

The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2009

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

50¢

SPORTS



Meet the Class of 2009

Kirk Ferentz is scheduled to welcome 18 new members to the Hawkeyes' roster today on national signing day. **1B**

Another Kinnick project set to go

In 2009, the Iowa Hawkeyes will play their games on FieldTurf after a vote by the state Board of Regents. **2B**

NEWS

Classes plugged in

Podcasts are slowly making their way into UI classrooms. **4A**

Officials lobby in D.C.

City and county leaders are in D.C., asking for money to fund flood-related projects. **5A**

ARTS & CULTURE

Swanson song

UI music Professor Stephen Swanson delves into themes of war and the military for his concert tonight in the Old Capitol Senate Chamber. **7A**

OPINIONS

Blowing down the competition

Iowa is now second in the nation in wind-power generation capacity, behind only Texas. Is this Iowa's role in our nation's energy future? **6A**

ASK THE DI

Have a question or a curiosity? Want to know the fastest way to get to the newly opened Theatre Building or where to go to get help on this year's taxes? Wondering what's going on with that construction in the Iowa River or why dining halls don't stay open later? Send a question to us at daily-iowan@uiowa.edu, we'll find the answer, and then we'll publish it for you, right here on the front rail.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

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

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

Watch a package on the Iraq elections. Also find out more about a local bar giving away \$6,000 of plastic surgery.

WEATHER

16
-9C  10
-12C

Mostly sunny, breezy, wind chills of -20 in the morning, -9 in the evening.

INDEX

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

UI works on Iraqi initiative



PATRICK LARKIN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Above: Scott King, the director of the UI Office of International Students and Scholars, describes his experiences in Iraq on Monday. King represented the UI at the Iraqi Education Symposium in January. The program will bring 30-40 Iraqi students to the UI to study this fall.

Right: This photo was taken at the American University of Iraq-Sulaimani in January. Officials from schools across the United States went to Iraq to talk about the Iraqi Education Initiative, which will sponsor, in part, 400 Iraqi students to study in the United States this fall.

The UI is among pioneering institutions participating in the Iraqi Education Initiative.

By **LINI GE**
lini-ge@uiowa.edu

Between 30 and 40 students from Iraq could begin taking classes at the UI this fall as part of a new program by the Iraqi government.

The Iraqi Education Initiative will send 400 students to the United States at the start of the next academic year, including a potential 20 to 25 undergraduate students and 10 to 15 graduate students to the UI. The program, once fully implemented, will send roughly 10,000 Iraqi students for higher education abroad.

The UI hosted two Iraqi students in the fall of 2006, and the number of Iraqi students enrolled in higher-education institutions nationwide was 262. At present, there are four Iraqi students at the UI, so the students the university may receive would be a substantial increase.

UI officials say they are proud the UI is a pioneer in higher education by partici-

pating in the initiative.

"The UI was the only [Big Ten] university to participate in this initiative," said Downing Thomas, UI associate provost and dean of the UI International Programs. "We have a unique opportunity to educate the future leaders of the country, and to offer Iowa students the chance to interact face-to-face with students from all over the world."

The pilot program to be launched this fall will send 500 Iraqi students abroad. The scholarship recipients will only study in the United States and the United Kingdom initially, but Canada and Australia may eventually join the program as well. The students will receive full scholarship covering the tuition, room and board, medical insurance, and other benefits, said Zuhair Humadi, the executive director for the Iraq Higher Committee for Education Development.

SEE **IRAQ**, 3A



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Local GOP wary

Student political leaders say the proposed national stimulus package holds important measures for UI students, but local Republicans have reservations about the current draft.

By **ADAM SULLIVAN**
adam-sullivan@uiowa.edu

There are no elections coming up and no campaign stops in the near future. Still, 1,000 miles away from Washington, D.C., local Republicans are keeping their eyes locked on the billions of federal dollars Congress is proposing to stimulate the economy.



Loesack
representative

In line with their fellow Republicans in Congress, local GOPers said the stimulus package, now totaling more than \$800 billion and still being hammered out in the Senate, needs a new direction. A similar bill was passed by the House last month.

SEE **REPUBLICANS**, 3A

UI brings on two new consultants

UI President Sally Mason announces two new consultant hirings Tuesday with salaries totaling \$165,000.

By **TESSA MCLEAN**
tessa-mclean@uiowa.edu

ANKENY — In one of the UI's most recent attempts to battle students' excessive drinking, UI President Sally Mason announced the hiring of a consultant who will create an anti-binge drinking plan, paying her \$25,000 over the next seven months.

Mason announced the hiring — along with another new addition to work on communication plans — Tuesday at the state Board of Regents meeting in Ankeny.

Mary Stier, a former president and publisher of the *Des Moines Register* and senior group president of Gannett Co. Inc.'s Midwest Newspaper Group, will work for the Provost's Office while making strides to curb binge drinking among students.

Stier will organize focus groups by asking leaders of "at-risk groups" — including athletes, the greek community, and other UI organizations — for students to provide information on campus binge drinking, Provost Wallace Loh said. Stier will then compile the information and determine the best ways to reach students and their parents, Loh said. Students may participate in the groups on a



Stier
consultant



Mason
UI president

MORE INSIDE

Read about UI President Sally Mason's plan for where to cut the budget on **4A**.

volunteer basis.

Loh said he hopes the consultant can communicate with and mobilize all parts of the university community.

"It has to be a partnership among the city, students, the parents," he said. "We need one person to help us pull them all together and create a strategy."

Loh hired Stier earlier this year after he began at the UI last fall.

"I quickly realized just looking at the incidents of students who end up in the ER as well as fights and sexual assaults that relate to binge-drinking, that we have to do something about it," Loh said. "Students can have a good time, but we want to keep students safe."

SEE **CONSULTANTS**, 3A

New meaning for 'can'

Students are making the last push to raise funds and are starting to feel the excitement build for the 15th-annual Dance Marathon.



By **EMILY MELVOLD**
emily-melvold@uiowa.edu

Amid the booming music reverberating from downtown bars and raucous conversation on the Pedestrian Mall, 19-year-old UI freshman Lindsay Lewis stops passers-by, repeating the question each time.

"Would you like to donate to kids with cancer?"

Lewis is just one of the many students who go "canning" to raise money for the UI Dance Marathon. Starting at 11 p.m. every day this week, bright green shirts fill downtown as dancers push for the last big fundraising opportunity before the 24-hour big event on Friday and Saturday.

"They see our shirts, and everybody wants to donate to kids with cancer," said UI senior Matt Gowan, standing with Sherri O'Brien near Brothers Bar & Grill on Jan. 31.

A steady flow of people walked up to the pair, dropping contributions into the clear plastic container, which was gradually filled up with dollars and change.

Each participant in Dance Marathon is required to raise \$425. Many of the dancers



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Whitney Meseck (left) and junior Jaimie Garrett (center) count donations with senior Faisal Qayyum after canning on Tuesday for Dance Marathon. Meseck and Qayyum are both morale captains; they have participated in Dance Marathon for four years.

choose to go canning — staking out in public places soliciting donations — in order to raise all or part of the mandatory fee.

These canners not only raise money, they also help publicize and promote the event.

Three of the most popular places to can are downtown Iowa City, at Hawkeye sporting events, and in local neighborhoods, one canner said.

Collectors said they noticed many people they solicit know someone affected by cancer and have found it's the reason many readily chose to give.

"Everyone has a personal story about someone they

ON THE WEB

To hear from Dance Marathon canners in action, see the video at dailyiowan.com.

MORE INSIDE

Read a profile on Ryan Howard, the Dance Marathon morale director on **2A**.

know who had or has cancer," said UI senior Leah Chyma, who was canning at the Hawkeye men's basketball game against Michigan State on Jan. 29.

One UI freshman's personal connection to cancer is her reason for getting involved with the cause.

SEE **DANCE MARATHON**, 3A



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Morale captain director Ryan Howard leads a group in rehearsal for Dance Marathon on Monday. Howard, a graduate of UI, has been involved with the program for the past five years.

The Daily Iowan

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The Dance is his passion

A recent UI graduate and current Dance Marathon morale director hopes to find a career in his passion.



By KASSIE FRIEDRICHS
 kassie-friedrichs@uiowa.edu

Ryan Howard smiled as he recalled his cousin Kira Carstensen singing to a packed ballroom of dancers and families at the UI Dance Marathon in 2000.

"They turned off all the lights, and she sang 'This Little Light of Mine' to the whole crowd," he said. "Everyone started singing with her."

Carstensen battled leukemia for 20 years. She loved Dance Marathon, Howard said, attracting him to the cause. She died in February 2007.

"That was when I decided to get move involved with leadership," Howard said.

He began dancing his freshman year, first participating in Dance Marathon in 2005, when Carstensen was still being treated. Since then, he spent two years as a morale captain. This year, he became Dance Marathon's morale director.

"I knew I could give a little

more to the organization," said Howard, who has a degree in finance. "It was the first time I really found a passion. I was never really passionate about school, or finance, or anything like that."

He is in charge of all 45 Dance Marathon morale captains. He recruits, helps retain, and organizes them for the 24-hour Big Event.

"It's a lot about fostering a group cohesiveness," said Howard, who graduated in December but won't start looking for a job until after this weekend's event. "We want to make them all comfortable so that they can enjoy the experience as much as they can."

Power Hour — the second to last hour of Dance Marathon — is Howard's favorite part. The kids get to be themselves, he said, explaining they aren't worried about receiving treatment or being stared at if they've lost their hair.

"It leads up to the last hour where everyone's sitting, and we honor the families who are dancing in our hearts," Howard said.

The Carstensen's will be the final family speakers at this year's event, Howard said. The family was sponsored by Dance

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

To hear from Dance Marathon morale director Ryan Howard, see the video at dailyiowan.com.

Marathon for 12 years. The Waukee, Iowa, native's passion and dedication to the organization has inspired those around him, including his younger brother, UI freshman Chad Howard, who will dance for the first time this year.

"He's always been there for me as a motivation," Chad Howard said.

Lura Carstensen, Kira Carstensen's sister, will also dance for the first time this year. The UI freshman and pre-nursing major appreciates all Howard has done for her family through Dance Marathon.

"It was really special to my family," she said. "It really meant a lot to my sister."

Following in Howard's footsteps, both Chad Howard and Lura Carstensen are applying to be morale captains next year.

Ryan Howard couldn't stress enough how much Dance Marathon has affected his life.

"It changes the perspective that you have on life," he said. "You don't get wrapped up in all the petty stuff that so many people get wrapped up in."

"We feel its probably been the best thing that has ever

Ryan Howard
The veteran Dance Marathon participant is inspired by a cousin who had leukemia.

- Hometown: Waukee, Iowa
- Age: 22
- Degree: Finance, graduated from the UI in December 2008
- Prior positions: Dance Marathon morale captain, dancer
- Future plans: Applying to graduate programs for hospital administration to stay involved with Dance Marathon

happened to him," mother Karlen Howard said.

Graduation for Ryan Howard doesn't mean he's going to stop being involved with Dance Marathon. He is applying to graduate schools in hospital administration, seeing it as the best option to combine his business degree and love for the cause, he said.

He noted that although the UI Hospitals and Clinics and the UI have inspired him, he is looking to expand to other Dance Marathons for his career. Universities nationwide have similar events to the UI.

"Dance Marathon is something that will stick with you forever," Howard said. "It's an organization that I feel like everyone should try to get involved with in some way."

METRO

Regents try to cut own costs

In an effort to cut state Board of Regents administrative costs, Regent President David Miles announced Tuesday officials would consider holding occasional meetings by teleconference or reducing traditionally two-day events to one day in the future.

The regents are required by law to hold four meetings per year. The regents currently meet every six weeks in rotating locations around the state at the different regent institutions.

Miles said regents' largest expense is technology, because of the need to be open and accessible to Iowans. Tuesday's meeting had a live audio stream available on the regents' website.

The regents' office operates on a \$1.3 million budget. The total budget of

the regents, including the five state schools the board governs, totals \$3.9 billion.

Regular meeting attendance ranges from 50 to 75 people and regularly includes top university officials, who travel from around the state.

— by Tessa McLean

Courts to take day off

The Iowa Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered the state's district court offices close for the day on Feb. 16, the first unpaid temporary layoffs for employees as part of statewide judicial budget cuts.

Judges and magistrates are an exception to the layoff.

Iowa Supreme Court Chief Justice Marsha Ternus warned the courts in her Jan. 14 State of the Judiciary of these possible furlough, or temporary layoff, days, the state's only

option for accommodating a smaller budget, she said in the speech.

The furlough will happen sporadically for an unknown amount of time.

Johnson County Clerk of Court Lodema Berkley said last month the furloughs will disrupt the filing process and delay trials, especially since employees are unsure how long the scattered furloughs will last.

Officials said the first furlough day is scheduled for Presidents' Day, when it will lessen the effect on the public.

— by Olivia Moran

UI to get more flood relief

The UI may receive \$8.68 million to repair flood damage, Gov. Chet Culver, Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa, and UI President Sally Mason announced today.

The funding, now in the final stages of federal approval, would be used to repair the Iowa Advanced Technology Laboratories. Last fall, an additional \$22.5 million was approved to replace the contents of the building, according to a statement from Culver's office.

Located directly north of the IMU, the lab is an interdisciplinary research facility. The 124,439-square-foot building was designed by world-renowned architect Frank Gehry.

The UI will save more than \$5 million on repairs for this building because of Culver's and Loebsack's efforts to have 90 percent of this project funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The funding to repair this building is reimbursable under the state and FEMA's public-assistance program, which helps with uninsured losses of government and some non-profit groups.

—by Mary Harrington

STATE

Rockwell Collins cuts 600 jobs

CEDAR RAPIDS (AP) — Rockwell Collins Inc., a defense contractor and manufacturer of parts for private jets and commercial airlines, is cutting 600 jobs and freezing salaries for all executives and managers at 2008 levels.

The cuts include 500 salaried employees and 100 contract workers. About 200 are in Iowa.

The layoffs are in addition to the reduction of 300 employees, or 1.5 percent of the work force, announced in November. Another 100 contractors were laid off then as well, bringing the total layoffs to 1,000.

The cuts reduce the company's work force by about 5 percent, spokeswoman Pam Trvdy said.

Cedar Rapids-based Rockwell Collins is facing a significant downturn in its commercial jet business, which CEO Clay Jones says is likely to continue into this year. It includes commercial jet manufacturers like Boeing Co.,

which suffered from a strike last fall and private business jet manufacturers, which are cutting production on lower demand.

Rockwell also cut its earnings per share outlook to a range of \$4.10 to \$4.30 from its previous outlook, issued in November, of \$4.25 to \$4.45. Analysts expect \$4.24.

POLICE BLOTTER

Jonathan Bagley, 24, Marion, was charged Jan. 31 with possessing an open alcohol container in a vehicle.

Melanie Johnson, 21, 923 E. Washington St., was charged Monday with driving with a suspended/can-

celed license.
Bryan Morris, 31, Coralville, was charged Sunday with domestic assault.

Austin Wolfe, 23, Cedar Rapids, was charged Jan. 31 with possessing an open alcohol container in a vehicle.

TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Monday February 2

1. Hawkeye in-state recruitment breaks stereotypes
2. What's hurting Iowa men's basketball the most?
3. Academic freedom keeps UI from snooping for porn
4. ISU's Van Sloten family changes colors for incoming tackle
5. Dance Marathon: Fighting a cancer double whammy

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UI joins Iraq project

IRAQ

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"Iraq has been cut off from the outside world for more than 30 years," Humadi said. "This program will start a process of getting back Iraqi students to make a comeback in all of scholarship."

Officials from 21 participating schools from the United States — including the UI — and the British Council, were invited by the Iraqi government to participate in the program.

Dana Newzer Ali, a journalism student from the American University of Iraq-Sulaimani, showered questions about the program on Scott King, the director of the UI Office of International Students and Scholars, on Jan. 22 at an educational fair in Sulaimani, Iraq. Ali was among more than 200 Iraqi students attending the fair, which provided information on the program.

"I was very pleased while I

was there," King said. "Students would talk to us, and it wasn't just engineering and business. I had journalists who appreciated that, I had people in education, in law."

He also noticed a lot of enthusiasm in faculty development while holding discussions with Iraqi university leaders during the symposium, he said.

"They are concerned because of the isolation. Their faculty are far behind where they should be in their fields," King said, citing the example of an English professor using the same textbook she was taught from 30 years ago.

The Iraqi Education Initiative will also bring mutual benefits for educational institutions both in Iraq and the United States.

"The program will promote educational development in Iraq by educating its future leaders ..." said Sandra MacDonald, vice president and director of the Center for Academic Partnerships at the

Academy for Educational Development. "It will [also] promote educational development at U.S. institutions by enriching classroom discussion and campus diversity in addition to providing opportunities for establishing relationships and partnerships with Iraqi educational institutions."

But King sees the future taking the program even farther.

"For 30 years, I have said that international education is a route toward peace; I've never believed this so much as I have in the past week," King said, referring to his recent visit to Iraq.

One thing he will never forget about the trip, he said, was watching President Obama's inauguration at the residence of Ryan Crocker, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq.

"I'm sure if you asked President Obama, he would say his words were meant for the entire world — hope, unity, change for the better, working together — it's all the basis of this program, too," King said.

Plan worries GOP

REPUBLICANS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

The stimulus package — President Obama's plan to jump-start the weak U.S. economy — has failed to garner much, if any, Republican support in Congress. In fact, not a single GOP representative voted in favor of the bill last week in the House.

Democrats contend that the current draft of the bill will stop the economy from slipping any further.

"It's intended to be a stimulus," said Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa. "Put people back to work, keep jobs, and do other things as well."

But those "other things" are what local Republicans are upset about.

Johnson County Republicans Chairman Bob Anderson said the bill includes too many "goodies for special interests." Instead, he said lawmakers should shift their focus to tax cuts and small business incentives.

"Small business accounts for a majority of job creation. I believe that's the heart of our economic engine," Anderson said. "I'd like to see the bill stripped of any discretionary spending that's not directly related to stimulating job growth."

Greg Baker, who leads the Iowa Federation for College Republicans, said college students in particular have a

stake in the bill.

"For students, the big thing is we've got to get loans moving again in the country," he said. "That's what they told us the first \$700 billion was going to do. All these bills look exactly the same; maybe we should try something different."

Outside red and blue politics, the stimulus plan lies in a gray area. UI economics Professor Nathan Savin said there's no consensus among economists on either side of the aisle about whether the current plan can be effective.

"Most economists agree that the economy should be stimulated, but there are big differences in opinion in what would be the best way to proceed," he said. "That's a complicated question with a complicated answer."

The Republican-Democrat divide on how best to proceed has created a hurdle for Obama, who has vowed to pursue bipartisanship.

"The vote of the House Republicans combined with a number of fiscally conservative Democrats — that was more of a bipartisan mix. But the positive vote was strictly partisan," Anderson said, citing a number of Democrats who sided with Republicans in their disapproval of the House bill.

However, one Democrat on campus said the bill's foundation is inherently bipartisan.

"The package, to begin with,

is already bipartisan because both sides agree something needs to be done," said John Mulrooney, a member of UI Democrats who believes the bill will be effective. "Now, it's just a question of details."

Even within the GOP — which still has fresh wounds from sizable congressional losses in 2008 and 2006 — there's no consensus on what the stimulus should include.

A few Republican governors — including former vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin — have broken from their party and voiced their support of the stimulus bill.

"I wouldn't call it a rift," said UI political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle. "If [governors] see that money is flowing from the federal government, they would like to get their share."

Ultimately, even if the bill passes with what local Republicans think are objectionable details, they said opposition to the bill is a way to unify the party around a common value: fiscal responsibility. Many were critical of President George W. Bush's less than frugal spending habits, which resulted in billions of dollars in national debt.

"I think the strong emphasis needs to return to fiscally conservative policies," Anderson said. "As a Republican, I was proud of our House members in affirming that."

Canners fan out in IC

DANCE MARATHON

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"My mom had cancer last year, so it was really like a personal thing," said Meghan Teske, who canned in front of downtown Pancho's — a hot spot for collectors. "Plus, I just really wanted to help these kids out."

Teske and her friend, fellow UI freshman Rachel Yerkes, had raised \$40 together the night before. By 1 a.m., the pair had already collected roughly three times that amount.

The best time for receiving donations is from 2 a.m. to 3 a.m. — after the downtown bars close — when people head to Pancho's to eat, Teske said.

A first-time partaker, Adam Ford, braved the cold weather Jan. 31, strategically placing himself on a corner downtown amid all of the action. The UI sophomore had procrastinated on raising the initial \$425, he said.

"I'm out here trying to minimize my personal check," he said and then smiled. He already had

reduced his remaining amount by \$50 at 1 a.m.

It was his third time canning downtown, though he had previously canned in local neighborhoods, and has already decided to contribute to the organization again next year.

A big draw to canning downtown on the weekends, and during tailgating at football games, is the amount of cash seemingly intoxicated people dole out, Teske said.

"Those are the best donors," Gowan said.

Gowan and O'Brien said they thought the people under the influence would choose to give even if they weren't inebriated.

"If people are going to donate, they're going to donate," Teske agreed. "If they're not, I don't really think being drunk has a whole lot to do with it."

UI freshman Kara Sebetka said she donates every time she passes a canner in a fluorescent green T-shirt.

"It's like what is \$10 in a night," she said. "Like half these kids spend \$100 on bar tabs. Why can't you give?"

Despite the time and effort it

takes to raise the money, students gearing up for the 24-hour big event said they are looking forward to meeting kids who receive support from Dance Marathon and hearing the testimonies from the families with children battling cancer.

Combating the cold during canning to solicit people to "donate to kids with cancer," and then enduring the 24-hour event will be worth every minute invested by Lewis, she said.

"There are 19 family members who are going to talk about their kids that have cancer, so I'm really excited about that," Lewis said.

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STATE

New trail is first Iowa stimulus proposal

DES MOINES (AP) — Iowa has its first proposed economic-stimulus project.

Lawmakers are being asked to spend \$2.1 million to finish an 89-mile bicycle and hiking trail that circles from Waukee to Perry and back.

Gov. Chet Culver has asked the Legislature to borrow \$700 million, with much of that money going for flood recovery, but it's also designed

to pay for projects such as roads, bridges, and trails.

Approximately 56 miles of the Waukee to Perry trail is finished, and around \$6.1 million has been raised to complete the project. If the state chips in another \$2.1 million, "we could be out there paving ... this summer," said Chuck Offenburger, a bicycle enthusiast who supports the project.

Supporters say the project would create jobs and offer another outdoor

recreation opportunity.

"Time and time again, young people have told us that the one reason they don't stay in Iowa is a lack of recreation activities," said Sen. Matt McCoy, D-Des Moines. "Business leaders have told me repeatedly that quality of life issues are a key factor in plant location decisions."

Senate Majority Leader Michael Gronstal, D-Council Bluffs, expects plenty of stimulus money proposals to come before the Legislature.

EDITOR WANTED

An aggressive, talented individual is sought as editor of *The Daily Iowan*, Iowa City's largest news organization, with an editorial staff of more than 100 young professionals, an editorial budget exceeding \$300,000 and readership of over 60,000. The board of Student Publications, Incorporated and the publisher of *The Daily Iowan* will soon interview candidates for the position of editor for the term beginning June 1, 2009 and ending May 31, 2010.

The editor of *The Daily Iowan* must have strong journalistic abilities, skills in management and a clear sense of editorial responsibility. The board will weigh heavily scholarship, previous news writing and editing experience (including working at *The Daily Iowan* or another daily newspaper), and proven ability to lead, organize and inspire a staff.

Applicants must be enrolled in a UI undergraduate or graduate degree program. Candidates must submit completed applications and supporting materials by noon, Friday, February 27, 2009.

Michael Currie
Chair

William Casey
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Application forms are available at and should be returned to:
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The Daily Iowan

UI hires two new consultants

CONSULTANTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

In a Jan. 29 e-mail to UI faculty and staff, Loh and interim Vice President for Student Services Tom Rocklin asked for support for a series of initiatives to combat binge drinking to be announced over the next few months. The officials cited research showing 80 percent of UI seniors and 70 percent of first-year students report binge drinking at least once in a two-week period. The national average is 47 percent for college students.

The UI also hired Terri Goren of Atlanta-based Goren & Associates, who will aid the UI in developing a communications plan for 2009-10. She will receive \$140,000 over the next seven months while she fills the duties of the newly created vice president for Strategic Communications. Goren's communication plan is expected to address flood relief, budget cuts, and

sexual assaults, Loh said.

The total salary for the pair of the new hirings — \$165,000 — will be paid for from funds from the UI Foundation.

The additions come at a time of severe budget cuts, but Mason said she felt the two positions were important enough that they deserved the immediate attention and funds they will receive.

In a Jan. 28 interview with *The Daily Iowan*, she focused on how the university and city officials are working together to make Iowa City "a great and a fun place for students to come to."

"All of this should come together as a good University of Iowa experience," she said.

Regent President David Miles had faith Mason would make the right decisions.

"I am confident that [Mason] will use the money wisely," he said. "She has to make those judgments in the difficult financial times, and we all have to step up to the plate."



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Mason describes cuts

UI President Sally Mason will eliminate positions, defer university projects, and slash \$2 million from the general fund to help with budget cuts.

By **TESSA McLEAN**
tessa-mclean@uiowa.edu

ANKENY — UI President Sally Mason formally announced on Tuesday the delay of four university position searches in an effort to cut costs during a period of increasing budget cuts for the UI.

The search for the vice presidents for Student Services, Legal Affairs, and Research — along with the associate provost for diversity — will be halted, Mason told the state Board of Regents at the regents' meeting in Ankeny.

Stopping the searches will postpone more than \$200,000 in expenses, she said.

Interim Vice President for Student Services Tom Rocklin and interim Vice President for Legal Affairs Carroll Reasoner will continue in their positions for another two years, Mason said, and Marcella David will serve as associate provost for one more year.

Mason also commended all interim members on the "tremendous" job they are doing.

"They have served the UI very well and will continue to do so," she said.

Meanwhile, she has spent \$165,000 to hire two consultants for the UI to temporarily fill the duties of vice president for Strategic Communications and an employee who will work in the Provost's Office to attempt to curb binge drinking. The positions will last until July.

She also plans to delay hiring in the future, as well as eliminate several positions from departments, including two library positions and some teaching assistants and lecturers.

UI officials have also indefinitely deferred the Pentacrest Renewal Project, a plan to develop the old movie theater in the University Capitol Centre, and a renovation of the first floor of the Main Library in conjunction with a new storage facility on the UI's Oakdale campus.

The UI will use the funds for these projects to aid in flood recovery.

The UI will also cut \$2 million from the general education fund. The trim will not affect student financial aid, library acquisitions, student success, safety, utility costs, and departments that are still enduring flood recovery.

UI Provost Wallace Loh said these exceptions in an e-mail last week to faculty members, responding to the 6.5 percent proposed state budget cuts announced by Gov. Chet Culver.

Culver's budget cuts would amount to a \$62 million cut for the regents, including a \$26.1 million cut for the UI alone, according to regents' spokeswoman Sheila Doyle.

"Protecting the university's core academic principles and making sure our students continue to be well served is our number one priority," Mason said. "We will be further required to make difficult decisions in the coming years; we need to attain the necessary reductions through creative change without harming our service to students."

Regent President David Miles echoed Mason's statements on budget cuts and said he has been leading the regents during the period of decreasing funds.

"Changes need to be made quickly," he said. "I asked the institutions to make the cuts that were necessary to meet these reversions."

Mason's report received little comment from the regents.

Podcasts coming slowly to UI

Will these mini media programs rule the school? Don't count the UI in just yet.

By **KATHLEEN SERINO**
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iTunes may offer free podcasts produced by numerous magazines, television networks, and 166 colleges and universities, but the UI isn't on that list.

According to the iTunes website, 17 of those schools have recently joined iTunes U — an educational division of the digital media emporium — to post lectures and lessons in podcast form.

There are thousands of downloadable audio and video episodes and educational content available on iTunes. It is becoming an increasingly popular online medium.

Since 2007, Associate Professor of nursing Joann Eland has been producing her own recorded podcast lectures. She didn't have to look far for ideas to optimize her teaching methods.

"If I count the number of people walking down the street with a characteristic white cord in their head, I see at least 10," she said about her short drive to work, which prompted her podcast idea.

The 60-year-old said she understands if students sometimes can't attend her classes, and technology can help them catch up or allow them the convenience of listening to her lectures between classes.

According to an online counter, in her parent-child nursing class, 132 students accessed Eland's podcast lectures more than 300 times just last semester.

"What I care most about is that they get the content," she said, adding she thinks it's a way for students to get information in their commute.

UI junior John Hochstetter said he doesn't listen to podcasts much but he will start.

"If I knew my professors had [lecture or review] podcasts, I definitely would download and listen to them," he said.

The 21-year-old business major said podcasts could be useful to students who miss classroom information for any reason.

UI pre-business student Drew Hjelm said he listens to various podcasts, including a few lectures offered by Stanford University. In particular, he subscribes to a political news show podcast.

The 24-year-old said he feels more politically informed because of the political podcast, which he often listens to on the go.

According to a new study by the Pew Internet & American Life Project this year, 18- to 32-year-olds are the most likely to watch videos online, download podcasts, and use social-networking sites.

Hjelm said if the UI would start to use this technology, it could be beneficial to students and others.

"It would expose the faculty at the University of Iowa to a broader audience," he added.

Although there are two UI Hospitals and Clinics and a few Iowa athletics podcasts, there aren't any lecture series or lessons available on iTunes U.



UI junior Jeff Eggebeen listens to his iPod at the south end of the Main Library on Monday. Students are turning to podcasts for a variety of purposes, including education, and some UI professors use podcasts in classes.

PATRICK LARKIN/THE DAILY IOWAN

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Locals in D.C. look for flood-relief funds

The Iowa City Chamber of Commerce committee looks for federal funding in Washington, D.C.

By SHANE ERSLAND
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Protection against future flooding in Iowa City was the key issue city and county officials lobbied for in Washington, D.C., on Monday and Tuesday.

Committee members, sent by the Iowa City Chamber of Commerce, asked for federal funding to raise North Dubuque Street in front of the Mayflower and to rebuild the Park Road bridge near Hancher Auditorium. Both locations were under water during the June flood.

Iowa City City Councilor Mike O'Donnell said these are projects that need to be addressed.

"Dubuque Street is the main street into town, and Hancher is very important to the community," he said.

The committee also requested funding for the relocation of Iowa City Wastewater Treatment & Disposal plant. According to Johnson County Board of Supervisors Chairman Terrence Neuzil, the relocation would be a \$63 million project.

Committee members lobbying for Coralville asked for floodwalls for the Coralville Strip, the commercialized stretch of Highway 6, which was also flooded during the summer.

Neuzil said he thinks the chance of getting funding is



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

The Park Road bridge spans an icy Iowa River on Monday. A committee sent by the Iowa City Chamber of Commerce was in Washington, D.C., on Monday and Tuesday lobbying for funding to rebuild the bridge and elevate Dubuque Street in front of Mayflower to make them less susceptible to flooding.

good because of the politicians Iowa has in Washington.

"With two senior senators, Tom Harkin and Chuck Grassley being in Washington, that puts us in a good position to ask for dollars," Neuzil said.

Grassley has been a member of the Senate since 1980, and Harkin was elected in 1984.

Neuzil said past trips have yielded hundreds of millions in funding for the area.

"I'm pretty optimistic we'll see dollars reach us sometime this year," he said.

The Chamber of Commerce sponsors the trip annually. It

always focuses on bringing money back to Iowa, but this year, it also centered on response to the flood and where to focus that attention.

O'Donnell said it was important for the requests to be prioritized.

"It's very doubtful they will be able to get money to fund all of the projects, but we'll be looking forward to seeing how they did," O'Donnell said.

The committee will return to Iowa City today after spending three days making the Iowa congressional delegation aware of its concerns.

Iowa meth arrests down

Officials praise a 2005 meth law, though they've seen recent increases in meth-related offenses.

By REGINA ZILBERMINTS
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Despite a sharp drop in methamphetamine-related arrests since 2005, numbers may once again be on the rise, authorities say.

A report from the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning confirmed that meth-related prison incarcerations have steadily decreased since 2005.

The report attributed the trend to the 2005 state law, which restricts excessive purchasing of pseudoephedrine, an ingredient used in the manufacturing of meth.

Iowa City police Sgt. Mike Brotherton confirmed the trend, praising the new statute's requirement that mandates pharmacies must put pseudoephedrine behind the counter and keep records of who purchases the drug.

Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek said he saw the same decline in meth trade on the county level. Both officials agree the decline has been significant.

On the state level, prison incarcerations where meth was the most serious offense fell 50 percent from 2005 to 2008, according to the Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning report.

According to the Department of Public Safety, manufacturing or distribution offenses fell from 372 in 2005 to 189 in 2007, and possession or use charges fell from

Meth-related prison incarcerations statewide

- 2008: 343
- 2007: 448
- 2006: 573
- 2005: 697

Source: Iowa Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning

1,808 to 1,019. Overall, drug-related prison incarcerations fell in 2005 for the first time in 10 years and has been declining steadily since.

Despite these declines over the past few years, Pulkrabek is noticing an increase in meth offenses during the last half of 2008.

"The people that manufacture it are getting smarter," he said, noting that "smurfing" is growing in popularity.

"Smurfing" is the illegal practice of circumventing the law by buying pseudoephedrine from numerous pharmacies. There is a push on the federal and state level to implement electronic tracking of sales to prevent this. People may also try to import ingredients from Mexico or Canada.

And though some forecast that this could precipitate a decline in the prison population, saving taxpayers money on reconstruction, Pulkrabek said this would probably not affect the proposed construction of a justice center, which would combine the county's

courthouse and a new jail. Johnson County has between 35 and 40 inmates housed out of county, he said, and most of the inmates in the jail aren't there for drug-related offenses.

In the last week, Iowa City police charged at least two people for possession of meth.

Throughout 2008, Iowa City police seized 1.627 kilograms of meth and reported finding 28 labs. Iowa City police have shut down more and more labs every year since 2005 — a growth Brotherton said can be attributed partly to the law that went into effect that year.

Iowa City police seized 11 labs between July 2006 and June 2007, 16 labs between July 2007 and June 2008, and already 12 labs since July 2008.

Most labs officers in Iowa City have found were discovered after tips from neighbors who smelled the foul odor that inevitably comes with the production of the drug, Brotherton said.

But the law is also invaluable in getting police information regarding who has been repeatedly buying pseudoephedrine, allowing them to initiate and focus investigations, he added.

"Initially when the law went into effect, the number of labs went way down," Brotherton said. "The law has been very effective, but people will always try to circumvent it."

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Editorial

Winds of change start in Iowa

As *The Daily Iowan* reported Feb. 3, a new study released by the American Wind Energy Association ranks Iowa as second in the nation in wind-energy capacity. This places Iowa ahead of California, where the first major wind farms were developed in the 1980s, and second only to Texas. Gov. Chet Culver says the new study is proof that investment in wind energy has been successful, and it will continue to benefit the state of Iowa.

In a time of economic uncertainty, with Americans clinging to every dime they earn, it becomes necessary for the nation to become creative. Any idea that may help ease some of the economic hardships Americans are facing is golden. And for those new technologies that have been invented, it is our job to perfect them so that they may help to ease our country's financial burden.

Wind-power technology is significantly cheaper than other alternative forms of energy generation. According to Green Living Ideas, wind turbines can produce electricity for only 5 cents per kilowatt-hour, while coal- or oil-burning power plants rack up much steeper costs for energy production. And while many coal- or oil-burning plants cost money to maintain, wind turbines require very little maintenance once they are in place, and the wind power they produce is free. Aside from saving money, wind-power technology also protects the environment from the toxic chemicals released into the air by coal- and oil-burning power plants.

Our state has become a role model for alternative-energy

advancement. Many Americans, during the winter months especially, are shell-shocked when the energy bill arrives. Simply seeing the bill sitting in the mailbox is enough to make anyone cringe. Especially now that Americans can barely afford their day-to-day expenses and struggle to live paycheck to paycheck, affording things such as the energy bill, which can often be massive, is a significant struggle. So cheaper technologies such as wind power are critical. Ignoring less costly, cleaner methods of energy production in favor of more expensive methods is naïve.

Now that we've started to further develop and implement wind-power technology in many parts of the United States, we as a nation should push to make wind-power energy the dominant mode of alternative energy in our country. It could certainly help ease a great deal of the turmoil that has ensued due to our failing economy. Currently, the United States leads the world in wind-power production. We should strive to continue to maintain that position and do all that we can to help further advance wind technology.

Iowa has demonstrated that it can lead the nation into more promising economic times, and it should continue to serve as a leader for alternative energy. Serving as home to six different wind-power companies, such as Siemen's and Trinity, we should be proud of all that our state has done to advance alternative-energy technologies. The future of both our economy and environment may depend on this advancement.

Performance-enhancing pot puns



NICHOLAS KELLY
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In a turn of events that can be described as nothing but supremely heartbreaking, the proud visage of the world of sport was again besmirched recently via yet another incidence of performance-enhancing drug abuse by one of the world's highest-caliber athletes.

That competitor, none other than seasoned swim veteran and 14-time Olympic gold medalist Michael Phelps, who most recently stroked his way into the heart of America via his eight golds at Beijing and the media cluster-love-circle-jerk that agonizingly doted upon all things Phelps. But now the dopey-eared darling who found his way into the papers for everything from his high-tech swimsuits to the finer points of his ripped physique has graced the pages of the popular press for another reason, a reason that threatens to leave the world of sport ripped apart and leave Americans especially feeling a bit burned.

Michael Phelps, 23, of America, was caught on film getting stoned.

Many may ponder pot as a performance-enhancing drug. How can bong rips have anything to do with records made by a Olympic swimmer as opposed to records by Pink Floyd? Could Phelps' career of swimming like a fish have anything to do with the same substance that enabled every member Phish's entire career?

To answer that, one need only look to that same frenetic news-bacchanal that accompanied Phelps' Olympic run (a mountain of text that could leave any reader blood-shot and bleary-eyed). In that deluge of documents lies no shortage of stories detailing the gut-shattering assemblage of foodstuffs Phelps was said to consume as a daily part of his training regimen. With some sources (such as the *New York Post*) alleging an appetite of 12,000 calories a day as part of Phelps' strategy for mining more

Gold than a boatful of 49ers, the case could be made that perhaps in 2008 every sport was interested in going green.

Naturally, this newest instance of performance-enhancement (and perhaps the first where the phrase "doping" actually implies, well, *dope*) could represent a tremendous hit to the world of competitive sport and one that could have any number of careers going up in smoke, and while many may look to the photo of Phelps, with his winning smile wrapped around the devil's inhaler and see little more than a scene recreated in frat houses and dorm rooms the world over, others may acknowledge it as the latest front in the war on drugs in athletics.

Many may wonder what side of the debate they would be rolled into regarding this controversial issue. Would they stand with the high and mighty or the mighty high? Will athletes be forced to decide if they're hungry for victory or simply Doritos? Will the legacy of Michael Phelps go out in a blaze of glory or will he be forever mired in a purple haze of controversy? Can this conflict somehow be hashed out?

The time has come for the world of sport to take a stand on this debacle, to part the murky bong-waters of disputation, and bring a renewed mellow to the world of sport. Will Olympic athletes continue to be forged in the fires of victory, not baked before the counter at a Taco Bell? Will the next ring to be added to Olympic logo be a pleasing shade of tie-dye, or will the Olympic committee someday bring low the jonesing jocks from their high perch?

Will the same media that were instrumental in creating the Phelps frenzy be the first one to reach for a rock when the call comes out for the man to be publicly stoned, and will his pie-eyed public be all abuzzed to no longer be his bud? Perhaps, the answer lies in the people's collective (and often fallible) short attention span and the hope that soon, perhaps pooped by the puerile puckishness, the pundits' pot puns will be burned out. ■

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Commentary

Shadowboxing the Bush administration

NEAL SCHUETT
neal.d.schuett@gmail.com

Part three

"We seek a new way forward, based on mutual interest and mutual respect," proclaimed newly inaugurated President Obama to the world. Specifically, Obama prefaced this statement by addressing "the Muslim world." If Obama can turn his words into policy, then the next four years will be a stark contrast to the last eight. The neocons at the helm of the Bush administration were too focused on their Middle East domino-theory to consider whether their grand plan was respected or in the interest of the people whose countries they occupied. If Obama wants to win the war against the "far-reaching network of violence and hatred" referenced in his speech, then he will have to reclaim the respect our

country has lost in the global community, especially in the Muslim world, since our invasion of Iraq.

The cycle of violence and charged rhetoric promulgated by the Bush Doctrine cannot be easily undone. For seven years we have forced our agenda on the world without asking. Our war on terror has pushed the attacks from our shores to the streets of Kabul and Baghdad. The Bush Doctrine has set in motion a cycle of violence that needs to be completely thrown off course, not just held in abeyance, if we are to be safe from the Sword of Damocles that demented men such as Osama bin Laden hold over the free world. If we continue down our current path, there may never be an end to the acts of reprisal, and we may never regain our moral standing in the global theater.

The perfect example of the cyclical war that could con-

tinue between the United States and the militant jihadi organizations can be found in the Holy Land. Hamas terrorizes Israel through rockets; Israel bombs Gaza, so Hamas lobbs more rockets — rinse and repeat while civilian deaths mount. Israelis insist they are just defending themselves, but killing Gazan civilians only leads to more street-level support for Hamas' defiance of Israel and galvanizes Hamas' recruitment efforts. Israel's pre-emptive and disproportionate responses aren't going to end the cycle of violence; it only adds fuel to the fire.

The United States' foreign policy toward the Middle East must rebrand itself. If Obama's administration aims to truly "reject as false the choice between our safety and our ideals," then it's time we stop paying mere lip-service to the ideals of freedom, equality, and toler-

ance in our foreign policy. The Bush administration promised democracy and freedom in Afghanistan; now, we are considering giving the Taliban back at least a portion of control in the government. As soon as the neocons could fabricate WMD in Iraq, we abandoned a poor and war-torn Afghan populace to their own fate.

We heralded our policy as progress and a battle against evil; meanwhile, we continue to pay the oppressive Saudi government billions. We consider an Egyptian government that has been in "a state of emergency" for decades, led by an "elected president" who aims to pass on the office of president through nepotism, a democratic ally in the region. We snuffed out the democratically elected government in Iran, ushering in the Islamic Revolution.

If we want the people of the Middle East to believe that

the United States is more than the "Great Satan," then Obama must follow through on his promise to promote mutual respect and mutual interests. We must supplant hypocrisy with accountability. The Bush administration chastised — even threatened military force — against Iran and Syria for supporting terrorism, yet we continually fail to hold Saudi Arabia and Pakistan accountable for the Salafi and Wahhabist factions within their borders that provide aid to such terrorist groups as Al Qaeda. Why should the Muslim world trust us when we left the Afghans to the warlords, arm Israel's use of disproportionate force, and turn a blind eye to some corrupt governments while admonishing and sanctioning others?

In the end, however, change in the Middle East must be a homegrown movement; it cannot be forced upon the region. Appealing to

the virtues and elements that are established in Islamic jurisprudence or a Koranic Sura will foment support faster than forcing Western enlightenment philosophy onto the region. Islamic scholars have written volumes on the importance of acting just and fighting corruption. The Prophet Muhammad wrote one of the world's first constitutions in Medina. Democratic principles should be repackaged as the Islamic concepts of *ijma* (consensus) and *shurah* (consultation). The rhetoric must be refocused on local terminology and should embrace Islamic values and culture instead of promoting a clash of civilizations.

Hopefully, Obama will heed his own words, "our power alone cannot protect us, nor does it entitle us to do as we please. Instead ... our power grows through its prudent use; our security emanates from the justness of our cause."

Songs that came home from the wars

UI Professor Stephen Swanson's *Was My Brother in the Battle?* gives a powerful voice to the men and women of the armed forces by tapping into the lessons of history.

By **BRIAN DAU**
brian-dau@uiowa.edu

Dear Madam, I have been shown in the files of the War Department a statement of the Adjutant General of Massachusetts that you are the mother of five sons who have died gloriously on the field of battle.

When UI music Professor Stephen Swanson reads the beginning of Abraham Lincoln's letter of condolence to Lydia Bixby, he hears music. The full text of the letter, arranged into a song by UI music Professor David Gompper, closes out Swanson's latest album, *Was My Brother in the Battle?*, released last fall.

"I'm trying to make people aware that war is serious and probably not good for anybody," said the 64-year-old baritone.

Swanson, accompanied by Gompper on piano and music Assistant Professor Nicole

Esposito, will perform a selection of songs from *Was My Brother in the Battle?* at 8 p.m. today in the Old Capitol Senate Chamber.

Swanson has a way of singing while he talks, each pause of "ah" or "um" booming out as if he were onstage at one of the dozens of operas he has performed in. The effect can be intimidating, but it's clear his classically trained pipes are still in top form.

"He has a fantastic voice," Gompper said. "It's rare to find someone his age who still has that kind of rich and deep voice."

Was My Brother contains songs from the Civil War through Vietnam War, including a cover of Bob Dylan's "Masters of War." Despite the inclusion of the outspoken singer/songwriter's track, Swanson does not consider the record to be a protest album. Instead, he wants his audience to be more aware of

what happens to people in times of war. People such as his own son, who served four years in Iraq as a member of the Air Force, or his brother-in-law, who fought in World War II and spent 50 years after the war waking up "screaming and weeping" from post-traumatic stress disorder.

"We put these people in harm's way, but I don't think people think about what harm's way is," Swanson said.

As an example, he offered a story of a defense contractor who, in order to cut costs, wove fewer Kevlar threads into the protective vests produced for soldiers, a method of profiteering Swanson finds abhorrent. Though not an outright pacifist, he believes the ideal military is "incredibly powerful but never has to be used." The analogy he likes to give is of the "biggest, meanest bouncer in a bar."

"It's not about the number of guys he can trash, it's about making sure they don't trash the bar," he said.

To borrow a few of the final words from Lincoln's letter to Bixby, perhaps Swanson can take some kind of "solemn pride" from his efforts to shed some understanding on a topic as unintelligible as war.



PUBLICITY PHOTO

Was My Brother in the Battle?, Stephen Swanson's latest album, was released in October by Albany Records

Ads didn't bowl him over



DAN WATSON
dan-watson@uiowa.edu

solid connection. But ad executives for large corporations need to give the Super Bowl audience more credit when it comes to humor. For one day a year, television viewers willingly allow pesky commercials into their homes, and each year adds another layer of disappointment. Men getting hit in the genitals hasn't been funny since Super Bowl V.

The target audience for most of the ads must be prepubescent boys who have recently discovered the opposite sex — and to one agency's credit, at least Godaddy.com didn't beat around the bush. To get the pulse of what most Americans find funny these days, the companies didn't have to do much research; just look at the top-grossing and highest-rated movies and television shows. The country seems to be going through a conversational-humor phase. From Vince Vaughn to the Apatow gang, outrageous and witty dialogue gets the most laughs, rather than the slapstick humor that invaded televisions during the Super Bowl.

2) Sentimental commercials work.

Hands down the best commercial of the night was the fusion of Bob Dylan and Will.i.am singing Dylan's "Forever Young" for Pepsi — really the only advertisement I felt compelled to seek out on the Internet. It cut between images including Vietnam and Iraqi troops, Gumby and Shrek, and John Belushi and Jack Black, ending with the

tag line "Every generation refreshes the world."

The nostalgic commercial seems to tell the audience, "Don't worry, everything will be OK." It is corny and soft-hearted, but the images, accompanied by the song, draw the viewer in.

3) Don't be afraid to be smart with your commercials.

One of the most memorable Super Bowl commercials ever was the introduction of Apple's Macintosh computer in a 1984 spot in which a woman chucks a sledgehammer at Big Brother's image. Super Bowl viewers are more intelligent than the advertisement agencies believe — they understood a literary reference and responded.

Examining the commercials from Sunday, very few are intelligent. Monster.com's stuffed moose between two offices was witty, as were the avatar characterizations by Coke, but surprisingly, the smartest ad came from Cash for Gold. In it, Ed McMahon and MC Hammer give testimonials on how the company made them rich again — maybe not the most academic content, but a very clever approach.

The point ad execs should learn from Super Bowl XLIII's commercials is not to underestimate the American public. We have a respectable sense of humor, we're not made of stone, and we may even pick up a book — but advertisers think we enjoy talking babies and fart jokes more.

medium
media filtered through us brought to you

On Sunday, nearly 100 million people witnessed a man kiss a monkey, a horse play fetch, and Chester Cheetah put on his best creeper face. I watched all this without a chuckle, smirk, or really even a thought. This year's Super Bowl ads cost roughly \$3 million for 30 seconds, but Ed Wood could've made a more appealing commercial than the majority of the plugs — and done it with considerably less dough.

Super Bowl ads are highly anticipated, and they should be. In the past, the ads have been discussed at water coolers more than the big game. This year's commercials hit rock bottom. They were humorless, over the top, and treated Super Bowl viewers like kindergartners. Here are a few lessons to take away from Super Bowl XLIII's collage of dumb advertisements.

1) Understand America's sense of humor.

Humor is an excellent strategy to sell products. I appreciate when ads match my sense of humor because they make a

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JEFFREY R. STAAB, CBS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich (left) shares a laugh with host David Letterman on the set of "The Late Show with David Letterman" on Tuesday in New York. The recently impeached Blagojevich spoke to Letterman about his removal from office.

Blago looking for job

By DEANNA BELLANDI
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ousted as Illinois governor and looking for a job, Rod Blagojevich returned to national television on Tuesday to proclaim his innocence on corruption charges — perhaps angling for a future book deal or talk show.

But Blagojevich, a lawyer whose license is inactive, has some hurdles to overcome if he wants a new career. The biggest one: Who would hire him?

"A great many employers will not hire someone who has a felony charge pending against them," said Chicago defense attorney John Beal.

But some might offer him a job, if only to exploit the built-in publicity surrounding the scandal-tainted Democrat, especially as he gets closer to a trial on charges that could bring a lengthy prison term.

A federal indictment is expected by April on allegations that Blagojevich tried to auction off Barack Obama's vacant Senate seat. He was impeached by Illinois lawmakers, who stripped him of his job last week.

Blagojevich's publicist says offers are coming in, but he declined to provide details.

"Every day, we get several offers of something he could do or would like to, and there are certainly no shortage of people who would love to speak with him," publicist Glenn Selig said.

Before the unanimous vote to remove Blagojevich, one Chicago radio show offered him a job if he would resign in the wake of

his Dec. 9 arrest on federal corruption charges. He refused to step down.

The former governor needs find a way to make a living. Not only did he lose his \$177,000-a-year job, but his wife recently was fired from her \$100,000-a-year job as the chief fundraiser for a Chicago homeless agency.

Federal authorities claim she was caught on secretly recorded tapes making expletive-laden demands to fire *Chicago Tribune* writers critical of Blagojevich.

"It's a period of adjustment for us," Blagojevich told NBC's "Today Show." "But you know what — I'm not asking for any sympathy. There are tens of thousands of Americans who are losing their job every single day. I just happen to be among the ranks."

Blagojevich's latest round of national TV interviews Tuesday in New York included stops at CBS' "Late Show with David Letterman," CNN's "Larry King Live," and Fox's "On the Record with Greta Van Susteren."

His publicist insists the appearances are not about finding the former governor a new job, but about clearing his name.

It won't be easy. Before Blagojevich's removal, Letterman listed the "Top Ten Ways Rod Blagojevich Can Improve His Image," which ended with, "Uhhh ... resign?"

In his appearance on Letterman's show Tuesday, Blagojevich said he keeps thinking he'll wake up and people will realize "this is just one big misunderstanding." He also laughed with

the audience when Letterman mentioned watching him on several television talk shows.

Letterman joked that the more Blagojevich talked and repeated his claims of innocence, the more the host said to himself, "Oh, this guy is guilty."

Blagojevich said he appreciated Letterman's position but also believed he had to defend himself and assert his innocence.

On "Today," Blagojevich said he "unequivocally" never tried to profit from his power to appoint Obama's Senate replacement and was eager for his day in court.

"This is America, and I still believe this is a place where, as it's written in the Bible, the truth will set you free. I'm clinging to the truth and embracing the truth. I'll ride the truth, and I'll clear my name," he said.

Blagojevich has the chance to refashion himself. Others have done it, such as homemaking diva Martha Stewart, who served prison time for insider trading, and former President Bill Clinton, who survived impeachment for his affair with a White House intern.

"Americans love the rehabilitation of fallen heroes. You know, we just love that," said Eve Geroulis, a clinical professor at Chicago's Loyola University school of business who specializes in marketing.

But to make a successful comeback, a person has to acknowledge what got him into trouble in the first place and then do some sort of penance to make amends, said Northwestern University Professor Irving Rein.

Not sex-offender space

By MARLON A. WALKER
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Approximately 90,000 sex offenders have been identified and removed from the social-networking website MySpace, company and law-enforcement officials said on Tuesday.

The number was nearly double what MySpace officials originally estimated last year, said North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, who, along with Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal, has led efforts to make social networking websites safer for young users.

Cooper said he wasn't surprised by the updated numbers, and he demanded that MySpace and rival online networking site Facebook — which claim to have more than 170 million users combined — do more to protect children and teenagers.

"These sites were created for

young people to communicate with each other. Predators are going to troll in these areas where they know children are going to be," Cooper said. "That's why these social-networking sites have the responsibility to make their sites safe for children."

The attorneys general received agreements last year from MySpace and Facebook to push toward making their sites safer. Both sites implemented dozens of safeguards, including finding better ways to verify users' ages, banning convicted sex offenders from using the sites, and limiting the ability of older users to search members under 18.

Blumenthal, who received MySpace's updated numbers Tuesday through a subpoena, said the information "provides compelling proof that social networking sites remain rife with sexual predators." A preliminary number of sex offenders found on Facebook was

"substantial," but he said the company has yet to respond to a recent subpoena.

MySpace executives said they were confident in the technology they use to find, remove, and block registered sex offenders. The company uses Sentinel SAFE, a database it created in 2006 with the names, physical descriptions, and other identifiable characteristics of sex offenders that cross-references against MySpace members.

"Sentinel SAFE is the best industry solution to ensure these offenders are removed from social networks," Heman-shu Nigam, the company's chief security officer, said in a statement Tuesday.

MySpace, which is owned by Rupert Murdoch's News Corp., has more than 110 million active users worldwide.

A spokesman for Facebook, which claims more than 61 million active users, said on Tuesday that protecting its users has always been a priority.

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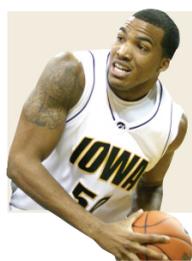
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The Iowa men's basketball team looks to sweep the Hoosiers tonight in Bloomington, Ind.

2B

SCOREBOARD

NBA
 Boston 100, Philadelphia 99
 Cleveland 101, Toronto 83
 Minnesota 116, Indiana 111
 New Jersey 99, Milwaukee 85
 Houston 107, Chicago 100
 Denver 104, San Antonio 96

NHL
 St. Louis 4, Columbus 2

Washington 5, New Jersey 2
 N.Y. Islanders 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Los Angeles 1, Ottawa 0
 Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 2
 Florida 4, Toronto 3, OT
 Nashville 2, Phoenix 1
 Atlanta 2, N.Y. Rangers 1, SO
 Dallas 3, Calgary 1
 Chicago 3, Edmonton 1
 Vancouver 4, Carolina 3

NAMES TO KNOW

The second coming?

Future Hawkeye Keenan Davis is the second high-profile wide receiver to graduate from Cedar Rapids Washington in five years. Former Michigan wideout Adrian Arrington, a 2004 graduate of Washington, was also a four-star prospect who chose the Wolverines instead of an offer from Iowa. Also worth noting, Arrington's wide-receiver coach at Michigan is current Iowa wide-receiver coach Erik "Soup" Campbell.

Expert's take: "I think everyone wants to throw that comparison out because of the similarities," Rivals.com national analyst Jeremy Crabtree said. "I think it's unfair for Keenan because he's his own player; He's explosive in his own right, he's got great, great hands, runs amazing routes, and is just such a good playmaker."

Monster backfield

Toledo running back and Iowa commitment Brad Rogers wasn't the only truck in the backfield for Central Catholic. The 5-10, 230-pound tailback split carries his senior season with 6-2 240-pound Alabama running back commitment Mike Marrow. Rogers was the first member of Iowa's class of 2009, orally committing to the Hawkeyes on his father's birthday, April 28, 2008.

Expert's take: "A big, bruising, Big Ten-style running back," Crabtree said. "He's great between the tackles, he does have some explosion and can take it the distance if he needs to. I think he's one of those guys you need to get the ball to 20, 30 times a game and let him do his thing."

A new type of Iowa QB?

Joshua Brown doesn't fit the mold for a typical Iowa quarterback. At 5-11, 204-pounds, the St. Petersburg, Fla., prospect will at least initially be given a shot at quarterback by the Hawkeyes according to Tom Kakert of Hawkeyereport.com. With the departure of Jake Christensen and Marvin McNutt's move to wide receiver, Iowa might need more depth at the position.

Expert's take: "We think he's going to be an excellent corner on the next level because of his size," Crabtree said. "You've got to like the kid's explosive ability, whether it's at cornerback or it's as a quarterback."

Champion bloodlines

Jimbo Covert was a Super Bowl champion, four-time All-Pro, and member of the 1980s NFL All-Decade team as a left tackle with the Chicago Bears. His son, Scott Covert, now would like to carry on the family football tradition as a defensive lineman for the Hawkeyes.

Expert's take: "You have to like that the kid has great football in his bloodlines, but schools aren't going to offer a scholarship to people just because he's somebody's kid," Crabtree said. "Schools have to find kids who will help them win ball games, and obviously, Iowa thinks that's the case with this kid here."

High-school phenom

Even if Brandon Wegher never steps on the field as a Hawkeye, he will be remembered by many Iowans for his career at Sioux City Heelan. He rushed for a state-record 3,238 yards and 51 touchdowns while averaging 8.9 yards per carry his senior season and helping the Crusaders capture a 3-A state championship.

Expert's take: "Brandon is one of the more explosive running backs in the country, just a true all-purpose guy who can hurt you in a number of different ways with his ability to catch the ball of the backfield," Crabtree said. "Also, he can run between the tackles with his strength — just one of the more complete running backs in the country."

HAWKEYE RECRUITS ACCENT THE 'O'

Iowa's 2009 class is offensive.



Dominic Alvis
Logan, Iowa



Conor Boffelli
West Des Moines



Joshua Brown
St. Petersburg, Fla.



Drew Clark
Marion



Jordan Cotton
Mount Pleasant, Iowa



Scott Covert
Lake Forest, Ill.



John's Jesuit player Cody Riffle tries to tackle Central Catholic's Brad Rogers on Sept. 12, 2008, in Toledo, Ohio. Rogers is one of 18 oral commitments set to sign a national letter of intent today with the Hawkeyes.

By **MIKE SLUSARK**
michael-slusark@uiowa.edu

The Iowa football team is expected to sign 18 new players today as part of national signing day, 14 of whom initially project to the offensive side of the ball.

In-state commitments Keenan Davis of Cedar Rapids and Brandon Wegher of Sioux City headline the class as the only two four-stars, according to Rivals.com.

Of the 14 offensive recruits, one player projects as a fullback, five project as offensive linemen, two as running backs, two as tight ends, three as wide receivers, and one could fit a number of positions. With a new mix of linemen and skill players, the Hawkeye offense should have a solid foundation for the next four seasons.

Focusing on the trenches

The offensive linemen in the Hawkeyes' 2009 class are the most in a single class since 2005. But unlike that group, the majority of linemen in this class come from Iowa.

ON THE WEB

For more coverage on the Iowa class of 2009, check out our web graphic with profiles on all 18 of the newest Hawkeyes at dailyiowan.com, and be sure to read Thursday's *DI* for reaction from Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz.

Conor Boffelli of West Des Moines, Drew Clark of Marion, Matt Murphy of Clinton, and Brett Van Sloten of Decorah bring home-grown depth to a position that should graduate at least five players in 2010.

Boffelli was formerly committed to play football at Iowa State, but he opened his recruitment up after former Cyclone coach Gene Chizik took the head-coach position at Auburn.

In Clark, Iowa landed a life-long Hawkeye fan. The 6-4, 280-pound Clark is the nephew of former Iowa tight end and four-time letter winner Craig Clark.

Offensive line coach Reese Morgan noticed Murphy, a 6-6, 255-pound prospect from Clinton while watching film of his team play against a player Morgan was scouting.

SEE RECRUITMENT, 3B



Brandon Wegher
Sioux City



Brett Van Sloten
Decorah, Iowa



Anthony Schiavone
New London, Conn.



Stephane Nguoumou
Rockville, Md.



Matt Murphy
Clinton



Nolan MacMillan
Princeton, N.J.



Keenan Davis
Cedar Rapids



Shane DiBona
Duxbury, Mass.



Dakota Getz
Macon, Ill.



Tyler Harrell
Dublin, Ohio



Martin Hopkins
Chicago



Micah Hyde
Fostoria, Ohio



Nolan MacMillan
Princeton, N.J.

COMMENTARY

Star-gazing is for astronomers

Don't judge a class by its stars.



MIKE SLUSARK
michael-slusark@uiowa.edu

Jewel Hampton has every Hawkeye fan excited at the potential he displayed his freshman season, rushing for 477 yards and seven touchdowns while spelling Shonn Greene.

Few know Hampton suffered a serious ailment coming out of high school — he didn't have enough stars.

Despite rushing for more than 2,000 yards during his senior season at Warren Central High School in Indianapolis, Hampton was only rated as a two-star prospect by Rivals.com. His only offer besides Iowa was Ball State.

However, Hampton ran with a style this season that begged defenders to attempt to get in his way. He was a speeding F-150 with a serious case of road rage.

Miraculously, he overcame his star deprivation and looked right at home in the Big Ten.

So now, with national signing day here, Iowa fans look at a class that resembles a dim February night sky. A few stars obscured by clouds that suggest a never-ending winter.

Well, I'm sure there are a few players in this class who secretly have that ability to burn, burn like fabulous roman candles exploding like spider webs.

Even those who rate recruits for a living would tell you not to doubt two-

and three-star players.

"Recruiting rankings don't determine who's going to win football games — it's what happens when the kids get there on campus," said Jeremy Crabtree, the national recruiting analyst and editor for Rivals.com. "Obviously, you want to try to get the talent, and having the talent there is a definite correlation to how it produces on the football field. But still, there are a couple other major factors involved, led by coaching first and foremost."

SEE COMMENTARY, 3B

TIDBITS

Instant impact

Keenan Davis is most likely to see immediate playing time for the Hawkeyes among the newcomers, because the graduation of Andy Brodell leaves a starting position up for grabs at wide receiver. While Davis may not start as a freshman, his physical maturity and big-play ability means it's probable he'll see considerable playing time his first year on campus.

Big potential

Decorah's Brett Van Sloten not only has the size — 6-7, 270 pounds — to be an effective left tackle, he has good athleticism. Also a star high-school basketball player, Van Sloten led the state in rebounds his junior season, averaging more than 15 boards. He was also an offensive threat, scoring more than 21 points a game for the Vikings.

"He's got a pedigree — his dad played at Iowa State. He's got the size and he's a good athlete," [Tom] Kakert of Hawkeye Report said. "He projects out at tackle, and tackle's usually going to be your best athlete on the line. He's a really intriguing prospect."

Got away

David Barrent, Rivals.com's top player in the state of Iowa for 2009, committed to the Hawkeyes in May, only to renege in July and orally commit to Michigan State. The 6-8, 290-pound Army All-American offensive tackle from West Des Moines is also rated as the ninth-best tackle in the country by Rivals. Barrent won't visit Kinnick Stadium next season, but he should be back in Iowa City when the Spartans face the Hawkeyes in 2010.

Sleeper

No one in the recruiting world knew much about Stephane Nguoumou until he committed to the Hawkeyes a little more than a week ago. Nguoumou, a 6-4 195-pound receiver from Rockville, Md., was an honorable mention All-Metro selection by the *Washington Post* and had 70 catches for more than 1,000 yards and 12 touchdowns as a senior. It was enough to garner interest from Connecticut and Syracuse, but Nguoumou accepted an offer from Iowa on his official visit.

A video of Nguoumou in action has Hawkeye fans abuzz with his potential; it can be viewed at <http://www.reelathletics.net/SNgonoumou.html>.

Glad to decide today

At 9 a.m., today, New Jersey linebacker Ka'li'ial Glad will decide which school to attend in the fall, with Iowa being on his shortlist.

At 6-2, 217 pounds, Glad is rated as a three-star prospect by Rivals.com. Glad is the nephew of former Iowa great Leroy Smith, an All-American defensive end for the Hawkeyes in the early 1990s.

Glad's high school, Winslow Township in Atco, N.J., is the alma mater of another, albeit more recent Iowa All-American, Shonn Greene. His senior season, Glad, who also played quarterback, threw for 1,379 yards and 19 touchdowns, while gathering 97 tackles and eight sacks on defense.

He also holds offers from Louisville, Maryland, North Carolina, Pittsburgh, Rutgers, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

— by Mike Slusark

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Michigan St.	7	2	.778	17	4	.810
Minnesota	6	3	.667	18	3	.857
Illinois	6	3	.667	18	4	.818
Penn St.	6	3	.667	17	5	.773
Purdue	6	3	.667	17	5	.773
Ohio St.	6	4	.600	16	5	.762
Northwestern	4	5	.444	12	7	.632
Michigan	4	6	.400	14	8	.636
Wisconsin	3	3	.333	12	9	.571
Iowa	2	7	.222	12	10	.545
Indiana	0	8	.000	5	15	.250

Tuesday's Games

Ohio State 80, Purdue 72, OT
 Today's Games
 Iowa at Indiana, 5:30 p.m. BTN
 Chicago State at Northwestern, 7 p.m.
 Minnesota at Michigan State, 7:30 p.m. BTN

Thursday's Games

Penn State at Michigan, 6 p.m. BTN
 Illinois at Wisconsin, 8 p.m. ESPN

Saturday's Games

Northwestern at Iowa, 5 p.m. BTN
 Indiana at Michigan State, 3 p.m. ESPN
 Michigan at Connecticut, 5 p.m. ESPN
 Minnesota at Ohio State, 7 p.m. BTN

Sunday's Games

Purdue at Illinois, 12 p.m. CBS
 Wisconsin at Penn State, 2 p.m. BTN

WOMEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

	Conference			All Games		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Ohio State	9	1	.900	18	3	.857
Indiana	8	3	.727	15	5	.750
Michigan State	8	3	.727	15	7	.682
Purdue	8	3	.727	15	7	.682
Minnesota	7	3	.700	15	6	.714
Iowa	6	4	.600	13	8	.619
Wisconsin	4	8	.333	14	9	.609
Penn State	3	7	.300	8	12	.400
Michigan	3	8	.273	10	12	.455
Illinois	2	9	.154	6	16	.273
Northwestern	1	10	.091	5	17	.227

Thursday's Games

Indiana at Iowa, 7:05 p.m.
 Minnesota at Penn State, 6 p.m.
 Purdue at Ohio State, 6 p.m.
 Michigan at Northwestern, 7 p.m.
 Michigan State at Illinois, 8 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Iowa at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
 Illinois at Indiana, 11:30 a.m.
 Ohio State at Michigan State, 1 p.m.
 Wisconsin at Purdue, 4 p.m.

TOP 25 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

#3 North Carolina 108, Maryland 91
 #8 Marquette 76, DePaul 61
 Ohio State 80, #12 Purdue 72, OT
 Other Scores
 Northern Iowa 61, Bradley 58
 Kansas State 65, Iowa State 50
WOMEN'S SCORES
 #1 Connecticut 75, Rutgers 56
 #5 Louisville 78, Syracuse 57
 #22 Pittsburgh 82, #19 Notre Dame 70

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	32	16	3	67	159	130
N.Y. Rangers	29	18	5	63	133	136
Philadelphia	26	14	9	61	159	145
Pittsburgh	24	23	5	53	159	161
N.Y. Islanders	16	29	5	37	126	170
Northwest	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	37	8	6	80	178	113
Montreal	29	16	6	64	158	145
Buffalo	26	20	5	57	151	143
Toronto	19	23	9	47	152	186
Ottawa	17	25	7	41	116	143
Southeast	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	33	15	4	70	171	149
Florida	24	18	8	56	142	141
Carolina	25	22	5	55	131	151
Tampa Bay	17	24	10	44	130	160
Atlanta	18	29	5	41	150	182
WESTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Central	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA

Detroit	32	11	7	71	183	147
Chicago	28	13	8	64	164	124
Columbus	24	22	5	53	138	146
Nashville	23	24	3	49	121	142
St. Louis	21	24	5	47	145	158
Northwest	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary	30	16	4	64	158	148
Vancouver	23	20	8	54	147	149
Minnesota	25	21	3	53	128	114
Edmonton	25	22	3	53	139	154
Colorado	24	26	1	49	142	157
Pacific	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	36	7	5	77	167	112
Anaheim	26	22	5	57	152	148
Dallas	24	18	7	55	146	158
Phoenix	24	23	5	53	130	152
Los Angeles	21	21	7	49	126	137

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Tuesday's Games

St. Louis 4, Columbus 2
 Washington 5, New Jersey 2
 N.Y. Islanders 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Los Angeles 1, Ottawa 0
 Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 2
 Florida 4, Toronto 3, OT
 Nashville 2, Phoenix 1
 Atlanta 2, N.Y. Rangers 1, SO
 Dallas 3, Calgary 1
 Chicago 3, Edmonton 1
 Vancouver 4, Carolina 3

Today's Games

Boston at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
 Toronto at Buffalo, 6:30 p.m.
 Phoenix at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.
 Anaheim at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
Team	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	41	9	.820
Boston	23	24	.489
Philadelphia	22	27	.449
New Jersey	21	26	.447
New York	19	31	.380
Toronto	19	31	.380
Southeast	W	L	Pct
Orlando	27	20	.574
Atlanta	27	20	.574
Miami	26	21	.553
Charlotte	19	29	.396
Washington	10	38	.208
Central	W	L	Pct
Cleveland	38	9	.809
Detroit	25	21	.543
Milwaukee	24	28	.462
Chicago	21	28	.429
Indiana	19	30	.388

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Team	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	33	15	.688	—
New Orleans	28	17	.622	3 1/2
Houston	30	19	.612	3 1/2
Dallas	28	19	.596	4 1/2
Memphis	12	35	.255	20 1/2
Northwest	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	32	16	.667	—
Portland	30	17	.638	1 1/2
Utah	27	22	.551	5 1/2
Minnesota	17	30	.362	14 1/2
Oklahoma City	11	37	.229	21
Pacific	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	38	9	.809	—
Phoenix	26	20	.565	11 1/2
Golden State	15	34	.306	24
Sacramento	11	39	.220	28 1/2
L.A. Clippers	10	38	.208	28 1/2

Today's Games

Boston 100, Philadelphia 99
 Cleveland 101, Toronto 83
 Minnesota 116, Indiana 111
 New Jersey 99, Milwaukee 85
 Houston 107, Chicago 100
 Denver 104, San Antonio 96
Today's Games
 L.A. Clippers at Orlando, 6 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Toronto, 6 p.m.
 New Jersey at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Miami at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
 Cleveland at New York, 6:30 p.m.
 Houston at Memphis, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
 Chicago at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
 Denver at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
 Portland at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
 Phoenix at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

Regents approve new turf

The Kinnick Stadium field will get a makeover before the 2009 season.

By **TESSA McLEAN**
 tessa-mclean@uiowa.edu

ANKENY — Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta sat at a table with a large piece of green synthetic turf in his hand, waiting to state his case.

He must have made the right impression — the state Board of Regents on Tuesday approved the proposed \$2 million drainage-improvement and turf-replacement project.

The stadium's original drainage system was installed in 1989, and it worked efficiently until 2005, Barta said. For the next two years, it began to deteriorate and then was hit with heavy rains in the spring and summer of 2008, which took a toll. Workers toiled almost all night to get the field playable for the Hawkeyes' game against Iowa State last season, and officials later recommended that the stadium's grass surface be replaced.

"There are no short-term steps that remain," Barta said at the regents' meeting. "This is not a project I wish to take on, but I strongly believe we don't have another option."

The Hawkeyes returned to playing on grass in 1989 after spending 17 seasons playing on artificial turf; the most recent upgrade to the playing field was done in 2005.

Barta said the drainage problem is "first and foremost" and the purpose of the project is to fix Kinnick Stadium's drainage system.

"Most of the project cost is related to the drainage system being fixed," he said in a phone



Iowa running back Paki O'Meara avoids a Maine defensive tackle in Kinnick Stadium on Aug. 30, 2008. On Tuesday, the state Board of Regents unanimously voted to replace the stadium's grass with FieldTurf, which should be in place for the Hawkeyes' 2009 season-opener against Northern Iowa on Sept. 5.

interview after returning to Iowa City. "More than \$1.5 million is related directly to the drainage system, with the rest going to the field turf."

The project came at a "terrible" time, he said, noting the state's budget cuts and the nation's struggling economy.

Regent Robert Downer asked about the safety of the players on the new surface, and Barta assured him that the turf was just as safe as grass. Iowa will become the seventh Big Ten school to make the switch to FieldTurf, joining Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio State, and Wisconsin. It is also used by many NFL teams including the Minnesota Vikings, Indianapolis Colts, St. Louis Rams, and New England Patriots.

In addition, the Hawkeyes' indoor and outdoor practice

facilities both feature this surface.

Neither state appropriations nor tuition dollars will be used to fund the project. This is in accordance with the athletics budget, which also does not include those revenues.

The entire field must be taken out before the drainage system is installed. It is the same system that would be installed whether the surface was turf or grass.

The turf will be laid over a compacted soil surface, and the new surface is guaranteed for eight years, though it will probably last for more than 10 years, Barta said. He noted that grass would not last that long.

Kinnick will no longer need an irrigation system, which will save \$80,000 in water costs, but the university will need to

invest in tractors to help keep up the field.

As a result of the unanimous regent vote, the Hawkeyes' annual spring game will not take place this April, nor does the team plan to have its annual Kids Day event in August go on as scheduled.

DI reporter Jake Krzczowski contributed to this story.

Hawkeyes try to end road woes

Iowa will attempt to snap its three-game losing streak tonight in Bloomington.

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

It was just over a month ago when Indiana traveled to Iowa City and got beat, 65-60. Since then, the Iowa men's basketball team has won just one game — a 73-69 overtime thriller against Wisconsin on Jan. 21 — and has lost four consecutive contests on the road.

In fact, the Hawkeyes' only road win all year came in their third game, against the Citadel.

Now in the heart of Big Ten play, Iowa (12-10, 2-7) will travel to the famed Assembly Hall tonight to play Indiana — the conference's bottom feeders as head coach Tom Crean tries to rebuild the storied program and remove the stench left by Kelvin Sampson's repeated recruiting violations.

The Hoosiers (5-15, 0-8), despite their dreadful record, gave Ohio State a stern test on Jan. 31, hitting 15-of-28 3-pointers, but they still fell short in a 12-point defeat. Freshman Matt Roth shot 9-for-11 from behind the arc and scored a career-high 29 points against the Buckeyes.

"Some of those [3's] were just barely in the building," said Iowa head coach Todd Lickliter. "We have watched him before, and we know he is a terrific shooter. He has great range, and he is very patient ... so you are going to have to be there on the catch, and you always have to be aware of him."

Iowa, on the other hand, has let its last two road games slip away. Leading by 14 in the second half against Penn State on Jan. 24, Lickliter's squad lost, 63-59. It was more of the same this past weekend against Illinois, with the Hawkeyes falling 62-54 after holding a three-point halftime lead.



Iowa sophomore guard Jeff Peterson drives to the basket against Michigan State during the first half in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 29. Peterson and the Hawkeyes will be in Bloomington this evening, looking to complete the season sweep of the Indiana Hoosiers.

Iowa (12-10, 2-7) at Indiana (5-15, 0-8)

When: 5:35 P.M.
Where: ASSEMBLY HALL; BLOOMINGTON, IND.
Where to watch or listen: TV — BIG TEN NETWORK. RADIO — KXIC 800 AM

LINE UPS

Iowa (12-10, 2-7)			
G. Jeff Peterson	6-0	192	So.
G. Jake Kelly	6-6	185	So.
G. Matt Gatens	6-5	215	Fr.
F. Aaron Fuller	6-6	210	Fr.
F. David Palmer	6-9	240	Jr.

Indiana (5-15, 0-8)

G. Devan Dumes	6-2	188	Jr.
G. Nick Williams	6-4	211	Fr.
G. Verdell Jones, III	6-5	176	Fr.
F. Kyle Taber	6-8	220	Sr.
F. Tom Pritchard	6-9	242	Fr.

tunnel vision, which is probably a good thing.

"What we learned was, as I have told them, when you consider the consequences of not doing the little things, you learn there are no little things. We missed two or three block-outs, we had a couple of bad close-outs on rotations, and it is those things that cause you to ... let it slip."

Senior Cyrus Tate — who had 22 points and 11 rebounds against Indiana on Jan. 3 but has missed the Hawkeyes' last six games with an ankle injury — remains questionable for tonight's contest. Lickliter said the 6-9 forward was going to try to practice Tuesday. Even if he is able to go tonight, the senior would only play "maybe a few minutes a half."

Sophomore captain Jarryd Cole, who in the beginning of the season played a limited role as he recovered from a knee injury, has filled the void left by Tate in the lane nicely, scoring 10 points in each of the Iowa's

last two contests.

"I just knew that if [Cole] kept paying attention, working hard, and stayed positive that it would happen," Lickliter said. "When you look at it with Jarryd, we are right now going into his sophomore year as far as playing time. ... He understands that he has a ways to go."

While the resurgence of Cole gives Lickliter reason to be hopeful about the future, the present is still bugging him. Losing is still bugging him.

But it's nothing that a win at Indiana can't fix.

"This is a hard thing, but you have to be thankful for the things that you do have, for the experiences, and the opportunity to grow," the second-year head coach said. "I really like this group [of players], and I think their approach is correct. I think that most people understand that we are really trying to lay a foundation, and there isn't anybody in this program that accepts losing."

BIJOU THEATER NOW PLAYING JAN 30 - FEB 5

FEAR(S) OF THE DARK
 Various Filmmakers
 F-7:00, Sa-5:00 & 9:00, Su-5:00
 M-7:00, T-9:05, W-7:00, Th-9:00

FEAR(S) OF THE DARK, the animated French anthology film that wowed audiences at Sundance 2008, makes its Iowa debut at our very own Bijou Theater. Though not your standard horror movie fare, FEAR(S) gets to the core of our everyday phobias, "deliver[ing] unsettling animated nightmares, light on explicitness and long on hard-to-shake creepiness." Please note: While FEAR(S) OF THE DARK is animated, it is not intended for children.

ICVD
 Directed by Marbrouk El Mechri
 F-9:00, Sa-7:00, Su-3:00
 M

Iowa should get 18

RECRUITMENT
CONTINUED FROM 1B

"The only reason I got noticed was because they were looking at tape of [Iowa State commit-ment] Kyle Lichtenberg, and he promoted me to Coach [Kirk] Ferentz," Murphy told Hawkeyereport.com. "A lot of the credit goes to him, and I can't thank him enough for all of it."

The lone out-of-state player is Nolan MacMillan, a 6-6, 284-pound offensive tackle from the Hun School in Princeton, N.J. MacMillan is originally from Canada but spent a year at the same preparatory school that former Florida State safety and Rhodes Scholar Myron Rolle attended.

New targets outside

The 2009 receivers are led by some serious breakout in-state speed that could allow Ricky Stanzi to show off his deep ball in the coming years.

Davis, a 6-3, 200-pound wide receiver from Cedar Rapids Washington, runs the 40-yard dash in 4.47 seconds, according to Rivals.com.

"Great hands, great playmaking ability," Rivals.com national analyst Jeremy Crabtree said. "[He] just has been the focus of his high-school offense for quite some time, and has had a target on his back for two, three years now, and has lived up to every expectation and dominated."

Bringing similar speed is three-star, 6-1, 170-pound wide receiver Jordan Cotton of Mount Pleasant. Cotton also ran a 4.47 40-yard dash, according to Rivals.com. The high-school running back is the son of former Iowa running back Marshall Cotton.

Rockville, Md., wide receiver Stephane Ngoumou joins Cotton and Davis as the third receiver in the class.

Versatile athlete Dakota Getz of Macon, Ill., and Anthony Schiavone of New London, Conn., join the Hawkeyes as tight ends. Schiavone is attending the university this semester and should practice with the team in the spring.

Thunder and lightning in the backfield

Iowa is bringing in two running backs with very different styles this year. Wegher brings Tim-Dwight-esque speed to the backfield, and Ohio tailback Brad Rogers is more likely to plow over defenders like Shonn Greene.

Wegher rushed for a single-season state record 3,238 yards and 51 touchdowns on his way to a state championship victory with Sioux City Heelan. With 4.42 speed, according to Rivals.com, Wegher could be a black-and-gold blur streaking down the sidelines at Kinnick Stadium.

Rogers is a three-star, 5-10, 230-pound back from Toledo. He was the first Iowa recruit in the class, orally committing in April on his father's birthday. Although his size may be more typical of an Iowa fullback, Rogers is entering Iowa with expectations of carrying the ball.

"He's a big, bruising, Big-Ten-style running back," Crabtree said. "Great between the tackles, he does have some explosion and can take it the distance if he needs to. I think he's one of those guys you need to get the ball to 20, 30 times a game and let him do his thing."

Duxbury, Mass., fullback

Shane DiBona will also join Wegher and Rogers in the backfield.

Iowa's do-it-all back?

Joshua Brown of St. Petersburg, Fla., could get a shot at quarterback and receiver for Iowa. Although it seems he is entering as an offensive player, many recruiting analysts feel his best position is at defensive back. It's still uncertain what position Brown will likely play for the Hawkeyes, so keep an eye out for what the coaches having him practicing at in the fall.

Crossing over the line

While their offensive counterparts outnumber them, Iowa does have four commitments that project to defensive positions.

Two players from the Chicago area, Scott Covert of Lake Forest and Martin Hopkins of St. Rita, are both around 6-2 and 240 pounds, fitting the mold of future defensive tackles for Iowa. Covert is the son of former Chicago Bears great Jimbo Covert, but according to Crabtree, that's not the reason the Hawkeyes offered him.

"You have to like that the kid has great football in his bloodlines, but schools aren't going to offer a scholarship to people just because he's somebody's kid," Crabtree said. "Schools have to find kids that will help them win ball games, and obviously Iowa thinks that's the case with this kid here."

Tyler Harrell, a 6-4, 225-pound defensive end from Dublin, Ohio, and Micah Hyde, a 6-1, 170-pound defensive back from Fostoria, Ohio, both bring impressive athleticism to their positions.

Iowa works 2-star magic

COMMENTARY
CONTINUED FROM 1B

Iowa is not going to pull in four- and five-star talent on a consistent basis, but Kirk Ferentz's staff, especially strength coach Chris Doyle, have shown the ability in numerous instances to take two- and three-star prospects and develop them into quality football players.

Looking at Iowa commitments over the years, it's easy to see a pattern develop. The Hawkeyes recruit athletes who haven't maxed out their frames yet and project them at different positions from what they played in high school.

A four-star defensive

tackle may be 270 pounds and quick for a player that size. Iowa takes a talented 230-pound high-school linebacker who isn't quite fast enough to play that position in college but is eager to prove himself. Over the next few seasons, he puts on 40 pounds under a strict diet and lifting plan and emerges as a 270-pound defensive tackle who is just as fast as the four-star.

Unfortunately, this strategy is tougher with offensive skill positions, in which speed rules. Iowa has had some success converting high-school quarterbacks and running backs to receiver but has had a tough time finding natural

receivers with big-play ability (at least those who can stay out of the police blotter).

Well, this class just happens to have one of those.

Keenan Davis has a prototypical receiver frame with the speed and hands to be a playmaker early in his career for the Hawkeyes. In combination with Brandon Wegher and Jordan Cotton, Iowa is infusing some serious explosive ability into its offense.

With Ferentz's track record developing talent in the trenches and the speed coming in at skill positions, there's no reason to distress over this recruiting class. In a few years it's very likely that some "Jewels" will emerge.

'Sixburgh' celebrates

By RAMIT PUSHNICK-MASTI and DAN NEPHIN
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — More than 300,000 black-and-gold bedecked Pittsburgh Steelers fans — almost the population of the city itself — packed the streets of "Sixburgh" on Tuesday for a parade celebrating the storied franchise's unprecedented sixth Super Bowl title.

From infants to senior citizens, fans braved freezing temperatures and crowds so deep that for some even seeing the parade was impossible.

Not that it mattered. Many just wanted to be part of the festive atmosphere and have the chance to revel in the team's 27-23 victory over the Arizona Cardinals in Sunday's Super Bowl. Rousing chants of "Here we go Steelers!" pulsed through the crowd as they waited for the team to make its way along the route.

"We're going to tell the school we had fever — Steeler fever," 12-year-old Rachel Russell said, excusing her absence from school before leading a Steelers chant.

Renaming the city Sixburgh for the day, Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl made his way through the parade alongside quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, both filming the crowd that painted a gray sky yellow with twirling Terrible Towels.

Fans filled parking garages, skyscraper windows, balconies and even climbed trees to get the best view of the team they love and possibly find shelter from the sporadic flurries and temperatures that hovered in the mid-20s.

"It's never too cold to watch the Steelers," said Annette Mowery, 47, who drove from the Pittsburgh suburb of Mars with her children, Lexie, 12 and Lucas, 10.



KEITH SRAKOCIC/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pittsburgh Steeler safety Troy Polamalu leaps into the crowd during the Steelers' Super Bowl victory parade in Pittsburgh on Tuesday. The Steelers beat the Arizona Cardinals, 27-23, in football's Super Bowl XLIII on Sunday in Tampa, Fla.

"We didn't have a good day, we had a great day. It's history," Lucas said, a Super Bowl XLIII hat perched atop a blue ski mask, a matching T-shirt squeezed over his jacket.

Even police got into the spirit, waving Terrible Towels from atop horses as they led the parade. Coach Mike Tomlin followed behind in the back of a red convertible, while players holding video cameras cheered and waved from the back of pickup trucks.

Tomlin couldn't stop smiling as he was greeted on stage at the end of the parade route with thunderous applause.

"What do you say to this?" Tomlin asked the massive crowd. "Steeler Nation, you leave us all speechless, man, we just appreciate the love. How about the Steelers? How about the greatest fans in the world? How about number six?"

"Thank you, we love you guys."

Steelers owner Dan Rooney thanked the city for its support over the years — and said there is more history to be made.

"Stay with us," Rooney said. "Maybe we'll get the seventh next year."

One by one, coaches and players spoke to the crowd. Wide receiver Hines Ward, MVP of Super Bowl XL, led the fans in a chant of "Here we go Steelers, here we go," while other players danced and did an impromptu rap.

Steelers linebacker James Harrison, whose 100-yard interception return for a touchdown was the longest in Super Bowl history, presented the Lombardi trophy to the crowd. About the same time, huge booms of colorful fireworks exploded over downtown's Point State Park, at the confluence of the iconic three rivers.

Buckeyes knock off Purdue

By RUSTY MILLER
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Purdue coach Matt Painter wasn't mystified that his team lost to Ohio State, 80-72, in overtime on Tuesday night.

After all, the 12th-ranked Boilermakers didn't have third-leading scorer Robbie Hummel, while the Buckeyes got huge games from Evan Turner and William Buford.

"It's in the product. Those guys are fantastic," Painter said. "You can't allow Evan Turner to get to the basket or the free throw line 14 times. We did. But William Buford was amazing. That kid is good."

Turner scored six of his 26 points in overtime to help end the Boilermakers' six-game winning streak and prevent them from moving into a tie for first place in the Big Ten with Michigan State.

Buford had 22 points on 10-of-14 shooting, and fellow freshman B.J. Mullens added 17 points as the Buckeyes (16-5, 6-4) won their third straight.

"Turner got going, Buford got going. Mullens had 17 and eight rebounds," Painter said. "When you throw those three guys together, having that kind of a night, you're probably going to get beat."

Purdue (17-5, 6-3) had not permitted an opponent to shoot better than 43 percent all season. The Buckeyes shot 60 percent.

Asked what was the secret formula for the Buckeyes, their coach Thad Matta smiled.

"Honestly, I wish I knew," he said. "For the most part, I thought we did a decent job of gutting it out, toughing it out, on shot selection and moving the basketball."

The 7-foot Mullens, who leads the Big Ten in shooting largely because most of his baskets are dunks, said the Buckeyes were unselfish.

"We had to get the ball around," he said. "That's when we play our best offensive game — when we zip the ball around."

Turner interrupted him to add, "And just execute our offense. Those screens that guys were setting, even our guards. We just executed our offense and made sure we screened and got guys open. Pretty much with that, you have to throw the first punch."

JaJuan Johnson scored a career-high 30 points and



TERRY GILLIAM/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ohio State's Jon Diebler (33) shoots between Purdue's JaJuan Johnson (left) and another defender during the second half Tuesday in Columbus. Ohio State won, 80-72, in overtime.

Keaton Grant added 14 for Purdue, which was without Hummel, who has a hairline fracture in his back. He was cleared to play but never left the bench.

"He just didn't look good [in a Jan. 31 win] against Michigan to me," Painter said. "At times he looks like he's making improvement, then other days he doesn't."

With Hummel out of the lineup, the Buckeyes went big at times with Mullens and 6-8 wide-body Dallas Lauderdale to control the boards. The Buckeyes dominated the glass 36-19.

"They kicked us on the glass," Painter said. With the score tied at 64 late in regulation, Purdue ran down the shot clock until Lewis Jackson drove the lane, missing a bank shot in traffic with 3 seconds left. Turner got the rebound, but his shot from half-court was well off the mark.

The Buckeyes pulled away in the overtime with an 8-0 run — four of the points from Turner, who also had 12 rebounds and

seven assists.

In the overtime, Ohio State broke a 66-66 tie when Turner was fouled and made both free throws. Purdue missed a shot before Jon Diebler put up a shot in traffic — while falling down — that went in for a 70-66 lead. Johnson countered with two free throws to cut the lead to two.

Turner slashed through the lane and gingerly lofted a shot over a defender's hand to make it 72-68. The Buckeyes then grabbed the rebound of a Purdue miss and hurried down, with Buford dunking to push the lead to six points with 47 seconds remaining.

Turner hit two free throws to end the run. "They got in a groove and we flat couldn't stop them," Painter said.

Purdue did early. The Buckeyes fell behind 10-2 in the opening 5 1/2 minutes, prompting Matta to call a quick timeout and point out the obvious to his charges.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Ohio St. set to score big

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Three-straight BCS breakdowns aren't keeping the big-time recruits away from Ohio State.

Coach Jim Tressel is set to turn another batch of blue-chippers into Buckeyes, putting together a class that should rate among the best in the nation today, the first day high-school players can make their oral commitments to colleges official.

Most of the usual suspects have been cleaning up on the recruiting trail: Southern California, Texas, and LSU have classes the experts are touting as top-10 caliber.

Defending champion Florida's class is small — that's what happens when a team wins a national title with a roster full of underclassmen — but strong.

Michigan's first class fully recruited by new coach Rich Rodriguez should give Wolverines fans some hope for a brighter future after a 3-9 debacle in 2008.

Miami coach Randy Shannon is poised to have a second-consecutive promising signing day, if star running back Bryce Brown of Wichita, Kan., keeps his commitment and signs with the Hurricanes. He also has taken visits to Oregon, Clemson, and Missouri.

And at Alabama, Nick Saban has another top-rated class lined up to help him keep the Crimson Tide where he had them for much of the 2008 season: atop the polls.

NEXT HOME GAME: VS. PURDUE, SATURDAY, FEB. 14 AT 3:05 PM

BASKETBALL

VS. NORTHWESTERN

Saturday, Feb. 7 at 5:05 pm | Carver-Hawkeye Arena

- ALEXANDRIA ACES Halftime Performance
- A special "March to Madness" 5-game ticket package is currently available to UI Students!

online at hawkeyesports.com | 1 800 IA HAWKS

Softball ready to roll

The Iowa softball team will look to pick up where last season left off when it heads to Texas this weekend.

By **JON LINDER**
jonathan.linder@uiowa.edu

Last spring, the Iowa softball team experienced its fair share of bittersweet moments as its 2008 season drew to a close.

After winning seven of their last 10 regular-season games, the Hawkeyes pummeled their way into the Big Ten Tournament's championship game. Iowa was denied a Big Ten title by the slimmest of margins — losing to Northwestern, 1-0 — in what ended up being the last Big Ten Tournament — the conference coaches voted to eliminate the tourney during the off-season.

A week after the conference tournament, the team fought its way to the NCAA regional final in Iowa City. Iowa lost twice — in dramatic fashion — to Missouri. The Tigers came from behind in both games to send Iowa on its short ride home and subsequently leaving the Hawkeyes hungrier than they had been in previous years.

"It's been a different type of enthusiasm this past year," senior Erin Riemersma said. "We've always worked hard in the off-season, but there's a lot of energy being built around the team this season."

She will return for her final season to start for the

Hawkeyes at shortstop. At second base, Chelsey Carmody completes one of the most talented defensive middle-infields in the conference after some solid glove-wielding as a freshman last year.

First-team All-Big Ten selection Katie Brown will return at first base following an outstanding last few games to end the 2008 season. She was named the Big Ten Player of the Week after batting 5-for-6 against Illinois in the last two regular-season games, collecting three home runs and six RBIs.

"We all ended the season playing at a high level," Brown said. "But we knew that if we wanted to get back there and into the [Women's College] World Series, we really need to put in the extra time in the batting cage and in practice."

Senior Colleen McGlaughlin will round out the infield with at third base. Freshman Katie Keim will have an instant impact on the infield while filling a reserve role this season.

Although Iowa brings back one of the most potent pitching staffs in the country in senior Brittany Weil and junior Amanda Zust, the Hawkeyes will need to hash out a new pitcher-catcher relationship in a hurry after losing catcher Emily Nichols to graduation



ROBIN SVEC/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa softball head coach Gayle Blevins shares her thoughts on the upcoming season during Meet the Hawks Night in Kinnick Stadium on Tuesday. The Hawkeyes ended the 2008 season with a record of 42-20, placing third in the Big Ten. Iowa's 2009 campaign will kick off this weekend at the Time Warner Cable Texas Invitational in Austin, Texas.

last season. Sophomore Lindsey Major and freshman Liz Watkins will compete for the vacant position behind the plate. Weil and Zust combined for a 1.23 ERA last season.

"Right now, Lindsey is a little ahead of Liz at catcher," head coach Gayle Blevins said. "In catching, there's so much to keep track of and to learn, but Liz is developing quickly."

Blevins is excited about the depth in Iowa's outfield, and she will likely bounce people around for at least the first few weeks to find a solid lineup. Junior Lindsey Digmann started every game in the Iowa outfield last season, batting .267 and contributing 17 stolen bases on her way to being

named to the Big Ten's All-Tournament team. Senior Rachel West will look to contribute to the outfield in a few weeks — she is nursing a broken wrist she sustained during the first week of practice.

Fellow senior Quinn Morelock and junior Taylor Leichsenring will join Digmann in the outfield this weekend, but sophomore Jenny Schuelke and senior Sam Heinzman (a transfer from South Dakota State) will compete for playing time early in the season.

The Hawkeyes will start their season this weekend in Austin at the Time Warner Cable Texas Invitational, where they will be joined by Stephen F. Austin, Florida State, and host Texas.

Brown looks for smashing season

Katie Brown wants to continue hot hitting this season.

By **MIKE SLUSARK**
michael.slusark@uiowa.edu

Iowa first basemen Katie Brown was such a star on the diamond at Spirit Lake High that she made an appearance in *Sports Illustrated's* "Faces in the Crowd."



Brown
first basemen

She was the 2004 Gatorade Softball Player of the Year, the Class 3A Player and Pitcher of the Year, a four-year first-team all-state selection, and a four-year member of the state all-tournament squad, and she led her team to a state championship in 2004.

When she got to Iowa, however, she only hit .212 her freshman season and had a tough time breaking into the starting lineup.

"I put too much pressure on myself, and I had to do good, I had to do this, I had to do that," Brown said. "After my freshman season I realized I'm playing for fun, and I love working hard for it."

"Even though I didn't have a great freshman year, I think it really helped me progress."

Progress she did. Brown's batting average rose 68 points to .280 her sophomore season, which was capped by a first-team All-Big Ten selection.

Now, with the softball team in its first tournament of the season this weekend, Brown looks to continue her improvement as one of the top hitters for the Hawkeyes.

"I think she's gained a lot of confidence," Iowa head coach Gayle Blevins said. "She's going to be one of those people this year offensively who teams are going to try to work around. They're

going to do their best to not give her a lot of opportunities."

Big Ten opponents have reason to fear Brown — she batted .351 in Big Ten play and hit home runs against Michigan State and Illinois in the Big Ten Tournament. Brown embraces those kind of situations.

"I don't really see it a lot as pressure, I see it as opportunity, and I think in the Big Ten Tournament and in the last Big Ten season, it was my opportunity to step up and help the team win," she said. "I love those kind of situations."

This season, her individual goals are aimed at continuing that production.

"Offensively, take a great swing every time," she said. "I'm not really an outcome-oriented person, I just like to go up to the plate and do my thing. Defensively, be a leader on the team. I think that's a big thing to help us succeed this year."

Brown attributes her improvement to a strong work ethic and

off-season spent diligently improving her offensive game.

Blevins said that Brown is one of the hardest workers on the team.

"She's a great team player; she's an easy player to coach," Blevins said. "I could walk out of the gym, and Katie would be in there working without me around. Others, you'll walk out, and they'll leave as soon as you leave. Not Katie. She's very driven, was willing to put in the time and just did all of the little things."

Now that Brown has found her swing, she is setting the bar high for the rest of her Hawkeye teammates.

"I think we are going to compete for the Big Ten title, even though there's not a tournament [this year]," Brown said. "I think we can win it outright, with just the caliber of players we have on this team."

If she bats around the Big Ten again this year, that goal will definitely be within reach.

Alexander the Great honored again

After posting a triple-double against Penn State on Sunday, Iowa women's basketball player Kachine Alexander was named Big Ten Player of the Week once again.

By **MIKE BROWNLEE**
michael.brownlee@uiowa.edu

It's a simple formula for Iowa women's basketball player Kachine Alexander — collect a triple-double, win Big Ten Player of the Week honors.

For the second time in three weeks, the guard has accomplished the feat, winning the award after finishing a week that included a 26-point, 21-rebound, 10-assist performance in the Hawkeyes' 97-89 triple-overtime victory over Penn State on Sunday. The 26 points and 21 rebounds were both career-highs.



Alexander
guard

"It's kind of a shock," Alexander said. "This honor is great. We have so many amazing players in the Big Ten, to [win] is overwhelming."

'She continues to surprise people. One triple-double, it's like, 'Wow, that's amazing.' To have it happen again, your mind can't even go there'

— Lisa Bluder, Iowa head coach

player to have two triple-doubles in a career. The sophomore finished with 10 points, 11 rebounds, and a program-record-tying 12 assists in a 74-46 win against Northwestern on Jan. 18.

The Minneapolis native is one of only three Division-I players to have two triple-doubles this season. Joining Alexander in the club are Shalee Lehning of Kansas State and Louella Tomlinson of St. Mary's.

Alexander leads the Big Ten in conference games with 9.9 rebounds-per-game and a 1.7 assists-to-turnovers ratio. Her

5.1 assists- and 7.5 defensive rebounds-per contest are second in the league.

"She continues to surprise people. One triple-double, it's like, 'Wow, that's amazing.' To have it happen again, your mind can't even go there," Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said. "We expect the rebounds out of Kachine, and we're getting the added benefit of the points and the assists. It's been a real pleasure to have her gain confidence in those two parts of her game."

Hamlin status unsure

At her press conference Tuesday, Bluder said she didn't know if injured forward JoAnn Hamlin would play against Indiana on Thursday night in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

The junior sprained her ankle in practice on Jan. 22; she was walking around in a boot at Sunday's game.

"If anything, we're going to get a few backup minutes [from her]," Bluder said. "Quite honestly, I'd be happy with that because

at least she'd be back on the floor a little bit. We hope to have her back in full force by [Feb. 8], when we play Minnesota."

Wahlin steps up

With Hamlin out, freshman guard Kamille Wahlin has stepped into the starting lineup and has produced, averaging 12.7 points, 4.7 assists, and four rebounds in three games.

"You can't take full advantage of an opportunity unless you're prepared for it, and she prepared herself well. She's worked extremely hard," Bluder said. "If there's one bright thing that we can find from Jo's injury, it's that our team might be more complete when she comes back."

Wahlin had 18 points against Penn State, including two key baskets in the third overtime to help Iowa pull away. In her first career start, against Michigan on Jan. 26, she had a double-double with 14 points and 10 assists.

"My mindset is, I'm going to do whatever I can to help this team win," said the Crookston, Minn., native said. "I have a great group of women to help me along. Now, when I get out there, I'm just trying to put the nerves behind and have fun."

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One bedroom apartment for graduate students in large co-op house. Historic former sorority house. All utilities, cable, internet included. On-site laundry. Parking. \$720/ month. Available 8/1/09. www.buxhouses.com. (319)354-7262.

AVAILABLE August 1.

www.parsonsproperties.net

BROADWAY CONDOMINIUMS

Leasing now. Very roomy two bedroom, one bath, water paid, C/A, on-site laundry, on city busline, \$525. (319)339-9320, www.s-gate.com

CLOSE, westside, fall or summer, \$550. Dishwasher, W/D. (319)339-5450.

CORALVILLE, two bedroom, one bath condo. 725 sq.ft., new carpet, new paint. \$625 plus utilities. 3- 6- 9 month leases. (319)331-1120.

DAILY IOWAN CLASSIFIEDS

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CONDO FOR SALE

NEW YORK STYLE CONDO LIVING

The Riverside "Schoolhouse Condominiums"



251 Vine Street, Riverside

Experience New York style condo living in Riverside, Iowa. Be the first to experience something unique to Riverside & the Iowa City area!

Brand new condos in the old Riverside schoolhouse.

From 835 sq. ft. - 1525 sq. ft., Various Homes w/Exposed Duct Work, Extra High Ceilings, Unique Floor Plans, Balconies or Patios, Countryside Views/Pond Views, Community Room, Some with Lofts, Fireplaces in Selected Units, All Appliances Included, Duro-Last Roof. \$89,900-\$154,900.

ACT NOW BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!

RE/Max Real Estate Centre
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 319-631-6330

HOUSE FOR SALE

2180 Westminster Circle, Coralville



Built in 2005, looks brand new, 2000 sq. ft., 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath, walkout basement, all appliances including W/D, cherry cabinets, main floor all hardwood. \$182,900. Priced \$37,000 below assessed value. Possible contract.

Ph. 319-631-3734 or e-mail me at eshultz@barkerapartments.com

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RENT SPECIAL!

Close to campus. Two or three bedroom, two bath, laundry room, within walking to campus. Westwinds (319)354-3792.

THREE, four and five bedroom apartments. (319)354-8331. www.aptsdowntown.com

CONDO FOR RENT

BEAUTIFUL two bedroom, two bath condo located in the idyllic community, this 1800 sq.ft. condo is a must see! Separate dining room, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, laundry room and one car garage. Walking distance to UIOWA and located on the bus route. Available for immediate move in. \$1500 per month. Please contact (319)331-7487 for a viewing.

HOUSE FOR RENT

1030 E. JEFFERSON ST. Four bedroom, two bath, A/C, W/D, \$1800/ month, fall leasing. Call (319)400-1975.

314 W.BENTON

Three bedroom, W/D, dishwasher, microwave, hardwood floors, full basement, parking, garage. Available 8/1/09. \$1200/ month plus utilities. www.buxhouses.com. (319)354-7262.

4-9 bedroom houses. Parking. August 2009. WWW.REMHOUSES.COM (319)337-5022.

5 BEDROOM, 2 BATHROOM

-720 E. Jefferson (\$2300)
4 BEDROOM, 1-1/2 BATH
 -720 E. Jefferson (\$1750)
 -730 E. Jefferson (\$1600)
 New kitchen and bathrooms. W/D, A/C, dishwasher, disposal. Off-street parking. We shovel snow and cut grass. Tenant pays utilities. No pets. Renting August 1. (847)486-1955 Marty.

6, 4, 3, 2 bedroom houses, close-in.

www.hawkeyehouses.com
 Fall leasing. (319)471-3723.

9, 5, 4, 3, 2 bedroom houses for rent. Call Dave (319)430-5959 or email foura_properties@yahoo.com

AVAILABLE AUGUST 1

4 Bedrooms:
 -720 E. Washington \$2265
5 Bedrooms:
 -916 E. Burlington \$1920
 -410 E. Market \$2299
8-10 Bedrooms:
 -816 E. Market \$3175
 -17 S. Governor \$3495
 -909 E. Burlington \$4399
 (319)354-8331
www.aptsdowntown.com

THREE-seven bedroom houses, pool tables included with some. Available for fall. www.icrentals.com (319)594-1062.

FOR SALE BY OWNER

2853 Coral Court, Coralville. Beautiful condo, 2nd floor, two bedrooms, two baths, deck, fireplace. \$96,500. Oakdale UI bus stop. (319)530-3093. Open House February 7. www.owners.com/JMP3143

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CONDO FOR SALE

- Albert Einstein

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

Fascinating facts, not left well-enough alone

- For a short time beginning in the mid-1860s, opium, marijuana, and cocaine could be purchased legally over the counter from any druggist. (Three cheers for "progress!")
- The drug thiopentone can kill a human being in one second if injected directly into the bloodstream. (Bet that was a fun day at the NIH.)
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* was the first novel ever to be written on a typewriter. (Engraving the full text took nine years.)
- The Earth travels through space at 660,000 miles per hour. (Sure, but if I go 2 miles over the limit in University Heights ...)
- The bark of a redwood tree is fireproof. (As is the bark of my miniature schnauzer, Goebbels; however, the innards of both are, unfortunately, quite inflammable.)
- As many as 40 gallons of maple sap are needed to produce one gallon of maple syrup. (As many as 40 gallons of maple syrup are needed to produce one Oprah breakfast.)
- Most tropical fish can survive in a tank filled with human blood. (Check it out next time you're near PETA's world headquarters.)
- Fashionable women in medieval Japan would blacken their teeth to enhance their appearance. (This practice still survives today in some rural areas ... of Arkansas.)
- In the early 19th century, the words "trousers" and "pants" were considered obscene in England. (Isn't that fucking ridiculous?)

- Andrew R. Juhl took the above factoids from 2,201 *Fascinating Facts*, by David Louis.

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.

CHILLY STOPS OF WINTER



UI students Rachel Sager (left) and Karina Ferrera stand in a glass bus stop to avoid the wind on Tuesday. Wind chills this morning should hover around minus-20.

CHRISTY AUMER/THE DAILY IOWAN

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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today's events

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

- Story Time, 10 a.m., North Liberty Community Library, 520 W. Cherry
- Preschool Story Time, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- "Race, Front and Center - A Public Discourse," 11 a.m., 351 IMU
- Hat and Mitten Drive, noon, Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, volunteers from the UI accounting fraternity, Beta Alpha Psi, 5:45-8:45 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- Welcome Home Wednesdays, 5:45-8:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Society, 10 S. Gilbert
- PJ Story Time, 6 p.m., North Liberty Community Library
- Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Iowa, "Spoken Stories," 6:30 p.m., Center on Aging
- Fears of the Dark, 7 p.m., Bijou
- Free Pool, 7 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville

- "Live from Prairie Lights," with the UI Alumni Association, Christine Whelan, nonfiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- Sideways Knit Hat, 7 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn
- St. Lawrence String Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Brown Deer Golf Club, 1900 Country Club Drive, Coralville
- "Was My Brother in the Battle? Songs of War," Stephen Swanson, baritone, David Gopper, piano, and Nicole Esposito, flute and piccolo, 8 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber
- JCVD, 9 p.m., Bijou
- Harlan Muir, Arlen Lawson, Moon Plus Stars, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- Yo Majesty, with Natalie Stewart and School of Flyentology, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- Comedy Night, 9 p.m., Summit, 10 S. Clinton
- Karaoke Night, 9:30 p.m., Saloon, 112 E. College

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 12:30 p.m. News from Québec (in French)
- 1 "Prairie Lights" Archive, James Douglas
- 2 News from Germany (in German)
- 3 "The Exchange," 1/23 program
- 3:45 "Java Blend" Encore, 56 Hope Road
- 4 Kirk Ferentz Signing Day News Conference, live
- 5 Creative Careers Panel Discussion
- 6:15 Emergency Medicine presented by UI Health Care
- 7:20 Dance from Space/Place, Graduate/Undergraduate Dance, December 2008
- 8:25 Cello & Piano Concert, Fine Arts Performance
- 9:30 Daily Iowan Television news
- 9:45 Kirk Ferentz Signing Day News Conference
- 10:30 Daily Iowan Television news
- 10:45 Kirk Ferentz Signing Day News Conference
- 11:30 Lisa Bluder News Conference

ARTS

Phoenix confirms he's walking the hip-hop line

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Joaquin Phoenix says there's no hoax about it: He really has given up acting to become a hip-hop musician. Phoenix has been spending his time laying down tracks for a rap album in the recording studio he built

at his home, the two-time Academy Award nominee said Tuesday in an interview to promote what he claims is his final movie, *Two Lovers*.

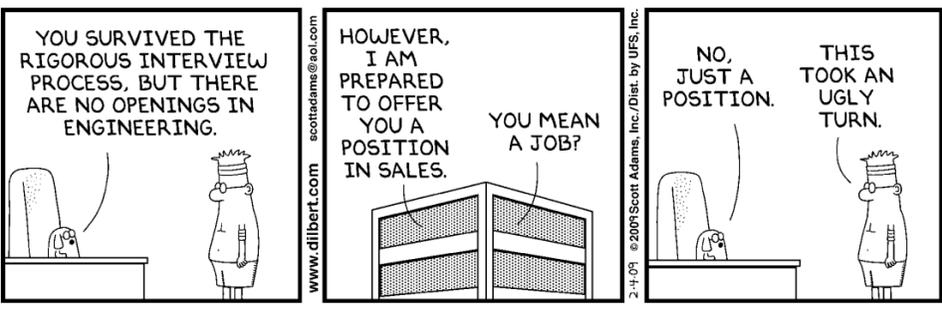
After video hit the Internet last month capturing part of Phoenix's debut rap performance at a Las Vegas club, speculation swirled that he was perpetrating an elaborate practical joke. "I don't know where that comes

from," he said. "If it comes from people that I've had a falling out with, who are [ticked] off at me?"

The video shows Phoenix, in a long, scraggly beard, rapping nearly inaudibly and ends with him losing his footing and falling off the stage. It was an inauspicious start, but he was adamant that his hip-hop career is real.

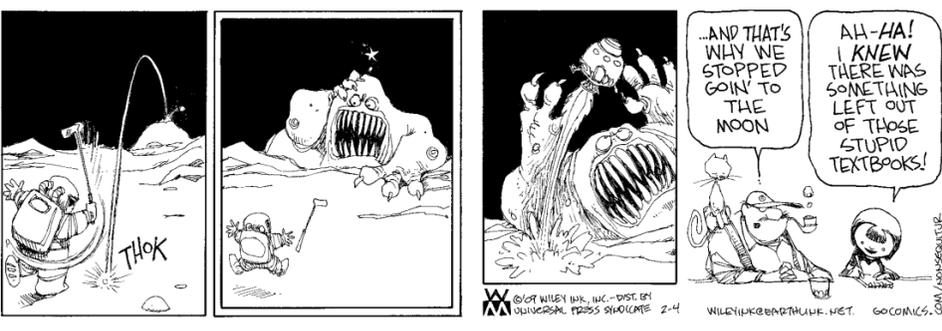
DILBERT

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



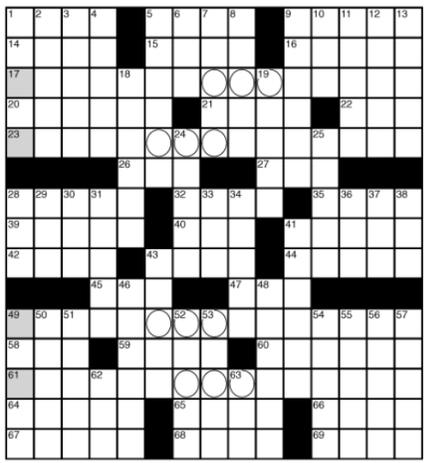
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1224

- Across**
- Gillette razor
 - Meal-in-a-can brand
 - Alarming
 - In view
 - Noggin
 - Divided Asian land
 - Feel like quarreling about something
 - Gangster's code of silence
 - On ___ with (even with)
 - ___wester
 - 23 No halfway effort
 - Rand who wrote "Atlas Shrugged"
 - Sch. where Shaquille O'Neal played basketball
 - Writer's guidelines
 - Spanish uncles
 - 35 Mexican restaurant offering
 - 39 "Heads up!," e.g.
 - 40 Letters after two slashes
 - 41 Grounds for a good night's sleep?
 - 42 Dick Van ___
 - 43 Addebrain
 - 44 Skilled
 - 45 "___ see it ..."
 - 47 Enterprise inits.
 - 49 Basis of a false arrest, perhaps
 - 58 Suffix with hotel
 - 59 Richard and Jane in court
 - 60 Gain back
 - 61 Going past the fourth quarter, say
 - 64 Altimeter user
 - 65 Again
 - 66 Hamburg's river
 - 67 Informal reply to "Who's there?"
- Down**
- Give ___ in the arm
 - "I love you," in Spanish
 - Support with stone, as an embankment
 - "It's the end of ___"
 - Monastic jurisdiction
 - "Bus 9 to Paradise" author Buscaglia
 - ___ Games
 - Common lunch hr.
 - Women's hybrid clothing
 - Steal, slangily
 - Greet the day
 - A little advance work
 - Native of NE Siberia
 - "Finally!"
 - Call after a toss
 - When a football may be hiked
 - No longer bright, as colors
 - "___ but true"
 - Use diligently
 - "A cockroach!"
 - Alfredo sauce ingredient
 - "Sands of ___ Jima"
 - Confess
 - Dead man's hand card
 - 68 Like the Beatles' Sadie
 - 69 U.K. military medals

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SHAM WEBER TYKE
LORI AGILE RAIL
ALEX RABID OWLS
SENIOR DISCOUNT
HYANNIS ERG
GTO LINCHPIN
JUNIOR MINTS ADO
ANON ESC OLEO
GPS THETHIRDMAN
SCHNOOKS WAY
ISM NONSLIP
FATHERS AND SONS
BLow ROUND ETNA
LOKI ONICE UTIL
TEST WATER SEEM



Puzzle by Tim Westcott

- Gown's partner
- "How ___ Has the Banshee Cried" (Thomas Moore poem)
- One of a seasonal octet
- Use as a bed
- "Obey your thirst" sloganer, as colors
- Off the wall
- Hedron of Hitchcock's "The Birds"
- Activated again, as a burner
- Range extending south from the Kara Sea
- "At the Milliner's" painter
- Auto route from Me. to Fla.
- Did one's part?
- Agitates
- Okra stew
- They're guarded south from the Olympics
- ___ Kippur
- Annoy

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 puzzles from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobileword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.