

# The Daily Iowan

Tuesday, March 4, 2008

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50¢

**INSIDE**



**Bluder named Big Ten's finest**

Iowa's Lisa Bluder wins Big Ten Coach of the Year after leading the Hawkeyes to their first title since 1998. **Sports, 1B**

**Gatens ready to be a Hawk**

Iowa's prize recruit Matt Gatens eyes the next chapter as his high-school career comes to a close. **Sports, 1B**

**Ghosts of '93?**

While not likely to match the deluge of 1993, experts say this year's abundant snowfall has the potential to cause flooding. **City, 2A**

**From Midwest to Mideast**

Two months after the caucuses, a speaker describes why Iowan minds should be on the Middle East. **City, 4A**

**Forewarning required**

While the UI already posts them, legislation would require universities to disclose which textbooks classes will require. **Campus, 4A**

**Ben Folds, Part 2**

The piano man ditches the *Silverman* sappiness and makes middle age angst again by playing new songs to the sold-out crowd at the IMU Sunday night. **Arts & Culture, 9A**

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**Daily updates**

Now check back at [dailyiowan.com](http://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](http://dailyiowan.com) or tune into UITV. 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**

- Hate crime hits two UI students
- Hawkeyes prepare for Northwestern
- Iowa's nursing shortage

**WEATHER**



Mostly sunny, breezy, turning cloudy in the evening. Wind chill makes a comeback. March is like February, only easier to spell.

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An Iowa City woman spent last week walking therapy dogs around Northern Illinois University's campus, comforting those returning to class after the Valentine's Day shootings.



Keri Neblett stands with her Alaskan malamute, Luke, outside her Iowa City home on Sunday. Neblett and Luke trained with Animal Assisted Crisis Response for 40 hours to become certified, and Neblett recently traveled to the Northern Illinois campus, without Luke, to help students cope with the recent campus shooting.

## Going to the dogs for solace

By Clara Hogan  
THE DAILY IOWAN

More than 500 "grief counselors" from across the country were stationed in Northern Illinois University's classrooms during the students' first two days back at school, around 10 days after a graduate student opened fire in a lecture hall and then shot himself.

But the group directly affected by the gunman — those in the room he walked into — didn't want counselors. They asked the school's president for the dogs they had seen walking around on campus instead.

Keri Neblett, the director of the crisis-intervention program

**Animal Assisted Crisis Response**

**Man's best friend helping man**

- Assists in emotional recovery and ongoing support to individuals and responders who have been affected by crisis and disaster
- Nonprofit national organization consists of a network of specially trained dog and handler teams
- Founded by Cindy Ehlers in 1998 after responding to the Thurston High School shooting in Springfield, Ore.
- Has helped after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Hurricane Katrina, and the Virginia Tech shootings

at the Iowa City Crisis Center, was one of the eight people who went to DeKalb, Ill., to help faculty and students through the Animal Assisted Crisis Response, a national organization that provides emotional

support using animals. Neblett and the others had been walking dogs especially trained for post-crisis comfort around the campus to soothe the shaken students.

Most students said the dogs were more helpful than

counselors, said Neblett, who came back to Iowa City Sunday after acting as a team leader and mental-health coordinator for the group.

"[The students] were tired of telling their stories," she said. "They were tired of people asking them how they were feeling and how they were doing. They just wanted us to sit there, pet the dogs, and breathe."

Cindy Ehlers started the animal-assisted crisis response group in Oregon after a high-school shooting in 1998. Since then, she has trained volunteers across the country several times a year.

SEE COUNSELING, 3A

# Health crisis

Iowa Nursing Task Force releases a report concerning a shortage of health-care workers.

By Alyssa Cashman  
THE DAILY IOWAN

As Iowa's nursing shortage grabs the attention of the nation, the Iowa Nursing Task Force released a report Monday confronting the "crisis."

Task force members were appointed by Gov. Chet Culver in January to address issues ranging from a nursing-faculty shortage to the low wages of current caregivers.

"This task force has really brought attention to the nursing shortage and brought it to the forefront," said Rep. Mary Mascher, D-Iowa City, a member of the task force.

Elizabeth Swanson, a UI associate professor of nursing, said the report did a superb job of showing that the nursing shortage is not simply a rural or urban problem but a statewide crisis.

The committee was split into four groups to address four problems: the shortage, nursing education, wages, and rural nursing.

One of the key problems the report addressed is the scarcity of faculty at nursing schools around the state.

"I like to see the support for nursing students coming back for faculty positions," Swanson said.

 **Culver hears from task force**

Watch Daily Iowan TV at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) to hear more about the Nursing Task Force and its report on the status of nursing in Iowa.



Mascher  
D-Iowa City

SEE NURSING, 3A

## Officials play down flu as cause of 20 deaths

Twenty 'unexplained' pediatric deaths raise concerns, but only three cases were lab-confirmed influenza.

By Zhi Xiong  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa's epidemiologists are trying to figure out whether respiratory viral infections killed 20 children in the state since December 2007.

With headlines from across the state fingering influenza as the culprit, a scientist underscored the fact that the cases are not necessarily related.

"It's too centered on flu," said Meghan Harris, an epidemiologist with the Iowa Department of Public Health, which is part of the national flu-surveillance network.

"We know these kids are not all dying from influenza," she added.

Harris said only three of the 20 children, all under 4 years old, tested positive for the flu. Six apparently had other respiratory illnesses. Nonetheless, numbers are higher than the usual mortality rate, which is around 15 for this time of year.

Though the peak flu months have just passed, the Public Health Department and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention once again urged parents to get their children vaccinated. Three strains of flu usually circulate during the season.

But this year's vaccine does not match the influenza viruses as well as it should.

There are two types of vaccines, one containing dead viruses injected in the arm, and one with weakened but live viruses delivered through a nasal spray. They prompt the body to make antibodies that can recognize the real viruses when flu season swings around.

This is the fourth time since 1988 that vaccines have reacted poorly with viruses, according to the CDC. More of those who received the vaccine might get sick, Harris said.

SEE FLU, 3A

**Flu deaths**

Since the beginning of 2008, there have been 23 pediatric deaths due to flu in the U.S. The most deaths occurred in the seventh week, the week of Feb. 10, with 12.

**Total pediatric deaths from flu deaths per week**



Source: CDC  
Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

## Small classes not a cure-all

Study finds that small classes benefit high achievers more than average students.

By Briana Byrd  
THE DAILY IOWAN

The concept of using small class sizes to increase academic achievement has been a practice the Iowa City School District has used to help kindergarten through second-grade students.

But a recent study that investigated how class size benefited students and played a role in academic achievement might change the way educators think about class sizes.

The study showed that students who were high achievers benefited more from smaller classes than those who weren't as academically gifted. The results were most noticeable among kindergartners and first-graders and less significant among second- and third-graders, according to the study.

Conducted by Northwestern Assistant Professor Spyridon Konstantopoulos, it used

evidence from a former study called Project STAR, Student Teacher Achievement Ratio, which examined how class size and achievement relate among low achieving, minority, and disadvantaged students in Tennessee.

"I believe that smaller class sizes may have the greatest benefit in the lower grades such as K-2," said Jim Behle, the Iowa City School District

SEE ELEMENTARY, 3A

**Averages in Iowa City**

- Number of students in classrooms**
- Kindergarten through second grade: 19 to 20 students
  - Upper elementary: 25 students
  - Junior high and high school: 25 to 31 students

Source: Jim Behle, associate superintendent of the Iowa City School District



# Local officials ready for possible flooding



Ben Roberts/The Daily Iowan

Water floods the sidewalk near the 300 block of East Jefferson Street on Sunday. City officials this year have said they are as prepared as possible for flooding in the area after the nearly 60 inches of snow received so far this year.

By **Melanie Kucera**  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Wet shoes may not be the only concern on people's minds this coming spring.

With Iowa City being pounded with 58.9 inches of snow thus far this winter, including the snow on Monday, officials continue to say severe flooding is not very probable.

"We are not going to let our guard down," said Rick Fosse, the Iowa City Public Works director. "Some sunny days will help melt [the snow] slowly."

The next month will serve as the time to watch for heavy flooding as a result of snowmelt, he said, noting that heavy rainfall in the coming months could also cause problems.

As of Monday, the Iowa River's water level was at 13.92 feet, according to the National Weather Service. The flood stage level is 22 feet. The service's website forecasts the level to rise up to 15.6 feet within the next week.

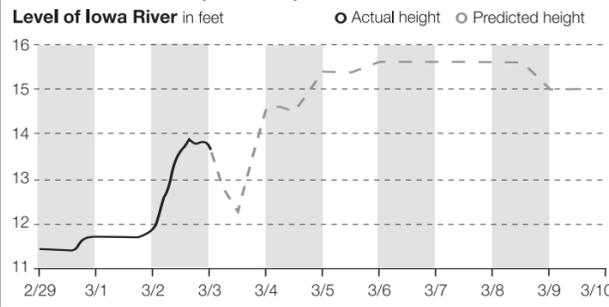
The flood of the Iowa River in 1993 topped the "historical crests," hitting a high of 28.52 feet on Aug. 10. That year, the flooding was largely due to rainfall.

State climatologist Harry

Officials would like to avoid a repeat of the '93 flooding, which caused extensive damage to the university.

## Possible flood levels

At 13.62 feet, the level of the Iowa River is higher than normal but still far below its flood stage of 22 feet. Officials predict it will reach 15.6 feet by Thursday.



Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan

Hillaker said the current levels are only a little higher than normal but nothing unusual. He noted that the winter snow is not out of the question; with a 40 percent chance of light snow on Wednesday.

Both UI and city officials said they were ready for any possible flooding.

"I think we are prepared as well as we can," said George Hollins, the university business manager. "After '93, all of us are a lot more wary."

Many steps have been taken to ready the school for any future flooding following the '93 deluge, he said, including raising

sidewalks and flood-proofing buildings. The flood-management plan was also completed last year, Hollins said, and officials have successfully covered the places on campus that were "vulnerable" to flooding.

Iowa City workers have been trying to control local flooding by opening storm-sewer intakes and responding to ice jams near bridges, Fosse said.

Low-land flooding is expected in the near future, but the Coralville Reservoir, which was completed in 1958, should prevent the Iowa River from rising too high, said Bill Cappuccio, a state coordinator for the National Flood Insurance Program.

"Assuming we don't get any other weather calamities, like sudden thunderstorms, [Iowa City] should be in very good shape," he said.

The flood of '93 caused tremendous damage to various parts of campus — most notably the river flowing across Dubuque Street to the front of Mayflower, Cappuccio said.

Officials would not predict how much rain would come this spring or summer, but Fosse did note that June can be a problem for flooding in Iowa City.

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

## METRO

### IC police open hate-crime probe

Iowa City police started a hate-crime investigation Monday after two UI students reported bigoted epithets scrawled on their apartment door on Sunday, Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay said.

The incident could be related to an assault near there March 1.

Police responded to the East Jefferson Street residence on Sunday at 1:26 p.m. and interviewed its residents — UI senior Justin Talley and UI junior Ryan Thomas — and neighbors to gather information. "2 dead niggers," "Hang u coons," and "Fuckin terrorist niggers" were written on the apartment door in black permanent marker, along with depictions of two stick figures being hung.

Officers are looking into whether the slurs are connected to an assault on March 1 in the same hallway as the apartment, according to reports. Kelsay said he could not elaborate on the assault, but its participants are part of the leads investigators are following.

Kelsay said initial evidence led

police to believe the incident is a hate crime. The slurs and threats specifically referenced and targeted blacks.

The pair thinks the incident probably occurred between 3 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sunday — after they went to sleep and before their neighbor, UI senior Michael Charles, woke them up to tell them about the door.

*D/*reporter **Samantha Miller** contributed to this report.

— by **Kurtis Hiatt**

### Date set for kidnapping/sexual abuse trial

A trial date has been set for a man accused of sexually abusing a 50-year-old woman.

The trial of Micah Matthews, 32, address unknown, will begin on May 5. Matthews was charged on Feb. 8 with first-degree kidnapping, first-degree sexual abuse, and first-degree burglary, all felonies. He pleaded not guilty to the charges on Feb. 26.

Police allege that Matthews entered the woman's home without

permission on June 5, 2007. He allegedly threatened the woman with a gun, forcing her to drive to a local bank and withdraw money, reports said. Police say the victim led Matthews on a short chase but was caught. He then reportedly "pistol-whipped" her across the face and assaulted her where she fell.

After an eight-month investigation, police say Matthews was charged while in custody for an unrelated burglary when officials matched his fingerprints to the June crime.

As of Monday, Matthews was being held at the Johnson County Jail on a \$1.5 million cash-only bond.

First-degree kidnapping and first-degree sexual abuse are Class A felonies, each punishable by life in prison. First-degree burglary is a Class B felony, punishable by 25 years in prison.

— by **Olivia Moran**

### UISG results expected Thursday

Although the hotly contested UI Student Government vote will end tonight, the results will not be

revealed until Thursday.

Instant-runoff voting is being used to determine the next UISG president.

During voting on ISIS, students have the option of ranking candidates in order of preference. Students may rank as many candidates as they want, but their No. 1 choice's chances will not be affected.

In the primary round, first choices are counted. Whichever candidate receives the majority of first choices will win. However, if there is no clear majority, runoffs are conducted.

At each runoff, the candidate with the fewest number of first-choice votes will be eliminated. Voters who chose the booted candidate will have their ballots cast for their second choices. This process continues until a clear majority is established.

Maison Bleam, Alan Cosby, Vernon Jackson, and Atul Nakhasi are the presidential aspirants.

According to the Student Elections Board, this procedure allows for better voter choice and wider participation while ensuring that the winner does indeed have the majority of voter support.

— by **Alyssa Cashman**

## POLICE BLOTTER

**Dustin Boeckstedt**, 18, 1913 Taylor Drive, was charged Sunday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

**Keegan Brennan**, 20, Davenport, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**William Evans**, 19, 221 Iowa Ave. Apt. 1935, was charged Sunday with public intoxication, PAULA, and possession of an open alcohol container in public.

**Joseph Fruin**, 22, 732 E. Jefferson St., was charged Sunday with OWI and fifth-

degree theft.

**Meaghan Grask**, 27, 815 Cross Park Ave. Apt. 3B, was charged Sunday with OWI.

**Jacob Henrich**, 22, 609 E. Court St., was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

**Ryan Henry**, 28, Decatur, Ill., was charged Sunday with public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

**Happy Horton**, 39, 1311 Sandusky Drive, was charged Feb. 1 with possession of marijuana.

**Jillian Jorgensen**, 19, 490 Iowa Ave. Apt. 4, was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Matthew Kerr**, 20, 219 E. Harrison St. Apt. 3, was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Shawn Murphy**, 38, 819 River St., was charged March 1 with OWI.

**Steven Lorenz**, 19, 1032 N. Dubuque St., was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Kevin Madden**, 19, 219 E. Harrison St. Apt. 3, was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Sean Rochambeau**, 20, 406 S. Gilbert St. Apt. 915, was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Alex Spencer**, 19, 1342 Pheasant Valley St., was charged March 1 with public intoxication and possession of a fictitious driver's license/ID.

**Brian Wesolowski**, 19, Ames, was charged March 1 with PAULA.

**Robert Williams**, 18, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, was charged Feb. 29 with public intoxication.

## The Daily Iowan

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### BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6063  
E-mail: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu  
Fax: 335-6184

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### STAFF

**Publisher:** William Casey ..... 335-5788  
**Editor:** Jason Brummond ..... 335-6030  
**Managing Editor:** Brittany Volk ..... 335-5855  
**Metro Editors:** Emileigh Barnes ..... 335-6063  
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## TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on [dailiiowan.com](http://dailiiowan.com) for Monday, March 3

1. Bigotry hits students' door
2. On top of the heap
3. Lickliter, Hawks fall again
4. Hawkeyes battle like champs
5. They could've danced all night

## CORRECTION

In the March 3 article, "Museum turns quiet 150," the *D/* incorrectly stated that the Museum of Natural History is open seven days a week. It is open on Tuesday through Sunday. The *D/* regrets the error.

**80 HOURS**  
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## ATTENTION!

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**Anonymous.iowan@gmail.com**

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# Using dog therapy in DeKalb

## COUNSELING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Volunteers in the group have dropped everything to help after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Hurricane Katrina, and the Virginia Tech shootings.

Neblett spent seven days in DeKalb, working with the university's counseling service to decide where her animals could be used most effectively.

The dogs attended major events such as the memorial in front of Cole Hall — where the shooting took place — and the first basketball game since the incident. The multispecies group spent the majority of its time in residence halls and shuffling to and from places that the university requested.

Neblett realized students were affected by the shootings in complex ways after hearing stories she "just never thought about." One student's laptop was shot, and he lost all his homework, pictures, and music; another left his backpack as he ran from the scene, which put all his class work in police evidence, and another, who always took his shoes off in class, has injured feet from running through the snow to safety.

Those in DeKalb began to know the dogs, calling out their



Contributed photo

Iowa City resident Keri Neblett served as a leader who oversaw and organized teams participating in dog therapy at Northern Illinois University following the Valentine's Day shootings.

names as they walked down the sidewalks and forming crowds to take turns petting them.

At the memorial, the dogs stepped through the crowds, allowing students to sit and pet them for awhile. While some would cry, some people would smile for the first time in days, Neblett said.

"Petting a dog is very soothing — it's a natural healing," he said. "When we'd walk into a room, people would say, 'I was hoping the dogs would be here today.'"

Neblett trained for 40 hours to

become certified with the organization in October with her dog, Luke, an Alaskan malamute. She was interested in the program because it combined her job at the Crisis Center and her hobby — pet therapy.

Neblett and Luke participate in the Iowa City Reading Assistance Education Dogs program, in which children read to dogs in hopes they will learn to read more willingly and proficiently.

Luke didn't travel with Neblett to Northern Illinois, though. Because Neblett served as a

leader, she oversaw and organized teams rather than participating with the dogs herself, Ehlers said. She added without Neblett, the program wouldn't have functioned as effectively.

Neblett said it's almost shocking how moved people are by the dogs being around them.

"People's guards go down when they see the dogs," she said. "They often can open up to them more than they can to any human at that time."

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

## HEALTH CARE

# Nurses in short supply

## NURSING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

This year, in response to the state's nursing-faculty shortage, the UI cut the number of undergraduates admitted to the nursing program nearly in half, upsetting many.

Across Iowa, 101 faculty positions remain unfilled.

Lower wages are an obstacle to attracting nurses to teaching positions. According to the report, nurses can make up to \$30,000 more in the private sector.

Compounding the problem, nearly half of current Iowa nurses plan to retire by 2010, leaving an increasingly limited number of young nurses to fill their shoes.

One recommendation from the group was to offer more

forgivable loans, so that nurses can decide to teach if they chose.

In terms of nurses' wages, Iowa ranks nearly last in the nation, below even Puerto Rico, according to the report. One of the goals of the task force is to find a way to raise wages to the national median in the next three years.

Swanson called the nursing shortage a cyclical process. The last big shortage was in the 1980s. However, she noted, that the lack of faculty isn't new.

"This isn't a problem that evolved over night," she said.

While solutions have been suggested and could be implemented, she said, reducing the shortage may be a few years down the road.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Alyssa Cashman** at: alyssa-cashman@uiowa.edu

## WORLD

### Declassified papers show British used astrology to fight Hitler

LONDON (AP) — Desperate for a glimpse into Adolf Hitler's unpredictable mind, British spies hired an astrologer during World War II to write horoscopes for him and other Nazi leaders, documents declassified Tuesday show.

They soon regretted it.

The file released to Britain's National Archives catalogues the frustrations of MI5 handlers as they tried to prevent the astrologer, Louis de Wohl, from publicly embarrassing high-ranking intelligence and military officers.

"I have never liked Louis de Wohl — he strikes me as a charlatan and an imposter," reads the first line in the astrologer's file. The letter is typical and appeared

to be signed by Dick White, who went on to become the head of Britain's domestic spy agency, MI5, in the 1950s.

That view didn't keep de Wohl from winning a temporary rank as a British army captain. He was sent by Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who did not believe in astrology, to the U.S. to persuade Americans that the Nazis would lose within months if they entered the war.

When de Wohl's services were no longer needed, intelligence agents puzzled over how to get rid of the man who called himself Britain's state seer, the declassified documents show.

De Wohl was born in Berlin in 1903 and fled to Britain in 1935 to avoid Nazi persecution for being part Jewish. His wife, Alexandra, fled to Santiago, Chile, where she claimed to be a Romanian princess and was known as "La Baronessa."

# Iowa deaths not linked to flu

## FLU

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Still, even slightly mismatched vaccines offer a certain level of protection, according to the CDC.

The health department's Feb. 29 press release recommends that parents help curb respiratory infections from spreading by keeping kids away from those who are already sick and keeping them home from school if they do fall ill.

"We don't have any control over what's in print, but we want to make sure we take time to clarify what's out there," Harris said.

Despite the media attention, not all parents are wound up about the news of the pediatric deaths. So far, no one has inquired about the incidents, said Gordon Cook, the director of the Montessori School of Iowa

City, 374 Holiday Road, Coralville.

"I don't believe we see a lot of flu," Cook said. "We have had our share of colds."

The school has 150 students between the ages of 3 and 9. To minimize chances of spreading diseases, Cook said, the school teaches children to wash their hands and sneeze or cough into their elbows. School officials also sanitize tabletops and areas in which the children eat.

The Iowa Department of Public Health is collaborating with researchers in other states, the CDC, and the UI Hygienic Laboratory for further investigation. They want to see if there is another virus circulating that scientists have not detected yet, Harris said.

E-mail *DI* reporter **Zhi Xiong** at: zhi-xiong@uiowa.edu



File photo/The Daily Iowan

Then-UI medical student Jonathan Daining of Pella receives a flu vaccination in Boyd Tower on Oct. 31, 2005. This year, Iowa has seen 20 pediatric deaths that some have worried may be connected to the influenza virus.

# Study: Class sizes benefit gifted kids

## ELEMENTARY

CONTINUED FROM 1A

associate superintendent, in an e-mail. "But research seems to indicate that they must be below 15 to really make a difference. This small is not possible within the current funding of education. The benefit would be in higher student achievement."

In addition to funding smaller class sizes at the lower grades, the local School District has funded training for teachers in

the best strategies to improve students achievement, Behle said.

"Within our district, class sizes are something we monitor very regularly," School Board President Toni Cilek said. "We have clearly defined parameters we use to make decisions about assigning teachers as well as classroom aids."

Classes average 19 to 20 students, compared with the average of 25 in the upper elementary levels, Behle said. Junior-high and high-school classes average

25 to 31 students.

"Basically, we have reduced class sizes in the elementary schools, and specifically kindergarten through second grade have been the target," said Jan Leff, a School Board member and former teacher, in an e-mail. "We want to ensure that students are reading proficiently by grade four, so we use our smaller class sizes to concentrate on reading skills."

Leff said that when she was a teacher, "the class size made an immense difference in the one-

on-one time I was able to spend with students."

"As a language-arts teacher, the number of papers I assigned to my students was based on the number of total students in my classes," she said. "Given that there are only so many hours in the day to read and correct writing assignments, a teacher has to correlate assignments to the number of students he or she is responsible for."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Briana Byrd** at: briana-byrd@uiowa.edu

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# Ex-envoy: U.S. must patch Mideast relations

With the zeal of an Evangelical, a former Middle Eastern ambassador stresses how similar the people of the United States are to those in the Mideast.

By Terry McCoy  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Time is short. Iowa City resident Mary Gravitt knows it. Former U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Wendy Chamberlin knows it. The United States doesn't have many chances left to galvanize support in the Middle East.

With the Iowa caucuses months behind, Chamberlin stopped by the Iowa City Public Library Monday to rehash a slew of Middle East issues she said should've been important to Iowans who caucused.

"There is an understanding in the United States and the world that our dialogue with the Middle East is damaged," Chamberlin, an ambassador from 2001 to 2002, said to a crowd of around 75 people. "But before we fix it we need to understand [the Middle East] and what's broken."

She saw just how broken the night of 9/11 when she and her two frantic teenage daughters were pulled from Pakistan to escape attack.

As Gravitt nodded emphatically while watching the former ambassador, her agreement was obvious.

"Our reputation is everything," she said. "A good name is better than fine gold. So we better get our act together."

Chamberlin said she's committed herself since her evacuation from Pakistan to developing an understanding



Robin Svec/The Daily Iowan

Wendy Chamberlin, a former U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, delivers a lecture at the Iowa City Public Library on Monday. Chamberlin, who is the president of the Middle East Institute, discussed how to achieve security and stability in the Middle East.

between her native country and her adopted.

But by all accounts, it hasn't been an easy task, because the Middle East's view of the United States continues to be plagued by paradoxes.

"The vast majority of people in the Middle East are nonviolent and family-oriented. They respect our freedoms," she said. "Yet despite our common values, the people in the region hold a startlingly low opinion of Americans."

Throughout Chamberlin's hour-long talk, her passion for the topic frequently broke through her initially calm demeanor in fits of wild gestures that almost knocked her microphone down.

"They want security. They want food security. They want roads. We know what they want. We've been asking them," she said.

Chamberlin said no one is exempt from the goal of starting relationships with

Middle Easterners. "We need to blog with them. We need to e-mail. We need to start some sort of dialogue," she said.

It's either that, she said, or they may turn to terrorism.

"This isn't the time to close our doors and our minds to the rest of the world," she said. "The U.S. has lost ground in foreign policy. But we can fix it. And I'm profoundly optimistic about the Middle East."

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

# Cheaper texts now the focus

By Kelsey Beltramea  
THE DAILY IOWAN

The Iowa Senate. The U.S. Senate. UI students laboring through midterms.

Everyone has textbooks weighing on the mind.

And a bill introduced by Rep. Bill Schickel, R-Mason City, aims to make those textbooks a little lighter on the wallet by giving coin-conscious college students — who the UI projects will spend \$1,040 on textbooks next academic year — a better chance to shop around.

Schickel's bill would require Iowa universities and community colleges to provide the international standard book numbers — or ISBNs — of course textbooks on the Internet and at campus bookstores at least 14 days before the start of a semester.

"If a university or college is doing great customer service and offering the lowest prices it can, this won't hurt [the school] at all," Schickel said. "But if it's using the campus bookstore to raise additional money to support the university, and it's charging exuberant prices to do so, then this bill will have a great effect."

Fortunately for UI students, ISBNs are already available on the University Book Store's website; the numbers have been online as long as the website has, said George Herbert, the bookstore's director. The professors are the ones who control their transmission.

"They come up as soon as order is up," Herbert said. "As soon as the professor gets us the order online — and some take longer than others — the ISBN goes up."

So the textbook-number bill, which passed the House unanimously on Feb. 21 and is in Senate committee, may not have that much of an effect on the UI — but it mirrors a nationwide trend of lawmakers targeting the escalating costs of education.

Bill aimed at textbooks

Visit [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) to read a copy of the Iowa bill that is targeted at students who want to shop around for college books. Also, watch Daily Iowan TV to find out more about a bill that would require book stores provide students with international standard book numbers.

The U.S. Senate is now considering a bill that passed the House of Representatives in February to amend the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007, pushing for cheaper textbooks, accessible financial aid, and protections for those who borrow money to go to school.

Lawmakers in states across the country are also pushing to offer cheaper alternatives through used-book programs and online material.

In New York, representatives are aiming to pass a bill that would make the campus-book-selling process more transparent, including a push for more electronic, downloadable texts.

Missouri lawmakers' Textbook Transparency Act goes after new edition textbooks with menial changes, requiring all textbook publishers vending their material in the state to provide professors with the price of any new edition book, along with a description of how it differs from older versions — which students could access.

In Colorado, a bill has been proposed that would require publishers to provide faculty with pricing, revision, and ability information regarding other formats of the text, such as paperback.

Schickel said these measures attest what most already know: The costs of education are getting out of hand.

He said, "Some people say if the cost of milk would have been rising as quickly as cost of textbooks, we'd be paying about \$17 a gallon. That's crazy."

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

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photograph by Nancy Hauserman

Front row: Assistant Vice President and Director Charles Green, UI Department of Public Safety and Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County Sheriff's Department. Back row: Chief Sam Hargadine, Iowa City Police Department and Chief Barry Bedford, Coralville Police Department.

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# The gift that stops giving

By Anne D'Innocenzio  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — You know that Sharper Image gift card you got for Christmas? Right now, it's worthless. And other gift cards in your wallet could lose their value, too.

As more retailers file for bankruptcy or go out of business, more than \$75 million in gift cards are at risk of becoming worthless pieces of plastic this year.

"If I knew this was going to happen, I would have used them right away," said Jon Tapper, a public-relations executive from Boston who received two Sharper Image cards as business gifts just a few weeks ago. Their total face value is \$50.

"I love gift cards, but now this makes me think twice."

The Sharper Image announced late last month that it was suspending the acceptance of gift cards, at least temporarily. It urged shoppers to check the company website later this month for an update. That is typical of businesses that reorganize under Chapter 11 bankruptcy, which treats gift cards as a loan to the company, not as cash.

For many shoppers, it's a harsh lesson about the risks of gift cards. Consumers spent an estimated \$26.3 billion in gift cards at retailers alone last holiday season, compared with \$24.8 billion in 2006 and \$18.48 in 2005, according to the National Retail Federation.

C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, says "you will see a lot of frustration among customers. You basically stole [money] out of the customers' pocket. They will never forgive you."

The number of retail bankruptcies or liquidations this year is expected to reach the highest levels since the 1991 recession.



Jon Tapper holds a pair of unredeemable gift cards from bankrupt retailer the Sharper Image at his office in Boston on Monday. As more retailers file for bankruptcy or go out of business, AP finds that more than an estimated \$75 million in gift cards could become worthless hunks of plastic this year.

Brian Riley, a senior analyst at the Tower Group, estimates that shoppers could lose more than \$75 million just from stores and restaurant closings in 2008. Tower Group's figure doesn't

include such mom-and-pop services as the local nail salon. Riley said such small operations, which are most vulnerable to economic downturns, pose the biggest risks to gift-card holders.

# Council to tackle football-game parking

A proposal expected to pass tonight would limit parking to one side on several streets near Kinnick on game days.

By Shawn Gude  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Parking on certain streets has become too congested around Kinnick Stadium, John Yapp, the Johnson County Council of Governments' executive director and transportation planner, told the Iowa City City Council at its Monday night work session.

The Fire Department has identified three streets south of West Benton Street — Weeber Street, Wylde Green Road, and Talwrn Court — as safety hazards when both sides are full of parked cars. Consequently, the city's transportation planning division has recommended that

parking on football game days to be limited to one side of the street. The other side will be designated as a tow-away zone.

"During most of the year, these streets operate fine," Yapp said. "There can be a car here, a car there, and traveling can be maintained. But during the home football games, with the congestion of street parking, it can be an issue."

The city would post signs reminding people not to park on the specified streets during game days.

The proposal — which would affect approximately 100 parking spaces — has "overwhelming support" in the affected neighborhoods, Yapp said, and

the council was receptive to the idea as well.

Councilor Amy Correia lauded the proposal, saying she had heard complaints during the football season that people couldn't get to the emergency room because of parking problems.

The council is expected to pass the resolution at tonight's meeting as a consent item.

Yapp said neighborhood residents have also brought up the idea of restricting parking to one side of the street the whole year. To make such a change, though, he said, a majority of affected residents would have to agree. The City Council would also have to vote on the proposal.

The council also discussed snow removal and set a public meeting on the topic for April 30 at 6:30 p.m.

And if all the snow hasn't melted by then, it may be a heated meeting, Councilor Mike Wright joked.

E-mail D/reporter Shawn Gude at: shawn-gude@uiowa.edu

## NATION

### Construction spending plunges by most in 14 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Construction spending took its biggest nosedive in 14 years, and manufacturing activity contracted, fresh trouble signs for a struggling economy.

The Commerce Department reported Monday that construction spending plunged by 1.7 percent in January. Builders slashed spending on residential projects, but the weakness spread beyond that ailing sector. There were cutbacks in spending on, among other things, hotels and motels, highways, and various projects by state and local governments.

"I think we're in a self-reinforcing downward cycle," said Mark Zandi, the chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.

Another report showed fallout from housing and credit problems cutting deeper into manufacturing.

The Institute for Supply Management's manufacturing index clocked in at 48.3 in February — the weakest reading in nearly five years. A reading above 50 indicates expansion. Anything below that shows contraction. Still, the reading was a bit better than the 48.1 that economists were forecasting.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials dropped 7.49 points to close at 12,258.90.

The latest showing on construc-

tion activity was worse than economists were expecting. They were forecasting a smaller decline of around 0.8 percent.

The 1.7 percent plunge in total construction spending came after a 1.3 percent decline in December. It was the largest drop since January 1994, when construction spending plummeted by 3.6 percent.

The one-two punch of the housing and credit crises is threatening to push the country into a recession or possibly has done so already.

Harder-to-get credit has thwarted some would-be home buyers, and record-high foreclosures are adding to the glut of unsold homes. That's aggravating the housing industry's woes.

## Teen Health Research Study

The University of Iowa's Department of Pediatrics invites youth aged 13-18 years in Johnson, Iowa and Cedar counties and surrounding areas to participate in a research study. This study will include four hours of focus group discussions and completing brief questionnaires. Teens are asked to provide feedback that will be used to develop an experimental video doctor intervention, which will be used in health care clinics to give feedback to teens who may put themselves at risk due to their alcohol use or other risk behaviors. Compensation is available.

If interested or would like more information please call Megan Dotson at 319-335-4106, toll free at (877) 846-8571, or by email at [megan-dotson@uiowa.edu](mailto:megan-dotson@uiowa.edu).

## HANCHER 35

### Angélique Kidjo

Thursday, March 6, 7:30 pm

Afropop superstar Angélique Kidjo has a brand new Grammy and she's headed to Hancher Auditorium. Kidjo blends styles from all around the globe to create unforgettable music. Don't miss this funky, spunky, ecstatic diva in concert!

More than just a musician/ Kidjo travels the world as a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, speaking out on behalf of children who have been forced to become soldiers in various African wars.

Kidjo will discuss these issues in two events, both free and open to the public:  
• Wednesday, March 5, 4 pm  
Senate Chamber in Old Capitol, UI Campus  
Co-sponsored by UI Center for Human Rights

• Wednesday, March 5, 7 pm  
Celebration Hall, African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center of Iowa  
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## HANCHER 35



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# GOP leader eyes move on gay marriage

By Amy Lorentzen  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DES MOINES — Iowa House Minority Leader Chris Rants said on Monday that he would use an unusual political maneuver to push a resolution on same-sex marriage out of committee.

Rants, R-Sioux City, wants a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage brought to the House floor this year, but he said the measure has been stalled by Democrats in the Judiciary Committee.

"It seems to me that if Democrats think we have an hour to debate sewage systems, surely they would give us 10 minutes to debate the value of traditional marriage and whether that ought to be the law of the land or not," he said during a news conference Monday afternoon.

To push the resolution, he plans to use a rare rule that would require the entire House chamber to vote whether the measure should be forced from committee and put on the debate schedule. He claims there is enough bipartisan support to do just that so long as Democratic leaders don't try to quash it.

"Either the body as a whole takes hold of it ... or we allow the Democrats on a party-line vote to kill this," he said.

Iowa law already defines marriage as between a man and woman, but that law has been challenged and is now before the Iowa Supreme Court. Rants said a constitutional amendment would protect traditional marriage from judicial challenge.

House Speaker Pat Murphy, D-Dubuque, said Rants has the right to push for the bill, but he

'Our position has not changed. We are not going to interfere in the judicial process while the Supreme Court is reviewing the case. We are going to continue our focus on improving education, expanding health care, and creating good jobs for Iowans.'

— House Speaker Pat Murphy, D-Dubuque

maintained that legislators should wait for the high court to make its decision.

"Our position has not changed. We are not going to interfere in the judicial process while the Supreme Court is reviewing the case," he said. "We are going to continue our focus on improving education, expanding health care, and creating good jobs for Iowans."

Rants timed Monday's announcement to go along with the Legislature's first funnel week, where bills not approved by a committee are rejected. Because the constitutional amendment is a resolution and not a bill, it isn't subject to the funnel, but Rants said it was the appropriate time to bring it up.

"This is the week in which traditionally all the bills live or die. It seems to me it's now or never," he said.

Rants said if the current attempt fails, "I may have another trick up my sleeve, but we'll see."

## 2008 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION



Carolyn Kaster/Associated Press

Democratic presidential-nomination hopeful Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton walks onto her campaign plane past members of the media after speaking at an airport hanger in Beaumont, Texas, on Monday.

# Dems fret about long, bruising campaign

### Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton face Texas, Ohio votes that could decide the nomination race.

By David Esposito  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton reached for the finish line of contentious Ohio and Texas primary campaigns on Monday as senior Democrats expressed concern the party could suffer this fall if their struggle goes much longer.

"I'm just getting warmed up," said Rodham Clinton, looking beyond this week's contests and shrugging off 11 straight primary and caucus defeats as well as a three-digit deficit in delegates.

The former first lady campaigned from Ohio, where she accused Obama of double talk on NAFTA, to Texas, where her

new television commercial questioned his readiness to serve as commander in chief.

Obama spent his day in Texas, a state rich in military bases, where he pledged to begin the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq next year and envisioned a "seamless transition from active duty to civilian life" for men and women who leave the armed forces.

In addition to Texas and Ohio, Rhode Island and Vermont will hold primaries today. The four races have a total of 370 national convention delegates at stake.

Obama has won 11-straight contests, and he leads in the Associated Press delegate count, 1,386-1,276. His margin

is greater among delegates chosen in the primaries and caucuses, 1,187-1,035, while Rodham Clinton leads among party officials, known as superdelegates, 241-199. MSNBC, which does not count superdelegates, puts the tally at 1,194 for Obama and 1,037 for Rodham Clinton.

Obama has been gaining ground among superdelegates in recent weeks as his victories have piled up, and Rodham Clinton's support has begun to erode.

At the same time, senior Democrats have begun to speak out in private as well as public about the effect a continuation of the bruising campaign might have in a fall

confrontation with Sen. John McCain, the Republican nominee-in-waiting.

Several Democrats said the party's chairman, Howard Dean, told House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid last week he was concerned about the possible effect of a nominating campaign that stretched through the end of the primaries in early June. Dean also said that if the party is divided going into next summer's convention, it would remain that way afterward, even if the differences were papered over in the four days in Denver, these officials said.

Dean did not suggest any attempt to intervene. The Democrats who described his comments did so on the condition of anonymity, saying they had been made in a private setting.

## NATION

### Sleepy heads

NEW YORK (AP) — Hey you! Dozing at your desk! Wake up, go home, and get more sleep!

That could be the message from a survey released Monday by the National Sleep Foundation. The survey of 1,000 people found participants average six hours and 40 minutes of sleep a night on weeknights, even though they estimated they'd need roughly another 40 minutes of sleep to be at their best.

Roughly one-third of those surveyed said they had fallen asleep or become very sleepy at work in the past month.

Just how big a deal that is depends, of course, on your job. Last week, the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission acknowledged it should have done more to investigate a tip that security guards routinely took naps while on the job at a Pennsylvania nuclear plant.

It wasn't until a videotape of guards sleeping in a "ready room" at the Peach Bottom plant in south-central Pennsylvania surfaced several months after it got the tip that the NRC announced in September a special investigation.

While sleepy workers know they're not performing as well as they could during the day, work is

what's keeping them up nights, according to the survey, which found workdays are getting longer and time spent working from home averages close to four-and-a-half hours each week.

It seems people are also trying to squeeze in more time for themselves and their families, even if it means less sleep. The average wake up is at 5:35 a.m., and it's followed by about two hours and 15 minutes at home before heading out to work, according to the survey. Average bedtime is 10:53.



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# Obama embroiled in NAFTA tiff

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Barack Obama said Monday that his campaign never gave Canada back-channel assurances that his harsh words about the North American Free Trade Agreement were for political show — despite the disclosure of a Canadian memo indicating otherwise.

According to the memo obtained by the Associated Press, Obama's senior economic adviser told Canadian officials in Chicago that the debate over free trade in the Democratic presidential-nomination primary campaign was "political positioning" and that Obama was not really protectionist.

The adviser, Austan Goolsbee, said his comments to those officials were misinterpreted by the author, Joseph DeMora, who works for the Canadian consulate in Chicago and attended the meeting.

In Carrollton, Texas, Obama told reporters: "Nobody reached out to the Canadians to try to assure them of anything."

Asked why he had appeared to deny a report last week that such a meeting had taken place, Obama said: "That was the information I had at the time."



Democratic presidential-nomination hopeful Sen. Barack Obama greets supporters before addressing a town-hall meeting for Dallas-area students and families Monday in Carrollton, Texas.

Rick Bowmer/Associated Press

## Study outlines most dangerous circumstances for tweens, teens

CHICAGO (AP) — Car crashes are the leading cause of death for tweens and teens, and a new study outlines some of the most dangerous circumstances: riding unbeltoned with new teen drivers on high-speed roads. These were the three biggest risk factors contributing to car crash deaths for passengers aged 8 to 17, the study found.

While young drivers have higher chances of dying, the six-year study focused on nearly 10,000 children passengers who were killed in car crashes. More than half — 54 percent — were riding with a teen driver. Drivers younger than 16 were the most dangerous.

Also, more than three-quarters of the fatal crashes occurred on roads with speed limits higher than 45 mph, and nearly two-thirds of the young passengers were not wearing seat belts, the researchers found.

Other dangerous circumstances for young passengers included drivers who'd been drinking alcohol, male teen drivers, and driving on weekends.

The message for parents is simple and sobering: Don't let your teen ride with a teen driver who has less than a year's experience driving. Insist on seat belts. And practice ways teens can resist peer pressure to ride with other teens, said Dr. Flaura Koplin Winston of The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the study's lead author.

## Ahmadinejad: U.S. power crippling region

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iran's fire-brand president wrapped up his landmark visit to Iraq with a bit of added swagger Monday — insisting that U.S. power is crippling the region and portraying himself as the enduring partner of Baghdad's Shiite-led government.

The parting words and posturing — as with nearly every moment of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's two-day trip — was powerful political theater seeking to emphasize Iran's growing bonds with its former enemy. U.S. officials had a front-row seat.

Ahmadinejad, the first Iranian leader to visit Iraq since Iran's 1979 Islamic Revolution, had no direct dealings with American envoys or the military. But Washington and its Sunni Arab allies were high on his agenda — taking every opportunity to send messages about Shiite Iran's rising influence in the region and its special ties to Iraq's Shiite majority.

For Washington, however, this is not a new lesson.

The toppling of Saddam Hussein's Sunni-heavy regime opened the door for Iran's inroads into the nation it battled during a horrific 1980-88 war that claimed an estimated 1 million lives. The United States — despite having no diplomatic ties with Tehran and accusing Iran of aiding Shiite militias — opened groundbreaking dialogue with Iranian officials last year that acknowledged the Islamic Republic as a critical player in Iraq.

## Eco-terrorists suspected in model-homes fire

WOODINVILLE, Wash. (AP) — Three seven-figure dream homes went up in flames early Monday in a Seattle suburb, apparently set by eco-terrorists who left a sign mocking the builders' claims that the 4,000-plus-square-foot houses were environmentally friendly.

The sign — a sheet marked with spray paint — bore the initials ELF, for Earth Liberation Front, a loose collection of radical environmentalists that has claimed responsibility for dozens of attacks since the 1990s.

The sheriff's office estimated that Monday's pre-dawn fires did \$7 million in damage to the "Street of Dreams," a row of unoccupied furnished luxury model homes in which tens of thousands of visitors last summer eyed the latest in high-end housing, interior design, and landscaping. Three homes were destroyed and two suffered smoke damage.

Crews removed incendiary devices found in the homes, Snohomish County District 7 Fire Chief Rick Eastman said. Later, however, Kelvin Crenshaw, the special agent in charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms in Seattle, said there was no evidence such devices had been used.

The FBI was investigating the fires as a potential domestic-terrorism act, said FBI spokesman Rich Kolko in Washington, D.C.

## Drones emerge as a top Israeli weapon

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinians say they know when an Israeli drone is in the air: Cell phones stop working, TV reception falters, and they can hear a distant buzzing. They also know what's likely to come next — a devastating explosion on the ground.

Palestinians say Israel's pilotless planes have been a major weapon in its latest offensive in Gaza, which has killed nearly 120 people since last week.

"Our experience is that the drone missile is successful in hitting its targets, and it's deadly," said Mahmoud Assali, a Palestinian physician who works in the emergency room of a northern Gaza Strip hospital that has often treated Palestinian gunmen hit by Israeli drones.

"The drone has a zone of around 15 meters [around 50 feet] where it decimates everything. It targets people and leaves them in pieces," he said.

Israel is at the forefront of the drone technology that is increasingly being used in hot spots around the world. The unmanned craft provide a deadly and cost-effective alternative for armies to target enemies, without risking their own pilots' lives and reducing civilian casualties in heavily populated areas.

## Firefighter, gunman dead; 5 injured in shooting

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A gunman wearing a jacket and tie wordlessly and randomly opened fire inside a Wendy's during the lunchtime rush Monday, killing a firefighter who'd gone back to fetch a missing meal toy for his child and wounding five others. He then turned the gun on himself.

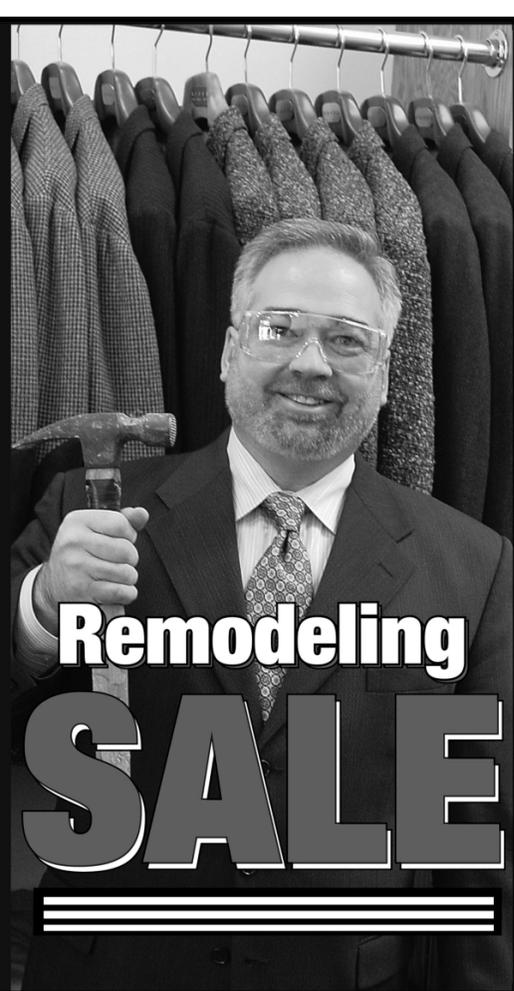
"This was not a robbery. He didn't demand anything," said Paul Miller, a Palm Beach County sheriff's spokesman. "Looks like this was just another random shooting like we've seen around the United States."

The 42-year-old victim, a Palm Beach County fire-rescue lieutenant who was not in uniform, had met his wife and child at the restaurant, Deputy fire-rescue Chief Steve Delai said. The family had gotten their food and walked out, but the man returned because the free toy was missing from the child's meal, he said.

The lieutenant, who had been promoted in January and was on his break from new officers' training at a building down the street, was shot in the back as he stood at the counter, Delai said. "Our officer probably didn't

even see him," Delai said, adding that the man's wife and child were still in the parking lot when the shooting broke out.

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BUSINESS AND CASUAL CLOTHING FOR MEN

# Opinions

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## Editorial

# Having sex on the brain could be for the best

With course offerings that run the gambit from the history of jazz to the study of yoga, the UI has come under fire recently for neglecting the blue-collar, lab-coat style classes that critics say anchor a liberal-arts education and legitimize a degree. Especially pointed is Republican state Rep. Mike May's recent criticism of the university's sexual-studies offerings. In response to hearing that the university offers more than 35 courses that use the word "sex" in their titles, May was quoted last week by the AP as saying, "It does give me pause when I see we're expending so many resources on classes like this." In e-mail correspondence with *The Daily Iowan*, however, he qualified his statement, adding to the above quotation, "There are so many needs around the state. However, I have no desire to micromanage what the universities are offering for courses."

The logic behind his thinking is simple. Every year, employers nationwide are faced with a crush of eager college graduates hoping their freshly printed diplomas will score them steady salaries and spots on the company softball team. Now more than ever, these employers thirst for experience-steeped graduates, rich with real-world skills and practical knowledge. True, a diploma from the UI should symbolize years of hard work and sacrifice that potential employers can sink their teeth into. But, with an ever-growing course catalogue of more than 2,000 distinct classes, the UI also has room for offbeat areas of study. The sexual-studies program is a good example.

Although giggly students might jump at the chance to enroll in courses with "sex" in their titles, Elizabeth Heineman, the coordinator of the sexual-studies program at Iowa, says they're no joke. Far from

examining effective Ped Mall pickup lines, the many sexually focused courses at Iowa delve into multifaceted psychological, philosophical, and ethical considerations. Students hoping for a light syllabus and a free copy of the *Kamasutra* will be disillusioned quickly. Critics might attack such classes as "Gender and Sexuality in French Cinema" as a waste of classroom space, but their redemptive value as intellect-expanding discourses is easily defensible.

Students serious enough about sexual studies can earn a certificate in the area. The interdisciplinary distinction requires 21 credit hours from a wide variety of sexual-studies courses. And although offering 35 classes that use "sex" in their titles might seem a far cry from conservative, compared with its peers, the extent of UI's sexual-studies offerings is unremarkable. The University of Illinois, for instance, offers a major-status degree in women's and gender studies and boasts many more courses with sexual themes than does Iowa.

Sex permeates every aspect of our lives. Even Schaeffer Hall and Macbride Auditorium are not immune from its lurking grasp. Like any other facet of existence, sex should be studied, and its implications should be analyzed in a classroom setting.

May's and his colleagues' point is not without substance, of course. It's true that the workforce credits real-world skills and practical knowledge over philosophical pursuits and late-night pub crawls. Students should be conscious of their course selections and avoid four years' worth of "fluff." In an intellectually charged learning environment, however, determining a course's worth is a slippery issue. One person's "fluff" is another's bread and butter.

# The roid not taken

This just in from baseball's steroids front — the steroids front? you say. Don't we have something, even one thing, more important to worry about than steroids in baseball?

Well, we'd like to think so. But then, we'd like to think a lot of things that, actually, in the day-to-day, we don't wind up thinking about. This thinking business is trickier than we think. I think.

Meanwhile, back at the front, there are indeed all these fronts outside of baseball that could concern us — warm fronts (not an overabundance in the last eight weeks), cold fronts (no comment), stagflation fronts (which is nothing like a stag party, my sources tell me, but then, they're all deer to me), the Afghanistan front (U.S. intel says the country is in danger of becoming a failed state, despite the U.S. having spent \$140 billion there since 9/11 — admittedly, a mere hiccup in terms of U.S. spending on Iraq — and things will probably only get worse now that the Brits have been forced to pull Prince Harry out of the country).

Thanks, Drudge Report. Will we ever have enough of this drudgery? And all that frontal assault is not to mention the Karl Rove front (which denies any involvement in everything from Alabama judges to the 2000 and 2004 elections and then adds, without being asked, Valerie who?).

But none of those other fronts own the advantage of having Roger Clemens front (so's to speak) and center, as does baseball's steroid front. His verbal gymnastics make those of another famous Texan pale into the trash heap of ordinary gibberish.

Take what Clemens said last week at the Houston Astros' spring-training camp: "I think everybody is thinking that I'm sitting around with my hands buried in my head or something."

Do steroids enable you to do that? Who knew? Well, OK, outside of Jose Canseco and Barry Bonds. No wonder their heads get so big. Hands-in experience. I mean, the rest of us mere mortals, burdened by as we are by cliché instead of performance-enhanced locations, still bury our heads in our hands.

There is, of course, far greater imbecility going on in this world than that of Roger Clemens, hard as it might seem some days. Take the Turkish invasion of Iraq. Somewhere around the middle of it, the Bush administration starting making pull-out noises, as in, You Turks should finish the job and pull out.

Kind of funny, isn't it? The only time the Cowboy in Chief wants a timetable for troop withdrawal from Iraq is when somebody else invades Iraq.

It might just be me, but somehow, I think this falls under "Do what I say, not what I do."

In a nice little bit of slapstick, the Turks at first seemed to take their cue from the Bush hombres — they had no penchant for establishing such a timetable.

Since then, the Turks have withdrawn, but you gotta admit, that's a true ally: While Turkey was busy invading Iraq, it espoused U.S. principles about Iraq (no timetable for withdrawal) even when America really don't want to hear about its principles.

Well, at least Turkey isn't muttering anything about staying in Iraq for 100 years. But then again, Sen. John "The Magic 100" McCain isn't running Turkey's foreign policy. Yet, anyway.

Of course, the Turks could do much worse than Sen. 100. (That's the great thing about this life; things could always be worse. There's an old Irish saying to this effect. But then, there's an old Irish saying for everything, which apparently is what 700 years of English rule will do to you.)

How could the Turks do worse? you ask. They could get Rep. Jack Kingston, a Republican from Georgia, to run things. Kingston, in an apparent attempt to outdo Iowa Rep. Steve King in woodenheadedness, last week went on MSNBC and impugned Sen. Barack Obama's patriotism because — drum roll — Obama doesn't wear an American flag pin in his lapel.

No, really. You can watch it on YouTube. Kingston goes on and on about Obama and his lack of a flag pin, implying, of course, that Obama must not be a *real* American. And the great part? Kingston himself was not wearing an American flag pin in his lapel.

It's enough to make you want to bury your hands in your head. ■

**Beau Elliot** reports that no steroids or human-growth hormones were abused in the writing of this column. We have to admit, we've seen no human growth in you.



**BEAU ELLIOT**

## Letters

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** may be sent via e-mail to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu (as text, not as attachment). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.  
**GUEST OPINIONS** that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.

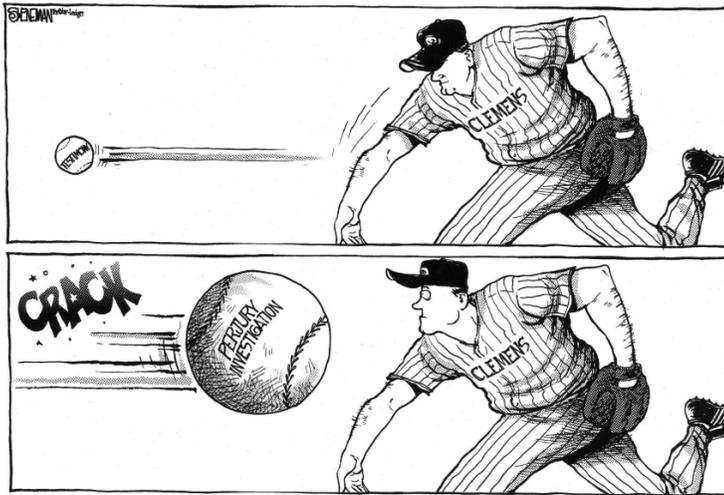
## Labor Party endorses VIP

One year ago, orange T-shirts and yellow hard hats flooded the UI as students representing nearly every sector of campus came together with a single mission: to build a better, stronger undergraduate experience at the UI.

What had started as the dream of a few quickly grew to become the ambition of hundreds and the vote of thousands. The campaign had grown to something greater than all of us, and yet, incomplete with out each and every one of us.

Though we didn't quite reach our end destination (short by only 95 votes), we were able to build so much along the way. Lifelong friendships, a solid, feasible platform of ideas, \$1,200 for Habitat for Humanity, pant-less poncho runs, and a strike for student rights are just a few examples of how this party was able to truly work hard and play hard.

Advocates of hard work and experience: It is once again time to make your voice heard. When you log onto ISIS today to select who will lead UISG in the coming year, do not merely cast your vote for the party that "represents" you. Rather, elect the party that is you. Elect the party that



will work hard for the student body, the party that has the experience to get the job done. Vote for VIP.

Stronger than the Student "Power" Party and with ideas more realistic than the "Dream" Team, the answer is more transparent than the "Naked" Party. If you

want your vote to work hard for you, vote for the VIP Party.

**Mark Anthony Dingbaum**  
UI senior

**Tess Feldman**  
UI senior

## Step right up for Rove

It's too bad Karl Rove didn't get to speak at the UI in February. However, there still may be time to have his March 9 appearance be even bigger and better and more profitable for him.

I know a lot of students and taxpayers were upset at the \$40,000 fee promised to him. I think Rove should also have been upset at such a paltry sum (it represents only eight seconds of the cost of the war his lies helped start).

Here's what I'd propose. Rove could pay the UI \$10,000 or so for use of Carver-Hawkeye and arrange a ticket price of \$40 per person. With 5,000 paying customers, he'd make \$190,000, the UI would be \$50,000 better off, and Rove would have shown his adherence to the free-market principles he so fervently espouses. Reward is not supposed to happen without risk. Consumers are willing to pay for value. Rove should take the risk of finding out for himself what kind of value he really has here.

**Ed Flaherty**  
Iowa City resident

## Guest Opinion

# Help make Iowa smoke-free

Last week the Iowa Senate voted in favor of legislation that would make most indoor public places in Iowa smoke-free. The Iowa House deserves considerable credit for getting the ball rolling the prior week, and the Senate's version protects even more Iowans — it is a great bill. I'd like to explain why and how American Cancer Society volunteers have championed this important public-health measure for so long and what you can do to help make it reality.

Why is this legislation so important? The mission of the American Cancer Society's 8,000 Iowa volunteers is to eliminate cancer and reduce the suffering it causes. Simply put, eliminating exposure to the poisons in tobacco is the number-one way to accomplish that mission.

Tobacco use causes many deadly diseases. The harmful chemicals in tobacco affect not only the user, but also anyone else who is exposed to smoke. Food service workers have a 50 percent greater risk of dying from lung cancer than the general population. This year, over 400 Iowans will lose their lives due to exposure to someone else's cigarette smoke.

Protecting public health is one of the most fundamental responsibilities of government. With the dangers of secondhand smoke being a proven health threat, as reported by the U.S. surgeon general last year, our elected officials

are obligated to act. In reality, protecting public safety by reducing exposure to known health threats is nothing new. Laws relating to asbestos are a good example. Likewise, no citizen has the right to knowingly expose the public to these dangers.

So, how have American Cancer Society volunteers worked to influence this legislation? Through action!

In the past weeks, thousands of messages from American Cancer Society volunteers have hit the desks of our lawmakers, urging them to pass comprehensive smoke-free legislation. But the battle is far from over. Be assured that opponents are gearing up like never before, and in addition to our American Cancer Society volunteers, our representatives will need to hear from the "silent" majority of Iowans who support smoke-free workplaces. In fact, it has never been more important to speak up. We invite you to join in improving the safety of workers and citizens in public places. Contact your State Representative and insist on the passage of the comprehensive, statewide smoke-free bill. Everyone's safety matters, and every voice counts.

**Gretchen Tegeler**  
Des Moines

The author is the state vice president of the American Cancer Society.

## On the Spot

Should the UI continue to offer courses that focus on sexuality?



"Yeah, it sounds fine to me."

**Joel McCrory**  
UI senior



"Of course. It's something very important to my student body."

**Mike Loots**  
UI junior



"Yeah. If they're not essential, why not get rid of all gen-ed's?"

**Joe Reilly**  
UI senior



"Yes. We're all adults; we should discuss mature topics."

**Katie Petersen**  
UI junior



**Celebrate International Women's Day today** with Iowa Writers' Workshop faculty members Cole Swensen, Marilynne Robinson, and Elizabeth McCracken. They will read their own writing in addition to the work of another female author of influence at the Sanctuary Restaurant & Pub at 8 p.m. today. Proceeds from the event will go to the Domestic Violence Intervention Program.

# Arts & Culture

## Back in the Folds

Thank the piano-rock gods — Ben Folds is a badass once again. It takes skill to construct pop hooks in the midst of virtuoso key control, but his sold-out show in the IMU on Sunday proved that Folds' edge hasn't folded.

By Paul Sorenson  
THE DAILY IOWAN



Robin Svec/The Daily Iowan  
**Ben Folds rocks a sold-out crowd in the IMU Main Ballroom as part of his current college campus tour on Sunday.**

When Ben Folds took the stage — complete with a probably ironic T-shirt and unkempt hair — I was nervous which Folds we would see. The piano man started out doing what he does best: Billy Joel gone bad, touting angry breakup songs with unusual pop-piano hooks. But when the Ben Folds Five dissolved, and with it most traces of “Song for the Dumped,” he gradually got duller and sappier.

*Rockin' the Suburbs* did it right (see “The Luckiest,” “Fred Jones, Part 2”), though I'm convinced that *Songs for Silverman* exists only because “Landed” — a fine single — needed an album to call home. Folds is a scruffy, bitter Elton John, but was it required that he had to follow that legend into “Candle in the Wind” lameness? When he nearly sold his soul for the cash *Over the Hedge* gave him for original soundtrack bits, my affection for Folds nearly folded.

Enter his sold-out show in the IMU Main Ballroom on Sunday. This was it: Either he became the badass I dreamt he once was, or he would lead with “Trusted” and I scream for him to give me my money back, that bitch. After a strange opening by Eef Barzelay — a white-suited guitarist who was an interesting performer but not an

interesting musician and who beckoned the audience to let him “drink our bath water” — I was restless.

Then Folds arrived and sat down at his grand piano. What I heard was impassioned and driving, above syrupy darkness but wading in indignation. And perhaps most important of all: It was new.

The tune “Errant Dog” was one of a half-dozen fresh offerings Folds played on Sunday, and it appears he's cut the iffy blah. Middle age — inspiring on *Suburbs*, boring on *Silverman* — has finally become angsty again. It's hard to

blame Folds for being a bit miffed, seeing that the 41-year-old was just divorced from his third wife (apparently not the charm) in the midst of losing his musical relevance. With his last LP 3 years old, the time had to be now.

Folds said he'd just finished recording four days ago, and he even had the crowd help with sound effects (cheering and clapping) to be mixed into the final album. That song, about Folds' concussion after falling headfirst off the stage in Hiroshima, Japan, will purportedly be the opening track — and if the imagery of blood dripping

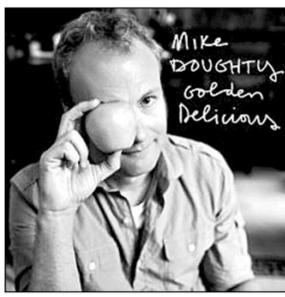
on the keyboard isn't a gripping comeback, nothing is. “Effington” and “Free Coffee” were solid pieces of modern dissonance, and the only questionable newbie, “Kylie from Connecticut,” was saved by an instrumental break — and this was the first time the whole song was played live.

The found-again energy benefited the older stuff too. “Zak and Sara” still had all its flair; “Brick” still held its status as the most depressing song ever. And although rumors of a Folds cover of Dr. Dre's “Bitches Ain't Shit” floated like the holy grail of imitations, I never imagined how perfect it would be — this is suburban America: gangsta rap transformed by a nerdy white guy and cheered on by bros and hipsters alike.

Folds treated us to a hopefully improvised robo-pop synthesizer bit about going to CVS and getting some mystery pills, pounding the chorus “rock this bitch in Iowa City,” and by that time we were his. Although his jagged jam session on “Narcolespsy” was at least twice too long, and his encore featured merely one song (albeit was the awesome “One Angry Dwarf and 200 Solemn Faces”), we were able to forgive him. Ben Folds' softy side is dead: Long live Ben Folds.

E-mail 80 Hours Editor Paul Sorenson at: paul-sorenson@uiowa.edu

## RECORD REVIEWS



Mike Doughty  
*Golden Delicious*  
★★★★ out of ★★★★★

rough and tumble drums and Irish screamo, the album's signature title track, “Float,” is littered with violins and acoustic guitars, departing from the group's wild-guy past.

While there are a few tracks on the record that catch ears, much of the middle fuses together, and it's difficult to hear the chorus differences between “The Lighting Storm” and “From the Back of a Broken Dream.”

But the overall Irish fervor of Flogging Molly carries the album, a welcome subgenre of punk.

**Brigid's Picks:** “(No More) Paddy's Lament” and “Requiem For A Dying Song.”

— by Brigid Marshall



Murder by Death  
*Red of Tooth and Claw*  
★★★½ out of ★★★★★

**DI** [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com)  
**GIVE A LISTEN**  
• “Fuego!”

Indiana's dark alt-country quartet, Murder by Death, can define its sound simply — lead guitarist and singer Adam Turla sounds like Johnny Cash after a few glasses of whisky; the group has a full-time cellist, Sarah Balliet, whose beauty is also a concert draw.

It's no mistake, then, that the band's new record, *Red of Tooth and Claw*, continues to define it as such. Murder by Death's last outing, *In Bocca Al Lupo*, was disappointing because its signature driving guitar and cello was oddly played down for halfhearted theatrics of redemption. Luckily for fans and the band's newfound Vagrant record label, *Red of Tooth and Claw* is solid redirection into sad yet toe-tapping gothic-indie-country-whatever territory.

The opener, “Comin' Home,” features a strong cello backbone and speed-country guitar. But the other side of Murder by Death, the dread-dripping ballad, is what really stands out. “Fuego,” for all the intensity of the title, is about as close as it has come to a synthesis of propulsion and pondering. *Red of Tooth and Claw*'s a somewhat bumpy ride into Murder by Death's dusty Western mythos, but road is worth traveling.

**Paul's Picks:** “Fuego!” “Spring Break 1899”

— by Paul Sorenson

## DIY in scrap-metal music

By Tara Atkinson Gunyon  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Trash and metal and homemade instruments — that's what Boston-based band Neptune is made of.

It has been called postindustrial noise punk, art noise rock, even postapocalyptic freak music, but the members of Neptune don't tie themselves down with genre distinctions. It's difficult even to label members Jason Sanford, Mark Pearson, and Daniel Boucher, because the band's writing process is entirely collaborative, and everyone plays everything. In fact, it's difficult to even name what they play — some of the homemade instruments resemble a modern sculpture, a box of light switches, even an implement of torture.

“[Neptune] is really an amalgam of the three of us,” Pearson said. “It's hard to come up with an umbrella term.”

Neptune will play tonight at the Picador, 330 E. Washington, with Lwa/Nimby, Foul Tip, Weather is Happening, and Dimas Lemus.

Listening to Neptune's latest album, *Gong Lake*, you'll hear a heavy, atonal rock sound that almost seems familiar but not quite. Unlike other bands labeled “noise,” the sounds Neptune makes can't be bought in a pedal from a music store. Even with electronic elements, the sound is unique and refreshingly physical in an increasingly compressed and digitized scene.

The album, released by Table of the Elements, is the first to receive wide distribution. Sanford said the band's obscurity was not intentional, but it took awhile to find people willing to produce the albums for a larger audience.

The band started 14 years ago, when Sanford, who was studying sculpture, had the inspiration to combine the medium with his interest in music.

“I was getting disenchanted with sculpture that didn't do anything,” he said.

Soon thereafter, the first instrument was born. Subsequent Neptune creations

come from varying sources — trash-picking is one. The band members continually build new instruments, sometimes inspired by a found object with an interesting sound and sometimes created from the need for a certain sound in a song. The pursuit of new sounds is what Sanford believes has kept the band together for so long.

“We listen to a lot of music, but when we write, it's about unlearning that in a way,” he said. “It's like we try to play music as if we've never really heard music before, and we're reinventing it for the first time. In that way, it's easy. It's a process of discovering the sounds.”

And the sounds are new. After witnessing Neptune, the novelty of hitting a guitar with a tequila bottle or using a vibrator for a feedback solo seems as much like kid stuff as the banging on pots and pans the band's technique more accurately resembles.

E-mail 2/reporter Tara Atkinson Gunyon at: tara-atkinson@uiowa.edu

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Neptune  
*Gong Lake*

**GIVE A LISTEN**  
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• “Paris Green”  
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New Orleans 100, New York 88  
Utah 116, Dallas 110  
Philadelphia 106, L.A. Clippers 80

**NHL**  
Washington 10, Boston 2  
Anaheim 3, Ottawa 1

## SPORTS

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Tuesday, March 4, 2008

Women's track: Tracksters look ahead, 2B

dailyiowan.com



## DRAKE

## Drake stays at No. 20; North Carolina returns to No. 1

(AP) — Drake remained at No. 20 in the Associated Press' college basketball poll on Monday, despite losing to Missouri State last week.

The Bulldogs (25-4), the top seed in the upcoming Missouri Valley Tournament, had climbed as high as 14th in the poll before losing three of their last six.

Drake lost 86-83 at Missouri State on Feb. 26 but beat Wichita State, 73-63, on March 1 at home to finish the regular season. The conference tournament will begin Thursday in St. Louis.



Davis

Drake coach

North Carolina was back at No. 1 again in the AP poll, thanks to a memorable few days in the state of Tennessee.

Tennessee started last week at No. 1 in poll after defeating previously top-ranked Memphis. But the Vols then lost to Vanderbilt on Feb. 26.

Up stepped North Carolina, which ran its record to 27-2 with a win over Boston College and returned to the top spot it held for the first 10 weeks of the season.

Memphis (28-1), which held the top spot for five weeks, stayed at No. 2. UCLA (26-3) moved up one spot to third, while Tennessee (26-3) dropped to No. 4.

North Carolina, which rallied from 18 points down to beat BC, 90-80, in its only game last week, received 38 first-place votes and 1,745 points from the 72-member national media panel.

## WRESTLING

## Big Ten releases wrestling seeds

The top-ranked Iowa wrestling program got a better idea of where it stands only six days away from the Big Ten championships, when the conference released preliminary seeds for the tournament on Monday.

Highlighting the Hawkeye lineup are No. 1 seeds Brent Metcalf at 149 pounds and defending NCAA champion Mark Perry at 165 pounds, who will likely return to the mats this weekend for the first time since undergoing knee surgery Jan. 22.

Joining the duo near the top of their respective weight classes are a trio of No. 2 seeds — Charlie Falck (125 pounds), Joe Slaton (133), and Jay Borschel (174).

Behind Ohio State's Mike Pucillo and Michigan's Tyrel Todd at 184 pounds, Iowa grappler Phil Keddy is the Hawkeyes' lone No. 3 seed. Iowa's 141-pounder Dan LeClere and heavyweight Matt Fields are each slated in the No. 4 seed in their weight classes.

Rounding out the lineup for Iowa were 157-pound Hawkeye Ryan Morningstar and 197-pounder Chad Beatty, each of whom earned a No. 7 seed for their work during the regular season.

— by Charlie Kautz

## TV TODAY

## NCAA BASKETBALL

• Purdue at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPN  
• Miami (OH) at Kent State, 7 p.m., ESPN2  
• Arkansas at Mississippi, 8 p.m., ESPN  
**NHL**  
• Buffalo at Philadelphia, 6 p.m., ESPN

## Bluder Coach of the Year

By Brendan Stiles

THE DAILY IOWAN

If Sunday was a memorable day in Iowa women's basketball, Monday was not too far behind, given all the accolades that came the team's way.

For the first time since the 2000-01 season, her very first at the Hawkeye helm, Lisa Bluder was named Big Ten Coach of the Year by both the coaches and media after

guiding a squad picked to finish seventh by the coaches to a share of the conference crown with Ohio State.

"Any individual award that any individual gets is the reflection of a team," Bluder said on Monday at a hastily scheduled press conference. "This is a team sport."

She took that point a step further, saying that it was a reflection of all the hard work and dedication the players had put into this year after

finishing 14-16 last season.

"They believed in our system," Bluder said. "We set high goals at the beginning of this year, and they bought in. They believed and did everything they could every day in practice."

"I'm just very thankful for the opportunity to coach the team this year."

Comparing this award with the one she won in 2001, she drew on a lot of parallels from the team seven

years ago and her current group of Hawkeyes, even though this time around, she had the chance to work with players she brought in.

"Both had battled back from adversity," Bluder said. "Both have had struggling years prior, and I think that's what makes it a little more special."

Prior to this season, Johanna Solverson had never been named Big



Bluder

head coach

SEE BLUDER, 3B

## IOWA (12-18, 5-12) VS. NORTHWESTERN (8-19, 1-15)

TODAY, AT WELSH-RYAN ARENA, EVANSTON, ILL., 8:05 P.M., BIG TEN NETWORK, KXIC-AM 800

## Hawks try to shake off tough week



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

Iowa freshman Jake Kelly pulls up for a shot over Illinois guard Mike Davis on March 1 in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The Hawkeyes will play at Northwestern tonight in their regular-season finale.

After an admittedly rough week for Todd Lickliter's coaching staff, the Hawkeyes head to Northwestern tonight hoping to escape with a win.

By Charlie Kautz

THE DAILY IOWAN

A month away from his first-year anniversary with the Hawkeyes, Todd Lickliter looked more like a man in need of marriage counseling Monday than a head coach about to celebrate his first Big Ten campaign.

Hoping to use last week's favorable schedule to better position themselves in the conference standings, Iowa instead lost a pair of winnable games to Penn State and Illinois to fall to a tie for eighth place in the conference.

"Last week was probably as difficult of week as I can remember in coaching," Lickliter

said. "It's just disappointing. But much like in a game, I believe this, you should play all the way to the end."

Down but not defeated, that end is nearing for Iowa (12-18, 5-12), which will close out the regular season with a road trip to Northwestern today at 8:05 p.m.

Facing a pesky Wildcats team that nearly defeated Iowa on Feb. 19, Lickliter and the Hawkeyes have a chance to end a pair of separate three-game losing streaks in the road finale.

Of the highest concern is the team's current skid, which witnessed road losses at

## Line ups

## Iowa (12-18, 5-12)

F	Cyrus Tate	6-8	Jr.	7.9
F	Seth Gomey	7-0	Sr.	4.4
G	Tony Freeman	6-1	Jr.	14.1
G	Justin Johnson	6-6	Sr.	11.9
G	Jake Kelly	6-6	Jr.	6.9

## Northwestern (8-19, 1-15)

F	Ivan Peljusic	6-8	Fr.	4.1
F	Kevin Coble	6-8	So.	16.1
G	Craig Moore	6-4	Jr.	13.6
G	Michael Thompson	5-10	Fr.	11.4
G	Sterling Williams	6-4	Jr.	5.8

## Lickliter looking to rebound

Watch Daily Iowan TV at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) to hear more from Iowa head coach Todd Lickliter's weekly press conference on Monday as the Hawkeyes prepare to take on Northwestern.

SEE BASKETBALL, 3B

## RECRUITING

## Itching to be a Hawk

By Charlie Kautz

THE DAILY IOWAN

Not even two days after his 26-point effort pushed City High into the state tournament and almost two years after voicing his inevitable commitment to Iowa, Matt Gatens takes a moment to relax.

It's been 11 months since the now-senior was thrown into the starring role of "Meet the Licklitters," an unexpected



Gatens

future Hawkeye

sequel to his prior recruitment by former Hoosiers All-American and Hawkeye coach Steve Alford.

The son of an Iowa basketball player and Hawkeye cheerleader and the brother to a pair of sisters who each played sports for the Hawkeyes, you can't help but wonder what you'd find were you to open the 18-year-old's duffle bag.

Long labeled the future savior of the Iowa basketball program, which could be a hometown hero, his casual yet confident approach to a short afternoon interview has you convinced his water bottle is filled with Hawkeye-flavored Gatorade.

SEE GATENS, 3B

## Focus the key for baseball Hawkeyes

Weekend wins over Xavier and No. 7 Vanderbilt are marked as highlights, but a loss against Kansas looms over the Iowa baseball team.

By Ryan Young

THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa baseball coach Jack Dahm has a saying circulating among his players that it's not the better team that wins, it's the team that plays the best.

However, after the Hawkeyes seized victories against No. 7 Vanderbilt and highly lauded Xavier last weekend, Dahm's rallying aphorism appears to be transcending into a proven philosophical proverb — one his team is trusting with each passing game this season.

"We showed against Vanderbilt and Xavier that if we play hard, we'll come out on top," said junior first baseman Wes Freie, who was named MVP of the Music City Classic in Nashville, Tenn. The product of Wilton, Iowa, went 9-for-15 in the tournament, including 4-for-4 in the Hawkeyes' upset of the Commodores.

As a team, Iowa outthit Vanderbilt 14-9. Celebration after the 6-3 victory was held to a minimum, though. There was no excessive jubilation after the final out,

because the Hawkeyes knew Kansas awaited the next day.

And during the Sunday afternoon matchup with the Jayhawks, a pair of errors translated into five Kansas runs in the second inning.

Starting righty Steve Turnbull was pulled after allowing four earned runs in three innings, but despite valiant efforts by sophomore reliever Kyle Heim to keep Kansas' runs at bay, the Hawkeyes failed to sweep the three-game road



Julie Brayton/The Daily Iowan

The Hawkeye baseball team runs sprints during practice in the Bubble on Feb. 27. Iowa beat No. 7 Vanderbilt and a talented Xavier team last weekend, but coach Jack Dahm was disappointed with the Hawkeyes' loss to Kansas.

SEE BASEBALL, 3B



# Sports

## SPORTS 'N' STUFF

### MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Wisconsin	14	2	.875	24	4	.857
Purdue	14	2	.875	23	6	.793
Indiana	13	3	.813	24	5	.828
Michigan St.	11	5	.688	23	6	.793
Minnesota	8	8	.500	17	10	.643
Penn St.	6	10	.375	14	14	.500
Iowa	5	12	.294	12	18	.400
Michigan	5	12	.294	9	20	.310
Illinois	4	12	.250	12	17	.414
Northwestern	1	15	.063	8	19	.296

**Today's Games**  
Iowa at Northwestern, 8:05 p.m.  
Purdue at Ohio State, 6 p.m.

**Wednesday's Games**  
Minnesota at Indiana, 6 p.m.  
Penn State at Wisconsin, 8 p.m.

**Thursday's Games**  
Michigan State at Illinois, 8 p.m.

**Saturday's Games**  
Minnesota at Illinois, 12 p.m.  
Wisconsin at Northwestern, 2 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**  
Michigan State at Ohio State, 11 a.m.  
Indiana at Penn State, 1 p.m.  
Purdue at Michigan, 3 p.m.

### BIG TEN WOMEN'S TOURNAMENT

**Consoco Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, In.**

**Thursday's Games**  
Game 1- #7 Michigan vs. #10 Penn State, 11 a.m.  
Game 2- #6 Indiana vs. #11 Northwestern\*  
Game 3- #8 Wisconsin vs. #9 Illinois\*

**Friday's Games**  
Game 4- #2 Iowa vs. Game 1 winner, 10:30 a.m.  
Game 5- #3 Purdue vs. Game 2 winner\*  
Game 6- #1 Ohio State vs. Game 3 winner\*  
Game 7- #4 Michigan vs. #5 Michigan State\*

**Saturday's Semifinal Games**  
Game 8- Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 5 p.m.  
Game 9- Game 6 winner vs. Game 7 winner\*

**Sunday Championship Game**  
Game 8 winner vs. Game 9 winner, 4:30 p.m.  
ESPN2

\*Games begin 25 minutes after previous game  
All Games except Championship Game televised on the Big Ten Network

### 2008 NFL FREE AGENT SIGNINGS

**ATLANTA FALCONS**—Re-signed QB Chris Redman. Agreed to terms with RB Michael Turner. Signed DB Erik Coleman, DB Von Hutchins and TE Ben Hartsock.

**BUFFALO BILLS**—Signed LB Kawika Mitchell and DT Spencer Johnson.

**CAROLINA PANTHERS**—Agreed to terms with CB-KR Rickey Anderson and G Kendrick Vincent.

**CHICAGO BEARS**—Re-signed LB Lance Briggs. CINCINNATI BENGALS—Signed DE Antwan Odom.

**CLEVELAND BROWNS**—Agreed to terms with WR Donte Stallworth. Re-signed QB Derek Anderson. DENVER BRONCOS—Signed WR Keary Colbert and LB Niko Koutouflos. Re-signed DE Ebenzer Ekuban.

**DETROIT LIONS**—Re-signed CB Keith Smith. Signed TE Michael Gaines.

**HOUSTON TEXANS**—Signed CB Jacques Reeves; LB Kevin Bentley.

**JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS**—Signed CB Drayton FAllen. Agreed to terms with WR Jerry Porter.

**KANSAS CITY CHIEFS**—Signed LB Demario Williams.

**MIAMI DOLPHINS**—Signed LB Reggie Torbor and Charlie Anderson, TE Sean Ryan, WR Ernest Wilford, DT Randy Starks, G Justin Smiley, and QB Josh McCown. Re-signed S Jeremiah Bell.

**MINNESOTA VIKINGS**—Agreed to terms with WR Bernard Berrian, FB Thomas Tapeh and S Madieu Williams.

**NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS**—Re-signed WR Randy Moss, LB Tedy Bruschi, C Lonnie Paxton and WR Kelley Washington.

**NEW ORLEANS SAINTS**—Re-signed WR David Patten; DT Brian Young, WR Devery Henderson, FB Aaron Stecker and LB Mark Simoneau. Agreed to terms with DE Bobby McCray and CB Randall Knight.

**NEW YORK GIANTS**—Signed S Sammy Grand. NEW YORK JETS—Signed G Alan Faneca, OL Damien Woody, and LB Calvin Pace.

**OAKLAND RAIDERS**—Signed S Gibraltar Wilson.

**PHILADELPHIA EAGLES**—Signed CB Asante Samuel and DE Chris Clemons.

**PITTSBURGH STEELERS**—Signed RB Mewelde Moore.

**ST. LOUIS RAMS**—Signed K Josh Brown and OL Jacob Bell.

**SAN DIEGO CHARGERS**—Agreed to terms with QB Billy Volek.

**SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS**—Signed KR Allen Rossman, DE Justin Smith, WR Isaac Bruce, QB J.T. O'Sullivan; RB DeShaun Foster and LB Donnarrius Thomas.

**TENNESSEE TITANS**—Agreed to terms with TE Alge Crumpler.

**TAMPA BAY BUCCANERS**—Signed TE John Gilmore, G Jeff Faine, LB Antoine Cash and DE Jimmy Wilkerson.

### WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Re-signed QB Todd Collins.

### NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	
Boston	46	12	.793	
Toronto	32	26	.552	
Philadelphia	28	33	.459	
New Jersey	18	44	.291	
New York	18	42	.300	
Southeast				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	38	23	.623	—
Washington	29	30	.492	8
Atlanta	24	33	.421	12
Charlotte	20	39	.339	17
Miami	11	48	.188	25

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest	W	L	Pct	
San Antonio	41	17	.707	
New Orleans	40	19	.678	
Houston	39	20	.661	
Dallas	39	22	.639	
Memphis	14	45	.237	
Northwest				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Utah	39	22	.639	—
Denver	35	24	.593	3
Portland	31	29	.517	7½
Seattle	16	43	.271	22
Minnesota	12	46	.207	25½

**Monday's Games**  
New Orleans 100, New York 88  
Utah 116, Dallas 110  
Philadelphia 106, L.A. Clippers 80

**Today's Games**  
Toronto at Orlando, 6 p.m.  
Golden State at Atlanta, 6 p.m.  
Charlotte at Minnesota, 7 p.m.  
Memphis at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.  
New Jersey at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.  
Phoenix at Portland, 9 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

### NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Pittsburgh	37	23	7	81	189 185
New Jersey	37	23	6	80	172 164
N.Y. Rangers	34	24	8	76	175 156
Philadelphia	33	25	8	74	203 189
N.Y. Islanders	31	29	7	69	164 193
Northeast					
W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA	
Montreal	36	22	9	81	213 190
Ottawa	37	24	9	82	217 202
Boston	35	24	6	76	179 182
Buffalo	31	26	9	71	200 192
Toronto	29	28	10	68	186 208
Southeast					
W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA	
Carolina	34	29	5	73	203 213
Washington	31	28	8	70	197 202
Florida	31	28	6	66	179 186
Atlanta	29	31	7	65	178 219
Tampa Bay	26	32	7	59	183 213

WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Central	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Detroit	43	18	6	92	209 150
Nashville	33	25	8	74	193 190
Columbus	30	27	10	70	164 176
Chicago	31	28	6	68	187 188
St. Louis	28	27	10	66	161 180
Northwest					
W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA	
Minnesota	37	24	5	79	179 177
Calgary	34	23	9	77	186 185
Colorado	34	26	6	74	183 180
Vancouver	32	23	9	72	172 167
Edmonton	31	30	5	67	182 200
Pacific					
W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA	
Dallas	41	23	5	87	207 171
Anaheim	38	23	7	83	173 165
San Jose	37	21	8	82	176 159
Phoenix	33	28	5	71	176 176
Los Angeles	26	36	5	57	193 224

**Monday's Games**  
Washington 10, Boston 2  
Anheim 3, Ottawa 1

**Today's Games**  
Florida at Boston, 6 p.m.  
Buffalo at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.  
N.Y. Islanders at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.  
New Jersey at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.  
Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 6:30 p.m.  
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m.  
Los Angeles at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.  
Nashville at Edmonton, 8 p.m.  
Columbus at Calgary, 8 p.m.  
Vancouver at Colorado, 8:30 p.m.

# Tracksters look ahead

With the Big Tens past them, the Hawkeyes are eyeing success with outdoor season ahead.

By Jeff Pawola  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Over the past weekend, the Iowa women's track team finished fifth at the Big Ten indoor championships for the third-consecutive time, and the Hawkeyes will now turn their attention toward the NCAA meet and the upcoming outdoor season.

Head coach Layne Anderson expected this type of finish; before the Big Tens, he thought the Hawks would finish anywhere from fourth to seventh place.

"We did a really good job; we got points in the areas that we were expecting to get points," he said. "If we could have scored a few more points, we would have certainly been fourth. We are pleased with fifth but a little disappointed that we couldn't get that last place."

The two major contributors for the Hawkeyes were two first-time Big Ten champs — junior Renee White, won the triple jump, and senior Meghan Armstrong, who captured the 3,000 meters. Both set personal bests in their respective events: White leaped 42-4, and Armstrong's time was 9:18.3.

Both Anderson and Armstrong were especially pleased with the victory in the 3,000 meters, because Armstrong became the coach's first recruit to win a Big Ten title.

"It feels great; the race went really well," Armstrong said. "After the race, he said to me, 'I told you that you could do it.' It felt good to accomplish something that he believed I could do."

White is ranked 15th nationally, and she is anxiously waiting to see how the final two weeks of the indoor season will turn out. In order to

qualify for the NCAA championships on March 14-15, she must either be ranked in the top 16 nationally or automatically qualify.

"I think it will hold up, but I'm not sure," she said. "All I can do is hope; if not, I'm going to try to go to the Last Chance Meet and better my jump."

The Last Chance Meet is exactly what it sounds like — the last opportunity for athletes across the country to qualify for the NCAA championships. With Last Chance Meets taking place across the nation, the Hawkeyes will stay close to home — they will compete in Ames or South Bend, Ind., this weekend.

White not only competed in the triple jump but also in the long jump, 60-meter hurdles, and the 4x400-meter relay. Anderson said White and senior Tammilee Kerr — who finished fourth in the pentathlon and also competed in the high jump and the 4x400-meter relay — were the workhorses for the Hawkeyes.

"[Kerr's] been a rock for our team," the coach said. "Tammilee and Renee get to split the iron-horse trophy for the weekend with what they went through."

Kerr said she is looking forward to the outdoor season, in which she thinks she will improve in the heptathlon and the team's performance will be better overall. Anderson echoed Kerr's thoughts, saying the team is better-equipped for the outdoor season.

"We have potential to improve," Anderson said. "We're a little better suited to the outdoor events with the relays and the longer distance events, and I think we can be a better team."

E-mail [Jeff Pawola at: jeffrey-pawola@uiowa.edu](mailto://reporter Jeff Pawola at: jeffrey-pawola@uiowa.edu)

# Shot-putters lead Hawkeyes

John Hickey won a second shot-put title at the Big Ten indoor championships, but the Iowa track team could only muster an eighth-place finish.

By Alex Johnson  
THE DAILY IOWAN

Junior John Hickey and the throwers put up numbers at the Big Ten indoor championships for the Iowa track and field team. The Hawkeyes had 49 points at the end of competition on Sunday, 19 of which came via the shot put.

"They were terrific," head coach Larry Wiecek said of the throwers. "They reversed roles from last season with [Shane Maier] finishing first last year and [John Hickey] winning it this year — they're quite a duo, those two — to both be Big Ten champions is unique."

Hickey won the shot put for his second Big Ten title, throwing 61-9½. Senior Maier followed in second — for the fourth time this season behind Hickey — reaching 59-8½.

"It was exactly what I expected," Hickey said. "A lot of good competition, and Shane and I go back and forth [with the lead]."

Hickey's win gave him a second conference crown — the Piermont, N.Y. native also won the Big Ten outdoor shot put in 2007. But a throw of 58-4½ to win the outdoor gold just wasn't satisfying. Hickey said it wasn't a very good performance.

"I think this one meant a little bit more," he said. "It was the second-best throw of my career."

Doing it at the Big Ten meet only bolstered his accomplishment.



Lindsey Walters/The Daily Iowan  
Hawkeye senior Shane Maier practices throwing in the Recreation Building on March 5, 2007. The Hawkeyes are looking toward the outdoor season after finishing eighth in the Big Ten indoor meet last weekend.

"It was just a reminder that the Big Ten meet is a fierce, tough competition. You've got to have some top-level guys out there banging it out. You've got to be ready to raise your level of competition."

— Larry Wiecek, head coach

that we've been looking forward to," Hickey said. "It just goes to show that no matter where we are or what we're doing, we're going to represent Iowa competing at a high level."

Junior A.J. Curtis followed the Hickey-Maier combination in eighth at 56-9½ to add to the scoring for Iowa's throwers, completing Iowa's 19-point showing in the event to bring

the day-one team total to 20.

Sophomore Adam Hairston highlighted day two for the Hawkeyes, finishing second in the 800 meters. In a packed race that went out slowly, Hairston said he had to stay on the outside to avoid collisions and had to run smart.

"[Hairston] ran really tough," Wiecek said. "In championship meets, it's more tactical ... you've got to run

well at the end, and Adam did a terrific job with that."

Crossing in 1:53.30, Hairston's second-place finish was a highlight of his strong indoor season, in which he broke the school record for the 800 indoors. Wiecek felt they were both important steps in Hairston's development, and the Cedar Rapids native agreed.

"It's not first, but for now, I guess I'll take it," he said. "It was a good feeling."

Sophomore Dan Rolling's third-place finish in the high jump at 6-11 gave Iowa four winners, and senior Ryan Niver set a school record, earning seventh in the heptathlon with 4,491 points.

The highlights aside, Wiecek couldn't remain wholly optimistic about eighth place.

"It was just a reminder that the Big Ten meet is a fierce, tough competition," he said. "You've got to have some top-level guys out there banging it out. You've got to be ready to raise your level of competition."

With only Hickey, Maier, Hairston, and sixth-year senior Micah VanDenend provisionally qualified for the NCAA indoor championships, the majority of the Hawkeyes, barring breakout performances in the upcoming Last Chance Meets, will turn their focus to the outdoor season.

"We're not where we want to be by any means," Wiecek said. "Our goal is to be better outdoors."

E-mail [Alex Johnson at: alexander-j-johnson@uiowa.edu](mailto://reporter Alex Johnson at: alexander-j-johnson@uiowa.edu)

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# Hawks wary of Wildcat den

## BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Michigan State and Penn State before last weekend's Senior Night failure against Illinois.

But it might just be another streak — one that has seen Iowa lose each of its last three games at Welsh-Ryan Arena dating back to 2004 — that lingers in the minds of the Hawkeyes' upperclassmen.

Each more antagonizing than the last, the losses came by only three points (51-48) in 2006, one point (75-74) in 2005, and two points (51-49) in 2004, with the Wildcats never failing to find a flair for the dramatic in the final minute.

From Vedran Vukusic's 17-foot dagger with 0.7 seconds left in '04 to a 3-point buzzer-beater after Iowa blew a 12-point second-half lead in '05, the struggles have come in all fashions, with the Hawkeyes rarely ending up on the right side of the scoreboard.

If there's one bit of positive history Iowa can carry into Evanston, Ill., it might be the successful second-half comeback they staged against Northwestern earlier this season. Trailing by 14 points with 12:15 remaining at Carver-Hawkeye Arena, the Hawkeyes used an inspired stretch of basketball from Dan Bohall and a late surge from Cyrus Tate to earn the team's only win in its last seven games.



Iowa junior Cyrus Tate fights for a rebound with Illinois' Shaun Pruitt after a free throw by Hawkeye guard Tony Freeman on March 1 in Carver-Hawkeye. Iowa lost its third-straight game, 58-47.

Hoping another matchup with Northwestern can remedy the team's recent troubles, Lickliter knows Iowa must first move past arguably the toughest seven days of his Iowa career.

"There have been some real challenges here and you could never prepare completely for a job or opportunity until you were involved in it," he said. "... I was hoping for an improved

position, but now we're in one where we've struggled, and we've got to deal with the disappointment and move on."

With the schedule opening up after tonight's contest at Northwestern, Iowa will experience an 11-day hiatus before traveling to the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis, a break that Lickliter hopes can equate to a couple days off for his 10-man active roster.

Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

Needing a win to improve its chance of keeping the eighth seed in the postseason bracket, Iowa looks to leave Northwestern with a victory and a renewed sense of optimism.

"When you go into the tournament, you feel like you have opportunity in front of you," Lickliter said. "... Right now, our focus is on this team and this opponent."

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

# Bluder top coach

## BLUDER

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Ten Player of the Week. Heading into Friday's Big Ten Tournament opener in Indianapolis against Thursday's Michigan-Penn State winner, she now has two such accolades to her name.

On Monday, Solverson was named, along with Ohio State's Jantel Lavender, as co-Big Ten Player of the Week. Interestingly enough, Solverson had to share her earlier Big Ten Player of the Week honor with Purdue's FahKara Malone, which she picked up Feb. 11.

In the Hawkeyes' 87-78 victory at Wisconsin on Sunday, Solverson scored a career-high 31 points on a career-best 12-of-20 shooting from the field.

"[Solverson] was in the zone," Bluder said. "That was a game she will remember for the rest of her life."

The conference also announced its All-Big Ten squads Monday. Junior point guard Kristi Smith

was named to the first team by the coaches, and second team by the media.

In conference play, Smith led the Hawkeyes in scoring, averaging 13.1 points per game. The Thornton, Colo., native also led Iowa with 35 steals, and she was 82-of-104 from the free-throw line. She was second on the team with 91 assists and 44 3-pointers.

Other players who were recognized for postseason awards were Solverson, who was named second team All-Big Ten by the coaches and third by the media, junior Wendy Ausdemore, who received honorable mention from the media, and junior Megan Skouby, whom the coaches named the Big Ten's Sixth Player of the Year.

Senior Stacy Schlapkohl was Iowa's honoree for the Big Ten Sportsmanship Award.

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

# Win over Vandy boosts confidence

## BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1B

tournament.

A similar unfolding of events occurred a week ago in Iowa's extra-inning battle with Notre Dame in Clearwater, Fla. Turbull lasted only three innings, and fielding blunders in the bottom of the 10th led to three unearned Irish runs and a 14-13 loss for the Hawkeyes.

Iowa's early triumphs over Xavier and Vanderbilt may be indicative of its future success this season, but the Hawkeyes' loss to Kansas weighs heavier in Dahm's mind.

"That's a good win, but we're trying to get this program over the hump where we can win championships and go on to the NCAA Tournament," the fifth-year coach said. "Every time, if you get a big win, if you're not able to put it behind you, you're just going to be an average team that has quality wins throughout the year."

"I'm not saying we were going

to beat Kansas, but I just wish we would have played with the same focus that we did against Vanderbilt."

That game saw the best performance by an Iowa pitcher thus far. Sophomore left-handed Mike Jacobs gave up just seven hits in six innings.

Likewise, center fielder Caleb Curry, third baseman Matt Mossey, and right fielder Kyle Riffel had productive plate appearances, in addition to Freie's perfect offensive outing.

Mossey and Riffel went 2-for-4; Curry was 3-for-5.

"When we show up and we're mentally ready to go, we feel like we can compete against anyone in the country, but if we don't, we're just an average team," Dahm said. "It's going to be a very valuable learning experience as we move forward."

"Time will tell if we actually learned that lesson."

E-mail DI reporter **Ryan Young** at: ryan-c-young@uiowa.edu

# Gatens a Hawkeye since birth

## GATENS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Question after question, like clockwork, the kid rattles it off.

His appreciation for first-year coach Todd Lickliter's team-first mentality toward the game of basketball, his positive experience playing alongside Lickliter's son and future teammate, John, and his lifelong dream to suit up at Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

That Todd Lickliter is down-to-earth and he could converse for an hour without mentioning basketball, how he respects Jason Bohannon even though he booked it for Wisconsin, and how he truly, deep down inside believes that if he could score 30 points a game for the rest of his life and never win again, that he'd hang up the sneakers tomorrow.

Only with Gatens, the talk is real.

So believable is the four-star guard that if you were to slice open an artery right there, right there on that Thursday afternoon, there might just be a 50-50 chance that Black and Gold colored liquid would spill from his six-foot-five-inch frame onto the gymnasium floor.

"From right when I was born, my dad was taking me over to Carver and watching practice and watching games," Gatens said. "He just put that Hawkeye blood in me just seeing guys like Jess Settles, Ryan Bowen, and Andre Woolridge — it's been fun being in Iowa City and watching those guys. It's been a dream to play at Iowa, and I'm looking forward to being a part of the family at Iowa."

While Gatens will next suit

up for City High in the opening round of the state tournament against Sioux City North on Wednesday afternoon, he's had the rare opportunity to spend some of his senior season behind the Hawkeyes sideline — watching up close and personal in Lickliter's first season on campus.

"It's been a lot of fun sitting right front and center and being able to watch it. It's a learning experience every time I go," he said. "The playcalling that they have; it's a lot of fun to watch. It can be pretty stressful not getting that much success out of the guys, but they're getting every ounce that they can out of them."

Using the proximity to his prized recruit for 2008 to its full advantages, Lickliter said last week that he's liked what he's seen from day one with Gatens and believes the young-

ster's attitude will translate well to the college level.

"I think everyone should have to earn everything. I think that is Matt's approach, and he wouldn't want anything given to him," he said. "He will have to come in and earn it. I have said all along, I sure like what he brings."

With Iowa's regular season winding down, Gatens expressed similarly positive sentiments about the head coach and said he's enjoyed the development of their relationship.

"He's so smart; not just in basketball, but just in life," he said about Lickliter. "It's been an experience getting to know him and I'm looking forward to more of it."

Daily Iowan TV reporter **Joe Augustine** contributed to this story. E-mail DI/Sports Editor **Charlie Kautz** at: charles-kautz@uiowa.edu

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# Waiting in water

A handful of men's swimmers continue to practice in hopes of competing in the NCAA championships.

By Mike Brownlee  
THE DAILY IOWAN

For a handful of men's swimmers, the waiting begins. Sophomore Wil Whaley and freshman Conor Dwyer, along with the 800 freestyle relay team that both are part of, are waiting to see if their provisional qualifying times for the NCAA championships will hold up.

The NCAA meet, which will begin March 27 in Federal Way, Wash., will take the top-22 times in individual events. Each provisional qualification for the AquaHawks came at the Big Ten championships in Ann Arbor, Mich., last weekend. The 800 freestyle relay team of Dwyer, Whaley, junior Andy Miner, and freshman Richard Salhus stands the best chance of making it to the Pacific Northwest.

The team's time — 6:33.95 — is good for 17th best in the nation. In past years, the top 12 in each event were taken. Hawkeye assistant coach Kirk Hampleman said the NCAA is discussing taking more relays. "That's something it has been

haggling over this year," he said. "The number [the NCAA will] take isn't set in stone yet. There's definitely a chance the 800 freestyle will make it."



Dwyer freshman

Dwyer's freestyle 200 freestyle time, 1:36.44, is 28th best in the country. Whaley provisionally qualified in the 200 backstroke with a school-record time of 1:46.11, which ranks 49th.

"There are still some conference championships left," Dwyer said. "We'll just have to wait and see what happens."

Both swimmers will need some breaks to compete in the NCAAAs. To move into the top 22, swimmers with times ahead of Dwyer and Whaley will need to either compete in different events at NCAAAs or get injured.

Despite having only three provisional qualifiers, Hampleman said, he was pleased with the team's performance at Big Tens. He noted the numerous season-best times and pointed out that the 800 freestyle relay's time was a 14-second improvement over a year ago.

"That's a total team improvement, with numerous guys helping take the team to a new level," he said. "Hopefully, we'll be at NCAAAs. That's where we're trying to take our team, and we're confident that's the direction our program is going."

E-mail DI reporter Mike Brownlee at: michael-brownlee@uiowa.edu

## NCAA

### Bar at center of Missouri brawl closes

COLUMBIA, Mo. (AP) — The downtown nightclub where Missouri's leading scorer suffered a broken jaw in a scuffle with two restaurant workers has closed down, according to a letter the owner sent to city officials.

In a letter dated Feb. 21, Athena Nightclub owner Rashid Kikhia said he "is no longer operating a

nightclub" and is in the process of "reorganizing the business on all levels, including management, cooks, delivery drivers, and servers."

Missouri basketball players Steffon Hannah and Jason Horton got in a fight outside the nightclub on Jan. 27 with two employees of an adjacent restaurant owned by Kikhia. Hannah had complained about poor service.

He was kicked off the team, while Horton served a brief suspension but continues to play for the Tigers.

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THE DAILY IOWAN CLASSIFIEDS MAKE CENTS!! 335-5784 335-5785 Rm. E131 Adler Journalism

# No longer a prospect

By Colin Fry  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PHOENIX — Ryan Braun plopped down at a clubhouse table next to some minor-leaguers for a breakfast feast. It was the glazed doughnut that grabbed his teammates' attention and led to a little harassment about his figure.

"Hey, I'm cool with it," he said coyly.

Suddenly, Braun is getting attention for everything he does. In one short year, he's gone from a touted raw power prospect to one of the Brewers' most potent offensive threats and the reigning NL Rookie of the Year.

Braun hit .324 with franchise rookie records of 34 homers and 97 RBIs in 452 at-bats after his May 25 debut, and that torrid pace has extended the spotlight elsewhere in his life — both on and off the field.

"I enjoy it. I embrace it, and as long as I'm getting attention for the right reasons, I'm all for it," he said.

He also says he's more cognizant that he's become well-known outside of Milwaukee, too.

"There's a microscope on you," he said. "Everything you do is scrutinized, and people are always paying attention, so it's something you always have to be conscious of. It only takes one time to mess up for everybody to make a big deal of it."

The 24-year-old Braun, who grew up in Mission Hills, Calif., and went to school at Miami, said he realized just how amazing his year was when people randomly approached him in the off-season.

"Whether it was at a grocery store, or a restaurant, or a bar, or a club, there were quite a few instances and just whenever you're recognized in a big city like that, and it's not during the baseball season or anything, it's pretty cool," he said. "That's when I recognized where I was at and what was going on."

He is now getting ready for another adjustment — to left field. He made 26 errors in 112 starts at third base last year, numbers he has called embarrassing.

In his next spot, he'll be playing alongside Gold Glove center fielder Mike Cameron.

"I've always been a team-first guy, and I obviously recognized that defense wasn't one of our strong points last year," he said. "So whenever you have an opportunity to bring in somebody such as Mike Cameron who instantly addresses the issue, it makes us a better team."

The discussion to move Braun happened almost immediately after the season, but general manager Doug Melvin first looked at free agents at third and possible trades.

Instead, the Brewers signed Cameron and decided to move Bill Hall back to third from center field, opening the way for Braun to develop in left.

"He can play third base, but it would be more of a development stage at the big leagues because he got to the big leagues so quickly," Melvin said. "We're at point where we're not prepared to develop at the big leagues now like we were two years ago. I think he has a chance to be a very good, All-Star type outfielder. I don't think you want to move him back and forth at this stage."

At least early in his transition, Braun has looked comfortable, making a nice play at the wall in Tucson against the Rockies on March 1 and cutting off a ball down the line on Sunday.

"I think at times I'm a little bit surprised of my range. I think just my athleticism and instincts take over," Braun said. "[That] ball hit down the line I thought would have been a double, and I was able to get to it, cut it off, and throw to second base, and keep the guy to a single. Things like that that I'm pleasantly surprised about."

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AD#715- Sleeping rooms or one bedroom near downtown, parking, all utilities paid, no pets. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

606 E.JEFFERSON B. Large split-level apartment, four bedroom, three bath, C/A, two kitchens with dishwasher, W/D, parking available. (319)331-7487, www.prestigeprop.com

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AD#730- One bedroom, one bath, close to downtown area, busline, on-site laundry. \$515- \$625 plus electric. RCPM (319)887-2187.

AD#735- Efficiency, kitchenette, one or two bedroom on campus, no pets, H/W paid. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#740- One, two or three bedrooms downtown on Dubuque St., dishwasher, C/A, W/D facilities, no pets. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#745- One or two bedroom on Linn St., some utilities paid, rooms have shared kitchen and bath. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#750- One or two bedroom off north Dubuque St., dishwasher, C/A, W/D facilities, spacious, water paid, pets ok. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#755- One, two or three bedroom on Linn St., H/W paid, A/C, W/D facilities, cats ok, some utilities paid. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

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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 will not be accepted. Please print clearly.

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518 E.DAVENPORT- Three bedroom, two bath, basement, one car garage. \$1560 plus utilities. RCPM (319)887-2187.

6 AND 7 bedroom houses, multi bathrooms, free parking, W/D, C/A, dishwasher, busline, available. Leasing for fall 2008. (319)341-9385. www.iowacityrent.com.

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935 S. VAN BUREN- Two bedroom, one bath, large backyard, central heat & air, W/D, 1-2 car garage. \$875 plus utilities. RCPM (319)887-2187.

AD#10- Two or three bedroom available. Call for more information and amenities. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#11- Two or three bedroom in Coralville, some on river with great views. Call for amenities, pets ok. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

FALL 2008
3, 4, 5

# Daily Break

**“Americans are not going to stop growing [marijuana], they're not going to stop buying it, they're not going to stop smoking it, even if you continue to put them in jail.”**  
— Barry Cooper, a former narcotics officer who now advocates the legalization of drugs. His DVD *Never Get Raided* shows how to buy, sell, and grow pot without going to jail and how to identify undercover officers.

## the ledge

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



**SCOTT PACANOWSKI**

### Ways to make life more fun

- Play the song from “Law and Order” every time you walk into a room.
- Cross dress on Thursdays.
- Wear pants less.
- Dress up in disguises so you can play different characters.
- Start using a foreign accent, but only in class.
- When writing the two truths and a lie for an icebreaker, don't give any true statements.

- Skip everywhere, and tackle anyone who makes fun of you.

- Speak only in movie quotations.
- Start a new hobby such as stamp collecting or smoking pot.

- Pray a Republican doesn't get elected.

- Start throwing flags at people's feet and penalizing them for such silly things as too much makeup, collar popping, ugly boots, or being too cliché.

- Watch the new “American Gladiators.”

- Start using legal jargon in everyday conversation.

- Break into song at random times during the day.

- Play with a puppy at least once a week.

— Scott Pacanowski wonders why we don't have choreographed dances ready when we go out. Life should be more like *She's All That*.

E-mail him at: [scott-pacanowski@uiowa.edu](mailto:scott-pacanowski@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](mailto:daily-iowan@uiowa.edu). If we think it's good, we'll run it — and maybe contact you for more.

## horoscopes Tuesday, March 4, 2008

— by Eugenia Last

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Gauge your time, and put it to good use. You will receive help if you ask for it. Don't think too big, or you will overstep your bounds. Charm and powerful presentation will help you get what you want.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don't be fooled by what others tell you. Someone will want to talk you into something you should not get involved with. Emotional issues will escalate if you try to resolve them without sufficient information.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Follow the path laid out for you. Gauging the time factor involved correctly will bring about good results. Love is in the stars, and a chance to reunite with someone special or renew vows is looking positive.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Prepare to make some adjustments to the way you live and the things you do. You can find far more satisfaction following your dreams. Take a new direction, and see how good you feel about the outcome.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You'll be emotional, entertaining, and enthusiastic today, but don't let that lead to being carefree with your cash. What you do with the ones you love, not how much you spend on them, will be what counts. Be honest, charming, and fun.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Focus on getting things done, finishing what you start, and being serious about the things and the people who mean the most to you. New methods may be presented to you or new jobs offered. Make sure you fully understand what's involved before you agree to anything.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll have everyone eating out of your hand today. Take a creative lead, and show everyone how you can turn nothing into something with a few minor adjustments. Your ideas will be hot, your love life even hotter.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Be careful who you trust or what you believe today. Someone may not want to share with you or may want to lead you in the wrong direction. You have to work on your own and within your budget to lessen the stress you are undergoing.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Have some fun, travel, communicate, and refrain from changing your mind too much or taking on other people's responsibilities. Put today aside for your own pleasure — purify your thinkin, and rejuvenate yourself physically and emotionally.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Research ways you can mastermind an idea that's unique and sought after. You have the wherewithal to pull things together and make them work, so don't waste time explaining things to people who lack foresight.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You'll be emotional, charming, and in love with life. You can get serious about your future and make solid plans by sharing your intentions with someone you care about. Now is a great time to turn your dreams into reality.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** There will be information withheld from you. Be prepared to put the pieces of the puzzle together before you proceed. Much can be accomplished if you work on your own from home and avoid anyone who will interfere with your plans.

## ICE WEATHER



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

With winter (allegedly) nearing an end, ice fishers take advantage of Lake Macbride's still being frozen near the banks on Monday. Many complained about rotten ice, or weak spots, on the surface that put them at risk of falling in.

## today's events

Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply e-mail the name, time, date, and location information to: [daily-iowan-calendar@uiowa.edu](mailto:daily-iowan-calendar@uiowa.edu)

- **Molecular Physiology and Biophysics Seminar, “Regulation of Phospholipid Synthesis in Yeast,”** George Carman, 9:30 a.m., 5-669 Bowen Science Building
- **Electronic Tax Filing,** 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m., 6:30-9 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Iowa State Bank and Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center** lecture, “Quality Health Care with Electronic Medical Records,” 10:30 a.m., IMU Richey Ballroom
- **“Starting and Running a Small Press & Literary Magazine,”** Joyelle McSweeney and Johannes Göransson, 11 a.m., Dey House Frank Conroy Reading Room
- **“U.S. Patent Policy and Current Patent Litigation Trends,”** Bart Eppenauer, noon, 245 Boyd Law Building
- **Biochemistry Workshop, “The Baculoviral Expression System: Key to Functional MD-2, A Source of Endotoxin: MD-2, the Activating Ligand for Toll-like Receptor 4,”** Theresa Gioannini, 12:30 p.m., Bowen Science Building Spivey Auditorium
- **Faculty Council meeting,** 3:30 p.m., 337 IMU
- **Community Library Writing Center,** 4 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Axis and Allies Miniatures,** 6:30 p.m., Crit-

- ical Hit Games, 89 Second St. No. 5, Coralville
- **“New Boundaries for the World: The Plans of Eight World War II Leaders,”** Gerhard Weinberg, 4:30 p.m., 1505 Seamons Center
- **Darfur Now,** 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Inclusive Ballroom Dance,** 7 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **“Iowa Idol” Auditions (North Neighborhood),** 7 p.m., Mayflower Conference Room
- **“Is Jesus Unique?” Campus Christian Fellowship,** 7 p.m., 337 IMU
- **Movie Night,** 7 p.m., Alexis Park Inn, 1165 S. Rivers Drive
- **Skydiving Club Meeting,** 7 p.m., 256 IMU
- **Spencer Martin, viola, and Miko Komitani, piano,** 7 p.m., Voxman Music Building Harper Hall
- **Actors Dance Theater,** 8 p.m., Old Brick
- **Flamenco for Beginners,** 8 p.m., Old Brick
- **The Matisse Trio,** 8 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
- **Neptune, with Lwa/Nimby, Foul Tip, Weather is Happening, and Dimas Lemus,** 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Steal a Pencil For Me,** 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Free Dance Party,** 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Free Pool,** 10 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville



## CAN'T GET ENOUGH SUDOKU?

CHECK OUT [DAILYIOWAN.COM](http://DAILYIOWAN.COM) FOR MORE PUZZLES

# SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level:



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

**SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE**

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

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## 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, Andrew Nagorski
- 2** News from Germany (in German)
- 3** Navigating the Past: Slavery, the Transatlantic Slave Trade, Brown University
- 4** Saturday Scholars: Professor Barbara Stay, Termites, Dancing in the Dark
- 5** Guest Speakers from the UI Lecture Committee
- 6:30** Weekly News Conference with Todd

- Licklitter or Liza Bluder
- 7:30** Navigating the Past: Slavery, the Transatlantic Slave Trade, Brown University
- 8:30** Saturday Scholars: Professor Barbara Stay, Termites, Dancing in the Dark
- 9:30** News from Daily Iowan TV
- 10** Weekly News Conference with Todd Licklitter or Liza Bluder
- 10:30** News from Daily Iowan TV
- 11** Saturday Scholars: Professor Barbara Stay, Termites, Dancing in the Dark



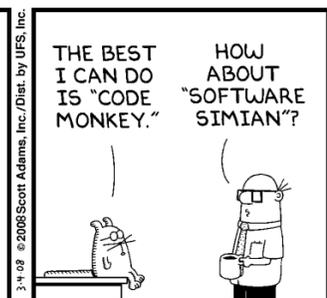
Got something to say? Send it away! Go to [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) to give a shout-out to a friend or foe. Look for them online and on the Daily Break page.

## Loudest Shouts

- Shout out to the girl who woke me up at the end of lecture ... you rock!
- Shout out to people who think campaigning is yelling at me on my way to class.

## DILBERT ®

by Scott Adams



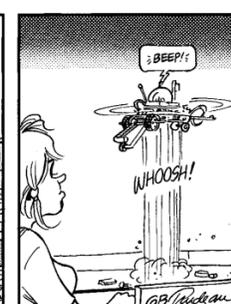
## 'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



## Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

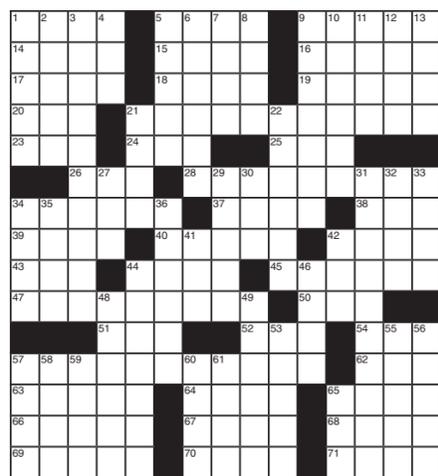
No. 0122

- Across
- 1 Ooze
- 5 Neighbor of Kan.
- 9 Go after
- 14 Island dance
- 15 Do perfectly
- 16 Go online
- 17 Final notice?
- 18 Coastal flier
- 19 Take away little by little
- 20 Diana Ross musical, with "The"
- 21 They require signals
- 23 Neptune's domain
- 24 \_\_\_ carte
- 25 Number of operas composed by Beethoven
- 26 Play the slots, e.g.
- 28 Ohio university whose team is the Golden Flashes
- 34 Fancy flapjacks
- 37 Comstock \_\_\_
- 38 Touch with a hanky, say
- 39 Pro \_\_\_ (proportionately)
- 40 Slacks material
- 42 Facts and figures
- 43 Baseball bat wood
- 44 P P P, in Greek
- 45 Liechtenstein's language
- 47 Fibs
- 50 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
- 51 Beehive State native
- 52 Timeline division
- 54 Carpet fuzz
- 57 Publication that is the key to this puzzle's theme
- 62 Conk out
- 63 Tunesmith's org.
- 64 "That's a shame"
- 65 Exec's note
- 66 Peach pit
- 67 Treat with grandmotherly love, with "on"
- 68 Kitchen dial site
- 69 Sharpened
- 70 Proofer's mark
- 71 Takes as one's spouse

- Down
- 1 Exhibits
- 2 Blake of jazz
- 3 1998 role for Cate Blanchett
- 4 Butter slice
- 5 N.B.A.'s Shaquille
- 6 Egyptian temple site
- 7 Airport delay?
- 8 Guinness of stage and screen
- 9 Make spotless
- 10 Big buzzer
- 11 Bug-eyed
- 12 Slaw, e.g.
- 13 Hydrocarbon suffixes
- 21 After the buzzer
- 22 "Oh, goody!"
- 27 Air quality grp.
- 29 Beethoven dedicatee

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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



Puzzle by Adam G. Perl

- 30 "Smoking or \_\_\_?"
- 31 Genesis duo
- 32 "Ciao!"
- 33 Israel's Abba school
- 34 Sticking point?
- 35 Too hasty
- 36 Haul, slangily
- 41 \_\_\_ polloi
- 42 Rap's Dr. \_\_\_
- 44 Entered again
- 46 Part of Q.E.D.
- 48 New Orleans school
- 49 Hundred on the Hill
- 53 Bowling alley button
- 55 Pointed
- 56 Doers of drudgery
- 57 Track meet event
- 58 Regarding
- 59 Reversed one
- 60 Little shavers
- 61 Jillions
- 65 Use a Ledge-at-Boy, e.g.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](http://nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: [nytimes.com/puzzleforum](http://nytimes.com/puzzleforum). Crosswords for young solvers: [nytimes.com/learning/keywords](http://nytimes.com/learning/keywords).

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