

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2004

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50¢

SPENCE LABS VANDALISM



Zach Boyden-Holmes/The Daily Iowan

Lt. Chris Bok stands in the Johnson County HAZMAT truck at Fire Station No. 2 in Iowa City on Dec. 2. Bok was one of the first responders after the Spence Labs vandalism, and he worked with the FBI during the cleanup.

WAR IN IRAQ

Defense chief says he'll remain in Cabinet to work on unfinished projects

Rumsfeld: Troops may be out of Iraq by 2nd term's end

BY ROBERT BURNS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

KUWAIT CITY — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld expressed hope Monday, but did not explicitly predict, that American troops would be out of Iraq by the end of President Bush's second term.

Rumsfeld, at 72 the oldest Defense secretary ever, ticked off a list of reasons he agreed to Bush's request last week to stay in his post, including good health and a good working relationship with the president. He also said he looked forward to continuing work on unfinished Pentagon projects.

"We've got a lot of work that's well-along, but some of it's not finished," he said in an in-flight interview with reporters flying with him to Kuwait and later to Afghanistan for today's inauguration of President Hamid Karzai. Rumsfeld said he also planned to visit India on this trip.

Rumsfeld would not say whether he plans to remain the full four years of Bush's presidency, but in response to a question about how long U.S. troops would be in Iraq, he

seemed to suggest that he might.

When a reporter asked whether Rumsfeld believed the troops would be gone before the end of his term, he prefaced his answer by saying he took that to mean four years. Then he said that, during his first four years in the Bush administration, he had been careful not to make predictions about how long U.S. troops would have to remain in a given country, noting they stayed far longer in Bosnia than the Clinton administration had predicted when they first went in.

Then he added, speaking of whether troops would be out of Iraq within four years: "I would certainly expect that to be the case, hope that to be the case. But the answer to your question is not that. The answer is the president has said they'll stay as long as they are needed and not a day longer."

The Pentagon announced last week that it was increasing the number of troops in Iraq from 138,000 to a wartime high of 150,000 in January to bolster security in advance of the Iraqi elections.

SEE TROOPS, PAGE 7A

CLEANING UP HAZARDOUS HAVOC

BY BRIAN SPANNAGEL
THE DAILY IOWAN

Surveying the damage scattered throughout Spence Laboratories in the hours following the Nov. 14 break-in, Christopher Bok hovered a foot-and-a-half over a paper pile doused in chemicals and paused. The litmus paper taped to his helmet had turned reddish-pink.

The lieutenant firefighter, one of the first HAZMAT officers to arrive at the scene that morning, turned and left the room, suspecting the fumes had come from hydrochloric-acid bottles that vandals had emptied onto the floor.

The break-in marked the most extensive manmade damage the Johnson County HAZMAT team has faced in its 20-year history,

and the incident highlighted the group as a critical defense against natural and human-engineered disasters. Anonymous members of the decentralized Animal Liberation Front have claimed responsibility for the vandalism; police have made no arrests.

Four two-person HAZMAT entry teams explored Spence Laboratories and Seashore Hall on the weekend of Nov. 14, working in 45-minute shifts to evacuate people, assess spill damage, and contain the contamination — a far cry from their usual roadside cleanups. A Daily Iowan review of the team's work records offered a glimpse into 22-member squad's operations and an inside look into the vandalism that closed the buildings for a week.

SEE HAZMAT, PAGE 7A

The Spence lab vandalism was the most extensive manmade damage the Johnson County HAZMAT group has faced

Another spate of attacks highlight security concerns in run-up to Iraqi vote

Firefight breaks out close to Green Zone

BY PAUL GARWOOD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — A heavy gunfight broke out Monday on a dangerous street in central Baghdad, within blocks of the country's most fortified facilities, including the U.S. Embassy and interim Iraqi government headquarters. Five more American troops were killed in the volatile Anbar province.

A dawn attack on a domestic oil pipeline supplying fuel from northern Iraq to Baghdad, along with clashes that killed three militants in the country's turbulent west, underlined the

security difficulties ahead of the Jan. 30 national elections.

Heavily armed insurgents have been emboldened by a spate of attacks across Iraq that have claimed more than 80 lives in recent days, mostly Iraqis working for the coalition or Iraqi national security forces.

On Baghdad's Haifa Street on Monday, witnesses said gunmen killed an Iraqi employed by coalition authorities not far from the Green Zone, a heavily guarded compound where American and Iraqi forces protect government officials, diplomats, and private contractors.

SEE FIGHTING, PAGE 7A

ET CETERA TRIAL

Burn victim blames bar in fiery stunt

BY SEUNG MIN KIM
THE DAILY IOWAN

A former UI student who suffered severe and permanent burns to 13 percent of her body blamed the Et Cetera bar for her injuries on Monday, the first accusation in a day of finger-pointing over the April 2002 bar stunt gone awry.

Lawyers for Deana Busche contended that the bar's then-general manager, Troy Kline, was responsible for the blaze, which burned seven bar-goers on April 18, 2002. The bar's attorneys argued otherwise, accusing Busche of spitting into a flaming drink well at the popular downtown establishment.

Busche, of Schaumburg, Ill., is suing Et Cetera and Kline, arguing that Kline's bar stunt

at the 118 S. Dubuque St. establishment was unreasonable and negligent. In addition to medical expenses to treat her burns, a ligament tear in her shoulder, and a broken nose, she wants an unspecified amount of money to punish the bar.

Although Kline, the sole witness in Monday's court proceedings, said he regrets lighting the drink well ablaze, he testified that the fireball that thrust into the crowd "wasn't the result of me adding the liquor to that rail."

After lighting a match, which provoked the initial eruption, Kline said the flames began to fizzle, so he poured more alcohol on the drink well, roughly 6 feet from Busche and her group.

SEE ET CETERA, PAGE 7A

In power-sharing state Senate, 2 local senators to hold powerful jobs

BY NICK PETERSEN
THE DAILY IOWAN

Two local state senators will hold a pair of coveted positions in the next legislative session, though they won't get many of the perks typically associated with the post.

Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Coralville, will co-chair the Appropriations Committee, which is charged with reviewing proposed spending laws, and Sen. Joe Bolkcom, D-Iowa City, will be the co-head of the committee assigned to examine potential tax code changes when the Senate reconvenes Jan. 10.

The two Democrats will share their duties with Republicans because of a plan to split power between Democrats and Republicans in the equally divided body.



Bolkcom
D-Iowa City



Dvorsky
D-Coralville

"It generally helps to have a local person chairing a powerful committee, because he or she can steer money in the community's direction," said UI political-science Professor Peverill Squire.

However, the setup will force lawmakers to negotiate more in order to pass basic bills, such as the state budget, and set aside the "peripherals," he continued.

SEE STATE SENATE, PAGE 7A



Hadi Mizban/Associated Press

A U.S. soldier guards a site in Baghdad where troops detonated an abandoned car packed with explosives on Monday.

45 ^{7c} Windy, 80% chance of rain, falling temps
28 ^{-2c}

NO REPEAT

A year ago, the Hawks had just settled into a top-25 spot when they took on UNI and got Pantherized. **1B**



SAUDI ATTACK

Militants launch an assault on the U.S. Consulate in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, killing nine. **10A**

FLU COUP

The U.S. is purchasing up to 5 million more doses of flu vaccine, health officials say. **9A**

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NEWS

VP hopeful stresses cooperation

BY TRACI FINCH
THE DAILY IOWAN

Stressing relationships and trust as the keys to improving interdisciplinary research, the second finalist interviewing for the position of UI vice president of Research outlined her philosophies to an audience of 50 in the IMU Monday afternoon.



Hay
VP for Research candidate

"I firmly believe that it's by working together, coming up with strategies that allow all to win and to move forward

together," said Meredith Hay, the University of Missouri assistant to the vice president for academic affairs.

Hay, who trained as a post-doctoral fellow at the UI Carver College of Medicine and later completed the fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine, followed UI psychology Professor Michael O'Hara in the university's search to find a replacement for President David Skorton's former position. Since March 2003, William Decker has held the job on an interim basis.

The Texas native shied away from speaking about her long list of accomplishments — such as co-founding the National Center for Gender Physiology — and spoke generally about

challenges in the interdisciplinary research field.

"It's about trusting each other and building these relationships across campus," Hay said.

She talked extensively about rewarding staff and said she was concerned about the challenges of retaining faculty.

"If you're going to build the world's greatest university, you have to have the world's greatest faculty," she said, adding, however, that money is not always the answer.

"There often are other ways to give acknowledgment to staff in times of budget crunches."

Another challenge specific to the UI that she addressed was the issue of security — which, she said, would be her first

agenda item as vice president of Research.

"I think there's no question that full funding and understanding of the security issues for the facilities need to be [priority No.] one," she said. "Figuring out how to do that and how to do that best is absolutely essential, and that's where I would start."

The next scheduled forum is slated for Dec. 9. The names of the remaining three candidates have not yet been revealed. The search committee will deliberate over the next three weeks before giving its decision to Skorton and the state Board of Regents.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Traci Finch** at: traci-finch@uiowa.edu

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6063
E-mail: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu
Fax: 335-6184

CORRECTIONS

Call: 335-6030

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Send address changes to: The Daily Iowan, 111 Communications Center, Iowa City, Iowa 52242.

STAFF

Publisher:
William Casey 335-5787
Editor:
Tony Robinson 335-5855
Managing Editor:
Grant Schulte 335-6063
Metro Editors:
Sarah Franklin 335-6063
Annie Shuppy 335-6063
Opinions Editor:
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TAX SEASON

Electronic filing comes to state's payroll taxes

BY MIKE GLOVER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — State revenue officials said Monday they are expanding electronic filing of payroll withholding taxes to include up to 80,000 businesses, a move they said will save employers and the government time and money.

"People want to interact with us when it's convenient for them," said Mike Ralston, the head of the Department of Revenue and Finance.

Under the plan announced Monday, businesses can begin filing withholding returns electronically next month. Those with

sales-tax permits can begin filing electronically in July.

The system, dubbed eFile and Pay, is another step toward responding to constituents increasingly driven by technology, Ralston said.

"Iowa taxpayers have been requesting new and more efficient ways to do business with state government," Ralston said.

Under the system, businesses will be able to file and pay taxes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will be able to monitor their payment and tax history.

There's no charge for filing electronically, unless a credit card is used, and that could mean a third-party fee.

Iowans have responded to a shift three years ago allowing individual taxpayers to file electronically, Ralston said. The state leads the nation in electronic filing, he said, with 60 percent of returns filed online.

Both state revenue officials and taxpayers benefit by that shift, Ralston said. When returns are filed electronically, refunds are generally sent within 10 days, while paper returns can take up to six months.

In addition, the error rate drops and the cost to the state to process a return is less. Ralston said he didn't have specific figures on savings, but was in the process of gathering that data.

CITY

Jones wins award

Phillip Jones, the UI vice president for Student Services, received a Distinguished Award from the Commission on Human Rights and Social Change of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, the university announced Monday.

The award honored Jones' service as a university administrator, especially for his work to improve minority enrollment across the country. Jones said he has served on the association's commission on student affairs since 1994.

The award was given to Jones at the association's Nov. 13 annual meeting in San Diego. The association

is the largest college-of-higher-education association.

"I was humbled, really," Jones said, adding he didn't set out to win awards but wanted to make changes in equal opportunity at universities.

To receive the award, he said, he had to be nominated by a member of the association; the recipient is chosen by an association-wide vote. He added he was the only person nominated this year.

Jones said receiving the distinction will not change his behavior at the UI or the commission, but it reinforced his desire to improve opportunities across the country.

— by Alex Lang

CITY

UI wins muscle grant

A UI study examining muscle resilience and repair was awarded a four-year, \$1.97 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense on Monday.

The study, led by Kevin Campbell, a professor of neurology and physiology, will aim to improve muscle health for military personnel and others.

If successful, the study could harbor an increased understanding on how muscles resist damage and repair damage that does occur. Results would be used to improve the understanding of muscle recovery following strenuous exercise or deterioration caused by such diseases as muscular dystrophy.

Campbell has worked on similar studies in the past, and he plans to build on them in his latest endeavor. His past research discovered that a sugar-adding protein called LARGE prevented muscle deterioration and that a protein called dysferlin is

required for muscle repair.

The latest study will build on those two discoveries as they attempt to discern if increased expression of either protein would enhance membrane strength or improve repairing capabilities in normal or dystrophic muscle, according to a UI news release.

Campbell was unavailable for comment Monday; Steven Moore, a UI professor of pathology and co-principal investigator on the grant, declined to comment.

— by Drew Kerr

Clive man charged with sexual abuse

Coralville police charged a Clive, Iowa, man with sexually abusing a male acquaintance he was sharing a bed with in the Coralville Super 8 Motel on Dec. 4.

Timothy Oldes, 23, was charged with third-degree sexual abuse after

he allegedly put his hand on the man's genitalia, police records said. The man allegedly awoke to find his belt and pants undone, unsure of how it had happened. Oldes denied committing the act, police records show.

Third-degree sexual abuse is defined as committing a sex act while the other person is physically helpless. It is a Class C felony, punishable by up to 10 years and a minimum fine of \$500.

— by Jane Slusark

Council to decide on deer plan

The Iowa City Council will decide at its formal meeting tonight whether to continue using sharpshooters in January in order to eliminate a portion of the city's deer population.

For the past four years, the city has hired sharpshooters to kill

antler-less deer in Iowa City in order to combat the dangerous increase in the deer population, said Iowa City Mayor Ernie Lehman.

Councilor Bob Elliott said he was concerned that the city spends too much money to control the deer population, adding that the city pays approximately \$50 to \$55 to process each deer, a cost he said has totaled about \$45,000 in the past three years.

"We need to look at alternatives," he said.

Lehman agreed the city is "strapped" for money, but the use of sharpshooters is beneficial. He added that there have been a large number of car accidents and much damaged property because of deer in Iowa City, and it needs to be controlled.

"It's the only way that works," said Lehman, adding that if the city does not stay consistent, the problem will get out of hand.

— by Jessica Seveska

POLICE BLOTTER

Nathan Andreasen, 21, 533 N. Linn St., was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Raymond Bock, 20, Burr Ridge, Ill., was charged Sunday with unlawful use of a driver's license.

Ashley Condotti, 19, 120 E. Davenport St., was charged Sunday with unlawful use of a driver's license.

Becky Daniel, 50, 1639 Dover St., was charged Monday with driving with a suspended or canceled license.

Brad Dielschneider, 18, Shellsburg, Iowa, was charged Monday with possession of marijuana and drug

paraphernalia.
Daniel Gorman, 21, 326 E. Fairchild St., was charged Sunday with interference with official acts, disorderly conduct, and public intoxication.

Carrie Graves, 20, Cedar Rapids, was charged Monday with possession of alcohol under the legal age.

Conor Hall, 19, Ames, was charged Dec. 3 with public intoxication.

Keegan Hamilton, 19, Marion, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

Justin Holle, 21, 630 E. Bloomington St., was charged Monday with public intoxication and

disorderly conduct.
Jason Krischke, 19, 639 S. Lucas St. Apt. 7, was charged Sunday with public intoxication and possession of a fictitious driver's license.

Andrew Lamb, 20, Cedar Rapids, was charged Monday with PAULA.

Geoffrey Lloyd, 19, Ames, was charged Dec. 3 with public intoxication.

Lucky Lovan, 20, 22 Summary St., was charged Sunday with using any driver's license to obtain alcohol.

Alyssa Moore, 18, Cedar Rapids, was charged Monday with PAULA.

Kevin Morrow, 30, 1327 Foster Road, was charged Monday with

operating while intoxicated.
Shane Parker, 19, 801 S. Gilbert Court Apt. 302, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

Jennifer Pessagno, 43, address unknown, was charged Monday with criminal trespassing.

Paul Rachele, 18, 626C Mayflower, was charged Sunday with possession of marijuana.

Michael Rinaldi, 19, Cedar Rapids, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

Kristen Shetter, 19, Cedar Rapids, was charged Monday with PAULA.
Scott Tesar, 19, Tipton, was charged Monday with PAULA.

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Iowa lags behind in childcare

The state spends around \$29 per child in childcare subsidies; the national average is \$44.53

BY MIKE GLOVER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Iowa compares poorly with other states in childcare subsidies, and at least \$20 million should be spent as a "down payment" on improving the effort, a new study said.

The state spends just \$28.94 per child in childcare subsidies, ranking it 33rd in the nation and well below the national average of \$44.53, said the study, conducted by the Every Child Counts Network.

At the same time, Iowa ranks third in the nation in the percentage of its families with both parents working, so the need is great, the study said. Both parents work in 71.4 percent of Iowa households.

"While Iowa is a national leader in the

number of working families, Iowa's support for early care and education lags behind many other states and falls far short of what is needed to ensure childcare quality, affordability, and availability," the study said.

The Every Child Counts Network is an offshoot of the Child and Family Policy Center, a Des Moines-based group that advocates for expanded programs for children.

The study said Iowa also compares poorly with other states in eligibility standards for access to subsidized childcare.

In Iowa, only those whose income is 140 percent of the federal poverty level or less are eligible. That puts Iowa 45th in the nation. Many states allow those with incomes of up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level to qualify for subsidized childcare.

That's important because 36 percent of the 223,045 children under the age of 6 live in a family with income less than 200 percent of the federal poverty level, the study said.

While the study argued for at least \$20 million in increased spending on childcare, it said far more is actually needed.

The group pointed to a report issued by the Urban Education Network, a coalition of the eight largest school districts in the state, which called for an initial investment of \$90 million in early childhood programs, \$45 million for childcare.

The study said that report was "a sound strategy that begins to address ways in which Iowa can move up in its ranking among states for childcare and stop lagging far behind."

The report underscores what is likely to be an intense competition for scarce dollars when lawmakers convene next month.

Though the economy and state tax collections have picked up, the state's budget analysts project a \$230 million shortfall just to finance programs already on the books.

Both Republicans and Democrats argue that education is a top priority, but there's competition within the education community. Teachers last week released a report showing teacher pay in Iowa is slipping, while child advocates argue for big increases in early childhood programs.

STATE

Vilsack pushes new budget process

DES MOINES (AP) — Gov. Tom Vilsack said Monday he's putting in a place a new system that forces agencies to demonstrate progress toward key goals before getting their funding renewed.

"We are looking for ways to be more accountable," he said at a news conference.

Under the current system, approximately 75 percent of state spending is automatically renewed. State agencies then advocate for the remaining 25 percent and for any increases.

Under the new system, Vilsack said he'll create small "buying teams" that will review budget requests and require that spending be linked to improved performance in six key areas — improving the economy, schools, health or public safety, protecting the environment,

or increasing accountability. "Iowans want to know if they are getting their money's worth from state government," Vilsack said.

It's unclear how much the system can accomplish this year. The Legislature will convene Jan. 10, and the governor will have to submit a proposed budget before lawmakers gather. That means he'll have little time to sort through spending requests already pouring in from state agencies.

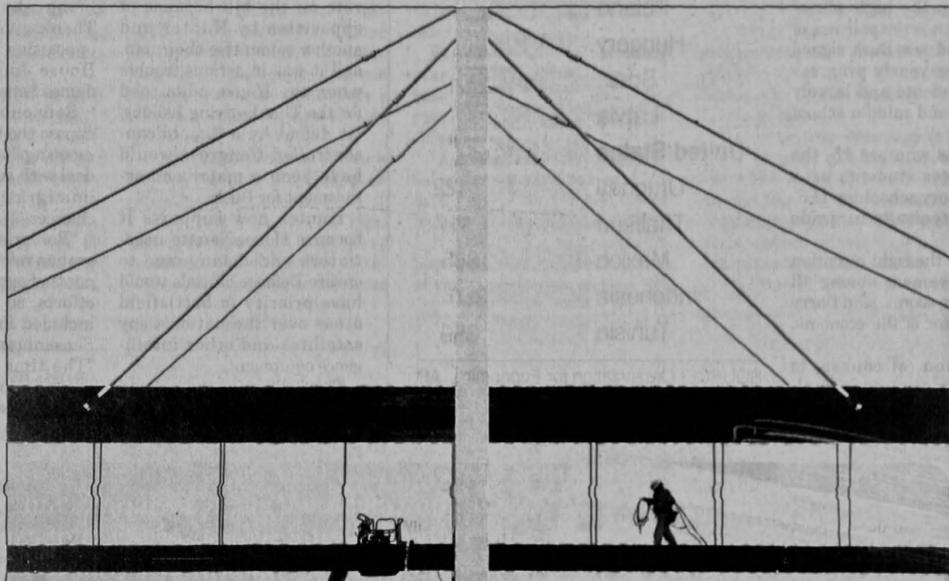
Complicating the picture, Vilsack won't know how much the state has to spend until later this week, when a new revenue forecast is due. He and lawmakers are required to base their budget on that forecast.

Vilsack said he has been forced to require greater accountability because of shrinking resources, noting that the budget for the current fiscal year is smaller than the one approved during his first year in office.

CHARMED... I'M SURE.

THE CABLE GUY

Jay Dee Valkenaere of Kewanee, Ill., a member of Iron Workers Union Local 111 in Rock Island, lays cable across the new skybridge on Monday in downtown Davenport.



John Schultz, Quad-City Times/Associated Press



Iowa: USDA should probe Postville butcher

Kosher meatpacking plant will be investigated after complaint by PETA

BY AMY LORENTZEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Iowa Agriculture Secretary Patty Judge called Monday for a federal investigation into slaughtering practices at a kosher meatpacking plant in Postville.

The Agriprocessors Inc. plant has been the target of a complaint by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, which claims the plant violates state law that requires the use of humane methods of slaughter.

PETA had asked Judge to take legal action against the plant. Judge called on the United States Department of Agriculture to conduct an investigation.

Judge said that because the Postville plant ships meat to other states, it falls under the jurisdiction of the USDA and not the state ag department.

"The Iowa Department of Agriculture has no legal authority to inspect or regulate the Postville plant," Judge said in a written statement Monday.

"When properly applied, the kosher method of slaughter renders the animal unconscious, quickly and humanely," she said. "No one in the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship supports the inhumane treatment of animals."

PETA filed a complaint last on Dec. 1 with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which helps oversee the plant, calling for the prosecution of Agriprocessors and the Orthodox Union, an

international kosher certification agency.

PETA's move comes after a seven-week undercover investigation at the Postville plant, which employs approximately 700 workers. It is the world's largest glatt kosher slaughterhouse. Glatt, under kosher law, means that the animals are free of certain physical defects.

During slaughter at the plant, rabbis use a 2-foot blade to cut across the neck of the animal, severing the arteries on both sides and the trachea and esophagus. A second cut is made to each artery to ensure rapid blood loss as a second rabbi stands by to monitor, company officials have said.

Kosher slaughter requires that the animal's throat is slit. The sudden and enormous blood loss triggers immediate anemia in the brain, which renders the animal insensible.

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NEWS

U.S. students lag in math skills

Program for International Student Assessment finds that the U.S. ranks below 20 other industrialized nations

BY BEN FELLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Fifteen-year-olds in the United States don't have the math skills to match up to peers in many other industrialized nations, test scores released Monday show.

The latest international comparison also underscores an achievement gap in America: White U.S. students scored above average, while blacks and Latinos scored below it.

Overall, U.S. students scored below the international average in total math literacy and in every specific area tested, from geometry and algebra to statistics and computation.

Known as the Program for International Student Assessment, the test measures math, reading, and science literacy among 15-year-olds every three years. This time, the main focus was math.

The test is not a measure of grade-level curriculum, rather, it is a cumulative gauge of skills learned inside and outside school — and how well students apply them to real-life problems. It also aims to give the United States an external reality check about how it is doing.

Among 29 industrialized countries, the United States scored below 20 nations and above five in math. The U.S. performance was about the same as Poland, Hungary, and Spain.

When compared with all 39 nations that produced scores, the United States was below 23 countries, above 11 and about the same as four others, with Latvia joining the middle group.

"If we want to be competitive, we have some mountains to climb," Deputy Education Secretary Eugene Hickok said at a news conference Monday. "The good news is, we know that. This report goes into great

detail to give us the facts. The challenge is, what are we going to do about it?"

The test is run by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, a Paris-based intergovernmental group of industrialized countries. The top math performers included Finland, Korea, the Netherlands, Japan, Canada, Belgium, Switzerland, and New Zealand.

Compared with peers, even the highest U.S. achievers — those in the top percent of U.S. students — were outperformed.

U.S. scores held steady from 2000 to 2003 in the two math subject areas tested in both years. But both times, about two-thirds of the major industrialized countries did better. Less clear is why, officials acknowledged.

Hickok cited two likely factors: insufficient qualifications and knowledge among many U.S. math teachers, and not enough effort to engage students in math at an early age.

Private researchers and the federal government will help reveal some underlying lessons for the United States by doing more analysis of the numbers, said Robert Lerner, commissioner of the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics.

Hickok used the report to promote President Bush's education agenda, which includes more state testing and tougher school accountability in the high school grades. That would mean an expansion of the No Child Left Behind law Bush signed in 2002, which requires yearly progress among all groups of students and largely focuses on elementary and middle school children.

By targeting students who are 15, the international test gauges students near the end of their mandatory schooling. U.S. students this age are typically in grade nine or 10.

The United States has the right intention of trying to raise achievement among all students, not just average scores, said Barry McGaw, education director of the economic organization.

"The crucial question, of course, is whether the intention is going to be realized," McGaw said at the news conference.

Mediocre math

The United States scored in the median range of math literacy compared to other countries, according to an international test taken of 15 year olds in 2003.

Average math literacy scores of 15-year-old students by country, 2003

Country	Score
Hong Kong	550
Finland	544
South Korea	542
Netherlands	538
Liechtenstein	536
Poland	490
Hungary	490
Spain	485
Latvia	483
United States	483
Uruguay	422
Thailand	417
Mexico	385
Indonesia	360
Tunisia	359

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development AP

Compromise reached on intelligence reform

BY JESSE J. HOLLAND
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Two powerful congressional chairmen, one of whom had opposed legislation to revamp the nation's intelligence agencies, endorsed a compromise Monday and moved a bill endorsed by President Bush closer to approval.

House Armed Services Chairman Duncan Hunter, R-Calif., and Senate Armed Services Chairman John Warner, R-Va., announced that they would vote for the bill to implement the 9/11 commission's terror-fighting recommendations.

Now that they have Hunter's support, GOP leaders plan to call House Republicans to meeting this morning to discuss the compromise, the first step toward bringing legislation to the House floor for a vote.

The Senate expects to bring up the bill on Wednesday if the House acts today.

The House had refused to vote on the bill because of opposition by Hunter and another committee chairman, and it was in serious trouble when the House adjourned for the Thanksgiving holiday. Its defeat by a Republican-controlled Congress would have been a major embarrassment for Bush.

Hunter now supports it because House-Senate negotiators added language to ensure Defense officials would have priority in battlefield areas over the nation's spy satellites and other intelligence equipment.

The California congressman had worried that a new

national intelligence director, a position the legislation would create to coordinate spy agencies, would have been able to insert himself into the chain of command from the president to the combatant commanders.

Now "if there is a question as to whether a combatant commander in Iraq has access to an intelligence aircraft, if he needs it in a battle or another agency has access to that aircraft, it's very clear now that he has access to that aircraft," Hunter said.

Unlike Hunter, Warner has been silent through most of the negotiations but said he came forward with his support so Senate Republicans would have no question about where he stands. "They look to the two of us for a degree of leadership" as Armed Services chairmen, said Warner, pointing to Hunter. "And we've, I think, shown it, if I may say."

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., refused to bring the bill up before Thanksgiving because of the opposition from Hunter and House Judiciary Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis.

Sensenbrenner still will oppose the bill in today's GOP meeting because it does not deal with such issues as illegal immigration and asylum changes.

"Border security and immigration reform are vital components of our homeland security efforts, so why are they not included in this legislation?" Sensenbrenner said Monday. "The time to address these issues is now, not next month, not next year."

FDA unveils new rules on food contamination

However, the vulnerability of the nation's food is still a problem

BY LAURA MECKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — New rules announced Monday will make it easier to investigate a bioterror attack on the U.S. food supply, though they won't change the underlying problem: the vulnerability of the nation's food.

The vulnerabilities were highlighted last week by Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, who said he worries "every single night" about a possible terror attack on the food supply.

"For the life of me, I cannot understand why the terrorists have not attacked our food supply, because it is so easy to do," he said at a news conference announcing his resignation.

He singled out the possibility that infected food would be imported from the Middle East, but experts say the threat is equally serious for food produced domestically.

"There are any number of threats, and they range from what's done across the oceans to what's done in the kitchen in the restaurant that you're eating in," said Michael Osterholm, an associate director of the National Center for Food Protection and Defense at the University of Minnesota, a project of the Department of Homeland Security.

The regulations announced Monday by the Food and Drug Administration aim to trace the source of food contamination after the fact. Most businesses

involved in the nation's human and animal food supply will have to keep records showing where they received food and where they shipped it.

The idea is to help investigators figure out where, in a long chain, a particular item may have been tainted.

"The ability to trace back will enable us to get to the source of contamination," said acting FDA Commissioner Dr. Lester Crawford.

Monday's regulation is the fourth in a series of FDA rules implementing a 2002 bioterrorism law, passed after the 2001 anthrax attacks by mail.

Previous regulations required food facilities to register with the FDA and required those exporting food to the United States to give American inspectors advance notice before shipments arrived.

These are commonsense rules that will help FDA trace the source of contamination, but they don't do anything to prevent attacks, said Caroline Smith DeWaal, director of food safety at the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Also needed, she said: more FDA inspections of food coming into the country, and authority for the agency to inspect foreign plants.

She noted that, after the anthrax attacks, the FDA got \$100 million to increase inspections of food coming into the country but still only inspects 2 percent of it — up from 1 percent a few years ago.



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U.S. to buy 5 million flu shots

BY MARK SHERMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The government is purchasing additional doses of flu vaccine from a foreign manufacturer to help relieve the U.S. shortage.

Up to 5 million doses are available from plants in Canada and Germany, but officials said the Food and Drug Administration has signed off on the safety of only a portion of the supply from one manufacturer.

The FDA has inspected the facilities where the vaccines were made. The agency also tested that they would be effective against the dominant flu strain expected in the United States and made sure the vaccines have been stored properly since they were made, Health and Human Services Department officials said Monday.

They spoke on the condition of anonymity because Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson was not scheduled to announce the new vaccine doses until today.

Earlier Monday, the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said she expected Thompson to announce the purchase this week.

"We do have optimism additional doses can be purchased," Dr. Julie Gerberding told delegates at the American Medical Association's annual winter meeting in Atlanta.

The FDA has been working since October to arrange for additional flu shots, which were not made for U.S. consumption.



Hundreds of residents line up early on Nov. 30 to wait for flu vaccines in Las Vegas. Government officials said on Monday that the U.S. is purchasing up to 5 million flu shots to quell a nationwide shortage.

Canadian flu shot maker ID Biomedical has just over 1 million doses to sell to the United States, while British drug manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline can provide 4 million doses from a German plant, Thompson said in October.

Officials declined to say how much vaccine is being purchased now.

Separately, Illinois, New Mexico, and New York City have located another 650,000 doses from drug wholesalers, but have

not yet gotten FDA approval to purchase the vaccine for their residents.

The flu season is off to a slow start, with no widespread outbreak reported. But Gerberding cautioned health care officials to remain alert.

"A slow start doesn't necessarily reflect a slow season," she said. "The most common month of peak activity is February."

Health officials had planned to have more than 100 million doses of the vaccine this season, the

biggest supply ever. But flu shot maker Chiron Corp. announced Oct. 5 that it could not ship its 48 million doses after British health officials suspended its license because of contamination at a Liverpool plant.

The resulting shortage is a major concern to physicians at the AMA meeting, who complained that the flu vaccine was at times available on a first-come basis instead of reaching high-risk patients as a top priority.

AP writer Charles Odum contributed to this report.

ELECTION VOTES

Ohio vote closer than on election night, but still certified for Bush

"This was an election where you have some glitches, but none of these glitches were of a conspiratorial nature, and none of them would over-turn or change the election results."

— Kenneth Blackwell, secretary of State

BY ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — This battleground state on Monday certified President Bush's 119,000-vote victory over John Kerry, even as the Kerry campaign and third-party candidates prepared to demand a statewide recount.

The president won Ohio with 2.86 million votes, or 51 percent, to Kerry's 2.74 million votes, or 49 percent.

The 118,775-vote lead was closer than the unofficial election-night margin of 136,000, but it was not enough to trigger a mandatory recount. Absentee ballots and provisional votes counted after election night made most of the difference.

"This was an election where you have some glitches, but none of these glitches were of a conspiratorial nature, and none of them would over-turn or change the election results,"

said Secretary of State Kenneth Blackwell, a Republican who, as the state's chief election official, certified the results.

The presidential election hung on Ohio, prized for its 20 electoral votes. Not until the morning after the election did Kerry finally concede — realizing there were not enough provisional ballots to erase Bush's lead.

But critics have cited numerous Election Day problems, from long lines, a shortage of voting machines in predominantly minority neighborhoods, and suspicious vote totals for candidates in scattered precincts.

The Kerry campaign last week joined the presidential candidates for the Green and Libertarian parties who are asking for a recount. The candidates, who received less than 0.5 percent of the Ohio vote, planned to file their requests today. The Kerry camp is not disputing the outcome of the race but wants to ensure that every vote is counted.

NATION

Surgeon-general notes steroid-abuse effect

RENO, Nev. (AP) — The surgeon general said Monday he is greatly concerned about the effect of steroid use in the major leagues on young athletes who see professional baseball players as role models.

U.S. Surgeon-General Richard Carmona also said leaders of other pro sports should examine whether their athletes are abusing steroids.

"From my standpoint, it is less a moral or ethical issue than it is a public-health issue," Carmona told the Associated Press.

Steroids can cause a host of health problems, including organ failure and cancer.

"If youngsters are seeing their role models practicing this kind of behavior, and it seems acceptable, then we need to do something about that because it is a health risk," he said.

The matter has been in the spotlight since the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported details last week of players' testimony to a federal grand jury that indicted four people on charges of illegally distributing steroids to top athletes.

Peterson mistakenly convicted, friends, family say

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — Jurors made a mistake when they convicted Scott Peterson of murdering his pregnant wife, friends and family members testified Monday as they described Peterson as a loving, gentle person.

"I do not believe that Scott is guilty of this crime. I don't believe

that he could have done this," said Sandra Bertram, who has known the Peterson family for 30 years and worked at a golf course with Scott Peterson when he was a teenager.

The testimony came on the fifth day of the penalty phase in Peterson's trial, now in its seventh month. The same jurors who convicted him now must decide whether he should receive the death penalty or be sentenced to life in prison without parole in the killings of Laci Peterson and her fetus.

Robert Latham, the brother of Peterson's mother, Jackie, spoke of a nephew who was a nice and "very respectable" boy and "always greeted everybody with a smile."

"I don't believe he's guilty," said another uncle, John Latham. "I would not like to see him die. It would tear our family apart."

Jurors showed no expression, and some looked away or toward the ground as John Latham spoke.

The jury already has heard that Peterson was captain of his high-school golf team. Defense witnesses have testified that he sang to seniors on Sundays, distributed food and clothes in Tijuana, and that he was a best friend and loving son. The panel also has been told all about his father's life, growing up poor in Minnesota.

The defense has at least nine additional witnesses scheduled to testify into Wednesday before closing arguments.

Robert Latham spent much time testifying Monday about the difficult life Jackie Peterson had as a child.

Her father was murdered when she was just a baby, and her mother was an invalid unable to care for the kids. She and her two brothers were placed in an orphanage, Robert Latham said.

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NEWS

Separatists bomb 7 Spanish cities

Telephone warnings from ETA preceded the bombings on the anniversary of Spain's Constitution

BY DANIEL WOOLLS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MADRID, Spain — Explosions rattled seven Spanish cities Monday following telephone warnings from the armed Basque separatist group ETA in a resurgence of violence after months of keeping a low profile since the deadly Madrid train bombings by Muslim militants.

Officials said ETA chose a highly symbolic day for a fresh show of force — the anniversary of Spain's Constitution, which established a system of regional autonomy the Basque group rejects.

The nearly simultaneous explosions in coffee shops, parks, and other public places slightly injured 18 people. They stretched across Spain, with the apparent message that ETA can strike wherever it wants — even with security forces on high alert because of five blasts Friday claimed by ETA.

"Once again ETA has tried to scare us on a special day," Interior Minister Jose Antonio Alonso said. "But today has to continue to be the day of the Constitution, not ETA's day."

The bombs went off in Valladolid, Leon, and Santillana del Mar in the north, Avila and Ciudad Real in central Spain, Alicante in the east, and Malaga in the south. They came about an hour after two calls from people claiming to represent the outlawed group to the Basque newspaper *Gara*.

Authorities had time to evacuate the places mentioned in the calls, although in at least two instances the explosions occurred in places not referred to by the callers.



Juan Manuel Serrano/Associated Press

Explosives experts work at the scene after a bomb exploded in Santillana del Mar, Spain, on Monday. Small bombs exploded in seven towns and cities around Spain after telephone warnings from callers claiming to speak on behalf of the armed Basque separatist group ETA.

That was the case in the town of Santillana del Mar, where 15 people were hurt by shards of glass or chunks of wood when a bomb destroyed a tourist information booth in a park. Three people were wounded in Ciudad Real when a bomb exploded while authorities were evacuating a coffee shop.

Shortly before midnight, another call to *Gara* warned of a bomb outside the headquarters of the conservative, opposition Popular Party, but after a two-hour search police declared it a false alarm, the news agency Efe said. Police sealed off streets around the headquarters, evacuated bars and restaurants, and closed the nearest subway station, the agency said.

The blasts were apparently calculated to avoid loss of life.

One Basque analyst said this showed the constraints ETA faces after the March 11 Madrid train bombings — which killed 191 people — and the ensuing nationwide revulsion over terrorism.

ETA is blamed for more than 800 deaths since the late 1960s, and it was initially blamed for the March 11 attacks until the government acknowledged an Islamic link.

"ETA wants to sow fear. It wants to draw attention but cannot afford to kill people. That's why they set off bombs the size of a bar of chocolate," said former ETA member Teo Uriarte, who now leads an association working for peace in the region.

Uriarte suggested the bombings might have been planned by young Basque militants acting in ETA's name without specific

orders from the group's leaders.

Analysts in the Basque region say the group is deeply divided among newer, young members eager to keep fighting and older leaders more inclined to negotiate an end to the conflict.

More than 200 suspected ETA members or sympathizers have been arrested over the past two years in Spain and in southern France, and officials in Spain's previous, conservative government had said the group was on its last legs.

ETA staged a string of small explosions in Spanish resort towns over the summer, causing little damage and only a few minor injuries.

AP writer Alberto Letona contributed to this report.

No courts-martial for soldiers who refused fuel mission in Iraq

23 Army Reservists will receive less severe punishments for refusing to transport fuel on a dangerous Iraqi road

BY PAUL GARWOOD
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — The U.S. military said Monday it will not court-martial any of the 23 Army Reservists who refused a mission transporting fuel along a dangerous road in Iraq, instead planning less severe punishments, such as extra duties or reduction in rank.

The announcement came as a U.S. soldier appeared in military court in a separate case to face a murder charge for the death of an Iraqi man in an impoverished Shiite Muslim quarter of Baghdad, scene of clashes between U.S. troops and insurgents this year.

The Reservists from the 343rd Quartermaster Company are being disciplined for failing to follow orders under Article 15, which means no court proceedings will be held, and the identities of the soldiers involved will not be released, Lt. Col. Steve Boylan said.

The soldiers failed to report on Oct. 13 for a mission to transport supplies from Tallil air base near Nasiriyah to Taji north of Baghdad. They said they balked because the vehicles were in poor condition and did not have armor. They also said complaints to their commander went unheeded.

"They felt they didn't have the proper equipment to do the mission they were ordered to do and are being disciplined

for failing to follow orders," Boylan said.

Boylan said 18 of the soldiers had been punished, and the others would face reprimand this week.

While most had been expected to face administrative punishment, officials had said earlier that courts-martial were possible for some of the Reservists. Refusal of orders during a time of war can be punished by death, discharge, forfeiture of pay and benefits, or confinement.

The father of one of the Reservists said he expected his son to receive a pay cut and a reprimand.

"This was about as lenient as possible. I think it's fair," said Rickey Shealey of Quinton, Ala., whose 29-year-old son, Scott, is a private with the unit. "I'm glad it's over with. I don't care if he comes back as a private or a general. I just want him to come back."

Brig. Gen. James Chambers, the commanding general of the 13th Corps Support Command, which manages the provision of fuel, food, and ammunition across Iraq, decided to deal with the reservists under Article 15 proceedings rather than by courts-martial based on "evidence and recommendations," Boylan said.

Boylan declined to comment on the quality of the evidence.

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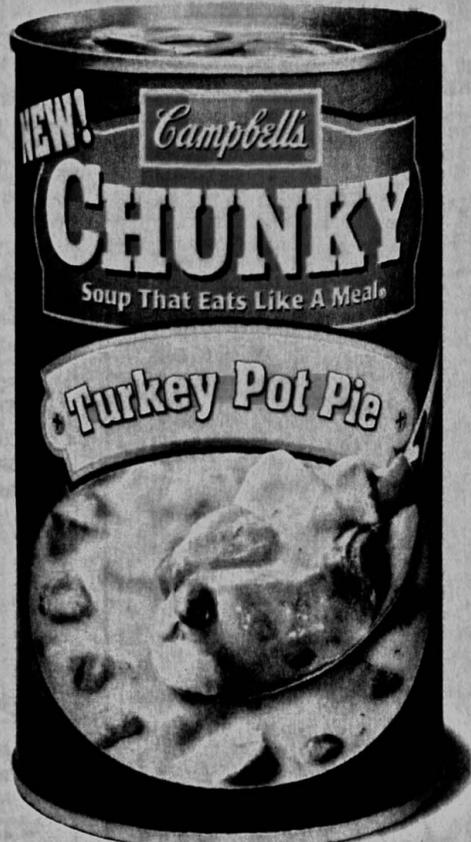
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HAZMAT leads Spence response

Records show it was impossible to know what chemicals were mixed together

HAZMAT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

According to the records: The changing litmus paper signaled that the vandals had spilled gallons of acid, as they had in three other labs. The vandals had also overturned a refrigerator, possibly creating a noxious mixture of chemicals.

"The unknown factor was the damage that existed such as refrigerators being tipped over ... It was impossible to know what was mixed together," records show.

The team began its room-by-room search after closing Iowa Avenue and studying the chemicals kept in the labs.

Two HAZMAT members suited up in regular firefighter gear and entered the buildings, while two others stood ready as back-up.

On Nov. 15, after they had assessed the damages, the workers suited up in blue and yellow impermeable protective gear — the highest level of protection. They cleared a path for professors to feed animals left unattended because of the break-in and conducted further tests on chemical mixing and radiation releases.

Equipped with litmus paper, the team entered the building and headed for Room E124. Its floor was covered with papers piled 2 feet deep. The carpet beneath was melting. Bok spotted a chemical eating the fabric on a chair and the paint off a desk. Tests later found the main chemical to be hydrochloric acid.

Shortly after the first team withdrew from the building, a second team moved in and

found a sledge hammer lying on the hallway floor near a crowbar resting on a cart.

In a room one floor below, three empty glass containers labeled "hydrochloric acid" sat on a pile of documents.

The vandals used the labs' chemicals as a weapon, said Ron Stutzman, the coordinator of the HAZMAT team and Iowa City's incident commander.

"In my opinion, it was the [vandals'] intent to cause as much damage as possible, and chemicals were there," said Stutzman, a battalion chief for the Iowa City Fire Department.

The other substances stored in the labs and refrigerators included inflammable chemicals, mutagens, and carcinogens, said James Walker, the director of UI Health Protection Office — the agency

that records the chemicals kept by each campus lab.

Mixed chemicals pose threats of hybrid reactions, including explosion or toxic gas. One scenario was the hydrochloric acid mixing with sodium cyanide to produce a suffocating gas. Walker could not say whether the UI escaped catastrophe because the vandals knew which chemicals not to mix.

The team noted similar damage in 403 Seashore Hall, where documents were also strewn about the floor and doused with acid.

"We are very fortunate in terms of damage," Walker said. "I don't know what their motive was, but they created a lot of havoc none the less."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Brian Spannagel** at: brian-spannagel@uiowa.edu

ET CETERA TRIAL

Parties blame each other in bar-stunt fire

ET CETERA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The resulting fireball surged into the crowd, burning Busche and other nearby patrons. Kline said he spotted Busche lying on the floor, screaming in pain.

Later, during an interview with police, Kline did not say he saw Busche spit a liquid into the flames, he told the eight jurors. But earlier, Kline and Et Cetera attorney J. Ric Gass previewed testimony to show Busche was liable for allowing the popular bar stunt, performed 15 to 20 times previously without problems or complaints, to go out of control.

Aspiring for a future in broadcast journalism, Busche has had an excellent recovery despite the initial severity of her injuries, Gass said.

"When you look across the room, you will see a much different young lady" from that in photos taken shortly after the blaze, Gass told jurors.

Busche, then 20, provided varying descriptions of the blaze to authorities — first depicting the fire as a "bottle explosion" to a "fireball" and saying Kline had thrown or sloshed the liquid onto the flames, Gass argued.

An amateur video submitted to attorneys documents an example of the fiery stunt Kline would perform, Gass said. The way he conducted the fire on April 18, 2002, was as he did it on other nights.

Drinking a concoction of vodka, orange Crush, and Red Bull that night, Busche, Gass said, was a regular drinker who would go out roughly four times a week, downing four to five shots per night.

Also, the attorney added Busche's injuries, combined with the type of fire and eyewitness accounts, support the argument that the former UI student reignited the flames.

Busche's attorney, Mark McNabola, depicted a packed bar scene that turned chaotic after Kline poured Everclear down the 20-foot drink rail. Busche was thrown to the ground, while others tried to smother the flames by stomping on her, McNabola said. In the process, her shoulder was injured and her nose smashed.

McNabola said though Busche has recovered well, she has endured extensive pain to treat the burns.

"She's had to deal with scraping dead skin off her face and body over and over and then putting on bandages, and she would go through the same grueling procedure," he said.

Lost sensitivity from her face makes her more vulnerable to sunlight and cold, and her condition will not improve, McNabola said.

Busche's case against Et Cetera is the only one of four civil suits that remains unresolved. Three others have been settled out of court. The trial will reconvene at 9 a.m. today.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Seung Min Kim** at: seungmin-kim@uiowa.edu

Rumsfeld looks forward to changing Pentagon

'We've got a big job to do in the department to see that we are in a process of transforming'

TROOPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

More broadly, the kind of changes Rumsfeld has in mind for the Pentagon go beyond a revamping of policies, programs, and procedures. They run deeper, to the heart of what he thinks will make or break the effort to transform the military establishment to handle better the security challenges of the 21st century.

"We've got a big job to do in the department to see that we are in a process of transforming, which is really a culture; it's a mind-set; it's an attitude," he said. That includes a historic revamping of the Defense

personnel system to make work rules more flexible and to streamline hiring.

Asked whether he had at some point considered quitting the Pentagon, Rumsfeld said, "Certainly, there were days ..." and his voice trailed off without completing his thought. Some in Congress demanded his resignation when the Abu Ghraib prisoner abuse scandal became public last spring.

Rumsfeld said the Iraqi national election, scheduled Jan. 30, would be an important milestone. From that point forward, he said, Iraqis should gain confidence in their transitional government, and the government itself should become

more capable of running its affairs without U.S. help.

"When that happens, the U.S. forces and coalition forces don't want to be there. They want to be out, and that's where they should be, and they will be," he said. At the same time, he acknowledged that much work remains to develop Iraqi police and other security forces to put down the insurgency.

Rumsfeld listed other major changes he wants to push forward in a second Bush term, including:

- Rebalancing the active-duty and reserve force, so that specialties like military police that currently are in high demand and residing mainly in the reserves are more readily available to deploy abroad.

- Revising all contingency plans for military crises around the world. He has said that too many of these plans are out-of-date and based on assumptions that no longer fit U.S. military capabilities.

- Repositioning U.S. forces abroad, such as has already begun in South Korea, where thousands of American troops have been withdrawn and thousands of others will move farther away from the Demilitarized Zone, which separates South and North Korea.

- Improving U.S. troops' ability to train foreign forces, as they are attempting to do on a large scale in Iraq and Afghanistan.

WAR IN IRAQ

Attacks underscore security concerns in Iraq

FIGHTING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Initially, witnesses said the gunmen fought U.S. troops. But the U.S. military said late Monday that American troops were not involved.

Haifa Street has been the site of previous battles between insurgents and coalition forces. Despite their overwhelming strength, U.S.-led troops and Iraqi security forces have yet to secure areas surrounding the country's most vital facilities.

U.S. soldiers and Iraqi police continued to be targeted by insurgents. On Sunday, attackers with machine guns killed 17 Iraqi civilians employed by the U.S. military in Tikrit, shooting them as they stepped off a bus to work at a weapons destruction dump.

The Ansar al-Sunnah Army, one of Iraq's most feared terror groups, claimed responsibility for the Tikrit attack in a statement on the group's Web site.

The 1st Marine Expeditionary Force said three U.S. soldiers were killed Sunday, and two Marines were killed on Dec. 3 in fighting in western Anbar province, a region that includes the battleground cities of Fallujah and Ramadi. More than 1,270 U.S. troops have died since the Iraq war began in March 2003.

Marines have led major operations in the region, particularly in Fallujah, to destroy a network of Iraqi and other Arab fighters blamed for attacks on U.S. and Iraqi forces and the kidnapping and killing of Western hostages.

The violence — including a roadside bomb attack on a U.S. patrol in Baghdad Monday that wounded one soldier — persisted despite offensives intended to suppress guerrillas ahead of elections.

In Washington, President Bush met Iraq's interim president, Ghazi al-Yawer, and told reporters it was impossible to "guarantee 100 percent security" in Iraq. Bush pledged the United States would do everything it could to make Iraq's elections as safe as possible.

Al-Yawer, a Sunni Muslim, expressed resolve to defeat the insurgents, saying "victory is not only possible, it is a fact." He said most Iraqis want the elections. His White House visit is seen as a way to persuade Iraq's political minorities, comprising

mostly Sunni groups, not to boycott the elections.

Sunnis represent one-fifth of Iraq's nearly 26 million people and wielded the power under Saddam Hussein. They fear the election will give Shiites, with 60 percent of the population, an overpowering grip on the nation. U.S. and Iraqi officials are concerned that a boycott by Sunnis could undermine the legitimacy of a new government.

Police said an Iraqi translator working for U.S. forces in Ramadi, Bashar Mohammed, was kidnapped by militants Sunday. Gunmen in Baqouba, north of Baghdad, killed a child Monday in a failed attempt to assassinate police Col. Jalil Yassin and his two bodyguards. They were wounded.

2 area state senators snare top committee spots

STATE SENATE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Committees need majority support to get a bill onto the floor for a vote — a tie would mean the bill would die.

In the Ways and Means Committee, which Bolckom will co-chair, the even split could pose problems because of a partisan divide on whether to spur

growth by taxing to fund government spending or by letting citizens keep their money to spend.

Ways and Means Co-Chairman Sen. Mark Ziemann, R-Postville, said the session's productivity would depend on how much common ground the two parties could find.

He said that Republicans and Democrats don't always stick to their philosophical stereotypes, though he said legislators should

minimize government spending to the areas that need it.

Bolckom, who served as a ranking member on the committee in the last session, said he saw his leadership position as an opportunity to ensure the state has the resources to fund its programs, including education.

If a partisan separation exists in the entire Senate, Ziemann said, it wouldn't necessarily be a problem.

"Sometimes the best thing we can do in the Legislature is not do anything," he said. "If that's where it leads us, that's where it leads us."

In the Republican-dominated House, Rep. Vicki Lensing, D-Iowa City, will lead Democrats on the Oversight Committee, and Rep. Mary Mascher, D-Iowa City, will sit on the House Ethics Committee as a ranking member.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Nick Petersen** at: nicholas-petersen@uiowa.edu

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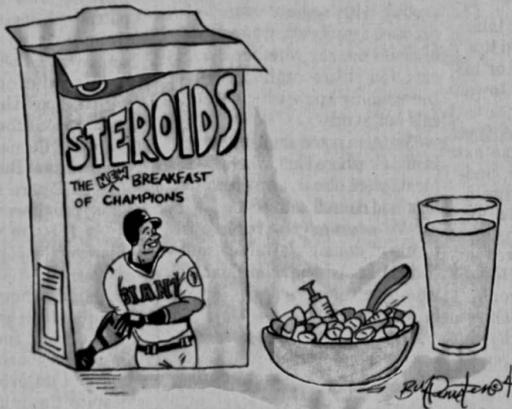
Steroid use shows willingness to cheat

Because behavior reform often comes only after a confession, it's a good thing that the San Francisco Giant slugger Barry Bonds "admitted" to use of substances containing steroids. However, the confession is certainly robbed of its value when it is followed by an insult to everyone's intelligence. This sports-crazy nation loves its athletes, but that doesn't make it easy to absorb Bonds' claim that he was simply unaware that he was stuffing steroids into his body.

Along with Bonds' admission, New York Yankee star Jason Giambi also recently conceded to three years of steroid use. The one key difference in this case is that Giambi did not try to pretend that he wasn't aware of what he was consuming.

Nonetheless, these revelations have led Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John McCain, R-Ariz., to send out a warning to all professional baseball players to conduct a thorough crackdown on steroid abuse by January. Failure to do so will result in the introduction of legislation that would mandate drug-testing standards for all professional athletes, he said. Hopefully, the attempt to scare Major League Baseball officials into submission by threatening federal intervention will work. Currently, players in the league need to be caught using steroids on five occasions before they are handed a one-year suspension.

Clearly this is a major cause for concern, amplified by those who have actually made the argument that steroid use does not constitute cheating if it is so widespread. Just because the drug has a reputation of being ubiquitous in professional sports does not mean that it isn't a serious problem. The general public may be tempted to simply shrug at news of this because lack of awareness tends to promote indifference.



In fact, the somewhat prevalent assumption that many (if not most) professional athletes use these performance-enhance drugs makes their use tolerable in an unstated way. A *New York Times* poll last December showed that 41 percent of Americans under 30 are "not bothered at all by the use of performance-enhancing drugs among professional athletes," which shouldn't be a source of pride for anyone.

Statistics of this nature reveal a common public misperception, or, worse yet, lack of concern. Use of steroids and similar drugs by athletes is a method of cheating, one that cannot be condoned. A popular argument in favor of athletes using such substances is that they enhance their ability to perform, which essentially translates into increased entertainment for the crowd, and hence, increased popularity of the sport in question. But athletics on any level should be preserved for what they are instead of becoming an act where personal ability is clouded over. McCain's warning should be met with serious action on the part of those toward whom the message is directed — baseball players and officials.

We live in a country in which elite athletes are idolized. The more the nation acclimatizes itself to the use of drugs by high-profile athletes, the more there is a risk of sabotaging the values of young, aspiring athletes who are taught that winning should be achieved at any cost, even if that means resorting to unscrupulous and illegal practices. In this light, there are two choices: Either make an earnest attempt to eradicate the grandiose image of American professional sports, or delineate effective policies that will stamp out the growing culture of cheating among athletes and maintain an image of legitimate personal achievement and honest competition.

GUEST OPINION

In defense of humanity and progress

The fight for the better treatment of animals is not on par with a revolution against tyranny

Does the term "property rights" mean anything to anybody? It evidently means nothing to such idiots as Maria Cassino or Leana Stormont (guest opinions, *DI*, Dec. 3), and especially not to vile organizations such as the Animal Liberation Front.

The funny thing about rights is that all humans have them. Our rights are an extension of our will and our very being. If we are to live in a society that values individualism (as one logically has to), we must acknowledge these fundamental human rights. Generally, humans are thinking beings capable of something that animals are not — creating and living by rules of ethics that uphold the fundamental rights of life, liberty, and property.

My property is an extension of my will and my being. To violate my property is to violate me. Cassino's "reasoning" sounds akin to that of a sociopath, as she evidently has no value for fundamental human rights, but to any moral human being, those rights are an absolute and a necessity for an orderly society.

Though the destruction of property is sometimes unavoidable, the Animal Liberation Front had no justification for the violation of human rights it committed. Animals are similar enough to humans to produce viable research results in most cases. However, simple physical similarities don't decide who is entitled to rights. The species with the capability to observe ethical truths are entitled to rights. Humanity obviously has this over the animal kingdom.

The fight for the better treatment of animals is not on par with a revolution against tyranny. The environment and its non-human inhabitants are necessary means to the end, which is human progress. Groups such as the front and its sympathizers like to conveniently ignore actual logic and pretend otherwise, but in doing so, they take a "side," and that side is of an antisocial, anti-human agenda.

People such as these refuse to acknowledge the nature of humanity, and, as such, they end up completely willing to retard, or even impede, human progress. This opens a floodgate of rationalizations for the violation of human rights. The very nature of man is to use nature. Every species has a special way of surviving and progressing. Humanity's way to adapt is to change, alter, and exploit its surroundings to its needs. Our progress depends on our ability to do this. Because of this, those who wish to protect and preserve nature and its inhabitants can only do so at humanity's expense. As those two clowns (along with ilk such the liberation front) have proven, they're perfectly OK with this sociopathic and morally bankrupt path.

There's nothing wrong with "another side" to the story, but spare us this idiocy. Crime can't be justified, and that includes wanton acts against people and their property. People who try are ignoring the fact that logic decides moral justification, not emotional preference. Unfortunately, the latter is all these poor souls have to play on.

William Montague
UI student

LETTERS

Animal Liberation Front cowardice betrays its cause

Maria Cassino, defending the actions of the Animal Liberation Front, asks in her guest opinion (*DI*, Dec. 3): "Why is it that civil disobedience of the past is romanticized ... yet more recent manifestations are now condemned?" Here is why: Martin Luther King Jr., and other civil-rights activists believed so strongly in their cause they were willing to suffer beatings and be imprisoned to stand up for their beliefs. The members of the Animal Liberation Front, on the other hand, cover behind the mask of anonymity. King believed in loving his enemies. By openly violating unjust laws, he hoped to appeal to the moral conscious of complacent moderates. The members of the front, by their recent actions, demonstrate only contempt for their "enemies." By vandalizing Spence Laboratories, the group's members did more harm to their cause than good: Persons potentially receptive to their message have been turned off by their means.

If the front desires to protect animals, it should do so using the same method we all must use in a democracy: persuading a majority of voters of the righteousness of its cause. As King demonstrates, there may be times when extralegal means are necessary to achieve change, but whereas he acted in the spirit of love for all and with the

conviction that his acts would ultimately cause people to support his cause, members of the front behave with callous disregard for the effect their actions have on others and without careful consideration of how their actions will affect their long-term goals.

While Cassino should be commended for having the courage to air unpopular views, the members of the front are to be condemned for not having the courage of their convictions. If they truly believe their cause is just, they should follow the path of King and come forward to take individual responsibility for their actions.

Noah Lawrence
UI graduate student

Activism should be nonviolent

When I read Maria Cassino's guest opinion, I was glad to see that someone had the courage to represent her beliefs and what is certainly the less-popular side of the argument. In the likely wave of anger toward her stance, Cassino has my definite respect. And although I may agree with the some of the concerns of the Animal Liberation Front, the actions they have claimed don't deserve the same.

Calling the incident nonviolent is wrong. Try comparing the nonviolent actions of the civil-rights movement or Ghandi's civil disobedience to that of the front's actions. Smashing computers, destroying equipment, leaking

chemicals — these actions are all violent, despite the fact that no humans or animals were directly harmed. And what lasting results came from the raid? It's ridiculous to think the laboratory will now end its research or animal experimentation.

I can think of a few truly nonviolent, proactive things motivated animal-rights activists could do to promote their cause. What if they conducted a media storm criticizing the university for its animal testing? The negative attention could easily encourage the university — which, as Cassino points out, has a public image to maintain — to be more critical in evaluating whether the type of research being done is worth the kind of suffering that often comes with animal research.

I work as an assistant in a research laboratory, where work with mice is done to gain insight into human diseases. Anyone working with animals is required to pass a test on animal treatment and ethics. Besides this, there are several federal and university organizations that exist to ensure that animals are being treated as humanely as possible. But are these organizations effective? What changes need to be made? Perhaps with more input from the university community, the outrage that many felt after learning about the research being done could be prevented.

Alex Wyrick
UI graduate student

Stinkin' science

Some notes from the United Surrealism of America: "Political criticism is our enemies' best friend." — Bernard Kerik, the Cowboy in Chief's nominee to head the Homeland Security Department, quoted in *Newsday* on Oct. 20, 2003 (thanks to Josh Marshall of TalkingPointsMemo for digging this one up).

Well, goodbye to "The Daily Show," I guess. Hey, Jon — didn't you realize that every time you crack wise, you're aiding Al Qaeda? Why couldn't you be more like "Seinfeld" or "Friends"? You know, safe laughs. Condemned comedy.

What I don't understand is, if you're going to introduce KGB-think into the Homeland Security Department, why don't you go to the source?

Even with Vladimir Putin's attempts to re-Sovietize Russia, there have to be a lot of ex-KGB guys wandering around jobless. They'd probably work cheap. And we are facing a rather stunning budget deficit.



BEAU ELLIOT

Besides, ex-KGB guys have an intimate understanding of how political criticism is an enemy of the state.

This is what I don't get about George W. Bush. He supposed to be a conservative, but he doesn't think pragmatically — which is allegedly how conservatives think. Maybe he's practicing Brave New Conservatism.

Which brings us to sex. Yeah, I know — some of you are saying, No, it doesn't bring us to sex. You're undoubtedly female. With guys, everything eventually comes round to sex. Just trust me on this one.

You'd think, given how long human beings have been practicing sex, that A) we'd be good at it, and B) it would no longer be news.

Ha-ha-ha. You believe either of those two propositions, you probably still clap for Tinkerbell (to steal a line from Donald Kaul).

Sex — or more specifically, sex education — crawled into the headlines last week with the release of a report prepared for Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif., on abstinence-only sex education. The gist of the report is that it should be called sex non-education.

Abstinence-only programs have been heartily embraced (not to use a loaded term or anything) by brave new conservative Christians as the savior of our society. Or one of them. However, federal funding for abstinence-only actually started under the Clinton administration in 1999. Yeah, I know, that's a brain-stopper there — Bill Clinton and abstinence coexisting in the same sentence.

Federal funding for abstinence-only was around \$80 million under Clinton. Bush has upped the ante to \$170 million (he actually wanted \$270 million, but Congress cut it back).

Unfortunately, as the Waxman report notes, there are some major problems with abstinence-only programs. For one, they don't appear to work. You have to admit, it's kind of a downer to throw lots of money at a problem and have it linger in the air like eau de cat litter.

A Columbia University study found that 88 percent of teens who pledge to abstain from sex until they are married actually engage in premarital sex. And their teen pregnancy rates and STD rates are no different from those who do not "follow" abstinence-only programs.

Second, abstinence-only programs seem to have as much of a grasp on science as, say, the Animal Liberation Front.

Which is to say, Less than zero. For instance, in the abstinence-only curricula studied by the Waxman report, teens are taught that abortions lead to sterility and suicide. This is demonstrably false.

The abstinence-only curricula also claim that half the gay male teens in the United States are HIV-positive. False. The curricula "teach" that "touching" the genitalia of another can result in pregnancy. Do I even have to note that something more than "touching" must occur?

Abstinence-only also claims that condoms fail to stop transmission of HIV 31 percent of the time. This is based on a 1993 meta-analysis by Susan Weller that has been thoroughly discredited by the CDC and the FDA.

And one more abstinence-only whopper (there are many, many more, all on the level of claiming the sun rises in the west): HIV can be spread through sweat and tears.

Yeah, you heard that right: sweat and tears.

Such is the state of brave new conservatism in the United Surrealism of America.

Science? Science? We ain't got no science.

We don't need no stinkin' science. And then a big wind comes up and blows all the gold dust back to the Sierra Madre. ■

ON THE SPOT

Is the use of steroids by baseball players a form of cheating?



"Sure, I do think it's cheating."

Megan Evans
UI senior



"Yes, definitely."

Bob Engel
UI junior



"Yes."

Eddie Schneider
UI senior



"Yes — is that a trick question?"

Eugene Sun
UI junior

ARTS

CALENDAR-WORTHY

Diplomats of Solid Sound will play a dinner show at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington, at 7 p.m. today for free.

National Treasure, with car chase

Despite its flaws, David Frank just can't hate National Treasure



FILM REVIEW

by David Frank

National Treasure

When:

12:30, 3:30, 6:30, and 9:15 p.m.

Where:

Cinema 6

★★ out of ★★★★★



Publicity photos

TOP: Nicolas Cage stars as Benjamin Franklin Gates, a treasure hunter hell-bent on stealing national documents to find treasure left by the Founding Fathers.

BOTTOM: Cage is joined by a team of eager assistants who prove that all it takes to steal is a screwdriver and a crash-course in Photoshop.

'The film monotonously moves from one clue to another, and another, and another until you'd wish they'd find the damn treasure already.'



National Treasure is like a well-read librarian who remains ignorant about the facets behind interesting writing (but foolishly claims otherwise). Sure, it's jam-packed with chases, bullet slinging, collapsing structures, a slow-motion fireball, and a high-concept plot. National Treasure almost insists upon its own entertainment value. But with all of these action-film staples plunged through our eyeballs and eardrums, the flick remains tired and dull.

It seems while our Founding Fathers were busy fighting the British, they still managed to bury the world's greatest treasure, which had its origins in ancient Egypt, and create cryptic clues and devices that lead to its whereabouts — this includes secret decoder pipes, eyeglasses, and an invisible map written on the back of the Declaration of Independence.

Benjamin Franklin Gates (Nicolas Cage) is close to finding the treasure, and so is the villainous Ian Howe (the great Sean Bean). They both learn of the Declaration's invisible secret, and Gates decides to

steal the document in order to protect it from Howe; the film argues that this is a noble act on Gates' part, but honestly, he's still searching for the treasure, which means the theft truly stems from greed.

Gates and company make pilfering the Declaration look easy. Not because they're as slick as the Ocean's 11's crew. No, the filmmakers set up the heist in such a ho-hum fashion that it seems anyone with Photoshop, a screwdriver, and some simple electrician know-how could probably gank the Declaration.

After Gates borrows the document, the film monotonously moves from one clue to another, and another, and another until you'd wish they'd find the damn treasure already.

Mega-successful producer and pyromaniac Jerry Bruckheimer is the action-film guru of Hollywood. Sometimes he makes great films, such as Black Hawk Down or Pirates of the Caribbean, but almost habitually he spits out formulaic butt-snot in the form of Bad Boys and King Arthur. His mistake with National Treasure was hiring director Jon Turteltaub, who's known for less

kinetic fare such as The Kid and Phenomenon (sorry, 3 Ninjas doesn't count as kinetic).

And maybe Turteltaub should have re-animated John Travolta's corpse for some more tear-jerking in Phenomenon 2: Really Phenomenal rather than confirming with National Treasure that he's better at directing sentimental treacle than action sequences. The editing and pacing of the film's set pieces feel sluggish and text-book stale. Oh look, honey, a car chase; whoops, didn't mean to wake you up. Turteltaub also missed out on the memo that speedy extreme zoom-ins on an object or person as the scenery morphs around it in order to provide a transition from shot to shot are no longer fresh or interesting.

Yet, despite its flaws aplenty, I still couldn't make myself hate National Treasure. Some might find it to be stupid fun; others, such as me, may find it tedious. Ultimately, it's harmless forgettable fluff with a plot so absurd that you'd have to be a black turtleneck-and dark-rimmed-spectacles-wearing pompous blowhard to take the flick seriously.

E-mail D/I film critic David Frank at: david-frank@uiowa.edu

Early to bed, early to rise? Not this Ben

BY TONY PERRY

LOS ANGELES TIMES

HOLLYWOOD — He was restless, brilliant, and a self-promoter. He preached one set of values and often lived by another. He could be cold and aloof with his family and warm and endearing with strangers. And, most modern of all, he had a complex love life.

Forget the doughy, dowdy image of Ben Franklin. He was the most paradoxical, confounding, and contemporary of the Founding Fathers.

That's the argument of a top-notch History Channel documentary that premiered Sunday, and it's a convincing one. Reruns will air Saturday at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. and Dec. 12 at 10 a.m. CST. Gather the kids — this is an antidote to the musty stuff found in their history books.

Using the familiar tools of documentary — dramatic re-creations, talking-head interviews, and illustrative art work — "Ben Franklin" brings Franklin alive far beyond the well-worn images of the guy flying the kite and kibitzing on the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

The most interesting part may be the second half, which has Franklin conniving and consorting to get French help for the American Revolution, which was then sputtering for lack of money.

If "Ben" sometimes strains for effect — likening the buzz of Franklin's arrival in Paris to that of the Beatles arriving in New York — that's small beer compared with its achievements.

Franklin is a subject worthy of a first-rate television biography, so it's nice to see that the History Channel has delivered it, with guidance from Walter Isaacson, the author of the much-acclaimed Benjamin Franklin: An American Life, published last year.

Yes, Franklin wore those prissy clothes and had a terrible hairdo — a bald pate surrounded by stringy dreadful-locks — but with better tailoring and shearing, he would have been easily at home in our cable TV politics-as-combat world.

The story of Franklin's push-pull with his son, William, over whether to join the Revolution — dad did, son did not — is a gem within a gem.

The fun of "Ben" is that it finds a suitable middle ground between academia and its raffish cousin, journalism.

Is it historically significant that Franklin, as a young man, consorted with "low-women" and fathered an illegitimate child or that, as an older (married) man, carried on innumerable flirtations with women of breeding and refinement?

No, probably not. But to us modern lowbrows, it's lip-smackingly interesting. If he were with us today, Franklin's liaisons — complete with rumors, sightings, and embarrassing pictures — would be a natural for tabloid television.

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NEWS

Militants attack U.S. consulate

Al Qaeda claims responsibility for the assault in Saudi Arabia, which killed nine

BY FAIZA SALEH AMBAH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JIDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Lobbing grenades, militants invaded Jiddah's heavily guarded U.S. Consulate on Monday, attacking staffers and others in the compound until Saudi security forces stormed in. Nine people, none American, were killed in the attack, for which Al Qaeda claimed responsibility; the battle showed how vulnerable Saudi Arabia remains to Islamic extremist violence.

The bold assault, the worst in the kingdom since May, suggested that a fierce crackdown waged by Saudi security forces has not completely put down al-Qaeda in the native land of terrorist leader Osama bin Laden.

The group Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula said the attack was part of its "war on the crusaders and the Jews ... [aimed at] getting them out of the Arabian peninsula. The mujahideen are continuing on their path ... they will not weaken ... but will be patient."

In a statement posted on a militant website, the group said the attack had been named "the blessed Fallujah battle," referring to the former insurgent stronghold in Iraq invaded last month by U.S. troops. It also said it was carried out by the "unit of the martyr Abu Anas al-Shami," who was a spiritual adviser to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the most feared terrorist in Iraq. There was no way to confirm the claim.

President Bush said the attack showed "terrorists are still on the move," trying to intimidate Americans and force the United States to withdraw from Saudi Arabia and Iraq. The U.S. Embassy in Riyadh and the consulate in Dhahran were closed to the public for two days, as was the Jiddah consulate. The Embassy urged the thousands of Americans in the



Smoke rises following an explosion in Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, Monday after Islamic militants attacked the heavily guarded U.S. Consulate with explosives and machine guns.

country — many of whom already live under extraordinarily tight security — to "exercise utmost security precautions."

Monday's assault began when the attackers sneaked on foot behind an embassy car that was entering the consulate through a gate, then lobbed grenades at guards to take control of the gate area, said Brig. Gen. Mansour al-Turki, the Interior Ministry spokesman. The attackers also used incendiary grenades designed to create fires and to send up heavy smoke, he said.

Plumes of black smoke could be seen rising in the air shortly after the attack. About 20 minutes after fighting their way in, the attackers telephoned emergency services, claimed to be holding up to 17 people hostage, and warned Saudi forces not to

attack, said Adel al-Jubeir, foreign affairs adviser to Crown Prince Abdullah.

Those held at gunpoint were mostly either in the courtyard-like area to apply for visas, or were employees who worked in that area, a senior Saudi official in Washington said.

As the call was ending, Saudi security forces stormed the area and fought a short gun battle, the official said. Al-Jubeir said the fight was over within three or four minutes, and the troops then worked for about three hours after that searching the compound to ensure it was secure. He denied earlier reports that the standoff lasted four hours.

Employees rushed into a safe area, and the attackers never made it inside the consulate's

buildings, al-Turki said. He denied anyone was held hostage but said the attackers did hurt those they came across in the courtyard area.

Five consulate employees, all non-Americans, were killed and another four injured, the State Department said. Three of the five attackers also died in the shootout and the other two were captured wounded, the Saudi Interior Ministry said.

A Saudi security official, quoted on Saudi television station al-Ikhbariya, said one of the wounded attackers later died in custody. The official said that besides the attackers, the five dead were a Yemeni, a Sudanese, a Filipino, a Pakistani and a Sri Lankan.

AP writers Tarek Al-Issawi and John Solomon contributed to this report.

PRISON ABUSE

FBI agents saw abuse in Guantánamo prison

More than a year before the Iraqi prison abuse scandal broke, agents witnessed mistreatment of terror suspects in Cuba

BY PAISLEY DODDS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — FBI agents witnessed "highly aggressive" interrogations and mistreatment of terror suspects at the U.S. prison camp in Cuba starting in 2002 — more than a year before the prison abuse scandal broke in Iraq — according to a letter a senior Justice Department official sent to the Army's top criminal investigator.

In the letter obtained by the Associated Press, the FBI official suggested the Pentagon didn't act on FBI complaints about the incidents, including a female interrogator grabbing a detainee's genitals and bending back his thumbs, another in which a prisoner was gagged with duct tape, and a third in which a dog was used to intimidate a detainee who later was thrown into isolation and showed signs of "extreme psychological trauma."

One Marine told an FBI observer that some interrogations led to prisoners "curling into a fetal position on the floor and crying in pain," according to the letter dated July 14, 2004.

Thomas Harrington, an FBI counterterrorism expert who led a team of investigators at Guantánamo Bay, wrote the letter to Maj. Gen. Donald J. Ryder, the Army's chief law enforcement officer who's investigating abuses at U.S.-run prisons in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Guantánamo.

Harrington said FBI officials complained about the pattern of abusive techniques to top Defense Department attorneys in January 2003, and it appeared that nothing was done.

Although a senior FBI attorney "was assured that the general concerns expressed, and the debate between the FBI and Department of Defense regarding the treatment of detainees was known to officials in the Pentagon, I have no record that our specific concerns regarding these three situations were communicated to the Department of Defense for appropriate action," Harrington wrote.

Harrington told Ryder he was writing to follow up a meeting he had with the general the week before about detainee treatment, saying the three cases demonstrate the "highly aggressive interrogation techniques being used against detainees in Guantánamo."

"I refer them to you for appropriate action," Harrington wrote.

Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, the current commander of the mission in Guantánamo, said allegations of mistreatment and abuse are taken seriously and investigated.

"The appropriate actions were taken. Some allegations are still under investigation," Hood told the AP. "Once investigations are completed, we report them immediately."

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- dad
- santa
- _____
- hanukkah
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NBA
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Atlanta 96, Philadelphia 92
New Jersey 88, Toronto 86
Detroit 101, Dallas 85
San Antonio 91, Chicago 75
Denver 115, Orlando 102
Miami 100, Utah 80
Charlotte at L.A. Clippers, late

College Hoops
Iowa State 81, Virginia 79
Illinois 78, Chicago State 59
Connecticut 97, Northeastern 60

NFL
Dallas 43, Seattle 39

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2004

BCS BLUES: WHO HAS THE BIGGER BCS COMPLAINT — AUBURN OR CAL? 2B

WWW.DAILYIOWAN.COM

GOT TICKETS?

Capital One Bowl tickets sold out

Hope you have your tickets bought for Orlando.

Florida Citrus Sports announced Monday the Capital One Bowl matchup between No. 12 Iowa and 11th-ranked LSU has sold out just one day after the Tigers accepted its bid. It's one of the earliest sell-outs on record in the bowl game's history, officials said.

There are 65,438 permanent seats available in the Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium, and officials plan on adding more seating in the stadium's north end zone, but all of those seats have also been sold out. The game will be played on New Year's Day at noon and will be televised by ABC.

Auburn beat Tennessee on Dec. 4 to send LSU to the Capital One Bowl. The one-spot ranking difference has LSU as a seven-point favorite, according to Las Vegas oddsmakers.

"Auburn's obviously an exceptional football team, and LSU lost to Auburn by one point," Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said last weekend. "Nick [Saban's] a very serious, focused guy. Just by the results he gets, you can tell he's effective."

— by Jason Brummond

ZOOK

Ex-Florida coach Zook to Illinois

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Former Florida coach Ron Zook will take over at Illinois, sources told the Associated Press Monday.

Zook's hiring as head coach will be announced at a news conference Tuesday, said two senior university officials speaking on the condition of anonymity. He will replace Ron Turner who was fired Nov. 22, after the team went 3-8.



Florida named the Illini's head football coach fired Zook Oct. 25 after an embarrassing loss at Mississippi State. Zook coached the Gators for the rest of the season, finishing 7-4, including 3-1 after he was fired, and getting an invitation to the Peach Bowl.

Zook's firing at Florida came after two-plus years with the Gators, satisfying a growing groundswell for his ouster that began the day he replaced Steve Spurrier, who left for the NFL.

NOT GONNA DO IT

Fassel won't pursue college coaching

OWINGS MILLS, Md. (AP) — Jim Fassel will not interview for coaching vacancies at Notre Dame and Stanford, opting instead to continue his pursuit of an NFL job as a head coach. "I have no plans to pursue or accept a college job this year," he said Monday.

Fassel was head coach of the New York Giants from 1997-2003. Now a senior consultant with the Baltimore Ravens, he has been working extensively with the offense while overseeing the development of second-year quarterback Kyle Boller.

His ultimate goal is to again serve as an NFL head coach, and for that reason he decided to dispel the rumors that he was a candidate to take over at Notre Dame or Stanford.

TRIVIA

Do you know the answer?

Q: Who set the college-football record for most points scored in a game when he threw 11 TDs?

CHECK YOUR ANSWER WITH THE CORRECT ONE, 2B

NO. 17 IOWA VS. NORTHERN IOWA

7:05 P.M. AT CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, KGAN

After a heartbreaking 77-66 loss to the Panthers last year, the Hawkeyes are HUNGRY for revenge and ready to defend Carver-Hawkeye Arena

PROTECTING HOME

BY RYAN LONG
THE DAILY IOWAN

Dec. 10, 2003, in Cedar Falls. The Hawkeye men's basketball team was ranked No. 24 at the time it fell to Northern Iowa, 77-66.

Iowa (6-1) now sits at No. 17 in the AP poll and will get its opportunity to avoid a two-game losing streak against the 3-1 Panthers today at 7:05 p.m.

"I know our guys are hungry," said Iowa head coach Steve Alford. "I know our guys are going to be ready to play. We've been playing well, and really things go back to: We wanna take care of home."

Point guard Jeff Horner also realizes the game's importance.

"It's gonna be a great game. We're definitely looking forward to it, after last year down there," he said. "We want revenge, and we're just gonna come out there and play as hard as we can. We're playing on our home court, and we're just really excited about it."

The goal of winning at home is something that Alford's squad has stressed since March.

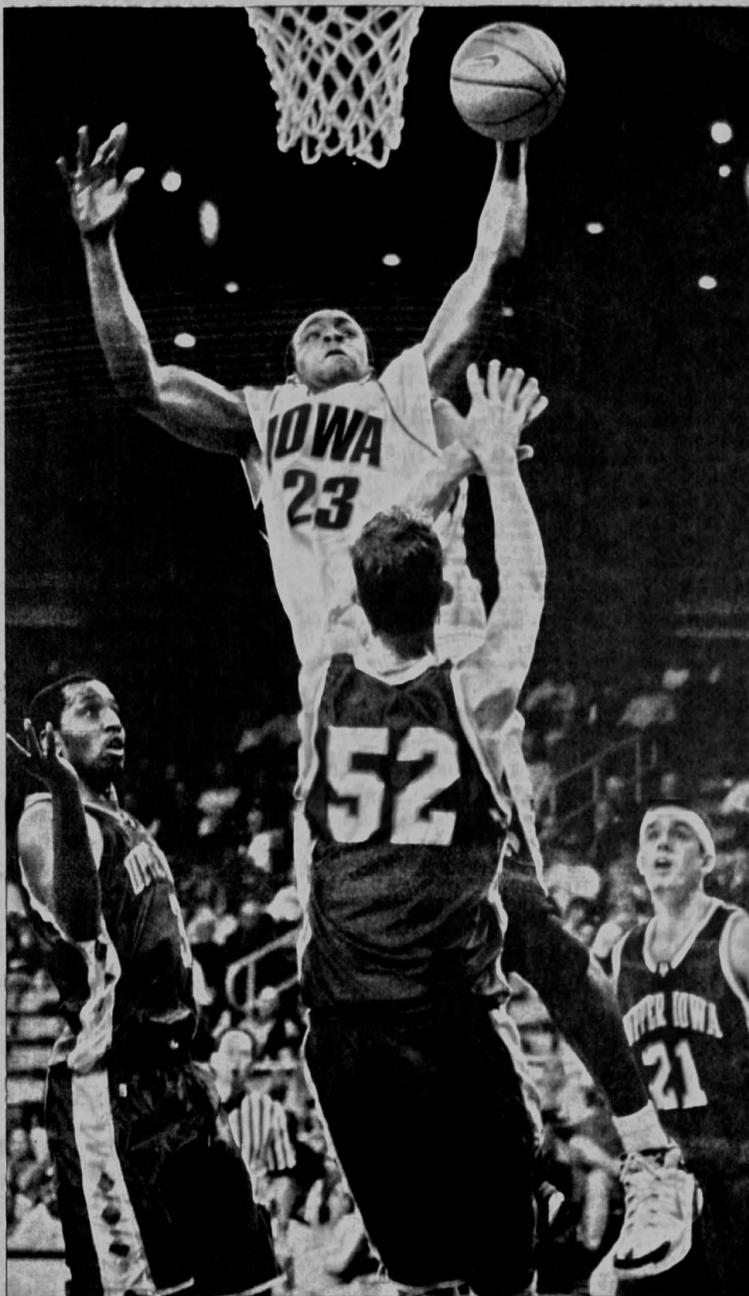
"This is another team that's coming in to try to get a win on our floor, and it just happens to be a team that's instate, and it happens to be an instate opponent that beat us last year," Alford said.

One of the key problems the Hawkeyes ran into during last seasons game was junior forward Erik Crawford. The then-sophomore guard dropped 24 points in the Hawks, 11 in the final six minutes.

An important plus that Iowa should be able to take into the game at Carver-Hawkeye Arena was their ability to hold junior guard Ben Jacobson to just 2 points. The Sioux City native was averaging 15 points going into last year's game.

"Northern Iowa has a very good basketball team. It's made up of a lot of instate kids who were hungry for that game," Alford. "And anytime Iowa State or Iowa comes in there, that's a big moment. And you've gotta give Northern Iowa credit: It made the most of a very big opportunity."

SEE HOOPS, PAGE 3B



Iowa's Doug Thomas goes up for a slam dunk against Upper Iowa on Nov. 10. The Hawks will play at home tonight against Northern Iowa.

Zach Boyden-Holmes/The Daily Iowan

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL POLL

Illini ranked No. 1

BY JIM O'CONNELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Illinois took an unusual route to the top of the Associated Press' men's college basketball poll.

The Illini, riding their impressive win over then-top-ranked Wake Forest, vaulted from fifth to No. 1 on Monday, moving past three unbeaten teams.

It is the third time in school history Illinois reached No. 1, and this appearance at the top came following the 91-73 victory over Wake Forest, a game in which the Illini (6-0) led by as many as 32 points in the second half.

"It's definitely important, because I think it gives you recognition, which fans love, and you hope it helps recruiting," Illinois coach Bruce Weber said Monday. "It establishes you as one of the better programs in the country. When you watch the top of the polls, the teams that get to the Elite Eight and Final Four are usually the teams that are there. It puts us in an exclusive group, and hopefully we can maintain it."

The Illini didn't have to wait long to play as a No. 1 team, hosting Chicago State on Monday night.

Illinois, which also won at Arkansas last week, received 25 first-place votes and 1,717 points from the national media panel. Kansas (4-0) held second with 23 first-place votes and 1,700 points after wins over Nevada and Pacific.

Georgia Tech (5-0) and Syracuse (7-0), the other teams Illinois vaulted, switched places from last week. The Yellow Jackets, who beat Michigan and Georgia by an average of almost 35 points last week, moved to No. 3 with 12 first-place votes and 1,632 points, while Syracuse, which beat St. Bonaventure and Colgate last week, was No. 1 on nine ballots and had 1,607 points.

Illinois' two previous trips to No. 1 lasted just one week each, but they both came in seasons when the Illini reached the Final Four.

SEE POLL, PAGE 3B

SINGH NAMED PGA PLAYER OF THE YEAR

BY DOUG FERGUSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vijay Singh made sure there was no debate about who was No. 1 in golf. Disappointed last year by losing to Tiger Woods in a close race, Singh used that as motivation to turn in a dominant season that made him an easy choice as PGA Tour player of the year.

"This year was a landslide," Singh said Monday from New York, where he was presented the Jack Nicklaus Award, which is voted on by PGA Tour players.



Singh honored

SEE SINGH, PAGE 3B

MEN'S GYMNASTICS SEASON PREVIEW

FIRST MEET: JAN. 8 AT THE WINDY CITY MEET IN CHICAGO

TEAM FOCUSES ON CONSISTENCY

TOM DUNN returns as head coach for the 25th year

BY JUSTIN SKELNIK
THE DAILY IOWAN

Consistency. If there is one thing that any coach of any sport wants her or his team to excel in, it would be to remain consistent game after game — or in the case of the Iowa men's gymnastics team, meet after meet.

"One of the things we have really worked on early on is being consistent in our routines," said senior Jason Dixon. "We want to keep hitting out marks and finishing the routines strong."

The Hawkeyes are coming off a solid yet disappointing season. Iowa finished fourth out of six teams in the Big Ten tournament. The Hawks also failed to advance to the NCAA



Laura Schmitt/The Daily Iowan

Freshman gymnast Tom Buese performs a pommel-horse routine during the Black vs. Gold Intrasquad exhibition meet on Dec. 4.

championship, missing out on the finals by one spot. Although the team did not advance to the

championship, the Hawks were well-represented by nine individuals. Two Hawks

received All-American honors — Linas Gaveika placed second on parallel bars and fourth on horizontal bar, and Michael Reavis placed fourth on the vault. Both will be back this season.

Tom Dunn returns for his 25th year as the Iowa head coach, and he is stressing the need for improvement in consistency.

"I would like to perform better than we have in the last several years," he said. "I want us to go out on the floor and hit 85 to 90 percent of our routines and do them well."

Dunn will look to do things differently this year from in the past years. Over the past couple of seasons, the team has focused on doing more difficult routines — with that, the starting values of the routine go up. This season, the team has 13 or 14 new routines in which the difficulty will go down slightly in

SEE GYMNASTICS, PAGE 3B

SPORTS

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Who has the bigger BCS complaint — Auburn or Cal?

There is no doubt in my mind and a lot of other people's mind that Auburn got robbed by the BCS the most. The Tigers did everything their coaching staff asked them to do all season and were rewarded with a Sugar Bowl berth.

The BCS isn't the only thing to be blamed for Auburn not receiving a bid to the Orange Bowl. A big reason that the Tigers came up short was the preseason human polls, in which Auburn started No. 17 and No. 18. The early human polls had USC and Oklahoma No. 1 and No. 2 respectively, and many voters had USC ranked No. 1 because the Trojans were left out of the national-title game last season. If the polls opened after the nonconference schedule, Auburn would have been ranked much higher than 17 and 18.

My beef is the national-title game itself. Oklahoma impressed me, and I think that it deserves to have a chance to play in the Orange Bowl, but USC is questionable. During the past weeks, many people debated whether Oklahoma or Auburn was the No. 2 team in the country, but no one ever questioned USC being the true No. 1 team. The two ranked teams USC played were at home, and the Trojans played archrival Notre Dame in the LA Coliseum as well. Cal dominated USC statistically and had the chance to win but came up short in the end. Auburn beat four teams that were ranked in the top 13 and two teams in the top five. The Pac-10 is a far weaker conference than the SEC and Big 12, and yet, the Trojans still were never questioned as being No. 1.

For the Auburn Tigers to go undefeated in the toughest football conference and win the SEC title game when they knew by halftime they could not advance to the Orange Bowl is a credit to how good they are. The only thing Auburn can hope for is a dominating victory against Virginia Tech and that the AP writers decide to split the national title for the second year in a row.

— by Justin Skelink

I'm officially done with the BCS. Last year pushed me to the edge, but this year, I have taken the leap. This system simply doesn't work.

The California Golden Bears won't even be in the BCS. Auburn, who also has a gripe, doesn't get to play for the title, but Cal doesn't even get in the BCS. That is the crime of the century.

Here are some numbers to chew on for Bears, who, at 10-1, were left out of the Rose Bowl because Texas jumped them in the computer rankings, earning a top-four spot. This is a team that lost one game, at No. 1 USC by six points, and won its 10 games by an average of 23.9 points. It was the only team out of 117 in D-1 football to finish in the top six in both scoring offense and defense. This team features Aaron Rodgers, and J.J. Arrington, two of the best players in the country. And this team isn't deserving a BCS spot? Please.

Now, burnt orange will fill the Rose Bowl. That should never happen. Ever. It's been a Big Ten-Pac Ten game, and now all of a sudden we've had two Big 12 teams in the last three years. That's unacceptable.

Texas is good, don't get me wrong. But keep in mind this is a Texas team that struggled with an Arkansas team early in the year that had to replace nearly its entire starting lineup, had trouble with a bad Missouri team, needed a huge comeback against Oklahoma State, and had to score with 11 seconds left to beat Kansas. Kansas!

As Cal head coach Jeff Tedford said, if it was about Cals' 26-16 win over Southern Miss (a game postponed by Hurricane Ivan), then that's just sad, because this is about a season, not one game in December that was made up. What if that game is played in September, not December? What if Mack Brown, the most overrated coach in the game, keeps his fat face shut and doesn't plead for votes?

It's enough to make me want to puke.

— by Nick Richards

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

TRIVIA ANSWER

David Klingler of Houston against Eastern Washington in 1990

TOP 25 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Men's Scores
 #1 Illinois 78, Chicago State 59
 #7 Connecticut 97, Northeastern 60
 Iowa State 81, #19 Virginia 79

Women's Scores
 #17 DePaul 99, Loyola (Ill) 54
 #112 Texas Tech 109, Miami (Fl.) 49

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

By The Associated Press
 All Times CST

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	11	1	0	.917	330	189
N.Y. Jets	9	3	0	.750	254	175
Buffalo	6	6	0	.500	260	224
Miami	2	10	0	.167	196	289
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	9	3	0	.750	431	263
Jacksonville	6	6	0	.500	198	225
Houston	5	7	0	.417	236	289
Tennessee	4	8	0	.333	231	294
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	11	1	0	.917	273	184
Baltimore	7	5	0	.583	233	191
Cincinnati	6	6	0	.500	268	272
Cleveland	3	9	0	.250	240	306
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Diego	9	3	0	.750	339	238
Denver	7	5	0	.583	274	212
Kansas City	4	8	0	.333	341	326
Oakland	4	8	0	.333	234	326

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Philadelphia	11	1	0	.917	340	181
N.Y. Giants	5	7	0	.417	209	230
Dallas	5	7	0	.417	236	328
Washington	4	8	0	.333	169	201
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	9	3	0	.750	232	242
Carolina	5	7	0	.417	249	257
Tampa Bay	5	7	0	.417	233	203
New Orleans	4	8	0	.333	253	344
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	7	5	0	.583	318	294
Minnesota	7	5	0	.583	305	286
Detroit	5	7	0	.417	218	269
Chicago	5	7	0	.417	196	235
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	6	6	0	.500	253	305
San Francisco	6	6	0	.500	278	286
Arizona	4	8	0	.333	192	253
San Francisco	1	11	0	.083	198	336

x-divided division

Sunday's Games
 Detroit 26, Arizona 12
 Buffalo 42, Miami 32
 N.Y. Jets 29, Houston 7
 Chicago 24, Minnesota 14
 Indianapolis 51, Tennessee 24
 Cincinnati 27, Baltimore 26
 St. Louis 16, San Francisco 6
 Tampa Bay 27, Atlanta 0
 Carolina 32, New Orleans 21
 New England 42, Cleveland 15
 San Diego 20, Denver 17
 Kansas City 34, Oakland 27
 Washington 31, N.Y. Giants 7
 Philadelphia 47, Green Bay 17
 Pittsburgh 17, Jacksonville 16

Monday's Game
 Dallas 43, Seattle 39

Sunday, Dec. 12
 Oakland at Atlanta, Noon
 New Orleans at Dallas, Noon
 Cleveland at Buffalo, Noon
 N.Y. Giants at Baltimore, Noon
 Indianapolis at Houston, Noon
 Chicago at Jacksonville, Noon
 Cincinnati at New England, Noon

Today

• **MEN'S BASKETBALL** — hosts Northern Iowa, 7:05 p.m. at Carver-Hawkeye Arena

Wednesday

• **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** — hosts Marquette, 7:05 p.m. at Carver-Hawkeye Arena

Seattle at Minnesota, Noon
 N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 3:05 p.m.
 Miami at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
 Detroit at Green Bay, 3:15 p.m.
 St. Louis at Carolina, 3:15 p.m.
 San Francisco at Arizona, 3:15 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at San Diego, 3:15 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 13
 Kansas City at Tennessee, 8 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

All Times CST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	8	8	.500	—
Boston	7	10	.412	1 1/2
Philadelphia	6	11	.353	2 1/2
Toronto	7	13	.350	3
New Jersey	5	12	.294	3 1/2
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	10	5	.667	—
Orlando	11	6	.647	—
Miami	12	7	.632	—
Charlotte	4	10	.286	6
Atlanta	3	14	.178	8 1/2
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	11	6	.647	—
Indiana	10	7	.588	—
Detroit	9	8	.529	2
Milwaukee	4	10	.286	5 1/2
Chicago	2	13	.133	8

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	16	3	.842	—
Dallas	12	7	.632	4
Houston	7	11	.389	8 1/2
Memphis	6	12	.333	9 1/2
New Orleans	1	14	.067	13
Northwest	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	15	3	.833	—
Minnesota	11	5	.688	3
Denver	10	7	.588	4 1/2
Portland	8	8	.500	6
Utah	8	10	.444	7
Pacific	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	14	3	.824	—
Sacramento	12	5	.706	2
Los Angeles	13	6	.688	3
L.A. Lakers	10	7	.588	4
Golden State	5	12	.294	9

Monday's Games

Atlanta 96, Philadelphia 92
 Golden State 110, Boston 106
 San Antonio 91, Chicago 75
 Detroit 101, Dallas 85
 Miami 100, Utah 80
 Denver 115, Orlando 102
 Golden State 110, Boston 106
 Charlotte at L.A. Clippers, late
Today's Games
 Milwaukee at Indiana, 6 p.m.
 New Jersey at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at Memphis, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
 New Orleans at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
 Golden State at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
 Charlotte at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
 Denver at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Minnesota at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
 Memphis at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
 Toronto at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
 Miami at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
 New York at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
 Cleveland at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
 Seattle at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
 Orlando at Utah, 8 p.m.
 Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
 San Antonio at Houston, 7 p.m.
 Seattle at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

• Wrestling at Northern Iowa, 7 p.m.

Friday

• **MEN'S BASKETBALL** — hosts Iowa State, 7:05 p.m. at Carver-Hawkeye Arena
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SATURDAY
 Cover \$3/\$5 starting @ 9pm
 \$2.75 All Well Drinks
 \$2.75 Shots of Jagermeister
 \$3.75 Jager Bombs
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 Cover \$5 starting @ 9pm
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Roethlisberger excels on clock

BY ALAN ROBINSON
 ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — Maybe it's appropriate a guy nicknamed Big Ben would be so good while on the clock.

One of Ben Roethlisberger's first practices shortly after signing with the Pittsburgh Steelers was devoted mostly to the 2-minute drill. Roethlisberger threw incomplete on his first attempt but didn't miss any other receivers during a drill coach Bill Cowher considers as important as any the Steelers practice.

When it counted Sunday night in Jacksonville and the Steelers (11-1) needed their rookie to take them down the field in a hurry and keep their long winning streak going, he was just as good as on that warm August day in training camp.

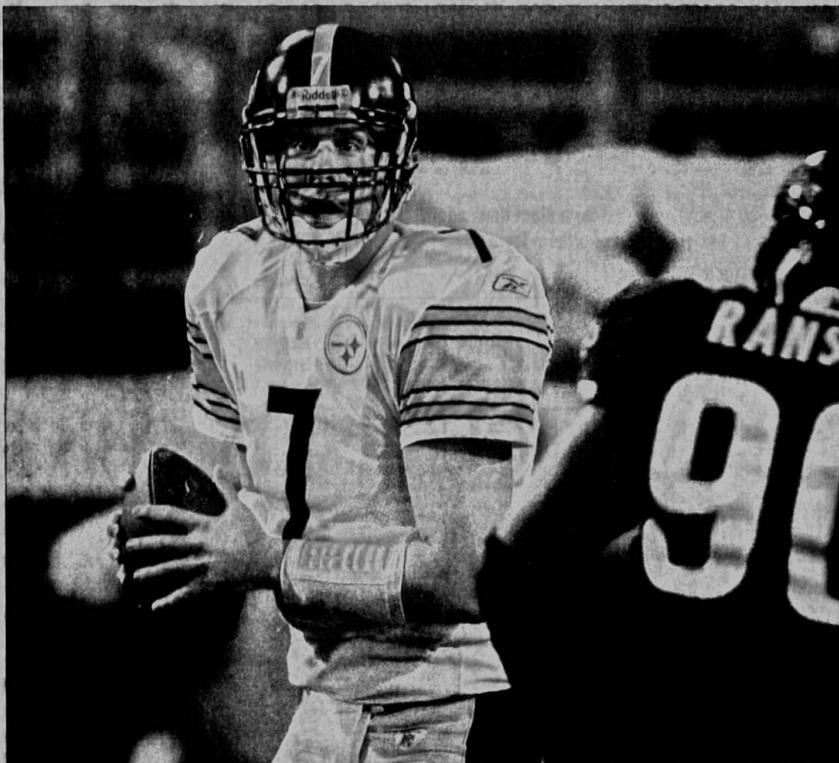
Roethlisberger had led three fourth-quarter comebacks during the Steelers' 10-game winning streak, the second longest in franchise history to their 11-game run in 1975. But Sunday's 17-16 victory marked the first time he needed to drive them more than a short distance late in a game to win.

"He stepped in on that last drive and made three big throws," wide receiver Hines Ward said. "He's going to continue to grow and get better and better. He did a tremendous job on that two-minute drive."

The Steelers, trailing 16-14, got the ball at their 25 with 1:50 remaining, only because Cowher burned all three timeouts during the Jacksonville drive leading to Josh Scobee's 36-yard field goal with 1:55 remaining.

"We had to give the offense a chance," Cowher said. "It was imperative we stop the clock."

Roethlisberger, operating from a shotgun formation, completed three consecutive passes, two to not-always-reliable back-



Phil Coale/Associated Press

Pittsburgh Steeler quarterback Ben Roethlisberger looks for a receiver during the third quarter against the Jacksonville Jaguars on Sunday in Jacksonville, Fla. The Steelers won, 17-16.

up receiver Lee Mays, ahead of Jeff Reed's 37-yard field goal with 18 seconds remaining.

"My job's easy at that point — I've just got to deliver the ball," Roethlisberger said. "It's a great situation to be in, not just for me but for this offense."

Cowher ordered Reed to kick on third down rather than fourth down, even though it preserved some time for Jacksonville. He wanted a second chance in case of a bad or fumbled snap. Cowher also didn't want to risk losing yardage by

running another play.

A similar move two years ago allowed the Steelers to beat the Browns, 16-13, in overtime, a pivotal victory that not only prevented an 0-3 start but turned their season around.

Then, with Pittsburgh at the Cleveland 6, Todd Peterson attempted a 24-yard field goal on second down. Cleveland's Alvin McKinley blocked it, but the Steelers retained possession by recovering the ball behind the line of scrimmage. Peterson made a decisive 31-yard run on third down.

Cowher's clock-management skills have always been an asset, and they stood out again during a season that has seen the Jets' Herman Edwards, the Redskins' Joe Gibbs, the Rams' Mike Martz, the Vikings' Mike Tice, and former Browns coach Butch Davis struggle with clock issues.

Edwards' well-documented clock problems have cost the Jets at least one game in each of the last four seasons, and Tice's own wife was upset when he arguably mismanaged time during a 31-28 loss to the Colts.

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SPORTS

BIJOU University of Iowa Iowa City, Iowa

NO. 17 IOWA VS. NORTHERN IOWA

Northern Iowa has 3-point threat

HOOPS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Northern Iowa features a 3-point threat that could pose a problem for the Hawkeyes. The Panthers are making 44.6 percent of their 3-point field goals, converting 8.3 per game. Iowa is giving up seven long-range field goals per game on a 36.8 shooting percentage against its opponents this season. This includes 11 of 21 shooting from Texas and 10 of 17 from North Carolina.

"They've got probably six or seven guys who can make the 3-point shot," Alford said. "They are an outstanding 3-point shooting

team, and we know we've gotta guard that 3-point line better than how we've guarded it here in the first seven games."

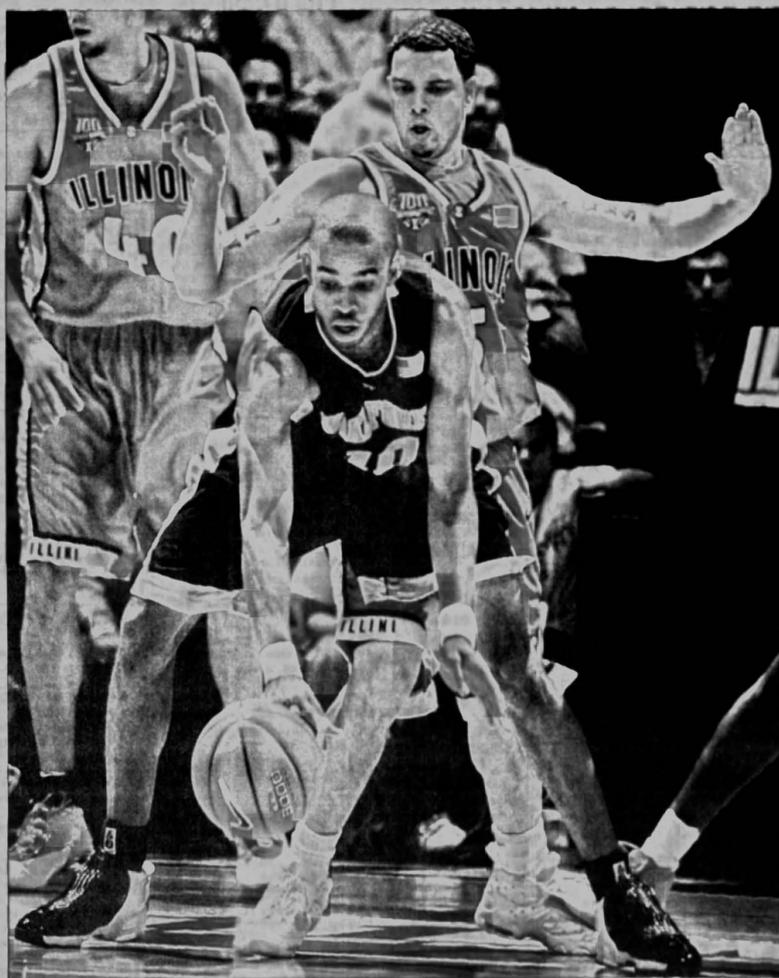
Hornor likes the way the two teams' guards will match up.

"I think our guards are athletic enough to stay with their guards, and we're gonna have to switch and do a lot of talking," he said.

Shooting guard Pierre Pierce agreed.

"We're gonna have to really get out there," he said. "Run transition. And I have to make sure to get at the transition 3."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Ryan Long** at: ryan-long-2@uiowa.edu



Robin Scholtz/Associated Press

Illinois' Deron Williams defends against Wake Forest's Jamaal Levy in Champaign, Ill., on Dec. 1. Illinois thrashed the then-No. 1 Wake, 91-73.

MEN'S GYMNASTICS

GOAL: WIN THE BIG TEN MEET

GYMNASTICS
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

order to achieve higher scores on a consistent basis.

"We have been pushing in the last several years to do the difficult that the best teams are doing, but we haven't performed as well as I would like," Dunn said. "So if we have to take a little step back on the difficulty to perform better, that's what we will do."

Another goal set by the team is to win the Big Ten meet — which is no easy task. In the preseason coaches' poll, all six teams in the conference are ranked in the top nine, with Iowa coming in at No. 8. Defending Big Ten champion Illinois is the highest ranked Big Ten team at No. 2.

"The Big Ten is definitely the toughest conference in the coun-

try. All six teams are consistently in the top 10," Dunn said.

Early on, the Hawks have been showing some of that consistency Dunn has been asking for. Dixon has certainly noticed the change in the work ethic of the whole team.

"Our new captains have really been pushing the team to work out better and practice harder each time we take the floor," he said.

"But I really think what is helping us the most is the new strength program we adopted this year. It really has helped us get stronger, and it shows in our routines."

Iowa will open its 2005 season on Jan. 8 at the Windy City Meet in Chicago. The Hawks' first home meet is Feb. 12 in the Field House.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Justin Skelnik** at: justin-skelnik@uiowa.edu

Illini on top of poll

POLL
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

The first No. 1 appearance was on Jan. 22, 1952, and the second was on Jan. 24, 1989.

"That's really wild," Weber said when told of the other No. 1 rankings, both during Final Four seasons.

"We felt since the beginning that we had a chance to be a Final Four team, and we're in that elite, special group. Each year there are four to 10 schools that maybe

could get there, and we felt that since the start, so there's no added pressure.

"We've tried to play different schools early to prepare us for later on. We're looking at the big picture and think we have the capability to get there, but there are so many factors from now to April that could change plans. But barring injuries or something crazy, we think we can be one of those teams."

Wake Forest, which was

No. 1 for the first time in school history, dropped to sixth and was followed by Connecticut, North Carolina, Duke, and Kentucky.

Pittsburgh moved from 13th to No. 11 and was followed by North Carolina State, Louisville, Texas, Arizona, Washington, Iowa, Alabama, Virginia, and Michigan State.

The last five ranked teams were George Washington, Mississippi State, Maryland, Wisconsin, and Gonzaga.

'I had something to prove this year, knowing last year was so close.'

— Singh

Singh: It's been a big year

SINGH
CONTINUED PAGE 1B

"My thought this year was to play hard and play well for the whole season. That was a fulfilling thing. I didn't have to wait for the votes."

The PGA Tour doesn't release the final votes, although that didn't stop Singh from asking whether any of his peers voted for someone other than him.

How could they?

Singh dethroned Woods at No. 1 in the world ranking by beating him in a dramatic duel outside Boston in September. He finished so strong that Singh shattered Woods' earnings record, becoming the first \$10 million man in golf. And by winning six of his last nine events, he became only the sixth player in PGA Tour history to win at least nine times.

"It's been a big year," Singh said. "I never thought it was going to be this big, but it's so satisfying to know it has come to this. It was well worth the

journey. It's just overwhelming."

Singh could have been talking about any number of journeys. It was tough enough coming from South Pacific islands of Fiji, where Singh used to run across an airport runway to get to the golf course.

Banished from tournament golf over allegations he doctored a scoreboard, Singh worked as a club pro in Borneo and a bouncer at a bar in Scotland until he could save up enough money to play on the European tour and eventually make his way over to America.

But the toughest leg might have been this year. Singh figured it would take at least two or three years to have a chance to be No. 1 in the world, and he got it done sooner than anyone imagined.

It started with a victory at Pebble Beach, then back-to-back wins in New Orleans and Houston. He won the Buick Open outside Detroit by holding off John Daly and Woods, then captured his third major at the PGA Championship in a playoff at Whistling Straits.

"I had something to prove this

year, knowing last year was so close," Singh said.

Singh swept all the big awards in golf — the Arnold Palmer Award for winning the money title with \$10.9 million and the Vardon Trophy for having the lowest scoring average. He earlier locked up the PGA of America player of the year, which is based on points.

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CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG)
12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

ALEXANDER (R)
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NATIONAL TREASURE (PG)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15

AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13)
9:30 ONLY

POLAR EXPRESS (G)
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10

SHALL WE DANCE? (PG-13)
12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

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CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

SPONGE BOB SQUARE PANTS MOVIE (PG)
12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30

BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R)
11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

POLAR EXPRESS (G)
12:00, 1:30, 2:25, 4:00, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

THE INCREDIBLES (PG)
12:10, 1:10, 3:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:45, 9:45

RAY (PG-13)
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SPORTS

O'Neal returns to practices with Pacers

JERMAINE O'NEAL practices for the first time since a Nov. 19 brawl

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Jermaine O'Neal practiced with Indiana on Monday for the first time since being suspended for fighting with Detroit fans during the Pacers-Pistons brawl on Nov. 19.

O'Neal did not speak with the media. NBA Commissioner David Stern suspended the All-Star for 25 games after the ugly brawl with Pistons fans, who threw drinks, popcorn, a chair, and other debris at the Pacers.

Ron Artest was suspended for the season, and Stephen Jackson got 30 games for going into the stands to fight.

Stern said O'Neal's punish-

ment was less because he never made it into the seats. O'Neal did punch at least one fan who came onto the court during the melee.

Coming off their first four-game losing streak in more than a year, the Pacers were relieved to see their leader back on the court, even if he won't be able to play for another 17 games.

The players' union is appealing the suspensions. Arbitrator Roger Kaplan will preside over the grievance hearing Thursday and Friday at a Manhattan law office.

"It was good just to see him here," center Jeff Foster said.

"Those three guys — Ron, Stephen, and him — are going through a tough stretch, and hopefully, their suspensions all get reduced, and we'll see him out here sooner rather than later."



O'Neal

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HELP WANTED

MOVIE extras, actors, models!
Make \$100-\$300/ day. No expe-
rience required. FT-PT. All ages
and looks needed! Call (800)773-
8223.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER.
Manage accounts (Quicken), pay
bills, reconcile monthly state-
ments, prepare limited payroll re-
ports for a private office in Iowa
City. 10 to 15 hours per week.
Pay \$12 to \$15 per hour. Send
resume to Robert Payne
(litlepayne@msn.com) or call
(319)354-3535 for address to
mail resume.

NOW taking applications for Life-
guard Attendant. Must be cer-
tified with CPR training. Holiday
Inn Amara Colonies, I-80 Exit
225, Williamsburg. (319)668-
1175.

RESTAURANT
McDonald's
Bring your smile and your
great attitude and you've
got a new job!
McDonald's is now hiring
smiling people for all shifts.
You can earn up to \$7 per
hour making our
customers smile. Hiring
soon, so come in and fill
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HELP WANTED

ATTENTION UI STUDENTS!
GREAT RESUME-BUILDER GREAT JOB!
Be a key to the University's
future! Join
**THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
FOUNDATION TELEFUND**
up to \$9.40 per hour!!!
CALL NOW!
335-3442, ext.417
Leave name, phone number,
and best time to call.
www.uifoundation.org/jobs

SECRETARY

Part-time in law office, 20 hours/
week. Responsibilities include:
answering phones, scheduling
appointments, and working with
computers.
Send resume to:
Personal
PO 3168
Iowa City, IA
52244

STUDENT COMPUTER CONSULTANT

Looking for independent, moti-
vated individual to work a flexible
20 hour week Monday-Friday
8-5p.m. Must have previous ex-
perience supporting PC hard-
ware/ software and ASP devel-
opment. Must be UI student.
Send resume to:
m-cronin@uiowa.edu

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HELP WANTED

HOME care for woman 37. Daily
activities, dressing, meals. Must
drive. Part-time. (319)351-7841.

CHILD CARE NEEDED

SEARCHING FOR NANNY
We are looking for a nanny for a
four person household from the
4th of January 200

DAILY BREAK

calendar

- **UI Learning and Development Seminar, "How to Write Better and Faster,"** 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., IMU.
- **DeGowin Blood Center Blood Drive,** 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Slater Hall Main Lounge.
- **Biochemistry Workshop, "Simple**

- Models of Molecular Flexibility and Their Applications to Drug Design and Protein Folding,** Tamara Frembgen Kesner, 12:15 p.m., Bowen Science Building Auditorium 2.
- **Student Assembly Meeting,** 6:30 p.m., IMU Ballroom.

- **The Killing Zone video and discussion,** General Union of Palestine Students, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library Room A, 123 S. Linn St.
- **Improvisation class concert,** 8 p.m., Voxman Music Building Harper Hall.

quote of the day

“ If we don't have people irritated, we're not doing our job. ”

— Mary Frances Berry, the chairwoman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

horoscopes

Tuesday, December 7, 2004
— by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Do what you must to keep the peace. A personal or emotional situation will escalate if you are too vocal. Don't get behind in your chores.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can get plenty done, but not at the expense of your health. Put yourself first, and prepare to do something that will eliminate stress as well as get you into tip-top shape.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): On-the-go is the best place for you today. Love, romance, and mixing business with pleasure should be your goal. You can pick up helpful information as well.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be summoned to do things that may not make you happy. Family matters will leave you feeling cornered. Do what you must, but don't let anyone make you feel guilty if you say no.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may have a lot to deal with today. Your genuine sincerity and insightful ideas will put you in the best position when it comes to competition or a challenge.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You can do the social thing another time. Today is meant for hard work and big payoffs. Turn some of your well-thought-out plans into a victory.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Push friends and family to help you get a job done faster. Tension may mount, and some may feel resentful, but once all the work is done, offer a treat that will make everyone feel good about contributing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Catch up on personal paperwork. You will come across a moneymaking venture that will help your financial situation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Give your best effort when helping someone in need, and a favor will be granted in return. A relationship that can benefit you will develop to a new level of comfort.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Taking a pushy approach will work against you. Let people come to you. The more you do yourself, the better the results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Travel, and you will discover valuable information that will help you make an important decision. Children will enlighten you in ways you never thought possible.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Financial gains can be made. Winnings, gifts, insurance, or money that you are owed can line your pockets. Focus on home and family.

news you need to know

Today — Winter 2004-05 and spring 2005 early registration
Wednesday — Final thesis deposit due at Graduate College
Friday — Last day for undergraduates to file second-grade-only option, 4:30 p.m.
— Close of First Semester Classes, 10 p.m.
Dec. 13 — Beginning of final-exams week, 7:30 a.m.

happy birthday to ...

Dec 7 — Cole O'Hara, 22; James Ankrum, 20; Lauren Fishman, 21 Patrick O'Connor, 21
If you have a friend or family member whose birthday falls between Dec. 18 and Jan. 16, please e-mail us before the end of finals week.

E-mail their names, ages, and dates of birth to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu at least two days in advance.

PATV schedule

7 a.m. Democracy Now
11:30 SCTV Calendar
11:30 SCTV Mature Focus
Noon Hijacking Catastrophe
1:10 p.m. ISAR
1:15 Iowa City Grotto
1:20 Animal Rights & Wrongs
2 St. Mary's Liturgy
3 24-7
4 Gospel Explosion Ministry
5 Animal House
5:30 The Cake Show
5:40 Duality
5:45 Packing the Courts
6 Tom's Guitar Show Live
7 U.N. Report
7:30 Target Iraq
8 Tonight with Bradman Live
9 PATV Reserved: Local Music
10 Cold and Grey
10:30 RBO TV
11 Vendetta
11:25 Hatteracks
11:30 Brandon's Rapping Abilities
Midnight United Nazione & Company

UITV schedule

2:30 p.m. Coach Lisa Bluder News Conference
3 The Dilemmas of Popular Front Anti-Racism: Looking at Frank Sinatra's "The House I Live in"
4:20 UITV Shorts and Schedules
4:30 UI College of Education presents "Creation Tales"
5:30 James VanAllen Day, Keynote Address
6:30 Coach Lisa Bluder News Conference
7 Dangerous Anthropogenic Interference, How Manmade Activities are Competing with Natural Effects on Climate
8:30 Ethics During, After Holocaust
10 The Dilemmas of Popular Front Anti-Racism: Looking at Frank Sinatra's "The House I Live in"
11:20 Coach Lisa Bluder News Conference
11:40 Iowa Basketball with Steve Alford

For complete TV listings and program guides, check out Arts and Entertainment at www.dailyiowan.com.

Little University

- What budding Raiders star booted an 82-yard field goal while practicing with his Daytona Beach high-school team?
- What actor's 1996 bankruptcy debts included \$120,000 owed to his toupee maker?
- What U.S. agency was investigating computer hackers when its website was trashed by a group linked to the "Swedish Hackers Association"?
- What did Miramax change the title *Scary Movie* to in 1996?
- What Des Moines metal heads, using stages names 0 through 8, are credited with polarizing the neo-shock-rock "nu-metal explosion"?

1. Sebastian Janikowski
2. Burt Reynolds
3. The CIA
4. Screen
5. Shipknot

the ledge

HOW TO TELL IF YOUR FRIENDS ARE ON DRUGS

— by Nick Narigon

- They watch more than two hours of "Adult Swim" daily.
- They're still campaigning for Nader.

- You find them sitting on the kitchen floor at 3 a.m. eating a whole can of corned-beef hash.

- They didn't get arrested for vandalizing Herky, just having a deeply heated discussion with it.

- They're in your Beginning Pottery class.

- Their plans after graduation are to move to Cal, and, y'know, hang out.

- They are making more than \$15 million a year to play baseball.

- They're still driving back from Bonaroo.

- You pull out an Erlen Meyer flask in chemistry, and they exclaim, "Dude, you know what we can make out of that?"

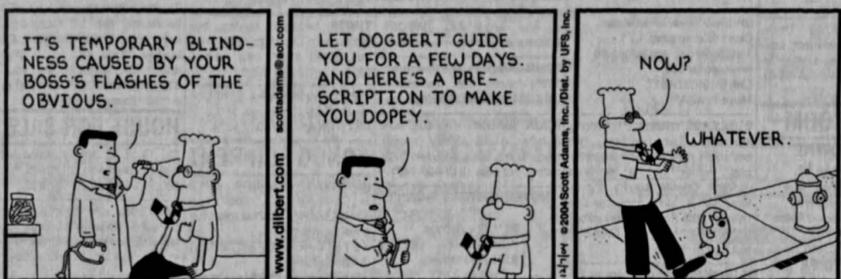
- They don't wear socks, ever.

- They carry a spare set of glow sticks in their backpack in the event of a spontaneous rave.

- Favorite movie: *The Wizard of Oz*. Favorite album: *Dark Side of the Moon*.

DILBERT ®

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY WIEV



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1026

ACROSS	36 Zoo behemoth	DOWN	1 Taylor or Tyler, politically
1 "Hold on there!"	37 Dairy Queen order	2 Go O-for-20, say	14
5 Tiled art	38 It begins in Mar.	3 Bicycle or kayak, usually	15
11 Suffix with glob	39 Handed out	4 20's dispenser	16
14 Help for the stumped	40 Knight stick?	5 Alexander Calder creation	17
15 Not rejecting out of hand	41 Nonsense	6 October birthstone	18
16 Stetson, for one	42 Book boo-boos	7 Broker's advice, at times	19
17 Particular	43 Lush bedtime	8 Added stipulations	20
18 Nonsense	44 Ready to fall out, as pages from a book	9 Suffix in many ore names	21
20 Fun time, slangily	45 60's "V" sign	10 Waist constrictors	22
21 Does superbly, as a stand-up comic	46 Relax, with "out"	11 Self-mover's rental	23
22 The March King	47 Nonsense	12 The end of one's rope?	24
23 1988 Olympics site	48 Chess player's cry	13 Hawke of film	25
25 L'Oreal competitor	49 Conditions	14 Hawke's opposite	26
26 Nonsense	50 Crater Lake's state	15 Former baseball commissioner	27
30 ___ left field	51 Composer Carlo Menotti	16 Bowle	28
31 Cast-of-thousands films	52 Bottom line	17 Elevator pioneer	29
32 It may be 20%	53 "Maybe later"	18 Spilled rotten, maybe	30
35 Iowa State city	54 1070, in old Rome	19 "Fatal Attraction" director Adrian	31

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TATA ONUS PRADO
OBIIT FEST RESIN
MEETS FACET OF ACE
STRIP GRAF PEA
LANE EMIL
STANDSTOETOTOE
ALI KATE SNARL
LEAN KEEPS GRAM
PERON NEAL DTS
STARESEYETOEYE
AMIN REGS
ABE EGGS ACHOO
WALKSHANDINHAND
ADLAI GOOD ELITE
YEATS EWES WETS

34 Have a look-see
36 C & W's McEntire
37 Lion tamer's workplace
39 Spilled rotten, maybe
40 "Fatal Attraction" director Adrian
41 [I'm shocked!]
42 Museum guide
43 Like Santa's helpers
44 Pocahontas's husband
45 Cut of beef
46 Limerick writer, say
47 Fidgeting
48 Natural emollient
49 Boomer's kids
50 "___ y plata" (Montana's motto)
51 "The Wizard of Oz" studio

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