

The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2007

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50¢

Mixed martial arts ALIVE & KICKING



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Fighters William Leonard and Prentiss Wolf battle it out during Mainstream Mixed Martial Arts 5 at Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Feb. 10. Once considered too dangerous for state sanctioning, new rules and regulations have ushered mixed martial arts into new popularity. **CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR A SLIDE SHOW OF THE FEB. 10 EVENT.**

To outsiders, it appears nothing more than organized street fighting — caged men slugging, kicking, and throwing one another to the ground. The sport of mixed martial arts in the United States remains controversial, aided in part by its self-created rules system. The federal government continues to leave the sport nationally unregulated.



CHECK OUT A VIDEO PROFILE OF DERRICK MEHMEN AS HE TRAINS FOR AN UPCOMING FIGHT, ONLY ON DAILYIOWAN.COM.

BY NEAL SAUERBERG
THE DAILY IOWAN

As shin bone met leather punching bag, a thundering boom echoed through the dimly lit National Guard Armory in Cedar Rapids. Tucking a mouth guard behind his cauliflower ear,

Derrick Mehmen paced barefoot across a wrestling mat.

Two days until fight night. "Get your breath for a minute," barked Dave Sherzer, the coach and founder of Team Hard Drive, a mixed martial arts club. "Then I want you on the treadmill for five [minutes]."

Mixed martial arts, also known as shootfighting, pits two opponents against one another in a cage,

SEE FIGHT, PAGE 3A

Tax hike sails

The election on raising the sales tax 1 cent to benefit schools had a low turnout on Tuesday

CHECK OUT **DITV**'S COVERAGE OF THE TAX-INCREASE VOTE TODAY ON CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR DAILYIOWAN.COM.

BY KURT HIATT
THE DAILY IOWAN

Johnson County voters braved a snowstorm on Tuesday and backed a measure that will raise sales taxes by 1 cent per dollar — a decision that will mean more than \$104 million for the Iowa City School District.

The tax increase — which passed with 67.3 percent of the vote — will go into effect on July 1, raising sales taxes from 5 to 6 cents per dollar until 2017. Linn County — which proposed a similar tax — approved its new levy with 58 percent of the vote on Tuesday as well. Linn County's results include 98 percent of precincts reporting.

Starting in July, all of Iowa's counties will have some sort of school infrastructure sales tax.

SEE TAX, PAGE 4A

VALENTINE'S DAY | One for the heart

Chemistry of Love 101

BY LAWRENCE DE GEEST
THE DAILY IOWAN

During the time of the year when Cupid's arrow is cocked in his bow, the feeling of a hit is unmistakable.

"It's a giddiness," UI junior Jenny Bongartz said. "You can't take your eyes off [the person you like]."

For others, such as freshman Michael Appel, that moment when the hammer falls can be much more intense.

"It's like a fresh kick in the crotch," he said. "You can almost vomit from pure arousal."

The fierce emotion of love may seem wholly ungraspable,

but modern chemistry has taken strides to bridge the unknown.

Love can light up parts of the brain linked to the reward system that can lead to drug addiction, and falling in love seems to lower serotonin levels in the blood, similar to the causes of obsessive-compulsive disorders and depression, according to a 2006 study done by the Royal Society of Chemistry.

SEE CHEMISTRY, PAGE 4A

READ MORE ABOUT DATING AND TECHNOLOGY AND ONE *DI* REPORTER'S TAKE ON BEING SINGLE DURING VALENTINE'S DAY, **8A**

How to take care of your



February is National Heart Health Awareness Month and while many college students live the crazy life, many aren't aware of the little things that can harm their hearts. The *DI* compiled a list of some potential heart hazards and ways to stay healthy.



Heart Harm: Stress

WHAT HAPPENS: Stress can release hormones that stun the heart.
WHAT YOU CAN DO: Relax. Taking at least three 30-minute naps a week can cut a person's risk of dying from a heart attack by 37 percent, according to a team of American and Greek researchers.



Heart Harm: Eating foods with high amounts of saturated fat and cholesterol

WHAT HAPPENS: Plaque can form in the artery walls, which puts a person at greater risk of heart attack.
WHAT YOU CAN DO: Eat foods with less fat, less sodium, fewer calories, and eat more fiber.
Adding minced garlic cloves to your dinner or taking two garlic tablets can lower total cholesterol and triglycerides.

SOURCES: Action on Smoking and Health, American Heart Association, Archive of Internal Medicine, Texas Heart Institute, U.S. Food and Drug Administration.



Heart Harm: Drinking large amounts of alcohol

WHAT HAPPENS: A high consumption of alcohol can lead to high blood pressure, heart failure, and stroke.
WHAT YOU CAN DO: Drink in moderation — an average of one to two drinks per day for men and one drink per day for women. Moderate amounts of alcohol can also produce a small increase in HDL cholesterol and help reduce blood clots.

Heart Harm: Smoking while taking birth control

WHAT HAPPENS: It can increase the risk of a heart attack, stroke, and peripheral vascular disease. However, the risks significantly increase with age, the amount of estrogen in a pill, and the number of cigarettes smoked.
WHAT YOU CAN DO: Reduce the number of cigarettes you smoke and use low-dose estrogen birth control pills.



Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

↑ 10 °F
↓ -6 °F

Mostly to partly sunny, quite windy

SNOW BIND

The Hawkeyes will have to wait a couple of extra days before trying to break the Curse of the 'Cats. **1B**



MONEY HUNT

Some Coralville officials are in Washington, D.C., looking for funding for the Iowa River Landing project. **5A**

SOPRANO ROMEO

Aquila Theatre takes Shakespeare's famously star crossed lovers and sometimes runs them through the gender-bender. **7A**

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City: No word from Cub Foods

City officials would like to know how the supermarket will aid the 75 workers who will lose their jobs when the supermarket closes

BY STEPHEN SCHMIDT
THE DAILY IOWAN

Cub Foods has yet to respond to the city's inquiry about how it would help the roughly 75 employees who will lose their jobs when the supermarket closes, City Manager Steve Atkins said Tuesday.

The Iowa City City council asked city staff to call the company during its Feb. 6 meeting. The 855 Highway 1 W. grocery store will close the Iowa City store by March 17.

Councilor Bob Elliott said on Tuesday he understood why the business might want to keep things quiet but noted that the city councilors would have appreciated it if Cub Foods had given them more information.

The store is closing because it does not "fit into the company's business plans," according to an official statement. The statement also said employees will be offered "transitional and outplacement services."

Cub Foods spokeswoman Leann Jorgenson said Super-Valu Inc., the owner of Cub Foods, has not given the company any information on when it intends to sell the building.



Sarah O'Brien/The Daily Iowan

Cub Foods announced recently that it will close its Highway 1 store by March 17. The city is still waiting to hear how the company plans to help the approximately 75 workers who will lose their jobs.

The closing of Cub Foods will mean that two large "box-sized" commercial spaces on Highway 1 will soon be vacant. Menards will move from its 1375 Highway 1 W. locale, making way for a Menards Superstore scheduled to open within a year, Menards spokesman Jeff Abbott said. The new store will be a mile away from its current location. Although it may appear that

businesses are eager to leave the area, those familiar with commercial moves caution against making such assumptions.

"Am I concerned? Sure, you're always concerned when these things are on the market," Atkins said. "But I think history shows that these spaces will be snatched up quickly."

Commercial real-estate agent Harry Wolf agrees.

'Cub Foods complemented our business. We're discount retail; Staples has office supplies, so grocery retail being here worked really well for our customers.'

— Kurt Penfold,
Wal-Mart manager

"I think the premise that there's some negative energy in that area is false," he said.

There is no sign that business might be lacking for stores adjacent to Cub Foods, those who work in the area said.

Wal-Mart manager Kurt Penfold, who has worked at the store for the last three years, said he didn't notice that there was any difference in business in the area.

"Cub Foods complemented our business," he said, "We're discount retail; Staples has office supplies, so grocery retail being here worked really well for our customers."

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The Daily Iowan

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CLARIFICATION

In the Feb. 13 article, entitled "No respect," The Daily Iowan reported that "Iowa City is the first town statewide to receive the award [...]." The sentence should have read "the Iowa City School District is the first area statewide to receive the award [...]." The DI regrets the confusion.

29¢

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KNOWING THE SCORE



Wesley Cropp/The Daily Iowan

Employees of Sign Productions Inc. and custom sign builders Daktronics put up a brand-new scoreboard at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center on Tuesday.

METRO

School secretaries proposed 60-cent raise

Iowa City School District secretaries proposed a 60-cent increase for all administrative assistants in an initial bargaining meeting Tuesday.

District officials countered with a pay raise of 25 cents.

Jim Pederson, the district's human-resources director, said during the meeting that he "wasn't proud of the raise [secretaries received] last year."

"This will be a lot better," he said. Pederson was the only official representing the district at the meeting.

Both the secretaries — members of the Service Employees International Union Local 199 — and the district proposed to pay all new secretaries at least \$11.50 per hour and some higher-level secretaries \$12.10 per hour to start.

The secretaries also proposed adding \$150 to the annual bonuses for all the assistants in district schools. The district recommends the current bonuses stay the same.

Though details have not yet been confirmed, the district also recommended revamping the severance

section of all its staff members' contracts. The new severance package would not be enacted, however, until the 2008 school year.

After the initial bargaining Tuesday, the union went into closed session to discuss negotiations. The union and district officials will meet again Feb. 20 in a closed session.

— by Kurt Hiatt

City High student charged with making bomb threat

Iowa City police have charged a City High student with making a bomb threat, alleging that he used a printer in the library to write a note saying he planned to blow up the school.

Officers said a 15-year-old boy printed a note on Feb. 9 at 3:48 p.m. that read, "IM Going To Blow Up the School. . .!!!! 2:15 Monday."

The boy then left the note on the printer in the library, Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay said on Tuesday.

"All indications are it was a poorly thought-out joke," Kelsay said. "It's certainly not unheard of."

Because of violence in schools across the United States in recent

years, authorities at the high school have adopted a zero-tolerance policy for such pranks.

The young man now faces a charge of false reports — bomb threat.

— by Emileigh Barnes

UIHC neonatal unit recognized

The much-touted Children's Hospital of Iowa has once again received national recognition — this time for its neonatal intensive care, the UI announced Tuesday.

The UI Hospitals and Clinics' neonatal unit, which moved to a new 55-bed facility on the sixth floor of the Pappajohn Pavilion in 2004, specializes in delivering premature and seriously ill babies. Before the technology upgrade that accompanied the move three years ago, the unit already ranked in the top 10 among U.S. hospitals in newborns' adjusted survival rates, a UI press release stated.

This latest round of recognition comes in the form of inclusion in the United Resource Networks' Neonatal Centers of Excellence network, a national group of high-quality hospi-

tals committed to advancing and recognizing breakthroughs in neonatal health.

— by Mason Kerns

Woman charged with burglary, abuse

Iowa City police have charged a North Liberty woman with first-degree burglary, alleging that she illegally entered her estranged husband's house and attacked him.

Officers contend that Megan Martin, 25, entered her husband's house on Crestview Avenue without an invitation at 11:55 p.m. on Feb. 10. She then allegedly walked toward her husband's bedroom, yelling obscenities, and when he came to the living room, she punched him on the left side of the face, according to a police complaint on Sunday.

Authorities said Martin had to be physically removed from the residence.

She now faces a serious misdemeanor charge of domestic-abuse assault without intent causing injury and a Class B felony charge of first-degree burglary. If convicted of the felony, she could face up to 25 years in prison.

— by Emileigh Barnes

POLICE BLOTTER

Joseph Archer, 18, 2107 Davis St., was charged Monday with disorderly conduct.

William Ettema, 21, 526 S. Johnson St. Apt. 4, was charged Jan. 5 with possession of marijuana.

Michele Hilgers, 56, address unknown, was charged Tuesday with criminal trespass.

Nancy Kuntz, 37, 2722 Wayne Ave. Apt. 7, was charged Monday with disorderly conduct.

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Shootfighting gaining popularity in Iowa

Mixed martial arts controversial but popular in the Hawkeye State

'Once I got hit, I started thinking clearer and calmed down.'
— Derrick Mehmen, fighter

FIGHT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

and it is growing in popularity in Iowa. To some it may look like nothing more than an organized street fight, but competitors such as Mehmen meticulously cross-train in such martial arts as Brazilian jiu-jitsu, Thai kickboxing, and wrestling to mold themselves into as well-rounded fighters as possible.

In 1998, Iowa legalized shootfighting, regulating the sport much like boxing. Following the move, organizations quickly popped up throughout the state in such cities as Davenport, Tama, Waterloo, and Council Bluffs.

The federal government continues to leave the sport without national regulations, opting instead to let each state determine its own policy.

Florida, California, and New York, for example, all have bans in effect prohibiting amateur shootfighting.

While competitors could legally kick opponents in the groin and pull their hair in Ultimate Fighting Championship events during the early 1990s, strict rules and weight classes now give state gaming commissions the authority to govern mixed martial arts organizations, such as the Cedar Rapids-based Mainstream Mixed Martial Arts.

"It's a very violent sport, and there's no overall



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Fighter Shane Wessells catches his breath in between rounds during his fight against Jason Medina for Mainstream Mixed Martial Arts at Veterans Memorial Coliseum on Feb. 10. Wessells ended up sharing the victory with Medina; the fight was declared a draw after three rounds.

sanctioning body in the United States today," said David Neil, the Iowa athletics commissioner. "Therefore, if someone gets hurt, the states end up paying."

Mehmen is all too familiar with the punishing nature of shootfighting. A herniated disk in his neck will eventually require surgery, and just two weeks before his last fight, he received a cut between his eyes. The gash needed eight stitches.

But physical discomfort isn't enough to keep him from training six days a week. For Mehmen, who said he fights

because of his love of competition, all the work pays off when the time comes to step into the ring.

At his latest brawl on Feb. 10, Mehmen stared across the cage into his adversary's eyes, adrenaline coursing through

'It's a very violent sport, and there's no overall sanctioning body in the United States today. Therefore, if someone gets hurt, the states end up paying.'

— David Neil, Iowa athletics commissioner

his veins, as the referee yelled, "Fight."

In an instant, Mehmen's opponent rushed forward unleashing a flurry of punches at a dizzying pace. Backing up, Mehmen caught half a dozen shots across the chin and cheeks.

It looked as if he would get knocked unconscious at any moment. But Mehmen ducked below the line of punches and tackled his foe.

"Once I got hit, I started thinking clearer and calmed down," he said two days after the competition.

On the ground, Mehmen's punishing punches to his opponent's head connected over and over until the referee stopped the action, giving him the win.

Blood streamed from the loser's nose and smeared across his face. Defeated, he rose from the mat still dazed.

The two men shook hands and exited the ring.

E-mail/DI reporter Neal Sauerberg at: neal-sauerberg@uiowa.edu

INDIVIDUALS INVITED:

People ages 25 to 60 with no history of neurological disorders are invited to participate in a driving simulation study. The purpose of this research study is to determine the effects of an anti-epileptic drug, phenytoin (Dilantin), on thinking, concentration, and driving performance.

Driving behavior will be tested in a driving simulator, an indoor automobile surrounded by large projection screens with a highly realistic, simulated highway road. During the study, you will receive phenytoin for one month, and a placebo (an inactive substance, similar to a sugar pill) for an additional month.

Participation involves five visits to the research clinic and will last for three months. We recommend that you avoid operating motor vehicles or dangerous machinery while participating in this study. Each visit will last approximately 4-6 hours.

Compensation is \$456.25 for completion of the study.

Contact Tuyet Nguyen at (319) 356-2240 or by e-mail at neuro-drivingstudy@uiowa.edu for more information. Please use "Epilepsy" in the subject line.



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Chemistry of sea of love

Chemicals of Love

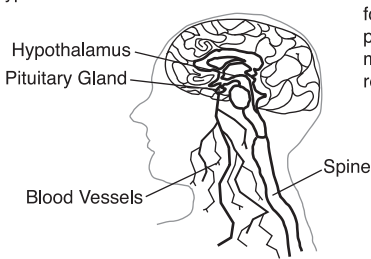
Hormones such as oxytocin are released from the pituitary gland into the bloodstream and induce many emotions related to excitement, compassion, and dependence.

2. The pituitary releases several chemicals down the spine and into the bloodstream.

3. The quantity and rate of release of these chemicals can affect the longevity of relationships.

1. The pituitary gland is located just under the hypothalamus in the brain.

4. Genetics tells us what we are looking for in a partner, but plays no part in the maintenance of relationships.



Carson Tigges/The Daily Iowan

CHEMISTRY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Studies such as these have shown that human infatuation and passionate romances are caused primarily by a sudden surge of natural chemicals into the bloodstream and spine. It strikes hard and then passes quickly, like an opium rush; the brain rewards the high, and the wheels start rolling.

The natural amphetamine phenylethylamine is expelled in heavy amounts from the pituitary gland when the eyes see someone — or something — enticing. The chemical encourages the pituitary to release beta endorphins, the body's natural pain-reducers, producing that walking-on-a-cloud sensation.

"I love that," said UI sophomore Eric Holthaus. "That feeling when the brain peels back and the intoxication takes hold is divine. It's like a xylophone ringing in the skull."

Along with beta endorphins and phenylethylamine, dopamine is rocketed to the nucleus accumbens — the pleasure-center of the brain — causing high-blood pressure and a thumping heart rate. In contrast, the drops in serotonin, the hormone, which regulates mood, lead to Bongartz's giddiness, Appel's savage arousal, and Holthaus' lively vibrations.

But like opium, the high drops, and that driving beam of hormones short-circuit the nervous system; emotions become strikingly bent, and the romance climaxes at an uncontrollable level, ultimately exploding in an end as electric as its beginning.

This is why such love typically fails: The brain is a fine machine, but even a well-oiled one cannot continue operating normally at that extreme level. The cut-off is like a full-scale drug withdrawal,

and the psychological damage can be as rigorous.

But according to Askmen.com, such passion can be healthy. Orgasms are good for the brain because they shoot concentrated jolts of serotonin, raising general well-being, and then a flow of oxytocin, sensitizing the nerves and causing people to cuddle and connect.

And some romantics enjoy running that gauntlet, where crashing down the mountain is as satisfying as running up it.

"The chaos is fantastic," said UI graduate student Ozgen Kilic. "The steady adrenaline keeps the reflexes sharp and the veins clear of cholesterol."

But love is not purely chemical: According to the Royal Society of Chemistry, a long-term relationship on these terms would need massive amounts of endorphins, which is considered chemically impossible. Humans are also not genetically programmed to mate for life, like prairie voles; they are consistently looking to spread their genes to the best possible receivers.

So what does it take for a romance to survive? When the dynamic leaves the blood and settles in the psyche, love is probably more like Einsteinian physics, when the gravity between two people intensifies until time breaks down and the chance to drop like stones into the deep of an uncalculated world is there for those with the right gusto.

But in the end, there is no diagnosis for a perfect relationship, and love is better explored than studied. The Leap will always be there for those brave enough to take it; and for the rest, there are always chemical romances.

"Good love is cosmic," Kilic said. "There's nothing like getting crazy with the right person."

E-mail D/I reporter **Lawrence De Geest** at: lawrence-degeest@uiowa.edu

Sales-tax hike passes easily

TAX

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

The increased tax is expected to raise more than \$104 million for the district over 10 years — a figure that includes a \$40 million boost for Iowa City schools, which has been a major incentive for tax supporters.

"I'm extremely happy with the election results," Superintendent Lane Plugge said. "Once again, it shows this community's commitment to education and to its children."

Opponents of the tax did not return calls seeking comment Tuesday.

School officials have outlined areas such as new technology, family-resource centers, new schools, and general repairs and additions as being most in need. Renovations will total more than \$147 million.

Iowa City School Board President Toni Cilek said revamping science rooms and a new gymnasium will be among the first projects the district will likely tackle.

Johnson County Auditor Tom Slockett said the election "definitely had a low turnout."

"The weather is really the primary reason," he said.

Still, because the proposal involved money, he said, that slightly increased voter turnout.

"School turnouts that don't have money issues on the ballot have been much lower than this," he said.

While the weather on Tuesday contributed to subpar turnout, Slockett said, it likely didn't affect the outcome of the vote.

Claire Boyd, an election



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Lisa Graham (left) fills out a form as Joyce Dixon watches, and Dorothy Davis receives a ballot folder at West High on Tuesday. Johnson County residents vote on whether to raise the sales tax 1 cent.

worker, worked the UI Main Library precinct for the special vote. With a little more than an hour before the polls were to close, she said eight people had voted there.

She turned away around 20 people because they weren't at their correct precinct, she said. Many mentioned they likely wouldn't battle the storm to travel to the correct — and farther — location, Boyd said.

The new levy will not apply to unprepared food, vehicles, gasoline, or farm machinery.

Voters had previously denied similar tax increases for city benefits in 1999 and 1987. In Tuesday's decision, 12,402 of a total 80,078 registered voters cast their ballots — roughly 15.49 percent.

Cilek said the next step for

the board will be to hire a consultant to determine the needs of the district and help

responsibly allocate funds.

E-mail D/I reporter **Kurt Hiatt** at: kurtis-hiatt@uiowa.edu

DITV NEEDS

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The Family of Josh Reynolds

Would like to extend a sincere thank you to all those who helped make this difficult time a little easier, especially the Atlas Restaurant, the Pita Pit, the Mill, aunts, uncles and cousins who came from all over the country, childhood friends and neighbors, the Ultimate Frisbee family, gamers, co-workers, lifetime friends and all those who expressed a kind word about Josh.

He will forever be missed.

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Romney officially joins GOP nomination race

'It is time for innovation and transformation in Washington. I do not believe that Washington can be transformed from within by a lifelong politician.'

— Former Gov. Mitt Romney, GOP residential-nomination candidate

BY HENRY C. JACKSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Casting himself as an outsider with unique skills to reform Washington, former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney continued his presidential announcement tour Tuesday with a stop at the Iowa State Fairgrounds.

"It is time for innovation and transformation in Washington," he told approximately 300 people inside the Iowa Tourism Building. "I do not believe that Washington can be transformed from within by a lifelong politician."

He spoke in Iowa hours after kicking off his presidential bid at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Mich. It was his only

other public stop on Tuesday. In Iowa, as in Michigan, Romney stressed the need for more innovation in America, saying it was a critical factor for the country's future. He also emphasized the importance of a robust role for the United States in foreign policy.

"Our influence has to once again match our generosity," he said, adding that he supported President Bush's plan to increase the number of troops stationed in Iraq.

Although he is lagging in polls, Romney is considered a serious contender for the Republican presidential nomination. He served one term as governor of Massachusetts, and he earlier was credited with overcoming scandal at the



Charlie Neibergall/Associated Press
Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney stands on stage as he waits to speak to supporters at a rally Tuesday at the state fairgrounds in Des Moines. Romney officially announced Tuesday that he would seek the 2008 Republican presidential nomination.

2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.

Romney conceded that the Iraq war was unpopular, but he said it would be perilous to give up the fight.

Romney was greeted by a number of current and former state officials, including two former governors — Robert Ray and Terry Branstad — and a handful of state legislators.

Aides said Romney views Iowa as critical to his efforts to win the Republican presidential nomination.

"This is ground zero for us," said Doug Gross, a former GOP gubernatorial candidate and the chairman of Romney's campaign in Iowa.

Other Republican contenders have criticized Romney for changing his views on issues key to social conservatives, including abortion. But on Monday, supporters said they weren't worried about the charge.

"I know he's changed his views, but I'm satisfied," said David Bowen of Grimes.

House Minority Leader Christopher Rants, who has endorsed Romney, also dismissed the criticism.

"I don't understand it," Rants said. "And I don't think he will have problems in Iowa with that."

Romney and his wife, Ann Romney, were greeted enthusiastically by a crowd that braved a snow storm to attend Tuesday's announcement. He was interrupted several times by applause, once pausing as the crowd chanted, "Mitt, Mitt, Mitt."

"It may be cold outside but it sure is warm in here," he said.

Romney, who would be the nation's first Mormon president, didn't mention his religion. Tuesday's event opened with a non-denominational prayer.

Coralville lobbies for project funds

While Coralville city officials lobbied Iowa politicians in Washington, D.C., a three-member City Council approved plans to fix streets and bike trails Tuesday

BY COLIN BURKE
THE DAILY IOWAN

Coralville city councilors approved plans on Tuesday to improve city streets and bike trails while fellow officials lobbied Iowa senators and representatives in Washington, D.C., to secure funding for an area of land that once sparked controversy.

Officials said Mayor Jim Fausett and city administrator Kelly Hayworth, along with Councilors John Weihe and Tom Gill, are speaking with Sens. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and

Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa, in an attempt to secure federal funds for the Iowa River Landing project.

Mayor Pro Tem Henry Herwig said officials are specifically looking to get money to fund a transit center that would offer service to the UI.

Assistant city administrator Ellen Habel said Coralville could potentially receive \$12 million in funding.

Meanwhile, the remaining councilors decided to go ahead with plans to extend the Clear Creek trail and contract some much needed repairs for local roads.

The council unanimously approved the trail extension despite the city Parks and Recreation head Sherri Proud noting that it would cost more than \$555,000. Councilors said after the meeting that the original estimate was more than \$400,000.

This 1,950-foot extension would allow runners and bike riders to pass under the Highway 6 bridge; it will be funded in part by a \$327,912 grant from the state Department of Transportation. Proud added that the project will allow access to the creek's greenbelt area, the land near the water

that is home to wildlife and vegetation.

When completed, the trail would extend all the way to Tiffin, Proud said.

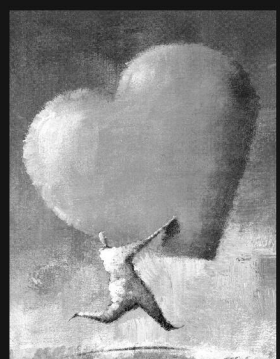
The council also unanimously approved opening a bid to fix local streets.

The 2007 street-improvement project will focus repairs on sections of 19th Avenue, 10th Avenue, and Sixth Street. The project is estimated to cost \$1.5 million, and the council

decided to use general funds, city engineer Dan Holderness said.

The roads need new storm sewers, he said, and the concrete is rough and broken up. The streets are more than 40 years old and are often used by city and school buses, he said.

E-mail *DI* reporter Colin Burke at colin-burke@uiowa.edu



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EDITOR WANTED

An aggressive, talented individual is sought as editor of *The Daily Iowan*, Iowa City's largest news organization, with an editorial staff of more than 100 young professionals, an editorial budget exceeding \$300,000 and readership of over 60,000. The board of Student Publications, Incorporated and the publisher of *The Daily Iowan* will soon interview candidates for the position of editor for the term beginning June 1, 2007 and ending May 31, 2008.

The editor of *The Daily Iowan* must have strong journalistic abilities, skills in management and a clear sense of editorial responsibility. The board will weigh heavily scholarship, previous news writing and editing experience (including working at *The Daily Iowan* or another daily newspaper), and proven ability to lead, organize and inspire a staff.

Applicants must be enrolled in a UI undergraduate or graduate degree program. Candidates must submit completed applications and supporting materials by noon, Friday, February 23, 2007.

Vanessa Shelton
Chair

William Casey
Publisher

Application forms are available at and should be returned to:
The Daily Iowan business office, Room E131, AJB.

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OPINIONS

SEND US A VALENTINE
Or a letter would be even better.
Send them to:
daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

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EDITORIAL

Transfer of Hygienic Lab from UI to state oversight would benefit all

With the turmoil surrounding former UI Hygienic Laboratory head Mary Gilchrist soon to be decided in court, attention will now shift to the fate of the lab itself. The facility may no longer be a part of the university bureaucracy if legislation proposed by Sen. Jeff Danielson, D-Cedar Falls, is passed. His bill would make the laboratories a state entity with only minor administrative ties to the university. The measure is a welcome change, and it should improve the funding opportunities for the lab and lessen undue strain on the university's own tight budget.

The bill would place the Hygienic Lab under the administration of a "state hygienic laboratory board of directors," which would consist of an 11-member panel with five permanent members. Among those permanent members would be the UI president and the state secretary of Agriculture, the directors of Natural Resources, Public Health, and the Attorney General Office's consumer-protection division. The remaining six positions would be appointed by the governor from various state and local health and environmental facilities. The new board would be responsible for oversight as well as budgeting of the Hygienic Lab. The university, however, would still retain some authority over the facility, although the extent of this authority is currently unspecified.

A closer look at the function of and services provided by the lab reveals a facility teeming with educational opportunities, and a mission primarily directed at ensuring the quality of public health in Iowa. The lab provides important health services for Iowa, testing a wide range of diseases, screening for birth defects, and testing water, air, and soil. Public-health threats such as avian flu or the West Nile virus are processed by the lab.

There do not appear to be any serious problems with making such a change so long as the university may share in the use of this facility for research purposes. The university would also still retain "routine administrative purposes." Although the wording of this phrase is rather vague, lawmakers must ensure this will mean at least a meaningful involvement of the university in using the facility. It's an appropriate move to make given the value of the laboratory to the people of Iowa. The university simply doesn't have the resources, nor the inclination to prioritize the laboratory to fulfill the role it is intended to provide.

Restructuring the oversight of the Hygienic Lab would be to the benefit of Iowans, and in a smaller part, to the university, which would no longer be tasked with dishing out funding from a cash-strapped budget. It's a promising plan, and one that this Editorial Board hopes will be effectively implemented.

Rationality revisited

Solving practical problems in world politics demands an objective framework that identifies underlying causes of conflict and mechanisms that can interrupt these processes. In previous columns and commentary, I've often argued for rational appraisal of highly salient and emotionally charged conflict situations.

A common criticism I've received is that rationality has been used to justify some of the worst atrocities in history. The Holocaust, the Rwandan genocide, and the extermination of entire societies during the era of European and American imperialism were all condoned within rational discourse.

In his letter to the editor ("Reason has its weaknesses," Dec. 13, 2006), Paul Meyer argues that "rational processes are useful in getting to point B from point A. They are useless in helping us discern whether we should go to point B. A moral compass is required to answer that question." I wholeheartedly agree with this statement. But I think there is an important distinction to be made between the means and the ends of policy.

One possible goal of foreign policy is to alleviate conflict. This is an example of a moral imperative. Yet we cannot achieve this end without realistic solutions to the serious, spiraling problems that arise among states and groups of people. The ceaseless accusations and condemnations that characterize some of the bloodiest hostilities in today's international environment never move us forward.

The conflict in Darfur can illuminate some of these points. Few people would argue that the severity and brutality of the internecine warfare in Darfur can be justified within any moral framework. Yet, any viable solution must be formulated by looking at the underlying grievances that precipitated the violence. Similarly to many other wars, the tension in Sudan can be traced to disagreements over territory in this case, between Arab-African herders and black-African farmers. The question of grazing rights led to the outbreak of hostilities in 2003, and since then, the conflict has produced hundreds of thousands of refugees and a new infamous campaign of rape and murder by government-backed militias.

The problems in Darfur are visible on many different levels that must be distinguished for any peace process to stand a chance of success. The obvious problem on the individual level is the person-to-person acts of violence and the level of human suffering. Yet, above the individual participants, but still looking at the dynamics within the state, there are rebel groups and competing militias, such as the Janjaweed. Within these groups are ethnic splits.

Moving up to the state level, we see the problem of the government, which has backed militias and has refused to allow U.N. peacekeepers on Sudanese territory. Finally, there are regional considerations as well. Chad has absorbed the brunt of the refugee outflow, and it accuses the Sudanese government of backing cross-border raids. The Central African Republic has made a similar accusation, and French forces have deployed in support of that government.

The point here is that the forces propelling this conflict operate on all of these levels and affect it in different ways. This is not to say that there is no human agency, but broader forces do affect the behavior of people and groups, and this is usually more predictable, and therefore more useful, than how an individual will act. In order to quell a conflict, we must understand the dynamics that propel it and from this point identify realistic solutions.

My goal here is not to discuss the intricacies of the peace process (or lack thereof) in Darfur, nor propose definitive solutions, but instead to highlight that rational mechanisms are necessary for alleviating belligerency of any kind. In some conflicts, slowing the reaction time of the main actors may be successful. Creating an economic and political stake in governance and security is another strategy. And working to establish peaceful norms and institutions that foster peaceful conflict resolution is also imperative.

To do this we cannot always focus on who does what to whom and who is to blame. If a serious peace deal is ever realized in Darfur, perhaps a truth and reconciliation commission, like in post-apartheid South Africa, and criminal prosecution can establish individual level justice and peace. But in the mean time, rational discourse must provide the means to an ethical end. ■



LYDIA PFAFF

LETTER

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 given to 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.

Nurture democracy

Adel K. Afifi recently wrote, "Indeed, Israelis and Palestinians deserve such peace. Both peoples share a history of victimization on the hands of others, and both deserve to achieve their national aspirations. One step forward is for the Israelis and Palestinians to listen to each other's narrative, even if disagreeing with certain historically documented aspects of it, and search for ways to allay each other's legitimate concerns and fears. Accepting responsibility for the dispossession of Palestinians does not weaken Israel's cause. It would enhance its moral standing and open the door for a historic reconciliation." ("Another side to Israeli-Palestinian conflict," Feb. 12).

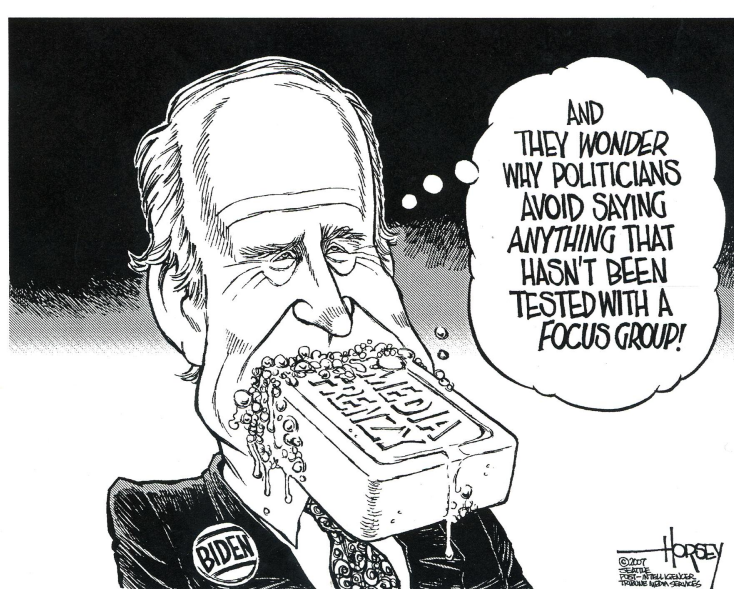
We appreciated the well-reasoned tone of the piece. Let's not engage in name-calling. Let's not make history seem simple. Let's move forward. And yes, we understand the implications of Jews being the minority in a truly democratic Israel. But what of the argument that it is only democratic if all its citizens have equal rights?

Anyone in a safe, secure democracy should laud Afifi's writing. If the Middle East neighborhood were a region of similarly situated republics in which men and

women could express their individuality, if religious freedom reigned, and if peoples were allowed to cross borders with impunity and earn their livelihoods without fear of harassment or worse, then Afifi and others would have an even stronger argument. But alas, the mindset of Islamic Brotherhood, Al Qaeda, Hamas, Fatah, Hezbollah, etc., does not allow such universalisms much leeway. The terrorists and extremists hold the rationalists at bay.

Others have pointed out that democracy can come too quickly to peoples who do not have the institutional history to deal with it, that abuses of minorities and the lack of a prior political reference of peaceably dealing with oppositions leads to violence and abuse before full democracy takes root, if it ever does. Strongmen, dictators, and juntas prey on these situations to the regret of those yearning for the freedom of elections and to the dismay of the democratic Western countries who wonder what went wrong with their transplanted ideal. Democracy must be nurtured, tenderly and lovingly, in order for it to take root and flower. Else it may not flourish. And the citizenry must be careful stewards lest it wither.

Janie Braverman & Jody Braverman
Iowa City residents



CLARIFICATION

In the Feb. 9 guest opinion by Beth Cody, Mona Shaw, and Mike Thayer, "Too many unanswered tax questions," the authors attribute the quotation "The broad needs of the districts are real if the goal is to maintain an outdated public-education system that consumes way too much money for infrastructure" to Nicholas Johnson. The sentence is in fact from a *Cedar Rapids Gazette* editorial.

GUEST OPINION

PERMANENT CAMPAIGN? A NATIONAL TRADITION

How much American political history do political journalists know? Take the ubiquitous claim, or complaint, that the presidential campaign is starting earlier than ever. Today's candidates, marveled one reporter, are subjected to "longer, more intensive scrutiny" than in the past. Why can't they emulate their predecessors and wait until election year to make their pitches and raise their millions?

Like most evocations of a golden age, this is a myth. In fact, the nearly permanent campaign has been a feature of American politics since before the Civil War, when mass parties first emerged to contend for the votes of a mass electorate, albeit one then composed almost exclusively of white men. In a nation of ambitious entrepreneurs and furious battles for market share, the race for the presidency — as with most sales efforts — has rarely taken a break.

It began with Martin Van Buren. Two years before the 1828 vote, "The Little Magician" began to build the first modern party, soon named the Democrats, in part to avenge Andrew Jackson's unjust defeat in the previous election. Van Buren secured the allegiance of influential pols up and down the East Coast and helped establish pro-Jackson newspapers from New England to Louisiana. A decade later, William Henry Harrison, who hoped to be the new Whig Party's first nominee, began touring key states more than a year before the 1836 election. Soon after losing that race (to Van Buren), the 64-year-old military hero took to the road again. After all, his party rivals Henry Clay and Daniel Webster were doing it, too.

During the final decades of the 19th century, the pace of campaigns accelerated. Fast trains, fierce competition among big-city papers, and two closely matched national parties all produced a bull market for candidates seeking press attention and needing to develop a network of loyalists.

The prize for the earliest start probably goes to William Jennings Bryan. A month after his loss to William McKinley in 1896, Bryan and his wife, Mary, issued a thick account of the campaign whose title — *The First Battle* — made his intentions clear. The book was a bestseller, and the post office in Bryan's home town of Lincoln, Neb., was flooded with letters from thousands of admirers. Bryan's wife and brother used the correspondence to start a huge card file of supporters. By the spring of 1897, Bryan was wooing Democratic insiders at state party conventions.

John F. Kennedy launched his presidential campaign with a different kind of book. *Profiles in Courage*, an eloquent octet of senatorial portraits that JFK edited more than wrote, helped lift him into contention for the vice-presidential nomination in 1956. It won a Pulitzer Prize and turned Kennedy into a modern-day Bryan — one of the country's most coveted speakers. By the time he officially declared his candidacy in 1960, JFK was leading in the polls.

Kennedy was also responsible for a critical innovation in the permanent campaign. Since Andrew Jackson's day, major candidates and their allies had built personal organizations long before any votes were cast. But once nominated, a man depended on the party apparatus to finance his race. In 1896, the Democrats spent all of \$250,000 on Bryan's campaign. Not surprisingly, he lost to McKinley, for whom the redoubtable Mark Hanna raised at least 10 times as much money.

But Kennedy was graced with a wealthy father who'd been bankrolling him since his first run for Congress. A year before the 1960 Democratic convention, Joe Kennedy had already spent \$1 million on his son's campaign — including paying for a nine-room office near the Capitol where staffers called potential delegates and party bosses and entered the results on oversized wall maps.

For the past half-century, nearly every serious candidate has followed the Kennedys' lead. Launching a presidential bid became akin to starting a midsize firm, complete with accountants, lawyers, and a communications team whose "rapid responses" many old-line corporations would envy. The Internet has only made it easier and quicker to contact voters; the essentials of the campaign business were in place long before the first candidate hired the first webmaster or reprimanded the first controversial blogger.

Whether this nonstop sales effort is good for representative democracy, it would take a galvanic reform movement to divorce them. Several years ago, Richard Gephardt, who knew the rules of the game as well as anyone, joked about a poll that found "70 percent of Americans neither consume nor wish to consume politics." For now, perhaps all one can do is demand that the quality of the goods live up to the hype on the packaging.

This commentary by Michael Kazin appeared in the *Washington Post* on Tuesday. Kazin is a history professor at Georgetown University and the author of *A Godly Hero: The Life of William Jennings Bryan*.

ON THE SPOT

How are you celebrating Valentine's Day?



"Alone, going tanning, and watching 'American Idol.'"

Ally Kros
UI freshman



"I don't have any plans — home work, meetings."

Rachel Elsey
UI junior



"I'm not doing anything different."

Lucas Fratford
UI freshman



"I actually have a physics test, so I'll be taking that."

Alyson Witt
UI freshman

- Reporter Nathan Ley uncovers the past behind a new UI theatrical production about Abu Ghraib.
- Reporter Tessa Ruddy chronicles couples who work together in Iowa City.
- Film critic Soheil Rezaaydi and Bijou head Andy Brodie discuss the indie-film theater's new digs in the IMU.
- Reporter Paul Sorenson spells out the competition in the Iowa City Public Library.

WHAT CHANGE THROUGH YONDER WINDOW BREAKS?

Shakespeare and Cupid pair up tonight at Hancher for the Aquila Theatre's rendition of Romeo And Juliet. Each actor in the production has memorized every role, and the audience will cast the characters randomly.



Publicity photo

Romeo and Juliet, tonight at Hancher, could feature a male Juliet and a female Mercutio — depending on the audience's selection.

BY BRIGID MARSHALL
THE DAILY IOWAN

Imagine taking a Shakespeare class. Imagine enjoying it. Now imagine memorizing the entirety of *Romeo and Juliet*. Each of the six members of the Aquila Theatre's version has done just that.

The New York-based company's show came to Hancher Tuesday night, and it will close out a two-day set today at 7:30 p.m. with a one hour Q&A between the cast and audience members beforehand. After the chitchat subsides, selected audience members will draw slips of paper from a hat, randomly assigning roles to the tirelessly well-read actors. Even the two female members of the troupe can be assigned Romeo or Tybalt for the night, while male members can end up swooning as Juliet or dropping one-liners as the Nurse.

The cast has been on the road since September. After the holidays, the members revamped their performances and kicked off shows in the second week of January.

Longtime Aquila actor Louis Butelli said, "At this point in the tour, we've gotten pretty solid."

The actor holds credits from other Shakespearean shows as well as his most recent touring endeavor, *West Side Story*. However, he said, this show is

THEATER
Aquila Theatre's Romeo and Juliet
When: Today at 7:30 p.m., with a pre-performance discussion at 6:30 p.m.
Where: Hancher
Admission: \$15-\$28.80 students; \$26-\$32 adults; \$23.40-\$28.80 seniors; \$18.20-\$22.40 youth

different because of the irregular nature of how each performance differs from the last.

The show's director, Peter Meineck, devised the method behind the performances.

Northwestern University graduate Butelli said, "Peter had this idea that this young first love that happened with Romeo and Juliet should be universal and that it can strike people at any point in their life."

"The play was written more than 400 years ago," said Hancher co-director Charles Swanson. "And it still applies today."

The performers pay no attention to sex, ethnicity, or class, which is why each show's success is surprising. Butelli said theater is always spontaneous and that his company's extra element of surprise works to everyone's advantage — even if the charm is a bit morbid.

"It sounds kind of sadistic, but

audiences want actors to mess up, because it's part of the appeal of theater," said the 34-year-old. "It's like going to the circus and wanting the trapeze artist to fall."

"It's a new twist that's going to add just another element of drama to it," Swanson said. "Just imagine being one of the performers and not knowing for sure what part you're going to play. It's a totally different way of going about it."

However, Butelli, along with the other members, all have their favorite characters to play.

"I like Mercutio because he's really talky," he said, adding that his days as a chatty, attention-seeking child probably come out most in Mercutio's dramatic speeches.

Stepping along with the holiday show tonight, Hancher will have a pre-performance dinner catered by the IMU, available to all attendees.

The natural excitement accompanying Aquila's take on Shakespeare's memorable classic, paired with Cupid's big day, will create a one-of-a-kind theatrical experience.

Butelli said, "I think the secret hope of all the cast members is that we'll all find love in Iowa City."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Brigid Marshall** at: brigid-marshall@uiowa.edu

Lost outside history

Writers' Workshop graduate Daniel Alarcón finds inspiration in a variety of places. While the material for his first novel, Lost City Radio, originated in South America, he found the structure for his story in Iowa City.

BY VANESSA VEIOCK
THE DAILY IOWAN

Any connection between Daniel Alarcón's new novel and Iowa City seems far-fetched. The book, *Lost City Radio*, centers on an unnamed South American country still broken in the aftermath of a civil war. A continent away, Iowa City lies in a peaceful freeze. But the 29-year-old author insists his time in Iowa City made his book possible — it's where he acquired the habits of becoming a writer.

"When I got to Iowa, I had a ton more time and space to acquire diligence," the native Peruvian said in a phone interview from his current home in Oakland, Calif.

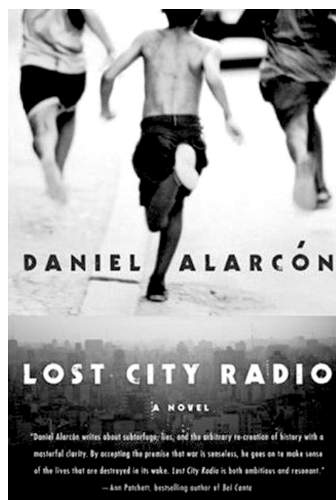
And it all happened by default. He says the Iowa Writers' Workshop wasn't part of his original agenda.

After a trip home to Peru on a Fulbright Scholarship, Alarcón was full of ideas but low on cash. A Columbia University graduate, he planned on returning to his previous stomping grounds in New York. But the UI gave him what he called a "generous" incentive to go to the Writers' Workshop instead.

"I kinda took a chance," he said.

Coming to Iowa gave Alarcón the opportunity to condense all the ideas he gained from his travels abroad and write them down.

The curly-topped writer now boasts two titles to his name. His first, *War by Candlelight*, a collection of short stories about shifting tragedies around the world, scored finalist status for the 2006 PEN/Hemingway Foundation Award. *Lost City*



Radio arrived in February as his first novel.

A culmination of his experiences in Peru, *Lost City Radio* plays out in a postwar South American land, "a nation outside the world, a make-believe country outside history." While the name of the location remains anonymous, the scenery is anything but ambiguous: "communities whose essential feature was their color: a burnt, dry shade of yellowish gray, everything bathed in murky sunlight."

The novel borrows its title from the name of a weekly radio segment devoted to finding lost friends and family members in the aftermath of the devastation. Norma, the show's host, is a local celebrity without a face. Although her voice is famous, she holds quieter intentions. Each week, she hopes the show will bring her closer to her husband, a wish that seems preposterous given the rocky condition of the country's past and present.

Although the story is pure fiction, the events resemble current affairs in Latin

READING
Daniel Alarcón will read from his first novel, Lost City Radio
When: 7 p.m. today
Where: Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St.
Admission: Free

America. Alarcón said the idea of the book originated from a similar show, "Busca Personas," he'd heard during his travels. Translated into English as "Find people," the radio piece caused a constant undercurrent of stories about reunions. He used this material to energize his narrative.

What started as a short story morphed into a full-length novel. The words gained speed on their own. "You follow the characters wherever they go," he said, attributing the novel's growth to its own free will. "It was really not a conscious decision. I didn't really have any choice."

While he may not script a fable of elaborate sentences and poetic diction, he doesn't give a dry account of messy politics and a fallen government in South America, either. Rather, *Lost City Radio* seeks the middle ground between over-crafted and understated to deliver a story that is simple and easy to enjoy.

A narrative about people rather than place, *Lost City Radio* bridges all the distances between Alarcón's experiences. Inspired by the far and crafted near, the novel may be more local than it appears.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Vanessa Veiock** at: vanessa-veiock@uiowa.edu

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City of Iowa City Transit

COMMENTARY

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY? BAH, HUMBUG



VANESSA VEIOCK

The last time I celebrated Valentine's Day was freshman year of high school. Or at least that's the last Valentine's Day I can remember. Bubbling with chocolate, overpriced flowers, and hackneyed romantic sentiments, it lived up to the cliché so many people lust after every Feb. 14.

Then some irrelevant amount of time later, Mr. Sappy Valentine and I broke up. I've been alone every Valentine's Day since.

But don't feel sorry for me. For the past five years, I've enjoyed the entire day much like every other day of my

life: independent to do whatever I feel like doing.

I'm situated at a peak in my life. I live on my own, but my parents still support most of my financial needs. I have a job, but the money isn't going toward a mortgage. My deadlines revolve around classes I chose rather than projects my boss did. I'm in the best physical shape I most likely ever will be. And I go out on the weekend without worrying about responsibilities at home.

It's an unrepeatable time. This is one of the few moments when evading commitment prevails as admissible rather than irresponsible. So, naturally, I can't fathom why so many of my peers covet the hand-holding, cheek-licking couple that declare their devout, undying obligation to one another — mostly over Facebook.

The way I see it, the positives of a relationship can easily be achieved without one.

My "boyfriend" (whether or not he's imaginary is trivial) can always rescue me from the oncoming creep. "I'm seeing someone right now" is the ultimate rejection. It's short, easy, and nearly impossible to argue. And if it were contested by some desperate — or just incredibly drunk — fool, his rebuttal would be enough material for an equally valid rebuff. How could someone possibly

suggest the immorality of cheating on the (nonexistent) person I said I was seeing?

"Who do you think I am?" with a slap across the face does just fine. End of story. Slimeball avoided. Off I go to Pancho's.

As far as sexual needs are concerned, everyone has different desires. I'm not suggesting an exaltation of Nelly Furtado's "Promiscuous," nor am I

cheerleading celibacy. But alternative options exist, and it doesn't take a contract (or a Facebook update) to be fulfilled. In fact, something so binding impedes individual satisfaction. On second thought, can I even use the term "individual" when I'm talking about relationships? There is no "individual" without independence or freedom.

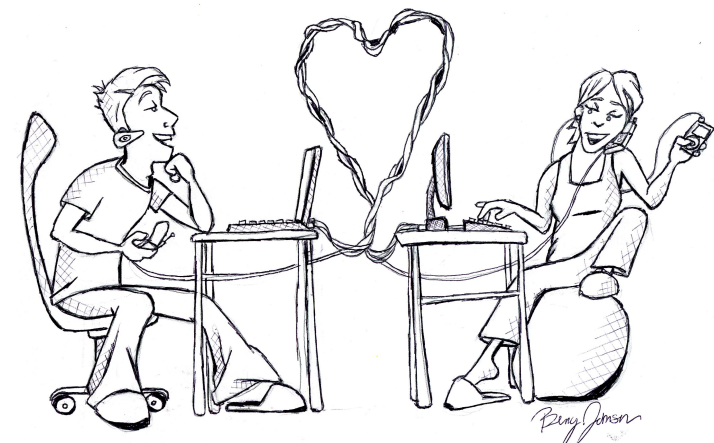
And what about security,

you ask? You can't subsist on your own? You're lonely? You have low self-esteem? You need someone to fall back on and assure you of your greatness? You can't buy your own damn dinner or sleep alone? I'll let you in on a little secret, my hankie-hugging friend: Nothing lasts forever.

And definitely not Valentine's Day.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Vanessa Veiock** at vanessa-veiock@uiowa.edu

Dating gets a real charge



Going high tech has some pros and some pitfalls for those in the dating scene

BY MATT NELSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI freshman Ian Waldschmidt estimates that he sends 80 to 100 text messages a day — roughly 10 of them to his girlfriend.

He isn't alone. In ever-increasing numbers, college students are using technology to communicate with friends, family, and significant others. And some seek relationships without strings — via wireless romances.

"[For] those who have grown up with the Internet, instant messaging and communicating by text has been a lifestyle switch," said Karen Smith, a Verizon spokeswoman. "Sometimes, it's just easier than to call on the phone."

In the fourth quarter of 2006, Verizon customers sent 17.7 billion text messages, Smith said.

Cell-phone messaging and Internet instant messaging is a constantly growing trend — a 2002 Pew Internet and American Life Project study found that college students are twice as likely to use instant messaging on any given day over other Internet users.

But the growth in electronic communication — and for some, romance — leaves many cold.

"People can use technology to shut out things around them, when out of a social need, you might have just started talking with someone," said Juan Hourcade, a UI assistant professor of computer science.

He studies how technology affects relationships among individuals.

"Some of these social-networking technologies are

bringing people together," he said. "There are virtual communities being formed. On the other hand, some of the newer technology gets in the way of traditional communication."

Yet technology will still have its day. As far back as 1999, wireless-industry experts were predicting love through the airwaves with the use of such services as the "LoveGety," a handheld wireless device sending and receiving profiles of other LoveGety users.

Now, websites such as eHarmony.com claim more than 12 million users, with around 10,000 new individuals registering every day.

Other websites, such as MeetMoi.com, promote what is called "mobile dating" — simply select preference, distance, and location, and profiles of other singles interested in dating via cell phone are delivered to your phone.

"It's like having your phone take the first step in introducing people," Hourcade said.

A survey conducted by International Communications Research for Cingular in 2006 asked users how cell phone use affected their love lives. The study found that 28 percent of users flirted with another user through text messaging. Seven percent of users have even used rude text messaging behavior as a reason to end a relationship.

"Technology is increasing interactions on one hand, because you can have more interactions with people," Hourcade said. "But when you're building a friendship or a relationship, there's definitely an advantage in face-to-face communication."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Matt Nelson** at matthew-s-nelson@uiowa.edu

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Dallas 99, Milwaukee 93	

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Q: Who was baseball's oldest rookie and at what age? How old was he when he played his final major-league game?
Answer on page 2B



BLOGGING HAWKS

FORMER HAWKEYE STANDOUT JEFF HORNER IS CONTINUING HIS EXCLUSIVE BLOG FOR THE D/THIS SPRING. CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM TO READ HIS LATEST ENTRY, IN WHICH HE DISCUSSES HIS TEAM'S RECENT ROAD STRUGGLES, GETTING OVER HOMESICKNESS IN BELGIUM, AND BEING ABLE TO WATCH THE IOWA-WISCONSIN GAME ON TELEVISION LAST WEEKEND.

CROSS COUNTRY

Burke makes world meet

Hawkeye Jolly Burke qualified for the Junior World Cross-Country Championships with a fifth-place finish at last weekend's U.S. junior cross-country meet in Boulder, Colo. The top six runners advance to the finals in Mombassa, Kenya, on March 24.



Jolly Burke
runner

"It's like the Olympics of cross-country," said Iowa women's cross-country coach Layne Anderson, who will make the trip to Africa with Burke. "Even if she has to redshirt the outdoor [track] season, this is too good an opportunity to pass up."
The Waunakee, Wis., native ran the 6,000 meters in 22:16 but finished higher than last year's 20th-place finish, when she ran 21:57. Despite finishing 211th at the 2006 NCAA championships because of a late-season illness, Burke rebounded to finish ahead of the 46th-place finisher of that race.

— by Diane Hendrickson

INDIANA-PURDUE

Indiana-Purdue game postponed

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — The men's basketball game scheduled Wednesday between No. 24 Indiana and Purdue has been postponed to Thursday because of heavy snow that has blanketed much of the state.

The winter storm hit the north-central portion of Indiana with blizzard conditions that dumped nearly a foot of snow in some areas and 40 mph winds that left drifts as high as 6 feet.

Purdue officials canceled classes at the West Lafayette campus until noon Wednesday.

"We spent a majority of the day gathering facts," said Purdue Athletics Director Morgan Burke. "The decision comes down to the safety of everyone involved. After talking with several state and county officials, we've decided to move the game to Thursday to allow for more time to make roadways safe for travel."

Burke said Indiana and the Big Ten also were involved in the decision to reschedule the game.

"We will take a look at the conditions again tomorrow, but we think we can play the game on Thursday," he said.

IOWA (14-11, 6-5) VS. NORTHWESTERN (12-12, 2-9)

THURSDAY, AT CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, IOWA CITY, 6:05 P.M., TV STATION: KGAN, RADIO: KXIC (800AM)

Weather delays Wildcat game



File photo/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye Adam Haluska drives past Northwestern's Vedran Vukusic during the Hawkeyes' contest against the Wildcats on Feb. 12, 2005, in Carver-Hawkeye.

MEN'S BASKETBALL POSTPONED TO THURSDAY

The Iowa men's basketball game against Northwestern originally scheduled for tonight has been postponed until Thursday because of severe weather and dangerous driving conditions in the Chicago area, the UI announced Tuesday night.

The game is now scheduled to begin at 6:05 p.m. Thursday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena and televised locally on KGAN. The Hawkeye women's game will begin 30 minutes following the conclusion of the men's game — approximately 8:30 p.m.

Game tickets for either game will be honored Thursday. Admission for students is free.

"We anticipate turning a scheduling challenge into a great opportunity for Iowa fans to see both our men's and women's teams in action on the same evening," Hawkeye Athletics Director Gary Barta said in a statement. "It provides a great opportunity for our students and fans to come out to Carver."

Today's cancellation is believed to be the first weather-related postponement of an Iowa men's basketball game since January 1979.

— by Jason Brummond

BY JASON BRUMMOND
THE DAILY IOWAN

With five games remaining and no room for error, Iowa wants to leave Thursday's game against lowly Northwestern without a scratch on the team's supermodel thin NCAA Tournament hopes.

The Hawkeyes simply can't afford another stumble against the Wildcats, who have won four of the last five in the series and hurt Iowa's postseason status in each of the last three seasons. Without a trip to Welsh-Ryan Arena on the schedule, the Hawkeyes want to push the tempo and force the Wildcats out of their grueling offense.

"This game has to be about us," coach Steve Alford said. "Too many times in Evanston, we've worried too much about them, and their style has always come into

play. We need to make sure this is Iowa basketball [Thursday]."

At first glance, Thursday's showdown at Carver-Hawkeye Arena looks like a huge mismatch. The series' recent games suggests otherwise.

Despite a 12-point loss at Wisconsin last weekend, Iowa remains in fourth-place in the Big Ten, riding the shoulders of the conference's leading scorer, Adam Haluska (20.8 points a game). Northwestern's 53-51 home victory over Penn State on Feb. 10 kept the Wildcats out of last place.

Last year, the Wildcats' 51-48 win in Evanston prevented Iowa from earning a share of the Big Ten title. In 2004, the Hawkeyes lost two games to Northwestern and narrowly missed an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament.

SEE MEN'S HOOPS, PAGE 3B

IOWA (12-13, 4-8) VS. ILLINIOS (16-8, 6-6)

THURSDAY, AT CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, IOWA CITY, 30 MIN. FOLLOWING THE MEN'S BASKETBALL GAME — APPROXIMATELY 8:30 P.M.

HAWKS FACE ILLINI

WATCH DITV — CITY CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR AT DAILYIOWAN.COM — TO CATCH VIDEO HIGHLIGHTS AND INTERVIEW CLIPS FROM TUESDAY'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL PRESS CONFERENCE AS THE HAWKS PREPARE FOR THE ILLINI.

The deep, athletic Fighting Illini bring their native Iowan and leading scorer Lori Bjork to Carver-Hawkeye Arena for a showdown against the Hawkeyes, winners of the last six meetings between the two

BY ALEX JOHNSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

The Iowa women's basketball team is sick of road trips and ready to return to action Thursday night at approximately 8:30 against Illinois in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.



Bluder
head coach

"We've been traveling a lot lately," Hawkeye coach Lisa Bluder said. "Especially on the weekends, playing four-straight Sunday away games, so it'll be nice to [play] at home."



Ausdemore
sophomore

Fortunately for the Hawkeyes, they'll be able to hang around town for awhile.

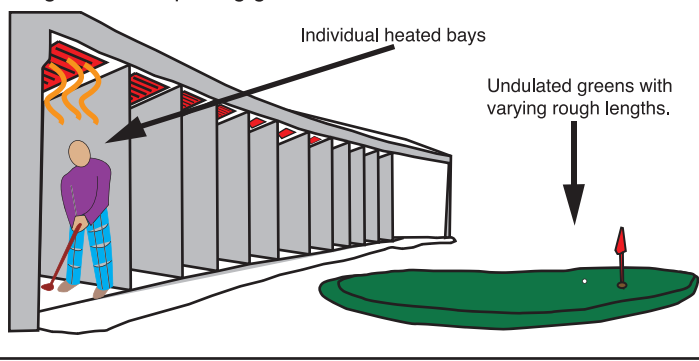
"We're looking forward to having two games at home this week," Bluder said. "In fact, three of our last four games are at home, and I think that's great for us."

SEE WOMEN'S HOOPS, PAGE 3B

Golf yearns to get off the Bubble

New Golf Facilities

Small programs such as swimming/diving and tennis have recently received new facilities. The men's and women's golf teams have been seeking new facilities, such as a heated driving range and new putting greens.



Carson Tigges/The Daily Iowan

BY PAUL KAZMIERCZAK
THE DAILY IOWAN

When head coach Kelly Crawford signed on to lead the Iowa's women's golf team last summer after six seasons in the head position at California-Irvine, she made it clear that part of her vision for the program included an indoor practice facility for the Hawkeye golf squads.

Currently, Iowa lags behind several Big Ten schools that have sophisticated training facilities for their golf teams. Hawkeye golfers, meanwhile, are confined to driving restricted-flight balls and chipping off of Astroturf in the Bubble. Crawford hopes a new facility will reinvigorate the

Hawkeye program and bring in future talent.

"It would be the one last factor to bring recruits in," she said.

One school that competes directly with Iowa for potential golfers is Illinois, and the Fighting Illini are finishing the high-tech Demirjian Golf Facility. The Iowa coach worries the new training center will draw recruits away from the otherwise comparable Hawkeye program.

"It's going to be a deal breaker for a lot of kids," she said.

While the first-year coach looks at the Demirjian center as a prime example to follow, she maintains that a proposed Hawkeye facility would not have to be so elaborate as the Illini's

\$5 million complex. Crawford does, however, have a wish-list of amenities.

The list includes six heated bays in which golfers could remain comfortable while driving balls into the outdoors through a garage-door type opening. The coach also envisions a several-thousand-square-foot practice facility complete with greens, undulations, bunkers, roughs of various lengths, and room to chip as far as 100 yards from the pin. To Crawford, it would be important for the facility to have the ability to replicate almost any shot the golfers might face in a match.

SEE GOLF, PAGE 3B

BIG TEN BASKETBALL

Avoiding 'Cats' cradle

On Thursday, Northwestern will look to spoil Iowa's slender NCAA Tournament hopes ... again

MEN'S HOOPS

he hit the practice floor on Monday, Smith said his swollen, crooked finger won't change his intensity.



Haluska guard

"I'll be worried about it, but I have to go out there and play the way I usually play," he said.

Northwestern (12-12, 2-9) is on pace for its fourth-straight losing season under coach Bill Carmody.

Only three players on Northwestern's roster have played in Iowa City, including senior Tim Doyle, who scored 10 points against the Hawkeyes in 2005.

The Wildcats lead the Big Ten in turnover margin and assist-turnover ratio behind Carmody's version of the

LINEUP

Iowa (14-11, 6-5)

- C Kurt Looby Jr. 6-10 4.0
F Cyrus Tate So. 6-8 4.4
F Tyler Smith Fr. 6-7 15.5
G Adam Haluska Sr. 6-5 20.8
G Tony Freeman So. 6-1 7.0

Northwestern (12-12, 2-9)

- C Ivan Tolic Jr. 6-9 1.3
F Kevin Coble Fr. 6-8 12.7
F Jeff Ryan Fr. 6-6 4.8
G Tim Doyle Sr. 6-5 10.6
G Jason Okrzesik Jr. 6-1 4.2

Princeton offense.

"They do a good job of being patient with the ball," Haluska said. "It's a different game from what people are used to."

E-mail/DI reporter Jason Brummond at: jason-brummond@uiowa.edu



Iowa coach Steve Alford reacts to a faltering Hawkeye defense during then-18th-ranked Iowa's loss to Northwestern on Feb. 7, 2006, in Evanston.

File photo/The Daily Iowan

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'We're looking forward to playing Illinois. They are an incredibly athletic, very balanced scoring team.'

Lisa Bluder, head coach

WOMEN'S HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Despite a 4-7 record in Carver-Hawkeye on the year, Iowa's return home is undoubtedly a positive after dropping a game at Wisconsin.

"Coming off last Thursday, I thought playing here felt good," sophomore Wendy Ausdemore said.

Illinois will bring its unique set of challenges to Iowa City.

"We're looking forward to playing Illinois," Bluder said. "They are an incredibly athletic, very balanced scoring team."

"An athletic team is going to require us to get up and down with the numbers we have," Ausdemore said.

For Ausdemore, the homecoming may be a little colder than playing in Wisconsin — not the temperature — the 6-2 forward put up a career scoring night against the Badgers with 27 points.

"The career high was good, but at the same time, we just got to take care of the ball at the end of the game there," she said.

PROBABLE STARTERS

Iowa Hawkeyes (12-13, 4-8)

- G Kristi Smith So. 5-6 13.0
F Jeneé Graham Jr. 5-10 4.8
F Wendy Ausdemore So. 6-2 12.4
F Krista VandeVenter Jr. 6-2 7.5
C Stacy Schlapkohl Jr. 6-3 6.9
Illinois Fighting Illini (16-8, 6-6)
G Chelsea Gordan So. 6-0 8.8
G Lori Bjork So. 5-11 15.0
F Danyel Crutcher Jr. 6-2 9.3
F Lacey Simpson Fr. 6-0 7.5
C Jenna Smith Fr. 6-3 10.7

those opportunities."

There's going to be another homecoming of sorts — Lori Bjork, a sophomore guard for the Illini and leading scorer, is from Johnston, Iowa.

"[Bjork] is shooting the ball very well from 3-point range," Bluder said. "They have a good inside game as well — their posts are very good rebounders."

Depth may also be a problem for the Hawkeyes, who are only playing eight at this point. It

only gets tougher against a team of sharpshooter athletes.

"They're deeper than we are and are shooting the ball extremely well from 3-point range," Bluder said.

No matter how many roadblocks Iowa encounters, there's still the hope of an NCAA Tournament berth, but sometimes aspirations fall short.

"We definitely want to play in the NCAA Tournament," Bluder said. "But if that does not happen, then the NIT is the next best thing."

Before the national scene, business in the Big Ten is the primary concern.

"If we win our home games, we're right in the mix for fifth place," Bluder said. "A fifth seed is very important because you avoid that first day of playing and then you play the fourth seed, which is very different from playing 1, 2, or 3."

Forget all the tournaments and challenges for now, Illinois is coming to town, along with its six-game losing streak against Iowa.

E-mail/DI reporter Alex Johnson at: alexander-j-johnson@uiowa.edu

Golf wish list: indoor facility

GOLF

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

In addition to lockers, meeting rooms, and a team lounge, a proposed center would include high-speed cameras positioned at numerous angles.

Iowa Senior Associate Athletics Director Jane Meyer recognizes that a new facility would certainly enhance the school's golf program.

"It doesn't have any firm footing at this particular point," she said.

Part of the athletics department's mission statement requires that student-athletes are provided the facilities necessary to participate on championship-caliber teams.

"We have some projects that have taken a priority that we

have permission to hire architects for," Meyer said.

Already in the works are renovations of Carver-Hawkeye Arena, the lower level of the Recreation Building, and the football team's Richard O. Jacobson Athletics Building.

One factor may spur future construction of a new golf facility. Crawford has stated that she would be open to the idea of the complex being available, at times, to students or the public.

While the athletics department has many pressing needs on its agenda, Crawford remains positive about the chances of a new facility for her golfers in the future.

"What's great is [athletics officials are] open," Crawford said. "They're listening, and they recognize that we need that."

E-mail/DI reporter Paul Kazmierczak at: paul-kazmierczak@uiowa.edu

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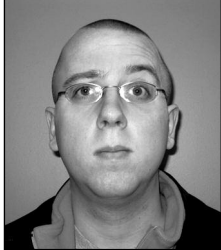
DAILY BREAK

“Love is the triumph of imagination over intelligence.”

— H.L. Mencken

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

20 movies I might have thought were porno flicks based solely their titles

- Babe
- Lightning Jack
- Hard Ball
- Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen
- The Score
- Play It to the Bone
- Necessary Roughness
- O
- Nurse Betty
- Double Team
- The Other Sister
- Super Size Me
- Eight Below
- Dick Tracy
- Two Mules for Sister Sara (Fetish)
- Ed Wood
- Fun with Dick and Jane
- xXx
- You, Me and Dupree
- Snatch.

— Andrew R. Juhl kindly reminds you that today is hump day. E-mail him at: andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu.

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 - Ten-minute Play Festival
 - Picturing Eden art exhibit
 - Dance Marathon 2007
 - Iowa men's tennis
 - National Guard veteran

- Tiffany Jenkins
- Alamo Bowl 2007
 - Sports in prison
 - Methamphetamine in Iowa
- PHOTO**
- Silo ice climbing
 - WWE
 - Dance Marathon 2007
 - IMU renovations
 - Iowa Writers' House
 - Alamo Bowl 2006
 - Hawkeye football 2006
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- Portugal. The Man

- Former UI Hygienic Lab Director Mary Gilchrist's termination
- Grizzly Bear
- Ying Yang Twins
- Skursula
- Knorosov
- The Thermals
- Straylight Run
- New Beat Society
- Hunab
- Max Eubank with Joe Losh and Mike Tallman

READERS' PHOTOS

The Daily Iowan has a way for readers to submit and share their 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

Want to see your super special event appear here? We give you the new and more streamlined submission process. Simply e-mail the name, time, date, and location information* to: DAILYBREAKCALENDAR@GMAIL.COM.

- **Arts, Entertainment and Media Fair**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., C310 Pomerantz Center
- **Electronic (e-file) Tax Filing**, 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Preschool Story Time**, 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m., Public Library
- **2007 Delta's Founders Week, Donate Clothes/Food, Etc., "Rid the Old,"** 11:15 a.m., IMU
- **"Love in the Stacks,"** noon, 2032, Main Library
- **Culture break @ Old Cap, free performances by faculty and students from the UI Division of Performing Arts**, 12:10 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber
- **The Iowa City Music Study Club**, 1 p.m., 2810 Eastwood
- **Red Hat Valentine Tea**, 2:30 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- **Staff Council**, 2:30 p.m., location TBA
- **Employment Series for International Students, employment eligibility in the U.S.A.: Benefits and Limitations**, 3 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **Spring Lecture and Performance Series Screening, Hubert Sauper's Darwin's Nightmare, presentation by Ken Harrow**, 6 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity Valentine's Gala**, 6:30 p.m., South Slope Cooperative Community Center, 980 N. Front, North Liberty
- **Teen Valentine's Day Showing, Sleepless in Seattle**, 6:30 p.m., Public Library
- **Dreamwell Theatre Auditions**, 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Public Library
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Daniel Alarcón, fiction**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Welcome Home Wednesdays**, 7 p.m., Unitarian/Universalist Society, 10 S. Gilbert
- **Aquila Theatre Company, Romeo and Juliet**, 7:30 p.m., Hancher
- **Bernard Scully, horn, and Joanne Minnetti, piano**, 8 p.m., Voxman Music Building Harper Hall
- **Scandinavian/Nordic Festival Chamber Music Recital Gro Sandvik, flute, and Einar Røttingen, piano**, 8 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall

horoscopes

Wednesday, February 14, 2007 — by Eugenia Last

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Look for a way out of a situation that isn't working for you. There will be plenty going on behind the scenes, so keep your eyes peeled for any misdoing. Don't get involved in gossip or rumors.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take great pleasure in the things you do today. It's important to look out for those who may not be able to do so for themselves. Don't give in to temptation or to someone who is trying to break you down.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Do whatever it takes to get ahead in the financial world. Take on an extra job or create a little sideline business. Someone may try to talk you out of money or ask for a donation or a loan. Don't even think about going there.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You've got great ideas, so don't be shy — let everyone know what you are thinking. A chance to impress someone is likely to win you points and help out your love life. It's doing nothing that will work against you today.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You may have to answer or look out for the old and the young in your life. Be prepared to step up and take over on demand. An opportunity to try something different may lead to a new vocation or hobby.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Get out and have some fun. You stand to learn a lot through the experiences you share with others. Don't overreact to the things someone you are close to is doing. There will be a valid reason.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Someone you love may send you mixed signals, leaving you in an interesting position. This doesn't mean that you shouldn't make a move. Do whatever it takes to make things workable.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** There will be mixed emotions on the home front. You have to make your own decision, so why even ask for advice you aren't likely to take. A partner will appreciate you a lot more if you take the initiative.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You'll be walking a fine line if you are the least bit deceptive where business is concerned. Exaggeration will not impress anyone when the truth is divulged. It may be time to find a better means to an end.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You will be a little emotional. Dealings with institutions may leave you feeling vulnerable. Look for alternative means, and you will discover something that you never knew existed. Help is on the way.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Do something special for the one you love or for someone you feel needs a boost. Your unselfish act will definitely win you points and bring you some very nice opportunities in the future. Someone from your past may try to cause problems for you.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** People will do things for you today if you ask. View things practically; if you blow situations out of proportion, it will take twice as long to sort things out. Be honest with yourself about what you can and can't do.

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THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By Michael Mepham

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3 4

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

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UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 3 p.m.** "Live from Prairie Lights," James Canon
- 4** "Voting Rights," MLK Human Rights Week
- 6** College of Education Presents
- 7** "Live from Prairie Lights," James Canon
- 8** MLK Human Rights Week, AGEPE Celebration
- 9:30** DITV News, The Daily Iowan Daily News Update
- 9:45** UI Fine Arts Performances
- 10:30** DITV News, The Daily Iowan Daily News Update
- 10:45** UI Fine Arts Performances
- 11** "Live from Prairie Lights," James Canon

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

DILBERT

by Scott Adams



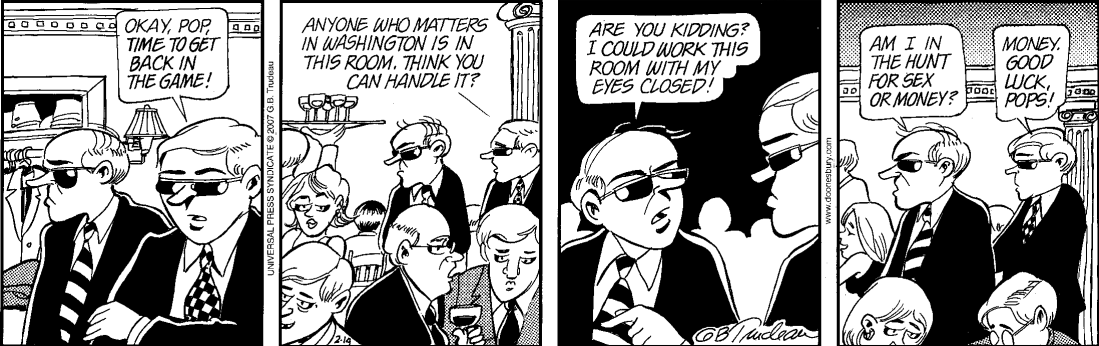
NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

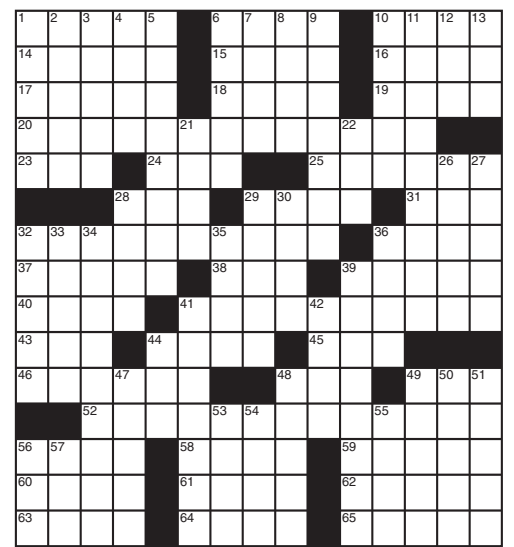


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0103

- ACROSS**
- Green course
 - Nascar's Gordon
 - "Hey, you!"
 - São ___
 - Et ___
 - Bluesy James
 - Item for William Tell
 - Already in France?
 - Sauce thickener
 - Souvenir, say
 - "Star Trek" fig.
 - Holed up
 - Get comfortably close
 - Have a bug
 - Cries of disgust
 - A.C. stat
 - Dessert with dark streaks
 - Dark genre
 - Nancy of "Access Hollywood"
 - "What was ___ do?"
 - Port town on the English Channel
 - Do, for example
 - Occupation with an unsavory reputation
 - It should be low on a diamond
 - Cry coming up to a barn
 - Long, long time
 - "Holy" one
 - Off-roader, for short
 - Fall back
 - 2002 Bond film
 - Big maker of notebooks
 - Like some advice
 - Symptom for an auto mechanic
 - Stridex target
 - Book before Nehemiah
 - Terra ___
 - Some are odd
 - Per ___
 - Dimethyl ___ (aerosol propellant)
- DOWN**
- Sudden burst
 - Name likely to come first in a class roll call
 - Lies in wait
 - Body lotion ingredient
 - Slalom alternative
 - World-weary
 - K-6: Abbr.
 - Vanuatu neighbor
 - Wedding planner
 - Rosie of "Fearless"
 - Kind of romance
 - Early Beetle Sutcliffe
 - Weigh down
 - Tee off
 - Windows forerunner
 - Handy
 - More refined
 - Experienced
 - Islamic decree



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

PIPE ALMAY HALE
AVES LEAVE ALAR
EAST OF EDEN NOUN
ANT DAREER GONGS
NAOMI EATS RIGHT
ONCD SIE
INTO IAM GTCARS
TEASIN THE HARBOR
SECEDE ONE ESTA
EMS TRAP
SATESAUCE REACH
AVAST PENAL ROE
MASS SEATCOVERS
BITE ORSER INNS
ALEX OBESE CASE

- 30** Sacred image: Var.
- 31** Nice's region
- 32** "Haystacks" painter
- 33** Really go for
- 34** Inhibitor
- 35** "Bye"
- 36** Duel time, maybe
- 37** Head of costume design
- 38** Put into words
- 39** One of Alcott's "little women"
- 40** The "vey" in "oy vey"
- 41** Ferris wheels and such
- 42** Starters
- 43** Butter up?
- 44** One way to play
- 45** The Soup ___
- 46** Shrek, for one
- 47** Canine part
- 48** Bad beginning?
- 49** Green prefix

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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