

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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50¢

Law school invites Gonzales to speak

The College of Law has asked the controversial attorney general to give the keynote speech at graduation.

BY MASON KERNS
THE DAILY IOWAN

Controversial U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales may deliver the keynote address during the 2007 UI College of Law graduation ceremonies, *The Daily Iowan* has learned.

Carolyn Jones, the dean of the law school, said via e-mail on Wednesday that she doesn't

know whether Gonzales will accept the offer to speak, saying she believes "it's right to wait until we hear some word from him" before further comment or decisions. Meanwhile, UI law clinical Professor Barbara Schwartz said, through her receptionist, that she heard Gonzales had been asked but was unsure whether he'll accept.

Calls and e-mails to the Justice Department were not returned Wednesday.

Gonzales, a staunch conservative from his time as a Texas judge to his current 2-year-old term as the nation's head prosecutor, has recently been implicated in the growing flap surrounding the firing of eight U.S. attorneys. Coupled with

his authorization of "waterboarding" torture techniques on suspected terrorists and accusations of illegal domestic wiretapping, the latest allegations have left Gonzales searching for political capital as Democratic and some Republican lawmakers call for his resignation.



Gonzales
U.S. Attorney General

SEE GONZALES, PAGE 11A

Police probe death

Police say Stephanie Clemmons of Chicago was reported as not breathing.

BY SEUNG MIN KIM AND TERRY MCCOY
THE DAILY IOWAN

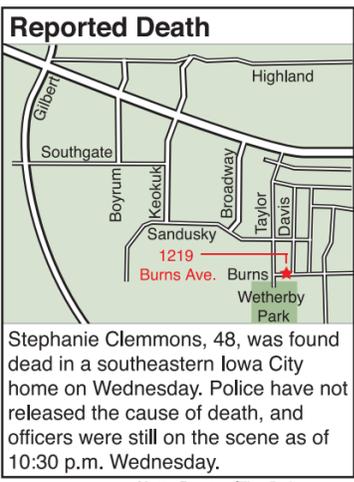
Iowa City police are probing a death reported Wednesday in a southeastern area of the city — the second such incident that authorities have investigated in recent weeks.

Stephanie Clemmons, 48, was discovered not breathing at 1219 Burns Ave. in Iowa City, officials announced late Wednesday. Emergency communications officials received a 911 call asking for medical assistance at 2:31 p.m. on Wednesday. Iowa City Police's activity log indicates that Clemmons, of 12018 S. Prairie Ave., Chicago, was dead on arrival.

Officers were still on the scene as of 10:30 p.m. Wednesday. The duplex's perimeter was surrounded by police tape.

Iowa City police Lt. Sid Jackson said on late Wednesday that authorities won't know much about circumstances surrounding the death until an autopsy is performed at the state Medical Examiner's Office in Ankeny this morning.

SEE DEATH, PAGE 11A



Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

The demand for U.S. passports is increasing, and the Study Abroad Office, for one, wants students to be aware of delays.



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Cathy Woodiwiss helps Larry Kern (center) fill out a form to make a correction for a misprint on his son John's passport at the Post Office on Clinton Street on Tuesday morning. Passports now take around eight to 10 weeks to process, which might pose problems for students wishing to study abroad this summer who have not yet applied for theirs.

PASSPORTS TAKING LONGER

BY MICHELLE SCOTT
THE DAILY IOWAN

The UI Office for Study Abroad is urging students to apply early for passports in light of new federal regulations that have added a month to the average time it takes for the documents to be processed.

The State Department's new Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, which went into effect Jan. 23, requires everyone traveling via air between the United States and Canada, Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Bermuda to present a valid passport or a similar document.

"Very rarely do we see a big problem" regarding passports, said Phil Carls, the assistant director of Study Abroad. "There's nothing really that our office can do if a student waits too long."

This new requirement and toughened rules regulating immigration have boosted the demand for and production of passports to record levels. The State Department expects to process roughly 17 million passports this year — up from 12 million in 2006.

UI sophomore Whitney Wakat will study in Spain — the most popular choice for UI undergraduates who elect to go abroad — for six weeks this summer. At the urging of her study-abroad adviser, she got a head start on the application process but has not yet received her passport.

"I applied when I was home for winter break, right before I came back to school," Wakat said.

SEE PASSPORTS, PAGE 11A

New Passport Guidelines

The U.S. Department of State recently announced that passport-processing times have increased because of high volume. Other passport-application rules have stayed the same.

Former Process	New Process
• Six-week processing for normal applications	• Ten-week processing for normal applications
• Two weeks for expedited applications	• Four weeks for expedited applications

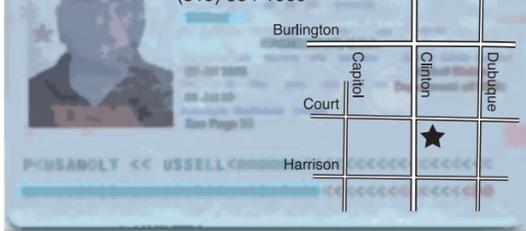
Unchanged

Application Fee	\$67
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Expedition Fee	\$60

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Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

State making progress on cancer

Officials say 3,000 Iowans beat cancer between 1997 and 2005.

BY MATT NELSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

Though more than 3,000 people triumphed over cancer between 1997 and 2005, the disease is still projected to kill more than 6,000 in Iowa this year, UI Hospitals and Clinics officials said Wednesday.

But the number of Iowans saved from death by cancer is increasing, and officials attribute the rise to better screening processes and therapies.

"In general, the number of lives saved has increased annually," said Charles Lynch, UI epidemiology professor and the director of the State Health Registry. "We're much better today than 20 years ago."

The UIHC registry released the Cancer in Iowa: 2007 report, which contains estimates of cancer-related deaths in the state for 2007, on Wednesday.

A projected 6,400 deaths will result from the disease in 2007, which is up from a predicted 6,300 last year. Nationwide, 559,650 people are expected to die from cancer this year, according to the American Cancer Society.

Looking at data collected from 1994 to 1996, researchers compared the projected number of deaths in the state for 1997 to 2005 with the actual deaths and found that 3,066 lives were saved.

But in an unexpected complication, the report found that greater than expected numbers of African American Iowans died from cancer in 1997 to 2005 — and researchers don't know why.

Lynch said the Iowa Consortium of Comprehensive Cancer Control plans to investigate the causes of the disparity.

"I'm hoping bringing this to attention will result in people doing something," he said. "This needs to be looked at."

Experts believe that lung cancer will cause 1,880 deaths in Iowa in 2007.

"We still have a long way to go," said John Lowe, UI professor of public health. "We still have one in five people smoking in Iowa."

SEE CANCER, PAGE 11A

↑ 54 12c
↓ 41 5c



Partly to mostly sunny, windy, 50% chance of rain/T-

BYE-BYE

The Steve Alford era at Iowa may be coming to a sudden and swift end. **1B**



KEG PATROL

A proposed measure in the Legislature would require keg registration. **3A**

HAIR TODAY

A local expert describes the evolution of wigs. **4A**

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Quicker meningitis test coming

DITV CHECK OUT **DITV** FOR AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE NEW MENINGITIS TEST ON CABLE CHANNEL 17, CAMPUS 4, OR AT DAILYIOWAN.COM.

BY SAMANTHA MILLER
THE DAILY IOWAN

The UI Hospitals and Clinics will soon have a new tool at its disposal to distinguish the presence of viral meningitis — or its lethal counterpart, bacterial meningitis — in spinal fluid.

The hospital at present uses a method that can take up to three weeks to receive the results, but a new test called "Xpert EV" produces accurate data within a few hours, said Hans House, a UI clinical assistant professor of emergency medicine.

"[Xpert EV] is good for a quicker, definitive answer," the physician said.

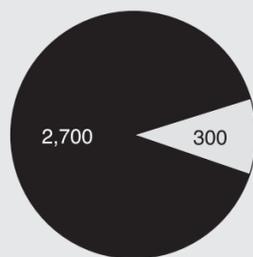
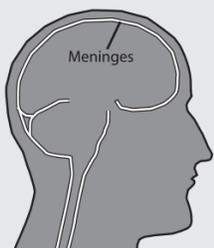
The new test, approved by the Food and Drug Administration on March 16, involves sampling a patient's spinal fluid to detect infection that is consistent with a class of viruses referred to as enteroviruses, which are responsible for 90 percent of viral meningitis, according to an FDA press release.

Like Xpert EV, the test currently administered at the UIHC requires spinal fluid for testing.

Karen Riley, an FDA spokeswoman, said there is no way to get around a spinal tap — the painful

MENINGITIS

Meningitis is a disease affecting the meninges, a film that surrounds the brain and spinal cord that can become inflamed. Among the two types of meningitis, bacterial is much more serious and can lead to death if not treated within a couple hours. Viral meningitis is fairly common and not considered life threatening.



Of the 3,000 Americans that contract bacterial meningitis annually, approximately 300 die. Treatments include antibiotics if it is discovered early or a vaccine to prevent the onset.

Carson Tigges/The Daily Iowan

process is necessary for acquiring the spinal fluids for tests.

"To test for meningitis, they do a spinal tap and analyze [the sample]," she said. "It's not popular, or pleasant, but now it's the only thing available."

But unlike with Xpert EV, at the UIHC, the fluid isn't tested with the reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction — a fully automated diagnostic test. Instead, the fluid must be cultured, lengthening the process.

Though UIHC hasn't yet begun using the recently FDA-approved test, it still has speedy methods at its disposal.

One practice involves taking spinal fluid and examining it under a microscope, where medical professionals can look for signs that suggest whether meningitis is present, House said. This is helpful to doctors in determining appropriate treatment, which differs greatly between the two types of meningitis.

This method's downside lies in its possible inaccuracies, which is why the new test, Xpert EV, is an exciting prospect, House added.

"Now you can do a test and get results, in an hour, that are more definitive than looking under a microscope," he said.

Prompt test results are essential because of the vast differences in treatment between bacterial and viral meningitis. Though the symptoms — such as fever, headaches, and nausea — may be similar, the immediate severity of the types is where the similarities end.

For viral meningitis, which usually lasts a few weeks, there is nothing to do but treat the pain with medication. But bacterial meningitis requires immediate treatment with antibiotics.

"Bacterial meningitis is deadly," House said. "If not treated, it will kill you."

In the FDA's study of the Xpert EV test, 96 percent of patients who tested positive for viral meningitis did have it, and 97 percent who tested negative did not.

The accuracy of these results are encouraging, and UIHC physicians plan to combine the new test with current methods, House said.

"We will still do the culture to be 100 percent sure," he added.

E-mail *D*/reporter **Samantha Miller** at: samantha-a-miller@uiowa.edu

RAIN DANCE



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

UI sophomore Kevin Kremer heads to his Biology II class during a drizzly Wednesday afternoon. Residents should expect more rain today.

METRO

More Momentum

Momentum is a hard thing to stop. The UI has granted a three-year extension to the Iowa Promise Momentum Plus initiative, a program that gives competitive grants to UI researchers, scholars, and artists who desire diversity in their work.

"Increasing diversity in everything that we do is one of the key goals of the Iowa Promise," UI Provost Michael Hogan stated in a UI press release. "It is essential to the educational experience."

According to the release, the program will dispense \$20,000 annually in supplemental grants for the next three years to UI researchers who have both been competitive in attaining external funding and who wish to infuse their projects with diversity.

The Momentum Initiative has already given a grant to a day-long workshop intended to encourage

women to study science and math in 2006, which was Momentum's pilot year, the press release states.

— by **Terry McCoy**

Teen pleads guilty in car-chase case

A Washington, Iowa, teen who led authorities on a high-speed police chase in January along Interstate 80 pleaded guilty Wednesday to three charges relating to the incident.

Joseph Short, 19, pleaded guilty to two counts of third-degree burglary and one count of eluding officers. Short must serve two five-year sentences concurrently for the burglary offenses and two years for the eluding charge, according to the plea agreement.

The agreement also requires Short to pay the minimum \$750 in fines for the burglary charges and \$625 for eluding.

Assistant Johnson County Attorney Mike Brennan said he will

wait for a presentence investigation report before deciding if he will recommend Short to serve the time behind bars or in a half-way house.

Authorities said they received reports that a car was striking the building repeatedly at Clear Co. Auto Body in Coralville on Jan. 30. When they arrived on the scene and tried to stop Short, he drove the car down First Avenue and then eastbound on I-80. Police had to use a deflation device to stop the car at the 277-mile marker.

Short was also initially charged with nine other traffic offenses.

A sentencing date in his case was not immediately set.

— by **Kelsey Beltrame**

Man pleads guilty to arson

An Iowa City man who set fire to several articles of clothing on the doorstep of an Oakcrest Street apartment pleaded guilty to second-degree arson on Wednesday.

Jonathan Lovell, 20, pleaded guilty to the Class C felony instead of facing trial for first-degree arson, which carries a maximum punishment of 25 years in prison.

Residents at the 1014 Oakcrest St. apartment told police they helped extinguish a fire on the steps after Lovell set it. They said Lovell then took the clothes back into his No. 12 apartment.

When police arrived at the building to investigate reports of an intoxicated subject, they eventually arrested Lovell.

Assistant Johnson County Attorney Meredith Rich-Chappell said she will recommend the Kirkwood Community College student receive a deferred judgment at his May 5 sentencing. If Lovell successfully completes supervised probation for two to five years, the charge would not be entered on his record, she said.

— by **Kelsey Beltrame**

POLICE BLOTTER

Seth Brennehan, 23, 310 S. Governor St., was charged Wednesday with OWI and possession of marijuana.

Matthew Cooney, 29, Dubuque, was charged Wednesday with disorderly conduct, public intoxication, and interference with official acts.

Nicholas Dolan, 20, Glenview, Ill.,

was charged Wednesday with **PAULA Carl Duber**, 19, 1100 N. Dubuque St. Apt. 309A, was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

Jeffrey Funcke, 18, Coralville, was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

Patrick Kennelly, 19, Glen Ellyn, Ill., was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

Melissa Lersten, 18, 2514 Burge,

was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Julie Maurer, 19, St. Charles, Mo., was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

Ross Neuman, 18, 329 Slater, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

Christopher Sheldon, 18, Wheaton, Ill., was charged Wednesday with

public intoxication, unlawful use of another's driver's license/ID, and **PAULA**.

Sarah Stephenson, 19, Bettendorf, Iowa, was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

Ashley Strong, 20, Norwalk, Iowa, was charged Wednesday with **PAULA**.

The Daily Iowan

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Bill targets serving underage people

The state of Iowa is taking steps to make sure alcohol stays out of the hands of those underage.

BY BRITNEY BERGET
THE DAILY IOWAN

House parties have long been known as the place to be on a Friday night for students who are underage and looking to drink.

But following the 88-10 passage of a keg registration measure in the Iowa House on Wednesday, another piece of legislation proposed by the Public Safety Committee on March 14 could add to the arsenal of regulations aimed at keeping alcohol out of the hands of those under age.

The new bill would make it a simple misdemeanor for underage people to serve alcohol to others who are underage on first offense, and it would make the second offense punishable with a \$500 fine.

"The new legislation will make it much easier for law officials to quickly and efficiently deal with underage drinkers," said Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay.

Because of the set monetary fine, he said, the bill has the potential to deter the number of house parties that occur.

Which could prove beneficial — a study released by the Underage Drinking Enforcement Center found that teenagers who begin drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence.

Rep. Mary Mascher, D-Iowa City, said the legislation could help crack down on underage drinking and help target house parties, specifically.

'With so many house parties, it's underage people who are throwing the parties and providing the alcohol. The intent is to let students know they are liable.'

— Rep. Mary Mascher, D-Iowa City

"With so many house parties, it's underage people who are throwing the parties and providing the alcohol," Mascher said. "The intent is to let students know they are liable."

Some students haven't thought twice about providing alcohol to those underage and aren't worried about the proposed legislation.

"I've always been more worried about getting a ticket for having a disorderly house," said Claire Rhoten, a 20-year-old UI junior who has thrown and attended house parties. The proposed legislation is something to keep in mind, she said.

And of course, as 21-year-old Marc Hines pointed out, there are always the bars.

"I think this could reduce the size of house parties," the UI junior said. "But it's not like it's hard to get alcohol at the bars, either."

E-mail DI reporter **Brittney Berget** at: brittney-berget@uiowa.edu

House passes keg bill

State could soon require keg sales to be recorded and available for police review.

BY MASON KERNS
THE DAILY IOWAN

The Iowa House effectively delivered a blow Wednesday to house parties in Iowa City and across the state, passing a keg-registration measure meant to counter bootlegging and augment law enforcement's ability to punish those supplying underage drinkers.

House File 650, which passed 88-10, now moves to the Senate. Sen. Joe Bolkcom, D-Iowa City, said Wednesday that the proposed law will likely pass the upper chamber close to its current form.

Under the bill, keg retailers would purchase stickers from the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division at a nominal fee and affix them to every keg — defined as holding at least five gallons of beer — before selling them. Each keg would have an identification number corresponding to the purchaser's name, address, and driver's license or military ID number.

For at least 90 days, the retailer would retain the information that police can access during normal business hours — affording law enforcement a key tool in crashing parties long after the vomit and plastic cups have been cleared off the floor.

Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay said he doubted whether the provision would be used to apprehend bootleggers as long as three months after parties, but he pointed to instances where keg registration could benefit law enforcement.

"If, for instance, we respond to a large party, and dozens of people appearing to be juveniles flee and abandon a keg, we could track down the alcohol provider and hold that person responsible," Kelsay said.

Keg retailers who don't affix the stickers, record purchasers' information, or present those facts to police upon request would be guilty of a simple



File photo/The Daily Iowan

A John's Grocery employee wheels two kegs of Miller Lite to the side door of the building on Feb. 17, 2005. A bill in the state Legislature would require all kegs to be registered to more easily track underage drinking.

'If, for instance, we respond to a large party, and dozens of people appearing to be juveniles flee and abandon a keg, we could track down the alcohol provider and hold that person responsible.'

— Sgt. Troy Kelsay, Iowa City police officer

misdemeanor. Anyone who detaches or defaces the sticker would face the same penalty.

Doug Alberhasky of John's Grocery, 401 E. Market St., appeared relatively indifferent about the proposal.

"I'm usually against any more regulation by the government on small businesses," he said. "I don't see this being a huge burden, though."

News of the measure's likely passage evoked both mixed and slightly skeptical reactions from university students. UI

junior Brad Nolden expressed doubt about the measure's efficacy.

"Thirty-packs of [Miller] High Life are about to become a best-seller," he said, referring to a possible low-budget replacement to keep alcohol-fueled endeavors alive.

Local lawmakers expressed mostly support for the law. Rep. Vicki Lensing, D-Iowa City, said in an e-mail that a similar bill was introduced several years ago by a group of high-school students whose friend

died as an indirect result of underage drinking. Lensing indicated she's fairly confident the bill will "hold adults who break the law accountable."

More than a quarter of Iowa's 99 counties already enforce local keg-registration ordinances. Just before the House approved the bill, Rep. Dave Jacoby, D-Coralville, attached an amendment ensuring that state laws would preempt and supersede existing measures.

The lawmaker said the Iowa County Attorneys Association preferred the amendment to avoid statutory confusion and instill uniformity.

Asked whether supporting keg registration could make him less popular among UI students, Jacoby jokingly said, "Well, I may have to watch out next time I walk downtown, huh?"

E-mail DI reporter **Mason Kerns** at: mason-kerns@uiowa.edu

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Local expert: No longer a reason to wig out

A local woman discussed the evolution of wigs at the Johnson County Senior Center on Wednesday morning.

BY LAURA KLAIRMONT
THE DAILY IOWAN

said they had never heard of the condition.

Valainis, a local fifth-grade teacher, began a mission to find the perfect wig shortly after she started losing her hair. In her experience, doctors and clinics were not helpful when it came to dispensing information about wigs.

"I had to figure it out on my own," she said.

In order to better inform her audience, she brought in catalogues to show examples of the images that they see when shopping for wigs.

"Years ago, wearing a wig was like wearing a hat," she said. "Fortunately, a lot has changed in the wig industry since then."

At the Mabaline Wig and Hair Replacement Salon in Cedar Rapids, Jeff Abraham and his father, who own the



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Mary Jo Daly looks through a Paula Young catalogue during an informational meeting about wigs and hair loss at the Johnson County Senior Center on Wednesday morning.

store together, have dedicated their careers to do helping individuals find the right wigs. Like Valainis, a majority of

'Years ago, wearing a wig was like wearing a hat. Fortunately, a lot has changed in the wig industry since then.'

— Martha Valainis,
local fifth-grade teacher

their customers have alopecia or are undergoing chemotherapy, said Abraham, adding that prices range from \$150 to \$4,000.

"Today, wigs are unbelievable," he said. "You can look at the tops of wigs these days, and it looks as though you are looking at the top of the scalp."

And most people today would be hard pressed to distinguish one's real hair from a wig, Valainis said.

"My family and I were watching

the Grammys, and I asked my brother what he thought I and Mary J. Blige had in common," said Mary Jo Daly, an audience member.

Daly's brother was stumped. The similarity, Daly said, was their use of synthetic hair products.

"You want to go out and live your life and not have to be concerned about your hair," Valainis said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Laura Klairmont** at: laura-klairmont@uiowa.edu

Soldier pleads guilty to being rape accessory

BY KRISTIN M. HALL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

hearing that began Wednesday afternoon.

Five soldiers were charged in the rape of Abeer Qassim al-Jabir and the killings of her, her parents, and her younger sister. Two of the soldiers had previously pleaded guilty and said Howard's role was minimal.

Howard told the judge Wednesday he was left behind at a checkpoint while four other soldiers went to rape the girl. Howard said he overheard the four planning the attack.

Howard said he only started to realize that someone had been killed after the soldiers returned about 10 minutes later. He said the four soldiers were in a "hectic state and hyper."

'I was slowly starting to believe what they had done, that they had committed the crimes, the rape and the murder.'

— Bryan Howard,
U.S. soldier

Howard said he saw blood on one of the soldier's uniforms, but he didn't remember which one.

"I was slowly starting to believe what they had done, that they had committed the crimes, the rape and the murder," Howard said.

Spc. James P. Barker and Sgt. Paul E. Cortez, who have pleaded

guilty to rape and murder, have said they took turns raping the girl while Pfc. Steven D. Green shot and killed her mother, father, and younger sister. Green then shot Abeer in the head, they said.

Green, who is accused of being the ringleader but was discharged from the military

before being charged, will be prosecuted in a federal court in Kentucky. He pleaded not guilty to charges including murder and sexual assault in the March 12, 2006, attack.

Barker said Howard and another soldier charged, Pfc. Jesse V. Spielman, did not participate in the rape and killings, but he said they were at the house when the assault occurred and had come knowing what the others intended to do.

Howard, of Huffman, Texas, was initially described as a lookout for the crime, and other soldiers from the 101st Airborne have said he was not directly involved.

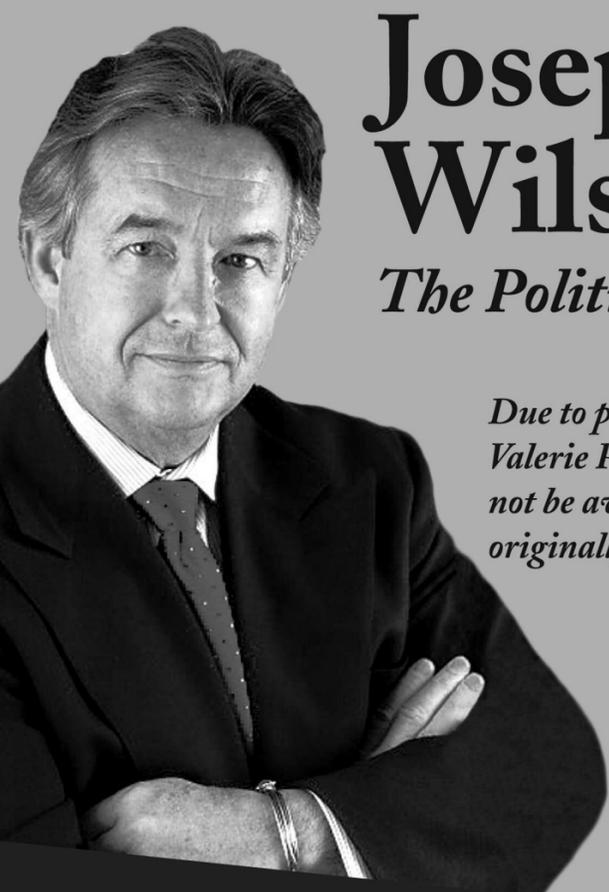
During Wednesday's hearing, Howard said Cortez and Green bragged about what they had done after they returned.

Howard said he knew Green shot at least one person, but he didn't know how many. Howard said he learned how many people had been killed when the battalion commander started to ask him about the attack.

Howard said he told investigators that he didn't believe the soldiers were involved, but "I told them Green was probably crazy enough to do it."

Howard said he implicated Green to draw the investigators' attention away from Barker, Cortez and Spielman.

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Survey: UI students awash in drinking culture

The report says undergraduate students' drinking conduct is a concern for the UI community.

BY KAYLA KELLEY
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI undergraduate students say the campus continues to host a problematic "culture of drinking" — affirming what national rankings have proclaimed about the university for years.

A 92-page report released Wednesday showed UI undergraduates continue to consume an amount of alcohol that earns the college the title of a being a

"party school," the UI Center of Research on Undergraduate Education has found.

"I think we attract students who look for a drinking environment, because we are a party school," UI sophomore Scott Pate said.

Alcohol use, the general academic climate, and extracurricular activities were some of the issues covered in the survey, titled Research on Iowa Student Experiences, which is a part of the UI's bid for re-accreditation.

The Office of the Provost asked the Center of Research on Undergraduate Education to conduct the survey in order to better comprehend student life, said Tom Rocklin, the UI associate provost for undergraduate education.

Other prominent surveys have indicated that the university continues to foster a party atmosphere. For instance, the most recent college rankings from the *Princeton Review* showed that Iowa women were

tops in the "(Almost) Never" studying category, while the school was No. 9 among party schools nationwide.

UI sophomore Kerry King agreed that alcohol can block students' academic successes.

"But I don't think people should look at it negatively, because it is your responsibility to have self-control," King added. "Students have to balance using alcohol and getting good grades."

Rocklin said that in the future, he would like to see a shift toward a more responsible use of alcohol among students and see academic experiences improve.

"The number of students drinking is not new information," he said. "But the university is doing things to educate students, such as AlcoholEdu."

That course, which is required for incoming freshmen, educates students about the effects of alcohol and how to

make responsible decisions involving drinking.

Angela Reams, the coordinator of the Stepping Up Project, said the prevalence of alcohol-related problems has not shown to have increased very much.

"We live in a culture that normalizes drinking, and we hope AlcoholEdu will provide freshmen with knowledge and information to make healthier decisions," she said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Kayla Kelley** at: kayla-kelley@uiowa.edu

STATE

Domestic-abuse activists want gun restrictions

DES MOINES (AP) — Domestic-abuse activists stepped up pressure on the Legislature Wednesday to ban abusers from having guns, warning that 155 abuse victims have been murdered over the last decade and most were killed by guns.

"This law would help prevent women, men, and children from being terrorized, maimed, and killed by violent domestic abusers," said Attorney General Tom Miller, at a Statehouse news conference.

The measure Miller and other advocates were pushing would prohibit gun possession by people convicted of domestic abuse or under a domestic-abuse restraining order. It's been approved by a Senate committee, but its fate is not clear.

Nancy Robertson, a public-policy coordinator for the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, said few judges include a gun ban when they issue protective orders, even though federal law already bans those abusers from being armed.

"They don't really see their role as enforcing federal law," Robertson said.

Chuck Larson Sr., a former U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Iowa, said the state can't rely on federal courts to enforce the gun ban because there are few resources to enforce the law.

"It's a dangerous situation," he said. "There are limited federal resources."

Robertson said abuse victims live in fear.

"Victims daily are facing this situation," she said.

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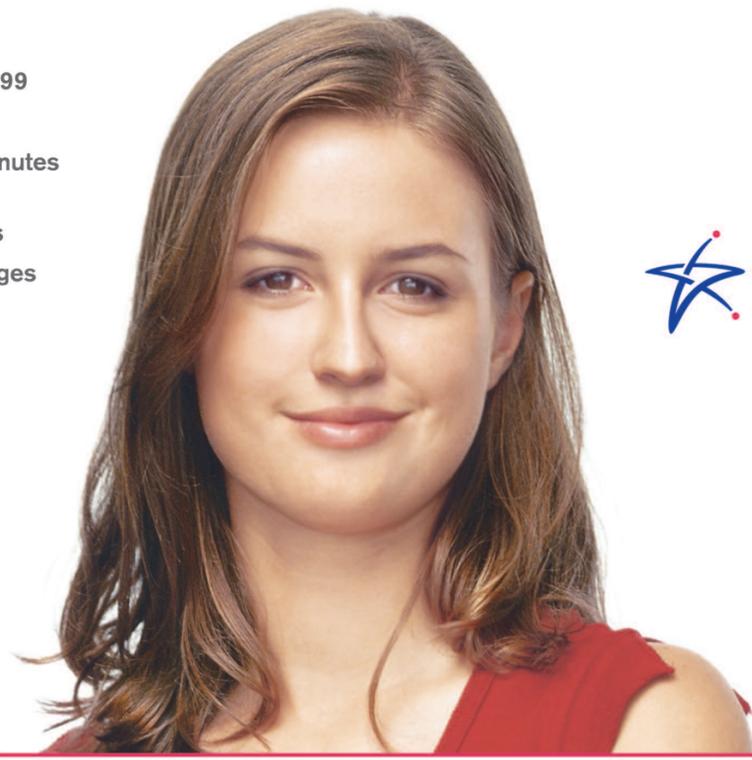
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UI staff want raises

Staff Council will ask for higher salaries for the 5,400 employees it represents.

BY ASHTON SHURSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

Higher salaries could be on the way for some UI staff members. The Staff Council began discussion at its Wednesday meeting about the percentage increase it would request from the state Board of Regents in May.

Throughout the discussion, most council members suggested a 5.5-6 percent increase for the 5,400 UI staff members they represent.

"I feel we are in a strong position to ask for a raise," said member Duncan Stewart, who was also elected as the new vice president and president-elect during the meeting.

Staff Council President Mary Greer said the three unions that represent some UI employees — the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Campaign to Organize Graduate Students, and Service Employees International Union — get to renegotiate salaries with the state every two years, and the other UI staff members should have the same opportunity.

"We work side-by-side with our union coworkers and are equally deserving," Greer said. "The university does have

catching up to do. We've accepted lower increases in the past."

In fiscal 2006, the Staff Council asked for an increase of 3.5-5 percent and received a 4.36 percent increase from the regents. Last spring, Iowa State University's Professional & Scientific Council asked for a 3.2 percent increase, while the University of Northern Iowa's sister council asked for a 2.5 percent increase.

Many UI councilors argued that a 6 percent increase is necessary because of higher costs of living and increases in health insurance.

"Scattered across campus, there are individuals who, through no fault of their own, [have had their] cost of living go up and their health insurance [too]," said council member Janette Pettus.

Stewart wondered whether the regents would believe the UI had reason for such a high pay raise, but council member David Johnson said there would be no risk involved with asking for such an increase.

"What are we going to lose?" he said.

During the council's April meeting, the group will draft a proposed salary increase to present to the regents in May.

E-mail: Ashton.Shurson@uiowa.edu

Gore tells Congress to act on global climate change

The former vice president advised lawmakers to cut greenhouse-gas emissions 90 percent by 2050 and to create a new global-climate treaty to place the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, which President Bush has rejected.

BY NEDRA PICKLER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Al Gore made an emotional return to Congress Wednesday to plead with lawmakers to fight global warming with moral courage while revealing nothing about whether he'll join the 2008 presidential race.

The former vice president is a Democratic favorite for the presidential nomination even though he says he's not running. Fresh off a triumphant Hollywood appearance in which his climate-change documentary, *An Inconvenient Truth*, won two Oscars, Gore drew overflow crowds as he testified before House and Senate panels about a "true planetary emergency."

He said the issue should not be partisan or political, but he faced skeptical Republicans who questioned his personal commitment to reducing energy use and the science behind his film.

"You're not just off a little, you're totally wrong," said Texas Rep. Joe Barton, the leading Republican on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, as he challenged Gore's conclusion that carbon-dioxide emissions cause rising global temperatures. Barton and Gore's exchange grew testy at one point — Barton demanding that Gore get to the point, and Gore responding that he would like time to answer without being interrupted.

"Global-warming science is uneven and evolving," Barton asserted.

Gore insisted that the link is beyond dispute and is the source of broad agreement in the scientific community.

"The planet has a fever," he said. "If your baby has a fever, you go to the doctor. If the doctor says you need to intervene here, you don't say, 'Well, I read a science-fiction novel that told me it's not a problem.' If the crib's on fire, you don't speculate that the baby is flame retardant. You take action."



Susan Walsh/Associated Press

Former Vice President Al Gore shakes hands with Sen. Amy Klobuchar, D-Minn. as he arrives on Capitol Hill on Wednesday to testify before the Senate Environment Committee on global climate change.

Gore's congressional testimony marked the first time he had been to Capitol Hill since January 2001, when he was the defeated Democratic presidential nominee still presiding over the Senate in his role as vice president. It comes 20 years after Gore, then a congressman from Tennessee, held the first hearings in Congress on global warming.

It also brought him face-to-face with Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who could have her front-runner status threatened if Gore decided to challenge her for the party nomination. But

there was no political fireworks between them at the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing.

Rodham Clinton said she found some of Gore's ideas "extremely intriguing" and asked for more details on proposals such as a carbon-based tax, a cap-and-trade system and a carbon-neutral mortgage association.

In a day of testimony, Gore first appeared before a joint hearing by two House committees, with his wife, Tipper Gore, sitting behind him and a stack of boxes beside him containing

hundreds of thousands of messages asking Congress to act on global warming. Later, he testified before the Senate panel, where partisan bickering grew even louder.

Republican Sen. James Inhofe of Oklahoma, who has labeled global warming a hoax, complained that the Democratic leadership gave Gore extra time and advantages not afforded typical witnesses. Inhofe then grilled Gore about his personal energy use at his Tennessee mansion and showed the final frame of Gore's film that read, "Are you ready to change the way you live?"

METRO

Inmate gets 2 more years for reported rape

An Iowa Penitentiary inmate will spend an additional two years behind bars for charges relating to the reported rape of a fellow prisoner at a medium-security prison.

Montrell Anderson, 29, was charged in January 2006 with second-degree sex abuse for threatening and abusing another man at the Iowa Medical & Classification Center in Oakdale.

Police said that while Anderson was locked in a cell with another man, he threatened to stab him in the neck with a pen if he did not comply. Anderson then forced the victim to remove his

clothing and proceeded to rape him, according to court documents.

Anderson had pleaded guilty to the lesser offense of assault with intent to commit sex abuse in December 2006, but later withdrew the plea because he had trouble with the factual basis of the charge, public defender John Robertson said.

But just before going to trial, Anderson agreed to again accept a plea agreement. He was also sentenced on March 19 to pay \$500 in fines.

Anderson had originally been committed to the Oakdale facility for 25 years after being convicted of second-degree sex abuse and first-degree burglary in Black Hawk County.

— by Kelsey Beltramea

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Some tax cuts may be extended

The proposed budget would erase a \$132 billion surplus predicted to appear in five years.

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats went on record Wednesday in favor of extending a variety of popular tax cuts that are to expire in the last year of the decade.

Their budget plan had come under heavy GOP criticism for assuming tax cuts enacted during President Bush's first term would expire in 2010 as scheduled.

The changes to the Democrats' \$2.9 trillion budget outline would cover close to half the cost of extending the expiring tax cuts, and they were aimed at winning support from moderates for the nonbinding but symbolically significant blueprint.

The plan, however, also would erase a \$132 billion surplus predicted to appear in five years.

The importance of the development is political rather than substantive. The Democratic-controlled Congress, like its GOP predecessors, is not expected this year to follow up with binding legislation that would extend the expiring tax cuts.

It is commonly assumed that lawmakers will re-examine the tax cuts after the 2008 presidential election, with the outcome depending on the balance of power in Washington and on the fiscal outlook at that time.

The tax cut amendment, approved 97-1, won the support of every Republican and of every Democrat except Sen. Russ Feingold of Wisconsin. The vote was on a plan by Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., to devote \$180 billion in 2011-12 to preserve tax cuts aimed at the middle class. That included

relief for married couples, people with children, and people inheriting large estates.

After Baucus' plan passed, Democrats united to kill a bid by Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., to extend further cuts on taxes on estates as well as cuts on capital gains and dividend income that Republicans credit for jump-starting the economy after they were passed in 2003.

In the House, a Democrat-dominated committee debated a companion budget plan that would award big spending increases to domestic programs.

It assumes Bush's tax cuts indeed disappear and, as a result, would produce a \$153 billion surplus in five years through more money coming into the treasury.

The House Budget Committee's \$2.9 trillion plan envisions large increases for homeland security, veterans' health care and aid to local schools.

A vote was expected late Wednesday night.

Republicans condemned the Democratic budget plan for its spending increases and its assumption that the lower taxes on income, married couples, inheritances and investments would expire.

"The best way to balance the budget is to control spending, not raise taxes," said the House committee's top Republican, Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin.

Despite much debate over taxes, the immediate effect of the House and Senate budget blueprints for next year is to award increases above inflation to domestic agencies for the portion of their budgets passed each year by Congress.

Dems defy Bush

BY DAVID ESPO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush and the Democratic-controlled Congress careened closer to a full-blown legal showdown over the firing of federal prosecutors Wednesday, when a House subcommittee voted subpoenas for top administration officials in defiance of the White House.

"After two months of stonewalling, shifting stories, and misleading testimony, it is clear that we are still not getting the truth about the decision to fire these prosecutors and its cover-up," said Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif.

In response, an unyielding White House threatened to rescind its day-old proposal for top strategist Karl Rove and other officials to answer lawmakers' questions away from the glare of television lights and not under oath. "If they issue subpoenas, yes, the offer is withdrawn," said presidential spokesman Tony Snow. Democrats "will have rejected the offer," he said.

Despite the rhetoric, Rep. John Conyers, the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, repeatedly suggested there was room for negotiations in a confrontation that has threatened Attorney General Alberto Gonzales' hold on his job and forced his chief of staff to resign.

"What we're voting on today is merely a backup," said the Michigan Democrat, adding



Pablo Martinez Monsivais/Associated Press

Karl Rove walks down the steps of Air Force One after arriving at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., on Tuesday.

that he would refrain from issuing the subpoenas, at least for the time being.

Documents made public during the day did little to clarify the circumstances surrounding the firings of the eight U.S. attorneys. Instead, they showed the Justice Department scrambling to answer questions from California Republican lawmakers

critical of the record compiled by the U.S. attorney's office on immigration cases. Carol Lam, the U.S. attorney at the time, was among the group that was fired.

In an apparent attempt to mend fences, Gonzales arranged a series of meetings in the coming days with groups of U.S. attorneys around the country,

beginning Thursday in St. Louis.

It seemed likely the next act in the political drama would be a separate vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee to approve a second set of subpoenas for Rove, former White House counsel Harriet Miers, and William Kelley, who was Miers' deputy.

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Mahdi Army may be breaking up, officials say

The militia of Muqtada al-Sadr has shown signs of splintering, two commanders say, with some others heading in an extremist direction.

BY HAMZA HENDAWI AND QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — The violent Shiite militia known as the Mahdi Army is breaking into splinter groups, with up to 3,000 gunmen now financed directly by Iran and no longer loyal to the firebrand cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, adding a potentially even more deadly element to Iraq's violent mix.

Two senior militia commanders told the Associated Press that hundreds of these fighters have crossed into Iran for training by the elite Quds force, a branch of Iran's Revolutionary Guard thought to have trained Hezbollah guerrillas in Lebanon and Muslim fighters in Bosnia and Afghanistan.

The breakup is an ominous development at a time when U.S. and Iraqi forces are working to defeat religious-based militias and secure Iraq under government control. While al-Sadr's

forces have battled the coalition repeatedly, including pitched battles in 2004, they've mostly stayed in the background during the latest offensive.

The U.S. military has asserted in recent months that Iran's Revolutionary Guards and Quds force have been providing Shiite militias with weapons and parts for sophisticated armor-piercing bombs. The so-called explosively formed penetrators are responsible for the deaths of more than 170 American and coalition soldiers since mid-2004, the military says.

In the latest such attack, four U.S. soldiers were killed March 15 by a roadside bomb in eastern Baghdad.

At the Pentagon, a military official confirmed there were signs the Mahdi Army was splintering. Some were breaking away to attempt a more conciliatory approach to the Americans and the Iraqi government, others moving in a more extremist direction, the official said.

However, the official, who was not authorized to be quoted by name on the topic, was not aware of direct Iranian recruitment and financing of Mahdi Army members.

The outlines of the fracture inside the Mahdi Army were confirmed by senior Iraqi government officials with access to intelligence reports prepared for Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki.

The information indicates a disintegrating organization yet a potentially even more dangerous foe, they revealed, on condition that their names not be used.

The militia commanders and al-Maliki's reports identify the



Alaa Al-Marjani/Associated Press
Radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr delivers an address in Kufa, Iraq, on Sept. 22, 2006. Some reports say his Shiite militia, known as the Mahdi Army, is splintering, with up to 3,000 gunmen now funded directly by Iran and no longer loyal to him.

leader of the breakaway faction as Qais al-Khazaali, a young Iraqi cleric who was a close

al-Sadr aide in 2003 and 2004. He was al-Sadr's chief spokesman for most of 2004,

when he made nearly daily appearances on Arabic satellite news channels. He has not been seen in public since late that year.

Another U.S. official, who declined to be identified because of the information's sensitivity, said it was true that some gunmen had gone to Iran for training and that al-Khazaali has a following. However, the official could not confirm the number of his followers or whether Iran was financing them.

Al-Sadr has been in Iran since early February, apparently lying low during the U.S.-Iraqi offensive, according to the U.S. military. He is not known to be close to Iran's leadership or Iraq's top Shiite cleric, Iranian-born Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani.

While Al-Sadr's strategy appears to be to wait out the government offensive and preserve his force, his absence has left loyal fighters unsure about his future and pondering whether they had been abandoned by their leader, the commanders said.

Al-Sadr tried to return to Iraq last month but turned back before he reached the Iraqi border upon learning of U.S. checkpoints on the road to Najaf, the Shiite holy city south of Baghdad where he lives.

"Conditions are not suitable for him to return," said an al-Sadr aide, who requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of the subject. "His safety will not be guaranteed if he returns."

The Mahdi Army commanders, who said they would be endangered if their names were

revealed, said Iran's Revolutionary Guards were funding and arming the defectors from their force, and that several hundred over the last 18 months had slipped across the Iranian border for training by the Quds force.

In recent weeks, Mahdi Army fighters who escaped possible arrest in the Baghdad security push have received \$600 each upon reaching Iran. The former Mahdi Army militiamen working for the Revolutionary Guards operate under the cover a relief agency for Iraqi refugees, they said.

Once fighters defect, they receive a monthly stipend of \$200, said the commanders.

Alireza Jafarzadeh, a spokesman for an Iranian dissident group, told reporters in New York on Tuesday that Iraqi Shiite guerrillas and death squads were being trained in secret camps in Iran with the blessing of top Tehran government leaders and at least three senior Iraqi political figures.

Inside Iraq, the breakaway troops are using the cover of the Mahdi Army itself, the commanders said.

The defectors are in secret, small, but well-funded cells. Little else has emerged about the structure of their organization, but most of their cadres are thought to have maintained the pretense of continued Mahdi Army membership, possibly to escape reprisals.

Estimates of the number of Mahdi Army fighters vary wildly, with some putting the figure at 10,000 and others as many as 60,000.

AP writer Robert Burns contributed to this report.

Iran warns of 'illegal' steps

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's top leader warned Wednesday his country will pursue "illegal actions" if the U.N. Security Council insists it halt uranium enrichment, an apparent reference to nuclear activities outside international regulations.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei also warned the United States that Iran would fight back with "all its capacities" if attacked.

"Until today, what we have done has been in accordance with international regulations," Khamenei said. "But if they take illegal actions, we, too, can take illegal actions and will do so."

He did not elaborate on what the "illegal actions" could be, but Iran is a signatory to the Nuclear

Nonproliferation Treaty, the agreement under which the U.N. inspections are held.

Iran says it will never give up its right under the treaty to enrich uranium and produce nuclear fuel. But it has offered to provide guarantees that its nuclear program won't be diverted toward weapons — as the U.S. and some of its allies fear.

The five permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, Russia, China, Britain, and France — and Germany have drawn up new sanctions to punish Iran for rejecting U.N. demands to halt enrichment — a process that can produce fuel for a reactor or fissile material for a nuclear warhead.

"If they want to treat us with threats and enforcement of

coercion and violence, undoubtedly they must know that the Iranian nation and authorities will use all their capacities to strike enemies that attack," Khamenei told the nation in an address marking the first day of Nowruz, or the Persian New Year.

Ambassadors from the 15 Security Council nations held informal discussions in New York on Wednesday ahead of a meeting to discuss possible changes to the draft sanctions resolution.

The new sanctions would ban Iranian arms exports and freeze the assets of 28 additional individuals and organizations involved in the country's nuclear and missile programs — about a third linked to Iran's

Revolutionary Guard, an elite military corps.

The package also calls for voluntary restrictions on travel by the individuals subject to sanctions, on arms sales to Iran, and on new financial assistance or loans to the Iranian government.

In Washington, Bush administration officials urged patience with U.S. efforts to crack down on Iran as Democrats leveled fresh criticism of the government's approach.

"Iran is a country very much on the defensive right now," said R. Nicholas Burns, undersecretary for political affairs at the State Department.

AP writers Edith Lederer, Jeannine Aversa, and Vladimir Isachenkov contributed to this report.

Military sex assaults up 24%

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Reports of sexual assaults in the military increased by approximately 24 percent last year, and more than twice as many offenders were punished.

There were nearly 3,000 sexual-assault reports filed in 2006, compared with almost 2,400 the previous year, a Pentagon report said Wednesday. Action was taken against 780 people, from courts-martial and discharges to other administrative remedies.

The cases involved members of the military who were victims or accused of the assaults. The military counts rape, nonconsensual sodomy, indecent assault, and attempts to commit any of those as sexual assault, though the 17-page report contained no data on how many of each were reported.

This is the third year the military has compiled the sexual-assault statistics. The reporting methods have changed each year, however, making comparisons of the annual reports difficult.

Of the 2,947 sexual assaults reported last year, 756 were initially

filed under a program that allows victims to report the incident and receive health care or counseling services but does not notify law enforcement or commanders.

The restricted, confidential reporting program allows the victims to consider pursuing an investigation later; that was done in 86 of the 756 cases last year.

Data for 2005 included only the restricted cases for half the year.

According to the new report, more than 1,400 investigations into sex assault cases dating to 2004 were completed last year. In slightly more than half, commanders took no action, most often because the charges were not substantiated or lacked evidence.

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EU, U.S. resume talks with Fatah



Nasser Shiyoukhi/Associated Press

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas (center) stands behind two members of an honor guard in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Wednesday during a funeral ceremony for Ez Aldeen Al Sharef, a high official in his office who died in Jordan on Tuesday.

BY KARIN LAUB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMALLAH, West Bank — A top European Union envoy met with a senior member of the new Palestinian government Wednesday, joining the United States in ending a year of ostracism and leaving Israel increasingly isolated in its demand for a total boycott of the Hamas-Fatah coalition.

However, the Islamic militant Hamas itself is still being shunned, and economic sanctions remain in place.

The boycott has been a costly policy, international aid officials indicated Wednesday.

Donor countries had to send more aid to the Palestinians in 2006 than the year before to ease a humanitarian crisis set off by the embargo. Despite the increased aid, public institutions and services suffered because the funds bypassed the government, and the Palestinian economy shrank by 6.6 percent.

The Palestinians hope the government installed March 17, an alliance of Hamas and the Fatah Party of President Mahmoud Abbas, will lead them out of international isolation — even though the coalition did not meet international conditions for acceptance, such as recognizing Israel's right to exist.

Officials said on Wednesday that the first signs are encouraging, despite Israel's decision to shun the new government and rule out a resumption of peace talks. "I think the international community is accepting and dealing with this national unity government," Information Minister Mustafa Barghouti said.

The U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem, Jacob Waller, met Tuesday with Finance Minister Salam Fayyad, a respected economist who had earned the trust of the Bush administration in his first term in the Treasury, before Hamas came to power last year.

The meeting came despite initial U.S. criticism of the

Palestinian government's failure to meet the international conditions.

Speaking to the Arabic satellite TV station Al-Jazeera, Waller praised Fayyad. "We look to work with him and others," Waller said in comments dubbed into Arabic. "The environment is difficult, but we continue to work with the Palestinians and offer assistance in order to achieve the vision of a Palestinian state."

In another show of support, the top EU envoy to the Middle East, Marc Otte, held talks with Fayyad on Wednesday, a day after meeting with the new Palestinian foreign minister, Ziad Abu Amr.

Stalled Korea talks extended

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — Stalled six-nation talks on the nuclear disarmament of North Korea are being prolonged for at least a day, Japan's envoy to the negotiations said Wednesday.

The negotiations were supposed to end Wednesday, but officials have made no progress since Monday because of a dispute over \$25 million in North Korean funds that were frozen in a Macau bank under pressure from the United States.

U.S. officials announced this week that the money would be transferred to the North Koreans, saying it was up to the Monetary Authority of Macau, a Chinese territory, to release the funds. The authority has refused to say when the money would be released.

Japanese envoy Kenichiro Sasae said that the issue of the North Korean money "has not been completely settled just yet."

"We have decided to extend the talks for one or two days now," Sasae told reporters.

Russian envoy Alexander Losyukov told the ITAR-Tass news agency that the Bank of China had refused to accept the transfer because of worries about coming under U.S. financial sanctions. Telephones at the main Beijing branch of the Bank of China rang unanswered Wednesday night.

Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill, the main U.S. envoy to the talks, said Beijing had promised to resolve the problem.

"The Chinese assured us they could solve the bank account issues," Hill told reporters.

Under a Feb. 13 agreement, the North is to receive energy and economic assistance in return for beginning the disarmament process.

North Korea has said it would not take part in the negotiations on implementing the deal until the money was transferred.

South Korean envoy Chun Yung-woo confirmed the talks would be extended for one or two days.

He earlier said it would be difficult to hold a planned meeting of the heads of the delegations "if North Korea insists that it cannot take part in negotiations before they confirm the transfer."

Planned group talks were called off Tuesday. Some participants held bilateral meetings instead.

North Korea boycotted the six-nation talks for more than a year after Washington blacklisted

the tiny, privately run Banco Delta Asia on suspicion the funds were connected to money-laundering or counterfeiting.

"I have no instructions from my superiors regarding when the money will be transferred," Wendy Au, a spokeswoman for the Macau banking authority, said Wednesday.

The two Koreas, the U.S., Japan, Russia, and host China are trying to fine-tune a timetable for North Korea's disarmament under the February agreement.

AP writer Bo-Mi Lim contributed to this report.

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Does Iowa need an official state instrument?

Last week, state Sens. Amanda Ragan and Thurman Gaskill introduced a resolution to have the Senate declare the trombone 'Iowa's premier musical instrument.' Is a member of the brass family really the best instrument to represent the state? *DI* editorial writers debate what musical mechanism should be declared Iowa's top noisemaker.

POINT: VENERATE THE VIOLIN

In the resolution, the choice of trombone is justified by citing two trombone-toting Iowa natives responsible for rousing tunes such as the "Chattanooga Choo-Choo." Mention is also made of the important fact that "the trombone is a mainstay of every marching band and jazz band in Iowa and in the nation." Ragan and Gaskill have demonstrated an acute aptitude for analytical reasoning that, if applied, could potentially reshape the political landscape of Capitol Hill, nay, the entire state. Attention should be paid however, to the proposal's shortcomings, lest one become blinded by the resolution's masterful prose and powerful political stance.

While the trombone is certainly a delightful instrument — absolutely key, in fact, in holding up the lower end of any concert band — it is evident that Iowa is undoubtedly best represented by a string instrument. Our state's undulating countryside and seamless tracts of fertile farmland are most accurately translated into music as the uninterrupted, rolling hum of a violin — or perhaps a viola? Or would the deeper, richer sound of a cello bring to mind the millions of overfed livestock and humans that populate the state? Certainly fair questions for our legislators to ponder.

It is true that the selection of an instrument such as a trumpet or trombone may prove fruitful in the unlikely event that substantive legislation is passed later this session — a brass instrument is far more effective at creating the fanfare necessary for the celebration of such a rare occurrence. Nevertheless, in light of how few and far in between occasions for lauding true progress at the Statehouse have become, the ladies and gentlemen of the Legislature ought to select an instrument that truly embodies the nature of Iowa's land and people.

Imron Bhatti
Editorial writer

COUNTERPOINT: TRIBUTE TO THE TURNTABLE

So the state instrument is headed toward the trombone. Now Iowa can finally get the respect it so desperately seeks on the national level. I always thought the state bird, the Hawkeye best represented us as a state. Oh wait, sorry, I forgot; the state bird is the goldfinch. I wonder how many people remember that from elementary school.

The bottom line is that the reasoning behind making the trombone the state instrument is perfectly informed. Famous composer Meredith Willson did pen *The Music Man's* "76 Trombones," which might or might not have launched the instrument to fame. But let's be real. Who really, in the bottom of their heart, is going to run around boasting with pride that we have assigned an instrument to represent the state. Responses to "Iowa — Idiots Out Walking Around," can now be "well the trombone is awesome, and so is Iowa." Snap, point Iowa.

I say we take a good hard look at making something such as the turntable into the official instrument of Iowa. We here in a state best known for corn and livestock could use a little street cred. I mean, just think of the media attention that would trickle outward across America once it was announced. We could invite Timbaland and Jay-Z to the official announcement and have a big ol' banger of a party — on the footsteps of the Statehouse.

OK, maybe a little extreme, but let's remix it to the microphone. Here, we still get the above proposed hook but can also celebrate something more tangible: the spoken word. Iowa has always been known as the writing heartland of America, and Iowa City specifically produces a great deal of talk art and word via the mike.

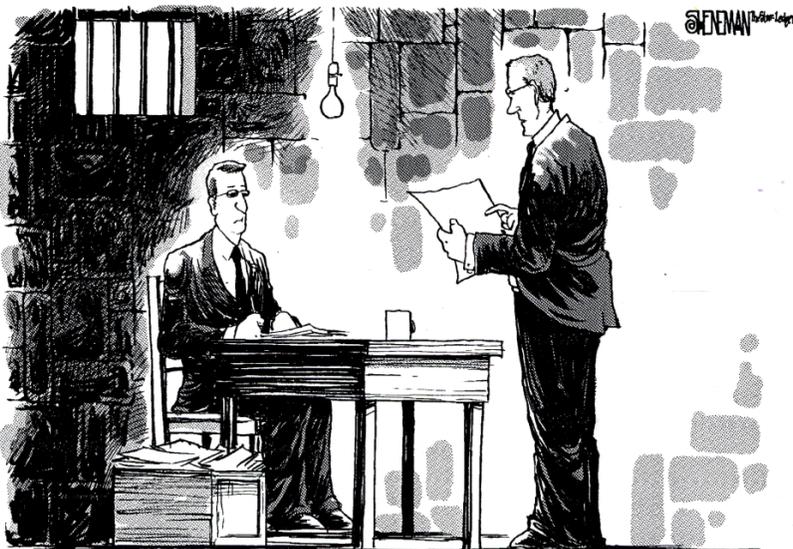
Rappers and writers unite. Let's make Iowa's instrument count, instead of simply creating another word memorization exercise for the kindergartners.

Jon Van Dyke
Editorial writer & columnist

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 arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.



THE INTERROGATION OF KHALID SHEIKH MOHAMMED IS GOING WELL. HE'S ALREADY CONFESSED TO PLANNING 9/11, PERSONALLY KILLING DANIEL PEARL, BEING ON THE GRASSY KNOLL AND MAKING ALL THOSE CROP CIRCLES.

Worn out welcome

Dan Parr makes a solid case that Steve Alford has overstayed his welcome at Iowa ("The Alford reward," March 21). However, he leaves out a vital stat: former Hawkeye coach Tom Davis's record. "Dr. Tom" went 270-139, including a 13-9 NCAA record. That was good enough for the Iowa athletics department to hand him his walking papers.

And yet, as Parr points out, a 152-106 record with a single tourney win seems to be enough to secure Alford lifetime tenure, even if that tenure is marked by scandal and low attendance.

Must be the hair.

Calvin Hennick
UI alum &
former *DI* Opinions editor

GUEST OPINION

Political play of the week: Dancing with IC

Caucus-going Iowans treat political events like the equivalent of chilling out with friends on beer night. A union rally featuring John Edwards is a good example because, like beer night, Iowa Democrats come to the event basically to hang out, catch up on gossip, and eat snacks, all the while watching Edwards put on a show.

And just like your group of friends, there's usually someone commanding the flow of traffic. You know what I mean, the social chairman. That guy who's calling everyone and asking people if they want to come out or not, where to go, what and where the drinks specials are; the guy that immediately answers when you ask why Karen or Tom or Bob aren't there that night, the guy who knows what's going on.

Just last week, the Barack Obama campaign held an internal meeting with current and soon-to-be-hired field staff. Topics on the agenda? Outreach and identifying party leaders to base-building. Staffers have called UI students asking for their support and identifying other activists to finding a decent room at the IMU at student price. I also hear the Edwards campaign will expand its ground forces in Iowa as early as next week. Edwards is paying his staff more compared with his rivals, a simple sign that implies he values quality over quantity. When Tom Vilsack was running, his son called me for a cup of coffee and a chat, and I've even heard light chatter from Bill Richardson's team. Funny stories of Joe Biden singing overtures to officials at the Iowa College Democrats group still linger in my mind.

How do I know all of this stuff? Well, I do have sources, and I do my own investigating, but it'd be nice if a social chairman, i.e., paid staffer whose job it is to get information out to supporters, came up and told me. Out of all the Democratic presidential titans, I would have assumed one of them in particular would

have the most field organizers on the ground. I was wrong.

So then, whatever happened to the 800-pound gorilla on the other corner of the wrestling rink? Let me tell you, I haven't heard a peep from Hillary Rodham Clinton's ground people, even when I've attempted to contact them. So far I've phoned, e-mailed, written letters, and even faxed inquiries to the campaign — and got a big cold shoulder for an answer. Not a good way to treat a caucus-going Iowan, especially one who likes chilling with his friends and drinking beer.

Getting a hold of the Rodham Clinton camp is like trying to ask the most popular girl in school to the prom. I keep rustling my peacock feathers, but I get no word back. It's as if Hil's campaign staff is blocking all inquiries to her like an overprotective father. It gets annoying. Perhaps annoying enough to start thinking about asking a different girl to dance with me.

In her defense however, she has been to Dubuque, Davenport, and Cedar Rapids. I wonder when her advisers will advise her to go to Johnson County, the most Democratic county in Iowa, because she needs to. Her rivals are locking up key party endorsements here while she's absent.

There's a rule in politics: "Dance with the ones that bring ya." In other words, you should never forget the people who helped you win. It looks like Obama is breaking that rule by pulling out his salsa moves early. His hips are moving fast, especially around these parts of Iowa. He just did the tango with Iowa City Mayor Ross Wilburn, picking up a crucial endorsement in Iowa City and by doing so, danced away with the political play of the week.

Jesse Tangkpanya is a UI political-science and journalism student
Last Political Play Winner: Anonymous e-mailer

ON THE SPOT

What do you think the state instrument should be?



"I want the harmonica."

Maggie Putman
UI freshman



"I think the banjo is appropriate."

Nick Kratzer
UI senior



"How about the mandolin?"

Austin Quast
UI senior



"I didn't even know there was a state instrument."

Joanna Gurney
UI senior

Alcoholics

(not)Anonymous

Well I'm back, in a sense. Sure, my ears are falling off (I don't need no stinkin' sunscreen, they're already burnt!), but my motor skills are adjusting, and my focus is returning. You see, I went to Panama City Beach, the proverbial wasteland of girls, booze, and beaches. Between 25-cent-can-Saturday, beach-party-Tuesday, and foam-party-Thursday, my circuits, along with select missed sunscreen spots, are fried.

On Sunday, remedial tasks such as typing seemed challenging. My nervous system was slowly responding to the many disaster areas of an all beer and Taco Bell diet. Monday was a struggle. Getting up at an appropriate hour and not cracking open a cold one seemed wrong — and my body, not just my sense of spring break party sense, was screaming.



JON VAN DYKE

Don't worry though, gang, your boy is checking himself in. Clearly, I have a problem. I mean, I did have (gasp) fun during spring break. Time to reform.

It's that time of year again. For the past three, I've endured the week-long deluge that is a college student's week of fun in the sun — a no-consequence playground. Perhaps there are consequences to bathing in Sex on the Beach.

Each year college kids wake up, post spring break, and feel the need to dull their thoughts again. But thankfully, they have school with rigorous class schedules and calmer week nights out on the town.

But the question is, what do I do about this depth reporting, if you will? Going undercover and getting down and dirty with alcoholism three times in my life certainly won't scar me (fingers crossed), but it does lend some credibility to the whole disease of alcoholism. Kind of.

As the wise prophet Homer Simpson once toasted, "Here's to alcohol, the cause of — and solution to — all life's problems." Our country has certainly taken that to a new extreme.

Let's try not to think about it anymore. You know, the whole thing where thousands of college women purposely go to remote locations away from the hounding law to act inappropriately. The nice girl who woke up next to the tattooed bandito. The frat guy with a broken jaw and a jail bond. It's OK, teamsters, you were drunk. I completely understand. You would never do that without the alcohol running through your system. You know, I think you have a problem with alcohol. Now I understand and forgive you for your lack of piety. Want a tequila shot?

"Alcoholism is ruining our culture." I'm sorry. But man, this excuse is getting old. The "Mel Gibson defense" should have run its course by now, yet instead, it's gaining strength. You can't sit down and watch a good piece of television without alcoholic apologies. And we've become so damn understanding of it, it borders on ridiculous. I firmly believe that alcohol releases our inner most desires and feelings. That doesn't mean we have to give up on the people who have ugly insides. It doesn't mean this person wouldn't have acted this way without alcohol. The issue is still there. Unfortunately, alcohol has given us a patsy to avoid real problems facing society all the time. I'm not saying these meltdowns don't help to uncover problems, but I wish it didn't have to come to that.

Miss America is a party girl, but America ruined her. Finally, a role model who enjoyed letting loose and having some fun. But we made her into America's next rehab remodel. Oh, look at that, a beautiful girl who enjoyed going wild is now a reformed and radiant angel. This is something we can sell. America loves the comeback story. Sure, we destroy people such as Britney Spears, but America will be ready to rally behind her when she gets out and does the daily and nighttime lineup featuring the new, repentant Britney.

I've gotten the feeling, but I didn't have the camera to push me over the edge and make me into a hero. Instead, I took fun for fun's sake and pushed on like normal people do. You know, like when Jenn from "The Real World Denver" said she got out of control with drinking and screwing and then vowed to reform before drama turned her into society's little slut. Wait, yo, MTV, sounds like the next best thing in television, and I expect a check: Real World Rehab!

E-mail *DI* columnist **Jon Van Dyke** at jonathan-vandyke@uiowa.edu

A-G asked to speak

GONZALES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

While most graduating law students interviewed by the *DI* did not express strong opinions either way on Gonzales' potential visit, at least one said she would rather he didn't show up.

"With the firing of the attorneys and his oversight of the FBI, it's totally inappropriate. He's not someone young lawyers should want to emulate," said Elizabeth Bolkom-Smith, the niece of Democratic state Sen. Joe Bolkom of Iowa City. "And especially with election campaigns going on here, it's not a good move to bring in someone who's so partisan."

Bolkom-Smith conceded that the jury is still out on whether Gonzales is guilty of the recent accusations.

"But, considering the seriousness of the charges and all the other factors, this isn't something that should be done," the law student said.

Other third-year students — such as Joel P. Brown, an aspiring criminal prosecutor — took more moderate stances.

"Well, from what I've read, he might not be the [attorney general] come" May, Brown said. "Politically, I'm a Democrat. But obviously, the guy is a pretty good lawyer, and I think it'd be interesting to see what he had to say."

Law student Sara Strain, who will graduate soon, agreed that the thought of hearing Gonzales' take on the alleged misconduct is enticing, but she noted that an appearance may be a bad political move for the attorney general.

The College of Law, perennially ranked near the top 25 among law schools nationwide, often attracts highly regarded commencement speakers, though none of late have rivaled Gonzales for prominence.

In 2006, Minnesota Appeals Court Judge Kevin Ross, a former Iowa City police officer, handled the honors and in 2005, graduates heard from Kenneth Feinberg, who oversaw the highly successful 9/11 Victim Compensation Fund.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Mason Kerns** at: mason-kerns@uiowa.edu

Iowa battling cancer



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

UI epidemiology Professor Charles Lynch (left) sits next to the director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, George Weiner, as he talks about the Cancer in Iowa 2007 report at the UIHC on Wednesday. The reports projects that an estimated 6,400 Iowans will die from cancer this year.

CANCER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Quitline Iowa — a smoking-cessation hotline — has seen an increase in the volume of callers, attributed by Lowe to the recent increase in the cigarette tax. UI officials lauded legislative efforts to curtail smoking through the \$1-hike on cigarette packs that went into effect last week.

"This clearly will result in fewer people getting cancer in the future," said George Weiner, the director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center.

He acknowledged that former smokers would have to be tobacco-free for at least five years before their risk of

getting lung cancer were reduced.

Quitline Iowa has seen 70 percent of its callers quit after one month, with 35 percent still cigarette-free after six months, Lowe said. Quitline Iowa is expanding online, he said.

"We want to avail students and staff of the number of smoking-cessation programs on campus," Lowe said.

Highlighting prevention as a way to decrease cancer mortality rates, UI radiology Associate Professor Bruce Brown noted a diagnostic method for colon cancer on which the UI recently began a clinical program.

"We can literally fly through

the colon without inserting a tube," said Brown, who has been instrumental in the UI's study for computed tomography colonoscopy. "Patients can go about their day without any real problems" associated with regular colonoscopies.

The scan takes thousands of individual CT scans and creates a virtual model of the colon that radiologists can examine over the course of hours. Patients are scanned for 20 seconds.

"In the last five to seven years, it's become something that people are looking at," Brown said.

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

Passport wait lengthens

PASSPORTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Passport applications filed between October 2006 and March are up 44 percent from the same time period one year earlier, according to the State Department. In February alone, the number of applications increased 25 percent.

An estimated 74 million Americans have passports — a number that is rising with more than 1 million applications filed each month. To cope with the surge in applications, the State Department

hopes to add 400 new passport adjudicators by the end of 2008.

Federal lawmakers have also heard from constituents concerned about the potential delays in processing passports. For instance, staffers for Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, field four to five calls per week regarding passports, said Beth Levine, Grassley's press secretary.

Gabby Adler, the press secretary for Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa, said staffers are working to help constituents by maintaining contact with liaisons within

the State Department to track the status of passport applications.

Wakat is one person who said she'll start tracking the progress of her passport. She knows she can't leave for Alicante, Spain, in June without that in hand.

"I'm not really nervous about it," she said. "If it gets closer, I will be."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Michelle Scott** at: michelle-scott@uiowa.edu

Police: Woman found dead



Matt Ryerson/The Daily Iowan

Iowa City police investigate the death of Stephanie Clemmons, 48, of Chicago, which was reported Wednesday. The police have not announced the cause of death.

DEATH

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Kim Logan, who lives across the street at 1212 Burns Ave., said Clemmons' daughter had told her that Clemmons shot and killed herself in the garage. Jackson refused to confirm neighbors' comments, what officers found at the residence, or what circumstances generally warrant a death investigation.

City rental-permit records show 1219 Burns Ave. — a three-room unit — is owned by Edgar and Mary Janaan McGinness. Phone calls made to their residence on Wednesday were not returned.

This is the second suspicious death incident that the Iowa City Police Department has investigated this month.

On March 8, Raymond and Patty Mace were discovered dead at 229 W. Benton St. during a welfare check.

Police said officials received reports that the Maces hadn't been answering their door. According to police records, an unidentified caller asked police to conduct a welfare check at the Maces' residence after being unable to contact them for two weeks.

The caller told police that one of the residents was elderly and that the other was handicapped. The bodies had been taken to the state medical examiner's office.

The Iowa City police and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigations are heading the probe into Clemmons' death.

E-mail *DI* reporters at: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

STATE

Mediacom ups cable TV rates

DES MOINES (AP) — Mediacom Communications Corp. has raised its cable TV rates, citing increased costs from its new contract with Sinclair Broadcast Group and other factors.

Mediacom, Iowa's largest cable TV provider, was locked in a weeks-long standoff with Sinclair over how much Mediacom should pay to retransmit broadcast stations owned by Sinclair.

The two sides reached an agreement in February, though it was unclear how much more money Mediacom was forced to pay.

In Des Moines and other major

Iowa markets, the cost of Mediacom's family cable will go to \$51.95 a month from \$47.95, beginning with bills for May service. The cost for broadcast basic cable, which includes about 20 channels, will go from \$16.95 to \$19.95.

"I think it stinks, quite frankly," said Georgeann Chambers, a Mediacom customer in Audubon.

Phyllis Peters, a Mediacom spokeswoman, said reasons for the increase include the Sinclair contract and higher operating expenses, such as fuel and health care benefits for employees. She said she couldn't separate out the Sinclair costs because of confidentiality requirements in the contract.

MORNINGSTAR®

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Morningstar will be coming to the University of Iowa on Friday, March 30, 2007 from 11-12:30 pm in the Kirkwood Room at the Memorial Union

to talk to you about an exciting opportunity to join our sales team as an Account Executive. In this one-hour information session, you'll learn about what it takes to be successful in this role, the day-to-day responsibilities, and opportunities for advancement once on board!

Morningstar's Account Executive position is for individuals who thrive in a fast-paced, client focused environment. This position is responsible for representing Morningstar's software and web-based investment planning tools and services to the financial advisor community. It is ideal for those who enjoy an environment where rewards (compensation) are directly proportional to your performance and success in maintaining existing customer relationships and initiating new ones.

To read a full job description, please visit:

<http://corporate.morningstar.com/US/asp/subject.aspx?xmlfile=190.xml&filter=HR198>

Please bring copies of your resume and cover letter to the informational session. Candidates will then be selected for on-site interviews in Chicago during the last two weeks of April.

Please RSVP for this event by sending an email to accountexecutive@morningstar.com and place Iowa in the subject line.

We look forward to meeting you!

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MANAGER'S SPECIAL \$20,995

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MANAGER'S SPECIAL \$19,995

2002 NISSAN SENTRA SER
MANAGER'S SPECIAL \$9,995

2002 TOYOTA SIENNA
NADA BOOK \$13,500
MANAGER'S SPECIAL \$11,995

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- 2005 Toyota Avalon Limited .. \$27,995
- 2005 Toyota Avalon XLS .. \$26,995
- 2003 Toyota Avalon XLS .. \$18,995
- 2003 Toyota Avalon XL .. \$16,995
- 2000 Toyota Avalon XLS .. \$12,995
- 2007 Toyota Camry SE .. \$21,995
- 2006 Toyota Camry LE .. \$18,995
- 2005 Toyota Camry .. \$17,995
- 2003 Toyota Camry XLE .. \$16,995
- 2002 Toyota Camry XLE, V6 .. \$13,995
- 2002 Toyota Camry LE, V6 .. \$12,995
- 2001 Toyota Camry XLE, V6 .. \$13,995
- 2002 Toyota Celica GT .. \$14,995
- 2000 Toyota Celica .. \$11,995
- 2007 Toyota Corolla LE .. \$16,995
- 2006 Toyota Corolla LE .. \$15,995
- 2005 Toyota Corolla LE .. \$14,995
- 2005 Toyota Matrix XR .. \$15,995
- 2006 Toyota Solara Convertible .. \$24,995
- 2004 Toyota Solara LE .. \$19,995
- 2006 Honda Accord, only 2K miles .. \$19,995
- 2005 Honda Accord Hybrid .. \$21,995
- 2003 Honda Accord .. \$14,995
- 2001 Honda Accord .. \$12,995
- 2004 Honda Civic, 2 door .. \$15,995
- 2004 Lexus RX330 .. \$31,995

PRE-OWNED CARS

- 2000 Mazda Millenia .. \$11,995
- 2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse .. \$12,995
- 2005 Pontiac Vibe .. \$14,995
- 2004 VW Bug .. \$16,995
- 2003 VW Golf .. \$12,995
- 2000 VW Jetta .. \$9,995
- 2004 VW Passat Wagon .. \$15,995

SPORT UTILITY VEHICLES

- 2004 Toyota Highlander .. \$20,995
- 2004 Toyota Highlander SR5 .. \$19,995
- 2004 Toyota Highlander Limited .. \$25,995
- 2003 Toyota RAV4 .. \$14,995
- 2002 Toyota RAV4, L model .. \$16,995
- 2001 Lexus RX300 .. \$19,995
- 2000 Lexus RX300 .. \$14,995
- 1999 Lexus RX300 .. \$12,995

PRE-OWNED TRUCKS/VANS

- 2006 Toyota Sienna LE .. \$22,995
- 2004 Toyota Sienna LE .. \$14,995
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DAILYBREAK

“We are a faculty that is fed up, and we’re a faculty that’s ready to walk off the job.”

— California Faculty Association President **John Travis**. Professors for the nation’s largest four-year public-college system could walk out of California State University classrooms as soon as next month; nearly two years of bargaining have failed to produce an agreement for faculty.

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

Andrew R. Juhl, Professor of Letters:

• Dear Metabolism: I miss you. Come back. Let’s give things another try.

• Dear Sinuses: Ng snhxckxyl wheeze. Ibe hwate gwoo.

• Dear Gastrointestinal System: I’ll make you a deal: You stop turning every last piece of dairy I eat into something resembling a powerful mix of mustard gas and anhydrous ammonium, and I’ll stop degrading every last inch of your mucosal lining with a powerful mix of Scotch and more Scotch.

• Dear Memory: Lately, you’ve been slipping. You used to hold onto ideas as if they were etched in stone, but lately you more closely resemble an Etch-a-Sketch in the hands of a caffeinated 6-year-old suffering through a grand mal seizure while riding a Scrambler during an earthquake.

• Dear Analogy-Construction Center of Brain: That’ll do. That’ll do.

• Dear Tastebuds: Although your argument that a double Scotch on the rocks would hit the spot right now is indeed compelling, I have made a deal with Gastrointestinal System that obligates me to decline your request.

• Dear Tiny Mole on My Junk that I Never Noticed Before: Please be just a tiny mole on my junk that I never noticed before.

• Dear Tummy Fat: Well, I’ll give you this much: You’re persistent. And you know what they say about persistence: It’s obnoxious.

• Dear Gastrointestinal System: I’m sorry. I’ve gone off with Tastebuds. They understand me better than you could ever hope to.

— Andrew R. Juhl just epistled all over himself. E-mail him at: andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

- Picturing Eden art exhibit
- Dance Marathon 2007
- Iowa men’s tennis
- National Guard veteran Tiffany Jenkins
- Alamo Bowl 2006
- Sports in prison
- Methamphetamine in Iowa
- Alamo Bowl 2006
- Hawkeye football 2006
- Hawkeye sports week in review
- Ed Gray
- Great Lakes
- MewithoutYou
- Sparta
- Menomena
- CALLA
- Portugal. The Man
- Grizzly Bear
- Ying Yang Twins
- Skursula
- Knorosov
- The Thermals
- Straylight Run
- New Beat Society
- Hunab
- Max Eubank with Joe Losh and Mike Tallman
- Fall of Troy
- Fighter Derrick Mehmen
- Silo ice climbing
- WWE
- Dance Marathon 2007
- IMU renovations
- Iowa Writers’ House

MP3s

PHOTO

VIDEO



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



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



Look for this button throughout the *DI* for KRUI coverage

READERS’ PHOTOS

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

today’s events

Want to see your super special even 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

- Spare us lengthy, comprehensive press releases. Stick to the goods, please.
- **MTV Exec Speaks to Students**, 8:05 a.m., W10 Pappajohn Business Building
- **Electronic (e-file) Tax Filing**, 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Preschool Spanish Story Time**, 10:30 a.m., Public Library
- **Marc Irving Weber, guitar and piano**, 11 a.m., Grounds for Dessert Coffeehouse, 345 S. Dubuque
- **Lunch with the Chefs, “Bring in the Clams,” New England Clam Bake**, 11:15 a.m., IMU Main Lounge
- **Yiddish Festival Film Screening**, 4 p.m., 347 IMU
- **The Iowa Centers for Enterprise Open House**, 4:30 p.m., 2260 University Capitol Centre
- **Housing and Community Development Commission meeting**, 5:30 p.m., Public Library Meeting Room A
- **George Weiner**, 6-8 p.m., Holiday Inn Conference Center, 1220 First Ave., Coralville
- **Journeys in Faith Group, “Accounting, Faith, and Medicine,” Nicholas Rossi**, 7:30 p.m., Newman Catholic Student Center, 104 E. Jefferson
- **Writers’ Workshop reading, Charles Baxter, fiction**, 8 p.m., Main Library Shambaugh Auditorium
- **Grinnell Singers**, 8 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 310 N. Johnson
- **Hope Falls**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B
- **Painter Alicia Henry**, 8 p.m., 116 Art Building West
- **Andy White and Radoslav Lorkovic**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Campus Activities Board event, Prescott Tolk, comedian**, 9 p.m., IMU Hawkeye
- **Sangria Night, Dustin Louis Blank**, 9:30 p.m., David’s Place, 100 S. Linn
- **Caleb Ryder & Friends, and The Puritanicals**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

horoscopes

Thursday, March 22, 2007
— by Eugenia Last

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don’t get upset about something you can’t change. Keep an open mind, and move forward with enthusiasm. Doors will open if you talk about your ideas and your latest direction.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Pamper yourself, or spend the day with someone you are into and want to get to know better. A change regarding your finances may be a surprise. Be careful where you put your money.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You may think you know what’s going to happen, but someone you least expect is likely to make a change at the last minute. Keep things that you are doing a secret for now. The more mysterious you are, the greater the advantage you will have.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Focus on what you can do for others. Offering your services or even just lending a helping hand will lead to something good. A change in your current direction or vocation can help with finances. Love is on the rise.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You can’t count on anyone today. If it’s important to get something done, do it yourself. Beware of someone telling you what you want to hear instead of what you need to hear.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You are in the driver’s seat. You mustn’t give up power or give in to idle threats. Network, travel, and get your ideas out. Don’t let your personal life interfere with your productivity.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Don’t be fooled into thinking something has more value than it actually has. Be a smart investor. An opportunity to learn, travel, or get advice from someone you consider to be experienced is evident.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Take a closer look at what’s going on in your own back yard. You may have to put an end to something or someone slowing you down. A romantic connection will be passionate if you take time out for a little loving.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** There isn’t anything that you can’t accomplish from home, so why travel unnecessarily? Concentrate on what you want to achieve, and take the shortest route to get there. Someone you are close to will relay valuable information.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Put time aside for family or the one you love. This is a perfect time to relax, putter around home, or make some welcome additions that will contribute to your entertainment and comfort. Financial security can be obtained.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Don’t be too concerned about what others think. Volunteering for something that will help your community or a cause you believe in will bring good results. Get serious about a partnership or making a commitment.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Take a look at the possibilities. A chance meeting will remind you of an old idea. You can make money if you manipulate the situation when discussing the possibilities with someone who can help you out.



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level:

1	2
3	4

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

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY’S PUZZLE

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

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

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UITV schedule

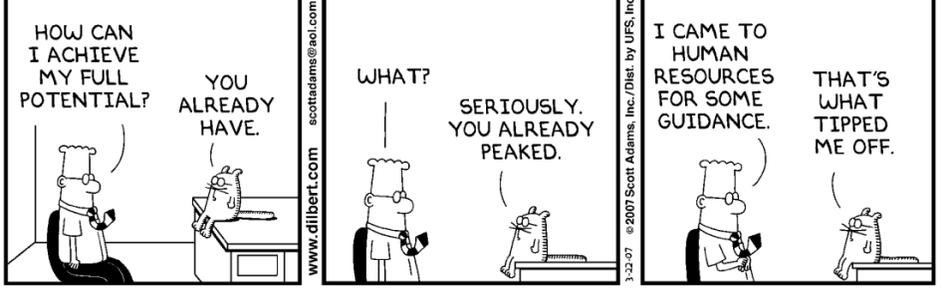
Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 3 p.m. “Java Blend,” Hayward Williams
- 4 Voting Rights, Spencer Overton, George Washington Law School
- 6:30 Uye: Insight and Information about Student Life, Activities, and Recreation
- 7 “Java Blend,” Hayward Williams
- 8 Voting Rights, Spencer Overton, George Washington Law School
- 9:30 DITV News, *The Daily Iowan* Daily News Update
- 9:45 Student Video Productions Presents Incompetent Sports Talk
- 10:30 DITV News, *The Daily Iowan* Daily News Update
- 10:45 Student Video Productions
- 11 “Java Blend,” Hayward Williams

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

DILBERT ®

by Scott Adams



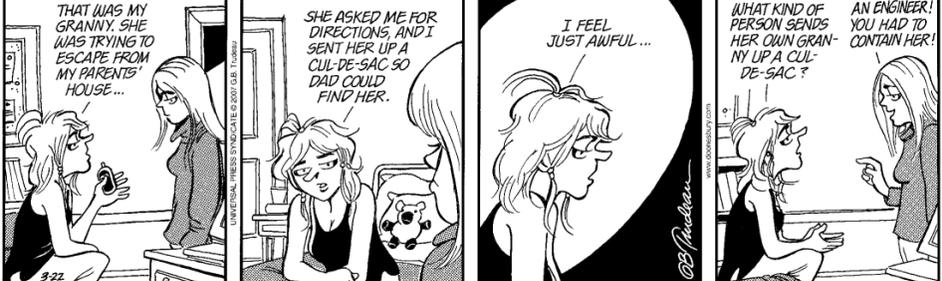
NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



The New York Times Crossword

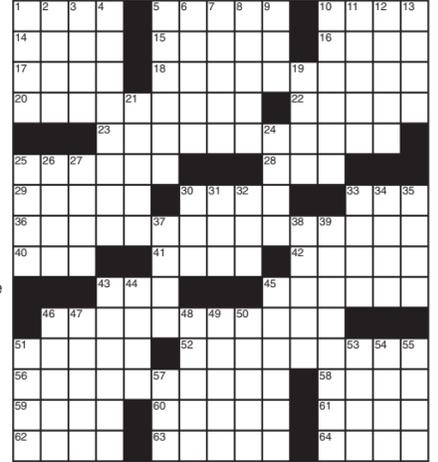
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0208

- ACROSS**
- 1 Designer for Jackie
- 5 When one might have a late lunch
- 10 Damage assessment grp.
- 14 One-sixth of an inch
- 15 Indian palace
- 16 Long periods
- 17 Yield
- 18 Web listings for an old western?
- 20 Remedy provider
- 22 Ingredient in a lyonnaise dish
- 23 Hockey gear for rams and ewes?
- 25 Hot Wheels company
- 28 Some are personal
- 29 More remote
- 30 Side in an annual all-star game
- 33 ___ Building, onetime part of Rockefeller Center
- 36 Cobblers’ cause?
- 40 Suffix with ballad
- 41 Upbeat
- 42 Beat
- 43 Exudation, maybe
- 45 Bush White House dog
- 46 Part ownership in a bar?
- 51 Like some chemical bonds
- 52 Expunged
- 56 Comment on a woman from Copenhagen?
- 58 “___ living”
- DOWN**
- 1 Kind of column
- 2 Teller of stories
- 3 Unbleached: Fr.
- 4 Soprano, for one
- 5 Dutch beer
- 6 A lake or a Chevy
- 7 “Movin’ Out” Tony winner
- 8 Ebbs
- 9 Good cheer
- 10 Deceptions
- 11 “Sesame Street” regular
- 12 Speedy sharks
- 13 Part of 57-Down: Abbr.
- 19 Ton of bricks, e.g.
- 21 Sci-fi writer ___ S. Tepper
- 24 The Green Hornet’s valet
- 25 Tiny critter
- 26 Pain
- 27 Stratrum
- 30 “___, me?”
- 31 The invaders in “The Invaders”
- 32 Farm enclosure

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

E	P	E	C	A	R	O	L	P	A	T	S	A			
S	A	R	A	A	C	E	L	A	R	O	A	N			
Q	U	E	R	T	Y	U	I	O	P	O	L	I	O		
U	N	C	L	E	S	D	R	O	O	P					
E	S	T	E	R	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	K	L		
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R	N	A	Z	X	C	V	B	N	M	T	I	T			
A	N	G	L	E		E	D	E	N		S	S	N	S	
N	I	G	E	R			T	E	S	H					
K	E	Y	B	O	A	R	D	S		P	E	A	R	L	
J	O	A	S	S	H	E		S	U	R	R	E	Y		
A	R	N	O		T	Y	P	E	R	W	R	I	T	E	R
A	R	N	O		A	M	O	R	E		F	I	L	E	
W	R	E	N		R	E	T	I	E		F	E	S	S	



- 59 Strip between stripes
- 60 Loud rumble?
- 61 Pilgrimage
- 62 Added conditions
- 63 Syrian leader
- 64 Days of ___
- 33 Equine color
- 34 R & B’s Winans
- 35 Pallid
- 37 Rum drink
- 38 Deal gently with
- 39 Biology topic
- 43 Looks
- 44 Like most music in record stores nowadays
- 45 Washed
- 46 Actress Lindsay
- 47 Seemingly forever
- 48 Sea eagles
- 49 Muddies
- 50 Book after Daniel
- 51 Spanish vacation site
- 53 Not esto or eso
- 54 PC operator
- 55 Opinion
- 57 Physicians’ grp.

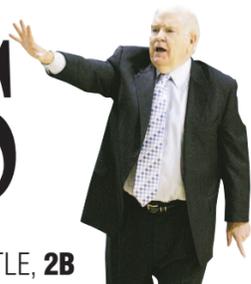
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Buffalo 5, Washington 2	NBA
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San Jose 4, Chicago 1	Toronto 92, Orlando 85
Colorado 5, Edmonton 1	Charlotte 92, Boston 84
Vancouver 2, Nashville 0	San Antonio 90, Indiana 72
NIT	Dallas 98, Cleveland 90
Clemson 74, Syracuse 70	L.A. Clippers 104, Milwaukee 103

SPORTS



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THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

BASKETBALL LEGEND: DR. TOM BLOWS HIS FINAL WHISTLE, 2B

WWW.DAILYIOWAN.COM

Alford may be bidding adieu

Officials could name Steve Alford the next New Mexico coach as soon as today or Friday



CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM TODAY FOR CONTINUING UPDATES ON THE DEVELOPING

STORY REGARDING STEVE ALFORD AND THE NEW MEXICO HEAD-COACH POSITION.

BY JASON BRUMMOND
THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa's Steve Alford is expected to tell his players at a team meeting today that he's leaving

to become the next head coach at the University of New Mexico, a source told *The Daily Iowan* Wednesday night.

An agreement between Alford and the Mountain West Conference school hadn't been made publicly as of late Wednesday night, but New Mexico officials were granted permission to talk with the Hawkeye basketball coach, and they could announce the hiring as soon as today or Fri-



Alford
head coach



Barta
athletics director

Steve Roe, the Iowa Sports Information associate director, said on Wednesday that Alford was in Florida but that he would return today.

Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta couldn't be reached for comment, but he postponed an interview with the *DI* previously scheduled for this morning. In a statement released by the university, Barta only indicated he had been contacted by a New Mexico administrator.

"University of New Mexico Athletics Director Paul Krebs has asked permission to contact coach Steve Alford in regard to the head-coaching position at New Mexico," he said in the release. "I have granted that permission to New Mexico officials."

"It will be Coach Alford's decision as to whether he chooses to visit with them."

SEE ALFORD, PAGE 6B



Q: Dr. Tom Davis, former Hawkeye basketball coach from 1986-99, retired as head coach at Drake University Wednesday. In his 13 years at Iowa, what was Davis' total win-loss record? Answer on page 2B

WRESTLING

Tsirtsis pleads guilty to public intoxication

Police charged Iowa wrestler Alex Tsirtsis with public intoxication early Wednesday morning after they found him passed out and covered in vomit at the Capitol Street parking ramp.



Tsirtsis
wrestler

Nearly five hours after the arrest, 21-year-old Tsirtsis pleaded guilty to public intoxication, paid a \$182 fine, and was released.

Police were investigating a report that a man was sleeping outside the ground-floor elevator when they came upon Tsirtsis. He had vomit all over him and the ground beside him, they reported.

Tsirtsis had confused, slurred speech, poor balance, and smelled strongly of alcohol after officers awoke him. At 2:56 a.m., his blood alcohol content was .198.

After winning his opening match at last weekend's NCAA championships, fourth-seeded Tsirtsis lost a 3-1 decision in extra time March 15 before getting eliminated in the event's third session.

At last year's tournament, the Griffith, Ind., native placed seventh and was named an All-American for the first time.

— by Kelsey Beltramea

MEN'S HOOPS

Denver passes Neal over

Iowa basketball assistant Craig Neal's chances for a head coaching spot in the Rockies were rumored but short-lived.

Discussion that the University of Denver was interested in Neal's coaching services were put to rest Wednesday; the school hired current Princeton head basketball coach Joe Scott to fill the opening.



Neal
assistant

In his third season under Steve Alford, the associate head coach has used his eight years of experience as an NBA talent scout to become instrumental in the Hawkeyes' recruiting efforts the past two off-seasons, as well as help guide the team to last year's Big Ten Tournament title.

— by Charlie Kautz

BASEBALL

Iowa connection at Cub game

In light of the Iowa-Northern Illinois football game taking place on Sept. 1 at Soldier Field in Chicago, one of the Windy City's baseball teams is reaching out to its Iowa fan base.

On the afternoon before, Bravo Sports Marketing in North Liberty will host "Hawkeye Day" at Wrigley Field. The department had 1,000 game tickets reserved for the Aug. 31 contest between the Chicago Cubs and Houston Astros.

Its website reports it has sold out all terrace reserved infield seats, but there are still terrace reserved outfield seats available for purchase.

For two lucky people, there's more. One Iowa Citian will be chosen to throw out the game's first pitch, while another will be selected to sing the national anthem.

— by Brendan Stiles

Christiansen has early QB lead

Hawkeye spring football practice will resume today after a two-week layoff, and head coach Kirk Ferentz says sophomore Jake Christiansen has the early upper hand in the search for senior Drew Tate's replacement

BY JASON BRUMMOND
THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz hopes the intensity and effort he saw during Alamo Bowl preparation hasn't left.

Spring practice will resume today for the Iowa football team after almost two weeks off. The Hawkeyes, who practiced twice before classes were dismissed for spring break, finished 6-7 last season — the first losing mark since 2000 — but they appear ready to move on.

"I think all of us are enthused about what's in front of us right now, and I think we're enthused about moving on," Ferentz said on Wednesday. "We're all excited about the opportunity to come out and hopefully have a better year."

"We're not going in with any preconceived notions about our starting lineup. To say anyone is an incumbent would be silly."

With the departure of Drew Tate, the Hawkeyes will enter spring practice with a new starting quarterback for the first time in three years.

Sophomore Jake Christiansen, who led Iowa to a 24-14 win over Northern Illinois in his only career start last season, has the clear advantage entering spring workouts, Ferentz said.

The left-hander completed 19-of-30 passes for 256 yards



Christiansen
sophomore



Brett Slezak/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye quarterback Jake Christiansen runs for five yards against Northern Illinois on Oct. 29, 2006.

and a pair of touchdowns against the Huskies — Iowa's opponent in the 2007 season-opener on Sept. 1 in Chicago's Soldier Field. Christiansen, entering his third season in the program, could feel pressure from redshirt freshmen

Arvell Nelson and Rick Stanzi. "[Christensen] knows he has a lot to prove," Ferentz said. "He'll get enough competition to keep him honest."

Iowa's first-year starting quarterback next fall won't

have the luxury of a veteran unit. All three seniors listed on the offensive two-deep are in the backfield — Albert Young, Damian Sims, and Tom Busch.

In past years, Ferentz hasn't tested a proven running back

with full contact in the spring or August. Things won't change much, especially with depth questions, although the nine-year coach wants to keep his one-two punch sharp.

SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 6B

Perry win may spark Hawk rebound

The Iowa wrestling team finished eighth at the NCAA championships last weekend, including a national title triumph for 165-pound junior Mark Perry. Disappointed with the overall showing in Auburn Hills, head coach Tom Brands expects a stronger team next season.

BY IAN SMITH
THE DAILY IOWAN

Mark Perry's comeback victory and the explosion of emotions that followed may have overshadowed the match's most important element.

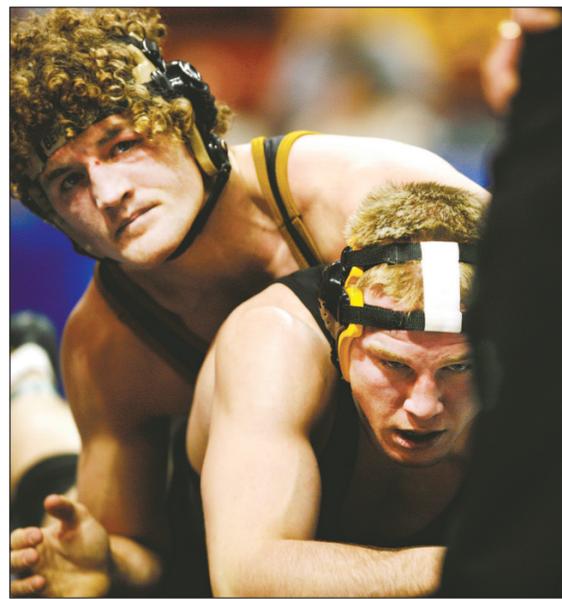
The 165-pound NCAA champion didn't quit. Down 2-0 in the third period, Perry used a reversal and near-fall to reach his ultimate goal. The

dogged wrestler fought for the full seven minutes against ex-nemesis Johnny Hendricks, something coach Tom Brands preached all year.

"That was Mark Perry's battle cry," the first-year coach said. "I'm going to wrestle hard for seven minutes, and if I do that, I will win." He proved it. He wrestled hard for seven minutes down in

Stillwater, and it didn't go his way. Instead of throwing the towel in, he knew there was more work to do, and you know what— he turned it around. It's not easy to beat guy who has beaten you six, seven times in a row, when he so-called owned you."

SEE WRESTLING, PAGE 6B



Matt Ryerson/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye 174-pounder Eric Luedke rests for a second with opponent Ben Askren (Missouri) on his back during the NCAA wrestling meet in Auburn Hills, Mich., on March 17. Luedke lost the semifinal match, 8-3.

SPORTS

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

NCAA MEN'S TOURNAMENT

EAST REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Friday's Games, at East Rutherford, N.J.
Georgetown (28-6) vs. Vanderbilt (22-11), 6:27 p.m.
North Carolina (30-6) vs. Southern California (25-11), 30 minutes after first game
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 25, at East Rutherford, N.J.
Semifinal winners

SOUTH REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Today's Games, at San Antonio
Texas A&M (27-6) vs. Memphis (32-3), 6:27 p.m.
Ohio State (32-3) vs. Tennessee (24-10), 30 minutes after first game
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 24, at San Antonio
Semifinal winners

MIDWEST REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Friday's Games, at St. Louis
Butler (29-6) vs. Florida (31-5), 6:10 p.m.
UNLV (30-6) vs. Oregon (28-7), 30 minutes after first game
Regional Championship
Sunday, March 25, at St. Louis
Semifinal winners

WEST REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Today's Games, at San Jose, Calif.
Kansas (32-4) vs. Southern Illinois (29-6), 6:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (29-7) vs. UCLA (28-5), 30 minutes after first game
Regional Championship
Saturday, March 24, at San Jose, Calif.
Semifinal winners

FINAL FOUR
At The Georgia Dome Atlanta
National Semifinals, Saturday, March 31
East champion vs. South champion
Midwest champion vs. West champion
National Championship
Monday, April 2
Semifinal winners

NATIONAL INVITATION TOURNAMENT

Quarterfinals
Tuesday's Games
NORTH
Mississippi State 86, Florida State 71
EAST
West Virginia 71, North Carolina State 66
Wednesday's Games
SOUTH
Clemson 74, Syracuse 70
WEST
Air Force 52, DePaul 51

Semifinals
Tuesday, March 27
At Madison Square Garden, New York
Mississippi State (21-13) vs. West Virginia (25-9), 6 or 8:30 p.m.
Clemson (24-10) vs. Air Force (26-8), 6 or 8:30 p.m.

Championship
Thursday, March 29
Semifinal winners, 6 p.m.

NCAA WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

GREENSBORO REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 24
At Greensboro, N.C.
Arizona State (30-4) vs. Bowling Green (31-3), 11 a.m.
Rutgers (24-8) vs. Duke (32-1), 1:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Monday, March 26
At Greensboro, N.C.
Semifinal winners, TBA

DAYTON REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Sunday, March 25
At Dayton, Ohio
Tennessee (30-3) vs. Marist (29-5), 11 a.m.
Oklahoma (28-4) vs. Mississippi (23-10), 1:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Tuesday, March 27
At Dayton, Ohio
Semifinal winners, TBA

DALLAS REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Sunday, March 25
At Dallas
Georgia (27-6) vs. Purdue (30-5), 6 p.m.
George Washington (28-3) vs. North Carolina (32-3), 8:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Tuesday, March 27
Semifinal winners, TBA

FRESNO REGIONAL
Regional Semifinals
Saturday, March 24
At Fresno, Calif.

Connecticut (31-3) vs. N.C. State (25-9), 8 p.m.
LSU (29-7) vs. Florida State (24-9), 10:30 p.m.
Regional Championship
Monday, March 26
At Fresno, Calif.
Semifinal winners, TBA

FINAL FOUR
At Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland
National Semifinals
Sunday, April 1
Dallas champion vs. Dayton champion, TBA
Fresno champion vs. Greensboro champion, TBA
National Championship
Tuesday, April 3
Semifinal winners

WNIT

Third Round
Wednesday's Game
Hofstra 64, South Carolina 59
Today's Games
Virginia vs. South Florida, 6 p.m.
Auburn at Virginia Tech, 6 p.m.
Illinois at Kansas State, 7 p.m.
Western Kentucky at Mississippi State, 7 p.m.
Kentucky at Wisconsin, 7 p.m.
Indiana at South Dakota State, 7 p.m.
Oregon at Wyoming, 8 p.m.

Quarterfinals
March 23-25
Oregon-Wyoming winner vs. Indiana-South Dakota State winner, TBA
Auburn-Virginia Tech winner vs. Illinois-Kansas State winner, TBA
Hofstra (27-7) vs. Western Kentucky-Mississippi State winner, TBA
Virginia-South Florida winner vs. Kentucky-Wisconsin winner, TBA

Semifinals
March 26-29
TBD

Championship
Saturday, March 31
Semifinal winners, 2 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	37	31	.544	—
New Jersey	31	37	.456	6
New York	30	37	.448	6½
Philadelphia	26	42	.382	11
Boston	20	48	.294	17
Southeast				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Washington	37	29	.561	—
Miami	37	30	.552	½
Orlando	31	38	.449	7½
Atlanta	27	42	.391	11½
Charlotte	26	43	.377	12½
Central				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Detroit	43	23	.652	—
Cleveland	41	27	.603	3
Chicago	39	30	.565	5½
Indiana	30	37	.446	13½
Milwaukee	25	42	.373	18½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Dallas	56	11	.836	—
x-San Antonio	47	20	.701	9
Houston	43	25	.632	13½
New Orleans	31	37	.456	25½
Memphis	17	51	.250	39½
Northwest				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Utah	44	23	.657	—
Denver	34	31	.523	9
Minnesota	29	38	.433	15
Portland	27	40	.403	17
Seattle	28	41	.406	18
Pacific				
W	L	Pct	GB	
y-Phoenix	51	16	.761	—
L.A. Lakers	35	32	.522	16
L.A. Clippers	32	36	.471	19½
Golden State	32	37	.464	20
Sacramento	29	39	.426	22½

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division
Wednesday's Games
Miami 91, Atlanta 83
Toronto 92, Orlando 85
Charlotte 92, Boston 84
San Antonio 90, Indiana 72
Dallas 98, Cleveland 90
L.A. Clippers 104, Milwaukee 103
Washington 108, Seattle 106
Minnesota 95, Sacramento 89
Today's Games
Portland at New York, 6:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Friday's Games
Miami at Indiana, 6 p.m.
New Jersey at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Denver at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Portland at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
New York at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.
Detroit at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 9:30 p.m.
Washington at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Hawks want more qualifiers

The Hawkeye tracksters are hoping for a top-three finish at conference as they head outdoors.

BY DIANE HENDRICKSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

Peaches Roach is starting all over again. After reaching the 6-0 mark in high jump only once during indoor, the three-time Big Ten champion and All-American will refine a technique that failed her.

"You're up one day, and the next, you're not," said the senior, who is hampered by shin splints. "This hasn't been an awesome season. There have been quite a few down days."

Assistant coach Victor Houston said Roach's shins keep her from getting in the repetitions that are so vital in high jump. As a result, her timing is off.

"She's hitting the bar with her heels," he said. "We're going to rebuild her workouts and fix the little mistakes."

Although the entire Iowa women's track team may not be making such drastic changes, the indoor season was "fairly good but not great."

Head coach James Grant wants better performances that would place the Hawkeyes in the top three of the conference.

"Everyone needs to overhaul her indoor season in preparation for outdoor," he said. "[The Hawks] need to step up a little bit, have a little more intensity."

The squad placed fifth in a competitive Big Ten, and Kineke Alexander and Meghan Armstrong earned All-American honors in the 400 and mile respectively. Alexander set a school record as the event runner-up at the national championships.

As the team heads outdoors, it races against a slower clock to qualify for the Midwest Regional, but only the top three in each event advance to the NCAA championships.

As the first step to the

NCAAs, regional qualifiers are key to the Hawkeyes' post-season. The more regional entrants, the better chance they have to represent Iowa in Sacramento.

The coaches want more than the three who qualified for the indoor national championships. Grant hopes for at least five or six at the finals.

In their first meet in San Diego, the Hawkeyes qualified three athletes for the regional meet. Becca Franklin threw the hammer almost 180 feet, and Tiffany Johnson and Diane Nukuri — both of whom provisionally earned a spot at the indoor championships — posted the required times in the 100-meter hurdles and the 1,500.

The meet was used as training — not to be taken "seriously," Grant said — but he hopes the success continues when his team faces a more competitive field.

Nukuri took out her anger on the Aztec track with a personal best. She was screwed out of her first Big Ten championship and the opportunity to compete at the NCAA indoors when incompetent officials miscounted the number of laps on two separate occasions.

"I didn't think I could run that fast," she said. "[Missing nationals] made me stronger. Now I'm at a different level and more confident. I know what I could have done."

Unlike during the indoor season, the Hawkeyes have the luxury of an abundance of time to fix little mistakes. Instead of two months, they have three.

Houston and Roach hope to bring everything together at the perfect time — around the regional and national meet. They won't worry if she doesn't hit the magic 6-0 mark by mid-season.

For Roach, she wants her last crack at an NCAA championship to be the best, one of numerous achievements for Iowa to remember her by.

"I'm going to get it right this time," she said.

E-mail DI reporter Diane Hendrickson at: diane-hendrickson@uiowa.edu



Grant head coach



Charlie Neibergall/Associated Press

Drake basketball coach Tom Davis instructs his team during the first half against Iowa on Dec. 16, 2006, in Des Moines. Davis, who also coached at Lafayette, Boston College, Stanford, and Iowa, announced his retirement on Wednesday.

A: 270-139. Impressive standing alone, Davis also racked up 13 NCAA Tournament wins during his tenure at Iowa, with just nine losses.

Dr. Tom blows final whistle

BY LUKE MEREDITH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — After 32 years and 598 wins as a Division I head basketball coach, "Dr. Tom" has called it a career.

Drake announced Wednesday that Tom Davis has retired, and introduced his son, 35-year-old Drake assistant Keno Davis, as the new head coach. Keno agreed to a five-year contract.

The 68-year-old Davis also made stops at Lafayette, Boston College, Stanford, and Iowa. He spent the past four years at Drake, leading the once-hapless program to its first winning record since 1987 last season.

The elder Davis skipped Wednesday's press conference in an attempt to keep attention focused on his son.

"I can't imagine spending four more enjoyable years than the last four at Drake," Tom Davis said in a statement released through the school. "I'll miss everything about day-to-day coaching but will do all I can to help Drake, the players, and coaches moving forward."

This will be the first head coaching job for Keno Davis, who was selected his father's successor last spring. He followed his father to Drake in 2003 after stints at Southeast Missouri State and Southern Indiana. He was an undergraduate assistant to his father at Iowa from 1991-95.

Keno Davis had been Drake's top assistant, and current players and incoming recruits were made aware that he would take the reins once his father decided to step aside.

he said. "A lot of things I've been able to bounce off my father, as far as different thoughts, of things that I might do down the road that he's been able to guide me toward. It's been invaluable the last four years."

Tom Davis — known as "Dr. Tom" after earning a doctorate from Maryland — began his head coaching career at Lafayette in 1971, compiling a 116-44 record in six seasons. He also gave current Maryland coach Gary Williams his first break, hiring Williams as an assistant at Lafayette.

"I would not have been a college coach if it wasn't for Tom," Williams told AP on Wednesday. "Basketball-wise, I saw how important it was to be able to teach. He was a great teacher. It was like a classroom at his practices."

Davis moved on to Boston College, guiding the Eagles to a pair of NCAA tournaments and an NIT berth in five seasons. He then spent four years at Stanford before taking over at Iowa, where he experienced his greatest success.

In 13 seasons in Iowa City, Davis racked up a school-record 270 wins and led the Hawkeyes to nine NCAA Tournament appearances, including two trips to the Sweet 16 and one to the final eight.

He was the Associated Press Coach of the Year in 1987, his first at Iowa, after leading the Hawkeyes to a 30-5 record. But Iowa didn't renew Davis' contract following the 1999 season; former Athletics Director Bob Bowsby tapped current coach Steve Alford as his successor.

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Hawks find fresh Dutch treat

Hawkeye freshman Reinoud Haal rode the bench for the first half of the spring season, but after recovering from a wrist injury, the first-year player is a spotless 4-0 in the singles lineup for the men's team.

BY BOBBY LOESCH
THE DAILY IOWAN

A year ago, Iowa freshman Reinoud Haal hadn't even met men's tennis head coach Steve Houghton face-to-face. Fast-forward 365 days and one journey overseas, the Heemstede, Netherlands, native is having an instant effect in the No. 4 spot of Houghton's singles lineup.

There are many aspects of acclimating to a new country, but for Haal, the biggest challenge wasn't in food or language but college life itself.

"What took a lot of adjusting was the amount of sleep I got," he said. "It's waking up at 6:30 in the morning three or four times a week."

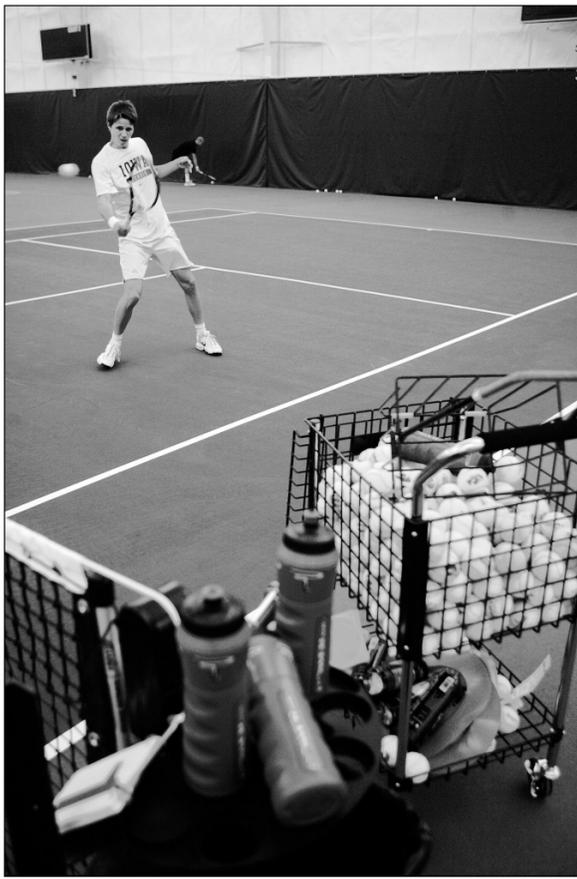
As does every other member of the tennis team, Haal juggles weight training, two-and-a-half-hour practices, and the burden of school work.

"I was very tired in the beginning," he said. "But you get used to it."

Haal sat out the first half of the spring season with a wrist injury but finally cracked the singles lineup when Houghton made the decision to pluck sophomore Greg Holm from the No. 5 spot. Since then, he's gone 4-0 in singles play, including a perfect 3-0 in the 4 spot over the team's spring-break meets in California.

"When we recruited him, we thought he could be a No. 4-type player right away when he got here," Houghton said. "So in some ways, it's kind of confirming that."

After improving throughout the course of the fall sea-



Brett Slezak/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye Reinoud Haal volleys during practice on Wednesday in the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center. Haal is one of two Iowa tennis players from the Netherlands.

son, Haal was forced into inactivity when the injury rendered him unable to practice for an entire month. Once he was able to step back onto the court, he got the chance to play No. 6, but only if he could defeat teammate Patrick Dwyer (the current No. 6

player) in a singles match. Unfortunately for Haal, the only thing he earned from the challenge was more sitting and waiting — Dwyer took him out in a closely contested match.

Later in the season, Houghton decided to pull the trigger when he inserted Haal

in the No. 5 spot against in-state rival Drake. Although the Hawkeyes lost the meet, Haal secured his first collegiate dual meet victory with a 7-6, 2-6, 11-9 victory over Ivan Mendoza. Following the Drake meet, Haal's rise continued as Houghton moved him from 5 to 4.

But how did a player who couldn't win a battle for the 6 spot end up surpassing it all together? The coach said it all comes down to playing style.

"Patrick [Dwyer] is still a work in progress," Houghton said. "Reinoud does have big shots, particularly from the base line."

The 26-year coach hopes Haal and his other freshmen can provide the team with some much needed depth lower in the lineup — Iowa's No. 4 and No. 6 players went a combined 0-22 in Big Ten play last season.

"We can go down 7 or 8 deep," Houghton said. "To a degree, we're a bit injury protected."

Like predecessor Holm, Haal's spot in the lineup is by no means secure; Houghton said there may be some shuffling as he looks to catch whoever is playing with a hot hand.

After adjusting to the States and finally getting his chance to compete, Haal doesn't plan on cooling off.

"I'd like to keep playing at 4 and winning Big Ten matches," he said. "It's going to be a lot harder than the rest of the matches, because we're going to play a lot of good teams."

E-mail *D/* reporter **Bobby Loesch** at: robert-loesch@uiowa.edu

No discipline for AD's outburst

BY DAVID MERCER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — The University of Illinois will not discipline Athletics Director Ron Guenther for yelling at men's basketball coach Bruce Weber and Illini players during the team's NCAA Tournament loss on March 16, officials said.

Guenther yelled substitution advice to Weber — who was just a few feet away — and at one point called Illini forward Warren Carter an idiot, according to a columnist for CBS Sportsline.com, who sat two seats from Guenther on press row during Illinois' 54-52 loss to Virginia Tech.

The columnist wrote that Guenther also pounded the table throughout the game in Columbus, Ohio, during which the Illini blew a 13-point second-half lead.

Richard Herman, the chancellor at the Urbana-Champaign campus, said on Wednesday that Guenther — in his 15th year as AD at Illinois — would not be disciplined. He said Guenther had apologized to Weber and Carter.

The outbursts happened because Guenther is a fan, Herman said.

"If you've been with director Guenther at a game, you know his intensity when he watches a game," Herman said.

But he added, "He's always the athletics director, and the remark was inappropriate."

Herman said he'd heard from only two Illinois graduates demanding action against Guenther.

Guenther did not return calls from the Associated Press on Wednesday.



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419 S. GOVERNOR. Townhouses, 3 and 4 bedrooms. W/D hook-ups, A/C, balcony, August 1. (319)338-4774.

650 S. DODGE. Fall leasing. Three bedroom. \$825/ month. H/W included. A/C, dishwasher, parking, laundry. Near busline. No pets. (319)330-2100, (319)337-8544.

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609 Melrose 3br, 1.5ba, 2 car garage, \$1250

711 Orchard 3br, 1ba, hardwood, parking, \$960

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108 N. JOHNSON. Five bedroom house, W/D, free parking. Available August. \$2850. www.prestigeprop.com (319)331-7487.

HOUSE FOR RENT

\$1700. Five bedroom, two bathroom, off-street parking. W/D, 700 block Iowa Ave. June 1 possession. (319)338-0870.

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121 S. GOVERNOR. Two bedroom house. Basement. C/A. August 1. (319)338-4774.

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1301 DODGE ST. CT., Iowa City. Woods in back, three bedroom, 2.25 bath, garage, W/D, deck, \$1050. (319)541-7197.

2 bedroom townhouse, ideal for 3, A/C, dishwasher, W/D, close-in, busline. Leasing for fall. (319)341-9385.

2, 3, 4, 5, 6 bedrooms, downtown houses, multi bathrooms, free parking, W/D, C/A, dishwasher, busline, close-in. Leasing for fall 2007. (319)341-9385.

2, 3, 4, bedroom houses. Close-in, W/D, hardwood floors, free off-street parking. (319)330-2100.

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3 bedrooms, allows for 4 people. Off-street parking. A/C, dishwasher, W/D, close-in busline. Leasing for fall. (319)341-9385.

3 extra large bedrooms. Unusual place, quiet area, close, no pets, no smoking, references. \$950. (319)331-5071.

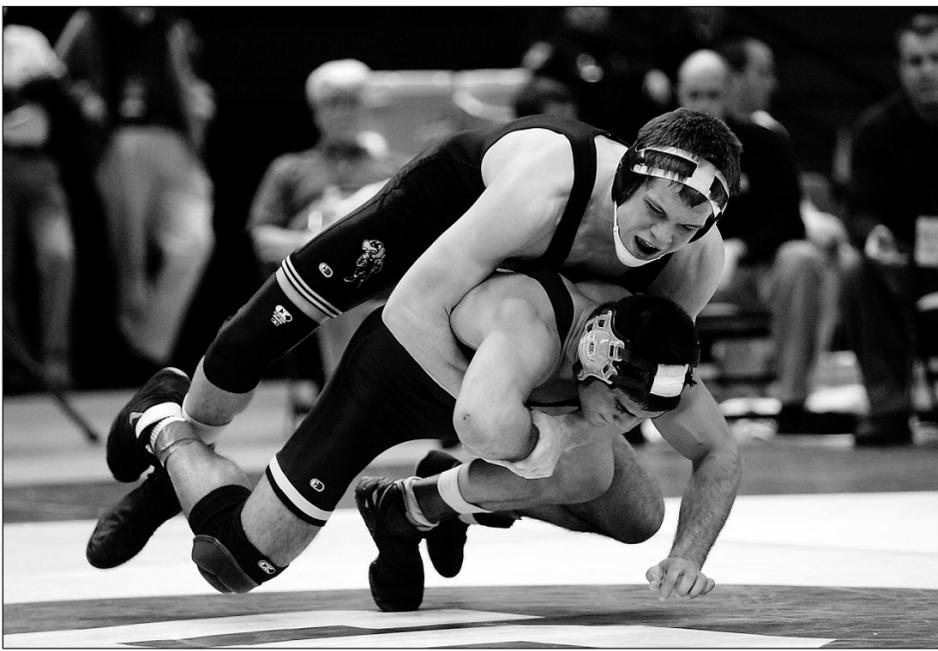
3, 4, 5, 6, 9 bedroom houses for rent. Call Dave at (319)430-5959 or email me at fourA_Properties@yahoo.com for details and we will be glad to show them to you.

4 bedroom house for rent. Available August 1st. W/D & A/C. (319)631-5152.

5/6 bedroom house. Fireplace, all amenities. W/D, free parking. No pets. (319)683-2324.

SPORTS

Grappling for a rebound



Brett Slezak/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye Mark Perry tackles Michigan's Eric Tannenbaum during their 165-pound Big Ten championship match in East Lansing, Mich., on March 4.

WRESTLING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

The victory gave the Hawkeyes their first championship since Cliff Moore in 2004 and an important step in the right direction, Brands said.

If the team is to contend for a national title next year, it needs more consistency throughout the lineup. Iowa ground through numerous ups and downs during the season and ended the year on a sour note with the eighth-place finish. Brands said the team has a lot of work to do, but the Hawkeyes have a strong contingent of individuals who are willing to put in the effort.

The fiery leader hopes Perry's title run can serve as an example to the rest of the squad.

"I think we can get to the next step a lot easier because of Mark Perry and what was accomplished there [nationals]," Brands said. "We have guys who have experience and have tasted what it's like to be the very best — Mark Perry. We have some guys who are right there, and they know they're right there, and they're hungry. We just have to convert that hunger into good results."

Luedke's comments from the heart

Following his third-place finish in the national tournament, emotional senior Eric Luedke expressed disappointment in team's overall performance during the season. The 174-pounder said his teammates needed to focus on off-season training rather than going out downtown and chasing women.

The now two-time All-American didn't call out anyone by name, but he made it clear something needs to change for the team to reach its old heights. On Wednesday, Brands said Luedke's com-

ments came from the heart and he didn't mean to tear anyone down.

"I think Eric Luedke was speaking with a lot of emotion," the coach said. "I think that it stems from a lot of his caring. People might not construe it that way, but he cares a lot about what's going on. He was charged up, fired up, and I think he was upset with team place his senior year. He probably attacked some people where he didn't need to attack them, but what he said was from the heart, also. I think he said it to help them... It didn't cause a rift that isn't repairable."

The coach continued to stress how much Luedke supports the Hawkeye family.

"I think Eric Luedke cares a lot about this team, and I don't think he meant to personally attack anybody," Brands said. "I think with emotion and everything involved, I think it came out and could have been construed the wrong way, but sometimes you need to hear those things too. I've been rock bottom and been sucking my thumb a couple times in my career, and it would've done me no good to have someone that was real soft on me."

"Instead, I had someone who was real hard on me and knocked me upside the head to get me going again. That's what you need."

Virginia Tech wrestlers finally in black and gold

Next year's Hawkeye squad could feature a distinctly different look from this year's version. Gone are valued seniors Luedke, Mario Galanakis, and Alex Grunder. In their place stands a host of wrestlers ready to make the jump to the starting lineup.

Among them are Virginia Tech transfers Joe Slaton, Brent Metcalf, Jay Borschel,

T.H. Leet, and Dan LeClere. Metcalf should immediately see time at 149 with Grunder's departure, while Borschel could step in at 184. The five transfers wrestled unattached this season, and Brands liked the improvement each made.

"I think [they progressed] very well. I think they handled it very well. I can point to two or three who did it very well. There are some guys that need to pick it up from a commitment, lifestyle point of view, but I think we're fine."

Other than the three departed seniors, Brands doesn't expect much change in the starting lineup. With a solid foundation of Perry, Matt Fields, Charlie Falck, and Alex Tsirtsis, the Hawkeyes should be improve on their lackluster team finish.

"I'll tell you what, I like this team," Brands said. "I don't anticipate any changes. I think there are going to be some challenges from some other people who have something to say about it. We're all starting even, and that's the way you have to look at it. I don't anticipate a whole lot of changes. I believe in these returners, I believe a lot in them."

Gable back for another season?

Dan Gable is yet to officially announce his plans for next season, but at least one person wants the Hall of Fame coach back in the Iowa corner.

"We need his presence," Brands said last weekend. "We need Dan Gable's presence, and that presence will not go away no matter what role he's in. He is incredible. My relationship with him extends beyond the mat, and that's important to the future of the program."

E-mail/DI reporter Ian Smith at: ian-w-smith@uiowa.edu

Alford may leave

ALFORD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Alford has a 152-106 record in eight seasons with the Hawkeyes — marred by two separate off-court incidents with former star Pierre Pierce that divided the team's fans. Iowa reached the NCAA Tournament three times under Alford, winning one game in 2001. The Hawkeyes captured Big Ten Tournament titles in 2001 and 2006.

The Hawkeyes went 17-14 this season and failed to reach the postseason for the second time in Alford's tenure. Last year, Iowa earned a No. 3 seed in the NCAA Tournament but lost to Northwestern State in the first round.

In March 2006, Alford was reported to be a top candidate for coaching vacancies at Indiana and Missouri, but nothing materialized. The Hoosiers didn't seek an interview with their former All-American guard. Alford wasn't interested in the Tigers' pursuit.

Alford received a one-year contract extension before former Athletics Director Bob Bowers left for Stanford last summer. Barta added a second one-year extension in September 2006.

The coach is under contract until June 30, 2011, with a



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Iowa basketball coach Steve Alford encourages his team during Iowa's contest against Penn State Jan. 24.

guaranteed annual salary of \$925,000. If he is dismissed without cause, Alford must be paid \$500,000 for each year remaining on the deal, according to the contract.

Earlier in the week, the *Albuquerque Tribune* reported Alford, Winthrop's Gregg Marshall, and Southern Illinois' Chris Lowery were "high" on New Mexico's list of candidates to replace ex-coach Ritchie McKay, who was fired on Feb. 22 after a 15-17 season.

Winthrop Athletics Director

Tom Hickman granted New Mexico officials permission to speak with Marshall, the newspaper reported Tuesday. Lowery's Salukis will play Kansas tonight for an opportunity to advance to the Elite Eight, and he likely wouldn't be available for an interview until his team is eliminated from the NCAA Tournament.

DI Sports Editor Charlie Kautz contributed to this report.

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

Ferentz: Lineup not set

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

"We'll try to be smart about it," he said.

GOOD BUY: Ferentz doesn't mind the athletics department's most recent acquisition. The university purchased the rights to FireKirkFerentz.com last fall, along with other domain names, to counter a growing wave of negative sites aimed to oust prominent coaches.

"It looked like a good idea to me," joked Ferentz, who hasn't visited the site.

"My kids may have, but I

'I think all of us are enthused about what's in front of us right now, and I think we're enthused about moving on. We're all excited about the opportunity to come out and hopefully have a better year.'

— Kirk Ferentz, head football coach

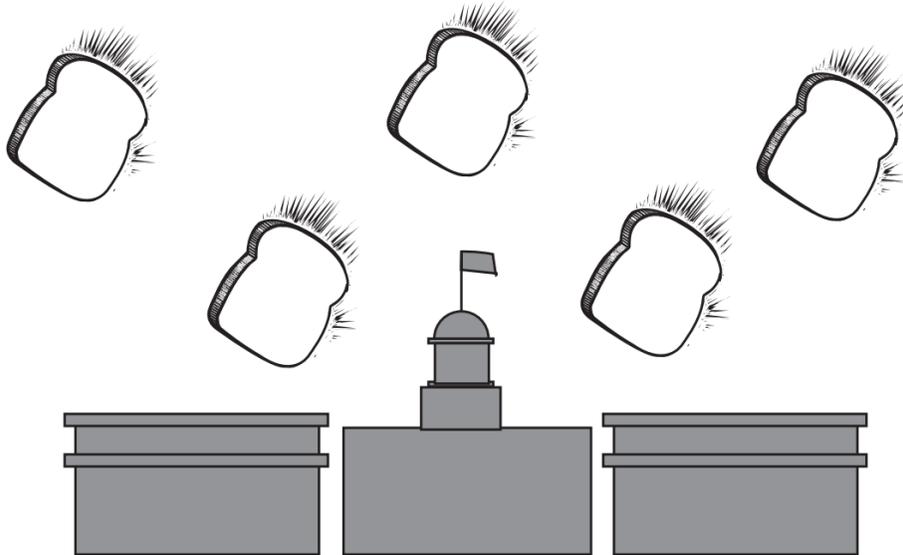
don't know how to get there."

EXTRA POINTS: Fullback Busch (wrist) and defensive end Karl Klug (back) won't practice this spring. ... Iowa City native Alex Kanellis has moved from defensive end to offensive line, and he is listed on the two-deeps at right tackle. Kanellis recorded 19

tackles and three sacks a year ago. ... Freshmen receivers Paul Chaney and Anthony Bowman, members of the Hawkeye track squad, will still practice full-time with the football team.

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

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HOURS

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2007

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PRINTMAKERS



Photos by Katrina Hawthorne and Beth Skogan/The Daily Iowan

Top Photo: Erin Maurelli, a UI graduate student in printmaking, places the finishing touches on her “boob” cookies in the kitchen of her professor’s house on March 15. Maurelli baked and frosted more than 80 dozen cookies to take to a printmakers’ conference in Kansas City that began Wednesday.

Second Photo: UI graduate student Erin Maurelli’s piece *Department of the Interior 2007* hangs from the ceiling of the Art Building West gallery on Feb. 20.

Third Photo: Erin Maurelli’s 2½ -year-old daughter, Teagan, makes a face while her mother sings a song to her Tuesday. The printmaker creates work focusing on the human as a machine. She was inspired after giving birth to Teagan to create work based on how a woman’s body functions.

Fourth Photo: Frozen pasteurized milk sits on a table at the Mother’s Milk Bank of Iowa located at the UI Oakdale Research Campus on Wednesday. The milk is being held as it is tested for any contaminants before it is sent to the UIHC to be dispensed to babies.

A MOTHER’S MILK — *nutrition, medicine, and fodder for artistic thought.*

BY MAGGIE ANDERSON
THE DAILY IOWAN

Erin Maurelli is baking in a friend’s kitchen. Jean Drulis is pasteurizing milk in a small room on the UI Oakdale Research Campus.

Both are counting — Maurelli the number of cookies she has made (more than five batches today, 13 cookies per batch, for a projected grand total of 1,000 by the end of the week) and Drulis the amount of milk she has bathed in hot water to remove harmful viruses and bacteria (four batches today, 43 bottles per batch, for a grand total of approximately 580 ounces by the end of the day).

Both are filling plastic tubs with their products — Maurelli has four tubs in her freezer and Drulis eight in hers.

And both have one thing on the mind: women’s breasts.

Maurelli and Drulis come by this infatuation naturally. The other interested demographic has a natural interest as well, of course, but Maurelli’s and Drulis’ are concerns of perhaps an unexpected — and certainly more philanthropic — character.

Drulis is a cofounder of the Mother’s Milk Bank of Iowa, a subdivision of the Iowa Children’s Hospital housed at the UI Hospitals and Clinics. Operating on a principle similar to that of a blood bank, the Milk Bank takes donations from mothers with surplus breast milk. In some cases, these donors are women who have lost a child; other times, they are women who produce more milk than their own child needs. The milk is used largely to feed premature infants who are unable to suckle and whose mothers have not begun producing milk.

And Maurelli, a UI printmaking M.F.A. candidate, creates work that deals with the idea of the human body as a machine. In particular, she is interested in how a woman’s body functions after she has a baby and how lactation can become an experience akin to working an assembly line — something the 36-year-old experienced herself two-and-a-half years ago, when she birthed her daughter, Teagan. She said words such as industry, supply and demand, and production that are most commonly applied to mechanical operations seemed to also describe her perception of her postpartum body.

“The whole thing is like one big combustion engine,” she said.

Maurelli’s latest project, which she will present at the Southern Graphics Council’s annual conference this weekend in Kansas City, Mo., forms the link between these two milk connoisseurs as well as an explanation for the aforementioned baking marathon. As Maurelli explained in an e-mail, she is making “boob cookies” that she will hand out at the conference. She will give all monetary donations she receives to the Mother’s Milk Bank.

SEE GOT MILK, PAGE 2C

THE MOTHER’S MILK BANK OF IOWA BY THE NUMBERS

- **35,000-40,000** — The projected need, in ounces, of milk for next year.
- **9,000** — The highest number of ounces a donor contributed last year.
- **650** — The number of babies fed donated human milk over the past three and a half years.
- **200** — The minimum donation of milk per year, in ounces.
- **144** — The temperature, in degrees Fahrenheit, at which the milk must be pasteurized for 30 minutes to kill harmful agents and maintain beneficial ones.
- **80** — The number of donors to the bank last year.
- **1.3** — The number of full-time employees at the bank.
- **1** — The number of operating pasteurizers on the Oakdale campus.

Source: Jean Drulis, cofounder, Mother’s Milk Bank of Iowa

ANNEXING HOPE

An action-packed new play by a UI playwright reimagines the U.S. imperial annexation of Hawaii in 1893. **6C**



TWO’S COMPANY

Limited to one-handed playing for 35 years by a neurological disorder, concert pianist Leon Fleisher is now able to play with both hands once more. **5C**

ANGELS IN CEDAR RAPIDS

Angels in America and a section of the AIDS quilt are both at Theatre Cedar Rapids. The director talks to the DI about why the 1980s-set “gay fantasia” is still relevant today. **4C**



Two local groups, **CALEB RYDER & FRIENDS** AND **THE PURITANICALS**, will play the Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn, today at 10 p.m. Ryder's sound is reminiscent of Sublime's mellow So-Cal funk and The Puritanicals remind me of the White Stripes, only angrier.

From 'boob' cookies to bottling mothers' milk

GOT MILK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1C

Though her previous work had also been autobiographical, this project is perhaps the most personal for fairly obvious reasons — in her written thesis, Maurelli even details her experience with lactating during class and the steps she went through every time she pumped the milk from her breasts.

Maurelli said she began producing work in this vein when she felt as though she had hit a sort of rut in her work.

"I knew when I came [to the UI] that my work was going to change dramatically," the artist said. And with the overwhelming sense of immersion in her body's processes following her daughter's birth, she really couldn't think about anything but breasts. These life-giving organs and their functions became a recurring motif in her work.

"If you were to look at [milk ducts] under a microscope, they look like trees with little bulbs at the ends of the branches," she said. She hopes such images, which appear abstracted and ethereal in print form, will prompt contemplation and a re-evaluation of the way breasts are largely portrayed.

"In our contemporary culture, the female breast has been oversexualized, over-commercialized, and over-politicized," writes Maurelli in her thesis, titled *Machine at My Breast* (which she dedicates: "To Teagan, *little sucker*"). "I chose images of the breast that I felt acknowledged the established interpretation of their sexuality, while concurrently providing me room to inject my own meaning."

All this time, Maurelli, who studied at the Tamarind Institute, the world's only school for professional printmakers, located in Albuquerque, N.M., was still working in the traditional print format. As an art form, printmaking is distinct in that it creates multiple originals.

At Tamarind, which accepts just eight students each year and allows just two to continue into the second year, Maurelli earned the prestigious title of Master Printer. In this capacity, she collaborates with an artist, gallery, or museum to develop an image based on an existing artwork, and then she carries out the physical act of printing. For example, earth artists such as Christo and Jeanne-Claude (who created the installation *The Gates* in New York City's Central Park in 2005) cannot easily make a living by selling their projects — but a collaboration with master printers to create editioned works allows their art to be purchased.

Maurelli stressed that prints are not reproductions but all original works in their own right. The rationale for making prints is twofold in her mind. First, there's a question of marketability.

"It's easier for a collector to part with \$550 for a print than \$5,000 for a painting," she said, gesturing around her friend's house as an example: Framed prints practically blanket the cheery, cherry-red walls.

Second, there is the idea that a greater number will result in a greater visual impact.

'Human milk is both a medicine and a nutrition. The premature infants are much more complicated to feed than healthy babies. They really need a mother's milk.'

— Jean Drulis, cofounder of the Mother's Milk Bank of Iowa

"If you have an image and you have that image repeated over and over, it adds significance," she said as she plucked cookies from one of the five sheets she was juggling.

Then, in the summer of 2005, the petite redhead took a drawing class that challenged her idea of what constitutes a print.

"Out of some stroke of genius or insanity, I'm not entirely sure which, I made a couple of batches of cookies and frosted them to look like breasts," she said.

She repeated the project for the 2005 Iowa Arts Festival. She walked around downtown with Teagan, handing out cookies and taking donations for Heifer International, a nonprofit organization that aims to help end world hunger and poverty by teaching concepts of self-reliance and sustainability. The money that Maurelli raised was used to purchase a goat for a community.

"In that way, I was using my artwork to feed a community," she said, noting the parallel between this action and that of a mother using her milk to feed her child.

Despite this nontraditional, practically performance-art project, Maurelli considers her cookies to be prints.

"I'm basically editioning 1,000 cookies; it's just that the medium is different from what you might think of as a print," she said. In fact, for her Kansas City cookie project, Maurelli is even applying her ideas about print quantity and increased effect.

"My hope is that seeing 1,000

cookies shaped like breasts is going to add significance to the idea of our bodies as machines," she said.

The cookies themselves are not intended to be representations of realistic human breasts but rather as abstractions. The circular sugar cookies are iced with white frosting and a centered pink frosting nipple, rather than a skin-toned cookie that would be more suggestive.

"These have to be a symbol," she said. "If they get too realistic, they address all those issues of sex. I'm thinking more about function."

Maurelli's donation to the Mother's Milk Bank will also maintain her concept of being a metaphorical mother through her work. Drulis said Maurelli's donation will provide funds to send a week's worth of milk home with a preemie once the baby is healthy enough to leave hospital.

As the Milk Bank's sole full-time employee, Drulis has recruited and screened milk donors, collected their milk, and then pasteurized, catalogued, and stored it until it is distributed, since the bank's opening in 2002. The pasteurization facility on the Oakdale campus consists of a shaking water-bath pasteurizer about the size of a large microwave, and several freezers.

The pasteurizer holds 43 bottles, and each batch takes approximately an hour, with 30 minutes at 144 degrees Fahrenheit. Drulis said it's important to maintain this particular temperature — it is hot enough to kill

any harmful bacteria and viruses in the milk (though she stresses that donors are carefully screened, and the bank has never had a health scare about its breast milk) but maintains the valuable natural antibodies present.

The bank is one of just 12 in all of North America serving an ever-increasing population. Technological advances have allowed babies as small as one pound to live, leaving more infants than ever in need of donated milk. Last year, the bank distributed 32,000 ounces, and it anticipates demand for 35,000 to 40,000 this year. All these donations came from slightly more than 80 donors. The average contribution is 500 ounces, and Drulis said she even had one donor give 9,000 ounces. Of course, there's no way to guarantee how much milk a mother is physically able to produce; some women just naturally lactate more than others. But research continues to prove that breast milk is the healthiest option for newborns, particularly the fragile preemies.

"Human milk is both a medicine and a nutrition," the 59-year-old Drulis said, explaining that formula can never replicate human milk's ability to transfer immunities to a baby. "The premature infants are much more complicated to feed than healthy babies. They really need a mother's milk."

Part of Maurelli's interest in premature babies stems from personal experience — Teagan was born prematurely, but Mau-

relli was lucky enough to begin producing milk early enough and the child was strong enough to suckle. At her peak production, Maurelli said, she was producing as much as three-quarters of a gallon per day.

"That's like, a lot," Maurelli said, nodding for emphasis and illustrating her point by pointing to a half gallon of milk from the fridge. "Now, I think about it, and it grosses me out. There's this dichotomy between beauty and the crazy, out-of-control quality."

It's this gross-out factor that Maurelli is in part attempting to debunk with her work. The breast's function as a feeding mechanism is one of the most basic a woman's body can perform, and Maurelli finds it irritating when a fuss is made about mothers breastfeeding in public.

"I just get all crabby," she said, citing in particular an incident in 2006 when a breastfeeding mother pictured on the cover of *Babytalk* magazine drew readers' criticism. The publication, a free magazine most often seen in hospital waiting rooms, has a readership consisting overwhelmingly of mothers, but the cover still sparked outrage from readers and some political conservatives, such as talk-radio powerhouse Rush Limbaugh.

"It's really not an ugly thing," she said. "When you get right down to it, it's really lovely that our bodies function in this way."

"I think that my goal in all of this is to raise awareness. I make art about what I think about. I take comfort in working with the body, because it's something that I'll always have."

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

WHAT'S GOIN' ON



THIS WEEK ON THE *DI*'S RADIO SHOW, "80 HOURS ON AIR," YOU CAN:

- Hear *DI* reporter Maggie Anderson's interviews with Erin Maurelli, the printmaker whose work focuses on lactation, and Jean Drulis, the co-founder of the Mother's Milk Bank, and listen to the sounds of human milk being pasteurized and prepared for premature infants.
 - Learn more about Farras — including how to pronounce the new bar's name — and salsa dancing in general with *DI* reporter Tessa Ruddy as she attempts to master this Latin American tradition.
 - Find out why *Angels in America* is being performed at Theatre Cedar Rapids — with surprising success in the traditionally blue-collar city. *DI* reporter Paul Sorenson has more on the play and its conception and reception in Cedar Rapids.
 - Listen to playwright Melanie Leilani Larson and director Heather Bodie talk about the latest UI Gallery production, *Hope Falls* — a semi-historical, semi-fictional work that investigates the military takeover of a small nation through the experience of one family.
- "80 Hours on Air" broadcasts on KRUI 89.7 FM on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. It is available for free via podcast each Friday at DAILYIOWAN.COM/PODCASTS, and through the iTunes music store.

THURSDAY 3.22

- MUSIC**
- **Black Days Down, The Nephilim**, 6 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
 - **Grinnell Singers**, 8 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 310 N. Johnson
 - **Sean Boarini, piano**, 8:30 p.m., Iowa City Piano Lounge, 217 Iowa
 - **Andy White and Radoslav Lorkovic**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
 - **Sangria Night, Dustin Louis Blank**, 9:30 p.m., David's Place, 100 S. Linn
 - **Caleb Ryder & Friends, The Puritanicals**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- FILM**
- **Yiddish Festival Film Screening**, 4 p.m., 347 IMU
- WORDS**
- **Writers' Workshop reading, Charles Baxter, fiction**, 8 p.m., Main Library Shambaugh Auditorium
- THEATER**
- **Hope Falls**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B
- LECTURES**
- **Journeys in Faith Group Discussion Series, "Accounting, Faith, and Medicine,"** 7:30 p.m., Newman Catholic Student Center, 104 E. Jefferson
 - **Alicia Henry**, 8 p.m., 116 Art Building West
- MISC.**
- **Lunch with the Chefs, "Bring in the Clams," New England Clam Bake**, 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m., IMU Main Lounge
 - **Indian Lamb Curry, Indian meal planning**, 6 p.m., New Pioneer Co-op, 1101 Second, Coralville
 - **Iowa City Bird Club Meeting**, 7 p.m., Grant Wood Area Education Agency, 200

THURSDAY 3.22

- CONTINUED
- Holiday Road, Coralville
- **Campus Activities Board event, Prescott Tolk, comedian**, 9 p.m., 56 IMU

FRIDAY 3.23

- MUSIC**
- **Leon Fleisher Master Class**, 11 a.m., Voxman Music Building Harper Hall
 - **Leon Fleisher and the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra**, 7:30 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
 - **Open Mike**, 8 p.m., Uptown Bill's Small Mall, 401 S. Gilbert
 - **Blues Instigators**, 9 p.m., Mill
 - **Piebald, MC Chris, and Street to Nowhere**, 9 p.m., Picador
 - **Euforquestra and the Hipnecks**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- WORDS**
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Joshua Kryah, poetry**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- THEATER**
- **Hope Falls**, 8 p.m., Theatre B
- DANCE**
- **"BLAST" dance performance featuring Latin, swing, and ballroom dance**, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., IMU second-floor ballroom
- LECTURES**
- **Thinking Outside the Box: Ethnic Studies and the Arts, "Pouring Tea: Black Gay Men of the South Tell Their Tales," E. Patrick Johnson**, 4 p.m., 101 Becker Communication Studies Building
 - **"Poetic Architecture and Rhythm in Sound and the Fury," James Galvin**, 4 p.m., Dey House Conroy Reading

FRIDAY 3.23

- CONTINUED
- Room
- **"Uncouth Nation: Why Europe Dislikes America," Andrei Markovits**, 4 p.m., 40 Schaeffer Hall
 - **MISC.**
 - **Fair Trade Organic Coffee Tasting**, 11:30-noon, Java House, 211½ E. Washington
 - **SPENCENTER, live comedy**, 5 p.m., Mill

SATURDAY 3.24

- MUSIC**
- **Leon Fleisher Master Class**, 10 a.m., Harper Hall
 - **Jesus Don't Like Killin'**, 7 p.m., Uptown Bill's
 - **Lazy Boy and the Recliners**, 7:30 p.m., Mill
 - **Iowa Percussion**, 8 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
 - **Lucky Boys Confusion, Architects, and Starter Kit**, 9 p.m., Picador
 - **Rearview Mirror, Max Eubank and Joe Losh, Michelle Lynn**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
 - **Friends With Benefits**, 10 p.m., Sanctuary, 405 S. Gilbert
- WORDS**
- **"Fossil Guy: Become a Paleo Private Eye," Don Johnson**, 2 p.m., UI Museum of Natural History
 - **"Folktales, Music, and Running from Kenya,"** 2:30 p.m., Johnson County Historical Society Museum, 860 Quarry Road, Coralville
- THEATER**
- **Hope Falls**, 8 p.m., Theatre B
- DANCE**
- **"BLAST" dance performance featuring Latin, swing, and ballroom dance**, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m., IMU second-floor ballroom

SATURDAY 3.24

- CONTINUED
- MISC.**
- **Brain Discovery Fair**, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., UI Theatre Building
 - **Art4Health Exhibit Opening Reception**, 6:30 p.m., African-American Historical Museum/Cultural Center
- SUNDAY 3.25**
- MUSIC**
- **Thomas L. Davis Alumni Concert**, 3 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
 - **Modern Life is War, Neon Hookers, Kingdom, In Remembrance, Killing Kings**, 6 p.m., Picador
- FILM**
- **Laramie Project**, 6-8 p.m., Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Resource & Education Center
- THEATER**
- **Hope Falls**, 2 p.m., Theatre B
- MISC.**
- **WOW Family Day: An African Celebration**, noon-4 p.m., UI Museum of Art
 - **Wedding Show**, 1-3 p.m., hotelVetro
 - **UI Global Etiquette Diners, China**, 6:30 p.m., International Center
 - **Original Mill Pub Quiz**, 9-11 p.m., Mill

MONDAY 3.26

- MUSIC**
- **ISIS, Jesu, Zozobra**, 7 p.m., Picador
 - **Open Mike, with Jay Knight**, 8 p.m., Mill
- FILM**
- **Hindi film series, Jai Santoshi Maa**, 7 p.m., E105 Adler

MONDAY 3.26

- CONTINUED
- Journalism Building
- LECTURES**
- **Latinos in Action Week, "Rio Grande Crossings: Remaking Marriage and Citizenship in the Nineteenth Century," Omar Valerio-Jimenez**, 3 p.m., 346 IMU
 - **"Arts of Seeing: Transatlantic Modernism and Anglophone Caribbean Literature,"** 3:30 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- TUESDAY 3.27**
- MUSIC**
- **12 Gauge Valentine, An Airbag Saved My Life, Pony Boy Curtis, Ten Years Burning**, 6 p.m., Picador
 - **Four Hornsmen of the Apocalypse**, 8 p.m., Harper Hall
- FILM**
- **Israeli film series, Avanim**, 7 p.m., Hillel, 122 E. Market
- WORDS**
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Kevin Sessums, memoir**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights
 - **Writers' Workshop reading, Kiran Desai, fiction**, 8:15 p.m., Van Allen Hall Lecture Room 2
- THEATER**
- **Free Association Theatre, short plays**, 6 p.m., Mill
- MISC.**
- **Latinos in Action Week, "Emergence of a Grass-Roots Civil-Rights Movement in Iowa," brown-bag discussion, Janet Weaver, Karen Mason, Rachel Garza Carreon**, noon p.m., Main Library second-floor conference room
 - **"Killer Epidemic: Are You Vulnerable? Understanding Metabolic Syndrome," Kelly**

TUESDAY 3.27

- CONTINUED
- Cobb, 6 p.m., New Pioneer Co-op, Coralville
- **Funk Soul Brotha Dance House**, 10 p.m., Mill
- WEDNESDAY 3.28**
- MUSIC**
- **Iowa Vanguard Jazz Collective**, 7:30 p.m., African-American Historical Museum/Cultural Center
 - **La Bohème, School of Music Centennial**, 8 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
 - **Diplomats of Solid sound and Diplomettes, Dave Zollo, Wandering Sons, Awful Purdies, Mission Creek Midwest Music Festival**, 9 p.m., Mill
 - **Ladyhawk, Anvil Chorus, Brief Candles, Amy Cooper, The Wheelers, Mission Creek Midwest Music Festival**, 9 p.m., Picador
 - **These United States, Cartright, Shortstack, Rykarda Parasol, Mission Creek Midwest Music Festival**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- FILM**
- **Latinos in Action Week, "A Little Salsa on the Prairie," Jody Swilky**, noon, 335 IMU
 - **Latinos in Action Week, "Harvest of Shame,"** 5 p.m., 23 Phillips Hall
- WORDS**
- **Writers' Workshop reading, Richard Kenney, poetry**, 8 p.m., Conroy Reading Room
- THEATER**
- **"Culture Break @ Old Cap,"** noon, Old Capitol Museum
- MISC.**
- **Managing Stress**, 12:10 p.m., UIHC eighth-floor solarium
 - **Marketing, Sales, and Retail Career Fair**, 1 p.m., C310 Pomerantz Center

JOSHUA KRYAH, a graduate of the Writers' Workshop, will read from his first collection of poetry, *Glean*, the winner of the Nightboat Poetry Prize, Friday at 7 p.m. at Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque. Kryah's poems have appeared in periodicals including the *Colorado Review*, the *Denver Quarterly*, the *Iowa Review*, *Pleiades*, and *Verse*. As the winner of the 2007 *Third Coast Poetry Award*, his work will appear in the fall 2007 issue of the journal.

Where the world dances

Farras, a recently opened bar, offers a wide variety of music and dance that should suit most people's tastes.

BY TESSA RUDDY
THE DAILY IOWAN

The word *Farras* glares through the front window in zigzag neon letters. Inside, a man with a red tie spins a woman in a black cocktail dress effortlessly around the room.

Beside them, a woman in jeans smiles at her partner, who wears a white newsboy cap and shoes, his hand on the small of her back as she leans into a dip. They come to *Farras* every Friday for one reason — salsa.

Farras was officially opened on Jan. 26 by co-owners Johnny Zambrano and Lenin Carrion, although the neon sign in the window remains the only outward clue that the building is occupied. Formerly home to Tony's Grill at 320 E. Burlington St., this often-vacant space, wedged between Thai Flavors and Tropical Smoothie, has a new tenant once again — although this time it's a bar.

"We were originally planning to make this a restaurant in the morning and a bar at night," Carrion said. "We are still waiting to see if we have enough capital."

"Maybe in a couple months," Zambrano chimed in.

Although *Farras* is still in its early stages of life, the Ecuadorian owners offer a culturally diverse atmosphere. Depending on the night, you could hear reggaeton, hip-hop, Mexican ambient, jazz, or Arabic music.

The word *farras* is an Ecuadorian expression meaning to "have a party."

"When people are starting to



Katrina Hawthorne/The Daily Iowan

Farras owners Lenin Carrion and Johnny Zambrano sit in the front of the bar they opened in late January. On Friday nights, they have salsa dancing, and every other Saturday is Latino night. Both Carrion and Zambrano wanted a place in which they could have salsa and other Latin dancing.

LATIN TROPICAL NIGHT
Featuring Salsa Dancing
When: Friday at 6 p.m.
Where: Farras, 320 E. Burlington
Admission: 19-plus, \$5

come out, you say ... 'Let's go *farras*,' " Zambrano said.

Salsa night, on Friday, is the most popular event.

There were at least 100 people there on March 16, twirling about on the vast dance floor. The skill level of the crowd was intimidating.

One couple caught my attention. One moment, they would be dancing in a smooth, sensuous manner, only to launch into elaborate turns and dips.

"I just learned by coming," said Celine Kilian, the female portion of the dance duo. "Everybody's so nice here that they'll dance with you and teach you."

I was secretly wishing someone would teach me how to salsa when Carrion approached and led me out into the swarm of couples.

My palms were sweating as he placed his hand on my waist and led me across the floor. I kept my eyes on our feet, for fear of stepping on his big brown shoes. I ended up stepping on them anyway, my little pink flats stumbling after his precise movements.

On the dance floor, Asians danced with whites, whites danced with Indians, and blacks danced with Latinos.

"Salsa dancing is taking the world by storm," said Sam Kumar, Kilian's dancing partner, as he wiped sweat from his brow. "We didn't have a good place for dancing on a consistent basis before [*Farras*]."

It's easy to see why everyone is so taken with salsa: The foot work is simple, and the hip movements are sexy. It's a release.

In the future, *Farras* will also host belly dancing and flamenco dance nights.

"What we do is try to show the people how rich our culture is, not only in Latin America, but other cultures, because I think we have so much to offer to the United States," Zambrano said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Tessa Ruddy** at: tessa-ruddy@uiowa.edu

NO CHLOÉ, NO AFTERNOON, NO ROCK



FILM REVIEW

by Soheil Rezayazdi

I Think I Love My Wife

When:

12, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:20 p.m.

Where:

Sycamore 12

★★★ out of ★★★★★

Chris Rock does not rock. At least not on the big screen. The fiery standup comic turns lifeless when film cameras point in his direction. *I Think I Love My Wife*, Rock's remake of the 1972 French film *Chloé in the Afternoon*, continues this tradition. A film on sexual frustration would appear a perfect fit for Rock's fierce rants, but instead the actor stars, co-writes, and directs a humdrum film that plays against his talents.

Rock portrays Richard, a married man whose wandering eye gets him in trouble after meeting Nikki (Kerry Washington), a seductress and old friend. At home, Richard lives a content, though sexually lacking,

life with Brenda (Gina Torres), a textbook frigid wife and all-around wet blanket. Richard plays with fire — going on quasi-platonic dates with Nikki during the day unbeknownst to his wife.

The premise is a solid one. Rock probes the ugliness of male sexuality with some astuteness, showing the alpha male's have-my-cake-and-eat-it-too need for spontaneity and security. But as Richard's sexual desire intoxicates him and leads him toward a series of fiascos, Rock's humor lags.

In one standout scene, Richard and Nikki spend a day at the New York International Auto Show, playing video games and fantasizing about sports cars. Richard feels guilty about his fun with Nikki, so he rekindles matters with his wife. How? By taking *her* to the New York International Auto Show. Rock nails the warped, perverse logic of the masculine mind, filming the two scenes with identical shots and music.

But then the jokes start. The scene's punch line is lame: Where Nikki eyed a Porsche, Brenda gets giddy over a minivan. There were more piercing insights when Homer became infatuated with new coworker Mindy on "The Simpsons."

Though *Wife* is a comedy, the humor is an unwanted distraction. Rock's failed bits come in three flavors: digressive observational humor (What's the deal with employees pestering you at department stores?),

lengthy slapstick routines (Why won't my erection go away after I took this Viagra?), and clichés on domestic life (Why do you always wear granny panties?).

As for the film's liberated seductress/icy wife dichotomy, Rock stacks the deck for the former. He caricatures married women as dull, jealous nags obsessed with wall sconces, à la Bill Murray's phantom wife in *Lost in Translation*. Nikki, a caricature herself of the Sultry Other Woman, is more appealing than Brenda in every sense, nullifying the film's mandatory endorsement of marriage.

Throughout *Wife*, we anticipate Rock's acerbic tirades on relationships and sex, yet his gags come off stilted and calculated. The transition from standup comic to film director has robbed Rock of the fury that makes him compelling. Compare him with Will Ferrell, another comedian turned writer/actor. Where the films Ferrell has co-written boast a freewheeling, improv quality, *Wife* shackles Rock to the standards of a romantic comedy.

Save for a few moments — Rock dancing with a bottle of champagne to "Laffy Taffy" has its charm — the film sinks as a comedy and barely coasts as a study on male sexuality. At best, *Wife* compels you to visit *Chloé in the Afternoon* in hopes of seeing a film that doesn't squander *Wife's* potential.

E-mail *DI* film critic **Soheil Rezayazdi** at: soheil-rezayazdi@uiowa.edu

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ANGEL EYES IN CEDAR RAPIDS

BY PAUL SORENSON THE DAILY IOWAN

Gay men in drag. A pill-popping Mormon. HIV/AIDS. An erection-inducing angel. "A gay fantasia on national themes," a dramatic dialogue on Reagan-era (and current) moral absolutism.

Angels in America, Tony Kushner's two-part Pulitzer-Prize-winning drama, uses magical realism and innovative theatrics to pull the above together into a play both definitive in its depiction of the '80s and timeless in its themes. Producing a six-hour play with PROGRESSIVE proudly tattooed on its forehead is too daunting and too risqué for most theaters, which makes the play's current Iowa home even more surprising: Cedar Rapids.

Theatre Cedar Rapids, 102 Third Street S.E., ran Part One: Millennium Approaches, March 2-11, and it will put on Part Two: Perestroika beginning Friday and continuing through April 1. While it is beneficial to have seen the first part before launching into the second, the plays were written to be performed independently.

"My feeling is that we under-rate ourselves as people who live in Cedar Rapids, but what I've found over the years is that we are a very intelligent, worldly community," said Richard Barker, the artistic director of Theatre Cedar Rapids, in a conference room inundated with relics of the community theater's



Publicity photo

In this film still from the 2003 HBO miniseries production of playwright Tony Kushner's Angels in America, the Angel appears before a character dying of AIDS. Theatre Cedar Rapids has produced the two-part work; the run of the second half, Perestroika, will end on April 1.

decades-long history. "Iowa City doesn't have a monopoly on sophisticated audiences."

Beginning in 1985, the show follows Prior Walter, an HIV-infected gay man in New York, and his relationship with the neurotic Louis Ironson, as well as various supporting plots, including the story of Roy Cohn, a real-life player in decades of shady Republican politics — and also a closeted homosexual dying of AIDS. Too complex to describe in full, the play envelops a national and supernatural scope of politics, identity, and the cosmos — warranting the six-hour story.

While confined by the typical issues facing community theater — all performers, technicians,

and crew members are volunteers — Theatre Cedar Rapids did an admirable job with Part One and plans to do the same with Part Two. All the set pieces are white, placed on a jet-black stage: mimetic of Manichean, good vs. evil morality, the set illustrates how no character fits into either category — all the humanity is gray.

Though the development and revelation of the Angel isn't used to full dramatic effect (the pre-curtain revelation has the potential to be the most stunning special effect in contemporary theater), the shortcomings are standard of a community theater and not indicative of the Theatre Cedar Rapids' particular efforts. The performances are also varied, from the

THEATER
Angels in America
Part Two: Perestroika
Where: Theatre Cedar Rapids, 102 Third St. S.E.
When: Friday, Saturday, and March 29-31, 7:30 p.m.; March 25 and April 1 at 2:30 p.m.
Admission: Tickets are for Standard or Premium seating. Adults \$15 (standard) or \$20 (premium); rush tickets are available from 7 p.m. for \$12
More info: The play is rated R.

solid, affecting Jim Kern as Roy Cohn to the stilted and unnatural portrayal of Mormon Joe Pitt, but the whole works much better than some of its weaker parts.

Theatre Cedar Rapids was also successful in bringing three squares of the AIDS quilt, containing 30 tribute panels for victims of HIV/AIDS. Most were Iowa residents, one of the most touching being a victim of the epidemic depicted with a bowtie, green suspenders, a crisp moustache and a smile, with "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road" written below a painting of the Wizard of Oz trail. Though the play was written 15 years ago, its clear that the producers recognized the continued relevance of the human story contained within Angels, regardless of sexual orientation.

Their method seems to have worked. "Yesterday, at a Rotary

meeting, Richard and I were surrounded by a half a dozen people who just couldn't stop talking, very positively, about what they had seen," Kern said. "One woman told us, 'This show is not my world, but thank you for the privilege of looking at it for several hours.' That's exactly what we

were hoping for." E-mail *DI* reporter Paul Sorenson at: paul-sorenson@uiowa.

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RENO 911: MIAMI (R) MON-THU 5:00, 7:30, 9:50 FRI-SUN 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

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DEAD SILENCE (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15
300 (R) 12:14:5, 3:35, 6:25, 9:15
THE ULTIMATE GIFT (PG) 12:35, 3:25, 6:16, 9:05
WILD HOGS (PG-13) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
ZODIAC (R) 12:30, 4:30, 8:30
NUMBER 23 (R) 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 SUN 3/18 @ 12:00, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
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BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA (PG) 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
GHOST RIDER (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:40
BREACH (PG-13) 12:25, 3:25, 6:40, 9:25
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All at Carver-Hawkeye Arena
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Popular Chicago rock band **LUCKY BOYS CONFUSION** (whose lead singer sings his Myspace posting "Love, Stubby") will return to play the Picador, 330 E. Washington, on Saturday. Doors are at 9, and The Architects and Starter Kit will open.

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Percussion with a worldwide bang

CHECK OUT UI PERCUSSION HEAD DAN MOORE AND A PREVIEW OF THIS WEEKEND'S IOWA PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE AT DAILYIOWAN.COM.
BY ANN COLWELL
THE DAILY IOWAN

PERCUSSION WEEKEND
Featuring UI School of Music Alumni Celebrating the School's Centennial
When: 8 p.m. Saturday
Where: Clapp Recital Hall
Admission: Free
More info: Directed by UI alumnus Dan Moore, the concert features the internationally known alumni percussion performers Steven Schick, Yousef Sheronick, and John Wooton.

The stage is scattered with instruments. A handful of students move swiftly from one to the next, exchanging mallets for drumsticks, utilizing peculiar equipment and filling the room with sound.

It's not just a concert. It's an experience. Music with action: This is Iowa Percussion.

As part of the School of Music's centennial anniversary, the Iowa Percussion ensemble will perform with various distinguished alumni Saturday at 8 p.m. and March 25 at 3 p.m. in Clapp Recital Hall. Admission to both events is free.

With a program of mostly modern music, Saturday's concert will feature a select group of prestigious percussion masters, including music by composers David Lang and Paul Elwood, as well as performances by Steve Schick, John Wooton, and Yousef Sheronick.

"These are world-renowned musicians with very successful solo careers," said Dan Moore, the head of the UI percussion program and director of the Iowa Percussion Ensemble. "They're all converging back to Iowa City

to help us celebrate. It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see this many alumni back here."

Around a quarter of Saturday's concert features music by Lang, a cofounder and co-artistic director of Bang on a Can, an experimental performing group based in New York City. He has played worldwide, including with the Kronos Quartet — the artists behind the *Requiem for a Dream* soundtrack — and at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Arts Festival.

"I've been fortunate enough to play with some really good world percussionists because of Dr. Moore," said Mike Thursday, a four-year member of Iowa Percussion. "It's been a really good experience."

A rich and important part of the music program for the past 48 years, the UI boasts one of

the oldest percussion programs and one of the top ensembles in the country.

Iowa Percussion is composed of 17 percussion students. The ensemble is one of the music school's most active performing groups, and it frequently travels statewide.

The March 25 performance will include Iowa Percussion, while the second concert primarily features 20 alumni from around the world. Named after the first professor of percussion at the music school, the Thomas L. Davis Percussion Alumni concert is held every other year. "[Davis] was the first 'me' in the program," Moore said.

This diverse group of alumni includes college professors, high-school teachers, two Euforquestra musicians, and other well-known performers. One owns the largest drum shop in Chicago; another does percussion for pop singer Andy Williams. Alumni also include a missionary and a member of AmeriCorps.

"That's the nature of this business," Moore said. "The music business is legalized gambling, really — some people do really well, and some use a music education to launch themselves into other fields."

This weekend's concerts are among the last of the ensemble's performances left in this school year.

"I think what people find interesting about percussion is

that it is so visual, as well as aural," Moore said. "There's so much to watch. You have a stage filled with equipment and people playing strange things you've never seen anybody play before. Variety is what people enjoy. It's fun to watch."

E-mail *DI* reporter Ann Colwell at: ann-colwell@uiowa.edu

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Hands-on music, once again

BY SUSAN ELGIN
THE DAILY IOWAN

When Leon Fleisher sits at the piano, it's miraculous.

Not only is he exceptionally talented, but simply playing with both hands — something most would take for granted — wasn't always an option.

The pianist, internationally famous by age 16, lost the use of his right hand at age 37, when focal dystonia — a neurological disorder causing involuntary muscle contractions — struck two of his fingers. Now 77, he played with his left hand until a few years ago, when Botox injections relieved his symptoms. Nathaniel Kahn's Academy Award-nominated film *Two Hands: The Leon Fleisher Story* explores Fleisher's recovery.

But even though his recovery was sudden, Fleisher said, he was more than ready.

"During the 35-year hiatus, I was testing my hand every day. I tried standing on my head. One doctor even suggested I try some pot," he said, laughing. "When [Botox] worked, I was ready for it. After the injection, I was playing the next day."

He will perform pieces composed for both hands and left-hand-only pieces and conduct the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra on Friday in Clapp Recital Hall. On one work, Mozart's *Piano Concerto K. 414*, he does both — but not without difficulty. He sits facing the orchestra and keeps the group together with his facial expressions.

"I have an evil eye, with which I keep them in my grasp," he said, laughing.

There is no music written for the right hand, because it does not have the range of its partner, which can play the harmonies with the four fingers and tap out the melody with the thumb. "For all its apparent



Publicity photo

Pianist Leon Fleisher will perform in Clapp Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

tragedy, it is lucky it hit the right hand," Fleisher said.

In addition to performing, he will teach a master class on Saturday — the only one slated during the three-week tour with the orchestra. Fleisher took up instruction and conducting after he could no longer perform with both hands. "It's invigorating," he said. "It keeps you young and on your toes."

However, one thing he doesn't understand about education is how students choose where to study. As Andrew W. Mellon Chair at the Peabody Conservatory of Music since 1959 and through teaching around the globe, Fleisher enjoys hearing young talent in unlikely places.

"It's curious; these kids think they're going to learn from bricks and mortar and stucco," he said. "But really, you could have your lessons in an outhouse as long as you have a great teacher."

But he doesn't just teach how to play the piano. He also travels the world to speak with medical societies about dystonia.

"Few know about it, relatively speaking," he said, although he estimates that more than 10,000 musicians suffer from dystonia, the third most-common neurological disorder, behind Parkinson's disease and essential tremors.

When teaching master classes, Fleisher imparts health wisdom to his students in the hope of preventing injuries from "the dangers that lurk in the practice room," he said. "When you go to the ball park, you see guys stretching, right? But no one tells piano students to stop every half hour and stretch — but that's very important."

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

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Celebrated author **CHARLES BAXTER**, a guest of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, will read from his most recent novel, *Saul and Patsy*, in the Main Library's Shambaugh Auditorium today at 8 p.m. Baxter received an Award in Literature from the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 1997, and his novel *The Feast of Love* was a finalist for the 2002 National Book Award.

HOPE FALLS ETERNAL



Brett Slezak/The Daily Iowan

(From left) Rick Adams, Cassie Bednal, Leslie Koppenhaver, Joe Reilly, Morgan Sheehan-Bubla, Kiki Abba, and Matt Denyo rehearse *Hope Falls* on Tuesday in the Theatre Building.

BY ANNA WIEGENSTEIN
THE DAILY IOWAN

Welcome to the city of Hope Falls, where there's not only gunfire but a full roster of fight scenes and explosions to enjoy. "Something that was action-packed," is writer Melissa Leilani Larson's modest summation of her initial inspiration for the latest UI Gallery show, which runs until March 25. She turned to history, specifically the 1893 U.S. takeover of Hawaii, to fully flesh out a story of her own.

Both Larson and director Heather Bodie pointed out that while *Hope Falls* is related to real events, the story it tells is, in fact, fictional.

"I always go a little nuts when people say that something's historical, and really, they're making half of it up," Larson said. Creating her own country of Gloria, with Hope Falls as its capital, "leaves a lot of room to play."

Told in vignettes, *Hope Falls* focuses on the takeover of Gloria by larger neighbor "The Publicate," as related through one family's experience, with two sisters playing central roles.

The production has a wealth of female characters — five of the eight cast members are women.

"It's a goal I have, to have really good parts for women, and so far, it's worked out," said Larson.

The two women were in the midst of a long day of technical setup when they spoke to the *DI*. Flags had to be hung, platforms constructed, not to

mention the waterfall, from which the titular setting's name is derived, put in place. The "falls" in question are fabric, testament to the show's thrift. Larson noted that less money often results in more creativity.

Besides, both Larson and Bodie hold that the true drama comes from the characters, not the set pieces.

"Every moment, so much unfolds that it can't be anything but action-packed," Bodie said, referring to the death, familial betrayal, and political intrigue of the play.

The two women's friendship is certainly an aid to Larson's aim to continue staging her ambitious productions at the UI — the two have already begun preliminary work on Larson's next script, set to show at the upcoming New Play Festival. With references to Oprah and Maury Povich, not to mention some magical powers, the next work looks to be as "action-packed" as ever.

"You have to write for two people and a chair in a room, and that's all you can write," Larson said about the traditional barriers of writing plays. "But I'm interested in making a lot more happen in that space than two people at a table."

E-mail *DI*/reporter **Anna Wiegenstein** at: anna-wiegenstein@uiowa.edu

Isolation, interaction, community

BY KATE CASPER
THE DAILY IOWAN

Rough-edged wood cutouts, rust-colored scraps of burlap, and faces painted in sky blue make up the figures in Alicia Henry's installations.

Henry, a visiting artist in the School of Art and Art History, will arrive on the UI campus today for a residency that ends on Saturday. Her lecture today at 8 p.m. in 116 Art Building West will discuss the history, rationale, and scope of her art.

She refers to her installations as "communities" and said that through them, she explores issues of isolation and interaction, as well as familial and social relationships.

Henry's work is created using mixed media. Her figures resemble charred and painted paper dolls dressed, masked, and pinned to the wall. The pieces reflect elements of folk art and African sculpture. Displayed in groups, the figures are striking and haunting. Their expressions are distant and

Nashville artist Alicia Henry, who makes art installations of figures she calls communities, will lecture on her work tonight.

almost ambiguous, more representative of people than distinct identities. Her palette is reminiscent of earth; particularly common are varying shades of brown, gray, black, and red. Layers of fabric, paper, and wood in collages form the contours of the bodies, masks, or faces.

"As an artist, I am curious and inspired by the world," Henry said. "Often, my images are colored by a sense of place." Her pieces reflect her African-American heritage as well as her experiences in Ghana while traveling on a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Her work is wide-ranging. "I am interested in that which moves me, and so, I really don't have an art bias."

She earned a B.F.A. at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and later received an

LECTURE
Alicia Henry — Artist
When: 8 p.m. today
Where: 116 Art Building West
Admission: Free
More information: Henry is a visiting artist from Nashville who creates mixed-media installations populated by figures. Her art shows the influence both of Western traditions such as Expressionism and African sculpture.

M.F.A. in painting and drawing from Yale University. In 2000, Henry held a solo exhibition titled *Family Portrait* in the New York City gallery Art in General. Since she completed her Guggenheim Fellowship in 2001, her solo shows include *Four Corners* at the

School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an exhibition in Nashville's Cheekwood Museum of Art's Temporary Contemporary gallery. Her work was also featured in group shows in Nashville.

UI painting and drawing Professor Sue Hettmansperger said Henry is part of a new and interesting pulse in the art world: "She will bring to the UI a fresh voice on matters of race and an individual artistic statement that will broaden our knowledge."

Henry's lecture will address why the images she creates are important on a personal level and why the work is significant to the larger culture, Hettmansperger said.

In addition to the lecture, Henry will hold individual critiques and participate in a forum with UI graduate students. While she teaches collegiate artists daily at Fisk University, she said she is excited to work with Iowa students. "I am looking forward to their passion and their artistic point of view."

E-mail *DI*/reporter **Kate Casper** at: kate-casper@uiowa.edu

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