

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2006

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50¢

Search 'progress' reported after meeting

BY DEAN TREFTZ
THE DAILY IOWAN

CEDAR RAPIDS — UI presidential-search committee and Faculty Senate members said the groups may not carry out no-confidence votes against the state Board of Regents after a Monday night meeting with Gov. Tom Vilsack.

"At this time, I do not believe" there will be a vote of no-confidence from UI Student Government, said President Peter McElligott, after a brief press statement from Vilsack. UI Faculty Senate President Sheldon Kurtz also doubted whether that group would pass an identical measure during today's meeting. Both Kurtz and

McElligott were members of the now-defunct search committee.

Many of the Monday meeting's participants vaguely alluded to progress in the three-hour closed-door assembly but when asked about specifics, refused to comment.

"Progress has been made, but more work is going to be done," Vil-

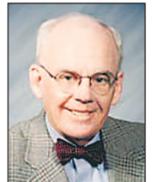
sack said in his statement to a lineup of cameras, before immediately leaving the Hall Perrine Foundation in Cedar Rapids.

Notably tightlipped was Regent President Michael Gartner, who also exited quickly; he told reporters he had nothing to say.

SEE REGENTS, PAGE 4A



Vilsack
governor



Gartner
regent president



McElligott
UISG president

Allen sued in fight

BY KELSEY BELTRAMEA
THE DAILY IOWAN

Former Hawkeye football player Antwan Allen now faces another legal battle in the form of a lawsuit demanding financial compensation for injuries the four-year starter inflicted in a November 2004 late-night fight.

In addition to naming Allen in the lawsuit, Maurice "Mo" Payne also accused the owners of College Street Billiard Club & Deli, 114 E. College St., Sports Column, 12 S. Dubuque St., and 3rd Base Sports Bar, 111 E. College St., for serving alcohol to Allen — then 21 — to the point where he was visibly drunk.



Allen
former Hawkeye

The former Hawkeye cornerback was convicted last year of assault causing injury for punching Payne in the side of the head, breaking his jaw and knocking him unconscious. During Allen's sentencing, Johnson County Attorney J. Patrick White said Payne was forced to go on a six-week liquid diet and lost 25 pounds because his jaw was wired shut.

SEE ALLEN, PAGE 4A

TIMELINE OF ALLEN

Nov. 27-28, 2004: Altercation with Maurice "Mo" Payne occurs on the Pedestrian Mall
Aug. 17, 2005: Found guilty of assault causing injury, a serious misdemeanor, by 6th District Judge Stephen Gerard
Sept. 2, 2005: Receives deferred judgment with the stipulation that he serve one year of probation and 100 hours of community service
March 19, 2006: Was accused of slapping his child's mother
April 3: Reportedly violated a domestic abuse no-contact order
April 20: No-contact order lifted, per his child's mother's request
May 31: Found guilty of assault, a simple misdemeanor, by Gerard for the incident with his child's mother
June 2: Reportedly violated probation ordered as a result of the incident with Payne
July 7: Sentenced to five days in jail and one year of probation for simple misdemeanor assault case
Oct. 30: May verdict reversed by Gerard and sentence voided
Nov. 11: Payne files lawsuit
Source: Online court records

Working for the almighty nickel

While the Hawkeyes rule inside Kinnick Stadium (most of the time, anyway), the outside falls under the command of 20 or so can miners during home football games



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

'It's life support. If you don't get jobs, you can't pay the bills.'

— Michael Myers, can hunter

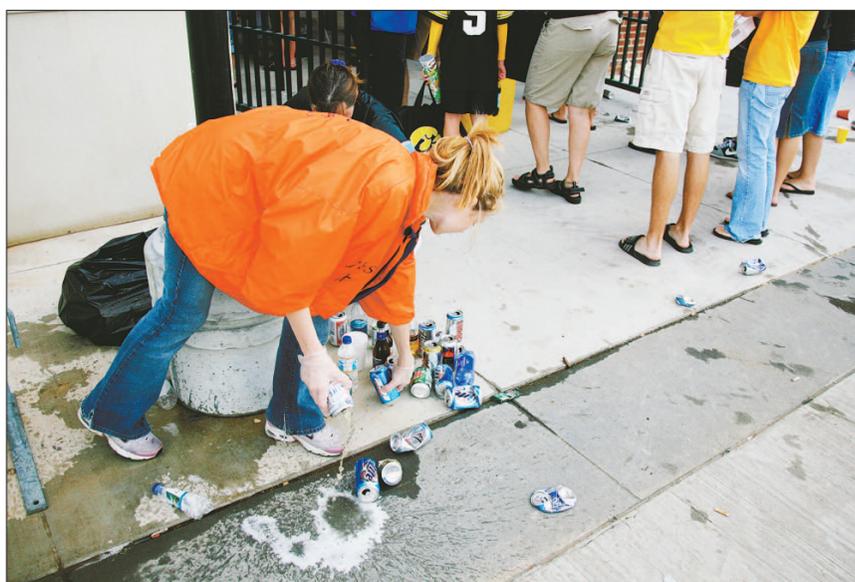
BY DANNY VALENTINE
THE DAILY IOWAN

Dipping into a large trash can on Kinnick Stadium's northeast corner, Tiny deftly surfs through half-eaten food and sticky liquid to extract one of the many aluminum gems the 77-year-old arena has to offer.

He is a can miner and one of roughly 20 regulars who venture to Kinnick and capitalize on what is the most profitable time of the year — football Saturdays.

But at 58, Tiny can rightfully claim the title as the most experienced of the collectors, with nearly 30 years of hunting cans to his name.

For many a can miner, unlike the mass of people attending the game, football Saturdays are a way of life and a means of survival. Five cents at a time, the extra money can miners earn allows them to get



Ed Bornstein/The Daily Iowan

by. In some cases, the cans help subsidize rent, assist with food payments, and — for Tiny — support his ailing wife.

Tiny is missing most of his teeth and a section of his beard is singed — the result of a good smoke gone awry. The Cedar Rapids native is a prodigy with a can grabber — a device functioning as an

extendable hand — and effortlessly dips into tall trash cans to extract difficult-to-find recyclables.

It saves his back. Although Tiny collects cans 365 days a year, he generates 30 percent — approximately \$1,500 — of his annual income during Hawkeye home football games.

"This is gravy here to find cans," he said, comparing the venue with his usual hunting grounds — the streets and trash cans of Cedar Rapids.

A dedicated and enterprising can miner can collect between \$500 and \$600 — around 10,000 to 12,000 cans — per game, although a typical haul usually

ABOVE: Vera Schneider of Iowa City collects empty cans from garbage bins outside Kinnick Stadium before the Iowa/Northwestern football game on Nov. 4. Schneider made \$171.20 from the cans she collected during the Iowa/Iowa State game on Sept. 16.

LEFT: Two women dump out abandoned cans of beer and soft drinks outside Kinnick Stadium on Sept. 2. At one Iowa game last year, these two made more than \$500 for doing around 12 hours of work.

falls in the \$100 to \$200 range. In the blocks surrounding the stadium, the 5-cent prizes fill the sidewalks, neglected by almost all except the discerning can hunters.

But secrecy enshrouds their world.

SEE CANS, PAGE 5A

WHEN IT ALL GOES TO GREY

A former softball star and current UI student battles something far tougher than a fastball — depression. **1B**

DE-HOOPED

As the Mediacom/Sinclair squabble rolls on, the possibility of no Hawk hoops games on local cable looms. **3A**

TENACIOUS DESTINY

The Tenacious D guys seemed destined to produce more of the (stifle semi-yawn) same. **7A**



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↓ **48** 5c



Cloudy, windy, 70% change of rain, T-storms

New MCAT to be unveiled

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Students applying to medical school may have a little less to worry about with a new, shorter, electronic Medical College Admissions Test that will be introduced in 2007

BY BRITNEY BERGET
 THE DAILY IOWAN

Current pre-med students anxious to take their Medical College Admissions Test won't have to wait until April as in previous years. Starting in 2007, the test will be administered as early as Jan. 27.

And the new test date is just one of many changes for the exam.

The time needed to take the test, which used to be around eight hours, will be reduced to five, and for the first time, students will be able to take the exam online. Because the test will be available electronically, it will be given more times throughout the year, and students will be able to receive their test scores sooner. Additionally, the test must now always be given in smaller, climate-controlled rooms.

UI senior Adam Hedberg-Buenz said he will have to change how he studies in

preparation for the electronic test.

"I'm taking the Kaplan course [to practice for the MCAT], and I hope it's geared toward teaching students how to successfully take this test," he said. "I know I'll have to cut down on the number of written calculations I'll do, because it'll waste too much time."

Catherine Solow, a UI Carver College of Medicine assistant dean, said the changes will greatly benefit students.

"Because students have more opportunities to take the MCAT, they will be able to retake it to improve their scores if they need to," she said, adding that the last date that students can take the test and still make the UI admissions cycle will be in early September.

The test was tweaked slightly in 2003, but these are the first major changes to the MCAT since 1991. Experts say the modifications have been in

CHANGES TO MED-SCHOOL ADMISSIONS TEST

The new MCAT:

- Will be available electronically for the first time
- Will be offered 19 times per year, instead of two, as in the past
- Will now last five hours, instead of eight
- Will use test centers that are much smaller and climate-

the works for a while.

"This has been a change that [the Association of American Medical Colleges] has been working on for several years," said Jeffrey Meanza, the director of graduate programs for the *Princeton Review* and an expert on the MCAT.

That the MCAT will now be offered 19 times annually — instead of twice, as in years prior — represents an advantage to students, he said.

UI senior Ben Wilke, who took the paper-form MCAT in August, said there would be advantages to taking the exam online.

"It took a long time to get my test scores back, so that's an improvement," he said.

Many students are happy about how much shorter the test will be.

"Personally, I'm not a good test-taker, so it's good that it's shorter," said UI freshman Patricia Ehrenberger, who plans on taking the MCAT sometime next year.

Meanza said that in the past, there were temperature problems with the rooms in which the tests were administered. The climate-control mandate should answer those concerns, he said.

"There will be air conditioning and heat, depending on where and what time of the year the tests are being taken," he said.

Meanza added that on average, there will be around 16 testing stations per location, so the test will be given in much smaller groups than in the past.

The electronic exams will be ready to go this January, and officials are confident that they will be a welcome change.

"[The Association of American Medical Colleges] has been extremely cautious about implementing these exams and have done a lot of testing in advance," Solow said. "This is a very high-stake exam."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Britney Berget** at: britney-berget@uiowa.edu

WAGE DISPUTE



Area Standard Wages and Benefits activists (from left) Mick Rains, Rob Carman, and John Love stand on Burlington Street near the Mill on Monday. The activists are protesting what they call the payment of substandard wages and benefits for carpenters as part of a labor dispute involving the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters and McComas-Lacina Construction.

METRO

Dorms get high marks

UI officials reported that students gave residence halls high marks in a recent Internet survey that asked 81 questions about on-campus living.

The national survey included 266 colleges and netted more than 330,000 student responses.

The UI scored high in all areas, the assessment showed. UI students reported being happy with safety and security, floor and hall facilities, and residence-hall services.

"Our staff works hard to provide a positive living environment for our residential students," said Von Stange, director of University Housing, in a press release.

Students also said they were pleased with staff support of student growth and residents' respect relating to gender differences.

"I am very proud of the satisfaction students have with their experience in our residence halls, especially the outstanding scores our staff received," Stange said.

Although exact scores and rankings were not released, because of confidentiality, the survey was distributed via e-mail to approximately 5,500 Iowa students living in residence halls in November 2005, with 50 percent of those students responding.

The assessment was run by

Educational Benchmarking Inc. in a partnership with the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International.

— by Emileigh Barnes

Local option tax inches closer to vote

The Iowa City School Board voted 7-0 on Monday to ask the Johnson County Board of Supervisors to select a date for the vote on a local option 1-cent sales tax.

The specially scheduled meeting lasted just three minutes, and board members had no additional comments or concerns after Superintendent Lane Plugge recommended the motion's approval.

Plugge said Monday's vote does not place the motion on the county's ballot but approves sending it for consideration to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors.

If voters approve the tax, it would go into effect beginning July 1, 2007, and last for 10 years.

The money accumulated by the tax increase — expected to be roughly \$104.4 million — would be used for school infrastructure purposes. This includes building or remodeling school buildings, grounds work, and recreational facilities, among others.

The supervisors will receive the motion today.

Board members will meet today in a regularly scheduled meeting at 7 p.m. at the district's office, 509 S. Dubuque St.

— by Kurt Hiatt

Man charged with sex-offender registry violation

Iowa City police have charged a 28-year-old man with failing to comply with Iowa's sex-offender registry.

Frank Madison was released from Johnson County Jail on Oct. 27 and given five days to sign the list, police reported. On Oct. 30, a man who said he was Madison called the Sheriff's Office and said he didn't have an address yet, officers said.

Authorities said that when Madison failed to register or appear at the Sheriff's Office, law-enforcement officials checked all previously associated addresses and motels in Iowa City and unsuccessfully searched registries in other states for him.

Madison now faces felony charges of failure to comply with the sex-offender registry, second-offense.

He has a previous conviction for

failing to comply with the sex-offender registry by living within 2,000 feet of a school, online court documents showed.

On Monday, Madison was being held in Johnson County Jail on \$7,500 bail.

Madison was convicted of morals indecency with a girl between the ages of 0 and 13 outside Iowa in May 1998.

— by Emileigh Barnes

Another attempted sex assault reported

An attempted sexual assault was reported Wednesday night, according to the Iowa City police.

The incident occurred at 7:32 p.m. at 420 E. Davenport St. Apt. 1, officials said. Police reported that the attacker, an Latino or light-skinned male, charged a white female, put his hand over her mouth, and attempted to rape her.

The women fought off the aggressor and screamed, at which point the attacker ran into a backyard and jumped a fence, police said.

The incident is under investigation; officials believe it could be linked to other Iowa City sexual assaults.

— by Eric Rodriguez

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POLICE BLOTTER

Bridgett Aldrich, 21, Greenfield, Iowa, was charged Nov. 23 with a Polk County warrant for fourth-degree theft.

Rowers may get home

The Iowa City City Council preliminarily approved to build a boat house for the UI rowing team, providing the largest women's team with its first permanent home

BY SUSAN ELGIN
THE DAILY IOWAN



Bailey
councilor



Ostrander
director of UI
Recreational
Services

A Hawkeye sport may soon have a new home along the banks of the Iowa River.

Rowing is the only athletics team of the school's 24 programs that does not have a permanent facility. But university officials hope that will soon change, now that the Iowa City City Council has preliminarily approved a partnership with the university.

School officials have proposed building a boathouse for the rowing team, but because of the contours of the Iowa River, no UI property near the water is an acceptable location. The city's Terrell Mill Park, directly across from Mayflower Residence Hall, is adequate, said university officials at an City Council work session on Monday night.

"I am generally supportive of the concept," Councilor Regenia Bailey said. "Rowing is attractive. I notice when a shell is on the river, and it's beautiful."

The rest of the councilors shared her view, with the exception of Councilor Dee Vanderhoef, who said she felt the new structure might be unsightly along the river.

"From the road, it could block off the view of the river, which is worrisome to me," she said. "It is a highlight of the city to drive in and see Hancher lit up at night."

The Hawkeye rowing team, which is the largest athletics program for women, has 65-80 participants in the novice and varsity levels, said Associate Athletics Director Jane Meyer. At present, the team splits its time between the Iowa Advanced Technology Labs and Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

The proposed 20,000-square-foot facility at the park will house a bay area for the boats, a workout room, and an indoor rowing practice tank. Locker rooms — something the team now lacks — and public

restrooms are also included in the plans.

The city Fire Department rescue launch will also be housed there, and the parking lot could accommodate additional traffic, officials said.

Harry Ostrander, the director of UI Recreational Services, said the facility would also be open to the public for high-school and adult crew clubs. He also said the university was investigating the possibility of providing canoe and kayak rentals, because of the calm water between the dam in Coralville and the Burlington Street dam.

The 17-plus acre park, located at 1201 N. Dubuque St., is home to the city's only skateboard park.

Former Athletics Director Bob Bowsby asked the state Board of Regents in May to approve money for the boathouse. The facility is a part of the school's NCAA certification plan for sex equity and needs to be built in the next few years, Meyer said.

University officials will now draw up detailed plans and work with the council on a final design.

E-mail *DI* reporter Susan Elgin at: susan-elgin@uiowa.edu

KGAN deadline nears

The loss of KGAN on cable may force some to drop Mediacom and switch to other TV options

BY OLIVIA MORAN
THE DAILY IOWAN

As the Mediacom/Sinclair brawl rolls on, many UI students are becoming more concerned about losing local CBS station KGAN — which will air the 2007 Super Bowl and many of the Hawkeye men's basketball games. The companies' contract expiration date is midnight Nov. 30.

With only two days until Iowa City and Cedar Rapids Mediacom subscribers stand to lose channel 2, the local cable provider appears unlikely to come to an agreement with Sinclair Broadcasting Group. Sinclair owns KGAN and has threatened to withhold Mediacom's right to broadcast it until the cable company forks over more money. Although most Iowa City businesses in which patrons often watch TV carry both satellite and cable television and will probably not be affected, many UI students may not be so lucky.

Students, especially those living in apartment complexes, face losing the privilege of watching Hawkeye basketball games in the comfort of their homes, a circumstance many are unhappy about.

"I don't see [Mediacom and Sinclair] not being able to compromise."

— Jack O'Connor, UI senior

UI senior Jack O'Connor, a Mediacom subscriber, said he wasn't originally worried about the conflict because he doesn't watch anything on CBS. However, once he learned that the Super Bowl may be missing from his living room in February, the issue became slightly more important.

"I don't see [Mediacom and Sinclair] not being able to compromise," he said.

Students living in the residence halls, on the other hand, have nothing to worry about.

Von Stange, the director of University Housing, said none of the students living in dorms will lose KGAN. The dorms, he said, run on a different system and use a different source for cable television.

Scott Oltman, a UI freshman and football fan who lives in Slater Hall, will not be deprived of local sports broadcasts. But if he were to be stripped of KGAN, he said, he

would bring his business downtown.

"It would make me want to try to go somewhere, like a bar or something," he said.

On Nov. 21, the federal court for the Southern District of Iowa decided that the decision on whether Mediacom has the right to air the programming of certain Sinclair-owned television stations after the contract is up on Dec. 1 will not be determined until after that date, according to a recent Sinclair press release. However, Mediacom has appealed the decision to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Sinclair has been pressuring Mediacom to meet its price demands for KGAN. Yet Sinclair, which, according to company literature, operates 58 television stations in 36 markets, has also tried to persuade customers to retaliate to Mediacom's holdout by offering them a \$150 rebate for switching to satellite provider DirecTV.

Local Mediacom subscribers also have the option of purchasing an antenna, which may or may not pick up KGAN.

E-mail *DI* reporter Olivia Moran at: olivia-moran@uiowa.edu

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Officials cite 'progress'



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Governor Tom Vilsack speaks to the media after a meeting with the UI presidential-search committee and Faculty Senate members in Cedar Rapids on Monday evening. After meeting for around three hours, the group said the search for the university's next president took a turn for the better after days of tense relations between the Board of Regents and the university community.

REGENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The UI community — including prominent members of the presidential-search committee — had criticized Gartner after regents on Nov. 17 rejected the panel's four finalists to replace former UI President David Skorton. Many speculated that Gartner had wanted a specific candidate who was not among the foursome.

After 10 days of uproar from search-panel members and UI faculty, the meeting's participants commented positively on the controversial process following the discussion.

"There is sort of a feeling that we made progress," said UI Staff Council President Mary Greer, who was also a member

of the search committee. She added that she saw a new sense of optimism in the process.

Both Greer and McElligott praised the governor's "leadership" but repeatedly refused to comment on what that may entail.

Vilsack, who had not been officially involved with the UI presidential search until a public comment on Nov. 20, called the meeting "productive" and the conversation "frank."

"I think all of us are committed to do what we need to have a great president for a great university," he said.

Regent Robert Downer of Iowa City said the regents would discuss the results of Monday's conference, though he could not say whether search-committee members will be included in further talks.

The reluctance to provide details was a microcosm of the entire UI presidential-search process, which has been largely executed behind closed doors by officials with legally sealed lips.

Regents required search committee members to sign confidentiality agreements before each meeting. The most recent and restrictive agreement had been another point of contention between the committee and regents.

"Students have been asking, 'What's going on?'" McElligott said. "I'm hoping they do have faith."

DI reporter **Danny Valentine** contributed to the report.
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Allen faces lawsuit

ALLEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Though he said he was aware of the lawsuit, Allen, now 23, told *The Daily Iowan* that he had "no reaction" to it, having only briefly spoken to his lawyer about the three-page filing.

The bars were sued because under Iowa's dram-shop law, liquor licensees who sell alcohol to an intoxicated person are liable for all damages caused by that person if the licensee knew the person were drunk.

Payne, a 2001 City High School graduate and 2006 Iowa State University graduate, is now living and working in Chicago, his attorney Martin Diaz said on Monday.

In addition to compensation for unspecified medical expenditures, the lawsuit requests

"punitive damages against Antwan Allen only to deter future conduct by him and others similarly situated."

Recalling his altercation with Payne, also now 23, on Monday, Allen called the night a "misunderstanding."

"I made a bad judgment hitting him," Allen said. "It wasn't like I was downtown, drunk, just starting a fight."

The Hawkeye football coaching staff mandated community service and a one-game suspension following the incident. When Allen spoke to area middle- and high-school students about the incident as a part of his additional 100 court-ordered community service hours, he said his "mistake" was not something Allen would want others to repeat.

The Tampa, Fla., native said he

spoke about ways to prevent such episodes, such as anger-management skills. He added that he did not mention alcohol as a contributing factor to the incident during his guest appearances.

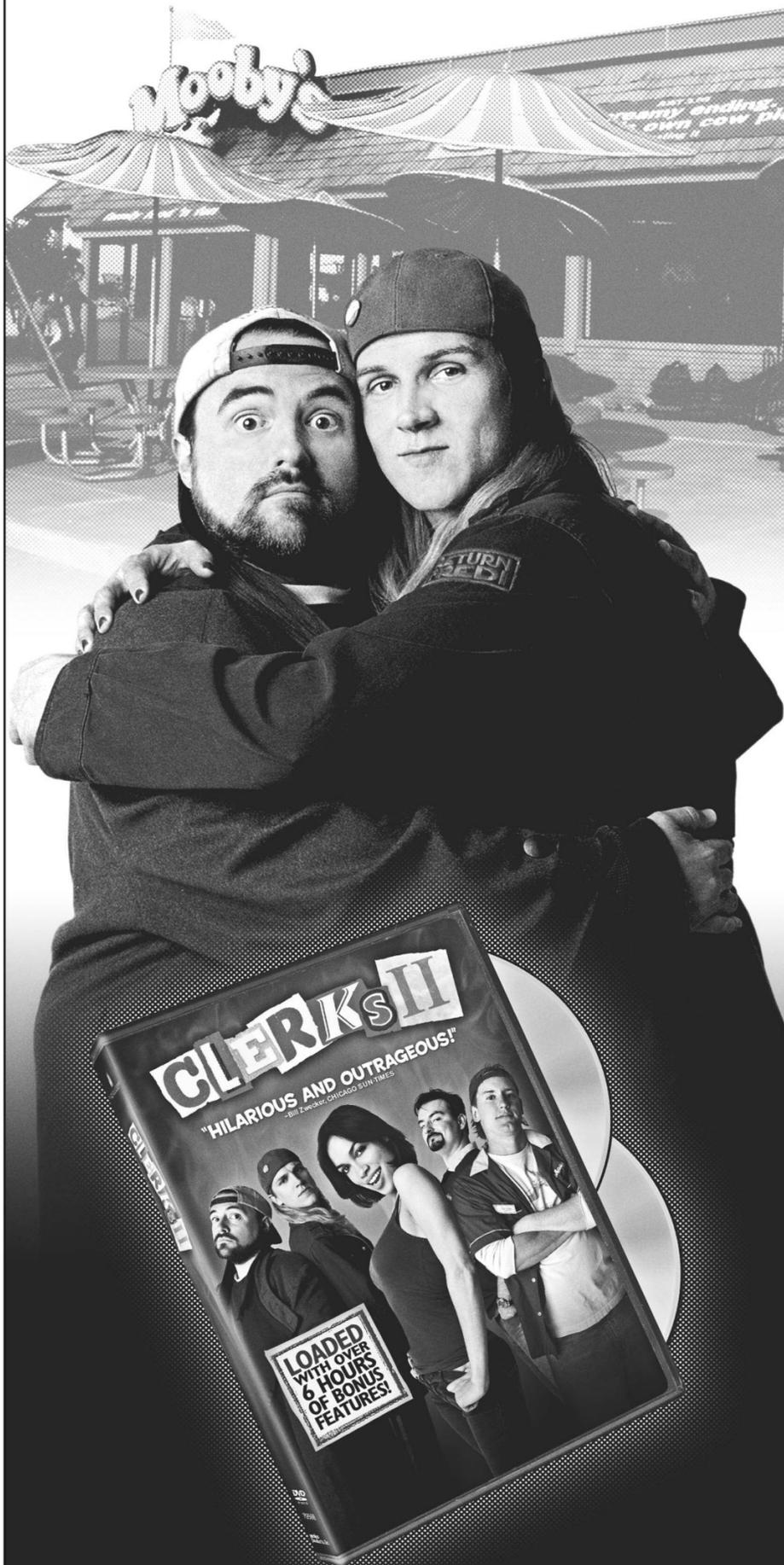
Allen was also found guilty in May of assault after being accused of slapping the mother of his child. The verdict was reversed on appeal last month, according to online court records.

Now, nearly a year after Allen received his bachelor's degree in African American studies, he works at McGregor's Furniture in Coralville and stays busy with his 10-month-old daughter.

Allen said he continues to work out every morning and stay in shape in order to continue pursuing his football career.

E-mail DI reporter **Kelsey Beltramea** at: kelsey-beltramea@uiowa.edu

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Hunters have 'can'-do attitude

Can miners outside of Kinnick Stadium regularly make between \$100 and \$200 per game, but a day's collection can be worth as much as \$700

CANS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Worried they would somehow be exposed to the non-canning sphere, wary that disability checks would be cut off, or fearing Social Security would be taken away, many can miners — including Tiny — refuse to reveal their full names.

"It's life support," said Michael Myers, who is homeless and employed with a temp agency but hasn't had luck landing jobs. "If you don't get jobs, you can't pay the bills."

Whether they do it out of need or not, most can miners acknowledge a certain love-hate relationship for their repetitive and oft-stigmatized profession.

Perhaps no one more so than Clifford Hines, a 27-year can miner and a self-described "bull-headed son of a bitch."

"You think I want to do this shit?" he asked. "You see how hard this is? I don't think any man would want to do this."

Hines, one of the few can miners willing to give his real name, has earned as much as \$150 a game but typically only makes enough to pay for the essentials — milk and cigarettes. He has 58 alcohol-related convictions, a propensity to cut his fingers while digging through trash, and the profanity-laced vocabulary of a standup comic.

"Just pull up your pants, and say fuck it," he said during the second home game on Sept. 16, referring to the milky-white open wound on his index finger.

Though Hines sometimes gets injured, he never stops collecting. Through grotesquely oversized turkey legs, half-eaten pizza, cigar butts, beer, and syrupy liquids, he makes his living — 5 cents at a time.

Although the work is difficult, it's better than getting hand-outs, he said.

And he doesn't want pity: "Put that in your fucking paper," he said.

It is a common misconception, especially among can miners, that most are homeless. But Hines lives with his girlfriend, and although other can miners may be without a roof over their heads, most return to a home at night.

Meanwhile, the homes of longtime can miners David, Tiny, and Jim — the group's official driver — lie 30 miles to the north, in Cedar Rapids. Like clockwork, the trio arrives every game in a beat-up white Dodge 350 van, with their boxer, Molly.

David hustles, practically running between garbage bins until the van is full. It's not a small van, either.

He is a short man with a brown and black beard, and after a morning of canning, his clothes start to resemble his facial hair in color. A full trash bag of cans slung over his shoulder reaches his calves, causing him to hunch over while he runs from recyclable to recyclable. As with most can miners, the swill of liquids ekes out of the bottom and drips all over his legs.

But it pays off. David's average is higher than that of the other can miners. At any given game, the soft-spoken, middle-aged man will pull in upwards of \$200. He then usually spends four to six hours at a Hy-Vee cashing in the cans.

In one extraordinary outing, David made \$700.

But getting can miners to disclose the amount of money they brought in is a difficult task — and getting a true amount is even trickier.

During the Nov. 4 football contest against Northwestern, a group of Cedar Rapids can men enraged their canning brethren when they told a newspaper that they could make hundreds of dollars in only three hours.

"There ain't no way," Tiny said, adding that he used to ride down with the group of can miners in question. "I really wouldn't trust them."

Tiny has exchanged aluminum for cash even before the 1979 Iowa "Bottle Bill" made it possible to earn a nickel per can. Since the bill went into effect, Iowans recycle an estimated 92 percent of beverage containers — approximately 1.2 billion every year, according to the state Department of Natural Resources.

Furthermore, the Iowa Department of Transportation reported



Tim Speciale/The Daily Iowan

A can collector digs through the bottom of a trash bin in a Kinnick Stadium parking lot prior to kickoff on Nov. 4.

a 38 percent drop in overall roadside litter just a year after the Bottle Bill went into effect.

For can miners accustomed to sleuthing for the aluminum gems in cities, the Hawkeye football stadium is comparatively teeming with hunters. And although most can miners do their best to stay out of each other's way, occasional territorial disputes do occur.

Almost every day, Vera Schneider sets up her headquarters between two giant green trash cans in front of the southwest gate, an entrance used predominantly by students.

She hates it when other can hunters enter into her space. At one point last season, she angrily told another woman to "get your white-ass trash out of here."

The woman did.

Schneider also has a deep dislike for people from Cedar Rapids. "They need to make a rule that Cedar Rapids people can't come down here," she yelled. "This is my space since I have been down here. You don't mess with the Indian."

But David, the can miner from Cedar Rapids, doesn't see it that way.

"To me, there is no such thing as territory," he said. "I won't fight with any other can miners. There is no sense for fighting when there are plenty of cans."

In fact, many can miners take breaks together and retire to "the island," a hidden area near the UI Recreation Building where they store their bikes, smoke cigarettes, and relax.

It often seems the can collectors run into each other more than they do into the 70,000 football fans who populate the streets.

Aside from the typical fan who throws empties into a can hunter's container, people and can miners rarely interact.

It does happen, however. "This is so sweet of you," said a visibly drunk Wisconsin Badger fan to Tiny, who apparently had wandered into her tailgating zone. "I'll help."

She tossed in a can, an empty box of cigarettes, and a wrapper. She then quickly walked away to her group of Wisconsin friends, decked out in red and white.

"I ain't picking up trash," Tiny said to the woman, although she was long gone by then.

Sherry Dolash also has noticed a disconnect between can miners and game patrons. Dolash, who collects with her home-schooled daughter, Teagan Hauser, is not the typical can miner. For the past two years, she and her daughter have mined cans for environmental reasons as well as to pay for some of the extra little pleasures, such as movie tickets.

"My daughter won't let me not come," Dolash said, adding that Teagan, who is in 11th grade, tries to best her canning record each game.

When picking up cans, other people avoid can collectors, she said. In the past two years she has been canning, Dolash has developed a newfound respect for can people.

"You think I want to do this shit? You see how hard this is? I don't think any man would want to do this."

— Clifford Hines, can hunter

"They don't want to be pitied," she said. "They want to be people." And for Tiny, canning has always been a fact of life.

He has traveled from Nebraska to California to Montana in search of work, but he came back to Cedar Rapids in 1973. Formerly a ride jockey — a person who sets up and takes down rides at carnivals — he has "two dogs, two cats, and two grandkids."

His 3-year-old grandson loves to come up and pick up cans with his grandfather. And Tiny's 28-year-old son suffers from diabetes and is forced to make several trips down to the UI Hospital, yet he, too, finds time for some can searching.

"This really helps out a lot," Tiny said. "For a lot of guys, this is all they do."

E-mail D/ reporter **Danny Valentine** at: daniel-valentine@uiowa.edu

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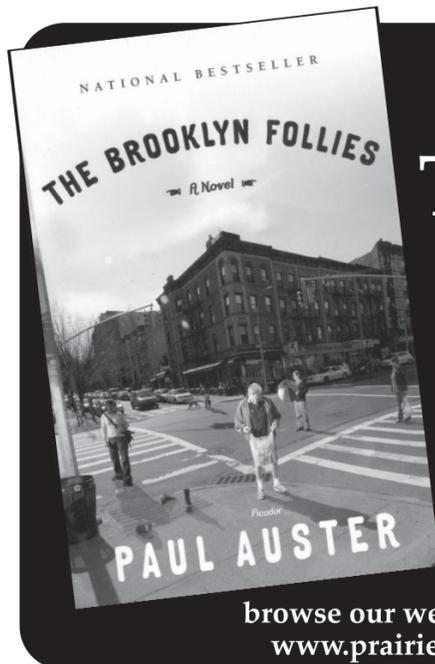
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OPINIONS

REACT TO THE REGENT RACKET

Tell us what you think about the regents, the search committee, everything. Send letters to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

Tar pit

This is the confusion season, I know. Take the weather — please, as some mother used to say. Even Mother Nature doesn't seem to know which way to turn, which flow to go with. Should it be spring, or should it be December?

You can just see her in her cozy study, cat curled on her lap, as she samples, samples, brow furrowed over a cup of chamomile tea. Gotta remember to burn that CD of *Winter Sonatas*, she says to the indifferent cat (indifference is the Golden Mean for cats), as she samples, samples.

Or take something bigger than the weather. Or Christmas shopping. Yes, Virginia, there is something bigger than Christmas shopping.

The 2000 Florida nonelection, say. Which led to, say, Iraq. Or for true confusion, how about the search for a new UI leader.

You want to talk about confusing. Sometimes, you gotta admit, it's difficult to discern whether the Bush administration is running the search for a new UI president or the Board of Regents is running the war in Iraq.

I mean, both enterprises are proceeding so well. The paradigms of competence, they are.

Not, of course, that there's any real comparison with what the Cowboy in Chief's administration has been doing in Iraq — whose situation has gone from bad to worse to worse yet to out-and-out horrific — and the regents' bungling (to use the polite, family-newspaper word) of the UI presidential search.

Which, you have to admit, even with its serious ramifications for the university's future, is not exactly horrific. Reminiscent of an Abbott and Costello skit, yes. (Who's on first, exactly, anyway? Or is "exactly" precisely the wrong and right word to use?)

But nobody has died, yet. Whatever else you might think of the regents (I used to think of them as sort of grandfatherly and grandmotherly characters, standing up to a pit-bull Republican Legislature, but now I see them as rather quarrelsome, meddling uncles and aunts), it's another fine mess they've got us into (to borrow a phrase from another famous slapstick duo).

It's as if the presidential search were an ancient mammal sniffing around La Brea tar pits that said, "That looks refreshing; let's hop in." Plop.

By rejecting the four finalists the presidential-search committee came up with, presumably because they didn't have enough health-science experience, the regents have sown confusion, if not befuddlement. You have to ask yourself, who would want to come now?

And what about this health-science thing? Three of the four finalists were apparently experienced in that field. And as Steve McGuire, a search-panel member and UI professor, told the *Des Moines Register*, "Regent and committee head] Teresa Wahlert encouraged us to find people outside of health sciences because it was too dominated by health science."

So, what gives? Do the regents want a health-science person or not? Or do they want a health-science person with a strong interest in the humanities and all the other liberal arts?

Funny — that sounds a lot like David Skorton, to me.

Oh, well. And if the regents want a strong health-science person, do they mean, say, someone with experience in running a major research/health-care facility? Sure, why not? We could run academia like the health-care system. Students would have academic insurance, much like people have health insurance. And an Academic Maintenance Organization would run the insurance, so that people with the AMO halfway across the country would advise students on which courses they could or could not take.

And those students who couldn't afford academic insurance? Well, they could go to academic ERs and sit around in the waiting room for hours before being allowed to sign up for "emergency" classes.

And the faculty? Well, they'd be run as those in a major research facility — you know, winning big grants is the key. Oh — you say there are no big NSF or NIH grants for English or theater? Damn. Life isn't fair, as Jimmy Carter once said.

Yeah, all that would out just swell. Whatever else about the way the regents have gone about selecting a new UI president, it seems to be about as good — and as confusing — a way to select a leader as the 2000 election. I'd say, Bring on Florida, but I think the regents already have. ■

Beau Elliot, we're pretty sure, has secretly always wanted to be a regent. Or maybe it was always wanted to live at the Korca, Albania, Regency.



BEAU ELLIOT

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EDITORIAL

No-confidence vote not the way to go

It appears the faculty and students of the UI are playing a dangerous game in their fight against the Nov. 17 controversial 6-2 vote by the state Board of Regents to disband the presidential-search committee and reject the four finalists the panel presented.

In a move expected today, the UI Faculty Senate and Student Government will pass "no-confidence" votes that call for a cleaning of house on the board. With the radical events that have transpired over Thanksgiving break, the central makeup of the regents is clearly in need of restructuring; however, a no-confidence vote would also effectively destroy any hope for cooperation between the UI and regents in finding a new president.

In addition to a complete collapse in cooperation, the no-confidence vote would signal the end of communication between two central UI representative bodies and the regents. The vote has been called mostly symbolic, yet if contact between the groups and regents is indeed to be terminated, it would appear as though these UI representatives are mistakenly going silent.

At a time when the relationship between the university and the regents might be described as disastrous, it would seem as though a breaking of communication would be the last thing anyone would want. It is the hope of this Editorial Board that the threat of a no-confidence vote will be a sufficient enough bargaining chip and that the real votes won't need to be cast.

UISG President Peter McElligott has stated that without the no-confidence vote, Gov. Tom Vilsack would likely not have intervened to meet with the UI representatives and Regent President Michael Gartner. It is distressing to think that the only way to get our supposed pro-education governor to intervene is by threatening irreversible damage to communication lines between the school and the regents.

We've reached a point where petty slights are being spat from both sides. Vilsack must lead by example and communicate with both sides, mediating the situation to find a solution that ensures this meeting of minds is not the last. The regents do not exist to simply appoint a UI president; they also allocate UI funding and are a part of a continual stream of university issues. The university cannot muddy this relationship over a single issue, with so many others requiring a constant conversation among those involved.

We fully support the need for some change, and a lobbying effort against the regents may be in order, but to totally dissolve contact appears irresponsible. The point of the search was to solve a major problem that afflicts the UI: finding a permanent president. The university must be involved in this process; shutting our ears and mouths toward the regents, even in its currently frustrating state, would be a self-inflicted wound this university doesn't need.

LETTERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu (as text, not as attachment). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

GUEST OPINIONS that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.

Universities more than profit centers

Since the 2004 VEISHEA riots, I have been questioning Iowa State's corporate governance of undergraduates. There is ample evidence that healthy alternatives exist. Even the Legislature's Administrative Rules Review Committee censured both ISU and the state Board of Regents for overly relying on invalid management practices and for refusing to think outside of the box.

Yet, to date, I have made zero progress altering the corporate culture of ISU, even though it has a fiduciary duty to undergraduates and their parents. The reason for this intransigence comes straight from the top. Regent President Michael Gartner may have the Iowa Code on his side to justify secretive behavior around choosing the UI's next president, but he is rapidly losing the trust of voters.

The three main regent universities are much more than economic engines and profit centers. If Gartner thinks he can operate his universities like principalities, the king is not wearing any clothes.

Jon Shelness
Slater, Iowa, resident

Sinclair's mistake

I am a very concerned customer of Mediacom. Not only am I a customer, but I have been a tech in the field and out of the field for Mediacom. The issue between Mediacom and Sinclair Broadcasting is like a Pandora's box. If Mediacom is forced to pay significantly more for KGAN (or KDSM), there will be an overall cumulative effect, with other broadcast stations asking for the same. I've always thought broadcasters get plenty of revenue from their advertisers. I don't want to see rates climb higher as a result of Sinclair asking for more than what the other broadcasters receive from cable companies such as Mediacom.

It seems to me that Mediacom gives KDSM (or KGAN) the benefit of reaching more people in communities well beyond the metro area of Des Moines (or Cedar



"DID YOU HEAR THEY STOPPED THE OJ SIMPSON BOOK? I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE WOULD TRY TO EXPLOIT A BRUTAL MURDER FOR FINANCIAL GAIN. NOW I HAVE TO CANCEL MY PRE-ORDER."

Rapids). That means advertising dollars for the local station. As one who endures program interruptions from frequent advertising breaks, I can't be silent, while the owner of one of the market's smaller stations demands higher costs from Mediacom customers such as me.

Sinclair is asking for money that should not have even been asked for. KDSM is broadcast over the air, for Pete's sake. It is not like it is A&E or ESPN. If the channel is dropped from the lineup, all anyone would have to do is get a pair of rabbit ears to pick it up. It would still be losing money. By broadcasting over cable, it reaches not only local customers but also surrounding areas. That means the advertisements reach more people. By trying to yank the programming from Mediacom, Sinclair is in essence saying, "To hell with our customers and consumers."

I just wish Sinclair realizes what it is doing is a mistake.

Jim Reeves
Des Moines resident

Iowa seniors deserve care access

Coming all too soon — the limit on therapy services will once again be effective, unless there is sufficient contact with legislators and representatives to permanently eliminate this limit on Medicare benefits to seniors who receive services that are medically necessary to function independently.

The Bush administration and consumer groups agree that the Medicare B therapy cap of approximately \$1,780 a year for beneficiaries is an arbitrary and inhumane way to ration health care. The exceptions will expire on the cap at the end of 2006, and a cut of up to 10 percent to Medicare providers will

take effect Jan. 1, 2007, unless we make our voices heard in Washington.

The cap limits apply to outpatient therapy, skilled nursing services for Part B patients, as well as therapy provided at home. Therapy services received that are over the cap limits and not on the exceptions list must be paid by the beneficiary.

Continuing the cap exceptions and preventing the fee schedule cuts is top priority. The option to receive therapy services when needed would improve life for thousands of Iowa readers and millions across the nation. Contact your senators and representatives if you are a senior citizen or have a loved one who is a Medicare beneficiary. Urge them to take action to ensure the citizens of Iowa that seniors get the rehabilitation care they need.

Myra Verros
office manager, Central Rehabilitation Ltd.
West Des Moines

ON THE SPOT

What do you think of the current UI presidential search?



"I hadn't heard much about it. These recent events worry me. It seems strange that they couldn't find a decent candidate."

B.J. Bonfig
UI senior



"I think that the Board of Regents' denial of the candidates is undermining the process and looks like a bastardization of power by the regents."

Michael Charles
UISG member



"I haven't really heard a lot about it. It seems kind of unfair."

Libby Fredericks
UI freshman



"I don't have any idea."

Derek Reinglass
UI freshman

DI RECOMMENDS

Figuring out the rest of your life. Registration time is upon us, which obviously means the time has come once again to freak out about the aimless, penniless path you are currently on. Don't worry, though. I'm sure a B.A. in cinema can get you a great job — snarking on the selections of people at the local Blockbuster.

ARTS & CULTURE

Art as the wind blows

Michael Martin's work leaves much to be desired with a few breathtaking pieces in a bady of the unremarkable.

A HO-HUM DESTINY



ZACH SPITTLER



Originally, I was excited when I found out that I could review Tenacious D's new album, *The Pick of Destiny*. Not only is the duo funny; the two guys can flat-out perform.

Here are a couple guys, Jack Black and Kyle Gass, who have found a way to brazenly and incessantly goof around yet put out better material than most "serious" bands. (Come to think of it, I'm pretty sure that if JB and KG did "Sexy Back" instead of Justin Timberlake, everyone would laugh at it just as much as I do.) The kicker: Their main subject matter is how great they are. Ingenious.

The Pick of Destiny functions as both the group's second full-length album as well as the soundtrack to the movie of the same name. But, honestly, this work falls short of succeeding at both tasks.

In actuality, the record is just a recap of the week-old movie and a double of the band's 2001 self-titled debut. Nothing really expands — the album reflects the movie's plot, which plays off of the identity Tenacious D established for itself on its previous album. It's a lot of the same. And that's a shame, considering that the two guys tell us that "our tasty grooves are better than a chicken chow mein," and "you know our movie's better than *Citizen Kane*."

But that's not to say the album isn't worth a damn. It may be more of the same, but it's still funny and still musically awesome. Of course, the cameo appearances help. Perhaps in an effort to solidify the image of a fat dude whose vocals soar to the heavens, Tenacious D employs the aid of Meat Loaf for the song "Kickapoo" to act as Black's father.

And Dave Grohl, who plays the Devil in the film, donates demonic descants and drumming on the 13th track, "Beezlebass (The Final Showdown)." The tune, in particular, showcases the band members' screwball attitude. They especially battle the demon Beezlebass for the right to rock, and they banter back-and-forth about what's better for the band, all while shelling out the vulgar lyrics that any fan will look for in a D song.

I just wish there were more to it. The greater part of the record just steals riffs, melodies, and lyrics from the first one. "Kickapoo" reprises a main riff of 2001's "Kyle Quit." And JB just does the same thing in "Classico" as he did in "Rock Your Socks," singing hilarious profanity over Bach's cadences. There's a difference between varying on a theme and not being able to come up with new ideas. This is the latter.

In fact, the only cut that even comes close to previous such heavy hitters as "Fuck Her Gently," "Tribute," and "City Hall," would be "The Metal" — the last song on the album. JB pumps out sturdy vocals about how new age, punk, techno, and grunge all tried to kill, defy, and destroy "the metal," but it withstood the trials of ages.

Too bad this album won't. *The Pick of Destiny* could have been great — as great as or even greater than Tenacious D says it is. The group may have once played "the greatest song in the world," but they forgot it. And I think it may have hit its peak — even if JB kicks the ass under JT's "Sexy Back."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Zach Spittler** at: zachary-spittler@uiowa.edu

ART EXHIBITION

Michael Martin

When: Through Jan. 13
Where: Hudson River Gallery, 538 S. Gilbert
Admission: Free



Liberty, an oil painting by Michael Martin of West Branch, hangs on display at Hudson River Gallery on Monday. Martin's oil paintings will be shown through Jan. 13, 2007.

Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

dramatically lit portrait. Seeing Elliott in his brightly colored garden, we feel no impulse to search for a story.

As for the landscapes, many of these works blend into near-abstract color and paint studies, where little shape of the landscape is retained. This tendency likely reflects Martin's love for painting's tangible components.

"The smell of the paint, the feel of the paint, and the canvas — sometimes it's just fun to get a brushload of paint and just swap it down," he said. "It's like if your mixing bread and kneading it out, then you've got to delicately put it aside, and then you get to bake it and see what you have. Anytime you get to make something out of nothing, I guess that is what inspires me. It's a constant back and forth struggle with the paint and the image and whatever you imagined or hoped would end up on the canvas."

Martin is apparently aware of his weaknesses, but he would do well to pick one style or the other for his next show. Here, he has created a schizophrenic body of work that, at best, invites the viewer to imagine the story behind a picture. At worst, it is, quite simply, uninteresting. And as a group, this selection of Martin's work has no hope of hanging together.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Maggie Anderson** at: margaret-anderson@uiowa.edu

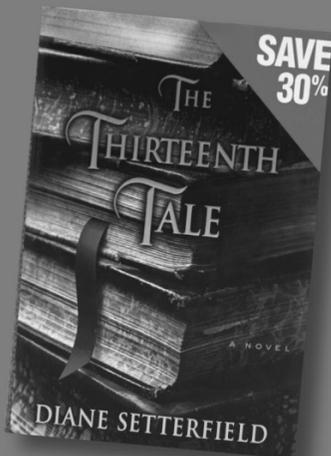
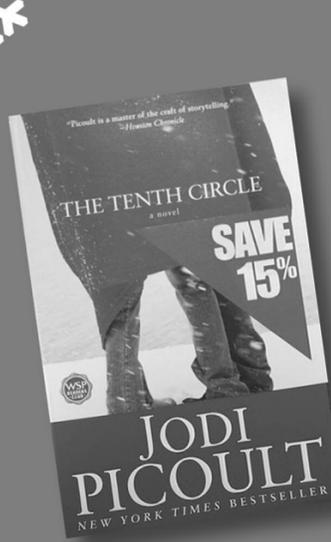
wonder if Martin is making a political commentary. But the picture snags at our nostalgic heartstrings, suggesting a more compressive contemplation of the meaning of liberty rather than straightforward criticism of governmental decisions. Perhaps Liberty mourns the current state of her country; but perhaps, she mourns the losses that were once sustained to achieve freedom.

In general, I preferred his chiaroscuro works, such as *Liberty*, for this pairing of

visual and cerebral facets. I felt no comparable urge to contemplate, intellectually or retinally, his impressionistic pieces, which are mostly landscapes. These mostly cheery, frenzied-looking works create the visual equivalent of fingernails-on-chalkboard shivers when they neighbor the melancholy tension and sharp definition of Martin's other pieces. The portraits, such as *Elliott's Garden*, lack the depth of such works as *Liberty* and *Diptic (shadows)*, another

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DAILY BREAK

"I can tell you that it is to me unacceptable or inexplicable how you can have 50-odd shots fired, but that's up to the investigation to find out what really happened."
— New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, responding to the uproar over a deadly police shooting on Nov. 25. NYPD officers fired 50 shots at an unarmed man in a confrontation outside a strip club hours before his wedding.

the ledge

This column reflects the opinion of the author and not the *DI* Editorial Board, the Publisher, Student Publications Inc., or the University of Iowa.



ANDREW R. JUHL

Juxtaposed sloganeering (special Viagra edition)

- "Get the sensation." [formerly used for York Peppermint Patties]
- "The quicker picker-upper" [Bounty Paper Towels]
- "Like a rock." [Chevrolet Motors]
- "Double your pleasure, double your fun." [Wrigley's Doublemint Gum]
- "Better living through chemistry." [DuPont]
- "It keeps going and going and going and ..." [Energizer Batteries]
- "We bring good things to life!" [General Electric]
- "The best a man can get." [Gillette]
- "Once you pop, the fun don't stop." [Pringles]
- "You'll feel the difference the moment you lay down." [Serta Mattresses]
- "Can't beat the real thing." [Coca-Cola]
- "I love what you do for me." [Toyota]
- "Lifts and separates." [Platex Cross-Your-Heart Bras]
- "Put a tiger in your tank." [Exxon]
- "Be all that you can be." [U.S. Army]

— Andrew R. Juhl never published a Viagra joke before today, and he has now effectively blown his load. E-mail him at: andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu.

horoscopes Tuesday, November 28, 2006 — by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are better off spending time with someone you really care about doing special little things you both enjoy. You might also want to take in an event that will give you information pertinent to your getting ahead.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Arguments can be avoided if you say little but do a lot to make the people around you happy and content. An older or younger person in your life may be a burden. Set some time aside to deal with other people's problems.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll be pulled in several different directions, and if you don't make a choice, someone will try to make one for you. Be careful whom you trust. A wrong move today could cost you down the road.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A change in your lifestyle, friendships, or even your beliefs concerning children will take place. Someone will recognize your talent if you present what you can do. An older friend or relative will help you make a decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Real estate, property investment, renovations, and changes in general to your home and personal life will be your intent. There will be a price to pay if you are too excessive. Give your full attention to a romantic partner.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful what you say and do today. Someone will be waiting and watching for you to make a mistake. Changes may not be welcome, but if you take the path of least resistance, it will turn out better for you in the end.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A short trip or business outing will help you to see your true potential. You will learn a lot from the people you associate with today. You will get a good education from what you experience when dealing with others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Observe, listen, and make your decision based on what you have seen and heard firsthand. A change at home should be made to make your life easier. Someone will hide the truth to avoid getting into trouble with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't even think about getting in the middle of someone else's argument. Travel plans should be put off until a more suitable time. Emotional blackmail is a present. Be careful what you promise.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A change to make some money is apparent if you deal with someone older and more experienced. Someone is checking you out and considering you for a position that will help you long-term. Contracts can be formulated and signed.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be confused, angry, and not in the right frame of mind to deal with personal matters. Take your time, and let things unfold before you take action. Not everyone you know is being honest with you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Think about what you do, not what you can't. If someone tries to block you, take a different route. You have to outmaneuver and manipulate today if you want to get things done and get ahead.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

- DITV**
- Hear what Democrats and Republicans have to say about Iraq becoming one of the longest wars in American history.
 - See what Iowa City stores are doing to get ready for the holiday shopping season.
 - Hear what the men's and women's basketball coaches had to say at today's press conference.
- VIDEO**
- Interview with Nicki Petersburg.
 - Interview with Iowa Ice Hawks head coach.
 - The highs and lows of a 24-hour tailgate.
 - The No. 1 football team in the nation, and the Hawkeyes.
- PHOTO**
- Highlights of the soccer team's split.
 - Roommates gone crazy.
 - Day of the Dead.
 - Hawkeye football 2006.
- MP3s**
- Local Bands

ON THE WEB

Look for this button throughout the *DI* for more web coverage



Look for this button throughout the *DI* for more DITV coverage

READERS' PHOTOS

The Daily Iowan is launching a new way for readers to submit and share his or her snapshots of everything from chubby pets to early morning tailgating. Go to DAILYIOWAN.COM/READERSPHOTOS to submit your classic Hawkeye or Iowa City photos today.

today's events

To submit events e-mail daily-iowan@uiowa.edu, please put date of event in the subject and follow the format in the paper:

- **Probing Na/K pump structure and mechanism with palytoxin and mutagenesis, Pablo Artigas, Rockefeller University, 9:30 a.m., 5-669 Bowen Science Building**
- **Story Time, 10 a.m., Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall**
- **Pharmacology Visiting Faculty Seminar, Toshikuro Kitamoto, 10:30 a.m., 2117 Medical Education and Biomedical Research Facility**
- **Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth**
- **Toddler Story Time, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn**
- **Free Child Vision Screening, 11 a.m.-noon, Iowa City Public Library**
- **Writers' Workshop lecture, "Writing by Imitating the Great Masters," Nicholas Delbanco, 11 a.m., Dey House Frank Conroy Reading Room**
- **New Research Approaches for Studying Aging and Cancer, keynote address: "The Aging Mind," Denise Park, 1 p.m., 1289 Carver Biomedical Research Building**
- **Faculty Senate Meeting, 3:30 p.m., Senate Chambers, Old Capitol**
- **Light shaper reception, 6 p.m., for "How Life Changed Medical Education: Revisiting the Libby Zion Case"**
- **Barron Lerner, Columbia University, 7 p.m., Carver Biomedical Research Building Kelch Conference Room**
- **Indian Country Diaries — A Seat at the Drum & Spiral of Fire, 6:30 p.m. Bijou**
- **Library-Community Writing Center, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library**
- **UISG Student Assembly, 6:30 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chambers**
- **Late Marriage, Israeli Film Series, 7 p.m., Hillel, 122 E. Market**
- **Meeting and Speech: A Trip to Palestine, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library**
- **Midway, 7 p.m., Alexis Park Inn, 1165 S. Riverside**
- **Winter in Baghdad and Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars, UI Center for Human Rights, 7 p.m., W151 Pappajohn Business Building**
- **Throwdown Free Dance Party, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn**

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 3 p.m.** "Know the Score," April 13
- 5** All-State Music Camp, Percussion Faculty Recital
- 6** Iowa Women's Basketball Coach Lisa Bluder's Meeting with the Media
- 6:15** Choreographer Donald McKayle Visits UI Dance Department
- 7:30** Dance Gala 2006
- 9:30** DITV, *The Daily Iowan's* Daily Update
- 9:45** Iowa Women's Basketball Coach Lisa Bluder's Meeting with the Media
- 10:30** DITV, *The Daily Iowan's* Daily Update
- 10:45** Campus Activities Board presents *Jonna James*

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



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

Level: **1 2**
3 4

		2			7	1		
	6							8
2			1	3	4			
			4	3	6			
		9	1					
	3	8	6					7
7	5		8			6		
4					9			
1	9			4				

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

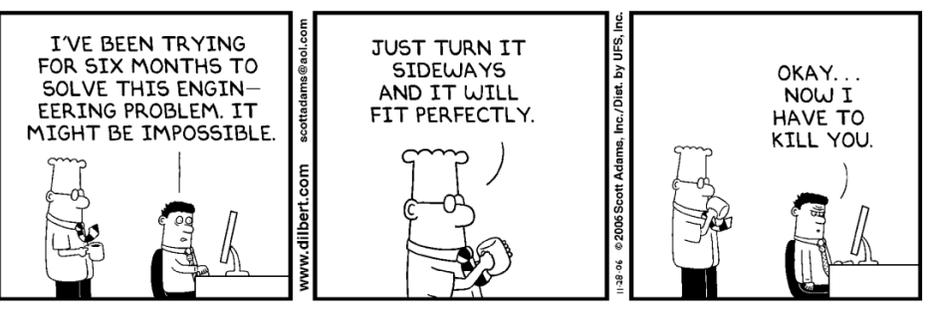
7	5	6	4	3	2	9	8	1
4	8	9	6	7	1	5	3	2
2	1	3	9	5	8	4	7	6
9	4	7	3	8	6	2	1	5
8	6	5	1	2	4	3	9	7
3	2	1	5	9	7	6	4	8
5	7	4	8	6	3	1	2	9
6	3	8	2	1	9	7	5	4
1	9	2	7	4	5	8	6	3

Sudoku on your cell phone. Enter 783658.com in your mobile Web browser. Get a free game!

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DILBERT

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY WIEV



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

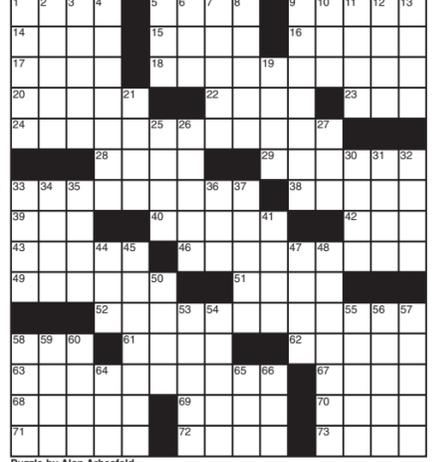


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1017

- ACROSS**
- 1 ___ Seltzer
 - 5 Serb or Pole
 - 9 Botanical gardens display
 - 14 "Metropolis" director Fritz
 - 15 Astronomical effect
 - 16 Car that spends too much time in the shop
 - 17 Brain passage
 - 18 Bygone award?
 - 20 Star
 - 22 Plenty
 - 23 Ring decision, briefly
 - 24 Schwarzenegger, today?
 - 28 What a handkerchief may wipe away
 - 29 Turnstile locale
 - 33 Former train station attendants?
 - 38 Bridgestones or Michelins
 - 39 So-so grade
 - 40 Sam who was a three-time Masters champ
 - 42 Dander
 - 43 Wee hour
 - 46 Farm equipment that's been put to another use?
 - 49 Italian automaker since 1906
 - 51 Architect Saarinen
 - 52 Old customs?
 - 58 Court figures, briefly
 - 61 Pennsylvania port
 - 62 Unlikely race winner
 - 63 Executive at American Motors or Enron, e.g.?
 - 67 One of the Aleutians
 - 68 Actor Reeves
 - 69 Author ___ Neale Hurston
 - 70 Nerd
 - 71 Bar, legally
 - 72 Mongolian tent
 - 73 Gaelic



- DOWN**
- 1 One of TV's "honeymooners"
 - 2 Kind of paint
 - 3 Prepared to part, say
 - 4 Accept
 - 5 Ursula Andress film
 - 6 West Coast air hub
 - 7 ___ Highway (old 1,500-mile route)
 - 8 "There you have it!"
 - 9 Complete and direct, as a denial
 - 10 Rent
 - 11 Skip
 - 12 Knight's neighbor
 - 13 Part of A.D.
 - 19 Little ones
 - 21 ___ Rabbit
 - 25 Gym floor covers
 - 26 Singer Cara
 - 27 Diamond stat.
 - 30 Legal order
 - 31 Prefix with -naut
 - 32 Belgian river
 - 33 Area of E.P.A. purview: Abbr.
 - 34 TV's warrior princess

- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | V | E | C | S | T | R | A | W | S | T | R | A | S | I | N | C |
| H | I | L | O | P | R | A | D | A | H | E | A | L | | | | |
| A | V | E | R | R | E | P | E | L | R | O | S | A | | | | |
| B | A | C | K | B | A | Y | L | E | E | W | A | Y | | | | |
| T | O | N | S | S | P | E | W | | | | | | | | | |
| A | D | D | I | N | G | B | I | L | L | D | A | N | A | | | |
| W | I | E | L | D | | O | N | U | S | S | E | M | | | | |
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| S | I | T | I | N | O | R | P | E | A | R | L | | | | | |
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| H | O | W | L | A | X | E | L | | | | | | | | | |
| V | A | C | A | N | T | S | I | D | E | B | E | T | | | | |
| I | G | O | R | I | M | A | C | S | V | O | T | E | | | | |
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| A | S | T | A | | E | T | A | T | S | L | E | N | T | | | |

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NBA
Miami 103, Philadelphia 91
Dallas 93, Minnesota 87
Orlando 88, Utah 75
Golden State 111, San Antonio 102

NHL
Detroit 2, Dallas 1
Los Angeles 3, New Jersey 2, SO
NFL
Seattle 34, Green Bay 24



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FEAR STRIKES OUT



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

UI student Nicki Petersburg transferred from Minnesota State University, where she was on the softball team for two years. In high school, she was a star catcher and hitter and had to have surgery on her shoulder before her freshman season at Minnesota State. Petersburg lives with depression and anxiety compounded by the pressures from softball and her desire for perfection. **CHECK OUT MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 3B AND IN OUR SLIDE SHOW AT DAILYIOWAN.COM**

*Depression is a subject often overlooked in the world of sports. Former Iowa prep star and Minnesota State softball player **NICKI PETERSBURG** is an example of why it shouldn't be neglected.*

BY ERIC MANDEL • THE DAILY IOWAN

WATCH NICKI PETERSBURG TALK WITH D/REPORTER ERIC MANDEL ABOUT BATTLING HER DEPRESSION ONLINE AT DAILYIOWAN.COM

1) I think there is someone out to get me.
A) True B) False

All Nicki Petersburg says she could think about was knocking her psychiatrist's ass to the floor. Instead, she had to answer 563 true/false questions surveying her mental stability. She couldn't stop replaying the conversation she'd had with him. He'd laughed at her when she asked how long she'd have to stay in the hospital, and he responded, "What makes you think I am going to trust you?"

The receptionist from the suicide ward took her shoes, detached the strap from her purse so she couldn't hurt herself with it — even seized her fitted baseball cap. The woman who couldn't pick out a pair of socks without dealing with prolonged psychological torture was swearing inside her head about not belonging in a mental hospital. Not belonging in a mental hospital. She felt as though she'd smash her skull against the wall if she were kept for more than a few days. All that remained was her notebook, a bag of M&Ms, and the option of therapy.

And a pencil. They stripped her of everything conceivably considered dangerous, then gave her a pencil to fill out the questionnaire.

A Prozac playing field

The familiar headlines on the sports pages are often inundated with college and professional athletes' crimes and unethical behavior. Yet in a society filled with Zoloft and Prozac — most studies peg the depression rate around 9-14 percent — the intersecting worlds of depression and athletics are more often than not left uncovered.

Particularly in college, competitors must contend with land mines of financial burden, GPA standards, and first-time independent living. And more so than ever, the bloated costs of facilities and coaches' salaries intensify pressure on athletes, who often feel their performances count toward keeping their high-cost teams afloat, while fans and alumni live vicariously through team accomplishments with cult-like dedication. With such pressures, one could assume depression rates would be higher for student-athletes than lay students.

But such an assumption is only half the story.

Recent research by sports psychologists Sam Maniar, Rob Chamberlain, and Nicki Moore at Ohio State University, Brigham Young University, and the University of Oklahoma respectively argue the above stresses lead to more athletes at risk for depression. But some UI professors look at research that says the opposite.

UI sociology Professor Michael Lovaglia points to disappointment, injuries, and fatigue as frequent occurrences at every level of sport and says his studies' conclusions vary from the aforementioned



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Nicki Petersburg used the same mitt the seven years she played catcher, five in high school at North Central High School in Manly, Iowa, and two at Minnesota State. Her mother made a quilt from the jerseys Petersburg wore in high school.

tioned researchers. He contends that the physiological and socio-emotional benefits "overwhelmingly" point to healthy outcomes.

"Sports activity leads to better health," he said. "At the peak of exertion, endorphins in the body yield a high close to that experienced in sexual orgasm."

Staying afloat

Despite the advantages college athletics provide, sports doesn't save everybody; some fall through the cracks. Such as Petersburg.

As a senior at North Central High School in Manly, Iowa, she was named the *Globe Gazette* area athlete of the year, alongside former Iowa basketball star Jeff Horner, for

her career softball accomplishments behind the plate and in the batter's box. She accepted a scholarship to play for Mankato's Minnesota State University — but before she even swung the bat as a freshman, she underwent shoulder surgery for a frayed labrum. The injury forced her to become a designated hitter who had trouble recapturing her swing, and the coaches decided to redshirt her midway through her freshman year.

Traveling with the Mavericks but unable to play, she wasn't an integral part of a squad for the first time in her career. Still, she said, she loved her first year in Mankato, and her new home was, in fact, one of the few life rafts

keeping her head above the waters of depression.

At the beginning of her sophomore season, she returned behind the plate, but she was physically and mentally far from hitting a stride. Nothing was ever perfect. Nothing was ever good enough. The criticism of being inferior she placed upon herself soon led to physical chaos. Each softball practice came with a persistent painful pressure in her chest and intolerable headaches that no amount of ibuprofen could quell. The then-biology major had difficulty breathing during class, and she couldn't focus in her lectures because her head ached so badly.

"Every day was a challenge," she said. "I didn't want to sleep because it would bring the next day."

Petersburg, who said her high-school GPA hovered around 3.9, started having trouble with homework. She began reading John Grisham novels because they were easy to follow and captivating enough to keep her mind busy. At nights, she would shake from hunger — she wouldn't eat during the day because food didn't sound good. Her brain hurt.

"One day specifically, I remember, it was the middle of winter, and there was snow on the ground," she said. "It was so hard to put one foot in front of the other. I can't even describe it. It was a form of torture. I just wanted to sit on the snow and not move."

"It was like I didn't have the strength to keep going."

SPORTS

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

BIG TEN-ACC CHALLENGE

Monday's Game
 North Carolina State 74, Michigan 67

Today's Games
 Maryland at Illinois, 6 p.m. ESPN
 Florida State at Wisconsin, 6:30 p.m. ESPN2
 Penn State at Georgia Tech, 7 p.m. ESPN
 Indiana at Duke, 8 p.m. ESPN
 Miami at Northwestern, 8:30 p.m. ESPN2

Wednesday's Games
 Iowa at Virginia Tech, 6:05 p.m. ESPN
 Michigan State at Boston College, 6 p.m. ESPN
 Virginia at Purdue, 6:30 p.m. ESPN2
 Ohio State at North Carolina, 8 p.m. ESPN
 Clemson at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m. ESPN2

TOP 25 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

#11 Texas A&M 75, Arkansas-Little Rock 35
 #13 Marquette 65, Valparaiso 62
 #14 Georgetown 69, Ball State 54
 #17 Syracuse 72, Holy Cross 64
 #22 Tennessee 77, Louisiana-Lafayette 67

WOMEN
 #9 Louisiana State 65, New Orleans 45

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	8	3	0	.727	253	144
N.Y. Jets	6	5	0	.545	203	228
Buffalo	5	6	0	.455	191	225
Miami	5	6	0	.455	197	198
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10	1	0	.909	308	231
Jacksonville	6	5	0	.545	235	164
Tennessee	4	7	0	.364	201	277
Houston	3	8	0	.273	176	256
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	9	2	0	.818	249	147
Cincinnati	6	5	0	.545	277	233
Pittsburgh	4	7	0	.364	239	254
Cleveland	3	8	0	.273	170	238
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Diego	9	2	0	.818	353	216
Kansas City	7	4	0	.636	229	195
Denver	7	4	0	.636	195	165
Oakland	2	9	0	.182	132	219

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	7	4	0	.636	309	198
N.Y. Giants	6	5	0	.545	245	232
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	267	239
Washington	4	7	0	.364	199	250
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	7	4	0	.636	276	241
Carolina	6	5	0	.545	189	190
Atlanta	5	6	0	.455	203	236
Tampa Bay	3	8	0	.273	142	252
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	9	2	0	.818	295	137
Minnesota	5	6	0	.455	198	208
Green Bay	4	7	0	.364	209	286
Detroit	2	9	0	.182	195	266
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Seattle	7	4	0	.636	237	243
San Francisco	5	6	0	.455	199	285
St. Louis	5	6	0	.455	222	253
Arizona	2	9	0	.182	187	264

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	13	9	2	28	77	71
N.Y. Islanders	12	7	3	27	63	58
New Jersey	12	9	2	26	53	61
Pittsburgh	10	8	4	24	67	68
Philadelphia	7	14	3	17	60	93
Northeast	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	19	3	2	40	105	71
Toronto	13	8	4	30	87	79
Montreal	13	6	3	29	68	61

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Atlanta	13	9	2	28	77	71
N.Y. Islanders	12	7	3	27	63	58
New Jersey	12	9	2	26	53	61
Pittsburgh	10	8	4	24	67	68
Philadelphia	7	14	3	17	60	93
Northeast	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Buffalo	19	3	2	40	105	71
Toronto	13	8	4	30	87	79
Montreal	13	6	3	29	68	61

Henderson eyes return



WATCH DITV — CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR ON DAILYIOWAN.COM — FOR HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BASKETBALL PRESS CONFERENCE.

BY JASON BRUMMOND
 THE DAILY IOWAN

One month after surgery, Iowa guard Mike Henderson has a "legitimate shot" to return to the court this week.

The cast on the senior's right hand was removed Monday, and the senior returned to practice. The 6-3, 200-pounder underwent surgery on his right pinkie finger on Oct. 30 after injuring his shooting hand during practice.

Henderson plans on taping his pinkie and ring fingers together, and he admitted that his wrist felt weaker than anticipated, although he is optimistic about a quick return.



Henderson senior

"Right now, it's just a process of me getting flexibility back in my hand," he said on Monday. "For the most part, things are looking pretty good."

The Hawkeyes (2-3) will travel to Virginia Tech on Wednesday to compete in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge — Iowa's fifth-straight game away from Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Henderson will travel to Blacksburg but likely won't be available when the Hawkeyes try to snap a three-game skid.

The Waterloo native is more likely to return on Friday for the first round of the Hawkeye Challenge against Texas-Pan

American. If not, then he will probably return on Dec. 5 against Northern Iowa.

"We're really optimistic and hopeful that we can get him back by the end of the week," Iowa coach Steve Alford said.

Henderson — who started all 34 games last year and averaged 7.6 points and 3.9 rebounds a contest — could provide an instant boost on both ends of the floor. Last season, the guard totaled 38 steals and was Iowa's best on-ball defender.

On offense, Henderson's ability to drive the lane should help open the perimeter for Iowa's outside shooters.

"When he comes back, we know we have a slasher and penetrator who can get the ball to the post or to the shooters," guard Justin Johnson said. "He contributes a lot. I just can't wait for him to get back."

Neither can Alford. The eighth-year coach said starting point guard Tony Freeman may be facing too much pressure and will put much of the floor-leader duties on Henderson when he returns. Freeman, a sophomore, has totaled 18 turnovers and 24 assists in five games.

Alford even indicated that Johnson, a junior-college transfer, may get the starting nod against the Hokies. Johnson has committed just five turnovers in 123 minutes, adding eight assists in the last three games.

Regardless, Henderson won't have the luxury of a smooth transition into the backcourt rotation when he's ready to go. "Probably not," Alford said. "We can't afford to ease a point guard in. We need a point guard right away."

E-mail: DIReporter Jason Brummond at: jason-brummond@uiowa.edu

HAWKEYE SPORTS

Luedke charged

Iowa wrestler Eric Luedke was charged on Nov. 23 with discharging a firearm in Iowa City, UI police records show.

Luedke, a 21-year-old senior and the starting Hawkeye wrestler at 174 pounds, said on Monday night that the incident occurred when he was pulled over while driving, and the charge was a misdemeanor. Luedke also said no arrest was made but declined further comment regarding the charges or circumstances concerning them.

A detailed complaint was unavailable late Monday.

After transferring to Iowa from Colby Community College, Luedke racked up a record of 29-16 his junior season, placing eighth at the NCAA championships at 165 pounds and earning All-American honors. In three events this season, Luedke boasts an overall record of 6-1.

First-year Iowa coach Tom Brands could not be reached for comment Monday evening.

— by Charlie Kautz

Nukuri, Van Denend win awards

Diane Nukuri and Micah VanDenend were named Midwest Regional Athletes of the Year by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross-Country Coaches Association on Monday.

Both Hawkeyes won the regional — Iowa's first dual champions —

leading their teams to a third-place finish and a berth in the NCAA championships.

VanDenend, a senior, won the 10,000-meter race in 32:23. He also placed in the top-10 at Pre-Nationals and the Big Ten championships.

Junior transfer Nukuri set the 6K school record with a time of 21:05. She earned All-American honors with an eighth-place finish at nationals.

— by Diane Hendrickson

Baseball signs 5

The Hawkeye baseball program announced the signing of five recruits Monday, including the younger brother of former football player Eric Jensen.

Nic Jensen, Zach Kenyon, Phil Keppler, Kevin Lee, and Tony Manville all signed with the Hawkeyes' class of 2007-08. Kenyon, from Davenport, and Keppler, from Manchester, are the only lowans of the bunch.

Lee, a 6-4 catcher out of Oak Lawn, Ill., hit .395 and threw out 80 percent of would-be base stealers.

Manville stands 6-3 and pitches with a right arm from New Lenox, Ill., responsible for an ERA of 1.60 in an all-area junior season.

And Keppler, a 6-4 outfielder, earned all-state accolades last year, hitting .462 with more home runs (seven) than strikeouts (five). He won nine games and lost none on the mound.

— by Tyson Wirth

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

WHO SHOULD PLAY OHIO STATE?

FLORIDA — BY NATHAN COOPER

First I'd like to thank Southern Cal for taking an overrated Notre Dame out of the kaleidoscope-like one-loss BCS picture. We've got a couple teams kicking and screaming like college football coaches at officials, even when the ref has made the correct ruling.

But if the BCS' call stands, Florida's howl is legitimate — because the Gators are No. 2.

Of course, that asterisk is assuming the Gators slice and dice the Razorbacks next week in the SEC title game.

There are two logical ways to deduce the second deserving title team. Quality wins and quality of their only loss.

Michigan's out. The Wolverines had their chance and aside from a couple turnovers, were playing behind a comfortable Ohio State lead for most of the contest.

Florida wins both arguments. The Gators play in a conference, the SEC, in which four teams have at least 10 wins. There isn't another conference boasting that statistic. The SEC has a title game, giving Florida another chance to bolster its resumé — and another chance to say hasta la vista to its championship aspirations. Bonus points there.

Quality wins: Florida has beaten Tennessee (9-3) and LSU (10-2). USC has beaten Arkansas (10-2) and Notre Dame (10-2). With a Gator win against Arkansas Saturday: advantage Florida.

Now for the loss. Southern Cal lost to ... Oregon State? It's true. The Beavers, who lost three Pac-10 games, could be the Trojans' only roadblock in snatching another national title. Losing to Oregon State should eliminate a team from being the best squad with a one on the right. Especially when Florida's defeat came against No. 11 Auburn (10-2). Advantage Gators in the loss column, too.

Recapping the score, at least in my cubicle, it's Gators 2, Trojans 0.

MICHIGAN — BY SEAN MONAHAN

When Ohio State and Michigan met two weekends ago at the Horseshoe in Columbus, Ohio, the contest was billed as "The Game of the Century."

Yet, thanks to the never controversial and always accommodating BCS, a team not even involved in the biggest game of the 22nd century may hoist the Waterford Crystal football originally designed to signify the greatest program in the land.

With USC leapfrogging Michigan last weekend, it seems the rankings this year are more about who would make the most entertaining championship game than matching up the two best teams in the nation.

Sure, it might be a bit boring to see the Hayes face off against the Schembechlers again, but the current polling system was installed to ensure the best squad in the country plays the sec-

ond best.

Can a team get worse when it doesn't even play? No, and the reasons are simple.

First, see Notre Dame. A previously misunderstood ranking system became even more confusing last week. The BCS apparently assumed Michigan's victory against the then-No. 2 Irish in South Bend is less valuable than the Trojans' victory over the No. 6 Charlie Weis-led squad in Los Angeles, despite Michigan's higher margin of victory.

Second, see opponents. Michigan can't control the risk of the teams it faces, a factor that prohibited it from a chance to defeat as many ranked opponents as USC. Yet, the Wolverines' biggest victory came against a roster placed higher in the polls than USC's most important victim.

In addition, Pete Carroll's team suffered a perfect season-shattering defeat to an unranked Oregon State Beavers squad struggling to keep its fur above the .500 mark when the Trojans rode into Corvallis, Ore.

The Wolverines' single defeat this season was to the best team in the nation and in a conference where home-field advantage serves as an invisible head start on the opposition. Only losing by three should warrant a chance for the Wolverines to see if they are better than their arch nemesis on a neutral stage.



USC — BY PAUL KAZMIERCZK

Assuming USC defeats UCLA this weekend, it should play Ohio State in the BCS championship game. While a convincing argument can be made for Michigan or even Florida to duel the Buckeyes, the Trojans showed, with last weekend's dominating 44-24 blowout of Notre Dame, why they are ranked No. 2 in the BCS.

The men of Troy started the season with a 50-14 pasting of Arkansas in Little Rock, the same Razorback team that finished the season ranked No. 8. The Trojans then polished off No. 19 Nebraska, No. 21 Oregon, and No. 17 California. Although USC lost, 33-31, to Oregon State, it proved the game was merely an aberration against the Fighting Irish, who came in ranked No. 6 in the nation.

Michigan backers point out the Wolverines' three-point loss to No. 1 Ohio State is far more respectable than the Trojans' two-point loss to the Beavers, and the Maize and Blue deserves a rematch. But losses early in the season don't matter as much to voters as losses later in the campaign. Moreover, the Wolverines had their chance. Their highly touted run defense was shredded for two touchdown runs of more than 50 yards, and a mediocre secondary was torched for four touchdown passes.

The Trojans, however, have a faster defense better able to at least contain the Buckeyes' powder-keg offense. Offensively, quarterback John David Booty has thrown for 25 touchdown passes, including 18 to wideouts Steve Smith and Dwayne Jarrett, who form the best wide-receiver tandem in the country. USC also owns a rushing attack that has found the end zone 17 times. In all, the Trojans outscore opponents by better than 17 points a game — a more dominant margin than either Michigan or Florida wins by.

USC represents the team best equipped to challenge Ohio State. The Wolverines are one of the best in the country, but they had their shot two weeks ago. Now, the Trojans deserve theirs.

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— Nicki Petersburg



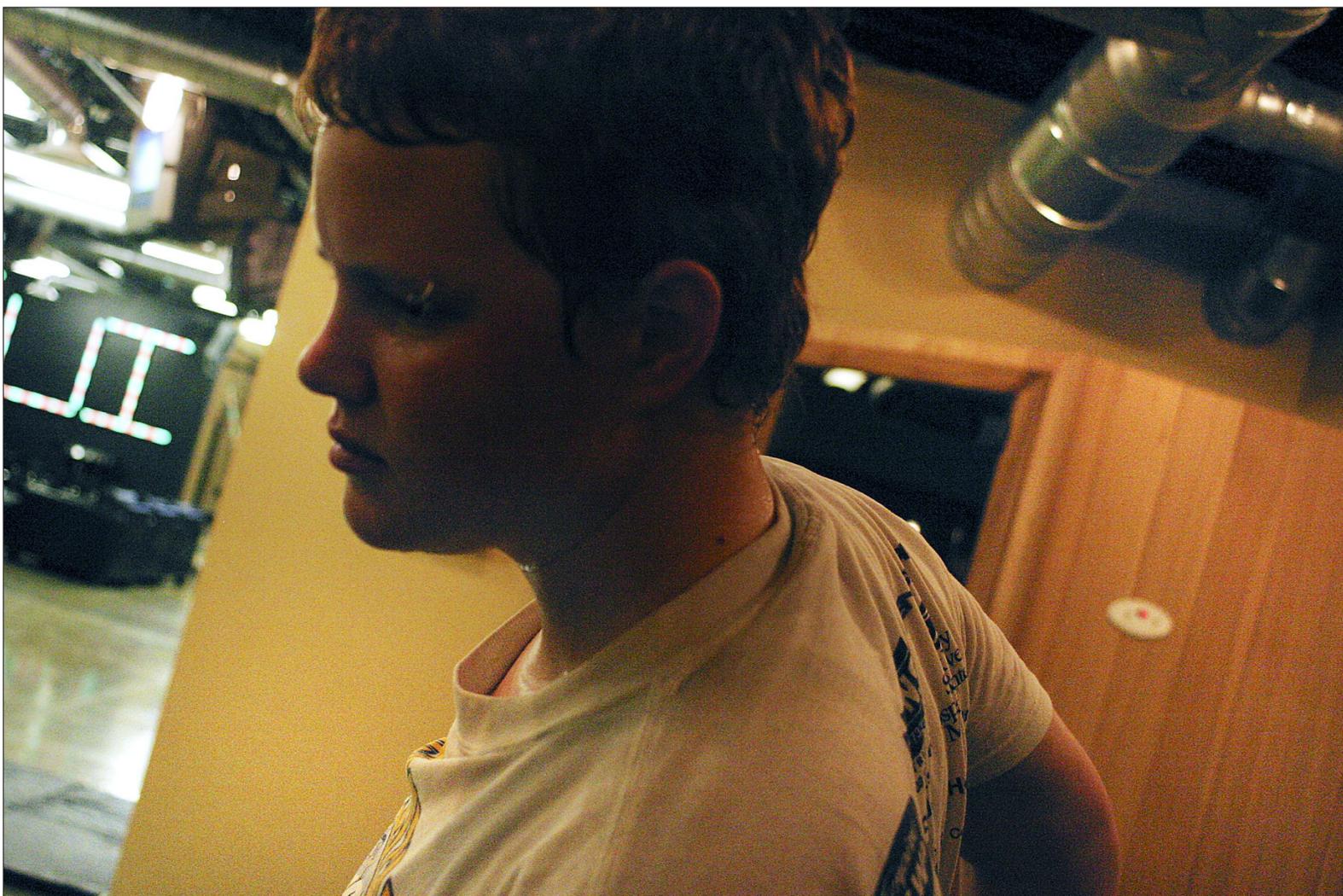
Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Nicki Petersburg stretches while working out at the Lodge, where she lifts three to four times a week. At one point, she said, her depression was so bad, "I didn't want to sleep because it would bring the next day."

'At that point in time, I thought we were doing everything right. I was in contact with her parents, the counselors ...

in her eyes, it obviously wasn't enough. I took it very seriously and feel I did everything I could. You can't lead people who have issues to help unless they want to get help. It was a very troubling time ... The concern wasn't that she wasn't a good athlete; it was how can we have this young lady survive this situation, and get help, and not do something drastic.'

— Lori Meyer, Petersburg's former coach at Minnesota State



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Petersburg, a former college softball player who suffers from anxiety and depression, once contemplated killing herself on her home field's diamond. Since leaving Minnesota State two years ago, she hasn't played softball, but she stays physically active.

Early for class by 20 minutes, Nicki Petersburg waits outside her classroom on Nov. 15. She is done with class every day by 10:30 a.m., and she spends much of her time alone at her apartment watching TV, working on homework, and working out. She finds it "thoroughly difficult" to do anything, but she is trying to complete 12 credits this semester.



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

'I thought it was going to be a quick fix, frankly, because I knew so little about depression. With someone who had everything to look forward to, why would you get depressed? She had good grades, was doing well with the team, was getting back her hitting. It all seemed to be lining up so well.'

— Laurie Petersburg, Nicki Petersburg's mother



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Nicki Petersburg with her high-school softball team in 2000. During her prep career, she racked up 39 home runs.

'It seemed like all would be good, but nothing was good enough unless it was perfect. I'd hit home runs, but if I'd pop up, I thought I was the worst. It would make me so mad that I couldn't be a consistent hitter. In my mind, it wasn't good enough.'

— Nicki Petersburg

SPORTS

UI student battles through depression

DEPRESSION

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Not alone

David Watson, a UI psychology professor, agrees with Lovaglia's interpretation and surmises college athletes have a better chance than average individuals, or professional athletes, of not falling into depression. He points to a sense of camaraderie and increased physical activity as reasons, along with what he calls the more hospitable atmosphere college athletics provide as opposed to that of professional multimillionaires.

"Ultimately in professional sports, they are businesses; they tend not to be warm and cozy places," he said. "Athletes are supposed to make adjustments themselves. If you can't handle it, they'll find someone else who will."

For 32 years, Hawkeye diving coach Bob Rydze has been trying to help Iowa divers "handle it." He says he's sat down with more than a handful of athletes depressed or uncertain about their futures. Still, he adds, he's never knowingly dealt with anyone severely depressed. His encounters with the disease have led him to believe it mainly stems from two categories: the end of a career or a debilitating injury. Former Iowa diver Tomasz Rossa, Rydze's main memory of depression in his tenure, suffered patellar tendinitis after competing in the 1988 Olympics. The condition affects a tendon near the knee.

"[He] had a chance to win an NCAA title. It got so bad that his patellar tendon disintegrated," the coach said, between barking tips to a diver mid-flip at the Field House pool. "That wasn't an easy situation ... he saw a counselor and everything. It goes back to it being an end thing."

Rydze says he grasps the difference between athletes upset after a loss, and the aching anxiety midterms and training bring, and true depression. When energy levels decrease from school and training, it gives athletes "the blahs," but it isn't clinical.

Junior wrestler Matt Fields has battled "the blahs" during his collegiate career and has fought numerous major and minor maladies. He doesn't battle depression, he said, his injury hurdles never forced him to contemplate quitting, and he described wrestling as "self-soothing." Still, when an athlete doesn't reach goals, he admits, it causes one to doubt one's abilities.

"You almost feel worthless when you don't get there," he said. "Some take it as motivation and a good kind of depression."

"And some take it to heart and never recover from it."

The drawing

Petersburg was quickly falling into the latter category during her sophomore year, but didn't want to admit a problem existed. She felt her identity was wrapped up in a lifelong athletics superiority, and despite regaining her power stroke, nothing ever seemed good enough.

The former high-school Homecoming queen was in self-denial, and she hid the disease from friends and family — she was too ashamed to share her feelings. It wasn't until the first week in February 2004 when her mother, Laurie Petersburg, pieced together all the frustrated phone call, and suggested her daughter might be suffering from depression. They agreed she should seek help at Mankato's Student Health. The doctors there prescribed medication.

"I thought it was going to be a quick fix, frankly, because I knew so little about depression," said the mother of two. "With someone who had everything to look forward to, why would you get depressed? She had good grades, was doing well with the team, was getting back her hitting. It all seemed to be lining up so well."

Once on medication, the former four-sport varsity athlete started visiting her counselor and told him everything about her depression, but made little progress. She couldn't run from the frustration caused by impossible standards nor swing through the anger she felt about her imperfection. Although her

first two at bats as leadoff hitter were roundtrippers, she was never satisfied. The woman with 39 high-school home runs didn't want to step up to the plate because, despite the medication, she had thoroughly persuaded herself that she "sucked" and no longer wanted to "embarrass herself."

"It seemed like all would be good, but nothing was good enough unless it was perfect," she said. "I'd hit home runs, but if I'd pop up, I thought I was the worst. It would make me so mad that I couldn't be a consistent hitter. In my mind, it wasn't good enough."

The pressure became so intense Petersburg even asked for a switch from catcher, a request the coaches accommodated. She still played the position during practices. But at one of these practices, she says, her spirits were entirely broken.

After a pitch bounced away from the sophomore in situation drills, she leisurely moved to retrieve the ball, because there was no chance of gunning down the runner advancing to second.

Petersburg says Minnesota State softball coach Lori Meyer ripped into her, calling for another catcher who would give it her all. It was the maddest the young athlete ever felt, because she felt her coach knew what mental anguish she was going through. When contacted by the *DI*, Meyer said she knew of Petersburg's struggle with depression but didn't know the depths of her player's pain. She didn't feel she could hold the catcher to lesser standards than the other women.

Petersburg quit the next day.

Leaving the team relieved some pressure but also stripped away everything the aspiring physical therapist thought she knew about herself. Petersburg said that at the end-of-year meeting, her coach explained there would still be a place on the team for the former athlete but stressed the staff would recruit other catchers, and she'd need to step up to have a job.

Petersburg — who said Meyer had previously told her she could be an All-American, was a crucial part of the squad, and had a rapport with the pitching staff — came out of the get-together feeling disrespected.

Following the meeting, Petersburg said, she went back to her apartment and turned on the radio. She sat down with a piece of paper and began drawing a detailed picture of her father's handgun. She devised a plan to go back, get the gun, dress in the high-school softball jersey she'd stolen at the end of her senior year, and drive her dad's Enduro dirt bike back to Mankato.

She would write letters to her mother, father, and sister, letting each know how much she loved them and appreciated their support. The words would make them understand it wasn't any of their fault; there was nothing they could have done. The act would end with her spitting into the dugout to spite her coaches and making her way to home plate, where all the frustration would come to an end. She was going to leave her mark.

"Once I made up my mind, it was a huge relief," she said. "It'd been in the back of my mind for a long time, but after the meeting with Coach, I decided I wasn't going to deal with the bullshit anymore."

A coach's responsibility

Fortifying a wall of support around a young athlete's psyche can be a key barrier against the piercing daggers of depression,

SUICIDE IS THE THIRD-LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG 15- TO 24-YEAR-OLDS.

Source: National Vital Statistics Report assembled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

which often precedes suicide.

In the eyes of former Iowa wrestling head coach and current assistant Dan Gable, shaping the wall falls on the shoulders of coaches. Because most recruits dominate high-school competition and are used to the limelight, it can jolt athletes when their names get shifted to the bottoms of the depth charts. That's hard to recover from, even after playing days pass.

"The bottom line is, they are a

part of your team, and your work might not be done yet," Gable said. "I've been out of coaching for nine years, but I've still got some kids whom I've got to check on."

Meyer, Petersburg's former coach at Minnesota State, spent a great deal of one-on-one time with her young athlete during her sophomore year. She said she believes anything could have pushed Petersburg over the edge, but she hadn't realized the on-diamond incident was the tipping point. She tried calling Petersburg, she said, after hearing of her commitment to a psychiatry ward, but the player didn't return a message, something Petersburg could neither validate nor invalidate. The Mankato coach felt she'd offered numerous channels of support, including 24-hour access via calls or text messages to her cell phone, and tried to get the former prep standout involved with counselors.

"At that point in time, I thought we were doing everything right," she said. "I was in contact with her parents, the counselors ... in her eyes, it obviously wasn't enough."

"I took it very seriously and feel I did everything I could. You can't lead people who have issues to help unless they want to get help. It was a very troubling time ... The concern wasn't that she wasn't a good athlete; it was how can we have this young lady survive this situation, and get help, and not do something drastic."

Coming back

Before the drawing, before the plan, Petersburg had already scheduled an appointment with her student-health counselor. She decided to attend before taking action. She said she was completely forthcoming about her intentions during the meeting.

Upon hearing Petersburg's suicide plans, the counselor left the room. Within minutes, the police arrived. They told her they could escort her across campus the hard way or the easy way. She chose the latter, assuming things couldn't get any worse. They did.

Petersburg, who once finished fourth in her high-school class, was forced to admit herself into Mercy Medical Center in Mason City or else be assigned there by the courts. Twenty-four-hour suicide watch was the self-described worst experience of her life — partially because she didn't want to admit needing it and partially because she felt ill-treated.

"It was hell," she said. "For being on suicide watch, I was surprised at how crappy I was treated. It was like they made a mistake, though. They are stripping me of everything, but they were giving me a pencil ... it meant something for me for some reason. Anyway, I kept the pencil."

Had she not told the counselor, she said, there was "a good chance" she would have pulled the trigger.

Her mother, of course, tells of being scared to death.

"Everything stops at that point, and that becomes your focus — getting to your child," she says. "I think both [my husband and I] would say that that was probably the worst night of our lives."

Upon leaving the facility, Petersburg said, her guilt about putting family and friends through such pain persuaded her that suicide could never be an option. She took the year off of school before transferring to the UI, where her cousin and sister attend, in the fall of 2005.

She says she misses Minnesota State and her friends dearly, but it's too hard to go back. The transition to Iowa has not been easy. The former softball star dropped out after her first semester — on her birthday.

She returned for the spring term and barely stayed in school, dropping to only six credits, hours because it was so "thoroughly difficult" to do anything. Despite still struggling with her lack of desire for academics, she is taking 12 credits, and has made it a mission to not quit this semester.

Petersburg sees her depression as inevitable; she fused sense of herself with sports. She perceives her athletics "failures" as a personal downfall and the driving force behind her disease and says she now has a renewed sense of what is important. In spite of a "night and day" difference in her attitude, little progress has been made in

regards to her mental anguish — Petersburg still puts herself and her life under the microscope daily. She can't stop obsessively analyzing every little thing.

Nonetheless, the now-history major says she likes herself more than before her depression — she's more true to herself.

Although she doubts whether she'll ever play softball competitively again, she exercises on a regular basis, and "had a great

time" playing in a beach volleyball league over the summer. She even has some coaching aspirations.

Petersburg's main hope is to let others fighting the disease know winning is possible. She knows individuals battling depression probably think, "Well, that person doesn't have it as bad as I do," because she felt the same way. But she believes if people can make it

through depression, they can make it through anything.

"It's very important to me that more people are aware of how dangerous depression can be and the mental torture that people go through," she said. "I almost want to be on a megaphone, because it hurts to think people are experiencing what I experienced."

E-mail *DI* reporter Eric Mandel at: eric-mandel@uiowa.edu

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TWO bedroom, top floor. \$600/ month. K-Mart area. 545-2075-1.C.

TWO bedroom, two bath apartment one block from UIHC, \$770/ month. (319)936-0227.

IOWA WOMENS CROSS-COUNTRY

Running to their goals

BY DIANE HENDRICKSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

Every year, the Iowa women's cross-country team posts goals on the locker-room bulletin board. This year, almost all those goals were achieved.

A 17th-place finish at the NCAA championships and All-American performances from Diane Nukuri and Racheal Marchand highlighted the success of the program this fall.

"We had a breakout season," said Marchand, who finished 30th at the national meet. "At the beginning of the season, we talked about what we wanted to accomplish, and this year, we did that."

Coach Layne Anderson estimated his team attained 94 percent of the goals it set.

"You can never have sheer perfection," he said. "It's never realistic, in this sport."

The Hawkeyes made their first appearance at the national championships after a 14-year absence, during which the program spiraled to the basement of the Big Ten.

After three rebuilding years under Anderson, the squad finally had the talent and depth it was lacking.

"We had quality kids and a good supporting cast," he said.

Returning runners Marchand and Jessica Schmidt improved "by leaps and bounds." Molly Esche, who battled injury all season, was returning to form by the end of the year.

Junior-college transfer Nukuri led the squad at most meets, setting three school records. She was named Big Ten Runner of the Week and, Monday, Midwest Regional Athlete of the Year.

Freshman Jolly Burke immediately made an impact, including a fourth-place finish at the Auburn Invitational.

At Auburn, the Hawkeyes

ran one of their best races of the year. All returning athletes ran a personal record, and the squad won the meet title with a nearly perfect 16 points. With that performance, Iowa peaked at No. 8 in the national rankings.

In the tough Big Ten, Iowa improved one spot over last year to finish sixth.

"It didn't look like we improved that much," Meghan Armstrong said. "But it's the toughest conference in the nation."

The harriers suffered a few letdowns near the end of the season, but the runners were confident in their ability to qualify for the finals. They finished third at the Midwest Regional but, via an at-large bid, earned a spot in the NCAA meet for the first time since 1992.

"I felt the people we needed to count on ran well in October and November," Anderson said. "Everyone was focused in on getting to nationals and doing well there."

The Hawkeyes put out a strong performance to finish 17th, despite a challenging course and muddy conditions. Armstrong, who qualified as an individual last fall, barely missed adding a third All-American to Iowa's roster.

"If you had asked me at the beginning of the season, 'Would you be content at the NCAAs with 17th?,' I would have said 'absolutely,'" said the coach, who is already planning next fall's trip.

With all the top runners returning, the Iowa program is poised to return to greatness.

"We're moving in the right direction," said Armstrong, a senior next season. "We've taken steps and finally got to the national championships. We'll be a force to be reckoned with."

E-mail DIreporter@uiowa.edu Diane Hendrickson at diane-hendrickson@uiowa.edu



CHARLIE KAUTZ

I'm sitting at my laptop on Sunday night, unpacking and paying virtually no attention to the Eagle-Colt telecast on NBC. It's late in the second quarter, and Peyton Manning is expect-edly torching the Philly defense up and down the field.

I don't care who wins, that the score is 21-7, or that Indianapolis is moving down the field as the game clock approaches the final two minutes of the first half. As an Iowa fan, the only rooting interest I have is the continued success for a pair of the few former Hawkeyes that actually start in the league, Indy's Dallas Clark and Philly's Sean Considine. That — and Manning's fantasy stats.

My television volume is on seven, hardly audible from my desk and mumbling over the play-by-play. Curious about the score, I turn my

chair clockwise and catch Manning finding Clark across the middle. No. 44 bruises his way toward the left hash and turns it upfield, only to get wrapped up and dragged to the turf by Considine.

Clark braces himself momentarily before landing on his right knee. Hard.

After a brief shot of Clark agonizing in pain on the field, the broadcast heads to commercial break. I do a double take, mostly in shock that the one play I have watched to that point results in a head-on Hawkeye collision and a six-shouldered walk to the locker room for Clark.

I mean, come on, what are the chances? There are fewer than 50 guys in the entire NFL that once called Kinnick Stadium home, and Considine goes and takes Clark out on national television? Is there not a rule against this? Is Sean Considine synonymous with Benedict Arnold?

Following numerous Google searches, an unexpected tip from a friend, and the memory of the crucifying commercials I have seen in recent weeks, I feel that there is only one cause for this unbelievably freakish incident: the Madden

Curse.

No, you won't find Clark or Considine replacing Shaun Alexander on the cover of Madden '07 at your local video-game retailer. But you may recall that in one of the latest commercials for Madden, Clark is coming across the middle before being absolutely destroyed by two Philadelphia Eagle defenders, which prefaces two gamers trash talking and replaying the incident on their system.

Again. And again. And again. What happened on Sunday night is not a coincidence, stupid irony, nor the headhunting nature of a former Iowa safety. No, Clark's injury is rather a direct result of his appearance in a commercial for Madden '07 and, therefore, his direct involvement in the Curse. The aftereffects of this realization are mind boggling, almost as if someone over in the EA Sports Lab can predict the future.

Yikes.

The truth is, just a day before the Sunday-night matchup with Philly, Clark told an Indianapolis newspaper that he thought the commercial made him look stupid, and he was tired of people asking him about it. Nobody at Madden asked him to be in

the commercial, so why make him look bad?

Screw looking bad, Dallas; how about giving you a sprained right knee a couple weeks off and a reason to hate your old teammate?

I have no doubt in my mind whether the people at Madden read Clark's comments, watched the commercial a couple hundred more times (laughing more each replay), and decided it was time to pull the string.

If there weren't enough proof already, Sunday night persuaded me the Madden Curse is real. Through and through, I believe. Only one question remains — who's next?

E-mail DIcolumnist@uiowa.edu Charlie Kautz at charles-kautz@uiowa.edu

COMMENTARY

The Curse strikes

Iowa State hires Texas aide Chizik as coach

BY LUKE MEREDITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AMES — Iowa State put forth its best recruiting pitch to Gene Chizik and succeeded in hiring one of the nation's hottest young assistants as its next coach.

Chizik, who had served as the assistant head coach and co-defensive coordinator at Texas for the past two seasons, was introduced Monday night as Iowa State's football coach.

He wasted little time vowing to revive a program that finished 4-8 in 2006 and 1-7 in

the Big 12.

"I think the level of commitment is demonstrated," said Chizik, who won the 2004 Broyles Award as the nation's top assistant at Auburn. "They want to make this football program one of the strongest in the country."

Chizik, 44, will replace Dan McCarney, who resigned this month after 12 seasons. Chizik agreed to a six-year deal worth \$6.75 million, with incentives that could push his total package to more than \$10 million. In addition, Iowa State has earmarked \$1.5

million plus incentives for his assistant coaches.

This will be his first head-coach job at any level. He will not coach for Texas in the Longhorns' bowl game.

"To me, it's important for me for people to want you to be there, that they target you as their guy," he said. "I really feel like I was recruited."

Iowa State Athletics Director Jamie Pollard interviewed Chizik in Dallas on Nov. 25, the day after Texas lost to Texas A&M. He was offered the job later that night, and he accepted it during a phone call with Pollard on Sunday morning.

Football gets oral commitment

The Iowa football program recently received an oral commitment from prospect Adam Gettis, a defensive end from Frankfort, Ill., but it wasn't the only team the athlete pledged his services to.

Gettis, a 6-2, 220-pounder who worked with both the offensive and defensive lines at Iowa's camp, plans to walk on with the track program, as well.

"Coach Wiz [Larry Wiczorek], he said as soon as they offer to come to track as a walk-on," the Lincoln-Way East student said.

Iowa State, Central Michigan, Eastern Michigan, and Northern Illinois sought the high-school senior, but Gettis said he accepted the Hawkeyes' offer just a week after it was made because of a comfort level, campus life, and the coaching staff, among other factors. Rivals' recruiting service rates him a two-star prospect.

Hawkeyereport.com also reported late Monday Iowa had landed another two-star prospect, New Jersey linebacker Dezman Moses. The 6-2, 212-pounder listed offers from Toledo, East Carolina, and Syracuse.

— by Tyson Wirth

Oakcrest to exercise class to physically fit.



Getting to class is just one of the many reasons millions of people ride public transportation every day. They also ride it to go shopping. Or to volunteer at a local community center. And when people have the freedom and opportunity to pursue their dreams, the whole community thrives. To find out more information about how public transportation benefits both individuals and communities, please visit www.publictransportation.org.



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BORAT (R)
FRI-SUN 1:00, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:30
MON-THU 5:20, 7:20, 9:30

FAST FOOD NATION (R)
FRI-SUN 1:00, 3:10, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40
MON-THU 5:15, 7:30, 9:40

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION (PG-13)
FRI-SUN 1:15, 3:15, 5:10, 7:10, 9:50
MON-THU 5:10, 7:10, 9:50

SYCAMORE 12
Sycamore Mall • Iowa City, Iowa
351-8383

BOBBY (R)
12:55, 3:40, 6:25, 9:10

TENACIOUS D IN THE PICK OF DESTINY (R)
12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

DECK THE HALLS (PG)
12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35

DÉJÀ VU (PG-13)
12:45, 3:35, 6:25, 9:15

CASINO ROYALE (PG-13)
12:00, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30

HAPPY FEET (PG)
(Sorry no yellow or comp. passes will be accepted until 12/1)
12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:45

LET'S GO TO PRISON (R)
7:20, 9:35

THE QUEEN (PG-13)
12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40

BABEL (R)
12:00, 3:05, 6:10, 9:15

THE SANTA CLAUS 3 (G)
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

FLUSHED AWAY (PG)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30

THE PRESTIGE (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

THE DEPARTED (R)
1:00, 4:40, 8:00

CORAL RIDGE 10
Coral Ridge Mall • Coralville, Iowa
625-1010

DÉJÀ VU (PG-13)
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40

THE FOUNTAIN (PG-13)
12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30

DECK THE HALLS (PG)
12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20

HAPPY FEET (PG)
(Sorry no yellow or comp. passes will be accepted until 12/1)
11:45, 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:30, 7:15, 9:00

CASINO ROYALE (PG-13)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13)
12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:30

THE SANTA CLAUS 3 (G)
12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00

FLUSHED AWAY (PG)
12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:00

FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R)
12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20

SAW III (R)
9:40

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