hat and be the team's coach.

By Ken Peters
Associated Press

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — On his first day with the Los Angeles Lakers, Dennis Rodman was actually upstaged.

It took the firing of coach Del Harris to push the flamboyant, controversial Rodman into the background.

"Already problems," Rodman joked during a Forum news conference. "Since the coaching job is vacant, maybe I should be coach. Wouldn't that be something? I'd come out there with a pimp-daddy hat. That would be groovy."

Rodman, who finally signed a contract with the Lakers on Tuesday, showed up for a voluntary practice Wednesday at the Forum, but met only a few of his teammates. Harris, in what may have

been his last official act as coach, gave the regulars the day off.

Shaquille O'Neal, who had pushed for the Lakers to sign Rodman, was at the Forum, but remained in street clothes.

Rodman was critical of O'Neal and other Lakers earlier in the week, and Rodman was asked what the Lakers center said to him.

"There's no hard feelings. Guys know my dedication. He just said, 'Welcome to the team,'" Rodman said.

Then Rodman again began listing the Lakers' shortcomings.

"You have to know what your role is, and I think I lot of guys don't know that, especially this team. ... These guys don't know the game of basketball," Rodman said.

"When you've been in the NBA two or three years, you shouldn't whine and complain what somebody else is doing or not doing, not when you're making \$12-\$13 million a year. There's no cohesion, no love between the players."

"They really don't have any connection. They get the ball down low, then nobody is trying to do anything more. They've got to learn. If they don't, we'll probably get knocked out in the first round of the playoffs."

Rodman, who got three NBA championship rings with Michael Jordan and the Bulls, added, "They need to learn to go out there with that look, like we had in Chicago. I will instill some basketball knowledge and the toughness."

Rodman said he doesn't believe he'll play tonight, when the Lakers meet the Los Angeles Clippers in Anaheim, instead saying he expects to make his debut with the Lakers on Friday night.

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NBA ROUNDUP

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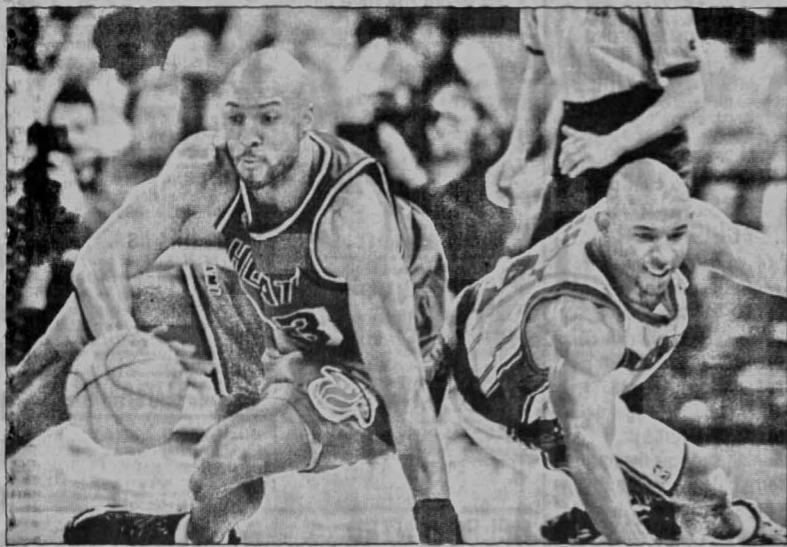
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SPORTS

NBA ROUNDUP



Chuck Burton/Associated Press

Miami's Alonzo Mourning, left, and Charlotte's David Wesley scramble for a loose ball Wednesday at the Charlotte Coliseum.

Williams wins battle, Iverson wins war

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — In a matchup of the 1996-97 Rookie of the Year and the league's newest point guard sensation, Jason Williams had the move of the night. But Allen Iverson did everything else better as the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Sacramento Kings 94-81 Wednesday.

Iverson, who despite the pregame hype was rarely matched man-to-man against Williams, scored 36 points and handed off 10 assists to thoroughly outplay Sacramento's dazzling rookie.

The Sixers held the Kings, the league's highest-scoring team, 19 points below their season average. Philadelphia has held 14 consecutive opponents below 100 points.

Chris Webber had 21 points and 11 rebounds for Sacramento, while Williams had 10 points with seven assists and four turnovers.

Dumars now has 42 points in two games since returning to the Detroit lineup after a hamstring injury. Bison Dele and Lindsey Hunter added 13 each for the Pistons, while Shawn Kemp led Cleveland with 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Dele played 28 minutes despite a case of the flu that made him leave court-side for parts of each half.

Heat 91, Hornets 83
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Alonzo Mourning led a strong inside game by Miami with 20 points and 17 rebounds as the Heat extended their winning streak to seven games.

Mark Strickland, P.J. Brown and Tim Hardaway added 13 points apiece for Miami, which got 16 of its 33 field goals on either dunks or layups. Leading the way was Strickland, who had six dunks.

Trail Blazers 94, Nets 85
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Walt Williams scored nine of his 22 points in the quarter, carrying Portland to its fifth straight win. The loss was also the fifth straight and ninth in 11 games for the Nets, who came into the season expecting to be one of the up-and-coming teams.

They played like one for a half, building a 14-point lead, and they even managed to take a three-point lead into the final period. But the Trail Blazers used a 26-8 spurt to take control of a game in which the Nets seemed to run out of gas playing for the fourth time in five nights.

Spurs 99, Sonics 81
SAN ANTONIO — David Robinson and Tim Duncan combined for 47 points and 30 rebounds as San Antonio routed Seattle.

The Spurs continued their up-and-down season, winning for just the second time in their last five games. But both wins have been convincing. San Antonio ripped Detroit 85-64 Sunday.

San Antonio's twin towers were dominant as the 7-foot-1 Robinson scored a season-high 29 points and added 17 rebounds. The 6-11 Duncan complemented him with 18 points and 13 rebounds and they helped put Seattle in significant foul trouble. Seattle's main inside players, Olden Polynice and Vin Baker, each drew his fifth foul early in the fourth quarter. They combined for two minutes in the last period.

Nuggets 97, Jazz 87
DENVER — Nick Van Exel scored 21 of his 23 points in the second half as the Nuggets posted their second straight victory, beating the NBA's best team this season.

Antonio McDyess had 24 points for Denver before fouling out with 4:35 left, and Van Exel promptly scored the Nuggets' next six points, giving his team a 91-85 lead with 2:48 remaining.

BIG TEN ROUNDUP

Hoosiers defeat Illini in overtime

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Luke Recker scored 22 points, including crucial back-to-back 3-pointers in the second half, as No. 20 Indiana defeated Illinois 70-64 in overtime Wednesday night.

Indiana (21-9, 8-7) set a Big Ten record by playing its seventh overtime game this season.

The Hoosiers went 12 minutes without scoring a basket in the second half but took a 54-53 lead on three 3-pointers, including two straight by Recker.

The game was sent into overtime when Damir Krupalija made one of two free throws for Illinois (11-17, 3-13) to tie the game at 54.

Indiana took a 58-54 lead in overtime on consecutive baskets by William Gladness, but Illinois tied the game at 58, 60 and 62. Kirk Haston's basket and three Indiana free throws made it 67-62 with 38 seconds left.

Sergio McClain scored on a rebound to close Illinois within three, but the Hoosiers made

three of their final four free throws to clinch the win.

Indiana has won four of its seven OT games. The previous Big Ten record of six overtimes was set by Ohio State in 1982. The NCAA record for OT games in a season is eight, held by three teams.

Ohio State 63, Wisconsin 54
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio State coach Jim O'Brien has run out of ways to describe his team's remarkable turnaround from Big Ten doormat to the second-best team in the league.

"At the risk of keeping on saying the same thing over and over again, they just refuse to lose," O'Brien said Wednesday night after Scoonie Penn scored a career-high 30 points to help the No. 10 Buckeyes beat No. 16 Wisconsin 63-54.

Ohio State (22-6), which was 1-15 and last in the conference last year, improved its league record to 12-3 and locked up the No. 2 seed behind champion Michigan State in next week's Big Ten tournament.

The Buckeyes closed the game with a 14-3 run to win their seventh straight and ninth

in their last 10. Penn, whose previous career high was 27, scored nine points in the run.

"It looked bleak there for a while, but Scoonie just willed us to come back," O'Brien said.

Penn St. 78, Michigan 72
ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Joe Crispin scored 17 points as Penn State took its second straight road win by beating Michigan 78-72 Wednesday night.

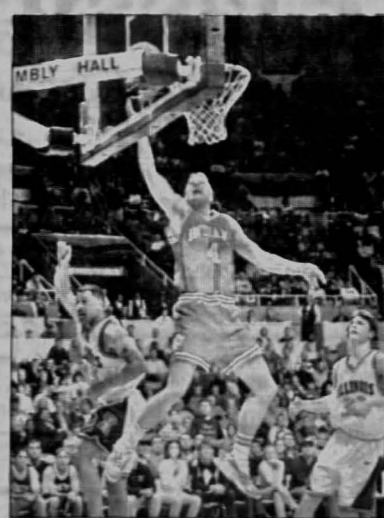
Calvin Booth added 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Nittany Lions (12-13 overall, 4-11 Big Ten), who moved into a tie with Michigan (10-18, 4-11) for the ninth seed in next week's Big Ten tournament.

Penn State won at Michigan four days after a 78-70 win at Purdue.

Michigan's Louis Bullock led all scorers with 25 points and tied former Penn State guard Pate Lisicky for the Big Ten career record for 3-point baskets at 332. Bullock, with at least two games left in his Wolverines career, was 3-for-7 behind the arc Wednesday.

Robbie Reid had 18 points for Michigan, which has lost four straight and nine of 10.

Booth led Penn State to a 41-29 rebounding advantage. The Nittany Lions had 20



John Dixon/Associated Press

Indiana's Luke Recker (4) scores between Illinois defenders Cory Bradford (13), left, and Damir Krupalija on Wednesday.

offensive rebounds leading to 15 second-chance points.

They never trailed after an 8-0 first-half run helped them to a 45-35 halftime lead.

Michigan got back within two on two occasions, the last when two free throws from Reid made it 56-54 with 8:31 remaining. But Crispin answered with a 3-pointer that started a 7-2 run for the Nittany Lions.

NHL ROUNDUP

Coyotes end losing skid with win over Capitals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rick Tocchet and Keith Tkachuk scored first-period goals Wednesday night, and Nikolai Khabibulin made 19 saves as the Phoenix Coyotes snapped a five-game losing streak with a 2-1 victory over the Washington Capitals.

The loss ended Washington's five-game home winning streak and cost last year's Stanley Cup finalists a chance to move ahead of Montreal into 10th place in the Eastern Conference standings.

Phoenix, in the middle of a season-long, seven-game road trip, won the game with hustle and defense. Khabibulin didn't have to work hard most of the evening because his defensemen throttled the Capitals deep in their zone. Brian Bellows scored Washington's goal in the second period.

Panthers 5, Flyers 3
SUNRISE, Fla. — Mark Parrish jammed the puck underneath John Vanbiesbroeck for a power-play goal at 11:32 of the third period as the Florida Panthers celebrated the return of Pavel Bure by beating the Philadelphia Flyers.

Bure failed to score in his first game back after an eight-game absence, but the Panthers continued their offensive explosion that began with Saturday's 7-1 blowout of Phoenix.

Scott Mellanby and Oleg Kvasha each had a goal and an assist for the Panthers, who were 2-3-3 after Bure injured his knee Feb. 5 at Pittsburgh. Eric Lindros scored his 35th for Philadelphia, but his penalty for interference against Florida goaltender Sean Burke set up the winning power play.

Kings 3, Red Wings 2, OT
DETROIT — Luc Robitaille's power-play goal in overtime lifted the Los Angeles Kings over Detroit, snapping the Red Wings' unbeat-

en streak at seven games.

Third-period goals 29 seconds apart by Donald Audette and Rob Blake tied the game 2-2. Brendan Shanahan and Sergei Fedorov scored for the Red Wings, who went into the game on a 6-0-1 streak.

The Kings outshot the Red Wings 39-26.

Maple Leafs 2, Hurricanes 2
TORONTO — Alyn McCauley returned to the lineup following a 22-game absence and scored the tying goal with 5:05 remaining to give the Toronto Maple Leafs a tie with the Carolina Hurricanes.

McCauley picked up a loose puck in the

high slot and one-timed a blast past Arturs Irbe. It was his first game back since he suffered a sprained knee on Dec. 30.

Mats Sundin also scored for the Maple Leafs, who are now 1-0-1 in their new home, the Air Canada Centre. Keith Primeau and Sami Kapanen scored for Carolina.

Blackhawks 3, Blues 1
ST. LOUIS — Doug Gilmour scored twice and goalie Mark Fitzpatrick gained his first win since Nov. 17 as the Chicago Blackhawks made the coaching debut of Lorne Molleken a success by beating the St. Louis Blues.

Molleken took over the team Monday on an interim basis after the Blackhawks fired Dirk

Graham. He achieved something in his first game that the Blackhawks had done only six times previously — a win on the road. The Blackhawks are just 7-21-4 away from the United Center.

Alexei Zhamnov also scored for the Blackhawks. Al MacInnis scored for the Blues.

Predators 2, Stars 1
DALLAS — Sergei Krivokrasov's goal with 28.6 seconds to play lifted the Nashville Predators over the Dallas Stars.

Krivokrasov skated up the right side, taked defenseman Derian Hatcher to the ice and beat Stars goaltender Roman Turek on a backhand for his 19th goal.

Celtics 111, Magic 79
BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 19 points and Boston held Penny Hardaway scoreless, ending the Magic's five-game winning streak.

The Celtics led from the start and took control in the third quarter by outscoring the Magic 33-19.

Dana Barros added 17 points, including four 3-point shots in the fourth quarter.

The Magic backcourt of Nick Anderson and Hardaway was held to six points. The two combined for 54 points when Orlando beat Boston 107-90 on Feb. 8.

Pacers 104, Raptors 84
INDIANAPOLIS — Rik Smits scored 22 points as the Pacers extended their unbeaten streak against Canada's two NBA teams to 19.

Smits played only 27 minutes as Indiana defeated Toronto for the 13th consecutive time, giving the Pacers a 19-0 mark since the Raptors and Vancouver Grizzlies entered the league.

The Pacers, playing the first of three games in three nights, built a 22-point lead in the first quarter, led by as many as 26 in the second and were ahead 52-31 at halftime.

Rookie Vince Carter led Toronto with 28 points and 10 rebounds, while Kevin Willis chipped in with 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Pistons 89, Cavaliers 73
AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Joe Dumars scored 21 of his 26 points in the second half. Detroit has won three of four after a five-game losing streak. The Cavaliers have lost two in a row after a five-game winning streak.

en streak at seven games.

Third-period goals 29 seconds apart by Donald Audette and Rob Blake tied the game 2-2. Brendan Shanahan and Sergei Fedorov scored for the Red Wings, who went into the game on a 6-0-1 streak.

The Kings outshot the Red Wings 39-26.

Maple Leafs 2, Hurricanes 2
TORONTO — Alyn McCauley returned to the lineup following a 22-game absence and scored the tying goal with 5:05 remaining to give the Toronto Maple Leafs a tie with the Carolina Hurricanes.

McCauley picked up a loose puck in the

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SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG-13)
1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40

OCTOBER SKY (PG)
1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55

ELIZABETH
ENDS TODAY (R)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

BLAST FROM THE PAST (PG-13)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE (PG-13)
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45

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Gabe's, 330 E. Washington St., at 9 p.m. Gabe's can usually pack in the fans, but now it's going to pack in the performers, too.

Video Chocolate 2

101 Becker Communications Studies Building at 7:30 p.m. Student Video Productions has scheduled a free showing of three video shorts produced throughout the first semester by some of the SVP members.

Carolyn Forché

Basement of Dey House, 3:30 p.m., Lecture Room II, Van Allen Hall, at 8 p.m. Carolyn Forché will give the UI a double dose of poetry with her Q & A session in the afternoon and reading at night.

"Permanent Midnight"

Bijou, Illinois Room of the Union, at 7 p.m. Ben Stiller takes a darker turn as drug addict Jerry Stahl, the real-life writer of "Air."

The Daily Iowan

Thursday, February 25, 1999

Grasping the American dream

Black Action Theatre, established in 1969, celebrates its 30th anniversary at the UI.

By Deanna Thomann
The Daily Iowan

The late 1960s have long been known as a time of strife and unrest. Vietnam War protests, the civil-rights movement and political assassinations. For young people, the era yielded uncertainty, but it also promised opportunity.

In 1969, black UI students demanded a forum for their voices to be heard and their culture to be recognized.

THEATER "A Raisin in the Sun"

When: Today at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and on March 3-6 at 8 p.m. and on Feb. 28 and March 7 at 3 p.m.

Where: E.C. Mabie Theatre, UI Theatre Building
Admission: Tickets are \$15, \$7 for senior citizens, UI students and youth.

today at 8 p.m. The production will also mark the 40th anniversary of the phenomenal Broadway premiere of Hansberry's masterpiece.

James L. Lincoln, vice president of Student Services at DePauw University, was the first graduate assistant director of Black Action Theatre. He recalled the group's emergence:

"A lot of what we were doing in the early years was agit-prop theater. It was about message and how people felt about their treatment. Theater was a medium we used to show our concerns."

It was through the efforts of the late Darwin T. Turner that Black Action Theatre was founded under the combined faculty support of African-American World Studies and the Department of Theatre Arts.

Harriet M. Pierce, a Black Action Theatre director and UI faculty member, believes this joint support has made the group the "beacon" it is today.

"We are a unique university to have a black theater production unit here on campus that's existed for 30 years ... (Black Action Theatre) has become a lantern, a beacon to draw people here to the Midwest to see our performances. Within Iowa, there isn't anything else (that compares with Black Action Theatre)," Pierce said.

Choosing a piece for Black Action Theatre's anniversary celebration was an important decision, she said. She wanted a drama that was considered a classic yet still relevant today. "A Raisin in the Sun" fit the profile.

"It has become such a classical piece," Pierce said.

"It's really a national treasure, and certainly,



From left, Mama/Lena Younger (Sherri Marina), Ruth Younger (Joyce McKinley) and Travis Younger (Michael Marina) react after receiving an insurance check for \$10,000.

"It's really a national treasure, and certainly, I think that the African-American community truly embraces 'A Raisin in the Sun.'"

—Harriet Pierce,
a Black Action Theatre director and UI faculty member

ly, I think that the African-American community truly embraces 'A Raisin in the Sun.' (Many ask) is the play still relevant today? I believe it is, if you look at the themes. Sadly, we still have some of the same issues."

"A Raisin in the Sun" tells the story of a black family living in Chicago during the 1950s. The members struggle to make sense of the American dream and the many obstacles surrounding it.

Ansa Akyea, a UI graduate foreign exchange student from Ghana, West Africa, is a long-time member of Black Action Theatre. Playing the role of Joseph Asagai in the play has allowed him to further explore American culture.

"For me, as an international student, (the play) is important because it reminds me what the people of America have been

through and what it (means) to be American," he said.

"Lorraine Hansberry was a visionary in the sense that she was writing at the time when some of the things that (were) being said were not happening. So, to do a play through the diversity of Black Action Theatre for (its) 30th anniversary is a dream come true, literally."

"A Raisin in the Sun" was the first play to successfully establish black domestic life as fitting subject matter for American theater. In 1959, Hansberry became the first black woman playwright to have her work presented on Broadway. "A Raisin in the Sun" was honored with the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play of the Year, in competition with such dramatists as Tennessee Williams and Eugene O'Neill.

Following the production of "A Raisin in the Sun," Black Action Theatre will begin work on "God's Trombones," which comprises seven sermons by James Weldon Johnson. Through the UI Arts Share Program, Black Action Theatre will take the production to various Iowa communities.

"Doing plays that bridge all differences in communities, finding stories that are interesting and finding ways of getting messages across — I think that's what Black Action Theatre is about," Akyea said.

US West and Procter and Gamble are corporate sponsors of Black Action Theatre.

Additional showings of "A Raisin in the Sun" will take place Friday and Saturday and on March 3-6 at 8 p.m. and on Feb. 28 and March 7 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for the general public and \$7 for senior citizens, UI students and youth. They are available in advance at the Hancher Auditorium Box Office.

Any remaining tickets for each performance may be purchased one hour before curtain time at the Theatre Building Box Office. For tickets or further information, call 335-1160.

DI reporter Deanna Thomann can be reached at: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

PLAY

80 Hours' top entertainment picks



CD OF THE WEEK "THINGS FALL APART" The Roots

Still fundamentally grounded in rap's tradition, still straight hip-hop and still groovin' to the beat of a different drummer. The Roots collaboration brings forth yet another of their infectious innovations.

RENTAL OF THE WEEK "RONIN"

This adventure of love, friendship and betrayal teams up an international team of former intelligence agents and Cold War warriors. Like the honored masterless Samurai of hundreds of years ago, these modern day Ronin are embarking on their final covert mission.

MOVIE OF THE WEEK "SMM"

Teaming up Nicolas Cage and Joaquin Phoenix on a dark and bizarre trail of evidence to determine the fate of a complete stranger proves to be an exciting combination in this thriller/adventure film. But when work turns to obsession, life can be destroyed.

BOOK OF THE WEEK "MICHAEL JORDAN: PLAYING FOR KEEPS" David Halberstam

Non-fiction heavyweight Halberstam skillfully examines the storied career — and almost inestimable cultural impact — of some basketball player.

Quote

of the week

"There are times when it's more engaging than others. But most of the time I can't stand the sight of myself in this role anymore."

—Patricia Richardson,
on her role as Jill Taylor
in the television comedy series
"Home Improvement"

'Seasons of love' to pay 'last year's rent'

Award-winning musical sensation "Rent" rocks Hancher Auditorium all weekend.

By Kelli Otting
The Daily Iowan

"Rent," Hancher's top seller this year, not only filled the auditorium with a rollercoaster of emotions but gave it a facelift as well.

Picture no curtain, a cluttered set surrounded by a mosaic mural and a live band on stage. It's this surreal appearance that makes "Rent" what it is — a play for the ages.

With powerful singers and emotional songs, "Rent" offers an outlook on life even if it is sometimes slightly bleak. Leaving the audience members laughing one moment and crying the next, the show and its performers provide today's generation, as well as the generations of yesterday, the chance to

look deeper into the meaning of love and how, without it, life is just "525,600 minutes."

Pierre Angelo Bayuga, who plays Angel, a street performer who is HIV positive, said his role in "Rent" is being the catalyst for love and how the world revolves around this ideal. He added that his drag queen character can be summed up by his favorite line in the play, "Give into love or live in fear."

"We understand that both the young and the older understand the idea of love, that's what brings in people of all ages," Bayuga said. "Love touches everyone, but in this generation, there is a lot more loops in the emotional roller coaster."

"Rent," the winner of the Tony Award for best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, is proving to be very popular on the road, with two companies currently touring in the United States and a third in Canada. The most honored musical since "A Chorus Line" in 1976, "Rent" is only the fifth musical ever to win both the Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize.

UI senior Holly Tinder, who watched the performance, said she was left with a "dull feeling" in her stomach, but, she said, she was definitely pleased with whatever she was feeling.

"It was phenomenal, because it

"We want people to realize that everyone strives for the same thing regardless of race, age, color or sexual preference."

— Pierre Angelo Bayuga,
the actor who portrays Angel in "Rent"

talked about life and everything that we sometimes take for granted," she said. "It lived up to all my expectations and more."

"There were so many issues that are relevant to today's society. This show really made me stop and think about what's going on around me."

One of the middle-aged audience members, Iowa City resident Lynn Spaight, said she enjoyed that the play represented the culture that surrounds younger adults today.

"Some individuals have the perception that younger generations aren't able to find their culture," she said. "This is the younger generation's culture, and that's what makes it so special for people from older generations. It gives us a chance to understand."

Spaight said the high-energy performance and the capturing of the era is what drew her into the play itself.

"There are things in the play that

I wouldn't consider classical, but it's the capturing of those two things that will allow this play to make it a name for itself," she said.

Bayuga said he hopes everyone, whether young or old, can walk out of a performance having been touched in some way.

"We want people to realize that everyone strives for the same thing regardless of race, age, color or sexual preference," he said. "There are messages all over in this show. We can only hope that both the young and the old are able to reach inside and find whatever emotion they received and learn from it."

The bottom line is "there is no day but today," Bayuga said.

"We want our audience to live for what they have and not take anything they have for granted," he said. "This is the ultimate universal message."

"Rent" will run today, Friday and



Angel Schunard, at left, (Pierre Angelo Bayuga) and Tom Collins (Dwayne Clark) in "Rent."

Saturday at 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. The remaining tickets for tonight's performance are \$42.50 and \$35; the remaining tickets for this weekend's performances are \$49.50 and \$40.

Tickets can be purchased at the Hancher Box Office or by calling

353-2284. UI students may charge tickets to their U-bills and can receive a 20-percent discount.

DI assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor Kelli Otting can be reached at: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

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"Elizabeth" — This is the story of Queen Elizabeth I's swift rise to power in male-dominated, 16th-century England. Campus III.
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

"Step Mom" — When a divorced man remarries, his children, ex-wife and new wife must learn to deal with the situation. Coral Ridge 10.
★★½ out of ★★★★★

"You've Got Mail" — Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan are reunited in this tale of Internet love. Coral Ridge 10.
★★½ out of ★★★★★

"Jawbreakers" — Three of the most popular girls at Reagan High accidentally kill the prom queen with a jawbreaker when a kidnapping goes horribly wrong. Starring Rose McGowan and the "Noxema girl." Englert.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"The Thin Red Line" — An Army company struggles with the meaning of war while fighting in WWII. Campus III.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"At First Sight" — Val Kilmer plays a blind man who regains his sight and finds true love in the process. Englert.
★★½ out of ★★★★★

"A Civil Action" — This courtroom drama is the true story of an environmental lawsuit against a multi-million dollar corporation. Coral Ridge 10.
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

"Shakespeare in Love" — Gwyneth Paltrow plays the bard's girlfriend before he became the most famous poet of all time. Coral Ridge 10.
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

"Office Space" — A comical tale of company workers who hate their jobs and



Publicity Photo

Martha Plimpton, Brian McCordie and Catherine Kellner in "200 Cigarettes." decide to rebel against their greedy boss. Starring Ron Livingston and Jennifer Aniston. Englert.
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

"She's All That" — A high school stud makes the school nerd into the prom queen on a bet. Coral Ridge 10.
★ out of ★★★★★

"Varsity Blues" — James van Der Beek makes his film debut as a high school football star in Texas. Cinemas I & II.
★★½ out of ★★★★★

"October Sky" — The true story of Homer Hickam, who was destined to follow in his father's footsteps as a coal miner in a small town. Hickam turned to the skies as a young man and now works at NASA. Coral Ridge 10.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Blast From the Past" — Adam Weber (Brendan Fraser) and his parents take refuge in their backyard bomb shelter. Thirty years later, Adam emerges from his underground home for the first time, on a mission to re-stock supplies and search for a wife. Coral Ridge 10.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Waking Ned Devine" — When word reaches two elderly best friends that someone in their tiny Irish village has won the national lottery, they go to great lengths to find the winner so they can share the wealth. Campus I & II.
★★★½ out of ★★★★★

"My Favorite Martian" — In this intergalactic comedy, an ambitious television reporter (Jeff Daniels) stumbles upon a Martian (Christopher Lloyd) whose space ship has accidentally crash-landed on Earth. Cinemas I & II.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Payback" — It's time to root for the bad guy... starring Mel "as-bad-as-you-wanna-be" Gibson as a thief whose wife and best friend betray him. Coral Ridge 10.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Simply Irresistible" — A whimsical romantic comedy starring Sarah Michelle Gellar as a young heiress who wins the heart of a department store manager. Coral Ridge 10.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Hurly Burly" — Sean Penn stars in the screen version of David Rabe's black comedy play about Hollywood Hills fast-laners, whose lives are in a downward spiral of abusing drugs and women. Campus III.
★★★ out of ★★★★★

"Message in a Bottle" — Walking along a deserted stretch of coastline, Theresa Osborne (Flobin Wright) discovers a moving, passionate message in a bottle. The letter's poetry and heartache reach Theresa, and her search for the author leads her to the Outer Banks of North Carolina, to a sailboat builder named Garrett Blake (Kevin Costner). Coral Ridge 10.
★★ out of ★★★★★

"Life Is Beautiful" — Roberto Benigni, who is a big star in Italy but not very well-known in the United States, combines low comedy with tragic circumstances to tell the story of a father trying to shield his son from the horrors of a concentration camp. Campus III.
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

OPENING FRIDAY

"200 Cigarettes" — A comedy set in New York's east Village on New Year's Eve 1981, "200 Cigarettes" follows various young couples and friends whose lives will intersect at a party that night in a downtown loft. Coral Ridge 10.

"8 MM" — A small, seemingly innocuous plastic reel of film leads surveillance specialist Tom Welles (Nicolas Cage) down an increasingly dark and frightening path. With the help of the streetwise Max (Joaquin Phoenix), Welles relentlessly follows a bizarre trail of evidence to determine the fate of a complete stranger. Coral Ridge 10.

"The Other Sister" — Carla Tate (Juliette Lewis) is a slightly mentally challenged young woman who, after years of special education at a private boarding school, has successfully transcended many of her limitations — except her overprotective mother, Elizabeth (Diane Keaton). When she falls in love for the first time, Carla defies her mother in order to prove that she has the capacity to be a responsible adult. Coral Ridge 10.

BIJU

"Permanent Midnight" — In one of his finest performances, Ben Stiller portrays Jerry Stahl, the real-life television sitcom writer from the '80s whose perpetual lunge for the Hollywood high life accelerated his rush through the writing scene, as well as his addiction to heroin.

"The Keeper" — Winner of last year's Newark Black Film Festival and Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame (second-place), psychiatrist-cum-filmmaker Joe Brewster's first feature casts the talented Giancarlo Esposito as Paul Lamont, a New York corrections officer, moved to help a Haitian prisoner accused of sexual assault.

X = Recommended by the DI

Ebert gives Siskel two thumbs up

Once fierce rivals, the tall one and the squat one become the icons of movie reviewing.

By Tracy Bouteille
Associated Press



Siskel

Dergarabedian, a spokesman for Exhibitor Relations Co., which compiles box office receipts. "The average person would look toward them about whether to take their hard-earned dollars to the box office."

CHICAGO — Gene Siskel fell in love with movies as a child. Every Saturday, the schoolboy would walk eight blocks to his neighborhood theater on Chicago's North Side to catch the newest films with his friends.

But it would be many years before Siskel would make movies his life's work, giving the world the thumbs-up and thumbs-down film reviews he and colleague Roger Ebert created.

"I can't even imagine what it will be like (without Siskel)," Ebert said on Feb. 20 from his Michigan home, as news of Siskel's death at age 53 spread.

Siskel's death ended a quiet but strenuous battle against complications that arose after a growth was removed from his brain in May 1998.

Ebert said: "There was a history there, a respect that I'm never really going to replace in my life. It's going to be tough."

Writing for rival newspapers, the young Siskel and Ebert were fierce competitors, always trying to out-scoop the other one.

The icy relationship warmed when they reluctantly teamed up to co-host the public television program "Sneak Previews" in 1975.

"For the first five years that we knew each other, Gene Siskel and I hardly spoke. Then it seemed like we never stopped," Ebert wrote in a column titled "Farewell, my friend" on the front page of Sunday's *Chicago Sun-Times*.

"Siskel & Ebert," as their show later was known in syndication, became a household name.

Ebert said on Feb. 19 that the show would continue with revolving guest critics.

"In the future, we will see," he said. "The two thumbs up has become an icon in the film industry," said Paul

Despite his fame, Siskel stayed in the Midwest, resisting the lure of either coasts.

"The boys always wanted to stay in Chicago — they felt that was neutral territory," said Mary Kellogg of Buena Vista Television, who developed a close friendship with Siskel in the 14 years they worked together on the show.

Orphaned by age 10, Siskel threw himself into his family life with a passion close friends were quick to remark on. He met and fell in love with Marlene Iglitzen while working at WBEM-TV in Chicago. They married in 1980 and had three children, a boy and two girls.

His passions drove him — from the movies he had loved since a boy, the words he grew to love as a newspaper man, the enjoyment he got as a Chicago Bulls fan and for his family.

At the time of his death, Siskel had taken a leave of absence from his work not only with the "Siskel & Ebert" television show and the *Chicago Tribune* but also as a film critic for "CBS This Morning" and WBEM-TV, and as a columnist for *TV Guide*.

Thousands of letters and e-mails from his fans poured into Buena Vista, which distributes his show, in support of Siskel's leave of absence.

In Sunday's column, Ebert recalled how Siskel strove to deflect attention away from his illness and toward his film criticism after his surgery.

"Although it was obvious sometimes that he walked slowly and was in pain, I never once heard him complain. He carried on with a bravery that is hard to imagine," Ebert wrote.

Enough with the 'Improvement,' actress says

Patricia Richardson says she doesn't need the money, so there must be time for something besides tools.

By Lynn Elber
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — After eight years of "Home Improvement," Patricia Richardson is ready for a little self-improvement.

Playing stalwart homemaker Jill Taylor has been enriching, literally, but the actress is glad the ABC sitcom (7 p.m. CST Tuesday) is hanging up its tool belt after this season. Enough is enough, she said.

"There are times when it's more engaging than others. But most of the time I can't stand the sight of myself in this role anymore," she said.

"I'm so tired of the Taylors and Jill Taylor... I have to go back to loving acting again and working for all the right reasons."

The wrong reason, apparently, was money.

"I've gotten so rich," the actress said. "That's why I could afford to say no to

\$30 million (to producer Disney) for next year. I really don't need a jet and a second home in Idaho. What I've got is fine."

It's not just her "Home Improvement" character who is no-nonsense. Turns out Richardson is equally so, delivering candid remarks with her distinctive whiskey-and-cigarettes throatiness.

Jill Taylor is family anchor while her husband is family flake. The show focuses on Tim's (Tim Allen) fumbling "Mr. Try to Fix It" adventures at home and on his "Tool Time" show, but there have been chances for his better half to share the limelight.

Beginning Tuesday, for example, is a two-part episode in which Jill undergoes a hysterectomy and copes with the changes it brings.

She always felt more comfortable playing straight woman to stand-up comic Allen.

"Let's face it, I've been doing the drama part of this comedy for years. If they had an award for best dramatic performance by an actress in a comedy series, I might have actually won that," said



Richardson

Richardson, still Emmy-less after four nominations.

Self-assessment aside, Richardson has been tapped for other TV sitcoms, although all were short-lived: "Double Trouble" in 1984, "Eisenhower & Lutz" in '88 and "FM" the following year.

Her theater résumé is longer — including the Broadway productions of "Gypsy," "Loose Ends" and "The Wake of Jamey Foster," the latter from playwright Beth Henley, Richardson's classmate at Southern Methodist University.

Film work has been limited by the heavy "Home Improvement" schedule, she said, although she managed to squeeze in "Ulee's Gold" with Peter Fonda.

So what warm memories will she carry away from "Home Improvement?"

"This is so awful to say, but the best part of this is the financial security I've gotten in my life. I was always very insecure... about whether I'd have enough money to get my kids through school, particularly being a single woman," Richardson said.

She acknowledges a psychological

perk as well. "It gave me confidence about what I know as an actor and as a person working in this business. Those are huge gifts I never had before."

NIELSENS

1. "ER," NBC, 23.8, 23.7 million homes.
2. "Friends," NBC, 19, 18.9 million homes.
3. "Frasier," NBC, 18.8, 18.7 million homes.
4. "Jesse," NBC, 15.9, 15.8 million homes.
5. "Veronica's Closet," NBC, 15.6, 15.5 million homes.
6. "60 Minutes," CBS, 14.9, 14.8 million homes.
7. "CBS Sunday Movie: Too Rich: The Secret Life of Doris Duke, Part 1," CBS, 14.3, 14.2 million homes.
8. "Touched by an Angel," CBS, 14, 13.9 million homes.
9. "ABC Monday Night Movie: Storm of the Century, Part 2," ABC, 12.2, 12.1 million homes.
10. "Dateline NBC-Tuesday," NBC, 12.2, 12.1 million homes.

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A Raisin in the Sun

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TV HIGHLIGHTS

TODAY
"Shocking Behavior: Caught on Tape"
Airs: on Fox at 8 p.m.
From "Candid Camera," we all learned not to speak with or help out any stranger who is partaking in kooky or even semi-kooky behavior.

FRIDAY
"15th Annual Soap Opera Awards"
Airs: on NBC at 8 p.m.
Hundreds of daytime's finest will gather together to honor one another's performances. John Black will attend. Sorry, it's a formal, so no black leather jacket.

SATURDAY
"Wolf in the Water: Piranha"
Airs: on the Discovery Channel at 7 p.m.
Being that many students will soon be heading to the southern aquatic regions, it's a perfect time to brush up on a little precautionary piranha safety. NOTICE: May only be applicable to those traveling to the Amazon River basin.

SUNDAY
"Alice in Wonderland"
Airs: on NBC at 7 p.m.
This newest adaptation of Lewis Carroll's tale stars Whoopie Goldberg and Martin Short.

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You got it.

monday Around The World \$1.00 Pilsners of anything we have on tap	tuesday 50¢ Pitchers of Busch Light Sorry, small cover charge apples-we're not that crazy!	
wednesday \$2.00 U-Call-It	thursday Blue Moon Night \$1.50 Pints of Blue Moon	
friday BIGGEST F.A.C. PARTY EVER \$2.00 Pitchers (26 p.m.)	\$1.00 Shots (26 p.m.)	\$2.00 Long Islands (6:Close)
saturday Just Come In & Find Out What We Got.	sunday Always Open 4:00 to Close	

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MUSIC HOURS USTRY

New Blondie now having more fun

The former punk rockers return to the music scene after 16 years.

By David Bauder Associated Press



Blondie (from left) members Clem Burke, Chris Stein, Deborah Harry and Jimmy Destri.

NEW YORK — Research, not sloth, led members of Blondie to kill a few hours in the afternoon watching MTV in a luxury hotel suite.

After 16 years away from the pop-music world, these former chart-toppers needed to see what the competition was up to. Not much to hold Chris Stein's attention, it seemed.

"I don't really know any of this stuff," he muttered. "And I don't really have any interest in it, either."

With a reputation burnished by nostalgia, Blondie has re-formed and released its first album of new material since 1982. Rock reunions are often depressing jokes, but early signs here are encouraging: The first single, "Maria," entered the British charts at No. 1, and VH1 filmed Blondie's first New York concert appearance for a special that airs on Feb. 28 at 9 p.m. CST.

Hits such as "Heart of Glass," "Rapture" and "The Tide Is High" made Blondie among the most commercially successful bands to emerge from the punk-rock scene. The band was engagingly eclectic, and frontwoman Deborah Harry, 53, was a tough woman with pin-up looks who could sing, too.

Money tore the band apart; when the members weren't making much at the height of success, they turned on each other. Stein was also seriously ill for years with a rare genetic illness, and Harry, then his wife, effectively disap-

peared to help nurse him back to health.

With artists such as Garbage successfully mining Blondie's territory, Stein thought the time was right for a second try. Blondie's not ashamed to admit it is trying to cash in.

Disillusioned with the music business, keyboard player Jimmy Destri had spent years working as a contractor. Oddly enough, he was in England producing a Blondie tribute album when Stein called to talk about a reunion. Drummer Clem Burke had stayed in music, working for Eurythmics and others, and was also willing.

Harry, soured by the band's final days, didn't immediately warm to Stein's suggestion.

"He needed to work on me for a while," she said. "I thought it was not a good idea at all. I just didn't want to delve in the past."

Stein's enthusiasm and her own pride won her over though.

Blondie was always a stylistically

restless band. Songs such as "Denis" and "Dreaming" merged girl-group sounds of the early 1960s with aggressive rock. "One Way or Another" was a rocker with attitude; "Heart of Glass" was bubbly disco; "The Tide Is High" was reggae.

So it's no surprise that the new album, *No Exit*, is impossible to categorize — ska, lounge, even country music drifts by. Although "Maria" is a shimmering single, the album as a whole reveals Blondie as a band still trying to find its legs.

Harry calls it a first step, although the market place will ultimately determine whether there are any steps beyond it.

"I think if we had gotten together and tried to work it in a way that looked like we were trying to break the sound barrier or something, it wouldn't have been that much fun," she said.

Blondie was always a stylistically

THE Q BAR 211 Iowa Ave. 337-9107 THURSDAY 7pm-close \$1 Dom. Bottles \$1 Apple Pucker Shots \$1 Vodka Well Drinks A BUCK WILL BUY IT

MUSIC CHARTS

- NATION'S TOP-SELLING SINGLES 1. "Angel of Mine," Monica. Arista. (Platinum) 2. "Believe," Cher. Warner Bros. 3. "Heartbreak Hotel," Whitney Houston. (featuring Faith Evans & Kelly Price) Arista. (Gold) 4. "...Baby One More Time," Britney Spears. Jive. (Platinum) 5. "Angel," Sarah McLachlan. Arista. (Gold)

- NATION'S TOP-SELLING ALBUMS 1. ... Baby One More Time, Britney Spears. Jive. (Platinum) 2. Americana, The Offspring. Columbia. (Platinum) 3. The Misadventure of Lauryn Hill, Lauryn Hill. Ruffhouse. (Platinum) 4. 'N Sync, 'N Sync. RCA. (Platinum) 5. Wide Open Spaces, Dixie Chicks. Monument. (Platinum) (From Billboard)

ON THE LIPS

1. The Grammys

Lauren and the ladies hope to make it the year of the woman. Country fans hope Shania and the Dixie Chicks can break down some barriers. The Backstreet Boys just hope they can put out another album.

2. Master P

First, he put together a few top-selling records. Then he decided to start a major record label, direct a few independent movies, play in the NBA, try out for the NBA and become an agent for young professional athletes. Now he's inked a new deal that promises to feature him prominently in upcoming television and film projects. Last week, I watched the "Road Rules" marathon and made some ramen.

3. MTV's Rock 'n' Bowl

MTV's newest sports special collides the exciting worlds of celebrity outrageousness and bowling. Should we be proud or embar-

assed that the tournament's MVP not too long ago walked the mean streets of Iowa City?

CD REVIEWS



ONE HUNDRED The Controls

People often debate over the disappearance of musical diversity, especially in regard to hip-hop. Well, the Controls have fused just one more hip-hop hybrid that squashes any doubt about hip-hop's multi-directional future.

Actually hip-hop is almost a strong word to use in describing the Controls' debut album, *One Hundred*. For lack of a better label, I'd have to call it poetic hip-hop. Now, I'm not saying hip-hop in general does not possess poetry — but the Controls come with head-bobbing beats that peacefully coincide with a slow, soft rhyme scheme that is simply sung, not rapped.

Practically a white Lauryn Hill, Ann Colville is the rhyme-singer and Mike Delaney, a.k.a. Dub-L, is the beat-creator. The two had been set up by friends in hopes of beginning a romantic relationship, but things went musical.

Dub-L's New Yorkian hip-hop influences and Colville's beautiful poetics make for a noisy tranquility that is so anti-normal it's amazingly attractive. Dub-L just wreaks hav-

oc on the turntables and various other synthesized sounds, while Colville's words calmly slide through all the turmoil.

This is hip-hop you can listen to with your mom and still woo your friends with. The opening track, "Opium Dreams," lays *One Hundred's* format down immediately as Dub-L brings on the pounding pulsation and Colville serenely sings about sunsets. "The sun sets and moves and rises/ Your eyes fun in dark surprises."

A Fiona Apple-voice merged with the bopping beats and mixes of everything from flutes to oboes... I haven't felt this chill listening to an album since Digable Planets' *Blow-out Comb*.

*** out of ****

KEEP IT LIKE A SECRET

Built to Spill

If it was "Built to Spill," I don't know how people thought they could keep it like a secret.

Built to Spill emerges once again to display a fourth album upon our dear planet with *Keep It Like a Secret*. This one's just a tad different than the rest, as it's the first with a permanent line-up of band members.

Leader/creator Doug Martsch is there as usual with his trusty cosmo-cosmic electric guitar, but instead of rotating musicians, he has solidified the group with drummer Scott Plouf and bassist Brett Nelson.

The sound-style your ears will register can be labeled, generically, alt-rock, but if you want to get a little more specific, Built to Spill's music can be filed under Emo, (a slower, more drawn-out version of punk-rock).

Martsch leads his band right into an abyss of musical chaos that somehow is tame long enough to form brilliantly orchestrated songs. *Keep It Like a Secret* is loaded with zany and



distorted guitar exaggerations, along with a sufficient amount of prolific, poetically enhanced lyrics that are so deep, they're buried.

Martsch hints at a method to his madness in the opening track, "The Plan," with the words "The plan keeps coming up again" — but for further explanation, you'll have to hear the whole song.

For a guitar-based band, Built to Spill uses its instruments to the fullest, squeezing out a wide variety of whiny/scratchy sounds and spacey squeals.

If you like punk but want to tone down the energy, Built to Spill will reduce the sweat but stick to the style.

*** 1/2 out of ****

- All right 1/2 — Sub-good — Good — Really good — Excellent — Extraordinary — Perfection — by Jim Mack

Country music biz takes two steps back

Since 1995, album sales have been slumping, and industry layoffs have been the norm for months.

By Jim Patterson Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Merle Haggard may have summed up the current state of country music with a line from a 1982 hit: "Are the good times really over for good?"

Layoffs have hit the country music industry.

After reaching record heights in 1995, country album sales have sagged. Sales were up a feeble 2.7 percent in 1998, and the gain was due largely to one artist: Garth Brooks, who accounted for 10 percent of the nearly 73 million albums sold according to SoundScan, which tracks sales.

At the same time, the industry has been unable to launch new acts able to generate the kind of pop-star revenue that Brooks and Shania Twain produce.

As a result, Arista Nashville, a division of RCA, fired six executives last week. Song publisher Sony/ATV Tree dropped about half of its Nashville roster of 100 songwriters in October,

"The consumer is changing. And I'm not sure everybody's got their finger on the pulse."

— Joe Galante, head of the Nashville office for RCA Records

citing declining royalties.

Mercury and MCA Records, owned by Seagram Co., have laid off seven country-division employees between them. And the publishing divisions of PolyGram and MCA will soon merge, costing jobs, primarily in country music.

Some worry that a repeat of the mid-1980s may be in store. That's when the bottom fell out of the country music boom started by the 1980 movie "Urban Cowboy."

"The consumer is changing," said Joe Galante, who runs the Nashville office for RCA Records. "And I'm not sure everybody's got their finger on the pulse. Clearly there is a problem in terms of what we are doing as an industry."

Nashville may be a victim of its own phenomenal success. Revenue from the sale of country music albums

quadrupled between 1989 and 1995 to about \$2 billion, when Brooks became one of the most recognizable celebrities in America.

As the money rolled in, companies such as Warner Bros. and MCA built expensive office buildings, gave employees raises and hired more people. Now those companies are looking to cut costs.

Small record companies Rising Tide, Magnatone, Almo Sounds, Imprint and Decca have all closed their doors in the past couple of years.

"It was a total surprise to me, to everybody," said Kim Fowler, a publicist who had barely started a job at Rising Tide a year ago when the company folded. "People are getting squeezed out, and they have nowhere to go in the music business."

Del Bryant of New York-based BMI, which distributes songwriting royalties, said all the changes could help in the long run. Larger companies will be leaner and the consolidations may allow smaller record companies to re-emerge, he said.

"Nashville is the classic town that takes two steps forward, then one step back," said Bryant, who started his career in Music City.

And this year's big Academy Award winner is ... (yawn)

INDUSTRY ON REVIEW

By Frank Schneider

Well, it's that time of year again. It's time to hand out the Oscars. As Sean Penn, often called the best actor of our generation, said in a recent interview, "Oscar? You mean that thing they gave Titanic?"

Sean Penn has a good point. What exactly does the Academy Award stand for these days? The Oscar is often thought of as the highest honor an actor or director can aspire to. But is it anything more than a Hollywood status symbol? Does it award artistic excellence, or, as many suspect, is it just a symbol of mainstream success and the industry's low standards? The sad truth is that with a little research, it becomes clearer and clearer that it is the latter.

What other conclusion can you draw in light of Tom Hanks' having

won the same number of Oscars as Robert DeNiro? That the Academy gave Best Picture Oscars to "The Sound of Music," "West Side Story" and that movie about the stupid boat? And if the Academy had a shred of credibility left, it surely lost it when it gave Best Screenplay award to Ben "Functionally Illiterate" Affleck and Matt "I'll Eat Anything For \$5 — even Poop" Damon. It's become hard to view the Oscars with anything but indifference and cynicism. In fact, I would be perfectly satisfied to forget them and end



this column right here, but that's not what I get paid to do. Actually, I don't know what I get paid to do, but until I find out, I'll go ahead and make some irresponsible and mean-spirited Oscar predictions:

Best Gaunt, Ostrich-like Actress who is Nobody without Brad Pitt: Hmhmhm. This one is wide open.

Best Actor with a Tight Perm: My gut says Hanks on this one. Although he could be challenged by Richard Simmons.

Best Supporting Actress: I predict that some overweight actress whom no one has heard of will win over some other overweight actresses whom no one has heard of.

Best Supporting Actor: You will miss the presentation of this award because you will be struck

with how utterly stupid an idea it was to have an "Oscar party."

Best Picture, with "Best" Meaning having any Combination of the Words "Save," "Ryan" and "Private":

I'm betting on "Saving Private Ryan," but look for strong finishes from "Ryan Saves in Private," "Save Ryan's Privates" and "Ryan's Private Savior." Also, "Ryan Savors his Privacy" has an outside shot.

Well, those are my predictions for this year. For next year and beyond, I foresee more wins for Hanks and Damon, a "Titanic" sequel, collapse of the world economy, the rise of the Antichrist and World War III culminating in the total annihilation of humanity in a nuclear holocaust. Also, the return of the Arch Deluxe.

Do not go gentle — stage, stage against the dying of the light

A Dallas company tries to shake up an often grave casket business.

By David Koenig Associated Press

DALLAS — Tony Thornton started planning his funeral two years ago, even picking out a plum-colored casket with silver handles.

But when Thornton went to a funeral home recently and saw a casket covered with a picture of cherubic angels, their eyes cast heavenward, he snapped it up.

"I collect angels, and I just fell in love with that one," said Thornton, a 43-year-old designer who has a terminal illness. "My house is filled with angels, and I feel safe with angels. I saw that (casket) and thought, 'That's me.'"

The casket that Thornton bought was made by a fledgling company that operates out of the back of a print shop in Dallas. WhiteLight has sold only a dozen caskets so far, but owners Patrick Fant and Dennis Sternitzky dream of shaking up the stodgy death industry by selling 3,000 this year and 50,000 within

three years — about one-half of 1 percent of the market.

Fant, 52, is a former rock 'n' roll radio executive who believes that he has devised an appealing concept for his fellow baby boomers.

"The baby boomers are planning funerals for their family members and, in some cases, each other. My generation craves choice and personal expression. That's what this is, taken all the way to the end — your final statement," Fant said. "If you're going to buy a casket anyway, why buy a blank? No one's life was a blank."

The company has created 12 designs so far. Fant expects religious themes to sell best, such as the angels and another depicting Our Lady of Guadalupe. Other models are more whimsical, including a golf-course scene called "Fairway to Heaven."

More designs are in the works — Fant promised "a spring collection."

The art caskets are part of a move in the industry to satisfy families' desires for more personalized funerals.



Patrick Fant, part-owner of WhiteLight.

said Beverly Henley, the owner of Forest Lawn Funeral Home in Dallas, where Thornton bought his angels casket.

"The music is different, too," Henley said. "You still find 'Amazing Grace,' but we've had people ask for 'Pink Cadillac' and Barbra Streisand's 'Funny Girl.' I think the art caskets are part of that — more personalization."

The idea for art caskets was born a year ago, while Fant and Sternitzky discussed a newspaper advertisement touting the business opportunity in becoming a casket distributor.

"We got to thinking, 'Have you ever thought about how your own funeral service would look?'" Fant said. "I'd want mine to look different, to say some-

thing about me. You don't get much of that at the corner funeral home; funerals all pretty much look the same."

WhiteLight, a limited-liability company formed last year in Wisconsin, rolled out the caskets last fall at a National Funeral Directors Association show. Fant said more directors liked the coffins than didn't, and the company is taking its exhibit next month to World Death Expo '99 in Reno, Nev.

Fant, however, declined to talk about what his own casket might look like.

"There are too many ideas to decide, and, hopefully, I've got a little more time to think about it. If something happened tomorrow, my wife would have to decide on one of them."

West Side Story Saturday, February 27th 8 pm. Terrace Room Iowa Memorial Union Free Admission! Free Popcorn! Big Screen! UPB

Hustler Honey Hunt Coming... MARCH 3 - MARCH 6 Attn: University of Iowa Ladies You do not have to be a dancer to enter this contest. 1st Place - over \$1000 in cash & prizes (2) \$5000 feature contracts given away by talent agent Top 4 place winners are submitted to Hustler Magazine Prizes given away by: Golds Gym, The Lark, Electric Head Tattoo, Soleil, and Wetherby's Hey Guys! Dolls will be packed with gorgeous girls from 4 states for this Hustler Honey Hunt. featuring Heather Banker 4 shows daily March 3 - March 6 Credits: Playboy March '96, Hustler Centerfold Oct. '97, Hotbodies Intern'l Video Collection Dolls may have at least 2 other features: Cindy Cinnamon and Christine Fox Girls - Heather will be available to answer your questions Call Dolls for details Ask for Jack 358-2982

80 B A C K

Troupe ad-libs pop culture, college

■ Big Jim, a UI long-form improv comedy troupe, performs at the Union every Friday night.

By Deanna Thomann
The Daily Iowan

It's long-form, it's improv, it has a strong name ... it's Big Jim, Iowa City's newest improv comedy troupe.

The troupe, made up of UI students, will perform in the Wheelroom of the Union Fridays at 8 p.m. The shows are free and open to the public.

Jeremy Kryt, a graduate student involved in the UI Writer's Workshop,



Members of Big Jim improvisation group practice in the Union Main Lounge Monday afternoon.

Brian Ray/The Daily Iowan

founded Big Jim in the '98 fall term. Kryt describes long-form improv as being "intricate."

"It's a series of scenes, based on audience suggestions, that feature recurring characters and a unifying resolution — basically it tells a story," Kryt said.

Kryt was an undergrad at the University of Indiana when he first became familiar with long-form improv. When Kryt set out for the UI, he brought the idea of forming a long-form improv group with him. Big Jim is the first improv group in Iowa City to extensively work with the long-form medium.

UI senior Kent Brockmann, who is active in short-form improv, joined Big Jim to experiment with a different improv style.

"Because Big Jim is long-form, there's more time involved," Brockmann said. "Long-form usually focuses on one subject, whereas short-form might be on many subjects. With long-form, your freedom is multiplied through the added time."

Long-form improv originated in Chicago through the trailblazing efforts

of Improv Olympic and Second City. Mike Myers and the late Chris Farley were two of the most notable comedians to work within these groups. Unlike short-form improv, long-form allows actors to expand their ideas and themes.

UI freshman and Big Jim member Amanda Burk has been performing in various improv groups since high school. She likes the expansion long-form improv provides.

"With short-form improv, the comedy's more slapstick; it's really quick. With Big Jim, you can really manipulate and develop your ideas," she said.

John Woodward, UI graduate student and Big Jim member, believes it's manipulation that makes long-form improv both challenging and interesting.

"You're not only trying to entertain, but you're trying to interweave (story elements) ... You have all these individual ideas demanding to be wild and crazy, but at the same time you're attempting to impose structure and discipline upon them," Woodward said.

Most of Big Jim's ideas and sugges-

tions stem from popular culture and the expectations of college life. From MTV to the latest movies and campus happenings, Big Jim shows are relevant to the college experience, Kryt said.

"The shows are about one hour and 50 minutes long, and a typical show will have an opener, a musical game, the Harold (a long-form game) and three or four short-form games, all of which involve audience participation," Kryt said.

"The shows are oriented around our generation. They specifically focus on the things we encounter everyday."

Big Jim performs in the Wheelroom of the Union every Friday at 8 p.m. On March 5, the troupe will hold a special Luau show. All shows are free and open to the public.

Big Jim answers fan e-mail on stage every Friday night. General comments along with ideas for skits or games may be sent to wowbigjim@aol.com.

DI reporter Deanna Thomann can be reached at: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

Spillane over onto the silver screen

■ Writer's Workshop graduate Max Collins' documentary on Mickey Spillane will make its American premiere Friday.

By Lisa Hemann
The Daily Iowan

Mickey Spillane may not have dreamed up James Bond, but the idea was not just Ian Fleming's.

More than 130 million copies of Spillane's mystery novels — featuring Mike Hammer, the original

"bad" good guy — have been sold, making the writer the third most translated in the world. Spillane is now the subject of a documentary film by Writer's Workshop graduate Max Collins.

"Mickey was an inspiration to me all of my life," Collins said. "He was my favorite author. In high school or college, when we'd have to write about someone, everyone else would write about people like Hemingway, and I'd be writing about Mickey Spillane."

The film, titled "Mike Hammer's Mickey Spillane," is scheduled to make its American premiere in Shambaugh Auditorium Friday at 5:40 p.m. The film made its world premiere at a festival in Italy last December. Spillane is scheduled to

"In high school or college, when we'd have to write about someone, everyone else would write about people like Hemingway, and I'd be writing about Mickey Spillane."

— Max Collins,
writer and director of "Mike Hammer's Mickey Spillane"



Spillane

attend.

According to Collins, the writer's influence on pop culture was like Elvis' influence on rock 'n' roll.

"He came into popularity about the same time as rock 'n' roll, and the parallel between the two is absolutely pristine," Collins said. "He was, in the '40s, on par with what Stephen King is now."

Hammer is the classic private eye in American tradition, Collins said. "What made him different from all the earlier heroes was that he was known for taking the law into his own hands," he said. "James Bond is the perfect example of Mike Hammer in a tux."

According to Collins, Spillane is a pioneer.

"He was an enormously controversial figure because he brought elements of violence and sex to a level that hadn't been approached before," Collins said. "There had been a real loss of innocence after World War II, and the men coming back needed something that was harder hitting and more frank

about sex."

Collins, an independent filmmaker in Iowa, has written, directed and produced two other films, "Mommy" and "Mommy's Day."

Both films were also shown in Shambaugh Auditorium and had good turnouts, said Marguerite Perret, coordinator of Friends and Public Relations at the UI Libraries.

"Collins has a wonderful way of looking at pop culture," Perret said. "It's just neat how he makes all these references to older movies by the actors he chooses and the things they say."

The premiere is free to the public, but anyone wishing to attend should make reservations by calling 335-5867.

DI reporter Lisa Hemann can be reached at: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

ARTS CALENDAR

Today

LECTURE:
Professor John Kelly will present a lecture titled "The Ramayan in Fiji: Exile and Sanatan Dharma, Colonial Holy Books and Diasporic Consciousness" in Room 230 of the International Center at 4:15 p.m.

MUSIC:
A.J. Steil Rhythm Invasion with Red Lester at the Q Bar, 211 Iowa Ave., at 9 p.m.

B.F. Burton at the Mill Restaurant, 120 E. Burlington St., at 9 p.m.

Dave Zollo at Sam's Pizza, 321 S. Gilbert St., at 9 p.m.

Sextraterrestrial with Fidget Noise, Del Ray, Blue Collar Harbinger, Ed Gray and Porch Builder at Gabe's, 330 E. Washington St., at 9 p.m.

THEATER:
"A Raisin in the Sun" at E.C. Mabie Theatre, UI Theatre Building, at 8 p.m.

"Rent" in Hancher Auditorium at 8 p.m.

Friday

MUSIC:
Hello Dave with Dave's Tune at the Q Bar at 9 p.m.

Rotation DJ's at Gabe's at 9 p.m.

Sam Salamone Band at the Sanctuary Restaurant & Pub, 405 S. Gilbert St., at 9:30 p.m.

Shade of Blue at the Mill at 9 p.m.

The Tornadoes at Martinis, 127 E. College, at 9 p.m.

Saturday

MUSIC:
Big Wooden Radio at the Mill at 9 p.m.

Bottledog with Anna Nebolae at the Airliner Upstairs, 22 S. Clinton St., at 9 p.m.

Dryer All-Stars at Martinis at 9 p.m.

House of Large Sizes with The Conquerors and 9 Dollar Melon Baller at Gabe's at 9 p.m.

Ominous Seapods with Clovis Jam Expedition at the Q Bar at 9 p.m.

Sam Salamone Band at the Sanctuary at 9:30 p.m.

READING:
Carolyn Forché will be reading from her poetry in Lecture Room II, Van Allen Hall, at 8 p.m.

THEATER:
"A Raisin in the Sun" at E.C. Mabie Theatre at 8 p.m.

"Rent" in Hancher Auditorium at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Sunday

MUSIC:
Colligium Musicum, with director Sven Hansell, at Clapp Recital Hall at 3

p.m.
Firewood Revival at the Airliner Upstairs at 9 p.m.

Tack Fu and D.N.A. at Gabe's at 9 p.m.

THEATER:
"A Raisin in the Sun" at E.C. Mabie Theatre at 3 p.m.

"Rent" in Hancher Auditorium at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Continuing Exhibits

Kitchy Kitchy Coup II, a phallogenic ceramics exhibit by Dean Adams, at Studio, 415 S. Gilbert St., until Feb. 28.

Lost Nation, a photography exhibit by Sandy Dyas, at Studiolo until Feb. 28.

Artists Poster Committee: A Decade of Political Art at the UI Museum of Art until March 7.

Barry Le Va: Sculpture and Drawings for Sculpture at the UI Museum of Art until March 7.

Boris Lurie's collection of exhibits at the UI Museum of Art until March 7.

Dale Joe: Paintings at the UI Museum of Art until March 14.

Madal, a one-man exhibition of large-scale works on paper, at the Summit Street Gallery, 812 S. Summit St., until March 14.

Baba Wagué Diakité: African Folklore at the UI Museum of Art until April 25.

New Acquisitions: Photography at the UI Museum of Art until April 25.

Monumentality in Miniature at the UI Museum of Art until June 13.

fidget noise & blue collar harbinger
split CD release showcase
thursday, feb. 25
gabe's oasis, iowa city
fidget noise with blue collar harbinger (kansas city), del ray (chicago), sexterrestrial, ed gray

THE GREEN ROOM
Thursday, Feb. 25th
Beat Down w/ DJ Moonrakker & Friends
House Techno Jungle
Friday, Feb. 26th
5 O'Clock
Tim Mahoney
Saturday, Feb. 27th
Simple Charlie w/The Screaming Fish McGee & the Poorman's Band
Sunday, Feb. 28th
Reggae DJ
Monday, March 1st
Blues Jam with Blue Tinas
Tuesday, March 2nd
Latin Dance DJ
Wednesday, March 3rd
"The Set"
Iowa City's PHAT R&B Set
Happy Hour 4-8 pm Daily
\$1.00 Dom. Pint
\$2.00 Prem. Pint
OPEN DAILY 4pm-2am
509 S. Gilbert, Iowa City 354-4350

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BIG JIM
FREE ADMISSION!
Smart Improv Comedy.
UPB
Increased accessibility is encouraged at all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in a program, please contact the Office of Student Life in advance at 335-3658.

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Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll

(Well, 1 out of 3 isn't bad)

If you are interested in becoming one of the gears that drive the rock and roll machine, then the Student Commission On Programming Entertainment (SCOPE) Productions) is the group for you. SCOPE is as close to rock and roll as you can get without all the messy side effects of actually being in a band.

Applications are now being accepted for 1999-2000 on the following committees:

- Production
- Special Projects
- Finance
- House Management
- Talent Buying
- Advertising
- Public Relations

Applications are now available at the Office of Student Life (145 IMU) Further information is available via email (scope@uiowa.edu) or via web site www.iowa.edu/~scope

Hurry! Applications for directors are due March 5th, while applications for other positions are due March 23rd.

For more information, check out our table in the basement of the IMU on March 8 and March 9.

Widespread Panic • Maceo Parker • Fishbone • Mephiskapheles • Semisonic • Herbie Hancock and the Headhunters • Jars of Clay • Freddy Jones Band • The Brian Setzer Orchestra • Pat McGee Band • Elton John • Less than Jake

WEATHER
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