

# The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008

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50¢

**SPORTS**



**Hawkeyes tame Panthers**

A strong second half performance resulted in Iowa's eighth win of the 2008-09 season as the Hawks defeat Northern Iowa, 65-46. **1B**

**Keeping the momentum going**

After a productive 2008 season, the GymHawks look to make 2009 even better. **2B**

**NEWS**

**Recession light**

A UI professor projects Iowa to follow the rest of the nation into an economic slowdown, but the state won't feel as much pain as other areas. **2A**

**The best and the brightest**

Freshmen who took UI President Sally Mason's exclusive leadership class look back on an interesting semester. **2A**

**Park Place**

Coralville plans on moving forward with the next step in its new parks program. **4A**

**ARTS & CULTURE**

**Author Ames returns to Iowa City**

Former Writers' Workshop faculty member (and part-time boxer) Jonathan Ames will read tonight from Prairie Lights Books. **7A**

**OPINIONS**

**Sex offenders and the law**

Do Iowa's sex-offender laws do enough to inform the public, or are they unnecessarily harsh? We look at both sides of the argument to make Iowa's sex-offender laws tougher. **6A**

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**Today's webcast**

Check out the party watching oral arguments in Iowa's pending gay-marriage case and see how Hawkeye swimmers are faring this season.

**WEATHER**

16 -9C  25 -4C

Mostly sunny, breezy, turning cloudy later with a slight chance of flurries.

**INDEX**

Arts **7A** Opinions **6A**  
Classifieds **4B** Sports **1B**  
Crossword **6B**



**UI marketing major Meghan Wesche, 22, scrapes off a thick layer of ice from her windshield on Tuesday afternoon. The high was just under 30 degrees.**

## Officials: Storm not so bad

Though authorities fielded many vehicle-crash calls, Tuesday's storm was 'not as bad as it could have been,' they said.

By **REGINA ZILBERMINTS**  
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The storm that blew through Johnson County on Tuesday morning kept local authorities busy keeping up with the slick roads.

Streets started freezing over around 5 p.m. Monday, Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay

said. Between then and early Tuesday evening, Iowa City police covered 15 property-damage crashes and three minor personal-injury crashes, along with a number of other calls.

There were also five personal-assist calls that tied up officers "for some length of time," Kelsay added.

Between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, Iowa City police had received 91 calls for service, said emergency-communications supervisor Nancy Sereduck.

"It was a busy day for us, but it could have been a lot worse than it was," she said. "It was pretty reflective of a

busy weekday, maybe a few more accidents and road hazards."

Iowa State Patrol Lt. Randy Jones said that though there were "a lot" of crashes in Johnson County Tuesday morning, there were only minor injuries. Jones did not have the number of crashes that occurred in the county. The crashes were spread sporadically.

SEE **ICY**, 3A

## Local officials eye projects for Obama plan

Iowa City's bridges are not likely to be included under the infrastructure-stimulus proposal.

By **ANNA LOTHSON**  
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Though President-elect Barack Obama's infrastructure-stimulus proposal is still just that, Johnson County and Iowa City officials are working to reap its benefits.

"This is great timing for a stimulus package," said Iowa City engineer Ron Knoche, noting that officials are crunching the city's budget.

Knoche said city officials are discussing six projects to be covered under the potential funding. He didn't want to identify the projects until they're brought before the City Council, he said.

If Congress approves the plan, it will be the largest public-works construction pro-

### Stimulus project getting attention

Under the proposed Infrastructure Plan, Barack Obama plans to do the following:

- Invest in the manufacturing sector
- Create 5 million new "green jobs"
- Invest in national infrastructure
- Repair roads, bridges, highways, and railways
- Strengthen user safety

Source: Barack Obama website

gram since the creation of the interstate highway system 50-some years ago.

By creating public-works jobs to mend transportation systems and work on various building projects, Obama's plan will attempt to both improve infrastructure and stimulate the economy.

Iowa City Mayor Regenia Bailey said she thinks the president-elect's desire to address infrastructure needs so quickly was "great."

"For us, it's sort of our bread and butter," she said. "It's something we do every day."

Funds that may be available under the plan could be used for ongoing projects that are waiting to be implemented.

If Congress approves the



**Bailey**  
IC mayor

SEE **INFRASTRUCTURE**, 3A

## Locals watch court case on rights closely

Same-sex marriage arguments leave some Iowa City residents nervous but 'hopeful.'

**ON DAILY IOWAN TV**

Check out video from the IMU event and hear reactions from the gay community on [Dailyiowan.com](http://Dailyiowan.com)

By **LAUREN SIEBEN**  
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A local watch party for the oral arguments in *Varnum v. Brien*, the Iowa Supreme Court case that challenges the state ban on same-sex marriage, drew in nearly 50 community members invested in the outcome of the case Tuesday morning.

One Iowa, a statewide organization working for full equality of gays and lesbians, hosted watch parties in Ames, Des Moines, and Iowa City for those unable to travel to the courtroom.

Assistant Polk County Attorney Roger Kuhle opened for the defense, and Des Moines lawyer Dennis Johnson argued for the six same-sex couples who filed the suit against Polk County Recorder Timothy Brien in 2005.

Spectators at the Iowa City watch party gathered in an Iowa City Public Library meeting room and watched the arguments via live Internet feed.

"I'm very interested in this case and equal rights in Iowa because I'm a gay man and I'm in a rela-



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

**UI senior Cody Shafer (left) and sophomore Josh Merritt, along with numerous interested residents and members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community watch the Iowa Supreme Court hear oral arguments for and against gay marriage in the Iowa City Public Library on Tuesday morning.**

**Varnum v. Brien**

**Background on the Iowa Supreme Court case that challenges the state's ban on same-sex marriage:**

- The case began in 2005 when Lambda Legal, a national organization that provides legal aid to gays and lesbians, filed a lawsuit against Polk County recorder Timothy Brien on behalf of six same-sex couples.
- Fifth District Judge Robert Hanson temporarily legalized gay marriage in August 2007 when he ruled a ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional. Within a few hours, Hanson issued a stay to delay granting marriage licenses to same-sex couples until the Supreme Court decided whether to hear an appeal.
- The Iowa Supreme Court heard oral arguments Tuesday from Assistant Polk County Attorney Robert Kuhle for the defense and Des Moines attorney Dennis Johnson for the plaintiffs.
- A ruling is not expected for at least several months.

Source: *DI* archives

SEE **WATCH PARTY**, 3A

## No shock in Ill. scandal

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

 **Dailyiowan.com** has more on the Illinois governor.

**MORE INSIDE**

Read more details about the charges against Rod Blagojevich on **5A**.

By **SHAWN GUDE**  
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The corruption charges levied against Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich on Tuesday were many.

But they did not surprise many UI students who hail from Illinois say the shining image the governor sought belied his corrupt nature.

"I really wasn't surprised at all," UI senior Mike Biggio said. "I always thought he was kind of a faker, to be honest."

UI junior Ben Stone said the news didn't astonish him either. "I think a lot of people expected that some of the things he'd done before were going to come back in the end," he said. "I guess I was a little surprised that it was so out in the open and obvious, but at the same time, I wasn't really that surprised that corruption charges were being brought against him."

The second-term governor had already been under investi-



**Blagojevich**  
Illinois governor

SEE **GOVERNOR**, 3A



# Learning from the top



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI President Sally Mason addresses a group of students in a leadership class at her residence on Tuesday.

### UI freshmen learn about leadership from one who knows.

By SHANE ERSLAND  
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Box seats at a Hawkeye game were one of the perks of Carl Dick's Tuesday night class.

Then again, having UI President Sally Mason as an instructor likely had a great influence on the opportunity.

"Going to that game was my favorite part of the class," Dick said. His all-freshman Leadership Class, in its first year, concluded with a ceremony Tuesday at the President's Residence. The 30 graduates had dinner with Mason and took class pictures.

Class activities this semester included four panels, an etiquette dinner, and a trip to

Des Moines, where they met Gov. Chet Culver. Students also sat in the presidents' box at one UI football game. And unlike most UI students, the group had the opportunity to receive instruction from the university president.

"Teaching the class allows me to interact with students more closely," Mason said.

The students were chosen for the class after submitting applications that included a personal essay that explained why each was worthy of a seat in the class. There were more than 200 applicants for the fall session.

A questionnaire taken early in the semester allowed students to pinpoint leadership skills they possessed and those needing improvement.

"I was good at dealing with others," said first-year student Barbara McMullan. "I needed to work on seeing the overall project as opposed to being caught up in minor technicalities."

One of the class panels included UI student leaders. Class participant Brittany Brannon said this allowed her to see how her peers supported the campus and the Iowa City area.

"They showed us examples of how students can get involved in the community and make a difference," she said.

Dick recommended the class to future students because it teaches how to get involved in university activities.

"Every person was required to get involved in a UI-sponsored program, which forced you to step outside your box," he said.

This was the first time Mason taught the class. The course mirrors a class Purdue's president taught, she said, and she said she has high hopes for her students.

"I expect to see all of them involved in university organizations, like student government," she said.

### UI Leadership Class

A first-time leadership class concludes the semester with a farewell ceremony. Here is some information about the course:

- 30 students in the class
- Available only to first-year students
- Taught by UI President Sally Mason
- Discusses leadership and campus involvement

According to the students, having Mason as an instructor was a positive experience.

"She was very composed," Brannon said.

The students got along so well, they spoke of having a reunion in the spring. They also said they would like to be invited to talk to future classes.

"When you're a freshman and don't know many people at the university, the class acts as a good bonding experience," Dick said.

# Outlook for state not so bad

### UI economic forecaster: Iowa will have a slight recession in the next two years.

By CLARA HOGAN  
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Iowa's economy will slow down in 2009 and 2010, but the state will be better off than most of the nation, a UI economic forecaster said Tuesday.

The national financial crisis has many worried, but economics Professor John Geweke said Iowans should be overly concerned.

"People get these little pieces of news that look really bad, and while I don't want to diminish that, we have to look at the bigger picture," he said. "Iowa will be in a slight recession in 2009, and we have to watch that closely, but the sky is not going to fall."

Geweke, the director of the Institute for Economic Research, advises the state's Revenue Estimating Committee on the future of Iowa's

economy. His forecasts are based on a model that considers statistics and history of the state economy.

In a report presented to the committee on Tuesday, he estimated a stagnant economy as the state nears the end of the decade. He estimated Iowans' personal income, when adjusted for inflation, will increase 1.9 percent in 2009 and 2.5 percent in 2010, slower than average for the state.

UI sophomore Jeff Kroll said he hopes Iowa economy's slowdown will end by the time he hits the job market.

"I want to stay here a few years after graduation, so hopefully income will increase more by that time," he said.

While predicted income growth is lower than usual, it's not too alarming, Geweke said. However, he said, there will be drastic changes from the 2006 and 2007 financial condition, when income skyrocketed because of price increases in agriculture products.

The employment rate is estimated to drop by 0.1 percent in 2009, but grow nearly 1 percent in 2010, the professor said in the report.

"It has always seemed like

Iowa always had a steady availability of jobs," said Kroll, an Ames native.

As of October, Iowa's unemployment rate was 4.4 percent. That same month, the U.S. unemployment rate climbed to 6.5 percent, its highest level since 1994.

Unemployment isn't a major concern for Iowans during a recession because there aren't many people with jobs in durable goods production, such as manufacturing vehicles, Geweke said.

"Not as many people lose jobs because they aren't in that field," he said. "A lot of people are working on the farms, which are usually owned by Iowans, not a company."

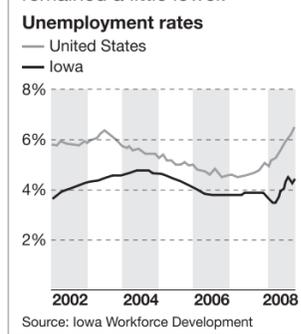
Geweke also estimated state tax revenues, which are heavily dependent on personal income and corporate taxes, will increase between 2009 and 2010.

The Institute for Economic Research's predictions have tended to be "extremely accurate" so far this year, Geweke said. A key concern for Iowa's economy continues to be population growth, he added.

UI senior Mark Vanis said he was happy to hear that Iowa

### Unemployment

While Iowa follows general national unemployment trends, its overall rates have remained a little lower.



Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

### ON DAILY IOWAN TV

As talk of a bailout continues for the nation's Big Three automakers, hear how a local car dealer is responding.

won't be extremely affected by the national recession.

"My parents live here, and I'm from here, so it's good to know this state will be all right," he said. "But it won't stop me from leaving here when I graduate."

### METRO

### Man gets probation, fine in jail-sex case

An Iowa City man who performed a sexual act on a fellow inmate will serve one year of unsupervised probation,

online court records show.

A 6th District judge also fined 40-year-old Donald Clark \$315 but granted him deferred judgment.

Police arrested Clark in March and charged him with OWI. While being held

at the Johnson County Jail, officials say he performed a sex act on another inmate in the view of a third person. Clark admitted to performing the act, and police said he did it to "arouse or satisfy the sexual desires of either party

of the sex act," according to reports.

Police charged him with indecent exposure, a serious misdemeanor.

Clark was ordered on Tuesday to register as a convicted sex offender.

— by Olivia Moran

## The Daily Iowan

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### BREAKING NEWS

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### TOP STORIES

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1. Gay marriage case opens
2. Should Shonn Greene go pro?
3. Iowa faces tall-man test in UNI
4. Researcher Nancy Graf remembered for passion
5. The bounce-back kids

### POLICE BLOTTER

**Beau Brockman**, 39, 203 Myrtle St., was charged Monday with public intoxication.

**Wesley Carter**, 22, 1958 Broadway Apt. 11B, was charged Dec. 5 with littering from a vehicle.

**Jose Del Rio**, 21, address unknown, was charged Nov. 30 with public

intoxication.

**Ryan Duchesne**, 29, Coralville, was charged Sunday with disorderly conduct.

**William Schalla**, 44, 262 Holiday Lodge Road, North Liberty was charged Monday with fifth-degree theft.

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DAVID/SCRIVNER

Ice covers the parking lot of an ex-fraternity on Ellis Avenue on Tuesday. With the former Phi Kappa Theta house having been empty for two years, no one takes responsibility for clearing the sidewalk, causing problems for students walking down the hill.

# Police get 90 calls as storm passes by

ICY  
CONTINUED FROM 1A

cally throughout the county, though early in the morning there were a number of them on Herbert Hoover Highway, and later in the morning Highway 218 was a problem area, he said.

Jones reported a semi jackknifed across Highway 218 on Tuesday morning, holding up traffic and bringing a dozen cars to a standstill until it

could be removed.

The storm loosened up around noon in Johnson County, he said.

In Iowa City, the worst weather took place from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., when the roads were iciest; police received the most calls during that time.

"We were dealing with going from one to another," Kelsay said.

Iowa City police had a backlog of calls, which "they got to when they could," he

said, noting most had no injuries.

"Today was not atypical, though certainly this isn't something that occurs with every storm," he said.

Iowa City was hit with a similar storm on the same date last year, Kelsay said.

As the morning progressed and the precipitation changed from freezing rain to snow, the number of crashes tapered off, Kelsay and Jones agreed.

## COURT CASE

# Court case draws locals

WATCH PARTY  
CONTINUED FROM 1A

relationship," said Mark McCusker, 48. "I would really love if we could have equal rights just like other Iowans."

Kuhle argued the primary objective of marriage is procreation, which provides grounds to maintain Iowa's marriage laws. Current policies don't recognize same-sex relationships.

"The state, by fostering same-sex marriage, will harm the institution of marriage as we know it," Kuhle said, adding same-sex marriage defeats its "vital purpose" of procreation.

The defense also argued same-sex parents cannot provide an

optimal living situation for children.

"It's essential for a child to have the right to know his biological parents," Kuhle said.

Johnson then opened his argument with the first words of the Iowa constitution, which states, "All men and women are, by nature, free and equal."

When asked if civil unions would provide a solution to marriage inequality between same-sex and heterosexual couples, Johnson said unions would not provide gay couples the same financial and social benefits as straight couples.

"If my clients are given civil unions, they will be given a badge, basically, of second-class citizens," Johnson said.

The Iowa Supreme Court adjourned around noon Tuesday after about an hour and a half of arguments, and is not expected to determine a ruling for several months.

Iowa City resident Alicia Hurd watched the arguments and said she felt "mixed emotions" after the court adjourned.

"I think the arguments were pretty hopeful, but I think that was just because the plaintiffs' attorney was a little more eloquent in his speech," Hurd, 25, said. "What they're going to determine, I have no idea ... I am nervous, but I'm hopeful."

# City eyes rebuilding plans

INFRASTRUCTURE  
CONTINUED FROM 1A

plan, states would have a 120- to 180-day period to outline specific goals. Knoche said this might create difficulties for Iowa City, where there are many projects to tackle.

"Finding projects that can be pulled off in that time frame is a challenge," he said, noting that the city's projects include building construction and road maintenance.

While roads and buildings are a top priority, he said updating the Park Road or the Burlington Street bridges would not be addressed in the infrastructure plan because of the complicated longer-term needs of those proposals.

"[The projects] need to be approachable right away," Knoche said.

Also, making city buildings "more green" — an aspect Obama highlighted in the national plan — is a likely direction local infrastructure improvements are headed, he said.

Jim Schnoebelen, a district engineer for the Iowa Department of Transportation, said a commission will evaluate the needs of individual areas.

"It's a streamline process," he said.

The state is not "earmarking" projects yet, he said, because officials are still working to investigate the potential of projects.

Johnson County Supervisor Terrence Neuzil said there are

many crucial county problems that need attention.

"We are facing a severe budget crunch," he said. "The costs are rising, demand is increasing, and revenue is harder to come by."

In light of the summer flood, he said, he would like to see a bridge plan that could handle a 500-year flood in order to reduce road closures.

Neuzil also said he didn't think the state was doing enough to help county governments and that the county will continue to "put our hands out there" to find a new approach to secure a sustainable future.

"Instead of another handout of dollars, we need to put people back into work to fix that infrastructure," he said.

# Students from Illinois not surprised

GOVERNOR  
CONTINUED FROM 1A

gation for corruption, and his popularity is in the doldrums — just 13 percent, according to one recent *Chicago Tribune* poll.

On Tuesday, law-enforcement officials arrested and charged Blagojevich with corruption, alleging that he sought to profit from appointing someone to fill President-elect Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat.

Officially, Blagojevich is still tasked with naming Obama's successor, but many predict the state Legislature will impeach the governor before he gets the chance. The governor's attorney said on Tuesday that Blagojevich won't resign.

Watching MSNBC on Tuesday morning, UI sophomore Audrey Thar's reacted to the news with astonishment about the alleged audacity of the governor, rather than the corruption itself.

"I don't understand how he could think he could get away with trying to sell a Senate seat," she said, noting he "seems like a generally hated person."

Although Biggio wasn't shocked when a friend sent him a text message with the news Tuesday morning, he said, the corruption charges still left him somewhat dispirited.

"I was really saddened that given the history of [former Gov. George Ryan] and Chicago politics that this is occurring to this day," Biggio said. Chicago politics has a reputation of being corrupt, while

Ryan — who preceded Blagojevich as governor — is currently in jail on ethics charges.

UI political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle said the corruption charges carry some "pretty significant" penalties, including possibly decades of prison time. More than likely, though, Hagle said, the Illinois governor will plead down and spend maybe five years in prison.

At this point, it's probably in Blagojevich's best interest to do so, Hagle said, if he wants to avoid incarceration.

"For a U.S. attorney to come out and make big announcement, he needs to be pretty confident about his evidence, so I'm sure he has a pretty good case," said Hagle, noting that a conviction shouldn't be presumed, nonetheless.

He expected the developments to have little effect on the president-elect, unless wrongdoing by Obama is uncovered.

Patrick Fitzgerald, the U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, said at a press conference on Tuesday the complaint filed "makes no allegations about the president-elect whatsoever."

In one of the governor's wire-tapped conversations, Fitzgerald said, Blagojevich can be heard cursing Obama's people for refusing to deal with him.

UI sophomore Alex Russeau remained hopeful that good can come out of the negative news.

"Hopefully, we can get a new governor," he said. "Hopefully, all this will lead to a change."

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# UISG debates election code

The Student Election Board will not control whether candidates for UISG chalk sidewalks or send mass e-mails.

By MELANIE KUCERA  
melanie-kucera@uiowa.edu

Senators spent the majority of their last UI Student Government meeting of 2009 on Tuesday approving the rules and guidelines for the spring election.

The code, put together by the Student Election Board, regulates how student-government candidates run their campaigns.

A prohibition on candidates from chalking sidewalks was removed from the code after some discussion.

Senator Johnathon Racine originally brought up the issue.

"If a campaign wishes to sidewalk chalk, it should be able to do so and then face repercussions from the university," he said.

The UI Office of Student Services bans all students from writing on sidewalks with chalk and issues a fine if students do so. Chalking has been an issue around campus for over three years, and it is something UISG has fought to allow.

Another point heavily debated in the meeting was whether to change a part of the code that requires candidates who send anything through listerv e-mails be approved by the Student Elections Board.

"If people are sending weird things, that is an internal issue with their student organization," said Emily Grieves, the UISG student safety advocate. "It is our choice to have someone have

access to the listserv. I don't see why we should be in charge."

UISG members teetered back and forth on whether to change the language in the code but finally voted 21-20 to remove the Election Board filter altogether.

Election Board Codirector Kendall Sater said after the entire code was passed by the Senate, she was content.

"I think the changes made will be useful," she said.

UISG President Maison Bleam agreed, saying, "I think we made some very good improvements. However, I think I have to have a few conversations with some other people before I sign."

Bleam said he still had concerns about penalties for candidates should they violate campaign rules. Now, either monetary fines or vote deductions can be assessed for the same offense.

The Senate also approve the third supplemental funding period for student organizations.

Forty-six organizations applied for money and asked cumulatively for approximately \$120,000.

Though only a little under \$45,000 was allocated, chief financial officer Patch Cebzynski said the amount was more than usual, thanks to extra money that UISG used to have to pay the Office of Internal Audit.

In other business, four different amendments were approved that target ways to help the environment. Turning off computers in labs at closing time, supporting a Bike to Work Week, and having UI officials look to use organic fertilizers were some of the topics passed.



**Bleam**  
UISG president

# Coralville moves on sports complex

The Coralville City Council unanimously approves plans for the second phase of the new youth sports complex Tuesday night.

By CAITLIN DICKSON  
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Just three months after the Coralville City Council approved a contract for the construction of a new youth sports complex, plans for the second phase of building are in motion.

"It's critical that we just keep moving," said Steve Ford, a senior landscape architect for Confluence Landscape Architecture, who presented the plans for the next phase at Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

Ford displayed a presentation to the councilors and audience members that illustrated the facilities to be built. These include restrooms, concession stands, and a storage and maintenance facility. Irrigation and

fertilization for baseball fields would also be done during this phase.

Ford estimated a cost of \$2 million for the phase, part of the projected \$5.5 million for the total project. The money will come from the City Council's reserve fund and a loan that will be paid back over the next few years, said Councilor John Lundell.

"This is a project that's been in our capital-improvement plans for several years," he said. "We like these kinds of projects, because we can use the reserve funds and phase it in."

The council unanimously approved the initial plan, which will be presented again in February for council action.

"This is a great project for our community that our parks department has been working on for a long time," City Administrator Kelly Hayworth after the meeting. "I think we are going to see a lot of benefits."

The council also approved a resolution for an emergency watershed-protection program that will repair flood-damaged bike trails along the Iowa River and install new anti-erosion measures for the trails. The

'This is a great project for our community that our parks department has been working on for a long time. I think we are going to see a lot of benefits.'

— Kelly Hayworth, City Administrator

estimated cost of this project is \$282,000, which will be funded by the National Resources Conservation Services, said Councilor Mitch Gross.

"This will just help to further relieve the city of the hazards that were caused by the flood," Gross said.

Deb Dunkhase, the executive director of the Iowa Children's Museum, presented a review of the nonprofit organization's accomplishments in honor of its upcoming 10th birthday. She

described plans for the museum's new "Take Flight" aviation exhibit that will feature six flight simulators, a radio control tower, and a hot air balloon that will lift 5 or 6 feet off the ground. The museum raised \$200,000 for the exhibit so far and is hoping a grant from NASA will fund the rest.

"We've been working on this exhibit for a few years now, but we don't like to spend money until we have it," Dunkhase said.

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# Governor charged with trying to sell Obama Senate seat

By MIKE ROBINSON  
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich was roused from bed and arrested Tuesday after prosecutors alleged he was caught on wiretaps audaciously scheming to sell Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat for cash or a plum job for himself in the new administration. "I've got this thing, and it's [expletive] golden," the 51-year-old Democrat said about his authority to appoint Obama's replacement. "And I'm just not giving it up for [expletive] nothing. I'm not gonna do it."

Prosecutors did not accuse Obama himself of any wrongdoing; they said the president-elect did not even know about the matter. The president-elect said: "I had no contact with the governor or his office, and so I was not aware of what was happening."

Nothing in the court papers suggested Obama had any part in the discussions about selling the Senate seat or knew about them. In fact, Blagojevich was overheard complaining at one point that Obama's people are "not going to give me anything except appreciation." He added: "[Expletive] them."

FBI agents arrested the governor before daybreak at his Chicago home and took him away while his family was still asleep, saying the wiretaps persuaded them that Blagojevich's "political corruption crime spree" had to be stopped before it was too late.

"The Senate seat, as recently as days ago, seemed to be on the verge of being auctioned off," U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald said. "The conduct would make Lincoln roll over in his grave."

Federal investigators bugged the governor's campaign offices and tapped his home phone, capturing conversations laced with profanity and tough-guy talk from the governor. Chicago FBI chief Robert Grant said even seasoned investigators were stunned by what they heard, particularly since the governor had known for at least three years that he was under investigation for alleged hiring



RANDY SQUIRES, STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER/ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE PHOTO  
Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan, D-Chicago (left), Gov. Rod Blagojevich (center), and Senate President Emil Jones, D-Chicago (right), gather for a news conference at the State Capitol in Springfield, Ill., on May 28, 2004. On Tuesday, FBI agents arrested Blagojevich on corruption charges.

fraud and clearly realized agents might be listening in.

The FBI said in court papers that the governor was overheard conspiring to sell the Senate seat for campaign cash or lucrative jobs for himself or his wife, Patti, a real-estate agent. He spoke about using the Senate appointment to land a job with a nonprofit foundation or a union-affiliated group, and even held out hope of getting appointed as Obama's secretary of Health and Human Services or an ambassador.

According to court papers, the governor tried to make it known through emissaries, including union officials and fundraisers, that the seat could be had for the right price. Blagojevich allegedly had a salary in mind — \$250,000 to \$300,000 a year — and also spoke of collecting half-million and million-dollar political contributions.

The governor has repeatedly denied any wrongdoing. As recently as Monday, he told reporters: "I don't care whether you tape me privately or publicly. I can tell you that whatever I say is always lawful."

The governor's attorney, Sheldon Sorosky, said he didn't know of any immediate plans for the governor to resign.

Blagojevich believes he didn't do anything wrong and asks Illinois residents to have faith in him, Sorosky said.

"I suppose we will have to go to trial," Sorosky said.

The charges do not identify by name any of the political figures under consideration for the Senate seat, referring to them only as "Candidate 1," "Candidate 2," and so on. However, those being considered for the post include Obama confidante Valerie Jarrett, Reps. Jesse Jackson Jr., Danny Davis, Jan Schakowsky, and Luis Gutierrez, Illinois Senate President Emil Jones, and Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs Director Tammy Duckworth.

Fitzgerald did not address whether any of the potential Senate candidates crossed the line themselves and could face charges. And it was unclear from court papers whether the governor or his aides spoke directly to the candidates.

Blagojevich was charged with two counts: conspiracy to commit fraud, which carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, and solicitation to commit bribery, which is punishable by up to 10 years. He was released on his own recognizance.

## METRO

### Board names new school Garner Elementary

After receiving 90 suggestions for the name of the new North Liberty elementary school, the Iowa City School Board settled on one: Buford Garner Elementary.

Heidi Parker, a parent of a Van Allen student, made the suggestion to the board at its meeting Tuesday. The seven-member board agreed unanimously on the name.

In 1950, Garner moved to Iowa City to become the principal of City High. Beginning in 1952, Garner served as the Iowa City School District superintendent for 17 years, during which time he successfully brought North Liberty, Coralville, and Hills into the district.

One nomination letter said, "Buford Garner was at the forefront of the 'birth' of the [School District], advocat-

ing for the concept as well as giving shape, form, and substance to the expanded district."

Garner died at age 92 on Dec. 1. Friends of the former Iowa City resident were pleased with the naming of the school. "Buford embodied everything positive in a human being and educator," said Bob Elliott, a friend of Garner. "He was a great man, and this is a great name for the school."

— by Michele Danno

### Grad students debate budget panel

The graduate-student government debated, discussed, and changed its new set of rules and regulations for more transparency.

The discussion stemmed from the group's earlier decision to split off from the UI Student Government's budget committee to form its own panel for funding disbursement. No final decision

has been made yet.

The graduate group will have one more mediation session with UISG members before meeting with Tom Rocklin, the interim UI vice president for Student Services, to present its newly formed bylaws.

"We're trying to step it up a couple notches," said President Steve Wieland.

The graduate-student group initially intended to come to a consensus with the undergraduate student government on changes that needed to be made, but said some UISG members told the graduate students that their proposals would not make it through the UISG Senate.

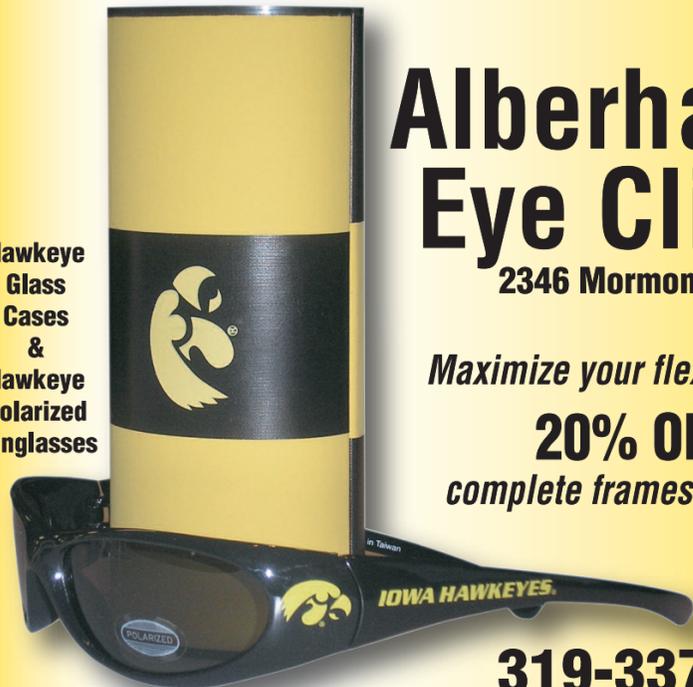
Wieland said he expects the negotiations to fall through.

The group members spent most of their time making sure their proposed bylaws aligned to those of UISG budget panel, and the members agreed that it made sense to have a parallel system.

— by Kelli Shaffner

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Dancers are there for the entire 24 hours to show their support for children battling cancer.

### Sign up to be a Spirit Dancer!

Spirit Dancers come to Dance Marathon for 4 hours on the Saturday of the BIG Event to pump up the energy and keep the Dancers motivated. Spirit Dancers who register and raise \$100 (or more!) individually or \$500 (or more!) as a group will get to dance at the BIG Event for 4 hours!



### Volunteer at the BIG Event!

Our volunteer recruitment is now underway as well! Volunteers are needed at the BIG Event to help keep things running smoothly. Visit our website to sign up to volunteer for 4 hour time slots.

### What is Dance Marathon?

Dance Marathon is a student led organization that raises funds to support pediatric cancer patients being treated at University of Iowa Children's Hospital.

Dance Marathon is what you make it; be as involved as you like!



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## Point/Counterpoint

## POINT

Overly restrictive policies  
against sex offenders

By COLIN GILBERT

The Iowa Department of Public Safety is considering a hike in restriction and monitoring of convicted sex offenders, ostensibly to keep the children safe from their clutching fingers, but also in an attempt to meet realistic levels of compliance with the Adam Walsh Act and the national standards it's meant to establish. Failure to meet these standards as laid out by the act, which President Bush signed in July 2006, could mean a drastic cut in federal law-enforcement money — like the “um, what?”-ness of the No Child Left Behind Act, this seems a tad counterintuitive, and it could ultimately lower general standards of applied policy instead of solve discrete problems.

The Iowa Legislature is in the process of reviewing elements of the act, and lobbyists have drafted a 2009 plan for the implementation of many of its key points by the national July deadline. If you are a convicted sex offender, you may have a number of exciting violations of your civil liberties in your future, such as:

- Similar to the degrees of murder, a three-tiered system of offense and related sentencing able to be retroactively applied to already-rehabbed offenders.
- You aren't allowed to stand, walk, or exist, period, within 300 feet of such “restricted” areas as schools or churches.
- Publication on the state's Sex Offender Public Registry website of information on your place of work and education.
- Registration of your residence, with zero tolerance, meaning homelessness is illegal and failure to comply could garner possibly a life sentence (one Iowa man was sentenced to jail time for listing his address as “rest area mile marker 149,” which is where he did, in fact, reside).
- And many more.

The issue here is that the state's immanent adoption of these new codifications isn't addressing the scourge of night-lurking, bad-touching predators out there, it's simply exploiting mass fear to the effect of meeting rigid federal standards to retain some grant money — mass fear mostly hinging on the misconception that all offenders will offend again and that rehabilitation is impossible. Now, the government probably has the little ones' best interests at stake here, no doubt, but its leverage against law-enforcement agencies is money, forcing state and offender compliance for what feels like the wrong reasons.

The presence of websites mapping and naming offenders in a given neighborhood is all well and good, and parents should have access to information they consider necessary for keeping their families safe, but the upped parameters are panic-driven and unfair. More than anything, the act applies itself to punitive measures for past crimes, not the risks of further crime. A “sex offender” who commits statutory rape is now, under the act, a Tier I offender, and instead of getting on with one's life with the judge's assessment that, yeah, it probably won't happen again, one must be registered in the system for 15 years. That's a rather large chunk of life spent with the overblown stigma of “sexual offense,” especially for getting lucky with your high-school girlfriend.

A more reasonable approach would be a blend of the current laws with the proposed. A tiered system of conviction is a good start, but its wording in the act is ambiguous and anyway inordinately harsh on lower-tier offenders. In the murder-degree analogy, conviction informs the judge's sentence — not so with sex offense, the sentencing of which is bound by mandate and doesn't allow much room for interpretation. Restricting locomotion is a convoluted approach to preventing future crime, implying an offender's physical presence is to be feared and not his actions, and assuming the certainty of those actions if given the slightest chance. A person will be considered nothing but a direct and immediate threat for the duration of his listing in the registry, not someone working toward rehabilitation.

## COUNTERPOINT

Balancing test favors  
proposed sex-offender law

By NEAL SCHUETT

When the Iowa Legislature reconvenes Jan. 12, 2009, lawmakers in Des Moines will have until July 29 to decide whether to adopt the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act. Failure to adopt the federal sex-offender law will result in a penalty that could result in a loss of almost \$500,000 for state drug task forces and overtime funds for law-enforcement officers. Yet, the adoption of the Adam Walsh Act isn't a foregone conclusion.

Many lawmakers are worried about the added expenses the act will impose on law enforcement. Some are concerned about a retroactive application that raises constitutional questions. Many parents and residents are disturbed by the abrogation of an Iowa judge's right to waive the requirement for a minor to be listed in the Sexual Offender Registry. Past offenders waiting to be removed from the list are anxious because the act will add five more years of being a social pariah. Despite all of these valid points of apprehension, the balancing test clearly tips in favor of adopting substantial portions of the act.

For years, the Iowa sex-offender law has been the subject of great controversy. The law prohibits registry members from living within 2,000 feet of a daycare center or a school. The law has pushed many former offenders underground, meaning their whereabouts are unknown. Sex offenders have listed rest stops and cemeteries as their address. Many offenders are in locations “unknown.” The adoption of the Adam Walsh Act will allow Iowa lawmakers to repeal the 2,000-foot prohibition without appearing to be soft on sexual predators.

The act focuses on sexual predators' daytime activities more than where they sleep. The new law would require information regarding place of employment, campus location for any classes that an offender is taking, license-plate number and description of any vehicle driven by an offender. This data will be stored in a national database that can be accessed online. Harsh and invasive? Yes. But hopefully, the new requirements will serve as a further set of deterrents to stop the abuse before it occurs, while at the same time providing for better nationwide protection of our children. If the more severe and invasive penalties fail to deter a sexual predator, then the offender deserves no sympathy for the hardships he or she must endure after committing a sex crime. Our society should have no qualms about valuing the safety of our nation's children over the personal adversity a sexual predator faces after raping a 20-month old child in the bathroom of a library.

While I have concerns over the federal law's abrogation of the juvenile waiver currently in place, the new law only mandates inclusion of juvenile offenders for crimes that included force, the threat of force, or rendering the victim unconscious. Serious crimes warrant serious punishments. Moreover, the three-tiered system of the federal law will provide Iowa judges more options than the current two-tiered 10-year or life system. Supplying judges with the ability to find a crime to be severe but not worthy of a lifetime inclusion on the sex-offender list is an important tool for a more even-handed legal system that acknowledges that not every crime is the same.

In the end, the Adam Walsh Act is not perfect. It overreaches and does little to avoid pushing sexual offenders underground. However, Iowa lawmakers have the ability to address concerns and adopt a version better suited for our state. If nothing else, the act should be used to amend our ineffective residence restrictions for sexual offenders. Constitutionality questions can be handled through the litigation system after the adoption of the law. Every new law creates a balancing test, and this act is no different. In this case, the prejudicial effect felt by sexual predators fails to counterbalance the hope of saving even one more child from a lifetime of pain and suffering after being the victim of rape or sexual abuse.

Controversial  
columns are  
my bag, babyNICHOLAS KELLY  
nicholas-kelly@uiowa.edu

Because of my entombment in a mountain of all sorts of paperwork last week you may (*MAY*) have noticed that I did not write a column for the Dec. 3 paper. I say “*MAY*” (and say it again capitalized) because as my perusal of the *DI*'s website on Dec. 3 has informed me, there seems to have been another topic that has drawn all the attention on the Opinions page.

That topic — *DI* Editor-in-Chief Emileigh Barnes' — let's go ahead and say it — *controversial* editorial offering a mock(ery of a) tour of the UI campus.

As it stands, Barnes' column has generated quite a response from readers (including a full-on letter to the editor), and after reading her work (in addition to the resulting responses, most of them exhibiting more venom than your average reptile zoo) frankly, I, too, must admit to a sense of outrage regarding the piece.

Barnes has tastelessly penned a sarcastic diatribe that has invoked the attention and scorn of the entire community — and damn it, that should've been *me*.

From her column, Barnes has received more comments on the *DI* website than all of my columns combined, and in just 621 words, she has drawn the attention (and sometimes the ire) of most of our readership — something *I've* never done, even with all the cursing, Internet porn, and Alex Trebeck moustache-burns I dare muster.

What's more — when you look at the comments Barnes received, it becomes apparent that said ire is coming from a broad cross section of the community.

There's a comment from someone angry at Barnes because she “mentioned nothing really about how great the Iowa fans are” sharing an ironic space with a student who admits he is tired of “walking by some kid's puke on my way to class.” There are posters who have used the comment board to post their own complaints (such as “not a stuck-up Chicago suburban brat” who — get this — doesn't like “stupid stuck up Chicago suburban brats”) and even posters who are just downright crazy, such as one named “whatever” who offered another poster a free case of pull-up diapers. “Just

give your address” he demands in the post, “and I'll be happy to deliver them in person — I promise. Then I'll bend your mom over.” Finally, there are posters who just want to tell other posters they rule.

Somehow, she has gotten to them all.

When I think about it, I'm honestly uncertain that one could craft a column that would offend or incite more groups than Barnes has in one fell swoop — more than likely delivering a wave of new readers to her column.

I mean, first one would probably have to make fun of Chicago suburbs — for instance saying something like poster “Matt” in the comments.

“On the first day of classes, I enjoy looking around the room and taking a guess at which ones are from ‘Chicago’ and which ones aren't,” he writes. “During the winter, it is a little unfair, I must admit, because all of them are wearing Uggs and a Burberry scarf; hence, the game is a little easier.”

Sure, something like that would get the ball rolling, but you really need variety.

To do that, I suppose you could direct a witty *bon mot* toward football team — something *I* will naturally refrain from doing in this column (plus, I'd rather not step on the Police Blotter's toes).

Then the web hits would probably start to flow, but to kick it up, you might mention the local die-hard hipster population (or, “emo-population-plus-five-years,” depending on your pronunciation), though it may be impossible to reach them through that ominous wall of irony and plaid.

After that, I suppose one could toss out various barbs toward the weather, the Ped Mall, various in-state rivals perhaps, the local proper population — whatever it takes to make the diatribe all encompassing.

Sadly, to tie all those threads together would be a nigh impossible feat for any columnist, and at the end of the day, one can only assume a *complete fool* would even make the endeavor. Which of course leads one to wonder what Barnes had in mind when she penned that column. Was she trying to incite the entirety of the population? I don't believe so.

Who could be that hungry for website hits? Who could be that starved for attention? Who could be that hungry for a laugh — like some sort of roaming satyr of myth — that they'd be willing to do anything for a joke? ■

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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.

## Guest Opinion

## United States should invest in mass transit

Voters sent a clear message to Capitol Hill on Election Day: Even when times are hard, they're willing to pay for mass transit. Nationwide, voters approved more than 70 percent of major transportation-funding measures, according to the Center for Transportation Excellence. That's double the rate at which ballot initiatives are generally approved, and it is even more impressive because gas prices were declining. Transit ridership numbers also continue to grow: From July through September, ridership shot up 6.5 percent

compared with the same period last year, the largest such jump in a quarter-century. Lawmakers, who might think there is less urgency to update the nation's public-transit system because of cheaper gas, should view the results of Nov. 4, and the growth in ridership, as a call to action for mass transit. A good start would be to make infrastructure improvements a key component of any economic-stimulus bill.

In September, the House approved a stimulus bill that set aside approximately \$18

billion for transportation improvements. While it would have provided a welcome infusion of transportation dollars, the bill, which died in the Senate, was haphazardly crafted. It sought to jump-start ready-to-go transit projects that cash-strapped states had shelved. In theory, this would help mitigate the effects of a severe recession, particularly in the hard-hit construction industry. But it would not reward the best projects, only the ones that were ready to begin. Lawmakers didn't know what kind of projects they

were funding, meaning taxpayers could have ended up footing the bill for boondoggles. The legislation also would have neglected mass-transit projects, which are typically complex and may take longer to complete.

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials now says there are around 5,000 ready-to-go projects, with a total cost of \$64 billion. But, again, there is scant detail regarding what kind of projects the taxpayers would be funding. As President-elect Barack Obama

noted on Sunday, “We are not going to simply write a bunch of checks and let them be spent without some very clear criteria as to how this money is going to benefit the overall economy and put people back to work.” That kind of scrutiny should extend to all aspects of the stimulus, including transportation spending.

Lawmakers should give priority to projects that are environmentally friendly and that encourage smart growth. They also should adjust the federal government's disbursement formula to direct more money

to mass transit and to other projects in underserved metropolitan areas.

On Dec. 6, Obama said, “We will create millions of jobs by making the single largest new investment in our national infrastructure since the creation of the federal highway system in the 1950s.” In transportation, the new administration and Congress should work to strike a balance between ready-to-go projects that can jolt the economy and long-term investment in public transit.

This editorial appeared in Tuesday's *Washington Post*.

# Coming through all the confusion

Jonathan Ames — novelist, essayist, former Writers' Workshop faculty member, occasional boxer, and phallic-building aficionado — will read from a variety of his work today at Prairie Lights Books.

By JAKE JENSEN  
jake-jensen@uiowa.edu

Not everyone can have Jason Schwartzman act out his life on television. Or edit an anthology of transsexual memoirs, start a "World's Most Phallic Building" contest for the online magazine *Slate*, write a graphic novel, and box under the pseudonym the Herring Wonder in his spare time.

Jonathan Ames is not everyone.

The multitasking writer will read at Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque St., at 7 p.m. today, his first time in Iowa City since teaching at the Writers' Workshop in the fall of 2007. He is promoting his latest work and first graphic novel, *The Alcoholic*, but the 44-year-old said it's unlikely he will read from it today.

The logistics of showing the graphic novel's illustrations while reading the text was too difficult, he said. Instead, he will read from two of his previous essays, one of which is recreated in *The Alcoholic*, and take graphic-novel-theme questions from the audience.

A comic-book fan since childhood (he cites *The Avengers* and *Spider-Man* as favorites), Ames said he wrote

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the story as a graphic novel because his friend, comic-book artist Dean Haspiel, was eager to collaborate.

"It wasn't like I had the idea of, 'How is the best way to tell this,' he said via phone from his home in Brooklyn. "To meet the need to collaborate with [Haspiel], I came up with this story. I never considered it for any other medium."

In *The Alcoholic*, a down-and-out struggling writer — (not so) curiously named Jonathan A. — deals with the titular affliction, as well as self-identification, heartbreak, romance, and sexual repression, a common theme in the Ames canon. There's also a Monica Lewinsky encounter thrown in just for good measure.

Despite sharing a name with its protagonist, *The Alcoholic* is fiction, he said.

"He looks like me, and a few

**ON THE WEB**

Check out a slide show of six pages from Jonathan Ames' and Dean Haspiel's graphic novel, *The Alcoholic*, at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).

of the things [actually] happened," he said. "But I changed so much that, really, it is fiction. A lot of it is emotionally autobiographical, though. I've experienced heartbreak. I've experienced despair. I've experienced dejection and self-loathing."

*The Alcoholic* may keep Ames busy for now, but the new year looks to be just as full for the writer. Currently, he is turning his short story "Bored to Death" into a television show. The actor lucky enough to portray Ames? Jason Schwartzman.

July will see the publishing of his next book, *The Double Life is Twice as Good*, according to the writer's website.

With such a full a schedule, it would be understandable if Ames ran out of inspiration before he can say "World's Most Phallic Building." But the writer offered a succinct way to keep one's creativity thriving.

"Every day, you wake up confused in a new way," he said. "[You have to use] those confused ideas."



Jonathan Ames will read from an array of his work tonight at Prairie Lights Books. Though Ames just completed a graphic novel, *The Alcoholic*, he won't be reading from the work, citing the difficulty of narrating while displaying the images. PUBLICITY PHOTO/TRAVIS ROOZÉE

# Enough, already, with joy to the world

Santa may not like it if you're naughty, but sometimes in order to survive the holiday season, it's necessary to be a little mean.



MELEA ANDRYS  
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PUBLICITY PHOTO

**Go ahead: Take a break from inauthentic happiness and release your inner Grinch this holiday season. Jim Carrey stars with Taylor Momsen as Cindy Lou Who in the 2000 film *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*.**

this perspective may seem a little counterintuitive. Or I might just sound like a bitch. But either way, it's worth investigating how America thinks about her Christmases — because it just may be making us all miserable.

Consider the following scenario: Divorced man doesn't spend enough time with son and has a sordid relationship with his ex-wife. Suddenly, on

Christmas Eve, a fat guy falls off his roof and dies, leaving a red suit and reindeer-appointed sleigh behind. Divorced man spends the next year running from the "Christmas spirit" but eventually accepts his role as the new St. Nick and therein morphs into loving father of the year.

Sound familiar? Though the details may be unique to Tim Allen's character in *The Santa*

*Clause*, the basic plot of the transformative power of the holiday season is officially old hat. Such movies as *Elf*, *Fred Claus*, *Home Alone*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and the recent Vince Vaughn/Reese Witherspoon debacle of *Four Christmases* illustrate that the holidays are a magical time where a frown, if spotted, will be turned into a right-side-up smile immediately.

If you're not having fun at Christmas, then you are doing something wrong.

But couldn't this mentality, though admittedly bearing the best of intentions, possibly be detrimental to those watching? If we are continually inundated with happy families sharing in a jolly holiday or formerly mean-spirited characters transformed by a touch of the Christmas spirit, what happens to us when the pressure of the season inevitably start to drag us down?

Let's take a look at the facts. Seasonal Affective Disorder, or seasonal depression, is more prevalent than ever. The number of holiday stressors keeps growing larger and larger, from trimming the perfect traditional tree to buying pres-

ents in a struggling economy to getting trampled to death by deal-searching customers (as in a New York Wal-Mart on Black Friday of this year). We know that the holiday season isn't all fun and games, so why pretend like we're enjoying it all the time?

Author Eric G. Wilson argues in his book *Against Happiness* that Americans are infatuated with the idea that all melancholy is inherently bad. We run from being sad and mean in favor of staying in a constant state of joy — even if that joy is wholly inauthentic.

The glee propagated in the seemingly constant barrage of holiday television specials and films certainly falls under this designation, leaving those of us who aren't magically transformed by the season feeling potentially worse than before. The shows responsible for proliferating ideas about what it takes to have a merry Christmas (empty your wallets and decorate or cook like Martha Stewart) are the same ones that give us another rea-

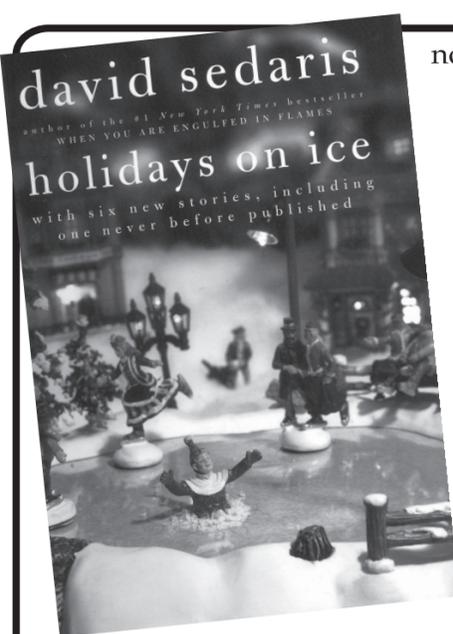
son to feel bad about ourselves if the weight of our Christmas to-do list is dragging us down.

I'm not saying Christmas movies are bad (though many of them have scripts as deep as a wading pool and are therefore decidedly not good).

And I'm not saying it's bad to get swept away in the positive spirit of the holidays — if that's what you want to do.

What I am saying is that it's perfectly acceptable to break down and be sad or mad or even a little mean during December. It's healthy and cathartic to let that stress out, even if some people may call you a Scrooge in the process. We often work so hard at creating what society dictates as what *should* be done for a perfect Christmas that it's easy to lose sight of what we actually want to do to celebrate the season.

Yes, both Scrooge and the Grinch admittedly went through serious transformations. But think about it — if they weren't allowed to be a little mean first, would the roast beast have been as juicy in the end?



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Published clips or students who have taken a reporting and writing class a plus.

Applicants will be interviewed before winter break and will start at the beginning of the spring 2009 semester.

# Culver proposes \$75 million in cuts

WEST DES MOINES — Gov. Chet Culver on Tuesday outlined \$75 million in state spending cuts that he said are needed because of the ailing economy and unexpected spending on flood and tornado recovery.

Speaking before the Iowa Taxpayers Association at a suburban Des Moines hotel, Culver detailed the cuts.

The governor said he had asked state department heads a few weeks ago to identify \$40 million in cuts after the state

Revenue Estimating Conference projected the state would see a \$38 million drop in tax dollars in the current fiscal year. Culver also cited a drop in corporate tax revenues and reduced growth in revenue from personal income taxes.

The cuts from the current budget are needed, Culver said, to ensure that Iowa has enough money at the end of the year to remain fiscally sound and be in position to handle any emergencies that may arise.

In addition to that amount, Culver said he will ask lawmakers to withdraw \$37 million in funding for a proposed new state office building to replace the aging Wallace Building.

"After careful analysis of several of the department recommendations, I am now directing cuts to some of our current expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year without affecting services that Iowans rely on," Culver said.

# Dems, Bush near auto deal

By JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Weary Democratic congressional leaders and White House officials agreed in principle Tuesday on a \$15 billion bailout of U.S. automakers that would give the government extraordinary power to restructure the failing industry. But the rescue faced snags as Republicans raised deep concerns.

Congressional aides and a senior administration official said the proposed deal would speed the loans to Detroit's struggling car companies and place a "car czar" to be named by President George W. Bush in charge of overhauling the auto industry. Congress could vote on the plan as early as today, and the money could be disbursed within days.

A breakthrough came when negotiators reached a compromise to require the czar to revoke the loans and deny any further federal aid to automakers that don't strike a deal with labor unions, creditors, and others to ensure their survival by next spring — essentially pushing them into bankruptcy.

"A great deal of progress has been made on auto legislation that will protect the taxpayer and ensure that short-term financing is available only to companies prepared to undertake the dramatic restructuring necessary to become viable and competitive," Dana Perino, the White House press secretary, said late Tuesday.

Earlier in the day, Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., the Financial Services Committee chairman, said the remaining issues were minor.

"There do not appear to me to be differences in principle of a sufficient nature to blow this thing up," said Frank, whose staff is helping to draft the bill.

Still, staff aides worked into the night fine-tuning legislative details of the agreement. It could face substantial obstacles from congressional Republicans, who remained skeptical about the White House-negotiated plan. A group of conservatives led by Sen. John Ensign, R-Nev., has threatened to block the measure.

A further stumbling block was Democrats' refusal to scrap language, vehemently opposed by the White House, that would force the carmakers to drop lawsuits challenging tough emissions limits in California and other states.

That measure "kills the deal," said Dan Meyer, Bush's top lobbyist.

Senior Democratic aides acknowledged as much Tuesday and said they expected the provision to ultimately be dropped.

Environmentalists, who count House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., among their closest allies, already were irate that the bailout uses money set aside for a program to help the automakers finance the retooling of their factories so they could produce greener vehicles.

Another remaining hang-up was over ensuring that Cerberus, the private equity firm that owns

Chrysler LLC, would reimburse the government if the auto company defaulted on its loan, said a congressional negotiator who spoke only on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose details of the emerging deal.

But the White House and congressional Democrats resolved other major conflicts. Democrats said they were willing to toughen the measure to require that the czar revoke loans from car companies that couldn't show they were viable by the end of March — rather than simply allowing the overseer to take back the money.

That would essentially let the czar force an automaker into bankruptcy if it didn't present a feasible restructuring plan.

They were also near agreement to weaken a proposal to give the czar veto power over automakers' business transactions — something the White House and automakers had said was unworkable. They were discussing giving the overseer say-so over transactions of \$100 million or more, instead of putting the limit at \$25 million.

Even if they seal the deal, though, conservative Republicans who want to force one or more of the Big Three into bankruptcy warned they might try to block the measure, virtually guaranteeing that it will need a 60-vote majority to pass and possibly delaying approval for days.

"I think that not only myself, but several of us will be looking at possibly blocking this package," Ensign told CNBC.

The measure would be open to Detroit's Big Three, but is expected to provide emergency loans only to General Motors Corp. and Chrysler, which have said they could collapse within weeks absent federal help. Ford Motor Co. has said it doesn't need an immediate cash transfusion, but it wants a \$9 billion line of credit to insulate against further deterioration in the economy.

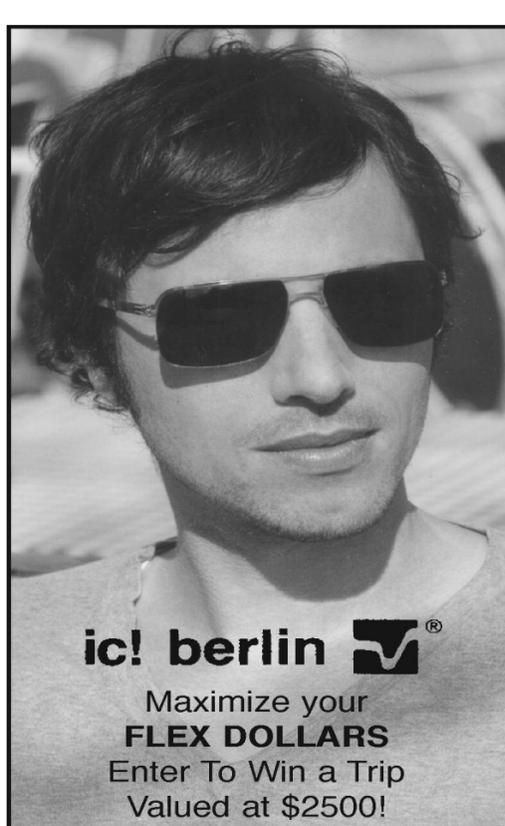
The rescue took shape with the nation in recession, Congress and the presidency both in transition, Wall Street ricocheting daily, and the Federal Reserve and Bush Treasury Department fighting to steady the reeling financial industry.

Sen. Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he was concerned that Democrats were proposing a package that "fails to require the kind of serious reform that will ensure long-term viability for struggling automobile companies."

With their approach, "we open the door to unlimited federal subsidies in the future," McConnell said.

Getting 60 votes for an agreement, with many senators expected to be absent for the emergency, postselection debate, could be tricky.

Said Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., an ally of the auto industry: "This gets us to the 20 yard line, but getting over the goal line will take a major effort, particularly in the Senate." He called for Bush and President-elect Barack Obama to lobby personally for the auto bailout.



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*Linda Maxson*

Dean Linda Maxson  
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GymHawks look to redeem themselves after 2008 seasons.



**NBA**  
 Washington 107, Detroit 94  
 Cleveland 114, Toronto 94  
 Utah 99, Minnesota 96  
 Chicago 105, New York 100

Houston 92, Atlanta 84  
 San Antonio 133, Dallas 126, 20T  
 Phoenix 125, Milwaukee 110  
 Orlando 109, Portland 108  
 Sacramento 113, L.A. Lakers 101

IOWA 65, UNI 46

# Hawkeyes herd Panthers



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa sophomore guard Jake Kelly dribbles down the court against Northern Iowa on Tuesday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Kelly's team-high 19 points helped the Hawkeye beat the Panthers, 65-46.

After struggling early, Iowa subdues Northern Iowa in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Tuesday.

By **SCOTT MILLER**  
 scott-t-miller@uiowa.edu

With leading scorer Anthony Tucker's indefinite suspension still in effect, the Hawkeyes showed off their depth as they upended in-state rival Northern Iowa, 65-46, behind double-figure scoring from three players on Tuesday night in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

After Jordan Eglseder's lay-up with four-and-a-half minutes remaining, Northern Iowa (5-4) cut the lead to eight, 49-41. But led by a

heavy dose of free throws (the Hawkeyes made six in the last two-and-a-half minutes), the Panthers couldn't get any closer.

Starting his second-consecutive game after suffering a broken middle finger before the season, sophomore guard Jake Kelly used his patented hop-step to lead the Hawkeyes (8-2) with 12 second-half points, finishing with a season-high 19 for the game.

"I was trying to get 20, but I didn't quite get it," Kelly said. Sophomore point guard Jeff

Peterson, who continually attacked the basket, continued to show improvement over last year, adding 18 points and dishing out five assists with only two turnovers.

"I think he's probably got a comfort level, so you're seeing more poise," head coach Todd Lickliter said.

In front of an announced crowd of 9,435, freshman Matt Gatens hit four 3-pointers and remained the Hawkeyes' most consistent player, adding 14 points and shooting 5-of-8 from the field in 35 minutes of play.

### ON THE WEB

Go to [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) to check out an exclusive photo slide show from Iowa's 65-46 victory over Northern Iowa on Tuesday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.



"I think it was just opportunity," head coach Todd Lickliter said about the Iowa threesome filling the void left by Tucker. "Those guys don't ... concern themselves with areas they can't control. They play the game with purpose, and it leads to this kind of [victory]."

"I think that Matt's probably very comfortable with his role and what he's doing."

SEE RECAP, 3B

## Slow start, swell finish

A nearly perfect second half showed a Hawkeye basketball team buying into second-year coach Todd Lickliter's system.

By **CHARLIE KAUTZ**  
 charles-kautz@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's basketball team walked out of Carver-Hawkeye Arena with a swagger on Tuesday night, but perhaps it will serve them well to remember the ominous start they had against Northern Iowa.

Without its leading scorer, muddling through the opening minutes of the team's 10th game, the trends tilted Iowa toward another non-conference letdown.

Exploiting his mountainous size advantage over Iowa senior Cyrus Tate, 7-footer Jordan Eglseder dumped in six of UNI's first 11 points and established his post play early.

By the 5:54 mark in the opening half, Iowa hacked its way through seven fouls and six lead changes, shooting just 6-of-15 from the field.

SEE BASKETBALL, 3B

### FOOTBALL

#### Student tickets for bowl on sale

The Iowa athletics department announced Tuesday that student tickets for the Hawkeyes' upcoming Outback Bowl contest against South Carolina are now on sale.

UI students can order tickets to the game in Tampa over the phone by calling 1-800-1A-HAWKS, in person at the Iowa ticket office, located at Carver-Hawkeye Arena, or online at [hawkeyesports.com](http://hawkeyesports.com). Any UI students who order online need to log into their ticket accounts and click on "student tickets."

Iowa's Sports Information Department is strongly advising groups of UI students who are going to Tampa together and want tickets next to each other at Raymond James Stadium to have one person take the order and include names of other group members, which can be typed in the comments box when purchasing online.

Students who order tickets should receive an e-mail later this week about when they can pick up their orders.

— by **Brendan Stiles**

### BASKETBALL

#### Tucker charged with public intoxication

Iowa basketball player Anthony Tucker was charged Tuesday with public intoxication, police reports show.

The freshman was arrested early Sunday morning after officers reportedly found him passed out in the alley behind Union Bar, Iowa City police said.

Officers were able to successfully wake him up, and he was transported to UI Hospitals and Clinics for treatment, police reports show.

When officers found Tucker, he reportedly smelled of alcohol and registered a blood-alcohol concentration of .194, authorities said.

Public intoxication is a simple misdemeanor, generally punishable by up to 30 days in jail or a fine of up to \$500.

Tucker had played in nine games for the Hawkeyes this season, starting eight of them, and had been leading the team in scoring, averaging 13.1 points per game.

The Minnetonka, Minn., native was suspended indefinitely by head coach Todd Lickliter. As of Tuesday, there was no timetable on Tucker's return to the hardwood. Iowa's next game is Dec. 12 at home against Iowa State.

— by **Regina Zilbermintz**



**Tucker**  
 freshman

## Outback a tale of dissimilarity

Heading into the Outback Bowl, Iowa and South Carolina may closely resemble each other. Or not.



**ALEX JOHNSON**  
 alex-j-johnson@uiowa.edu

Iowa and South Carolina could almost be brothers.

They both finished fifth in their respective conferences; the Gamecock defense gives up 288.9 yards per game and the Hawkeyes yield 289.5. They have similar records at 8-4 and 7-5 — both finished last season 6-6 — and both are led by veteran coaches in Kirk Ferentz and Steve Spurrier.

Then again, if I were Pinocchio, my nose would be longer than the list of failed Shonn Greene tacklers because the Gamecocks and Hawkeyes being anything close to related is a flat-out lie.

First off, Ferentz has Iowa

playing his style of football — dominating zone defense, a power rushing game, a deceitful play-action pass attack, sound special teams, and an all-around dedication to discipline and fundamentals.

Spurrier's squad, on the other hand, is more perpendicular than parallel to his philosophies.

The Gamecock passing game ranks 54th in the nation despite the Ol' Ball Coach's pass, pass, and then pass some more attitude. His whole offense is pretty lame, scoring 21.7 points per game (ranking 92nd) and gaining a measly 316.8 yards a contest (97th). In fact, it's actually Spurrier's defense that has kept the Gamecocks in games.

But even with Iowa being a defensive team, the two squads aren't all that close.

SEE COMMENTARY, 3B

## Iowa tries to tweak hoops attendance

Despite low numbers, officials are confident basketball attendance is on the rise.

By **JORDAN GARRETSON**  
 jordan-garretson@uiowa.edu

Watch the top teams in the Big Ten, and you'll see they all have good fan support.

There's no doubt attendance matters.

But while wrestling meets and football games always enjoy high numbers of student fans, the Hawks Nest has recently remained less-than-full.

This year only around 1,000 student season tickets have been sold so far for men's basketball. That's somewhat fewer than last year, said Rick Klatt, who handles external affairs as one of Iowa's associate athletics directors. He does anticipate sales rising to about the same number, and tickets are still available for purchase.

But, the absence of fans is evident at almost any home game



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Gold-clad Hawkeye fans cheer on their team against Northern Iowa in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Tuesday. The announced attendance for Tuesday's contest was 9,435.

— as illustrated by the plethora of empty seats that dot Carver-Hawkeye Arena. "I'm a little bit frustrated by this year's sales pace," Klatt said. "I think this is clearly a very competitive basketball team. [The Hawks] are deserving of the support, and the brand of basketball we're playing is entertaining."

Attendance was astounding during the Dec. 6 wrestling

### ON THE WEB

Catch a glimpse of Hawkeye fans cheering on their teams at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).



extravaganza — the meet drew 15,955 people, an NCAA attendance record for a dual meet, to watch the No. 1 Hawkeyes against the arch-rival Iowa State Cyclones, ranked second.

SEE FAN, 3B

# SPORTS 'N' STUFF

# Final year for Simbhudas

This week, the *DI* talked to senior gymnast Jenifer Simbhudas after the GymHawks conducted their intrasquad meet last weekend at the Field House.

By **EVELYN LAU**  
evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

Ontario native Jenifer Simbhudas had a coming-out party last season for the Iowa GymHawks. She was named to the All-Big Ten first team and was twice named Big Ten Gymnast of the Week. After helping the team go 10-4-1 in the regular season, she missed individually qualifying for the NCAA nationals with



**Simbhudas**  
senior

an uncharacteristic slip on the uneven bars. Now a senior, Simbhudas hopes to once again help Iowa in its quest for a Big Ten championship, as well as accomplish her personal goals before she ends her gymnastics career.

**DI:** What led you to coming all the way to Iowa?  
**Simbhudas:** Basically, the influence was that there was a few other Canadians on the team. I had a teammate I went to club with as well, and [head coach] Larissa [Libby] is actually from the club that I trained at, too. And knowing that she's Canadian too, and she's known me since I was really small. The team that was here then was very family-like, so they were very nice and welcoming.

**DI:** What's your favorite thing about being on the Iowa gymnastics team?  
**Simbhudas:** We always try to have fun wherever we go. We're always laughing on our bus trips, we're always cracking jokes, we're always like, in the locker rooms after the meet trying to have fun, always laughing. That's a good atmosphere to be around, especially if you're on the road all the time. It's comforting to know that you can talk to anybody on the team and laugh about anything — something stupid and what not, inside jokes, we always have those.

**DI:** After breaking your nose on the uneven bars

## ON THE WEB

To hear what the GymHawks are doing to prepare for their upcoming season, go to [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).

during the NCAA regionals in Minneapolis, do you still have any hesitation while competing on the bars since your accident?

**Simbhudas:** The only hesitation I probably think I would have is when we go back to Minnesota and using those same set of bars, but I mean, I pretty much am over it. There's still that fear behind me that I always try to block it out because I've done the skill for so many years. It was just a one-time thing that just kind of happened really quickly — something that happened too quickly to actually keep it [in my mind].

**DI:** How is it for you to be able to compete with your younger sister, Rebecca?

**Simbhudas:** We always trained together before I came, so in a way, it's kind of the same, but it's different because she is on the same team now. And I've only competed with her once before I graduated and came to Iowa. So having her on the team is comforting because I know where she is, what she's doing, I know how her practice is, but I like it. It's like training way back in the day.

**DI:** What's the one thing you'd like to accomplish in your final season with the GymHawks?

**Simbhudas:** It's kind of bittersweet. It's kind of like I have all these little things I want to do, but I don't want to put the pressure on myself to want to complete every single thing. Since last season was so, so good that I kind of want to follow through with the same steps but at the same time, fill in those gaps with things I want to do. Like say, the little details we've been talking about today, like I need to fix those things. Just inspire to be the best gymnast I can because it's only one more time, one more chance my whole life to do that.

## WRESTLING

### Tsirtsis honored again

The awards continue to pile up for Hawkeye senior Alex Tsirtsis. The Griffin, Ind., native had been named wrestler of the week by *The Mat.com*, and now, the Big Ten has joined in. He shared the Big Ten honor with top-ranked 174-pounder Steve Luke of Michigan.



**Tsirtsis**  
senior

Ranked third nationally at 141, Tsirtsis posted a 4-2 win over second-ranked Nick Gallick, leading No. 1 Iowa to a 20-15 win over No. 2 Iowa State before 15,955 fans at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. It was the largest dual-meet

crowd in NCAA history.

Tsirtsis' win provided a huge boost, and the Hawkeyes won 6 of 10 matches over the Cyclones. The All-American took the lead early in the match, 2-0, when he scored a takedown. But Gallick battled back, earning a pair of escapes to level the score at 2 heading into the third period.

Iowa head coach Tom Brands advised Tsirtsis to choose the down position, which he did. After a few scrambles earned him no points, the clock started to become a large obstacle for Tsirtsis.

Tsirtsis remained confident, though, nodding to Brands in his corner as if he were signaling the dramatic ending which followed. Tsirtsis scored a reversal with one second left in the match to pull out the win. His record in now 7-0.

— by Zach Smith

## FOOTBALL

### Bruggeman nominated for Rudy Award

The Hawkeyes have recognized senior center Rob Bruggeman as their nominee for the second "Rudy Award," which is presented by the Rudy Foundation to student-athletes demonstrating "character, courage, contribution, and commitment" to their teams.



**Bruggeman**  
senior

The award is named after former Notre Dame legend Daniel Ruettinger, more popularly known

as "Rudy."

Iowa was one of 53 Football Bowl Subdivision programs to submit nominations for this year's award. Three finalists will be selected and honored at a breakfast on Jan. 12, 2009, at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, with Ruettinger presenting the awards.

Originally joining the Hawkeyes as a walk-on in 2004, the Cedar Rapids native had a major impact on the team. After missing all of 2007 because of injuries, Bruggeman was selected as a team captain and started all 12 games this season at center. Off the field, he maintains a 3.4 GPA majoring in finance.

— by Brendan Stiles

## MLB

### Fox may drop MLB pregame show next season

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Fox network is considering dropping its Saturday pregame show before Major League Baseball broadcasts next season.

"In this economic climate, like most businesses, we're being forced to review our options for reducing costs," Fox spokesman Lou D'Ernilio said Tuesday. "However, our final plans for MLB on Fox next season have not yet been reached."

The website insidesocal.com reported Tuesday that a decision to drop the pregame show already had been made and that broadcasters Kevin Kennedy and Jeanne Zelasko would be dropped by Fox. It said times for the Saturday games would shift from 3:55 p.m. EDT to 4:07 p.m.



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# GymHawks have high hopes

After a disappointing 2008 postseason, the Iowa GymHawks hope to contend for a Big Ten championship.

By **EVELYN LAU**  
evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

In the world of gymnastics, nothing is a given.

Last year, the GymHawks had a turnaround season going 10-4-1 (3-1-1 in Big Ten) and earning their first bid to the NCAA regionals since 2005.

Jenifer Simbhudas, then in her junior year, looked to individually qualify for the NCAA nationals by finishing off a clean uneven bars routine. But as luck would have it, an uncharacteristic fall off the bars would cause her to lose that chance. As a team, Iowa left Minneapolis with a disappointing sixth-place finish.

Heading into the 2009 season, the GymHawks are determined to keep up the success that led to their head coach, Larissa Libby, being honored in 2008 as the Big Ten Coach of the Year.

Iowa lost only three seniors and has 12 returning gymnasts from last season. The GymHawks also have a strong core of nine freshmen on this year's squad.

After having such a successful season, it's not too surprising that the expectations are running high, especially because Iowa hosts this year's North Central NCAA Regional. However, Libby does not want the gymnasts to think that

hosting the event means that her team can take it easy in trying to qualify.

"It's going to be difficult and we certainly don't want to take anything for granted, just that we're at home, so we're going to qualify," she said. "We don't know that. Every team gets better every year; the talent pool is rising every year within our conference, within our regional even."

Leading the GymHawks will be Simbhudas, who was named to the All-Big Ten team last season and averaged a 39.205 all-around score, ranking her as high as 33rd nationally.

Entering her senior year, there are still some things she'd like to personally accomplish before she leaves the GymHawks.

"We have pretty high expectations going into this season. We finished off our year ranking better than I have since my freshman year," she said. "I definitely want to make it to NCAAs, and I want to make it on the podium, too, specifically on floor or vault."

"My biggest goal too is to get a 10, because I haven't gotten a 10 yet since I've been here on floor."

Fellow seniors Brandi Loffer and Kara Pinjув also look to have strong seasons. Loffer believes that a conference



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa gymnasts Danny Kuklinski and Annie Szatkowski compete for opposing Black and Gold teams in the Field House on Dec. 6. The women's gymnastics team will open its season on Jan. 9 with a meet against LSU and Southeast Missouri State.

championship is quite possible.

"This year, we're a lot healthier, and we have a lot more depth on the team," she said. "We have so much more we can pull from in routines. So I think that this year, I expect, if not the same as last year, to be a contender for the Big Ten championship."

Adding to the depth of the GymHawks will be freshmen Jennie Schurman and Jessa Hansen, both of whom could be strong contributors to the team.

"Both of them, if they can make the bar lineup, will highly enhance the look of our lineup on bars," Libby said. "We would like for the both of them to make it on floor because their elegance and their presentation is so

great and above probably what we've got on the team in total.

"However, their tumbling needs to come up a little bit in order for them to make that lineup."

Iowa will get a tough challenge right away when it kicks off its season-opener at home against Libby's alma mater, No. 7 LSU, and Southeast Missouri State on Jan. 9.

"I think competing with LSU at a time where we're both coming off of holidays and we're both just getting into it, it's probably going to be a better shot for us than when they are more seasoned," Libby said. "I think this team probably has a better shot of pushing LSU a little bit, more than any team that we've probably ever had."

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REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Hawkeye guard Jeff Peterson looks for a pass on Tuesday against Northern Iowa in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Peterson contributed 18 points in Iowa's win over Northern Iowa.

# Hawks blast UNI

## RECAP

CONTINUED FROM 1B

While the Hawkeyes finished last season with a conference-worst 15.8 turnovers per game, Lickliter's squad only gave the ball up five times on Tuesday — the team's lowest output in the head coach's 42 games at Iowa.

"If we can move the ball like that every night, we'll be fine," said Peterson, who is averaging 3.9 assists per game. "We've got a lot of unselfish guys on our team, so I think that's a really big difference from this year to last year."

In Tucker's absence, Iowa struggled to find shots early against Northern Iowa's switch-everything perimeter defense, scoring only 10 points

in the game's opening 12 minutes and missing a few point-blank lay-ups.

Falling behind 22-15 with 3:45 left to play in the first half, the Hawkeyes went on an 8-0 run to close out the second half behind two Kelly jumpers and a 3-pointer by junior Devan Bawinkel.

"They did a nice job in the first half when we went on a little run and had a lead of getting themselves right back in the basketball game," Northern Iowa head coach Ben Jacobson said. "It was probably 90 seconds, [and] they had it tied again."

After allowing the Panthers' 7-1 center Eglseider to control the paint for much of the first half, the Hawkeyes ratcheted up their defense after the break, forcing 11 turnovers for

the game and allowing only 24 points in the final 24 minutes of the game.

"I thought that there were times when we had [defensive] breakdowns," Lickliter said. "To our guys' credit, we addressed two or three things ... and I thought they made them earn it."

After playing well without Tucker in the lineup, Lickliter said he's unsure about the number of games the freshman might miss.

"We're not sure how long he'll be out," Gatens said. "But it's good for us ... to have a great game like this going into Friday night against the Cyclones. It's a step in the right direction for us, and we're looking forward to Friday."

# Buying into hoops system

## BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Much like the team's earlier loss to Boston College, a losing rebounding battle and inaccuracy from 3-point range — Iowa started 3-of-11 from downtown — left the Hawkeyes facing an early deficit.

Long distance shooting dominated the first half — the teams combined for 22 attempts from beyond the arc, but Iowa's biggest flaws stood out like the Panthers' purple jerseys.

Entering the locker room fortunate to have a one-point advantage, Iowa trailed in rebounding and points in the paint, and the Hawkeyes had yet to earn a single trip to the free-throw line.

"I thought in the first half, [Northern Iowa] controlled things a lot," Iowa head coach Todd Lickliter said. "To our guys' credit, they were able to make some adjustments."

Lickliter's halftime alterations sparked a 5-0 run and an explosion of energy from the season's largest home crowd. By limiting the number of careless fouls and relying on its most constant trait — stifling half-court defense — Iowa forced the Panthers to

settle for a handful of 20-foot jumpers and powered to a 40-29 lead.

Not even a third foul on Tate could slow Iowa midway through the second half — an improved shooting percentage and an inspired stretch from sophomore forward Jarryd Cole helped the Hawkeyes extend the advantage.

What Iowa lacked in offensive efficiency early on it made up for with balanced scoring in the second half, and sophomores Jeff Peterson (18) and Jake Kelly (19) and freshman Matt Gatens (14) each finished in double-figures. A heaping of help defense allowed Tate to neutralize the skyscraper Eglseider, who finished with just two second-half points.

"In the second half, the coaches got just on me about defending," Tate said. "I tried my best the first half, but I think I stepped it up a notch and just said, you know, he's not gonna score."

If a jaggedly paced opening half was defined by Iowa's failures in physicality and shot selection, the final 20 minutes were pure Lickliter

basketball.

The type of basketball he became renowned for at Butler. The type of basketball his Iowa players are buying into and believing.

"I think we really played Iowa ball — the Iowa way," Kelly said. "We took care of the ball, we got in the lane and found open guys, and we played well defensively. It was just a great overall win."

The second half turnaround climaxed when junior Jermain Davis buried a 3-pointer from the left wing with 2:28 remaining, boosting the Iowa lead to 54-41. After a first half with enough inefficiency to make Lickliter cringe, the second-year coach's team coasted through the closing minutes of a crucial in-state victory.

"This year, it's just clicking more and we've got a better understanding of Lickliter's system," Kelly said.

# Hoops hunts for fans

## FAN

CONTINUED FROM 1B

It should be noted that student admission for wrestling is free.

But then there's football season tickets, which have sold out consistently despite the most recent price being this year's offering of seven games at \$154.

Basketball, in contrast, is pretty inexpensive — \$80 for the season, which comes out to \$5 a game.

So why the disparity in attendance?

Some say atmosphere. "The fans like to tailgate and go to the games," UI freshman Ben Cranny said. "Plus, you have no classes that day."

Others say tradition. "[Basketball] doesn't have as thick of a tradition as football does," UI junior Chris Copeland said. "Hayden Fry really established a great program, and because Iowa doesn't have a professional football team, it's obviously a big deal."

Then there's the disparity between the number of football and basketball games.

Klatt notes there is a contrasting feel between the two — there's only about six or seven home football games a year, compared with around 18 for

"There isn't a nightly offer to come watch the Hawks," Klatt said. "We feel the product is strong enough that [fans] will find their way here."

— Rick Klatt, Iowa's associate athletics director

both basketball teams — giving home football games a more "special" feel.

So what kind of approach has Klatt and other officials taken towards solving the problem?

Certain promotions, such as offering free student admission to non-season ticket holders for Tuesday's men's game against UNI, have been put in place to try to boost both attendance and sales. Additionally, the game scheduled for Jan. 29 against Michigan State will be under the same circumstances.

The promotion stems from the events surrounding a game from last season. According to Klatt, on the same day as one of the games, there was a tremendous snow storm.

"We got permission to send an e-mail to all students inviting them to attend the game [for free]," Klatt said. "We had a very nice showing."

Klatt sees the two games as strategically-planned sample offerings. Knowing there would be definite interest from people

in seeing the game against UNI, he hoped UI students would have a good time and, ultimately, purchase season tickets.

But beyond prize opportunities, further promotions will be rare.

"There isn't a nightly offer to come watch the Hawks," Klatt said. "We feel the product is strong enough that [fans] will find their way here."

However, Klatt anticipates basketball sales to increase gradually, as current sales are comparable to what football tickets yielded about five years ago.

Perhaps one day the Hawk's Nest will even rival the top student sections in the Big Ten — such as Michigan State's Izzone and Illinois's Orange Crush — two teams that boast consistently packed crowds.

"I have tremendous confidence in the coaching staff in the leadership of the [basketball] program," Klatt said. "But it's a process, and it's going to take some time."

# Iowa rolling, S.C. reeling

## COMMENTARY

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Iowa ranks eighth in scoring defense (13.3 points/game), South Carolina is 28th (20.3). The Hawkeyes are No. 10 in rush defense, the Gamecocks 38th. Ferentz oversees the 41st-ranked pass defense, Spurrier the third-ranked unit.

So even what both of these teams do well (supposedly), they still don't go about it the same.

But Iowa comes in winning five of its last six, its last three by a score of 101-40. South Carolina has lost three of its last five, its last two 87-20.

A batch of unfortunately named birds and a visor-wearing head coach are what await Iowa in the Outback Bowl, and from the looks of it, all the Hawkeyes need to do in order to win is play Iowa football.

South Carolina hasn't had a 100-yard rusher since Aug. 28 against N.C. State — the Gamecocks are the only team in the SEC to average fewer than 100 per game — and Spurrier has named a starting quarterback for the bowl game who has just six touchdowns to five interceptions, didn't play in five games, attempted just one pass in another, and hasn't thrown more than 20 balls in a game since Oct. 18

(doing so just twice all year).

His name, Stephen Garcia. Obviously not named starter for his accolades, Garcia got the top job after Chris Smelley threw four picks against Clemson in the season finale (talk about a bad name).

As if the offense wasn't bad enough, the supposedly sturdy defense has done everything but spontaneously combust in recent weeks (which, from the sound of it, is the next-worst thing to the defense imploding).

What was once the SEC's best defense fell from No. 1 to fourth, finishing seventh in both scoring and total defense for the whole season (rather than just conference-only stats, sorry, no padding for this number). The Gamecocks gave up an average of 403.7 yards per game in their final three games, including an average of 194.7 rush yards (have fun with the car-crash running style of Shonn Greene).

And if it is that dreadful South Carolina team that shows up instead of the one going 6-3 through the first three-quarters of the year, Greene might finish the sea-

son with 2,000 yards and 25 touchdowns (OK, maybe just 24 and a passing TD).

Of course, I find that nearly impossible to believe, but it's pretty apparent that if Iowa and South Carolina continue to play the way they have, the Hawkeyes could conceivably lead all of Bowl Season in yards, points, and touchdown dances (not to mention in hilarious Gamecock-focused trash-talk).

But while I don't necessarily think Iowa's going to slap the Gamecocks around and call them names (not that it's necessary in the 'Cocks' case), I do believe I'll see the Hawkeyes in total control of South Carolina for the first 60 minutes of football played in the year 2009 (the Outback Bowl is the first one played on New Year's Day).

I suppose that kind of a blow-out game is something like brothers — the bigger and stronger one picking on the other ...

I guess I'm not a wooden marionette after all, in fact, I'm a real boy.

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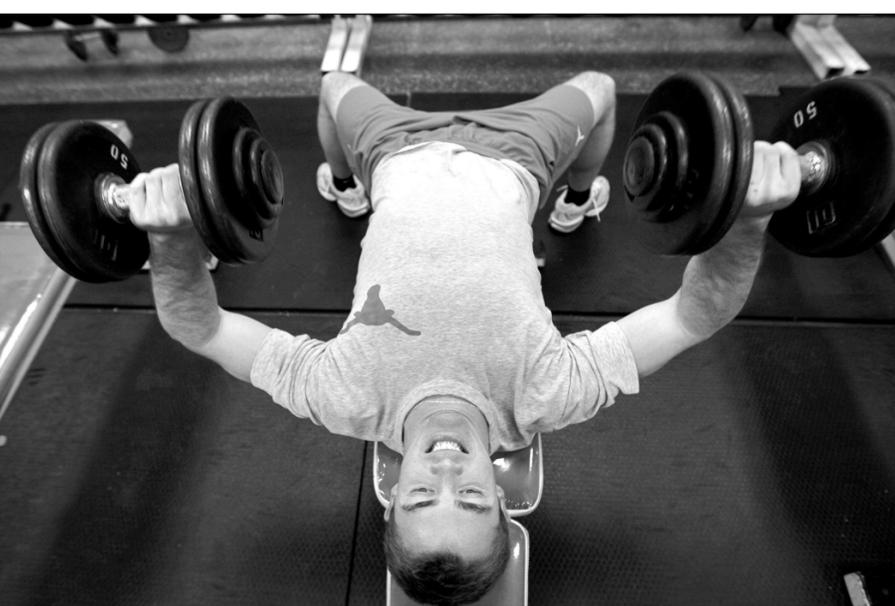
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# Becoming the real McCoy

By JIM VERTUNO  
Associated Press



TEXAS QUARTERBACK COLT MCCOY WORKS OUT IN THE WEIGHT ROOM ON THE TEXAS CAMPUS ON MONDAY. AFTER ADDING 30 POUNDS OF MUSCLE, THE ONCE-SKINNY COUNTRY KID IS A TOP CANDIDATE FOR THE HEISMAN TROPHY.

ERICH SCHLEGEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas — There was a time Colt McCoy's voice cracked in the Texas huddle. Today, he commands it with a hard look or a stern word if needed.

The self-described "stick figure" weighed 185 pounds soaking wet just a few years ago, when his body would break down and get tired over the course of a season. That was before he added nearly 30 pounds of muscle.

The Texas quarterback also used to live and play in the shadow of Vince Young, the Texas superstar who led the Longhorns to the 2005 national championship. That was before McCoy led Texas to the No. 1 ranking and at least had the Longhorns included in the hot debate over who should play for the title this season.

Sam Bradford, another top Heisman contender.

"He beat us with his arm. He beat us with his feet," Sooner defensive tackle Gerald McCoy said.

A week later, against then-No. 11 Missouri, he completed all but three of his 32 passes with two touchdowns and ran for two more. A week later against No. 6 Oklahoma State, he had a season-high 391 yards passing and two scores.

Even in Texas' only loss, McCoy's two TD passes rallied the Longhorns from a 19-point deficit to take the lead with 89 seconds left before Texas Tech won on a touchdown pass from fellow Heisman contender Graham Harrell to Michael Crabtree with one second remaining.

Add it all up, and McCoy is 31-7 as a starter with nine career second-half comebacks.

To understand just how far McCoy has come to earn the respect of his teammates is to appreciate just how far he has come as a player.

Brown said. "The questions we had were: Could he get bigger and stronger? We never questioned his ability to play. He has worked really hard to answer every flaw."

When McCoy first showed up on campus, even some of his teammates weren't too impressed.

"Scrawny" is how defensive end Brian Orakpo described his look as a freshman in 2005. "Goofy" is how tailback Chris Ogbanaya put it.

Today, they call him their leader.

A coach's son, McCoy knew what he was up against in practice and the weight room. He also had the confidence to believe he could be the guy to step in when Young, one of the greatest athletes to wear burnt orange, was ready to leave.

McCoy calls his first workouts, in which he could only bench-press 225 pounds two times, "embarrassing." He dedicated himself to strength coach Jeff "Mad Dog" Madden's high-intensity training regimen that sometimes has players flipping huge tires and throwing sledgehammers.

"I knew I had the tools. It was up to me to put them to work," said McCoy, who now benches that weight 16 times.

"He changed the whole scope of his body," Madden said. "He saw Vince Young throwing the steel around and followed him. We pushed him both mentally and physically."

McCoy spent his redshirt season watching and learning

from Young, who commanded respect in the locker room and seemed effortless in his play on the field.

When Young surprised the Longhorns by bolting for the NFL in 2006, McCoy was left in charge of a huddle full of senior offensive linemen, including three future pros.

McCoy could barely even grow whiskers and "looked like he was 12" standing next to those guys, Brown said.

McCoy says he was so nervous back then he could barely speak. "All eyes are on you. They're going to watch what you do on the field and you have to keep your head," McCoy said.

Time, victories and solid play earned him respect.

The hard workouts in the weight room not only made him bigger and stronger but faster, too. Where Tebow can smash through defenders for yards, McCoy is just as likely to run past them. But this season was notable for blows he delivered rather than ones he took.

When McCoy was a freshman, a pair of hard hits to the shoulder first knocked him out of a loss at Kansas State and then led to him being carted off the field in another defeat to Texas A&M.

This season, McCoy plowed through two defenders for a touchdown against Rice in September, then did it again against A&M two weeks ago. Against Arkansas, he outran the Razorbacks' secondary in a 35-yard burst to the end zone, Texas' longest scoring run of the season.

Along the way, McCoy passed Young in career victories, and just like Young in 2005, is among the favorites to win the Heisman Trophy. Some felt this once-upon-a-time skinny country kid would never be good enough to carry a water bucket, let alone be called college football's most outstanding player after that title eluded his predecessor.

"He's been the heart of our offense," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "He means to this team what Vince Young meant to the one in 2005."

McCoy's regular season ranks among the best in school history.

With 576 rushing yards, he leads the Longhorns by 200 yards and is second on the team with 10 rushing TDs. His 3,445 yards passing and 32 touchdowns are school records, and McCoy's 77.6 percent completion rate will smash the NCAA record if he maintains it against Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl.

He was so good that Brown says McCoy out-Tebowed Tim Tebow, Florida's 2007 Heisman winner who is also one of McCoy's rivals for the award this year.

"He's done for this team what Tim Tebow has done for Florida," Brown said. "I can't imagine a player that means more to his team than Colt does to ours."

McCoy was at his best in Texas' toughest games.

Against No. 1 Oklahoma, he rallied Texas in the second half to a 45-35 win to get the better of Sooners quarterback

# Report: K-Rod going to Mets

By RONALD BLUM  
Associated Press

worried about the national recession, Kinzer accepted a more modest deal.

LAS VEGAS — Record-setting closer Francisco Rodriguez and the New York Mets reached a preliminary agreement Tuesday on a \$37 million, three-year contract.

The sides still have to work out a written agreement and the pitcher must pass a physical, two people familiar with the negotiations said Tuesday. They spoke to the Associated Press on the condition of anonymity because the contract had not yet been completed.

K-Rod recorded 62 saves for the Los Angeles Angels this year, five more than the previous big-league mark set by Bobby Thigpen of the Chicago White Sox in 1990, and then filed for free agency. His agent, Paul Kinzer, had hoped to get a five-year contract, possibly equaling the \$15 million average salary Mariano Rivera is earning from the New York Yankees.

But with baseball executives



RODRIGUEZ  
pitcher

With the agreement, the Mets will cease negotiations with Brian Fuentes and career saves leader Trevor Hoffman, two other free-agent closers, one of the people said. Rodriguez's contract will contain an option for 2012 that could become guaranteed based on his performance, the person said.

A three-time All-Star who turns 27 next month, Rodriguez was regarded as the top closer on the market. While some teams were worried about his violent pitching motion and drop in velocity last season, he developed an outstanding curve ball to go along with his other pitches.

Rodriguez and Kinzer arrived in Las Vegas last weekend and dined Sunday night with general manager Omar Minaya, Chief Operating Officer Jeff Wilpon, and other team officials at a steakhouse.

In a slow free-agent market, Rodriguez was the first of the top-tier free agents to reach an agreement. Pitchers CC Sabathia and A.J. Burnett, first baseman Mark Teixeira, and outfielder Manny Ramirez are among the high-profile players still searching for deals.

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# Trib move could aid Cubs

By VINNEE TONG  
Associated Press

more cumbersome process because of the checks and balances that Chapter 11 protection requires. Including the Cubs in the filing could hamper the team's ability to pursue expensive free agents, manage its farm system, and quickly make deals without going to a bankruptcy judge for approval.

Tribune Co. announced on Opening Day 2007 that, besides accepting a buyout offer from real-estate mogul Sam Zell, it was selling the Cubs and Wrigley Field. Since then, Tribune has moved slowly in soliciting bids and considering the potential buyers.

By June of this year, there were still nine approved bidders on the list, and in August, Zell announced the field had been narrowed to five. At least three would-be buyers have submitted second-round bids to Tribune, and a Cub senior vice president, Crane Kenney, said last week that he expects the franchise to be sold by spring training, which begins in February.

Tribune Co. entered bankruptcy Monday, burdened by \$13 billion debt. The newspaper company has 20,000 employees and owns large daily newspapers such as the *Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Hartford Courant*, and *Orlando Sentinel*, cable channels, and 23 TV stations.

On Monday, the Cubs said the bankruptcy of its parent would change very little as the team tries to finally win its first

World Series since 1908. "It is business as usual at Wrigley Field as the Cubs continue to prepare for the 2009 season," a team statement said.

Even so, Standard & Poor's analyst Emile Courtney said on Tuesday that Tribune would need to get bankruptcy court approval to complete a deal.

Lisa Hill Fenning, a former judge who now is a bankruptcy attorney at Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, said sales of sports teams are complicated because leagues and owners need to approve the winning bidder. As a result, she believes creditors will let Tribune leave the Cubs outside the bankruptcy case because selling it out of court is simpler and likely to be smoother for potential bidders. (Groups that have bid for the Cubs declined to comment Tuesday.)

"It's hard to imagine a scenario where creditors would seek to push the Cubs entity into the bankruptcy case," Fenning said.

Vendors such as the paper company Abitibi Consolidated and the White Birch Paper Co., who are now also creditors, did not comment. Tribune is a continuing customer of Abitibi.

At Tribune's bankruptcy hearing, the company will ask the court to give it permission to continue paying employees, vendors and insurance premiums. Companies in bankruptcy typically need to get a so-called debtor-in-possession loan to fund operations during the bankruptcy.

The company has also asked for approval of a financing deal with Barclays Capital that gives it continued use of a \$300 million credit facility backed by collateral, for the next 120 days. On that loan, \$225 million is outstanding. Tribune has also taken an additional \$50 million cash-collateralized letter of credit.

While the sale of the Cubs might proceed without much hindrance, the bankruptcy has a more immediate effect on Tribune employees. Zell's buyout turned employees into the nominal owners of the company, through an employee stock ownership program that is designed to gradually gain equity in Tribune over time. That prospect is clouded now.

Further, Tribune said Monday that it would halt severance payments to recently laid-off employees, as well as deferred compensation and other payments to former workers. Essentially, ex-employees have to get in line with other creditors.

The list includes former Times Mirror Chief Executive Mark Willes. Tribune Co.'s bankruptcy filing revealed that Willes, a former cereal-company executive who drew fire for cuts at Times Mirror papers and for having advertising executives work more closely with newspaper editors, is owed approximately \$11.2 million in retirement benefits and deferred compensation.

AP writer Nancy Armour contributed to this report.

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**Type of Position:** Research Assistant  
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**Experience Required:** Experience with standard molecular biology techniques including mammalian cell/tissue culture; DNA, RNA and protein extraction; gel electrophoresis, western blotting; PCR; experience with set up and maintenance of laboratory equipment

**Desirable Experience:** FACS analysis; HPLC and other purification technologies; real time PCR; ELISA; siRNA

Send Resume/CV and three (3) references to: [jobs@terpenoidtherapeutics.com](mailto:jobs@terpenoidtherapeutics.com) or mail to: **Terpenoid Therapeutics Incorporated**  
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## the ledge

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



**ANDREW R. JUHL**  
andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu

### Christmas gift ideas for those (probably) not on your list:

- President Bush: U-Haul gift certificates.
- President-elect Obama: A carton of Marlboro Reds.
  - Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich: Two cartons of Marlboro Reds (one for him, and one for his cellmate, George Ryan, the previous governor of Illinois)
- O.J. Simpson: A book deal with the working title *If I Didn't Did It*.
- Andy Samberg: His own half-hour special on HBO, where he can cut loose and do all the things that late-night network television won't allow for — you know, like say “jizz in my pants” or “dick in a box.” Thank God for Nipplegate, huh?
- Spence and Heidi: Birth control, preferably redundant forms of it. (Seriously, people: we cannot allow these cretins to breed! It may very well unlock the seventh seal, releasing the Daemon Prince, and usher in the End of Days!)
- Britney Spears: Poster-sized photos of her from 18 months ago, as a reminder.
- The CEOs of the Big Three: A heart, a brain, and courage.
- Paris Hilton: Friendship; the warm and loving companionship of a new BFF is the only material that can theoretically melt Paris' cold, obsidian-black heart.
- Me: Friendship; the warm and loving companionship of a new BFF is the only material that can theoretically melt my cold, obsidian-black heart.

- Andrew R. Juhl thanks his friend, Erik, for help with today's Ledge.

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

### COLD NOT PLAY



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

**A construction crew works on the North Chilled Water River Crossing Project on Tuesday. When the project is completed, it will bring chilled water from the west chilled-water plant to the east chilled-water plant to increase the UI's cooling capacity. The project began in March 2007, but it has been delayed by problems, including the flood in June.**

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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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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## today's events

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

- **It's a Mystery Book Club, *Whiteout*, by Ken Follett**, 10 a.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
- **Preschool Story Time**, 10 a.m., North Liberty Community Library, 520 W. Cherry
- **Learning Safari — Kwick Kwanzaa Crafts Part 1**, 10:30 a.m., Marion Public Library, 1095 Sixth Ave.
- **Preschool Story Time**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Campus without a Queer: Appreciation Festival**, noon-9 p.m., Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center
- **UI Pan American Steel Band**, noon, UIHC Colloton Pavilion
- **Midweek Advent Meditations**, 12:15-1 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **Staff Council meeting**, 2:30 p.m., W401 Pappajohn Business Building
- **Web Basics**, 2:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Nuncrackers**, 3 p.m., Old Creamery Theatre, 39 38th Ave., Amana
- **Classics Colloquium Fall 2008, "Yannis Ritsos' Mycenaean Women: The Case of Electra," Peter Green, University of Texas-Austin and UI**, 4:30 p.m., 302 Schaeffer Hall
- **Mandarin Chinese Community Class Level I**, 5:30 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **Book Discussion: *The Art of Mending*, by Elizabeth Berg**, 6 p.m., Cedar Rapids Public Library, 500 First St. S.E., Cedar Rapids

- **PJ Story Time**, 6 p.m., North Liberty Community Library
- **Evening Preschool Story Time**, 6:30 p.m., Marion Public Library, 1095 Sixth Ave., Marion
- **Scrabble Night**, 6:30 p.m., Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall
- **Burlington Street Bluegrass Band**, 7 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Free Pool**, 7 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
- **Girl Cut in Two**, 7 and 9:30 p.m., Bijou
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Jonathan Ames, fiction**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Life Design 101**, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Writers Gone Public, undergraduate writing students who study with faculty and graduate students in the Nonfiction Writing Program read from their work**, 7 p.m., 304 English-Philosophy Building
- **Mandarin Chinese Community Class Level II**, 7:15 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **University Band and Concert Band**, 8 p.m., IMU Main Lounge
- **Comedy Night**, 9 p.m., Jason James and Bill Squire, Summit, 10 S. Clinton
- **Karaoke Night**, 9:30 p.m., Saloon, 112 E. College
- **The Jam**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

## UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 12:30 p.m. News from China-Beijing (in Chinese)
- 1 "Prairie Lights" Archive, Gary Presley
- 2 News from Germany (in German)
- 3 "Live from Prairie Lights," Thomas Dean
- 4 Faculty and Guest Lectures
- 6 College of Education Programs
- 7 "Live from Prairie Lights," Thomas Dean

- 8 Faculty and Guest Lectures
- 9:30 Daily Iowan TV News
- 9:45 Special events programs from the UI
- 10:30 Daily Iowan TV News
- 10:45 Special events programs from the UI
- 11 "Live from Prairie Lights," Thomas Dean

## DILBERT

by Scott Adams

WE SURVEYED A THOUSAND PEOPLE WHO STILL HAVE LANDLINE PHONES AND NO CALLER I.D.

WE ASKED FOR THEIR OPINION ON OUR NEW TECHNOLOGY. 34% SAID, "FIDDESTICKS," AND 23% COULDN'T HEAR THE QUESTION.

43% THOUGHT WE WERE IN THE ROOM WITH THEM AND OFFERED US A HARD CANDY.

23% "HUH?"

## 'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY

I DIDN'T THINK I'D LIVE TO SEE THIS DAY, GENTLEMEN, BUT CONTRARY TO EVERY BUSINESS PRINCIPLE WE'VE KNOWN, IT APPEARS WE MIGHT BE FORCED TO ACTUALLY EARN OUR BONUSES...

12-10

## Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

YOU HEARD THE GOOD NEWS?

THERE'S GOOD NEWS?

I'M PICKING UP A STRONG VIBE FROM PEOPLE WHO'VE SEEN THE ROUGH CUT THAT MY FILM'S A SLAM DUNK AT SUNDANCE!

REAL-LY?

YUPO. AND I OWE IT ALL TO GRAM — SHE JUST LEAPS OFF THE SCREEN!

SO WHERE IS SHE?

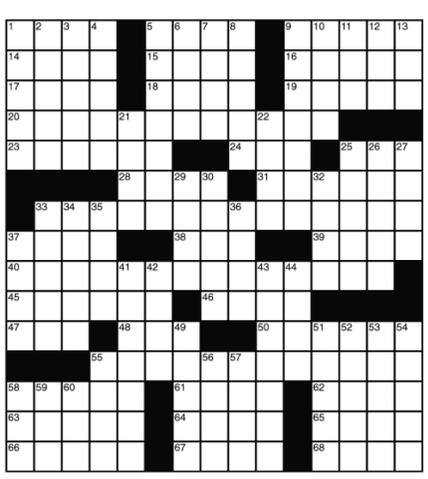
RUNNING HER LINES IN HER TRAILER.

I AM NOT!

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1029

- Across**
- Alternative to whole
  - Hind's mate
  - Truman declaration of 9/2/45
  - Crunchy munchie
  - Dose deliverer
  - Nano and Shuffle
  - Big name in golf shirts
  - After-lunch snack
  - Majestic
  - Sight at the Texas Capitol
  - 50-50 chance
  - State of confusion
  - Big inits. in news
  - Word after speed or baby
  - Political columnist Peggy
  - Maine waters
  - One of the Three Rivers
  - Marker, of sorts
  - Junction point
  - Athlete with four ESPY awards
  - With suspicion, old-style
  - Labor Dept. watchdog
  - Fourth notes
  - Pal of Piglet
  - 50 Boots
  - Arithmetic exercise ... or what literally occurs in 20-, 33- and 40-Across?
  - Delicate ornament
  - Change of mortgage, informally
  - European wine region
  - Dizzying hangings
  - Peace of mind
  - On the rocks
  - "Awesome!"
  - Not very busy
  - Feature of some arenas
- Down**
- Pink-legged wader
  - It can create quite a buzz
  - Larger-than-life figures
  - Figures in statistics
  - Event with a 16-pound ball
  - Banks of TV talk
  - Simon Says player
  - Explode
  - Shrewish sorts
  - PC image format
  - Goofy, e.g.
  - Decay-fighting org.
  - Couturier's monogram
  - Sits in (for)
  - Anderson of "WKRP in Cincinnati"
  - Grant's side
  - Consumer products giant, briefly
  - "Picnic" playwright
  - Prime minister after Eshkol
  - Movie trailer, e.g.
  - "It can't be!"



**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

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

Puzzle by Doug Peterson

- Capital with the Potlatch Palace
- Porcine sounds
- Delray Beach neighbor, for short
- First name in raga
- Fiends of fantasy
- "To repeat ..."
- Pal of Pancho
- Gobs and gobs
- Morning TV staple since 1997
- First name in raga
- Fiends of fantasy
- "To repeat ..."
- Pal of Pancho
- Claud carving
- Said with a sneer
- Loughlin of "90210"
- Negotiation goal
- Dickens moniker
- N.Y.S.E. event
- Vise part

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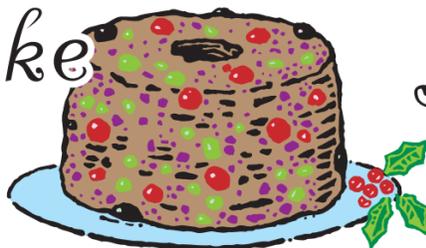
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- Electronic Engineering  
1900 6th St. SW
- Jordan Wireless  
2844 Mt. Vernon Rd. SE
- Preferred Wireless  
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Westdale Mall  
2600 Edgewood Rd. SW
- Premier Wireless  
600 Blairs Ferry Rd. NE  
Suite B
- CEDAR RAPIDS**  
Siegels  
105 3rd Ave. SE
- Stratus Communications  
5454 Blairs Forrest Way NE
- Total Wireless  
540 Boyson Rd. NE
- Wireless One  
1539 1st Ave. SE  
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We asked for some of your favorite holiday treats. Fruitcake and Eggnog were among the entries.

# Fruitcake



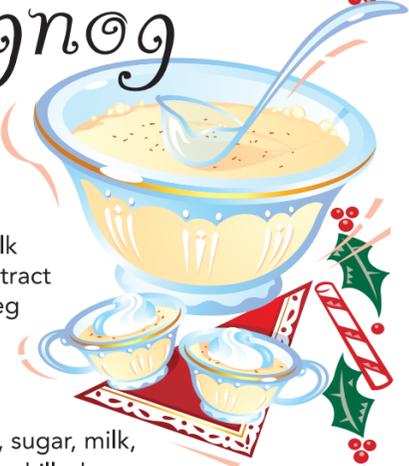
### INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound candied cherries
- 1 pound candied pineapple
- 1 pound pitted dates
- 1 pound chopped pecans
- 4 (8 ounce) packages flaked coconut
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 (14 ounce) cans sweetened condensed milk

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F (150 degrees C). Lightly grease a 10 inch tube pan. Line bottom of pan with greased parchment paper. Set aside.
2. Chop fruit and nuts in a large mixing bowl. Add coconut and mix well with hands. Stir in flour, then sweetened condensed milk. Blend well.
3. Pack firmly in prepared tube pan. Bake for 1 1/2 hours. Remove from oven. Run knife around edge of cake and remove rim of pan. When barely warm, remove tube bottom and paper from cake.

# Homemade Eggnog



### INGREDIENTS

- 2 eggs, beaten
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 1/3 cups low-fat milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 dash ground nutmeg

### DIRECTIONS

1. Blend together eggs, sugar, milk, vanilla and nutmeg. Serve chilled.

Makes 3 servings.

\* www.allrecipes.com

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- TURKEY WICH (Coleslaw & 1000 Island)
- TURKEY PASTRAMI

### 2 HAM & PORK

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- THE CUBAN (Pork, Ham & Pickle Slices)
- MYHAMI (Ham & Roast Beef)
- PORK TENDERLOIN

### 3 BEEF

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- PASTRAMI
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### 4 CHICKEN

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- BUFFALO CHICKEN
- CHICKEN PARMA (with Marinara & Parmesan)
- CHICKEN CHEESE STEAK (with Cheez Whiz® & Grilled Onions)
- CHICKEN CORDON BLEU (Chicken & Ham)

### 5 SEAFOOD

- TUNA MELT
- CRAB MELT
- SHRIMP PO' BOY
- SALMON MELT
- BUFFALO SHRIMP

### 6 VEGETARIAN

- HUMMUS & BELL PEPPERS
- TOMATO & AVOCADO
- TRIPLE CHEESE MELT
- BLACK BEAN PATTY
- ELVIS WICH (PB, Honey & Banana)

### 7 ITALIAN

- GRINDER (Salami, Pepperoni & Capicola)
- MEATBALL (with Marinara & Parmesan)
- MUFFULETTA (Salami, Ham & Olive Salad)
- PIZZA (Pepperoni, Mozzarella, Marinara & Parmesan)
- ITALIAN BEEF (Giardiniera)

### 8 SALADWICH

- TUNA SALAD
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- CHICKEN SALAD
- SEAFOOD SALAD
- SALMON SALAD

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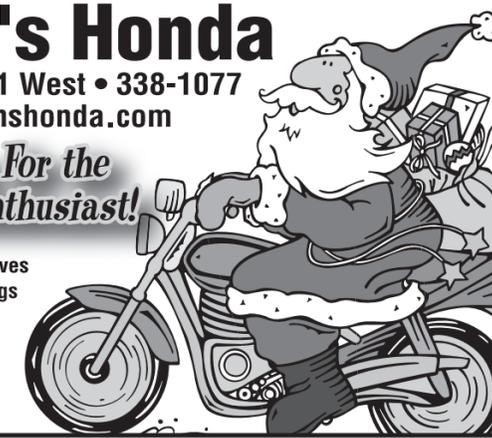
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# Peppermint Bark

**INGREDIENTS**

- 1 (12 ounce) package NESTLE® TOLL HOUSE® Premier White Morsels
- 24 hard peppermint candies

**DIRECTIONS**

1. LINE baking sheet with waxed paper.
2. MICROWAVE morsels in medium, microwave-safe bowl on MEDIUM-HIGH (70 percent) power for 1 minute; stir. Microwave at additional 10- to 20-second intervals, stirring until smooth.
3. PLACE peppermint candies in heavy-duty plastic bag. Crush candies using rolling pin or other heavy object. While holding strainer over melted morsels, pour crushed candy into strainer. Shake to release all small candy pieces; reserve larger candy pieces. Stir morsel-peppermint mixture.
4. SPREAD mixture to desired thickness on prepared baking sheet. Sprinkle with reserved candy pieces; press in lightly. Let stand for about 1 hour or until firm. Break into pieces. Store in airtight container at room temperature.

# Divinity

**INGREDIENTS**

- 2 2/3 cups white sugar
- 2/3 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 egg whites
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2/3 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Cook sugar, corn syrup, and water in a 2-quart pot over low heat, stirring constantly, until sugar is dissolved. (On humid days, use 1 tablespoon less water.) Cook, without stirring, to 260 degrees on candy thermometer (or hard ball stage).
2. Beat egg whites in 1-1/2-quart bowl until stiff peaks form. Continue to beat while pouring hot syrup in a thin stream into egg whites. Add vanilla; beat until mixture holds its shape and becomes slightly dull. (Mixture may become too stiff for electric mixer). Fold in nuts (if you choose).
3. Drop from buttered spoon onto waxed paper. Let stand at room temperature, turning candy over once, until outside of candy is firm—at least 12 hours. Store in airtight container.

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\*www.movieposter.com

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We asked for your **2009** New Year resolutions

"Improve my grades."

"Lose some holiday weight!"

"Go out to eat less."

"Lose some holiday weight!"

"Stick to my resolutions next year."

"Get off the couch."

"Be less angry." "Drink less."

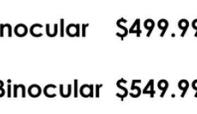
"I need to drink less coffee."

"Quit smoking."



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