

The Daily Iowan

Thursday, February 14, 2008

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50¢

INSIDE

Evolutionary romance

Men and women might seem to have come far since the gaffes of "I Love Lucy," but long-running Broadway show *Defending the Caveman* proves Mars and Venus still have conflict to resolve. **80 Hours, 1C**

Lonely, alone, and lonesome?

There must be more like you mingling somewhere (we wouldn't know — we're all cool), so check out the **80 Hours Calendar, 2C** for fellow solitary souls.



Bluder's Bunch hopes for big night

With its hopes of a regular-season Big Ten title hinging largely on tonight's game at Purdue, Iowa hopes to escape with a ninth-straight win. **Sports, 1B**

'Wii-habilitation'

Physical-therapy patients and senior citizens are playing the Wii for exercise and fun. **Campus, 5A**

UI Sick days

Regent employees used 170,106 days of sick leave at a cost of \$31.8 million. **Campus, 7A**

Lickliter looks for rebound

Iowa tries to snap a two-game skid tonight against Michigan. **Sports, 1B**

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Daily updates

Now check back at dailyiowan.com during the day for the latest news on the UI and Iowa City.

Daily Iowan TV

To watch Daily Iowan TV, go online at dailyiowan.com or tune into UIVT. The 15-minute newscast is on Sunday through Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., with reruns at 12:30 and 1:30 a.m. and 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. the following day.

Today's webcast

- Physical therapy with the Wii
- Presidential race
- Mark Perry's injury

WEATHER

Mostly cloudy, windy, 50% chance of snow; wind chill (yawn) returns late tonight.
 ↑ 28 -2 c ↓ -2 -19 c

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Homicide suspect was kicked out of Jakes

By Bryce Bauer
THE DAILY IOWAN

Approximately an hour before authorities believe Jerome August "Patrick" McEwen was killed, his alleged slayer was kicked out of a downtown bar because of his apparently heavily intoxicated state.

Mike Porter, the owner of One-Eyed Jakes, 18-20 S. Clinton St., announced Wednesday that Curtis John Fry was removed from his establishment by bar staff at 12:36 a.m. on Feb. 7 — just seven minutes after he and his group arrived

New evidence lends credence to the theory that the man allegedly responsible for Patrick McEwen's death was drunk around the time of the latter's death.

and just 36 minutes after he became legal to purchase alcohol, a review of security tapes shows. Bar staff denied Fry re-entry two minutes later.

On Feb. 8, Fry was arrested

by Iowa City police and charged in the beating death of 75-year-old McEwen in the latter's South Van Buren residence.

Porter, who also owns the Summit, 10 S. Clinton St., said

taking action against drunk patrons is typical in his industry, and he praised his employees for taking appropriate action with Fry.

"Sometimes, they just get cut off, and other times, they get denied entry," Porter said, later explaining that his staff undergo training to handle these situations.



Fry charged

SEE HOMICIDE, 3A

The juice blog

A UI expert says Roger Clemens' appearance on Capitol Hill is merely the tip of the steroid iceberg — and the Rocket's defense doesn't quite get off the launching pad.

By Charlie Kautz
THE DAILY IOWAN

As the sporting world on Wednesday soaked in more than four hours of finger-pointing during Roger Clemens' congressional hearing on Capitol Hill, one UI expert was simply trying to keep his web readers satisfied.

That's because when it comes to the he-said, he-said steroid controversy surrounding the Mitchell Report, Brian McNamee, and the seven-time Cy Young Award winner, nobody loves chronicling a succulent story about alleged juicers more than Gary Gaffney, a UI associate professor of psychiatry.

"I thought it was a remarkable preceding in that you have these diametrically opposed individuals at the same table with the chief investigator of the Mitchell Report in between them," he said. "Also, flanking either was their battery of lawyers, so the whole thing was really bizarre, I thought."

While Gaffney — a 27-year professional who works in the UI Hospitals and Clinics — spent most of Wednesday morning readying for a regular afternoon at his day job, one of his hobbies couldn't help but get in the way.



Gaffney UI associate professor of psychiatry

SEE STEROIDS, 3A

Haute cuisine and couture



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

Audrey Wiedemeier walks through Solon's Redhead Restaurant on Wednesday evening to show off spring styles from Dulcinea in a benefit for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program.

A local dinner and fashion show raises funds for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program.

By Brian Stewart
THE DAILY IOWAN

SOLON — Gourmet French dishes and trendy spring fashions, aimed to warm customers' minds and bodies from the chilly winter weather, set the backdrop for a benefit to raise funds to counter domestic abuse on Wednesday night.

The event, held in the Redhead Restaurant, 240 E. Main St., Solon, paired a

An anti-violence model

Check out dailyiowan.com for a slide show of Wednesday's fashion show in Solon.

three-course French meal from Redhead chef-owner Kim Zesiger with a fashion show featuring spring items from local boutique Dulcinea, 2 S. Dubuque St. A silent auction during the event raised money for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program.

"We just wanted to create something fun," Dulcinea manager Jennifer Booth said. "We thought a spring fashion show would be good to get people out and excited about spring."

Booth said the event was kindled by a mutual desire of the owners of Dulcinea and Redhead — both women — to sponsor a benefit for a program along the lines of the intervention program.

Monika Ratner, a server at the eclectic Redhead and one of the evening's models, said she heard about the show through the restaurant.

SEE FASHION SHOW, 4A

Bill would save Old Glory from foreign hands

Some locals voice support for bill that would ban sales of foreign-made American and state flags.

By Kelsey Beltramea
THE DAILY IOWAN

Old Glory must remain between sea and shining sea — if she wants to wave in Iowa, at least.

Rep. Ray Zirkelbach, D-Monticello, introduced a bill last week, now in subcommittee, that would make sure of it.

Under the bill, businesses could be fined as much as \$625 for selling U.S. or Iowa flags made in other countries. Business owners or operators could also face up to 30 days in jail for

American made, or else

Tune in to Daily Iowan TV at dailyiowan.com to learn more about a bill that would prohibit Iowa vendors from selling American flags made outside the United States.

selling a foreign-made flag. Those flags commemorating U.S. soldiers missing in action or those characterized as prisoners of war would also be regulated under the proposal.

Zirkelbach, an Iraq war veteran who also chairs the Veterans Affairs Committee, declined to comment on the bill until after it reaches the House floor, but

locally, veterans lauded his efforts.

At the American Legion Post 17 in Iowa City, Commander Mike Hull said he understood where Zirkelbach's position.

"You know, we raise our right hand and fight for our country, and I want an American flag draped over me when I go," the veteran said.

Hull, who served in Iraq, Kuwait, and Desert Storm, said he valued America's free-enterprise, free-market society,



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

A used American flag sits in the Old Capitol Museum on Tuesday. The flags that the museum uses are made in Fort Madison, Iowa.

SEE FLAG, 4A



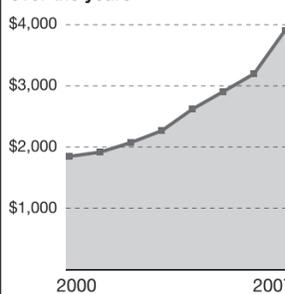
Farmland value jumps

The price for farmland is increasing drastically in Iowa and steadily in most parts of the nation, except for the South.

Rising land values

The average value per acre of land in Iowa rose from \$3,204 in 2006 to \$3,908 in 2007.

Average price per acre over the years



Source: Iowa State University

Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

By Melanie Kucera
THE DAILY IOWAN

While large portions of the national economy are slowing, one part of the economy is skyrocketing — the value of farmland.

Economists at Iowa State University found that from 2006 to 2007, farmland prices rose by double digits across the state — ranging from 10 to 30 percent increases.

Johnson County farmland prices increased 17.1 percent, to \$4,579 an acre.

The Iowa Land Value Survey, established in 1941, each year on Nov. 1 sends out approximately 1,100 opinion surveys to farm managers and rural appraisers. Roughly 600 surveys are sent back to the researchers, and the data are calculated and made public by the middle of December.

Mike Duffy, an ISU professor of agricultural economics and lead researcher on the survey, said that though there was a drastic increase in farm value, the numbers did not surprise him.



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

Wild turkeys take to the air on Highway 382 near Lake McBride on Wednesday. Iowa farm land value has increased as much as 30 percent despite the economic decline, making land difficult to purchase for many farmers.

He singled out ethanol as the major reason for the increase. And he expects land values to increase until corn goes out of vogue for ethanol use.

Though the rest of the economy is suffering, he said, the ethanol demand is separate.

“Congress passed a mandate that we had to use so much bio-renewable fuels, so Congress created a demand for ethanol,” Duffy said. “That is independent of what is happening in the rest of the country.”

Other reasons for the rise include the increasing demand for recreational areas and urban development, he said, noting that farmland prices in Johnson County may have gone up because of Iowa City growth.

“It is all based around the booming prices that we have or are experiencing for commodities such as corn and soybeans,” said Joseph Prusacki, the director of the statistics division of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, a division of the Department of Agriculture.

Northwestern Iowa has seen the biggest increases in land values across the state.

Nationally, Duffy said, he sees some variation in land values, saying that the New England states as well as California have seen increases, but the Southern states have not. Midwestern states, mainly Iowa, have led the way, he said.

“Iowa was kind of the center of the ethanol boom, but other

states are catching up,” he said.

The considerable increase in farmland value has affected farmers across the state in many ways.

Keith Gehling, a risk-management consultant in West Des Moines who consults with Iowa farmers, said he has seen an increase in the demand for people in his occupation.

“People are looking for help and trying to manage their risk,” he said.

“The farmers who own their land, I would say, are making more money. The younger farmers are concerned about high land prices, because people in their 30s can’t afford to buy \$5,000- to \$6,000-an-acre land.”

E-mail *DI* reporter **Melanie Kucera** at: melanie-kucera@uiowa.edu

2 UI students nab Gates awards

By Olivia Moran
THE DAILY IOWAN

Two UI seniors are among 45 students from the United States who recently received Gates Cambridge Scholarships, full-ride scholarships to the University of Cambridge in England.

Garth Strohbahn and Emily Alden will have the opportunity to study abroad next school year.

The Gates Cambridge Scholarship was introduced in 2000, when the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation donated \$210 million to the program. The applicants are required to be citizens of countries other than the United Kingdom.

Sarah Prineas, the scholarship coordinator for the Honors Program, said both UI students are actively involved in medical research.

UI winner of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship

GARTH STROHBEHN
Hometown: Gilbert, Iowa
Majors: biochemistry, chemistry

EMILY ALDEN
Hometown: LeClaire, Iowa
Majors: biochemistry, comprehensive cancer studies, minor in history

The UI had three applicants and three finalists for the scholarship this year, Prineas said. There is one UI student currently at Cambridge.

Strohbahn said he was in disbelief on Sunday, when he found out he received the scholarship,

only a day after he completed an interview in Annapolis, Md.

“Basically, I looked at it a couple times and hit the reload button on my computer,” he said.

The interviews were held on Feb. 8 and 9. Strohbahn said his interview consisted of questions about his current work and his future plans.

Strohbahn, a chemistry and biochemistry major, is chairman of the student volunteer board at the UI, Prineas said. He has focused on cancer-related research, she said.

“He’s really humane about it,” she said. “He’s somebody who’s going to be a really great doctor-researcher.”

Alden was unavailable for comment on Wednesday afternoon.

Prineas said Alden’s second area of interest at the UI is comprehensive cancer studies and

that she will also make a good research doctor “but bringing a liberal arts perspective to it.”

After Cambridge, Strohbahn said he plans to do something that involves both research and clinical medicine. He will begin studies in England on Oct. 1.

“This is the chance to expose myself to something entirely new,” Strohbahn said, adding that the distance is not something that worries him.

Of the 45 recipients of the scholarship, few attend Big Ten schools; many come from Ivy League universities.

“Despite this ivory-tower-type rap we give to those people, they’re remarkably normal,” Strohbahn said. “I don’t view them as Harvard and Yale grads, I view them as future colleagues and future collaborators.”

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

METRO

UI student may lose fingers, parts of foot

A UI student will probably lose some of his fingers and portions of his foot after becoming extremely frostbitten between Feb. 9 and Sunday after a night downtown, Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay said.

Police received a 911 call from some workers with Bud Maas Concrete around 8:25 a.m. Sunday to report finding a man — who Kelsay said is a 21-year-old Minnesota native — in the 300 block of North Gilbert Street.

Kelsay said the man had likely been outside for five or six hours in the cold, and officers reported he had a strong odor of alcohol.

He was transported to the UI Hospitals and Clinics.

Kelsay said that if the man hadn’t been found, he might have died in the frigid temperatures.

“He very easily could have been looking at loss of life,” he said.

The man has some three prior alcohol-related charges, Kelsay noted, including a public intoxication in 2005 and two PAULAs from 2006.

Police don’t expect any foul play to be involved, and Kelsay said the department won’t investigate any further or file any charges.

“He’s suffering consequences far beyond what a fine would be,” Kelsay said.

— by Kurtis Hiatt

UI researchers make stem-cell breakthrough

In a breakthrough, a UI research team has developed functioning immune system blood cells from embryonic stem cells.

These cells may eventually be used as an alternative source for bone-marrow transplants, UI officials reported Wednesday.

The lead researcher was Nicholas Zavazava, the director of transplant research in the Carver College of Medicine.

“The finding may help leverage an existing advantage that embryonic stem cells have over traditional transplants,” he said in a press release.

The study was published in the online December issue of *Blood*, the official journal of the American Society of Hematology.

The cells, which were produced during experiments on animal models, have the potential to be more compatible for transplantation purposes.

UI researcher, Sabrina Bonde was also part of the study.

The research was supported by numerous grants, including one from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

— by Alyssa Cashman

Coralville police bust 3 in tobacco sting

Coralville police charged three people after running tobacco compliance stings Tuesday, Police Chief Barry Bedford said on Wednesday.

Ryan Jehle, 17, Express Plus; Kari Drake, 19, Walgreens; and Hector Mendez, 58, Coral Convenience Store, were all charged with providing tobacco to a minor.

Officers used a 16-year-old to attempt to purchase tobacco products, and 25 of the 28 businesses refused to sell to the minor.

Police said they will continue to “check and monitor the sales of tobacco and alcohol to those underage.” They said the checks are an ongoing effort, and retailers should know that they will continue.

The total cost for providing tobacco to a minor, a simple misdemeanor, is \$187.

— by Kurtis Hiatt

POLICE BLOTTER

Colin Brennan, 19, 201 E. Burlington St. Apt. 1512, was charged Wednesday with PAULA.

Jordan Brodbeck, 19, 325 E. College St. Apt. 1615, was charged

Jan. 25 with delivery of marijuana.

Derek Dawson, 20, address unknown, was charged Dec. 6, 2007, with third-degree harassment and fifth-degree criminal mischief

and Tuesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Jill Dockendorf, 24, 2422 Lakeside Drive Apt. 11, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Anthony Jefferson, 38, 2543

Aster Ave., was charged Tuesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Jose Olguin, 40, Ainsworth, Iowa, was charged Tuesday with driving while barred.

TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Wednesday, Feb. 13

1. Rove visit sparks protest
2. Report: Former Michigan coach to join Ferentz’s staff
3. Perry not quite ready
4. Wrestling lands bar in court
5. Bill kills faith

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Blogging on steroids

STERIODS
CONTINUED FROM 1A

Considered by many as an expert in the field of performance-enhancing drugs, he is also the author of Steroid Nation, an online journal "looking at the use of anabolic steroids in sports, youth, and society," and he spent almost two hours blogging his reactions to hearing live.

On a day with few revelations from Clemens and McNamee, a pair becoming as recognizable as any in baseball, the former trainer iterated that he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone, while the Rocket adamantly defended himself. McNamee's accusations were also documented in former Sen. George Mitchell's report, which was released in December.

Hardly surprised by the virtual no-decision from the days' proceedings and referring to Clemens' national coverage as a "incredible media circus," Gaffney said the steroid controversy has reached a peak this week.

"I think this is the tip of the iceberg in the interest, especially in Clemens, who has been really marketed as — what? the best pitcher since Cy Young," he said.

Choosing not to take sides with either party's claims of honesty, Gaffney did say at least from a medical standpoint, Clemens' defense — that he was injected with vitamin



Pablo Martinez Monsivais/Associated Press
Former New York Yankee pitcher Roger Clemens (center) listens as his attorneys, Rusty Hardin (left) and Lanny Breuer, address questions from members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Capitol Hill Wednesday.

'I'm tired of it. I just think it's a black eye for baseball. I'm looking forward to it just getting behind us.'

— Jack Dahm, Iowa baseball coach

B-12 and lidocaine, not steroids — doesn't check out.

"His story is ridiculous," the UI professor said. "Who would get injections of B-12, which is worthless, frankly, and lidocaine? There are two reasons for Lidocaine: a local anesthetic, which I had in my teeth [Wednesday], or if you go into cardiac arrhythmia, neither of

which I don't think he used. His utter explanations are just too surreal to believe.

"... It looks allegedly like Clemens was a pretty experienced juicer."

Nearly 1,500 readers visited Steroid Nation on Wednesday, according to the website.

Iowa baseball coach Jack Dahm was not one of them. Spending the afternoon at practice with his Hawkeyes, he said he hopes that America's pastime can move past the black cloud that has become the steroid controversy.

"I'm tired of it," he said. "I just think it's a black eye for baseball. I'm looking forward to it just getting behind us."

E-mail *DI* Sports Editor **Charlie Kautz** at: charles-kautz@uiowa.edu

Alcohol use seen in beating death

HOMICIDE
CONTINUED FROM 1A

Previously, police officials have said they believe Fry had been drinking in the hours before the killing, and many community members, including Porter, noted that the incident coincided with Fry's coming of legal drinking age.

"The minute I heard it was his 21st birthday, I checked [One-Eyed Jakes'] birthday log, and his name wasn't on the list," Porter said, referring to the records the bar uses to track people participating in its birthday specials. Noting the sensitivity of the case, Porter said he did

'The minute I heard it was his 21st birthday, I checked [One-Eyed Jakes'] birthday log, and his name wasn't on the list.'

— Mike Porter, owner of One-Eyed Jakes

not feel comfortable commenting on Fry's companions that morning.

Porter said he provided police with a copy of the surveillance footage and said he chose to make the information public to show people that some bars do make an effort to curb excessive drinking.

In Iowa, liquor establishments can be held responsible for the actions of intoxicated patrons whom they may have

served — sometimes with costly results. In 2006, Vito's, 118 E. College St., reached a nearly \$450,000 settlement with the family of Michael Kearney after the former UI student was killed by one of the bar's patrons. Other, lesser incidents often occur numerous times a year.

DI reporters **Kurtis Hiatt** and **Olivia Moran** contributed to this report. E-mail *DI* reporter **Bryce Bauer** at: bryce-bauer@uiowa.edu

METRO

Ex-bank official reportedly admits embezzlement

A former Hills Bank & Trust vice president who was charged with embezzlement and money laundering admitted to stealing more than \$219,000 during a three-year period and using most of it to purchase cocaine, according to a search warrant obtained by the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* on Wednesday.

Steven Francis Sueppel, 42, of 629 Barrington Road, is accused of stealing money from July 2000 until September 2007. Bank officials noticed discrepancies in an asset account Sueppel managed on Oct. 3, said bank spokesman John Benson.

While no illegal drugs were found in his home during the Oct. 4 search, Johnson County sheriff's deputies confiscated three computers and several DVDs,

boxes of checks, and financial statements.

Sueppel admitted to investigators that he had an account at a different bank in which he deposited the stolen funds, according to one of the search warrants.

Reports showed that Sueppel's alleged embezzlement did not adversely affect any customers' accounts.

— by Abby Harvey

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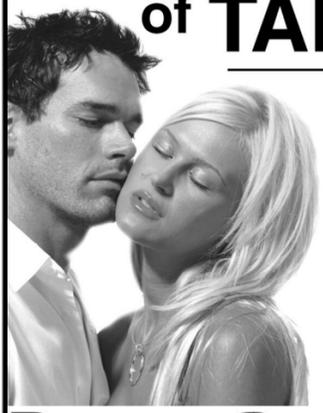
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Event aids DVIP

FASHION SHOW

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"This is not something I would have chosen to do under normal circumstances," she said, noting that she didn't mind taking on the runway for a good cause.

Before Ratner and two other models — frequent Dulcinea shoppers asked to participate on the catwalk — took the stage, Zesiger offered the six benefit attendees three French entree choices.

After beginning with a salad of mesclun and goat cheese drizzled with a honey-cinnamon dressing, diners chose among coq au vin, beef bourguignon, and a mixed mushroom

stroganoff. Dessert featured a cinnamon-apple cobbler, topped with Zesiger's freshly whipped cream.

She noted that similar events "give people a lot of opportunities for doing charity work."

As far as future charity ideas, she said, she is "always looking for causes, especially causes dealing with women and children."

While the event — intentionally planned around Valentine's Day — suffered from a low turnout, Zesiger and Booth pointed to a comparable event in the planning for late March.

Audrey Wiedemeier, a UI sophomore and event model, said she was lured into modeling — which she hadn't done since high school — by Booth

while shopping at Dulcinea.

"I love supporting local businesses," she said shortly before donning three outfits on a makeshift runway. "I think it's the most important thing you can do."

Cortnie Widen, the owner of the White Rabbit, 13 S. Linn St., donated hand-printed pillows for the silent auction.

"It's a really great cause — they're trying to get some of the woman-owned businesses in different events," she said. "It's definitely something we're going to continue to do in the future."

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

PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN 2008

Obama cutting into Rodham Clinton's base

By Alan Fram and Trevor Tompson

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton's crushing losses in Maryland and Virginia highlight an erosion in what had been solid advantages among women, whites, and older and working-class voters.

While this week's results can be explained by those states' relatively large numbers of blacks and well-educated residents — who tend to be Barack Obama supporters — her presidential campaign could be doomed if the trends continue.

Rodham Clinton is holding onto some of her supporters who are largely defined by ethnicity and often by level of education, such as low-income white workers and older white women, exit polls of voters show. She's been losing other blocs, again stamped by personal characteristics, such as blacks, men, and young people both black and white, and better-educated whites.

The latest defeats have slowed the one-time favorite's political momentum at a bad time. With Obama winning eight-straight contests and easily outdistancing her in raising money, she must now endure three weeks until primaries in Texas and Ohio that she hopes will resurrect her campaign.

Rodham Clinton's losses have also enabled Obama to take a slight lead in their

crucial fight for convention delegates. With 2,025 needed to clinch the nomination at the party's Denver gathering in August, Obama has 1,275 delegates to Rodham Clinton's 1,220, according to the latest count by the Associated Press.

MSNBC, which does not include superdelegates, puts Obama at 1,078 and Rodham Clinton at 969.

Before this year's presidential contests began, Obama was running consistently behind his rival in the polls. The Illinois senator was mostly attracting upper-echelon whites, young people, and around half of black voters — resembing the coalitions that sealed defeat for past non-establishment Democratic candidates such as Gary Hart and Bill Bradley.

Things have changed since the voting has started, especially after bitter exchanges during the Rodham Clinton-Obama contest in South Carolina highlighted their differences; subsequently, former Sen. John Edwards exited the race.

Now, virtually all blacks support Obama, which is significant because they make up about a fifth of Democratic voters overall.

And while last year's polls showed Rodham Clinton leading among men, Obama now leads her among males by 11 percentage points, according to exit polls of voters in 20 competitive Democratic primaries.

Before Tuesday's voting, the two were even among white males this year. Obama defeated her among that group by 18 percentage points in Virginia — his first win with white men in a Southern state — and they divided white men about equally in Maryland. Obama has done especially well with men who are college educated.

Tuesday's voting highlighted the ground Rodham Clinton has lost with groups that have been strongholds of her support.

In both Virginia and Maryland, she got the backing of only about four in 10 women and three in 10 men. Obama narrowly edged her among whites in Virginia, while she won among Maryland whites by 10 points.

In each state, she got 45 percent of voters 65 and over, and just over one-third of people earning under \$50,000 annually or with high school degrees or less.

At the same time, Obama won huge margins among blacks, young voters, higher-income and better-educated people, leaving Rodham Clinton nowhere to turn for support.

She had the misfortune of Democratic primaries in two states in which about one-third of voters were black and about two-thirds of voting whites were college-educated, exit polls showed. Both are unusually high numbers, an all-but inevitable recipe for Obama triumphs.

Protecting the flag

FLAG

CONTINUED FROM 1A

and he found patriotism in the idea that America's symbol of freedom would only be the product of American hands.

In 2006, Americans imported \$5.3 million worth of foreign-made flags, which was a slight drop from \$5.5 million in 2005, according to the Flag Manufacturers Association of America.

The nonprofit trade association was established five years ago to campaign for the proper use of flags. It offers a "Made in the U.S.A." certification to ensure consumers that their products consist of homegrown materials manufactured in U.S. facilities with U.S. labor.

Kirk VanGundy, the owner and manager of Martin's Flag Co. in Fort Dodge, said his firm has never dealt with foreign-made flags.

"Why would you want to buy a U.S. flag made in China or Singapore?" he said.

His wholesale flag-distribution business was founded in 1895 primarily to sell fireworks, but it grew to be a nationwide flag dealer, providing flags to such facilities as the Pentacrest Museums.

Shalla Wilson, the assistant director of the museums, said the flags atop the Old Capitol have come from VanGundy's business for more than 15 years.

"Like a lot of the products we use here at the museum, whether it be items for sale in the gift shop or our flags, we try to stay with products that are locally made, either in Iowa or the Midwest," she said.

Nationwide, there has been a recent move away from foreign-made flags.

Minnesota enacted a law

under a year ago that fines foreign-flag sellers up to \$1,000 and three months in jail.

Tennessee passed a similar law in 2005 that requires all official state and U.S. flags purchased only under a state contract to be manufactured in the United States. Those who violate the law can be punished by up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

Comparable legislation is pending in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

UI economics Professor Raymond Riezman said these politically motivated measures will likely have little effect on the economy because flag sales account for so little in comparison with the U.S. economy as a whole.

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

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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

Just say 'Wii'

'Wii-habilitation' launches at retirement home after study at UI Hospitals and Clinics.

By Lauren Skiba
THE DAILY IOWAN

Rosey Bunch, 79, loves to box. She says she gets a lot of knockouts.

Bunch also is an active golfer, tennis player, baseball enthusiast, and bowler. And she does it all without taking a step outdoors.

Bunch was part of a cognitive study at the UI Hospitals and Clinics in which she got to play games on the Nintendo Wii system while her reflexes were tested.

The Wii uses a sensor-wand to allow players to simulate sports and physical activities.

Now, Bunch can look forward to playing her favorite games again as a new Wii gets installed at Melrose Meadows, where she has lived for a year now.

"We've been looking for one for about six months," said wellness and activity coordinator Sue Norris, who just got one in on Wednesday.

All over the state, "Wii-habilitation" has been popping up in hospitals and retirement homes, so physical-therapy patients and senior citizens can use such games as tennis and golf for not only fun but exercise as well.

At the UI, physical therapist Karen Drake said she got a Wii for her 19-year-old daughter and is now contemplating using one with her rehab patients,

Wii-habilitation

Watch Daily Iowan TV at dailyiowan.com to learn more about video-game therapy.

who have to be in the hospital from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. five days a week for two weeks.

"It would be highly motivating because it is very fun," she said.

Although Drake is considering using a Wii in the program, she expressed some concerns about the games.

"I'm concerned about overuse," she said. "My daughter had a shoulder problem from using it over Christmas."

She said her patients could learn bad habits from using the Wii if they didn't have guidance going through the motions.

But during the study, Bunch was enthusiastic about the games.

"I thought it was wonderful," she said. "It's such an exciting game, and it takes a lot of pep and energy."

She was looking forward to having some bowling tournaments with her friends at Melrose Meadows, she said.

"Not only is it going to have the benefit of hand-eye coordination, but it's still a huge social factor," Norris said.

Every two years, Melrose Meadows holds the Melrose Olympics, and Norris said the Wii games would be included as

"The residents were a little concerned when they heard they were going to play a video game but this is something anybody can do, from 4 to 40, they can say, 'Hey, I'm 80 years old, and I'm playing a video game.'"

— Sue Norris, wellness and activity coordinator for Melrose Meadows

a part of the tournaments.

"The residents were a little concerned when they heard they were going to play a video game but this is something anybody can do, from 4 to 40," she said. "They can say, 'Hey, I'm 80 years old, and I'm playing a video game.'"

And Bunch said the longer she played, the more used to it she got until she could compensate for her virtual gutterballs and lost tennis balls over the fence.

"I think it keeps us young and interested in those sports," Bunch said.

And though Drake and the UIHC physical-therapy program doesn't have any immediate plans to install a Wii, the prospect of a new game that focuses on getting fit might inspire a change in the future.

"There are so many benefits overall, such as getting up, and getting on your feet, and doing some exercise," Bunch said. "Plus, it's fun to win."

E-mail *DI* reporter Lauren Skiba at: lauren-skiba@uiowa.edu

Board looks at maintenance costs

By Kelli Shaffner
THE DAILY IOWAN

Weber Elementary will, officials hope, get rid of its mold-causing humidity by summer, Principal Chris Gibson said.

Gibson said the school's heating and cooling system, an out-of-whack, ongoing issue since the school was opened in 1994, is ready for a "very much needed" repair. Last fall, humidity caused an outbreak of mold spots in some classrooms.

"We have some regular maintenance projects we try to keep up with," Superintendent Lane Plugge said on Tuesday at the School Board meeting. "So after 10 years, we don't say, 'Oops.'"

At the meeting, the board

released its first-draft estimate of \$6.4 million to go to maintenance repairs, such as renovating West High's gym floors.

West High Principal Jerry Arganbright said the school's bleachers and gym floors have "outlived their natural lives."

"Anybody who has been into the gym would support and recognize the need to replace them," he said.

Board member Liz Crooks said paying for buses with this allotment — instead of from the general fund, as the board has in the past — will allow money within the general fund to go to other expenses.

"We certainly can't do every project on our list," she said. "Some things need more than others. Like a roof leaking or heat and air that needs to be

replaced, always those things."

Board member Mike Cooper stressed that the board members should differentiate between improvements and the "things you don't really have a choice about."

"It's your understanding between the 'have-tos and the 'have-to-haves,'" he said.

Crooks said even though the board, naturally, does not know what might happen to a building in the next day, five schools definitely need to see improvements — West High, Shimek Elementary, Wickham Elementary, Weber Elementary, and Coralville Elementary.

The board will make its final decision on Feb. 27.

E-mail *DI* reporter Kelli Shaffner at: kelli-shaffner@uiowa.edu

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Editorial

Superdelegates must use their powers for good

Jason Rae isn't terribly different from your average *Daily Iowan* reader. He's from a small town in Wisconsin called Rice Lake. He's a 21-year-old student at Marquette University who often rides his bike to class. He has never voted in a presidential election, but he will most certainly have his voice heard this year. He will vote in Wisconsin's primary on Tuesday, but the candidate he throws his weight behind will get the boost of much more than a single vote. Rae is more than one voter — as a member of the Democratic National Committee, he's one of 796 Democratic superdelegates.

When a normal citizen votes, her or his ballot is counted as one voice. When Jason makes his choice, it's much more than one vote. Dan Abrams of MSNBC estimates Rae's support as a superdelegate is worth almost 10,000 votes. He isn't what the Democratic Party calls a "pledged delegate," because his vote isn't reflective of the popular vote in his state. Party officials label Jason and others similar to him "unpledged delegates," because they are just that: Unpledged delegates can change their minds on whom they support at any time, and their support isn't dictated by vote proportions. Superdelegates decide whom they support on their own, for their own reasons. They can go with the popular vote, or they can decide, by their own terms, who would best represent the party or who would be most electable. They have absolutely no obligation to anyone but themselves; they answer to no one but themselves.

Rae has taken calls from Bill Clinton, John Kerry, Chelsea Clinton, and several others, all attempting to woo him into supporting a particular candidate. Once Rae has decided on a favorite, he will likely still receive phone calls and offers to meet over dinner because he is unpledged and can change his mind. Superdelegates can wait for the best offer, so pander away, candidates. Because the Democratic race is so tight

this year, it just might come down to the superdelegate vote and which candidate has the best cheese tray at the convention or which campaign offers the best gift basket.

It's not that we doubt Rae's integrity. From all accounts, he seems like a respectable, admirable young man who's going places. The problem is not with Rae himself but with what he represents.

Superdelegates are Democratic members of Congress and other party leaders. Do voters ever consider when voting for these governors, senators, and representatives that they're also electing someone who will help decide the party's next presidential nominee? Melanie Gross, a former Iowa Democratic Party Caucus and Convention director, believes superdelegate authority has the potential to damage the newfound interest the Democratic Party is experiencing. "It would be a mistake for an unpledged delegate to ignore the influence of all these people that have just recently been drawn into the process," she said on Monday.

The real mistake would be for party officials to ignore this powder keg until it explodes. It's too late to alter the system before this election, but the position of superdelegate must be eliminated and soon. Most superdelegates are willing to relinquish their special influence, including Jesse Jackson Jr., who said as much in an editorial in Tuesday's *Chicago Tribune*. Will it take a controversial nomination that goes against popular vote for DNC officials to realize how completely undemocratic this system is? The dramatic increase in voter turnout would vanish should this situation arise. Newfound faith in the system would be for nothing, and cynicism would champion the process. The Democratic Party likes to present itself as the party of inclusion and equality, but all voters are not equal, all votes are not the same.

Just ask Jason Rae.

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DI blog

Got to like this job

Another day, another Barack Obama victory. The Illinois senator won in both states casting ballots Tuesday — along with Maryland and Virginia, he also took Washington, D.C., where he hopes to be working next year at a different address from his current D.C. office.

On the Republican side, John McCain has essentially sealed up his nomination (if he hadn't already) with three convincing wins of his own. While friends and coworkers have insisted recently that Mike Huckabee should finally end his campaign, I've saluted his ability to remain competitive in many states — even winning a few along the way, too.

Sure, we at the DI are certainly patting ourselves on the backs for predicting this

one back in December, when we endorsed these two candidates. Who would have thought that we'd be talking so much about McCain and Obama right now, though? Not me, for one.

I've tried to predict this election season and haven't had any luck, to be honest. I expected Rudy Giuliani would be the one attempting to persuade the Christian right that he was an honest conservative. After McCain's awful remix of the Beach Boys ("Bomb, bomb, Iran"), he was pretty much dead in my book. Not so.

And then Obama comes from behind and wins Iowa, slips a little over the next few weeks, and re-emerges a contender (if not the party front-runner).

It's a fun time to be a political writer.

— Rob Verhein
DI editorial writer



Commentary

Subprime, subpar

The Bush administration unveiled another initiative Tuesday to help struggling homeowners, calling for a 30-day moratorium on foreclosures for borrowers who have fallen at least three months behind on their payments. The goal of Project Lifeline is to give borrowers who haven't worked out new terms with their lenders more time to do so. As with the administration's previous efforts, this one is voluntary, yet it quickly attracted the support of six major loan-servicing companies that represent approximately half of the mortgage market.

The new effort reaches homeowners who weren't helped by the administration's much-ballyhooed Hope Now plan, which proposed to delay interest-rate increases for borrowers who hadn't yet gone into default. Both initiatives aim to boost a mortgage-lending industry that has found it tough to protect its interests in the wake of the subprime-lending fiasco — and unfortunately, both are too weak to motivate lenders who aren't ready or willing to make sweeping changes.

Despite its good intentions, Project Lifeline seems unnecessary and ineffectual. First, the government shouldn't need to tell lenders to slow down their foreclosures. With housing prices falling fast, those that foreclose are stuck with an asset that's hard to sell, declining in value, and potentially

worth less than what it cost. Second, the initiative assumes that borrowers who have been avoiding their lenders' calls and letters will nevertheless read a mailing from the servicing company, pick up the phone, and try to negotiate new terms. Third, the intervention comes so late in the process that the chances of salvaging the loan are poor.

With millions of risky adjustable-rate loans due to jump to higher interest rates in the next two years, the best thing lenders and their servicing companies can do is to determine in advance which borrowers are threatened and help them obtain better terms — either directly or through credit counselors. Although lenders have dramatically increased the number of loans modified, these moves aren't keeping pace with foreclosures initiated. What's worse, the help is reaching only a fraction of the delinquent borrowers. Rather than rely on lenders to save themselves and their customers, the government should do more to inform borrowers about their options while also giving lenders more incentive to modify loans. A good start would be to require more disclosure from lenders and loan servicers about their efforts to avoid foreclosures so shareholders can see whether the companies they own are doing enough to get themselves out of this mess.

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

On the Spot

How should superdelegates decide which candidate to support?



"Superdelegates should take in consideration what their respective states voted for in their primaries or caucuses."

Eric Thorson
UI senior



"It should definitely be some sort of balance between their preferences and the states' votes. I don't necessarily think the state is the best indicator or that the superdelegates always have the right answer."

Dustin Kniffen
UI junior



"I definitely think they should be able to have their own opinions, but they need to remember they have more impact than the everyday person."

Emily Rau
UI senior



"I think they are obligated to the people they're representing to vote for the same person as they did."

Dan Watson
UI junior

Wintry mix

The end of another day finds me sitting on my couch, punching away at my keyboard. I listen to the wind work its way between my apartment building and the next, moaning like a bitter old ghost, one that sits far off on some hill and stares down at the light from my window. The gusting crescendos are equaled by long pauses in which the flakes glide at less drastic angles, ceasing their assault on the glass panes for a few moments. I feel a draft, seeping in silently through the same living room window that I told my roommate I would seal up with 3M wrap weeks ago. My Doc Martens lie drying next to the floor vent, their black laces stained from the salty, sandy mess; the detritus of the week's weather that I spent the night treading through delivering sandwiches at my other job. My lukewarm mug of wassail and a clean pair of dry socks offer me comfort, but the best remedy is the e-mail US Airways sent me this evening confirming my ticket purchase and reminding me of my travel dates, as if I needed notification that I'm getting the hell out of Dodge for a week next month. Spring break can't come soon enough.



NATE WHITNEY

My mother is fond of all things folksy, crafty, and handmade. If it's created of sticks, straw, needlework, or smells good, she's got it, and it's a good bet that she has two exactly like it in different colors sitting in a Tupperware tub in the basement. One of her wall hangings says, "Cleaning the house while the children are growing is like shoveling snow while it's still snowing." I think it's backwards, but the point is the same. Why bother trying to dig out when, as the last few weeks have proven, Mother Nature is just going to come back the next day and gleefully dish her snowy white wrath all over us again? I can tell you from walking around (and falling on my ass quite a bit) delivering those stupid sandwiches all over town that a good chunk of the landlords in Iowa City have resigned themselves to this already. Though I should expect as much from such attentive and cerebral folks, when they don't bother putting address numbers on their buildings, either. Hope your tenants don't need the police or firefighters in the black of the night, jackasses.

So we surrender ourselves to this encumbering straightjacket of ice, snow, and gnawing cold. We enter into every winter resigned; December, January, February, and March are here, and they brought their friend Discomfort. Things get complicated walking to class, taking the trash out, driving to the store, and parking in the street afterwards — as if parking in this town wasn't nearly enough of an enjoyable experience. Maybe complicated isn't the right word. I open up the shower curtain every morning, dripping wet in all my glory, reach for the towel, and experience the worst two-and-a-half seconds of the day. The sanctuary of my hot shower is instantly transforms me into a prepubescent boy. I hate that, but it's Iowa. I'm used to it.

I lament the raggedy, bloviating morons who preach about "hardy Midwestern values" or how being "Chicago tough" is so important. Lesser Bears' fans like to talk about "Bear weather," whatever the hell that is. They explain some magical link between harsh meteorological conditions and a sports team's perceived ability to play well. Blow it out your ass. The Packers or the Bears play well in their home stadiums, blizzard or no. It's just a game.

But the game of life is different. I don't like being in Iowa when the mercury dips and the plows are chucking salt. I'd rather be in my home state of Florida, wrapping up with a coat and gloves when the morning low is an arctic 55 degrees. I don't deal well with this weather, but Iowans are something else. No one complains, at least not like weak-assed out-of-state columnists. So you have to get up early to scrape your windshield, and you can't feel your ears when you get to work. You take it all in. Ho-hum. Resignation goes with indifference like sleet with ice. Such is life in Iowa City in February, and you know no other way. You are tough and hearty, and I confess it's admirable.

But I'm still damned cold. ■

DI columnist and editorial writer Nate Whitney wishes guys would try something other than the Italian Night Club and girls would try something other than the Turkey Tom. E-mail him at: mighty.is.the.pen@gmail.com

Thinking ahead on sick leave

Piling up thousands of hours in sick time can come in handy.

By Clara Hogan
THE DAILY IOWAN

In the 30 years Professor Jerald Schnoor has worked at the UI, he has racked up a whopping 4,181 hours of sick leave.

Schnoor, a civil-environmental engineer, said he only misses around one day of work per year. Meanwhile, the average number of days missed among all regent employees was 6.96 in 2007, according to a human-resources report presented to the state Board of Regents last week.

Schnoor's sick-leave buildup may seem excessive, but it isn't uncommon for longtime faculty members to have thousands of hours in unused sick leave, said Richard Saunders, a senior associate director of UI Human Resources.

Schnoor's savings provide him with security; if he faces illness or injury in the future, he would have nearly three years of salary to help him through recovery.

However, some don't have enough sick days to fall back on.

Joan O'Kones, who works in the Registrar's Office, was diagnosed with cancer during the 2002-03 school year. She was unable to work while she received treatment and spent time recovering.

She soon began to run out of sick and vacation days, and O'Kones looked to the "catastrophic leave" program at the UI for help.

The program — in which employees can donate their vacation days to someone with a serious illness or injury — saved her financial stability.

When cancer took hold of her life, O'Kones began receiving donated days from anonymous employees from her department and across the UI, and a couple months ago O'Kones received more donated days when she took leave for a mental illness.

In total, O'Kones has had dozens of employees donate over four months' worth of sick leave, something that she said was "heartwarming" to see.

"It was a godsend," she said. "I had no financial backup without that pay, and I don't know what I would have done without it. Each person and each day helped."

Employees are only allowed to donate their vacation time, not sick time, and they must donate it to a specific person, Saunders said. Donors are anonymous so the recipients don't know who didn't donate.

Last year, regent employees used 170,106 days of sick leave at a cost of \$31.8 million. UI employees resulted in approximately 122,000 of those days, according to the human-resources report.

Saunders attributed this to the university's also being home to the UI Hospitals and Clinics, and the school therefore has more employees than do Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa combined.

Faculty who work on an academic schedule — only getting paid for nine months — do not receive vacation time. Thus, Schnoor is not able to donate to the "catastrophic leave" program.

E-mail DI reporter Clara Hogan at: clara-hogan@uiowa.edu

Avoiding mood killers

Red ones, blue ones, and green ones, too. Condoms of all kinds were scooped up and carried off Wednesday.

By Terry McCoy
THE DAILY IOWAN

It's easy to spot the condoms from a free rubber handout.

Why? Because they're like Lucky Charms — all the colors of the rainbow are there. Predictably, the Free Lunch and Condoms presentation in the IMU Wednesday for sexual safety had such a condom smorgasbord laid out.

And it's true, nothing says love or a steamy one-night stand like sliding on a thin piece of neon-green latex. Here's how the scenario would likely play out:

Woman: "Do you have protection?"

Man: "Sure." Slyly pulls out bright magenta condom.

Woman: "Why did you rip the stick off that cherry sucker?"

Man: "It's a condom."

This year, National Condom Awareness Week commenced on Valentine's Day, and it will continue through Feb. 20. The timing was perfect for such an event, planners said.

"And it's National Pancake Week right now, too," one audience member offered.

Coincidence? I think not.

Most of the roughly 15 people who came to the free lunch/condom event — sponsored by Iowa's Planned Parenthood and the Women's Resource and Action Center —



Laurie Haag/Contributed photo

Despite the tendency of some audience members to revert to seventh grade, mentally, health professionals stress that most people need to learn the proper use of condoms, which goes far beyond Rip 'n' Roll. National Condom Awareness Week begins today.

said they showed up for the pizza, thinking they needed little guidance in condom use.

Don't you just follow this simple formula: Rip 'n' Roll = Bingo?

Wrong. Nearly 20 steps need checking off when using a condom, said Sharon Miller, the Des Moines regional educator for Planned Parenthood.

The most important one she says? Getting that erection.

"But hopefully this happens," she said, "when you're about to have sex and not when you're checking the expiration date of the condom. Sorry, I didn't mean for it to be so hard."

Indeed.

For just under an hour, the audience members devolved into seventh-graders in health class. There were the giggles. There were embarrassed looks. And then there were the condom jokes.

"Every time I see a female condom, I just want to get some Shake 'n' Bake, put it in there and shake it on up!" Miller said, as the other instructor, Eva Brummel, stretched and

jostled the apparatus. "Doesn't it look like a zip-locked bag?"

But jokes aside, UI freshman Sara Gomer found elucidation in the condom discussions.

"I haven't been sexually active or anything, but it's nice to be educated," she said. "I think it's nice to know what the truth is."

And finally, after the myths of condoms were dispelled and other uses were analyzed

(they're great water canteens! Party balloon, anyone?), this truth was delivered.

"Are condoms a mood-killer because of all these steps?" Brummel inquired. "It can be. But another mood killer is a 2-month-old baby screaming at 2 a.m. Another is herpes. So think about that."

E-mail DI reporter Terry McCoy at: terrence-mccoy@uiowa.edu

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Source: Human Resources

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Rough outing for Rocket on Hill

By Ronald Blum and Howard Fendrich
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens stuck out his famous right arm, the one that earned 354 major-league wins, seven Cy Young Awards, \$160 million, and pointed in the direction of his accuser.

Without looking at Brian McNamee, Clemens told Congress, "I have strong disagreements with what this man says about me."

Separated by a few feet at a wooden witness table Wednesday, Clemens and McNamee were never further apart.

There they sat, the star pitcher and his former personal trainer, under oath and facing blistering questions. For 4½ hours, both men held to their versions of the



Clemens pitcher

he-said, he-said disagreement over whether McNamee injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone.

Clemens insisted it never happened. McNamee insisted it did.

His reputation and Hall of Fame candidacy potentially at stake — not to mention the possibility of criminal charges, should he lie — Clemens said: "I have never taken steroids or HGH. No matter what we discuss here today, I am never going to have my name restored."

For some members of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Clemens' denials rang hollow, particularly in light of a new account of his discussion of HGH use, revealed by his friend and former teammate Andy Pettitte in a sworn affidavit.

"It's hard to believe you, sir," Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., told Clemens. "I hate to say that. You're one of my heroes. But it's hard to believe."

Clemens and McNamee, by all accounts once good friends,

rarely glanced at one another. When Clemens did turn to his right, it was with the Rocket's mound glare. Seated between them was the day's third witness, Charles Scheeler, a lawyer who helped compile the report on drug use in baseball headed by former Senate majority leader George Mitchell.

"Someone is lying in spectacular fashion," said Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia, the committee's ranking Republican.

Just like their stories, Clemens' Texas drawl was in

strong contrast to the clipped cadences of McNamee, a former New York police officer.

"I told the investigators I injected three people — two of whom I know confirmed my account," McNamee said. "The third is sitting at this table."

Ultimately, the matter could wind up with the Justice Department if prosecutors believe either man made false statements. The Justice Department is also reviewing used needles and bloody gauze pads McNamee turned over.

Bush signs rebate bill

By Jeannine Aversa
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Uncle Sam wants you — to spend.

And he's giving you some extra cash to do it. The checks aren't in the mail, but they will be soon.

President Bush signed legislation Wednesday to rush rebates ranging from \$300 to \$1,200 to millions of people, the centerpiece of government efforts to brace the wobbly economy. First, though, you must file your 2007 tax return.

More than 130 million people are expected to get the rebates, starting around May. Congress, Bush, the Federal Reserve, and Wall Street are hoping the money will burn such a hole in people's pockets that they won't be able to resist spending it. And the spending is supposed to give an energizing jolt to a national economy that is in danger of toppling into a recession if it hasn't already.

Whether people actually spend the money remains to be seen. A recent Associated Press-Ipsos poll indicates most people have other plans. Forty-five percent said they planned to pay off bills; 32 percent said they would save or invest it. Only 19 percent said they would spend their rebates.

The measure Bush signed — a \$168 billion rescue package passed with lightning speed by Congress last week — includes not only rebates for individuals but also tax breaks for businesses to spur investment in new plants and equipment. That, too, would help bolster U.S. economic activity. The package also contains provisions aimed at helping struggling homeowners clobbered by the housing collapse and the credit crunch reneance into more affordable mortgages.

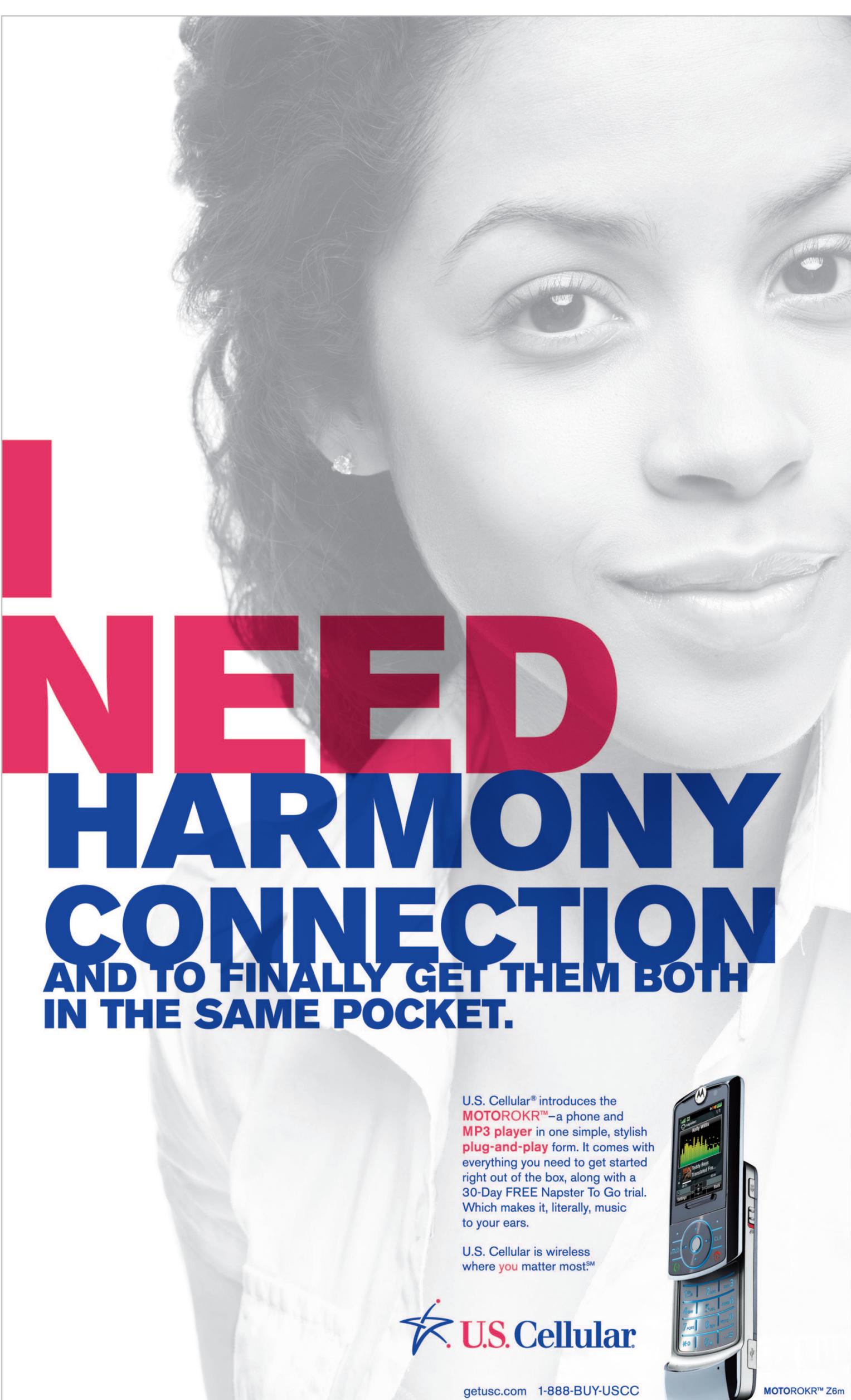
The emergency plan marked a rare moment of cooperation among political rivals fearful that an ailing economy during an election year would invite voter retaliation.

Who gets a rebate? Most people who pay taxes or earn at least \$3,000, including through Social Security or veterans' disability benefits. Singles making more than \$75,000 and couples with income topping \$150,000, however, will get smaller checks, up to the top limits for any rebate: incomes of \$87,000 for individuals and \$174,000 for couples.

To get any rebate, you must file a 2007 tax return and have a valid Social Security number. If you already filed your 2007 return, the IRS says you don't need to do anything extra.

Most taxpayers will receive a check of up to \$600 for individuals and \$1,200 for couples, with an additional \$300 for each child.

People earning too little to pay taxes but at least \$3,000 — including elderly people whose only income is from Social Security and veterans who live on disability payments — will get \$300 if single or \$600 if a couple.



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NCAA

#1 Memphis 68, Houston 59
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 #4 Tennessee 93, Arkansas 71
 #15 Wisconsin 68, #13 Indiana 66
 Southern Illinois 65, #14 Drake 62
 #17 UConn 84, #20 Notre Dame 78
 Texas Tech 81, #18 Kansas St. 73
 Ohio State 65, Northwestern 47
 UNI 77, Wichita St. 75, OT
 Oklahoma 76, Iowa St. 64

NBA

Orlando 109, Denver 98
 Toronto 109, New Jersey 91
 Philadelphia 102, Memphis 88
 Charlotte 100, Atlanta 98, OT
 San Antonio 112, Cleveland 105
 Boston 111, New York 103
 Detroit 96, Indiana 80
 New Orleans 111, Milwaukee 107
 L.A. Lakers 117, Minnesota 92
 Houston 89, Sacramento 87

Dallas 96, Portland 76
 Golden State 120, Phoenix 118
 Utah 112, Seattle 93

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Thursday, February 14, 2008

Christian Bierich: A whole new condition, 2B

dailyiowan.com



Kelvin Sampson

BASKETBALL

NCAA: Sampson misled Indiana about recruiting calls

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana coach Kelvin Sampson and his staff violated telephone recruiting restrictions imposed because of his previous violations at Oklahoma, then lied about it to the school and NCAA investigators, according to an NCAA report released Wednesday.

The report sent to the university Feb. 8 accuses Sampson of five major violations, including the allegation of providing "false or misleading information" to university officials and NCAA enforcement staff. The school contended in its initial report that all violations were secondary infractions.

But the NCAA accused Sampson of failing "to deport himself ... with the generally recognized high standard of honesty" and failing to promote an atmosphere of compliance within the men's basketball program, categorized as major infractions.

FOOTBALL

Braithwaite returns to Hawkeyes

Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz announced Wednesday that former staff member Raimond Braithwaite has been hired as the new assistant strength and condition coach for the Hawkeye football program.

Braithwaite, who held the same position at Iowa during 2002-04, returns from the being head strength and conditioning coach at Delaware State University to replace James Dobson, who left Iowa in mid-January to take the head strength coach job at Nebraska.

"We feel very fortunate to have Raimond rejoin our program," Ferentz said in a release. "... He is very familiar with our program and community, and I know Ray will work extremely well with our staff and players — it's great to have him back at Iowa."

Braithwaite, who helped to open a brand-new 10,000-square-foot weight room at Delaware State, fills the first of two coaching staff voids for Iowa in the off-season. No official announcement has been made on who will replace running-back coach Carl Jackson, who retired Monday.

— by Charlie Kautz

HAWKEYE SPORTS

Men's basketball — Michigan in Carver-Hawkeye Arena, 8 p.m., ESPN
Women's basketball — at Purdue, West Lafayette, Ind., 6:05 p.m.

TV TODAY

NCAA BASKETBALL
 • N.C. State at Boston College, 6 p.m., ESPN
 • Rutgers at West Virginia, 6 p.m., ESPN2
 • Fordham at Massachusetts, 8 p.m., ESPN2

NBA
 • Miami at Chicago, 7:15 p.m., TNT
 • Dallas at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m., TNT



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye sophomore Adam Hairston talks with teammates during practice in the Recreation Building on Monday. Hairston broke the school record set in 1996 by Dave Novotny in the 800 meters last weekend, and he provisionally qualified for the NCAA indoor national meet, which will take place in Arkansas in March.

Running in his

A silky-smooth stride and natural talent have Adam Hairston on the cusp of greatness, but for this sophomore, it's all in his head.

By Alex Johnson
 THE DAILY IOWAN

Talent isn't all it's hyped up to be. For one Iowa sophomore, it certainly isn't everything. Adam Hairston's coaches would agree.

"The mind is the strongest muscle we've got," assistant men's track coach Joey Woody said. "If you believe that you can do things, then 99 percent of the time, you're going to be able to do it."

Making up the mind is where the challenge lay for second-year Hawkeye Hairston. Head coach Larry Wieczorek hypothesized Hairston was under the "sophomore jinx."

"When somebody's real good as a freshman, the expectations are not so high, and anything they do is pretty good," the oft-smiling, silver-haired coach said. "Then all of a sudden, hey, you did pretty good as a freshman, now we're expecting you to take it to a higher level — it's difficult to meet those expectations."

Hawk head

Hairston overcoming mental hurdles

Watch Daily Iowan TV at dailyiowan.com to hear more about sophomore Adam Hairston's recent success and how he continues to strive to grow mentally as a college athlete.

That's especially true for college-age athletes who spend more time away from their coach-mentors than they do with them.

"They're only with us for two hours a day," Hairston said. "It's what you do that extra 22 hours that counts. I'm going to have to really eat well, train hard, sleep — do everything

necessary to make myself better."

Those are realizations the new school-record holder is just coming to. Hairston blew by the old indoor 800-meter mark at the Meyo Invitational only days ago. The Cedar Rapids native clocked 1:49.86, clearing Dave Novotny's 1996 time by 1.41 seconds.

Before the weekend, however, he looked sluggish despite an undeniable natural talent that flashes through his long, pure stride. For an inexplicable reason, the competitive edge just wasn't there.

SEE HAIRSTON, 3B

IOWA (11-14, 4-8) VS. MICHIGAN (6-17, 2-9)

TODAY, AT CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, 8 P.M., ESPN, KXIC-AM 800

Looking for that rebound

By Alex Johnson
 THE DAILY IOWAN

Losers of its last two games, Iowa has a chance to sweep a regular-season series for the first time under new coach Todd Lickliter tonight against Michigan.

The Hawkeyes suffered a 13-point loss last weekend at Minnesota — just three days after falling at home against Wisconsin.

The Wolverines ended a six-game skid by beating Penn State.

Tonight's game is slated for an

8:05 p.m. tip-off at Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

"The guys are back, and they're focused, and they understand that Michigan is probably going through a little bit of what we're going through — getting to know one another," Lickliter said. "They're making strides and playing better. I think that, in this league, you're going to have to assume it's going to take your best effort to be successful."

SEE MEN'S HOOPS, 3B

IOWA (17-7, 10-3) VS. PURDUE (13-11, 9-4)

TODAY, AT MACKAY ARENA; WEST LAFAYETTE, IND., 6:05 P.M., KXIC-AM 800

Hawkeyes like first

The first-place Iowa women's basketball team can separate itself from the pack with a victory tonight at Purdue.

By Brendan Stiles
 THE DAILY IOWAN

Usually when teams have long winning streaks, the magnitude of each individual game becomes greater and greater.

The Iowa women's basketball team, riding an eight-game winning streak, will play at Purdue tonight in what is the biggest contest yet.

Right now, the Hawkeyes sit in first place at 10-3 in the Big Ten, one game ahead of both

Purdue and Ohio State. A win over the Boilermakers not only extends Iowa's lead to two games over Purdue, it would also give the Hawkeyes the head-to-head tiebreaker — they beat Purdue, 69-53, in Carver-Hawkeye on Jan. 24.

The view from up top and being in control of their destiny are things the players are certainly enjoying.

"I was reading an article the other day, and it said 'first-place Iowa Hawkeyes,' junior Kristi

Smith said. "It just felt really cool to see that. We want to be in that top spot, and we're just living it right now."

Historically speaking, Mackey Arena has been far from kind to the Hawkeyes. It has been 10 years since Iowa left West Lafayette with a win.

But the Hawkeyes are going into this game confident as ever after winning at Penn State on Sunday for the first time since 2002.

SEE WOMEN'S HOOPS, 3B

Metzendorf leads win

Propelled by a second-round surge, the Iowa women's golf team leaves Mexico with its first team victory in more than a year.

By Scott Miller
THE DAILY IOWAN

When Iowa women's golf coach Kelly Crawford wasn't honing her Spanish — she described her team's trip to Mexico as “muy bueno” — she was busy watching her team win the Baja Invitational in Ensenada, Mexico, marking the Iowa's first victory since last year's Hawkeye Invitational.

Iowa captured the title by overcoming a less-than stellar first round.

“It was a good start for our season, and we haven't been on grass probably since late October,” Crawford said. “And we got off to a little bit of a rough start in the first round but brought it back the second round, which I was really happy with.”

One reason the Hawkeyes were able to rebound from a 320 in the first round was the performance of Becky Tyrette, Metzendorf and Juniors Tyrette.

Metzendorf — who placed first in the tournament with a 224 (plus 8) and was named the Big Ten Women's Golfer of the Week — shot a one-under 71 in the second round. Quinby, who finished in seventh-place individually with a 235 (plus 19), picked up the slack with a final-round 74.

“Tyrette has had a really good season throughout the fall, and she was able to get off to a really good start the first two rounds, putting in one of two subpar rounds, which was exceptional,” Crawford said. “I think the best score after [Metzendorf's] 71 was Becky's 74, which Tyrette tied with her first-round score.”

“With Becky, I'm super proud of her, as well. She's got so much talent, and she's such a great ball striker, and I've just been waiting for her to give me [the] numbers I know she's capable of.”

Leading after the first day of competition, Metzendorf headed into the final round a little nervous about leading wire-to-wire, Crawford said.

“It was a team effort —

everybody contributed — but it's so nice for Tyrette to get that win,” she said. “I think it's something that she's been right there waiting for that one round to happen to propel her. I know she was a little nervous.”

“Again, it's a learning experience for her, and hopefully, she gained a lot of confidence from leading start-to-finish.”

With the help of Metzendorf and Quinby, the Hawkeyes were able to hang onto the win with a final-round 317.

“As I said, the second round really propelled us a lot,” Crawford said. “I think we just kept ourselves in position. We were in the lead after the first two rounds, so it was just a question of going out and hanging on to it. And sometimes that's hard to do, but we were able to do that.”

Despite finishing first, Iowa fired a team total of 941 — the team's second-highest total of the season and three strokes more than the squad's stoken average of 937.8. This higher-than-usual total may have been because of the difficulty of the Bajamar Resort Golf Club.

“It was certainly challenging,” Crawford said. “There were several holes that were right on the ocean. I want to call it more like a desert course because if you weren't on the fairway, you were in a lot of trouble. And I think that was the biggest challenge that a lot of these women had.”

“It was all about placement, and if you weren't in the right place on the golf course, it could cost you.”

After battling a tough course and coming out with a victory, Crawford is confident that her team's success won't stop now.

“This is what we're capable of,” she said. “Everybody contributed, as I said, but we certainly did not peak. We were able to hang onto the win, but there are still some nuances we need to continue to work on. Once we can all come together and jell, I think we're going to be a pretty tough team to beat.”

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scott-t-miller@uiowa.edu

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference		All Games	
	W	L Pct.	W	L Pct.
Purdue	11	1 .917	20	5 .800
Wisconsin	10	2 .833	20	4 .833
Indiana	9	2 .818	20	4 .833
Michigan St.	8	3 .727	20	4 .833
Ohio St.	8	4 .667	17	8 .690
Minnesota	6	4 .600	15	8 .652
Iowa	4	8 .333	11	14 .440
Penn State	3	8 .273	11	12 .478
Illinois	3	9 .250	11	14 .440
Michigan	2	9 .182	6	17 .261
Northwestern	0	11 .000	7	15 .318

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Wisconsin 68, Indiana 66
Ohio State 65, Northwestern 47
Today's Game
Michigan at Iowa, 7:05 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Minnesota at Wisconsin, 1 p.m.
Purdue at Northwestern, 3 p.m.
Minnesota at Penn State, 6 p.m.
Michigan State at Indiana 8 p.m.
Sunday's Game
Ohio State at Michigan, 12 p.m.

WOMEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference		All Games	
	W	L Pct.	W	L Pct.
Iowa	10	3 .769	17	7 .708
Ohio State	9	4 .692	18	6 .750
Purdue	9	4 .692	13	11 .542
Minnesota	8	5 .615	17	8 .680
Indiana	7	5 .583	14	10 .583
Michigan	6	6 .500	13	9 .591
Illinois	6	7 .462	14	10 .583
Michigan State	6	7 .462	14	11 .560
Penn State	4	8 .333	13	11 .542
Wisconsin	4	8 .333	11	11 .500
Northwestern	0	11 .000	4	20 .167

MONDAY, FEB. 18 GAMES

Illinois at Wisconsin, 7 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Minnesota at Iowa, 3:35 p.m.
Michigan at Indiana, 11 a.m.
Michigan State at Penn State, 1 p.m.
Purdue at Ohio State, 6 p.m.
Wisconsin at Northwestern 8 p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

#1 Memphis 68, Houston 59
#2 Duke 77, Maryland 65
#4 Tennessee 93, Arkansas 71
#12 Xavier 62, Chicago 58
#15 Wisconsin 68, #13 Indiana 66
Southern Illinois 65, #14 Drake 62
#17 Connecticut 84, #20 Notre Dame 78
Texas Tech 84, #18 Kansas State 75
Other Games
Northern Iowa 77, Wichita State 75, OT
Oklahoma 76, Iowa State 64
Women
Texas 61, #8 Baylor 51
#11 West Virginia 56, #18 Pittsburgh 35
#12 Duke 83, Clemson 54
#14 George Washington 69, Massachusetts 45
#16 Notre Dame 99, Marquette 76
#17 Kansas State 45, Iowa State 42
#21 Syracuse 81, Seton Hall 72
TCU 73, #22 Wyoming 59

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	32	20	5	69	168	154
New Jersey	32	21	4	68	150	136
Philadelphia	30	21	5	65	170	160
N.Y. Rangers	28	24	7	63	144	167
N.Y. Islanders	25	25	7	57	138	147
Northeast						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Ottawa	34	19	5	73	199	172
Montreal	30	19	9	69	180	164
Buffalo	28	21	8	64	171	157
Boston	29	23	5	66	157	154
Toronto	23	26	9	55	157	185
Southeast						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Atlanta	28	27	4	60	160	188
Carolina	28	27	4	60	171	187
Florida	27	25	6	60	166	179
Washington	26	27	6	58	159	168
Tampa Bay	24	27	6	54	164	187
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Detroit	41	13	5	87	194	130
Nashville	30	22	6	66	169	156
Columbus	26	24	9	61	143	155
St. Louis	25	22	8	58	142	159
Chicago	25	25	6	56	157	162
Northwest						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Minnesota	32	21	4	68	157	152
Calgary	29	20	8	66	165	164
Colorado	30	22	5	65	163	156
Vancouver	28	22	7	63	149	145
Edmonton	26	27	5	57	155	172
Pacific						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Dallas	35	20	5	75	176	148
Anaheim	32	22	7	71	150	151
San Jose	31	17	8	70	149	137
Phoenix	28	25	4	60	155	159
Los Angeles	24	32	3	51	167	194

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.
Wednesday's Games
New Jersey 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Chicago 7, Columbus 2

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	28	23	.549	13½
Toronto	23	30	.434	19½
New Jersey	23	30	.434	19½
Philadelphia	23	30	.434	19½
New York	15	37	.288	27
Southeast				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	33	21	.610	—
Washington	25	27	.481	7
Atlanta	21	28	.429	9½
Charlotte	19	34	.358	13
Miami	9	41	.180	22
Central				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Detroit	39	13	.750	—
Cleveland	33	17	.673	1½
Indiana	21	32	.396	18½
Chicago	20	31	.392	18½
Milwaukee	19	34	.358	20½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	36	15	.706	—
New Orleans	36	15	.706	—
Dallas	32	24	.569	2
San Antonio	34	17	.667	2
Houston	32	20	.615	4½
Denver	14	38	.269	22½
Northwest				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Portland	32	19	.642	—
Denver	30	20	.615	1½
Portland	24	24	.500	5
Seattle	13	38	.256	20
Minnesota	10	41	.196	23
Pacific				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Phoenix	36	16	.692	—
L.A. Lakers	35	17	.673	1
Golden State	32	20	.615	4
Sacramento	23	28	.451	12½
L.A. Clippers	17	33	.340	18

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES

Orlando 109, Denver 98
Toronto 109, New Jersey 91
Philadelphia 102, Memphis 88
Charlotte 100, Atlanta 98, OT
San Antonio 112, Cleveland 105
Boston 111, New York 103
Detroit 96, Indiana 80
New Orleans 111, Milwaukee 107
L.A. Lakers 117, Minnesota 92
Houston 89, Sacramento 87
Dallas 96, Portland 76
Golden State 120, Phoenix 118
Utah 112, Seattle 93
Washington 91, L.A. Clippers 89
Today's Games
Miami at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 9:30 p.m.
Friday's Games
No games scheduled
Saturday's Games
No games scheduled
Sunday's Game
All-Star Game at New Orleans, 7:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with INF Greg Norton on a minor league contract.
National League
HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to two-year player development contract extensions with Round Rock (PCL) and Corpus Christi (Texas).
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Takashi Saito on a one-year contract.
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Kris Benson on a minor league contract.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS—Named Glenn Pires line-backers coach.
CINCINNATI BENGALS—Signed S Herana-Daze Jones to a one-year contract.
GREEN BAY PACKERS—Named Russ Ball vice president of football administration/player finance.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Re-signed FB Greg Jones.
OAKLAND RAIDERS—Re-signed RB Justin Fargas.
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES—Named Jay Merlino assistant strength and conditioning coach.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Named Stump Mitchell running backs coach/assistant head coach.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Activated LW Fredrik Modin from injured reserve. Assigned D Marc Methot to Syracuse (AHL).
FLORIDA PANTHERS—Recalled LW Stefan Meyer from Rochester (AHL).
LOS ANGELES KINGS—Assigned D Peter Harrold and F Matt Moulton to Manchester (AHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Signed LW Tomas Fleischmann to a two-year contract extension.
COLLEGE
NCAA—Announced the resignation of Dave Yeast, national coordinator of baseball umpires.
SYRACUSE—Named Dan Conley linebackers coach and Derrick Jackson co-defensive coordinator.

A whole new condition

By Bobby Loesch
THE DAILY IOWAN

“Train so hard the matches are easy.”
Christian Bierich speaks the motto; he also lives it.

Standing at a muscle-bound 5-10, Bierich almost looks more like a Hawkeye wrestler than a tennis player, but you'd never guess what his alternative sport almost was.

“Figure skating,” he said. “In my little village where I lived, we did whatever sports they had there.”

This is the same guy who says he got so strong as an underclassman, he started to lose the flexibility needed to hit backhands. Hailing from Landvetter, Sweden, Bierich — the second-oldest of five children — said that while his siblings skated, his father was happy to avoid the cold and watch him partake in tennis.

“My sisters are Swedish champions, so I always wondered if I'd be good at it,” he said. The tennis gig worked out pretty well for the junior, who, four meets into the season, is Iowa's only undefeated singles player.

“We've had Swedes on the team before, so I made that point with him,” said Iowa head coach Steve Houghton, describing his recruiting of Bierich.

Three years into the program, Bierich's level of physical conditioning borders on robotic.

“He's just in abnormally great shape, physically,” Houghton said. “He's probably in the best shape of any guy I've ever had here at any time.”



Peter Klopfenstein/The Daily Iowan
Iowa's Christian Bierich practices at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center on Wednesday.

And that's high praise, considering Houghton has been at the helm for the last 27 years. The coach also noted Bierich's pounding forehand, which, he said, is “one of the better ones” he's seen during his tenure.

While Bierich's body rarely lets him down, mental mistakes played a role in a sophomore slump last season; confidence lapses brought down his wins while simultaneously inflating the losses. An 8-11 freshman year, which included a promising 5-5 record in the Big Ten, sputtered to 6-15 his sophomore year. And this was all while playing

relatively similar competition in the No. 2 or 3 singles spots. “Last year, I had problems with my game plan,” Bierich said. “I was quiet on the court ... so I lost a lot.”

But he rebounded, both physically and emotionally. “I looked back to my freshman year — I was crazy on the courts,” he said. “I showed a lot of guys I wanted to win bad, I was screaming, and it's hard for other guys to see that. They get disturbed by it.”

There's nothing disturbing about his 4-0 start. Bierich needs just four more wins to

match his career high, and he's got 17 more chances to do so — the season is still young. And now, with more confidence than he's had in a while, he isn't ready to let up.

Self-motivation and a healthy diet, combined with a new regimen implemented by assistant coach Steve Nash that has the team running more than it has in the last three years, ensures Bierich's shape is tip-top 24/7.

“I know practice is going to kill us,” he said. “But I'm really looking forward to it.”
E-mail DI-reporter@uiowa.edu
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TRACK

Relearning running

HAIRSTON

CONTINUED FROM 1B

"I just wasn't competing hard," he said. "I was kind of running passively. The training was there; I just hadn't put it all together."

Hairston stood out as a rookie last year, leading the team in the 800 meters indoors, hitting 1:53.20, and outdoors as well, running 1:49.99. After Iowa finished its final meet of the year, Hairston's hot feet kept cooking — the then-18 year-old sizzled through 800 meters in 1:50.98 for a third-place finish in the USA Junior Track and Field meet in Indianapolis on June 27.

Then his freshman season ended, and his sophomore campaign began.

Before supplanting Novotny's place in the books, Hairston's two previous efforts had times of 1:55.64 and 1:55.42 — nowhere close to what he was soon to achieve.

So what changed? For starters, Woody said, until the Mevo Invitational, Hairston wasn't executing his races the way he'd been trained — instead of going out fast and holding on, there was a tendency for the second-year runner to cruise early and kick late.

Woody let him know. "I told him, 'We train to run fast and hold on, we don't train to run slowly and finish quickly,'" he said. "You can't expect that your body's going to be able to drop a fast last 200 meters, you have to challenge yourself at the beginning of the race."

The adjustment proved essential.

On Feb. 9, after blazing through the best 600-meter time he'd ever run — 1:21, four seconds better than his first 600 one week before — Hairston legged out an even faster final 200 meters than he'd ran in the weeks he had tried waiting and kicking.

The sophomore jinx may be real, it may not, and Hairston seems to have figured it out for now — but the season has just begun.

"Even though it's a provisional qualifying time," he said, "it's probably not good enough to make it to the NCAA championships. That's why I really want to improve on that, and do really well in the conference, and carry that through to the national championships."

The NCAAs are precisely where Woody intends to take him.

"I told Coach Wieczorek that [Hairston] could probably run 1:48 indoors and 1:47 outdoor at the beginning of the year," Woody said. "I still feel he can do that; I still feel he could qualify for nationals. I honestly think he can be an All-American in the 800 if things come together."

"That's what we're trying to train for — to be a Big Ten champion and be an All-American."

That puts all the pressure — not on the shoulders, or even the legs — but in the mind of Hairston. It's all just a matter of what Hairston does with what his coaches give him.

"You're an NCAA provisional qualifier, you've got to act that way," Wieczorek said. "I think Adam Hairston can be as good as he wants to be. Even though he's done this well, I think he still is not committing to being as good as he can be."

"Adam is probably at that national-champion threshold. If he thinks he can do it, I don't see why he shouldn't make a run at it. But he has to totally live the lifestyle and make that commitment."

His coaches believe, but does Hairston think he can be All-American?

"Yes."

Does Hairston think he can be a national champion?

"Yes."

It's just all in his head.

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

Hawk women face big test

WOMEN'S HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

"Our players are taking a lot of joy in taking down these barriers," coach Lisa Bluder said. "We have another opportunity to do that on Thursday night."

In six conference road games, the Hawkeyes hold a 4-2 mark; Iowa is the only team in the Big Ten with a winning record in Big Ten road contests.

Senior Johanna Solverson credits this to the team's ability to focus squarely on its

Lineups

Iowa (17-7, 10-3)

G Kristi Smith	Jr.	5-6	13.5
F Wendy Ausdemore	Jr.	6-2	11.3
F Johanna Solverson	Sr.	6-2	9.0
F Krista Vandeventer	Sr.	6-2	5.3
C Stacy Schlapkohl	Sr.	6-3	6.4

Purdue (13-11, 9-4)

G FahKara Malone	So.	5-3	8.2
G Kalika France	Sr.	5-9	8.2
F Lakisha Freeman	Jr.	6-1	12.9
F Natasha Bagdanova	Jr.	6-4	7.6
C Danielle Campbell	Jr.	6-4	12.6

opponent once the ball is tipped. Having seen Purdue once this season also has the team feeling good entering a difficult environment.

"We know we can play with these teams, and you really got to think about the team that you're playing, not the arena that you're playing in," Solverson said. "If you start letting the arena get to you, it's going to alter your game a lot."

One of the things Bluder took away from Iowa's first victory over Purdue three weeks ago was that no one player stood out or had to do anything extraordinary.

"It was a great team win," she said. "It was a game in which everybody got the ball and played extremely well,

and we took control of the game and kept control for the whole game."

Remaining in control is something Iowa will have to do this evening if the Hawkeyes are going to win a Big Ten regular-season crown that's theirs for the taking.

"We have a huge target on our back right now, so we just got to keep playing solid basketball and take care of business," Smith said.

E-mail *D*/reporter **Brendan Stiles** at: brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

Iowa men need to refocus

MEN'S HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

The Wolverines are led by Manny Harris and DeShawn Sims, scoring 15.9 and 12.8 points per game respectively. The re-emergence of senior Ron Coleman in the lineup gives the Hawkeyes another defensive target.

"Coleman is a guy who is playing a little more, I think," Lickliter said. "[He] is a very capable shooter, and it looks to me that they're a little more focused on Sims in the post, so we'll have to be aware of that."

The infusion of Coleman's experience with the pair of young scorers has the Wolverines slowly coming together, much like the Hawkeyes have of late. The Wolverines are likely to give Iowa a bit of a different look from the one they showed in the teams' January meeting.

"I think they're more comfortable," Lickliter said. "I think

Lineups

Iowa (11-14, 4-8)

F Cyrus Tate	6-8	Jr.	6.6
F Seth Gorney	7-0	Sr.	4.3
G Tony Freeman	6-1	Jr.	14.7
G Justin Johnson	6-6	Sr.	13.1
G Jake Kelly	6-6	Fr.	5.8

Michigan (6-17, 2-9)

F Ekpe Udoh	6-10	So.	6.0
F Ron Coleman	6-6	Sr.	5.8
F DeShawn Sims	6-8	So.	12.8
G Manny Harris	6-5	Fr.	15.9
G Kelvin Grady	5-11	Fr.	5.6

they're playing more man and a little bit less of their zone."

For Iowa, focusing defensively wasn't a strength in its road loss to the Gophers.

"You may go through droughts — it just might happen," Lickliter said. "Offense is a skilled aspect to the game — but you can maintain your defensive intensity, your defensive focus and purpose. And I thought at Minnesota, we really broke down defensively."

That lapse on the defensive side of the ball is not something Lickliter enjoys seeing. Offen-

sive scoring droughts, another bother for the coach, have also become problematic for Iowa, along with turnovers.

"Drought is a combination of things," Lickliter said. "I'd almost rather have that situation than what we've done where we throw them the ball real quick and then have to try to guard in transition. That's almost impossible."

Despite the Hawkeyes' problems scoring and taking care of the ball, Lickliter is maintaining his day-by-day approach with the team, pointing out improvements over the long haul start with incremental betterment.

"We just try to play high-percentage basketball," he said.

That includes Iowa's scoring leader, junior Tony Freeman. Though Freeman has struggled as the go-to shot creator at shot clock's end, Lickliter believes that's the reason for his inconsistency.

"I think what happens with

Tony," Lickliter said. "And unfortunately for him, he ends up with the ball in his hands in tough situations. It's not fair to put it on him — the shot clock's running down, [and he must] create a shot — that's hard."

Even with the challenging buzzer-beater looks, Freeman has managed to score double-digits in all but three games he's played in. Add in the limited rotation of players, and the junior's production is vital for Iowa's success.

On national television tonight against Michigan, it will just be a matter of the limited rotation working in unison.

"As we got into conference play, I purposely shortened the rotation," Lickliter said. "I think that the rotation is working; [the Hawks are] playing well."

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WANTED! Used or wrecked
 cars, trucks or vans. Quick esti-
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 (319)679-2789.

DI CALENDAR BLANK
 Mail or bring to The Daily Iowan, Adler Journalism Building, Room E141.
 Deadline for submitting items to the calendar column is 1pm two days prior
 to publication. Items may be edited for length, and in general will not be
 published more than once. Notices which are commercial advertisements
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Event _____
 Sponsor _____
 Day, date, time _____
 Location _____

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Call our office to set up a time that is convenient
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 sedan, 217k miles, runs great,
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 One room, shared bath and
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 modeled student rooming house,
 located across the street from
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 all utilities included!
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 rooms, \$235- \$245/month, wa-
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BEST location, 412 N. Clinton,
 beautiful, historic house, parking,
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FALL. Females, 1-6 bedrooms,
 1-1/2 blocks from campus, two
 baths, kitchen and kitchenettes,
 living room, laundry, deck, all
 utilities included, near Co-op
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 house. (319)337-2534.

FURNISHED rooms for rent.
 Share kitchen, bathroom, laun-
 dry, living room. Basic cable and
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LARGE sunny room. Hardwood
 floors, close-in, kitchen privi-
 leges. Quiet residential person.
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 ences. \$300- \$350.
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LARGE room on S. Johnson.
 Quiet, A/C, non-smoking, no
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 Close to campus and Co-op gro-
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PRIVATE room on busline with
 shared bathroom and kitchen.
 Free parking, on-site laundry,
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**ROOMMATE
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FEMALE student and her dog
 need female student to share
 house. On busline, walk to cam-
 pus, three bedroom, free W/D,
 off-street parking. No smoking.
 Piano available, music students
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 \$450. (630)940-4103.

SUBLEASE immediately. Green
 apartments across from art/ mus-
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**ROOMMATE
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ONE room available February 1,
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 18-25. Three bedroom house lo-
 cated at 1810 7th Ave. Ct., Iowa
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 Close to medical campus.
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Daily Break

“There is always some madness in love. But there is also always some reason in madness.”
— Friedrich Nietzsche

the ledge

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



ANDREW R. JUHL

To my honeydew:

- I love when you watch movies with me, but I'd also appreciate it if you'd stop hiding the Klenex and telling me to "grow a pair."
- I love when you rub my back, but I'd also appreciate it if next time you found something other than 10W30 to use as massage oil.
- I love when you look after my pets; I'd also appreciate it if you'd explain to me why Slithers looks bloated and where, exactly, Flopsy is.
- I love when you make little jokes about chaining me to the radiator to keep me from watching football with the guys, but I'd also appreciate it if the chain wasn't so tight my foot had turned black.
- I love when you drop me off at work in the mornings, but I'd also appreciate it if you wouldn't slap my ass and yell, "Give 'em hell, Sex Panther!"
- I love when you take showers with me, but I'd also appreciate it if you'd stop peeing in the shower.
- I love that you stay so active and fit, but I'd also appreciate it if you'd stop telling my friends to "check out [your] bodacious tah-tahs."
- I love when you bring me flowers, but I'd also appreciate it if you'd throw away the "In Deepest Sympathy" card before you give them to me.

— Andrew R. Juhl thanks his Valentine for today's Ledge idea. E-mail him at: andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu.

Think you're pretty funny? Prove it. *The Daily Iowan* is looking for Ledge writers. You can submit a Ledge at daily-iowan@uiowa.edu. If we think it's good, we'll run it — and maybe contact you for more.

horoscopes Thursday, February 14, 2008 — by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look for ways to help others, and you will help yourself. Take a strong position, and stick to your convictions. The impression you make will help you weed out those you should not keep in your life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stick to what you know and do best. Don't be led astray by anyone with far-reaching ideas but to the weak work ethic. You don't want to get stuck holding things together. "No" will be a word to incorporate today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take the initiative, and you will work your way into a very cushy position that will lead to advancement. A challenge will get you thinking in more diverse ways. Someone may try to muck up your plans, so stay on your toes.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Secrets must be kept if you want to avoid turmoil. Put your efforts into investments, settlements, or ending whatever troubles you have been facing. Progress can be made if you use alternative means.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Push for what you want, and refuse to let anyone talk you into seeking pleasure rather than production. A deal can be sealed if you are aggressive and to the point. Do not leave room for others to maneuver, and you will have your way.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Live, laugh, and be merry, and you will attract someone who may have thought you were too serious to get to know better. Love is in a high cycle. Make a promise to someone you care about or find a suitable partner, if you are single.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Putting yourself in a vulnerable position will lead to loss. Avoid emotional family issues today, and get out with people who relate to your ideas and plans. Self-improvement projects will turn out well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your efforts into doing a little fix-up around your place or putting together a home office. Don't let anyone deter you from following through with your goals. A partnership will develop if you position yourself with people who are like-minded.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be careful; someone may try to block your plans. Look beyond what others are doing, and you will come up with a better way to do things. Be true to yourself, and you will attract people who appreciate your candor and talent.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can fine-tune everything else after you close your current deal. You have the discipline to see any matter through to the end and to be an excellent contender. Confidence will be your weapon.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may want to keep your thoughts to yourself if you don't want to face opposition today. Someone you cherish will be out of sorts and ready to put you down. Emotional issues must be kept light and playful in order to avoid havoc.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Getting along with others, no matter what, will be to your benefit. Love is likely to take on a new meaning if you reveal your wants, needs, and desires. A renewed confidence will emerge if you stand your ground.

BREAKING THE BEAKER BARRIER



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan
UI Assistant Professor Cornelia Lang and Dale Stille, a physics/astronomy instructional designer, prepare to break a beaker using sound in Van Allen Hall during a demonstration on Wednesday evening. The show attracted students, children, and parents and demonstrated various physics experiments.

today's events

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

- **Electronic (e-file) Tax Filing**, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 5:15-9 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Preschool Puppet Story Time**, 10:30-11 a.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Bridge**, noon-4:30 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- **Research on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Interdisciplinary Health Group**, noon, South Quadrangle Public Policy Center Seminar room
- **Pharmacology Graduate Student Workshop, "Consequences of Cellular Geranylgeranyl Diphosphate Synthase Inhibition," Amel Dudakovic**, 12:30 p.m., 2 Bowen Science Building
- **Living Well With a Disability**, 1:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Teen Tech Zone**, 2:30-5 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Valentine's Hearts Art Adventure**, 3-5 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall
- **100% Natural**, 6-10 p.m., Riverside Casino

- and Golf Resort
- **Seventh-Annual Sweethearts Serenade**, 6 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Massimo Pigliucci, nonfiction**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Terror's Advocate**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Doubt: A Parable**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
- **Anti-Valentine's Day Party**, 8 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville
- **Faculty/Graduate Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place
- **The Vagina Monologues**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B
- **Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy, 171 Highway 1 W.
- **Physical Challenge Valentine's Day Prom**, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Prism**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Eraserhead**, 9:30 p.m., Bijou
- **Sangria Night**, 9:30 p.m., David's Place, 100 S. Linn

CAN'T GET ENOUGH SUDOKU? CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR MORE PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

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

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Got something to say? Send it away! Go to dailyiowan.com to give a shout-out to a friend or foe. Look for them online and on the Daily Break page.

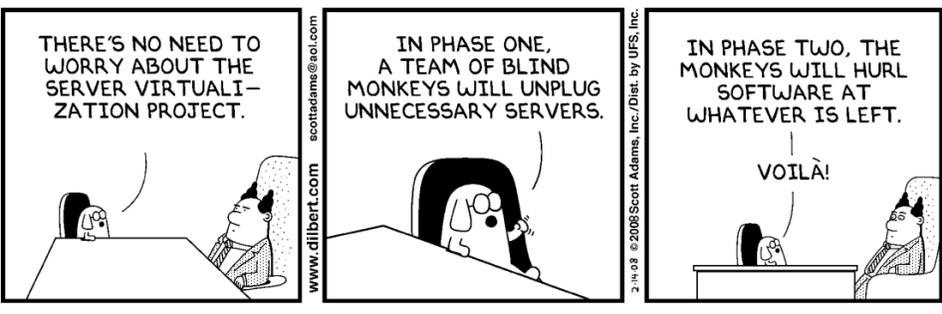
UITV schedule

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, Mary Helen Stefanianak
- 2 News from Germany (in German)
- 3 "Java Blend," Music from The Blue Band
- 4 European and American Religion, Discussion
- 5:30 Human Rights Week, Stealing Democracy: The Politics of Voter Suppression, Spencer Overton
- 7 "Java Blend," Music from The Blue Band
- 8 Collaborative Dance Concert
- 9:30 News from Daily Iowan TV
- 10 Incompetent Sports Talk, from Student Video Productions
- 10:30 News from Daily Iowan TV
- 11 "Java Blend," Music from The Blue Band

DILBERT

by Scott Adams



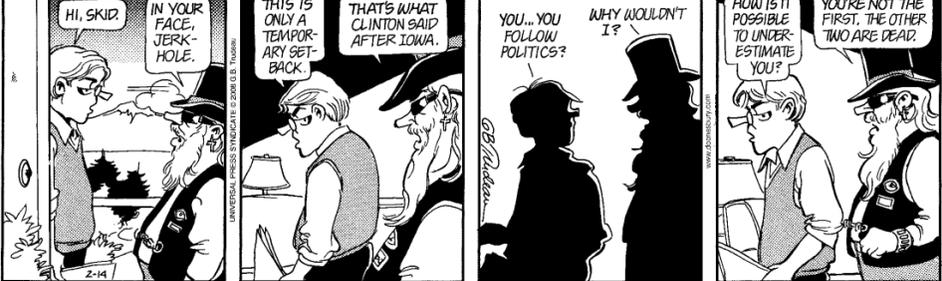
'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

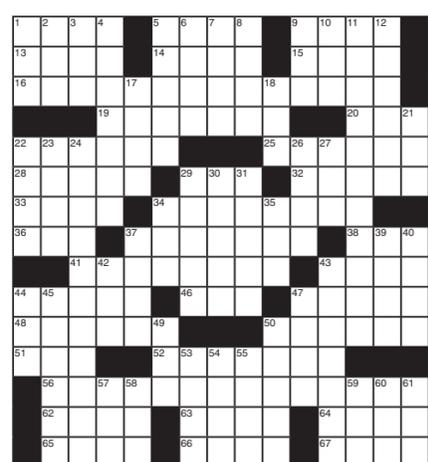
BY GARRY TRUDEAU



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0103

- Across**
- Having surmounted
 - Semicircular room
 - Poor box contents
 - Pleasure seeker
 - Respectable
 - Obtain
 - Ad icon since 1914
 - Acupressure technique
 - Tree sacred to Druids
 - Regular at Kelsey's Bar, on TV
 - Crow's nest?
 - Rebel yell
 - One may hold the mayo
 - Mend
 - "Hurry!"
 - It could easily go up
 - Candied side dish
 - Oswald Cobblepot's nom de crime
 - Boxer's hand
 - Prig
 - Backsplash component
 - "The Female Eunuch" author
 - Bach's "Partita No. 6" Minor
 - Cézanne colleague
 - Recipient of a 1937 wooden Oscar
 - 50 Contains
 - Paradise, protagonist of "On the Road"
 - Impatient
 - What 16- and 37-Across and 11- and 24-Down were all known to do
 - Antler feature
 - Roast setting
 - Big Conference
 - Reason to say "Now what do we do?"
 - Being, to Brits
 - First batter to hit a home run against every Major League Baseball team
- Down**
- Half a huge cost?
 - Unduly
 - Lord's Prayer start
 - Place to pick up a puppy
 - Musical with the song "Easy Street"
 - Arno city
 - Ignore the lyrics?
 - Snigger's take
 - Bol. neighbor
 - Ring around the collar?
 - Caretaker for the Banks household
 - Ill will
 - Allegory + Monogamela
 - Famous nine-year-old king
 - lity-bitty
 - Vacationing
 - Tabula description
 - Churchill predecessor
 - Have coming
 - Fraternity chapter
 - Bottled spirit
 - Element whose name roughly means "lazy"



ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	H	I	T	A	L	A	P	D	S	P	C	A
H	O	P	I	A	A	T	L	I	R	O	N	
A	G	O	N	Y	I	R	A	N	C	O	N	
H	O	T	T	B	A	B	R	A	X	I	O	N
U	N	E	M	O	T							
L	I	N	E	R	O	L	O	C	A	T	E	R
C	O	N	N	E	C	T						
E	N	I	D	S								
S	A	T										
F	O	S	T	R	E	D						
A	C	H										
U	N	O	H									
N	O	S										
A	S	S	T									

The four lines form an O-BOW ("oboe").

Puzzle by Henry Hook

- Do something else with
- Dishevels
- Literary monogram
- Charge
- Undo a lead
- Untarnished
- Out of harm's way
- Moistens
- Half a huge cost?
- Everglades denizen
- Genetics abbr.
- Isn't stoic
- Grimace
- Passing obstruction?
- Silver, for one
- Art class figure
- Opening day?
- U.S. Pat. Off.
- Seven-faced doctor of film
- Ninny
- RR bldg.

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weekly calendar of events

Today 2.14

MUSIC

- **PRISM and Capes of Lead**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Seventh-Annual Sweethearts Serenade**, hosted by Mike and Amy Finders, featuring Al and Aleta Murphy with Joe and Coleen Peterson, Bob and Christie Black with Banjoy and Truckstop Souvenir, Mill, 120 E. Burlington

WORDS

- **"Live at Prairie Lights,"** Massimo Pigliucci, Darwin Day reading, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque

THEATER

- **Doubt: A Parable**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
- **The Vagina Monologues**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B

LECTURES

- **Research on Emerging Infectious Diseases, Interdisciplinary Health Group session**, noon, South Quadrangle Public Policy Center Seminar Room

DANCE

- **UI Dance Department Faculty/Graduate Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Mending Hearts Dinner**, 6 p.m., Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 300 E. Ninth St., Coralville
- **Anti-Valentine's Day Party**, 8 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville
- **Goodtime Karaoke**, 8 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
- **Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy, 171 Highway 1 W.



Illustration by Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan
Those seeking a nontraditional way to commemorate Valentine's Day may find refuge at the Anti-Valentine's Day Party, hosted by Charlie's in Coralville. There will be free pool and opportunities to meet like-minded haters of this sugar-coated holiday. Imagine the irony of falling in love at an anti-Valentine's Day event ...

Friday 2.15

MUSIC

- **"Java Blend,"** Janiva Magness, noon, Java House, 211 1/2 E. Washington
- **Lipstick Homicide and Magnificent Bastards**, 5 p.m., Yacht Club
- **"Live at the Java House,"** Todd Warner Moore, 8 p.m., Java House
- **A.V. Collective, Kevin BF Burt and The Bridge**, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Nevermind and Rooster Cogburn**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Uniphonics**, 9 p.m., Mill

WORDS

- **"Live From Prairie Lights,"** Andrea Hollander Budy, poetry, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights

THEATER

- **Doubt**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **City Circle Shorts**, 8 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall
- **Defending the Caveman**, 8 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- **No Shame Theater**, 11 p.m., Theatre B

LECTURES

- **Conference, "Climate Change and Human Rights,"** 8:30 a.m., Boyd Law Building Levitt Auditorium

DANCE

- **UI Dance Department Faculty/Graduate Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place
- **Dance Party, with music by Rock and Thunder**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Book Sale**, 1:30 p.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
- **Opening Reception, Lightbox Archaeology, Jonathan Johnson**, 4 p.m., IMU first-floor gallery
- **Lenten Fish Fry**, 5 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 4776 American Legion Road
- **Regina Friday Night Fish Fry**, 5 p.m., Regina Education Center, 2140 Rochester
- **Fish Fry**, 5:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 225 Highway 1 W.
- **Opening Reception, On The Red Carpet: Oklahoma Style**, Alison Filley, 6 p.m., Arts Iowa City, 103 E. College
- **Friday Night Magic**, 6:30 p.m., Critical Hit Games, 89 Second St. No. 5, Coralville
- **"Friday Night Films," Hairspray (2007)**, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Friday Nite Karaoke with Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., American Legion, 3016 Muscatine Ave.
- **Retro Club Night**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy

Relive the civil-rights movement against the backdrop of colorful costumes, exciting choreography, and infectious music when the Iowa City Public Library screens *Hairsprays* part of its "Friday Night Films" series. The popcorn will be provided, but viewers will have to bring their own dancing shoes.



Saturday 2.16



Illustration by Jacqueline Cieslak and Dylan Salisbury/The Daily Iowan
Plays can be wonderful, but numerous acts are a big commitment. For the theater lover with a shorter attention span, City Circle Shorts (formerly the City Circle Acting Company's New Play Festival) offers more succinct entertainment. The event features plays written by local authors, ranging from sketch comedy to film noir, and none run longer than 10 minutes.

MUSIC

- **Arts Share Community Concert, "Iowa Percussion Idol,"** Dan Moore, director, 3 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
- **An Evening with Martin Sexton**, 7 p.m., Picador
- **Symphony Band, Myron Welch, conductor, with Nicole Esposito, piccolo**, 8 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad and Euforquestra**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Miles Neilson, with Emily Louise**, 9 p.m., Mill
- **Three Page Fives**, 10 p.m., Sanctuary, 405 S. Gilbert

THEATER

- **Doubt**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **City Circle Shorts**, 8 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum
- **Defending the Caveman**, 8 p.m., Englert

DANCE

- **UI Dance Department Faculty/Graduate Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place
- **Valentine Swing Semi-Formal Dance**, 8 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **Dance Party, with music by Rock and Thunder**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Book Sale**, 9 a.m., Coralville Public Library
- **The UI Gardens, Mary Stigers**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Landscaping, 520 Highway 1 W.
- **Euchre Tournament**, 1 p.m., American Legion
- **Hero Clix**, 1 p.m., Critical Hit Games
- **Quadro Ultrapremium Russian Vodka Tasting Party**, 6:30 p.m., Blackstone, 503 Westbury Drive
- **Chinese New Year Festival**, 7 p.m., Main Lounge, IMU
- **Rock and Roll/Country Night**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy

Sunday 2.17

MUSIC

- **Piano Master class, Josef Anton Scherrer**, 11 a.m., Voxman Music Building Harper Hall
- **Iowa Marimba Duo**, 2 p.m., 21 Old Capitol
- **Honor Band, Andrew Boysen Jr., conductor**, 2:30 p.m., Hancher
- **Matt White, ZOx, and Sarah Cram**, 6 p.m., Picador

THEATER

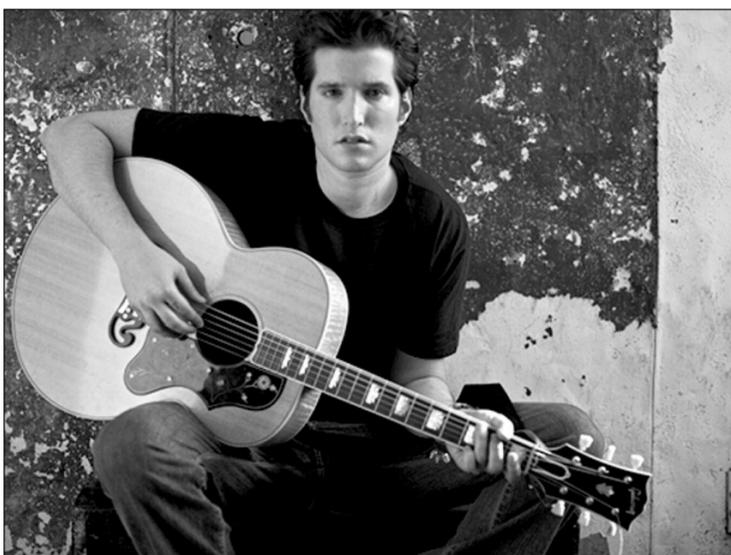
- **Doubt**, 2 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **City Circle Shorts**, 6 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum

LECTURES

- **"UI Lecture Series,"** Karl Rove, 7:30 p.m., IMU Main Lounge

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Final Cut Pro Editing Workshop**, noon, Public Access Television, 206 Lafayette
- **Michigan Peace Team Report, "Nonviolent Resistance in Palestine,"** 2 p.m., Iowa City Public Library Room A
- **Old Brick Taize**, 5 p.m., Old Brick
- **Dead Night**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Sunday Night Pub Quiz**, 9 p.m., Mill



Singer and guitarist Matt White received the label of "Next Big Thing" from Perez Hilton. Listeners not persuaded by Hilton's endorsement will have a chance to see what the fuss is about when White comes to the Picador Feb. 17, with ZOx and Sarah Cram. Can't get enough White? Check out Whitney Warne's preview of the concert on the Arts page of Friday's *Daily Iowan*.

NEW MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEKEND



Cloverfield
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
When a giant monster attacks New York City, the characters of *Cloverfield* bravely film their attempts at survival. *Godzilla* meets *The Blair Witch Project*? Maybe. Caution: Those who have recently eaten large meals, consumed alcohol, or feel hung-over should not see this film, because the camera work will likely cause them to vomit.



Jumper
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
Teleporting is not all fun and games for David Rice (Hayden Christensen), who, after discovering his ability, finds himself in a centuries-long war between those who teleport and those who kill those who teleport. Wondering, perhaps, if people who teleports can't just teleport away from their killer or if teleporting could be handy in the bedroom. Watching *Jumper* may be the only chance you have to answer these questions.

AT THE BIJOU

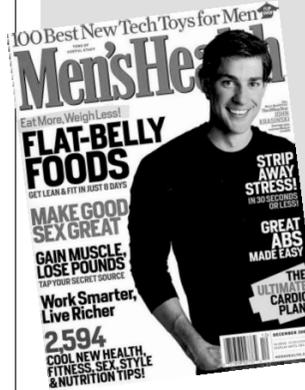


My Kid Could Paint That
Showtimes: Feb. 15: 9 p.m., Feb. 16: 5 p.m. & 9 p.m., Feb. 17: 5 p.m.
Picasso himself aspired to paint like a child: 4-year-old Marla Olmstead does and sells her abstract paintings for hundreds of thousands. This documentary follows Marla, her parents, and her art dealer as they battle both celebrity and critics.

what are you READING?

Each week, the *DI* finds an individual in Iowa City raving about her or his favorite book of the moment. This week, the *DI* talked to Jordan August, sales associate at the Pleasure Palace, 315 Kirkwood Ave., and single guy looking for what women want.

"I'm reading *Men's Health*. I think the articles give a lot of insight. And I read *AVN: Adult Entertainment Monthly*, which is news on porn stars' careers and things like that."



DI RECOMMENDS

Consulting Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons* for daily guidance as a practical alternative to your usual religion or moral code. It might be strange, but at least it's new.

QUOTABLE

"I just got an award given to me by a Beatle. Have you had that happen yet, Kanye?"

—Country star Vince Gill, chiding the always-arrogant Kanye West at the still-irrelevant Grammy awards

Though if dailyiowan.com can't find a date, perhaps it'll stay home and click on all its own wonderful features, self-stimulating while looking at slide shows dripping with sensuality and listening to MP3s of love.

Reinventing oldest war on Earth

CAVEMAN CONTINUED FROM 1C

"The heart and soul and core of the show has been the same," said *Caveman* actor Michael Van Osch in a phone interview with *The Daily Iowan* from his home in New York City. "Any pop-culture references we'll update to be relevant. But the real nuts and bolts haven't changed."

Former standup comedian Rob Becker meticulously wrote the work over a three-year spread and performed it hundreds of times to sellout crowds in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and Chicago. After the show began a phenomenal Broadway run in 1995, it soon tallied more than 700 performances at the Helen Hayes Theatre, setting a record. Becker eventually retired and ducked out of the public eye, but he continues to train new "cavemen," including Van Osch, who began the gig two years ago, as well as the six other men who perform the show across North America. Van Osch still heeds Becker's foremost instruction, which, as he recalls, was to make the show his own.

Defending the Caveman follows the journey of a club-toting caveman, who dons classic Flintstonian cloth and labels men "hunters" and women "gatherers" to explain their differences. A tour version of the 30-country international hit will open at the Englert, 221 E. Washington St., for a two-night stint beginning Friday at 8 p.m.

"A man doesn't just watch the TV," one line of *Caveman* explains. "A man actually becomes the TV."

"Women can talk more about feely stuff because they get more practice at it," the caveman says. "They get together with their friends and have those ... creepy talks."

So successful is the Neanderthal shtick at pinpointing (and justifying) the gender gap that counselors have recommended *Defending the Caveman* to quarreling couples. Van Osch expresses no surprise there; he sees marital rectification regularly as a result of the show.

"I'll see a couple that maybe had a spat in the parking lot before the show, and they'll sit at the front of their chairs, as far away from each other as they can get," he said. "But as the show goes on, they start to laugh, they start to nudge each other. And by the end of the show, they leave arm in arm."

But as the one-man show,

Caveman contemporaries

Here's a proper list of TV efforts that predated *Defending the Caveman*, laughing at the gap (but quashing the static) between men and women:

"THE HONEYMOONERS": Jackie Gleason and Audrey Meadows, two blazing spitfires, yelled at each other a lot — but for *love*, duh, even if Audrey was almost catapulted to the Moon several times by TV's seminal not-that-friendly bus driver.

"I LOVE LUCY": If ever a TV show thought men and women both did stupid things for stupid reasons, it was this one. Lucille Ball and Vivian Vance squared off against their husbands, Desi Arnaz and William Frawley, usually to accomplish the world's most important task: to land Lucy in Desi's show at the Tropicana.

"BEWITCHED": Dick York tried like hell to suppress Elizabeth Montgomery's witch powers, but that subversive feminism (and Agnes Moorehead's drag queen makeup) always won out.

"ALL IN THE FAMILY": Bigot men, dingbat women — behold, TV's first foray into resembling the tumultuous social climate of the '70s. We still mourn Carroll O'Connor and Rob Reiner's hair.

"HOME IMPROVEMENT": This is the proper TV counterpart for "Caveman." Hell, Tim Allen also wielded crude tools. Meanwhile, Patricia Richardson as Jill wrenched out the kinks in an otherwise ideal marriage.

"EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND": Ray Romano parlayed his standup act into a rambunctious but grandparent-friendly study in familial squabbles. If Patricia Heaton didn't serve up enough wisdom, then Doris Roberts beamed it down with a PG-13 comment from the school of Agnes Moorehead.



which combines confessional, standup comic elements with a story arc, continues to accumulate returning crowds, the more it stands at odds with the current crop of popular themes in comedy. A question emerges: How can a premise so in line with the shoulder pads of Brett Butler or the whine of Paul Reiser still reverberate?

Russell Peterson, a UI visiting assistant professor in American studies, said the setup still works "because the situation is always changing over time." However, he also thinks that humor based on the war between the sexes maintains a singular purpose in 2008. For instance, he argues, it has become a necessary antidote to political commentators who may need

counseling of their own.

"All you have to do is look at the untested ground surrounding a women running for president," said Peterson, citing the pundits who mistake artificial skewering of Hillary Rodham Clinton for objective political discourse. "And those journalists who don't realize they're being sexist. It just shows that even if [men vs. women] is an

'The heart and soul and core of the show has been the same. Any pop-culture references we'll update to be relevant. But the real nuts and bolts haven't changed.'

— MICHAEL VAN OSCH, *CAVEMAN* ACTOR

old topic, it shall remain a relevant one."

Correcting the precepts of journalists and political scientists in the present day becomes a tangential accomplishment of *Caveman*. Still, the show doesn't mind collecting old-yet-ageless woes and offering conflict resolutions for any year — not just this one. The arguably timeless lessons point to an observation Bill Cosby made years ago: "Men and women belong to different species, and communication between them is still in its infancy." Becker's original script furthers that statement, suggesting that we've come along way, but not far enough to cohabit like proper magnetic counterparts. In other words, we stab on at sex differences to get *somewhere*, even if "Home Improvement" already tried to move our fussy sex comprehension from point A to point B.

Van Osch thinks identifying, but ultimately accepting, the static between men and women also serves as more than a comic premise. Because the topic remains relatable, even for those who've seen every episode of "I Love Lucy." Those jaded spectators can still feel, somehow, as though the act was written for them.

"It's no different whether in Toronto, Tampa, or, hopefully, Iowa," he said. "Everybody gets it. If you've been in a

relationship, or you're in a relationship, or you want to be in one, you can get it. Of course, there are exaggerations because it's comedy, but it's still real."

Defending the Caveman rolls along swiftly on its not-so-reinvented wheel, defending not just our grunting, loin-clothed forefathers (who actually considered women to be goddesses, says Van Osch), but also a version of humor that refuses to subside. Even if *Caveman's* legacy transforms the show into a mantel-piece alongside old-school TV lore, the relevance of the show pops off the stage and sits, rather comfortably, in the busy kitchens, contentious bedrooms, and within the gentle elbow prods of fellow theatergoers — who probably didn't expect to fit in with long-practiced, but long-reliable prehistoric punch lines.

E-mail louisvirtel@uiowa.edu

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Sat. Feb. 16 -- ALL AGES 7PM
An Evening with...
Martin Sexton

Sun. Feb. 17 -- ALL AGES 6PM
Matt White ZOX Sarah Cram

Mon. Feb. 18 -- ALL AGES 6PM
High on Fire
A Life Once Lost Saviours Intronaut

Tues. Feb. 19 -- Dax Riggs
William Blackart

Wed. Feb. 20 -- ALL AGES 6PM
Dead To Fall
Winds of Plague Impending Doom Belay My Last

Thurs. Feb. 21 -- Stoney LaRue
Jonathan Tyler and the Northern Lights

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02.21 Comedy: Melanie Maloy, 9pm, The Hawkeye

02.25 Coffeehouse Music: Julie Moffit, 12noon, The Hawkeye

02.28 Casino Night: 8pm, TBA

03.05 Coffeehouse Music: 12noon, The Hawkeye

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Sun PUB QUIZ

Mon OPEN MIC

Wed TALK/ART/ CABARET



Dances with plastic, dances with oatmeal

By Claire Lekwa
THE DAILY IOWAN

UI Assistant Professor of dance Jennifer Kayle feels uncontrollably suffocated by plastic bags. Accompanying almost every comping purchase, the crinkling material endlessly clutters the environment around her.

"It seems like everybody has a bag full of these bags somewhere, and to me this started to be a symbol of having too many things, buying too many things," Kayle said. "In the meantime, we're mucking up our environment with all this plastic stuff."

Yet no matter how hard she tries, she feels as if she cannot release plastic's strangling grip.

"I get really upset and perturbed about this idea [of consumerism], and yet I feel a part of this society, and it's hard to separate from it," she said.

Her frustrations come forth in her piece "Heel," which will be performed today in the dance department's Faculty/Graduate Concert at 8 p.m. in North Hall's Space/Place. The concert, which will run today through Saturday, features the choreography of five faculty members and three graduate students.

To communicate her strong emotions against excess consumerism, the seven dancers in Kayle's piece struggle against 500 plastic bags used as props.

"It makes it precarious to dance," said Joanna Rosenthal, a graduate student in "Heel." "I get really mad at the bags and start cursing the bags."

The piece, which the dancers have worked on since the fall, requires intense expression for almost 20 minutes.

"We stuff our shirts with them, throw them, put them in our mouths," Rosenthal said. "It's physically engaging as a dancer."

After the debut of "Heel" at the Faculty/Graduate Concert, Kayle's piece will be open in Chicago later this month and in New York City this summer.

Similar to the plastic bags in "Heel," many of the pieces in the concert feature integrated props and outside elements as a part of



Peter Klopfenstein/The Daily Iowan

A mix of Graduate and Undergraduate dance students perform "Beauty for Awhile" at the Space/Place Theatre on Wednesday, February 13, 2008. Choreographer and faculty member Deanna Carter says that the dance was inspired by fusing classical ballet and contemporary dance.

FACULTY/GRADUATE CONCERT

When: 8 p.m. today through Saturday
Where: North Hall Space/Place
Admission: \$12; \$6 for students

the performance.

In Visiting Assistant Professor Dan Stark's piece, "Ripple," the dancers step upon a stage covered in oatmeal. Rosenthal, who also performs in Stark's, said the prop complicates the performance. "I'm always worried about slipping," she said.

Associate Professor Charlotte Adams incorporated live musicians into her piece, "Tuba Or Not Tuba (What is the Question?)." Music Assistant Professors Jeffrey Agrell and John Manning improvise on the French horn and tuba while walking among the dancers.

Rosenthal's own piece, "Burp," also uses props. Part of the choreography includes the dancers blowing bubbles.

In addition to props, the choreographers also used experimental ideas in their pieces. To create "Heel," Kayle improvised movements in front of a video camera and then played the tape in

reverse, teaching the movements backwards.

To inspire her choreography, Rosenthal collected newspaper headlines, creating the movement based on news stories, including the bathroom-stall scandal of Sen. Larry Craig (note the dancers' foot movements).

For Kayle, her pieces are a means of exploration. When a topic distresses her, she tries to understand it through dance. The subject of plastic consumption has been an ongoing source of inspiration for her; she also created a piece that used plastic grass for the *Dance Gala* this past November.

When Kayle began collecting plastic bags for "Heel," she decided she would not be able to use bags with corporate logos on them, because they distracted the viewer from the true meaning of the dance. So she ended up buying 500 clear plastic bags, which, of course, conflicted with her convictions against materialism.

"I hated it," she said. "I hated that I was doing it. I hated myself." But Kayle also saw it as another layer of the piece, further demonstrating the complexities of the issue she was working to explore.

E-mail *DI* reporter Claire Lekwa at: claire-lekwa@uiowa.edu

A cautionary Valentine

Conversation hearts, teddy bears, and red roses can only mean one thing: It's the perfect time of year to talk about dead celebrities.

By Meryn Fluker
THE DAILY IOWAN



Valentine's Day is a lot like American celebrity culture: self-congratulatory and artificial, and it ultimately claims more victims than champions. On this most chocolate-covered of holidays, it seems appropriate to tackle the topic of celebrity death.

I've ripped on *Rolling Stone* magazine once before in the pages of 80 Hours (obviously, the next *Rolling Stone*), but its most recent issue provides a telling look into the layers of society's relationship with celebrities. The cover features everyone's favorite good girl gone crazy. It's Britney, bitch. The story is a biographical sketch explaining how Britney Spears, a nice Southern pop star, became a bald drug addict. But only mere pages before the chronicle of Spears' downfall is a poetic eulogy to Heath Ledger. The actor is remembered for his rugged good looks, combative relationship with stardom, and daring performances.

This could all be somewhat kosher if the stories weren't juxtaposed in some sort of cautionary manner. A Heath Ledger tribute tucked in a magazine with Britney as its face should raise eyebrows. Heath is Britney's endgame. The way things are going, Britney will be Heath Ledger, without the surprise. I'm not writing

media filtered through us brought to you that to be cruel, nor am I channeling Chris Crocker by asking the media to leave Brit-Brit alone, I'm trying to prove an important point — Britney is drunkenly walking on a tightrope with no safety net. We've seen this movie before, it's called *The Anna Nicole Smith Story*, and everyone knows how it will end.

But that hasn't discouraged anyone from buying a ticket to Britney's Self-Destruction Theater. Here we are, lapping it up and showing our friends how quickly the beautiful people can fall. We can't pretend to be inconsolable when a "good" celebrity dies and at the same time be unaffected or even relish the moment when a "bad" one perishes. For every YouTube tribute video to a star who has passed on suddenly, there's a snarky comment about how celebrities aren't real people and how a starlet's death is no more tragic or significant than that of a "common person."

Am I being too harsh? Google the phrase "dead celebrity pool," and tell me with a straight face that our culture isn't seriously askew when it comes to fame and tragedy. People get together annually during the bloated, awkward lull between

Christmas and New Year's Eve, betting on which celebrities will kick the bucket over the next 365 days. Aside from being uncomfortable to explain to an accountant, the dead-celebrity pool magnifies all that is wrong with society's ideas about Hollywood. We're obsessed with fame, fortune, and glamour to the point of wanting to predict the moment it is all cruelly snatched away. I'd feel dirty placing money in the pool, but I'd bet my menial *Daily Iowan* wages that Ms. Spears' name was one of the most wagered on in dead-celebrity pools for 2008.

As media consumers, we mourn some stars, wondering what we could have done to save them, and we admonish others, as if we have any moral ground to stand on. Our moral ground is moral sludge, and it's melting quickly. Between the dead-celebrity pools, maudlin YouTube retrospectives, and magazine eulogies, we are a society of people who think we are entitled to have our Hollywood cake, eat it, and throw it away when it starts to get stale. To those celebrating Valentine's Day tonight, enjoy having a meal with a sweet-heart and (hopefully) without people whose bank account rides on whether you'll choke on your entrée. Maybe famous people should start taking bets on us.

E-mail *DI* reporter Meryn Fluker at: meryn-fluker@uiowa.edu

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If all else fails, **DailyIowan.com** will reread *D*/reporter Vanessa Vieock's November 2007 story on "romance parties," crack open a wine cooler, and cry itself to sleep ...

What's in a WORD

By Whitney Warne
THE DAILY IOWAN

Penis. Vagina. PENIS. VAGINA. It's not likely many of us slipped through childhood without hearing the names of these private parts screamed throughout the school bus or cafeteria. Some were the yellers, the ones with the courage to put it all out there. Others sat at the front of the bus embarrassed, waiting for the battle of the sexy parts to end.



Private talks

But as grown-ups, saying "vagina" isn't always as simple as screaming at the top of your lungs. And when a serious tone takes over and a deep dark secret needs revealing, nobody wants to cry out, unless it's in pain.

Check out an audio slide show of *The Vagina Monologues* at dailyiowan.com.



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

UI graduate student Rebekah Stein rehearses "My Angry Vagina" from *The Vagina Monologues* on Monday night in the Theatre Building. The proceeds from the production will go to the Emma Goldman Clinic and the V-Day Campaign

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

When: Today and Friday, 8 p.m.
Where: Today in Theater Building Theatre B; Friday in the Medical Education and Research Facility Auditorium
Admission: \$5 Students, \$10 General

'vagina.' But seeing other women talk about it, even if it is on stage, gives women the confidence to talk about the problems in their own relationships."

Patil and Nabe hope these two performances will create a dialogue in the community and raise money for the Emma Goldman Clinic, a nonprofit resource and

information center for women of all ages, located near downtown Iowa City.

The show includes 17 women actors. Eight of the women auditioned through the theater program, eight came from the medical program, and one woman came from Emma Goldman.

Nabe and Patil had a similar philosophy when holding auditions.

"We weren't necessarily looking for who was the best actress," Nabe said. "Instead, we wanted women who were passionate about the play and the message it sends."

Nabe and Patil also looked for variety in the women's ethnic, religious, and physical profiles.

"V-Day is such a diverse organization, looking to help a

very wide array of women," Nabe said. "*The Vagina Monologues* has the same goal. The play embodies every type of women from all walks of life."

So whether your motivation is to laugh at the bluntness of the language, cry from pain of past experiences, or be empowered by these portrayals of a life you may have lived, screaming "vagina" into the face of Valentine's Day might be a little easier after hearing 17 other women do it first.

E-mail *D*/reporter Whitney Warne at: whitney-warne@uiowa.edu

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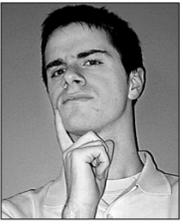
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Letters to Louis

sex and the Silly



LOUIS VIRTEL

louis-virtel@uiowa.edu

Dear Louis, Who cares about "Lipstick Jungle" when the *Sex and the City* movie is only months away? And Carrie in a wedding dress?! I was wondering if you missed the show, and if you think the movie's going to be good.

I LOVE this column. Please put me in. — Anonymous

Dear Unknown, Antsy, Weirdly Typical Girl, First, an order of business: I am running low on letters, so it's time for all you alleged "devoted readers" to step up our one-sided marriage and get with the sending. I toil like *The Daily Iowan's* stable boy, see. And there you all go, in your jodhpurs, riding my Black Beauty through the muddy prairie after I brush her mane just right. Feel me? Gurls? Bois? You know, I'm obsessed with y'all — but I need your urgent-and-concise problems for a 21-year-old theater major to solve, pronto-ish. OK? Let's keep Black Beauty out of the glue factory.

OK, back to other pressing matters, like Brooke Shields reformed eyebrows. In all these "Lipstick Jungle" promos, I still barely recognize her without those unbridled Velcro things. Granted, I personally love Brooke Shields — but for that matter, I love anyone who fights publicly with Tom Cruise about antidepressants and basically announces, "Tom Cruise eats the bad berries. I've seen it." She didn't pretend to tolerate him, even though the Scientology

Liberation Front clearly kidnapped Tom Cruise, brain-washed him, and renamed him "Tania" years ago. But there's no use saving him now — he's obviously ready to hold the machine gun when L. Ron Hubbard returns from the dead and needs to rob a bank. Is this Patty Hearst reference working OK? Am I secretly a baby boomer? I was onto something for a second.

But all right, finally, the inevitable "Sex and the City" dissertation. I think the movie provides the opportunity to, um, correct the show's awful finale. What the hell was that? During the first episode of season one, Carrie (that's Sarah Jessica Parker for, uh, you "McLaughlin Group" viewers) blathers something like "Welcome to the age of innocence" and says no one has affairs to remember or breakfast at Tiffany's anymore. Flash forward to season six, when Carrie is, ahem, literally swept off her feet by a charming older man in the heart of Paris. Killiez-moi. Candace Bushnell, who wrote the original *S&TC* book, also hated the ending. I'm pretty sure we agree that Carrie should end up single, at least for now. After all, isn't New York City supposed to be her *real lover*? Or something? Ugh, why was the show so terrible sometimes?

Mea culpa: I have a "Sex & the City" poster staring at me right now. It was cheap, I needed to cover wall space, and Cynthia Nixon looks particularly ravishing in it. And I'm Samantha sometimes. Wait, who am I asking for forgiveness? You? Fair-weather reader-friend? See, like most addictive shows, "Sex and the City" doesn't even need to be smart, because the point of the show actually has nothing to do with insight or reality. It's about making these four action-figure women dress up and speak in enough generalities about relationships that we, the selfish, lazy-ass troubadours of love, feel recognized as super-strong people, too, even though we cried when Dennis broke up with us at

Whitey's when we wore our fave argyle and EVERYTHING. I'd find less of a problem with this fact if the show didn't insist it was more than dreamy unreality in sweet, staggering, too-expensive-for-an-effing-columnist heels.

In one behind-the-scenes feature, Kristen Davis said the show "doesn't try to speak for all women" (I'm paraphrasing), but the fact is, it definitely does, and that's another grave annoyance. Carrie speaks in lame vagaries every damn episode. No, Carrie, I don't think that metaphor about "compatible hardware" the time your iMac broke down really helped you understand Aidan. Nor did that GREEN, MIDRIFF, BELT. Season four, WHY WERE YOU ON POPPERS?

But hey, I'm not immune to these fake ladies — in particular, Miranda. Cynthia Nixon's comic timing, all-around acting skills, and sharpened shoulders totally win me over. Word, she's the one who went on to win a Tony and become gay in real life. Clearly, she's the perfect human. Too bad they never could dress her right on the show. Did you see her during season one? Red rocked the skinny necktie like the less-coordinated member of t.a.t.u. I'd give Sarah Jessica redemption points for judging on "Project Runway," but of course, she's responsible for Marion's elimination, and I thought that was unfair, because he looked like Kevin Spacey dressed as a newsie and just needs a friend.

To answer your question: I'll see the stupid movie, but don't expect me to enjoy it when Samantha starts having a pun hemorrhage and says, "Carrie! I love your wedding dress! And after the ceremony, Big can deliver you his Vera Wang!" I'll wait until the director's cut to see Kim Cattrall then walk off set, curse her own life, and then seriously consider starring in *Mannequin 3*.

The universal serenade

What would Valentine's Day be without love songs? Look no further than the Mill's annual Sweethearts' Serenade for this most integral of Valentine necessities.

By Anna Wiegenstein
THE DAILY IOWAN

Music always has its power-couple performers, from Johnny and June Cash up to Jay-Z and Beyoncé. The chemistry that fuels a romantic relationship seems to only improve a melodic collaboration.

While Amy Finders will take the stage at the Mill tonight to play the Seventh-Annual Sweethearts' Serenade with husband Mike Finders, she tends to steer clear of most musical married clichés. "It's not really a night of Sonny-and-Cher, 'I Got You Babe' style sappiness," Amy Finders said. "Mike and I are kind of cynical lovers, anyway."

Started by the Finders as a way to showcase the numerous couple performers in the Iowa City area, the Sweethearts' Serenade was almost instantly a success.

"We knew basically from the first year onward that we wanted to keep it going," Finders said, noting that the event has nearly sold out the Mill each year.

"I don't think it can get much bigger," said Al Murphy, who has performed in the concert since the beginning with wife Aleta Murphy.

Appearing in tonight's show alongside the Finders and the Murphys will be Joe and Coleen Peterson, Bob and Kristie Black, the Great Bluegrass Herons, and Truckstop Souvenir. A dinner is provided in the ticket price, and a fundraising raffle involves numerous donations from local area restaurants and pieces by Iowa City artists.

"I know that there are a lot of Valentine events going on around town that night," Murphy said. "But I think this one is unique, just because of the number of different musicians involved."

The amount of local talent the event showcases is very



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

Coleen Peterson (right) plays with her husband Joe Peterson and Amy Finders (center), along with other couples that will be playing at the Sweethearts' Serenade, as they rehearse together before the Burlington Street Bluegrass Band plays at The Mill Feb. 13.

much in line with the original goals the Finders had for themselves in creating the Sweethearts' Serenade — namely, to learn from performers older than them how it's done.

"From a musician's standpoint," Amy Finders said, "we're able to tap into these artists who have been playing forever, which is really great."

She also emphasized the "outside the box" quality of the occasion, saying couples tend to favor the outing, because "it's much more interesting than chocolate and flowers."

"There are plenty of festivals in the summer, but in the winter, there's not that much going on save for the bar scene," she said.

While the Serenade itself might be untraditional, that's not usually the case with the music the concert features. Finders characterized much of the music as "traditional country," including bluegrass and American heritage.

"We do try to gear the material toward a Valentine's mode," Al Murphy said. "There aren't as many breakup songs."

Seventh-Annual Sweethearts' Serenade

Featuring: Mike and Amy Finders, Al and Aleta Murphy, Joe and Coleen Peterson, Bob and Kristie Black with Banjoy, Truckstop Souvenir, and the Great Bluegrass Herons.

When: Doors open at 6 p.m. today, music starts at 6:30

Where: Mill, 120 E. Burlington
Admission: \$35/person tickets at the door, includes dinner (salad, entrée, and dessert)

Set lists not only dial back on songs about heartbreak, they also tend to favor numerous cover songs, a practice that Amy Finders points to as among the reasons the attendees of the Serenade range in age from 20 to 70.

"We relive these love stories over and over again, in every generation," she said. "There are certain things that are universal."

E-mail [DIreporter Anna Wiegenstein:](mailto:DIreporter@uiowa.edu) anna-wiegenstein@uiowa.edu

HANCHER 35⁺

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