Twelve-year-old Alex Ko, the youngest person to take UI dance classes, has a chance at performing on Broadway.

By Olivia Moran

Alex Ko, 12, stretches before a mirror in the dance area in the basement of his home Wednesday afternoon. Along with his dance classes at the UI and private lessons, Alex spends a good deal of time practicing at home.

By Clara Hogan

On a weekday morning in the loft of Halsey Hall, 12-year-old Alex Ko stretches on the studio dance floor. In a black T-shirt and tights, he lifts his 4-6 body up to stand on his white ballet flats and grabs a horizontal pole, which he shares with three much taller, much older, female UI dancers.

Together, the 24 college-age women and seventh-grade-age Alex follow the class instructor’s moves, practicing several chassé, plies, and twirls across the room for more than an hour.

“Great job, babys,” the instructor shouts, and gestures.

Alex smiles. He’s used to being the youngest — and last boy — in dance classes. And as of this semester, he became the youngest student allowed to take classes in the UI dance department.

“It’s a fun job, but he’s also a mature person,” said Alex’s mentor, Eloy Barragán, a UI assistant professor of dance. “He embodies the space that he has and expresses himself, and that can touch the heart of people.”

By Patrick Luke

Patrick Luke/The Daily Iowan

Alex Ko stands in his driveway with his brother’s skateboard on Wednesday afternoon. Alex said he used to skateboard frequently until his board broke.

DANCE PROTÈGE

By Melanie Kucera

Pulkrabek agreed.

“Most dancers begin formal training at an early age — between 5 and 15 — and many leave their first professional audition by age 17 or 18.

The initial proposal at Tuesday night’s UISG meeting was put on hold after students expressed discomfort about Bleam’s push for a $70,000 alcohol-free tailgate.

But controversy is hardly a stranger to the group.

Stuasson was among more than a dozen officials from the Linn County Sheriff’s Office to leave a location that officials decided was overcrowded.

Bleam, a member of the Student Elections Board against then-candidate Maison Bleam’s campaign, said the Johnson County Student Body president and UISG president has a right to be there.

Pulkrabek said the Johnson County Sheriff’s Office was covering the protests surrounding the Republican Convention in St. Paul, Minn.

Chauvin agreed.

“We’ve got two crises next to each other both needing help with their jail facilities,” said Johnson County Supervisor Bud Galliam at a special meeting.

Sullivan was among more than a dozen officials from the two counties who met Thursday. Sullivan said transportation and cost were the major determining factors in deciding whether to build the facility.

The idea for a shared facility came from discussions between Linn and Johnson County supervisors after the Linn County Correctional Facility was severely damaged in the flood.

The jail is unmanned at present. Johnson County Sheriff Lowry Pulkrabek said the Johnson County Jail has been overcrowded since 2000.

Linn County Sheriff Don Zeller, however, said spending roughly $4 million to repair the flood-damaged Linn County jail makes more sense than spending $100 million on a joint facility. Taking into consideration the amount of time it would take to commute to and from the facility, said, “the cost of gas — at nearly $4 per gallon — would be outrageous.

“We get it be cost-effective,” said Linn County Chief Deputy Karl Koel.

Pulkrabek agreed.

It’s a nuclear damage.

NORTH LIBERTY — Clinton huge expenses and a large amount of wasteful travel time, Linn and Johnson County officials overwhelmingly opposed the idea of sharing a jail.

By Danny Valentine

DAILY IOWAN

By Clara Hogan

By Melanie Kucera

A career in dance

Profile of young dance professionals in the United States.

Many dancers stop performing by their late 30s, but some remain in the field as choreographers, dance teachers, or artistic directors.

Maison Bleam’s candidate for student body president. Among the approximately 500 people who packed the event and expressed discomfort about Bleam’s push for a $70,000 alcohol-free tailgate.

Bleam, UISG president

Tensions are up among some UI Student Government members.

By Melanie Kucera

The Daily Iowan

‘No gray area’

By Olivia Moran

The Daily Iowan

IC Mayor Regenia Bailey: Follow other counties’ lead in rejecting shared jails.

By Olivia Moran

‘No gray area’

By Olivia Moran

IC Mayor Regenia Bailey: Follow other counties’ lead in rejecting shared jails.
**McCaın promises ‘change’**

By David Espo and Robert Furlow

ST PAUL, Min. — John McCain, a former POW, vowed yesterday that if he’s elected to the White House he’ll be the “constant partisan ronin” who stood gallantly against the political “establishment.”

While promising a new approach, he also said that those who “stand with the country” should be rewarded.

McCain said he would be a different kind of politician, with a fresh vision and a desire to do things differently.

He said he wanted to work with Congress, not against it, and would work hard to get things done.

McCain also pledged to increase the minimum wage, support the troops, and break up big banks.

He also talked about the need for a carbon tax and the importance of protecting the environment.

McCain said he would be a real leader who can bring people together and work across the aisle.

He also spoke about the need for a fresh approach in Iraq and the importance of working with our allies.

He said he was the only candidate who could lead the country to victory.

McCain also talked about the need for a new health care system, and the importance of fixing the economy.

He also talked about the need for a new approach to the War on Terror, and the importance of keeping America safe.

He ended his speech by saying he would work hard to get things done, and that he would be a real leader who can bring people together and work across the aisle.

McCain promised to...
Dancing in the house to stage

Born in Iowa City, Alex grew up with his mother, father, and two brothers. His older brother, John, is a High School Senior, started dancing when he was 4. Although his mother and Alex continually danced around the house, a child, he was too young to dance in class until he was 5.

"He just started loving it," said his mother, Tammy Cumming-Ko. "From then on, he just took off."

His first year of dance class, Alex traveled with the Iowa City National Dance Academy to a national dance competition in New York. Though there were dancers as young as 8 years old in these competitions, Alex took the championship title for his age-level architecture.

Although he's poles — with handgrips and non-rounded cartwheels — the judgment has never been too young. He dedicated himself to this discipline because of his middle school where he was also a member of the boys' gymnastics. The dozens of competitions resulted in his successful participation in several competitions dangle from his bed in his room, and trophies decorate a dresser in his room.

Alex started to focus on pre- professional ballet around a year ago. Last February, he gave up his brother's gymnastics because of a fractured bone in his leg and devoted himself to dancing.

At that time, he and his mother searched for a male dance teacher, which is how they found Barragán.

"We found a connection right away," Barragán said. "I care more about the student that I can see his talent and potential.


From Iowa to Broadway

Last summer, Alex was accepted for the Pre-Professional training programs throughout the country, and he decided to go full-time on a scholarship. Before that program, he went to New York with Barragán and wife Sarah Barragán to take classes at the dance studio on Broadway. After dancing there eight hours a day for 10 days, teachers began to talk about Alex's talent. Eloy Barragán said Alex was then offered a full scholarship to dance at Steps on Broadway for six weeks during the summer.

He accepted.

On the trip, Barragán, discovered that the movie Billy Elliot, was based on the life of the dancer of the movie who gave him the summer scholarship. Another teacher at the school said that Alex looked exactly like Billy Elliot, The Movie.

Billy Elliot is the story of a young boy who dreams of being a ballet dancer. He constantly deals with people who believe ballet is for girls.

"I relate a lot of Billy," Alex said. What that choreographer told him made him a top candidate for the part and should he get the role.

"We had never thought about Broadway behind the scenes," said Alex. "I was then 8, told by a good candidi- ate for the part and should he get the role.

While auditioning, he was comfortable with his dance routines, but there was one part of the audition that he was really nervous about.

"I didn't expect anything," Alex said. "I was really nervous, not really scared," he said.

He went home for a couple of months before returning to New York for six more weeks.

"New York was good for him because he was in the ideal, the momen- men dancers," Cumming-Ko said. "It gave him something to aspire to."

He and his mother plan to go back to New York in two weeks to meet with the director for the Broadway show for the final stages of the audition, where around only 60 boys make the cut. There, he will find out if he will be in the final cast.

"It's good, it's not to worry, that whatever happens, happens," Cumming-Ko said.


Twelve years old and in college

When Alex returned to Iowa last summer, Cumming-Ko suggested that he enroll in UI dance classes. Alex was accepted, making him the youngest person to take classes in the department, which ranks among the best in the nation.

Now, each morning, he takes a class with top UI dancers, Cumming-Ko said. "They were surprised when I walked in to class," he said. "They're tiny; some of them I know already.

While his friends from Economist Elementary now go to North- west Junior High, Alex is a home- schooled between his dance classes and he said he still has time to play with his friends.

Vice Chancellor and UI professors Eloy Barragán, Trenam, an English major, and she thought Alex was physically able to do the moves but was a little young to take his classes in college.

"I'm just a very, very smart kid, maybe I could make this my life," Alex said. "If that turned out to be the case, I was going to get to college, have a degree, and probably go to the UI dance department.

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PROTEST
CONTINUED FROM TA

We were covering the pro- test problem secured. 53. There's no way I could have done that forms a part of the Greater galaxy.

The match quickly became student using flash-bangs and every- thing. To maintain the Flash-bangs to help the crowd onto the Marston Street bridge, which crosses Interstate 94.

There weren't shut off both ends of bridges and began to grind- ing citizens to those stuck on the bridge. Police were unable to estimate the size of the crowd last Thursday.

A police officer, William Palmer said several journalists were left without an unlawful assembly, though he was unable to elaborate on the number. The Associate Press reported that two of its journalists were arrested.

As of 11:15 Thursday, 88 people had been processed — 510 people have been arrested since the event. Aug. 28. Palmer said. Palmer said the number of people who attended would likely increase.

Some protesters and media workers were waiting on the bridge to be processed, Schorschek said several other journalists were allowed into the area to cover the reporting.

e-mail Emily trufax@uiowa.edu

Shared jail appears doomed

JAIL
CONTINUED FROM TA

There's no public trans- portation system in this city.

The city's police force would be forced to double the number of officers to accommo- date the lengthy amount of time it would take to transport prisoners, Pulkrabek said.

Henry, Louis, Washington, and Iowa County considered a regional jail in recent years.

"We decided together not to pursue the idea," Trenam said. “This is what happened,” Cumming-Ko said. “We just did it, and I hadn’t think about it very much, and I wanted to be in the UI dance department.

While auditioning, he was comfortable with his dance routines, but there was one part of the audition that he was really nervous about.

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Houses on Church Street in the Iowa City's Central District are shown on Thursday. The city hopes to increase the amount of rental housing on Church Street and Iowa City's Central District.

By Kelli Shaffer

Iowa City’s 1 percent rental-housing vacancy rate puts renters in a tight position, said Iowa City’s rental housing specialist, Miklo. Last year, the city had difficulty finding one rental property for every 20 residents.

“Right now, it’s harder to find rental property because they’re all being occupied,” said Bob Miklo, a senior planner for the city.

For families looking for room and a low rent, it becomes difficult to find a fair price, he said.

“Especially if they’re looking for all utilities included, not just students,” Miklo said.

Central District resident and UI sophomore Maggie Jones said in Iowa City it’s “easier” for a student to find housing. While she wouldn’t have opted out of an area with fewer students, she said, she’d rather be around them.

Jones said it was strange to find out there was an “actual house” at the end of her block when she first moved in.

“I thought, ‘Hub, people really live here,’ ” she said.

East UI sophomore Leland Sims, also a Central District resident, said he likes living around more “older couples” than college students.

“I do enjoy not being in place where I could potentially be bothered as much,” he said.

“Plus, it keeps us inside so we’re not bothered as much,” he said.

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Flood hit sports hard
The UI will need to pick up part of the $9 million athletics facilities’ flood tab.

By Matt De La Peña

Despite government relief funds and fixed insurance, the extent of water damage to athletics facilities will force the UI to pick up the financial slack.

In its first session of this academic year, the Presidential Committee on Athletics assessed the financial impact on the athletics facilities damaged by flooding this summer. The damage could run upwards of $8 million.

Senior Associate Athletics Director Jane Meyer recounted her experience this summer of assessing UI maintenance crews and working with faculty members.

“I know the passion of our coaches, but now I know the passion of our faculty,” she said. “It’s been very fulfilling. I feel the passion of our faculty,” she said. “We can’t work in isolation here. This is something we have to do together in order to move forward.”

The proximity of some athletics facilities to the Iowa River inevitably forced many teams to relocate, including the softball, track and field, and rowing teams. It has also affected the construction of the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center, which will be delayed by roughly a month.

“Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta expressed concern for the athletes and coaches who have been displaced as a result of the flood, as well as the funds necessary for renovation.

“Athletes are feeling it firsthand,” he said. “We are going to have to come up with some money, I’m convinced of that.”

He expressed regret that some facilities may be unable to recover from this season’s damage.

“I don’t know what the recovery season looks like, but at least some of the necessary funds are there,” he said. “We’re going to have to make up for that.”

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Grants and running ads and coupons that can be redeemed for the coupon boxes shown to display the digital signals on older TVs. But officials worry that some patients may be left to stare at blank screens because they don’t qualify for the $40 coupons.

“The UI won’t give us the switches — we called them,” said South Carolina Corrections Department Director Jon Ozmint. “We asked them for the converters, and they said they’re only available for households. I said, ‘We’re the Big House.’ But they didn’t buy it.”

Ozmint said state money is requested for the converters themselves. In Florida, corrections - department spokesman Greg Plessinger said officials are asking for donations for the digital boxes and could buy the converters themselves.

But that’s something that may need legislation’s approval because Florida law bars spending money on perks as cable TV for inmates.

“It’s important because it’s an inmate fixes it,” Plessinger said. “We’re concerned about inmates setting up if they’re behind.”

Plessinger, Ozmint, and others — including those who have served time — say TV more is a necessity than perk.

Henderson, who spent 27 years in Louisiana’s Angola prison, said it’s a myth that inmates idle away the day watching soap operas and game shows.

“If anything has a priority, it’s the news,” he said.

Where inmates watch TV, and for how long, depends on the state and prison. Some inmates watch television in communal day rooms, while other prisons let inmates have small TVs in their cells.

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In Thursday’s Daily Iowan, David Goodson, a member of the UI Antwar Committee and the Midwest regional coordinator of the Campus Antwars, reported that the committee has found that

Letters

most issues cannot become always

Editorial

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 space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

Guest Opinion

Reading in the words of my speechwriter …

In the year 1972, and an ad in Chicago Today (“Wanted: Writers. Flexible hours.”) led me to an upper floor of a building on LaSalle Street. I knocked on a door and entered.

E-mail
diopletters@gmail.com

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The year was 1972, and an ad in Chicago Today (“Wanted: Writers. Flexible hours.”) led me to an upper floor of a building on LaSalle Street. I knocked on a door and entered.

The seasons, they are a changin’ …

The one-page page of a document has been read and interpreted by the model. It contains text, headings, and possibly tables or images. The text is in English and appears to be an opinion piece discussing various topics such as speechwriting, journalism, and the role of the media in covering protests and demonstrations. The text includes references to specific events and figures, such as the Chicago Today ad and the Lincoln Read for the Law event at the University of Iowa. The piece also touches on the role of speechwriters in political campaigns and the ethical considerations involved in paying for term papers. The text is written in a style that is both informative and engaging, using a mix of anecdotes and analysis to convey its points.
Two authors from the Mediterranean are taking part in the UI's International Writing Program. Adapting to American law enforcement and other cultural differences, Yorgos Trillidis of Cyprus and Jannis Skaragas, who hails from Greece, share their stories with the DI as part of a semester-long series on the IWP writers.

By Brian Dau

As part of the UI International Writing Program, the Mediterranean duo of Yorgos Trillidis of Cyprus and Greece’s Jannis Skaragas will read from their works in the Shambaugh House at 5 p.m. today.

Yorgos Trillidis

"If you ask Yorgos what he brought with him to Iowa, he'll smile and say "a stick of deodorant." No, it's not some meaningful, literary antiper- spirant, it merely demonstr- ates how fully he has embraced the environment in which he will spend the next three months writing and interacting with other cul- tures. "It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Trillidis said. "I'd write good medicine, I guess it would be a plus, but even if I come up with nothing, I'll still be satisfied."

Trillidis is a native of Cyprus, an island in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, approximately 790,000 inhabi- tants, and the capital city is Nicosia. The author and translator of short stories, he is also a photographer and con- tributes art columns to a daily newspaper. One of the things he’s still getting used to in Iowa City is the more aggressive law enforcement.

"I'm being asked for my I.D. all the time," he said with a laugh. "Everything seems more regulated."

Trillidis will read from his set of short stories, though he said he may read a new piece if he can finish it in time. His first collection was published eight years ago, and he says his work has changed dramati- cally since then.

"Over 10 years, my writing has shifted from plot-driven to language-driven," he said. "I don't carry my identity as a metal." Jannis Skaragas

Skaragas arrived in Iowa City, his first trip to the United States, with a clear purpose in mind. A native of Greece, his time at the IWP will be spent refining a manuscript to be presented as a theater adaptation of his English novel, From Numbers. "I’d like to define the lines between illusion and reality," he said. "It acts as a mirror for what’s happening internationally. How can I be a part of a world in no one’s experience?"

The play is inspired by the Greek Cultural Center of New York to be performed in honor of the center’s 30th anniversary. In fall 2007, the IWP has published four novels and worked as a televi- sion旅游景区 for the past 10 years in addition to his experience as a playwright. "It’s like a cultural experi- ment, or a reality show, the way they try to make different people meet," he explained.

When asked what he hope to learn from his time at the IWP, Skaragas revealed a thin bracelet dangling from his left hand. He said it served to remind him of the support of his friends and family back in Greece.

"I have a fear or obsession that leaving people I love is something dangerous — that I will not be there for them," Skaragas said. "It’s to remind myself I’m not in danger of los- ing myself."

By Claire Lekos

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, September 5, 2008 - 10A

Dare to Fail going very, very public

After 22 seasons in the Theatre Building, No Shame Theatre was evicted due to growth. It has moved to Public Space One for the fall.

By Michael Tabor

Iowa City's popular experimental theater, No Shame Theatre, will perform its opening show of the fall season this weekend, "His Pockets," with a pair of T-strap sandals.

Dare to Fail going very, very public

After 22 seasons in the Theatre Building, No Shame Theatre was evicted due to growth. It has moved to Public Space One for the fall.

By Michael Tabor

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T-STRAP SANDALS

Trendsetters have been sporting T-straps every Friday and Saturday night. Though the original Public Space One hosted No Shame Theatre in the Theater Building on Oct. 6, 2006, No Shame will spend its fall in Public Space One.

Michael Tabor performs a piece about Friday the 13th during No Shame Theatre in the Theater Building on Oct. 6, 2006. No Shame will spend its fall in Public Space One.

If anything could test that sentiment, the unquestioned unannounced No Shame Theatre would do it. No Shame Theatre is a way of life. If you asked three people what No Shame Theatre was, you’d get three different answers. No Shame Theatre is about experimentation. No Shame Theatre is about putting on what you want, when you want. It’s a microcosm of the world...where you are a playwright, a producer, and a director all in one.

E-mail Claire Lekos

claire-lekos@daily-iowan.com

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, September 5, 2008 - 10A

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Child by child, Texas authorities are acknowledging that many of the children seized during the April 3 raid on the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (FLDS) ranch in a tiny west Texas town because child welfare authorities said girls were being forced into underage marriages and boys were being beaten and raped by a much-older husband. Texas state police are now investigating how the authority's decision to treat all the children as children at a San Angelo shelter, rather than treat all the children as children at a foster care facility, could be an efficient and effective investigation. Since the April 3 raid on the ranch can safely live with their parents or guardians. Still and remained there for about two months until the Texas Supreme Court overturned a lower court's decision that authorities were wrong to take all the children. Half the children sent to foster care were younger than 6.

State Child Services cases do sometimes drop from court supervision, and in the end, Child Services officials said they had no choice but to investigators from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day. Assessments, and be available to take all the children. Half the children sent to foster care were younger than 6.

Later, after initial foster placements, and in the end, Children Services cases do sometimes drop from court supervision, even after initial foster placements. It doesn't happen often.

“We never brought the kids into care to keep them in care,” he said. “We brought them into care to do an efficient and effective investigation.”

Jessica Dixon, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin, said Child Services sometimes refuses to cooperate with the police in child-abuse cases, and in the end, Child Services is overseeing the child-advocacy clinic at Southern Methodist University.

If the agency ever intended to take the sect's children from their parents permanently. They were scattered to foster care facilities across the state in batches, and in the end, Child Services could not be forced into underage marriage of sect members.

“Something that sect members would expect to be done to an efficient and effective investigation,” said Jessica Dixon, a law professor at the University of Texas at Austin, said Child Services is overseeing the child-advocacy clinic at Southern Methodist University.

The children sent to foster care were younger than 6.

“Half the children were younger than 6,” she said. “We brought them into care to keep them in care,” he said. “We brought them into care to do an efficient and effective investigation.”

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Women's tennis stays optimistic

The Iowa women's tennis team has some confidence heading into the fall portion of its upcoming season.

By Evelyn Lau

Gopher Invitational during the weekend of Sept. 20-24

Despite losing their No. 1 and 2 players, Jacqueline Lee and Milica Vrtovec, head coach Daryl Grisman remains optimistic about the upcoming season, because he has six players returning.

"We are a relatively young team, but I think we have a bunch of players who are passionate about tennis," he said.

Another tough test for field hockey

A pair of ranked opponents await the Iowa field-hockey team for the second weekend in a row.

By Jeff Pawola

Following a pair of difficult road contests against No. 1 North Carolina and No. 3 Wake Forest on the opening weekend, the Iowa field-hockey team will again compete against two nationally ranked opponents.

The only difference this weekend is the Hawkeyes will not have to leave the confines of Iowa City. The No. 5 Hawks will host No. 15 American at 3 p.m. today and No. 12 Duke on Sept. 7 at 7 p.m., in their first games of the season at Grant Field.

The Golden Panthers also boast a new offensive coordinator. Bill Keeg, a member of the Purdue coaching staff for five years, joined Florida International in March.

"Offensively they've got a little bit of a Purdue flavor with Coach Legg being there," Fanteve said. "You know, last year, they played a couple quarterbacks. One guy was a runner. One guy a thrower. Now, it looks like they're leaning towards the throwing part of it."

The defense

Junior linebacker Scott Bryant, nicknamed "Buzzsaw"
DIARY OF A BARBARIAN

BY JACOB STUART

The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, September 5, 2008

Sports

Women's hoops schedule released

The women's basketball schedule was released Monday, and the Hawkeyes have a good opportunity to improve their strength of schedule.

The Big Ten has become known for its parity, and the women's basketball schedule tries to keep up with that theme. Get ready for games against Butler, Purdue, Iowa State, Illinois and Nebraska.

The Hawkeyes open the year at home against Long Island before heading to the Big Ten opener against Ohio State. The Wildcats visit Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Nov. 23.

The Hawkeyes leave the Carver enjoying a road game at Iowa State on Nov. 29, finishing off the month with a road trip to Kentucky before playing Wofford on Dec. 6.

The Hawkeyes are off for a few weeks before returning to the road. They take on Purdue on Dec. 17 before traveling to West Lafayette to face the Boilermakers on Dec. 19.

The Hawkeyes then return home to face Ohio State before hitting the road again. They will travel to Ann Arbor to face Michigan on Jan. 1.

The Hawkeyes complete their January slate with games against Ohio State and Iowa State.

January will be a tough stretch for the Hawkeyes, but if they can continue their home dominance, they will have a great chance to make a deep run in the Big Ten.

December schedule released

The December schedule for the Hawkeyes is out, and it's a tough one.

The Hawkeyes open the month at home against Illinois State on Dec. 6. They will then travel to Iowa State on Dec. 9, before closing out the month at home against Ohio State on Dec. 11.

The Hawkeyes then travel to Purdue before returning home to face Iowa State on Dec. 16.

The Hawkeyes then travel to Ann Arbor to face Michigan on Dec. 19 before returning home to face Ohio State on Dec. 21.

The Hawkeyes then travel to Iowa State on Dec. 24 before returning home to face Michigan on Dec. 29.

The Hawkeyes finish the month with a home game against Ohio State on Dec. 31.

The December schedule is a tough one for the Hawkeyes, but if they can continue their home dominance, they will have a great chance to make a deep run in the Big Ten.
**FOOTBALL**

Cont'd from 1B

Our strong sophomore class will have a little more confidence and experience with a year of college tennis behind them.

While he has not yet named which players will fill the spots he believes in need of players’ potential.

"Jacqueline[Lee] and Mili [Vaslinos] were very strong American [coming]. The possibilities include sophomores Alexi Dorr, who was impressive in the No. 3 spot, as well as sophomores Lynne Thibodeaux-Wei and junior Kallie Klenghahn, who rotated back and forth in the No. 4 and No. 5 slot during the season. At the moment, Iowa has two players recovering from surgery in senior Mereen Recanati and sophomore Jessica Young.

Dorr believes if the Hawks stay positive and focus on each match, the team can still continue to find success if they play to their fullest ability during each match.

"We need to work hard and do everything it can to maximize its abilities," Greenan said. “There is enough talent on our roster to produce a team that is nothing but a threat so far this season, as well as sophomore Lynne Thibodeaux-Wei and junior Kallie Klenghahn, who rotated back and forth in the No. 4 and No. 5 slot during the season. At the moment, Iowa has two players recovering from surgery in senior Mereen Recanati and sophomore Jessica Young."

The Hawkeyes will have their work cut out for them — they will face some of the nation’s top teams, including No. 19 Northwestern and No. 10 Michigan, as well as No. 14 Texas and No. 20 Notre Dame.

"This is an opportunity for us to prove ourselves," Dorr said. "It’s not hard to get motivated to play lesser-known, seemingly inferior opponents."

"I think there should be that pride every week — especially playing in Kinnick — knowing that we need to make this kind of comeback and establish Kinnick as a tough place to play," he said.

**TEENIIS**

Cont’d from 1B

"I’ve become accustomed to (the tough schedule) because every year I think we’ve faced a tougher and tougher schedule," said senior and reigning Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year Christian Ballard. "I think it’s a great testament to our program."

After splitting the series last weekend against the Demon Deacons and defending national champion Tar Heels, the Hawkeyes are looking to do more than just split in their first home stand. Grisham said the Hawks can’t continue to split or else they will find themselves watching games at home when the end of the season rolls around.

"We’re hoping to come out with two wins," said senior Katie Naughton. "This week in practice, we’re trying to keep the same intensity as this past weekend.

"Jacqueline Lee and Mili Vaslinos were very strong American players who are capable of stepping up big this year."

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Sports
Giants D tough

By Tom Canavan

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New
York Giants kicked off their Super Bowl
title defense with what also was a
— defense. 

The Giants didn’t have Pro Bowl linebacker
Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora, the
defensive ends who helped turn Super Bowl
XLII for New England into a Congressman
Tackle Bowl for the Giants. 

The defense made sure that streak came to an
end, and in the process might

ASSOCIATED PRESS

went down with an ankle injury on the
tourney three times in the game, the last time

the Redskins’ points. The score was set up
from Santana Moss with 13 sec-
cardinal Adams; lisp, 50-
yard kickoff return by Rock Cartwright.

The game started with fanfare as Stra-

other than that the game belonged to
Giants are back for another run in a 16-7

Other than that the game belonged to

TEACHER
EDUCATION

HAWKS!

GO

INTL.

FLORIDA

HAWKS!

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The Daily Iowan - Iowa City, Iowa - Friday, September 5, 2008

4B

end, and in the process might

least

in the final seconds.

The only concern for the Giants was that
defensive tackle Osi Umenyiora went down
with an ankle injury on the final
close to $0.


The Daily Iowan

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PREGAME

Doing the dirty work
After an amazing 457 yards of offense last week, the offensive line is showing major signs of progress from a forgettable 2007. $10

IOWA VS. FLORIDA INT'L

A.J. Edds follows a tradition
Iowa linebacker A. J. Edds is evolving into one of the cogs of the Hawkeyes’ defense — take, for instance, his monster performance against Maine. $4

Feeling ‘special’
Iowa Hawkeye special teams seek to rebuild their swagger and their winning ways. $18
Cover story
Iowa linebackers A.J. Edds has emerged into one of the cornerstones of the Iowa defense.

8C A closer look
Shawn Green

14C Feature story
The Iowa offensive line appears to have made significant strides in 2008.

16C Feature story
Everyone knows about the quarterbacks, but other positions on the team have intriguing battles as well.

Inside this week’s PREGAME
Postgame coverage
- Story and photos posted immediately after the game on dailyiowan.com.
- Updated story with quotations and postgame reaction 90 minutes after the game.

dailyiowan.com/football
- Game pages with easy access to stories, photos, highlights, and statistics.
- Season schedule
- Photo slide show
- Pregame on Daily Iowan Television

Preseason PREGAME
Publishers
Bill Daily
Editors-in-Chief
Tom Edds
PREGAME Editor
Brian Wood
DESIGNERS
Drew Lusk & Kat McNally
PHOTO EDITOR
Lindsey Mckee
REPORTERS
Charlie Austin, Alex Johnson, Ryan Young, & Scott Miller

PREVIEW
PREVIEW
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"Iowa State is a good football team. They have a lot of good players and a good coaching staff. It will be a tough battle, but we’re confident we can win.”

Game roster
Starting lineup and roster — don’t forget to save it when you go to the game.

Odds ‘N Ends
Take a peek at this week’s odds of Odds ‘N Ends for all things Big Ten and Hawkeye football.

Feature story
After a solid outing against Maine, Iowa’s special teams look to regain the swagger they once possessed.

In the Hawk Eyes
Learn more about the Golden Panthers.

Q&A
Iowa quarterback Ricky Stanzi

Point/Counterpoint
Which is better for teams to schedule: Cupcakes or Tough Opponents?

Saturday Blitz
Composite Big Ten Schedule

Quick Hits

USA Today poll
1. Oklahoma (17-0) 2. Texas Tech (9-0) 3. USC (8-0) 4. TCU (8-1) 5. Penn State (8-0) 6. Georgia (8-1) 7. Missouri (9-0)

IOWA vs. IOWA STATE
Advertising Deadline: September 8
Call 319-335-5790 for more information and to reserve your space!

PREGAME
PREVIEW
PREVIEW
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Iowa vs. Iowa State
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1. Hawkeyes Pick to Click?
   ALEX JOHNSON  SCOTT MILLER  CHARLIE KAUTZ  RYAN YOUNG
   Ricky Stanzi. Let him throw.
   Mitch King. Ricky Stanzi tosses three TDs.

2. How impressed were you last week?
   Like paper is by a fingerprint. Moderately.
   It was Maine. That's all I'll say. Somewhere between mildly and moderately impressed.

3. First thought coming to mind about Florida International?
   That isn't an airport? My bad.
   It is bad. Really bad.

4. Weaker opponent, Maine or Florida International?
   Maine. Florida International still won't shine better on big board.
   Maine. At least Florida International is Division I.

5. Better nickname, Black Bears or Golden Panthers?
   Black Bears. They exist.
   Golden Panthers. Maine's uniform ain't black.

6. Predict the Iowa-Florida International score.
   48-6. Noospherous horse collar will give 'em 3.
   38-9 Iowa.
   38-6.

7. Upset special this week is 
   Kent State "shocks" Iowa State. Not sure it's an upset, though ...
   Oregon State over No. 19 Penn State.
   Kent State over Iowa State. Whoever dominates Iowa State.

8. Is there a BCS buster this year, and if yes, who?
   East Carolina Pirates, they'll win at least 11.
   Fresno State.
   Utah looked pretty good against Michigan.
   Notre Dame.

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Nowadays we have employers, admissions committees, companies, and people all around us looking at Facebook to gain that first impression. This makes it important to not only be respectful in person but in our technological world as well.

Atul Nakhasi
Undergraduate Student

The Daily Iowan - PREGAME - Friday, September 5, 2008 - 2C
Edds follows tradition

By Brendan Stiles
The Daily Iowan

It seems appropriate that Iowa linebacker A.J. Edds is a business major. No matter what he’s doing, it seems as though he’s always taking care of business.

Off the field, he doesn’t move around. The 6-4, 245-pound linebacker was an academic All-Big Ten last year, and a senior at Greenwood Community High School in Greenwood, Ind. Edds was academic all-state. He also has one of four jerseys currently on the Hawkeye 2008 Leadership Council.

On the gridiron, it’s more of the same. Last year was his first season as a starter on the Hawkeye defense. He led the team in tackles with a firth-year starter, recording 80 tackles, 29 of which were solo, and recording an interception against Wisconsin in 2007. But playing in a linebacker corps featuring the likes of Mike Hargrave and Mike Klinkenborg a year ago, it would seem obvious that Edds’ contributions were overlooked.

But having moved on from their Hawkeye glory, the task has been passed onto Edds to lead the Iowa backers.

“I didn’t mean to go out and make sure I was being a leader,” Edds said. “I just kind of naturally took on some of a leadership role from being around the guys, especially with the younger linebackers. I think the big thing is just helping these guys out and letting them know there’s going to be good and bad situations. And I learned from previous Iowa linebackers. Not only that, but when Edds got his first career sack in the second quarter against Maine, he was also credited with an Iowa safety when Black Bear quarterback Adam Parkes was penalized for an intentional grounding in the end zone, which made the score, 16-0 in Iowa’s favor.

At his weekly press conference, Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz acknowledged the strides Edds has made from the time he first stepped on campus.

“He’s earned it,” Ferentz said. “He works extremely hard. He’s done a lot of good things. I thought he did an excellent job last year.”

In a twist of fate, Edds’ journey to where he is now is almost the polar opposite of former Hawkeye.

## Big Ten Schedule

**The Saturday Blitz**

A week-by-week look at the Big Ten schedule

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug. 30</td>
<td>Maine</td>
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<td>Sept. 27</td>
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<td>@ Michigan</td>
<td>@ Purdue</td>
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* Game played in Chicago. + Game played in St. Louis. & Game played in Detroit on Oct. 19

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## Iowa Book L.L.C.

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www.iowabook.com
Penn State wide receiver Derrick Williams catches a pass in the end zone behind Hawkeye linebacker A.J. Edds on Oct. 6, 2007, in State College. Referees ruled the pass incomplete because Williams’ feet were not both in bounds.

**EDDS**

**CONTINUED FROM 4C**

Dallas Clark Clark came to Iowa as a walk-on linebacker who was convicted to a tight end and later became a first-round pick of the Indianapolis Colts. He now enters his sixth season. Edds, on the other hand, was given a scholarship to play tight end and the Hawkeyes coming out of the House State. He fell Iowa what he called an “A” factor, and what loved him was how genuine the coaches were with him from the beginning.

But after a week as a Hawkeye tight end, the coaches had him switch to his current position as an outside linebacker. Considering that he played both tight end and linebacker at high school and possesses his school’s single-game record of 17 solo tackles, this transition on the field wasn’t all that difficult.

What would be a challenge for Edds early on was time management. He credited his father David, who also played football at the collegiate level, or helping put an outline together before leaving for Iowa that included making time for studying as well as football.

“The big transition for me was just having a plan for how I was going to get everything done and in an orderly fashion, and things worked out,” Edds said.

One of the biggest strengths Edds provides the Hawkeyes is his ability to drop back in coverage and assist the secondary whenever opposing offenses attempt going downhill. Whether it’s during practices or an actual game, Edds sees his play making ability benefit somewhat from having once played tight end and knowing how to anticipate different tendencies from his opponents.

“It’s that linebacker’s mentality that Edds loves the most.

“You have to have the right mentality to play defense in general,” he said. “If we’re off, it’s good and well having it accepted what you’re going to do, to be like the nature of defense, where you’re kind of just reading and reacting, and you just kind of let it all hang lose and just make plays.”

Ferrante not only appreciates how Edds presents his positive work ethic, but also that he has done everything playing what someone to typically a “quiet” position on defense.

“That position’s not a ‘gloves position’ in our defense, but it’s one of those guys, it’s like a good defensive tackle,” Ferrante said. “It’s hard to play without them. If you don’t have one of those guys, it becomes glaring’.”

Edds has not only won the respect of his coaches, but that of teammates also considered to be among the team’s elite.

“A.J. has always been a good player for us, our defensive tackle Mike King said after the Aug. 30 win over Maim. ‘I’m just glad he’s on our side because he’s quick, he’s big, he covers some receivers when need be.’

“I’m excited that he’s a leader and that he’s accepted that role.”

Ever since Ferrante succeeded Hayden Fry following the 1989 season, there has been a strong lineage of linebackers, guys such as Grant Stein, Chad Greenway, Abdul Hodge, and the aforementioned Hargus and Rinsehousen.

When his Hawkeye career is complete, expect the name ‘A.J. Edds’ to also be linked to that group.

E-mail 315/iowadaily@iowahawks.com
Point/Counterpoint

CUPCAKE

A coincidence schedule relies on many factors. If your team is Ohio State or USC, you definitely want to have an impressive nonconference schedule to test your team. Year in and year out, they are national title contenders.

But the face of the Wolverines this season is high. In order to boost their confidence, it is vital that they get some victories early in the season, a.k.a. playing “cupcakes.”

This year, that looks good with Football Championship Subdivision opponent Miami and Football Bowl Subdivision bottom feeder Florida International. A couple of horrible teams to throw the ball, with Fairbairn national going 1-1 last year and Miami even in the same subdivision. It can help break the offense and defense in ways that can’t be done in simple scrimmages.

You want a young and inexperienced team such as Iowa walking into a drill trap playing an opponent such as Georgia or USC and getting mauled from start to finish.

With cupcakes games such as these, the Wolverines are able to build an unimpeachable lead and the coaches are able to play the players beyond the two-deep mix see some game action in front of 70,000 fans. You never know when a starter or the backup will go down at the same time (add in the possibility that one is not even healthy at any one time). That’s why cupcake games such as these are great, and you never know when you’ll get a good game out of any one of them.

TOUGH OPPONENTS

It’s the first game of the season. Do you take the easy way out and schedule a losing Football Championship Subdivision team or take on a team with a top-25 contender? You’re obviously more likely to achieve victory against a cupcake, but what you really need is a confidence boost.

You might get a minor confidence boost, but really, how much does that confidence entail? Should your players and staff have plenty of confidence regardless of who they are playing in the first game?

In fact, to be a successful team you NEED to have confidence. It’s just that simple. How much confidence does a 50-point thrashing over Southwest Wyoming State Tech give your players, anyway? For the confidence that that result brings, it is long to that going to last? In a week’s notice, your confidence schedule will begin, and you need to have better opponents every week.

There’s the concern of “starting off on the wrong foot.” But 99 percent of the time, whichever team is better that day ends up pulling out the win. It’s simple; if you’re not the better team, you don’t deserve to be there and you can’t get a win. Nevertheless, it’s up to you whether you get out of your own self-imposed high.

Playing at least a semi-difficult opponent serves your team well. Your team will be better prepared for the tougher tests they will face in the future, and if you do able to get past one the first couple weeks of the season you’ll look even better when the winter arrives and the bowl invitations are handed out.

— By Jordyn Sammons
VISION
Rushing for more than 100 yards in his first game as the starter, Greene found the holes and hit them hard. “I got to thank the offensive line and wide receivers,” Greene said. “They created some big holes out there, the wide receivers blocking downhill. Credit goes to them on that first drive. They really pushed through the whole game, and they did a good job.”

EXPERIENCE
Greene was the only running back coming into the season who had seen a carry in a game. As the only veteran, the Sikeston, N.J., native will shoulder most of the rushing load as the season progresses, and he looks ready to shine — but that’s not what he enjoyed most about being back in action.

“Seeing Palk O’Meora and Jewell Hampton run the ball and get those guys some carries — I thought that was my favorite part — seeing the other guys get some carries and do a good job. We have so much talent and potential. We just got to keep working, and we’ll get to the top.”

DRIVE
Looking a little sluggish, tripping a few times behind solid contact, Greene ran for 5 yards per carry and scored Iowa’s first opening-drive touchdown since Oct. 8, 2006, in the Alamo Bowl against Texas. “We had to get it,” Greene said. “We had a couple of drives there in the red zone where we didn’t put it in, and we had a couple of field goals. We don’t want that. We want touchdowns, and that’s my whole mindset with Coach O’Keeffe saying: ‘We need to get it in. We get the job done on that play.’”

PASSION
After a year off this golden, Greene displayed great effort to carry the starter’s load in Week One. Expect more of the same from the junior.

“He’s done a good job in camp,” head coach Kirk Ferentz said. “He’s a little bit behind the rest of the crew. You know, so that was good for him. It taxed him pretty well. And hopefully, we’ll just keep building. His attitude has been great. His work ethic has been great. I have no reason to think that won’t.”

“I love football,” Greene said after Iowa defeated Missouri. “Football is my life. It was a great sigh of relief when I stepped out on that field and played the game today. It felt real good.”

SECURITY
In 110 career touches for 743 all-purpose yards and four touchdowns, Greene has yet to fumble, demonstrating a tough running style as well as adept returning and receiving abilities.

“I think the coaches don’t only trust me, but trust the offense as a whole with the line pushing to get guys backed up and just driving downhill and getting in it in the end zone,” Greene said.

— by Alex Johnson
Every week, the DI will take you ‘In the Hawk Eyes,’ where fans can learn more about Iowa’s upcoming opponent. This week, the Hawkeyes face the Florida International Golden Panthers.

**Florida International**
- **Nickname:** Golden Panthers
- **Conference:** Sun Belt
- **Colours:** Blue and Gold
- **Location:** Miami, FL.
- **Founded:** 1965
- **Opened:** 1972
- **Enrollment:** More than 38,000
- **Number of sanctioned sports:** 17
- **First season of football:** 2002
- **Did you know:** Florida International is the largest university in South Florida?

**Facts about Florida International football**
- The Golden Panthers have lost 24 of their last 26 games dating back to the 2008 season. The one win was a 38-19 victory in the 2007 season finale against North Texas.
- Last week, Florida International played at No. 13 Kansas, losing to the Jayhawks, 40-10.
- Florida International is famously remembered for its role in a brawl during a game against the Miami Hurricanes on Oct. 14, 2006.
- Head coach Mario Cristobal is in his second year at the top job with the Golden Panthers. At 37, he is the second-youngest head coach in the Football Bowl Subdivision. Only Northwestern’s Pat Fitzgerald is younger.
- Saturday’s game will mark the first ever meeting between Iowa and the Golden Panthers. It is the first time the Hawkeyes have ever faced a Sun Belt opponent. Florida International has played one other Big Ten school, losing to Penn State last season, 49-6.
- 85 players on the Golden Panthers roster are from the state of Florida.

Sources: Florida International and Iowa game notes.

**Golden Panthers to watch**
- Senior cornerback Robert Michtal led the defense with 13 tackles, eight of which solo in the contest against Kansas last week.
- Freshman T.Y. Hilton returned a punt 74 yards for the Golden Panthers’ only touchdown on Aug. 30 in their 40-10 loss to the Kansas Jayhawks.
- Junior quarterback Paul McCall completed 15 of 28 passes against Kansas, but was picked off twice.
- Junior kicker Dustin Rivest connected on a 43-yard field goal against the Jayhawks, which was a career long for him.

**Facts about Miami**
- **City:** Miami
- **Miami-Dade County has 2.5 million residents on more than 2,200 square miles.**
- **Miami has the fourth-largest school district in the nation.**
- **More than 127 countries are represented in the city, and 68 different languages are spoken.**
- **Miami-Dade County has the most tropical vegetables grown of any county in the United States.**
- **The Port of Miami is the busiest cruise port for passengers in the world.**
- **Miami has more than 10 million visitors on a yearly basis.**

Sources: www.miamidadegov.com

**Famous Florida International Alumni**
- **Mike Lowell,** Boston Red Sox third baseman
- **Carlos Arroyo,** former NBA player
- **Bijay Singh**
- **Dennis Lehane,** author of Mystic River
- **Andy Garcia,** actor
- **Manny Diaz,** mayor of Miami
- **Kasia Rokicki-Linden,** Florida U.S. congresswoman

Sources: Wikipedia and Miami-Dade County

**Daily Iowan.com for more Hawkeyes football**
O-line gives team a lift

By Scott Miller

It was natural for Kirk Ferentz to be nervous about his offensive line coming into Iowa’s season-opener against Marine. After all, the Hawkeyes gave up a conference-high 46 sacks in 2007.

“To put that in perspective, only five Football Bowl Subdivision teams did worse job of protecting their quarterbacks last year. But the 10-year head coach wasn’t just nervous about those statistics repeating themselves; he was having dreams about it.

“Yet these nightmares. I think I started getting a little worried about Thursday night,” Ferentz said. “You know, you have success of guys coming through the line or somebody blowing an assignment.”

But none of that happened on Aug. 30 against the Black Bears. Instead, the offensive line — led by seniors Seth Olsen and Rob Bruggeman — allowed holes for the running backs and built a shield around the quarterbacks, giving up only one sack and contributing to more than 200 yards rushing.

Coming into the season, improving Iowa’s pass protection was offensive line coach Ross Morgan’s main objective.

“Basically there’s a combination of things (that lead to a sack),” he said at Iowa media day on Aug. 4. “Most of the sacks are directly related to a lineitem — it’s just a breakdown on a fundamental. There are a couple of missed assignments. And there’s — even a couple of scheme things or a misidentification or communication thing. But really most of them come down to fundamentals.”

Sophomore quarterback Ricky Stanzi noticed the improvement in the season opener and said the offense benefited.

“When you’re coming off a loss like that, you want to start with a good fundamental,” he said. “You want to start out with some drives that are going to help we out. The only way to do that is to get the ball in the right people’s hands. And we did that a couple of times.”

From Ferentz’s perspective, his team did just that.

“I think it’s a big improvement,” he said. “I think it’s a big start. I think, you know, we didn’t cut guys loose. But I thought we got a good first step for them, a good start. You know, we have some questions to answer there, some things to work through, too.”

With that, the guns against Marine were a drastic improvement from last year, when Iowa gave up nine sacks against Indiana in the fifth game of the season.

“We have a lot more confidence in our- selves, a lot more confidence in each other,” Ferentz said. “Sophomore tackle Julian Vandervelde said: “We’re performing better from a technique standpoint. We’ve got a lot of the little things that hurt us a year ago. Of course, we do still have a lot to work on. But at the same time, we’re having things on tape that we really like and that we think are really going to carry us well through the season.”

E-mail Scott Miller at scott-t-miller@uiowa.edu
The best years of Iowa football under Kirk Ferentz have all featured strong special teams.

Last year's unit had a down year. This year's squad, albeit in just one game against a far inferior opponent, looks much improved.

"We've off a good start, decent start," said Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz. "The best thing I saw [Aug. 30] was that our kickers performed pretty well. That's a huge step for us, but it's one game."

Against Maine, Iowa allowed just 14.8 yards per kickoff return in five attempts, and on the Hawkeyes' only punt, they caused the Black Bears inside their own 5.

"Ryan Donahue didn't do much, but when he did, he did OK," Ferentz said. "That our core teams, we think we have the potential to be OK. But if we're going to have a good team, we're going to have to do that."

Beyond the kickers and punt returners, one of the leaders from the special teams a year ago was sophomore Jermey Maupin, the Aug. 30 captain of special teams. On coverage teams in 2007, Maupin was noticed for laying the wood on big kicks. Everyone saw him last year provide the big hit, said sophomore quarterback Ricky Stanzi. "You really really, whether people see it or not, always bring a lot of heat in the return game. You're always trying to put pressure on the energy of the team, and getting some of those could really spark and really flip a game on its head. So it's good to have a guy like that back there."

Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer is renowned for his special team coaching. All the blocked kicks and return touchdowns by the Hawkeyes have owned the nickname "Beamer Ball" for the style of play. And as Eastern Carolina displayed in the matchup with the Hawkeyes over the weekend, "Beamer Ball" can change games faster than perhaps any defenses or offenive plans.

That style of play is something the Hawkeyes aspire to under Ferentz. In 2003, the Hawkeyes returned four kicks for touchdowns and blocked five kicks while averaging more than 15 yards per return than their opponents. Iowa won the Outback Bowl, 37-17, over Florida, finishing 10-3 and ranked No. 8.

Last year, the Hawkeyes finished 6-4, untanked and surprised by the bowl committee. Iowa still blocked five kicks and out-passed opponents in the return game — by two yards on kickoff and four on punts. "I think we're more times than not blocking some arrows out and scoring some touchdowns on returns."

"If we're going to have a chance to be a good team, we're going to have to play really well on special teams," Ferentz said. "I think our guys understand that."

"Sometimes, special-team play can be momentous — take, for instance, field position.

"When you have good field position, when you're walking out there and you know you're starting from inside the 50, that's a lot different from starting on the 10," Stanzi said.

"When you know you don't have to get a big of a field to go down, it's almost — I mean every quarterback wants that big drive — but it's also nice to not have to worry about, What if we get pinned in our own end?"

"Special teams are just a huge, huge part of the game, and Coach Stanzi's that, and we can be excellent on special teams, that's just going to help both sides of the ball out."

The unit looked strong on Aug. 30, and, Ferentz said, "probably overall better on special teams than we did universally or definitely.

Kicker Daniel Murray (sophomore) and Tront Moolander (freshman) were perfect on field goals, sophomore Dan- nish paced once and caught Maine deep in its own territory, and the return game netted 25.8 yards on kickoff and 15.2 yards on punts.

"The kickers) have done a pretty good job in practice," Ferentz said. "We had a good feeling about it. It's always good to see them, especially Tront, you know, first time he ever played. So that was a positive."

With only a small sampling to start, the special teams have already summed the respect of the rest of the Hawkeyes.

"I know we have a lot of guys who want to make plays and are going to try to go out and make plays," Stanzi said. "When you have those guys running on the field making plays, good things will happen."

"They're going to do the good things for us that year."

--

July 15 2008

By Alex Johnson

The Daily Iowan

Special teams have always been a focus for Kirk Ferentz, and the Hawkeyes will need a strong unit to be successful in 2008.

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Positioning still going on

Aside from the quarterback situation, Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz has decided on a middle linebacker but remains undecided at left guard.

By Ryan Young
THE DAILY IOWAN

Sophomore Julian Vandervelde has been breathing easily lately. With the media spotlight predominantly focused on the battle between quarterbacks Jake Christensen and Ricky Stanzi, the offensive lineman hasn’t had to address his own position battle at left guard with junior Rajal Eubanks.

‘Friends and family, of course, want to know what’s going on,’ he said. ‘But outside of that, not many questions.’

Mostly, reporters grill him on the offensive line, a corps that surrendered 46 sacks last season in the Big Ten last season.

But with the exception of left guard, every position on the line appears to be set. In Iowa’s 46-3 Black Bear flogging on Aug. 30, Eubanks, junior center in 2007, started at left guard and alter-
nated series with Vandervelde.

And Vandervelde, a 300-pound player from Davenport, was far from pleased with his own ‘sub-
pot’ performance.

‘First play, I came out there and jumped the snap a little bit,’ he said. ‘As long as we’re splitting
times, the only thing we’re really trying to do is show up on tape, help the unit, help the line, and help the team as a whole.’

Hawkeyes head coach Kirk Fer-
entz said neither candidate has distanced himself in the ongoing race.

“If one guy separates, then it won’t be a race,” he said. “But right now, it’s pretty close.”

Both Vandervelde and Eubanks performed better against Maine than they had previously shown in practice, the coach said. A significant improvement from what Vandervelde said he remembers during his playing time as a redshirt freshman.

“I remember by first game last year was just really nerve-rack-
ing,” he said. “But being out there this year, I feel a lot more
calm — everything seems to come a little bit easier. I’m seeing things a lot better than I was a year ago, and so it puts me in a more comfortable place on the field.”

Sophomore Jacek Coleman appears to have been anointed as the starting middle linebacker, according to the recent two-deep.

Junior Pat Angerer, who came

with Ankeny as a backup behind Coleman.

“Coleman is doing well, but Pat is there, too,” Ferentz said. “I think we have a pretty good com-
fort level with both guys right now.”

Against Maine, Angerer posted five tackles, a career best. Cole-
man had three tackles, all of which came on special.

But similar to the time sharing at quarterback, and left guard, a dose of healthy competi-
tion has done the Hawkeyes well, thus far. }

Eubanks
sophomore

Vandervelde
sophomore

Open a new tab

Vandervelde
sophomore

Vandervelde
sophomore
Florida International at Iowa
11 a.m. Big Ten Network

Vegas has pegged the suddenly high-octane Hawkeyes as four-touchdown favorites against Florida International, and another blowout could only build more confidence heading into the crucial Cy-Hawk showdown the following week.

Marshall at No. 11 Wisconsin
11 a.m. Big Ten Network

Bret Bielema admitted to reporters on Monday that he hasn’t seen “We Are Marshall,” which is probably for the best, up against a relentlessly bruising Badgers offense. The Threshold Bowl will be in for anything but a feel-good story on Saturday.

Eastern Illinois at No. 24 Illinois
11 a.m. Big Ten Network

Trying to hear the wounds from a shutdown loss to Missouri on opening Saturday. Illinois hopes to avoid the Panthers’ home — just 54 miles east of Champaign — snip into Miami (Ohio) at Michigan
11 a.m. ESPN

If we learned anything about Michigan in a 25-23 loss to Utah, it’s clear that the Wolverines don’t have an easy solution at quarterback. A missed win will help support for first-year coach Rich Rodriguez, but another loss could mean mutton in the Big House.

Eastern Michigan at Michigan State
11 a.m. Big Ten Network

The people of Michigan will be watching Saturday as the battle for state football supremacy is waged somewhere other than Ann Arbor. Despite the opening loss to California, the Spartans should have no trouble building their case as the top team in Great Lake country.

Ohio at No. 3 Ohio State
11 a.m. ESPN

With or without Chris Wells, the second-ranked Buckeyes look to keep the steam rolling following a 45-20 victory on opening Saturday.

Northern Colorado at Purdue
11 a.m. Big Ten Network

After an idle opening weekend, Purdue looks to prove it’s more than the middle-of-the-road Big Ten squad it has been tabbed as in the preseason.

Oregon State at No. 19 Penn State
2:30 p.m. ABC

Penn State cruised to a 66-10 victory in the opener, but a home matchup with pesky Pac-10 team Oregon State will provide a much stronger measuring stick for the Nittany Lions on Saturday.

Northwestern at Duke
No TV or network. Without a television audience on Saturday, Northwestern hopes to stay under the Big Ten radar following an unconvincing opening win over Syracuse.

Murray State at Indiana
No TV or network.

Indiana QB and Big Ten Player of the Week Kelvin Lewis ran wild in last week’s victory over Western Kentucky, breaking 185 yards rushing on nine carries. Will the big plays keep coming? If they do, the Hoosiers could count on another 30-point performance offensively and a second-straight win.

Minnesota at Bowling Green
No TV or network

After a 1-11 campaign in 2007, the Golden Gophers only needed to win their first two games to total a 7-6 overall record in 2008. Their first two wins were against Northern Illinois. More important will be how they respond against a solid Bowling Green team on Saturday.