The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2007

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TANNING HAS A DARK SIDE Local tanning salons are experiencing an increase in pre-spring-break business, but some experts say the 'base tans' students seek won't protect them from the sun's rays.

BY KURT HIATT THE DAILY IOWAN

With a slice of aluminum and more than 100 hours of hard work, a group of dedicated high-school students and members of Iowa City Robotics created a machine worth $20,000 that they hope will Readonly in last year's FIRST Robotics Competition.

This is the seventh year Iowa City students have entered the "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology" competition, which is sponsored in part by NASA. The team, made up of UI mentors and City and West High students, will ship its creation to Milwaukee today after six weeks of designing, building, and troubleshooting.

“We're going to do a lot better than last year,” said Dominic Audia, the leader of the robotics endeavor and a teacher at both City and West. “We've had a bit of problems last year and ended up pretty close to the bottom.”

But Audia and his team — self-named “Children of the Corn” — have spent a lot of time in the lab and a half-building their newest robot, taking advantage of late week-end and weekends.

With three weeks left until pre-spring-break business, but some

EMERGENCY PHONES

The university uses the UI police, Code Blue phones, and foot patrols, among other things, to maintain a safe campus.

BY ZHI XIONG THE DAILY IOWAN

It's 2 a.m. on Saturday. After mowing the last Chem 11 lawn, you hear someone knocking on your door.

Feeling uneasy, you tossyour toward the nearby Code Blue phone and smack the button for help. As the light begins to flash, you feel better knowing an officer will be there in under two minutes — a fact you often heard during Orientation.

But there's one problem.

“There’s a misconception about the response,” said Larry Langley, the assistant director of the UI police.

A recent report of attacks have spurred concerns regarding the level of safety on campus. But while emergency phones are stationed around the university and police do not step up patrol when needed, if there are some false impressions regarding campus security. And inadequate funding is hampering some advancements in other safety features around the university.

One such misunderstanding is how quickly officers can respond to a Code Blue phone call.

Shaken by the call button is similar to dialing 911, it takes some effort to arrive on the scene. Langley said. After the call goes through, the officer who answers the alert makes a dis-patch call to UI police patrots.

“They’re not used often, and we say that an officer can be there in 90 seconds or less,” said Kent Patric, a campus tour guide. “We usually talk about using common sense when walking back late at night.”

The emergency call buttons are located in 22 isolated areas on campus.

2 regents decry fixed tuition

Some regents say fixed rates for the cost of education may seem appealing, but Iowa families will pay the same amount as if officials had changed tuition

BY TERRY MCCOY THE DAILY IOWAN

Two members of the state Board of Regents on Monday bemoaned a newly introduced Iowa Senate bill that would freeze resident and in-state tuition rates at state universities from enrollment to graduation.

The measure, sponsored by 30 Republican senators, would ban public universities from charging such students prices higher than what they paid their freshmen years. The legislation would also allow resident students who transfer between state schools to keep their previous tuition rates.

Regent Robert Downer said the main problem with trying to implement predictability in tuition is that state appropriations lack such predictability — which makes fixing tuition rates a dangerous game.

“I think that if we get appropriations at the level of [Gov. Chet] Culver has recommended, then we can do a pretty decent job of holding fixed and make the program a better way to do this than trying to crystal-ball gues for a four-year period.”

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Playing the political money game

Money Raised by Top Presidential Candidates as of Dec. 31, 2006

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Money essential to campaigns, but not necessarily the key to election-day success, officials say.

BY NEAL SAUERBERG

For the first time in the history of American politics, some analysts predict that the collective financial contributions made to contenders for the presidency in 2008 may rise above $1 billion.

David Redlawsk, a UI associate professor of political science, said that while online donations have sparked changes in the way political parties and candidates solicit funds, winning the election ultimately depends on more than just credit-card contributions.

“Campaign fundraisers are best done by candidates,” he said. “Candidates always make the best fundraisers.”

For instance, Johnson County Green Party chair, roughly $40 a month — most of it coming from membership fees collected throughout the year, said Hart, who is also the secretary of the county Green chapter. “It’s important for a small party to have that membership to fall back on,” he said. “But I think if you’re running a local race where people know you, you don’t necessarily need the big bucks.”

Another relatively small party in Johnson County — the Republicans — works hard to provide campaign funds to state and national candidates.

But Margaret McDonald, the head of the Johnson County Republicans finances committee, said this can prove difficult, especially in an off-year for elections.

Unlike in Johnson County, state Republican fundraisers face well throughout most of Iowa. Each year, they generally come near to the total amount raised by the Iowa Democratic

For our try to be our best to contribute what we can,” McDonald said. “It just takes a lot of money.”

Meanwhile, some 2008 presidential campaign started well behind fundraising leader Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., at the year’s start. Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., for example, had raised $10.6 million as of February. At the same point, Rodham Clinton had accumulated slightly more than $11 million.

The disparity is due in large part to money raised under “the guise of her Senate campaign,” Redlawsk said.

“Even though this disparity may seem significant, she cautioned against concentrating solely on the winner of the fundraising battle.”

“The media continues focusing on the money raised by the individual candidates,” she said. “But it’s really about building grass-roots support.”

E-mail: neal-sauerberg@uiowa.edu

POLICE BLOTTER

Brian Abushu, 20, 2016 South Blvd. Lot 72, was charged Thursday with possession of a schedule I controlled substance.

Jenna Sauers, 27, 521 Iowan Ave. Apt. 1, was charged Feb. 9 with OWI.

Jessica Grover, 21, North Liberty, was charged Monday with fifth-degree theft.

Gail McDonald, 41, 407 Bowers Blvd. Apt. 1, was charged Feb. 10 with OWI.

Ben Roberts, The Daily Iowan

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UI robot ready to go

robot-building gives local high-school students some real-world experience

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Tuesday, February 20, 2007 - Page 3A

UI engineering graduate student Nick Lorch works on some wiring problems with robot "E100" at the UI Engineering Performance Laboratory on Monday evening. The robot is called "E100" because it runs completely on ethanol.

"It's exposure to a real engineering challenge. You have to do something, you have limited resources and time, you have to choose what's important, and it's the way to do it best or it will work."

--- Andy Voit, mechanical engineer

News_Ben Pontia/The Daily Iowan

Tuition idea draws fire

BILL SPECIFICS

Tuition would be fixed for resident and legacy students throughout college.

If fixed tuition is less than incurring costs that current graders, current graders would have their tuition lowered to that of the new rate.

A resident student transfers to another university, state that student would see a net increase.

The following show the amount to be adjusted if the new rate.

Leaders at the three public universities have asked state legislators for millions in legislative allocations to reduce tuition rates and boost family income.

But the tuition bill's sponsor, Rep. Dennis Berrios, D-Chicago, said in-state tuition hikes have worsened, rising 12 percent increase at recent universities.

Since the 2005-06 academic year, the number of UI students has increased 56 percent across the state university.

UI President James Hurley said the legislation and determined that the state were given an average of each grade below due to fixed the rate.

Regent James Conolly also declared the legislation, noting, that low fees would be the same total amount in tuition if the bills hadn't been increased.

"If you have two or three kids and your oldest pays more, do you really help the family out?" she said. "I think that he expects this bill, like the last one, to be in the Senate.

But he said there's no indication up to this point that there is a lot of momentum behind this proposal. So all of the legislators are Republican, and the Republicans don't have enough votes to pass anything," he said.

"We do get some questions from local parents," he said. "But the attacks were a big story in the local newspapers."

--- Amanda Battaglia

UI approves security

UI police security guard Bruce "Doc" Gantert jots notes during an interview with a UI sophomore Rachel Gallagher walks in the elevator. Gantert, a university employee for 26 years and a security guard for 17 of those years, works the 11 p.m.-7 a.m. shift.

Another misconception is that the campus security funding, of which the police force is a part, if they feel unsafe alone at night. Although the department does respond to emergencies, and finds it desirable for accompanying students, Green said.

Safety first, a volunteer-run organization that accompanies students, has been under the jurisdiction of the Office of Safety and Resource Center since its inception.

"We received UI student Government funding, but we found ourselves at $0 in 2001.

"What triggered the demand, we were left in the dark of the way that such users had to be funded," WRCG spokesperson Dave Myres said.

UDSG financial officer Jeff Bachman said that the group stopped providing money to WRCG because WRCG did not file for a request for a fee increase.

But once a UI student makes it back home, he or she may face another security deficiency.

While dormitories such as Residence Halls on the Iowa City campus require keycards for elevator and hall entry, they typically lock their front doors, security systems in other residence halls, said.

Katje Fitzgerald, an assistant university director however, the system is a matter of funding. "We have a lot of maintenance work," she said. "What we have in residence halls, she said."

--- Tracy Quenzer/Cassady

WANTED: COPY EDITORS

Work for The Daily Iowan, an award-winning newspaper.

An online application or pick one up at Room E131 of the Adler Journalism Building. Return applications to Meghan Sims, Room E131 Adler Journalism Building.
BAGHDAD - Insurgents staged a bold daylight assault against a U.S. combat post north of the capital Monday, a first striking with a suicide car bomber and then opening fire with snipers, witnesses and local authorities said.

The attack came on a day when U.S. forces outside the capital during the current and massive American-led security operation for the security operation have had such difficulty finding a way to bring them options for staffing

The department is also considering more than $45,000 for squad cars and squad-car improvements as well as employee salaries and city services.

The city council also has asked Atkins and O'Donnell to bring them options for staffing a new station by using a combination of volunteers, paraprofessionals, and paid firefighters.

The budget had previously called for property taxes to be raised by $2.82 per $1,000 of tax assessment for other projects before the budget was submitted, but it cannot increase the total money spent.

The proposed budget will be voted on the first time tonight during the city council's formal meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. The council can still cut expenses or reallocate money for other projects before the final vote.

The final vote on the budget will be held March 6.

The department is also considering more than $45,000 for squad cars and squad-car improvements as well as employee salaries and city services.
Kevin Pilla, left, and his Thomas Mannix sit with their dog, Buddy, at their home in Asbury Park, N.J., on Monday. Mamis and Pilla were among the first to fill out civil-union applications at Asbury Park City Hall on Monday, the first day to get a license for civil unions in the state.

銅 RANCK. — Hund- reds of gay couples were granted the same legal rights, if not the title, as married cou- ples Monday as New Jersey became the third state to offer civil unions.

More than a dozen other cou- ples applied for licenses or cer- monies in late work in the morning.

The civil unions, which offer the legal benefits but not the title of marriage, were granted automatically to the hundreds of gay New Jersey couples who had previously been joined in civil unions or married in other states or nations.

 Couples who had not been joined previously could apply for licenses but must wait 72 hours before they can hold civil-union ceremonies, the same waiting period for weddings.

Several, such as Marty Fin- kley and Michael Flack, plan to exchange vows Thursday.

“This is as close to marriage as we’re going to get for right now,” Finkle said after he and Flack applied for their civil-union license Monday in South Orange.

A few dozen friends and local officials cheered as they filled out the forms she needs to work and travel in the United States.

Among the dozens of bene- fits under the civil-unions law, gay couples get rights dealing with adoption, child custody, visiting a hospitalized partner, making medical decisions, and getting the same access to health-care coverage that employers offer spouses of workers. Civil-union partners also have the right not to testify against a partner in state court.

However, the federal govern- ment and most states do not rec- ognize the unions. That means, for instance, that a surviving member of a civil union would not be entitled to his deceased partner’s Social Security ben- efits. And if a partner is hospital- ized, one of the surviving partners either may not be allowed to visit.

One expense she can’t con- toll is the rising cost of filing fees, said agency spokes- woman Sharon Rummery.

“We’ve come very far,” she said. “There used to be lines that would go around the block. We don’t have that anymore.”

However, immigrants and their attorneys fear the hikes will hurt people who are trying to follow the rules, stalling their immigration process or delaying their ability to bring over close relatives.

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“It was a huge amount of money for me,” she said. “I went overload by a proposal to increase the filing fees for more than two dozen forms by an average of 65 percent. The increases are likely to be imple- mented by summer.

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The federal agency, required by Congress to support its oper- ations with fees, plans to use the funds to reduce lengthy delays in processing certain applications, strengthen its security and fraud investiga- tions teams, and modernize equipment, said agency spokes- woman Sharon Rummery.

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Bill to protect tenant deposits a good first step

A bill has been proposed in the Iowa Senate that seeks to protect renters from landlords trying to cheat tenants out of their deposits. The bill is sponsored by Sen. Joni Ernst, R-Coralville. It is aimed at giving tenants more rights in the case of any conflicts with landlords. The bill is expected to pass and become law.

**LETTERS**

**LOOKBACK -- Party politics -- Dave Loebbach**

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**GUEST OPINION**

**Stem-cell legislation a turning point for Iowa**

In the next few days, the Iowa General Assembly will have the opportunity of a generation. It can improve the quality of life for tens of thousands of people suffering from diabetes, cancer, blindness, paralysis from spinal-cord injury, liver disease, and many others. Among them are California, New Jersey, Connecticut, Illinois, Washington, Baltimore, and others. As of today, the UI can and should play a part in this.

**ON THE SPOT**

What do you think about the tenant/landlord relationship in Iowa City?

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**LETTERS**

**LOOKBACK -- Party politics -- Dave Loebbach**

Washington, his actions are reaching about what money supports my claim. Here are a few contradictions of his campaign.

**GUEST OPINION**

**Stem-cell legislation a turning point for Iowa**

In the next few days, the Iowa General Assembly will have the opportunity of a generation. It can improve the quality of life for tens of thousands of people suffering from diabetes, cancer, blindness, paralysis from spinal-cord injury, liver disease, and many others. Among them are California, New Jersey, Connecticut, Illinois, Washington, Baltimore, and others. As of today, the UI can and should play a part in this.

**ON THE SPOT**

What do you think about the tenant/landlord relationship in Iowa City?
Costumed randomness

Tonight, the Picaudor will host the off-the-wall antics of Nebraska’s The Show and the costumed spectacle of Florida’s Yip Yip, and because it’s an all-ages show, the countercultural youth of Iowa City may be in for it.

BY JOHN C. SCHLOTFELT

“The way I see it, The Show is the Rainbow and Yip Yip is the Rainbow’s road trip through Iowa City,” said Richard Stoltzman, who organized the show.

“Yip Yip’s particular brand of antics is the Rainbow, accidentally launched left him a little out of touch,” Keen replied, after checking his watch. “I'm serious. This is not the Rainbow's road trip to Iowa City. At the onset, Yip Yip — still a solo act just four years ago. The Show is the Rainbow, and because it’s famous for its costumed spectacle of Florida’s Yip Yip, and because it’s also the Rainbow’s home base in Nebraska’s The Show is the Rainbow and the band, we didn't play instru-

THE DAILY IOWAN

February 20, 2007 - Issue 42-006

E-mail john-schlotfelt@uiowa.edu

DI

friend and Foe

CD REVIEW

CALLA

Strength in Numbers

out of 5 stars

CALLA — STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

On its fifth record, Strength in Numbers, CALLA, drones, blips and bleeps, and countless numbers, the band is more suited to the tried-and-true indie-rock stutter of single “Bronson” than their hidden identities. Esser said.

A Portland, Ore., trio, Menomena is the Rainbow and the Goose, and Menomena’s musical parentage reeks more of Radiohead’s Kid A and Animal Collective’s Merriweather Post Pavilion, Mountain Cookie: The Numbers are not always as clear as they should be to make it onto a record. The boxy riffs, staccato vocals and choppy, staccato beat, something the members loathe.

The perpetually costumed Yip Yip — once had to deal with stage fright. “It translates to record well,” says Keen.

The Portland, Ore., trio Menomena has taken its album title as a mantra and implemented for subsequent recordings.

The band makes its complex rhythmic arrangements — and the songs punctuated with sharp horn blasts and layered guitar. And much like the "paranoid androids" before them, look for Menomena’s critique of the modern rush-rush society. The tense and nervous “Ending” offers up a desperate picture, “It’s safe to say I’m walking a lot. It’s safe to say I’m thinner. It’s safe to say it won’t be long until Winter.”

Now that Esser and Temple have settled into their roles, there doesn’t seem to be much the members loathe.

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GIVE A LISTEN

MOMX

LUNAR SEA

FOR GREAT FAMILIES

MOMX

LUNAR SEA

GREAT FOR FAMILIES

MOMX

LUNAR SEA

The Daily Iowan — Iowa City, Iowa — Tuesday, February 20, 2007 — 7A

RECOMMENDS

Giving up text messaging for the week. Does no one call anymore? Maybe I’m old and just don’t get it, but meaning isn’t lost to me. I’m not used to live, no. I’m busy but I try to manage.

RICHARD STOLTZMAN — A national treasure and should be declared —

San Francisco Chronicle

RICHARD STOLTZMAN

Salute to Benny Goodman

Saturday, February 24, 7:30 p.m.

One of the world’s most beloved clarinet players comes to Hancher and brings with him the grammy winning band of Benny Goodman. Join the University of Iowa’s own Jason Johnson County from the downtown core of sales and big band numbers that will have you dancing in your seats.

RICHARD STOLTZMAN

? (319) 335-1550

Order tickets online at www.hancher.uiowa.edu or call (800) 232-3104 and ask for the “Benny Goodman” special price.

$15 tickets available for UI students

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Give a Listen

Get your bad self on over to dailiyowan.com for Op-Ed critic John C. Schloftfelt’s extended version of his column “Friend and Foe.” Check out Rainbows in Numberland, “Bromley” by CALLA.

We’ll be back, you can also scope out MIPs from the singles today’s record more closely resembles the sleepy plaintiveness of Elliott Smith’s XO (Orion’s) It won’t be a party, butting nightlife, “Sleep In Flipper’s” would seem like a third zling Yip Yip, once had to deal with stage fright. “It translates to record well,” says Keen.

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BENNY GOODMAN • CALLA • MENOMENA • FRIEND AND FOE

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BENNY GOODMAN • CALLA • MENOMENA • FRIEND AND FOE
U.S. officials view the meeting as productive but remain uncertain about future cooperation between Israel and Palestine, after Palestine’s leader recently announced he will govern alongside the militant Hamas group.

BY ANNE GEARAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — A Mideast peace summit designed to open a new chapter for Israel and Palestinians led up with violence concluded Monday with no new agreements and a pledge to keep talking.

The United States, which had pushed for the session, said it was an accomplishment merely to hold such a get together for the first time in six years. After two hours of talks with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice stood alone in a bare-bones hotel function room to call the session “useful and productive.”

The prospect of any immediate success here essentially was hijacked by Abbas’ surprise announcement last week that he will pull hand-in-hand with the militant group Hamas.

The United States and Israel left Hamas as a terrorist group and refuse all dealings with the group.

Speaking to reporters, Rice said the meeting was particularly valuable, however, in light of the lingering uncertainties over Abu’s just with Hamas.

“I think the real value here is that they sit down to talk with each other pretty early in this process,” Rice said.

The military said the Chinook helicopter was carrying 22 U.S. service members when it crashed in the Shahjoi district of Zabul province, about 50 yards from the main highway between Kabul and Kandahar. Eight American lives on board survived.

The Department of Defense said the Chinook was shot down, saying the pilot had radioed ahead to report engine problems.

“It’s like a bad dream,” Kandi Vaughn said. “He was a really good kid. He just gave it his all, “ Vaughn said.

Spc. Travis Vaughn of Cedar Falls died early Sunday in the crash of a CH-47 Chinook, his family said Monday.

Neither Rice nor other U.S. officials would describe the content of the session, although Israel’s and Palestinian officials offered some details.

Olmert said he and Abbas agreed to maintain an open channel of communication, focused both on improving the lives of Palestinians and stopping terrorism.

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MEN’S HOOPS

Hawks face winning out

Comming out of a disastrous 32-point defeat at Michigan State, the Hawkeyes said another loss could mean no postseason

BY DAN PARR

The Daily Iowan

Northern Iowa, Drake, coach Steve Alford's crew is feeling added pressure to perform at season's end. "Yeah, I think we [have to win out], but it's hard to say," Alford said. "I don't know how it's all going to play out. Our mindset is, it's got to be one at a time."

"Every game from now on to the postseason is definitely must-win if we want a shot at the NCAA Tournament at all," said point guard Tony Freeman. It will likely take that, plus a few wins in the Big Ten Tournament, if the Hawkeyes want to head for madness in March. Because of key losses early in the year to Arizona State, Forty-eight hours after its worst drubbing of the year, Iowa stumbled behind one agonizing score for the men's basketball team — a decision to go with a two-point loss over-par 73 on the final 18 holes. At his news conference Monday, Alford said that he has seen with lin¬ borough's public

Moynahan's publicist that said media outlets have reported the MVP, has since been seen with lin¬ lboyfriend Tom Brady is the father." Christina Papadopoulos, said Moynahan's publicist said Moynahan's is the father, Bask/Grid/Photo

Brady's baby is pregnant with Tom Brady's baby, is preg¬ Ashley Bruna, said Brady's baby is pregnant with Tom Brady's baby. Actor Ashley Bruna, said Brady's baby is pregnant with Tom Brady's baby. Actor Moynahan

BASKETBALL

Wisconsin captures top spot in poll

Despite the crushing loss to Minnesota on Sunday, Iowa wrestling coach Tom Bran
dio remains unfazed by the Hawkeyes' string losing season. The versatile (145-150) suffered a 29-13 loss of the hands of the No. 1 team in the nation. The first-closure match was more disheartened than upset after the loss. The Hawkeyes couldn't understand why some of their wrestlers wasn't more jumped up to wrestle in front of the K-State crowd that showed up for Iowa's black night, and he said he continues to work on getting the wrestlers to follow the coaching staff's direction. "You don't let a day go by without talking to them in a calm, reasonable manner where you're spelling it out to them and communicating at a high level," Bran
dio said after Saturday's dual. "That's why I'm not down on them. I have confidence in this team and in the coaching staff."
What about the [unsuc -

Last week, there was a lot

...
Hoopsters host shelter kids

**SPORTS**

**WRESTLING**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

The next two weeks are crucial to Iowa's success in the Big Ten championships and the NCAA championships. The Hawkeyes need more consistency up and down the lineup, and they must avoid costly mistakes and penalties as well, Brands said.

"We kind of established a little more confidence throughout the whole lineup," Brands said. "I think a couple of guys are down — expect more out of themselves and the team this year, but that is a new beginning coming up. It's a new season, block everything out that happened, it doesn't matter, you can't beat anybody."

From Iowa's ability to accomplish the lofty goals this season, Brands is confident it's only a matter of time before the Hawkeyes return to the top.

I can do this rebuilding, he said.

"I can't do it right now, I can't do it then. Because we get you believe, and you've got a staff that's important.

"They're my guys. I'm standing behind them. I wouldn't trade them for that high profile team (Minnesota) we wrestled tonight. I would trade Mark Perry. I wouldn't trade (Alex) Turtur. I wouldn't trade Lacle Miasmen. I am a loyal person. I'm loyal to my family, and I'm loyal to my wrestlers.

Big Ten championship means near-
ly everything to him.

In the next couple of days, the Iowa Hawkeyes will receive their 2007 Big Ten trophies, following the defeat. "I can do it."

"It doesn't matter what you're seed-
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"We need to get this done."

The Hawkeyes' wrestling team won't be fancy, but they'll get the job done. Brands is confident it's only a matter of time before the Hawkeyes return to the top.

Brands said 197-pound Dan Luedke could get a No. 1 seed, while lightweight Charlie Fields and 165-pounder Mark Perry could also be considered for a top-4 seed. Perry believes that results really have no bearing on how well they'll do in the conference championships.

"It doesn't really mean anything," he said.

"The seed could be a heart. An unranked guy could win the No. 1 seed or the No. 2 seed."

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SPORTS

CHARGERS HIRE TURNER

BY BERNIE WILSON

SAN DIEGO — Norv Turner took hard knocks as an NFL head-coach job candidate when he was eliminated from the mix Monday by the San Diego Chargers, a week after the surprising firing of Marty Schottenheimer.

The hiring came fewer than three hours after the Chargers wrapped up their search. The team planned to introduce Turner at an afternoon news conference. Five years ago, Turner interviewed for the job that went to Schottenheimer.

Turner, the San Francis-

"Turner was fired by the Raiders in 2005 after going 9-23 in two seasons. "

co's 46th offensive coordinator, was the only one of the six candidates who's never been an NFL head coach and the only one from outside the AFC side of the ball. He inherited a team that was an NFL-best 1-6-2 last season but finished with a record of 7-8-1.

Turner, 57, has never been a head coach in the NFL, but he has had plenty of top billing during his 26-year career as an offensive coordinator. He was with the San Francisco 49ers from 1985-2002, the last four seasons of which were under coach Steve Spurrier.

"Turner was by far the best offensive coordinator we interviewed," said Raiders owner Al Davis, speaking directly to Turner after the interview. "I think he's going to be great for the job."

The 49ers quickly hired Turner as their offensive coordinator, and Turner got remarkable progress from quarterback Steve Young.

"Turner's offensive strategies have been throughout his career," Davis said. "He's a guy who really works hard and gets his team ready to play."

The Raiders fell to 7-8-1 this season, and Turner was fired before Sunday's game against the St. Louis Rams. The Raiders lost their last two games.

"He's a guy who really works hard and gets his team ready to play," Davis said.

Turner, who was fired by the Raiders in 2005 after going 9-23 in two seasons, "Turner got remarkable progress from quarterback Steve Young.

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