

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2008

NEWSPAPER • **DI** DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

80 HOURS

Zombies, meet music. Music, meet zombies.

Zombies and spinners and black lights, oh my. Six bands will take the Industry by storm on New Year's Eve, wielding all sorts of fun and tricks. **1C**



SPORTS

Silky Smooth

Iowa thrower A.J. Curtis has been to the NCAA national championships and the U.S. Olympic trials. Now, he takes his steady nature with him as a captain of the men's track and field team. **1B**

Blown out of proportion?

The Iowa women's basketball team rarely seems to avoid a blowout these days. **1B**

NEWS

Say it ain't so, Sally

Reporter Amanda McClure sits down with UI President Sally Mason after a semester of rebuilding and revamping. **2A**

Grade saturation

A UI class takes a look at rebuilding after flooding, a prescient topic following this summer's flood. **4A**

CORRECTION

In the Dec. 16 article "Abortion at the UI," the *DI* inaccurately reported that the Cornell University medical school is in Ithaca, N.Y. The Weill Medical College of Cornell University is located in New York City. The *DI* regrets the error.

OPINIONS

Building on past failure

Should Cedar Rapids continue to allow rebuilding in flood-prone areas, or should the spaces be used for the public to avoid future financial disaster? **6A**

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For photos, videos, audio, blogs, and more, check us out online.

Daily updates

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

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

Today's webcast

Find out how the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is losing money developing since this summer's flood. Also, see a story about adopting cats for the holidays.

WEATHER

25 **23**
-4C -5C
Cloudy, windy at times, nearly 100% chance of rain, freezing rain, sleet, and snow. Enjoy.

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Crossword **6B**

Locked-in, but not down



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI student Bill Pitzen, 37, has overcome the various effects of suffering two strokes and being in locked-in syndrome, he said as he told his story Wednesday at the IMU. Pitzen is writing a book about his experiences and plans to call it *One Fine Day*. He said it would make a good title because everything was fine, then the strokes happened, and his life was immensely changed.

UI student Bill Pitzen is now writing a book on his experience with a rare brain condition in which he was conscious but unable to move after suffering a stroke.

By ASHTON SHURSON
ashton-shurson@uiowa.edu

For weeks, UI student Bill Pitzen lay frozen in his hospital bed — unable to move his muscles, unable to talk, and unable to open his eyes.

But he was conscious the entire time.

After suffering from a brain-stem stroke, Pitzen, 33, was in a locked-in state, or specifically, locked-in syndrome.

The condition is rare. Every voluntary muscle in the body is paralyzed, though some who suffer from the condition can control eye movements. Individuals remain conscious, able to think and reason.

"I didn't have much perception of lapsed time but I knew I had some place to go," Pitzen, who is now 37, said. "I didn't like where I was."

In August 2005, Pitzen suffered a stroke several days after he strained his neck watching bungee jumpers bounce up and down at the Iowa State Fair. The stroke was caused by a blood clot in a major artery in his brain stem.

The Cedar Rapids native was taken to the UI Hospitals and Clinics, where he suffered a second stroke and immediately underwent surgery. He said he wouldn't have survived if he hadn't already been at the hospital.

Shortly after surgery, he said, he slipped into the locked-in state for roughly four weeks.

During this time, he listened as family and friends, doctors and nurses, and priests — that his grandmother sent — came to visit.

SEE **LOCKED-IN**, 3A



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI student Bill Pitzen, 37, on Wednesday at the IMU shows how he communicated "no" to his nurses, family, and friends while he was unable to talk three years ago after he suffered two strokes that left him in locked-in syndrome.

FACULTY & STAFF

UI still lean up at the top

By AMANDA MCCLURE
amanda-mcclure@uiowa.edu

UI President Sally Mason's cabinet is the largest of Iowa's regent institutions, with 12 members reporting, but officials say expansion is still necessary despite tight economic times.

Recent additions to the upper-level administration will cost an additional \$1.1 million — the majority of which comes from the UI's Medical

Affairs budget.

"The No. 1 rationale for the decision to create a larger cabinet came from a recommendation from the faculty board," UI spokesman Steve Parrott said. "When [UI] President Mason first came to campus, we were in fairly good shape, both on the state level and at the UI."

Parrott said adding experienced leaders are the best way for the UI to get out of the economic struggle.

"When times are tough, we need people with the experience and the leadership to manage such a large organization effectively and efficiently," he said.

SEE **CABINET**, 3A



Mason
UI president

No freeze on hirings — yet

Despite national hiring and salary freezes, there are more than 100 hirings in tenure-track faculty at the UI annually.

By ASHTON SHURSON
ashton-shurson@uiowa.edu

In a time in which historic and prestigious universities face hiring and salary freezes, some officials say the UI is OK — for now.

The university was told in November to cut \$3.04 million from its budget. However, implementing a hiring freeze "doesn't usually work," said UI spokesman Steve Parrott.

Although UI officials haven't made any decisions, he said, there are numerous ways to deal with budget cuts, most of which involve working directly with deans and organization directors to slash departmental expenses. Plans for reducing the university's budget are in the initial stages.

But Regent Robert Downer said he remains concerned about the chance of hiring freezes at the regent universities.

"I'm sorry to say that I think it's a possibility," he said.

At Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa, the issue hasn't been brought up at an administrative level, said officials at both universities.

"It's always a question but it hasn't been actively considered," said James O'Connor, the assistant vice president for Marketing and Public Relations at UNI.

Though it is unlikely the UI will mandate a blanket hiring freeze, department heads can save money by choosing not to fill certain positions if possible. Last fiscal year, the

Vilsack seen as 'safe'

The former Iowa governor won't be the flashiest member of Barack Obama's Cabinet, one local political observer says.



Obama president-elect
Vilsack Iowa governor

By SHAWN GUDE
shawn-gude@uiowa.edu

Former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack may not be the biggest name or the flashiest pick in President-elect Barack Obama's Cabinet. When asked what the former governor offers, UI political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle quipped, "Not flamboyance."

Still, Vilsack is the latest in a long line of secretaries of Agriculture with ties to Iowa, and many Hawkeye State observers hailed Wednesday's selection.

"He's been very supportive

SEE **VILSACK**, 3A

Obama's Cabinet thus far

- **Attorney General:** Eric Holder
- **Secretary of Agriculture:** Tom Vilsack
- **Secretary of Commerce:** Bill Richardson
- **Secretary of Defense:** Robert Gates
- **Secretary of Education:** Arne Duncan
- **Secretary of Energy:** Steven Chu
- **Secretary of Health and Human Services:** Tom Daschle
- **Secretary of Homeland Security:** Janet Napolitano
- **Secretary of Housing and Urban Development:** Shaun Donovan
- **Secretary of Interior:** Ken Salazar
- **Secretary of State:** Hillary Rodham Clinton
- **Secretary of Treasury:** Timothy Geithner
- **Secretary of Veterans Affairs:** Eric Shinewski

SEE **HIRINGS**, 3A



Tireless senior fights cancer



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Melissa Smith on Wednesday stands in the stairway of the IMU, where she works with the American Cancer Society. Smith has helped to raise tens of thousands of dollars since she began her academic career at Iowa.

UI student spends college years spreading cancer awareness.

By BRIANA BYRD
briana-byrd@uiowa.edu

Each year, Melissa Smith walks with her mother, Marcia, on the survivors' lap at Relay for Life. They've been walking it for six years.

Now, as Smith prepares to graduate this month, she'll leave with the legacy of helping many others walk that lap at the UI.

Since the UI chapter's conception in 2006, Smith has raised more than \$120,000 for cancer research and awareness.

"Melissa's not the kind of person who's going to look for the recognition that what she has done deserves," said her fiancée, Joe Uppena. "To start and found a chapter of a national organization, start it from scratch, and build it up to what it is now definitely can't be overrated."

When Smith was in the sixth grade, her mother was diagnosed with lymphoma, a cancer that develops in the lymph system.

"It was really hard on our family to go through," Smith said.

Her mother survived the cancer, and her family got involved. Smith's father, Charlie Smith, is an income development coordinator for the American Cancer Society, and each year her brother, Todd, and sisters, Emily and Sarah, participate in the relay.

Therefore, it was no surprise for Melissa Smith when she was approached by an American Cancer Society staff partner just under four years ago during the University of Northern Iowa's Relay for Life. They wanted her to start a chapter at Iowa.

Smith and another freshman, Casey Koschmeder, became copresidents for the UI's version of the event.

During the summer between her sophomore and junior year — while interning with the American Cancer Society — she rode in RAGBRAI to promote the American Cancer Society.

"A lot of people told us their cancer stories, and though it was hard to hear, they told us

the American Cancer Society was making a difference," Smith said.

It was also during that summer she met her fiancé, a dairy farmer from Cassville, Wis., on match.com.

"I could tell that she had been from a rural background, and she would understand where I was coming from a little bit more," Uppena said. "She was also very family-orientated — that was one of the big things that attracted me to her."

But during the second semester of her junior year, Smith faced an unexpected hurdle. She began to feel tired and in pain but didn't know why. She wasn't herself, Uppena said.

During winter break, Smith went to a doctor and received some news she wasn't expecting. She had fibromyalgia, a chronic illness characterized by widespread muscle aches, pain, and stiffness.

She was determined not let the pain slow her down. She didn't want to be medicated, so she went to the Mayo Clinic, where she learned how to better treat the illness through lifestyle changes. Despite her condition, she continued to act

Melissa Smith

- Major: History, with a minor in political science
- Hometown: Buffalo Center, Iowa
- Accomplishment: Helped raise \$120,000 for cancer research and awareness
- Fun fact: Smith loves cheese and is engaged to a dairy farmer

as copresident, and this past summer, she rode RAGBRAI again.

"I take the steps that I need to, to not let it affect my daily life all the time," she said.

Now, three years later, she leaves behind the chapter she helped to create to pursue a career she's still not quite decided on.

Smith, a history major and political science minor, is thinking about photography as an option. And because she'll soon move to Cassville to live with her fiancé, she's looking for jobs in nearby Dubuque.

Once she moves, she knows one thing she wants to do.

"Someday, it would be nice to work for the American Cancer Society," she said. "It's something that really means a lot to me."

Flood recovery & cut budgets

UI President Sally Mason discusses budgets, floods, and future projects.

By AMANDA MCCLURE
amanda-mcclure@uiowa.edu

In its monthly series, the *DI* sits down with UI President Sally Mason to discuss campus matters.

DI: After the regents asked the UI to cut more than \$3 million from its budget, you said the majority of that would have to come from money saved to match FEMA efforts. Have you looked into any other options for that money?

Mason: It's very difficult to make budget cuts midyear, and if we have a little time to move forward, we're going to look in every nook and cranny. I don't anticipate lay-offs or a hiring freeze. Of course, we need to be selective, but we also have to meet the needs of our students.

Q&A with MASON

Students, patient care in hospitals, and research missions are at the top of planning.

DI: What about the large donations that the UI receives each year?

Mason: A lot of it is committed. If it was committed in an endowment, it's been put in an account where we can use the interest from the account, and right now, they're not gaining any interest. In fact, some of them are losing interest, which could pose a problem down the road.



Mason
UI president

DI: As the semester wraps up, are you satisfied with the progress that the campus has made in terms of flood relief?

Mason: There's a lot to proud of. Obviously, we still have a lot to do on flood relief, but it's barely been six months since the flood, and that we were able to go through a semester and still offer resources is great. We have a long ways to go to get to what I would say with confidence that we have recovered. We still have a lot of buildings that are down, and some that may never open again. FEMA comes again in January, so those are decisions we are going to face next semester.

DI: What are your immediate goals for the spring semester?

Mason: The budget is going to be an immediate goal. Everybody is in belt-tightening mode. Flood relief is also a priority. We've got a lot of activity in progress, from new searches, to new construction on new build-

ings. We have established search committees for VP for Student Services and VP for Legal Affairs, and those positions will hopefully be filled by the end of the semester. We've got a lot ahead of us and a lot to deal with.

DI: Were you satisfied with the regents' reception of the sexual-assault policies?

Mason: I feel good about where we are and the work that went into putting this together. Our people pulled together in a great way. You know a lot of people have put a great deal of effort into making sure what we have is clear, focused, understandable. Obviously, we'll know more about the policy once we've tried it out. I'm not looking forward to that day we have to try it out, but we'll certainly know better once it's implemented. I look at this policy as a really good piece in progress. I think it's time to give these a chance, and see where we end up.

STATE

Judge grants motion in Weiger lawsuit

A federal judge granted a motion this week in the sexual-harassment lawsuit against the late UI music Professor Mark Weiger, allowing a former graduate student to substitute a representative of Weiger's estate for Weiger.

Melissa Rose Walding Milligan filed the suit — also against the UI — in November, alleging she was verbally harassed on a daily basis during the 2006-07 school year. Weiger commit-

ted suicide less than a week after she filed the suit.

Milligan filed a motion for substitution of party on Monday. Her attorney, Alison Werner Smith, of Iowa City, confirmed on Wednesday that a judge granted the motion on Tuesday.

The representative of Weiger's estate is UI piano Assistant Professor Alan Huckleberry, according to online court records. Huckleberry is represented by Iowa City attorney Anne Daniels.

— by Olivia Moran

Police investigating fatal crash

A crash that killed two people Wednesday morning remains under investigation, authorities said.

Sarah Pulvermacher of North Liberty and Sean Connolly of Iowa City died when a car and semi collided at 10 a.m. on Highway 965 between University Parkway and Forevergreen Road, according to Coralville police reports.

Police say the driver of the car, Pulvermacher, lost control of her southbound vehicle and crossed the center line, when it was struck by a northbound truck being driven by Wayne Sickles of Cedar Rapids, authorities said.

According to the police, neither Sickles nor his passenger were injured.

Highway 965 was closed for around three hours after the crash.

— by Regina Zilbermints

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6063
E-mail: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu
Fax: 335-6297

CORRECTIONS

Call: 335-6030

Policy: *The Daily Iowan* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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E-mail: daily-iowan-circ@uiowa.edu

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Send address changes to: *The Daily Iowan*, 100 Adler Journalism Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2004.

STAFF

Publisher:
William Casey 335-5788
Editor:
Emileigh Barnes 335-6030
Managing Editor:
Kelsey Beltrame 335-5855
Convergence Editor:
Nick Petersen 335-5855
Metro Editors:
Kurtis Hiatt 335-6063
Carla Keppler 335-6063
Dean Trefz 335-6063
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Nate Whitney 335-5863
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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Wednesday, Dec. 17

1. Renters warned on shoveling
2. Council OKs apartment limitation
3. History of abortion part two: No fear in his heart
4. Homophobia for the holidays
5. 16 football players on very special team

STATE

Gift creates professorship

A \$1.6 million gift to the UI has spawned a new ophthalmology professorship.

UI Professor Jeffrey Nerad will be the inaugural Fuerste Professor effective Friday. Nerad is a UI professor of ophthalmology.

The donation establishing the new professorship came from a bequest in the will of Marion Fuerste, the wife of UI alumnus Frederick Fuerste Jr., according to a UI news release.

Nerad said he maintained a professional and personal relationship with Frederick Fuerste until his death, in 2003.

"When I started here 20 years ago, he was very nice to me in terms of a senior doctor taking care of a younger doctor," Nerad said. "It's really an honor to get this kind of professorship at all, but especially an honor for me because I liked him so well."

Fuerste earned his medical degree from the UI in 1945. He and his wife then settled in Dubuque, where he ran the Fuerste Eye Clinic, which remains in operation.

Fuerste's family members said in a statement that the doctor held a strong connection to his alma mater. Next year, Fuerste's granddaughter will be the fourth generation of the Fuerste family to attend the UI medical school.

— by Adam Sullivan

POLICE BLOTTER

Jonathan Brenner, 21, 915 Oakcrest St. Apt. 17, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Gary Jones, 23, 1825 Oakcrest St., was charged Monday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Travis Randels, 42, address unknown, was charged Tuesday with public intoxication and possession of an open alcohol container in public.

Neil Wachal, 30, 817 Melrose Ave., was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Merry & Bright



PLATINUM AND DIAMOND RINGS

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Student comes back

LOCKED-IN

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Pitzen's primary doctor, UI neurology Professor Harold Adams, said it's not unusual for patients to come out of locked-in syndrome. He said he treats around 1,000 stroke patients a year and sees the syndrome every two or three years.

Though doctors said that it was unlikely he would ever come out of the state, Pitzen said he was determined to go to rehab.

He finally made a breakthrough when he started to wiggle his toes. Shortly after the first movement, he was able to move his fingers and communicate through them.

He said he was "frustrated beyond comprehension" as nurses and doctors pinched and poked him to check his neurological reaction to the stimulus.

Eventually, Pitzen was able to regain more control over some of his muscles and was sent to rehab at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids.

"I was constantly fixing myself," he said. "I wanted to knock their socks off"

The best moment of rehab was when he was able to walk up a flight of stairs, he said.

But before the stairs, Pitzen said, he emotionally hit rock bottom when he finally understood that he had suffered from a stroke — something he didn't comprehend until more than a month after the incident.

After more than three months of hospital care, he was sent back home, where he lived with his brother.

"It was very heartbreaking to know that he was lying in the hospital room, unable to do anything," said Mike Pitzen, Bill Pitzen's brother. "But it's truly a miracle."

Adams said he was "dumbfounded" when a doctor from St. Luke's told him Pitzen would walk in for a checkup.

"I was not very hopeful, and



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Bill Pitzen heads to his final from the IMU on Wednesday. He has been enrolled as a full-time student at the UI since the spring of 2007, after having recovered from two strokes and locked-in syndrome.

this is truly a miracle patient," Adams said.

Today, Pitzen — who got married in August 2008 — can walk naturally and doesn't appear afflicted by the untrained eye. But he still has trouble with his balance, he can't cough, he speaks softly with a slight lisp, and he has emotional incontinence, or uncontrollable outbursts of emotion, such as laughing and crying.

In the spring of 2007, he

returned to the UI and is now a history major.

To deal with his struggle and to educate others about locked-in syndrome, Pitzen decided to write a book — tentatively titled *One Fine Day* — that he hopes to finish next week.

"I was at the point where doctors had given up on me," he said. "Now, I'm at school at Iowa, and the only thing that got me through this was determination."

Ag choice irks some

VILSACK

CONTINUED FROM 1A

of renewable fuels," said Gary Edwards, the president of the Iowa Corn Growers. Vilsack, he said, "understands the value of biotech fuels."

Another major agriculture group, the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, also voiced its readiness to work with the new Agriculture secretary.

"Vilsack's experience and familiarity with Iowans and the issues that are important to Iowa's farmers are positives," Zach Bader, a spokesman for the organization, wrote in an e-mail. "He spoke with Iowa Farm Bureau President Craig Lang this morning, so he's already reaching out to Iowa's farmers, and that's what he needs to do as secretary of Agriculture — reach out to farmers in Iowa and across the country."

Obama's pick was a surprise to some after Vilsack said last month he was not under consideration for the position.

It is also symbolic. The nomination of the former Iowa governor — a staunch proponent of ethanol and wind energy — was a sign of Obama's commitment to ethanol, Hagle said.

Adding to a long list of Agriculture secretaries with ties to Iowa, Vilsack will become the seventh such individual. Most recently, Iowa native Mike Johanns — who is now a senator-elect from Nebraska — served as secretary of Agriculture from 2005-2007.

Perhaps the best-known secretary of Agriculture from Iowa was Henry Wallace, who later became vice president under Franklin Roosevelt.

Drawing from his memories



ASSOCIATED PRESS

President-elect Barack Obama (right) introduces Agriculture Secretary Designate and former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack on Wednesday during a news conference in Chicago

of the former Iowa governor, Hagle, a Republican, said Vilsack will be an effective representative for Obama's agriculture and energy policy.

"From somebody on the other side of the political aisle, we didn't like Vilsack for a variety of reasons," Hagle said. "But he didn't generate that intense dislike that other people might have. ... In that sense, it's probably a solid policy choice."

The pick also helps Vilsack's résumé, Hagle said.

If longtime Iowa Sens. Tom Harkin or Charles Grassley decide against seeking re-election in the next six years, Vilsack could tout his agriculture credentials and run for the vacated seat.

He does have his detractors, however.

Organic and sustainable food activists criticized the choice, pointing to his perceived unsav-

ory positions on genetically modified crops and other agriculture issues.

"Obama's choice for secretary of Agriculture points to the continuation of agribusiness as usual," Ronnie Cummins, the Organic Consumers Association executive director, said in a statement.

Ed Fallon, a former state legislator and gubernatorial and U.S. Senate candidate, said he would have preferred someone with a "really longtime involvement in the effort to a sustainable and diverse economy." He pointed to Denise O'Brien, who unsuccessfully ran for Iowa secretary of Agriculture in 2006, as one such individual.

But Fallon stressed he would "give Vilsack a chance."

"The country is hungry for change and a new direction in food policy," Fallon said. "Hopefully Vilsack will be up to leading that charge."

No freeze seen at UI

HIRINGS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

tizing — larger departments' searches, such as political science and psychology, typically take priority over others — especially if extreme budget cuts and freezes were mandatory, the dean said.

While many departments continue faculty searches, the administration is also seeking new hirings.

Searches for the vice presidents for Legal Affairs, Student Services, and Strategic Communications will start soon, Parrott said, and he didn't know the costs for the search or projected salaries yet.

This year, UI officials also created two new senior positions: the chief of staff and the senior associate to the UI president.

The UI Hospital and Clinics also added a chief of operations and an associate vice president for communications and marketing.

The four new salaries total nearly \$1.1 million, but approximately \$740,000 will be funded by the office of the Vice President for Medical Affairs, not the general education fund, which covers the other costs, Parrott said.

UIHC officials recently announced 200 ways they hope to save \$22 million, including holding off on new hirings if possible and decreasing the number of hourly workers, said UIHC spokesman Tom Moore. He stressed, however, that the hospital is not in a hiring freeze.

The UI's economic concerns come in the midst of a tumultuous financial time for universities across the country. Ivy League schools, like Harvard University, have instituted

freezes on salary hikes for all faculty and non-union staff members and halted searches for tenure-track and tenured faculty.

Just this week, Yale University announced that its endowment dropped 25 percent.

Last week, Gov. Chet Culver announced that he would cut \$60 million from the state's budget.

Loh said the UI has experienced budget reductions in the past, and such experiences have prepared university officials for possible cuts next year. The 1991 to 1992 UI school year started out with a \$7.3 million budget cut, salary freezes, and 355 layoffs. Some jobs were eliminated or frozen as well.

"The UI's top priority — in lean times and in times of plenty — is to provide high quality and affordable education to Iowa residents," Loh said in an e-mail.

Mason adds some VPs

CABINET

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Similar to the UI, Iowa State University has raised two positions in the president's advisory cabinet to vice presidential posts.

"Those who held the positions thought the title change was necessary for their work with the schools," said John Anderson, an assistant to the president for communications at ISU. "Those changes were necessary to work on a peer basis with those at other schools."

ISU does not have an official cabinet, it has a 15-member advisory board that works for the president. Anderson said having a less formal committee is easier for making large decisions.

The state Board of Regents compares the UI with other schools across the state when authorizing cabinet expansions. Regent Robert Downer said

the additions to the UI cabinet will put it on a more equal playing field with ISU. Downer said ISU has traditionally had a stronger cabinet, and the UI's efforts to expand are necessary despite the cost increase.

"I think it's appropriate to expand on the cabinet during these cuts," Downer said. "I have felt for a long time that the UI had a senior executive leadership structure that was too lean given the size and complexity of the institution."

University of Northern Iowa presidential cabinet consists of six vice presidents.

"This is the way the cabinet has been for a long time, and I haven't heard of any additions," said James O'Connor, the UNI assistant vice president for Marketing. "The final call lies with the president, but I don't see any need for extra positions."

Downer said that an institute as large as the UI should have a wider level of administrators in

UI Cabinet Grows

The UI's presidential cabinet is the largest in the state by 7 positions. It contains a:

- Chief of staff
- Chief of operations
- Associate vice president for Marketing
- Senior associate to UI president
- Vice president for Human Resources
- Vice president for Strategic Communications
- Vice president for Legal Affairs
- Vice president for Student Services
- Executive vice president and provost
- Senior vice president for Finance
- Vice president for Medical Affairs
- Vice president for Research

order to handle the elements of the campus, including the UI Hospitals and Clinics.

"When you have an institution that generates \$2 billion, there has to be an appropriate amount of leadership," he said.

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'If you look at the whole ensemble of the buildings on campus, it's really quite an eclectic mix. Then the question is, how can you enable them to cohere even though they draw from different design principles?'

— James Throgmorton, UI urban and regional planning professor

Course to examine recovery, planning



Water flows under the sandbags and into the IMU parking lot on June 13. The UI will offer a graduate course in campus planning next spring that will delve into issues of sustainability and flood preparedness.

An urban and regional planning course allows students to examine campus design and flood resiliency.

By LAUREN SIEBEN
lauren-sieben@uiowa.edu

A new UI class will offer students a chance to address issues arising from summer flooding from a forward-looking angle — architecture and campus planning.

James Throgmorton, a UI urban and regional planning professor, developed the campus-planning class with UI art history Professor John Beldon Scott and Marco Giliberti, a doctoral graduate from University Institute of Architecture Venice.

The class, which will be offered through the graduate urban and regional planning program, is divided into three sections: examining traditions in university design, analyzing design features at the UI, and discussing improvements for campus flood resiliency and sustainability.

"The main purpose of the course is to enlighten [students] about the various campus-planning traditions and how you might think about things from a campus-planning perspective," Throgmorton said.

Campus design is generally based on classical or neo-classical design, gothic style, or modernist design. The UI campus is a combination of each, Throgmorton said.

"If you look at the whole ensemble of the buildings on campus, it's really quite an eclectic mix," he said. "Then the question is, how can you enable them to cohere even though they draw from different design principles?"

Giliberti, who currently resides in Italy, will instruct the course next semester. His research focuses on urban and campus planning and sustainability, and he has studied numerous campuses in the Midwest, including the UI and Iowa State University. He believes the flood-recovery process needs to be long-term, he said.

"The necessary short-term solutions, in some cases, might be long-term," he wrote in an e-mail. "It's our choice to catch the opportunity to rethink our university thinking about how to create a more sustainable campus."

Flood recovery continues, according to the most recent progress report. But renovation projects for some facilities — including Hancher Auditorium, Hawkeye Court Apartments, and the ground floor of the IMU — have not yet begun.

"What we might be able to contribute really is to bring campus decision thinking into the discussion about what should be done here," Throgmorton said. "The main purpose is really not to directly influence decisions the university has to make."

Stephen Hendrix, the UI environmental science program coordinator, said it's difficult to predict when another flood might occur in Iowa.

"We're in a kind of unstable time it seems like, climatically," he said. "You really can't predict very far into the future about what's going to happen with those kinds of things ... nobody's making predictions."

Although reliable predictions are not available for future floods, Hendrix said, the campus-planning course is an important step in addressing environmental hazards.

"It's got to be part of the solution," he said. "[Students] bring some interesting approaches and ideas to the table that we need to talk about for what to do about flood management."

OPEC cuts production

By GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

ORAN, Algeria — OPEC on Wednesday agreed to slash 2.2 million barrels from its daily production — its single largest cut ever — while bloc outsiders Russia and Azerbaijan announced their own cutbacks of hundreds of thousands of barrels from the market.

"I hope we surprised you," OPEC President Chekib Khelil said when asked whether the size of the cut would shock moribund oil markets into an upward trend. "If you're not surprised, we need to do something about it."

And yet, markets weren't impressed.

Crude oil sank to \$40.20 after the announcement, a level not seen since the summer of 2004 and a clear sign investors are more worried that the world is heading for a long and painful recession in which energy use will continue to erode.

In just five months, crude has given up all of the price gains made over the past four years.

Making matters worse for OPEC, Moscow distanced itself from direct ties with the 13-nation producers' group, further dampening OPEC hopes of coordinated production cuts that might put a floor under crude prices.

OPEC said oil ministers of the 11 nations under the group's quota system agreed to take 4.2 million barrels a day off the market, but that includes two previous announced cuts that totaled 2 million barrels.

That leaves the new output reduction announced Wednesday at 2.2 million barrels, effective Jan. 1.

Still, even the record cut was unable to counterbalance consumers' concerns about the dismal world economy.

In the U.S., the world's largest crude consumer, the

'If unchecked, prices could fall to levels which would place in jeopardy the investments required to guarantee adequate energy supplies in the medium to long term.'

— OPEC statement

Federal Reserve's decision to slash its target interest rate to nearly zero buoyed global stock markets Tuesday and early Wednesday.

But the news on the U.S. economy is expected to get worse before it gets better. Businesses, which have already cut nearly 2 million jobs since January, keep laying off workers in the face of slumping demand.

There were some concerns on Wall Street that if a floor is not readied soon, oil's free-fall could be a sign of deflation ahead.

The government reported Tuesday before the Fed rate announcement that home builders slashed production in November by 18.9 percent, the biggest drop in nearly a quarter century. That pushed activity down to a record low annual rate of 625,000 units as the woes in the property market, where the current economic troubles began, showed no signs of abating.

Focusing on the shrinking oil market, OPEC noted in its statement that "crude volumes entering the market remain well in excess of actual demand."

"Moreover, the impact of the grave global economic downturn has led to a destruction of demand, resulting in unprecedented downward pressure being exerted on prices," it said. The group said "if unchecked, prices could fall to levels which would place in jeopardy the investments required to guarantee adequate energy supplies in the medium to long term."

In addition to signaling that a major cut was in the offing in

the days leading up to the Oran conference, OPEC ministers had expressed hope that Russia — the No. 2 producer after Saudi Arabia — would join in a significant cutback that would bolster prices.

Such support would be significant. Non-OPEC members Mexico, Norway, and Russia last slashed production in the late 1990s, at a time oil was selling for about \$10 a barrel.

But although Russian Deputy Premier Igor Sechin and Azeri Energy Minister Natik Aliyev announced cutbacks of a total of more than 600,000 barrels a day, their commitments appeared largely symbolic.

The Russians indicated their reductions had already been implemented in November, while Azerbaijan's output had already been reduced by about a third due to production problems earlier this year.

Among those hoping for Moscow's support was oil powerhouse Saudi Arabia.

"We also hope that other producers who are not in OPEC will chip in for the purpose of bringing stability to the market," said Saudi oil minister Ali Naimi said, in a nod to Russia.

Sechin, in comments to The Associated Press, said "Russian oil companies have already made a decision to cut deliveries to the market ... approximately equivalent to 350,000 barrels per day." But he specified that his country's cuts had already been enacted ahead of the OPEC meeting.

Sechin did hold out the possibility of further reductions, saying Russia was ready to pare another 320,000 barrels a day "if we see the continuation of the current level of prices on the world oil markets."

STATE

Nominees submitted for seat on Court of Appeals

DES MOINES (AP) — The State Judicial Nominating Commission has selected three nominees for a vacancy on the Iowa Court of Appeals.

The three will vie to replace Judge Terry Huitink, who is retiring at the end of the year.

The nominees are Des Moines lawyer Edward Mansfield, Fort Dodge lawyer Janece Valentine, and District Judge Bruce Zager of Waterloo.

Under the Iowa Constitution, Gov. Chet Culver now has 30 days to select one of the three for a seat on the court.

Arrest warrant issued for Omaha man

HENDERSON, Iowa (AP) — Iowa authorities have issued an arrest warrant for an Omaha man wanted on arson, burglary, and insurance-fraud charges.

According to the Iowa Department of Public Safety, Larry Fast is accused of setting a fire that caused heavy damage to a house in Henderson on Nov. 19.

Investigators say they believe the fire was intentionally set in the building's first floor bathroom. They say a second fire was attempted on the building's back porch, near an electrical panel.

Fast is the owner of the house.

Fire damages Fountains Ballroom in Glenwood

GLENWOOD, Iowa (AP) — Authorities say an early morning fire caused extensive damage to the Fountains Ballroom in Glenwood.

Fire officials from several area towns responded to the blaze around 4:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

Officials say the fire did extensive damage to a wedding and party assembly area as well as an attached private residence and office.

Authorities say the owners and occupants of the Fountains Ballroom were home, but no one was injured in the fire.

The State Fire Marshal's Office is investigating.

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Woman receives face transplant

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Her injuries were ghastly: no nose, no palate, no way to eat or breathe normally, a face so hideous that children who saw her screamed and ran away.

From the moment they met earlier this year, Dr. Maria Siemionow knew the severely disfigured woman would be the one — the first person in the U.S. to receive a face transplant.

“Our patient was called names and was humiliated. You need a face to face the world,” said Siemionow, the Cleveland Clinic reconstructive surgeon who led the operation about two weeks ago.

During the 22-hour procedure, 80 percent of the patient’s face was replaced with bone, muscles, nerves, skin, blood vessels, and some teeth taken from a woman who had died hours earlier.

It was the fourth face transplant in the world, though the others were not as extensive as this one.

“I must tell you how happy she was when with both her hands she could go over her face and feel that she has a nose, feel that she has a jaw,” Siemionow said. “She wants just to go out and be invisible in the crowd.”

The patient’s name and age were not released, nor were details on how she was injured, and she did not appear at a hospital news conference Wednesday. Surgeons said she was doing well and showing no signs of rejecting her new face. She was still sedated and unable to speak much, communicating mostly through writing, Siemionow said.

Doctors believe she will eventually be able to eat on her own, breathe normally instead of through a hole in her windpipe, and exhibit a full range of facial expressions, including smiling and frowning.

She is expected to spend weeks in the hospital, after which she will have to undergo periodic checkups for the rest of her life to watch for signs of rejection.

The transplant was fraught with ethical questions.

Unlike operations involving vital organs such as hearts and livers, transplants of faces are done to improve quality of life — not extend it. Recipients run



TONY DEJAK/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doctors who participated in the nation's first near-total face transplant watch an animation of the procedure at a news conference on Wednesday at the Cleveland Clinic. Doctors replaced nearly all of a woman's face — 80 percent — with that of a dead female donor in a 22-hour operation.

the risk of deadly complications and must take immune-suppressing drugs for the rest of their lives to prevent organ rejection, raising their odds of cancer and infections.

But the hospital’s bioethics chief, Dr. Eric Kodish, said the circumstances and procedures followed for the donation and transplant were “beyond reproach.”

“This is not cosmetic surgery in any conventional sense,” Kodish said.

Over the past four years, Siemionow had considered dozens of desperate burn victims and other potential candidates for the operation, and she practiced on animals and cadavers to perfect the technique. The woman selected was

so badly injured that only her upper eyelids, forehead, lower lip and chin were left.

“She heard people calling her names, children just scared of her, running away from her. When she was on the street, people were turning their heads,” Siemionow said.

Previous operations on the woman over several years at the Cleveland Clinic had made little improvement in her looks, doctors said.

“This patient exhausted all conventional means of reconstruction, and is the right patient,” Siemionow said.

The donor’s family gave specific permission for the face to be used. The removal of a dead person’s face would rule out an open-casket funeral.

The recipient was not shown a picture of the donor, and in animal experiments, “the recipient never looks like the donor,” especially when the injuries are severe, Siemionow said. That is because the underlying bone structure is different from person to person.

The hospital posted a statement from the woman’s sibling on its website.

“We never thought for a moment that our sister would ever have a chance at a normal life again, after the trauma she endured,” it says. “But thanks to the wonderful person that donated her organs to help another living human being, she has another chance to live a normal life. Our family cannot thank you enough.”

After about three months waiting for a donor similar to the recipient in age, sex, tissue type, and skin tone, Siemionow again asked her patient if she wanted to go through with it. “She said ‘I’m ready. I’ve been waiting for this,’” the surgeon said.

Disfigured patients are stuck at home, “hiding from society” and afraid to go out, the surgeon said.

Many more like her exist, and a military grant to the clinic will let them explore the possibility of operating on soldiers left severely disfigured, Siemionow said.

The clinic is absorbing the roughly \$200,000 cost of this first transplant because it is an experiment and part of research. They hope to offer more, but are taking this one case at a time for now, Siemionow said.

The world’s first partial face transplant was performed in France in 2005 on a 38-year-old woman who had been mauled by her dog. Isabelle Dinoire received a new nose, chin, and lips from a brain-dead donor. Apart from some rejection episodes, she has done well.

Two others have received partial face transplants since then — a Chinese farmer attacked by a bear and a European man disfigured by a genetic condition.

Ga. legislators try to change death penalty

By GREG BLUESTEIN
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Georgia lawmakers are taking the first steps toward revamping the state’s capital-punishment rules after a deadlocked jury allowed courthouse gunman Brian Nichols to avoid the death penalty.

A measure filed this week would make Georgia one of six states that allow the death penalty without a unanimous jury decision.

Georgia would also become the only state with the death penalty to have a “hybrid” system that factors in both the jury and judge’s decision, said Richard Dieter of the Death Penalty Information Center.

The Georgia bill would allow a judge to impose a death sentence if at least 10 jurors vote for capital punishment. State law now requires a unanimous jury to return a death sentence.

The proposal is another sign of the growing backlash to a jury’s decision not to sentence Nichols to death for murdering a judge, a court reporter, a sheriff’s deputy, and an off-duty federal agent in a 2005 shooting spree that began in a downtown Atlanta courthouse.

Republican state Rep. Tim Bearden, a former police officer, sponsored the measure.

“To me, this always has been a victim’s rights bill to make sure we don’t forget about the victims once the crime scene tape is put away,” he said.

State law now requires a judge to decide whether to sentence a defendant to life in prison, with or without the possibility of parole, if any of the 12 jurors will not support a sentence of death.

Superior Court Judge James Bodiford was forced to make that choice Saturday after the Nichols jury deadlocked at 9-3, with nine in favor of the death penalty and the other three in favor of life without parole.

Fulton County District Attorney Paul Howard said jurors had told him the three holdouts refused to deliberate and were adamantly against the death penalty. One of the three, he said, was listening to headphones during the closed-door deliberations.

The Georgia House has twice passed proposals over the last two years to allow judges to

impose a death sentence if one or two jurors vote against it. Both plans failed in the Senate amid concerns it would put too much power in the hands of a judge.

Nichols would not have gotten the death penalty under the bill, which requires at least 10 jurors to agree on death.

But the Nichols case has given supporters of the changes new momentum.

State Sen. Preston Smith, who voted against a similar proposal in March, has said he will reconsider the changes. And Bearden said he expects support from other legislators who are frustrated with death penalty opponents who intentionally sabotage capital cases.

“The wheels of justice turn slowly,” he said. “But they shouldn’t be ground to a halt.”

Thirty-six states allow the death penalty, according to the Death Penalty Information Center. Four states — Florida, Alabama, Delaware, and Montana — allow a judge to impose capital punishment after a jury issues a nonbinding recommendation. Nebraska has a similar law but relies on a three-judge panel to make the decision.

Georgia’s proposal would still require a death penalty if a jury reaches a unanimous decision. But it would also give the judge the power to impose the death penalty if one or two jurors voted against it.

This sort of compromise could make Georgia more “vulnerable” to legal challenges, said Dieter.

“Georgia would have the only statute in the country like this, and it could lead to the argument that it’s cruel and unusual because its purpose is to get more death sentences,” he said. “The more out of line to the rest of the country it is, the greater the risk that it could be overturned.”

Other critics say legislators shouldn’t consider upending centuries of legal tradition in the wake of one of Atlanta’s most notorious crimes.

State Rep. Mark Hatfield said a gut-reaction to the Nichols case “misses the larger point: That’s going to apply in every case in which somebody is going to be put on trial for the death penalty. And we know clearly from history that we have people on death row who are innocent.”

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Editorial

Building on a flood-plain is bad planning

Einstein once said, "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." At some point, Iowa residents must recognize that continually rebuilding in floodplains is, well, insane. Perhaps the reason Cedar Rapids representatives and residents are having such difficulty with this concept is because they escaped the monumental floods of 1993 and 1966. Six months after historic flooding this summer, reality may be sinking in. The 1993 flood cost the federal government roughly \$1 billion to purchase 25,000 flood-damaged properties nationwide. Properties purchased by the government were turned into open space. This is precisely what should be done in Cedar Rapids with what is being referred to by many as the "Wet Zone."

Standing in the way of such an effort is the scourge of bureaucracy: funding. Cedar Rapids suffered nearly \$5 billion in damage. The current redevelopment plan being proposed could cost up to \$1 billion and take as long as 15 years to complete. The Cedar Rapids City Council has voted down a 1-cent sales tax, which has the possibility of raising up to \$23 million a year for flood recovery. After the onslaught of bailouts this year, it is understandable that representatives may be a little nervous about asking Cedar Rapids residents to pay more taxes; however, they seem comfortable paying a Washington, D.C., firm \$10,000 a month to lobby Congress for flood-recovery money. The auto industry is tanking. Congress has forgotten about the summer flooding in Iowa.

The unfortunate side of creating a green space is that many residents have already poured thousands of dollars into renovating their homes. There was such a great deal of back and forth regarding whether to buy out these properties that many residents stopped waiting for an answer and simply got to work. Naturally, now that the Cedar Rapids

City Council has plans to purchase and remove 192 houses to create a green space and an addition 550 to build a levee, the residents who were determined to rebuild are a little irritated. How the city funds this project will determine the manner in which they are able to acquire these properties. If Cedar Rapids utilizes federal hazard money for the buy-outs, it may be forced to use eminent-domain laws to secure the properties.

In October, the Coralville City Council voted unanimously to use tax-increment money to purchase flood-damaged buildings instead of using hazard-mitigation aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Whether continuing to attempt to secure federal funds to create the green space and build levees or pushing a sales-tax increase through, it is imperative that Cedar Rapids does not rebuild in the floodplain. Taxpayers already subsidize floodplain development through levee construction and repair, disaster aid, insurance costs, and infrastructure maintenance. Furthermore, it is possible to receive tax benefits by donating land as a conservation easement.

The 2008 flood, declared a 500-year flood, edged out 1993 crest levels by more than 10 feet only 15 years later. Fifteen years is the timetable provided for the Cedar Rapids development plan. Thanks to an impressive combination of global warming, elimination of water-absorbing wetlands, reduction of forestland buffers, and channeling of rivers, it is possible that we may have to change our definition of 500-year floods. The devastation suffered around the region this summer was heartbreaking. We are fortunate enough to live in communities that banded together and supported one another in our times of need. While the image is still fresh in our minds, let's commit to limiting the possibility of such chaos in the future. It's the sane thing to do.

FROM THE *DI* BLOG, THE PODIUM

And you want to be governor?



NEAL SCHUETT
neal.schuett@uiowa.edu

"Sir" Charles Barkley has recently voiced his ire over Auburn's recent hiring of Gene Chizik as the coach of the Tigers' football team. As most Hawkeye fans are aware, Chizik was the football coach for the Iowa State Cyclones for the past two seasons and led them to a 5-19 record. He is, however, not a complete shot in the dark by Auburn Athletics Director Jay Jacobs; Chizik was the defensive coordinator for the Tigers in 2004.

As an Auburn alumnus, self-proclaimed royalty and self-loving celebrity, Barkley — a former NBA star — exercised his regal right to voice his concerns for the future of Tiger football. Sir Charles believes the better choice was current Buffalo head coach Turner Gill. Gill recently led the Bulls to a MAC championship and a 8-5 record. Barkley's biggest reason for wanting to hire Gill over Chizik is twofold: Gill is a "terrific coach," and Auburn needed to "make a splash" with its new hiring. Barkley went on to define "splash" as "creating a buzz" by hiring a black coach. Sir Barkley avows that ethnicity was the "No. 1 factor" that Chizik was hired over Gill and argues, "[Y]ou can say it's not about race, but compare the two résumés and say [Chizik] deserved the job."

I agree with Barkley on the latter; a comparison of Chizik's and Gill's résumés over the last two seasons is one-sided. Gill lead the Bulls to a 13-12 record; Chizik lead the Cyclones to a 5-19 record. However, in Gill's first year with Buffalo, the Bulls compiled a 2-10 record. A coach's first year is always full of hiccups, so if you compare second seasons, Chizik went 2-10, and Gill went 5-7. Again, the statistics clearly favor Gill. But to quote Barkley: "I don't use numbers, I use logic." So lets try to look outside the raw numbers at what Barkley may have used to form his logical conclusion that ethnicity was the No. 1 reason Gill wasn't hired.

Prior to coaching at Buffalo, Gill was the director of player development for the Green Bay Packers and an assistant wide-receiver coach. Previously, he

coached Eric Crouch at the University of Nebraska, his alma mater, the year Crouch won the Heisman. Impressive credentials. I would agree this could qualify Gill as a "terrific coach."

Prior to coaching at Iowa State, Chizik was the defensive coordinator at Texas and Auburn. During his tenure, both defenses were extremely strong. Auburn went undefeated in 2004, and the next year Texas won the national championship, both while Chizik was at the helm of the defense. Equally impressive credentials to earn him the moniker of "terrific coach."

One might argue that losing in the Big 12 North to the likes of Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, and to the powerhouses of the Big 12 South is more palatable than losing in the MAC conference. Buffalo is a small school in a small conference. One winning season doesn't necessarily lead to a head-coaching position at an SEC school; of course, neither do two losing seasons in Ames. Perhaps the fact that Chizik has coached in the SEC is a tipping point?

Gill and Chizik were among a pool of at least eight known potential hirings. Assuming Gill was the only black in the pool, it doesn't mean he wasn't hired because he is black. Barkley's comments don't help Gill, nor do they help any of the other black coaches looking to get head-coach positions. Barkley wasn't part of the selection committee; he wasn't privy to the conversations between Jacobs and all of the candidates. An uninformed egomaniac playing the ethnicity card isn't logical, and it isn't helpful. While I agree that black coaches are extremely under-represented in college football, I doubt whether Barkley's blathering is going to ignite a hiring spree. Allow the younger coaches to cut their teeth — while finishing atop of the MAC East is an outstanding feat for Buffalo, 8-5 puts it in the middle of the pack in the MAC West. If the hiring continues to go to unproven white coaches, then let the accusations — er, logical deductions — fly.

Barkley should just shut his mouth about things of which he has no firsthand knowledge or involvement. If Auburn wanted to hire based on what Barkley wanted, then it would have asked for his astute opinion. My logic? I take guidance from only the most logical of sources: "I voice my opinion; if people don't like it, they know what they can kiss." ■

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Guest Opinion

You get what you pay for in the Trib Co.

By JOEL STEIN
LA Times

This column may not meet the high levels of quality to which I have made you accustomed. That's because I haven't been getting paid.

News accounts of Tribune Co.'s bankruptcy filing on Dec. 8 detailed the \$1 billion owed to JPMorgan Chase and \$737.5 million to Deutsche Bank, but the vast sums were left out. These sums are so vast that my editors don't want me to mention just how much, for fear of making the other columnists jealous. I deeply suspect those other columnists are me.

Times had not yet sent me a check before entering Chapter 11. Apparently, those weren't columns; those were blogs.

But Steinacopia, as anyone who reads *Companies With One Employee Created Solely for Tax Purposes Quarterly* knows, can play rough right back. I called my accountant, Marty Fox, at Bernstein, Fox, Whitman, Goldman, & Blaumbatt LLP, to ask how I can get in line ahead of JPMorgan Chase.

Fox explained that, unlike JPMorgan Chase, I'm not a "secured lender." So I'm automatically placed at the end of the payback line with the other vendors because I didn't ask for collateral when I gave Tribune my loan. I countered that the reason I didn't ask for collateral was that, unlike

JPMorgan Chase, I had no idea I was giving a loan. This was clearly another example of the law bailing out big companies and their rich executives while ignoring a small company and its rich executive.

Brainstorming clever accounting solutions, I suggested going to the *LA Times* and stealing enough office equipment to make things even, though I doubt I could carry off enough 2003 Dell computers to be worth four figures. Fox strongly advised against this, calling it "grand theft." Why accountants allow some stuff and not others, I'll never understand.

Fox tried to cheer me up by saying that I would have the right to attend the creditors' meetings in Chicago with JPMorgan Chase, where I could annoy everyone by demanding my money over and over like the newspaper delivery kid in *Better Off Dead*. I intend to explain, in graphic detail, how I wrote one of those two columns while suffering from food poisoning, and how a joke in another upset my therapist mother, which, as anyone with a therapist mother knows, cost me about \$100 in overtime cell-phone minutes. I also think, based on past performance, I can consume four figures worth of hot beverages and cookies at those meetings.

The most likely outcome, Fox told me, is that in two years, after lawyers' fees are deducted, I'll get a little less than 10 percent of what I'm owed; though Fitch Ratings' "D" rat-

ing on the unsecured debt implies that I won't see any of it. Fox tried to give me some perspective. The debt probably represents about 1 percent of the money Steinacopia has been paid by the *LA Times* over four years. "So big deal," he said. I hope Bernstein, Fox, Whitman, Goldman, & Blaumbatt keeps that same attitude when Steinacopia doesn't pay it for the two weeks at the beginning of April.

Since things weren't looking hopeful, I decided to stop this boring pursuit of a bankrupt company and instead start the much more fun pursuit of its non-bankrupt, billionaire chairman and CEO. I started to think of Sam Zell as just another guy who owes me money. He'll have to duck me

at bars. He'll avoid my phone calls. If I ever meet him, he'll look down, and shuffle his feet, and mumble something about his e-mail not working.

I immediately e-mailed Zell's office and offered to let him work off the debt. My first choice, I explained, would be to have him do stuff around my house, because I'm two years into a six-month renovation and no one is showing up anymore. But I also gave him the option of doing something that plays to his talents: accounting work. I bet he'd find a way to get Steinacopia's money in no time.

Sadly, Zell refused to talk to me about my offer. See you in Bankruptcy Court, buddy.

This column appeared in the Dec. 12 *Los Angeles Times*.

Obama picks Vilsack, Salazar, LaHood

By **NEDRA PICKLER**
Associated Press

CHICAGO — President-elect Barack Obama intends to name GOP Rep. Ray LaHood of Illinois as his Transportation secretary, a Democratic official said on Wednesday, adding a second Republican to his Cabinet-in-the-making.

The official disclosed the selection of LaHood after the president-elect announced former Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack as Agriculture secretary and Colorado Sen. Ken Salazar to head the Interior Department.

LaHood, 63, is stepping down from his congressional seat after 14 years in Congress from the area around Peoria.

He has been at the forefront of efforts to make the floor of the House less partisan. Respected for his ability to preside, he was in the chair during most of President Clinton's impeachment a decade ago.

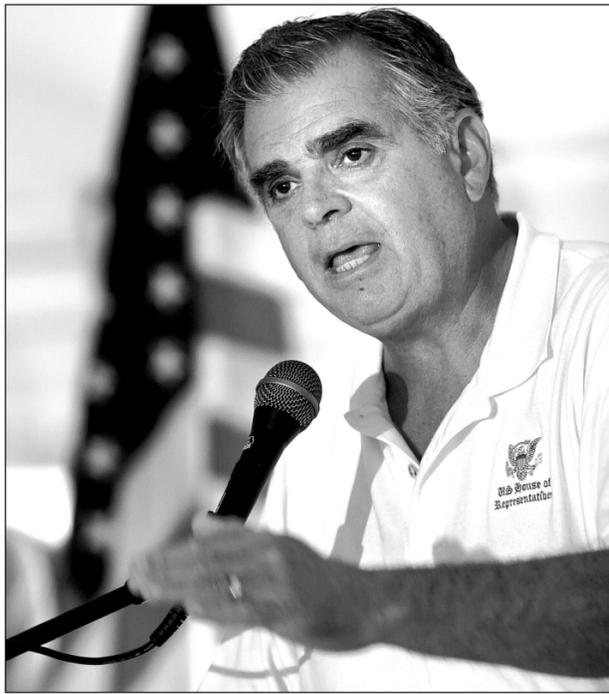
The official who disclosed LaHood's selection as Transportation secretary did so on the condition of anonymity because the Obama team did not authorize the disclosure.

LaHood, Vilsack, and Salazar must receive Senate confirmation before taking their posts.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, whom Obama asked to remain in office, is the other Republican tapped so far for the incoming Cabinet.

The selections came as Obama worked on completing his Cabinet, possibly in advance of a year-end holiday vacation in Hawaii with his family.

He has yet to announce choices for the Labor Department, senior intelligence positions, or the Office of U.S. Trade Representative. Rep. Xavier



Rep. Ray LaHood R-Ill., addresses the crowd during a Republican rally at the Illinois State Fair in Springfield on Aug. 16, 2007. A senior Democratic official says President-elect Barack Obama has chosen LaHood to be his Transportation secretary on Wednesday.

Becerra, D-Calif., had been penciled in as trade representative, but he announced on Tuesday he intends to remain in the House.

In addition, numerous sub-Cabinet posts remain unfilled.

Knowledgeable officials say Dr. Gail Rosseau, a Chicago neurosurgeon, is among the final contenders to become surgeon general. These officials spoke on the condition of anonymity, saying they were not authorized to discuss the appointment.

Obama introduced Vilsack and Salazar at a now-familiar

ritual, a news conference in which the president-elect makes his announcement, then takes a few questions from reporters.

Asked for the second day about a political scandal roiling his home state of Illinois, he said, "It's a little bit frustrating" to not talk in detail about the investigation into charges that Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich schemed to name Obama's replacement in the U.S. Senate based on who offered the best political or financial deal. Blagojevich was arrested last week by the FBI.

Neither Obama nor anyone on his team has been accused of any wrongdoing in the probe. But the president-elect has directed transition aides to detail who on his side had contact, and what kind, with Blagojevich or his staff.

"There's been a lot of speculation in the press that I would love to correct immediately," Obama said in response to a question. He said his team is "abiding by the request of the U.S. attorney" to not release the results of the internal investigation, already compiled, until next week. "It's not going to be that long," Obama said.

For the Agriculture and Interior departments — which oversee federal farming and lands policies — Obama said his approach will be to "serve not big agribusiness or Washington influence peddlers but family farmers and the American people."

Vilsack is the fourth former presidential rival to join Obama's administration. Others include Vice President-elect Joe Biden, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, who has been tapped for secretary of State, and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson, selected to head the Commerce Department.

Salazar was elected to the Senate in 2004, the same year as Obama.

His appointment means Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter will name a successor to serve until the 2010 elections. Several Democrats pointed to Rep. John Salazar, the senator's brother, as a leading possibility to take the seat.

Salazar's office issued a statement this week praising his brother's selection but making no mention of the possibility of succeeding him in the Senate.

2 trains collide in Minnesota

Associated Press

DRESBACH, Minn. — Two freight trains collided early Wednesday, derailing 40 cars and sending an engine and some railcars plunging into the Mississippi River, authorities said. No serious injuries were reported.

Why the Canadian-Pacific trains collided is under investigation, said Mike LoVecchio, a spokesman for the rail company in Calgary, Alberta.

The trains crashed around 5:30 a.m. near Dresbach in southeastern Minnesota. One rail car struck a 1,000-gallon propane tank attached to a switching station, causing a small leak that was stopped by early afternoon, authorities said.

Approximately 25 disabled veterans at the nearby Mosher Veterans Rest Home near Dresbach were evacuated for several hours as a precaution because of the leak, but they returned home by late afternoon, said Joyce Tlougan, a deputy director of Winona County Emergency Management.

One train engine was partially submerged in the Mississippi River, Tlougan said. It wasn't clear whether any of the cars contained hazardous materials or were leaking anything into

the river, she said.

The railroad dispatched hazardous material professionals to the scene, LoVecchio said.

The locomotive that did not end up in the water was leaking diesel fuel but the fluid was contained on land, Tlougan said.

Four workers operated the two trains. Two were taken to a hospital as a precaution, but all four were "safe and accounted for," LoVecchio said.

The trains were traveling toward each other on the single tracks, although it's not clear why, Tlougan said.

LoVecchio said the line includes a "siding where one train would pass another," but he did not know what role, if any, that may have played in the crash.

The derailment disrupted Amtrak service to hundreds of passengers, said Bob Kamrowski, station manager in La Crosse, Wis. Amtrak makes two trips per day on the route blocked by the derailment.

People planning to board Amtrak trains Wednesday in several Minnesota and Wisconsin cities were being bused to either Chicago or Minneapolis, he said.

"They are telling me one day [of disruption]," Kamrowski said. "I have no idea if that is going to be the truth or not."

Ill. high court nixes removing Blagojevich

By **CHRISTOPHER WILLS**
Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The Illinois Supreme Court on Wednesday denied an effort to remove Gov. Rod Blagojevich, rejecting what could have been the quickest way to force the disgraced Democrat from office.

The ruling came as the governor's attorney challenged the strength of the corruption case against Blagojevich before a panel of lawmakers that is considering whether to recommend impeachment.

Chicago attorney Ed Genson said the wiretaps that ensnared Blagojevich amounted to all talk and no action.

"It's just people jabbering," Genson told the House panel.

Genson attacked the impeachment proceedings on numerous fronts Wednesday, assailing the wiretaps, question-

ing the committee's impartiality, and complaining that the panel had not given the governor enough time to mount a defense.

The committee's Democratic chairwoman, Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie of Chicago, rejected all of Genson's requests.

"We're not a court of law. We're not quite a grand jury," she said. "We're not bound by specific rules of evidence."

Blagojevich has been under siege since his arrest last week on charges that he tried to auction off Barack Obama's Senate seat. But he got some good news when the state's highest court refused to hear the attorney general's legal challenge to his fitness to serve.

The state Supreme Court rejected without comment a challenge filed by state Attorney General Lisa Madigan, herself a top candidate for governor in

2010. It was unclear whether the court turned down the case on its merits or on procedural grounds.

The attorney general had asked the court to remove Blagojevich, arguing that his legal and political troubles prevented him from performing his duties. Madigan said the governor's problems amount to a disability, so Blagojevich should have been stripped of his authority temporarily just as if he were physically incapacitated.

Madigan said she was disappointed by the ruling, saying Blagojevich's refusal to resign has put the state in an "unsus-

tainable situation." She urged the impeachment panel to proceed with "deliberate speed."

The court's decision renewed calls from Republicans for a special election to choose Obama's successor in the Senate.

Blagojevich had already started the day feeling upbeat, telling reporters before a morning run that he had confidence in Genson and that he was eager to defend himself.

"I can't wait to begin to tell my side of the story and to address you guys and, most importantly, the people of Illinois. That's who I'm dying to talk to."

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STATE & NATION

Flying J ordered to pay fine for water violations

DES MOINES (AP) — Attorney General Tom Miller says the owner of two popular travel plazas has been ordered to pay \$140,000 for water pollution violations.

The Flying J travel plazas in Davenport and Clive were ordered to pay the fine by Polk County District Court Judge Artis Reis.

Miller filed a lawsuit on Monday outlining environmental violations and unpaid citations at the two locations, including a March 2007 incident at the Clive location that polluted Walnut Creek. A settlement agreement was filed simultaneously.

Miller says the Davenport Flying J has also been the subject of numerous administrative enforcement actions by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Flying J is one of the largest retailers of diesel fuel in North America, with approximately 220 locations in the U.S. and Canada.

Iowa court says abuse defense wrongly excluded

DES MOINES (AP) — The Iowa Court of Appeals on Wednesday overturned a woman's manslaughter conviction, ruling she should have been allowed to enter expert testimony about battered women's syndrome at trial.

Megan Price was convicted of voluntary manslaughter in Scott County for the January 2007 fatal stabbing of her boyfriend, Allen Johnson, in Davenport. Court records show Johnson had been abusive toward Price for much of their relationship.

Price testified in a first trial that ended in a hung jury that she and Johnson were arguing when he said he was going to kill her and came at her to hit her. Fearing for her life, Price stabbed Johnson. She did not take the stand in the second trial, which resulted in her conviction.

In both trials, the district court rejected Price's motion to allow expert testimony that she showed symptoms of battered women's syndrome.

The state argued the expert testimony was irrelevant, but Price claimed differently, citing two out-of-state cases where testimony on battered women's syndrome was allowed to show the state of mind of a defendant and justification.

The district court said expert testimony was not necessary for the jury to understand Price's state of mind, given that the facts of Johnson's past abuse would be admissible.

The appeals court cited an Iowa Supreme Court decision that expert testimony on battered women's syndrome is relevant and admissible at trial.

"We think the expert's testimony would have given the jury information that it needed to understand the significance and meaning of the victim's conduct and to understand the defendant's reaction to that conduct, as the Iowa Supreme Court similarly found," the appeals court said.

The appeals court said that while battered women's syndrome if not a defense, it can help a jury determine "whether a defendant's fear and claim of self-defense are reasonable."

The appeals court ruled Wednesday that the lower court abused its discretion in denying Price's motion. It reversed her conviction and ordered a new trial.

Iowa appeals court overturns murder conviction

DES MOINES (AP) — The Iowa Court of Appeals on Wednesday ordered a new trial for a man serving a life sentence for a slaying outside a Des Moines bar in 1995, citing jury misconduct and a lack of evidence.

Jarmaine Levar Allen was found guilty of first-degree murder in May 2006 in the shooting death of Jody Stokes. An earlier trial in the case ended in a hung jury.

Allen appealed his conviction, claiming jurors were exposed to extraneous information about the case when a juror told other jurors during deliberations that Allen had already been incarcerated. Court records show the juror told others that they shouldn't be worried about convicting Allen since he was already incarcerated.

Allen was serving a 50-year sentence for the shooting death of Des Moines bank executive Phyllis Davis.

Allen also claimed the district court erred by not allowing him to depose the state's witnesses prior to the second trial and by excluding testimony of two witnesses who Allen claimed could give evidence of others' involvement in the slaying.

He also claimed the district court judge erred by not recusing himself from ruling on a motion for a new trial because he was a witness in the appeal and that the district court erred by denying the motion for a new trial.

The appeals court on Monday ruled the statement made by the juror during deliberations was prejudicial and denied Allen the right to a fair trial.

"We conclude the jurors' disclosure that Allen was presently incarcerated was an out-of-court statement not authorized by the district court," the appeals court wrote.

The court said the statement that Allen was already serving time was "on its face, designed to influence the verdict."

"We conclude the evidence was not strong enough relative to jury misconduct to warrant the denial of Allen's new trial motion," the court said. "We conclude the portion of the new trial motion alleging jury misconduct should have been granted."

The court also noted a lack of evidence linking Allen to the slaying.

Court records identify numerous witnesses who testified that they either saw the shooting or saw someone leaving the area afterward but could not identify Allen as the shooter.

Only one witness identified Allen as the shooter but testified during trial that he did not know who he saw and denied that it was Allen. The witness also testified that the person he saw had a hood over his head and was trying to hide his face, record show.

Another witness testified that he heard gunshots and saw Allen and another man walking toward the bar. The witness later testified that he did not testify truthfully on three prior occasions and that he had bad eyesight.

The court also said there was no physical evidence tying Allen to the slaying.

Court records show that no fingerprints were taken from shell casings found at the scene and no gun was found at the scene.

Autopsy: Burlington radio newsman died of hypothermia

BURLINGTON (AP) — Officials with the Iowa medical examiner's office say a longtime radio journalist in Burlington died of hypothermia.

Fifty-one-year-old J.K. Martin was found dead in his West Burlington home on Nov. 10. His wife was found semiconscious. She was treated at a local hospital and released.

Police say that the heating system in Martin's home wasn't working because of a thermostat problem. Weather records show the temperature the previous night had dipped into the low 20s.

Authorities initially suspected carbon monoxide may have been a factor, but tests showed no lethal levels of the gas.

Toxicology tests are pending. Martin worked at radio stations KBUR and KGRS in Burlington from 1990 until last June.

US military deaths in Iraq war at 4,209

As of Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, at least 4,209 members of the U.S. military had died in the Iraq war since it began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The figure includes eight military civilians killed in action. At least 3,397 military personnel died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The AP count is two fewer than the Defense Department's tally, last updated Wednesday at 10 a.m. EST.

The British military has reported 176 deaths; Italy, 33; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 21; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, seven; El Salvador, five; Slovakia, four; Latvia and Georgia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand and Romania, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan and South Korea, one death each.

Since the start of U.S. military operations in Iraq, 30,879 U.S. service members have been wounded in hostile action, according to the Defense Department's weekly tally.

Alaska investigates bigoted e-mails

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Alaska officials are investigating bigoted jokes about President-elect Barack Obama that have been circulating on state government e-mail accounts.

One of the five e-mails obtained by the Associated Press asks about the outcome of the Democrat's victory after all the time and money invested and concludes: "Another black family living in government housing."

State officials were unaware of the e-mails until asked about them by the AP.

Three of the racist information were fired by the state's information technology division after an electronic search of the government's e-mail system, Administration Commissioner Annette Kreitzer said Wednesday.

"It's embarrassing to the state," she said.

Kreitzer said she alerted the office of Gov. Sarah Palin — the losing Republican vice-presidential candidate about the e-mails.

'The Shoes' cause uproar in Iraqi Parliament

By ROBERT H. REID
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Chaos erupted in Iraq's Parliament Wednesday over the jailing of a reporter who threw his shoes at President Bush, with lawmakers loyal to a radical anti-American cleric demanding his freedom. The Parliament speaker responded by threatening to resign.

Muntadhar al-Zaidi, a correspondent for an Iraqi-owned television station based in Cairo, Egypt, had been expected to appear Wednesday before an investigative judge at Iraq's main court as a first step in a complex legal process that could end in a criminal trial.

Instead, the judge visited him in his jail cell, and the family was told to return to the court in eight days, according to the journalist's brother, Dhargham al-Zaidi.

"That means my brother was severely beaten, and they fear that his appearance could trigger anger at the court," he said.

However, Iraqi officials and another brother have denied that the journalist suffered severe injuries after he was wrestled to the floor when he hurled one shoe and then the other from close range at Bush during a news conference Sunday in Baghdad. Bush ducked out of the way both times.

Al-Zaidi could face two years imprisonment for insulting a foreign leader. When he threw the shoes, he shouted at Bush in Arabic, "This is your farewell kiss, you dog. This is from the widows, the orphans, and those who were killed in Iraq."

His act of defiance won the obscure television reporter hero status in Iraq and throughout the Muslim world, much of which holds Bush personally responsible for the deaths of tens of thousands of Iraqis since the invasion.

In Pakistan, demonstrators held a candlelight vigil outside the U.S. Consulate in Lahore on Wednesday, carrying photographs of al-Zaidi and hand-painted signs saying things like "Hush, Hush Bush. We Hate You." And on a road in Karachi, a man painted "10" inside a large outline of a foot, with an arrow pointing to "BUSH" — a reference to Bush's joke about the shoe's size.

At a small rally outside the Iraqi Embassy in Ankara, Turkey, the head of a civil-servant union displayed a pair of shoes he said he intends to send to al-Zaidi as a show of support.

In Iraq, followers of anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr as well as other Shiite and Sunni groups have staged demonstrations for the

last three days demanding al-Zaidi's release.

The Sadrist particularly hope to exploit public sympathy for the reporter to regain political momentum they lost after their failure to stop the U.S.-Iraq security agreement, which Parliament approved last month. The deal allows U.S. troops to remain in Iraq until 2012.

On Wednesday, al-Sadr's supporters in Parliament interrupted a session in which lawmakers were to review a resolution calling for all non-U.S. troops to leave Iraq by the end of June.

Several Sadrist lawmakers interrupted, demanding that the session address al-Zaidi's case and allegations that he had been beaten in custody. A noisy argument broke out after other lawmakers shouted that the case was a matter for the courts, according to Wisam al-Zubaidi, an adviser to Khalid al-Attiyah, Parliament's deputy speaker.

With legislators screaming at one another, speaker Mahmoud al-Mashhadani, a Sunni, shouted: "There is no honor in leading this Parliament, and I announce my resignation."

Al-Mashhadani, who has not taken a public position on al-Zaidi, has a history of eccentric behavior and it was unclear whether the resignation was

serious. Two years ago, the Shiite bloc ousted al-Mashhadani after a series of outbursts, but his fellow Sunnis forced his reinstatement.

An official in the speaker's office confirmed al-Mashhadani's announcement but said he was uncertain whether he meant what he said. The official said the speaker may have been made the remark because he was upset. He spoke on the condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to the media.

Even if the speaker follows through, his departure would not effect the Shiite-led government of Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki. The prime minister was said to have been furious and personally humiliated by the shoe-throwing incident, considering it a breach of Arab rules of hospitality.

In Washington, deputy State Department spokesman Robert Wood said Wednesday the decision about what to do with al-Zaidi is up to the Iraqis.

"Iraq is a democracy, these types of things happen in a democracy," Wood said. "That situation is going to have to work itself through the Iraqi judicial process. It's an Iraqi matter, so it should be left for the Iraqis to deal with."

Season's Greetings
from your friends at
The Daily Iowan
Have a happy and safe holiday!



A soccer star, near-Iowa graduate, Stephanie Hyink's Hawkeye career ends in style.

NBA
 Boston 88, Atlanta 85
 Dallas 96, Toronto 86
 Philadelphia 93, Milwaukee 88
 Indiana 127, Golden State 120
 Utah 103, New Jersey 92
 Detroit 88, Washington 74

Cleveland 93, Minnesota 70
 Chicago 115, L.A. Clippers 109, OT
 New Orleans 90, San Antonio 83
NHL
 New Jersey 5, Buffalo 3
 Columbus 2, San Jose 1, OT
 Calgary 3, Minnesota 2, OT



Adam Jones

FOOTBALL

Game over? Nope; Pacman back with Cowboys

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Once again, Adam “Pacman” Jones is back with the Dallas Cowboys. Thought to be out for the season because of a neck injury, Jones returned to practice Wednesday and is expected to play Dec. 21, both at cornerback and returning kicks, after having missed only one game. Coach Wade Phillips said the herniated disk discovered last week has healed, perhaps because he already had the problem and it was only aggravated by a hit he took two games ago in Pittsburgh. That was his first game back with the Cowboys after being suspended from six games for violating the league’s personal-conduct policy.

OU’s Granger to miss title game

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Oklahoma defensive tackle DeMarcus Granger has undergone back surgery and will not play in the BCS national championship against Florida. Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops made the announcement Wednesday, a day after saying starting running back DeMarco Murray also will miss the Jan. 8 title game against Florida. Murray is out with a hamstring injury and is also scheduled for surgery.



Granger
 defensive tackle
 Florida.

The Iowa Hawkeyes are going to the Outback Bowl, and The Daily Iowan will have you covered

Be sure to watch Daily Iowan TV on UIVT today at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m. for its special bowl edition of Pregame, and check out the Pregame section of the *DI* on Wednesday, which will include stories about the upcoming contest against the Hawkeyes as well as features on Big Ten Player of the Year Shonn Greene and Defensive Lineman of the Year Mitch King. Then, starting Dec. 29, make sure to visit dailyiowan.com for complete coverage of the 2009 Outback Bowl from both the *DI* and Daily Iowan TV. The *DI* will have stories published daily, as well as exclusive photo slide shows on the web from all the events in Tampa before, during, and after the game. In addition, Daily Iowan TV will have 15-minute webcasts from Tampa. Check out dailyiowan.com immediately following the 2009 Outback Bowl for a recap of what transpires inside Raymond James Stadium, and then again on Jan. 2 for complete postgame coverage, including a photo slide show as well as video.

TV TODAY

NFL
 • Indianapolis at Jacksonville, 7 p.m., NFL Network
NCAA BASKETBALL
 • Mississippi State at Cincinnati, 5:30 p.m., ESPN2
 • Evansville at No. 1 North Carolina, 6 p.m., ESPN
 • Mississippi vs. No. 9 Louisville, 8 p.m., ESPN

A Hawkeye into the throw of it



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa men's track team captain A.J. Curtis stands in the Recreation Building on Tuesday afternoon. Curtis, who is recovering from a back injury, hopes to relax and prepare for the upcoming indoor season in January.

Smooth: a description for P. Diddy, Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream, and Iowa senior A.J. Curtis.

By ALEX JOHNSON
 alexander-johnson@uiowa.edu

Smooth. It describes everything about A.J. Curtis but the scruff of his face and his jerky, twisting jaunt. “Smooth” is what got the now senior captain to the Olympic trials, and it may lead his team to a 2009 Big Ten title in the spring. “You really have to stay smooth when you’re throwing the discus,” he said on a Friday in late June. Because the motion for throwing the discus involves precise footwork, tremendous control through a spiraling

twirl, and great timing for lifting out of the twist, competing in the event requires an extra focus on a cleanly, evenly — and smoothly — executed toss. As a 2008 outdoor track and field NCAA championship qualifier in both the discus and shot put, Curtis has fine-tuned his techniques and reached a premier level: He holds the school record in the discus, throwing 202-11 on April 7, 2007, and in addition to his appearance at the national meet in June, he became the Iowa men’s team’s only competitor in the 2008 U.S. Olympic trials.

And as he spoke about his trip scheduled for a few days later, he had a clear understanding of what he had to do to perform well, but even more, he had an understanding of why he was there competing with the world’s best throwers. “They’re going to say, ‘This kid — he’s just here because he caught a big throw,’” Curtis said four days before his flight for the Pacific Northwest. “I’m just going to go in and say, ‘You know what, I am that kid.’ I’m just going to go throw and have some fun.” But in the preliminary’s second flight, on July 3, he couldn’t strike with the same fluidity that sent him to the trials. That may have been partially because of his having a long junior year of track and field, a season that began

nearly six months before in January. “It’s a tough situation to be in when your season goes longer and longer,” he said. “When you’re not used to it, and you’re used to a shorter season, it’s harder to be able to perform over and over again.” Curtis’ toss at the trials was 172-09, more than 30 feet short of his qualifying school-record throw in the Central College Invitational in 2007. But he has used the subpar performance to learn. Although he’s struggling through a back injury suffered while cleaning his living room, he has his mind on a 2009 All-American finish in both the discus and shot put. “I’ve been able to go through that [long season] last year,”

A.J. Curtis
Born: Feb. 7, 1987
Hometown: Brodhead, Wis.
Year: Senior
Career highlights:
2006
 • Fourth-place finish in shot put at indoor Big Ten championships
 • NCAA Midwest Regional qualifier in shot put and discus
2007
 • Sets school discus record, 202-11, at the Central College Invitational
 • Second-place finish in discus at Big Ten championships
 • Academic All-Big Ten
2008
 • Third-place finish in shot put and discus at NCAA Midwest Regional
 • Automatically qualifies for the NCAA championships in shot put and discus
 • NCAA Midwest All-Region honors
 • Competes in the 2008 U.S. Olympic trials in the discus
 • Academic All-Big Ten
 • Named a team captain

SEE CURTIS, 3B

Few nail biters for Hawk hoopsters

Win or lose, the Iowa women’s basketball team has been involved in a number of blowouts this season

By MIKE BROWNLEE
 michael-brownlee@uiowa.edu

Fans of the Iowa women’s basketball team who have caught games on television this season have probably had a hard time staying tuned until the final seconds. That’s because “Quantum Leap” reruns, Billy Mays infomercials, and Detroit Lion games have more suspenseful endings than games involving the Hawkeyes.

When Iowa wins, it wins big. Conversely, when the Hawkeyes lose, they lose big. In 10 Iowa games this season, the margin of victory has been 18 points or more eight times. That matches the total the Hawkeyes had in 32 games last season. The list of eight includes seven games of a 20-point or more margin and two games in which more than 30 points separated the victor from the defeated. Iowa’s average margin of vic-

tor is 23.2 points, while its average margin of loss is 20.3. The biggest win came in a 75-45 shellacking of Texas State in the season-opener. A 76-43 pounding in the Paradise Jam by No. 12 California (No. 3 at the time) is the biggest loss of the season suffered by the Hawkeyes. “I love the wins,” Bluder said. “But the losses concern me because I would’ve liked to have had a better appearance in those games.”

Other big losses came on the road at the hands of No. 8 Duke (71-47) and Kansas (76-55). “Playing at Duke and playing California were some pretty tough tasks,” Bluder said. “The Kansas game, although it was early [in the season], that’s concerning because I think we should’ve and could’ve played them a lot closer than we did.” Senior Wendy Ausdemore

said losing by so much has hurt, but lessons can be learned. “You have to bring it every day,” the forward said. “You have to stick together as a team, play tough defense, and rebound. Our nonconference games are going to help us a lot [down the road]. We faced a lot of good competition and physical play, which will help us in the Big Ten.” The big wins for the Hawkeyes have come against some quality opponents. Iowa ran up big margins against Big East foe Providence (64-46) and



Bluder
 coach

SEE BASKETBALL, 3B

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Minnesota	0	0	.000	9	0	1.000
Ohio St.	0	0	.000	7	0	1.000
Illinois	0	0	.000	9	1	.900
Northwestern	0	0	.000	7	1	.875
Iowa	0	0	.000	9	2	.818
Penn St.	0	0	.000	9	2	.818
Purdue	0	0	.000	8	2	.800
Wisconsin	0	0	.000	8	2	.800
Michigan	0	0	.000	7	2	.778
Michigan St.	0	0	.000	7	2	.778
Indiana	0	0	.000	5	5	.500

Wednesday's Games
 Michigan State 79, The Citadel 65
 Ohio State 81, Jacksonville 68
Saturday's Games
 Iowa at Drake, 3:05 p.m.
 Iowa at Ohio State
 Michigan State vs. Texas
 Minnesota vs. Louisville at Glendale, Az.
 Michigan vs. Oakland, at Detroit
 Purdue vs. Davidson, at Indianapolis
 Coppin State at Wisconsin
 Detroit at Illinois
 Northwestern at Stanford

WOMEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct
Wisconsin	0	0	.000	10	1	.909
Ohio State	0	0	.000	9	2	.818
Minnesota	0	0	.000	8	2	.800
Indiana	0	0	.000	7	2	.778
Iowa	0	0	.000	6	4	.600
Michigan State	0	0	.000	6	4	.600
Michigan	0	0	.000	6	4	.600
Purdue	0	0	.000	5	5	.500
Penn State	0	0	.000	4	6	.400
Illinois	0	0	.000	4	6	.400
Northwestern	0	0	.000	3	7	.300

Today's Game
 Delaware State at Michigan State
Friday's Game
 Cincinnati at Michigan
Saturday's Games
 Iowa at Drake, 11:05 a.m.
 Illinois at North Carolina
 Northwestern at Indiana

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AMERICAN CONFERENCE										
East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	West			
							W	L	T	Pct
N.Y. Jets	9	5	0	.643	385	319	10	5	0	.680
New England	9	5	0	.643	350	302	8	8	0	.500
Miami	9	5	0	.643	283	269	6	8	0	.429
Buffalo	6	8	0	.429	306	306	10	4	0	.714
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	W	L	T	Pct
x-Tennessee	12	2	0	.857	344	197	10	4	0	.714
Indianapolis	10	4	0	.714	323	274	7	7	0	.500
Houston	7	7	0	.500	319	343	5	9	0	.357
Jacksonville	5	9	0	.357	271	309	11	3	0	.786
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	W	L	T	Pct
x-Pittsburgh	11	3	0	.786	302	192	9	5	0	.643
Baltimore	9	5	0	.643	325	213	4	10	0	.286
Cleveland	4	10	0	.286	232	305	2	11	1	.179
Cincinnati	2	11	1	.179	174	358	8	6	0	.571
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	W	L	T	Pct
Denver	8	6	0	.571	326	366	6	8	0	.429
San Diego	6	8	0	.429	346	302	3	11	0	.214
Oakland	3	11	0	.214	205	348	2	12	0	.143
Kansas City	2	12	0	.143	254	386				

New Orleans at Detroit, 12 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Tennessee, 12 p.m.
 Miami at Kansas City, 12 p.m.
 Arizona at New England, 12 p.m.
 San Francisco at St. Louis, 12 p.m.
 San Diego at Tampa Bay, 12 p.m.
 Cincinnati at Cleveland, 12 p.m.
 N.Y. Jets at Seattle, 3:05 p.m.
 Houston at Oakland, 3:05 p.m.
 Buffalo at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
 Atlanta at Minnesota, 3:15 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Washington, 3:15 p.m.
 Carolina at N.Y. Giants, 7:15 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 22 Game
 Green Bay at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	24	2	.923	—
New Jersey	12	12	.500	11
New York	11	14	.440	12½
Philadelphia	11	14	.440	12½
Toronto	10	15	.400	13½
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	19	6	.760	—
Atlanta	15	10	.600	4
Miami	12	12	.500	6½
Charlotte	8	18	.308	11½
Washington	4	19	.174	14
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	21	4	.840	—
Detroit	14	9	.609	6
Chicago	12	13	.480	9
Milwaukee	11	16	.407	11
Indiana	9	16	.360	12

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest W L Pct GB
 New Orleans 21 4 .840 ½
 Houston 16 9 .640 4
 San Antonio 15 9 .625 1
 Dallas 14 10 .583 2
 Memphis 9 16 .360 7½
Northwest W L Pct GB
 Denver 17 8 .680
 Portland 16 10 .610 ½
 Utah 16 11 .593 2
 Minnesota 4 21 .160 13
 Oklahoma City 2 24 .077 15½
Pacific W L Pct GB
 L.A. Lakers 21 3 .875 ½
 Phoenix 15 10 .600 6½
 L.A. Clippers 7 18 .280 14½
 Golden State 7 19 .269 15
 Sacramento 7 19 .269 15

Wednesday's Games
 Boston 88, Atlanta 85
 Dallas 96, Toronto 86
 Philadelphia 93, Milwaukee 88
 New Orleans 127, Golden State 120
 Utah 103, New Jersey 92
 Detroit 88, Washington 74
 Cleveland 93, Minnesota 70
 Chicago 115, L.A. Clippers 109, OT
 New Orleans 90, San Antonio 83
Today's Games
 San Antonio at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 Phoenix at Portland, 9:30 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL
American League
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with LHP Heath Phillips, LHP Lenny Dykardo, RHP Oscar Villarreal and OF Tommy Murphy on minor league contracts.
National League
CHICAGO CUBS—Named Franklin Font minor league infield coordinator and Jody Davis minor league catching coordinator. Named Keith Stohr advanced scout. Named Bobby Dickerson manager for Iowa (PCL) and Brian Slavisky, OF Casey Craig, Dennis Lewallyn pitching coach, Tom Beyers hitting coach and Nick Frangella trainer for Tennessee (SL).
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms with RHP Yorman Bazardo, RHP Yoel Hernandez, RHP Justin Pope, LHP Jason MacKintosh, LHP Joshua Shortall, 1B-OF Brian Slavisky, OF Casey Craig, OF Kevin Mahar, OF Wilkin Ruan, OF Mike Spidale and OF Rich Thompson on minor league contracts.
COLLEGE
ILLINOIS STATE—Named Brock Spack football coach.
WYOMING—Named Marcus Arroyo offensive coordinator, Jeff Decker defensive line coach, Marty English defensive coordinator, Mike Fanoga outside linebackers coach, Alex Grinch secondary coach, Jim Harding tight ends coach and Jason Ray running backs coach.

Lions aim for V-ball perfection

By ERIC OLSON
 Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Penn State hasn't lost a match this season. Not even a set.

But for all the Nittany Lions have accomplished, they know it won't mean much if they don't finish the most dominating run in women's college volleyball with an NCAA championship.

The top-seeded defending champions (36-0) need two more wins, starting with tonight's national semifinal at No. 4 Nebraska (31-2). The other semifinal features No. 2 Stanford (30-3), the 2007 national runner-up, against No. 3 Texas (29-3).

"It sets the bar very high for future teams to talk about doing something great in the regular season," Penn State coach Russ Rose said. "But these players realize we're here for the national championships and the final four, and for us to have success here, we're going to have to play our best volleyball."

The Lions have won 109-consecutive sets, breaking the 105-set streak by Florida in 2003. Penn State's average winning margin is a commanding 25-16. Penn State also has won 62-consecutive matches, another NCAA record.

"It appears as though we have some history happening this year with Penn State and that we're all chasing them," Stanford coach John Dunning said. "We're all in a hunt chasing down the lion."

To reach Saturday's final, Penn State will have to get past a surprising Nebraska team that reached the final four after replacing four All-Americans. The Lions also need to overcome the pro-Nebraska crowd that will number 17,000 at the Qwest Center, 50 miles from the Huskers' Lincoln campus.

It will be a difficult task to upend Nebraska. The Huskers are 13-0 all-time at the Qwest Center and have won 96-straight matches played in the state.

"It's a long trip to get here, and you're playing Nebraska in the state of Nebraska," Rose said.

The six-time defending Big Ten champion Lions feature three-time All-America outside hitter Nicole Fawcett and three other first-team All-Americans. They're trying to become the fourth unbeaten national champion and the sixth to defend their title.

Having to win in front of a hostile crowd just adds to the challenge, Fawcett said.

"It's something we all thrive on," she said. "You practice all the time to play in front of a crowd and show it what you can do. To have an atmosphere like this — Nebraska always has been known to have fans who support good volleyball — it's great to be able to show people what you do and that your team has gotten to this point."

Nebraska, which won the 2006 title, is in the semifinals for the third time in four years. The Huskers' improbable appearance came after a dramatic five-set win at Washington in last week's regional final.

Nebraska defensive specialist Rachel Schwartz called it an honor to play an opponent with Penn State's credentials. But neither she nor teammates Jordan Larson and Amanda Gates admit feeling intimidated.

Stanford (30-3) is bidding for a third-straight appearance in the national title match. The Cardinal are led by senior middle blocker Foluke Akinradewo, the 2007 national Player of the Year, and enter the semifinals with 15-straight wins.

Feds: Football star's nephew ran Pa. cocaine ring

ALIIQUIPPA, Pa. (AP) — Federal prosecutors in Pittsburgh say they have broken up a cocaine ring headed by the nephew of Hall of Fame running back Tony Dorsett.

Authorities say 31-year-old Anthony A. Dorsett of Aliquippa and 12 others have been selling crack and powder cocaine since 2003. An indictment unsealed Tuesday detailed the operation as authorities arrested most of the suspects. They say he was arrested Dec. 13 in West Virginia.

The alleged drug trafficking was centered in the Linmar Terrace pub-

lic-housing complex in Aliquippa, around 25 miles northwest of Pittsburgh.

Ivan Rodriguez to play for Puerto Rico in Classic

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Star catcher Ivan Rodriguez will play for Puerto Rico at next year's World Baseball Classic.

The 14-time All-Star signed an agreement Wednesday to play in the 2009 tournament, Puerto Rico general manager Lou Melendez said.

Rodriguez recently ended a more than decade-long absence to return home to play in the island's winter league.

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A soccer career, then home

After finishing her Iowa soccer career atop the record books, Stephanie Hyink is graduating and preparing for a wedding.

By AMIE KIEHN
 amie-kiehn@uiowa.edu

Nearly a dozen women were crowded onto two couches as the pulsing beat of Beyoncé's "Single Ladies" bled from the speakers in the cozy apartment of sophomore soccer players Jenna Aleo, Amanda Martin, and Mandy Heimann.

The tight quarters were filled because the soccer team was throwing one of their veteran leaders, Stephanie Hyink, a wedding shower.

Her reign as a four-year starting forward ended this fall. She competed in her final game for the Hawkeyes in the opening round of the Big Ten Tournament against top-seeded Penn State on Nov. 6. As the game ended, the 2-1 loss was intolerable for Hyink.

She remained standing on the field, dejected, covering her eyes with her black jersey — Hyink's visible passion for the soccer program will be her legacy.

The forward is fifth on Iowa's all-time list in career assists (11) and finished just two goals shy of fifth in career goals scored (16).

Her roommate and teammate Katie Smeltzer recognizes Hyink's imprint as one gracing more than the record books.

"She is probably one of the nicest people you will ever meet," Smeltzer said. "She is always willing to help out people when they absolutely need it, and I think that will serve her very well."

Hyink will graduate Saturday with degrees in math and communications studies — then she plans to move back home to Temecula, Calif. With her departure near, fellow senior Kelsey Shaw organized the Dec. 5 wedding shower.

"I just wanted to get people together just to hang out with [Hyink]," Shaw said. "For most of the girls, this might be the last time we see her."

Around five months from now,

ON THE WEB

See photos of how the soccer team sent off senior Stephanie Hyink at dailyiowan.com.

Hyink will walk down the aisle of Rancho Community Church to wed fiancé Josh Pulido.

And Hyink expects her team's attendance at her nuptials to be thin, because the wedding falls two days before the soccer team begins finals week.

"Both of us being from so far away, we have kind of relied on each other for these last couple of years," said Shaw, who is from Chino, Calif. "So you know what, being a good friend — I can throw a party."

One step into the apartment and the team's presence was apparent — the floor was covered in two long rows of winter boots, black soccer cleats, Nike Shox, and sandals. Hyink's party felt like a dance party.

"I know Steph was really happy to see that everybody wanted to do this, wanted to support her," Smeltzer said. "It is easy to forget people once they leave the team, once they're gone, but I think everyone is excited for her and her new journey in life."

And soccer will still have its place for Hyink.

The six-year relationship between Pulido and Hyink is rooted in the sport — the high-school sweethearts met as a pair of soccer standouts at Chaparral High School. Then he went to Oregon State to play, and she came to Iowa City.

Pulido's experience as a student-athlete benefited Hyink, because the transition 2,000 miles from home, was taxing.

"I could not have done it without him," she said. "I honestly think I would have caved in and considered transferring ..."

"He was always like, 'Stick it out. It is only four years of your life.' So he was good about that,



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Hawkeye soccer player Stephanie Hyink dons a veil for her wedding shower at a teammate's apartment on Dec. 5. The team threw a party for her wedding shower.

and even when I would come home for summer, he would be good about getting me out there to train."

Whether or not it was Pulido's summer inspirations that helped keep Hyink ready to play in the Big Ten, it certainly didn't hurt — in addition to Hyink's top 10 rankings in goals and assists, she also has the sixth-most game-winners in one season at Iowa with three in 2007.

The Iowa soccer team may have to let Hyink depart, but that doesn't mean she'll forget her Hawkeye teammates.

"I was just so excited that [Shaw] would think of me enough to [throw the party] for me," Hyink said. "It was just such a great turnout. And they were so happy for me, it just made me feel so blessed to have such a great team."

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BASKETBALL
CONTINUED FROM 1B

intrastate pests Iowa State (66-46) and Northern Iowa (72-46). The Cyclones were rated No. 22 at the time and entered Carver-Hawkeye Arena as favorites. Bluder said that the one

downside to beating teams by so much is the lack of suspense. "I don't like that we haven't been in pressure situations a lot," she said. "I think you need to be in those pressure situations in order to know how people are going to handle those situations. If those situations finish positively, it gives you a

lot of confidence." The Hawkeyes had six games decided by four points or fewer last season and seven decided by six points or fewer. "Last year, we were in a lot of close games, and they finished positively for us, and we gained confidence by going through those situations," Bluder said.

Veteran point guard Kristi Smith said that as in the blowout losses, there are lessons to be taken away from the big wins, as well. "[We learned] that we can compete with good teams and that we are a good team," the senior said. "If we come ready to play, we'll be hard to beat."

BASEBALL

Source: Furcal to stay with Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rafael Furcal accepted a three-year contract with the Los Angeles Dodgers worth at least \$30 million on Wednesday, and the Atlanta Braves accused the star shortstop of reneging on a deal they thought was agreed to earlier this week. Furcal can earn an additional \$3 million if he remains healthy during the three guaranteed seasons of the contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told the Associated Press. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity

because the deal was still not yet official. A day earlier, Furcal had been close to accepting a \$30 million, three-year offer from the Atlanta Braves, his original major league team. "From our perspective, we reached an agreement Monday night," Braves' general manager Frank Wren said. "They asked for a term sheet for us to sign on Tuesday morning, and we sent over the signed term sheet. It was then that his agent [Paul Kinzer] informed us that [Kinzer's] partner had been in contact with the Dodgers."

Curtis looks to lead, smoothly



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa's A.J. Curtis warms up with in the throwing ring before competing in the discus at the NCAA Division I track and field championship in Des Moines.

CURTIS
CONTINUED FROM 1B

he said on Monday. "I hope that ability to be able to last longer through the season will help me this year and get to where I want to be again."

But right now, Curtis is ready to take it easy during winter break. The mathematics major headed home Tuesday after finishing finals, but he plans to keep workouts to a minimum in hopes of returning for the indoor season opener in late January.

"I hope I'm a leader for everybody," he said. "It was certainly an honor to be named as a captain this year. Hopefully, I can go and show everyone how to fight through injury and the pains you might have and go out and perform even though you might have adversity. Hopefully, everybody can feed off that."

Standing 6-4, weighing 260 pounds, his example will hardly be small.

When Curtis gets into the throwers' circle, sporting his buzz cut, big silver chain, and black-and-gold uniform, he morphs into a personality similar to that of the Baltimore Ravens' Ray Lewis. Senior teammate John Hickey describes Curtis as "emotionally energetic"; he is prone to random outbursts of energy even when he's not throwing the 4.4-pound metal discus.

For the most part, however, he will lead as a dependable performer and person.

"I think he's a real positive person," head coach Larry Wicczorek said. "He's just a guy who — I don't know if steady is the right word, but a steady personality. He's a great guy to be around every day."

And Curtis's goals line up

with his coach's description — all the thrower really wants out of his senior season is a Big Ten team championship.

"That'd be the best," he said. "We haven't had one of those in a long time at the university."

But if he has the season he's capable of — and is aiming for — he could be one of the main reasons Iowa succeeds. He's already an accomplished athlete: Along with his national appearances over the summer, he also has a bronze medal from the 2008 Big Ten championships.

And, with slightly more than six months left in his college career, Curtis still has time to win a conference title and become an All-American.

"He's a total package in a student-athlete," Wicczorek said. "He's an outstanding student: He's going to graduate in four years, and he's been a terrific athlete for us reaching the NAAs, especially after fracturing his back last fall."

"I think his best is yet to come."

When the 2009 indoor season begins in a little more than a month, Curtis will take over the role as a leader alongside Hickey, one held a year ago by teammate Shane Maier, and one Maier excelled in as a Big Ten champion.

Even before Curtis began his final year at Iowa, Maier believed he had accomplished plenty.

"I'm really proud of him," he said.

Maier told stories about he and Curtis doing all kinds of "stupid" things together, most notably scaring Hickey into believing Maier had wiped out during his motorcycle-licensing field test in June — Curtis played it cool, answering Hickey's hysterically repeated questions calmly, and then



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa thrower A.J. Curtis prepares to throw the shot put in Drake Stadium at the 2008 NCAA Division I track and field championships in Des Moines.

Maier rolled right up in front of Hickey with a grin. Then, Maier said, there was the time they adopted street signs and another incident involving toilet paper long-toss off a hotel balcony — through all of which, Maier said, Curtis maintained his reputation — he stayed smooth.

Just as he was at a conversation at his kitchen table.

He's not out to be track and field's cover boy, yet he's accomplished almost enough. And as he chewed on a crab Rangoon and thought over his career, it became clear he's not a glory seeker.

"My biggest achievement so far is just being here," he said after a few moments thinking it over. "Just being in this situation — being able to say I've been at the University of Iowa. I competed with the best athletes in the country."

So, while Hickey and Maier sat in the next room laughing about a time when Hickey discovered a way to fall completely past the target arrows marked across a bowling lane, Curtis kept a straight face and continued.

"Even the two guys sitting in the living room here are the best throwers in the country," he said. "We've got one of the best throwing crews in the country, and knowing that I was good enough to come in here and throw with them was a great achievement."

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IOWA VS MINNESOTA
Thursday, Jan. 8, 2009 at 6 pm

Hansbrough nears record

By AARON BEARD
Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Tyler Hansbrough didn't seem fazed by all the questions about how close he is to breaking the career scoring record that has stood for 30 years at North Carolina. The prospect of giving a speech to the home fans to celebrate the moment, however, is another issue.

"I'm going to have to plan something," Hansbrough said Wednesday. "It would be pretty bad if I didn't get the record with all this anticipation."

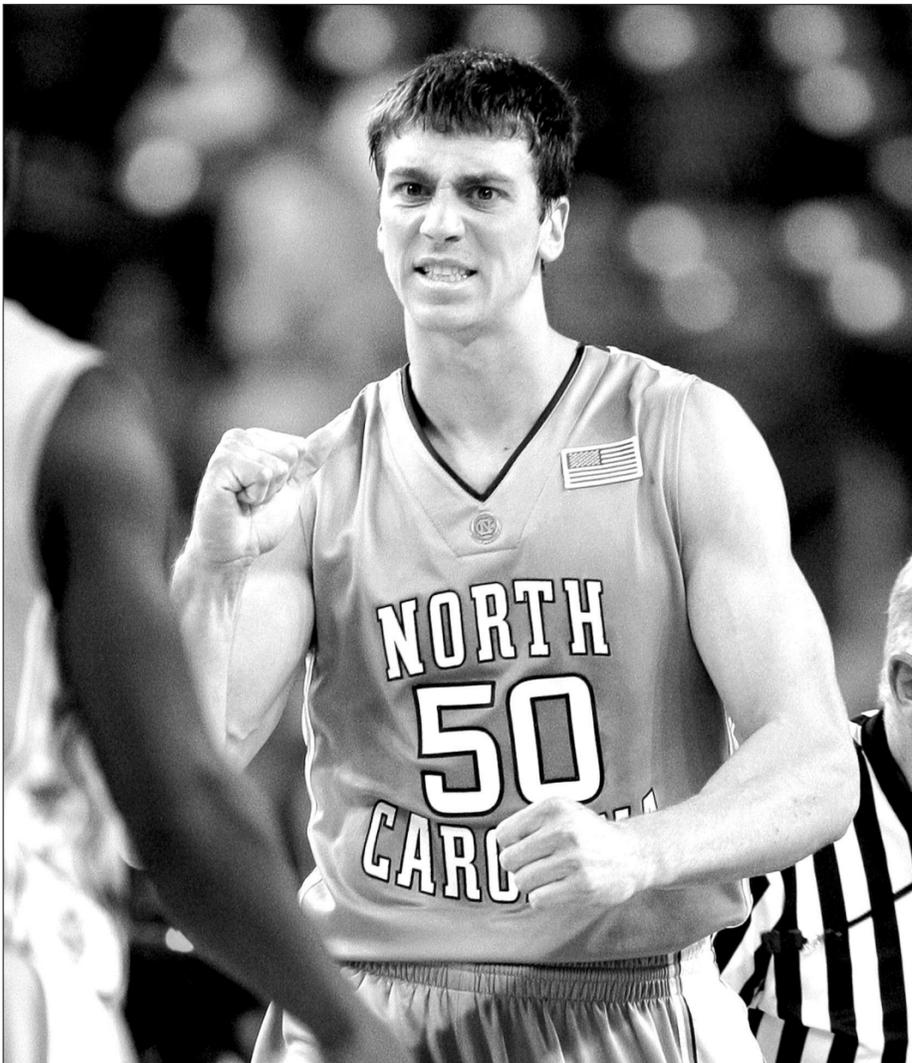
Standing nine points away from passing Phil Ford, the senior is likely to set the mark when the top-ranked Tar Heels face Evansville tonight, considering he has already scored in double figures just six times in his career. It would be the latest accomplishment in a career filled with them for the reigning national Player of the Year, who has already earned the right to have his No. 50 jersey retired when he graduates.

Ford set the record with 2,290 points in 1978. The record has stood despite such notable names as Michael Jordan, James Worthy, and Antawn Jamison coming through the program in the years since, though Jordan, Jamison, and Rashad McCants would have been within reach had they not left school a year early for the NBA.

When he opted to return for a final run at the national championship, Hansbrough was already No. 2 all-time and needed just 123 points to pass Ford. The only thing that slowed him was a preseason shin injury and a bruised ankle sustained against UC-Santa Barbara that sidelined him for four games, though he said he's getting closer to game shape.

Now, the guy who would rather talk about the team once again finds the focus solely on him.

"Everybody wants to talk



North Carolina forward Tyler Hansbrough reacts during the first half during the Tar Heels' game against Michigan State at Ford Field in Detroit on Dec. 3. Hansbrough is just nine points away from setting the career scoring record at North Carolina.

about the scoring record, which is a pretty good accomplishment," he said. "But once it is over, I'll be glad to focus on some other things."

Assuming Hansbrough sets the record, the school plans to stop tonight's game for a brief presentation from Ford and coach Roy Williams. They will present Hansbrough with the game ball before resuming the game, then show a video mon-

tage from Hansbrough's career afterward. Then, if Hansbrough can handle his nerves, he'll likely address the Smith Center crowd.

Ford, now an assistant coach to fellow Tar Heel alumnus Larry Brown with the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats, said he felt it was important for him to be there when Hansbrough sets the record.

"Until someone would actually mention it to me, I would

forget sometimes that I was the leading scorer," Ford said. "Because it was just one of those records where scoring is such an unimportant part of Carolina basketball. We never cared who puts the ball in the basket as long as it goes in for a Tar Heel."

"I'm just really happy for him. He's a great person and a great player, and I'm glad he chose to go to North Carolina instead of another school."

Cold road for Dolphins

By ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — In the seven seasons Vonnie Holliday spent playing with Kansas City and Green Bay, the defensive end always loved playing teams from Florida in December.

"I remember if a team from Florida was coming in we'd say, 'That's the difference. These guys are down there in that sun and fun right now, and if we can just jump up on them early, they'll want to get back on that bus and go home,'" Holliday said on Wednesday.

Now he finds himself on the other end in Miami.

The Dolphins (9-5) are back in the playoff mix, but they will need to break their trend of frigid flops to clinch the AFC East title and avoid another December downfall.

Miami's final two games at Kansas City and the New York Jets should bring temperatures below freezing — or worse — at kickoff.

The forecast against the Chiefs on Dec. 21 is for a high of around 20 degrees. And with winds expected to whip as much as 25 mph, it would feel far worse.

"First of all, we need not to make excuses," Dolphin coach Tony Sparano said. "But second, I think that the type of game we do play suits the elements. It's not like we are playing fast-break football out there. We're not a run-and-shoot team. We're not trying to spread it out and throw it all over the place or any of those kind of things."

When the conditions turn chilly, the warm-weather Dolphins have historically gone cold.

The coldest game the Dolphins have ever played was at New England on Dec. 11, 1977,

when the temperature dipped to 14 degrees. They also played in 22 degrees at New England on Dec. 12, 1982.

The Dolphins are 3-6 when it is 25 degrees or colder.

"When you first step out there during warm-ups, yeah, it's going to be cold," receiver Brandon London said. "We're out here practicing under palm trees right now, so it's going to be a lot different."

The Dolphins have been fortunate to dodge the wintry weather on their schedule so far the season.

They played at New England in September, and their December game against Buffalo was moved indoors to Toronto as part of the NFL's effort to get international exposure.

"No doubt about it, we've been very fortunate," Holliday said. "We haven't had a cold weather game yet. Certainly, that Toronto game was a big lift for us. Going into that dome, it was nice and cozy."

But the schedule doesn't do Miami any favors now. Besides the trip to Kansas City, a late December game in New York is rarely warm.

And Miami's regular-season finale against the Jets — which could set up as a winner-take-all AFC East title game — might also be moved to an 8:15 p.m. kickoff under the league's flex scheduling policy.

But the idea of playing in the playoffs should be enough motivation to keep the Dolphins warm.

The Dolphins are tied with the Jets and Patriots for the AFC East lead. Miami owns the tiebreaker and will go to the postseason for the first time since 2001 if it can sweep the final two games. A loss, and the Dolphins could be left out in the cold.

"The weather is one of those things you can't control," running back Ronnie Brown said. "And I think the overall goal is bigger than the weather factor. The opportunity that we have as a team, I think, is a bigger factor right now."



Sparano
Dolphin coach

PAUL SANCYA/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Williams' breakout — blame Vinny

By MIKE CRANSTON
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The way DeAngelo Williams sees it, the credit for his breakout season with the Carolina Panthers goes to a 45-year-old guy in Florida.

Williams thinks he now spends his days in Tampa doing impersonations of Al Bundy from "Married with Children," sitting on his couch, a cold beverage in his hand.

This guy would be Vinny Testaverde, the once ageless quarterback who, before finally retiring at the end of last season, sat down the young running back and gave some wise, fatherly advice.

"I think he's probably affected my season more this year than anybody because of the conversation that we had before he left," Williams said on Wednesday.

After serving as a backup for his first two seasons in the NFL, Williams has become one of the top backs in the league. The 25-year-old Williams has rushed for 1,229 yards and 14 touchdowns.

His 5.5-yard average per carry is the best of any back

in the league with at least 100 carries.

Behind their renewed running game with Williams and rookie Jonathan Stewart, the Panthers are 11-3; they will play the New York Giants on Dec. 21 with the No. 1 seed in the NFC playoffs on the line.

And while Williams teased Testaverde about his supposed easygoing lifestyle in retirement, Williams believes their talk about commitment and work ethic at the end of last season is the reason Williams has gone from a backup to somebody his teammates feel should have been selected to the Pro Bowl.

"We had a lengthy conver-

sation and everything he said to me made perfect sense," said Williams, Carolina's first-round pick in 2006. "From the film room down to work ethic and everything of that nature. He really left me with some things that really touched me and stayed on my heart, as you can tell from this season."

Williams wouldn't reveal the exact details of the talk, and Testaverde couldn't be reached on Wednesday. But quarterback Jake Delhomme believes Williams has benefited greatly from the advice of the 21-year veteran, who was well-known for being in top condition and well-prepared for every game.



Williams
running back

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5-speed, Wolfsburg package, silver metallic, 24/31 mpg, 107K. Sharp, one owner! \$4,350.
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AUTO FOREIGN

2004 MAZDA RX8
Black, 44K, 4 CYL.
Options include Bose sound, DVD, GPS. Excellent condition. \$16,200
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1998 VW JETTA
5-speed,

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

More Term Paper Ideas:

- Bean, Beans: The Magical Fruit
- A Justification for the Lowering of the Age of Consent Laws of Iowa
- Parallels of Death and Resurrection Between Jesus Christ and Britney Spears' Career
- How Watching VH1's Best Week Ever Improves Society as a Whole
- Steak Knives and Babies: A Field Study
- The Inherent Inferiority of the Left-Handed Populous
- Death by Chocolate: Not Just a Cutesy Dessert Name, As It Turns Out
- The Pagan Origins of Our Contemporary Christmas Celebrations: The Same "Mind-Blowing" Exposé You Read Every Damn Year
- Hugh Jackman: Would Ya?
 - Four Pounds of Bleu Cheese and Its Effects on the Lower Gastrointestinal Tract of Homo Sapiens
 - A Thorough Analysis of the Girls Next Door: Are They Really?
 - A Meta-Analysis of Methanolysis Misanalysis
 - The Family Circle Magazine and the Family Circle Comic Strip: A Comparative Analysis of Utter Suckitude
 - 50 Additional Theoretically Possible Ways to Leave Your Lover Allowed for by Strong Theory
 - Examples of Temporal Deceleration in Bounded Space: This Classroom and How Much You Blow When it Comes to Teaching

- Andrew R. Juhl recently finished a 275-page treatise titled "The Potential for LOLcats to Bring About World Peace."

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

PERAMBULATION



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Carlie Dolder walks dogs from the animal shelter across the Pentacrest on Wednesday. The dogs, Missy, Molly, and Mallory, frolicked around Dolder, entangling her in their leashes as she walked.

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

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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

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SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

today's events

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

- **Molecular Physiology and Biophysics Faculty Candidate Seminar, "Structural and functional studies of voltage sensor proteins,"** Seok-Yong Lee, Rockefeller University, 9:30 a.m., 5-669 Bowen
- **Preschool Story Time: Merry Mother Goose with Debbie Dunn,** 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Tipton High School Choir,** noon, UIHC Colyton Pavilion
- **Pharmacology Graduate Student Workshop, "Shaping Calcium Signals in Neurons via Mitochondrial Calcium Buffering and TRPM8 Receptors,"** Patrick Houlihan, 12:30 p.m., Bowen Spivey Auditorium
- **Dawn's Earrings Class,** 2 and 5:30 p.m., Dawn's Hide and Bead Away, 220 E. Washington
- **Teen Tech Zone,** 2:30-5 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Nuncrackers,** 3 p.m., Old Creamery Theatre, 39 38th Ave., Amana
- **Salt the Wound, the Demonstration, By These Hands, Dividing the Masses, and**

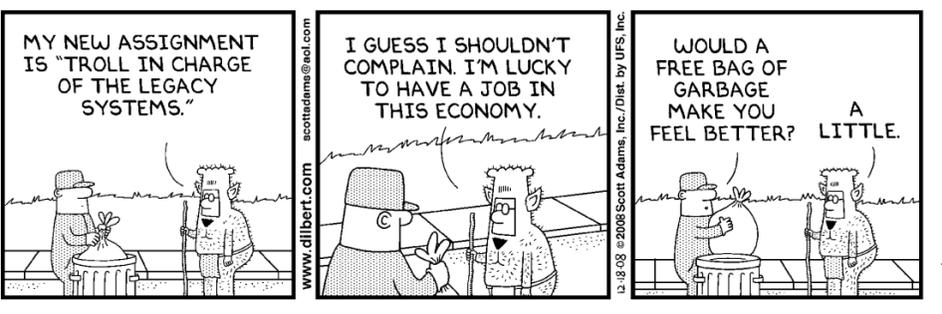
- **From Citizen to Soldier,** 6 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Gaming for Teens,** 6 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Festival of Carols,** 7 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- **Momma's Man,** 7 and 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Proseman in Cinema and Culture: Sub-Saharan African Cinemas, film TBA,** 7 p.m., 101 Becker
- **Pieta Brown and Haley Bonar,** 8 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Drinking Liberally,** 8 p.m., Mill
- **Goodtime Karaoke,** 8 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
- **Big D's Karaoke,** 9 p.m., Gus', 2421 Coral Court Suite 4, Coralville
- **Gemini Karaoke,** 9 p.m., Speak Easy, 171 Highway 1 W.
- **New Beat Society and Uniphonics,** 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Thursday Night Karaoke,** 9:30 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville
- **Physical Challenge,** 10 p.m., Picador

UITV schedule

- Campus channel 4, cable channel 17
- Noon News from Russia (in Russian)
 - 6:30 Todd Lickliter News Conference
 - 12:30 p.m. News from China-Beijing (in Chinese)
 - 6:30 Incompetent Sports Talk
 - 1 "Prairie Lights" Archive, Karen Joy
 - 7 "Java Blend," Joe & Vicki Price
 - 8 Biofuels, Bruce Dale, Michigan State
 - 2 News from Germany (in German)
 - 9:30 Daily Iowan TV News
 - 3 "Java Blend," Joe & Vicki Price
 - 9:45 Incompetent Sports Talk
 - 4 Brookings Debate, Energy Policy Program 1 of 2, October 2007
 - 10:15 Todd Lickliter News Conference
 - 5 Brookings Debate, Energy Policy
 - 10:45 Daily Iowan TV News
 - 11 "Java Blend," Joe & Vicki Price

DILBERT

by Scott Adams



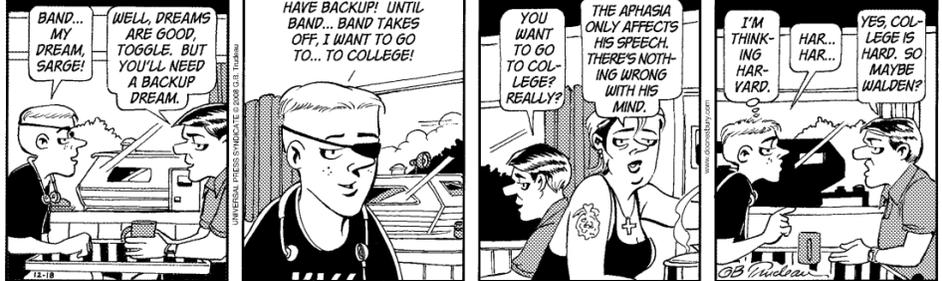
'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

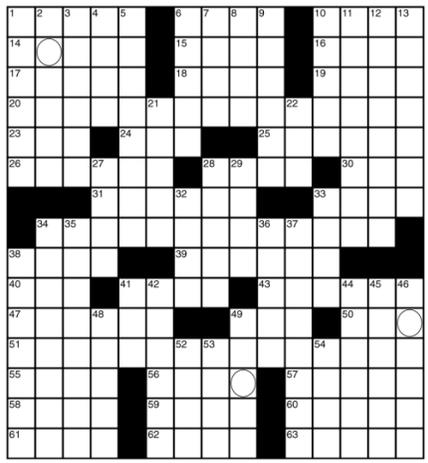
BY GARRY TRUDEAU



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1106

- Across**
- 1 Pioneering 35 mm. camera
 - 6 ___ Kong
 - 10 Tactical ballistic missile
 - 14 Get all A's
 - 15 Foreign prince
 - 16 Cannes presentation
 - 17 Kind of bank
 - 18 ___-tiller
 - 19 One-two connector
 - 20 [See circled letters]
 - 23 No. that should be as low as possible
 - 24 Part of a French face
 - 25 Certain Crimeans
 - 26 Cause during Prohibition
 - 28 One caught in a police sting
 - 30 Year Michelangelo began "David"
 - 31 Virginia locale where the C.I.A. is headquartered
 - 33 "The Hound of the Baskervilles" setting
 - 34 [See circled letters]
 - 38 Insincere talk
 - 39 "That's a lie!," e.g.
 - 40 "___, what eyes hath Love put in my head": Shak.
 - 41 Cowherd's aid
 - 43 Supermodel Bündchen
 - 47 Sound in a Bobby Darin song title
 - 49 ___ esprit
 - 50 10 on a 10-point scale, e.g.
 - 51 [See circled letters]
 - 55 Arm part
 - 56 "Time ___" (bygone sci-fi series)
 - 57 A sheriff may be seen in it
 - 58 Gather
 - 59 Sun block
 - 60 Take forcibly
 - 61 To be overseas
 - 62 P.M. known as the Iron Lady
 - 63 Exterminators' targets
- Down**
- 1 Richard ___, director of "Help!" and "A Hard Day's Night"
 - 2 Run out
 - 3 Martian feature
 - 4 Supreme Court writ, familiarly
 - 5 Output from Benjamin Franklin's press
 - 6 National alternative
 - 7 Autobiographical novel of 1847
 - 8 Time on a marquee
 - 9 Business goal
 - 10 Meager
 - 11 Gum choice
 - 12 Victor of an upset
 - 13 It may follow a name and address
 - 21 Bass relative
 - 22 McKellen who played Gandalf



Puzzle by Allan E. Parrish

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

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

The Daily Iowan

For home delivery, phone 335-5783



Swingin' and singin'

The Englert will host the annual Festival of Carols tonight, featuring classic holiday tunes cast in a fresh light.

3C



Industrial-strength New Year's Eve

Thinking of celebrating the traditional way this New Year's Eve? Well, you can do that, but why not listen to some music while you're counting down and toasting to the new year?



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Dead Larry members (from left) Joe Scarpellino, Mark McGuiness, Ned Barclay, and Josh Felling hang out on the porch of their home on Monday. The alt-rock band is based in Iowa City.

By BRIAN DAU
brian-dau@uiowa.edu

It's 11 p.m. on Dec. 31 in Iowa City. The Ped Mall is packed with jovial merrymakers, and nobody is taking New Year's resolutions seriously yet. The streets are littered with kazoes, party hats, and empty bottles of Andre, signaling that some revelers won't make it to the big midnight countdown and obligatory champagne toast.

Sound familiar? Maybe you should try something different this year, champ. Say, for example, the two-stage, six-band show at the Industry, 211 Iowa Ave., Dec. 31 at 8 p.m. Performing downstairs will be the Uniphonics, Euforquestra, and Public Property. Upstairs will be Johnny on Point, Insectoid, and Dead Larry. The show will also feature the black-light-infused dance movements of performance artists Pyrotechniq.

Five projectors. 10 to 15 TVs. Approximately 2,000 watts of power dedicated to black lights. This is, according to Insectoid vocalist/keyboardist Loren Lang, only some of the atmosphere contributing to the sensory assault planned for the upstairs show.

"We want to create an atmosphere that establishes and reinforces what we're trying to get across musically," Lang said. "It's a lot to take in."

Among the performances to be "taken in" will be four members of Midwest performance art troupe Pyrotechniq, led by manager Ashley Bertling. Because the members of Insectoid all sit down to play, the band "wanted more motion," Lang said, and the wild visuals provided by Pyrotechniq were the perfect solution. And for the members of Pyrotechniq, the performances with Insectoid offered a chance to do something more unstructured and improvisational than normal.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Downstairs: The Uniphonics, Euforquestra, Public Property
Upstairs: Johnny on Point, Insectoid, Dead Larry

When: 8 p.m. Dec. 31

Where: Industry, 211 Iowa

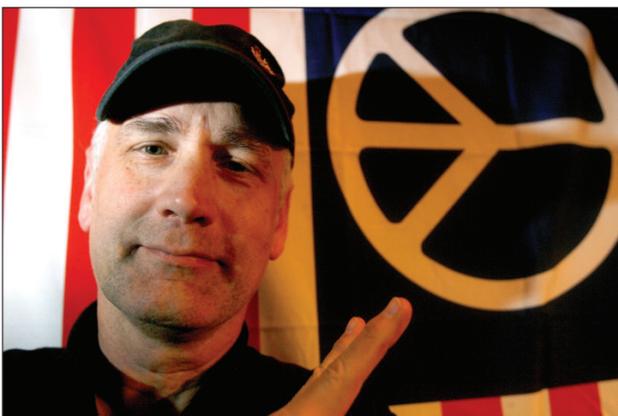
SEE DANCERS, 3C



PUBLICITY PHOTO

The Industry's New Year's Eve show will feature dancers and spinners with spinning poi, hula hoops, and lightsabers — not to mention the two stages, five projectors, six bands, 10 to 15 TVs, and 2,000 watts of power dedicated to black lights.

Rockin' along Beaker Street



CHRISTY AUMER/THE DAILY IOWAN

James Dreier gives the peace sign in front of an American peace flag in Steve Grismore's basement on Monday. Dreier has a broad musical background, varying from jazz to Latin, and he has played for more than 40 years.

CONCERT

The Beaker Brothers

When: 9 p.m. Friday

Where: Mill, 120 E. Burlington

Admission: \$7

Perhaps you were first exposed to the virtuosic guitar playing of Led Zeppelin and the Allman Brothers Band in the 2000 film *Almost Famous* — idolized by our generation, yet misrepresenting it by a 40-year age difference. But when it comes to the men of local cover jam band the Beaker Brothers, it's music they've marinated in most of their lives.

By KATHLEEN SERINO
kathleen-serino@uiowa.edu

The first rule of the Beaker Brothers is you have to be over 50.

The second rule of the Beaker Brothers is you have to be over 50.

The requirement to be a part of the Beaker Brothers Band is not as grueling as the rules explicated in *Fight Club*, but it's an indicator that the passion for the music of the late-60s and the '70s must be thoroughly represented by its seasoned constituents.

"There's a difference between growing up with that music and having it become part of your

flesh and blood, as opposed to learning and being aware of it secondhand," said Craig Kessler, a fan of the Brothers and local owner of Real Records.

Residing and performing throughout eastern Iowa, Steve Grismore, John Shultz, Dan Hummel, James Dreier, Ed English, and Dan Bernstein make up the over-50 and mostly for-fun musical group performing Friday night at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington St.

"One of the funny rules was you had to be at least 50 so that you grew up at that time, so you weren't pretending as though you knew this music," said guitarist and UI School of Music

jazz lecturer Grismore, recalling his decree when he formed the band almost two years ago.

Made up of two guitarists, two percussionists, a bass player, and a keyboardist, doubling on some instruments helps the Brothers cover such songs as Carlos Santana's "Black Magic Woman" and the Grateful Dead's "Good Morning, Little Schoolgirl" — songs both known for using more than one percussionist — as well as such songs as the Allman Brothers' "Jessica," which favors two guitars.

Keyboardist Shultz says the band is beyond a hobby but still less than a real job.

SEE BROTHERS, 3C

WEEKEND AGENDA



Thursday

2 p.m. In need of some last-minute Christmas gifts? Visit Dawn's Hide And Bead Away for a class on making your own earrings.

4 p.m. Sell back your books, and cherish those \$2 bills.

8 p.m. Stop by the Mill for Pieta Brown's CD release show, featuring Haley Bonar, who hails from the Great North, Minnesota.

Enjoy a night of music with these two songsters.

9 p.m. When's the last time you sang yourself silly? Head to karaoke at one of several local bars — check them out on the Calendar, 2C.



Friday

1 p.m. Head to the grocery and buy post-finals treats. Don't forget to purchase ingredients for this week's Menu, 2C.

5 p.m. Cook the meal. With this gloomy tundra weather over our heads, chili and garlic bread sound perfect.

7:30 p.m. If you're not already obsessed with David Sedaris, get in on the hype at City Circle's production of *Santaland Diaries*, an inside look at life as a department store elf.

9 p.m. After finals, sometimes it's nice to veg out and listen to live music. For inspirational tunes hailing from Cedar Rapids, check out happyGolovely at the Picador.

Saturday

8 a.m. Holla! It's official; the semester is over. Your life is yours. Do with it as you will; embrace your ability to use your free time. (Although we understand completely if you still need the Weekend Agenda to function and tell you what to do every week.)

Noon You may have finished your holiday shopping, but how are you set for creative packaging? Head to Home Ec. Workshop for a class on how to craft your own fabric and paper gift tags.

5 p.m. Chances are the forecast predicts more cold weather, so hunker down in your apartment with chili leftovers and a good Lifetime movie.

8 p.m. Have you looked out a window recently? **Snowball fight.** Make it happen.



Sunday

10 a.m. It's easy to forget how blessed we are, but during the holiday season, consider donating to a local charity, and help someone in need.

2 p.m. Find a flat object. Go to a snow-covered hill. **Sled.** Repeat.

5 p.m. Television marathon. Eat ice cream. Have a drink. **You deserve it.**

80 HOURS ON AIR

Grab a tissue: "80 Hours on Air" has reached a close for the semester. If you had the pleasure of tuning in every Friday 5-6 p.m., you know how epic it was. Thanks for listening.

ON THE WEB

Navigate straight to dailyiowan.com for all the video lovin' you can handle. This week's web version of 80 Hours features a step-by-step video on cooking chili, MP3s from local bands, and an interview with James Hayes, the owner of Grant Wood's former Iowa City home. Don't miss out.

D(EYE) ON ARTS BLOG

Be a part of *The Daily Iowan* Arts family at dailyiowanarts.blogspot.com: We gossip about our friends (read: celebrities), we share our favorite YouTube videos (read: Iraqi shoe-throwing journalists), and we pass along our wisest music advice (read: The Official Finals Playlist). There's no reason to not check it out (read: Do it).



**NEW MOVIES
OPENING THIS WEEKEND**



Yes Man
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
Remember that time when Jim Carrey could only tell the truth? That was funny. So imagine the hilarity that will ensue in this adaptation of British humorist Danny Wallace's autobiography where Jim Carrey must say "yes" to everything. Comic gold, right?!?!? Yes, please.



The Tale of Despereaux
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
Matthew Broderick provides the voice of Despereaux, a tiny mouse with big, adorable ears and heart of gold in this computer-animated feel-good family flick. Despereaux is the mouse out of water, and he's committed to doing the right thing to save the day. An all-star voice cast round out this modern-day fairy tale, including Dustin Hoffman, Emma Watson, Tracey Ullman, and William H. Macy.



Seven Pounds
Sycamore 12, Coral Ridge 10
This drama centers on a suicidal IRS agent (Will Smith) who decides to help seven people before he ends his life. Don't expect giant mechanical spiders, wise-crackin' aliens, or poorly penned rap songs.

**TRACKS
FROM THE PAST**

A place to remember all those albums we actually bought, memorized, and obsessed over. You loved it then, and you'll still love it now.

I was an awkward 13-year-old who found middle school wholeheartedly unbearable. My Paul Frank-wearing, braces-wielding, boy band-obsessed friends were listening to too much pop music, and I needed a way out.

And that's when my sister handed me a copy of Moby's *Play*, and 18 tracks later, the genesis of my music blessings occurred.

Ranked among *Rolling Stone* magazine's top 500 albums of all time, *Play* is packed with experimentally euphoric songs and loaded with terse keyboard rhythms, tech-pop-punk-rock beats, and wicked instrumentation.

Moby's signature spoken-sung lyrics reveal his sentiments on spiritual issues and passion, and haunted emotion seeps out of songs such as "My Weakness" and "Why Does My Heart Feel So Bad?"

Top 40 collaborative track "South Side" features Gwen Stefani, and the single's peer dance jams "Find My Baby," "Machete," and "Bodyrock" could rip the most jaded of electronica junkies out of their sturp to start moving their hips. Personal favorites include "Run On" and "Honey," bluesy beats with an easy funk pulse.

Moby's knack for evoking an intense expression out of the listener was perfected with *Play*. It easily lifted me out of musical rut and directed me on the right track toward a more refined junior-high playlist.



Play by Moby
Released June 1, 1999

— by Ann Colwell

Calling the music angels home

Some families put an angel atop their Christmas tree. Others use a star, and tonight at the Mill, one Big Star rolls in to play a show just in time for the holiday season.

By MERYN FLUKER
meryn-fluker@uiowa.edu

Consumers have seven days until Christmas and stores are packed. Between the screaming children and confused adults, there might just be a shopper on a cell phone. But instead of double-checking a lucky recipient's wish list, this shopper could be giving an interview. And if the scene takes place in St. Paul, odds are this chatty customer is Haley Bonar (rhymes with "Donner" like the reindeer, not "loner" like the ranger).

"It's nice because I hate coming to Target," the 24-year-old songster said. "It's nice for me to wander around and talk to somebody."

Bonar is taking a break from her retail-based pursuits to play the Mill tonight with fellow singer-songwriter Pieta Brown for the latter's CD release show. Bonar said Brown opened for her "about a year ago" alongside Bo Ramsey at the Cedar Cultural Center in Minneapolis, Bonar's adopted home.

Bonar moved to Twin Cities area "with a boy" after leaving the University of Minnesota's Duluth campus, where she was studying to be an English teacher. Though she isn't a student anymore, her conversational cadence evokes that of an older brother's hipster collegiate girlfriend. She even has the slightest Minnesota accent — surprising from a woman who hails from Rapid City, S.D. But that minor fact doesn't stop her from identifying with the Land of 10,000 Lakes.

"I've lived here for more than three years, and I play pretty often around here," she said about the Twin Cities area. "It's a pretty supportive scene. I definitely consider myself part of that."

Big Star, Bonar's latest album, was released in June and received positive reviews from local papers as well as national press outlets such as *PopMatters* and *Pitchfork*. She acknowledged how difficult it is to categorize music these days, then described her sound as "a little bit country, a little bit rock 'n' roll, a little bit pop, and a little bit folk."

While the title of her album is deceiving, she doesn't aim to be a critical darling or sign any major endorsements. She wasn't surprised by the praise for her most recent effort, she said, but she didn't go into the studio worried about what fans or press would think.

"You're dooming yourself to being in the studio for years if you do it like that," Bonar said. "And if you've got the money and that's what your ambition is, then good for you, but no, I definitely don't run like that at all."

Her album's title is "a



dailiowan.com

GIVE A LISTEN
Haley Bonar
Big Star

Featured Tracks:
• "Big Star"

If you like it:
See **Haley Bonar** with Pieta Brown, 8 p.m. today, Mill, 120 E. Burlington, \$10.



commentary from everybody's perspective about the flash-in-the-pan" nature of musical stardom. She cited Disney and Britney Spears when discussing the idea of fame versus creativity, saying, "I think that a lot of people, a lot of musicians and artists in general, get really caught up in the idea of being famous and being whatever, and I think that severely damages your creative self."

Not once during Bonar's discussion with *The Daily Iowan* did tour grosses or album sales come up. Rather, she was soberly hopeful when the conversation turned to her goals.

"This is what I feel like I'm here to do, is to make music and sing, and that's what I enjoy, it makes me happy. So basically, I'm going to do whatever I can to maintain that as my job and my career," she said. "I'm trying to just be ambitious without overstepping the reality of it, which is that you never know what will happen with anything. And I'm OK with that."

IC music scene does not brake for winter

Staying in Iowa City over break while all of your friends head home? Don't fret. Entertainment is bountiful in Iowa City, even when students flee. Here are a few local options to help keep those winter-break blues subdued.

Dec. 30

• **The Blacks**
Get your fix of guitar-pumping, drum-kit-pounding rock with the Blacks, playing as part the weekly, free-of-charge Tuesday Night Social Club at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington St., at 9 p.m. The trio — fronted by Luisa Black, whose voice is eerily reminiscent of Karen O from the Yeah Yeah Yeahs — played at the Mill in April, opening for Cursive. Also performing will be the Tanks, Datagun, and Lipstick Homicide.

Dec. 31

• **New Years' Festivities**
Kick off the New Year's at 8 p.m. with local stalwarts Dave Zollo and the Body Electric and Dave Moore at the Mill. Admission is \$15. As Zollo told the *DI* in an interview last year, his mellow, folk-tinged music is largely shaped by many years spent in Iowa City. "My biggest musical influence was my dad's Iowa City friends, guys such as Bo Ramsey," Zollo said. "They

showed me that I could make a vocation out of this."

Or, if hyper-energetic dance beats are more your style, stop by the Picador, 330 E. Washington St., and shake your groove thing all night long. The "Big Bad New Year's Eve Party" will feature four DJs spinning tunes throughout the Picador's two floors.

Both of the aforementioned events promise free champagne at midnight, so rest assured — you'll be able to sip the traditional bubbly as the ball drops.

Jan. 6

• **Netherfriends**
Once the inevitable New Year's hangover has finally subsided, see Chicago-based pop-folk confectioners Netherfriends perform at the Mill, along with local bands Pacific Proving Ground and Wax Cannon, at 9 p.m. for free. *Blender* magazine named Netherfriends the "Best Random Find" at this year's South by Southwest music festival in Austin, Texas.

Jan. 10

• **Raw Mojo**
Local rockers Raw Mojo celebrates the release of its debut album, *Veins*, with a 9 p.m. show at the Industry, 211 Iowa Ave., for \$5 admission. Despite its multi-instrumental, fun-loving attitude, the band's MySpace page says "Raw Mojo is definitely not a jam band. In fact, it employs the attitude that it is the antithesis of the jam band. If anything, what this family of Mojomongers provides is music for the young at heart (though probably not your grandparents' music)."

Jan. 11

• **Unearth**
Hard-core fans, have no fear — Unearth will stop by the Picador to dig up a healthy batch of intense metal. Hailing from Boston, Unearth's music is "brutal and aggressive metal," according to the band's MySpace page. The veteran group released its latest album, *The March*, in October.

— By Jake Jensen

weekend calendar of events

Today 12.18

MUSIC
• **Salt the Wound, the Demonstration, By These Hands, Dividing the Masses, and From Citizen to Soldier**, 6 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
• **Pieta Brown and Haley Bonar**, 8 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
• **New Beat Society and Uniphonics**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

THEATER
• **Festival of Carols**, 7 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington

MISCELLANEOUS
• **Dawn's Earrings Class**, 2 p.m.,

Dawn's Hide and Bead Away, 220 E. Washington
• **Proseminar in Cinema and Culture: Sub-Saharan African Cinemas**, TBA 7 p.m., 101 Becker
• **Drinking Liberally**, 8 p.m., Mill
• **Goodtime Karaoke**, 8 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
• **Big D's Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Gus', 2421 Coral Court Suite 4, Coralville
• **Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy, 171 Highway 1 W.
• **Thursday Night Karaoke**, 9:30 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville
• **Physical Challenge**, 10 p.m., Picador

Friday 12.19

MUSIC
• **The Beaker Brothers**, 9 p.m., Mill
• **Daughters of the Sun, Sarah Johnson, and Chambers**, 9 p.m., Public Space One, 129 E. Washington
• **happyGolovely, the Anti, and Cygnus Bell**, 9 p.m., Picador

THEATER
• **Santaland Diaries**, City Circle

Acting Company, 7:30 p.m., Englert Theatre

MISCELLANEOUS
• **Noon Knit**, noon, Hardin Library
• **Knitting Nurse**, 2 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn
• **Friday Night Karaoke, with Gemini Karaoke**, 9 p.m., American Legion Post No.17, 3016 Muscatine Ave.
• **Retro Club Night**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy

Saturday 12.20

MUSIC
• **Violent Intent, Cur, and Reckless Disregard**, 6 p.m., Picador
• **The Mint Lounge Xmas Party, featuring the Legendary Trio and the Mint Lounge**, 7 p.m., Public Space One
• **Dr. Z's Experiment, Local Clamor, and Adobanga**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
• **Illinois John Fever and Chris Doherty**, 9 p.m., Mill

THEATER
• **Santaland Diaries**, City Circle
Acting Company, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Englert

DANCE
• **Bollywood Dance Class**, 2 p.m., Kahraman Dance Studio, 330 E. Second St.
• **Snow Queen, Dance Forum/Youth Ballet Winter Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS
• **Knitter's Breakfast**, 10 a.m., Home Ec. Workshop
• **Make and Take: Fabric and Paper Gift Tags**, noon, Home Ec. Workshop
• **Euchre Tournament**, 1 p.m., American Legion Post No. 17
• **Rock and Roll/Country Night**, 9 p.m., Speak Easy

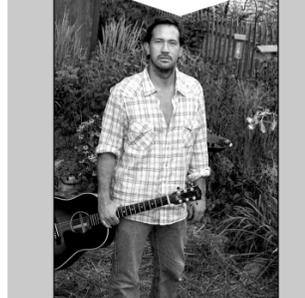
Sunday 12.21

MUSIC
• **Holiday Concert, Iowa City Community Band and New Horizons Band**, 3:30 p.m., Englert
• **IRENEW Benefit, with Ben Schmidt and the Gilded Bats**, 7 p.m., Mill

DANCE
• **Snow Queen, Dance Forum/Youth Ballet Winter Concert**, 3 p.m., Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS
• **Alternative Gift Market**, 9:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 2701 Rochester Ave.
• **Blue Christmas**, 3 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 214 E. Jefferson
• **Ecumenical Advent Prayer Services**, 5 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
• **Reggae Night with DJs**

don't miss!



IRENEW Benefit, with Ben Schmidt and the Gilded Bats
Where: Mill, 120 E. Burlington
When: 7 p.m., Sunday
Why you should go: A chance to rock out and do good for mankind, Sunday night's fundraising show supports the Iowa Renewable Energy Association. The Mill will host Iowa City folkie Ben Schmidt alongside the Gilded Bats for the event.

FUNKMASTER and KIMX, 9 p.m., Quinton's, 215 E. Washington

CARLA'S CHILI CON CARNE AND GARLIC BREAD



Can't make it to not-quite-South-of-the-border Florida to watch the Hawkeyes take on the Gamecocks? Don't worry — with this chili recipe, you can curl up on the couch with beef-filled stew and garlic bread. (And practice your Spanish, too: "con carne" just means "with meat.") Stick it in a crockpot early in the morning, and you won't have to do a thing until game time.

CARLA'S CHILI CON CARNE
What you need:
1 lb. of ground beef
1 medium onion, diced
2-3 cloves of garlic, minced
14 oz. can diced tomatoes
28 oz. can tomato sauce
14 oz. can kidney beans
14 oz. chili hot beans
1 tbsp. chili powder

1 tbsp. basil
What to do:
Brown the ground beef in a skillet with diced onion, minced garlic, salt, and pepper. Transfer to crockpot. Add the remaining ingredients, and keep on low until ready to serve. Sprinkle with an assortment of top-

pings: shredded cheese, crumbled bacon, avocado, sour cream, chopped cilantro, tortilla chips, or crackers.
GARLIC BREAD
What you need:
1 loaf Italian or French bread
½ cup softened butter
2 cloves of garlic, minced

1-2 tbsp. chopped parsley
¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
What to do:
Heat oven to 350 degrees. Cut the bread in half horizontally in half (like a sandwich). Combine the butter, garlic, and parsley; spread the mixture over each half.

Place bread in the oven for 10 minutes. Remove from oven; sprinkle the Parmesan over the cooked bread. Broil the bread on high heat for two to three minutes (until the cheese bubbles). Watch closely during this step — broiling can burn the bread quickly. Remove from the oven and slice into sections.



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Members of Dead Larry practice in the basement of their home on Monday. They are scheduled to perform on Dec. 31 at the Industry, along with several other bands and a dance troupe.

An Industrious Eve

DANCERS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

"We really get the chance to be as creative as we want to be," Bertling said. "I do so many shows under tight regulations, it becomes taxing as a dancer. With Insectoid, I haven't found [those restrictions]."

Of particular note for Pyrotechniq's performance will be the introduction of new costumes, designed by artist Andrew Bennett. The unitards, which Bennett estimates will take about 40 hours of work to complete, had to be worn by the dancers as they were being painted in order to keep the proper perspectives.

"When I'm painting on somebody, I use her or his own anatomy and play off of that," Bennett

said. "I'm making it so the joints look as though they really work. With this project, even one leg is so much more intricate than the three costumes I did for a previous show combined."

The multimedia combination of sights and sounds has band members and performers alike amped up to get on stage.

"I haven't seen a night like this ever in three years," said Joe Laskowski, a multi-instrumentalist for Insectoid. "It's almost like its own little festival."

For Public Property's Dave Bess (vocals, guitar, ukulele), the most exciting part of the night will follow his band's performance, when Euforquestra will join Public Property on stage to form the appropriately titled "Public Porquestra" for a final set of tunes.

"For the last two years [Euforquestra and Public Property] have been competing at separate venues on New Year's," he said. "Now that the stage and capacity is big enough, we want to have more collaboration."

When the two bands were just starting out, a few of their members served double duty and played shows for both. As both acts became more successful, they eventually had to choose one or the other for a full-time gig. The New Year's Eve show presents them with an opportunity to reunite with their old bandmates and combine their sounds.

"We want to try to max out our channels and fill the mix," Bess said. "Our sound guy's gonna hate us."

'Different swings on old things'



AMY ANDREWS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Nolte Academy of Dance students practice their routine on Monday for their performance at the Festival of Carols at the Englert. The festival will feature a variety of talent, including dancers, musicians, and choirs.

Sick of watching another *A Christmas Story* marathon on basic cable? Tonight's Festival of Carols at the Englert is a fresh take on the old holiday routine.

By JARRETT HOTHAN
jarrett-hothan@uiowa.edu

CONCERT

Festival of Carols

When: 7 p.m. today
Where: Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
Admission: Free

Often overflowing with merriment and cheer, the holiday season holds traditions so ubiquitous, they sometimes get a little unnerving.

Some might feel nauseous when they find themselves surrounded by brightly colored lights and lit-up Santa lawn ornaments. The true offender is sometimes Christmas carols, easy-listening adaptations seeping into the ears and eroding sanity while driving, shopping, or visiting a dentist.

Sometimes these classic tunes just need to be heard in a fresh light, and Scrooges will have their chance at 7 p.m. today at the Festival of Carols in the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St.

The night features performances from local organizations and musicians, as well as the audience itself.

"It's fresh, but it's also nostalgic," said Beth Bewley-Randall, the theater's executive director and event's organizer. "It's different groups looking at

the holidays in different ways. It's lots of different swings on old things. I think it's a reflective thing on the community, because we have a little bit of everything here."

Part of the Englert's Community Spotlight Series, the Festival of Carols has been a yearly fixture since 2005. The participants change every year to keep things interesting. This year's lineup boasts a collection of dancers, musicians, and choirs.

"I don't really have a method," said Bewley-Randall about choosing the show's performers. "I like to get a nice selection about certain age groups and certain genres."

When she says certain genres, she isn't kidding. For instance, the Old Capitol Chorus will perform carols as a barbershop quartet. Other interesting segments include Coralville-based blues/funk star Kevin Burt playing his own soulful renditions of seasonal songs, as well as jazz pianist and Steinway artist Dan Knight taking the stage.

Knight will also lead the sing-along portions of the show, an opportunity for the audience to get in on the fun.

"We pass out a carol sheet, and when the time comes, people can call out favorites," Bewley-Randall said. "It happens three times during the show, for about 20 minutes. You choose it and yell it, and we'll all sing it. It's nice because people don't get that many opportunities to sing in public."

Free hot cocoa and cookies will be on-site to energize those dehydrated from intense caroling, one of the foremost injuries of the holiday season.

Old-school rocking



CHRISTY AUMER/THE DAILY IOWAN

The Beaker Brothers sit on a couch to discuss the set list for their upcoming performance at the Mill, while guitarist Steve Grismore cracks a joke in his basement on Monday. Band members are (from left to right) Ed English, James Dreier, John Shultz, Grismore, and Dan Bernstein. Member Dan Hummel is not pictured.

BROTHERS

CONTINUED FROM 1C

"We're doing this because this is where our roots are from," he said. "However, one of the reasons we're drawn into a lot of this music is that there's a lot of room for improvisation and individual expression."

The improvisation and individual expression he described stems from a vintage radio program that spawned the group's name.

Based in Little Rock, Ark., in the late-60s and early '70s, KAAV 1090's "Beaker Street" was a psychedelic late-night radio program that broke the AM mold. Host Clyde Clifford spun rare and extended classic rock 'n' roll recordings and solos that seldom ventured onto Midwest stations.

"You could hear whole 12-minute tunes," Grismore said animatedly, noting that all the members religiously tuned into the show when they were growing up.

Kessler, a longtime fan of "Beaker Street" who has seen the Brothers play "a number of times" said, "[The band] could probably take any kind of music and play it expertly."

Kessler isn't dreamily looking at the Brothers through the lenses of his rose-colored Ray Bans, either. He is a DJ at KCCK radio in Cedar Rapids and knows his music, as do most of the band members, who have

extensive musical backgrounds.

"One of the very special things about hearing them play is that this music is engrained in all of these guys," he said. "They're able to play it as true to the original as they want, and they're also able to take off on their improvisations, as a first-rate musician would be able to."

But the band members' talent doesn't always reach everyone.

Grismore has noticed that '80s and early '90s music lovers aren't fans of classic rock tunes. Instead, he said, many people in their 20s and 40s seem to love the Brothers because of their shared love of "jamming."

"A lot of the bands we're playing were actually considered the first jam bands," he said, and jam bands and their musical improvisations are youthful, jazzy, and appeal to a younger demographic.

Grismore said the Beaker Brothers has fun practicing and reminiscing in his basement, which is decked out in 1970s accouterments. The band's repertoire numbers around 30 songs.

"It's not just a bunch of old guys playing old rock 'n' roll," Kessler said, noting that it's not a band that lives in the past. "If you hear what any of them play in other circumstances you'll know that. Individually, they're all very cutting edge."

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After a holiday visit with his parents, Mikey (Matt Boren) heads to the airport to return to his wife and newborn baby — but he doesn't board the plane. Instead, he returns to his parents' loft in lower Manhattan, making up excuses about why he's staying. As the days go on and he becomes more and more entrenched in his adolescence, he comes to a point where he must choose between life as it is and life as it was. New York Daily News says, "A little miracle, Azzaz Jacobs' lovely story of a life lost and found tackles big issues — love, maturity, fulfillment — in deceptively modest fashion."

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at the Lincoln Cafe. 5 courses/60 bucks. Great stuff. Reservations only.

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Friday Dec. 26
BOB DORR & THE BLUE BAND

Saturday Dec. 27
BURLINGTON ST. BLUEGRASS BAND

Sunday Dec. 28
THANKFUL DIRT W/ MATTHEW GRIMM & THE RED SMEAR

Wednesday Dec. 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE: DAVE ZOLLO & THE BODY ELECTRIC W/ SPECIAL GUEST DAVE MOORE

FEMALE FREQUENT MARIJUANA USERS are invited for participation in a research study.

Researchers are studying the effects of chronic marijuana use on brain structure, function, and mental abilities. The study involves a lengthy screening appointment, followed by two overnight hospitalizations at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Volunteers are compensated for participation (and for out-of-town travel). Brain imaging studies are done and volunteers take achievement tests and tests of various mental abilities. Volunteers must be current marijuana users, be from 18 to 60 years old, be right-handed and be within commuting distance from Iowa City, Iowa. Information about the identity of volunteers will be treated confidentially.

For further information about the study and to see if you qualify, call Catherine at 319-335-6907 or Barbara at 319-384-2884.



A house as soul of art

Art and history collaborate with modern themes in a prominent Iowa City house where Grant Wood lived and worked during the last decade of his life.

By **DAN WATSON**
dan-watson@uiowa.edu

Lawyer James Hayes wakes up every morning surrounded by history. Paintings by artists from all corners of the world hang on his walls. Hand-crafted furniture dating from the 1800s stores his personal belongings, and his front door was designed by legendary Iowan painter Grant Wood.

In fact, most locals refer to Hayes' house as the "Grant Wood House," because Wood lived there for the last seven years of his life. Hayes says Wood always called his home 1142, referencing the address: 1142 E. Court St.

The house is on the National Register of Historic Places, and it has been a destination for politicians, authors, and artists visiting Iowa City. To capture the historical significance of 1142, the UI Foundation recently commissioned Richard A. King to write *1142*, a book about the house's history.

The book took King six years

to research and write, and he said it turned into a far greater project than he ever expected.

"The book started out as only a premium for UI donors," King said. "But Jim [Hayes] kept pushing the envelope, and the research just kept developing and developing."

When completed, the project totaled 150 pages, containing in-depth information about 1142's owners, detailed accounts of the home's renovations, and a brief history of Iowa City. *1142*, released in October, is sold exclusively through Prairie Lights Books, 15 So. Dubuque St.

Although Wood was the most prominent figure to live in the house, King and Hayes try to emphasize the overall significance of 1142, whether Wood lived there or not.

"The house is very important to reflect the pioneer history of our country," Hayes said. "The fact that Wood lived there definitely helps for recognition, but it would still be an important part of Iowa City if he never did."



The home of lawyer James Hayes, 1142 E. Court St., pictured here on Wednesday, once was home to Iowa artist Grant Wood. Richard A. King was recently commissioned by the UI Foundation to research and write a book about the house's history, *1142*.

The house was constructed in 1858 by Nicholas Oakes, a prominent brick and tile manufacturer, who settled with his family in Iowa City because of the abundance of clay deposits in the area.

He constructed his house in the Italianate style typical of

the mid-1800s, characterized by large cantilevers supporting the roof, tall arched windows, and wide front porches.

Wood bought 1142 in 1935, when he moved to Iowa City to work for the UI as director of a public-works art program, and

the house was in need of many improvements.

"Grant did about everything right when renovating the house," Hayes said. "He was a remarkable craftsman."

Hayes purchased 1142 in 1975, after renting its carriage

ON THE WEB
Don't miss a video feature with James Hayes, the owner of 1142, the "Grant Wood House," at dailyiowan.com.

house from Dr. Pauline Moore — the owner after Wood. Hayes has been continually remodeling and renovating the house ever since. He modernized 1142 by adding a swimming pool, removing several interior walls to open up space, adding a conservatory, and updating the interior painting and floor covering.

Hayes' own interest in art is heavily prevalent in the house. Paintings from the Iowa City artist Mauricio Lasansky and French artist H. Claude Pissarro adorn the walls of 1142.

"I have always had an interest in art," Hayes said. "But since moving and renovating 1142, my passion for it has definitely intensified."

Upon his death, Hayes will donate the house, along with three additional buildings on the property, to the UI. He said he hopes 1142 will be used to host dignitaries visiting the UI, display small art exhibitions, and accommodate a small number of artists to create "a little enclave where artists can live and paint and sculpt."

Inspirational music with pop

Cedar Rapids band happyGolovely will play the Picador on Friday with opening guests the Anti and Cygnus Bell, bringing an inspirational religious sound to the venue's holiday lineup.

By **RACHAEL LANDER**
rachaellander@uiowa.edu

As finals week winds down and the holiday fever heats up, one band incorporates religious sounds into its latest release — sans tinsel and mistletoe.

Cedar Rapids band happyGolovely will swing by Iowa City on Friday at 6 p.m. with opening guests the Anti and Cygnus Bell at the Picador, 330 E. Washington St. After playing together for a year and a half, the band has a new CD in its discography and inspirational pop-rock tones pouring out the speakers.

The group's genesis began with an accident of sorts when members Layne Sheetz and Ben Garrett composed a romantic tune for their girlfriends for the senior prom. From there, they were sucked into a musical storm and pulled in Landon Sheetz and Brent Scheil.

Religion has played an integral role in the evolution of the band. Their inspiration stems "first and foremost from God,"

"[The members] started out as our guys making music and playing around with it, but now, they are so immersed in experimenting with different types of music and trying out different techniques. They've grown and learned so much in the past year"

— **Caitlin Cooper**, close friend of the musicians

Sheetz said. Not only does their music carry religious undertones, but the venues they play are typically churches and youth retreats in and around Cedar Rapids.

"That's definitely our biggest in, which is a blessing," Sheetz said, adding that because of the recent flood, some of the bigger music venues were wiped out.



CHRISTY AUWER/THE DAILY IOWAN

HappyGolovely practices at Stonebridge Church in Cedar Rapids on Dec. 11. HappyGolovely's music has a lot of religious undertones, and the band

Since the group formed, happyGolovely has worked hard on progressing its sound.

"[The members] started out as our guys making music and playing around with it, but now, they are so immersed in experimenting with different types of music and trying out different

techniques," said Caitlin Cooper, a close friend of the musicians. "They've grown and learned so much in the past year."

As for the band's musical influences, she described it as a mingling between Augustana, Jack's Mannequin, and Rocket Summer, all the while keeping

an original and unique style. The band plays off a pop-rock sound, and incorporates positive lyrics that carry a spiritual flavor.

HappyGolovely's first album, *Love Divine*, is a compilation of the sounds the band has been working intently at achieving, Sheetz said.

"When we were working on it this summer, after the flood, we were trying to find our sound," Sheetz said. "The whole CD takes you through the progression of that."

As the tracks progress, they weave together and culminate in the title song and last one on the album, "Love Divine." The band's intent is to use this final track as a point to spring forward from and plunge into a new album when they hit the studio to record again in June.

The show at the Picador on Friday night is only the second time that the band will play in Iowa City.

Cooper said happyGolovely's shows are always "high energy" and the band effortlessly engages audiences with its tenacious intensity.

"The music is so positive and uplifting," she said. "It touches you deeply."

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GIVE A LISTEN

HappyGolovely

Love Divine

Featured

Tracks:

• "44"

• "Love Divine"

If you like it:

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HAPPYGLOVELY

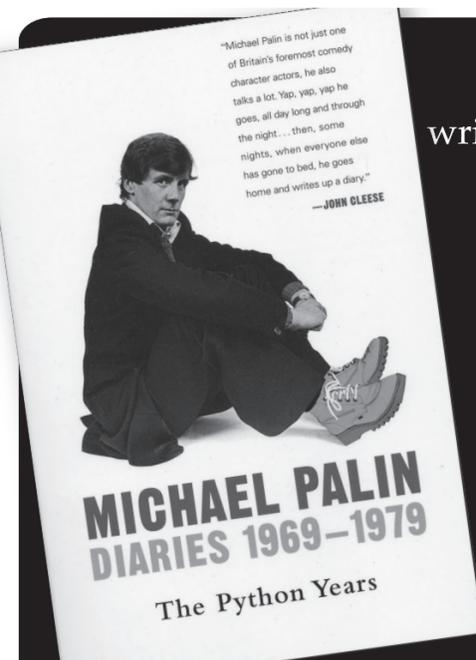
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