

The Daily Iowan

Thursday, July 19, 2007



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50¢

INSIDE



Breaking Prophet news

The end is near for the *Harry Potter* series. Read up on all things Hogwarts before tackling the bookstore lines this weekend. **80 Hours, 1B**

Potter plans aside

Put down your copy of *Deathly Hallows* and catch up on arts and culture in the Muggle world with the 80 Hours calendar. **80 Hours, 2B**

Jordan anxious to get started

Michigan native and new Iowa men's basketball assistant coach LaVall Jordan is excited to be working in the Big Ten. **Sports, 12A**

Journey of hope

More than 20 cyclists roll into town on a trip spanning the country to raise money for Push America, which aids people with disabilities. **City, 2A**

Waiting it out

For people living off campus, the lag between an apartment lease ending and the next one beginning can cause temporary homelessness. **City, 2A**

Iowa's black/white prison disparity high

A new study says blacks in Iowa are imprisoned at 13.6 times the white rate in Iowa, the widest disparity in the nation. **State, 7A**

Cole, Henderson inch towards title

Former Hawkeye Duez Henderson and incoming freshman Jarryd Cole lead their team to another playoff win Wednesday night. **Sports, 12A**

Temporarily homeless

Iowa City's cutthroat rental market leaves some tenants on the street. **Opinions, 4A**

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy, windy, 40% chance of T-storms

81 27°C

54 12°C

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FIRST IN A THREE-PART SERIES
20th UI President | **SALLY MASON**

Diversity tops Mason's list

The incoming UI leader has an ambitious agenda for her first 100 days.



Rachel Mumey/The Daily Iowan

Incoming UI President Sally Mason stands in her Purdue office, looking through things she has accumulated while provost in West Lafayette, Ind., on July 9. Mason will begin her UI duties on Aug. 1.

BY ASHTON SHURSON

THE DAILY IOWAN

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — During interviews for the UI presidency, Sally Mason repeatedly stressed encouraging diversity at universities.

Now, as the incoming UI president, the current Purdue University provost said that in addition to meeting new people and getting acquainted with the university, she wants to look at the school's diversity objectives — including whether the UI is asking the right questions, if it's challenging people, and if it has laid out steps to achieve its goals.

Her passion for the topic can be seen in the results at Purdue — in her six years as provost,

850 new faculty members were hired, 56 percent of whom were women and minorities.

"It's up to us at universities to try to provide the right kind of environment," Mason said. "We prepare you the best we can for the future."

At Purdue, she worked closely with the academic deans and provided them with guidelines when hiring faculty. One such criterion was diversity. Most deans were interested in increasing diversity among their colleagues, she said.

Recently, Mason hired a female to head the College of Engineering at Purdue — an area in which she said women don't often work.

SEE MASON, 3A

Coming soon

Recently, the **DI** sat down with incoming UI President Sally Mason in her office at Purdue University to discuss a range of topics relating to the UI.

- Friday: A closer look at Mason and some of her personal life and interests.

Exclusive interview

Hear what incoming UI President Sally Mason has to say about dailyiowan.com

SEE READING, 5A

Trying to nurture readers not easy

Children tend to read less as they grow older, but the *Harry Potter* series remains popular with all ages.

BY BRIAN STEWART

THE DAILY IOWAN

With the release of the final installment of J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* series looming, bookstores across the country are bracing for myriads of fans storming the shelves and purchasing copies. But according to results from the National Assessment of Educational Progress test, the number of students reading for fun consistently drops as children age.

Keeping younger kids interested in reading as they mature, along with enticing older groups to enjoy the pastime, has been a mission for such organizations as public libraries for many years.

"We hope to start children reading and listening to good books from the time they're babies to lay the groundwork for them to be independent readers," said Katherine Habley, the children's librarian at the Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn St. "[It's] important for kids to read not only for the academics but just to learn more about the world around them and to lose themselves in a good story."

Potter magic
Read the news from the wizardry world in the 80 Hours edition of *The Daily Prophet*. **1B**

Going green before green was so cool

A UI professor emeritus is nominated for a conservation award for a lifetime of environmental endeavors.

BY SHAJIA AHMAD

THE DAILY IOWAN

Some would call him old-fashioned — and they're probably right, admits UI geoscience Professor Emeritus Lon Drake. His home is built of recycled materials, he often composes handwritten letters, and there's no computer in his Trowbridge Hall office.

"I'll never get a cell phone," said Drake, who taught at the UI from 1968-1999 and often returns to give lectures on wetland restoration and environmental geology. "There's nothing that needs to be done in 36 seconds."

He has been nominated for the 2007 Hagie Heritage Award, an annual statewide conservation laurel given out by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation — a nonprofit conservation group — for his role in designing and implement-



Whitney Wright/The Daily Iowan
Lon Drake wades through the rainwater left over from Monday's storms in the South Sycamore Wetland Complex on Tuesday. The UI geoscience professor emeritus has been nominated for the Hagie Heritage Award.

ing the South Sycamore Wetland Complex in the 1990s. The 35-acre wetland and prairie area filters storm water in southeastern Iowa City.

Originally, city officials had considered building a storm drainage ditch in

the area, a cheaper but environmentally unfriendly endeavor, Drake said. The wetland complex was a win-win

Coal-plant fight moves to Iowa City

BY TESSA RUDDY

THE DAILY IOWAN

Another pulverized-coal plant could poke its smokestacks from among Iowa's miles of flaxen corn, this time in Waterloo. LS Power — an independent power producer with plants across the United States — hopes to complete the plant by 2012. Apprehensive locals, however, do not want the \$1.3 billion construction to commence without a fight.

A group of 13 farmers from the Waterloo area, threatened with eminent domain, is fighting against the construction of the proposed coal plant with help from Plains Justice, a local, non-profit environmental law firm. LS Power needs to run transmission lines for water through the farmers' land, or the coal plant will have to be relocated.

STOP THE DIRTY COAL PLANT BENEFIT

featuring the Broke Out Steppers
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SEE BENEFIT, 3A

News

The IC rental limbo plays on

People living in local apartments often find themselves temporarily homeless while trying to match dates between one lease and the next.

BY SARAH PLATH

THE DAILY IOWAN

When UI senior Dana Schubert started looking for a new apartment for her fifth year, she didn't think she would temporarily be homeless before her new lease started.

Many people are forced to find short-term shelter for themselves and their belongings in order because of gaps between their old leases and their new ones, especially at the end of July. Landlords and property managers typically save a few days at that time for apartment maintenance and cleaning.

"It's not really something I looked into; I just needed someplace to live," Schubert said. "It's just something you have to deal with around here."

Because she overlooked that detail, she will be without a residence for around 12 hours. If gaining access to a truck at such a busy time doesn't work, Schubert may stock some boxes at a friend's apartment whose lease ends on a later date.

"My friends' lease goes until the 15th of August, so they don't have the problem that everyone else does," she said. "I don't know why more [property-management companies] don't do that."

Mod Pod Inc. owner Wes Fotsch said his property-management company, 301 S. Dubuque St., works with its tenants' situations on a "personal basis" depending on the status of each unit.

"If the unit that they're moving into is available earlier, we can accommodate [them]," Fotsch said.



File photo/The Daily Iowan

UI graduate Adam Bell washes a tub in front of his Bowery Street residence while roommate Amanda Stein (left) and two other roommates help move everything into a U-Haul and a car on July 25, 2006. The four had to be moved out by July 25, but they could not move into their new place until Aug. 1.

Although each year is different, he said, his leases usually are compatible with new tenants' schedules.

"It varies from year to year — it just depends what their situation is and where they're moving from. If their lease is up at the end of July, it's [easy] for them to move into our units when their lease starts," he said. "We do everything we can to accommodate our tenants."

A number of major Iowa City property-management companies declined to comment.

For some, switching

apartments proved to be less stressful.

Recent UI graduate Ross Crim's fortune is better than most — his current lease will end on the day his new one starts.

"My landlord did help me a little — she said I could move out on Aug. 1 and that coincided with my move-in date of my new place," he said. "I was just lucky I guess."

Crim also noted the advantage of renting from an individual landlord rather than a larger property-management company.

MOVING TIPS

- Be aware of conflicting lease times as soon as possible
- Look for leases that don't end until August
- Keep in contact with property management or landlord
- Plan ahead for moving vehicles and storage units

"I think it helped because my landlord is a single person, she's not part of a company, so it's very flexible," he said. "She's much more helpful."

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The Daily Iowan

Issue 33

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Volume 139

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POLICE BLOTTER

Gary Duffel II, 39, address unknown, was charged April 18 with simple assault.

Sylvia Tolander, 76, 1220 Village Road Apt. 5, was charged Tuesday with third-degree harassment.

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF STORM WATER DISCHARGE

Alpha Chi Omega House Corporation, or its Contractor for the following work, plans to submit a Notice of Intent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to be covered under NPDES General Permit No. 2 "Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity for Construction Activities."

The storm water discharge will be from the construction of the Alpha Chi Omega House Rebuild, located in SE 1/4 Section, Section 10, Township 79, Range 6, Johnson County. Storm water will be discharged from 1 point source and will be discharged to City of Iowa City storm sewer to Ralston Creek to Iowa River.

Comments may be submitted to the Storm Water Discharge Coordinator, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Environmental Protection Division, 502 E. 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319-0034. The public may review the Notice of Intent from 8:00am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday, at the above address after it has been received by the department.

Published in the Iowa City Daily Iowan, July 19, 2007.

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Pushing the charity envelope

The Journey of Hope 2007 team looks to raise more money for people with disabilities during its stop in Iowa City.

BY KYLE WEBB

THE DAILY IOWAN

of the fraternity and belong to a number of different chapters, the release states.

But riders can't just join on a whim. Cyclists have to put in serious effort before they are allowed to join.

"Cyclists have to raise \$5,000 before they can even ride," Kulick said.

Once they raise the necessary money, individuals join the ride for numerous reasons.

"I joined for the adventure and the challenge of riding across the country," said Luc Blazejewski of Travers City, Mich. "I realized I could make a huge difference."

Members of Push America have raised more than \$8 million since the group's inception. The current cycling team has earned more than \$400,000 since leaving California; the riders will make dozens of presentations in communities across the country, covering nearly 75 miles a day, according to the release.

"We have 64 days of riding and will visit between 55 and 60 cities," Kulick said.

A member of the Journey of Hope Cycling Team speaks with Iowa City residents on Wednesday. The team made a stop at the Old Capitol during its cross-country bicycling fundraiser for people with disabilities.

This journey is only one of three that the fraternity's members are undertaking this summer.

But the traveling does not wear down the cyclists completely. After a day of riding, they spend the night completing charity work in the city that they call home for a night.

"We generally get up around 6 in the morning and have a half hour to pack before we have breakfast," Blazejewski said.

The cyclists then ride until sometime between 1-3 p.m. After a quick cleanup, the riders start their volunteer work and end the night with "friendship visits" involving the community, which consist of anything from dances to bowling, Blazejewski said.

Rather than volunteering on Wednesday evening, cyclists participated in a giant kickball game in Iowa City.

E-mail *D*/reporter Kyle Webb at: kyle-webb@uiowa.edu

Allison-Schuppert

Charged with first-degree mischief

On Tuesday around 2 p.m., Iowa City police fielded a report of a vehicle that had had its windows shot out by a "suspect vehicle occupied by four persons." A vehicle matching the description was stopped by police at the intersection of Highway 6 and First Avenue at 2:49 p.m., according to police reports. Kane, Allison-Schuppert, and two females were inside, the reports said.

Kenneth Kane Jr., 19, and Austin

Allison-Schuppert, 18, have been charged with first-degree mischief after allegedly damaging the windows of several cars and one business — Wendy's, 1480 S. First Ave.

Kane, Jr.

Charged with first-degree mischief

Police said they confiscated three CO₂ pistols from the car, which the two men allegedly admitted using to damage the windows of "about 20" vehicles and the windows of Wendy's. According to police, there have been 32 complaints of criminal mischief reported since Sunday, and most have involved windows being shot out.

The females in the vehicle, both from Iowa City, allegedly admitted to knowing about the vandalism; they are being treated as witnesses and have not been charged with any crimes, police said.

The police allege that Kane Jr. and Allison-Schuppert caused more than \$10,000 in damages. First-degree mischief is a Class C felony in Iowa and is generally punishable by up to 10 years in prison and between \$1,000 and \$10,000 in fines.

E-mail *D*/reporter Stephen Schmidt at: stephen.schmidt@uiowa.edu

METRO

UI sets school record in grants, contracts

The UI brought in a record \$382.2 million from grants and contracts during fiscal 2007, an increase of 4.8 percent over 2006, the university announced in a press release Wednesday.

"I offer my thanks and congratulations to everyone involved — faculty, staff, and students — on their remarkable achievement," said UI interim President Gary Fethke in the release. "Their continued excellence and dedication to research are reflected in the UI's increase in grants and contracts."

The National Science Foundation's most recent survey, which was conducted in 2005, ranked the UI 18th among public universities in terms of federal funding for research and development.

"We celebrate the impact that

2 charged with 1st-degree mischief

Two Iowa City men have been arrested for vandalism for allegedly shooting out a series of windows with CO₂ pistols between Sunday and Tuesday.

Kenneth Kane Jr., 19, and Austin Allison-Schuppert, 18, have been charged with first-degree mischief after allegedly damaging the windows of several cars and one business — Wendy's, 1480 S. First Ave.

Allison-Schuppert

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Mason to be busy right from her UI start

MASON

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"It really helps when [women] come to interview at the university and they see the provost is a woman and the dean of the College of Engineering is a woman, and that sends a positive message to them in terms of the overall climate they might face," she said.

Mason said schools should ensure students don't have their first exposure to diversity when they are in the job market and noted that outside-of-classroom experiences, such as studying abroad and internships, can help.

"They may be more valuable than what you get in the classroom," the 57-year-old said.

Mason hasn't sat down with anyone from the UI yet, but



Van Houten
Purdue student government president



Mason
Incoming UI president

she has seen the enrollment projections for the 2007-08 school year, and diversity among students is up, she said.

She also stressed that she

"I really do want to get out and meet Iowans, because I want all of Iowa to understand how important the university is, not just to Iowa City, not just to a small segment of the Iowa population, but to everyone."

— Sally Mason, UI president

wants to interact with all students at the university on a regular basis.

"I'm hoping I'll find some informal times when I can meet with students on their terms, not necessarily on my terms," Mason said. "That may be just a dream of mine, but it's a good one."

She said she would like to dine in residence halls and sit down with students to find out what is important to them, as well as what they enjoy and dislike.

"[My door will be] as open as my door can get, realizing how full the calendar can get," she

said. "I've never been one to shut doors for any reason."

Purdue University Student Government President Eric Van Houten, who has known Mason for four years, agreed that the provost is approachable.

"She is very open to talking about anything," he said. "Students always feel like they leave her office having accomplished something."

Even before completely settling in, Mason has planned her first 100 days as president.

"It's a pretty ambitious agenda," she said.

MASON ON DIVERSITY, FIRST 100 DAYS, AND STUDENT INTERACTION

- Mason has worked to increase diversity at Purdue University
- Students should have "out-of-classroom experiences"
- Mason hopes to meet with UI students both informally and formally
- In her first 100 days, Mason would like to meet with internal and external people around the UI and state
- She is already working to learn about the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the UI Hospitals and Clinics

During those first days, Mason hopes to meet various people, including students, faculty, staff, alumni, and business leaders.

"I really do want to get out and meet Iowans, because I want all of Iowa to understand how important the university is, not just to Iowa City, not just to a small segment of the Iowa population, but to everyone," she said.

She also plans to learn how the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the UI Hospitals and Clinics function, she said. Already, Mason has been talking with a myriad of people and is "beginning to understand how the operation works."

E-mail DI reporter Ashton Shurson at: ashton-shurson@uiowa.edu

BENEFIT

Farmers fight coal plant

BENEFIT

CONTINUED FROM 1A

The money collected at the fundraiser — to be held today from 7-11 p.m. at Old Brick, 26 E. Market St. — and featuring music by Broke Out Steppers and beer by Old Capitol Brewery, 525 S. Gilbert, will help pay for legal fees incurred during a possible court battle with LS Power.

The individual farmers originally did not believe they had a chance against the state government and LS Power, until they realized that they were not alone.

"We're kind of the clearinghouse now," said Carrie La Seur, the president and managing attorney of Plains Justice. "If a developer wants to negotiate with one of them, it has to negotiate with all of them."

Although eminent domain is still a minor threat, she said, she does not believe Waterloo and the surrounding area need a coal plant.

"As far as we can tell, this is a speculative enterprise — they're figuring demand will go up in the future," she said.

LS Power estimates that the proposed 750-megawatt coal plant will produce enough energy to supply at least 500,000 homes with electricity — which at two people per household, could supply 1 million people with power.

Mark Milburn, LS Power project-development manager, asserts that there is an urgency for energy.

"There is a demonstrated need from local potential customers ... for 24/7 low-cost power," he said. "Coal, a low-cost option, is what they're seeking."

The plant would not cause any environmental harm, he said, and it would have potential benefits, such as bringing money into the local economy through tax revenue.

"The small amount of pollutants that will come out of our stack will not have a negative impact as a result of our plant on people's health and the envi-

ronment," he said. "If there were negative impacts, we wouldn't receive a permit."

Despite Milburn's confidence about his company's environmental compliance, Don Shatzer, a local farmer and vice president of Community Energy Solutions, contended that Iowa is not expected to grow in population through 2030 and would not merit a new power facility.

"They will still be releasing thousands and thousands of pounds of mercury into the air every year," Shatzer said.

Although Iowa is the third-largest producer of wind power in the country, the state may still welcome a new coal plant.

"One hundred percent of us use electricity; 85 percent of the electricity in Iowa is generated from coal — we're all guilty," Shatzer said. "We all need to be doing things to conserve this energy."

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

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EDITORIAL

Iowa City renters face high prices, temporary homelessness

The end of July is near, and for some Iowa City renters, that means being homeless for a day or two when their old lease expires before the new lease begins. While the property owners take a couple of days to do some cleaning or general maintenance, many renters bear the burden of finding accommodation for themselves and all of their belongings. This has been a common problem for Iowa City residents for many summers. It's not unusual to hear people complain about this inconvenience, which usually results in shared misery. Most people accept that it's a condition beyond their control.

But this is just one of many complaints that Iowa City residents have about their landlords. In fact, word of mouth rarely heaps praise on local property-management offices. Because of their proximity to campus, many rental properties come with a high price tag for dwellings that have begun to show their age. Regardless of the wear and tear, the rent seems to rise every year. The market allows this, because students will always need to have apartments close to campus, but in another city, the landlords would have to be much more accommodating to the renter.

Because of sky-high demand, rental companies and landlords do not need to offer exceptional service. The supply of people willing to pay the price that they ask is constantly renewed with each incoming class of freshmen. For this reason, Iowa City tenants have no choice but to tolerate the inconvenience. In addition to the aforementioned problem of being homeless for two or three days, accommodations that seem like a luxury to

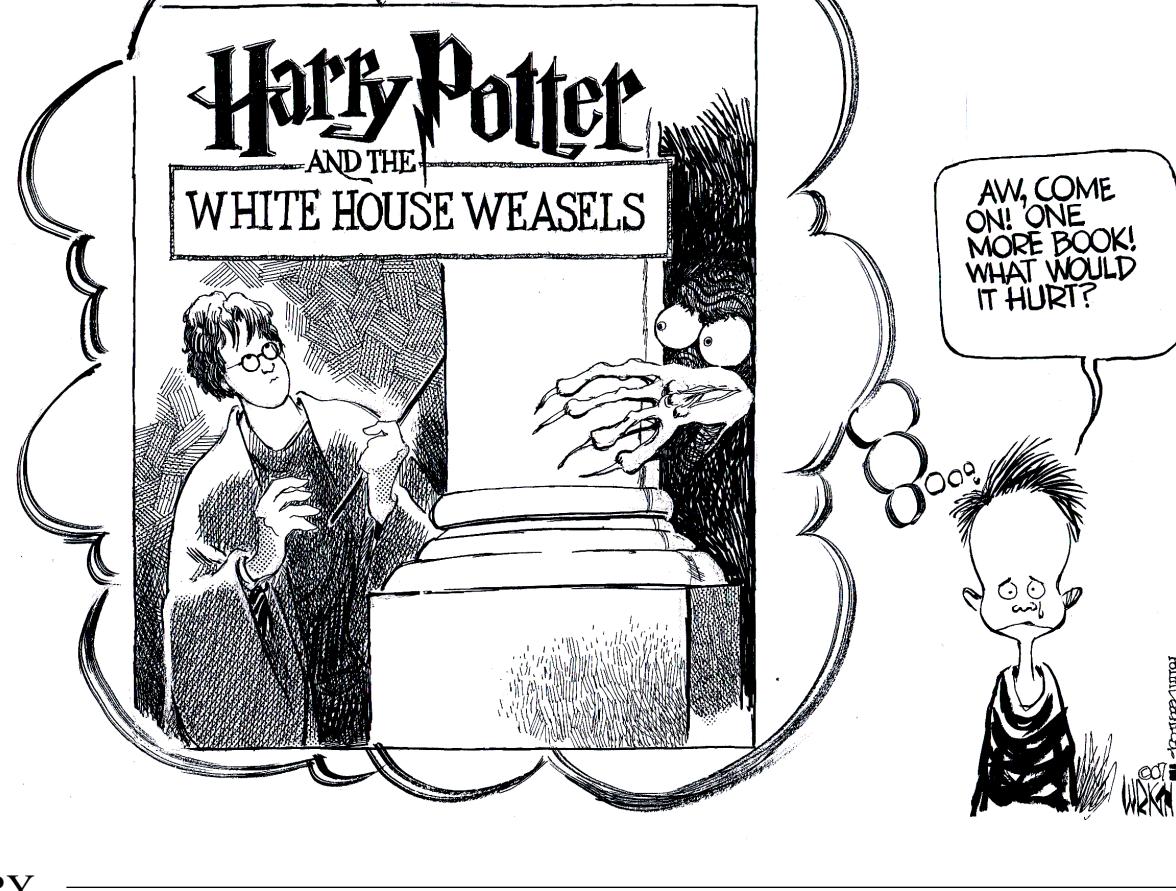
someone renting in Iowa City are commonly available elsewhere. For example, a month-by-month lease is very difficult to find, as is an apartment that allows pets. Many pet owners have a difficult time finding a place in Iowa City, and if they do, they're often subject to costly additional deposits to accommodate their pets.

Property managers, clearly, need to protect their investments from high-risk, young, or first-time occupants. This does not explain why it's necessary for them to require their tenants to commit to renew their lease as early as February. Some landlords demand that occupants sign a renewal agreement as early as December under the threat of losing the option to do so.

All of these inconveniences are standard in Iowa City, and most of us have failed to question the system. This Editorial Board thinks that it is time to ask these questions. Would it be unreasonable to allow tenants to live in their apartments a few more months before demanding that they decide to renew? If necessary maintenance requires two days' hiatus between leases, why can't that maintenance be done throughout the year, while the tenant is still paying for the apartment? Pets can improve a person's quality of life. Is it truly unreasonable for tenants to allow pets on their property without exorbitant fees? These are all very standard requests from tenants, and in other cities farther away from a large university, they are often granted. We understand that we can expect some restrictions because of our unique community, but isn't it fair to ask for a little more for our money?

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 *D/I* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *D/I* 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.



COMMENTARY

Auto industry continues war on fuel economy

Auto industry continues war on fuel economy

A million years of compression and heat may someday convert Rep. John D. Dingell, D-Mich., into petroleum, just as it did the other dinosaurs. Unfortunately, by then, there may be no humans left to pump a few gallons of Dingell into their Hummers, because the climate change he is so gleefully ignoring may have rendered us extinct.

Dingell, the powerful chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, is at the center of a damaging split among congressional Democrats on energy policy and global warming. The Senate last month passed a progressive energy bill that for the first time in nearly 20 years would improve gas mileage for cars and light trucks sold in the United States, but similar legislation has stalled in the House, largely because of a dispute between Dingell and more responsible Democrats represented by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Dingell has a decent record on the environment, except when it comes to initiatives that target the auto industry. He initially backed a House energy bill that contained fuel-economy improvements even weaker than the toothless measures proposed by President Bush. Pelosi saw to it that those provisions were removed, but it's now unclear whether any fuel requirements will make it into the bill or even when the House will get around to debating it.

Meanwhile, Dingell's blind spot has widened — in addition to blocking anything that annoys his backers in Detroit, he now seems determined to poison the debate on global warming. Earlier this month, he said he would introduce a bill creating a carbon tax on fossil-fuel use. Dingell admits he's designing the bill to

fail. Apparently, his aim is to demonstrate to fellow Democrats that Americans aren't willing to pay a price to solve climate change and that politicians will suffer for trying.

Dingell's mockery of a solution that many of the nation's most prominent economists and environmentalists have endorsed is juvenile and destructive. Carbon taxes represent the simplest, most effective, and economically least damaging option to fight global warming, because they encourage market solutions and their costs can be offset; higher prices for gas or power could be balanced by lower payroll taxes, for example. Yet a carbon tax comes with built-in political headaches, because voters are allergic to taxes and feel they're already paying enough for energy.

To succeed, a carbon-tax bill would have to be carefully crafted to avoid hurting consumers and the poor, and political leaders would have to explain its benefits. Instead, Dingell wants to propose an unpalatable tax that would be political suicide for any lawmaker to support. This could harm or kill more reasonable tax proposals and stall responsible policymaking for years — time the world can ill afford to waste.

Dingell is creating a woeful legacy after serving an otherwise distinguished half a century in the House. He can be forgiven for fighting to protect his district's key industry, but there's a warm spot in Greenland for leaders who play petty political games with the future lives and well-being of our children and grandchildren.

This editorial appeared in Wednesday's *Los Angeles Times*.

ON THE SPOT

How would you rate Iowa City landlords?



"I think they're pretty nice."



"It's easy for them to be slumlords, because the market's in their favor."



"I don't know, because I don't live here."



"Expensive!"

The dark ARTS

When a family member suggested that I read the first *Harry Potter* book in the summer of 2000, I turned up my nose and shook my head, telling him I wasn't interested in reading a kid's book. Working at a summer camp in the boondocks of northeastern Iowa left me with a lot of down time after the campers went to bed, and spending my entire day with rug rats left me with a longing for more mature pursuits, but I gave in when the book was mailed to me in a care package. One rainy night after the bunks became silent and my CD player had run out of batteries, I decided to give the *Sorcerer's Stone* a whirl. The next morning, I drowsily stood in line for biscuits and gravy, finishing the last paragraph and planning to spend my hour off driving to the nearest town to buy the next book.

I've purchased and read every book since, but the movies don't do anything for me. The books allow me to form my own pictures of what Hogwarts looks like and to take in the story at my own pace. I've had my copy of the *Deathly Hallows* reserved since March, but I realized only last week that my bleacher ticket for Saturday's Cub game that I had purchased in April would take me out of town this weekend and render my reservation pointless. Sure, the book would be waiting for me when I returned from a weekend in downtown Chicago, but what fun would that be? Why not ignore the fact that I'm in the greatest city in the Midwest and stay in my hotel room all weekend? Sleep is overrated. After a Google search, I found a Barnes & Noble 4.4 miles from my hotel and called 10 minutes before it closed to reserve my copy for pickup Friday at midnight. (The woman who answered the phone did, however, threaten to cancel my reservation when she found out I was not a White Sox fan.)

I'm used to getting some friendly ribbing about reading the *Potter* books. Obviously, it usually comes from people who haven't read them, but my anticipation the last few weeks has been slightly soured by a different kind of naysayer. You can tell me the books are for children or proclaim me pathetic for standing in line at a bookstore on a Friday night instead of being in Wrigleyville slapping golden sodas, but those things wouldn't bother me. What irks me is the pope's opposition to *Harry Potter*, or more specifically, the reasoning behind his opposition. A 2003 letter published on *lifesitenews.com* from then-Cardinal Ratzinger commended German sociologist Gabriele Kuby on her stance that the *Potter* books "corrupt the hearts of the young." She believes the series paints a rosy picture of evil, making it difficult for children to discern between right and wrong: "I have no desire to see and depict devils where there are none, but when I see with my own eyes, when my intelligence and heart inform me, that there is a devil painted on a wall even though most everyone else sees on this same wall one flowery wallpaper design, then I feel obliged to give witness to the truth."

Kuby's claims about people seeing a "flowery design" where the devil exists makes me wonder if she noticed the \$660 million that the Los Angeles diocese paid out this week to victims of sexual abuse perpetrated by those wearing clerical collars. Kuby's "true" vision in understanding just who the real "wolves in sheep's clothing" might be needed in Los Angeles. J.K. Rowling's books, according to Kuby and her pointy-hatted supporter in the Vatican, are the devil's method of using the English language to communicate with children. Maybe if the pope wants his message understood by children, he should use English rather than Latin.

I'm not a Catholic, and what I think of the Catholic Church doesn't matter much to His Holiness. Still, I find it sad that a person so prominent would denounce a vehicle for literacy, imagination, and education for so many children. And it's insulting to not a few adults, at least those crazy enough to ditch the vices of booze and sex long enough to sit in a hotel lobby on a Friday night and read a good book. ■

E-mail *D/I* columnist and editorial writer Nate Whitney at mighty.is.the.pen@gmail.com



NATHAN WHITNEY

Working for conservation

GREEN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

situation, he said, because that method for controlling floodwater creates better soil-erosion control, filtration, and habitat.

In the middle of the wetland area, a large willow thicket creates a home for birds and bats.

On July 17, as Drake walked along the tall prairie cord grass and the gray-headed cone flowers with their dangling yellow petals, his black rubber boots sloshed against the wet grass. He periodically bent down to pick up remains of cigarette boxes and other pieces of trash left behind by visitors to the wetland complex.

"I think I hear water running," he said, before he turned a corner on the concrete trail tangentially built to the watershed area. A few feet ahead, a path of crystal-clear water, cool to the touch, rippled over the concrete. The water skipped over large and small stones on either side of the trail, almost disappearing as it wove its way back into the dense, foot-high wetland grasses. The few inches of storm water had been filtered clean as it snaked through the wetlands' drainageways.

"The final cleanup crew is the bacteria," said Drake, as he pointed at the water, which eventually collects in one of five larger ponds — a handful of lily pads decorated the surface.

For Drake, the wetland project is a testament to the natural alternatives available to solve environmental problems.

Wayne Petersen of the National Resources Conservation Service, is one of two people who nominated Drake for the Hague Award. He said his friend fits the criteria for the award: a person committed to protecting Iowa's natural resources and who encourages others to do the same.

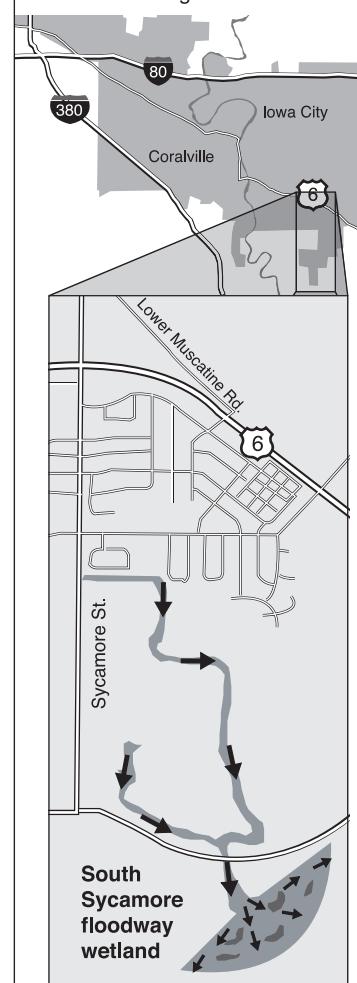
"He's lived low-impact," Petersen said. "He's been doing this since 30 years ago, before people even started talking about sustainability."

Born out of a number of things, Drake said, his awareness of the natural world came at a young age. As a child, his mother taught him to read using bird books, and near his boyhood home were woods where he'd often play as a child. As he grew older, conservation became a more prominent part of his life.

Drake's conservation work extends beyond academia and the wetland complex. He began building his Oxford home in the early 1970s, which is heated and

Wetland filter

The South Sycamore Wetland Complex, a 35-acre wetland and prairie complex that filters storm water on Iowa City's southeast side, drains an area of approximately 570 acres of suburban and agricultural land.



source: UI Professor Emeritus Lon Drake

Dylan Salisbury/The Daily Iowan

cooled naturally. Maintaining 14 acres of reconstructed wetlands, woodlands, and prairie around his home is a heavy commitment, but one he doesn't mind. The average American, he said, has about four free hours per day, most of which is spent watching television.

"This is my four hours," he said about his domestic conservation.

Though honored to receive the nomination, Drake said, if he wins, he has thought about recognizing young environmentalists.

"Instead of honoring old guys like me, we should honor young people as an incentive to keep going where they're going," he said.

E-mail DI reporter Shajia Ahmad at: shajia-ahmad@uiowa.edu

Reading lags as children age

Despite the success of the *Harry Potter* series, the number of students reading for fun consistently drops as children age. Only one in five 17-year-olds reported reading for fun, according to the most recent national statistics.

READING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

The library saw a boost in attendance when the *Harry Potter* series was first released in the United States in 1997, she said.

"I think that really hooked an awful lot of kids," she said. "What we really noticed was how young the kids were who wanted to tackle that 300- or 400-page book."

Ben Keating, 13, has either read or listened to audiotapes of the first six *Potter* novels, and he plans to purchase the seventh book, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, after its release on midnight Friday.

"That's a famous series," said Keating, who reads for fun almost daily. "More people want to read it, even if they haven't read the other ones."

For ninth-grade reading teacher Jacquelyn Bunnell, *Harry Potter* has become part of the curriculum. Last year, her students read the first novel in the series, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, and then watched the film version.

"For some of them, I'd like to hope they follow through," she said. Around half of her students, she believes, will continue reading the series.

Bunnell said she understands that as students mature, they become more involved socially and have less time for leisure reading, but the pastime is still important.

"It's good to form habits of reading not only for entertainment value," she said. "It ties you in to reality and connects you to other aspects of life."

Karen Stierler, the director of teen services at the Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St., thinks the *Potter* series has kept many teenagers interested in pleasure reading who may not have been otherwise.

"I just wish there was a magic answer to get more teens involved," she said.

Darrin Molyneux, a department manager at Barnes & Noble in the Coral Ridge Mall, said *Harry Potter* is still "the most popular children's series we've seen in a long time."



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Children's Services intern Jen Leveck discusses *Beyond the Western Sea*, by Avi, with (from left) Kimberly Shiu, Jenna Shank, James Toth, and Anu Tiwari during a book explorer's discussion in the Iowa City Public Library on Wednesday afternoon. Children who have completed third through sixth grade discussed the different books they each read by the author, and Children's Services librarian Katherine Habley gave four of his books away as door prizes for coming to the discussion. Statistics put out by the National Assessment of Educational Progress say that as children grow older, they tend to read less.

He expects a significant crowd to attend the "Midnight Magic Party" for the Potter release on Friday.

"It's one of the biggest releases we've had for a book," he said. "We're always happy to see a *Harry Potter* book. It's sad to see a popular title end."

E-mail DI reporter Brian Stewart at: brian-stewart@uiowa.edu

READING — FOR FUN?

- 30 percent of 17-year-olds were reading for fun daily in 1994 — a figure that dropped to just 22 percent in 2004, the most recent results.
- 30 percent of 13-year-olds read for leisure daily in 2004, down from the peak of 37 percent in 1992.
- Of 9-year-olds, more than 53 percent of children have read for enjoyment daily since 1984.
- 19 percent of 17-year-olds reported never reading for fun — a 10 percent increase since 1988.

Source: <http://nces.ed.gov>

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Study: Iowa has highest black/white prison disparity

The report says that per 100,000 people, the state imprisons 309 whites and 4,200 blacks.

BY DAVID PITT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — A new study by a nonprofit criminal-justice policy group says blacks in Iowa are imprisoned at 13.6 times the white rate in Iowa, the widest disparity in the nation.

The Sentencing Project, a Washington-based organization,

released the report Wednesday that examined the ethnic dynamics of prison populations in the United States.

Using Bureau of Justice Statistics from a 2005 publication, the group said blacks in Iowa are imprisoned at a rate more than double the national average. Per 100,000 people, Iowa incarcerates 309 whites and 4,200 blacks, the study said.

Paul Stageberg, the administrator of the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning, an agency in the Iowa Department of Human Rights, said the study results aren't surprising, but the causes are subject to interpretation.

"We've looked to determine whether or not there is a disparity in sentencing practices over the years, and we haven't found any," he said. "We've done a recent review of how long people stay in prison and looked at that by race, and essentially, we've found for releases in fiscal 2006 that there really wasn't any significant difference in the length of time served by black and white inmates."

"We've looked to determine whether or not there is a disparity in sentencing practices over the years, and we haven't found any," he said. "If you look at rates of poverty, blacks have higher rates of poverty than whites, so these things contribute to criminal activity."

— Paul Stageberg,
administrator of the Iowa
Division of Criminal and
Juvenile Justice Planning

Stageberg said that the disproportionately high black arrest rates in Iowa are likely linked to high poverty rates among blacks and lower educational achievement.

Vermont with a ratio of 12.5, followed by New Jersey with 12.4, and Connecticut with 12.

States with the lowest black-to-white ratio are Hawaii, with 1.9, Georgia with 3.3, and Mississippi with 3.5.

In Iowa, Vermont, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Wisconsin, blacks are incarcerated at more than 10 times the rate of whites, the group said.

"Racial disparities in incarceration reflect a failure of social and economic interventions to address crime effectively and also indicate racial bias in the justice system," stated Marc Mauer, the group's executive director.



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Philadelphia	47	47	.500	5
Florida	45	50	.474	7½
Washington	39	55	.415	13
Central Division	53	41	.564	—
Milwaukee	43	49	.452	3½
Chicago	49	44	.527	3½
St. Louis	43	48	.473	8½
Pittsburgh	40	54	.426	13
Cincinnati	40	55	.421	13½
Houston	40	55	.421	13½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	54	41	.568	—
San Diego	52	41	.559	1
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Colorado	48	46	.511	5½
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Todays Games
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Detroit at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Seattle at Connecticut, 6 p.m.
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Championship Game Sunday, July 22
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Premier Investments/Lucky Pawz, 7 p.m. New Gym

All Games played at North Liberty Community Center, 520 West Cherry St., North Liberty.

TOUR DE FRANCE

MARSEILLE, France (AP) — A brief look at the 10th stage of the Tour de France on Wednesday:

Stage: The race reached its midway point as it moved out of the Alps mountains and back onto flat roads with a 142.6-mile run from Tallard to the seaport of Marseille.

Winner: Cedric Vasseur became the first French rider to win at this year's Tour — his first stage win since 1997. Vasseur beat Sandy Casar of France by inches across the finish line, while Swiss rider Michael Albasini was third. All three finished in 5 hours, 20 minutes, 24 seconds.

New Jersey: Michael Rasmussen of Denmark kept the overall lead by finishing safely in 30th place. He is 2:35 ahead of second-place Alejandro Valverde and 2:39 in front of Iban Mayo in third.

Next stage: The 11th stage Thursday again favors sprinters such as Tom Boonen of Belgium, who is in the green jersey. Boonen will look to consolidate his lead on a 113.4-mile ride from Marseille to Montpellier.

Wednesday, At Marseille, France, 10th Stage

1. Cedric Vasseur, France, Quick Step-Innergetic, 5 hours, 20 minutes, 24 seconds.

2. Sandy Casar, France, Francaise des Jeux, same time.

3. Michael Albasini, Switzerland, Liquigas, same time.

4. Patrice Halgand, France, Credit Agricole, same time.

5. Jens Voigt, Germany, Team CSC, same time.

6. Staf Scheirinckx, Belgium, Cofidis, 36 seconds behind.

7. Paolo Bossoni, Italy, Lampre-Fondital, same time.

8. Marcus Burghardt, Germany, T-Mobile, 1:01.

9. Aleksandr Kuschnyck, Belarus, Liquigas, 2:34.

10. Juan Antonio Flecha, Spain, Rabobank, same time.

37. Christopher Horner, United States, Predictor-Lotto, 10:36.

39. George Hincapie, United States, Discovery Channel, same time.

50. Christian Vandevelde, United States, Team CSC, same time.

53. Levi Leipheimer, United States, Discover Channel, same time.

63. Fred Rodriguez, United States, Predictor-Lotto, same time.

Overall Standings (After 10 Stages)

1. Michael Rasmussen, Denmark, Rabobank, 49:23:48.

2. Alejandro Valverde, Spain, Caisse d'Epargne, 2:35.

3. Iban Mayo, Spain, Saunier Duval-Prodir, 2:39.

4. Cadel Evans, Australia, Predictor-Lotto, 2:41.

5. Alberto Contador, Spain, Discovery Channel, 3:08.

6. Christophe Moreau, France, AG2R Prevoyance, 3:18.

7. Carlos Sastre, Spain, Team CSC, 3:39.

8. Andreas Kloeden, Germany, Astana, 3:50.

9. Levi Leipheimer, United States, Discovery Channel, 3:53.

10. Kim Kirchen, Luxembourg, T-Mobile, 5:06.

11. Mikel Artxanda, Spain, Euskaltel-Euskadi, 5:20.

25. Christopher Horner, United States, Predictor-Lotto, 9:11.

39. George Hincapie, United States, Discovery Channel, 26:21.

48. Christian Vandevelde, United States, Team CSC, 32:46.

170. David Zabriskie, United States, Team CSC, 1:42:49.

Wednesday's Late Games

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	56	38	.595	—
New York	48	44	.522	7
Toronto	45	49	.479	11
Baltimore	42	52	.447	14
Tampa Bay	37	56	.398	18½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	56	36	.609	—
Cleveland	55	39	.585	2
Minnesota	49	45	.521	8
Chicago	42	51	.452	14½
Kansas City	41	53	.436	16
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	55	38	.591	—
Seattle	53	39	.576	1½
Oakland	45	50	.474	11
Texas	41	53	.436	14½

Tuesday's Late Games

Texas 11, Oakland 4

Wednesday's Games

Chicago White Sox 5, Cleveland 1

Oakland 6, Texas 0

Kansas City 6, Boston 5

N.Y. Yankees 6, Toronto 1

Tampa Bay 7, L.A. Angels 2

Detroit 3, Minnesota 2

Seattle 6, Baltimore 5

Today's Games

L.A. Angels (Escobar 10-3) at Tampa Bay

(Sonnanstine 1-4), 11:10 a.m.

Toronto (McGowan 5-5) at N.Y. Yankees (Wang 10-4), 12:05 p.m.

Detroit (Bonderman 10-1) at Minnesota (Baker 4-3), 12:10 p.m.

Chicago White Sox (Vazquez 6-5) at Boston

(Matsuzaka 11-6), 6:05 p.m.

Cleveland (Sabathia 12-4) at Texas (Loe 5-7), 7:35 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	16	4	.800	—
Detroit	15	5	.750	1
New York	10	10	.500	6
Connecticut	10	11	.476	6½
Washington	8	12	.400	8
Chicago	8	13	.381	8½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	13	6	.684	—
Sacramento	12	8	.600	1½
Phoenix	12	9	.571	2
Seattle	11	10	.524	3
Los Angeles	7	13	.350	6½
Houston	6	15	.286	8
Minnesota	5	17	.227	9½

Wednesday's Games

Opinions split on Vick



Gene Blythe/Associated Press

Atlanta Falcon quarterback Michael Vick talks to reporters after the first workout at minicamp at the Falcons Complex in Flowery Branch, Ga., on May 11.

BY HANK KURZ JR.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHMOND, Va. — This much we know: Michael Vick won't be on the field when the Atlanta Falcons open training camp next Thursday. He'll be in a federal courtroom.

What happens after that was anyone's guess Wednesday, and there was no shortage of opinions.

Suspend him. Cut him. Let him play until he's proven guilty of felony charges that he sponsored a gruesome dog-fighting operation.

For the time being, that's what the NFL intends to do with the star quarterback — let him play.

After consulting with the Falcons, Commissioner Roger Goodell and top league officials agreed to let the legal process determine the facts.

A person with knowledge of the meeting, who requested anonymity so the case would not be influenced, said the NFL would stick to that position for the foreseeable future, despite its new personal-conduct policy.

In April, Goodell suspended

Tennessee's Adam "Pacman" Jones for the

DAILY BREAK

horoscopes

Thursday, July 19, 2007
— by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Put an end to your relationships with people who don't give back. You can do so much better if you go it alone or stick to those individuals willing to work as hard as you do. A problem will surface at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Get a handle on what needs to be done. You don't want to make costly mistakes because you aren't prepared. Someone close to you will contribute information that will make a difference to the outcome of something you are involved in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will face some strong competition or opposition today. Make sure you are clear on what's expected of you. Do enough research to persuade others that you do know what you are talking about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Travel and visit places that will bring you added knowledge and experience and put you in touch with people who can offer you information. You may meet someone very special if you get involved in community events.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Networking should be on your to-do list. If you are low-key and a little mysterious, you are likely to get far more interest without having to give up too much. That way, you can still make adjustments.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be pushed and pulled in several directions if you allow others to play on your emotions. You will get the best results from taking a closer look at something that interests you. Don't hesitate to take a short trip to help you make a decision.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Not everything will be clear-cut or the way you envision it. Don't be too eager to get involved in something that a friend or relative is trying to sell you on. It isn't likely to work out as well for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have to be more precise if you want to get others interested in what you are doing. A change of scenery will do you good. Money can be made if you launch a project you've been struggling with for some time.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get back to earth before you make a decision that will be wrong for you and very difficult to reverse. You will not see things or people clearly, and you are likely to make changes that will be costly emotionally and financially.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look for a way to exploit your talent or to turn something you've been involved with into a moneymaking venture. You have the wherewithal to do something spectacular if you make a few changes to something you've been working on.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Consider what you need to do in order to make more money. Anger, aggressive action, or downright pushiness will backfire. It's best not to travel or get involved in anything that could result in your confinement or limitation of any kind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may feel like putting the pressure on someone, but if you do, you aren't likely to get what you want. Expect the people around you to overreact and to push back. Compromise will be your best bet. Put time aside for romance.

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Thursday, July 19, 2007 - 9A

The Daily Iowan

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



ANDREW R. JUHL

Mailbag

• "Drop the middle initial."

Name one cool or important person ever who used their middle initial." [George W. Bush, Michael J. Fox, John F. Kennedy, Samuel L. Jackson, Robert E. Lee, William H. Macy, World B. Free, and Jesus H. Christ. Oh, I'm sorry; you asked me to name just one.]

• "Omigawd!!!!!! U R sooo funny!!!!!!" [Did you know that, for the price of just one exclamation mark a day, you could bring hope to a punctuation-challenged child in the Philippines? Make the difference, won't you?]

• "You write slanderous things about people on a daily basis ... you're a bad person." [I want it known publicly that I have never in my lifetime written anything slanderous. "Slander" is spoken defamation.]

• "I'm getting really tired of you making fun of vegetarians." [Eat me.]

• "mn i hope that you realize that me and my friend make fun of you shiny little ledges every singel day." [Augh. If the population of everything ever written was anthropomorphized, this e-mail would be the Elephant Man. Did somebody actually write this, or did they just dump a bowl of marbles on a keyboard and hit Send?]

— Andrew R. Juhl loves it when the jokes write themselves. E-mail him at: andrew.juhl@uiowa.edu.

THE SCAPE OF THINGS TO COME



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

UI landscaper Joel Smith trims the shrubbery near Macbride Hall on Wednesday. Smith has been landscaping for the university for 10 years, and he considers the summer quite a bit more productive than the fall, "other than in the fall when I pick up litter for two hours a day."

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

12:30 p.m. News from China-Beijing (in Chinese)

1 A Prairie Lights Reading from the UITV Archives, Mark Blumberg

2 News from Germany (in German)

3 "Java Blend," Public Property

4 World Percussion Extravaganza

6 "Dance with Maia"

7 "Java Blend," Public Property

8 World Percussion Extravaganza

10 "Dance with the Maia"

11 "Java Blend," Public Property

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

today's events

Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply e-mail the name, time, date, and location information to: DAILYBREAKCALENDAR@GMAIL.COM

• **Newcomers' Club**, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Panera Bread, Coral Ridge Mall
• **Kids Rule Summer Film Series**, 10 a.m., Coral Ridge Mall
• **Reading Road Trip**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
• **Schoolhouse Jazz**, 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 First St. S.E.
• **Thursday Wee Read**, 10:30 a.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
• **Craft: Cartouches**, 11:15 a.m., Westdale Mall, 2600 Edgewood Road, Cedar Rapids
• **Turkana**, noon, UIHC eighth-floor terrace
• **Downtown Area Musical Performance**, 4-7 p.m., Pedestrian Mall
• **Bicyclists of Iowa City Leisure Ride**, 6 p.m., College Green Park
• **Picnic in the Park**, 6 p.m., Willow Creek Park
• **Family Fun Night**, 6:30 p.m., Hunters Run Park
• **Music in the Park**, 6:30 p.m., S.T. Morrison Park, Coralville
• **Duos Galore, a Festival of Music for Flute and Guitar**, 7 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber

Chamber

• **Offside**, 7 and 9 p.m., Bijou
• **As You Like It**, Riverside Theatre
Young People's Company, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
• **Dance Lessons**, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 225 Highway 1 W.
• **Ron Santo: This Old Cub**, 7:30 p.m., Paramount Theatre, 123 Third Ave. S.E., Cedar Rapids
• **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Mabie Theatre
• **Macbeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion, 2160 Linden Drive S.E., Cedar Rapids
• **Happy Birthday Amy and I'm on Neptune**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
• **John Doe, with Dead Rock West**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
• **Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speakeasy, 171 Highway 1 W.
• **Sangria Night**, 9:30 p.m., David's Place, 100 S. Linn
• **Thursday Night Karaoke**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's Bar & Grill, 450 First Ave., Coralville

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:



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

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

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

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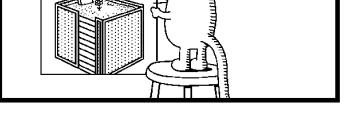


YOU WILL WORK LONG HOURS AND CONSUME TRANS FATS UNTIL YOU ARE SHAPED LIKE THIS.



by Scott Adams

ON A POSITIVE NOTE, OUR PAYROLL DEDUCTION SERVICE ALLOWS YOU TO SAVE MONEY FOR DIRT TO TURN YOUR CUBICLE INTO A BURIAL SITE.



BY WILEY

'NON SEQUITUR'

I COULDN'T LIVE IN LURLA'S WAHLD AND SHE COULDN'T LIVE IN MINE, SO WE DEFINITELY SET OUT TO MAKE AN OWN WAHLD...



...I COULDN'T LIVE IN LURLA'S WAHLD AND SHE COULDN'T LIVE IN MINE, SO WE DEFINITELY SET OUT TO MAKE AN OWN WAHLD...



EVENTUALLY, WE HAD TO FACE REALITY AND ADMIT TO OURSELVES THAT IT JUST WASN'T MEANT TO BE.



I'D SAY THAT'S THE CLOSEST I'VE GOT...



TO A WOMAN?



TO REALITY



Doonesbury

SO FINALLY, I DECIDE I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE, AND I GO TO COMMAND. THE COLONEL LISTENS TO MY STORY, BUT HE DOESN'T WRITE ANYTHING DOWN...



HE SAYS BEFORE HE LAUNCHES AN INVESTIGATION, HE WANTS ME TO THINK ABOUT IT...



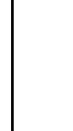
ABOUT THE GUYS WHO MIGHT DIE BECAUSE THE CHIEF MECHANIC WHO WOULD'VE FIXED THEIR MEDEVAC HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM DUTY!



YOU'RE JOKING.



MA'AM, I HAVEN'T MADE A JOKE IN 15 MONTHS.



BY GARRY TRUDEAU

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0607



For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

The Daily Iowan

ROOMMATE WANTED

\$25 vintage Eastside. H/W paid. A/C, cable, busine, garage, laundry, shower. Deposit. Credit check. No drugs. (319)337-4388.

AVAILABLE now. \$275/ month plus utilities in a cool, old house. (319)338-2365.

CLOSE, comfortable, clean, C/A, cable, internet, fireplace, laundry, yard with indoor/outdoor decks, private garage. \$395 includes utilities. (319)936-1977.

OWN bedroom in downtown four bedroom house. Two blocks from campus. Hardwood floors, pool table. \$490 utilities included. (563)299-4066.

OWN bedroom in nice six bedroom co-ed house. Close-in. Parking. W/D, dishwasher, A/C. \$320/ \$250 plus utilities. (319)400-7335.

RESPONSIBLE, clean, to share four bedroom, two bathroom downtown house. Available August 1. \$425. (319)936-0145.

ROOMMATE WANTED! 648 S.Dodge. Three bedroom, two bathroom apartment. \$337 plus utilities. Available August 1. Call Hal (402)290-4717.

ROOMMATES wanted to share downtown house. \$425 includes cable and Internet. (319)936-0145.

SHARE nice three bedroom house, Myrtle Ave., \$320 plus utilities. Responsible, A/C, basement, yard/ deck, 8 min. hospital. (319)321-9525.

TWO roommates for three bedroom house close to campus. W/D, A/C, dishwasher. \$325 plus utilities. Available August 1. 654 S.Lucas. (712)683-5545.

WANTED: one person to share furnished, westside house close to UIHC. One block to campus. C/A, W/D. Cable and internet paid, share utilities. \$360/month. No smoking. (319)626-6596, (319)321-5229.

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RENTALS

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SCOREBOARD

MLB
Chicago White Sox 5, Cleveland 1
Oakland 6, Texas 0
Kansas City 6, Boston 5
N.Y. Yankees 6, Toronto 1
Tampa Bay 7, L.A. Angels 2
Detroit 3, Minnesota 2
Colorado 5, Pittsburgh 3

Cincinnati 5, Atlanta 4, 15 innings
Washington 7, Houston 6
Chicago Cubs 12, San Francisco 1
L.A. Dodgers 5, Philadelphia 4
St. Louis 6, Florida 0
Arizona 5, Milwaukee 2
San Diego 5, N.Y. Mets 4

Thursday, July 19, 2007

FOOTBALL

Brewster dismisses 4 Gophers

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Minnesota coach Tim Brewster kicked four accomplished players off the football team Wednesday for their alleged involvement in the rape of an 18-year-old woman.

Brewster dismissed standout cornerback Dominic Jones, who was charged Monday with third-degree criminal sexual conduct, and three teammates who have not yet been charged with a crime — running back E.J. Jones, defensive end Alex Daniels, and defensive back Keith Massey.

The new coach, who has spent his first six months on a whirlwind positivity campaign aimed at drumming up interest across the state in a moribund program, said all four violated team and university codes of conduct.

"It is an honor and a privilege to wear the uniform of the University of Minnesota, and we have exceedingly high expectations for each of our student-athletes," Brewster said in a statement issued by the university. "We spend a considerable amount of time addressing our players regarding their personal conduct, and we will not compromise our values. We are establishing a culture of integrity, and we will demand that our players are held accountable for their actions."

MEN'S HOOPS

Tennessee extends Pearl contract

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Coach Bruce Pearl has agreed in principle to a one-year contract extension that will keep him at Tennessee through 2013 and increase his compensation package to \$1.3 million this year.

The 47-year-old Pearl has revived the Volunteers' men's basketball program with showmanship — including his bright orange blazers — unbounded enthusiasm, and winning since his arrival two years ago.

The Vols have reached the NCAA Tournament twice in as many years, appearing in the Sweet 16 this past season after a 24-11 regular season and second-place finish in the SEC.

"Not only is Coach Pearl one of the very best coaches in the nation, but more importantly, he has become a great ambassador for our university during his tenure," Tennessee President John Petersen said in a statement.

Pearl was scheduled to get a \$100,000 raise to \$1.2 million next season under his old contract. Now he will get an additional \$100,000. Scheduled raises in future years will take him to \$1.7 million in 2011-12.

TV TODAY

GOLF The Open Championship from Carnoustie, first-round play, 6 a.m., TNT

BASEBALL Giants at Cubs, 1:30 p.m., CSN

White Sox at Red Sox, 6 p.m., CSN

CYCLING Tour de France, stage 11, 7:30 a.m., Versus

SPORTS

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NFL: Opinions split on Vick, 8A

Only 28, Jordan a Lickliter veteran

Joining a new men's basketball staff led by Todd Lickliter, LaVall Jordan looks to add a valuable piece to Iowa's puzzle next season.

BY KYLE YODER

THE DAILY IOWAN

New Iowa men's assistant basketball coach LaVall Jordan may be just 28 years old, but that doesn't mean his experience on the hardwood is lacking.

Jordan has been working with Iowa head coach Todd Lickliter for almost 10 years, not just as a coach but as a player, too.

Jordan started playing under Lickliter at Butler University in 1997, and during his time there, the

Bulldogs accumulated 91 wins and appeared in the postseason four consecutive years.

From a player's standpoint, Jordan has nothing but positives to say about Lickliter.

"If Coach [Lickliter] trusts you, and

you are responsible, he gives you a lot of freedom," Jordan said on Wednesday. "It's a great style of basketball to play."

Just a few years after Jordan's playing days were over, he became coordinator of basketball operations at Butler. After handling that title for one season, he became an assistant under Lickliter in 2004 — a job he held for the three years before coming to Iowa this spring.

SEE JORDAN, 8A



Jordan

men's basketball
assistant coach

PRIME TIME LEAGUE — PLAYOFFS

Tornado warning can't stop Duez



Wesley Cropp/The Daily Iowan

Former Hawkeye forward Duez Henderson (right) watches as teammate Dell Mims drives into the basket in the North Liberty Community Center on Wednesday. Henderson's team, Imprinted/Goodfellow beat Jill Armstrong, 89-82.

A tornado warning delay didn't stop former Hawkeye Duez Henderson and incoming freshman Jarryd Cole from advancing in the playoffs.

BY LARS HEADINGTON

THE DAILY IOWAN

A tornado warning delayed — but did not end — the building tension of the Prime Time League's semifinal matchup between Jill Armstrong and Imprinted/Goodfellow.

Midway through the second half, Armstrong held onto a narrow 67-65 lead in the closely fought contest that had gone into halftime knotted at 39.

But with 8:18 to play, a tornado warning halted play, sending the capacity crowd — as well as players, coaches, and a television crew

— into a basement-level conference room beneath the North Liberty Community Center.

Longtime league Commissioner Randy Larson said weather had never before delayed a game.

SEE PRIME TIME, 8A

GAME TIME LEAGUE — PLAYOFFS

Megan Skouby puts up a lay-up against Minnesota in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 25, 2006. The Hawkeyes, trailing by 20 points at halftime, came back to bring the game into overtime, but lost 78-80. Skouby finished with 14 points.



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan

Strength vs. Cinderella in finale

After winning only a single game during the regular season, Coralville Hy-Vee has improbably survived the Game Time playoffs to make tonight's championship in North Liberty.

BY MIKE BROWNLEE

THE DAILY IOWAN

Showing off the balance of talent in the Game Time League, the championship game tonight will feature the teams with the best and worst records in the league.

After finishing the regular season 1-6, Coralville Hy-Vee has played like a different team in the postseason, defeating the No. 2 and 3 seeds in its run to the title match.

On the other hand, Pawz/Premier has been dominant all

year, finishing the regular season 6-1.

Pawz/Premier is led by Hawkeye center Megan Skouby, who has been a force this summer, averaging 20.7 points and a league-leading 9.4 rebounds per game.

One of Skouby's new Iowa teammates, Kelsey Cermak, has proved to be an adept sidekick inside, averaging 7.3 boards per game, while Northern Iowa's duo of Traci Ollendieck (17.3 ppg) and Kristyn Ferris (12.3 ppg) have provided additional offense.

For Pawz/Premier to finish its

season on top, the team will need more of the same from Skouby and crew.

Leading Hy-Vee all season has been scrappy Iowa guard Kristy Smith, who has averaged 19 points and seven assists.

And she isn't worried about taking on the top team.

"I like being the underdog; everybody overlooks you," she said. "It's a good story."

"It'll be a challenge, but if we play like we have the last couple games, we'll be good."

SEE GAME TIME, 8A

the Daily Prophet

THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2007

Quidditch Recaps, Page 8
Ask Angelica, Page 27INDEX:
Business, Page 50
Astrology, Page 62

WORLDWIDE WEATHER:

London, 71°, Torrential rain
Barcelona, 82°, Clear skies
Sofia, 66°, Scattered clouds
New York, 80°, High winds

HOURS EDITION

TEN years since Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone released in the United States

6.9 million number of copies sold of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince

number of copies sold of Book 1 initially placed in stores

24 number of hours it took to sell that many books

50,000 average number of Half-Blood Prince sales per hour in its first day

250,000 number of copies of Books 1-6 sold worldwide thus far

325 MILLION

HARRY POTTER, BY THE NUMBERS

amount of money the filmed adaptation of Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix made in its first day in theaters

44.8 MILLION

list price of Book 7 \$34.99

\$17.99 number of copies of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ordered for its first-run printing, the largest in history

48.6 percentage of that discount

\$12 MILLION number of copies of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows ordered for its first-run printing, the largest in history

Sources: forbes.com, cnnmoney.com, Time, cbsnews.com

TODAY IN QUIDDITCH

CAERPHILLY CATAULPTS VERSUS HOLYHEAD HARPIES

Favorite: The Catapults, by a long shot.

WIGTOWN WANDERERS VERSUS TUTSHILL TORNADOS

Favorite: The Tornados will blow Wigtown away.

KENMARE KESTRALS VERSUS CHUDLEY CANNONS

Favorite: The team that isn't the Cannons. Come on, now.

THE END IS NEAR

One need only take a look around a local book merchant to see it. Posters scattered throughout Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall, and Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque St., announce the close of not only a narrative spanning seven tomes but also one of the most remarkable literary-business feats in recent memory.

"There hasn't been anything like [the Potter mania] in the publishing industry — ever," said Suke Cody, an employee at Prairie Lights for the last 10 years.

She has busied herself recently planning the independent book store's Friday release party, which, she estimates, 150 to 200 people will attend. The store has received 150 book orders. She also noted a tidbit likely to heighten anticipation from Prairie Lights patrons — in previous years, the store has

TEN

years

since

Harry

Potter

and

the

Sorcerer's

Stone

was

released

in

the

United

States

.

6.9

million

number

of

copies

sold

of

Harry

Potter

and

the

Half-Blood

Prince

.

50,000

number

of

copies

placed

in

stores

.

50,000

number

of

copies

placed

in

weekly calendar Of events

Today 7.19

MUSIC

- **Turkana**, noon, UIHC eighth-floor terrace
- **Downtown Musical Performance**, 4 p.m., Pedestrian Mall
- **Yo Man Go, with Tomorrow is My Birthday**, 6 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Family Fun Night, The Gilded Bats**, 6:30 p.m., Hunters Run Park
- **Music in the Park, Holiday Road**, 6:30 p.m., S.T. Morris Park, Coralville
- **Duos Galore, a Festival of Music for Flute and Guitar**, 7 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber

- **Happy Birthday Amy and I'm on Neptune**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

- **John Doe, with Dead Rock West**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington

- **Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speakeasy, 171 Highway 1 W.

- **Thursday Night Karaoke**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's Bar & Grill, 450 First Ave., Coralville

FILM

- **Offside**, 7 and 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Ron Santo: This Old Cub**, 7:30 p.m., Paramount Theatre, 123 Third Ave. S.E., Cedar Rapids



Les Claypool, the frontman for rock group Primus and creator of the "South Park" theme song, will read at Prairie Lights from his novel, *South of the Pumphouse*. The book involves two brothers, a fishing trip, drugs, murder, and a Hunter S. Thompson mode of narration. Check out Brigid Marshall's preview of the reading at [dailiyowan.com](#).

THEATER

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Mabie Theatre
- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **Festival, "Elevenses,"** 11 a.m., 101 Becker Communication Studies Building

- **"Live at Prairie Lights,"** Les Claypool, fiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Downtown Sidewalk Sales**, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., downtown Iowa City

- **Microsoft Word Advanced (with Mail Merge)**, 5:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn

- **Dance Lessons**, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 225 Highway 1 W.

Friday 7.20

MUSIC

- **Alissa Rosenthal**, noon, MC Ginsberg, 110 E. Washington
- **Friday Night Concert Series, Mike and Amy Finders**, 6:30 p.m., Pedestrian Mall
- **Valerie Bills and Russ Peterson**, 7 and 9 p.m., Church of the Nazarene, 1035 Wade
- **Bad Fathers**, 9 p.m., Picador
- **Bonerama and Run Side Down**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Drakkar Sauna, with 12 Canons**, 9 p.m., Mill
- **"Live at the Java House," Andrew McNamara**, 9 p.m., Java House, 211 1/2 E. Washington

FILM

- **Into Great Silence**, 7:30 p.m., Bijou

THEATER

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **"The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury," Martha-**

- **Ellen Tye Opera Theater**, 8 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall

WORDS

- **Iowa Summer Writing Festival, "Elevenses,"** 11 a.m., 101 Becker

- **Harry Potter Midnight Madness Party**, wristbands handed out at 6 p.m., Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall

- **Harry Potter Release Party**, 8 p.m., North Liberty Community Center, 520 W. Cherry

- **Harry Potter Release Party**, midnight, Prairie Lights

THEATER

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **"The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury," Martha-**

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Downtown Sidewalk Sales**, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., downtown Iowa City

- **Drop-In-Arts**, 9 a.m., Chauncey Swan Park

- **Book Sale**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Public Library

- **Game Night**, 6 p.m., Fair Grounds Coffeehouse, 345 S. Dubuque

WORDS

- **Iowa Summer Writing**

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **Harry Potter Release Party**, 8 p.m., North Liberty Community Center, 520 W. Cherry

- **Harry Potter Release Party**, midnight, Prairie Lights

THEATER

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **"The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury," Martha-**

MISCELLANEOUS

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- **Drop-In-Arts**, 9 a.m., Chauncey Swan Park

- **Book Sale**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Public Library

- **Game Night**, 6 p.m., Fair Grounds Coffeehouse, 345 S. Dubuque

MUSIC

- **Karaoke**, 7 p.m., Eagles

- **Lodge**

- **Reggae Night**, 9 p.m.,

- **Yacht Club**

FILM

- **Into Great Silence**, 3 and 6 p.m., Bijou

- **Local favorite Bad Fathers** will perform its last show in Iowa City at the Picador before moving out to Los Angeles. Be prepared for one last go from the punk-hip-hop, high-energy, mohawked Iowa City outfit before it's too late.

- **Public Dance**, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge

- **Rock 'n' Thunder with Duane, Dancing and DJ**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's

- **Wine Tasting**, 5:30 p.m., Marriott Hotel and Conference

Sunday 7.22



Rachel Mumney/The Daily Iowan

Iowa's very own join together to help local Ashley Gillette, who has central nervous system vasculitis, for a benefit concert at the Mill. Participants include the Dick Watson Band, Jesse White, and Iowa City music-vet Dave Zollo (pictured above).

THEATER

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 2 p.m., Riverside

- **Theatre**

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **"The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury," Martha-**

- **As You Like It, Riverside Theatre Young People's Company**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside

- **An Empty Plate in the Café du Grand Bœuf, Iowa Summer Rep**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion

- **"The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury," Martha-**

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- **MacBeth, the Classics at Brucemore**, 8 p.m., Brucemore Mansion



'It hasn't really hit me yet that this whole phenomenon is ending. I'm sure I'll be a crying mess once I'm done with the book.' — Sophie Speth, UI senior

For Potter fans, wizardry will never end

POTTER

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Harry Potter series shortly after the release of the third novel, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, initially scoffing at the books' rampant popularity.

"I was kind of being snobby toward the books — I said, 'I'm never going to read those,'" she remembered.

How quickly they change their tune — not only has Cody done much of the planning for Prairie Lights' book release party Friday night, but she'll be there in attendance with her 9-year-old daughter, Isabel, a second-generation *Potter* fan.

The accessibility of Rowling's story lines makes them a timeless choice for a wide variety of readers. Not only that, but for the older crowd, something seems rather familiar.

"[Potter fans] are having the same conversations I had with my schoolmates over *Lord of the Rings*," Gilbert said.

Aesthetic similarities — say, wizards and other magical creatures — aside, J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy frequently receives mention alongside Rowling's series by fans, as does C.S. Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia*. Though first classified as "children's literature," Gilbert notes, all three sagas have mass appeal thanks to levels of storytelling perhaps better appreciated by an older audience.

"People always dismiss fantasy literature and forget everyone's earliest foundations of storytelling are from fantasy," Gilbert groused good-naturedly while stirring the remains of an iced coffee with a straw. "Folks don't read their kids *Catcher in the Rye*, they read them *Winnie the Pooh* and Grimm's *Fairy Tales*."

UI senior Sophie Speth agreed with the comparison, saying, "They teach classes on Tolkien and C.S. Lewis, so I definitely think in the future, our kids will be taking classes on Harry Potter."

For readers such as Speth, Ryken, and Arnold, the arrival of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* marks the end of an age dedicated to the world created by Rowling. Come a week from now, people curious about the world of Harry Potter need only take a spare month or so to plow through all seven books, with nothing to impede them.

"This first generation of kids who have read it is the luckiest, because they've grown up with Harry," Gilbert said with a trace of sadness in her tone. "I watched my nieces do it. It's a very interesting trip that no other kids will be able to take."

THE END?

So what now? What



Morgen Sedlack, dressed as Ginny Weasley, and Ali Ordman, as Harry Potter, discuss the opening of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* on July 10 in the Coral Ridge Mall. Together with their friends, they celebrated the midnight movie with costumes and purple cake.



Costume-clad Katie Ryken, Alyce Arnold, Lisa Frauenholtz, and Courtney Barrick await the opening of *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* at the Coral Ridge 10 on July 10. Midnight showings at both Coral Ridge and Sycamore Malls were sold out hours before the screenings.

happens after the last of the 784 pages is turned, and all the questions have finally been answered?

"It hasn't really hit me yet that this whole phenomenon is ending," said 21-year-old Speth, who despite having already ordered one of the 1.16 million copies being shipped by online superstore Amazon.com, plans to attend a midnight release party at the local Barnes & Noble nonetheless.

"I'm sure I'll be a crying mess once I'm done with the book," she said.

For Gilbert, the cessation of the Potter series may seem a blow initially — but long-term, it will be just the thing the books need to earn respect.

"The books will take the place they should have — on

bookshelves and not up for some commercial, cash-cow, toy-manufacturing thing," she said.

Make no mistake, if she's confident about anything, it's this: "*Potter* is important enough that it's going to become part of that unconscious literary reference base we all have."

E-mail Daily Prophet reporter Anna Wiegenstein at: anna-wiegenstein@uiowa.edu

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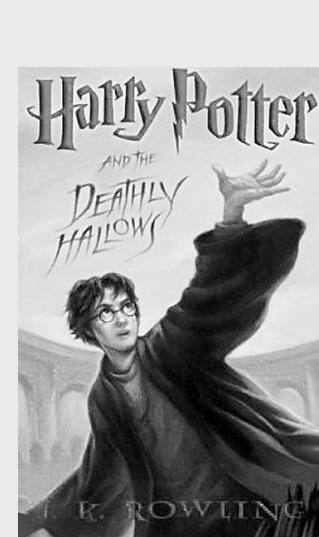
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Rebecca F. Miller/The Daily Iowan



CELEBRATION

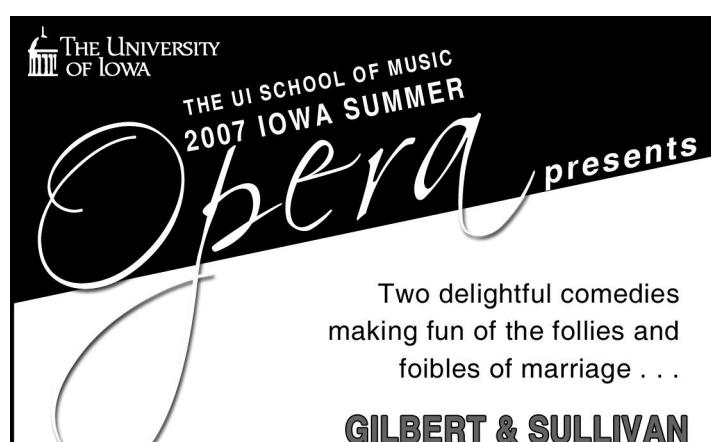
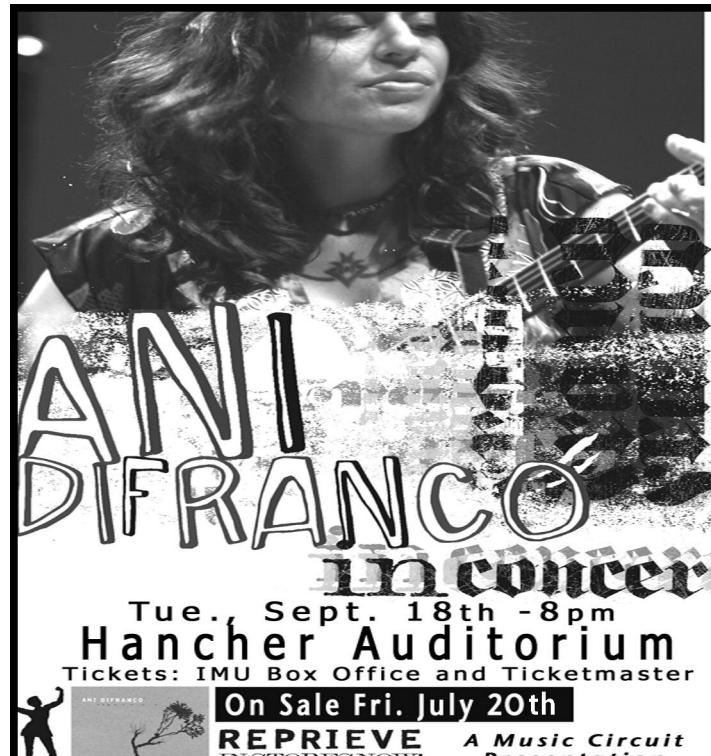
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Release Parties

Where: Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque

When: Doors open at midnight Friday

Where: Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall

When: Wristbands handed out starting at 6 p.m. Friday



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E. C. Mabie Theatre, July 19, 20, 21 at 8 pm

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3:00 4:00 6:15 7:15 9:30 10:15		4:00 6:00 7:00 9:00 10:00	
License to Wed ✓ PG-13 12:20 2:40		License to Wed ✓ PG-13 12:10 2:30	
4:50 7:10 9:30		4:50 7:10 9:30	
Transformers ✓ PG-13 12:15 1:15		Transformers ✓ PG-13 12:00 1:00	
3:40 4:40 6:50 7:50 9:55		3:00 4:00 6:00 7:00 9:00 10:00	
Ratatouille G 12:00 1:00 2:30 4:00		Evening PG-13 12:50 3:50 6:50 9:50	
5:00 6:40 7:30 9:15 10:00		Ratatouille G 1:00 1:30 3:30 4:00	
Live Free or Die Hard PG-13 1:15		Live Free or Die Hard PG-13 12:45	
4:10 7:00 9:50		3:45 6:45 9:45	
Evan Almighty PG 12:30 2:50 5:10		1408 PG-13 12:10 2:30 4:50 7:10 9:30	
7:30 9:45		Evan Almighty PG 12:00 2:20 4:40	
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THEATER REVIEW

Singing & dancing through betrayal, with some love



Photo courtesy of Artslowa

Rossini's "The Marriage Contract" will take the stage for the first act of the UI Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theater's comic-opera production 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in Clapp Recital Hall. The play focuses on a wealthy British merchant and his attempts to marry his daughter off to his Canadian trading partner.

JULIE URBANEK

THE DAILY IOWAN

Marriages fail, plans change, and people lie. Things don't work out — so laugh about it.

Chock-full of farce and satire, the comic one-act operas "The Marriage Contract" and "Trial by Jury" made their debuts last weekend at Clapp Recital Hall, inviting audience members to guffaw at otherwise serious affairs.

The two operas play on awkward and unlikely situations to keep the audience entertained — or, rather, only mildly amused. But for the lover of slapstick and trite jokes, the operas rise to the occasion.

'The Marriage Contract'

Sounds of magnificence

encompassed Clapp — violins, cellos, and basses — as the audience sat eagerly awaiting the first opera to begin. The orchestra filled the not-so-full auditorium with anticipation.

"The Marriage Contract" opens with a maid-clerk duo, and, avid opera lover or not, one would find it difficult to understand the lyrics of the first scene — which, unfortunately, set up the entire plot. The voices: beautiful, but muffled and nearly impossible to understand. Gathering a few words (contract, marriage) and several overstressed facial expressions, it becomes apparent that the letter contains a ... marriage contract? Ah — hence the title of the opera.

The contract promises the hand of the daughter of a wealthy merchant, Sir Tobias Mill (Paul Morel), to a Canadian entrepreneur, Slook (Bryce Weber). In the words of Slook himself, "the merchandise" must have all the requirements he asked for. Themes of sexism and exploitation of women appear — whether they are humorous or not depends perhaps on how much one can laugh at the show's rather unimaginative jokes.

Crisis hits the stage when contracted wife-to-be, Fanny (Allison Holmes), canoodles her true lover, Edward (Robert

Kemp), and alternative marriage plans are revealed. Holmes produces a booming voice and while initially timid, Kemp's stage presence improves throughout the show, and his facial expressions become increasingly memorable.

Yet chemistry between the two characters remains weak and is soon overshadowed by the entrance of goofy Canadian Slook, outfitted in a knee-length fur jacket and hat.

"Where is that little morsel," he booms. Slook's over-the-top attitude steals the show — he's

The UI Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theater's presentation of 'The Marriage Contract' and 'Trial By Jury' displays trials of love and betrayal through comedic songs, dancing, and awkward moments.

OPERA

The UI's Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theater will present Rossini's *The Marriage Contract* and Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury*

When: Friday 8 p.m., Saturday 8 p.m.

Where: Clapp Recital Hall

Admission: \$20 public,

\$16 senior citizens,

\$10 UI students and youth

lines and convincing facial expressions, develops a strong actor-audience relationship.

Comic or not, the talent remains. If audience members persevere through the first act, the lack of stage chemistry and awkward moments in "The Marriage Contract" can be forgotten by the playful end of "Trial by Jury."

E-mail DI reporter Julie Urbanek at jurbanek@du.edu

likable for his improper manners and candor — and his spirit saves the opera from drowning.

While the performers remain animated and energetic throughout the performance, the audience tires from waiting for something larger to happen.

And it's this kind of awkwardness throughout the opera that may be the funniest part.

'Trial by Jury'

Fresh air flooded the room as the second one-act began. With a courtroom set of sex-divided benches and a cage-like defendant stand, "Trial by Jury" immediately awoke the audience. Showcasing the movement and animation of the characters, the set radiated with color and light as the women jurors emerged in a rainbow of dresses and the men jurors entered in sharp gray suits.

The opera begins with Edwin (Greg Zawada), a promiscuous defendant who has fallen in love with a woman other than the one he promised to marry. Anglena (Lexi Schiano), the plaintiff, arrives in a smoldering hot-pink dress-suit that causes all the males (minus Edwin) to go goggle-eyed. Her biggest fan, the judge (Jonathon Struve), even invites her up to join him on the judge's bench.

The opera bustles with side conversations and subtle body movements. Edwin's flirtations become stand-alone diversion, and the increasing number of jokes make "Trial by Jury" easy to follow.

Half the time of the first opera, "Trial by Jury" is short and sweet. The characters' chemistry, thanks to dramatically sung

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