

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2004

SINCE 1868

50¢

Students caught in housing flap

Most are blasé about UI students, including athletes, in subsidized units

BY NATE GREEN
THE DAILY IOWAN

The revelation that some UI students may have been abusing federally subsidized low-income housing at Iowa City's Pheasant Ridge Apartments has been met with both understanding and

concern from university officials and students.

Tom Baker, the associate dean of students, said the university has no role or obligation in addressing the Pheasant Ridge situation.

SEE PHEASANT RIDGE, PAGE 5

Athletes in low-income housing not new

BY TRACI FINCH
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI students and athletes living in Iowa City's low-income housing units is not new.

On Sunday, the *Des Moines Register* reported that nearly 200 UI students, including many athletes on scholarships, are living in the low-income, government-subsidized Pheasant Ridge Apartments.

SEE HOUSING, PAGE 5

Local team hunts down HIV-blocker

BY LINDSEY IGNACE
THE DAILY IOWAN

A group of local researchers recently concluded that a benign virus may help people with HIV live longer.

A Veterans Affairs Medical Center and UI research team came to the conclusion after eight years of studying the virus known as GBV-C and its effect on people with HIV. The results of the study were published in the British medical journal *Lancet* on June 19.

GBV-C is a harmless virus found in 25 to 40 percent of people with HIV and approximately 2 percent of people without HIV, said researcher Sarah George, an assistant professor at St. Louis University.

"GBV-C does not prevent HIV infection. However, people who are infected with GBV-C and HIV have slower progression of their HIV disease," she said. "That means their immune systems stay stronger for a longer period of time, and they survive longer. People infected with GBV-C and HIV may also respond better to treatment, though this is not known for certain yet."

Survival rates for men who were infected with both HIV and GBV-C were 75 percent over 11 years, compared with 39 percent of men not infected with GBV-C, she said.

Researchers studied blood taken from a group of HIV-infected men in 1984, before drug treatments for HIV/AIDS were available. The study showed that GBV-C can extend the life of an HIV patient by stimulating the production of chemokines, which block the entry of HIV into the blood's T-cells, said UI researcher Jinhua Xiang, a member of the team.

"One could think of a harbor setting where there is only one place that enemy invaders can land and unload their troops. If the dock and unloading site are blocked, then the enemy cannot invade," Xiang said. "GBV-C cause the cells to produce chemokines to occupy the docking site on the T-cells, thereby making them unavailable for invasion by HIV."

The team is a world leader in GBV-C research, George said. Teams from Germany, Japan, Sweden, France, and the United States are also studying the virus GBV-C and its connection to HIV.

The research team's work has led to a better understanding of why some people do better with an HIV infection than others, George said.

"[Because of the study] we may find new treatment strategies for people infected with HIV," she said.

Xiang is hopeful about the progress the team made. "We have also found the GBV-C antibody," he said. "That can develop a therapeutic tool or can potentially provide a vaccine for HIV."

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'GBV-C does not prevent HIV infection. However, people who are infected with GBV-C and HIV have slower progression of their HIV disease.'

— Sarah George, assistant professor



Amanda May/The Daily Iowan

Wilma Miller, 85, is helped into her chair by her daughter, Carol Flack. Miller was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 1997; when her husband could no longer care for her, she moved to Silvercrest Legacy Gardens in Iowa City.

Local woman fights on against Alzheimer's

BY SESHU PISIPATI
THE DAILY IOWAN

The years since Iowa City resident Wilma Miller discovered she had Alzheimer's disease have been trying for her and her closely knit family.

Miller, who suffers from moderate dementia attributed to Alzheimer's, experiences memory loss on a day-to-day basis. Since she was diagnosed

with the disease in 1997, the affliction has strained her family.

"It's like you are living on the emotional edge all the time," said Miller's daughter, Carol Flack, who often cries when speaking about her mother. "It's something that won't get better but only worse. She is a very loving person, that's how I will always remember her."

Miller, 85, was diagnosed with the disease — which affects 4.5 million

Americans — after second husband Harley Hart noticed "peculiar behavior" and took Miller to see a doctor. The physician asked her to remember three things — keys, a knife, and a watch. Five minutes later, she could not recall the objects.

"And then we knew we had to do something," Hart said.

SEE ALZHEIMER'S, PAGE 5

Coping strategies for families and patients:

- Plenty of rest for the patient in the morning and afternoon
- A routine of activities to follow each day
- Do not argue with patients
- Remove dangerous equipment that might get the patient into trouble
- Caregivers should take care of themselves, too
- Seek support groups, find resources

Attacks in Iraq continue; 5 U.S. troops killed

South Korea will continue troop deployment to Iraq despite threats against kidnap victim

BY ROBERT H. REID
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — Insurgents gunned down four U.S. Marines west of Baghdad on Monday, and South Korea said it would go ahead with plans to send thousands more troops to Iraq despite a threat by Iraqi kidnappers to kill a South Korean seen pleading for his life on a videotape.

A U.S. Army soldier was killed Monday and seven others were wounded in a mortar attack in north-central Baghdad, the U.S. command said. The casualties indicated no let-up in attacks against Americans as the June 30 transfer of sovereignty draws near.

A videotape delivered to the Associated Press Television News showed four Marines in uniform lying dead in what appeared to be a walled compound in Ramadi, an insurgent stronghold 60 miles west of Baghdad. One of the Americans was slumped in the corner of a wall.

The bodies had no flak vests — mandatory for U.S. troops in contested areas — and at least one was missing a boot. One field pack was left open next to a

body as if the attackers had looted the dead before fleeing.

Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the coalition deputy operations chief, confirmed the killings but gave few details. He said a U.S. quick-reaction force found the bodies after the troops failed to report to their headquarters as required.

American officials had been concerned about the deteriorating security situation in Ramadi, located along a belt of Sunni militancy running westward from Baghdad along the Euphrates River.

Last week, seven Iraqi Civil Defense Corps members were arrested for planting a roadside bomb that killed a policeman and wounded seven civilians in Ramadi.

Most of the kidnappings of foreigners over the past two months are believed to have occurred along that belt.

The South Korean government said it would go ahead with plans to send 3,000 troops to Iraq despite a threat by an Islamic extremist group to kill a South Korean man seen begging for his life on a videotape broadcast Sunday night by the Arab satellite television station Al-Jazeera.

"Korean soldiers, please get out of here," the man, Kim Sun-il, screamed in English. "I don't want to die. I don't want to die. I know that your life is important, but my life is important."

SEE IRAQ, PAGE 5

ALSO INSIDE:

The judge in the Abu Ghraib courts-martial will allow top U.S. commanders to be questioned. See page 5

WEATHER



↑ 72 °F
↓ 55 °F
Partly sunny, breezy

PRIME TIME AIR

Doug Thomas may have been dunkin' like doughnuts, but Glen Worley's team won. See story, Page 10



WORKING IT

The Iowa City area continues to enjoy low unemployment, compared with the state and national rates. See story, Page 2



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NEWS

Area unemployment remains low

'I don't know realistically if [the local unemployment rate] can get any lower.' — Ernie Lehman, Iowa City mayor

BY NICOLE BRUNS
THE DAILY IOWAN

Compared with the national and state average, the unemployment rate in Johnson County remains low, according to employment data from the Iowa Workforce Development released last week.

In May, the county had an unemployment rate of 3.1 percent, compared with 4.3 percent in the state and 5.6 percent nationally. Iowa City has a labor force of 46,300, 1,500 of whom are unemployed (3.2 percent).

"I don't know realistically if [the local unemployment rate] can get any lower," said Iowa City Mayor Ernie Lehman.

Most statistics include the number of people who are unemployed but not the number of those who have stopped looking for work. Those who are unemployed in Iowa City are people who do not want to work or are unwilling to take the jobs that are available,

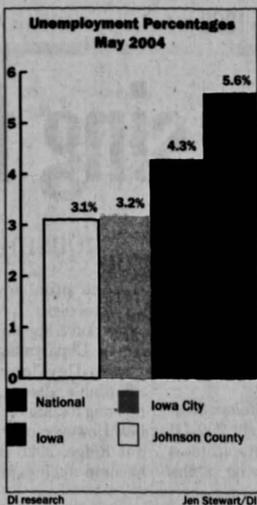
Lehman said, adding that he understands people do not want to take jobs for which they are overqualified.

"Johnson County numbers are strong due to the diversity of business in the area," said Steven Nasby, a community and economic-development coordinator for Iowa City. He added that the variety of businesses and industries, along with the growing population, helps to maintain a low unemployment rate.

From April to May, 300 new jobs were created in the Iowa City area in construction, manufacturing, trade and transportation, and leisure and hospitality, the workforce report shows.

"We're very aggressive with economic development," said Iowa City City Councilor Connie Champion.

Iowa City has an economic-development committee to encourage outside businesses to locate in the area by giving them



tax incentives if they provide jobs that have benefits and are above minimum wage, she said. "It seems like we're more or less holding our own in the

Iowa City area," said Bill Voyce of the Employment Statistics Bureau, adding that Iowa City has gained approximately 1,700 non-agricultural jobs since May 2003.

"Things are looking pretty fair in the Iowa City area," he said.

Despite a low unemployment rate in the area, Brenda Dodge, the manager of the Iowa City Workforce Development Center, said her office been noticeably busier in recent weeks.

"We have noticed an increase of job seekers over the last three weeks," she said, adding that the agency has also seen an increase in those seeking unemployment insurance.

The increase could be due to the number of high-school and college students looking for employment for the summer, she said.

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Lawmakers ponder short veto sessions

BY DAVID PITT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Republican legislative leaders said Monday they may consider creating short legislative sessions each summer to allow lawmakers to reconsider bills vetoed by the governor.

Regular legislative sessions typically run from January to April.

Consideration of the change comes a week after the Iowa Supreme Court struck down a bill creating an economic-development fund, tax cuts, and business regulation changes.

Gov. Tom Vilsack's line-item vetoes were found to be unconstitutional because the bill did not fit the definition of an appropriations bill, the court said.

Iowa law restricts the governor's use of line-item vetoes to spending bills.

The court also redefined what occurs when the governor vetoes only portions of a bill but fails to act on the entire bill.

In last week's ruling, the court said such a bill is declared dead.

That new interpretation prompted Republicans to consider initiating a summer session so lawmakers could override a veto or reconsider bills that have died for lack of action by the governor.

"I think we ought to consider having a veto session every

year, in which we come in for a day or two, and if there's not work to be done, if we're not going to override, we come in and go home," said Senate President Jeff Lambert, R-Ankeny.

House Speaker Chris Rants, R-Sioux City, said such an arrangement could mean shorter general sessions with several weeks off then a return in the summer.

Senate Minority Leader Michael Gronstal, D-Council Bluffs, said veto overrides are so uncommon in Iowa that such a session doesn't make sense.

"When you look back and realize we haven't done it in about 40 years, I just don't think it's a very productive course to follow," he said.

The last successful override of a governor's veto was likely in the late 1950s or early 1960s, when lawmakers reversed action taken by Gov. Herschel Loveless, Gronstal said.

"It's really more politics than policy and I think most people feel there's already too much politics involved," Gronstal said.

To override a veto, the House and Senate must each approve the override by a two-thirds majority.

Only a few states have formal veto sessions, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, a group that provides research and technical assistance to state governments.

Republicans push for special session for fund

Session could restore the Iowa Values Fund, which was struck down by the Iowa Supreme Court last week

BY DAVID PITT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Republicans said Monday that Democratic Gov. Tom Vilsack should call a special session to restore an economic-development program that was struck down last week by the Iowa Supreme Court.

After meeting with Vilsack, House Speaker Christopher Rants, R-Sioux City, said a one-day session after July 4

could restore the Iowa Values Fund and other programs nullified by the court ruling. "There is no way to fix all of the different items that were considered in that bill," Rants said. "It's going to take a legislative solution."

The court ruled that the bill that created the \$503 Iowa Values Fund had not become law because Vilsack had improperly used line-item vetoes reserved for spending bills.

As a result, the seven-year fund was eliminated, casting doubts on the \$56 million the state already has committed to 36 businesses. Contracts also were signed to give another \$20 million to state universities, state parks, and community colleges.

Vilsack said he is exploring whether the existing commitments

can be kept using federal block grants already approved for other economic-development programs. Such a solution might eliminate the need for new legislation to reauthorize the program.

Rants said Vilsack would likely exceed his authority by transferring the grant money to pay for the Values Fund projects. A special session to pass new legislation is the only answer, he said.

Republicans, who hold a majority vote in the House and Senate, said they won't agree to pass a new Values Fund without including tax cuts and business regulation changes.

"It's more than just handing out

dollars to companies," said Senate Majority Leader Stewart Iverson, R-Dows. "We'll be real popular until we run out of money. The other two components are equally as important for sustaining the growth."

— Stewart Iverson, Senate majority leader

business regulations that were tied to the bill, but he contended that offering massive tax cuts now would threaten the state's ability to adequately pay for priorities, such as education and health care.

He said the budget passed by the Legislature earlier this year includes up to \$380 million borrowed from state reserves and other sources. That shows that the state already doesn't have enough revenue to pay for existing programs, in part because of earlier Republican-led tax breaks that are still being phased in.

CITY & NATION

Fire injures grad student in Chem Bldg.

The Iowa City Fire Department responded to a fire at 9:30 p.m. Monday on the northwest side of the Chemistry Building that injured a UI graduate student.

The student was taken to UI Hospitals and Clinics and treated with minor burns after he attempted to put out the flames.

Witnesses in a fifth-floor lab say they heard "a thunderous roll and a pop" before alarms went off and people were told to exit the building.

Graduate student Michael Callahan said the fire was most likely an explosion involving ether.

"It was probably water that came into contact with sodium metal," he said.

According to graduate student Jose Yu, who was near the grad student when the fire took place, there are certain substances that have specific inflammability.

"In this case, it's not an inhalation issue. But it involves ether, which is very inflammable," Yu said. "Somebody made a mistake. It's not very common, but it does happen."

Approximately 25 to 30 graduate students, professors, and custodians were in the building at the time.

— by Allison Frederick

FEC dismisses complaint about Clark's IC speech

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal election officials have cleared former presidential candidate Wesley Clark of any wrongdoing for accepting payment from the UI for a speech he delivered in Iowa City in September 2003 after announcing his presidential bid.

Clark's campaign said last October that he would return the money from the Sept. 19 foreign-policy speech at the UI law school, but three students filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission anyway.

They contended that Clark violated rules barring candidates from accepting payment for speaking at campaign-related events.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Marcus Abbott, 18, 96 Oberlin St., was charged June 19 with assault causing injury and criminal mischief; he was also arrested on a warrant for possession of alcohol under the legal age.

Ryan Dawson, 26, Cedar Rapids, was charged June 18 with possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of marijuana, operating while intoxicated, unlawful use of a driver's license, and driving while license revoked.

Joshua Duffy, 22, Ainsworth, Iowa, was charged June 19 with possessing an open container of alcohol in a vehicle.

Terri Farmer, 22, 96 Oberlin St., was charged Monday with interference with official acts.

Neil Geyerman, 22, 601 S. Gilbert St. Apt. 615, was charged June 19 with public intoxication.

John Hunziker, 39, 2721 Muscatine Ave. Apt. B, was charged Monday with fifth-degree theft.

Collin McGinley, 21, 1411 Prairie Du Chien Road, was charged June 17 with public intoxication.

Antonio Motyko-Spencer, 19, 7 Triangle Place, was charged Monday with fifth-degree theft.

Stacie Polk, 21, 5 Warwick Circle, was charged Tuesday with possession of marijuana, operating while intoxicated, and possessing an open container of alcohol in a vehicle.

Trenton Reis, 22, Ames, was charged June 19 with operating while intoxicated.

Tomas Salazar III, 30, Columbus City, Iowa, was charged Tuesday with operating while intoxicated.

Victoria Teetzel, 29, Waterloo, was arrested June 18 on a warrant for assaulting a health-care provider causing injury.

Ricardo Thomas, 20, 1906 Broadway Apt. 6, was charged Monday with possession of alcohol under the legal age.

Ronald Vaillancourt Jr., 29, was charged Tuesday with reckless use of fire or explosive and public intoxication.

Jose Vazquez, 22, Wichita, Kan., was charged Tuesday with public intoxication.

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Still romping with that beastly fun

BY DANNY KIMBALL
THE DAILY IOWAN

So what should you expect from *To the 5 Boroughs*, the Beastie Boys' first new album in more than six years? The group has become rather political lately, and it is now releasing its first record since *Hello Nasty* (1998). The band has also dedicated the album to New York City, a much-embattled city still in turmoil. Further, Mike D, MCA, and Adrock are now all either pushing 40 years old or there already.

However, if this has made you expect a more serious, grown-up Beastie Boys record, you would be very wrong.

Boroughs is a throwback to classic Beastie style — and that means anything but growing up. The group has lost none of its absurd and outrageous antics. Adrock certainly guarantees he's not going to act his age: "That's stupid/that's for sure/you be like, 'Yeah Adam, real mature.'"

The band members get silly just as in the old times, giving shout-outs to everyone from Miss Piggy and Toucan Sam to Helen of Troy and Mutual of Omaha. Like the great Beastie Boys records of the past, this is a never-ending escapade into ridiculous rhymes: Mike D raps, "I'm blowin' up like my name is Joe Bazooka/I'm a super-duper MC party pooper," and Adrock says, "I'm a freaky streaker like Winnie the Pooh/T-shirt and no pants/and I dance the boogaloo." Tracks such as "Shazam!" and "The Brouhaha" are simply laugh-out-loud hilarious.

Granted, there are some politically fueled tracks on *Boroughs*, such as "Right Right Now Now" and "It Takes Time to Build." Despite some specific shots at George W. Bush and the right, though, the political messages

are mostly limited to calls for people to get involved in the political system ("We Got The") and celebrations of cultural diversity ("All Lifestyles"). The most consequential track on *Boroughs*, though, is "An Open Letter to NYC," the Beasties' grand tribute to New York City. Along with reminiscing about growing up in Brooklyn and Manhattan and venerating the city's unity in diversity, "Open Letter" also honors New York's toughness through its struggles: "Since 9-11/we're still livin'/and lovin' life we've been given/Ain't nothin' gonna take that away from us/we're lookin' pretty and gritty/cause in the City we trust."

The album is another demonstration of amazing rhyme skills and teamwork; the three distinct voices work together like a single rap machine, and the most striking feature is the obvious amount of fun they are having with each other. The glorious video for the single "Ch-Check it Out" definitely proves the group is in true form. Featuring little more than the three running around in goofy costumes and generally acting like idiots, "Ch-Check it Out," with its jabbing brass hits, rollicking beat, and raucous rhymes, is a magnificent affair. Its sheer energy makes it the best track on the album.

Songs such as the wonderful "Triple Trouble" and the great mike-pass "Oh Word?" both boast great old-school beats. The entire record is styled with a distinctly traditional hip-hop feel, especially with the sharp, minimalist breakbeats throughout, which manage to sound classic without sounding cheesy. The three Beasties produced the entire album themselves, working without the assistance of longtime producer Mario Caldato Jr. Luckily, Mixmaster Mike is back again to add his



CD REVIEW
Beastie Boys
To the 5 Boroughs

continually awe-inspiring turntable techniques.

The record has successfully quelled the hunger for great new material in this huge Beastie Boys fan. However, I do feel there are some things missing. One thing I have always found impressive is the group's ability to do so many different things — it has ventured into everything from instrumental funk to electronica to country to hard-core punk (which is actually where the guys got their start). Albums such as *Check Your Head* and *Ill Communication* featured short, stylistic forays that served to add an enjoyable variety. However, this record is a simple old-school project, and it serves its purpose.

Despite their long layoff, their climbing ages, and the appearance of some maturation, the guys show they are back in full force and still on top of their game. *Boroughs* proves that the Beastie Boys remains not only the most fun, but one of the greatest acts in all of music.

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Ghostwriting with heart

BY DANNY KIMBALL
THE DAILY IOWAN

A Ghost is Born, the new record from Wilco, finds the group at quite an intriguing time. Its latest release is not only the follow-up to the band's masterpiece, *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, it also comes on the heels of singer-songwriter and bandleader Jeff Tweedy's recent stint in rehab (overcoming incessant migraines, panic disorder, and a painkiller addiction). Not surprisingly, Wilco does not fail to amaze listeners with *Ghost*.

The Chicago group is an excellent paradox of a band: Its sound began as the definition of alternative country, but it has since metamorphosed into something adored equally by fans of hip indie-rock, folksy college-rock, and avant-garde electronica — the group seems to fit every genre, yet be cooler than all of them. Wilco transcends the borders of modern music, as much traditional rock 'n' rollers as envelope-pushing visionaries.

As a band known for a shape-shifting sound from album to album, having to compete with the legend of *Yankee Hotel* is actually not as much of a problem as one might expect. The band's fascination with arbitrary electronic noise came to the forefront in *Yankee Hotel*, creating a sound reminiscent of *Kid A*-era Radiohead. After apparently exhausting their fixation with the artificial, the band members have returned to a markedly human sound, with guitars, bass, drums, and piano all recorded live in the studio.

The result is a much different feel — *Yankee Hotel* was quite cold, distant, and detached, but *Ghost* is warm, immediate, and organic.

From the moment the near-whisper beginning of opener "At



CD REVIEW
Wilco
A Ghost is Born

Least That's What You Said" is broken by a clawing electric guitar, you know you are in for something special. *Ghost* features many extensive guitar solos and extended songs — two tracks are more than 10 minutes long. And "Less Than You Think" is actually more than you think — the short piano ballad is followed by approximately 12 minutes of atmospheric hums and building drones.

The best track is "Spiders (Kidsmoke)," which clocks in at a little over 10 minutes. The song presents a striking juxtaposition of a mechanical, methodical march with a sharp, barbing electric guitar before the whole thing abruptly kicks into a unified sonic stomp. Some common themes embodied here arise throughout the album, seemingly characteristic of the chaotic world of Tweedy's mind, including sudden dynamic shifts and the deterioration of tidy melodies into resounding disarray.

There is also no shortage of similarly captivating but less monolithic tunes. "Hell is Chrome," with its slowly strolling piano line,

is a remarkably enchanting first-person narrative about meeting the devil. The fast-and-fun guitar rock of "I'm a Wheel" makes for a great track, while the combination of piano and violin makes "Hummingbird" entirely charming, and the soulful swing of "Theologians" is just splendid.

Tweedy's stunning and perspicacious songwriting is again the heart and soul of Wilco's music — he shows us things about our lives in a way that makes perfect sense. On the witty "The Late Greats," we hear him demonstrate that in our imperfect world, only potential is flawless: "The best song will never get sung/the best life never leaves your lungs/So good, you won't ever know/I never hear it on the radio."

Whereas *Yankee Hotel* was larger in scope, *Ghost* is far more introspective. Tweedy's lyrics in "Handshake Drugs" clearly show him as a man becoming something new: "I looked like someone I used to know/I felt all right/And if I was ever myself/I wasn't that night." His dusty voice, featured in tenuous, reflective vocals on *Yankee Hotel*, now seems more resolute and relatively resilient. He has said in numerous interviews that he works out his problems with his music — and he seems to be winning his battle throughout these tracks.

Ghost is a work of haunting beauty. While it still cannot match the group's masterpiece — there is little here as heartbreakingly profound or eerily beautiful as *Yankee Hotel* — *Ghost* is a stirring work in its own right. To compare the two would merely show the difference between the record of the year and the record of the decade. *Ghost* is the music of a man confronting his inner demons — and it sounds gorgeous.

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Cooperation needed on Values Fund

When the Grow Iowa Values Fund bill — a \$503 million economic-stimulus package — went to Gov. Tom Vilsack's desk for approval last June, it came with \$310 million of income- and property-tax cuts, along with regulatory changes for businesses. Rather than engage in a dragged-out partisan battle to pass the stimulus bill without the Republican-backed riders, Vilsack vetoed those items before signing the bill (a practice known as the line-item veto).

On June 16, the Iowa Supreme Court unanimously ruled that he had acted outside his authority — it declared that the Values Fund measure was a policy bill, not a spending bill. (An Iowa governor may employ the line-item veto only on spending bills.)

One effect of the ruling was that the entire bill became invalid. While the proposed tax cuts are wrong for the state, lawmakers should meet in a special session to restore the funding, thus ensuring the state's economic-growth initiative doesn't languish until January.

In the one year since the Values Fund was enacted, the initiative has spurred more than two dozen projects and created 11,000 jobs, including a \$5 million loan guarantee to help Integrated DNA Technologies in Coralville expand its plant and hire 200 new employees. By trying to put Vilsack between a rock and a hard place, Republican lawmakers have caused an avalanche and have temporarily halted the economic-development initiative. Of course, Republicans are placing the blame on Vilsack for vetoing the items in the first place.

It is counterproductive to call for tax cuts and business-regulation changes that would cost the state millions of dollars in revenue during lean budgetary times. While we may be biased, belonging to a state institution that

has been charging us more money and providing fewer services for four-straight years, other state services such as K-12 education and law enforcement have already endured cuts to the bone. Had the tax cuts and regulatory changes been passed, the state would have had \$115 million in budget cuts to endure for the fiscal year beginning July 1. This is money going toward schools, state employees, and the institutions that educate the workforce — a workforce that the Values Fund is supposed to increase. Mid-budget-year cuts seem to have become an annual occurrence in recent years. The proposed tax cuts would only serve to reinstate that dubious tradition.

Vilsack says a special session won't be needed because the money for the fund is already set aside in a separate bill. However, if lawmakers don't meet to restore the invalid legislation, Iowa will not be able to recruit and promote biotechnology companies and other vital industries. Waiting until next year's session could cost the state more than the proposed tax cuts. Economic development is competitive, especially if the national economy is recovering. Iowa can't afford to take six months off. Even if some tax cuts are put back in place, it would be better to know what revenue shortfall state leaders will have to address at the beginning of the fiscal year, rather than in the middle.

Both parties are accusing the other of causing the fund to become invalid. Both parties are right. Vilsack needed to work with Republican lawmakers and address their concerns rather than override them. The Republican lawmakers did not need to propose a \$310 million reduction in state revenue to encourage economic development. The result is that neither side got what it wanted, and Iowa's economy may be worse off because of it. How much of a toll on the state's economy this blunder will ultimately have depends directly on how long it takes lawmakers to meet and draft new legislation.

COMMENTARY

Ped Mall filth no reason for 21-only

As the one-year anniversary of Iowa City changing the legal age for bar entry to 19 approaches, the City Council is poised to re-examine the effectiveness of the ordinance in reducing underage drinking, as the councilors said they would when the ordinance was implemented.

A likely argument by proponents for raising the legal entry age to 21 — one that has already been used on numerous occasions — is the filth that is left behind on the Pedestrian Mall during the wee hours of every weekend morning after the bars close and throngs of intoxicated undergrads spill (along with their various bodily fluids) onto the streets and sidewalks of downtown. The utter havoc that they wreak around there is, in itself, enough justification for denying underage patrons a spot in Iowa City's nightlife, some will contend.

The Daily Iowan published a story Monday highlighting the work of cleanup crews that arrive on the scene after the chaotic masses are gone each morning. They're the ones who make Iowa City's downtown look presentable during the daytime, when a different type of crowd occupies the businesses lining the Ped Mall, such that an average visitor would be oblivious to the disorder that descends upon the area at night. Their work is commendable — it's a relatively thankless job but an important service in an

area that helps to define the image that this town has, whether that image is good or bad.

It's a job that is also necessary, no matter what. Parents of prospective students walk by the Public Library and the Sheraton to find out what Iowa City is like beyond the confines of the university campus. Professors from other schools may stop down there for lunch while attending a conference here. More recently, families go there to see the Herkys on Parade. People go downtown for numerous purposes, and they develop an impression of this town based on the cleanliness, or lack thereof, that may exist there.

But we need to keep in mind that the Ped Mall will become messy at times simply because of the nature of the place. There are numerous eating establishments there, meaning that cups and wrappers will be left behind. And the bars will leave their mark, regardless of how old patrons have to be to get in. Wristbands, beer bottles, and cigarette butts will litter the sidewalks even if the city does decide to ban the under-21 crowd. Therefore, this should not be used as another basis for pointing fingers at the student population. The work of Iowa City cleanup crews should be appreciated, and their service is essential to keep our town tidy, not just because drunk people (underage or legal) leave their calling cards.

LETTERS

Elliot's column misrepresents Reagan

My son will enroll at the UI this fall as a freshman to pursue a degree in journalism. As such, we received a complimentary copy of *The Daily Iowan* that contained Beau Elliot's "Making of a Saint" column regarding Ronald Reagan (*DI*, June 15). Elliot's opinions — they are not facts — are such a target-rich environment that one hardly knows where to begin.

He references the economist Paul Krugman without noting that one of Krugman's recent positions was with the Enron Corp. We remember how creative and truthful it was. When Reagan entered office, he faced a large budget deficit but held out for a 25 percent cut in tax rates on individual incomes. His proposal was derided, but he held fast, and the result was a rejuvenated economy that continued into the presidency of Bill Clinton. This allowed Clinton to take credit where none was due, but that was certainly consistent with his presidency. As for the tax increases that Elliot refers to, they were, by and large, the elimination of tax loopholes that had no incentive effect on the economy.

When Reagan took office the top tax rate was 70 percent. When he left, it was 28 percent. Hardly a tax raiser.

Elliot, through his Enron oracle Krugman, also notes the deep recession under Reagan. Well, yes, but he fails to mention that a basket-case economy was inherited from the presidency of Jimmy Carter. Just another inconvenient fact, I suppose. Reagan had the courage to stay the course begun by Paul Volcker with the Federal Reserve, and the economy recovered.

Space limitations prevent additional comment on Elliot's further calumnies

regarding Reagan, but the reader can safely assume that they bear the same relationship to the truth as a work by Michael Moore.

Mike Carroll
Rockford, Ill., resident

Redundancy in UI health-benefits program

In a recent letter to *The Daily Iowan* (June 15), UI employee David Johnson points out that the General Education Fund Task Force has recommended "to change the employee flex-credit allocation for spouses and domestic partners when both are employed by the university so that only one spouse/partner will receive the additional flex credits available for married/partnered employees."

It is a peculiarity of the UI benefits program that health-benefit credits are tied to family status but not to the coverage actually selected by the employee. The consequence of this design fault is that a family (or couple) with two UI employees receives twice the health-benefit credits received by a family with one UI employee; a family with one UI employee receives approximately 75 percent of its health-insurance premium costs, while a family with two UI employees receives 150 percent of its health-insurance needs.

Under the changes recommended by the task force, a family with two UI employees will still receive 125 percent of its insurance needs, while a family with one employee will still receive only 75 percent of its needs.

The redundancy in UI health benefits does not end with families having two UI employees. Families with one spouse employed by the university and the other spouse employed elsewhere who obtain health insurance through the non-university

employer still collect credits for health insurance from the UI.

I have been told by a university vice president with responsibility for benefits programs that our current benefits policy "reflects community values" and is "family friendly." But it is not family friendly to provide some families with only 75 percent of their insurance needs while providing other families with 125 percent or 150 percent of their needs. And I trust that a scheme providing redundant benefits to those who are already most financially secure cannot be said to reflect the values of this community.

The UI should follow the example of Iowa State University in tying health-benefit credits to the health coverage selected by the employee and forbidding redundant

benefits. At the same time, the UI should try to improve the benefits of those employees who receive only 75 percent of their health insurance needs.

Frederick Goodman
UI mathematics professor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu (as text, not as attachment). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations.



Ties that blind

Well, that was quite the pre-emptive strike last week, wasn't it?

The American air strike on the house in Fallujah that wiped out so many terrorists? Um, not exactly. And, in any case, those "so many terrorists" turned out to be a great number of women and children. Crafty Iraqis — disguising their terrorists as women and children. What will they think of next? Disguising their sadistic prison guards as women?

No, I was speaking of the clever pre-emptive strike that the Cowboy in Chief and the Stealth President made on the 9/11 commission. It was kind of like Poland in 1939, only without the Nazis (speaking figuratively, of course).



BEAU ELLIOT

First, on June 14, the Stealth President resurrected the old fable that Saddam Hussein had ties to Al Qaeda. It was sort of odd, in that the administration had, in recent months, pretty much given up on trotting out this "reason" for invading Iraq because so many people in the U.S. intelligence community and in the international community had refuted it.

Two days later, it didn't seem so strange that Cheney would try to breathe life into the Saddam/Al Qaeda myth — the 9/11 panel reported that there had been no collaborative connection between the great dictator and the terror network.

Then, Dubya, attempting to round off the double play, insisted that Saddam and Al Qaeda had long been in bed together, though those weren't his exact words. His exact words were: "I keep insisting that there was a relationship between Iraq and Saddam and Al Qaeda, because there was a relationship between Iraq and Al Qaeda."

That is, by the way, a classic case of begging the question (which is not a synonym for raising the question): A is true because A is true.

Unfortunately for the Cowboys, A in this case is not true. Yeah, I know; last year, 69 percent of Americans thought it to be true, but they were wrong. More recently, depending on which poll you read, either 49 percent or just over half the American people believe in the Saddam/Al Qaeda connection.

The 9/11 commission reported that Osama bin Laden had at one time supported an anti-Saddam group in northern Iraq (there's a connection for you). While he was in Sudan, "the Sudanese, to protect their own ties with Iraq, reportedly persuaded bin Laden to cease this support and arranged for contacts between Iraq and Al Qaeda." Bin Laden asked for support from Iraq, but, according to the panel, Iraq never responded.

Frankly, that's about as much connection as the United States and North Korea have. And a simple stroll down memory lane will further refute any claim of the Saddam/Al Qaeda connection.

For instance, David Kay, who headed the U.S. efforts to uncover Iraqi WMD, said: "We simply did not find any evidence of extensive links with Al Qaeda or, for that matter, any real links at all."

Or Colin Powell: There is no "smoking gun or concrete evidence" of such ties.

The administration points to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi as evidence of the connection, calling him a "Al Qaeda operative." However, there is no evidence demonstrating that Saddam harbored al-Zarqawi, and there is even less tying al-Zarqawi to Al Qaeda. The CIA believes that although he has had contact with bin Laden's group, he is "autonomous," and U.S. intelligence officials now believe he is operating independently.

The administration also leans on Iyad Allawi, the incoming interim Iraqi prime minister (who has had extensive ties to the CIA) for proof of the Saddam/Al Qaeda marriage. Allawi is also behind the assertions that Saddam had WMD that could be launched within 45 minutes (untrue), that 9/11 hijacker Mohammed Atta had trained in Iraq (untrue), and that Iraq had bought uranium from Niger (untrue).

Quite a track record. Good luck with your new prime minister, Iraq. Once upon a time, a superpower was sucked into a war in a Muslim country and rather quickly found itself bogged down in a quagmire. America and Iraq?

No, I was thinking of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan. ■

ON THE SPOT

Are you going to read Bill Clinton's new autobiography?



"No, probably not."

Mark McAllister
UI sophomore



"Yes, I'm on the waiting list."

Gene Madison
UI professor



"No, it sounds boring."

Amanda Wunsch
UI junior



"No, I'm not."

Eric Strong
UI senior

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Students in subsidized units raise flap

PHEASANT RIDGE
Continued from Page 1

"This is between the student, the landlord, and the government agency," he said. "The university doesn't get involved in off-campus housing decisions." Iowa football coach Kirk Ferentz iterated Baker's sentiments in a written statement responding to allegations that his son, Brian Ferentz, and fellow Hawkeye athletes on scholarship took advantage of Pheasant Ridge's low-income housing. "It's my understanding that the students, including athletes, residing at the Pheasant Ridge complex meet applicable guidelines," Ferentz said. Steve Parrott, the director of

University Relations, said no one at the UI directed students to Pheasant Ridge. "It is all being done by student word of mouth," he said. UI Student Government President Lindsay Schutte said it is unfortunate that students are abusing a loophole in the system. "The students may be doing it because they do not understand the social ramifications," she said. "But they are taking the spot of someone who's in worse shape — they are a poor reflection of the university as a whole." Chelyne Cunningham, a Pheasant Ridge resident and UI student, said she does not mind UI athletes living in the low-income housing — no matter what their parents earn. In reference to Brian Ferentz living in Pheasant Ridge despite his

wealthy father, Cunningham, a 27-year-old single parent, said, "That's his daddy's money. I respect [Brian] if he is doing things on his own. Maybe living in a place that's not cushy will make a man out of him." "If they are doing what they are supposed to do, let them get their foot in the door." Mark Warner, UI director of Student Financial Aid, said it is common for Pheasant Ridge management to request financial-aid information from his office for student residents, after receiving their consent. But he said he believed that only income — and not scholarships or parental income — is taken into account when evaluating Pheasant Ridge applicants. UI graduate student Monica Deliganis said scholarship

dollars should be taken into account when considering housing applications. "I don't think that's fair. There are a lot of international students at the graduate level with no income who can't work," she said. "Because housing in Iowa City is so expensive, it's kind of like a special status given to athletes." But senior Yoshiki Akita believes that special status is warranted. "I think it's fine," he said. "They have a special skill, so they should be given opportunities. They spend time at practice and at games and maybe can't work." UI reporters Traci Finch and Allison Frederick contributed to this article. E-mail: DIreporters@uiowa.edu



Richard Cole/Associated Press
A sketch by court artist Richard Cole shows (from left) defense counsel Paul Bergrin, Sgt. Javal Davis, defense counsel Capt. Scott Dunn, trial counsel Capt. Christopher Graveline, and Judge Col. James Pohl in the courtroom in the heavily guarded Green Zone of Baghdad on Monday.

Judge: Commanders may be questioned in Abu Ghraib trials

BY JACKIE SPINNER
WASHINGTON POST

BAGHDAD — A U.S. Army judge on Monday accepted a request by attorneys of soldiers accused of abusing detainees in Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison to question the commander of U.S. military forces in the Middle East, as well as several other top commanders and their subordinates.

The order by Col. James Pohl effectively compels the commanders to submit to interviews unless they invoke their constitutional rights against self-incrimination. It names Gen. John Abizaid, who heads the U.S. Central Command and supervises operations in the region; Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, the commander of U.S. forces in Iraq; Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, Sanchez's immediate subordinate; Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Miller, the deputy commander of detention operations in Iraq; and Maj. Gen. Barbara Fast, the top military-intelligence officer in Iraq. In addition, the order requires others serving under the five Army generals to be made available for interviews. By allowing the interviews, Pohl appeared to signal a willingness to explore what is emerging as the main line of defense for the seven soldiers

accused of abusing and humiliating detainees at Abu Ghraib: The abusive tactics used at the prison were not only condoned by their commanders but essentially part of their orders. Pohl did set a limit, however, on how far he would allow that assertion to be pursued. He rejected defense requests for copies of Justice Department and Pentagon memos on torture and interrogation tactics, although he left open the possibility that he could require the government to turn them over at some point if defense attorneys are able to link what happened in Iraq with policy decisions being made in Washington. "Quite frankly, what they do in Washington, D.C., you have to connect it," Pohl told the attorneys.

Athletes in low-income housing

HOUSING
Continued from Page 1

some UI athletes, creating a controversy over whether local Section 8 housing is being abused. Ten years ago, a Pheasant Ridge resident and football player, speaking on the condition of anonymity, told *The Daily Iowan* that he paid "less than \$100 but more than \$50" for rent he split with his roommate. UI students accounted for half of the 248 apartments in the Pheasant Ridge complex during the past school year, the *Register*

reported. Of them, more than 35 were athletes, including UI head football coach Kirk Ferentz's son, Brian Ferentz. Kirk Ferentz earned \$1.95 million, last year making him the state's highest-paid employee. When HUD considers tenants for subsidized housing, it looks at their regular income and excludes financial aid or any parental income or assistance. Last year, Pheasant Ridge received \$1.4 million from taxpayers, the *Register* reported. All full-scholarship athletes at the UI receive \$298 for food and other expenses in addition

to \$406 for room and board. Assistant Athletics Director Mary Curtis said the NCAA has four elements for athletics scholarships: books, room, board, and tuition and fees. Room is "carefully determined" based on average room costs across campus, she said. In October 1994, after the eight football players were allowed to stay at Pheasant Ridge, Pat Jordan, the former director of Emergency Housing Project Inc., told the *DI* that the situation is "sad." "We have a hard enough time trying to get people out of the shelter and into low-income

housing as it is. There are too few affordable housing units for them to be taken up by people who don't really need to be there," he said. Current Shelter House employee Seth Godard, working at the 331 N. Gilbert St. residence, said not much has changed. "We have been full for every night for awhile here," he said, adding that people are on the waiting list. UI reporter Allison Frederick contributed to this story. E-mail: DIreporters@uiowa.edu

Close family learns to live with Alzheimer's

ALZHEIMER'S
Continued from Page 1

Immediately, she was given a prescription for Aricept, a drug that maintains memory and slows memory deterioration, and Lorazepam, an anti-anxiety pill. Over the next several years, a number of incidents made it harder for Hart to care for Miller at home. Hart came home one day to find a skillet aflame on the stove and Miller standing nearby, unsure what to do next. "She never cooked after that," Hart said, adding that Miller had been a skilled cook.

Another time, Miller dressed up to visit her parents, who passed away years before. When Hart stopped her from leaving, Miller got angry and fought him physically. Miller also wandered away from her Ottumwa, Iowa, home on more than one occasion. In the spring of 2003, when Hart could no longer care for her, Miller moved from Ottumwa to Silvercrest Legacy Gardens, 15 Silvercrest Place. Flack said Miller still says she wants to go home. "She thinks the caregivers are trying to keep her here," she said. The assisted-living home provides a routine of planned

activities, including singing, crafts, aerobics, and karaoke. "Planning activities that are at the level of the patient, and doing them in a routine decreases their frustration," said Geri Hall, a UI associate clinical professor of nursing. "With a routine, they are on automatic pilot." Miller often forgets her first husband and son, both of whom passed away years ago. She also confuses her daughter's husband, Don Flack, with her son. Carol Flack has created a "heritage album," a collection of photos dating back generations to help Miller remember family and friends.

"We are a very close-knit family," Miller said. "They mean a lot to me." Last November, Carol Flack took her mother to her 1930s state championship high-school basketball team reunion. "I love basketball," Miller said. "I am a big sports fan." Miller showed no signs of the disease and remembered all her old friends. "It's like she was a different person," Carol Flack said. "There is a part of her that activates in those types of settings." When asked if she was the best player, Miller said, "I don't want to brag." E-mail: DIreporter@uiowa.edu

S. Korea mum on hostage's fate

IRAQ
Continued from Page 1

Kim, 33, who works for a trading company in Baghdad, was believed to have been kidnapped about 10 days ago. On Tuesday, a South Korean Foreign Ministry official said the government could not say if he was still alive. "We have various intelligence and information on that matter, but we cannot give you a definite answer," said ministry spokesman Shin Bong-kil. The kidnappers claimed to be from the Monotheism and Jihad group led by Jordanian-born terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. The kidnappers set a deadline of 24 hours from sunset Sunday for the South Koreans to comply or they would "send you the head of this Korean, and we will follow it with the heads of your other soldiers." However, hours after the deadline passed, there was no word on Kim's fate, and Al-Jazeera said it had received no new message from the kidnappers.

Once the deployment is complete, South Korea will be the largest coalition partner after the United States and Britain. South Korea now has 600 military medics and engineers in the southern city of Nasiriyah. South Korean medics in

Nasiriyah suspended free medical treatment to Iraqi patients because of security concerns stemming from the kidnapping, said Maj. Chun Heung-soo, a Defense Ministry spokesman in Seoul. He said the action should not be interpreted as a protest.

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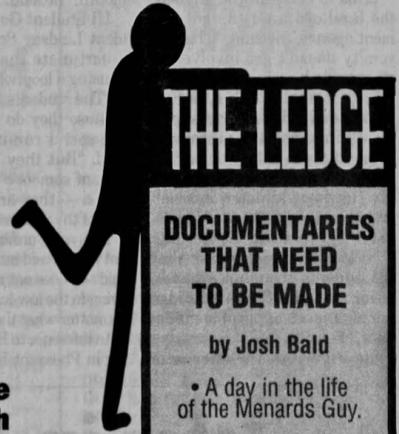
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calendar

- Open Forum with UI President David Skorton, brown bag lunch, noon, W401 Pappajohn Business Building.
- *The Dreamers*, by Bernardo Bertolucci, 5 and 9 p.m., Bijou.
- *The Gatekeeper*, by John Carlos Frey, 7 p.m., Bijou.
- "Seeing Jesus Through the Eyes of the Eyewitness," Study of biblical letters 1-2 Peter and 1-3 John, 7:30 p.m., Newman Catholic Student Center, 104 E. Jefferson St.
- "Live from Prairie Lights," Gina Franco, poetry, 8 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque St., and WSUI.
- Summer Outdoor Film Series, *Big Fish*, by Tim Burton, 9 p.m., IMU Riverbank (rain location: IMU Wheelroom).



THE LEDGE

DOCUMENTARIES THAT NEED TO BE MADE

by Josh Bald

- A day in the life of the Menards Guy.
- Hell on Earth: Cleaning the men's room at Gabe's.
- My roommate's girlfriend takes a shower.
- Super Size Me 2: Michael Moore somehow connects fast food to a Republican agenda to screw the working man and accidentally puts his hand in the deep fryer at McDonald's. And he eats it.

• Meet the man who invented the Cleveland Steamer.

• The amazing story of how I played a full 162-game season with the Pittsburgh Pirates and won the World Series in Ken Griffey Jr. Baseball for the Super Nintendo Entertainment System in 72 hours.

• The wonderful world of picking scabs.

• The firing and subsequent descent into heavy drug abuse of the morons responsible for green-lighting *Garfield: the Movie*.

• Spring Break in Baghdad.

quote of the day

We believe ... that there were a lot more active contacts, frankly, with Iran and with Pakistan than there were with Iraq.

— Thomas Kean, the chairman of the 9/11 commission, on Iraq/AI Qaeda contacts.

Little University

- Who was the first NBA owner to post his e-mail address on his home arena's scoreboard?
- What zaftig Hollywooder felt obligated to deny she went on an all-Brussels-sprouts diet to prepare for her nude scene in *Holy Smoke*?
- Who gushed about the Fourth of July in 2001: "I'm a proud man to be a nation based upon such wonderful values"?
- What type of craft was the 180-foot-tall Breitling Orbiter 3, the first of its kind to orbit the Earth, in 1999?
- What nation rarely lures U.S. tourists to the cities Bangalore, Coimbralore, and Mangalore?

1. Mark Cuban
2. Kate Winslet
3. George W. Bush
4. A balloon
5. India

happy birthday

June 22 — Kayla Clemenson, 21
June 22 — Kim Carter, a.k.a. Kim Possible, 21

Wish your friends a happy birthday. E-mail their names, ages, and dates of birth to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu.

news you need to know

Today (6-week session) \$20 late-registration fee effective Tuesday through June 28
Today (6-week session) Opening of 6-week summer — session classes, 7 a.m.
Today (8-week session) \$100 late registration fee effective today

horoscopes

Tuesday, June 22, 2004 by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You will stand tall and be counted for your outstanding ability to make a difference. You will get along well with children and old folks alike today.
- TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Don't be so sure of yourself that you don't double-check details. You will probably find yourself in a bit of a bind if you haven't lived up to a promise you made.
- GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): It won't take much to talk friends or relatives into doing whatever you want to do. You will be full of ideas when it comes to having a little fun or getting to the bottom of a problem that needs solving.
- CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Consider a dream you once had, and figure out a way to implement it and make some cash at the same time. Who knows? It could turn into a very lucrative little side business.
- LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't overextend yourself just because you are feeling low and want to go on a shopping spree. Spending will not solve any problem. Turn your attention to something creative.
- VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be aware that you don't have all the information you need to make the right decision. Do your own legwork, and avoid getting caught in an unsavory situation.
- LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The insight you will get from spending time with the young and the old cannot be matched today. This is truly a feel-good day, so don't waste it.
- SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This is not the best day to follow through with your plans. Instead, work behind the scenes. Love relationships may be on shaky ground.
- SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You've got the power today to charm anyone and to get your way. This is a great day to learn new ways of doing things that can eventually enhance your life.
- CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Something has to give where your finances are concerned. You may have to take a closer look at savings plans. Don't let anyone talk you into putting your money into something iffy.
- AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Personal problems will escalate. Be open and receptive, and listen to what others have to say before you fly off the handle. Compassion and understanding will get you much further.
- PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): This is a perfect day to go after advancement or a new job. Let people know what you have to offer. Be proud of your past accomplishments, and let your enthusiasm shine.

public access schedule

- 7 a.m. Democracy Now
- 11 SCTV Calendar
- 11:30 SCTV Mature Focus
- Noon Animal Rights & Wrongs
- 12:40 p.m. Hope for the Hopeless
- 1 Amma
- 1:30 The Evert Conner Center Documentary
- 1:45 Meet Your Meat
- 2 St. Mary's Liturgy
- 3 Power of Victory

- 4 Gospel Explosion Ministry
- 5 Animal House
- 5:30 May Newscast No. 1
- 6 Tom's Guitar Show Live
- 7 U.N. Report
- 7:30 Alternatives 2
- 8 Tonight with Bradman Live
- 9 PATV Reserved: Local Music
- 10 Cold and Grey
- 10:30 RBO TV
- 11 Kathak: An Evening of Dance & Rhythm

UITV schedule

- 6:30 p.m. The Rampart Police Scandal: Breaking the Code of Silence
- 8 The Legacy of Engineering Ceremony
- 9:30 Ueye No. 5
- 10 John Carlos Frey Discusses His Movie *Gateway*, a Film on the U.S.-Mexico Border
- 11:59 John Carlos Frey Discusses His Movie *Gateway*, a Film on the U.S.-Mexico Border

For complete TV listings and program guides, check out Arts and Entertainment at www.dailyiowan.com.
DILBERT® by Scott Adams

'NON SEQUITUR

The ABSTRACT MIND AT WORK.

BY WIEV

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0511

ACROSS	38 Have a ball?	66 Supersized
1 Trunk item	40 Blue Triangle org.	67 Tournament favorites
6 Job seeker's success	41 Inventor Whitney	
11 Gridlock	42 Fill-in	DOWN
14 Poe's middle name	43 Heart of France	1 ___-serif
15 Bisect	44 Answer to "Who wrote 'The Highwayman'?"	2 Furrow former
16 Mentalist Geller	48 Historical Scottish county	3 Thomas ___ Edison
17 All-freshman team?	50 Summoned Jeeves	4 Drops from on high
19 Zero	51 M-1, for one	5 Letter accompanier: Abbr.
20 Ugly Duckling, in reality	52 Tokyo ties	6 "Yeah, right"
21 Reflect (on)	54 Charlie Chaplin's widow	7 Web site sect. for newbies
22 Arcade coin	58 60's muscle car	8 Chimney channel
24 So-so	59 Milliner on the move?	9 Zsa Zsa's sister
26 Bridle's partner	62 Poet's preposition	10 Bureaucratic tangle
27 Peter Cottontail?	63 Zoo critter	11 Place for miscellaneous stuff
32 Tonsil neighbor	64 Campfire treat	12 Sharon of Israel
33 Smallish field	65 "Shame on you"	13 Eeyore's creator
34 Put on TV		18 Oscar winner Jannings
37 Boone, to rustics		23 Lyrical lines

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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SPORTS

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Will Kobe Bryant play for the Lakers next season?

San Antonio can't hold Kobe. Phoenix can't hold Kobe. Assuming the walls of Attica don't either (considering Bryant's ongoing rape trial), only one place can — L.A.

Sadly, the 25-year-old's larger-than-life status has only swelled with his constant appearances on CourtTV. That's not to say his popularity has grown, however. Just as many Americans still believe O.J. Simpson offed his wife and Ron Goldman, a large faction in this country will, regardless of the trial's outcome, always view Kobe as a criminal after his unfortunate choice to summon "room service" last summer in Cordillera.

The bottom line is this: Should Kobe ever hope to see any more endorsement money from Sprite or Adidas, sticking near the 90210 zip code is a must. There's a reason Shaq stuck with the City of Angels all these years despite his squad's constant internal turmoil.

Bryant recently opted to become a free agent, thus potentially freeing himself from the shackles of a Lakers squad widely viewed as one of the most dysfunctional teams in the history of sports.

Of course, Kobe's main concern these days should be maintaining his status as a free man. Where he plays should be secondary. The Suns have been mentioned as Kobe's newest possible address.

Forget all that. Clearly, No. 8 is No. 1 in the eyes of the Lakers' front office. Armed with that knowledge, Kobe is well-aware that the next coach to roam the Lake-show's sidelines will likely structure the offense around him. That should be enough to keep him in Staples Center.

— by Kelly Beaton

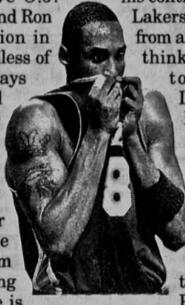
Stick a fork in him, Lou — he's done.

That goes for Kobe Bryant's future with the Los Angeles Lakers. Now that the Lakers have decided to clean house after their final beat-down at the hands of the Pistons (by the way, thank you Detroit for making me look like a genius), Kobe is as good as gone. He has already said he will opt out of his contract, and while the Lakers can top any offer from any team, I honestly think he doesn't want to play for the Lakers anymore.

Early indications say Kobe will be courted by San Antonio, Phoenix, and the lowly Los Angeles Clippers. This is more than just Shaq and Phil Jackson. Everyone is saying that Rudy Tomjanovich, who looks to be the lead candidate for the job, is a lot like Jackson in that he favors the big man over the guards, as was evident in his days with Hakeem Olajuwon and the Houston Rockets. Why would Kobe want to play for a guy like that? Kobe wants the ball, and he wants 35 shots a game with no Shaq.

Kobe has made it known that he wished to win something on his own, without Shaq or Phil at his side. He also needs a fresh start away from Los Angeles, where he can build something on his own. Of course, Kobe could end up sticking with the Lakers and going for a title with Tomjanovich or whomever the Lakers sign as their head coach. However, Kobe could also easily find himself in an orange jumpsuit playing in the Colorado Penal League, not in a NBA jersey at Madison Square Garden.

— by Nick Richards



NATIONAL LEAGUE

By The Associated Press

All Times CDT	W	L	Pct	GB
East Division	36	31	.537	—
Philadelphia	37	32	.536	—
Florida	34	34	.500	2 1/2
Atlanta	32	36	.471	4 1/2
Montreal	22	45	.328	14
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	41	28	.594	—
Chicago	39	30	.565	2
Cincinnati	38	31	.551	3
Milwaukee	35	31	.530	4 1/2
Houston	36	33	.522	5
Pittsburgh	26	40	.394	13 1/2
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	37	30	.552	—
San Francisco	38	32	.543	1/2
San Diego	35	34	.507	3
Arizona	27	43	.386	11 1/2
Colorado	25	43	.368	12 1/2

Monday's Games
Houston 7, Pittsburgh 5
San Diego 3, Arizona 1
San Francisco 3, Los Angeles 2
Today's Games
Atlanta (Wright 5-5) at Florida (Pavano 7-2), 6:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Myers 5-3) at Montreal (L.Hernandez 3-7), 6:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (PWilson 7-0) at N.Y. Mets (Ginter 1-1), 6:10 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 6-6) at Milwaukee (D.Davis 6-5), 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Benson 5-6) at Houston (Oswalt 4-6), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Maddux 6-5) at St. Louis (Marquis 6-4), 7:10 p.m.
Arizona (Sparks 3-4) at San Diego (Eaton 3-7), 9:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ishii 8-3) at San Francisco (Hermanson 2-2), 9:15 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Atlanta at Florida, 6:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Montreal, 6:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at N.Y. Mets, 6:10 p.m.
Colorado at Milwaukee, 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Houston, 7:05 p.m.

Chicago Cubs at St. Louis, 7:10 p.m.
Arizona at San Diego, 9:05 p.m.
Los Angeles at San Francisco, 9:15 p.m.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

All Times CDT	W	L	Pct	GB
East Division	43	24	.642	—
New York	39	29	.574	4 1/2
Tampa Bay	32	34	.485	10 1/2
Toronto	30	39	.435	14
Baltimore	28	37	.431	14
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	38	30	.559	—
Chicago	35	31	.530	2
Cleveland	34	34	.500	4
Detroit	31	37	.456	7
Kansas City	26	40	.394	11
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	38	30	.559	—
Texas	37	29	.561	—
Anaheim	38	31	.551	1/2
Seattle	29	38	.433	6 1/2

Monday's Games
Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 1
Anaheim 10, Oakland 3
Today's Games
Minnesota (Lohse 2-4) at Boston (Schilling 8-4), 6:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Gaudin 1-1) at Toronto (Hentgen 2-6), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 7-4) at Baltimore (Riley 1-2), 6:05 p.m.
Seattle (Nageotte 1-2) at Texas (Drese 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Elarton 0-0) at Chicago White Sox (Loaiza 7-3), 7:05 p.m.
Detroit (Maroth 5-4) at Kansas City (Gobble 3-4), 7:10 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 7-2) at Anaheim (Colon 4-6), 9:05 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Minnesota at Boston, 6:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 6:05 p.m.
Seattle at Texas, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m.
Detroit at Kansas City, 7:10 p.m.
Oakland at Anaheim, 9:05 p.m.

T-Mac, Francis, Shaq dominate trade talk

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A blockbuster trade involving Tracy McGrady and Steve Francis dominated the NBA rumor mill Monday, while the Los Angeles Lakers waited to learn whether Shaquille O'Neal was serious about demanding a trade.

The Charlotte Bobcats also were major players on the eve of their expansion draft, making a deal with the Los Angeles Clippers to move up two spots in Thursday's draft to select Emeka Okafor or Dwight Howard as the cornerstone of their franchise.

What promises to be a busy week began with loads of trade talk, much of it centered on two of the league's best known superstars.

The Rockets were said to be the leading candidate to acquire McGrady from Orlando, with officials from other teams saying Houston was offering a package including Francis, Cuttino Mobley, Kelvin Cato and/or Bostjan Nachbar for McGrady, Juwan Howard, and Tyrone Lue. Because of league salary-cap rules, such a deal could not be completed until July.

"Tracy has indicated he would like to play elsewhere, and we're trying to see what we can do," Magic executive Pat Williams said. "The issue is where he would sign [a contract extension]. Teams want to know what Tracy's plans are."

A trade to Houston would put McGrady on the same team with center Yao Ming, giving the Rockets an inside-outside nucleus few Western Conference teams could match.

In the trade that was completed Monday, the expansion Bobcats acquired the No. 2 overall pick from the Los Angeles Clippers for the Nos. 4 and 33 picks. Charlotte also agreed to select Clippers center Predrag Drobnjak in Tuesday's expansion draft.

"We would be pleased starting our basketball team with either one of those young men," Bobcats coach and general manager Bernie Bickerstaff said about Okafor and Howard, the consensus top two picks in Thursday night's draft. "They represent what we would like to become in terms of character, competitiveness, and talent."

Charlotte, which will select at least 14 players in the expansion draft Tuesday, also was close to completing a deal with Phoenix to acquire center Jahidi White, cash, and a future first-round draft pick.

That trade would clear salary-cap space for the Suns, allowing them to make a run at free agents Kobe Bryant, Steve Nash, and others.

The Lakers, meanwhile, were exploring their options regarding O'Neal, who issued a trade demand last week after Los Angeles announced that Phil Jackson would not return as head coach.

Consent at issue in Kobe Bryant hearing

BY JON SANCHE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

EAGLE, Colo. — His season over, Kobe Bryant returned to court Monday for a two-day hearing that began with sharp arguments over how to guide the jury in determining whether the NBA star is guilty of rape.

Bryant's defense team wants the judge to tell jurors they must acquit the Los Angeles Lakers star if they determine his alleged victim consented to sex.

In essence, defense attorney Hal Haddon said, prosecutors must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the woman did not consent to sex and that Bryant knew it.

Prosecutors say they must prove only that the sex was "against the alleged victim's will," an element that answers the consent issue.

"It's not the people's burden to disprove consent. By proving the elements [of sexual assault], you necessarily disprove consent," said Matt Holman, an assistant state attorney general helping with the case.

As for what Bryant knew, Holman said, it is enough for a defendant to know his behavior could cause submission by the alleged victim.

State District Judge Terry Ruckriegel did not immediately rule on the jury instructions.

Bryant, 25, has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault, saying he had consensual sex with the then-19-year-old resort worker at a Vail-area hotel where he stayed last summer. If convicted, he faces four years to life in prison, 20 years to life on probation, and a fine of up to \$750,000.



Tony Gutierrez/Associated Press
Lakers star Kobe Bryant arrives at the Eagle County Courthouse with defense attorney Pamela Mackey for a pretrial hearing on Monday.

The judge has indicated he will discuss a potential trial date at some point during the hearing.

Bryant's season ended last week when the Lakers lost to Detroit in the NBA Finals. He is expected to check out the free-agent market after opting out of his contract with Los Angeles.

The jury-instruction debate rests on fundamental questions that could determine whether Bryant is convicted. Consent could be a key issue. During the preliminary hearing, Sheriff's Detective Doug Winters said the woman flirted and kissed Bryant in his hotel room and was attacked when she turned to leave. Bryant grabbed her by the neck, pulled up her skirt, and raped her against a chair, Winters said.

NL Central in trouble when Cubs get healthy

RICHARDS
Continued from Page 10

Jim Edmonds compare favorably with the Yankees' lineup. Rolen is the best third basemen in baseball, possibly the best since the days of Mike Schmidt and George Brett. He should easily win the NL MVP award. Pujols is simply the best pure hitter in the game right now. If Barry Bonds is the No. 1 hitter in baseball right now, Pujols is 1A. He has the ability to hit to all fields, and he is versatile in that he can play numerous positions.

Surprisingly, both to the Cardinals and the rest of baseball, the pitching staff has been up to snuff. Chris Carpenter, who will start the third game of the series, has given the Cards a huge lift in the rotation, going 7-2 with a 3.95 ERA. He, along with Woody Williams, and Morris, will be key down the stretch if the Cardinals wish to stay in first.

For the Cubs, they still have yet to play a game with the 25-man roster they envisioned when they started the year. Kerry Wood, who will miss this series, is due back soon, and with Sammy and Mark Grudzielanek returning last weekend against the A's, the Cubs are nearly back to full strength, which is a disturbing thought for the rest of the division. If Derrek Lee and Corey Patterson continue their hot streaks (Lee is .583 over the last week, and Patterson's batting average has risen nearly 20 points since June 11), the rest of the division could be in trouble.

The keys for the Cubs in this series will be Patterson, who is finally learning some patience at the plate, and the bullpen, which has been about as consistent as the Iowa weather. After this series, the two team will see each other just five more times. While it is still just June, the loser of this series will have their work cut out for them the rest of the way.

E-mail DJ reporter Nick Richards at: nicholas-richards@iowa.edu

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SPORTS

Familiar finish, but a different Mickelson

BY DOUG FERGUSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — Phil Mickelson is a changed man, even if the ending looked all too familiar.

The lasting image of the 104th U.S. Open is not the six pressure-packed putts Retief Goosen made down the stretch to win his second major, but Lefty missing two short putts on the 71st hole that cost him a chance to go to Scotland next month chasing the third leg of the Grand Slam.

The first miss from 5 feet knocked him out of the lead. The second miss from 4 feet sealed his fate.

Same ol' Phil, right? Not anymore. This was merely a hiccup, not a trend.

The biggest difference between Sunday at Shinnecock Hills and Sunday at so many other majors is that no one expected Mickelson to mess it up.

This time, it was shocking. "I thought it was going to come down to the 18th hole," Goosen said. "I didn't really expect Phil to make a double [bogey] at 17."

Mickelson's victory in the Masters made this U.S. Open look more like a close call than a blown opportunity.

"I've played what I think is very good golf for me," Mickelson said after his 71 left him two shots behind Goosen. "I feel like I'm onto good things. I feel like my preparation is better. I feel like my overall game is a better fit for this very tough test of golf."



Charles Krupa/Associated Press
Phil Mickelson reacts to a missed putt on the 10th hole during the final round of the U.S. Open Sunday.

Jack Nicklaus saw it coming late last year in the Presidents Cup, when Mickelson became the first American to lose all five matches. Lefty kept his spirits up and worked harder than ever.

Nicklaus had a strong premonition that Lefty would be wearing a green jacket.

He also had a bad feeling watching Mickelson on the 17th green Sunday at Shinnecock Hills, especially after Goosen made a 12-foot birdie on the 16th hole to tie him for the lead.

"Here you are standing on 17, needing to make a putt to save par, and Retief birdies," Nicklaus said after watching the U.S. Open from his home.

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- Head Wrestling Coach
- Head Girls Golf Coach

Interested individuals should send their resume and a copy of their credentials to: Regina Junior Senior High School, 2150 Rochester Avenue, Iowa City, IA 52245. Attn: Athletic Director.

The coaching positions may be combined with K-12 teaching positions at Regina Education Center. If you have a State of Iowa teaching certificate please include this information.

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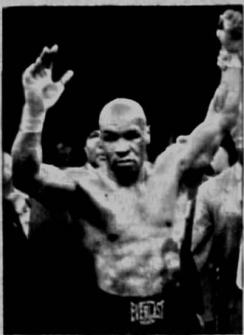


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TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2004

WILL KOBE BE IN L.A. NEXT YEAR? SEE POINT/COUNTERPOINT, PAGE 7

PAGE 10



Mike Tyson

BACK TO BOX

N.J. grants boxing license to Tyson

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Mike Tyson was granted a boxing license Monday in New Jersey, a state he walked away from nearly six years ago after swearing at regulators during a licensing hearing.

"He's been behaving himself for quite some time," Athletics Commissioner Larry Hazzard said.

The 38-year-old former heavyweight champion, who has fought only three times in the last four years, was granted a license by Hazzard on behalf of the state Athletics Control Board.

The board has been in talks with Tyson's camp for six months, and Tyson filed the application last week, Hazzard said.

Asked whether New Jersey authorities were concerned about Tyson's reputation for violence — he bit Evander Holyfield during a 1997 prizefight — Hazzard said, "That was a consideration and it has been discussed."

RECRUITING

Panel suggests Baylor recruiting changes

WACO, Texas (AP) — All athletes transferring to Baylor should undergo criminal-background checks and allow access to disciplinary records at previous colleges, a university task force recommended Monday.

The panel made several recruiting-policy recommendations; it was formed by the school to address NCAA violations and other problems discovered last summer after basketball player Patrick Dennehy was killed. His former teammate, Carlton Dotson, was charged with murder and is jailed in Waco awaiting an August trial.

Dennehy and Dotson transferred to Baylor in the summer of 2002. Baylor officials said there's no way to predict what would have happened if the recommended policies had been in place.

The task force also recommended requiring all prospective athletes — incoming freshmen as well as transfers — to provide three character references.

FLAT TIRE

French judge rejects Armstrong's action

PARIS (AP) — A court Monday rejected Lance Armstrong's attempt to force a publisher to insert the star cyclist's denial of doping allegations into copies of a new book about him.

The five-time Tour de France winner wanted publisher La Martiniere to insert a notice into *L.A. Confidential, the Secrets of Lance Armstrong*, with his rebuttal against doping claims in the book.

But Judge Catherine Bezio called Armstrong's request an "abuse" of the legal system and ordered him to pay the authors and publisher a symbolic \$1.20 fine.

The French-language book, which hit bookstores in France last week, was written by David Walsh and Pierre Ballester and relies in part on allegations by a former Armstrong assistant, Emma O'Reilly.

In it, she alleges that he once asked her to dispose of used syringes and to give him makeup to conceal needle marks on his right arm.

Navratilova wins at Wimbledon

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIMBLEDON, England — The woman Martina Navratilova played in her 1973 Wimbledon debut was back at the All England Club on Monday to watch her daughter's first-round match.

Navratilova, all of 47, was back, too. Except she was playing — yes, playing — on the adjacent court. And, oh, how she performed.

Charging the net at every opportunity, snapping volleys, even throwing in an ace for good measure, Navratilova

beat 24-year-old Catalina Castano (6-0, 6-1) Monday to become the oldest woman since 1922 to win a match at Wimbledon.

It was her first singles competition here in a decade, and it was as if she never left.

"When people say, 'Why are you doing it?' I guess the answer is: 'Because I still can.' Bottom line," said Navratilova, whose 18 Grand Slam singles titles include a record nine at Wimbledon.

She won 30 of 40 points at the net with serve-and-volley tennis that's a dying art. Valuing placement over power, Navratilova cut volleys at

angles a pool shark would appreciate, spun slices that died at Castano's feet, and never let her opponent get within a point of winning a game through the first 11.

"This definitely is a déjà vu," Navratilova said.

Goran Ivanisevic also must have felt that way. Playing at Wimbledon for the first time since winning the 2001 championship, he knocked off No. 31 Mikhail Youzhny (6-3, 7-6 [4], 6-2). Hounded by injuries to his shoulder, elbow, and knee, Ivanisevic was just 2-9 this season; he will retire after Wimbledon.



Rebecca Naden/Associated Press

Former Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova returns a shot to Catalina Castano during the first round at Wimbledon on Monday. Navratilova won the match (6-0, 6-1).

Thomas' dunks wow 'em

Doug Thomas' 38 points weren't enough to beat Jeff Horner and Glen Worley — who combined for 58 points in Monday's Prime Time League action

BY NICK RICHARDS
 THE DAILY IOWAN

Dunks were the order of the night Monday, as incoming junior Doug Thomas poured in 38 points and snared seven rebounds in the second night of the Prime Time League. Despite the outstanding performance from Thomas, his TomVakulskas.com/Primus Construction squad lost to the Jeff Horner-led Goodfellow Printing/Imprinted Sportswear team, 118-97.

"I think Doug showed something tonight," said league director Randy Larson.

The 6-8, 240-pound Thomas wowed the crowd with numerous dunks, throwing down several vicious slams — many on fast-break opportunities. In addition to his high-flying display, Thomas showed his range by hitting a number of 15-foot jumpers.

"It was a lot better game than last week," Thomas said. In his opening performance, he scored 16 points. "I'm probably rushing a lot of my shots, but I used my strength, and I went inside more."

Goodfellow was led by former Hawkeye Glen Worley, who added 30 points and five rebounds. Horner contributed 28 points on 6-of-9 3-point shooting performance.

Nerves were a big part of Thomas's struggles in his first game, a 102-86 loss to Iowa City Ready Mix/Deli-Mart team led by Erik Hansen. He went 8-of-15 in his opening game along with 12 rebounds and four assists.

"I just had to get used to the league and the people I'm playing around," he said. "I thought I did that, and I let the game come to me."

Thomas led all the teams in scoring with a 23-point effort in the first half, which included a series of dunks in the open court. Not far behind was Horner, who hit 4-of-6 3-pointers in the first half to give his squad a 53-51 advantage at the break.

"That's what I live for," Thomas said. "As long as I get two or three dunks a game, I'm happy."

The key to the game was Matt Burks, who hails from Highland Community College. With Goodfellow holding just an 88-82 lead with 6:24 remaining, both Burks and Worley went on tears, with each player hitting three 3-pointers as Goodfellows ended the game on a 31-15 run. Burks finished with 29 points on 5-of-12 3-point shooting.

While Thomas had the big game, he just missed his pregame goal of 40 points.

"I told my guy on the sideline I'm going for 40," Thomas said. "I was one basket away. I could've had 40."

In other PTL action, former



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Ex-Hawkeye Darryl Moore swipes the rebound from Iowa junior Jeff Horner during the second half Monday. Despite Moore's 22 points and six rebounds, Horner's TomVakulskas.com/Primus Construction team won the game, 118-97.

Hawkeye Duez Henderson scored 32 points and, Iowa sophomore Adam Haluska chipped in 27 points as HawksNestOnline.com/Beisser Lumber beat Iowa City Ready Mix/Deli-Mart, 123-108, Monday night in North Liberty.

Iowa City Ready Mix, which was without its lone Hawkeyes — center Erik Hansen and guard Jack Brownlee — was led by European pro Donnie Dobbs, who poured in 36 points, including three from beyond the arc. Haluska added seven assists

and seven rebounds to go along with his 10-of-23 shooting from the field.

Ex-Hawkeye Kurt Spurgeon chipped in 21 points in a losing effort, adding four rebounds.

E-mail DI reporter Nick Richards at: nicholas-richards@uiowa.edu

Early, but key series



NICK RICHARDS

A BIG SERIES DOESN'T usually happen this early in the baseball year, but that is what the Cardinals — who lead the NL Central by two games — and the Cubs are preparing for when the two rivals meet today in St. Louis for a three-game tilt with first place on the line.

This series could separate the two teams from the rest of the NL Central. The Reds have finally started to come back to Earth after a torrid start, and the Astros, after a sweep at the hands of the Cubs last week, have fallen all the way to fifth, behind the upstart Milwaukee Brewers.

Never mind that it's only mid-June and a series like this one rarely means anything come September and October. Don't tell that to the Cardinals and Cubs. The Cubs used big midseason wins over the Cards to overcome a rough stretch at nearly the same time last year to keep them afloat.

While this rivalry isn't quite as hot as that between the Yankees and Red Sox, it still ranks ahead of the now-boring Giants-Dodgers rivalry. Just look at the last series the teams had in Chicago — two games of which I saw from the Friendly Confines. Roger Cedeno got tossed in the June 8 game, and the benches cleared on June 9 after some inside pitches by Mark Prior and Matt Morris nearly led to a royal rumble on the infield.

This Cardinals team is something to behold, at least offensively. St. Louis stands as the top offensive team in the NL and is second only to the Yankees in all of baseball. Such names as Scott Rolen, Albert Pujols, and

SEE RICHARDS, PAGE 7