Pierce: I’m not going to run away

BY TONY ROBINSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

U-basketball player Pierce Pierce, the subject of a campus-wide gossip that resonates in the city, said Thursday his critics would change their minds if they knew the real side of the story.

"Unfortunately you know the facts, I don’t see any reason for that," Pierce said during an interview. "That’s why I chose to stay at 8 a.m. now and I’m not scared that happened that night, and I feel I can run away from the problem, it won’t do anything to help it. It will only make worse."

After what he learned from a source in jail, Pierce said, "It’s made me even more careful about things. I try to be more careful in any situation where I’m planning to treat the way one treats the way one should." Pierce, 20, finished questions from law City newspapers for the first time since agreed to a plea bargain in which he apologized for "proprietary sexual conduct" stemming from a Sept. 7 incident with a UC Berkeley athlete. As a result of the plea agreement, the university's criminal or from the case. He was fined $1,000, and the Institute. Pierce will not pursue his attorney for the plea bargain. "My fight will be easier if I man to run from the situation, but I think my staying is proving that I am able to run for responsibility and I am taking responsibility for what I did right now, and I am not really thinking the tying I do doing wrong." The Westmont, Ill., native said he has never considered leaving Iowa City, and will continue to pursue a bachelor's degree in communications at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Pierce Pierce spoke to The Daily Iowan on Thursday during an interview he and his lawyer gave to local media.

Iraq is in material breach, U.S. says

BY KAREN DEYOUNG
AND COLIN SMCY
WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said Thursday the U.S. has entered a "defensive" stance to meet U.N. Security Council requirements for full disclosure and constitutes "another material breach" of U.N. resolutions.

"Iraq's defense of the international community has brought closer to the day when it will have to face the world with a vision and commitment to de-escalation and constitutes another material breach" of U.N. resolutions, Powell said.

"The world is not what we first," but he added that "it is not how it has evolved, and the decision on whether to disagree Iraq with the world will come for several weeks.

During that period, Powell said, the United States and U.N. weapons inspectors will continue to examine the Iraqi weapons declaration on Dec. 7. Inspectors on the ground will intensify their efforts, he said, using intelligence the Brash administration and others are now prepared to hand over, and give "high priority to de-escalating weapons inspections with inspection."
MLCS camp draws county concern

by Laura Jensen

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors may ask the Army Corps Engineers next week to reject a proposed Muslim youth camp that would be the first of its kind in the country.

The supervisors expressed concern about the project, saying it would strain local emergency services while offering little financial benefit to the county.

"The Muslim Youth Camp of America," which would offer camping and other activities to groups of 18 to 35-year-olds, is proposing to build a 27,000-square-foot convention center and lodge that has been proposed.

North Liberty officials have said they are interested in submitting their town as a potential host to the property's manager, the Army Corps of Engineers. Corps officials say they will not consider the city's action until they have determined whether the camp is suitable for the land.

During a meeting last year, the supervisors asked for clarification about some of the potential safety outfalls.

Another concern is the money that the camp would pay the county, which is not made public.

The supervisors asked for more information about the project, saying it would be beneficial to know more about the project's feasibility and how it would affect the county's emergency preparedness.

The supervisors also expressed concern about the safety of the proposed facility, saying it would be beneficial for the county to have a facility that is safe and secure for the community.

The county may have to pay for road work on one or both of the access roads to prepare for the new traffic, according to Supervisors Chairwoman Carol Blakely and Supervisor Sally Stutsman.

"The proposed facility would be a tax-exempt facility," Stutsman said. "The county may have to pay for road work on one or both of the access roads to prepare for the new traffic.

"In the county's review, Harry Newman, the Johnson County Conservation Board's director of public information, said the proposed Muslim camp's emergency room would be the equivalent of a large hospital.

"The county supervisors have approved the project because they make up the majority of the group of supervisors most likely targeted if a bioweapons attack were to occur," said Supervisor Greg Grantham.

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SA New York's 2002 thaw of the university is the humanism, which is still alive and well in the primary fields — the fifth presidential candidate who is approximately 200 listeners Thursday.

Skorton, the city's vice president for Research and External Relations, spoke at a symposium in the fall.

Skorton, who still practices cardiology at the U of M Hospital and Clinics, said there is a steady stream of public interest in the university.

While the life sciences remain relatively stable, he said he's worried about funding for basic research.

"Our composer is in danger of becoming divided into house and home," wrote one, "and we see our university remaining univocal in agreement with the thrust of the political and cultural climate of the day."

David Skorton, the fifth U president, answers questions during a symposium in the IMU Main Ballroom on Thursday afternoon.

Shifting to a serious demeanor, Skorton said he supports a track where faculty can only conduct research. What he calls "a university of the underdog binge drinking." Skorton said he supports a track where the entry age for bars is at 21 — a measure that has been much discussed by the City Council and supported by top university officials.

U of M Student Government President Nick Hellickson, who is also a student, also supported the city's vice president for Research and External Relations, spoke at a symposium in the fall.

"That has to be a very serious point in our platform," he added.

Responding to a multi-faceted question about a research-only faculty track, Skorton noted that he had not yet announced any intentions on the matter because he has tenure in three departments.

David Skorton, the fifth U president, answers questions during a symposium in the IMU Main Ballroom on Thursday afternoon.

BY MIKE WILSON

Bolkcom pushes new rules on payday loans

"That's for what we have in the future, and they do not." The state Department of Banking, which oversees payday loan companies, said it had approved rules that would take effect Jan. 1, 2015.

"They are looking at a new level of enforcement. This is a big step in the right direction," Bolkcom said in a prepared statement. "The new rules will protect Iowans who use payday loans, and they will make sure local government is aware of the need to enforce the new rules."
Nelson details stabbing

Richard Nelson's trial began Tuesday, Dec. 3, and that's when Phyllis Nelson realized her husband had backed away from her.

"He attempted to stab me two times," Phyllis Nelson said in court.

She said while she was sitting on their bedroom floor, history teacher Richard Nelson moved in on her from behind and stabbed her several times.

"I was watching TV with Richard when he told me he was leaving,' she said. He then reached over to take his wallet, which he usually kept on the floor, and stabbed me in the left arm, "she recounted.

She said she got a grip on his hand and pulled it away from her, while he continued to stab her in the right arm.

Nelson is charged with first-degree murder, second-degree murder and qualifying firearm use.

"I thought I was going to die," Phyllis Nelson said in court.

She said she was trying to get away from him, and he followed with the knife, before she was able to run outside to call 911.

"He's a very nice man," the teacher said, before adding, "I knew he would never hurt me."
Bush ally to run for Lott's leadership post

BY JIM VANDEHEI AND MATTHEW L. WILDER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Sen. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., the Majority Leader, on Friday launched a campaign to succeed2 Republican Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and become the majority leader of the Senate. Frist, who has been a leader in the Senate for many years, is expected to face strong opposition from other senators, including Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and is likely to face a tough battle.

In his announcement, Frist said that he had decided to run for the leadership position because he believed it was the right thing to do for the country. He added that he was confident that he could help bring the Senate together and work towards a common goal.

Frist's campaign is expected to focus on his experience as Majority Leader and his record of accomplishments. He has been a strong advocate for healthcare reform, education, and national security, and has been a vocal supporter of American troops in the war on terror.

However, Frist's campaign is not without its challenges. He has faced criticism from some of his colleagues for his handling of certain issues, and he will need to work hard to convince them that he is the right person to lead the Senate.

Frist's announcement comes in the wake of a series of scandals and controversies that have affected the Senate in recent months. The leader is expected to face a tough battle in the upcoming election, and it is unclear whether he will succeed in his bid for the leadership position.

In a statement, Lott expressed his support for Frist, saying that he was confident that he could work with him to make the Senate function more effectively. He added that he had no plans to run for the leadership position himself.

The Senate leadership race is expected to be one of the most closely watched of the election cycle, and it will be interesting to see how the various candidates perform in the coming weeks and months.
Pierce lawyer admonishes critics

**PIERCe**

Continued from Page 1A

the university while rehabilitating this season. Pierce, who finished finals on Monday, said he has not been hassled while attending classes.

"They have been taken care of," said Boyd, who is Pierce's attorney. "Pierce was initially charged with third-degree sexual assault, a class A felony. He was given a deferred plea agreement, it netted a year of probation and a 19-year-old black kid," said Boyd.

"In this case, you have a group of people, using as a target, a 19-year-old black kid." Alfrede Parrish, Pierce's attorney.

While Boyd has left the door open for Pierce to be punished under the university's Code of Student Life, Pierce attorney Alfrede Parrish and university officials gave him special treatment because of his status as an athlete. Parrish said he has "a lot of free time on his hands." He has now a girlfriend who goes to another school.

"They got special treatment because of his status as an athlete. "It will only make it worse." Alfrede Parrish, Pierce's attorney.

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quote of the day

My problem with the Democrats is that folks in the Beltway have concluded that the way to win the presidency is with Carter-like life.

— Vernon Gos. Howard Dean, who is running for the Democratic presidential nomination.

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

I was a grim reaper. Never until I started taking antidepressants.

I still reap, because I like the work. But now I'm not so grim.

AM. I'm dead?

No, I'm over my limit. I'm taking today and releasing.


horoscopes

By Eugenia Last

MAY 25 (March 21-April 19): Your involvement in volunteer organizations will bring you recognition and prove to those in high positions that your expertise will be an asset to others.

JUNE (April 20-May 20): Try not to exaggerate regarding your financial situation. You should be careful how you present your wealth status. Your words may be heard if you aren't precise in your presentation.

JULY (June 21-July 22): You will be careful to not go overboard with your plans for future events.

AUGUST (July 23-Aug. 22): Do not expect too much from others, and you surely will be disappointed. A family member may be competitive and difficult to deal with. Don't get involved in this person's problems.

SEPTEMBER (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Try to join in conversations about your job. You can't always be cautious, and you'll be labeled as not being supportive. It would probably be easier for you to confide in a confidant.

OCTOBER (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Emotional problems with relatives to the detriment of your own. Suddenly changes are likely regarding your status. Know that you must be prepared to do anything and everything.

NOVEMBER (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can entertain your inner circle and make an impression on your peers just by planning your event carefully. You have a knack for hospitalizing and creating.

DECEMBER (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Speed up the day with loved ones making plans, which will increase the need for you to be fast. So fast that the familiar person is your life what you want today. Don't let your inner demons get the better of you.

JANUARY (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Do something to improve your interpersonal conversation. Expect to hear any news, and your past will be as different as you'd rather not think about it, so don't contribute to the nervous energy in your household.

public access tv schedule

6-8 a.m. Democracy Now

8-9 a.m. National Public Radio

9-10 a.m. Morning Edition

10-11 a.m. All Things Considered

11 a.m.-12 p.m. Talk of the Town

noon-1 p.m. Here & Now

1-2 p.m. The World

2-3 p.m. Fresh Air

3-4 p.m. The Daily Show

4-5 p.m. All Things Considered

5-6 p.m. Marketplace

6-7 p.m. All Things Considered

7-8 p.m. All Things Considered

8-9 p.m. All Things Considered

9-10 p.m. All Things Considered

10-11 p.m. All Things Considered

11 p.m.-12 a.m. All Things Considered

Watch Oprah.

Watch ABC on TV.

Get a lift of youthful pixie dust with sound effects as you drive by.

Must book a day at the spa.

Have a knack for hospitalizing and creating.

Eat solid foods for all meals.

Fulfill his life-long dream for the White House.

Go to the movies in one of those newfangled IMAX theaters and see his first take.

Live in a tree house for at least a year to provide corporate lobbying.

May Anne's Manic Panic.

www.prairielights.com

brought to you by...
Editorial

Cumulative effort needed to curb lack of studying

Have you ever noticed how the library and other study spaces suddenly fill up with students working hard at the end of the semester? If you're thinking students must be studying for exams, you're correct. More and more students now want to graduate in one year instead of two, and, for the sake of their future, they must put in the necessary hours this week. Make sure you make it to the DSU before you head out on winter break. If you don't come prepared, you may not come out on top. 

Letters to the Editor

Graduate college not hostile toward women

I am disappointed to have read an article in the most recent edition to be published in my college newspaper. It was an article written by my roommate, who is a member of the college faculty. In the article, she wrote that women are being treated unfairly by the college. I do not believe this is true, and I would like to respond to her comments.

In the article, my roommate writes about the lack of promotion opportunities for women in the college, particularly in the sciences. She claims that many women who have graduated from the college have gone on to successful careers in industry, while most of the men who have graduated have gone on to successful careers in academia.

I believe that this is a false statement. I have seen many women who have graduated from the college and have gone on to successful careers in academia. I also believe that many men who have graduated from the college have gone on to successful careers in industry. I do not believe that there is a gender bias in the hiring process at the college.

I would like to point out that the college has a strong commitment to diversity and inclusion. It has a number of programs in place to promote gender equality, and it has a strong record of success in recruiting and retaining women.

I hope that my roommate will reconsider her statements and provide more accurate information in future articles. I believe that the college is doing its best to promote gender equality, and I encourage other students to do their part to support this goal.
From nano robots in tap water to adventures in pharmacueticals

BY PETER MAUSON

In the fulfillment of a science-fiction writer's dream, senior film students will hold a public screening of their short film today at 7 p.m.

The theme of the 15-minute films range from comedy, subtly funny tragedy, experimental documentary, and one film promising to be a "dramatic thriller".

This evening, in no particular order: "The Great White Shark" by Don Licht and "The Drudger Fan" by Amanda Brown. The films will be followed by a question and answer session.

The screening will take place in the Old Capitol, Iowa City, and admission is free.

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ARTS BRIEF

It's a Dave situation

The Iowa City Mercury on Friday, December 21, 2001

Iowa City--It's a Dave situation: the former Iowa City movie critic Dave Schlicht has completed a double-sided print named "Movies at Dave's" today. The best artists, Dave Schlicht and David Martin, have all agreed to join this major cultural event. Schlicht has also agreed to a double-sided print of his own work tonight. The screening will take place at the Iowa City Public Library, and admission is free.

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& entertainment

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ARTS BRIEF

IT'S A DAVE SITUATION

THE IOWA CITY MERCURY ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2001

IOWA CITY--IT'S A DAVE SITUATION: THE FORMER IOWA CITY MOVIE CRITIC DAVE SCHLICHTHAS COMPLETED A DOUBLE-SIDED PRINT NAMED "MOVIES AT DAVE'S" TODAY. THE BEST ARTISTS, DAVE SCHLICH AND DAVID MARTIN, HAVE ALL AGREED TO JOIN THIS MAJOR CULTURAL EVENT. SCHLICH HAS ALSO AGREED TO A DOUBLE-SIDED PRINT OF HIS OWN WORK TONIGHT. THE SCREENING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE IOWA CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY, AND ADMISSION IS FREE.
Jennifer McCutre: You are an example of true accomplishment. We're so proud of you. Congratulations! You're Loving Family, Grandpa, Grandma, Mom, Dad, Uncle Dee, Glenna, Sunny, Nettie, Mary Ann, Harry, Jon, Tim, Jodi, Dan, and Robin.

WAY TO GO WADO! You make your mama proud! All our love, Mom & Bob

Janelle: Congratulations! I know we missed your big day last year, but your journey is just beginning. Love always and forever.

Mom

Ingrid: Congratulations on your graduation! We're so proud of you. Love, Mom & Dad

Justin: Congratulations! It seemed to go by so quickly. We are very proud of you. Love, Mom & Dad

Jennifer: Congratulations! You're amazing. Congratulations and love, Mom, Dad & Heather

Joe: Congratulations! You've done it! Congratulations! We're so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad

Kristie: We are so proud of you! Congratulations on your graduation and your new life! May God always bring you and keep you happy and healthy! You will always be our angel! Love, Mom; Dad, Dean and Grandpa

Katie: Congratulations on a job well done! We are very proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Heather

Loral: Congratulations! We are very proud of you. Love, Mom & Dad

Michelle: Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad & Mike

Mom: Congratulations! So proud of you!

Love, Ian

NICE GOING, KEV! You've done a great job and we're so proud of you.

Love, Mom & Dad

Candace: We're so proud of you. We love you very much.

Love, Mom, Dad, Glen, Pat, Gena, Debbie, John, Tim, Dave and Paul

Jenny - Congratulations! You're a special one!

Congratulations on your academic achievements.

We love you and are proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Stephanie

Wolfe: Congratulations! We're so proud of you! You're Number One! Love, Mom, Dad

Valerie & Tom

Amanda: Congratulations on your graduation! We're so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad

Jerrey - Congratulations on your graduation! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Liberty

ALISSA!!! You did it! Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Mike, Erik, Mike Jr., and Melinda

Carrie: Congratulations! We are very proud of you. It is a proud day for us Hawkeyes. Love, Mom, Dad

CARL - You bring a smile to my heart - Congratulations! Love Always, Mom

Joanne: Congratulations to our son-in-law Hawkins Good! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad & Ron

Michelle: Way back when my parents married, we thought they were the cutest couple. They are still the cutest couple of all! Way to go mom & dad! Love, Mom, Dad & Krysta

Mom: Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom, Dad & Alphonse

Patti: Congratulations so our son Hawkins Good! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Verde

Jennifer: Congratulations! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Alphonse

Congratulations Stephanie!!! We are so proud of you.

Good luck with medical school.

Love, Mom, Dad, Terry, Cameron & Travis

Congratulations Ryan! Way to go by!

Love, Mom, Dad & Dawn

The girls!! Congratulations on your accomplishment.

We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Dawn

Tiff D: Congratulations, you did it! Best of Luck in Athens. We're so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad

Daniel: Congratulations! You're on your way to the top and we are so very proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad & Delores

Danielle: Congratulations! You're one of the best! We are so very proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Delores

Congratulations Tom Roderick & Margo Pearson! We will miss your hard work and dedication. Good luck with all your future endeavors. - Your friends at The Daily Iowan

Love, Mom, Dad & Spud

Carol: Congratulations to our son Hawkins Good! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Verda

Jenny: Congratulations! You're amazing.

Congratulations and love, Mom, Dad & Heather

Joy: Congratulations! On a job well done! We are very proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Stephanie

Jenn: Congratulations! We're so proud of you! You've done it! Congratulations! Love, Ian, Ronnie, Margo & Pius

Justine - Congratulations! It seemed to go by so quickly. We are very proud of you. Love, Mom & Dad

Jennifer - Congratulations! You've done it! Congratulations! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad

Koty (Pearson): Congratulations on another accomplishment in the year 2002. Used lack in love, Mom, Dad, Cheri and of course Jamie.

Love, Mom & Dad

Jami: We're so very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad & Spud

Karla: Congratulations! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Mike

Megan: Congratulations! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom & Dad

MEGAN - Congratulations! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom & Dad

Meghan: Congratulations! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom & Dad

Patricia: Congratulations on your graduation! We are so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Valerie

Rory: The best thing we see the best of and the world is Iowa City. Congratulations! We're so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad & Alphonse

Tricia: Congratulations! We're so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad & Alphonse

Congratulations! We're so proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad & Alphonse

Stephanie - Congratulations! You're special. Congratulations on your graduation and your new life! May God always bring you and keep you happy and healthy! You will always be our angel! Love, Mom; Dad, Dean and Grandpa

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, December 20, 2002

Page 11
BY DAVID GOLDBERG

NEW YORK — Tennessee was denied the chance to be the last team into the NCAA Tournament, so it didn't end its season by winning the Southeastern Conference tournament this weekend.

The Volunteers, led by forward Scotty Hopson, won the SEC championship for the first time in school history and emerged as a No. 5 seed in the bracket.

The Volunteers are a No. 5 seed in the tournament, which means they will play a team from a lower seed in the first round.

"We want to make it through this and move on," Hopson said. "We want to get through this and move on."
Perrault powers Leafs over Hurricanes

BY MARK BARBEKIN
ASSOCIATE PRESS

HANOI -- Jeff Kent is happy to be the Rockies' new star, and his former teammates are just as happy to see him go.

Happy Kent leaves behind a regime without him.

After a decade as the manager of the Atlanta Braves, Bobby Cox is reportedly going to retire at the end of the season.

Cox, who has been in charge of the Braves since 1978, has guided the team to nine National League East titles, two National League pennants and one World Series championship.

The move was announced by Braves owner Cox, who said he is stepping down because he wants to spend more time with his family.

The Rockies have been the most successful team in baseball in recent years, winning the National League West division title in 2006 and 2007.

The team has also been successful on the field, winning four World Series championships and two National League pennants.

The Rockies have been one of the most consistent teams in baseball, and they are expected to continue their success in the future.

The announcement comes just a few days after the Rockies announced they would not renew the contract of Cox, who has been with the team as manager since 1986.

Cox has been a coaching cornerstone of the Rockies and has been with the team as manager since 1986.

The team has been successful on the field, winning four World Series championships and two National League pennants.

The Rockies have also been consistent, winning four National League West division titles and two National League pennants in recent years.

The move comes as the team struggles to make the playoffs, and it remains to be seen how it will affect the team's performance in the future.

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The move comes as the team struggles to make the playoffs, and it remains to be seen how it will affect the team's performance in the future.
Fulsaas honored after UNI upset

WILLIAMS
Continued from Page 18

... the biggest threat from the Bulldogs will be 6-1 center Carla Bennett, who averages 15.5 points per game and 8.8 rebounds.

Carla Bennett, UNI's only true center, will be the key to the Bulldogs' success.

Reedy will not play: Richards out for good

WOMEN
Continued from Page 18

... Hawkeyes should be prepared

MEN
Continued from Page 18

... but last season's 13 more times in the second. In addition to the percentage for the rest of the year, Alford said the Hawkeyes would need to focus on the little things and use Brill's scheme to try to prepare themselves.

"I think..." he said, "I think that's a game that I think that if we play our game, we can win."

Alford: Hawkeyes should be prepared

New Year's Eve Celebration

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

New Year's Eve Dinner & Party

Start your night of fun with a glass of wine or champagne and a buffer of seafood and pasta, followed by dessert.

$100

New Year's Eve Party

Open Bar from 8:00 to close. Ticket price includes admission, party favors, all you can eat, beef, chicken, pasta, bread, salads, and a buffet of champagne and all you can eat.

$15

THE UNION BAR

F salaries, who has won his last three matches and was named Big Ten wrestler of the week. Wednesday, will vie for a title in the 197-pound class, which includes NCAA runner-up Sean Stender and former Hawkeye NCAA champion Lee Williams.

Fulsaas was honored after another tournament win last week when Iowa defeated No. 1 Oklahoma State.

Two days after his first Midwest title in the seemingly weightless 197-pound bracket, Reedy is ready for his second. If he wins, he'll be the Iowa Penman, who will not play in the Big Ten tournament.

Reddy will not play: Richards out for good

"He's in a matter of a freshman..." Blaude said. "They have freshmen playing key roles on the team."

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Spartans hire Smith

East Lansing, Mich. (AP) —
Michigan State fired Jim LaRosa from his posts as head basketball coach Monday, bringing to an end the worst season in the school’s history.

Four days after the Spartans' 77-47 loss to Ohio State, LaRosa did not have his team to an NCAA Tournament berth and was fired. He was 1-9 in Big Ten play for the school's worst season in 10 years.

With his decision, MSU athletic director Mark Hollis will now look for a new coach, the school announced Monday night.

"The decision to make this change was a difficult one, but I believe it’s in the best interest of the program," Hollis said in a statement. "I have great respect and admiration for Jim and the hard work he has put into MSU basketball, but after so many years of struggling to get into the NCAA Tournament and even more years of not making it, we need to move forward and take steps to assure MSU basketball’s return to the top of the Big Ten and nation."

LaRosa was MSU's all-time winningest coach with a 330-131-2 record. He led the Spartans to the NCAA tournament twice, including a trip to the Final Four in 1999.

LaRosa was hired as head coach in 2011 after the Spartans were without a coach for five years.

Coincidentally, MSU's worst season came under LaRosa's leadership.

LaRosa was 1-16 in Big Ten play and 2-16 overall. The Spartans finished 2-17 overall and 1-16 in the conference.

The firing comes after LaRosa's team lost 13 of its last 17 games.

LaRosa will reportedly be paid $1.9 million in severance and a $1 million payment to his buyout clause, according to the Michigan State University Athletic Department's press release.

LaRosa's firing was announced in a news release from the Athletic Department.

"I am very disappointed with the decision," LaRosa said in a statement. "I really feel like I have done a great job here. I've been committed to the program for 35 years, and there are no words to express my disappointment at this time."
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Sports

NFL weekend preview

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

Sports Writer

Denver was 6-4 when Oakland came to town on Monday night, and the Raiders were 34-10, and the Broncos also lost three of their next four games before returning to the best team in Kansas City last weekend. On Saturday, the Broncos visit Oakland. If the Raiders win, they'll be in a great position to make the playoffs. If Denver wins, they'll be in a great position to start thinking about next year.

Pittsburgh (plus 4-1/2) at St. Louis (plus 1-7)

Marc Bulger to 7 touchdowns, 5,084.

Brui returns to fold

Los Angeles (plus 3) — Former UCLA wide receiver Kordell Stewart was traded on the 49ers' 11th best coach, becoming the fourth black coach in Division I.

Brown's Brown injured

Ohio State — Courtney Brown was placed on injured reserve, the latest move in the injury-plagued defense and sets the first overall pick in the 2000 draft.

Substance bans Texans

Houston — Texas athletic director Joe Rhames suspended four players for using a banned liquid substance.

Cup not enough

Denver — The Broncos are trying again, and they're close to blowing this one.

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