Arafat fighting for his life

Doctors say the Palestinian leader is in 'grave condition'

BY SEBASTIAN ROTELLA and LAURA KING

PARIS — Yasser Arafat remained alive but in grave condition in the intensive care unit of a military hospital here, French officials said Thursday amid increasing confusion and uncertainty reports that the Palestinian leader had died.

Security forces had isolated the condition of Arafat, 75, since he fell ill three weeks ago at his battered West Bank compound, interesting after it was才知道 in France on Oct. 29 for treatment of a mysterious illness that had caused him to collapse.

Despite the lack of firm information, it seemed clear that the Palestinian Authority president was fighting for his life at the Percy Army Teaching Hospital in the Paris suburb of Clamart, where more than 200 journalists were on hand for the world's news media.

French President Jacques Chirac paid a brief visit to Arafat around 5:55 p.m. local time and left without comment. Foreign, presidential aides told French media that Arafat was alive when Chirac visited him.

At about 5:30 p.m., a high-ranking French military doctor gave a short statement emphasizing that Arafat was still alive when Chirac visited him. The statement was brief, he said, because Arafat’s family had requested “ discretion.”

“Mr. Arafat has not died,” said the physician, Gen. Christian Kieffer. He said Arafat’s condition had worsened, requiring his transfer to a specialized unit on Wednesday afternoon. See MAPPA PAGE 1A

LOCAL DEMS proud of underdog races

"I made him answer for his misconduct” – ART SMALL

BY DREW KERR

Iowa City’s local Democrat Bob Mechamer is excited.

Despite being handed heavily-loved losses in Tuesday’s general election, U.S. Senate candidate Art Small and congressional candidate Dave Франкер each contend that their campaigns were not in vain.

"I made him answer for his misconduct” – ART SMALL

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"I made him answer for his misconduct” – ART SMALL

"I made him answer for his misconduct” – ART SMALL
ill-fated & ill-advised: a lyricist's tale of love and loss

I., the ax. He became Chief Ronald Canale's roommate, and often watched him play. "It's a report on a series of sightings, so there are shots on the scene. There's very little research that suggests that you go out and do this to behave in real life," she said. The new game also raises questions about ethnic stereotypes. "People often use black players in video games because they are more likely to be diverse gamer players who might lose game. Jones said, "For every situation, you have to make this more and more violent." Anaulager doesn't suggest, however, that game developers will use them on the scene. "It's a good idea to play video games, for instance," she confessed. Jones, who plays the game as an average of two or three hours a day.

BY DANIELLE STRATTON-COULER

Now everyone can bulldoze industries,drift-kites, and last polotn to death with sheowns while Tropic bounces in the back ground - but the scenario isn't real life. In the new Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas video game. The Grand Theft Auto series has been criticized in the past for violent content, but that's not what's new. This latest Rockstar Game Inc., tile of the year. The fifth installment in the popular series hit Iowa City stores last week and got a killer response. "This is the first time I've seen it," said one woman in talking about the game. Employed as a bar staff person in Coralville said they have sold more than 500 copies of the game since its release. Games in the Old Capitol Town Center sold out, and the downtown of Iowa, a gaming center in the same mall, sold. And Andrews has been one of its most-played titles since it opened in August. Andrews said this version removes the no easy way to the violence factor. "You can't do it. You can do anything short of flying a plane into a building," said Nick Marcon, a. Game manager.

Julie Andrews, a. University associate professor of mass communication and associate editor of journal Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly, said video game violence is likely to influence gamers who play violent games, and that's a concern. "It gives people on image that this is how to behave," she said. Jones said, "For every situation, you have to make this more and more violent." Anaulager doesn't suggest, however, that game developers will use them on the scene. "It's a good idea to play video games, for instance," she confessed. Jones, who plays the game as an average of two or three hours a day.

BY JIM BUTTS

Stalking their prey as they walked toward the animal kingdom, the 10 students in the Un-

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400-200 square miles, Jones said, without a written report. To establish a pattern, Natural Resources can do little.

"I've staked my life on it, absolutely 100 percent," he said. "It would be a shame to lose a character of a footpawtlet. The only other significant sightings have been at the Iowa City Police Department. He said, "I know of only three confirmed mountain lion sightings in the past two years- one was killed by hunters, another was hit by a car, and a third was run over by a car."

"We have some evidence, what good is it going to do us to get it out there?" he said. "If you just say they spotted it and haven't confirmed it, you want to spend taxpayer money to prove it?"

Typically, mountain lions have a home range encompassing approximately 100-200 square miles, Jones said, without a written report. To establish a pattern, Natural Resources can do little. "I've staked my life on it, absolutely 100 percent," he said. "It would be a shame to lose a character of a footpawtlet. The only other significant sightings have been at the Iowa City Police Department. He said, "I know of only three confirmed mountain lion sightings in the past two years- one was killed by hunters, another was hit by a car, and a third was run over by a car."

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Regents approve first phase of IMU renovations

Plans include a three-story addition to the Madison Street terrace and a river terrace west of the IMU by the Iowa River.

BY TRACI FINCH

CEDAR FALLS — The state Board of Regents gave UI officials a thumbs-up Thursday for the first phase of the proposed IMU renovations, but some expressed concern about an increase in student fees that will help fund the project.

The regents received a plan for spending the $9.8 million Phase I, which includes the construction of a three-story addition to the Madison Street terrace. The add-on will house a student lounge and student offices, moving such groups as UI Student Government out of the "patchwork" areas where they reside now, said Brad Brown, an architect working on the development.

"It's not a great environment for the office," he said about the wiselike ground floor. Other construction plans include a river terrace west of the IMU, fulfilling the "desire to connect the building to the Iowa River," Brown said. The space will serve as a gathering area and venue for performance, concerts and other events.

Brown said that if constructed, the terrace would be the "only large outdoor gathering space that embraces the river on the campus." UI-SG President Lindsay Schutte said the regents "have extended the students about the project." "It's great because the administration is actually addressing the concerns the students have," she said. She expressed hope that officials had acquired enough students to help fund the terrace.

Police Chief Mark Mills said officials "refined criteria outside the roof" so the new terrace would fit in with the "urban feel of the building." Mills said the project would be constructed when the second floor of the regents' building is complete.

The regents authorized a construction loan of $6.8 million to help construct the project. The loan will be repaid over the next five years, with the state providing a $100,000 grant to help fund the project.

"It's great because the administration is actually addressing the concerns the students have," she said. "We're hoping that officials have acquired enough students to help fund the terrace." Brown said, "It's great because the administration is actually addressing the concerns the students have." The plan includes a river terrace west of the IMU, fulfilling the "desire to connect the building to the Iowa River." Brown said. The space will serve as a gathering area and venue for performance, concerts and other events. Brown said that if constructed, the terrace would be the "only large outdoor gathering space that embraces the river on the campus." UI-SG President Lindsay Schutte said the regents "have extended the students about the project." "It's great because the administration is actually addressing the concerns the students have," she said. "We're hoping that officials have acquired enough students to help fund the terrace." Brown said. 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BUSH SPEAKS OF MANDATE

BY CECI CONNOLLY

WASHINGTON — Just a few hours before the Democratic nominee John Kerry gave his victory speech Thursday, President Bush was told by a Boston surgeon that Edwards was diagnosed with breast cancer.

Bush was told of the diagnosis by Dr. Stephen Sener, of the Society of Breast Surgeons, during a telephone call Thursday morning.

"In a dark moment, she's the person who makes things right again," said Myron Welch, M.D., a consultant at Iowa City's University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

"It found that without the radiation therapy, the risk of recurrence jumped from 8 to 40 percent. Some women undergo chemotherapy or hormone therapy after surgery instead of or in addition to radiation."

"In that age is where she should get a recommendation for any of the three," he said. The five-year survival rate is in women with early stage breast cancer who undergo radiation treatment and chemotherapy after surgery is between 75 and 81 percent, depending on the details of both the treatment and the tumor, according to the National Cancer Institute. When cancer has not spread to the lymph nodes, which are one indicator of cancer's aggressiveness, the five-year survival rate is above 90 percent.

When Edwards saw her doctors at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, the physician recommended several options and urged her to see one or more specialists. Edwards said she has not decided what, if any, role her cancer or her family will play in the campaign.

"It's a complicated, difficult decision," said Myron Welch, M.D., a consultant at Iowa City's University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

"It is always difficult to give any bad news," said Myron Welch, M.D., a consultant at Iowa City's University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

"We're not going to say that the treatment and the tumor, according to the National Cancer Institute. When cancer has not spread to the lymph nodes, which are one indicator of cancer's aggressiveness, the five-year survival rate is above 90 percent."
In the negotiations, as in most complex political situations, all parties involved are likely to be influenced by their own interests, values, and the broader geopolitical landscape. Professionals working on these issues may present their findings in a variety of formats, including reports, papers, and analyses. It is important to critically evaluate such presentations, considering the perspectives and biases that may underlie the information provided.

By Julia Irlrnes

WASHINGTON The Bush administration has been working feverishly to keep on upcoming negotiations from ending in deadlock, according to diplomats and foreign policy analysts, who described the upbeat mood of the administration as "energetic." The administration is working to prepare detailed policy proposals for the upcoming talks, which are expected to focus on a range of issues, including climate change, human rights, and security.

State Department representatives argue that these efforts will be guided by "principles and values" that are "fundamental" to the administration's approach to international relations. They emphasize the importance of maintaining close consultations with allies and partners, as well as the need to balance strategic interests with moral imperatives.

"We believe that the administration's approach will be characterized by a commitment to human rights, a focus on diplomacy, and a willingness to engage in constructive dialogue with other nations," one representative said.

The Bush administration has been under pressure to present a strong and coherent policy approach to the upcoming negotiations, given the significant implications for global stability and security. Analysts have noted that the administration's approach is likely to be shaped by a number of factors, including the ongoing war in Afghanistan, the political situation on the Korean Peninsula, and the administration's broader strategic priorities.

BY P A I S L E Y D O D D S

GUANTÁNAMO BAY, N A DI, Cuba A senior U.S. official said Thursday that the White House is "very focused" on its efforts to keep the negotiations from ending in deadlock. The official, who spoke to reporters on the sidelines of the talks, did not provide details of the administration's strategy but said that "it is important that we keep the talks going and move forward on a constructive basis." The official added that the administration is "working hard to overcome obstacles" and "to make progress on the issues at hand."
Karzai promises inclusive gov't

Afghan President Hamid Karzai (center) flanked by Vice President Ahmad Wali Massoud (right) and second Vice President Karim Khalili, gestures during a press conference at the Presidential Palace in Kabul on Thursday.

BY KEITH R. RICHBURG
WASHINGTON POST

Afghan President Hamid Karzai promised Thursday to assemble a "reconciliatory" government that would not "blackmail" its opponents but would face consequences.

"We will not be any private militias for Afghanistan; that's the last demand of the Afghan people," Karzai said. "We are going to be dedicated, strong, in working against terrorist.

Karl did, however, make one clear offer to leaders and supporters of the defeated Taliban regime: some of whom have been waging an ongoing insurgency against the newly formed Afghan National Army and U.S. troops in the south and southwest of the country. He said thousands of Taliban fighters and rebels were willing to restart talks with his government, except for the handful with links to Osama bin Laden's Qaeda network or other involvement with terrorism.

"We would like all Afghan forces to come and participate in the rebuilding of this country - all Afghan. The Taliban as well. There are a few of them, maybe 40 to 100 of them, that have been an association with Al Qaeda or terrorism, or have committed crimes against the people. They are not welcome," Karzai said.

Karl said his government would "let them go" if they "wish to live in peace and end their reign of humiliation and terror."

"I want to emphasize that all Afghan citizens, including those who were part of the Taliban, should be given the right to participate in the peace and stability of our country, the right to vote, the right to participate in all organs of government, the right to be elected," Karzai said. "We will try to reconcile those who have been involved in some kind of acts of terrorism."
Rural and exurban America got a lot redder

**ELECTION 2004**

Bobb’s second term

BY RONALD BROWNSTEIN

Los Angeles Times

From the race for the White House to the battle for Congress, Democrats now face a stark choice: Bush, red places on the map are growing redder — and that threat leaves Democrats at a lasting disadvantage in the struggle for political power.

Although Bush made some inroads among swing groups such as Latinos and married women, exit polls and voting results in key counties across the nation suggested he won his second term mostly by increasing the GOP strength in places where his party was already strong — especially rural, small-town, and fast-growing exurban communities where Republicans are mounting into the countryside.

Bush successfully defended 39 of the 30 states he won in 2000 — and increased his margin of victory in 19 of those 35 states among the same groups central to his much-smaller win in 2000 — including regular Republicans, independents, women, and young voters. Exit polls and voting results show he carried a huge slice of the Republican base — 58
candidate targets.

Democrats face this territorial loss in the Electoral College where if they don't carry any of the 11 Southern states (left) and the Old Confederacy, they need to win 70 percent of everything else.

— Merle Black, an expert on Southern politics at Emory University

GOP makes dramatic gains despite Kerry reaching many of his campaign targets

**GO**

Philadelphia. And he held almost all of the specific socially moderate suburban counties in the Northeast and Midwest that shifted from the GOP to the Democratic Party under Bill Clinton in the 1990s — even expanding the party’s margins in some of them such as Mont­gomery and Delaware counties outside Philadelphia.

Yet in the key states, especially Ohio, all of that was over­taken — and increased his support among culturally conservative communities, especially rural and suburban re­idents. Compounding the problem was Kerry’s inability to compete for any Southern state except Florida. That left him with few options for reaching 270 electoral votes, especially after his bid to open a new front in Southern states like Arizona, Nevada, and Colorado failed.

“Democrats face this territorial loss in the Electoral Col­lage where if they don’t carry any of the 11 Southern states (left) and the Old Confederacy, they need to win 70 percent of everything else,” says Merle Black, an expert on Southern politics at Emory University.

The math is daunting for many Democrats as much as the results shows this wasn’t an isolated win, but a sign of a widening and growing void for Democrats everywhere.

Democratic-held open seats Tuesday. Republicans have now captured all 29.

The only news the Demo­crats dominated (Congress) for as many decades as they did in their advantage came from the South,” said GOP pollster Don­nell Roffett.

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— Johnnie Mack (left) and Donna Rogers, Jr. vote at New Hope Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, Fla., on Tuesday.
Localsl concerned about Ariel's.com condition.

REACTION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

He added that an internal power struggle among Palestinian factions is "unlikely," although it is a possibility.

UI presents 2005-06 tuition plan to regents

RECENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"I'm a little concerned about the 6 percent increase," said UI Student Government Association President Lindsay Schutte, who addressed the regents.

UI Provost Michael Hogan defended the recommendation.

"In the past couple of years, we've really held down increases in state tuition," he said. He added that the strong out-of-state demand for services will continue despite doubled enrollment increases.

Discussion about UI increment graduate student tuition followed.

Cost of outsourcing Johnson Cty. inmates rises

JAILS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"We have to ship prisoners, and that's a requirement by the state jail inspector," Supervisor Vernon Nowell said. "We've been able to for the most part, stay within our more in under budget, but these numbers vary every month.

Numbers for October were not available.

Jail overcrowding was a hot topic and for the county court, sheriff and sheriff's candidates in this year's election. A countywide vote on the issue is expected in the November general election.

2 losing Dem candidates say campaigns worth it

UNDERDOGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"It's very costly to go to war, and I'm sure those who are going to lose," the 72-year-old said, adding it would be his last campaign to be "passed the torch.

On election eve,15th Congresswoman's director, Jennifer Kemper, and that although Congress was "very much in the process of planning and implementing a Comprehensive Campaign to be able with all the resources available.

Small, who ultimately raised just $4,000, said he believes the campaign was made even more difficult because "they" didn't want to lose a couple of seats in the South Dakota legislature.

Arafat in coma, condition grave

ARAFAT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"Mr. President Yasser Arafat remains hospitalized," spokesman continued. "The clinical situation has become more critical.

Arafat was transferred to the hospital's intensive care unit after his condition deteriorated sharply, according to another French official.

"He is in the intensive care unit," said the French official. "He is receiving treatment and supportive care.

"His condition is grave. The family does not want any information at this time.

The French officials spoke on the telephone, during which a number of reports surfaced that Arafat was in a coma, brain-dead, or had expired.

President Jacques Chirac of Luxembourg -- speaking at almost the same time as Europeans were assur- ing journalist Arafat was alive -- said reports in Brussels, Belgium, that the Palestine leader had died. Jack Chirac, who had rejected that report.

As the issue went up during President Bush's scheduled news conference.

"I don't have a chance to listen to this, but it appears that Yasser Arafat has been admitted to the hospital in the week."

Arafat, 75, is in a coma from severe head injuries suffered in a car crash last month.

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A letter left on the body of murdered filmmaker aims death threats at Ayaan Hirsi Ali

BY ANTHONY DEUTSCH

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — A letter left on the body of Dutch filmmaker Theo van Gogh contained death threats against a politician and was signed by a suspected terrorist group, the Justice minister said Thursday, as police pressed an investigation into school threats.

Dutch authorities have arrested nine men — eight from Morocco and one from China — as suspects in the killing of van Gogh, who had been under police protection and was arrested after a Moroccan suspect

A letter threatening death threats was found on the body of Ayaan Hirsi Ali, a member of the Dutch Parliament and a former Somali-born Somali who has been under police protection and was arrested after a Moroccan suspect

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YOU VOTED RIGHT, GEORGE

The history books will certainly have their hands full weaving together the story of the 2004 presidential election. George W. Bush's victory this week, which has been confirmed on November 7, 2004, after a month of intense legal challenges, marks a historic shift in American politics.

Despite the fact that the election was marked by numerous legal challenges, including recounts in swing states, the outcome of the election was clear: George W. Bush had won.

The implications of this victory are far-reaching. It represents a significant shift in the balance of power in Washington, D.C., and it will undoubtedly impact the course of American foreign policy and domestic legislation in the years to come.

The keynote address of this issue is "YOU VOTED RIGHT, GEORGE," by Bob Deans. In his article, Deans reflects on the outcome of the election and its implications for the future of American politics.

Deans argues that the election was a clear mandate for change, particularly in the area of foreign policy. He suggests that the new administration will have a unique opportunity to shape the course of American foreign policy, and he encourages readers to stay engaged and informed as the new administration takes office.

Deans also highlights the importance of continuing to support our military personnel and their families, who have sacrificed so much in the service of our country.

Additionally, Deans discusses the role of the media in shaping public opinion and the importance of maintaining a free press. He emphasizes the need for continued vigilance in protecting press freedom and ensuring that the media continue to uphold their responsibility to inform and educate the public.

In conclusion, Deans encourages readers to embrace this new chapter in American history and to work together to build a better future for our country.

doi:10.1001/jama.293.11.1364

Bob Deans, a former presidential speechwriter for President George W. Bush, has been a voice for American foreign policy for many years. He has a unique perspective on the outcome of the election and its implications for the future of American politics.

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If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me. As always, I'm here to help.

Best regards,

Bob Deans

Primary Editor
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All Shettel said: "We are..."....

energy. If Piebald lacks anything,

humor, witty metaphors,

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Get ready to jump to your feet—

Quirky, fun music lives on

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GAME PUTS IOWA ON THE LINE

With or without KYLE ORTON calling Purdue's shots, Iowa will have to defend against the Boilermakers' passing game to keep its winning streak alive and bowl prospects improving.

BY JASON BRUMFIELD

Purdue is desperate for a win, putting on its third consecutive defeat.

The 20th-ranked Iowa Hawkeyes return to Kinnick Stadium riding a four-game winning streak.

Both teams come across a victory for different purposes. But the winner receives the same result — a brighter bowl outlook.

A 6-2 Iowa team and a 5-3 Purdue team meet on Saturday afternoon. Purdue is desperate for a win, putting on its third consecutive defeat. The 20th-ranked Iowa Hawkeyes return to Kinnick Stadium riding a four-game winning streak.

Both teams come across a victory for different purposes. But the winner receives the same result — a brighter bowl outlook.

Coach Lisa Bluder says team is in same position as last year

On Saturday at Kinnick Stadium, the 6-2 Iowa Hawkeyes will take on the 5-3 Purdue Boilermakers in a Big Ten football game. The Hawkeyes are currently ranked 20th in the nation, while the Boilermakers are ranked 13th.

This game is crucial for both teams. The Hawkeyes are looking to secure a winning conference record and maintain their momentum heading into the final games of the season. The Boilermakers, on the other hand, are looking to break their three-game losing streak and boost their bowl hopes.

The game is expected to be a defensive battle, with both teams having strong defensive units. The Hawkeyes have allowed just 10 points per game this season, while the Boilermakers have surrendered an average of 14 points per game.

Purdue will be without quarterback Kyle Orton, who was ruled out earlier in the week due to an ankle injury. Iowa's defense is expected to take advantage of this, putting pressure on the Boilermakers' backup quarterback.

On the other hand, Iowa will be without defensive end Adrian Clayborn, who is questionable due to a hamstring injury. This could hurt the Hawkeyes' pass rush, giving the Boilermakers more time to complete passes.

Injuries aside, both teams have strong players on both sides of the ball. For Iowa, that includes quarterback James Vandenberg and running back Keith Ford. For Purdue, it's quarterback Austin丁和 running back Akeem Hunt.

The game is expected to be a tough fight, with both teams playing their best football. The winner will secure a key victory and take a step closer to achieving their goals for the season.

The Hawkeyes need a win to secure their place in the Big Ten championship game, while the Boilermakers need a win to keep their bowl hopes alive. This game is a must-win for both teams, and could very well decide their fates for the rest of the season.

Purdue is desperate for a win, putting on its third consecutive defeat. The 20th-ranked Iowa Hawkeyes return to Kinnick Stadium riding a four-game winning streak.

Both teams come across a victory for different purposes. But the winner receives the same result — a brighter bowl outlook.

The Hawkeyes and Boilermakers will surely give fans an exciting game to watch, and the outcome of this game could very well determine the fate of both teams.
IOWA SPORTS

Women's swimming, diving heads to Minn. The Iowa women's swimming and diving team travels north this weekend for a matchup with Minnesota. The Golden Gophers enter the meet 1-0 overall after defeating Iowa State last weekend, and they are coming off a fifth-place finish in the Big Ten meet a season ago. The Hawkeyes fell to their season-opener in the conference's opener, the Wisconsin Badgers. Senior Locke Feldman recorded two school-record performances, while junior Andrea Itz took third in the 100 breast. The Big Ten Daily will feature the performances, marking the fourth time she has given each athlete.

Tennis

Oklahoma State at Texas The conference's network of teams is changing once again. After a season of confusion, the conference is now split into two sections: one for Oklahoma State and the other for Texas. The two teams will battle it out in a series of matches beginning this weekend. The Oklahoma State team, led by coach Todd Barlow, currently holds a 13-2 record and is looking to keep their streak alive. The Texas team, under the guidance of coach Joe Hallett, has a 12-3 record and is looking to make a statement. Both teams are expected to put up a good fight.

Purdue at Iowa Women's swimming at Iowa State The Iowa State women's swimming team will host their arch-rival, Purdue, this weekend. The Boilermakers are coming off a loss to Ohio State last weekend and are looking for revenge. The Iowa State team, led by coach Karen Shelton, currently holds a 5-2 record and is looking to build on their success. The meet is expected to be a high-scoring affair, with both teams aiming to come out on top.

Beavers at Oregon

The Oregon State Beavers travel to Eugene this weekend to take on the University of Oregon's Ducks. The Beavers are riding a six-game winning streak and are looking to maintain their momentum. The Ducks, on the other hand, are coming off a loss to Oregon State in their last meeting. The game is expected to be a close one, with both teams determinant to come out on top.

On the Line

(Note: The on-line game picks are chosen by Wednesday evenings)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Iowa</th>
<th>Nebraska</th>
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Iowa continues to be one of the top teams in the conference, and Nebraska is looking to make a statement. Ohio State and Michigan State are expected to provide a tough challenge, while Oklahoma State and Northwestern are looking to build on their recent successes. Texas A&M, coming off a loss to Oklahoma State, is looking to bounce back and take the conference by storm. The conference is shaping up to be an exciting one, with each team determined to come out on top.

Field hockey's title game

BY JUSTIN BERNHARD

Field hockey fans (not a large group) will be able to see the championship game of the Big Ten field hockey tournament on Friday at 2 p.m. It will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The game will feature the top two teams in the conference, the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania. The winner will advance to the NCAA tournament, while the loser will have to wait another year for another chance.

The Schwag

Delicious Gift Ideas Make a statement with our gift guide. From the world's most famous bicycles to the newest tech gadgets, we have something for everyone. Shop now and make your loved ones happy this holiday season.
Field hockey seeks another title at Big Ten Tournament

BY JUSTIN SKELN

Pushing off its first regular-season Big Ten Tourney since 1999, the Iowa women's hockey team is looking to win the conference tournament title this weekend in Northwestern. This is the 11th installment of the Big Ten Tournament.

The Hawkeyes have only claimed one tournament title, but they took home the inaugural tournament title in 1992.

Last year, the Michigan State Sparty defeated defending conference champion Penn State in the championship game, 2-1.

Penn State is the only other team to finish the season with a 2-0 record, jump over Michigan State, and claim the Big Ten title. Michigan leads the conference with a 5-1 record.

The Big Ten Tournament should hold a lot of excitement for the Iowa fans.

Four of the seven conference teams are ranked in the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) top 20. The Iowa Hawkeyes, Ohio State, Michigan, and Michigan State are all ranking within the top 10 teams.

This year, the Big Ten Tournament will take place in Lincoln, Neb., at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The tournament began on Thursday, Nov. 7, and Michigan is eight, and Northwestern is ninth, in the rankings.

The seeding process proved that the tournament is too close to predict. With Iowa, Michigan State, and Michigan resting their top players, it was difficult for the seeding committee to put Iowa in a more advantageous seed. The Hawkeyes are fifth.

Five players named to All-Big Ten

Five players from the Iowa field hockey team have been named to the All-Big Ten team.

Junior Laura Stiver and senior Heather Schnepf, the team's seniors, made the second team. Stiver, a native of Des Moines, and Schnepf, a native of Coralville, were given dual eligibility status.

Iowa's top two scorers could not be separated in the tournament, so both are named to the All-Big Ten team.

Head coach Tracey Griesbaum was named Big Ten Coach of the Year for the first time in the program's history. She had her best season in 2005-06.

The winner of this year's tournament will take home the inaugural All-Big Ten. It was too close to separate the teams, so both are named to the All-Big Ten team. This year's tournament will be held in Northwestern's Honey Badger Hockey Stadium.

The tournament was presented to a consortium of Big Ten schools. It is the third-year event for the conference.

"We're disappointed," Col­lahan said. "But the Joe Dailey continues to work hard at becoming the quarterback we want him to be. He is trying his best in many respects, and I stand behind him."

The team is currently ranked fourth in the Big Ten, with conference play starting on Saturday.

"I like to think our (coaches') worst is yet to come," Collahan said.

The Hawkeyes are currently ranked fifth in the nation.

In 2005-06, the Hawkeyes went 13-6-2, but the program has struggled with inconsistency throughout the season.

"We're disappointed," Col­lahan said. "But the Joe Dailey continues to work hard at becoming the quarterback we want him to be. He is trying his best in many respects, and I stand behind him."

Dailey is currently ranked in third place in the conference.

"We're disappointed," Col­lahan said. "But the Joe Dailey continues to work hard at becoming the quarterback we want him to be. He is trying his best in many respects, and I stand behind him."

"Joe Dailey is probably the team's best player," Collahan said.

The program has struggled with inconsistent quarterback play throughout the season.

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Raising the regatta

Being part of Iowa's rowing team means more than just time on the water, preparing for each practice is an effort all on its own.

BY KRISTI POOLER

Packing for the regatta makes the launching of the Titan III a breeze.

Traveling to a regatta is no small feat for the Iowa rowing team — it's about preparation and loading gear that must be done with the greatest care to ensure the safety of the nearly 30,000 boats.

Exhausted and damp, the team members return to the boathouse following a Wednesday practice to begin preparing the boats "Christine Hill Grow" and "Bath," for a trip across the country.

Each crewman is in charge of dehumidifying and cleaning the interior of their boat. Rooms are cleared of any crew in the boat, and the cage is moved from the dock to the storage area.

Although the whole process appears relatively effortless, the rowing team practices its loading and unloading every several days before leaving to ensure the highest efficiency.

"We usually use the same routine, but change a few, because it helps us get it in sync within our crew," said senior rower Michaela Kallmeyer. "It's very repetitive and routine.

"Before each piece is secured in its own boat, and is being covered by a mixer, the rowers must get into their bunks for a nap, and an organizing of the oars, after which the crew is given instructions and a read-down check.

Each crew of eight sits in their own boat, and are supervised by the captain of their own rowing team. Beginning with the removal of each oar, the crew place the oars into the mixer, and then into the mixer's padded covers that sit up against the boat.

Next, the crew must take all of the oars, which are a combination of the boathouse, to the mixer for a check. If the rowers are not used to the width of the boat and the different leverage for the oars during the rowing team, then the mixer's captain will make sure each oar is properly stored in the mixer.

Walking down the entire length of the boat, the mixer captain, Emily Volland, attends to the mixer and makes sure each oar is properly stored in the mixer.

"Bigger belts must be then tightened and taped with duvet tape. Next, Trammel and Volland place the foot-bow, which is the foot startling the bottom of the boat. The loadboard is the weight of the entire boat. That's the main concern of the oarsmen, since the bow is moving all along the boat. Shoes must fit into the foot-bow, and the mixer captain will try to make the best fit by the board to optimize an oarsman's leg driving.

Sophomore Emily Volland is in charge of ensuring each footboard with hugs and eee. Cross-training in every direction, these oarsmen ensure that the footboard won't fall out during loading and transportation.

Verdon, who learned the process of foot loading last season as a rowing novice, continues securing her side of the boat. Quickly.

"It took me a while to learn what to do," she said. "It was hard, because it was a sport that I wasn't used to. It was hard to know what needed to be done. It took me until the spring to be fully comfortable on the job.

After each piece is secured, the woman must make sure that everything is checked and rechecked twice to ensure that no bolt is loose or hinge is stuck.

Now that the inner workings of each boat have been secured, the rowers are able to begin the loading of the boat. Women are helped by eight men at a time. Seven men team carry the crew while the eighth, the mixer, gives them their instructions and keeps them on the safe path toward the trailer. When the mixer's captain has loaded the gear on the trailer, the rows will be able to take off and enter the sandwich meal on the boat. As they are packed, the mixer's captain gives them their instructions. Then, the mixer's captain will go back to the mixer to make sure that all of the mixer's gear is properly stored.

Because of the mixer's gear, the women must take the care of the mixer as they did the oars. This is the role that the mixer holds on the boat. The mixer is then guided onto the top of the trailer, which is a battle the earth morning traffic along Market Street. Guided by the row of their mixer's captain, the mixer gives the rowers their instructions on how to properly store the mixer, and then proceed to the trailer.

The mixer's captain's instructions, the mixer, and the mixer's gear are handled by the mixer's captain as they did the oars. This is the role that the mixer holds on the boat. The mixer is then guided onto the top of the mixer, which is a battle the earth morning traffic along Market Street. Guided by the row of their mixer's captain, the mixer gives the rowers their instructions on how to properly store the mixer, and then proceed to the trailer.

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By KRISTI POOLER

Tiger Woods chips the green on the fourth hole during the first round of the Tour Championship by Atlanta.

Woods sees yacht builder owner over name

FOOT LAUDERDALE, Fla., (AP) — Tiger Woods is taking a swing at the builder of his luxury yacht. Privacy, accusing the shipyard of using his name and photograph for its own promotion.

The former World No. 1 filed a lawsuit against N. 78 Inc., doing business as Garden Island Yachts, in federal court in Northern California on Friday. Woods said the company used his name and photo of the 105-foot yacht without permission.

"This is certainly not the first time that someone has taken advantage of my name in an effort to increase sales of his product," the lawsuit said.

Woods wants a judge's order to stop Garden Island and name a settlement amount.

The company referred calls to an attorney, who did not immediately return a call Thursday.

The lawsuit comes one month after Woods and Swedish model Elin Nordegren were married. Oct. 5 at a luxury resort in Barbados and later set off on a four-day trip, along with a crew.

The couple were briefly detained in Puerto Rico on Oct. 12 when the yacht entered San Juan's port without the required four-day notice. Woods was warned, but not fined, by the U.S. Coast Guard.

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Five Hawkeyes score in double digits, team shot 50 percent from field

HOOPS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

"I feel like I'm a lot more con­
fident this year in shooting part of the lob shots that I know this is," the senior said.

"I think that if people aren't as focused on us, they're more worried about our inside play. A lot of my 3's come from passes from our posts. I think it's a lot easier when you're shooting open shots because they're not worried about other people. I think that's going to be the big difference this year."

A lot of the point guard role came from last year's leading scorer, senior center Jamie Camp, who totaled five assists.

Australian Institute made up
its array of talented
offense is
one-dimen­
sional.

Australian Institute's
Emil
Gudmundson, its
4-10,74-27,14.

"Every time you lose, it's
disappointing," said
Chad Greenway
after two losing
seasons, said
that Purdue's
receivers
are literally trying
to snatch 43 passes
from one another.

"They were obviously mak­
ing an effort to stop us," said
Spurrier in a statement.

That Purdue's latest
narrowed all speculation about
his return.

"When I departed three
years ago, there were several reasons
why I believed it was time to
move on," Spurrier said. "Other
than simply wanting to cash in
on the NFL money, I also
believed that 12 years at Florida
was probably long enough.

Many people in football believe that a head coach
10-12 years in the same job is about the minimum
time it takes to get a return on
investment."

Purdue would
be the biggest
step back and con­
sequent second
province of
no other team's
troubled conference.

They felt Purdue would
be the easiest place to
regain the
upper hand of the 1990s, and they openly
announced his desire to
remain and his
motivation at winning.

Some also saw it
was going
the way Spurrier left Florida.

"I'm really pleased with
the play," Spurrier said.

"They've been pretty adept at
finding positives with five players
braked only eight times last
season."

"You know, I really thought
our offense looked better than
they did," she added.

"We go that stopped, we
really did," Bluder said.

"And I thought our rebounding
would be better than this,
three or four things I'm disap­
pointed with."

However, she was able to
find positives with five players
in double figures, shooting
50 percent from the field,
and eclipsing the 80-point
mark, which the Hawk
broke in eight times last
season.

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Orton: Purdue’s fighting, clawing to win

Purdue
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

significant alterations to the
team's offensive schemes.

"I think we need to stop
the run early and stop them
right away," said
Chad Greenway.

"If we get out of shape,
we can focus on
that passing
game a lot more,
so we can make them
one-dimen­
sional.

The Bob­
rushers' defense
is now a
lot of talented
mediums, led by senior
Tony
Redbush.

The 6-1, 200-pounder has
recorded 26 tackles for 47T,
twice, and a Big Ten leading
six tackles.

Six others have caught
double-digits balls this
season, which has made
coaching Purdue's
tough, he said.

"They just do a good
job of getting matches in the
passing game," Ferentz
said. "I think it's one thing
they've been pretty adept at
for a long time.

When we're playing Iowa,
both against the Hawk
in his career, and he left for his first
victory in his home state.

He admitted that the
team has lost self-con­
fidence while on its losing
streak, but it's also
embraced stronger
tendency.

Every time you lose, it's
like a punch in the face
"Orton said.

We are literally trying
the same thing in a football game. We're
focusing on getting a win, and hopefully
we can put together a winning
streak," he said.

"I'm really pleased with
the play," Spurrier said.

"They've been pretty adept at
finding positives with five players
braked only eight times last
season."

"You know, I really thought
our offense looked better than
they did," she added.

"We go that stopped, we
really did," Bluder said.

"And I thought our rebounding
would be better than this,
three or four things I'm disap­
pointed with."

However, she was able to
find positives with five players
in double figures, shooting
50 percent from the field,
and eclipsing the 80-point
mark, which the Hawk
broke in eight times last
season.

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However, she was able to
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in double figures, shooting
50 percent from the field,
and eclipsing the 80-point
mark, which the Hawk
broke in eight times last
season.
Steelers try to knock off a second unbeaten team

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

A week ago, the Pittsburgh Steelers found themselves in a dogfight against the NFC South unbeaten Falcons, aiming for a win to keep up in the division. Now, they get the third-best team of the NFC South, a team that ended the Falcons' undefeated streak back in Week 2.

Steelers (8-3), at Falcons (7-3)

The Falcons, led by Matt Ryan and Julio Jones, have been a force in the NFC South, but they face a stiff challenge against Pittsburgh's defense, which has been ranked in the top 10 in the NFL for most of the season. Ryan has been a key player on offense, but Pittsburgh's defense is coming off a strong performance against the Falcons last week.

The Steelers, on the other hand, have been playing well against strong competition. They have won two straight games, including a win against the Atlanta Falcons in Week 2. Pittsburgh's defense has been ranked in the top 10 in the NFL for most of the season, and the team has been playing well against strong competition.

Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin said his team will focus on preparing for the Falcons this week. "Our priority is to stay sharp and focused on the task at hand," Tomlin said.

The game will beplayed on Sunday, November 21, at 1:00 PM ET at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta. The winner of the game will move closer to the top of the division standings, and both teams have a shot at securing a playoff spot with a strong finish to the season.
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30 DAYS FOR $40
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Call our office to set up a time that is convenient for you to bring your car by to be photographed. Your ad will run for 30 days - for $40
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Date
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Location
Contact person/phone

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1-7 days: $1.50 per word ($10.50 min.)
8-14 days: $1.00 per word ($7.00 min.)
15-30 days: $0.75 per word ($4.50 min.)
31 days: $0.65 per word ($4.00 min.)

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For sale by owner, large 1 & 2 bedroom apartments, large bedrooms, large living room with wood burning fireplace. Walking distance to University of Iowa campus. Spacious with wood burning fireplace. Minutes from the UI, perfect for students.

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Rental properties available
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calender

• "Talk of Iowa Live from the Java House," 8 p.m., World View after E.U. Elections & Border Lord, 10 a.m., 212 E. Washington

• Filling Idol at Iowa Lunch Forum, Linda Noetelend, epidemiology, noon, IMU Room 1.

• With Lara, a play by Chris Leynaard, UCIL General Hospital Main Lobby.

• "The Study of Religion in an Age of Terror," Paul Courtwright, Emory University, 12:30 p.m., Gannon Hall third-floor atrium.

• The Arts in America: History, Politics, Franciscan Lectures Series, "Shame!

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Iowa vs. Purdue

STREAK SHOWDOWN

Hawkeyes, Boilermakers fight for bowl-game considerations
Big Ten Standings

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Saturday
Ohio State at Michigan State, 11 a.m. (ESPN)
Northwestern at Penn State, 11 a.m. (ESPN-plus)
Indiana at Illinois, 1 p.m.
Purdue at Iowa, 2:30 p.m. (ESPN)
Minnesota at Wisconsin, 2:30 p.m. (ABC)

Pregame contributors: Brian Triplett, Nick Richards, Jennifer Sturm

Associated Press Poll

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ESPN/USA Today Poll

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Other receiving votes: Northern Illinois 52, Pittsburgh 43, Texas Tech 35, Purdue 34, Alabama 23, Penn State 21, Michigan State 19, Toledo 18, Oregon 17, Southern California 16, Ohio State 12, Nebraska 11, Notre Dame 7, Bowling Green 4

Pregame Editor: Jason Brummond
Editor-in-Chief: Tony Robinson
Cover: Beth Herzinger

The Daily Iowan

Publisher: Bill Casey
Ads: Cathy Witt, Renee Manders, Bev Mrstik
Production: Bob Foley, Heidi Owen, Mary Schultz
Circulation: Pete Recker

In the Huddle

Will Kyle Orton start?
If he does, he won't be 100 percent
Yes, but better question is: Will he finish?
Yes, dodgy hip and all
Adventureland: We're gonna have a fun-filled day!
Edwards a big-time player, but iffy hands
Drew Tate — he hasn't been benched yet

Best Altoona attraction: Orton or Adventureland?
Welcome to Altoona, the home of Heisman fallout Kyle Orton
Did Adventureland fall apart this fall?
I'll say Scott Chandler
Edwards a big-time player, but iffy hands
Drew Tate — he hasn't been benched yet

Purdue's Stubblefield or Michigan's Edwards?
Edwards — he's going to make somebody's NFL team a lot better
Drew Tate — offensive load falls on his shoulders, and he produces
Edwards a big-time player, but iffy hands
Drew Tate — he hasn't been benched yet

Big Ten first-team quarterback pick
Stanton — dangerous dual-threat QB who doesn't have a lot of help
I'll say Scott Chandler
Drew Tate — offensive load falls on his shoulders, and he produces
Drew Tate — he hasn't been benched yet

NBA preseason MVP
Tim Duncan
Shaq daddy
Kobe — 90 shots a game will help
Pistons still best team

NBA Eastern Conference winner
Pacers (sorry, Alex) — one final go-around for my boy Reggie Miller
Welcome to Miami
Pistons still best team

NBA Western Conference winner
Spurs — not even a contest
Houston, we don't have a problem
Cain toss; Minnesota or San Antonio

Iowa/Purdue score
Iowa 13, Purdue 10
Iowa 21, Purdue 17
Iowa 24, Purdue 13
Get 43,200 anytime minutes.
MEGAtalk* Unlimited local calling, 24/7.

MEGA Holiday Offer

Packages starting at $79.95
Includes phone, 15-day unlimited local airtime, card, 100 free text messages and activation.

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(i) Wireless.
A lost cause

The Iowa football team has now lost four ball carriers to season-ending ACL injuries, and two others are out of Saturday’s game with ankle and head injuries. Is this simply bad luck, or is there a reason behind the phenomenon?

BY BRIAN TRIPLETT • THE DAILY IOWAN

A group of six ball carriers on the Iowa football team gathered in the same room this past Sunday.

Junior running back Marques Simmons shifted his eyes from the ice that numbed his left ankle to inspect the haunting scenery surrounding him.

He sat in the Hawkeye football training facility among fellow running backs and fullbacks Marcus Schnoor, Albert Young, Jeremelle Lewis, Champ Davis, and Aaron Mickens.

They, too, had suffered injuries, worn ice packs, and dealt with crushed spirits.

Mickens was diagnosed with a concussion the day before. The four others had torn anterior cruciate ligaments in their right knee during separate games throughout the 2004 football season, while Simmons had suffered a high-ankle sprain a few weeks back.

"Coaches should just move the meetings into the training room," said Simmons, making light of quite possibly the scarriest, strangest phenomenon to ever sweep through the Hawkeye football program.

Simmons and Mickens may see a return to action in the remaining weeks, while their four other ailing teammates waved goodbye to any hopes of returning this season.

It’s an accepted fact that injuries occur in football. But never has anyone seen injuries plague one position like this before.

***

Under a year ago, Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz watched his star running back Fred Russell leave Iowa City in pursuit of a career in the NFL with another year of college eligibility remaining.

While the coach supported Russell’s decision 100 percent, looking back on it now causes Ferentz to crack a “what if?” sort of smile.

“I do remember thinking, ‘Well, if we’re not going to get a quality guy like Fred back for his fifth year, at least we’ve got some horses in the stable,’ so to speak,” said Ferentz. “And somebody opened the door because it’s, you know, feeling lonely in there.”

The flurry of injuries to the backfield leaves sophomore walk-on Sam Brownlee and true freshman Damian Sims in charge of carrying the load.

The Hawkeyes have managed to keep a respectable record of 6-2 despite their continuously depleted running game, but the trend of injuries to ball carriers has caused the program to shine a spotlight on any possible causes.

Could it be the field surface, the equipment, the shoes, the training?

Or is it simply the strangest coincidence to ever come through the Iowa football program?

DJ Sports Editor Brian Triplett went searching for answers, attitudes, and opinions.

The veteran

Longtime radio broadcaster Bob Brooks has covered Iowa football since 1945.

"From an injury standpoint, it looked like it was a disease that affected one position. No, I can’t ever remember just one position being hit all the time and the players not able to come back. That’s the big thing. It’s not an injury. It’s a season-ending injury, and I doubt whether I could recall any time when Iowa had lost four or five running backs. I can recall a time when we didn’t have five running backs. I can recall a time when they didn’t have two or one."

The coach

Kirk Ferentz is in his sixth year as head coach of the Iowa football team.

"We’ll look at every possible contributor to the problem. The way I look at it is this: We’re not doing anything differently philosophically, whether it be weightlifting or the way we practice. Top to bottom, it’s the same surface. We practice and play on the same surface that we did in 2002. We went through that year pretty much injury-free. I think the other thing about the ACLs is we’ve had more than one every year, but I think the reason right now it’s so dramatic to everyone is it’s all the same position. To have four at one position is pretty unusual, especially four guys who are guys who were playing. When you have that, it certainly magnifies it."

— On the possibility that shoes are the problem

"I’m no expert in the shoe industry, but I got a feeling all those guys have the same products and the same shoe, so are the guys in the NFL having the same problem? I’m sure there’s a lot more to making a shoe than I give credit to, but I got a feeling they’re all pretty close to being the same. But we’re going to look at everything."
Jermelle Lewis — Torn ACL on Oct. 2 against Michigan State  
Marques Simmons — High-ankle sprain on Oct. 9 against Ohio State

— On looking into the situation
“Some people are working on it now. I'm certainly not. I don't have time for it, but yeah, we have some people that are working on it and doing their research. But I'll shift back, you talk about running backs. Who made more cuts than Fred Russell? He made them when he didn't have a workout, we haven't talked about the situation hurt.'

— On what's causing the injuries to the running backs
"I think it's just a coincidence. We've just been hitting a streak of bad luck. We can't really find any cause or underlying reason."

— On ACL tears
"It's a very common injury. It's the most common ligament injury that we see in boys' and girls' competitive sports that usually involved good traction between the foot, the shoe, and the ground."

— On when an ACL injury occurs
"That's usually when it happens. When a player is trying to slow down and change direction."

— On shoes causing ACL injuries
"There is some evidence that shows that long cleats and deep cleats that get high traction may predispose the injury. The current shoes we're using, everybody's using. NFL teams are using them."

— On trying to find the cause
"You feel handcuffed because there's not a magic formula to prevent them or at least identify who's at risk."

— On analyzing the injuries
"We get the videos of the injuries, we look at the way it happened, we look what was going on with the athlete, what position his leg was in when it happened."

— On what can cause these injuries
"There are some other factors that you can't control; for example, there's also a genetic component."

— On conditioning-program problems
"I must say that our conditioning program is very balanced. I think we've incorporated all the injury-prevention-type exercises into the program."

— On playing surface
"Recent studies published injuries between field turf and grass, and there's really not much difference in the risk of injury in ACL injuries."

— On finding out the problem
"I wish we had an answer, and at this point, I'm not sure we're ever going to get an answer because there are so many factors involved."

A voice outside the program
Dr. Ed Wojtys is the professor of orthopedic surgery at the Michigan medical school and is also director of the sports-medicine program.

— On progress of prevention
"Hopefully, research in the next couple years is going to show us what to change in our training and conditioning to prevent some of these."

— On what measures Iowa should take
"I think certainly when this happens there's need to certainly scrutinize what you're doing."

— On Iowa football program
"Those are very high-quality people, so I don't think it's blatantly obvious what the reason is. I'd be very surprised if it's something indigenous in the program."

— On ACL injury-prevention research
"The research is very promising... I'm pretty certain we're going to make some headway here in the next couple years."

— On ever recalling a flurry of injuries to one position such as Iowa's
"I can remember having two or three in a season in a team."

— On how strange the occurrence is
"I think the thing that's a little disturbing is that most of them came from the same position."

— On the position the ACL tears are plaguing
"That four of them have happened in running backs is not too surprising."

The researcher
Tim Hessel is the director of the Sports Medicine Biodynamics Center at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital and conducts research on the mechanisms and prevention of anterior cruciate ligament tears in young athletes.

— On evidence of prevention studies
"Most of the evidence is in the female athletes because female athletes are about five times more likely to tear their ACLs in the same sport as males."

— On how an ACL injury can occur
"When the leg's relatively straight and you have a powerful quadriceps contraction, like when you're cutting or landing, the quadriceps have enough force to tear the ACL."

— On how to train to prevent ACL injuries
"You need the balance between the hamstring and the quadriceps strength, balance between side to side leg to leg strength, and you need single leg balance."

— On the potential of training improperly
"Theoretically, you could say if you worked the quadriceps muscles excessively and underworked the flexors, that could potentially lead to problems."

— On preventing injuries
"A lot of these non-contact injuries are not necessarily preventable."

SEE INJURIES, PAGE 6
Simmons: Never seen anything like this

INJURIES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

— On Iowa's case being simply a coincidence
  "Oh yes, absolutely it could be. I get calls pretty regularly, especially from women's programs, where for instance where teams will have three, four of their starters blow out their ACLs. Could that be a coincidence? Yes, it definitely could. I'd say that's likely the best explanation for it."

— On what Iowa could be doing wrong
  "I doubt whether what Iowa's doing from a training aspect is different from what everyone else around the country is doing."

— On the field surface making a difference
  "There's some sort of idea that turf tears more ACLs than grass, but the studies that have been done don't show that."

— On the type of shoe making a difference
  "Just using regular cleats on grass versus turf, that's no difference."

— On overtraining
  "No, I doubt that sitting is going to lead to more ACL injuries. It's not likely."

The injured

Junior running back Marques Simmons suffered a high ankle sprain in the Hawkeyes game against Ohio State and is out indefinitely.

— On new running backs
  "They're not going to put Sam or Sims on the field if they can't play, so I mean, they're going to have confidence in those guys. They're doing well so far, so coach can't really knock them. We're still winning. We're still getting Ws, so it's tough, but it's not really hurting us right now."

— On why this is happening
  "I mean, there can't be really an explanation because everybody's doing the same workout. It just happens at our position. We've got a little bug, I guess, going around the running back room. But you can't say it's doing too much squats or doing this or doing that, or it's the shoes, because everybody wears the same thing, everybody wears the same equipment. You can't just point out one certain thing that it could be."  

— On his findings
  "It's not the curse of Kinnick. I guess we've just got a little bug running around our running-back room. It's everybody in our position. I don't know why it's hurting us so bad, but guys are still doing their job. You can't take away from the guys that are playing. They're still doing well."

— On being in the training room
  "It's crazy. We're all just sitting here, wrapped up on the bed, can't do anything, but you know it's weird. I've never seen anything like this all at one position. I can see like one or two guys going down, but you have four guys with ACLs."

— On frustration of being injured
  "Everybody's a little upset, you know. Everybody had the opportunity. Everybody started going down and it was like, it's my time to step up, then they go down, and it's my time to step up, then they go down, and it's just disappointing."

— On impact of injuries
  "For me myself, it hit me. Jermaine, it's hit him. He's a senior on the team, and it's another ACL. I mean, that has to be hard for him. I couldn't even imagine. Albert's still young. He could probably get another year back, so he'll still have four more years. Marcus, he's right to get another year, I don't know. But myself, this is all I have left. Coach Doyle told me back in the summertime, you only have two years, and now I'm sitting here, missing out a few games because of an ankle injury."

The strength coach

Chris Doyle is in his sixth year as Iowa's strength and conditioning coach.

— On questioning his strength and conditioning program
  "You're constantly re-evaluating what you're doing to make sure you're doing the right things."

— On his findings
  "Right now I don't have an answer."

— On his frustration level
  "This is a very strange thing, and this is a very frustrating thing for us right now."

The next man in

Sophomore walk-on running back Sam Brownlee moved from fifth-string to the starter in only six games.

— On moving up on the depth chart
  "I guess I've never seen anything this strange, but I mean football's football. I don't see it being a hex or plague like some people say it is."

— On taking precautionary measures
  "Not really, I guess. I haven't really taken any other measures. I just go out and play hard every play and just hope for the best."

— On imagining being a starter this season
  "Not at the beginning of this year, no."

Hawkeye fifth-string running back Sam Brownlee will make his third start of the season on Saturday because Iowa's top four running backs have gone down with injuries.

— On the flurry of injuries
  "It kind of crept up on me. I guess it kind of hit me, but all you can do is try to go in there and do the best you can."

— On taking precautionary measures
  "I don't see how you can take some kind of safety precaution. If you go out there tentatively, that's not going to help anything. I try not to think about it around game time."

A concerned mother

Jennifer Brownlee, mother of starting Iowa running back Sam Brownlee, lives with her husband Craig in Emmetsburg, Iowa.

— On watching her son
  "Every minute he's out there I worry. But he's a pretty tough kid and he's been through an awful lot. He's broken his back once; he had to live in a full body cast for six weeks, but he keeps coming back. He just knows how to take the hard knocks and what it takes to be a football player at that level."

E-mail Dr Sports Editor Brian Triplett at:
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ACL BACKGROUND

The ACL (anterior cruciate ligament) ligament is the knee's primary stabilizer. Its main function is to provide internal strength and balance to the joint during changes of direction and rotational movements.

Most football-related ACL injuries occur during noncontact situations such as cutting and side-to-side movements. However, they can also occur when a player receives a blow from behind. ACL injuries can range from minor tears to complete ruptures.

It is difficult to prevent ACL injuries because the ligament is located inside the knee joint. Stretching before and after activities allows the knee to become more flexible, which allows it to respond better to stressful situations.

Incorporating plyometric exercises, which alternate between weight-bearing and aerobic activities, into training can help maximize the knees' flexibility.

Because ACL injuries often occur when the muscles around the knee are fatigued, a strengthening program that focuses on the knee and upper leg muscles may help protect the knee by providing stronger muscles and enhanced endurance. It also helps take stress from the knee by allowing the muscles to act as shock absorbers and dissipate force.

It is important to maintain a balance of strength and power between the hamstrings and quadriceps. If one group is stronger than the other, there is a possibility of overpowering the weaker group, which can lead to muscle pulls and tears.

Some cleated shoes may predispose a player to suffering an injury to a knee ligament. Conventional football shoes generally have cleats that are longer than soccer-style turf shoes. Longer cleats provide needed traction on grass and mud, but they can cause the foot to be too firmly planted, which means they will not allow the knee to rotate during lateral or rotational movements.

When playing on well-groomed fields or artificial turf, shorter cleats generally provide adequate grip, while allowing the knee to rotate more freely.

— by Brian Triplett
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Brad Banks completed just three passes to Dallas Clark, but a 95-yarder in the third quarter and a 7-yard touchdown pass in the closing minutes were all Iowa’s offense needed against Purdue on Oct. 5, 2002.

It was the Hawkeyes’ second-consecutive close game and allowed Iowa to win the remainder of its games and earn an Orange Bowl berth.

The Hawkeyes’ special teams scored two touchdowns — an 85-yard missed field goal return by Antwan Allen and a blocked punt return by Jermire Roberts.

After Clark’s touchdown, Iowa’s Adolphus Shelton sealed the win with an interception on Purdue’s last drive.

Purdue quarterback Kyle Orton was knocked out in the second half after throwing for 247 yards and a first quarter touchdown.

But backup Brandon Kirsch was able to keep the Boilermakers in the game. He scored on a 16-yard touchdown run and finished with 163 yards.

Both quarterbacks may play Saturday against the Hawkeyes.

That was Brandon’s coming-out party, and it made us realize that he was a better player than we thought,” Purdue coach Joe Tiller said.

“He’d make a play, and my response would be, ‘Wow, do you think he’s got one more in him?’ And then he’d go and make another.”

— by Jason Brummond

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What Else Do You Need?
Top conference QBs clash

BY JASON BRUMMOND
THE DAILY IOWAN

Saturday's game between No. 20 Iowa and Purdue is a Big Ten game; it just may not look like one.

The conference is renowned for its tough defenses and strong running attacks, but this weekend won't feature much of the latter.

Expect to see a lot of balls through the air with quarterbacks Drew Tate and Kyle Orton, who rank 1-2 in passing yards within league play.

Tate is averaging 292 yards in five conference games with a 139.2 efficiency rating, while Orton averages 246 yards and a 120.7 ranking.

Tate's Hawkeye teammates weren't surprised when they were told who was leading statistically between Saturday's two quarterbacks.

"Being in the huddle over the last four weeks and hearing the play calls — no, it's not really surprising," guard Brian Ferentz said. "That's a credit to Drew and Drew's ability to throw the football. He just puts the ball where it needs to be, and it's probably hard to teach."

Orton started out the season red hot, tallying more than 1,600 yards, 18 touchdowns, and just two interceptions in the Boilermakers' first five games — all wins. The senior threw 166 passes to start the year before tossing his first interception.

Purdue climbed to a No. 5 national ranking, and Orton's Heisman Trophy buzz grew proportionately.

"The reason he's been getting all the accolades and been doing so well this year is he reads the receivers well and he knows his offense inside and out," Hawkeye safety Sean Considine said. "He always finds the guy who ends up open."

But since then, the Altoona, Iowa, native has struggled, and Purdue has struggled along with him. He completed 69.2 percent of his passes in the first five games and only 50 percent in the Boilermakers' three losses that followed.

Last weekend against Northwestern, Orton was pulled by coach Joe Tiller in the second half because of not only physical inability with a hip flexor but also mental struggles and missing open receivers.

"It's about as frustrated as I've been as a player here, because I've played hurt before, and I thought I could throw and play through it," Orton said.

The senior is listed as questionable against the Hawkeyes, but Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said if there's anyway Orton can play, he will play. He said Orton's intangibles — leadership and game management — are just as valuable as his cannon of a right arm.

"From 2002 to last year, you could just see a big change, I thought," Kirk Ferentz said. "You didn't see many bad decisions. When a guy gets that experience and confidence, which he has, it's hard to put a price tag on it."

Tate's decision-making and play has improved immensely since an unflattering performance at Arizona State in mid-September. The following week at Michigan, he completed 75 percent of his passes, and then he threw for 300-plus yards in a pair of home games.

Last weekend, he fought 40-mph gusts, and the week before he went up against one of the country's best pass defenses, but Tate has still been efficient. Kirk Ferentz said he worries that Tate will come down too hard on himself when he makes mistakes, but the Texas native said he's just doing what he's always done.

"I've played the same way all my life, and I've had the same confidence since I've been playing when I was little," the 6-0, 185-pound sophomore said.

That's certainly not going to draw any complaints from his receivers.

"He always has his eyes downhill," receiver Ed Hinkel said. "He wants to complete the pass, and I think that's imperative to what he's doing."

The junior, who made two sensational grabs from Tate for touchdowns this year, said Tate's throws are precise and always in a spot that limits the defense access to the ball.

"Drew's great with his ball placement," Hinkel said. "He can slide them in there, and you might not even think as a receiver that he's going to try to throw it, but he'll sneak it in there."

"He just does a great job of putting the ball where it needs to be."

E-mail Di Pregame Editor Jason Brummond at jason-brummond@iowa.edu.
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Purdue's, Orton's wheels coming off

NICK RICHARDS

Just think about this: Three weeks ago, as Iowa was tearing through Ohio State, Purdue was ranked in the top five, had the top Heisman Trophy candidate in quarterback Kyle Orton, and held a comfortable 10-point lead over Wisconsin late in the fourth quarter in a battle of top-10 teams. Then it all fell apart.

Wisconsin scored late in the game to pull within 3. Then came the play that has defined both team's seasons to this point.

On third and short, Orton ran a bootleg to the right and lunged for the first down that would have salted the game away. Instead, Orton went airborne, was flipped on the play, and fumbled. Wisconsin's Scott Starks picked up the loose ball and ran the game for the Badgers. Just like that, Orton's Heisman candidacy evaporated, as did Purdue's Big Ten title hopes. Since that fumble, the Boilermakers have dropped three straight contests. Ouch.

How could this happen? A team that was off to its best start in 60 years, a team that looked invincible, all of the sudden looks like a mid-major. It lost to Michigan, a game in which another airborne player fumbled late in the contest and then inexplicably lost to Northwestern. And it only scored 10 points. Ten. When did Northwestern become a defensive force?

The Purdue offense has been downright putrid the last three weeks. It has only scored 41 points in those three games. It scored 41 or more in three of its first four games. While the offense has struggled, the defense, which gave up 30 points to Illinois and more than 500 yards of offense to Notre Dame, has suddenly stepped up to the plate. It's given up just 49 points in those games, losing those three games by a total of 8 points.

The Boilermakers have suddenly been hit by several problems, all of them curiously offensive. Kyle Orton was a magician his first four games. However, I could've put up the same numbers he's put up his last four games. After throwing for 17 touchdowns and zero interceptions his first four games, he's thrown four touchdowns and five interceptions in his last four games, and the Boilermakers are now 1-3 in those four games in which he's struggled.

He does have a hip injury, which is serious for a quarterback. He hasn't been able to step into his throws, causing him to throw mainly with his upper body, and his mobility has been seriously limited. The injury has affected his performance, and it forced Joe Tiller to bench him in favor of Brandon Kirsch during the Northwestern game.

Defenses have been getting physical with the Purdue receivers. Such teams as Penn State and Michigan, which have aggressive corners, have gone to a bump-and-run with the Boiler receivers, and that has thrown off the timing of the Purdue offense. Purdue coach Joe Tiller has been very vocal about the lack of interference calls on opposing defenses. C'mon, coach, you should look at Kirk Ferentz. He's still looking for the first holding call on Matt Roth this year. He hasn't seen one. What makes you think they are going to change the way they call a game because you feel your guys are being interfered with? It's not going to happen.

The Boilermakers can salvage what looked like a magical season. It can still be done with three weeks left. They are still 5-3 overall. An 8-3 season would be amazing considering they lost seven defensive starters last season. Of course, they are entering the house of horrors known as Kinnick Stadium. If this game were being played in West Lafayette, I'd give Purdue an edge. But this game is in Kinnick, and if Purdue wants to salvage this season, they are going to have to "Boiler Up."
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## PREGAME

### The Grid: A Look at the Big Ten's 11 Teams Week-By-Week

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Indiana at Illinois

**Key for the Hoosiers:** Don't be fooled by Indiana's 30-21 win against Minnesota last weekend — it's not very good. The Hoosiers are giving up 445 yards a game, including 207 on the ground, and Illinois should take advantage of that with tailbacks E.B. Haley and Pierre Thomas.

**Key for the Fighting Illini:** Indiana has one win in the conference, and let's face it: If Illinois is going to get one, this is the game. Quarterback Jon Beutjer did a better job of moving the football last week against Iowa than Brad Bower, but coach Ron Turner will probably stick with Bower as his starter.

**Prediction:** Granted, if these teams were next to each at the top of the conference, it would be considered a better game, but it's an intriguing matchup nonetheless. This should be a high-scoring game; look for Illinois to edge out Indiana if Turner goes with the veteran at quarterback.

Minnesota at Wisconsin

**Key for the Gophers:** Who's going to show up? The team that blew out Illinois, 45-0, or the one that lost to a weak Indiana team? Will it be the one that gave Michigan a close run or the team that got shellacked by Michigan State the following week?

Minnesota's offense has been just fine, but how do you give up 400 yards and 23 first downs to Indiana? The Gophers are giving up 165 yards rushing in Big Ten games — or nearly twice as much as Iowa — and they also rank ninth in pass defense. Glen Mason's team needs to find its niche, or it could very easily lose its remaining two contests.

**Key for the Badgers:** Shutting down Minnesota's running attack. The winner of the nation's fourth-ranked rushing offense against the nation's sixth-best run defense is going to determine the outcome.

As Wisconsin demonstrated against Purdue, a good defense usually beats a good offense. And if this game gets high scoring, the Badgers may not be able to keep up. They're averaging just 21 points a game, and quarterback John Stocco can't guarantee Wisconsin anymore than that.

**Prediction:** The Badgers won't let the pesky Gophers hand them their first loss of the season, regardless which Minnesota shows up in Madison.

The Gophers will struggle to reach 100 yards rushing against Wisconsin's defense, while Anthony Davis will run all over the Minnesota defensive front.

Mason is going to have to start finding solutions for his team that is stellar one week and horrible the next.

Ohio State at Michigan State

**Key for the Buckeyes:** Ohio State has won two straight behind quarterback Troy Smith, but it hasn't been exactly picture-perfect. The Buckeyes were somehow out-gained offensively by Penn State in their 21-10 win, thanks to special-teams and defensive touchdowns in the first quarter.

Ohio State seems to always find ways to win games without its offense doing the dirty work, but against a team such as Michigan State, which can and will score, it's going to have to perform better.

**Key for the Spartans:** Michigan State running back DeAndra Cobb is going to have to at least be adequate against Ohio State's front seven to take some pressure off quarterback Drew Stanton. Cobb is averaging 60 yards a game in Big Ten play, which is around 15 less than Stanton's rushing total.

The Spartans can't be in a position where Stanton needs to make every single play, or Ohio State's defense is going to eat him up.

**Prediction:** It's a crucial game for both teams for postseason considerations. Ohio State is one game away from locking a bowl, Michigan State two. Neither team can afford a loss, but you have to take the Spartans at home, where they haven't lost all season.
Steady Stubblefield gets it done

BY JASON BRUMMOND
THE DAILY IOWAN

He's not the flashiest.
He's not the biggest.
He's not the fastest or most athletic, either.

But Purdue wide receiver Taylor Stubblefield is one of the best.
The fifth-year senior already has or is closing in on an array of Purdue, Big Ten, and NCAA records for career receptions and yards.
The 6-1, 180-pounder became the conference's career reception leader three weeks ago against Penn State, breaking the mark held by former Boilermaker John Standeford.
Now, he needs only 30 grabs to become the NCAA all-time receptions leader and surpass Louisville's Arnold Jackson, who caught 300 balls from 1997-2000.

"Stubblefield is just one of those guys that gets it done, and boy, he's gotten it done a bunch," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. "He's just so productive, so smart, and he has talent, too. Stubblefield obviously understands the game; he knows how to play the game."

This season, Stubblefield is averaging 15 yards a catch, and he ranks third in the league with 81 yards a game.

With 11 touchdowns, he's tied for the conference and national lead with Michigan receiver Braylon Edwards, and Stubblefield is just two scores away from tying Purdue's single-season mark.

"He's the smartest receiver who I've ever been around," Boilermaker quarterback Kyle Orton said at the Big Ten kickoff luncheon in August. "He really runs really good, soft routes. He's extremely quick."

The signal-caller from Altoona, Iowa, and the receiver from Takima, Wash., have developed a unique relationship while playing together since the midway point in the 2001 season.

Orton said there isn't a receiver he's had as much trust in during his career.

He said with Stubblefield, it's like having another quarterback on the field because they both read defenses so well.

Stubblefield said they are extremely competitive with each other, whether it's football or golf. But they also know how to joke around.

That off-field relationship has helped build their chemistry.

"It helps us in certain plays where the look might not be as the play is drawn up, and we might not necessarily have to freelance," Stubblefield said. "But we sort of have to do something that he and I have worked on 1,000 times before other than just running the play that is exactly the way it's drawn up."

Against the Hawkeyes in 2002, Stubblefield exploded for 13 catches and 149 yards — his best regular-season output until he had a 181-yard game against Notre Dame in October this year.

He appears rail-thin with his 180-pound frame, but Stubblefield relies on his field awareness and hands to make plays for him as one of the purest possession receivers in the nation.

But in recent weeks, he's cooled off with Orton. He has a combined eight catches in the Boilermakers' three-consecutive losses. Purdue has not won a game this year when Stubblefield catches fewer than five balls.

But shutting him down isn't that easy.
"He's able to get open, and that's probably the hardest thing," Hawkeye safety Miguel Merrick said. "When a guy can get in and out of his cuts and get open like he does, he's able to make plays after that."

Linebacker Chad Greenway said Stubblefield's bread and butter is finding the open spots in zone coverage.
"He's great at studying a defense and he's going to find the holes in the defense," he said. "You just have to try to stop him."

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Iowa strong safety Marcus Paschal wraps up Illinois wide receiver Kendrick Jones last weekend in Champaign. The Hawkeye secondary will be tested on Saturday by Purdue's Kyle Orton and its spread offense -- a look Iowa hasn't seen yet this season and likely won't again.

**Secondary becomes primary focus**

**BY JASON BRUMMOND**
**THE DAILY IOWAN**

It doesn't get nearly the amount of attention that the other seven players on the field do. But the four of them don't seem like they care.

The Iowa secondary is usually passed off as being second-rate because of the Hawkeyes' stout defense line and athletic linebackers, who account for the nationally third-ranked run defense. But cornerbacks Antwan Allen and Joe Johnson and safeties Sean Considine and Marcus Paschal are giving up only 208 yards a game, and they have only one more touchdown given up than interceptions.

Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said Allen and Johnson, both juniors, have really matured and grown since being thrown into action as freshmen.

"They've taken the experience that they've gained and learned from it," he said. "That's what you hope you see players do, but not all players do that. Both of those guys have grown in the conceptual thinking; they're learning how to prepare, and they both like to compete."

The Hawkeyes haven't seen an offense much like Purdue's yet this season, but Arizona State's, with quarterback Andrew Walter, has been the most similar. Boilermaker signal-caller Kyle Orton has a wide range of receivers to use who have different assets and strengths.

Neither Allen nor Johnson is listed above 6-0, but with the exception of Michigan's Braylon Edwards reaching over Johnson to steal a catch, there haven't been significant incidents that showcase the disadvantage.

"Not all the times is size the difference," Purdue receiver Taylor Stubblefield said. "They play very well."

But not all the time does a team have a receiver who's approaching the 7-foot mark either.

Purdue sophomore Kyle Ingraham, 6-9 and 230 pounds, has an entire foot on Allen and Johnson.

"I don't think we even have any power forwards on the basketball team that tall," strong safety Miguel Merrick said.

Ferentz said because of the dramatic height difference that there are obvious situations and plays that will present problems for Iowa's corners.

"It's a concern," he said. "You throw the ball up there, and it's tough. I don't think we're allowed to take stepstools or step stools out there on the field, either -- they probably wouldn't permit that."

Last season against Purdue, Iowa surrendered 154 yards on the ground because its defensive scheme focused on the Boilermakers' passing strength. This year, linebacker Chad Greenway said, the defense will stick to its fundamental mentality: stop the run first, pass second.

"I think we're just going to try to play our game, and hopefully, we can get them out of theirs," the junior said. "We don't want to do too many things to get us out of our own game because that can come back to haunt us."

Iowa rarely departs from its 4-3 basic defense, but with the spread offense that Purdue uses, secondary backups Walner Belleus, Adam Shada, and Merrick should play more valuable roles.

"We're going to have to make some adjustments that we probably haven't had to make," Considine said.

Ferentz said Purdue will test his team's secondary more than anyone else has this year. The Boilermakers have the Big Ten's top-ranked and nationally fifth-ranked passing offense, and they are averaging more than 30 points a contest.

"We're going to play our defense," Ferentz said. "But I think the key thing this week is that we're going to be challenged more this weekend than probably we've had."
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Iowa D prepares for more than Orton

Sophomore quarterback Brandon Kirsch may see minutes if Kyle Orton isn’t 100 percent

BY NICK RICHARDS
THE DAILY IOWAN

It has been a Tale of Two Seasons for Purdue.
After five games, the Boilermakers were a perfect 5-0 and ranked No. 5 in the country. They sat atop the Big Ten, and senior quarterback Kyle Orton was a top candidate for the Heisman Trophy.

In their last three games, they are 0-3, Orton has suffered from a hip pointer since the Michigan game Oct. 23, and their Big Ten title and Orton’s Heisman hopes have vanished.

“To me, when you get into conference play, as a rule, games are pretty hard fought and closely contested when you have pretty decent teams playing,” Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. “They’re just missing by a little bit the last couple of weeks.”

Purdue’s season might be in even more danger with the injury to Orton. The Boilermakers might have to turn to sophomore Brandon Kirsch, who played in the fourth quarter in Purdue’s 13-10 loss to Northwestern Oct. 30. He also played in Iowa’s 31-28 win in 2002. Kirsch threw for 163 yards and ran for a 16-yard touchdown in the game, which many considered his breakout game. His running ability brings a dimension Orton, a traditional drop-back passer, doesn’t have.

“The first time I guess it was displayed was against Iowa two years ago,” Purdue wide receiver Taylor Stubblefield said. “His play-making ability … he doesn’t necessarily do everything textbook, but he makes plays, and that’s the most important thing.”

Whoever plays quarterback for Purdue will have Stubblefield catching passes. Stubblefield, a 6-1, 182-pound senior from Yakima, Wash., is within range of several Purdue, Big Ten, and NCAA records. He has already set the Purdue and Big Ten record for career receptions with 279, and he is second behind John Standeford in career receiving yards. He is fifth in the Big Ten in career receiving yards and is eighth in NCAA history in career receptions.

“Stubblefield is just one of those guys who gets it done, and boy, he’s gotten it done a bunch,” Ferentz said. “He’s just so productive, so smart, and he’s got talent, too.”

In addition to Stubblefield, the Boilers feature Iowa’s version of Scott Chandler in receiver Kyle Ingraham, a 6-9, 230-pound receiver. His matchups with Jovon Johnson and Antwan Allen, who stand 5-9 and 5-10 respectively, could be a big problem for the Iowa secondary.

“It’s really tough when you have sub-5-10 cornerbacks. We talked about maybe moving Scott Chandler to corner for matching up, then Jim Bain might come out and do a jump ball,” Ferentz joked.

The big surprise has been the Purdue defense, which was hit hard by graduation. The Boilermakers lost seven starters to the NFL, including first-team All-Big Ten performers Shaun Phillips, Stuart Schweiger, and Niko Koutouvides. Despite losing them, the Purdue defense has not lost a beat. It ranks sixth in the Big Ten in total defense, giving up just 324.8 yards per contest, and it is second in the conference in scoring defense with 14.4 points per game. That mark ranks 11th in the country. It has kept the team in the last three games, giving up just 49 points in those games.

“Obviously, they lost some good players. [Koutouvides] was one of the best players I’ve ever seen,” guard Brian Ferentz said. “I think in a program like Purdue that, it’s similar to our program. We lost a couple guys defensively, and I feel like we plugged those gaps well. I think they did the same thing, but obviously they lost more players, and it’s certainly impressive to come back and still have a pretty stout defense.”

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Get a Top Ten Reason of your own!

Get a Top Ten Reason of your own!
Oklahoma looks to continue run against Aggies

BY NICK RICHARDS
THE DAILY IOWAN

No. 2 Oklahoma was in a similar position two years ago heading into College Station. It was the No. 1 ranked team in the country, and it lost to the Aggies, 30-28. Last year, the top-ranked Sooners handed the Aggies their worst loss in school history, winning 77-0. Don't expect that to happen again.

Adrian Peterson has been amazing as a true freshman, and he has jumped to the top of several Heisman lists. He has been the catalyst behind the Sooner offense, running for 1,272 yards and eight scores. I haven't even mentioned the likes of Jason White and Mark Clayton.

The Aggies have lost big to Utah, and they lost a close game last week to Baylor. It has quarterback Reggie McNeal, who was the main catalyst behind the Aggies big win in 2002. He will have to have another monumental effort to best the Sooners.

This game will be very much like the Oklahoma State-Texas game. If the Oklahoma defense plays up to its capabilities and performs better than it did last week, the Kyle Field advantage for the Aggies could be moot.

Oklahoma State at Texas

This border war is going to fall on the defenses. Both teams are averaging well over 30 points a game. The difference could be the athletic Texas defense, which is allowing just 13 points a game. Oklahoma State, on the other hand, is allowing 20 a game.

The Cowboys are a missed field goal away from having forced overtime against instate foe Oklahoma. Quarterback Donovan Woods, the younger brother of ex-Cowboy wide out Gerald Riggs and Cedric Houston.

The game will come down to the Notre Dame offense against the Tennessee defense — the Vols have to keep Notre Dame off the scoreboard with their shaky defense. Tennessee's offense can put up points with the best of them, but it has had problems keeping the other team off the scoreboard. If the Volunteers can keep the Irish offense off the board, they should win.

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

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