

The Daily Iowan

Thursday, March 6, 2008

NEWSPAPER •  DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

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Lessons in race, the blues

A new UI Mainstage Production of August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson* features an all-black cast led by director Tisch Jones. **80 Hours, 1C**

What's left for everyone but Perry?

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What's left for Perry?

After winning individual Big Ten and NCAA titles, Mark Perry says the goal of a team championship is fueling him this time. **Sports, 1B**

Meningitis concerns hit home

UI health officials are urging students to get vaccinated after a Loras College student dies from bacterial meningitis. **Campus, 2A**

Juvenile delinquency

A Johnson County board wants to fund \$185,000 worth of welfare and juvenile-delinquency programs. **City, 5A**

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Daily updates

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

Daily Iowan TV

To watch Daily Iowan TV, go online at dailyiowan.com or tune into 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

• Hawkeye wrestlers set for Big Tens
• Iowa's nursing shortage
• Highlights from Iowa's win over Northwestern

WEATHER



Partly cloudy to cloudy, windy, chance of flurries, wind chills below zero early and then in the evening.

↑ 28 -2°C ↓ 9 -13°C

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Remembering Sudan



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

Mahasin Hamed stirs a Sudanese white salad dressing dish she prepared at her home in Coralville for the Night of 1,000 Dinners Wednesday. Ahmed moved her kids to Iowa in 2002 from Sudan because of the radical Islamic government. She grew up supporting Al-Ustaz Mahmoud, who wanted democracy in Sudan. He was executed in 1985 because of his modern ideas.

Darfur conflict timeline

- 2003 — Intense fighting breaks out between the government and rebels groups in Darfur.
- January-March 2004 — Hundreds of thousands of refugees flee to neighboring Chad. Janjaweed militias carry out regular killings of villagers in Darfur.
- September 2004 — International sources aid the region. U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell called the Darfur conflict a "genocide."
- May 5, 2006 — Government and the largest rebel group sign peace agreement; however, it was not signed by all of the rebel groups.
- November 2006 — Hundreds are thought to have died in the heaviest fighting during this time.
- April-May 2007 — Sudan accepts a U.N. troop deployment to reinforce African Union peacekeepers in Darfur. U.S. President Bush announces fresh sanctions against Sudan.
- July 2007 — U.N. authorizes a 26,000-strong force for Darfur.
- February 2008 — Commander of the U.N.-African Union peacekeepers says more troops needed urgently in west Darfur.



Source:un.org Dylan Salisbury/The Daily Iowan

Sudanese families in the Iowa City area continue to fight for their country, focusing on aiding the Darfur crisis.

By Clara Hogan
THE DAILY IOWAN

Mahasin Hamed spent her college days in the streets of Khartoum, Sudan, spreading the message of her spiritual father. His name was Al-Ustaz Mahmoud, and he wanted democracy to rule Sudan's land and a peaceful Islam to inspire its people.

When she and her family joined dozens of other Sudanese people in the Iowa City area in 2002, she continued to fight for her country. Hamed estimates there are more than 300 people from Sudan in the community — a mixture of refugees and people with either a green card or political asylum. All contribute to events that raise money to help Darfurians.

Her leader, Mahmoud, was a writer; his modern, liberal ideas angered the Sudanese government. At the time, Hamed was a passionate student activist. She and his other followers made up Republican Brothers and Sisters, a fervent group that wholeheartedly believed in Mahmoud's words. His rhetoric gave them hope for their country.

The Sudanese government executed Mahmoud on Jan. 18, 1985. His followers, including Hamed, were taken to prison to prevent them from attending his funeral.

"My spiritual father said there was no time for violence, no time for jihad, no time for wars," the 46-year-old said as she sat in her living room in Coralville, her spiritual father's portrait hanging above the red-brick fireplace. "We must be together and be one. Sudan still has problems with such ideals."

The radical Islamic government that took hold of her country is what eventually made Hamed take her four children — now 20, 17, 13, and 10 — to America, where her family continues to fight for Sudan's causes, especially against the genocide in Darfur, which lies in the country's western region.

After spending three years in Saudi Arabia, Hamed was granted political asylum and moved to Coralville in 2002. Her husband stayed in Saudi Arabia to work as a physician.

SEE SUDAN, 3A

Break down

Two of the six UI spring break trips offered through Recreational Services have seen price cuts.

By Melanie Kucera
THE DAILY IOWAN

Low demand has yielded low prices. No, we're not talking about the price of gas. But the UI Recreational Services, in an effort to lure students to its spring-break programs, has cut prices on trips that by all appearances look to be a lot of fun.

Advanced open-water scuba and advanced mountain biking both cut costs several weeks ago to try to attract more students, and have only slightly bumped up their enrollment since the reduction.

"I was kind of surprised that there wasn't more enrollment in them, but I am really excited about the amount of enrollment we do have," said Rob DuBay, the assistant director of the UI's outdoor programs.

UI's Lifetime Leisure Skills classes over spring break

- Advanced open-water scuba
- Advanced mountain biking
- Backpacking
- Intro to bouldering
- Ballroom dancing — rhythm and smooth
- Leadership in the outdoors

Source: UI's Recreational Services

SEE SPRING BREAK, 3A

Iowa bills get funnel vision

Depending on party, feelings of success at the State Capitol vary, as the Iowa Legislature nears a key deadline.

By Bryce Bauer
THE DAILY IOWAN

Smoke-free workplaces made it, while the marriage amendment didn't, as the Iowa Legislature moves through its halfway mark and toward the end of funnel week — the crucial procedural stage where most bills not passed out of committee die.

Today marks the 53 day of the 100-day-long legislative session and, while topics of education and the economy dominate, actual opinions on legislative accomplishments depend on who you talk to.

Democrats tick off initiatives such as the indoor smoking ban and increased funding for K-12 schools as signs of success.

"It is probably one of the most important things we can do to reduce smoking-related illness," said Sen. Joe Bolkcom, D-Iowa City, noting that it works to that goal in tandem with the \$1-a-pack tobacco tax increase passed last year.



Bolkcom
D-Iowa City

SEE LEGISLATURE, 4A

M.B.A. students pitch in for shelter

UI business students head for the kitchen to help out the Iowa City Shelter House.

By Kelli Shaffner
THE DAILY IOWAN

Second-year M.B.A. student Gabe Ross double-fisted two squeeze bottles of mayonnaise on the makeshift assembly line of sandwiches when he, and approximately 12 other M.B.A. students, transformed into chefs during Wednesday's lunch hour.

Their dishes: turkey, ham, and cheese sandwiches.

The students, crammed into the kitchen in the Pomerantz Center, donated their culinary talents to the Iowa City Shelter House for around 25 minutes.

A sandwich assembly line

Businesses that donated to M.B.A. students

- Fareway
- Hy-Vee
- New Pioneer Co-op
- Wal-Mart

"We're only supposed to make 50?" Ross said. "I say we go till the goods are gone."

Even though the task was described as an easy one by Abbie Dombrock, a M.B.A. student who headed the project, the

students received some help from local businesses.

The New Pioneer Food Co-op, Hy-Vee, and Wal-Mart all donated gift cards so the students would be able to buy food to make the lunch. Fareway supplied the bread.

Although this gesture is just a part of giving back community support, said Theresa Carbrey, the education and member coordinator at New Pioneer, it can also be seen as a public relations move by the company.



Julie Brayton/The Daily Iowan

UI M.B.A. student Megan O'Rourke prepares sandwiches for a homeless shelter with fellow M.B.A. students at the Pomerantz Center Wednesday.

SEE MBA, 4A



Death raises concerns about meningitis

By Zhi Xiong
THE DAILY IOWAN

An autopsy has revealed bacterial meningitis killed a Loras College student, freshman Audrey Fitzgerald.

Bacterial meningitis is typically more severe than the viral type, and UI Student Health Service urged students to get vaccinated.

"Parents and students can relate, and some got scared," said Lisa James, an associate director of Student Health. "It's a serious thing."

Fitzgerald, 19, was found dead in her Dubuque dorm room Sunday night. The state medical examiner reportedly said she died of bacterial meningitis.

Though it is not always fatal, the disease progresses very quickly. Common symptoms are

high fever, headache, and a stiff neck for people more than 2 years old, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Some strains of bacterial meningitis are contagious. They spread through prolonged contact, less easily than influenza or cold viruses.

Freshmen who live in crowded dormitories more easily fall victim, James said.

A compromised immune system, possibly weakened by late nights studying or partying, can make the disease manifest itself in those who are carriers, she said.

Last year, 64.7 percent of all UI freshmen who lived in the dorms got vaccinated. That was an improvement over the previous year's 58 percent.

The vaccine costs around \$100, which can be covered by insurance. But because there

Bacterial meningitis

- Infects spinal fluids and fluids around the brain.
- Spreads through contact with a sick person's throat or respiratory fluids.
- Adolescents and young adults make up around 30 percent of nearly 3,000 total annual cases in the U.S.
- Early treatment with antibiotics decreases fatality rates to below 15 percent.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Meningitis Association

are several strains of bacterial meningitis, a vaccine may not cover all types. James said even though one strain commonly seen in Iowa is not covered, getting immunized provides a certain level of protection.

Loras and state health officials are trying to contact those who might have been exposed to the disease. They can be treated with antibiotic pills.

News of Fitzgerald's death drew mixed reactions from the UI community. James said many students and parents have called about symptoms such as fever and neck stiffness. Others are not as concerned.

"If this were on our campus, more people might freak out," said UI junior Anna Hurley, who got a vaccination last spring when studying abroad in Europe.

Those who recently visited Loras College or have suspicious symptoms can call the Student Health Nurseline at 335-9704, James said.

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

Council OKs new fire station

The city will build a fourth fire station in 2011.

By Briana Byrd and Kelli Shaffner
THE DAILY IOWAN

The Iowa City City Council on Tuesday unanimously voted to approve a \$1.7 million project to build a new fire station as part of the five-year capital-improvement program.

"The issue has been discussed in past years, but although officials identified and recognized the need, it simply had not been funded until last night," said Roger Jensen, the deputy fire chief. "We are very excited about our ability to deliver the kind of

service that citizens desire in Iowa City."

Conversation about building another fire station has been going on for six to eight years, said Councilor Mike Wright.

The fire station will be located at the intersection of Scott Boulevard and North Dodge Street, and it will be built in fiscal 2011.

"It's the issue of being able to get emergency workers to the scene of an emergency in time to make a difference," Jensen said. "Having fire stations strategically located around the city is very important in our line of work. If it's a heart attack, you only have so many minutes to provide lifesaving care. Seconds really do count — they really matter."

The new fire station would be the fourth in Iowa City.

"It's outstanding news," Jensen said. "We've been lobbying for what seems like decades for increased staffing to provide fire and life-safety service for our city.

New Fire Station

The Iowa City City Council unanimously voted to build a new fire station. The new station is expected to be built at the intersection of North Dodge Street and North Scott Boulevard.



Source: City Council
Dylan Salisbury/The Daily Iowan

Having enough resources strategically located around our city can mean the difference between life or death."

Neither Iowa City Fire Chief Andy Rocca nor any other firefighters were present during the council meeting Tuesday. Mayor Regenia Bailey said firefighters had previously talked with the city councilors.

"I think it's great news not only for the city and the department but mostly for the community and the citizens," Rocca said.

The City Council elections focused on the need for an additional fire station.

"A lot of these things come down to the greater dialogue these members have with the community," Bailey said. "There was a lot of push by community members who were interested in having this happen. When there's a unified voice from the community about how they want their money spent, it's important to move ahead on projects like this."

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

METRO

Football player pleads not guilty

A Hawkeye football player pleaded not guilty Wednesday to two counts of unlawful possession of prescription drugs, online court records show.

Hawkeye redshirt freshman and wide receiver James Cleveland, 19, was charged on Feb. 23 after police searched his Hillcrest dorm room. He was also charged with a tax-stamp violation.

Cleveland agreed to a search of his room that day, and police reported finding 24 doses of carisoprodol, a muscle relaxant, and 21 units of oxycodone, a pain reliever. Police allege that they found no prescriptions for the drugs and that Cleveland admitted the pills were his.

Cleveland's roommate and fellow football player Arvell Nelson, 19, a redshirt freshman and quarterback, was also arrested Feb. 23 for possession of marijuana.

Online court records also show that Cleveland will attend a preliminary hearing on March 14.

Unlawful possession of prescription drugs is a serious misdemeanor, generally punishable by up to one year in jail and \$1,500 in fines. Failure to affix a tax stamp, a Class D felony, is punishable by five years in prison and up to \$7,500 in fines.

— by Olivia Moran

Man reaches plea deal in robbery

A Columbus, Ohio, man accused of committing an armed robbery at a Hy-Vee gas station in Coralville, pleaded guilty to a lesser charge on Tuesday.

Johnson County Attorney Janet Lyness said Bakara Diakite, 30, pleaded guilty to second-degree robbery rather than the charge of first-degree robbery he received on Sept. 18, 2007.

Diakite was also charged that day with tampering with witnesses or

jurors and identity theft, both aggravated misdemeanors. He pleaded not guilty to all of the charges on Oct. 25, 2007, and both aggravated misdemeanors were eventually dismissed.

Police said Diakite entered Hy-Vee Gas, 2025 Second St., Coralville, with a handgun and ordered an employee to remove the money from the cash register. After receiving the money, reports said he escaped in a car driven by his girlfriend, who is facing an aggravated misdemeanor for aiding Diakite during the robbery.

If convicted of first-degree robbery, a Class B felony, Diakite would have faced 25 years in prison. His lesser charge, second-degree robbery, is a Class C felony, and carries a punishment of 10 years in prison and up to \$10,000 in fines.

His sentencing is set for April 18.

— by Olivia Moran

Regents to decide on UIHC projects

The state Board of Regents will decide March 11 if formal planning can begin for major UI Hospitals and Clinics construction and renovations that are expected to cost \$700 million to \$850 million.

UIHC officials will ask the regents for permission to proceed with planning for a new Children's Hospital and a Critical Care Tower, as well as renovate several existing facilities, at the regents' next meeting in Iowa City.

If the regents approve to continue with the planning, UIHC officials will go on to seek architectural and construction management and discuss cost, site, program, and design plans.

At last month's meeting Jean Robillard, the UI vice president for Medical Affairs, told the board that hospital beds were full and the facility needed more room. Over the past two years, the UIHC has seen an increase in patients of 12 percent — 20,000

patients. Robillard wants to add 350 new beds over the next five years to keep up.

His goal for UIHC is to have all private rooms in the next 10 years. At present, nearly half of the 680 inpatient beds in the UIHC are in semiprivate rooms.

Ken Fisher, a UIHC associate director, told the regents that the funding for the projects would come from hospital revenues and philanthropy, and hospital officials would not ask the regents for any money.

In order to continue with additions and renovations of the Children's Hospital and Critical Care Tower, the UIHC parking ramp No. 1 will likely be demolished.

Boyd Tower and General Hospital — the oldest parts of the hospital — will also most likely be demolished and renovated in the future, but not for at least 20 years, Robillard said.

— by Clara Hogan

UI seeks parking-fee increase

The UI will see several increases in annual parking fees if the state Board of Regents approves a proposal that will be presented to the group March 11.

Officials will present the proposition to increase fees at the regents' next meeting, but they will not decide until the April 30-May 1 meeting.

Those increases include a jump in night and weekend student-only nine-month permits from \$72 to \$90 — a 25 percent increase.

The other two regent universities could also see increases.

Iowa State University would up its parking to range from \$40 to \$763 while University of Northern Iowa's parking costs would range from \$22 to \$354.

The UI has nearly 15,100 parking spaces available for visitors, faculty, staff, and students, according to the report.

Over the past year the university has made several attempts to supply more convenient parking, the report said. The UI opened the 599-space Melrose Avenue parking facility, continued to accommodate nearly 50 percent of employees and students who park in peripheral parking facilities with Cambus, managed commuter programs (van and car pools), and discounted bus passes for use on the Iowa City and Coralville transit systems.

The UI has also implemented an online student-registration system for parking permits, bus passes, and bicycle registration.

— by Clara Hogan

Dorm rates may rise

UI students in the dormitories would see a 5.9 percent increase in room-and-board fees next year under a university proposal.

The UI would see a jump from \$6,685 to \$7,079 for double-occupancy rooms and full board.

Officials from three regent schools will present the state Board of Regents with the proposals room and board changes at its next meeting March 11 in Iowa City.

The regents will not vote on the increase until the April 30-May 1 meeting in Iowa City.

ISU and UNI students would also see an increase.

UNI would see the largest increase — 8.3 percent, from \$6,268 to \$6,790 for double-occupancy rooms and full board. ISU would see the smallest increase — 3.6 percent, from \$6,645 to \$6,884.

The universities also made a five-year plan for their residence-hall enrollments. UI officials projected there would be 6,331 students in the dormitories, 61 over capacity. UNI and ISU are both under capacity with 95 percent and 91.3 percent occupancy ratios respectively.

— by Clara Hogan

BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Wednesday, March 5

1. Dorm assault reported
2. Hawks hang on against 'Cats
3. Wrestlers seek to dominate Big Tens
4. Waterfront Hy-Vee regains liquor license
5. 8 Hawk wrestlers seeded fifth or better

CORRECTIONS

In the March 5 story "UI works on text-alert system," the *DI* reported that the 20,000 faculty, staff, and students at the UI were defaulted into Hawk Alert in December. That 20,000 refers only to those who provided cell-phone numbers and were entered into the text message alert system.

In the graphic accompanying the article, the *DI* incorrectly reported 25,000 are not registered for Hawk Alert. Actually, 25,000 have not registered their cell phones for Hawk Alert. It also reported that 11,000 had registered for text messages only. That number refers to students only. The

graphic reported that 9,000 receive voice and text messages. Really, 6,000 faculty and staff receive text messages, and 3,000 students, faculty, and staff receive voice mail.

In the March 5 article "C'ville Ponders Stories Project," *The Daily Iowan* reported Joshua Schamberger gave information to the council while speaking for the Greater Iowa City/Coralville Area Sports Authority. In fact, Schamberger is the president of the Iowa City/Coralville Convention and Visitors Bureau. The Sports Authority is a division of the organization. The *DI* regrets any confusion.

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POLICE BLOTTER

Zachary Cannon, 20, Solon, was charged March 1 with making a false report and public intoxication.

Christopher Considine, 19, 929 Slater, was charged March 1 with disorderly conduct, public intoxication, and interference with official acts causing injury.

John Contreras, 41, Coralville, was charged Tuesday with OWI.

Nicholas Cutsinger, 19, Sioux City, was charged March 1 with public intoxication.

charged Wednesday with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, prohibited acts, and second-offense public intoxication.

Anthony Fronk, 20, Des Moines, was charged March 1 with public intoxication.

Adriane Gharib, 21, 507 N. Linn St. Apt. 8, was charged Feb. 6 with possession of marijuana.

Eric Hammes, 19, 908 Rienow, was charged March 1 with public intoxication.

charged Sunday with criminal trespass.

Kaley Maloney, 18, 712B Mayflower, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Nathan Marner, 19, 2322 Burge, was charged Sunday with carrying a concealed weapon, public intoxication, and PAULA.

Ryan Morelock, 22, Solon, was charged March 1 with disorderly conduct, public intoxication and interference with official acts.

charged March 1 with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana.

Derek Parisi, 26, 221 S. Linn St. Apt. 707, was charged Tuesday with having a dog off a leash in a park.

Veronica Tolan, 18, Park Ridge, Ill., was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Kevin Topp, 18, Sioux City, was charged March 1 with public intoxication.

Robert Williams, 18, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Refugees recall life in Sudan

SUDAN
CONTINUED FROM 1A

Too progressive for Sudan's government

Hamed was born in Kasala, a picturesque city in Northern Sudan, in 1962 — six years after the country broke away from British and Egyptian rule and gained independence.

Sudan, the largest in country in Africa, is bordered by nine different countries, which leaves room for much conflict and trafficking.

Many educated Sudanese people move to Saudi Arabia to become teachers or doctors, Hamed said. She has five brothers and five sisters — three live in Saudi Arabia, along with her husband.

Hamed left Kasala and went to the University of Khartoum, where she met her husband. They were both members of Mahmoud's movement to democratize Sudan. "I was an activist," she said. "I wanted women to know they could fight for their right to talk and for their equality."

The government that opposed liberal Islamic thoughts took power a few months before Hamed graduated from college, she said. She lived under their rule from 1985 until 1998, when she left for Saudi Arabia.

Government officials enforced their rules by whipping people in the streets, making them pay large amounts of money, or sending them to jail.

She said the government in power during those years labeled women as unequal. Hamed was a high school teacher for 12 years in Sudan, where she always wore traditional attire. When the government decided to



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

Salma Hamed, 10, helps her mother, Mahasin Hamed, wrap a plate full of the Sudanese dessert she prepared at her home in Coralville for the Night of 1,000 Dinners Wednesday. Ahmed moved her kids to Iowa in 2002 from Sudan because of the radical Islamic government.

require women teachers to wear a veil, she refused.

The next day, she was fired. "I could make an appeal, but I stood no chance," Hamed said. "They knew I was a follower of my spiritual father, Mahmoud."

When she and her family moved Saudi Arabia in 1998, it was worse for women, she said. They stayed there until 2002, when everyone but her husband left for America. Her husband is still a doctor in Saudi Arabia, and he hopes to visit soon for six weeks. He plans to take the third and final test required for him to get a temporary U.S. green card.

'We need to ask America to do more'

Hamed came to the Iowa City area because it was recommended by many Sudanese friends. Her brother, Imad Hamed, also

moved to Coralville in 2001 after getting a green card.

Hamed's oldest son, Mahmoud Nourediam, 20, went to West High when he was a sophomore. He said it was a major switch from the strict discipline of the schools they had previously attended.

"They would whip kids for not doing their homework," he said. "Here, you could talk to teachers like friends."

Mahmoud befriended the Sudanese kids at school — they knew his language and his manners. Sudanese people tend to stick together, he said.

"In Sudan, neighbors are like your family," he said. "There is always something new to do, but here, people are pretty programmed to do the same thing everyday."

Mahmoud, Mohamed, 17, Ahmed, 13, and the only daughter, Salma, 10, were all born in Sudan.

They are worried about his home, especially the Darfur region.

Attacks became more intense in 2003 between Sudan's government and rebel groups in Darfur.

Although groups disagree as to the total number of fatalities in Darfur, the United Nations reports at least 200,000 deaths as result of the violence, sickness, and hunger caused by the crisis — with the majority of violent deaths in the early period.

An estimated 60,000 refugees are in camps that do not supply much food or water. Many Sudanese people have fled to neighboring Chad.

Hamed's brother, Imad, said that Sudanese people in Coralville and Iowa City founded and participate in a community service committee in Coralville. The group often holds fundraisers for the people in Darfur.

Hamed's oldest son participated in the March for Refugees last year, in which about 150 people walked from North Liberty to Coralville to raise over \$14,000 for the Darfur refugees.

The group also holds dinners, meets with politicians, and collects belongings to send to Darfur. Imad has spoke with presidential hopefuls Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama multiple times, always asking, "What would you do for Darfur?"

All of Hamed's family agrees America needs to put priority on helping the refugees and putting pressure on Sudan's government to cease fire.

"[The Sudanese] need to have a unified voice in America," he said. "We need to ask America to do more."

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

UI cuts cost on classes

SPRING BREAK
CONTINUED FROM 1A

He did note that this is the first year both of the programs are offered as classes, and he does expect to see an increase in participation in coming years — the programs will each count as one semester hour.

The scuba course, heading to Florida, originally cost just under \$1,000; it is now \$595, while the mountain-biking course, which travels to Utah, has dropped from \$600 to \$499.

Paul Sueppel, the instructor for the bike trip, said the numbers are definitely "disappointing," with only three students currently enrolled in his class, and he supported the price cut.

"I always was for [the price cut]; if it were up to me, I would like everything to be as cheap as possible," he said.

He did note that the students will have that extra one-on-one time with the instructors, which is a positive and believes the trip will be a great experience.

"You are getting out, being active, and learning things that you will be able to do the rest of your life," Sueppel said. "Not like partying in Florida, Texas, or Mexico, which you can't do your entire life."

Neil Buckney, an exchange student from Scotland and a UI junior, said that though he wishes he was going to be accompanied by more than two other people on the bike trip, it is not that big of a deal to him.

Also accompanying Buckney will be UI senior Mike Jacobs, who said he was going to go prior to the price cut. He received a full refund.

"Now, I can spend more money on my bike," he said. "If people are sitting on a fence [on attending], it is a great opportunity."

The price cut did push some UI students to participate.

"I am not sure if I would sign up if [the scuba course] was \$1,000," said Jesse Chiu, a UI sophomore from Taiwan. "That is definitely a chunk of money."

The price cut was the main reason Chiu signed up, but he is looking forward to getting his open-water certificate and visiting Florida.

Chiu will be accompanied by six other students on the scuba trip.

Other lifetime leisure skills classes offered are: backpacking, bouldering, ballroom dancing, and leadership in the outdoors — all of which avoided having to cut prices because there was enough student participation.

The classes were available through ISIS; they were closed Tuesday at midnight.

Though UI senior Blake Beltrame had to pay all \$600 for his leadership in the outdoors class, he expressed no hard feelings, saying "power to them."

"I really don't think it is unfair," he said. "I think it will be a lot of fun, and getting school credit to go on a trip is pretty cool."

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

Extra penny aiding district

By **Alyssa Cashman**
THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City School District officials are looking to revamp and expand with money from the school-infrastructure local-option tax.

More than \$13 million is expected to come into the School District this year from the increased sale tax, which went into effect in July 2007.

This year, the funds are being used to add on a gym and four classrooms to Southeast Junior High, which is approaching 50 years old, said Superintendent Lane Plugge. Some science classrooms in the school are also being updated.

Additionally, some of the funds are going toward technology and the family resource center.

Despite some opposition, the tax was approved in late February 2007 with 67.3 percent of voters in favor of the measure. Starting in July, the sales tax was raised from 5 to 6 cents per dollar until 2017.

Local-option tax

How much money is the School District getting?

- \$1,238 per student this school year
- Approximately \$14 million total this school year
- After 2012: \$715 per student
- \$6 million total each year
- Total: Approximately \$104 million

How much money is needed?

- Technology: Around \$12.6 million
- New schools: Around \$52 million
- Family Resource Centers: Around \$3 million
- Total: Around \$147 million

This slight increase will bring in a projected \$104 million by the end of the 10-year period.

"This community is very supportive of education," School Board President Toni Cilek said.

This year, the tax will bring in a little over \$1,200 per student.

Johnson County was one of only two counties in Iowa that had not approved a local-option tax. By approving the measure, voters ensured that all money raised by the tax would remain in Johnson County for the first

five years of the program. After that, local-option money from all Iowa counties will be pooled and redistributed.

The amount of money brought in per student to the district will drop dramatically after the five-year mark to around \$715, although proposed legislation may change that number in the future.

After the passage of the tax last year, a consultant was hired to conduct a study that will identify the needs for the district.

"We needed someone with expertise to look at the systems," Plugge said. "We need to prioritize our immediate needs."

School Board member Gayle Klouda said better cost estimates would be obtained through the study.

Opponents of the tax increase last year asserted that funding was not being stretched to its full potential in the School District.

The Facility Advisory Committee, which measures school infrastructure needs, is now working on a 10-year plan for the district that would incorporate the money from local-option. Results from the study will be used to determine how to allocate money.

"We need to focus on spending every dollar where it needs to be spent," Klouda said.

As for the future, some money from the local-option tax will go to building a new elementary school for the ever-growing student population.

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

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News

CAMPUS

Students help Shelter House



Julie Brayton/The Daily Iowan
Students in the M.B.A. program get together for Thank God It's Thursday and make sandwiches for the homeless shelter in the Pomerantz Center on Wednesday. Abbie Dombrock came up with the plan for the sandwich assembly line.

MBA CONTINUED FROM 1A

She said because the business is so deeply invested in Eastern Iowan communities, it is a "win-win thing where we all get ahead."
"We're proud of what we do, we're proud of the product line, and we're delighted that people support the Co-op," she said. "But we're happy to give back."
The grocery store spends an estimated \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year donating to groups or nonprofits, she said.
"And it's nice to have our name out there so people who are members of the Co-op can see that we are helping in the community," she said.
Dale Jones, the Fareway store manager, said it occasionally donates to local charities or fundraisers.
"If people are looking for help toward donations with local

charities or local food banks, we do what we can to help with that," he said.
But the students in the M.B.A. program who made the sandwiches — and who are planning to make an "unusually large amount" of spaghetti to give to the shelter as well — decided to give the food to get more involved in the community.
"So we take knowledge of what the community needs," Dombrock said.
The event started because Dombrock wanted to change the routine of Thank God It's Thursday — a UI business group that meets on, well, Thursdays.
Soum Sarkar of Midwest Business Administration Association's member relations said, "Instead of hitting downtown, we're going to the shelter."
E-mail *DI* reporter **Kelli Shaffner** at: kelli-shaffner@uiowa.edu

Funnel claims bills

LEGISLATURE CONTINUED FROM 1A

Republicans note their disappointment with not succeeding on such items as the constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages and higher K-12 curriculum standards (the Senate did pass a school-standards bill, just not to all Republican's liking).
"Probably a better way to phrase that is what are we not working on," said Ron Weick, R-Sioux City, the Senate minority leader, when asked what the Republicans were working on. "2008 is a recap of 2007."
That's because, the Republicans gripe, they are in the minority in both chambers.
In that position "you watch your own legislation die, and you see bills get through that you don't like," said Republican Rep. Christopher Rants, the House minority leader, who is also from Sioux City.
The Republican leaders also

Two major legislative initiatives

• **Smoke-free workplaces:** A bill, which passed the Iowa Senate on Feb. 27, proposes to ban smoking in many indoor locations, including bars and restaurants. The Iowa House passed a similar measure earlier in the year, although the House's version included more exemptions than the Senate version did. Now the House must again take up the initiative to rectify differences between the two chambers' language.
• **Gay-marriage ban:** After a judge ruled an Iowa law banning same-sex marriage was unconstitutional, legislators proposed an amendment to the Iowa Constitution to specifically define marriage as only between a man and a woman. The resolution, however, effectively died earlier this week after it failed to make it out of committee. The ruling by the Iowa judge is stayed while the Iowa Supreme Court takes up the issue.

said they would like to see more funding go to private and community colleges. Weick said he would like to see the state put out an economic-stimulus package much like the one the federal government passed earlier in the year.
While members noted that Iowa's economy is relatively strong at the moment, they are concerned about the financial

health of the state. Legislators from both sides of the aisle said they are happy with a bill, likely to become law, barring state taxes on checks sent to Iowans from the federal government in an effort to save the slowing economy.
Yet even as funnel week comes to an end, a lot of work is just getting started, said Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Coralville, the

chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Appropriations bills are exempt from the funnel requirements, and typically, the Legislature starts focusing on the budget after the deadline for policy legislation passes.
While the economy does have some worried about the amount of money flowing into state coffers, Dvorsky praised the individual leaders of the appropriations subcommittees — bodies that work on funding in specific areas — for finding creative ways to deal with a tighter budget.
Bolkcom promised to adjourn with a balanced budget. Republicans, repeating sentiments of being cut out of the process, questioned if they would do that by raising taxes, dipping into the rainy day fund, or cutting spending.
And that answer should be seen by the end of the session on April 22.
E-mail *DI* reporter **Bryce Bauer** at: bryce-bauer@uiowa.edu

Bush anoints McCain as nominee

By **Liz Sidoti**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — John McCain's success in sewing up the Republican nomination created a party-like atmosphere at the White House — and even the president was dancing.
"I'm just going to tap dance the day away," President Bush said, laughing and stalling for time as he waited on the North Portico for the tardy Arizona senator who was arriving for a private lunch and Bush's endorsement.
In a day heavy on symbolism, the current head of the GOP embraced its next

'I can help raising money, and if he wants my pretty face standing by his side at one of these rallies, I'll be glad to show up.'

— President Bush on his endorsement of John McCain for the Republican nomination

standard-bearer, and McCain visited Republican National Committee headquarters as he looked to take advantage of the party perks that come with sealing the nomination.
Bush's endorsement has baggage, though, reminding voters of the drawn-out Iraq war and the nation's economic woes under an

unpopular GOP president.
Regardless of the risks, the president said he'd do whatever he could to help McCain win.
"I got a lot to do, but I'm going to find ample time to help," Bush said, standing alongside the man who was his rival in a bitter 2000 primary campaign. "I can help raising

money, and if he wants my pretty face standing by his side at one of these rallies, I'll be glad to show up."
McCain, in turn, said: "I will be glad to have the president with me, in keeping with his schedule, in any part of America."
In endorsing McCain, Bush showered him with words of praise, saying: "John showed incredible courage and strength of character and perseverance in order to get to this moment. And that's exactly what we need in a president: somebody that can handle the tough decisions; somebody who won't flinch in the face of danger."

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Chowing down to stop the mines

By **Samantha Miller**
THE DAILY IOWAN

Mao Sopheap, a 16-year-old Cambodian orphan, lost her father to a one of the 80 million land mines still active worldwide, and she was mutilated by one herself. She fears no man will marry her and feels rejected from society.

Stories like this, along with photos of mutilations caused by land mines, were projected throughout the Night of 1,000 Dinners banquet on Wednesday at Old Brick, 26 E. Market St.

They served as a constant reminder throughout the lively evening — which was punctuated by an internationally influenced buffet, Sudanese music, and guitar playing — that the plight of those damaged and killed by the mines was ultimately at the heart of the festivities.

The Night of 1,000 Dinners benefit was hosted by Iowa United Nations Association. Officials hoped to raise money for the Adopt-a-Minefield organization, which works to destroy the land mines that kill at least 15,000 people annually, according to the U.N. figures.

"This [event] is something that highlights a lot of the good work the United Nations does," said Diana Davies, the UI International Programs director.

A big draw for the banquet was the potluck, she said. Attendees this year dined on a variety of ethnic dishes like bassboussa, green curry, and barbunya.

The food was donated by a diverse collection of restaurants, including Masala, Oasis, Saigon to Bangkok, New Pioneer Co-op, and El Ranchero, said Kate Karacay, an Iowa United Nations Association co-director.

"We were trying to have stuff from all around the world," she said.

UI junior Modesta Acosta said the initial draw for her was the potluck.

"[I came] because it said buffet, and it was \$10," she said, adding that once she discovered it was to benefit land-mine removal that became another reason she decided to attend.

A local Sudanese band — appropriately enough titled "The Iowa City Sudanese Band" — provided entertainment in the beginning of the evening, bringing some people out of their seats to dance, clap, and snap with the band. Russian guitarist Tanya Jibouleau also provided entertainment.

Though the mood stayed somewhat light throughout the event, the evening's serious topic was never forgotten, especially when Alice Dahle, the

Linn County's United Nations chapter president, lectured on the realities of the repercussions of land mines.

Land mines are initially planted in the ground to target military men, she said. But today, she said, more than 90 percent of those hurt by the mines are civilians.

"[Land mines] kill indiscriminately," she said.

The longtime women's rights advocate noted that females especially feel the impact of the destruction land mines cause. While only 29 percent of men who are involved in a mine explosion die, 43 percent of women do. Dahle attributed this disparity to women being less likely to seek treatment. They have to look after their children, and their culture may restrict travel for females, she said. Women maimed by mines may be divorced and shunned by some societies, Dahle said.

Iowa City resident Joanna Sabha attended the event to learn more about the United Nations' mine efforts.

"I don't know much about land mines, but they don't sound good in nature," she said. "It was good to come and learn something new from someone who has more knowledge on this than I do."

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



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

Lead singer Mutwakil Musa performs with the Sudanese Band of Iowa City at the beginning of Night of a 1,000 Dinners at Old Brick on Wednesday. All proceeds from the event go to Adopt-a-Minefield.

Board looks to fund programs for kids

The Night of 1,000 Dinners benefit Wednesday raises money for land-mine removal.

By **Kurtis Hiatt**
THE DAILY IOWAN

A Johnson County board is looking to fund roughly \$185,000 worth of programs this year, focusing on child welfare and juvenile delinquency.

"We have priority service areas," said Amy Correia, who serves on the Johnson County Decategorization Governance Board as the social-service coordinator for Johnson County Social Services. "Those areas are what the board has identified as priorities this year."

Officials at government entities, nonprofits, and for-profit human service agencies who want to receive money to offer programs can meet with Correia at a bidder's conference at 10 a.m. today at the Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn St. She will be available to answer questions about the application process.

The board wants organizations to create programs that will meet the needs of minority children and families in welfare and juvenile-court systems, provide support systems for them, build healthy after-school programs, address the needs of families with domestic-abuse problems, help girls in juvenile courts, and support mental-health needs of at-risk youth.

Correia said the funds for the programs are awarded annually and are a combination of federal and state money. Officials on the board expect to fund six to eight programs starting as early as May 1 and ending in fiscal 2009.

Scott Prochaska, the recreation superintendent at the Coralville Recreation Center, said the organization has applied for money from the board for five years, and he said he will apply again this year.

Between July 2007 and June 2008, the board awarded \$5,220 to the center.

Roughly \$3,000 funded after-school programs, such as a drama class, sports and other games, and a hip-hop dance class. These focus mostly on junior-high students — one of the priorities of the Johnson County Decategorization Governance Board.

The organization uses the rest of its money to provide transportation to those 18 and under for its free summer lunch program.

"It's to keep those junior-high kids busy after school, and give them some opportunities," Prochaska said, adding the center depends on money from the board to keep those programs running.

According to a report, during fiscal 2007, the board teamed up with 19 organizations — including the Iowa City School District and nonprofits Four Oaks and Families Inc. — to provide services and shelled out \$353,363. Correia said the board awarded so much more money because of carry-over

Six priorities

Areas the Johnson County Decategorization Governance Board wants to address:

- Meet the needs of minority children and families in welfare and juvenile-court systems
- Provide support systems for them
- Build healthy after-school programs
- Address the needs of families with domestic-abuse problems
- Help girls in juvenile courts
- Support mental-health needs of at-risk youth

dollars unspent in previous years.

The deadline for organizations' completed applications is noon on March 24. Applicants can download the request for proposals online or contact Correia.

Prochaska said he has the forms to reapply for funds this year, and he encourages other organizations to apply for money.

"I would highly recommend it," he said. "This is a great opportunity to get needed funding and provide services that probably wouldn't be provided otherwise."

E-mail *DI* reporter **Kurtis Hiatt** at: kurtis-hiatt@uiowa.edu

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.



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Editorial

U.S. must move on Darfur

As the primary season nears its conclusion, presidential-nomination candidates will continue to highlight their differences. In the Iraq war and 9/11 era, foreign policy has played an increasingly crucial role in our society. Unfortunately, President Bush's numerous mistakes abroad have tarnished our image among allies and led a majority of the global community to question our motives overseas. Candidates may tout their plans to deal with such states as Iran and North Korea, but they should be reminded that tragedy occurs outside of "Axis of Evil" states. In Darfur, a western region of the Sudan, genocide has claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands; the BBC also estimates that more than 2 million have been displaced by the conflict there.

During the Rwandan genocide in 1994, then-President Clinton's administration all but ignored the horrifying catastrophe. Though he later apologized for America's lack of response, Clinton set a dangerous precedent for U.S. involvement in such crises. Likewise, President Bush has done little better. In fact, the president admitted in 2004 that the murder in Darfur is indeed genocide, yet our country has sat idly by while innocent men, women, and children continue to die. Bush was correct to identify the slaughter in Darfur as genocide, yet it's shameful that our nation has not intervened there to end it.

As the world's greatest superpower, the United States has an obligation and responsibility to act swiftly when crimes against humanity occur. From starvation to disease to rape, the situation in Darfur is dire. These people need our help. America has always been quick to protect its interests throughout the world, but our neglect to provide mass humanitarian assistance in Africa is inexcusable. Our nation is viewed by many as one that only steps in when there is something tangible to gain; though this may not be entirely accurate, our leaders in Congress and the White House have not done much to curb such thinking.

Our efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq — both militarily and economically — have indicated where our country's focus lies. Bush's successor must take appropriate action to recommit American energy and aid to regions suffering from extensive civil war and genocide. These conflicts are prone to escalate and spread elsewhere. If our government wishes to continue the "war on terror," perhaps it should learn the definition of "terrorism" first. The bloodshed and destruction throughout the African continent, including in Darfur, absolutely qualifies as a terrorist campaign. If the U.S. government thinks otherwise, it has no credibility as the world's peacemaker.

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GUEST OPINIONS that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.



Commentary

How many unbelievers?

Are there more atheists and agnostics in the United States than is commonly supposed? Two studies — last week's U.S. Religious Landscape Survey from the Pew Forum and one published two years ago — suggest so.

The 2006 study from the University of Minnesota does not examine the question of how many nonbelievers there are, but it makes clear the troubling depth of Americans' distrust of them. Asked whether they would disapprove of a child's wish to marry an atheist, 47.6 percent of the 2,000 randomly selected people interviewed said yes. When asked the same question about a Muslim or black person, the respondents' "yes" responses fell to 33.5 percent and 27.2 percent, respectively; the surveys dealing with Asian Americans, Latinos, and other groups were lower.

When asked which groups did not share their vision of society, 39.5 percent of those interviewed mentioned atheists — again, a significant figure in excess of that shown to other groups. Sociologist Penny Edgell, the study's lead researcher, called the results "a glaring exception to the rule of increasing tolerance over the last 30 years."

The recent study by the Pew reports on the religious affiliations of Americans. It notes that the percentage of self-declared Protestants, although still a bit over 50 percent, is shrinking, that Catholics make up just shy of 25 percent of the population, a figure that would be declining were it not for recent immigrants, and that the number of denominations is rising. The study also notes a significant increase in movement from one religious affiliation to another, with almost half of the 35,000 people who participated in this extensive survey saying that they had switched religions.

Of interest to me is that almost 1 in 6 (16.1 percent) of the respondents said they were not affiliated with any particular religious faith, and this figure rose to 1 in 4 among 18- to 29-year-olds. Of course, unaffiliated does not mean irreligious, but 4 percent of Americans say exactly that, with 1.6 percent and 2.4 percent describing themselves as either atheist or agnostic respectively. The remaining 12 percent who are unaffiliated are split more or less in half between those who are secular and unaffiliated and those who say they are religious but unaffiliated.

Let me put the two studies together and speculate a bit. Given the negative attitudes toward atheists documented in the Minnesota study, and considering that most people probably don't see much advantage in incurring the distrust of their religious neighbors and colleagues, the testimony of many people formally classified as religious is suspect. Some nonbelievers, it seems to me, are likely either to lie and say they belong to some established creed, or to fudge their responses by saying they're spiritual and believe in a nebulously defined God, or are simply unsure.

Whenever surveys, especially surveys of sexual practices, religious beliefs, or potentially unpopular opinions, ask people to self-report, the results are dubious. Few American men acknowledged suffering from erectile dysfunction before the introduction of Viagra, yet as ads assure us, millions of motorcycle-riding, party-loving cowboys seem to suffer from it now.

There also is a definitional problem. The question of religious belief is a nuanced one, and different people who hold similar beliefs and are willing to tell the truth will nevertheless give different answers depending on how they interpret necessarily ambiguous questions.

The conclusion I draw is that the number of nonbelievers in a conventionally described God is in the tens of millions and is not limited to angry "neo-atheists" and Madalyn Murray O'Hair clones. Moreover, I think a more fruitful distinction than the one between atheists and theists is the one between those who acknowledge that there are no compelling logical arguments for believing in God (even if they choose to believe anyway) and those who are sure of their God and the literal truth of their particular holy book.

There is a bravery and a wisdom associated with disbelief and honest doubt. As my father used to say, "Uncertainty is the only certainty there is." More biting is William Butler Yeats' line: "The best lack all conviction, while the worst are full of passionate intensity."

— John Allen Paulos

Paulos is a mathematics professor at Temple University and the author of *Innumeracy* and, most recently, "Irreligion: A Mathematician Explains the Arguments for Just Don't Add Up." This article appeared in Wednesday's *Los Angeles Times*.

On the Spot

What should the U.S. do in response to the newest wave of violence in Darfur?



"It's a really complex issue. Something should be done, I just don't know what."

Brittany Korb
UI senior



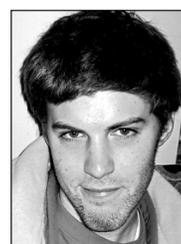
"I definitely think we should raise funds and send as much aid as we can."

Julia Gouge
UI freshman



"Intervene."

Chris Goettl
UI senior



"I think we should take a more active role than in the past. I'd like to see more action than rhetoric."

Jason Phelps
UI junior

Down in smoke

There's been a lot of talk about the proposed statewide smoking ban in Iowa, and I think it's time for me to weigh in. Not only do I hate the smell of smoke and despise the stale cigarette odor that clings to my body, I was also born with asthma. My fragile lungs are precisely what the legislators and antimoking lobbyists are trying to protect. So, I want to send a message to the all-exalted protectors of public health.



KATHLEEN WATSON

Thanks but no thanks. Give me liberty or give me death. I would much rather breathe in hazardous sidestream smoke than surrender my freedom to choose. Perhaps the legislators and lobbyists in this great state are unfamiliar with the Declaration of Independence or the Constitution. They're more than welcome to borrow my pocket-sized copy. If they do, they'll see that we have certain unalienable rights, such as Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. In case the connection is unclear, allow me to elaborate and apply these principles.

The pursuit of happiness: If it proves you happy to shorten your precious life by inhaling carcinogens and blackening your lungs, it is your right as an American to do so.

Liberty: defined as the right to choose without constraints or force.

Life: As in — get one! And stop trying to control other peoples' behavior.

The Constitution ensures that we have property rights and freedom of speech. Smoking is not against the law. Private businesses are not required to allow smoking, nor should they be required to ban it. If business owners want to allow this legal behavior on their premises; they have a constitutional right to do so. I would have more respect for our lawmakers if they banned cigarettes. I may still disagree, but at least they would be more consistent in their so-called commitment to public health.

Cigarettes come with warnings, and if the state wants business owners to slap a surgeon general's warning on the front door to educate patrons about risks of lung cancer, emphysema, and premature birth, that's fine. But this game they're playing in the name of public health is ridiculous. Last year, the state added \$1 tax on every pack of cigarettes purchased in Iowa. Now the Iowans who can still afford to smoke will be banished to private areas. To say that it's legal for adults to smoke but not allow them to do it anywhere is not only asinine, it's cowardly. Why not just outlaw cigarettes altogether? Is the tobacco lobby more influential than the anti-smoking petitioners?

Here I will correct myself. To say that the bill won't allow smokers to do it *anywhere* is a bit of an exaggeration. If you read the text of the legislation, the list of public places where smoking is prohibited may not seem much of a change. It bans smoking in financial institutions, educational facilities, health-care provider locations, libraries, museums, retail stores ... in other words, a bunch of places you'll get thrown out of if you try to light up anyway. But it's one thing for a business to enforce a smoking policy, it's another thing altogether for the government to mandate behavior it deems to be a threat to public health.

The biggest effect this bill will have is on drinking establishments. If there is such an outcry, nonsmokers should support a antimoking bar and avoid smokers. As adults, we have the right to make these choices for ourselves without government intervention. The public is well-aware of the risks involved with secondhand smoke. If someone chooses to smoke a cigarette or to expose themselves to someone who does so in this sweet land of liberty, both parties are making an informed decision.

Nonsmokers may be indifferent to the smoking ban simply because they're annoyed by cigarette smoke. It is nice to leave a bar without smelling like an ashtray. But this isn't about preference, nor is it a convincing commitment to public health. This is about personal liberty. I don't like breathing smoke. But do you know what I do like? French fries. Not only do I enjoy greasy, fatty fries, but I like to wash them down with a high-calorie carbonated artificially colored soft drink. How long will it be before my destructive behavior is outlawed by our benevolent legislators? When will they save me from myself? ■

DI columnist Kathleen Watson thinks you should go back to Illinois if you want smoke-free bars. E-mail her at: kathleen-watson@uiowa.edu

UI donations increase

The UI Foundation's donations top those of other Iowa schools.

By Shawn Gude
THE DAILY IOWAN

Following a nationwide trend, donations to the UI Foundation increased again last year, to around \$115 million — a jump of more than \$13 million.

Similar to previous years, the UI led Iowa's universities in voluntary support, rival Iowa State University by approximately \$45 million.

When asked for an explanation for the UI's repeated success over its in-state rivals, UI Foundation Senior Vice President Susan Shullaw just laughed.

"Well, the natural explanation would be that we're better than them," she said jokingly. "But I can't speak to any of the other Iowa schools ... We don't pay that much attention to what the other schools are doing."

Ann Wilson, the Iowa State University Foundation's senior director of communication, stressed the differences between ISU and the UI. The two are incomparable, she said, and many factors — including the UI's facilities and programs that ISU lacks — affect fundraising.

Wilson also pointed to her organization's current \$800 million fundraising campaign as a symbol of its financial success and viability.

The increase in monetary contributions for the UI comes just two years after the UI Foundation attained a seven-year goal of raising \$1 billion. The foundation doesn't have

'Every day, there are hundreds of more charities created in the world, whether it's to support the environment or hunger in Africa, and I think people have a lot of choices about where to direct their philanthropic dollars.'

— Susan Shullaw,
UI Foundation
senior vice president

that kind of campaign on the docket at present, but Shullaw said campaigns to fund the Colleges of Public Health and Dentistry, as well as Carver-Hawkeye Arena renovation, are either underway or soon to be.

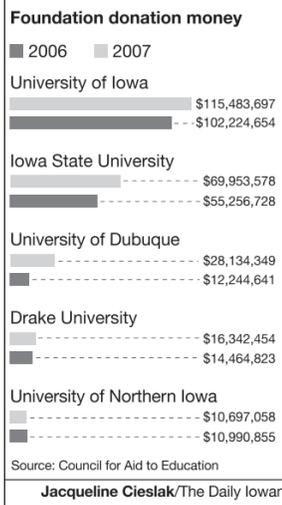
In addition, the foundation is attempting to make its processes more donor-friendly, with such initiatives as allowing contributors to select where their dollars go in the university.

The numbers for fiscal 2007, released recently by the Council for Aid to Education, found that contributions to colleges and universities reached a record-high of almost \$30 billion.

Alumni contributions and participation nationwide declined last year, though, after increasing at an abnormally high rate, 18 percent, in 2006.

Iowa school foundations

Donations to most major university foundations in Iowa increased in 2007.



Although Shullaw had a theory for the decline, she said the UI Foundation would have to look into the trend further.

"Every day, there are hundreds of more charities created in the world, whether it's to support the environment or hunger in Africa, and I think people have a lot of choices about where to direct their philanthropic dollars," she said. "Some people have a passion for education, and some people want to support other causes, so it could just be a matter of more choice in the world."

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

Bill could expand health coverage

The Iowa Health Care Coverage for All Act pushes for expansion of children's health care, but some are still left behind.

By Lauren Sieben
THE DAILY IOWAN

A bill moving through the state Legislature aims to extend state coverage of children beyond the current Hawk-I and local Medicaid programs.

The "Iowa Health Care Coverage for All Act," which moved out of subcommittee Feb. 28, outlines an initiative for the state to further expand its health-care system to provide free or subsidized health care for children who qualified. The legislation excludes illegal aliens and children who have lived in the state for fewer than five years. Qualification would be based on a sliding scale of income for families below 300 percent of the federal poverty level.

Information from the Iowa Department of Human Services states that 21,308 children are already covered by Iowa's Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa — or Hawk-I — program. Another 16,271 are covered thanks to Iowa's addition to federal Medicaid funding.

An additional 168,360 Iowa children are covered by federal Medicaid funds.

Roger Munns, a spokesman for Human Services, estimated that 25,000 uninsured children in Iowa are financially eligible for either Medicaid or Hawk-I. Children are eligible for Medicaid if their family income is below 133 percent of the federal

poverty level. In order to be eligible for Hawk-I coverage, family income must be at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

Sue Freeman, the program director at the Broadway Street Neighborhood Center in Iowa City, said most families who come to the center already receive health-care coverage through Medicaid. The few who are uninsured are often recent immigrants and would be unlikely to benefit from the bill because of its restrictions.

"The issue becomes that we have families that have been here for four years, and they will be here forever," she said. "There are political refugees from Africa, and they have moved here legally and have no health insurance, and that has become a significant issue."

Maria Lopez, a social worker at the Broadway Center, said that because of federal regulations, families that legally immigrated to the United States must wait at least five years before requesting any type of federal aid, including health insurance.

Lopez works with a family from Ecuador in this situation.

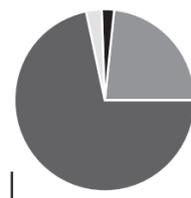
"They came in September, and they have to wait five years for any kind of health [insurance] from the government," she said. "There are two kids, a

Child health care

A variety of Iowa government health-insurance programs provide health coverage for children in low- and modest-income households.

Health coverage distribution

- 21,308: Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (Hawk-I) program
- 16,271: Iowa's Medicaid expansion program
- 168,360: regular, federal Medicaid



There are 730,000 children in Iowa
Source: Iowa Department of Human Services

Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

7-year-old and a 1½-year-old, and neither of them is insured."

The text of the Iowa Senate bill says it hopes to move "toward a future requirement that all Iowans must provide proof of qualified health-care coverage."

Iowa legislators behind the bill were unavailable for comment.

E-mail DI reporter Lauren Sieben at: lauren-sieben@uiowa.edu

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Visit www.uiowafoundation.org/SPI to learn how you can pitch in for your UI community.

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SPORTS



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Thursday, March 6, 2008

Men's gymnastics: Kleffman's coming back, 3B

dailyiowan.com



Keno Davis

NCAA

Davis nominated for national Coach of the Year

DES MOINES (AP) — First-year Drake coach Keno Davis has been nominated for an award given to the nation's top coach.

Davis is one of 12 coaches up for the honor awarded by the U.S. Basketball Writers Association. He led Drake to a 25-4 record and its first Missouri Valley conference title since 1971.

The winner will be announced later this month, and the presentation will be made during the Final Four.

Other coaches up for the Iba Award include Rick Barnes of Texas, John Calipari of Memphis, Tennessee's Bruce Pearl, and Mat Painter of Purdue.

Wisconsin clinches share of title

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Marcus Landry scored 15 points, and No. 10 Wisconsin trounced Penn State, 77-41, on Wednesday night to clinch at least a share of the Big Ten regular-season championship.

It is the third time in seven seasons the Badgers (25-4, 15-2) have claimed at least a share of the conference title under coach Bo Ryan — and this one was perhaps the least likely of them.

The Badgers will finish the regular season at Northwestern on Saturday; a victory would give them the outright championship.

"Guys, what a great way to close it out," Ryan said, addressing his team and the crowd as they celebrated their share of the conference title and the last home game for the senior class.

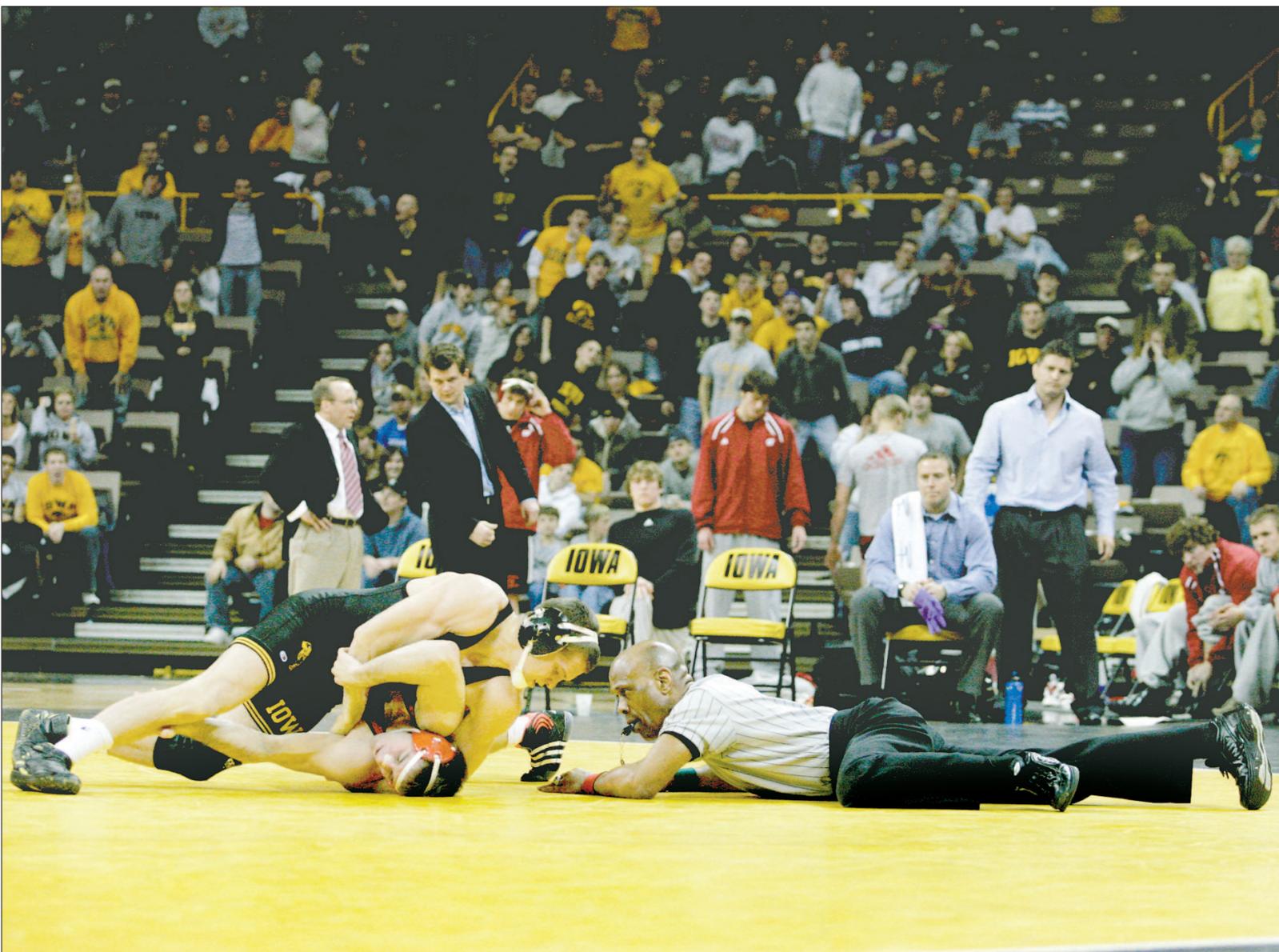
Not much was expected of Wisconsin coming into the season. The Badgers had lost stars Alando Tucker and Kamron Taylor, and it was unclear who would emerge as the new leading scorer.

Wisconsin entered Wednesday leading the nation in scoring defense.



Ryan coach

IOWA WRESTLING — BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS



Hawkeye Mark Perry tries to pin 165-pound Badger wrestler Jake Donar during Iowa's meet against Wisconsin on Jan. 28, 2007. After a year in which Perry captured individual Big Ten and NCAA titles, the 165-pound Hawkeye said the goal of a team championship is fueling him as motivation late this season.

Perry ready to wrestle

Mark Perry returns to the mat Saturday after a two-month injury.

By Ryan Young
 THE DAILY IOWAN

For much of Mark Perry's career, he was the overshadowed underdog.

As a redshirt freshman, he placed second in both the Big Ten and NCAA Tournaments. Moving up to 174 pounds for his sophomore season, Perry again ended as a runner-up in the conference championships but finished third in the national tourney.

And last season in his

junior campaign, when he went back down to 165 pounds, the story line stayed the same — for the most part.

Seeded at No. 2 in the Big Ten Tournament, seemingly destined to once again repeat his past achievements, Perry pulled off an upset over Michigan's top-seeded Eric Tannenbaum to seize the conference crown.

Then, his success continued. Winning and pinning his way to the NCAA finals, Perry

Perry preps for postseason

Watch Daily Iowan TV at dailyiowan.com to hear more about 165-pound defending national champion Mark Perry's motivation heading into the Big Ten championships nearly two months after knee surgery.

managed an unlikely victory over long-time nemesis and graduated Oklahoma State grappler Johny Hendricks — Iowa's only individual championship last season, and the pinnacle of Perry's cumulated three years as a Hawkeye wrestler.

SEE PERRY, BACK PAGE

Making sense of 141

The Hawkeyes hope Dan LeClere can escape the jumbled 141-pound weight class on top.

By Eric Mandel
 THE DAILY IOWAN

The *American Heritage* dictionary defines a tossup as an even chance, or the flipping of a coin.

For a good chunk of the weight class battles in this weekend's Big Ten wrestling meet, the favorites are clear and the coaches had easy pickings while seeding the postseason event.

Then there is the 141-pound division.

"That's another weight class that, really however you seeded it was, I mean it's a miracle that it's consistent like that," said Iowa head

coach Tom Brands. "How we voted is basically how it came out, but it could have gone a lot of different ways."

The second-year Hawkeye head man refers to a hodgepodge of wrestlers at the weight class who've all beaten one another throughout the dual-meet season, leaving no clear dominant wrestler.



LeClere wrestler

SEE LECLERE, BACK PAGE

TV TODAY

NCAA BASKETBALL
 • Connecticut at Providence, 6 p.m., ESPN
 • Clemson at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m., ESPN2
 • Xavier at Saint Joseph's, 8 p.m., ESPN
 • Michigan State at Illinois, 8 p.m., ESPN2
 • Stanford at UCLA, 10 p.m., FSN

NBA
 • Cleveland at Chicago, 6:15 p.m., TNT
 • Houston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m., TNT

MLB
 • Preseason, LA Dodgers vs. Boston, at Fort Myers, Fla., noon, ESPN

Hoops tournament looks to be wide open

By Brendan Stiles
 THE DAILY IOWAN

If history is any indicator, the Iowa women's basketball team is in great shape this weekend at the Big Ten Tournament in Indianapolis.

Three of the last four tournament champions have been the No. 2 seed, including last year's winner, Purdue. The Hawkeyes are this year's second seed, and on Friday, they will face the winner of

today's contest between Penn State and Michigan.

Hawkeye coach Lisa Bluder believes her team is confident, but this year's tourney could also be anyone's for the taking.

"I think this tournament is as wide open as any we've seen," she said. "I think that makes it exciting. I think it's a real advantage for the top-three seeds to get that bye just because the games are going to be so much more competitive this year

than what I've seen in a long time."

This season, Iowa beat every Big Ten school except Ohio State. In fact, the Hawkeyes' 0-2 mark against the Buckeyes this season proved to be the tiebreaker giving Ohio State the tourney's top seed. The Buckeyes are led this season by co-Big Ten Player of the Year Jantel Lavender, who was also named Big Ten Freshman of the Year.

SEE WOMEN'S HOOPS, BACK PAGE



Beth Skogen/The Daily Iowan

The Iowa women's basketball team celebrates after beating Wisconsin, 87-78 in Madison on Sunday. The Hawkeyes will travel to Indianapolis for the Big Ten women's basketball tourney this weekend.

Sports

Drake out of doghouse

By R.B. Fallstrom
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — The Missouri Valley Conference clinched the title in mid-February and kept building its NCAA Tournament résumé.

The season-long surprise is that the team to beat in the conference tournament starting tonight is not Southern Illinois. It's No. 20 Drake, long an afterthought this time of the year and savoring its first regular-season championship since 1971 under new coach Keno Davis.

Usually, it's been win or go home for the Bulldogs (25-4), who've never been higher than the third seed in the 32-year history of the tournament. They've been in the Top 25 the last seven weeks, but before that, the last time was in 1974-75. On top of its résumé is an upset at Butler, No. 14 this week and with only three losses.

"It's definitely a surprise, but it's a credit to him," said Chris Lowery, coach of unanimous preseason favorite Southern Illinois. "Given the opportunity, he ran with it."

"He's young, and he's a player's coach." Expectations were not high for Drake, picked to finish ninth in the Valley. Now, instead of the customary long-shot role, the Bulldogs will be playing for NCAA seeding.

They don't have to worry about getting knocked out this weekend, either. The neutral-site conference tournament typically is wide open, with the last nine regular-season champions falling short.

Drake awaits the winner of

the lead-in game tonight matching No. 8 Indiana State (14-15) and No. 9 Wichita State (11-19) in its tournament opener on Friday. No. 2 Illinois State's first test will also be Friday against either No. 7 Missouri State (16-15) or No. 10 Evansville (9-20).

The championship game for a tournament that led the nation in attendance last March is on Sunday.

"I actually feel pretty confident going in because of the success we've had all year, that maybe we can play pressure-free to some extent," Davis said. "We've done a lot of firsts this year, and that would be a nice one as well."

Illinois State (22-8) was the last top seed to win the conference tournament in 1998. The Redbirds represent another long-downtrodden program on the rise.

Like Drake's Davis, Illinois State has a rookie coach in former Kansas assistant Tim Jankovich. He said the key to this season's success was players quickly buying into his system.

"This team, I would give an A-plus," Jankovich said. "They've been a joy to coach."

Southern Illinois was the Valley's only ranked team entering last year's tournament, and it was a unanimous preseason pick to win the league again. Instead, the Salukis have struggled for backcourt depth after the departure of Jamaal Tatum, last year's conference Player of the Year, and Tony Young.

The only player Lowery can count on is senior Bryan Mullins, a member of the all-defensive team. That's why Southern Illinois (17-13) is the No. 3 seed.

"Guards drive our program," Lowery said. "Mullins is an exceptional player but we've always had three who could handle the ball and now we have one."



Lowery
S. Illinois coach

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Wisconsin	15	2	.882	25	4	.862
Indiana	14	3	.824	25	5	.833
Purdue	14	3	.824	23	7	.767
Michigan St.	11	5	.688	23	6	.793
Ohio St.	9	8	.529	18	12	.600
Minnesota	8	9	.471	18	11	.621
Penn St.	6	11	.353	14	15	.483
Iowa	6	12	.333	13	18	.419
Michigan	5	12	.294	9	20	.310
Illinois	4	12	.250	12	17	.414
Northwestern	1	16	.059	8	20	.286

Wednesday's Games
Indiana 69, Minnesota 55
Michigan State 77, Penn State 41
Today's Game
Michigan State at Illinois, 8 p.m.
Saturday's Games
Minnesota at Illinois, 12 p.m.
Wisconsin at Northwestern, 2 p.m.

Women'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

Conseco Fieldhouse, Indianapolis, In.
Today'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 Minnesota vs. #5 Michigan State*
Saturday's Games
Game 8 - Game 4 winner vs. Game 5 winner, 5 p.m.
Game 9 - Game 6 winner vs. Game 7 winner*
Sunday's Game
Game 8 winner vs. Game 9 winner, 4:30 p.m.

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

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

#2 Memphis 72, SMU 55
#4 Tennessee 89, Florida 86
#6 Duke 85, Virginia 70
#10 Wisconsin 77, Penn State 41
#16 Vanderbilt 86, Mississippi State 85, OT
#18 Indiana 69, Minnesota 55
#19 Notre Dame 68, St. John's 55
Other Games
Missouri 81, Iowa State 75, 2OT
Women
#15 Utah 63, 58 Colorado 207
#19 Kansas State 61, Kansas 50
Other Games
Nebraska 55, Iowa State 45

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

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New Jersey 38 23 6 82 176 157
N.Y. Rangers 34 24 9 77 178 168
Philadelphia 33 26 8 74 205 194
N.Y. Islanders 32 29 7 71 168 196
Northwest W L OT Pts GF GA
Washington 32 28 8 72 200 203
Florida 30 31 8 68 182 196
Atlanta 29 32 7 65 181 225
Tampa Bay 26 33 7 59 183 215
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central W L OT Pts GF GA
Detroit 44 18 6 94 213 151
Nashville 34 25 8 76 198 191
Chicago 33 28 9 72 193 169
Columbus 30 28 10 70 164 177
St. Louis 29 28 10 68 165 186
Northwest W L OT Pts GF GA
Minnesota 37 25 5 79 181 181
Calgary 35 23 9 79 187 185
Colorado 35 26 6 76 185 181
Vancouver 32 24 9 74 182 169
Edmonton 31 31 5 67 183 205
Pacific W L OT Pts GF GA
Dallas 41 24 5 87 208 173
San Jose 38 21 8 84 179 161
Anaheim 38 24 7 83 173 168
Phoenix 34 28 5 73 178 177
Los Angeles 26 37 5 57 195 227

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL
National Football League
ATLANTA FALCONS—Released QB Joey Harrington. Re-signed QB Chris Redman.
CAROLINA PANTHERS—Agreed to terms with DE Tyler Brayton on a two-year contract. Re-signed LB Donte Curry to a two-year contract.
DETROIT LIONS—Re-signed RB Avelon Cason to a one-year contract. Signed G Corey Hulest to a one-year contract.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Signed DT Jimmy Kennedy, OT Pete McMahon, OT Ryan Gibbons and C Brett Goode.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Re-signed CB Michael Lehan to a four-year contract. Signed FB Boomer Grigsby.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Re-signed WR Jabar Gaffney.
OAKLAND RAIDERS—Agreed to terms with WR Javon Walker and OT Kwame Harris.
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Named Terry Shea quarterbacks coach, Bob Saunders offensive assistant and assistant wide receivers coach and Chuck Faucette assistant strength and conditioning coach.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Signed RB T.J. Duckett to a multiyear contract.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Agreed to terms with LB Matt McCoy and LB Teddy Lehman.

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.
Wednesday's Games
Carolina 6, Atlanta 3
Detroit 4, St. Louis 1
Washington 3, Buffalo 1
Chicago 3, Anaheim 0
Phoenix 2, Dallas 1
San Jose 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Today's Games
Minnesota at Carolina, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Anaheim at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Montreal at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Nashville at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Ottawa at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

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New York	18	43	.295
Southeast	W	L	Pct
Orlando	40	23	.635
Washington	29	31	.483
Atlanta	24	35	.407
Charlotte	22	39	.361
Miami	11	47	.190
Central	W	L	Pct
Detroit	44	17	.721
Cleveland	35	26	.574
Chicago	36	26	.577
Indiana	24	37	.393
Milwaukee	23	38	.377

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Southwest	W	L	Pct
New Orleans	42	17	.712
San Antonio	41	19	.683
Houston	20	66	.233
Dallas	39	22	.639
Memphis	15	46	.246
Northwest	W	L	Pct
Utah	40	22	.645
Denver	36	24	.600
Portland	31	30	.508
Sacramento	16	45	.262
Minnesota	12	42	.220
Pacific	W	L	Pct
L.A. Lakers	43	18	.705
Phoenix	40	21	.656
Golden State	37	23	.617
Sacramento	27	33	.450
L.A. Clippers	19	39	.328

x-clinched playoff berth
Wednesday's Games
Orlando 122, Washington 92
Charlotte 118, Golden State 109
Boston 90, Detroit 78
Toronto 108, Miami 83
Cleveland 119, New York 105
Memphis 100, New Jersey 93
Milwaukee 118, Seattle 106
New Orleans 114, Atlanta 101
Houston 117, Indiana 99
Denver 126, Phoenix 113
Utah 105, Minnesota 76
Sacramento at L.A. Clippers, late
Today's Games
Cleveland at Chicago, 6 p.m.
Indiana at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
Houston at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

UI CLUB SPORTS

Light at the end of the erg machine

In the process of developing much needed program consistency, the Iowa men's rowing club is having one of the most successful years in recent history.

By Tim McLaughlin
THE DAILY IOWAN

Tucked away in a fourth-floor nook of the Field House, inside a stuffy room once used as a racquetball court, at an hour reserved by most college students strictly for sleep, there is an assembly of self-proclaimed mental-barrier breakers hard at work. This seemingly foolhardy gathering is merely a daily procedure for a faction of 22 men that call themselves the Iowa men's rowing club.

Sure, you may never see them. Heck, you may have never even heard of them, but every day at 6 a.m., the club meets for practice. Fall, winter, and spring are the three competitive seasons for the dedicated bunch. With the winter season in the books and the spring season still some three weeks away, the club is currently in the midst of the dreaded and sometimes monotonous in-between time.

Coming off one of the most successful winter seasons in more than 15 years, the club traveled to and competed in the Mendota Midwest Meltdown and the Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships. Among many individual improvements, the club had two consistent standout performers during the season: Matthew Coziahr and Victor Weese each broke event and club records during indoor winter competition.

The club has been on-campus for nearly four decades now, but it has never really had sufficient involvement.

"In 1994, the club became an established club after the women were uplifted to Division I status," said club member and President Myles Melyon.



Julie Koehn/The Daily Iowan

The Iowa men's rowing club practices on erg machines in the Field House on Tuesday. After finishing the winter season strong at the Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships with several wins, the Hawks are preparing for rowing competitions in April.

The club has also lacked consistent leadership since its inception, and consequently, it has had to rebuild on a yearly basis. Poor alumni support and funding have also contributed to the tough times.

However, current member and vice president Matthew Arnold believes the program is headed in the right direction.

"Placing highly this year has really put us out there, and we have really become a name in the Midwest," he said. "We are starting an alumni association this year, and we are also starting a parents' association."

While momentum continues to build within the program behind a strong season, one might question the club's overall motivation.

After all, why would anybody want to wake up at dawn, slide his way across campus during this never-ending winter, climb four flights of stairs, only to endure a demanding workout?

"I lost 50 pounds," said four-year veteran member Alex Cosmas. "No matter what your background is, this club will definitely turn you into a superior athlete." A first-year member, Austin

Sorensen, said his 35-pound loss has limited the daily options in his closet.

"I have to buy new clothes all the time because they don't fit," he said.

The club's spring competition commences with the Cy-Hawk event, which will take place on Lake Macbride. Tentatively scheduled for April 5, the club will host the event for the first time in more than a decade. This year, however, the club plans to invite not only Iowa State University but also Augustana College and the University of Illinois clubs.

E-mail D/ reporter Tim McLaughlin at: timothy-mclaughlin@uiowa.edu

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Kleffman's coming back

A nagging back injury can't keep Hawkeye gymnast Curt Kleffman down in a senior season driven by personal determination.

By Lars Headington
THE DAILY IOWAN

You might be able to bottle Tylenol, but you can't bottle the inner drive to return from injury.

With the Big Ten championships a month away and the NCAA championships two weeks later, Iowa senior Curt Kleffman is nursing a problematic lower back to contribute to the 10th-ranked Hawkeyes' success this season — and also to reclaim a bit of lost personal glory.

As an Iowa junior in 2007, the 5-9 Kleffman posted season highs for the team in the pommel horse and the all-around, and he was set to renew his 2006 All-American status in pommel horse at the NCAA championships.

But fate and physiology intervened — Kleffman suffered a pull in practice that aggravated a high-school injury to his lower back. Doctors were unable to pinpoint the new injury, and Kleffman tried but could not train or compete through the excruciating pain, leaving him sitting on the sidelines for last spring's nationals event.

Taking the whole summer off from training to rest his lower back, a frustrated Kleffman eyed his upcoming senior year, hoping the injury would not derail his attempt at redemption.

"Curt and I talked this summer about the plan to try to make the comeback," head coach Tom Dunn said. "The basic rule was really not to

push too hard too early and try to be ready at the end of the year."

Working with coaches and the team trainer, Kleffman resumed workouts in the fall, focusing on maintaining his flexibility to limit tightening and spasms in his lower back.

But his lower back injuries resurfaced before Christmas, giving him pause. Training was slowed down to limit stress on his back in January, when the Hawkeyes began intercollegiate competition.

In the gym, he continued to work to strengthen his body, training on events and staying flexible with concentrated stretching sessions with team trainer Tony Taylor.

The consistent work has borne fruit.

"I'm really surprised because last year when it happened, it lasted all season and into the summer," Kleffman said. "But I think all the stretching that we did in the fall, and every day with Tony, that's really made a big difference."

During Iowa's first home meet of the year Feb. 2, he added two events — rings and parallel bars. Though unable to muster countable scores in the new events, he was halfway to performing the all-around again. For the first time in about six weeks, he also began training on floor the week before Iowa's Feb. 16 home meet against Oklahoma.

"I was really hesitant [for him] to do floor because it seemed to be the worst [on his back]," Dunn said. "But he said, 'No, I want to try the all-



Whitney Wright/The Daily Iowan

Hawkeye gymnast Curtis Kleffman placed 10th in the rings with a score of 12.80 on Feb. 2 in the Field House. Kleffman, battling a back injury throughout the season, has used personal determination and help from a team trainer to cope with pain.

around' — so we gave him a shot."

It was the first meet of the season that Kleffman finally got back on all six events, counting four scores — including a 14.5 to lead the team on parallel bars — toward Iowa's final tally.

"The first time through was kind of rough, but he got through, he was still walking around the next day," Dunn said with a laugh. "But he's gotten better every week."

For any gymnast getting healthy and trained to task is paramount, but once the body is ready, the mind must be willing. Kleffman says being able to focus when performing a routine is one of the hardest challenges in the sport.

"That's kind of what's unique

about gymnastics is that you really have to peak at the right time, hit that high performance," Kleffman said. "It's not only just getting the adrenaline pumped up and going out and getting crazy, it's really a refined energy to control the nerves when you have 15 guys on your team that really need a big hit from you — you can't just go out there and be a crazy man."

Though his all-around average of 84.083 is currently ranked 17th in the nation, Kleffman said he knows there's

still room for improvement.

"I can count off stuff that can be improved in every event that'll make a big difference," Kleffman said. "I'm getting in the meets and I'm getting through my routines — and I'm really happy with that — but coming down the stretch this next month the big difference is really cleaning them up and focusing on every .1 [point]."

"I think that's what's going to make the difference at Big Tens and nationals."

E-mail *DI* reporter Lars Headington at: william-headington@uiowa.edu

MLB

Rep: Drop Clemens probe

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Democratic congressman asked the FBI on Wednesday to drop its investigation of Roger Clemens because the pitching great had suffered enough from the probe into steroid use.

Rep. Anthony Weiner, a candidate for New York mayor in 2009, said the FBI is too busy with more important crimes to spend time trying to determine if the ex-Yankees pitcher lied to Congress about taking performance enhancing substances.

"Roger Clemens has been shamed. I think the public record is replete with examples of how he did not likely tell the truth. What is the public benefit of continuing with an FBI investigation?" Weiner said.

He also suggested his fellow lawmakers had gone far enough with inquiries into steroids use by professional athletes and should let professional sports league handle the matter.

"The real incentive to clean up this mess is not a governmental one," said Weiner, a Met fan whose district includes parts of Queens and Brooklyn.

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Favre really gone?

By Chris Jenkins
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Troy Aikman says it's a sure thing: Brett Favre will have second thoughts about hanging up his helmet.

The Hall of Fame quarterback knows how hard it is to walk away from the NFL and never look back. Even after a series of concussions led Aikman to retire from the Dallas Cowboys after the 2000 season, he was tempted to come back two years later.

"I was ready to go and had talked with my wife and had nothing about it," Aikman told the Associated Press by phone.

Aikman figures Favre will feel the same pull the closer the 2008 season gets. And he wouldn't be surprised if Favre wouldn't be surprised if he wouldn't be surprised if Aaron Rodgers back to the bench.

"You want to walk out on top," said Aikman, now an analyst for Fox Sports. "But at the same time, you're walking away from something you really enjoy."

Favre told the Green Bay Packers he was retiring Tuesday, but hasn't addressed the media beyond a brief voice mail to ESPN's Chris Mortensen, citing fatigue as the main reason.

Aikman is looking forward to

hearing the three-time MVP fully explain his decision. He wonders if Favre will give himself any wiggle room, similar to Michael Jordan's famous assertion that he was "99.9 percent" sure he was done playing after retiring from the Chicago Bulls in 1999. Jordan, of course, came back to play for the Washington Wizards.

Aikman isn't the only one who expects Favre to question his decision.

"I think he'll definitely have second thoughts, knowing him," former Green Bay Packers coach Mike Sherman said. "He's a creature of habit."

Not so free

By Dave Goldberg
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Before free agency started a week ago, Tennessee general manager Mike Reinfeldt suggested that in a market filled mostly with midlevel players, the best strategy would be to sit back and let things settle down.

After the Titans lost five players and signed just tight end Alge Crumpler, defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth begged to differ.

"We are not doing anything. We are really just making ourselves worse the way I look at it," Haynesworth, protected as the Titans' franchise player, told *The Tennessean*. "It doesn't look like we're trying to get better."

Haynesworth, like countless impatient fans around the country, might be better off heeding his GM's words and waiting. Because, for the most part, the first week of free agency has been marked by teams overpaying players who are average, slightly better than that or over the hill.

Exhibit A: The New York Jets, who are trying to compete in their division with New England and in their region with the Super Bowl champion Giants.

They guaranteed \$21 million to G Alan Faneca and \$20 million to DE/LB Calvin Pace and signed OL Damien Woody to a five-year, \$25 million deal. They also traded for DT Kris Jenkins, an overweight under-achiever in Carolina the past two seasons and renegotiated his deal to give him \$20 million straight up. Finally, they traded LB Jonathan Vilma, a Pro Bowler just two seasons ago, to New Orleans for just a fourth-round pick and left DT Dewayne Robertson, the fourth overall pick in the 2003 draft, in limbo because neither fits Eric Mangini's 3-4 defense.

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AD#412- 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#507- One, two or three bedroom on Linn St., H/W paid, A/C, W/D facilities, cats ok. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

AD#580- 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#624- One or two bedroom on Gilbert St., H/W paid, parking, W/D facilities, A/C, spacious, no pets. Call M-F 9-5pm, (319)351-2178.

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612 S.DODGE ST.- Two bedroom, one bath, close to downtown. H/W paid, on-site laundry, no pets. \$620- \$625. RCPM (319)887-2187.
625 S.GILBERT- Two bedroom, one bath, vaulted ceilings, close to campus, laundry, no pets. \$730 plus utilities. RCPM (319)887-2187.
800 S.DUBUQUE- Two bedroom, one bath close to downtown, off-street parking. \$450- \$550 plus utilities. RCPM (319)887-2187.
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CORALVILLE. Three bedroom, two bath townhouse. Pets, W/D. Deposit required, \$966/ month. Call Sara (563)210-5409.
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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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CORALVILLE. Three bedroom, two bath townhouse. Pets, W/D. Deposit required, \$966/ month. Call Sara (563)210-5409.

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LARGE three bedroom townhouse, two baths, skylight, off-street parking, W/D, C/A, yard, internet. No smoking, no pets. \$1200. After 6:30p.m. (319)354-2221. iacityrentals.com

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FALL LEASING- 804 Benton Dr. Two bedrooms, \$600/ month, water included. Parking, busline, A/C, W/D hookups and laundry on-site. No pets. (319)337-8544.

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Sports

141 a Big Ten jumble

LECLERE

CONTINUED FROM 1B

At 24-8, Iowa 141-pounder Dan LeClere found a fourth-seed attached to his name for tournament after compiling a 5-4 record against Big Ten opponents.

"We got to be ready to go," Brands said. "When we tighten things up and we're ready to go, then good things happen. When [LeClere's] attacking, not from left field or from Mars, but from in tight and moving guys, and being physical and doing what he does best."

LeClere understands the topsy-turvy nature of this year's middle weights, and he isn't putting too much stock into his fourth seed.

"It's not a big deal," he said. "You're gonna have to beat them all anyway, so I'm not too worried about the rankings. A lot of people think my weight's kind of a tossup as far as who is going to come out on top, but I don't see it that way. I see it as the guy who comes in best prepared, doing things right the whole year, is gonna come out on top."

"That's what I've been

doing all year and that's what I am going to continue to do up until zero hour when it comes time to wrestle."

LeClere's training partner in the practice room is assistant coach Doug Schwab, who's helped him find the line between being more selective and smart without losing any aggressiveness.

To do that, Schwab said, LeClere must enforce his style by using his hands to control the pace and close the gap between he and his opponents — preventing them from cutting the corners and capitalizing on sloppy offense.

"[Schwab] wrestles real similarly to me, I think," LeClere said. "He knows where I'm good and where I struggle — we focus on that. We've made a lot of gains this year as far as positions that I wasn't so good in, and I've gotten a lot stronger at and improving on positions that I am good at."

The improvement is evident in the small sample of two of LeClere's losses that came at the hands of Michigan's top-seeded Kellen Russell. The first loss came via pin, but keeping with the unpredictability of the weight class, the Hawkeye sophomore fell

just short, 6-4, in the team's final home dual on Feb. 17.

"The guy who's seeded first, he had him on the ropes the first match, and he was on a leg to tie him the second match," said Schwab, who took over for Dan Gable last summer as interim assistant coach. "I think there are a lot of guys who think it's up in the air, but there's one guy who's waiting to step forward and I think [LeClere] could be that guy."

Everyone on the Hawkeye lineup has seen that the Coggon, Iowa, native can be "that guy," as evidenced in the crucial dual meet victory against Minnesota's Manuel Rivera — who sank to the sixth seed in this tough group of grapplers.

Now it's LeClere's time to come up big again and add some important individual and team points to the Hawkeyes hopeful run at a conference tournament title.

"It's a mindset," Schwab said. "They say it's a tossup weight, but if he's ready to wrestle, he's the guy. He can make himself the guy by wrestling his style and pace."

E-mail *D*/reporter **Eric Mandel** at: eric-mandel@uiowa.edu

Perry wants title

PERRY

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Now, as the nationally No. 1-ranked wrestler entering his final postseason, the 165-pound defending national champion said he just wants his collegiate career to end with top-ranked Iowa hoisting a group title trophy.

"The thing that is the biggest motivation is, you know, it's my senior year, and I've always wanted to be a part of a national-championship team," Perry said. "And finally, I think we have the caliber of athletes at every single weight who have the ability to accomplish that."

But there is another spur prodding Perry's pursuit from the outside — one stemming from his recent bout with misfortune.

Prior to rehabilitating a surgically repaired knee in mid-January, Perry only competed in 10 dual meets and two tournaments.

Since then, questions have risen concerning his ability to be mat-ready for the Hawkeyes, as well as his mindset coming off of an injury.

Questions that the 6-foot Iowa middleweight is using to

galvanize himself.

"A way that I've always motivated myself is by convincing myself that people are against me, trying to prove them wrong," he said. "I think a lot of people think it's hard to come back from an injury and, right away, compete in the Big Tens and nationals."

"I just want to prove to myself, more importantly, and other people that I can go through all of this and still come out on top."

Although, it was possible Perry could have gotten a chance to physically argue his case to doubters before the end of the regular season.

Iowa wrestling coach Tom Brands told media on Tuesday that Perry could have entered the lineup as early mid-February and wrestled against either Indiana or Michigan had he been needed.

Competing against Illinois in the Hawkeyes' final meet was also a possibility, with Perry reportedly practicing at 100 percent during the past four weeks.

"The fur has been flying in our room with Mark Perry," Brands said. "He was ready to go against Illinois. He warmed up for Illinois. He could have

went the week before that if we had to have used him."

For the Big Ten Tournament, Perry said he isn't worried about any bullees on his backside. In fact, he said, with tournament time having been his specialty, he's putting the targets on everyone else.

When asked if he is afraid his opponents will purposely target his knee to gain an advantage in any of his upcoming matches, Perry said, "They can't really do anything. It's healed."

And despite the 165-pounder missing every scheduled Big Ten dual, there isn't any doubt in Brands' mind that Perry won't be as successful as he was last season.

"He was ready, because he's Mark Perry," the second-year coach said. "He's been training his whole life for this, so down time doesn't concern me when you have a mindset like that and you have an attitude like that."

"Anybody that knows Mark Perry knows that this is the Mark Perry time of year. He's ready, and he's Mark Perry at his best right now."

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

Hawkeyes like their chances

WOMEN'S HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Both teams finished with 13-5 records in conference play, yet another indicator of how unpredictable this weekend could be.

"The Big Ten, this year, has been kind of crazy," Hawkeye senior Jeneé Graham said. "Every team really has the opportunity to come in there and get something done. Everyone starts off with a clean slate. It's just a new beginning and something that we need to get going right away."

Joining the Hawkeyes and Buckeyes with Thursday byes are Purdue, Minnesota, and Michigan State. The Boilermakers sit at No. 3, and they will face the Northwestern-Indiana winner following Iowa's contest Friday morning. Meanwhile, the Golden Gophers and Spartans will meet in the 4-5 contest Friday night. That matchup features two first team All-Big Ten players in Minnesota's Emily Fox and Michigan State's Alyssa DeHaan.

But it's the very first game that will have the Hawkeyes' full attention — No. 7 Michigan will face No. 10 Penn State at 11 a.m. today. Iowa swept the Lions this season and split with the Wolverines, with each team winning on its home floor.

Regardless of who ends up meeting Iowa on the Consecro

Field House hardwood Friday, the Hawkeyes expect to face one of their stiffest challenges yet.

"Neither one of us are going to be playing on our home court this time, so it's going to be a great game," senior Johanna Solverson said. "We've played both of them twice now, so we get a little sense of what they can do and how they can play."

When the Big Ten extended its conference slate from 16 to 18 games this season, one of the games added on to Iowa's schedule turned out to be the 66-61 victory over Michigan back on Jan. 27 in Iowa City.

"I think it was a huge thing because a lot of times, we'd only get to play certain teams once," Graham said. "The opportunity to play them twice definitely helps out. It definitely helps you get prepared for the Big Ten Tournament."

Whether the road to a Big Ten tournament title begins with Penn State or Michigan, the Hawkeyes are poised to get their first tourney victory since 2005.

"We've got a good record behind us, we're still off the hunger of the Wisconsin game and being Big Ten champs," senior Stacy Schlapkohl said. "Mentally, we're focused. I think we're ready for our next challenge, our next goal to come."

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

GYMNASTICS

Simbhudas honored

A pair of strong performances last weekend earned Iowa junior Jenifer Simbhudas her second Big Ten Gymnast of the Week award Wednesday.

The Markham, Ontario, native is the first GymHawk to earn the award numerous times in a season since then-senior Alexis Maday won five in 2004.

Over the weekend, Simbhudas notched a new personal best of 39.45 in the all-around, with a 9.825 vault that was her best of the year.

Both marks are season highs for the GymHawks.

Simbhudas is ranked 20th nationally in the all-around with a 39.140 regional-qualifying score average.

— by Lars Headington

The Daily Iowan

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HOURS

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playing all 88 keys

Director Tisch Jones and an all-ages, all-black cast bring the work of playwright August Wilson to the UI Theatre Building beginning tonight, with a *Lesson* that anyone, no matter the ethnicity, can learn.

By Anna Wiegenstein | Photos by Whitney Wright

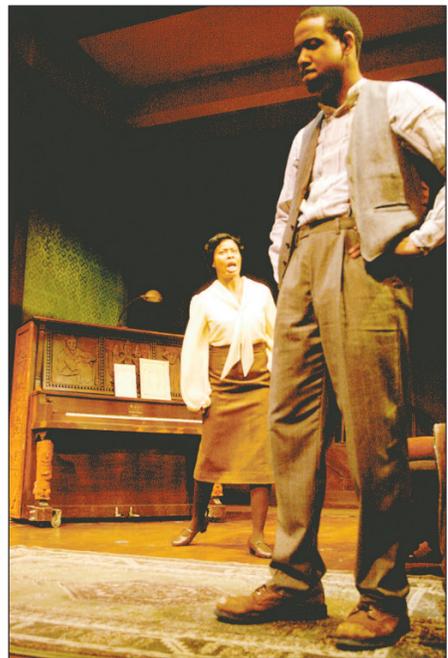
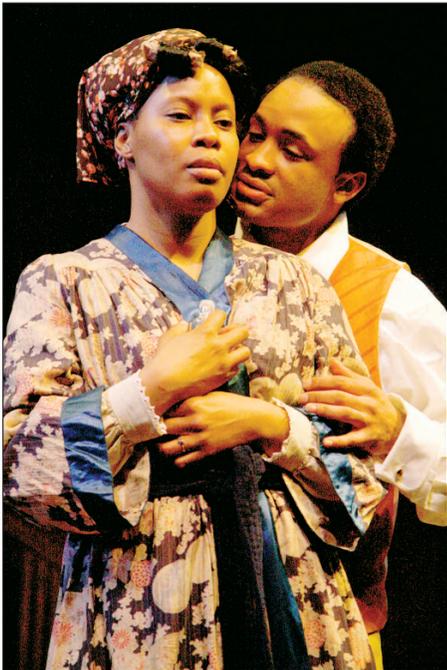


LEFT: Jason Richards as Avery and Esperanza Robertson as Maretha

BELOW: Esperanza Robertson as Maretha (left), Ethan Henry as Boy Willie, Luis A. Sierra as Doaker and Barrington Vaxter III as Lymon



RIGHT: Esperanza Robertson as Maretha and Barrington Vaxter III as Lymon
FAR RIGHT: Ethan Henry as Boy Willie and Makeba Henry as Bernice



LEFT: Ethan Henry as Boy Willie and Esperanza Robertson as Maretha

BELOW: Kevin Burt as Wining Boy and Luis A. Sierra as Doaker

The beginning of a theater rehearsal tends to be a somewhat noisy process. Actors warm themselves up, stretching their limbs and repeating phrases over and over until they sound nonsensical. Tech workers call back and forth across rows of seats, trying various combinations of light and sound until they're satisfied. A stage manager roams throughout it all, adding advice as needed and shouting out an ever-shortening countdown to the show's run time.

At the moment, though, the singing brings everything in the Mabie Theatre to a halt.

Four black men are gathered together, their heads bowed in concentration. Graduate acting student Ethan Henry slowly begins a mournful melody and is soon joined by his three co-stars in the work anthem "Berta, Berta." Their eyes remain closed as hands and feet begin pounding out the dirge-like rhythm together.

Out in the seats, one starts to understand what director Tisch

THEATER

The Piano Lesson

When: 8 p.m. today, Friday, and Saturday; 2 p.m. March 9. Continues next week at 8 p.m. March 12-15

Where: Theatre Building Mabie Theatre
Admission: \$17, \$8 for UI students, seniors and youth

A Visual Lesson

Visit the vivid dailyiowan.com to see Whitney Wright's audio slide show, complete with an exclusive interview with Barrington Vaxter III.

Jones means when she says, her eyes riveted on the stage, "This play is all about the blues."

"I had no idea it took all this to make a play," she said, quoting someone unfamiliar with theater on the rehearsal process. For her and the rest of *The Piano Lesson's* cast and crew, it's been almost a year for August Wilson's work to come alive.

The show will open today at 8 p.m. in the Theatre Building's Mabie Theatre.

"Usually, with a play like this, you'd give it as much time as you would rehearsing Shakespeare," Jones said. "The language of August Wilson is so rich, it's a lot like that."

And though the actual rehearsals only began shortly after the start of second semester, Jones has had *Lesson* on her mind for much longer — she began teaching local blues musician Kevin Burt to play piano herself for his role as the musician character Wining Boy as far back as last summer.

"It really feels like a community," she said. *The Piano Lesson's* cast includes nine black actors, ranging from 11 to middle age.

"I always know where the black folks are," joked Jones, referring to Burt and several other members of the cast not affiliated with the UI.

SEE PLAY, 4C

coming up THIS WEEKEND

Check out 2C for a complete list of Iowa City events



MC ROVE!... the new comeback kid, ya'll!

Hip-hop artist (and occasional political adviser) Karl Rove will make a special appearance in the IMU Main Lounge on Mar. 9. Recently, Rove's been gettin' down wit some freaky bush and teaching dormant Evangelicals to (Republican) par-tay!!!



"Lights out, 80 Hours radio..."

...turn that \$#!T up!" Ah, the glory days of Rage Against the Machine. You might not get that much energy when you tune into 80 Hours on Air, every Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. on 89.7 KRUI — but it's dang close. This week, we'll discuss Diablo Cody, composers, and probably other stuff we'll make up on the spot.

weekend calendar of events

Today 3.6

MUSIC

- **Summertime Battle of the Bands** featuring Ephraim Zenh, Mad Monks, Mint Wad Willy, The Mayflies, and Filling Space, 7 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Angeliqe Kidjo**, 7:30 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **UI Piano Festival**, Albert Tiu, piano, 8 p.m., Clapp Recital Hall
- **Grand Archives, Skursula, and American Catastrophe**, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Justin Crippen and the Revival**, with Josh Misener, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Nik Gruber**, 10 p.m., Sanctuary, 405 S. Gilbert

THEATER

- **The Piano Lesson**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Mabie Theatre

LECTURES

- **The Roger Hornsby**

Lecture, "Classics Colloquium: Greek Historians and Unhistorical Thinking," John Marincola, 4 p.m., 302 Schaeffer Hall

DANCE

- **Dancers in Company Home Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS

- **March for Babies Kickoff Reception**, 5 p.m., Atlas World Grill, 127 Iowa
- **Hands-On: Pasta with a Rolling Pin**, 6 p.m., New Pioneer Co-Op, 1101 Second St., Coralville
- **Slavic Movie Night, White Sun of the Desert**, 7:30 p.m., 315 Phillips Hall
- **Goodtime Karaoke**, 8 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
- **Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speakeasy, 171 Highway 1 W.
- **Thursday Night Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville



Illustration by Nelle Dunlap/The Daily Iowan
Seattle isn't just home to Meredith Grey's drama and birthplace of grunge culture — it's also the stomping ground of much buzzed-about indie-rock outfit Grand Archives. The band recently signed to hometown-based label Sub Pop Records and in doing so, joined a legacy that includes Nirvana. Grand Archives will be at the Picador tonight, bringing a touch of the Pacific Northwest to the Midwest.

NEW MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEKEND



10,000 B.C.
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
It has been absolutely way too long since we've had a mainstream movie about cavemen. *B.C.* features a young mammoth hunter wandering into unfamiliar territory to secure his tribe's future. Directed by Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day* and *The Day After Tomorrow*) and starring a slew of up-and-coming actors.



College Road Trip
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
Ah, Martin Lawrence. As if in perpetual waiting for *Bad Boys 3* or *Big Mama's Garage*, he teams up with Disney star Raven-Symone for a PG rated National Lampoon movie in which they travel across the country looking for the daughter's dream college and finding only mischief. At least he can't claim Ice Cube gets all the road movies anymore.

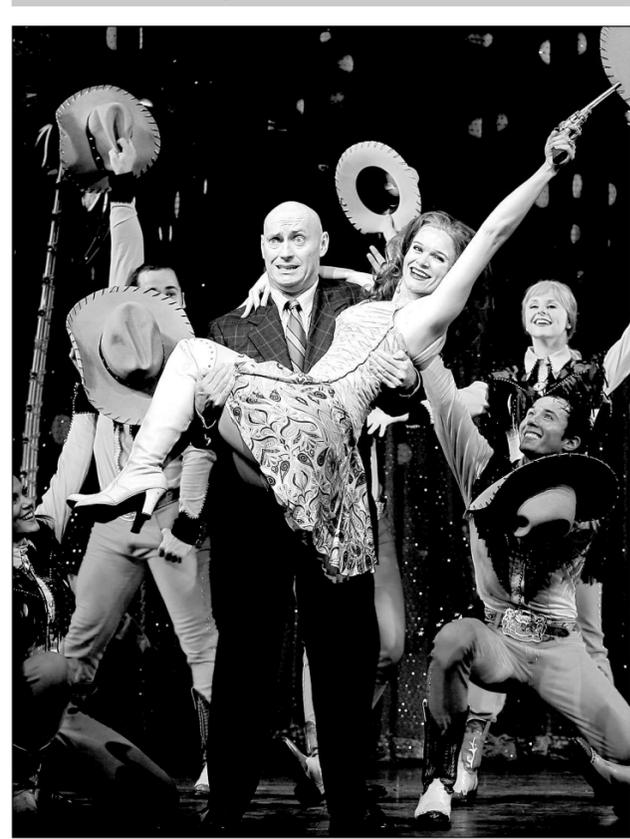
Friday 3.7

Music to glitch by
The members of The Gglitch describe their music as techno/funk/rock. If you throw in such descriptors as impressions of Irish jigs, old country feel, New Orleans hypnotic voodoo, smooth Simon and Garfunkle interludes, and fantastically unpredictable, you might be getting close to what you will hear from this local Iowa City anomaly.
The only musical genre you won't hear from these guys are hair or metal. You can't blame them. With 15 other genres to keep track of, adding the last two might make the focus a little confusing.
"We play on the name the Gglitch, incorporating every genre of music and mixing it up," said Ty Byerly, singer and songwriter for the group. "We might start out with some acoustic guitar, doing

some country, and then we switch to jazz, filtering guys in and out depending on what style of music we're playing."
The Gglitch will improv at the Mill on Friday at 9 p.m.
The five core members, Brian Cretzmeyer on piano and vocals,

Byerly singing and playing dulcimer, Otar Taktakishvili on guitar and vocals, Adam "Noodles" Morford on drums, and Byron Stevens on bass guitar all come from strong musical backgrounds and have been playing for years. They jam together a couple of times a week to work out the kinks and figuring out what their show will be like depending on the crowd and mix of people," Byerly said.
"We change a lot of the structure of our set from club to club depending on the crowd and mix of people," Byerly said.
So whether the band performs its songs spot-on or deviates when the mood strikes, you're sure to hear a unique performance that promises innovation and maybe even a few "Gglitches" along the way.
— by Whitney Warne

Saturday 3.8



Publicity photo

As Iowa City ever so slowly thaws from a rough winter, a change of scenery might be necessary to boost spirits. *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, a Broadway musical based on the Steve Martin film classic, will whisk audiences away to the steamy French Riviera. The show will be at Hancher all weekend. Snatch a copy of Friday's *Daily Iowan* for reporter Meryn Fluker's preview of all things *Dirty*.

MUSIC

- **"Java Blend," The Nadas**, noon, Java House, 211½ E. Washington
- **Philharmonia Orchestra with student conductors**, 7 p.m., Clapp
- **"Live at the Java House," BeJae Fleming**, 8 p.m., Java House
- **Grooveship and Friends with Benefits**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Lucky Boys Confusion, Danger is my Middle Name, Hillhaven Raven, and North on Grand**, 9 p.m., Picador
- **The Gglitch, with Dead Larry and Data Sun**, 9 p.m., Mill

WORDS

- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Kate Greenstreet and Kate Northrop**, poetry, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque

THEATER

- **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**, 7:30 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **Grease**, 7:30 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- **More Fun Than Bowling**, 8 p.m., Arts à la Carte, 20 E. Market
- **The Piano Lesson**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre
- **No Shame Theater**, 11 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B

LECTURES

- **Finding God at Iowa Lunch Forum, "The Music of Lent and Easter: A Theological and International Approach," Koi Hin Samuel Kwok**, noon, IMU River Room 1
- **Iowa Olympic Ambassadors Project Conference on China, the Olympics, and Global Media, "The Olympics and Journalism,"** 2 p.m., W401 Pappajohn Business Building
- **"Sandra Cisneros and the Lessons of the Iowa Writers' Workshop,"** Mark McGurl, 7 p.m., Old Capitol Museum
- **23rd-Annual Graduate Art History Symposium, "Winslow Homer, the Adirondack Mountains, and the Great Camps: Scenes of Instruction, Predation, and Play,"** Magaretta Lovell, 8 p.m., 240 Art Building West

DANCE

- **Dancers in Company Home Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place
- **Dance Party, with music by Rock and Thunder**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's

MISCELLANEOUS

- **World Day of Prayer, "United Under"**

God's Tent," Jean Owens, 9:15 a.m., Christ the King Lutheran Church, 325 Mormon Trek Blvd.

- **Beautiful Gardens Opening Reception**, 5 p.m., Modelo, 323 E. Market
- **Gallery Walk**, 5 p.m., Downtown Iowa City
- **"Know the Score Live," with Joan Kjaer, David Plowden, photographer**, 5 p.m., UI Museum of Art
- **Lenten Fish Fry**, 5 p.m., Knights of Columbus, 4776 American Legion Road
- **Regina Friday Night Fish Fry**, 5 p.m., Regina Education Center, 2140 Rochester
- **Fish Fry**, 5:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 225 Highway 1 W.
- **Shabbat Across America/Canada**, 6 p.m., Agudas Achim Congregation, 602 E. Washington
- **Friday Night Magic**, 6:30 p.m., Critical Hit Games, 89 Second St. No. 5, Coralville
- **Karaoke with Klub Karaoke**, 8 p.m., Veterans of Foreign Wars, 609 Highway 6 E.
- **Friday Night Karaoke with Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., American Legion, 3016 Muscatine

MUSIC

- **Euforquestra and Fresh Heir**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **The Most Serene Republic, The Jealous Girlfriends, Apteka, and Droids Attack**, 9 p.m., Picador
- **Wylde Nept**, 9 p.m., Mill

THEATER

- **Grease**, 2 p.m., Englert
- **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**, 2 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **Grease**, 7:30 p.m., Englert Theatre
- **Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**, 7:30 p.m., Hancher Auditorium
- **More Fun Than Bowling**, 8 p.m., Arts à la Carte
- **The Piano Lesson**, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

on China, the Olympics, and Global Media, further observations on sports, media, and Olympics coverage, 4 p.m., E105 Adler

- **Iowa Olympic Ambassadors Project Conference on China, the Olympics, and Global Media, "Images of the Olympics,"** Stephen Wieting, 7 p.m., 101 Becker
- **Iowa Olympic Ambassadors Project Conference on China, the Olympics, and Global Media, Christine Brennan**, 8:30 p.m., 101 Becker

DANCE

- **Dancers in Company Home Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place
- **Dance Party, with music by Rock and Thunder**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Natives Inc.**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Landscaping, 520 Highway 1 W.
- **Bicyclists of Iowa City Ride**, 11 a.m., Hy-Vee, 1201 N. Dodge
- **Cue the Glamour**, noon, City High, 1900 Morningside
- **Euclere Tournament**, 1 p.m., American Legion
- **HeroClix**, 1 p.m., Critical Hit Games
- **An Endangered River Runs Through Us: An Iowa River Journey**, 3 p.m., Main Library south foyer
- **Cub Scout Pack 201 Chili Supper**, 5 p.m., Southeast Junior High, 2501 Bradford
- **Magic of Make-A-Wish**, 7 p.m., IMU
- **Rock and Roll/Country Night**, 9 p.m., Speakeasy
- **Stardust Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Kandy Land, 928 Maiden Lane

Sunday 3.9

MUSIC

- **"Music in the Museum," Graduate Piano Quartet**, 2 p.m., UI Museum of Art
- **Johnson County Landmark, John Rapson, director**, 3 p.m., Clapp
- **Mission Creek presents Times New Viking, Psychedelic Horseshit, Brown Note and Mannix**, 7 p.m., Picador
- **Composers' Workshop, David Gompper, director**, 8 p.m., Clapp

THEATER

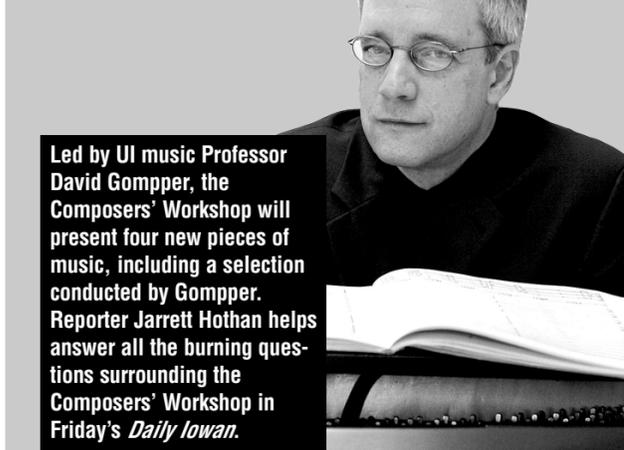
- **Grease**, 2 p.m., Englert Theatre
- **The Piano Lesson**, 2 p.m., Mabie Theatre

LECTURES

- **Karl Rove**, 7:30 p.m., IMU Main Lounge

DANCE

- **Dances of Universal Peace**, 6:30 p.m., Unitarian



Led by UI music Professor David Gompper, the Composers' Workshop will present four new pieces of music, including a selection conducted by Gompper. Reporter Jarrett Hothan helps answer all the burning questions surrounding the Composers' Workshop in Friday's *Daily Iowan*.

Universalist Society of Iowa City, 10 S. Gilbert

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Bicyclists of Iowa City Ride**, 11 a.m., Weber Elementary, 3850 Rohret Road
- **Studio Production Workshop**, noon, Public Access

Television, 206 Lafayette

- **Magic of Make-A-Wish**, 2 p.m., IMU
- **Old Brick Taize**, 5 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **Dead Night**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **The Original Mill Pub Quiz**, 9 p.m., Mill

AT THE BIJOU

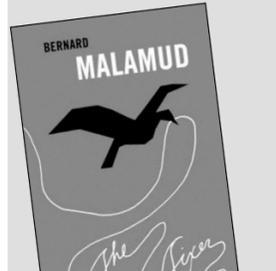


Control
Showtimes: Friday, 7 p.m., Saturday, 5 p.m., 9 p.m., March 9, 5 p.m.
Based on the true story of Joy Division vocalist Ian Curtis, this film focuses on Curtis' struggle with fame in the mid-1970s along with a diagnosis of epilepsy. The film was shot in black and white and is directed by famous music-video director Anton Corbijn.

what are you READING?

Each week, the *DI* finds an individual in Iowa City raving about her or his favorite book of the moment. This week, the *DI* talked to Stuart Nadler, a Writers' Workshop student.

"I'm reading *The Fixer*, by Bernard Malamud. Perhaps his best, this haunting and beautiful book is a powerful testament to the will and the courage of those who are unjustly persecuted."



DI RECOMMENDS



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day every day. Who wouldn't recommend going around pinching people who aren't wearing green, kissing fellow Irish men (or women), and drinking green beer until you find out if it *really* does come back up green?

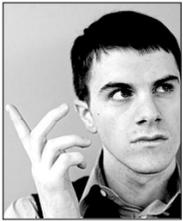
QUOTABLE

"She can call me and come live in our house with us for a couple of months. I would help set her straight."

— Heidi Klum on Britney Spears

Come a, come a chameleon

For Madonna, superstardom has always represented an exciting canvas on which to titillate her audience (and definitely herself). But as her recent production choices suggest, maybe that urge for liberation and legend is beginning a descent into pleas for relevance.



By Louis Virtel
THE DAILY IOWAN

And now a few words from VH1: Madonna is a "chameleon." Whaaaaat?. She's "constantly reinventing herself." Oooh! I never knew! She is "in charge of her image." Wowzer! Thank you for the insight, grandma! And thank you also to 1998, for these gross clichés that don't mean anything

medium media filtered through us brought to you

anyone. Still, who can wait for March 10, when Justin Timberlake undoubtedly recites these (And more! Collect them all!) when he inducts the world's kinkiest Kabbalist into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame? I've got a TiVo remote in one hand and a jagged box-cutter in the other. In case I can't go on anymore.

It's disheartening to know Madonna's legacy gets so sterilized into platitudes, because she was truly the first artist to turn superstardom into its own art form. Quick! What was the most famous woman in the world doing in 1990? The short list

includes dating Kevin Costner, appropriating dance crazes from gay ballrooms in the slums, filming a hit documentary about herself, and compiling one of the best-selling greatest-hits albums of all time. And getting banned on MTV, too, when she felt like it.

Even in analyzing all those exercises in fame-wielding, Madonna's musical accomplishments resign themselves to second thoughts. Talk about *real* historical oversight: The woman not only stamped out the most popular songs of the '80s and '90s (I'll labor you: "Like a Virgin," "Papa Don't Preach," "Like a Prayer," "Vogue," "Ray of Light," etc. times 300) she also turned production value into a grand adventure, one in which she sublimated the styles of others into perfect backdrops for her own power.

Madonna never picked obvious choices, either. Behold, the list of record producers that Madonna conned into submission: Nellee Hooper (Bjork's old producer, he amped up Madonna's *Bedtime Stories* album), William Orbit (electro-nerd who helped craft *Ray of Light*), Mirwais (French techno-freak who bucked rodeo-disco on *Music*), and Stuart Price (remix granddaddy who retooled ABBA on *Confessions on a Dance Floor*). And what's next? More titillating, unexpected swank from an up-and-coming genius? Hmmm, not so much: an album called *Hard Candy* dominated by collaborations from, yes, Justin Timberlake and Timbaland, the utter Svengalis of Top-40 song production in 2008.

Granted, Madonna's last album didn't exactly represent a

sprawling maneuver forward. In fact, *Confessions on a Dance Floor* was just a dance record, and maybe a so-so one at that, but at least Madonna stamped something of her own on the proceedings (including some pretentious-ass, headmistress lesson-book lyrics if I ever heard them). This time around, Madonna has all but handed over her stellar intuition to gurus she knows will land her some hit-maker footing.

From the sound of "4 Minutes to Save the World," the album's leaked single, Madonna's not even concerned about hearing herself sing. It's about ensuring herself a smash single — hard to come by for her in recent years — and grasping at relevance in a time when hip-hop monopolizes radio, iPods, and sales. The same folks who exhumed Nelly

Furtado from her dead-end kitschy-folk steez now threaten to inundate a mega-force with the stuff of formula. Remember when Phil Spector got his hands on the Beatles? *Let It Be* might've been fine — but the shift in personnel seemed to point at a desperation for direction, even if it was a trodden one.

Madonna's barking up that treason right now. While no one can argue the staying power of her catalogue, no one can really argue the point of her existence has also withered from innovation. If we're still led to believe Madonna's that "chameleon" of music lore, this time she's wearing streamlined, ill-fitting colors that belong — for maybe the first time — to someone else.

E-mail //reporter Louis Virtel at: louis-virtel@uiowa.edu

Art goes 'camp'

National graduate students and guest speaker Margaretta Lovell will talk about the importance of the 'pleasure principle' in the visual arts.

By Gina Pusateri
THE DAILY IOWAN

Each year, the Graduate Art History Symposium has a theme that all graduate students and speakers use for their speeches. With this year's theme being "Fun and Games: The Principle of Pleasure in Art and Architecture," it seemed only fitting to have someone speak on the art of leisure in Winslow Homer's paintings. This year's keynote speaker, Margaretta Lovell of the University of California-Berkeley will do just that.

Lovell will deliver the lecture "Winslow Homer, the Adirondack Mountains, and the Great Camps: Scenes of Instruction, Predation, and Play," on Friday at 8 p.m. in 240 Art Building West to kick off the 23rd Annual Art History Symposium. In addition to her and assorted graduate speakers, artwork from students in the School of Art History and Art will be displayed in the IMU Gallery. There will be a reception for the exhibit at 1 p.m. on Friday.

Although Homer is most famous for his watercolors of marine life from the 1870s to the early 1900s, his talent is still appreciated on the prairies and the cornfields of the Midwest. The collection of his work that Lovell will focus on includes scenes of what may be described as an early version of "ecotourism."

"In the 19th century, there were lots of what today may be considered 'great camps' in the Northeast," said Kurt Rahmlow, an art-history graduate student and symposium keynote-speaker coordinator. "New Yorkers stayed in log cabins in the

LECTURE
Graduate Art History Symposium, with keynote speaker Margaretta Lovell
When: 8 p.m. Friday
Where: 240 Art Building West
Admission: Free
For more information visit art.uiowa.edu

Adirondack Mountains, but it was also very social."

In her lecture, Lovell will include Homer's scenes of the high-society people in fancy dress against natural backdrops of waterfronts and mountains, capturing the tension of trying to get away from the industrialization of the city while re-creating its social atmosphere in a rough environment.

Lovell, who received a Ph.D. in American studies from Yale in 1980, specializes in (among other things) American artwork in the 17th and 18th centuries, focusing on landscapes and nature. She has taught art history at Stanford, Harvard, Yale, and the University of Michigan. Following her lecture on Friday, the symposium will continue on Saturday, and graduate students from across the country will give talks from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"The keynote speaker is always someone with expert knowledge on the subject," Rahmlow said. "Entertainment and leisure has high importance in the visual arts."

E-mail //reporter Gina Pusateri at: gina-pusateri@uiowa.edu

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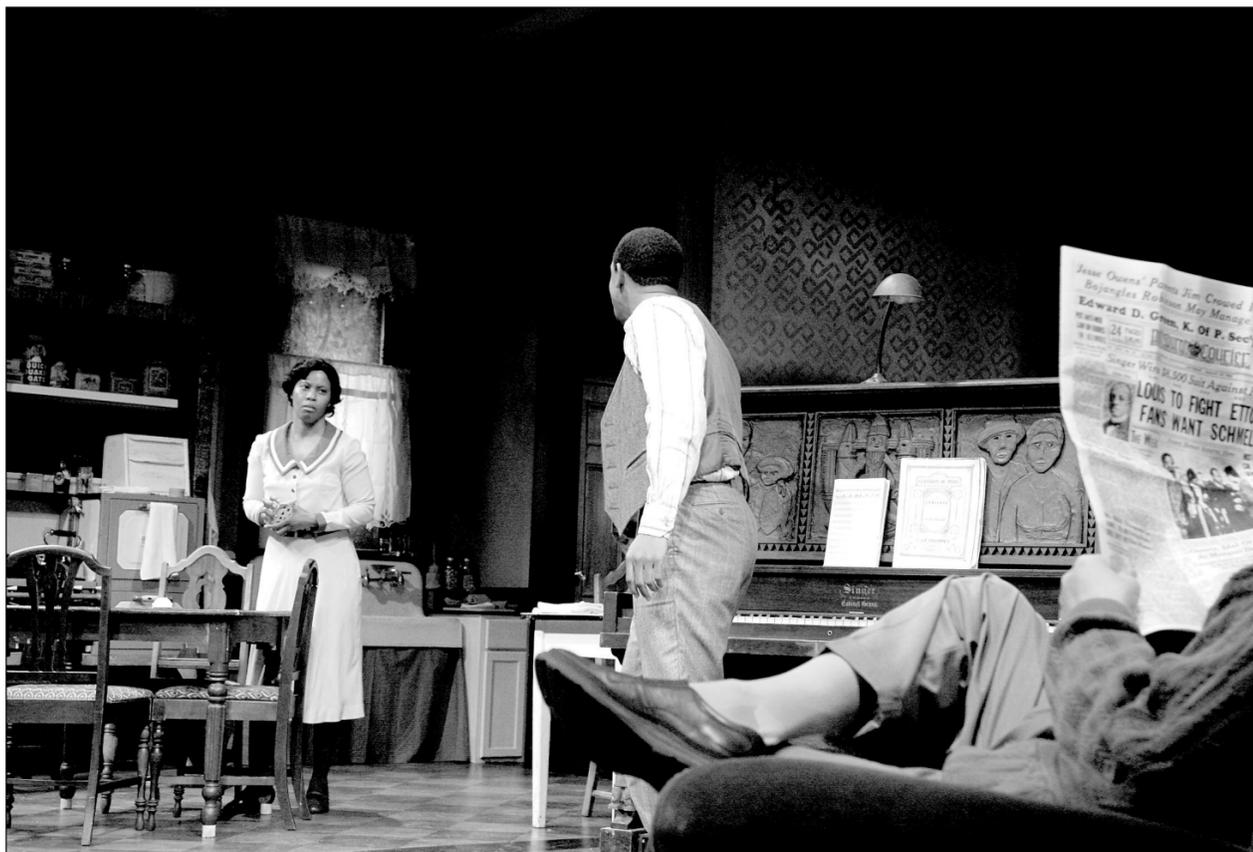
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A lesson 'all about the blues'



Whitney Wright/The Daily Iowan
Actor Ethan Henry rehearses a scene from August Wilson's *The Piano Lesson* on Tuesday. Henry plays the role of Boy Willie, a man who returns home after three years looking to sell his family's piano in order to gain the money to purchase his own land.



Whitney Wright/The Daily Iowan
Actors rehearse a scene from *The Piano Lesson*, the UI theater department's current Mainstage Production, on Tuesday in Mabie Theatre. The play will open today at 8 p.m.

PLAY
CONTINUED FROM 1C

The Piano Lesson, a Pulitzer Prize-winner for drama in 1990, is part of Wilson's Pittsburgh Cycle of 10 plays. Named for the common city setting, each work addresses African-American issues within a given decade. *Lesson* is set in the 1930s and is fourth chronologically.

The play tells the story of two siblings, Boy Willie (Henry) and Berniece (Makeba Henry), who find themselves at odds, ostensibly over whether to sell the family's heirloom piano. However, the piano is only the beginning of a host of troubles for the family, because they become haunted by their past — literally, at times.

Jones is uniquely suited for her role as the production's director, not only because of her previous work directing another Pittsburgh Cycle play, *Joe Turner's Come and Gone*, at the UI.

In 1989, she was involved with the play's premiere at the Yale Reperatory Theater, assisting director Lloyd Richards and watching a young actor named Samuel L. Jackson play the lead role of Boy Willie before *The Piano Lesson* moved to Broadway.

"I've known the history of this show," Jones said, adding that through the years, she's seen Wilson's script evolve so much that the initial ambiguous ending to the narrative has since found a more definitive resolution.

"I can't help but think about him when I do this work," she said.

Wilson, who died in 2005, is the most honored black playwright in history and the first to have a theater on Broadway bear his name. This spring not only marks a Wilson performance here at Iowa but also the

month-long festival in the Kennedy Center of Washington, D.C., who will perform staged readings of all his plays throughout March.

"This is the kind of play I love to do," said William Moser, the head of scenic design. "It says something."

Moser worked with Jones on initial sketches for almost a year, resulting in a set so detailed that actual French toast can be prepared and eaten in the onstage kitchen during a scene.

“Young black people these days are having trouble with their history as a people, and they're not learning it in school the way they should.”

— Tisch Jones, director

"Tisch works in a very organic way," Moser said, pointing out the ways in which the Mabie stage has been decreased in size. "She likes things very close to the audience — that way you can have the energy come straight out."

Both Moser and Jones point to similar themes that attracted them to *The Piano Lesson* — the importance of legacy.

"You have to embrace the totality of your history," Moser said.

"When I direct a play, I want to have something to say to an audience," Jones said, who added that *Lesson* and *Joe Turner* are the only two Wilson plays that appeal to her in this way and are the only ones she ever wants to direct.

"As a black person in the United States, it's incredibly important," she said. "Young black people these days are having trouble with their history as a people, and they're not learning it in school the way they should."

For Jones, this is why after *Lesson's* run, she plans on continuing the majority of her theatrical work, which includes writers less well-known than August Wilson.

"There are all these other playwrights of color," she said. "And I wonder, who's going to do *their* work?"

Even given that the majority of audience members will be white (according to the 2000 US census, Iowa City is 87.3 percent white), Jones sees *Lesson's* themes as universal.

"It's even more important for [white people] — it's not just my history, it's your history, too. It's *American* history," she said. "We forget that we are not just America The White. The question of legacy is something everyone can respond to."

For Jones, who has lived in Iowa City for decades (or, as she puts it, "when there were only like five black families"), she's seen numerous changes in attitudes. Not that there isn't room for improvement.

"I bring the history of a people to light in a town where people need to be reminded," she said. "And I try to keep informing students, who will eventually teach others."

Next fall, however, Jones plans to take a leave of absence to return to her family's hometown of New Orleans to help with the post-Hurricane Katrina art scene. Until then, though, the advice she gave during rehearsal to the grandmother of one of the 11-year-old actors seems apt:

"Get those opening night roses ready."

E-mail DJ/reporter **Anna Wiegenstein** at: anna-wiegenstein@uiowa.edu

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Publicity Photo

Out of Africa and into your heart

Angelique Kidjo will take the stage tonight, bringing a strong drum beat and a serving of social awareness to her audience.

By Whitney Warne
THE DAILY IOWAN

Angelique Kidjo wants to make music you've never heard before. To do this, she travels the world, collecting rhythmic ideas and musical melodies as some people collect high-end art, with delicacy and an understanding that the music was someone else's, but now she's making it her own.

Kidjo will perform today at 7:30 p.m. in Hancher Auditorium. Her drum-driven beats blend Afro-pop influences, Jamaican reggae, Brazilian melodies, and Caribbean rhythm for the authentic sound that won her the Grammy in this year's world-music category.

"Kidjo's music transcends cultures and national borders," said Judy Hurtig, Hancher's artistic director, who invited Kidjo to campus. "She speaks to people through her music."

And people listen, partially because Kidjo took the time to hear them first. She traces musical cultures within her

MUSIC
Angelique Kidjo
When: 7:30 p.m. today
Where: Hancher Auditorium
Admission: \$15-\$35

albums, attempting to understand the melodic growth of a group of people from one century to the next. Her recent album trilogy, including the latest *Djin Djin*, follows the influence of African music through their diaspora in the Americas, paying homage to the music spread on the backs of the new African Americans.

Born in 1960 in Benin, Africa, her musical upbringing is firmly rooted in beating drums of African culture.

"In Benin, drumming is a deep knowledge that everyone shares," Kidjo said in an e-mail interview. She started mixing musical ideas at a young age, absorbing the music of Aretha Franklin, James Brown, and the Rolling Stones from her brother's cover band, while simultaneously listening to the locals.

After two decades of living amid conflict in Benin, Kidjo relocated to Paris with a desire to become a human-rights lawyer. But upon deeper reflection, she knew she wasn't diplomatic enough for the job. So she turned to music to spread her message, learning jazz and classical music styles in school and becoming a backup singer in Parisian bands.

Soon she was on her own and in high demand. With the attention came the opportunity to help the world in which she collects her music.

The U.N. Children's Fund invited Kidjo to become a representative. Alongside such celebrities as Angelina Jolie, Kidjo fights for the children of Africa in the context of her performance venues.

"UNICEF has always been apart of my life since I was a child," she said. "I feel I owe it my health, because it provided all of the shots I needed as a kid."

Kidjo focuses on the child soldiers of African wars and obtaining better education for young girls.

"I feel that the women of Africa are carrying the continent," she said. "If the next generation has better access to education, it will change a lot of things."

To accomplish her UNICEF goals, she sometimes gives lectures in conjunction with her performances, as she did Wednesday night in Iowa City. But most of the time, she talks throughout her show, telling people about her wonderful parts of her home continent as well as the parts that need help.

"I hope [the audience] gets a glimpse of what African culture and warmth is really about," Kidjo said. "In the news, you always hear about the bad news coming from Africa. But every person I know who has been to Africa will tell you that its people are great."

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

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Local art on the move

Downtown businesses participating in the March gallery walk open their doors for an art experience.



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

Art work by Izaak Thompson depicting the year 2051 C.E. The drawing will be on display with many other pieces by Thompson.

By Claire Lekwa
THE DAILY IOWAN

With pale blond hair swept across his face, the teenager flips through his cartoon-like sketches, peering down through rectangular black wire frames. Speaking softly, 16-year-old Izaak Thompson describes the reason he draws such surreal, somewhat ambiguous subject matter.

"Sometimes, I just have weird things in my head," he said.

As the youngest of more than 30 artists who will display their work in local businesses during Friday's gallery walk, he has a different perspective. Even so, he is not intimidated by the hundreds of viewers who typically attend the triannual walk. He thinks he might even play some of his own electronically layered, multi-instrumental music during the exhibit.

Thompson, a sophomore at City High, will show his work, titled *The Serious Side of Things*, at United Action for Youth, 355 Iowa Ave. — one of 16 downtown venues hosting art work in the gallery walk, which runs from 5 to 8 p.m. The event gives the public the opportunity to view new exhibit openings on self-guided tours.

Although the other artists might be more experienced,

Thompson's work does not lack maturity. He pulls out one of his favorite pieces, a pencil sketch of two alien beings, conjoined vertically at the hips by a varicolored cloud. A tree trunk running vertically down the page morphs into a hissing snake, immediately referencing Adam and Eve. Adding even more depth to the drawing, the figures are surrounded by a collage of Yasmin patient-info packets.

By housing artwork such as Thompson's, local businesses give artists of all stages the

ART March Gallery Walk

When: Friday, 5-8 p.m.
Where: Businesses in downtown Iowa City, including AKAR, the Art Mission, ARTS Iowa City, Bella Joli, the Chait Galleries, the Cottage, the Englert Theatre, Iowa Artisans Gallery/D.J. Rinner Goldsmith, Iowa State Bank & Trust, MC Ginsberg, the Old Post Office Gallery in the Senior Center, RSVP, the Sheraton, West Bank, United Action of Youth, and US Bank

opportunity to gain exposure, from young artists to recent UI graduates to professionals. Additionally, the settings of these exhibits can reach people that may not normally visit art galleries.

"The setting in local businesses is less formal and a little less intimidating to people who want to view the art," said James Schoenfelder, a local area artist and architect whose work will be shown in the gallery walk at Bella Joli, 125 S. Dubuque St.

Schoenfelder has shown his watercolors and ink sketches in both galleries and businesses around Iowa City, including Chait Galleries, the Iowa Artisans Gallery, and Starbucks. His upcoming exhibition at Bella Joli will include small watercolors of impressionistic landscapes.



Ariana McLaughlin/The Daily Iowan

City High sophomore Izaak Thompson will be the youngest artist to exhibit art during Friday's gallery walk from 5-8 p.m. The walk features 30 other area artists in Iowa City businesses.

The gallery walk started in 1987 to raise money for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program. Iowa City was one of the first in the state to pick up on the trend, then popular in larger cities such as Minneapolis. Now, the idea has become much more widespread.

"I think it makes it a more personal, localized experience for people when they come into their bank and find work from local people and not just some machine-printed print," said

Astrid Bennett, the director of the Iowa Artisans Gallery and a co-organizer of the gallery walk.

Over the years, the gallery walk has become representative of Iowa City as an arts hub. Mark Ginsberg, who owns MC Ginsberg and helped start the walk,

said the event adds a layer of sophistication to Iowa City culture.

"It brings in an atmosphere like SoHo," he said. "It makes this community fun to live in."

E-mail D/reporter Claire Lekwa at: claire-lekwa@uiowa.edu

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ROY WOOD JR

THURSDAY 9:00PM
MARCH 6 THE HAWKEYE

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 03.13 Movie: No Country for Old Men, 9pm, Illinois Room
- 03.27 Movie: Across the Universe, 9pm, Illinois Room
- 04.09 Coffee House Music 12noon, The Hawkeye
- 04.10 Comedy: Tommy Johnagin, 9pm, The Hawkeye

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But of course, if dailyiowan.com started a *Sexyback* prize, Louis Virtel would always win. The reasons should be obvious, but look at the pic below, and tell us that mug doesn't return sexy to its rightful throne every week.

Letters to Louis

louis-virtel@uiowa.edu



Real men live the definition of 'acceptance'

week for choreography. Oh, and this just in: Your boyfriend is a homophobe. Dead on arrival. I don't mean to crucify just him, but you know he'll make a fine example for the rest of the class. Bottom line, students here think homophobia doesn't exist much anymore. But, uh, it's here. It's jackass-colored. The only difference is, well, more homophobes don't think they're homophobes anymore. They think it's "flamboyance" they don't like. They feel safe and entitled in criticizing flamboyance. What kind of prissy-ass excuse is that? Pretty sure your boyfriend has no problem with Kanye West, Jim Carrey in *The Mask*, or the Joker from *Batman*. All of those folks seem pretty flamboyant to me, in some form or another. I'm guessing they don't rub your boyfriend's backwards cap the wrong way.

But of course, the "flamboyance" alibi is an obvious ruse, even if your boyfriend, the Emperor Keystone-Light, doesn't realize it. Dig this crazy theory: Your boyfriend is uncomfortable with noticing people are gay. He's uncomfortable when gay people are comfortable with themselves. I'd love to say I don't know this from firsthand experience, but *just last weekend*, I was twirling and undulating with ferocious poise to "Love Shack" at 3rd Base. Straight girl after straight girl danced on me and gawked at my stupor-stardom. The wind cried my name. Then some dude with a Hollister-sponsored life jerked my shoulder, leaned in, laughed, and said, "Hey man, your dancing is, uh, freaking me out."

A bit flummoxed, I turned toward him, leaned in, laughed, and said, "Sir. It's called gay. I have it." And what did he do? Nothing. He got scared. He scrambled for composure. Went back to calling his girlfriend "Shortie," probably.

Anyway, that hombre didn't think he was a homophobe. Luckily, he messed with a

righteous gay vagabond. But I can't serve justice at all times, dear. I'm not a licensed Oaf-buster, or Ghostbuster, for that matter. So who-ya-gonna-call? Nope, not Egon and Venkman. Or Lance Bass. You have to dial your own flirty self. Fear not — confronting the issue shouldn't take much effort. Just say, "You know, it's not flamboyance you're uncomfortable with." And if he still doesn't budge, you say, "It's

probably that they're comfortable being gay." Still nothing? "And that they're real men." A nice pseudo-slam on your boyfriend's irrefutable masculinity should seal it. Own the throwdown, baby. Spit it like his angered mother, as if you don't even care. You know he still misses that breast milk. Big ups to my man Sigmund.

OK, OK. So *maybe* your boyfriend isn't *totally* the

raving, asinine, buck-toothed, Westboro Baptist, carpenter-jeaned, Electra-complex-ed, Confederazi, tobacky-hacking owner of a *Scarface* poster that I implied. No, no. I'm sure I could engage in a fruitful chat with him about *Mortal Kombat* and such. But just because he seems not to combust around all gay people doesn't mean he's cool with them.

I want to say I'm OK with settling for that, but why

should I? Excuse this flamboyant badass, but all "out" gay people make the conscious decision to defy insecurity and *to be themselves* in spite of others' irrational, sometimes hateful, sometimes-hurtful, occasionally really-effing-stupid beliefs. As for the straight guys (and I love many of you), don't you think that's worth some props? Acceptance? I think it is. 1,000 CCs of manning-up: STAT.

Dearest Louis, I know you're sick of boyfriend questions, and maybe "gay" questions, too — but I think you'll like this one. OK, I've been dating my current squeeze for a couple months, and, of course, I really like him and his muscles and everything. That's all going well. But I'm a card-carrying "fruit fly" — I love my gays now and forever. My boyfriend says sometimes he doesn't like or is "uncomfortable" with flamboyant gayness. He says he doesn't have a problem with gay people — just the flamboyant ones. I think he's actually telling the truth, because he's perfectly nice to my gay friends in person.

I used to go to the Studio all the time, too. Not so much anymore with the BF around. In other words, help heal my life. What should I say to him? — Love (and hate to do this), Anonymous

Dearest queerest, Rainbow alert! All four alarms! Homo withdrawal is happening in our own backyards! Hello, Department of Public Safety? We have an impoverished reader who needs an emergency remix of "Lose My Breath." STAT.

Don't worry, ma'am, the authorities have been notified — you will be placed with the proper queers. Your doctor has prescribed you an appointment with a well-known total-bitch gay manicurist. I've checked his credentials, and he's got just the right of dosages of self-obsession, condescension, and part-time modeling. Be sure to drink plenty of liquids and think about Jake Gyllenhaal in low-rise jeans. Then call me in the morning. We'll start you on gentle rehabilitation and relearn the words to "Turn the Beat Around." We'll wait a



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with Molly and The Bean
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Thurs. Mar. 6 --
Grand Archives
Skursula American Catastrophe

Fri. Mar. 7 --
Lucky Boys Confusion
Danger is my Middle Name Hillhaven Raven North On Grand

Sat. Mar. 8 --
The Most Serene Republic
The Jealous Girlfriends Apteka Droids Attack

Sun. Mar. 9 -- ALL AGES 7PM
Times New Viking
Psychedelic Horseshit Brown Note Mannix

Mon. Mar. 10 --
Genghis Tron
Clouds (ex. Cave-In) Shores of the Tundra Spanish Harlem Open Goat

Thurs. Mar. 13 --
The Venom Electric
The Slatz August Zimbal Lipstick Homicide

Fri. Mar. 14 -- ALL AGES 6PM
Sherwood
Houston Calls The Higher We Shot the Moon

Wed. Mar. 26 --
The Mekons
Matthew Grimm & The Red Smear

WEEKLY DRINK SPECIALS

MONDAY
BUCK OFF MONDAYS
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TUESDAY
\$3 PITCHERS \$1 DOMESTIC DRAWS

WEDNESDAY
\$2 TALL BOYS \$2 WELLS

THURSDAY
\$3 PITCHERS \$2 CAPTAINS \$2 JIM BEAM

FRIDAY
\$3 JACK DANIELS \$3 ABSOLUT

SATURDAY
\$2 PBR \$3 JAGERMEISTER

SUNDAY
\$3 RUSSIANS \$3 BLOODY MARYS

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Fri **THE GGLITCH w/DEAD LARRY & DATA SUN**
Sat **WYLDE NEPT**
Sun **PUB QUIZ**
Mon **OPEN MIC**
Mon **JAZZ SHOWCASE & JAM SESSION**
Wed **BURLINGTON ST. BLUEGRASS BAND**
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3/13 DEATHSHIPS w/EVENING RIG

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THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Daily Break

“When we get ahead, the guys try things that are a little more difficult. ... I like trying execution.”
— Iowa men's basketball coach **Todd Lickliter**, after his squad barely held off a furious Northwestern rally on Tuesday night.

the ledge

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



JARRETT HOTHAN Reasons your girlfriend dumped you

- At your first dinner with her parents, you turned the chair backwards and sat like A.C. Slater.
- Your average use of 10.7 Chuck Norris jokes is a continual source of embarrassment.
- A CD of dogs barking Christmas carols is not an appropriate gift for an August anniversary.

• You believe 2008 holds an inevitable Limp Bizkit renaissance, and you have the red Yankees' hats to prove it.

• You're in a jam band.

• Your signature bedroom dialogue consists of such phrases as "Call me Gandalf" and "Who's your Dungeon Master?"

• You go tanning.

• You're the only person left in North America who still drinks Zima.

• Herpes.

— E-mail Jarrett Hothan at: jarrett-hothan@uiowa.edu

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

horoscopes

Thursday, March 6, 2008
— by Eugenia Last

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Get a grip on your emotions, don't give in to petty demands. Be strong and truthful. An argument will be a waste of time, so don't take time trying to persuade or lure those who just aren't interested.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Take part in unique or nontraditional events, and you will discover new ways to conduct your personal life and expand your interests. A serious look at an ongoing situation will help to rectify the problem.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Check out job postings. You will meet new people who can open your eyes to new ways of doing things. Your inquisitive mind will lead you to revise your goals and reduce your boredom. An added responsibility will help you make a personal decision.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Everything will depend on what you are willing to do and how much you are willing to compromise. Prove to everyone that you can handle whatever comes your way. Don't fear failure or change.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Fast talk coupled with charm and a little stretching of the truth, and you will find yourself well on your way to getting what you want. A change in your income is heading your way. Make sure you know what you are doing before you accept an opportunity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take a different approach to the way you do things, and you will give your work a little extra pizzazz. Your ingenuity, imagination, and common sense will make you appear superior and the obvious choice to win the bid, contract, or someone's favor.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Socializing and networking will bring the highest professional and personal rewards. Don't overspend on household items, and avoid arguments. No one is likely to back down, and the end result will be ill feelings and frazzled nerves.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If something is your responsibility, tend to it. Not only will you be disappointed if you let someone else do your job, you will be left with double the trouble and the work. Be responsive instead of passive.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Travel, adventure, and lively companionship will entice you. Change is good, but be sure to do things according to the rules and regulations. Now is not the time to take chances or to meddle in the decisions of authority figures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your money and your personal life separate, or you will lose out to someone more calculating. You have to be pragmatic if you want to get things accomplished in record time and with stellar results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will have a lot on your mind. Don't exaggerate in order to make an impression or get your way. Eventually the truth will come out, leaving you looking bad. Be honest.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You won't have a clear and honest assessment about a personal situation you face. Time is on your side, so don't feel pressured to make a decision just yet. Your emotions will be difficult to control, causing you to make a mistake.

HEALTHY FARE



UI police Officer Matt Buffington mans the public-safety stand at the Student Health Fair in the Field House on Wednesday. More than 70 booths were on hand to provide students with information on a variety of health topics, ranging from effects of marijuana to an human papillomavirus vaccine stand.

Peter Klopfenstein/The Daily Iowan

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

- **Molecular Physiology and Biophysics Faculty Candidate Seminar, "Facilitation of Voltage-Gated Ca2+ Channels in Excitable Cells,"** Amy Lee, 9:30 a.m., 5-669 Bowen Science Building
- **Biochemistry Seminar Series, "Epigenetic Regulation of Genomic Imprinting,"** 10:30 a.m., 2117 Medical Education and Biomedical Research Facility
- **Thursday Wee Read, 10:30 a.m.,** Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
- **Marian Lee, pianist, noon,** Project Art, UIHC Colleton Atrium
- **Pharmacology Graduate Student Workshop, "Serotonin-induced Oxidative Stress in Heart Valves,"** Ricardo Pena Silva, 12:30 p.m., 2 Bowen Science Building
- **UI Center for Teaching Workshop, "How to Click With Your Students: Student Response Systems in Support of Good Practice,"** 1 p.m., 2520-D University Capitol Centre; space is limited — to register, call 335-6048 or go online at teaching@uiowa.edu
- **Teen Tech Zone, 2:30 p.m.,** Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **West High Dance Team Tryouts Clinic, 3 p.m.,** West High, 2901 Melrose
- **Workshop to Educate Attendees on How to Increase Consumer Awareness of Patient Safety through Community Education,** 3 p.m., 434 UIHC General Hospital

- **David Plowden, photographer, will sign copies of his books, 5 p.m.,** Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Project on Rhetoric of Inquiry, "The Critical Territory of an Interdiscipline: Transnational and Intersectional Feminist Inquiry,"** 6 p.m., 106 Bowman House
- **Hands-On: Pasta with a Rolling Pin, learn to make homemade pasta, 6 p.m.,** New Pioneer Co-op, 1101 Second St., Coralville
- **Darfur Now, 7 p.m.,** Bijou
- **"Iowa Idol" Auditions (east neighborhood), 7 p.m.,** Currier conference room
- **Summercamp Battle of the Bands, 7 p.m.,** Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Angélique Kidjo, 7:30 p.m.,** Hancher
- **City High Wind Ensemble winter concert, 7:30 p.m.,** City High, 1900 Morningside
- **Slavic Movie Night, White Sun of the Desert, 7:30 p.m.,** 315 Phillips Hall
- **Albert Tiu, piano, 8 p.m.,** Clapp Recital Hall
- **The Piano Lesson, 8 p.m.,** University Theatre Mainstage Production, Theatre Building Mabie Theatre
- **Dancers In Company Home Concert, 8 p.m.,** North Hall Space/Place
- **Campus Activities Board event, Roy Wood Jr., comedian, 9 p.m.,** IMU Hawkeye
- **Sing a Pencil For Me, 9 p.m.,** Bijou
- **Stargia Night, live acoustic music, 9:30 p.m.,** David's Place, 100 S. Linn



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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level:
1 2
3 4

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

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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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, Chelsea Cain
- 2** News from Germany (in German)
- 3** "Java Blend," Music from Ellis
- 4** Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration
- 6** Seminar for Students entering Creative Careers
- 7** "Java Blend," Music from Ellis
- 8** Monks to Masters, Kathleen Kamerick, UI Library Special Collections
- 8:30** The Best of the Monks to Masters Lecture Series
- 9:30** News from Daily Iowan TV
- 10** Incompetent Sports Talk, from Student Video Productions
- 10:30** News from Daily Iowan TV
- 11** "Java Blend," Music from Ellis



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

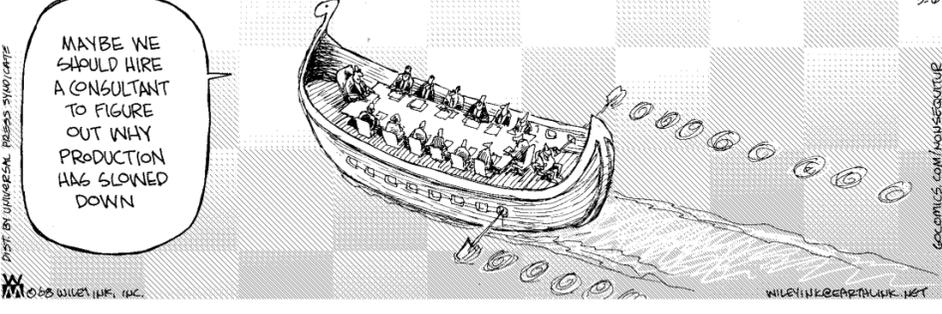
DILBERT

by Scott Adams



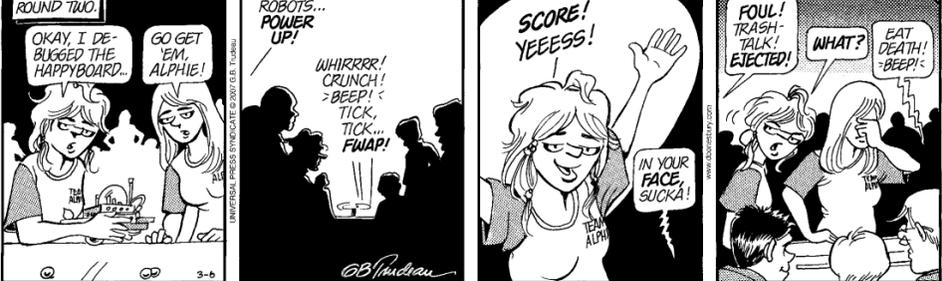
'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



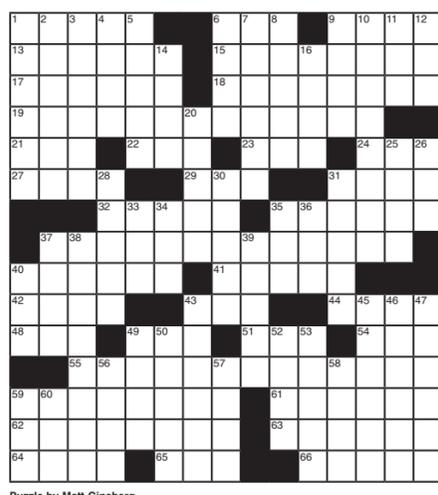
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0124

- Across**
- Locks horns (with)
 - Not Rx
 - Phil who sang "Draft Dodger Rag"
 - "Party game"
 - "1961 chart-topper for Ray Charles"
 - Stems (from)
 - How trapeze artists perform
 - "Vie for votes"
 - Announcement to passengers, for short
 - Taint
 - Rand who asked "Who is John Galt?"
 - Dolly, for one
 - You, for me, to me
 - Baseball stat.
 - Where Wounded Knee is: Abbr.
 - Mrs. Dick Cheney
 - "Mother of all rivers"
 - "Get off to a quick start"
 - Corrida chant
 - Hair net
 - Hockey great Jaromir
 - Swell place?
 - Exclusive
 - Star Wars
 - Star Wars, briefly
 - Fictional C.I.A. unit on "Alias"
 - Calif. setting
 - Escape
 - "Get it exactly"
 - Vein locale
 - Classic Studebaker whose name means "forward" in Italian
 - "Shoot perfectly"
 - Words missing from the answers to the eight starred clues
 - The usual armts.
 - Served, as time
 - Gym bag items
- Down**
- Gets all ditzy
 - Capt. Sparrow, e.g.
 - Zooid
 - Laryngitis symptom
 - Tick off
 - Algerian port in "The Plague"
 - Morgue ID
 - Have as a channel
 - California hometown of the Six Million Dollar Man and the Bionic Woman
 - Selected
 - Stomach acid, to a chemist
 - What's up?
 - Largest of a septet
 - Naturalist
 - Fossey
 - Benjamin Franklin
 - Designer Vera
 - Ticker tape letters?
 - React to gunfire, maybe
 - Chapter's partner
 - Fail
 - Actor Brynner

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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



Puzzle by Matt Ginsberg

- 34** Johannesburg-to-Nairobi dir.
- 35** Telephone triad
- 36** Musician Brian
- 37** Pleased
- 38** ___ Jeeves of P. G. Wodehouse stories
- 39** Inappropriate
- 40** A.M. drinks
- 43** Mrs. Woody Allen
- 45** Entertaining
- 46** Abominable
- 47** Swirls
- 49** Targets
- 50** Carried on, as a trade
- 52** Bygone
- 53** Walter who wrote "The Hustler" and "The Color of Money"
- 56** Shakespeare title starter
- 57** Straits
- 58** Doth own
- 59** "The Dukes of Hazzard" network
- 60** Unsafe?

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 (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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