

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009

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

50¢

SPORTS



From long distance ...

The new men's 3-point line put in place this season has had an effect on women's basketball and its 3-point field-goal percentages. **1B**

NEWS

Profs: No gloomy Obama address

UI professors say President Obama needs to focus on the stimulus package in his address tonight. **2A**

Council eyes school plans

Iowa City city councilors discuss the School Board's choice to leave some schools out of its five-year plan. **4A**

UI orgs say 'Tweet'

A number of UI groups are now on the social networking site Twitter. **8A**

ARTS & CULTURE

Sister, Sister

In the tradition of *My Sister's Keeper*, author Barbara Delinsky's latest novel touches readers by joining medical trauma and family drama. **7A**

OPINIONS

Once a child always a child?

Senate File 74 may free up prison space while giving juvenile offenders a second chance at life, assuming they grow enough to learn from their mistakes. **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 IUTV. 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

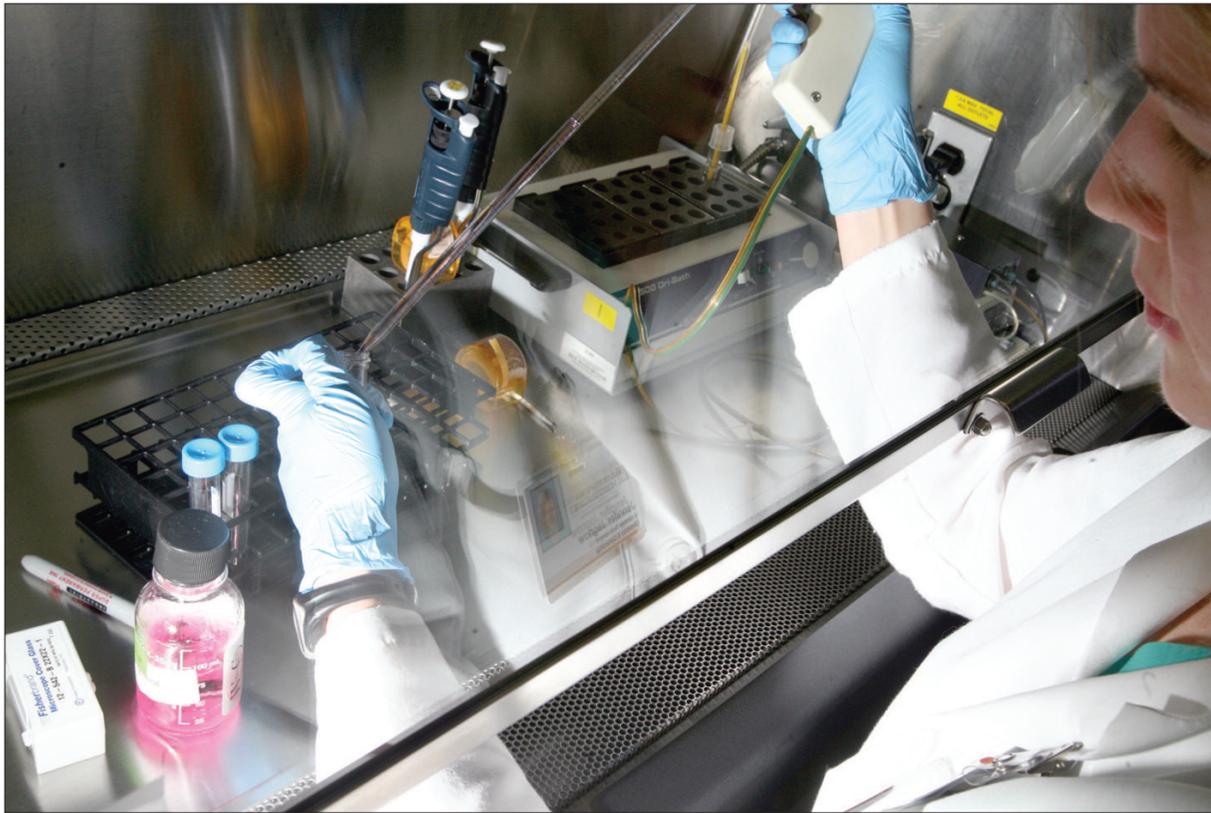
See today's edition of Daily Iowan TV to see how the poor economy is affecting shopping at dailyiowan.com.

WEATHER

41 5C 30 -1C
Mostly sunny, breezy, turning cloudy later with a 20% chance of snow after midnight.

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

UI center celebrates 5,000th egg



PATRICK LARKIN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Jennifer Jagnow, an andrology technologist, pipettes blastocyst, a medium that embryos grow in, into a test tube in the Center for Advanced Reproductive Care at the UI Hospitals and Clinics on Monday. The center celebrated its 5,000th egg retrieval for infertility treatment on Monday.

Celebrating its 5,000th egg retrieval, the UIHC Center for Advanced Reproductive Care highlights its success and high standards.

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Check out our webcast at dailyiowan.com for more on this story.

By ASHLEY HAUGO
ashley-haugo@uiowa.edu

In October 1987, the UIHC's Center for Advanced Reproductive Care was the first program in the state to perform in vitro fertilization. Twenty-one years later, the clinic has marked yet another achievement in this procedure: its 5,000th egg retrieval.

"It's a milestone. For a Midwest program of our size, this is quite an accomplishment," said Amy Sparks, the director of In Vitro Fertilization and Reproductive Testing Labs.

But the UIHC clinic is not

only celebrating the milestone, it is also celebrating its commitment to standards.

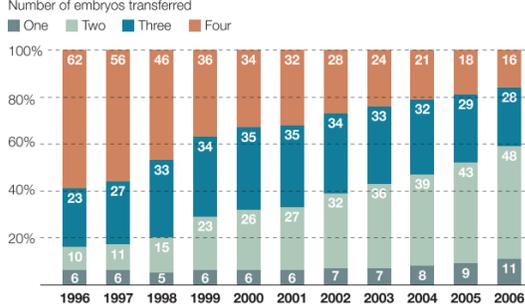
"The importance for us in doing 5,000 retrievals is that it demonstrates that we've long been a successful program," said Bradley Van Voorhis, the director of the UIHC family clinic.

And a key element of this high-quality program is the UIHC's single-embryo transfer policy, which mandates that any woman under 38 years old who shows a good prognosis for becoming pregnant will receive only one embryo.

Embryo numbers

The percent of one- and two-embryo transfers has grown over the years, allowing fewer three- and four-embryo transfers.

Percent of fresh-nondonor cycles by embryos transferred



*Note: Totals may not equal 100 due to rounding. Source: CDC. Jacqueline Cieslak/The Daily Iowan

SEE **FERTILIZATION**, 3A

Faculty, staff pitch in by taking cuts

Budget cuts will not affect the UI's \$52 million financial aid budget.

By TESSA McLEAN
tessa-mclean@uiowa.edu

UI faculty and staff would be willing to take temporary pay cuts in order to save the jobs of their colleagues, UI Provost Wallace Loh said.

"It's the Iowa way," Loh said.

"People realize that this is really the worst financial and economic crisis since the Great Depression and people feel that we should all sacrifice a little to help each other."



Loh
provost

No final decisions have been made on how the UI would cut its budget under Gov. Chet Culver's proposed 6.5 percent reduction. If Culver's state budget is approved in April, the UI could face a loss of \$26 million in appropriations.

Five to six working groups have been created, each

assigned to brainstorm savings options in different areas — including energy and utilities, construction projects, personnel issues, and janitorial services. The groups will compile their ideas and sit down with UI President Sally Mason in as soon as 30 days, Loh said.

On the academic side, each of the UI's 11 colleges have received reduction targets and are asked to start planning and discussing budget cut scenarios.

Loh said his top priority with the budget cuts is to maintain the UI's \$52 million financial aid budget.

He also said he hopes programs affected by summer flooding can avoid reductions, though those programs will still have to endure small cuts if the reductions are extensive.

Meanwhile, some university programs could be downsized or eventually phased out, with the money being allocated to support stronger programs.

SEE **CUTS**, 3A

Something rotten in the state of landfill

The Iowa City Landfill is experiencing accelerated decomposition, causing smells around the facility to turn sour.

By CAITLIN LOMBARDO
caitlin-lombardo@uiowa.edu

Imagine the worst smelling rotten egg. Now multiply that by 10 — and that's the aroma that by the Iowa City landfill lately.

The repugnant scent — not usually found at the facility — is due in large part to residual waste from summer flooding, said Dave Elias, the Iowa City landfill superintendent.

"Normally, waste that is placed in the landfill begins to decompose and release methane around five years after placement," Elias said.

But the flood waste is decomposing much quicker — having sat in water for an extended period of time.

And debris from flood cleanup is also creating a unique problem. "Gypsum board that was taken out of homes [after the flood] creates hydrogen sulfides," he said. "Those sulfides are the bad smelling gases."

That threw a bit of a twist into the operation, which has



LINSEY WALTERS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Old sandbags from the flood of 2008 pile up at the Iowa City landfill on Monday. Damp gypsum board and drywall that filled the landfill after the flood is said to be causing a stronger smell than usual at the landfill.

been open since 1973.

"The flood waste created a number of new conditions," Elias said. "We had a lot of decomposing gypsum board, and we weren't quite prepared as far as having an advanced gas

collection system."

The area of the landfill where employees were placing the flood trash was not yet equipped with a gas collection system.

SEE **SMELL**, 3A

Foul play seen

Authorities believe the two people found dead in Lone Tree on Saturday had recently ended a relationship.

By REGINA ZILBERMINTS
regina-zilbermints@uiowa.edu

Investigators believe the deaths of two individuals in a Lone Tree home this weekend were likely a murder-suicide, authorities said Monday night.

Preliminary results from the Iowa assistant medical examiner determined Tina Marie O'Leary, 39, died of asphyxiation in her home. Timothy Mellinger, 51, of Washington, Iowa, likely died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Names had been withheld until Monday night pending positive identification and family notification.

Authorities said O'Leary and Mellinger had been in a two-year romantic relationship that ended around Thanksgiving 2008. Mellinger was no longer living in the Lone Tree home where O'Leary resided.

Investigators believe Mellinger killed O'Leary before taking his own life, police reports show.

O'Leary had three children, said Mary Larsen, 36, a neighbor and acquaintance of O'Leary, whose son attended preschool with O'Leary's.

"She used to walk to school holding her son's hand," Larsen said. "Her son loved her to death."

SEE **LONE TREE**, 3A



Leftovers become cuisine

A local dietitian transforms leftovers into tasty new dishes for cooks on budgets at an economy-prompted cooking demonstration.

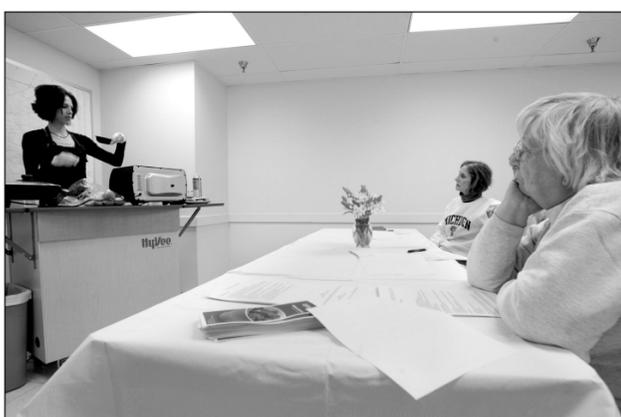
By MARY HARRINGTON
mary-harrington@uiowa.edu

Some homemade meals are changing with the economy, with local amateur cooks looking to drop high costs and retain the big flavors of their food favorites.

On Monday evening, three women picked up new recipes at a Hy-Vee cooking demonstration where overlooked leftovers were whipped into innovative dishes.

"These days no one can afford to throw away anything," said Kym Wroble, a dietitian and the event coordinator. "I wanted to teach individuals some creative, easy ways [to cook], that also taste good, to use those leftovers."

Parmesan breadstick appetizers, barbecued beef, and a layered trifle emerged from stale bread, a reheated roast, and day-old dessert ingredients.



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN
Marilyn Krachmer (right) listens to dietitian Kym Wroble (left) at the Waterfront Hy-Vee on Monday. Wroble used leftover ingredients to show the audience numerous easy meals to make at home.

"Instead of looking at it as leftovers, you can look at it as a whole new meal," attendee Janet Snyder said.

Even though cooking demonstrations are frequently available to the Iowa City resident, this was the first time she had been interested in attending. The free event was a great opportunity to help modify her cooking budget in tough economic times, she said.

"As things get tighter economically, you need to stretch your food dollar," she said.

In between bites of a colorful casserole made from leftover baked potatoes, the three women attendees expressed woes about overpriced restaurant meals. Wroble offered dollar-stretching advice, such as using leftover meat from restaurant dishes as a salad topper the next day.

She stressed the importance of cooking at home to lower the costs of eating.

"Now's the time to get creative as a foodie," she said, sprinkling cubes of leftover

chocolate chip cookies onto a layer of sliced strawberries. "You have to pick what's most important to you when you put yourself on a food budget, and spend your money where it counts, on the ingredients that count."

Snyder handed out packets with recipes for cheap, creative concoctions: Grilled leftover ham and pineapple sandwiches, turkey and mushroom hash cakes, bumped-and-bruised fruit sauce.

Even wine or liquor leftover from a party could be turned into sangria with marked-down fruits, she said.

The recipes and demonstrations came with safety advice as well, such as labeling and dating leftovers before refrigeration to know when they must be used by.

Zdenka Daszkiewicz was delighted to apply the advice to her own home cooking. Leftovers were on constant rotation from her family refrigerator to the garbage can, the Iowa City resident said. She came to the event seeking culinary inspiration to transform the budget-friendly ingredients into new meals that would actually appeal to those at the dinner table.

"I thought it was a delightful demonstration," she said. "Because of the economic times, it was very worthwhile."

STATE OF THE UNION

Still some persuading to do

Political-science professor: Obama must cut the 'doom and gloom stuff' in tonight's economic address.

By SHAWN GUDE
shawn-gude@uiowa.edu

In the midst of a severe recession, UI political-science experts say President Obama will have yet another Herculean job during tonight's prime-time economic address.

"How do you get people to have confidence, but at the same time be realistic?" political-science Associate Professor Cary Covington asked, noting that solving such a conundrum is "his job, not mine."

Tasked with the difficult balancing act, Obama will speak before a joint session of Congress tonight, looking to persuade skeptical rank-and-file Republicans and some other Americans that his ambitious economic plan is the appropriate one.

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, a young star in the Republican Party and a fierce critic of what he perceives as wasteful spending in the stimulus package, will deliver the GOP response to Obama's speech.

In the address, Covington said the president will have to

President Obama's economic address

- 8 p.m. on network and cable television.
- Obama is expected to explain his economic policies and argue for additional legislation designed to buoy the economy.
- Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal will give the GOP rebuttal after Obama's speech.

Source: CNN

"explain why the stimulus package is purely stimulative spending and not liberal programs in stimulative clothing."

Channeling the fiscal conservatism that was arguably lost during the Bush years, Covington said congressional Republicans' stalwart opposition to the stimulus package has struck a chord with some voters.

"I think Republicans have found a way of portraying Obama's plan that resonates with voters," Covington said. "And I think he has to do more than just say, 'you have to spend to stimulate.'"

Still, polls show the American populace generally supports Obama's stimulus plan. A recent CNN survey showed 60 percent of respondents favored the package. And a February Gallup poll found that 59 percent of those polled approved of Obama's handling of the economy.

The president's approval ratings are similar: Gallup placed it at 63 percent on Monday. Recent polls show approval ratings for congressional Republicans to be in the low 30s.

Although UI College Republicans events coordinator Kyle Schwarz's tone wasn't as sharply dogmatic as some fellow Republicans, he also remained skeptical about the effectiveness of the package.

"His optimism is admirable and how he can sway people is astounding, but it's really early to tell in the first 30 days," he said. "I also just don't know ultimately what effect the stimulus will have."

Political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle said another key for Obama in his address tonight will be divulging additional details about the recently-passed stimulus package — specifically, where the billions of dollars are going, and how it

will help jump-start the stagnant economy.

In addition, Hagle said a successful speech would move away from the "doom and gloom" rhetoric he said Obama has been employing frequently as of late.

"The guy gives a great speech, so he may be able to inspire some people," Hagle said. "But he needs to get away from that doom and gloom stuff."

For his part, UI communications Professor Emeritus Bruce Gronbeck, an expert on political communication, said Obama's address needs to focus on winning over incredulous citizens, rather than congressional Republicans.

"The most important thing he has to do is convince the American people he's on the right track so they can put pressure on members of Congress to follow with him for awhile," Gronbeck said.

To do that effectively, Gronbeck said Obama must put an emphasis on the present state of the stricken economy.

"That's where the president is the immediate leader," he said. "But Obama being Obama, he loves to finish with a faith and hope message, and I would be phenomenally surprised if he didn't do that [tonight]."

in hopes of adding one vote, which would bring them to the 51-vote majority they needed. They gave up Monday, but said they could bring the issue up again later in the legislative session.

Rejection of the measure, which set a prevailing wage for public projects, raised questions about House Democrats' ability to approve labor-backed bill despite a strong majority in

the chamber. "This one was the easiest one to pass," said House Minority Leader Craig Paulsen, R-Hiawatha. "The calculus would be that if this is the easiest one, the others can't go."

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, D-Des Moines, disagreed and said the issue could be debated again before the session ends this spring.

"The paradigm of that assumption is false because labor is not a monolith," said McCarthy. "You have to look at each issue by itself."

The measure called for state officials to set a prevailing wage for each region of the state. They typically use contracts bargained in that region as a measure, making the prevailing wage essentially a union wage.

Deaton said he plans to continue to review data and act if needed.

The Board of Health also expressed concern in the amount of bottled water being consumed in Johnson County.

Maureen McCue, a member of the Board of Health, said the rate at which bottled water is being consumed is detrimental to the environment, the economy, and to personal health.

—by Chris Clark

STATE

Iowa Dems concede defeat of prevailing wage bill

DES MOINES (AP) — House Democrats have conceded defeat on a labor-backed bill after a 68-hour session.

Democratic leaders opted to keep the House in session over the weekend

METRO

County air quality discussed

A vehicle with a bumper sticker that read "Clean Coal is a Dirty Lie" was parked outside of the Johnson County Administration Building on Monday evening.

The Johnson County Board of Health met with the Board of Supervisors Monday to update the supervisors on current issues and to review their

annual report for fiscal 2008.

Board of Health Chair Paul Deaton said according to a recent study, Johnson County ranked fourth-worst among 14 places in Iowa tested for air quality.

Terrence Neuzil, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors, noted three main detriments to the area's air quality: burning coal at local power plants, air pollution on Interstate 80, and gravel dust.

Neuzil said Johnson County's air

quality is not a problem of major concern. But "there are signs that have been identified that show we are going to have to put some mechanisms in place to deal with it," he said.

The air quality was tested based on the amount of particulate matter in the air. Deaton said places with higher levels of particulate matter have higher instances of asthma and cardio-respiratory disease.

with a suspended/canceled license.

Andrew Nixon, 18, 235 Slater, was charged Feb. 21 with public intoxication.

Geoffrey Paulline, 20, 621 E. Burlington St., was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Duncan Ross, 18, N219 Currier, was charged Feb. 19 with possession of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, interference with official acts, and delivery of a controlled substance.

Matthew Scandora, 20, 500 S. Gilbert

St. Apt. 6, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Paul Smith, 38, Wellman, Iowa, was charged Monday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Willie Todd, 43, 112 E. Davenport St., was charged Sunday with unlawful possession of prescription drugs.

Clayton Vanfossen, 20, Bettendorf, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Donald Wieringa, 19, Woodridge, Ind., was charged Sunday with PAULA and possession of a canceled, suspended, or altered ID.

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BREAKING NEWS

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

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Call: 335-6030

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Call: Pete Recker at 335-5783
E-mail: daily-iowan-circ@uiowa.edu

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

STAFF

Publisher:
William Casey 335-5788
Editor:
Emileigh Barnes 335-6030
Managing Editor:
Nick Petersen 335-5855
Metro Editors:
Kurtis Hiatt 335-6063
Samantha Miller 335-6063
Brian Stewart 335-6063
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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Monday, Feb. 23

1. Iowa City police officer charged with OWI
2. Kelly leads Hawks past Michigan in overtime thriller
3. Court reduces UI's penalty in fraternity case
4. State considers ban on cell phones while driving
5. The Gaza offensive: an Israeli tradition

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FOR NEW DONORS ONLY

POLICE BLOTTER

Jermaine Adams, 26, 2128 S. Riverside Drive Trailer 84, was charged Feb. 21 with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Kindsay Burden, 20, Cedar Rapids, was charged Sunday with OWI.

Stacey Fichtel, 19, Aurora, Ill., was charged Feb. 21 with unlawful use of a driver's license and public intoxication.

Johnathan Gunn, 20, 905 E. Burlington St. Apt. 4, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

Lance Hanson, 27, Coralville, was charged Monday with OWI.

Kelvin Hernandez, 21, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 4410, was charged Sunday with OWI.

Princeton Hood, 24, Davenport, was charged Feb. 20 with OWI and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Joshua Hotchkin, 32, 2718 Wayne Ave. Apt. 9, was charged Feb. 21 with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Lawrence Lane, 21, 411 E. Davenport St., was charged Feb. 21 with urinating in public.

Shawn McCormick, 31, 409 Dakota Trail, was charged Feb. 21 with driving

Murder-suicide seen

LONE TREE

CONTINUED FROM 1B

In addition to her son, O'Leary also had an 18-year-old daughter and a daughter in first or second grade, Larsen said.

Larsen said she and her husband noticed a pickup truck parked in front of O'Leary's home Feb. 21.

"We haven't seen that truck in months," Larsen said, though until a few months ago, it was parked there every day.

O'Leary had a March 4 court date scheduled in a case against Marty Fellows regarding custody of her children and child support.

Deputies from the Johnson County Sheriff's Office responded to 401 S. Center St. in Lone Tree on Feb. 21 after

receiving a request for a welfare check, authorities said. Upon arrival, they located the two deceased individuals.

The Johnson County Sheriff's Office and the Iowa State Division of Criminal Investigation are investigating the case.

"I just think it's a tragedy and just disgusting that someone could kill someone's mom," Larsen said.

UI hits 5,000th-egg mark



PATRICK LARKIN/THE DAILY IOWAN

A couple thousand frozen embryos are held above the tank they're stored in at the Center for Advanced Reproductive Care at the UI Hospitals and Clinics on Monday. The embryos are stored at minus-196 degrees Celsius and are monitored at all times.

FERTILIZATION

CONTINUED FROM 1A

The UIHC initiated the policy in June 2004 after the clinic reviewed its data and discovered it was recording a very high multiple-birth rate.

"They were going through the roof," Van Voorhis said.

In 1998, the Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology had recommended that member clinics only transfer a maximum of three embryos after noting a similar trend nationally.

The rise was the result of improvements in embryo selection — and therefore an increase in implantation rate — without a corresponding decrease in the number of embryos transferred, according to a 2007 report by the American Society for Repro-

ductive Medicine.

However, the UIHC chose to go beyond the assisted-reproductive society's guidelines with its 4-year-old policy, Sparks said.

And this policy has not sacrificed the success of the UIHC's program.

According to assisted-reproductive society data from 2006, the UIHC records an 18.6 percent rate of multiple births in women under 35, which is nearly half the national percentage of 34.3.

Further, Craig Syrop, a UI physician in the obstetrics/gynecology department, said the UIHC has one of highest single-embryo transfer rates in the country.

Despite UIHC's adherence to guidelines, not all clinics follow the recommendations.

Such deviation is what led to

the recent birth of octuplets in California. According to the Associated Press, Michael Kamrava implanted 33-year-old Nadya Suleman with six embryos, two of which ended up splitting.

"That seems very irresponsible to me and certainly nothing that would never happen in this clinic," Van Voorhis said, and he believes at one time people celebrated multiple births, though now there seems to be a bit of a backlash. Indeed, Sparks believes in vitro trends are headed in the right direction, though it may be a while before it reaches the desired standards.

"The number of embryos transferred is going down, but it's perhaps not going at the rate we would like to see it," Sparks said.

Flood blamed for stench

SMELL

CONTINUED FROM 1A

A normal decomposition period is about five years, after which methane begins to be released. The landfill is required to have placed a gas collection system in each area within five years of it first being used.

The landfill operates in sections, which are filled with waste to a certain height above sea level. Each day workers place a layer of a papier-mâché-like substance on top of the waste, helping reduce volume within the cell.

To leech dangerous gases — such as methane, hydrogen sulfide, and hazardous liquids — each cell has a drainage system, which takes the liquid to be treated at the water plant.

In order to "prevent the material from leeching into ground water each cell is lined with shredded tires," said Kevin Schmidt, a landfill operator.

This also prevents unwanted pieces of garbage from entering the drainage system.

Elias said the facility developed a plan to reduce the stench emanating from the landfill. Engineering consultants have been hired to help further the landfill's gas collec-



LINDSEY WALTERS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Old sandbags from the flood of 2008 pile up at the Iowa City landfill on Monday. The sandbags are set apart from other waste at the landfill so the sand does not clog up the drainage system.

tion system.

"We can't really do anything in the winter when everything is frozen solid," Elias said. "We hope to have a plan approved by the Natural Resources and get construction going in May, and before the real warm weather shows up."

The city's recycling and compost programs housed at the landfill were not directly affected by the flood. The Environmental Protection Agency was handling appliances and hazardous household waste.

Jennifer Jordan, recycling coordinator at the landfill, said

the main issue isn't the temporary odor, but the additional volume of trash the landfill will receive due to the flood.

Jordan said there was some discussion over reusing the oldest areas of the landfill, which were first used when methods were more primitive. No definite decision has yet been made about what will be done to address the issue.

"Our site is continual," Jordan said. "We could be here virtually forever, dealing with waste in perpetuity."

UI will evolve, officials say

CUTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"A university is an organic unit that is always growing and evolving, and we want to put money into programs that are top-notch," Loh said. "At the end of this process, we will be leaner, but stronger."

Linda Maxson, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences dean, said regular meetings with department heads to discuss scenarios for cuts have been important in gathering input on how to deal with a sliced budget.

Maxson added the meetings have included brainstorming on how to cut costs, even at the most basic levels. She said one suggestion discussed was cutting down on visitors to the university during football weekends due to the high expense of hotels.

The delay or freeze in around 24 job candidate searches in the liberal-arts school will also aid in saving money.

But the search for some positions, such as the School of Journalism and Mass Communication director and faculty members in the chemistry and biology departments, will not be halted.

"Our college is affected differently than other colleges because we do so much of the instruction, and that is one of the core missions of the university," Maxson said. "That is why we coined this term 'porous hiring freeze' so we could keep doing some."

At Iowa State University, more than 200 employees have volunteered to take unpaid leave, or furloughs, to make up for budget shortfalls in the current fiscal year, UI Faculty Senate President and psychology professor Michael O'Hara said. The UI will not need to implement any furloughs this fiscal year, he said, though it could be a possibility in the next fiscal year.

"It's a nice gesture on their

part, and I applaud them," O'Hara said. "But if we are going to have a program like that, it should be mandatory with no implicit coercion into something that is supposed to be voluntary."

O'Hara is also part of one of the working groups discussing cutting UI operations costs.

"Given the magnitude of the cuts we have to do things that are painful, and people have to understand that," O'Hara said. "It has to be a shared sacrifice."

Loh said the new UI budget website — created Feb. 11 to keep the UI community informed — has been helpful in soliciting participation and feedback. As of last week, the website had received over 120 suggestions, some of which he said were very good. UI officials plan to post the best suggestions.

"It is a very open and transparent process," Loh said. "People are saying they want to work together and support the university."

STATE

Marshalltown store sells \$1 million lottery ticket

MARSHALLTOWN (AP) — A convenience store in Marshalltown has sold someone a million-dollar ticket.

Iowa Lottery officials announced Monday that a winning Powerball ticket worth \$1 million was sold at a Kwik Star store.

Nobody has claimed the ticket, which matched the first five numbers in Saturday's drawing but missed the Powerball. The buyer chose an option that increased the prize to \$1 million.

The winner comes less than three months after a couple in Marion won \$1 million.

Any \$1 million prizes must be claimed at the Iowa Lottery Headquarters in Des Moines.

Because nobody won the jackpot Saturday, the Powerball jackpot in Wednesday's drawing grew to \$150 million.

Rubashkin attorney argues for case to be dismissed

CEDAR RAPIDS (AP) — Attorneys for a former kosher slaughterhouse manager in Postville asked a federal judge Monday to dismiss nearly 100 charges against him, claiming the grand jury that indicted him was biased.

Lawyers also asked that if a trial is held, the judge move it to Chicago or Minneapolis because of publicity that one attorney said had created an environment in Iowa akin to Nazi-occupied Poland.

Sholom Rubashkin, a former vice president at Agriprocessors Inc., faces 97 immigration and bank fraud charges. Rubashkin, three other defendants and the company were indicted months after 389 people were arrested in a May 12 immigration raid at the plant, at the time the nation's largest kosher slaughterhouse.

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School omissions worry councilors

By **AMANDA MCCLURE**
amanda-mcclure@uiowa.edu

The exclusion of three Iowa City elementary schools from a proposed Iowa City School District facilities-improvement plan raised concerns about neighborhood vitality among some Iowa City city councilors on Monday.

Last week, Mayor Regenia Bailey expressed concern about the exclusion of Longfellow, Mann, and Twain from the first five years of the proposed plan.

The council debated writing a letter to the Iowa City School Board addressing concerns over maintaining neighborhood schools, citing overlapping interests for improving areas of the city.

"There are some items in this plan that are under our reach," Bailey said. "Neighborhood-development issues are central goals for both the council and the School Board."

The proposed plan calls for \$51 million to complete major capital projects during the first five years, none of which would go to the three "core" schools.

The councilors were split on the issue, with Bailey, Connie Champion, Matt Hayek, and Mike Wright in favor of addressing the School Board,

while Amy Correia, Mike O'Donnell, and Ross Wilburn were against it.

Bailey said schools and city planning are meant to go hand-in-hand, but that hasn't always been the case.

"It just makes sense that as two large tax entities, we work together to make sure both of our city visions are incorporated," she said. "We don't want to be moving down different paths."

Correia wondered whether the council should act as whole or as individual community members.

"It's outside of our reach; it would be like the School District coming in and telling us what to do about a fourth fire station," she said.

A common concern among councilors was preserving the historical aspects of the neighborhoods the schools are located in.

"These are kind of inner-city neighborhoods, and we view them as small towns," Champion said. "Take the school away, and you destroy the neighborhood."

School Board member Mike Cooper said the schools were left out of the proposal because of the board's need to address other issues throughout the district.

Board members debated on whether to leave certain schools

out of the immediate facilities improvement plan, eventually deciding to alleviate overcrowding in Roosevelt Elementary and Weber Elementary first, he said.

"There is no intention of abandoning or neglecting older schools, but we have serious overcrowding problems we have to address," he said.

Though there is no mention in the proposed improvement plan of taking down the three schools, Wright said the lack of mention of the schools alone was "frightening."

Champion stressed the socioeconomic factors that would come into play if the School Board were to remove any of the schools out of the neighborhoods.

"Keeping those schools in the core areas also preserves idea of a mixed economic neighborhood, and it's crucial," she said.

Cooper noted schools such as Mann don't have any structural problems that require immediate attention.

All schools in the district will continue to receive money from the local-option 1-cent sales tax and the physical plant and equipment levy.

The City Council will continue the discussion on the letter at its next meeting.

Finally, a lock for Commerce?

By **LIZ SIDOTI**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Obama's likely third pick for Commerce secretary is former Washington Gov. Gary Locke, a senior administration official said Monday.

Locke, a Democrat, was the nation's first Chinese-American governor when he served two terms in the Washington Statehouse from 1997 to 2005.

Obama's expected choice of Locke arose less than two weeks after his most recent pick, Republican Sen. Judd Gregg of New Hampshire, backed out. Just over a week after Obama named him and he accepted, Gregg cited "irresolvable conflicts" with the policies of the Democratic president.

The official spoke on the condition of anonymity because the announcement has not yet been made.

Obama originally gave the post, which requires Senate confirmation, to New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson. He withdrew in January, before Obama took office, after the disclosure that a grand jury is investigating allegations of wrongdoing in the awarding of contracts in his state.

The Commerce post is typically not one of the more high-profile jobs in any administration. The head of the department oversees agencies responsible for the once-a-decade census, for oceans policy, and for many aspects of international trade, among other things.

The administration recently took steps to assert greater



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Then-Washington state Gov. Gary Locke speaks at the National Governors Association meeting in Washington, D.C., on Feb. 24, 2004. Locke will become President Obama's likely third pick for U.S. Commerce secretary, a senior administration official said on Monday.

White House control over the census. The outcome of the census has deep political implications, because congressional districts are drawn on the basis of population.

But in Obama's administration, the delay in getting a Commerce secretary has been top news in large part because it has been accompanied by other Cabinet troubles. He still does not have a Health and Human Services secretary, either. Former Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle with-

draw his nomination for that post amid a tax controversy.

The loss of Gregg for the Commerce job also highlighted the difficulty Obama has had reaching out to Republicans. Gregg would have been one of three Republicans Obama had put in his Cabinet to emphasize his campaign pledge that he would be an agent of bipartisan change. Despite those and other efforts, Obama drew hardly any GOP support for his main legislative priority, the stimulus package.

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Lab offers new prenatal screening

By JENNIFER DELGADO
jennifer-delgado@uiowa.edu

New technology is helping the UI Hygienic Laboratory officials better detect defects in pregnant women.

The organization is the first state public-health laboratory in the country to use the Iowa Maternal Integrated Screen — a new test that gives women the ability to be tested in the first two trimesters for any potential health risks, like pregnancies at high risk for Down syndrome and other life-threatening defects.

Unlike other pregnancy screens, doctors can merge information and receive more accurate results about unborn babies after the tests are analyzed by the university lab. The test can help determine other difficulties for babies, such as a low birth weight or placenta problems.

"The whole point of screening is to try to look at any risks that would be higher than we'd anticipate," said Stanley Grant, an advanced practice nurse supervisor at the UI Hospitals and Clinics.

Another benefit of the new method is the false-positive rate is reduced from 5 percent to about 2 percent, said Stan Berberich, the Hygienic

Laboratory manager.

Physicians in Iowa could only use two other types of pregnancy screens prior to the new maternal integrated screen: the Iowa Maternal Quad Screen and the Iowa Maternal First Trimester Screen.

But because they are two different types of tests taken in different trimesters, it is difficult to compare the results.

"When they use the integrated screen they can have a better idea of what's really going on," said Kimberly Piper Noble, the state genetic coordinator.

Piper Noble's office, the Center for Congenital and Inherited Disorders, helped the university lab acquire the new screen, which came out in December 2008.

"This type of prenatal screening brings the program into the 21st century and enables us to use the latest technology to improve the lives of babies in Iowa," Piper Noble said.

Although this test is new in the nation, pregnancy screenings have always been a source of ethical debate. At the Hygienic Laboratory, doctors have used the Iowa Maternal Quad Screen and Iowa Maternal First Trimester Screen for more than 20 years.

Some people are afraid parents who find out their child

will have a defect or disease will not fully understand it or misuse it, said Diana Cates, a UI religious-studies associate professor who teaches a sexual-ethics course.

"Some are concerned that people will abort the fetus before fully informing themselves about the possibilities regarding their child," she said.

But Grant said the screening process is intended to help women — the UIHC sees pregnant women from all over eastern Iowa.

"People think it's all about abortion that if they find their baby has a defect, they'll have one," Grant said. "If you don't know it's coming and everyone is surprised, there can be sub-optimal care."

Grant said the tests make a big difference because when women who are notified of any birth defects, they can make sure the baby can be born in a specialized care center.

Although it is still unknown if more women will use the new screening, Berberich said he thinks it will become popular.

"We believe that as more women and health care providers learn of this better performing screen, more will choose it," Berberich said.

Ex-Guantánamo detainee says he was tortured

By PAISLEY DODDS
Associated Press

LONDON — The first Guantánamo detainee released since President Obama took office returned to Britain on Monday, saying his seven years of captivity and torture at an alleged CIA covert site in Morocco went beyond his "darkest nightmares."

Binyam Mohamed's allegations — including repeated beatings and having his genitals sliced by a scalpel — have sparked lawsuits that could ensnare the American and British governments in protracted court battles.

Looking frail from a hunger strike, Mohamed, who once was accused by U.S. authorities of being part of a conspiracy to detonate a bomb on American soil, stepped off a charter plane and was whisked away by police, border-control agents, and immigration officials.

The 30-year-old Ethiopian refugee, who moved to Britain as a teenager, was freed after four hours of questioning.

Attorney General Eric Holder, who traveled Monday to Guantánamo Bay as the Obama administration weighs what is needed to shut the facility, thanked Britain for its cooperation in the case.

"The friendship and assistance of the international community is vitally important as



LEWIS WHYLD, PA WIRE/ASSOCIATED PRESS
Former British resident Binyam Mohamed (second left), who was held at Guantánamo Bay, steps from a plane at Northwolt military base in west London on Monday. Mohamed, who claims he was brutally tortured at a covert CIA site in Morocco, has been freed from the U.S. prison at Guantánamo after nearly seven years in captivity.

we work to close Guantánamo, and we greatly appreciate the efforts of the British government to work with us on the transfer of Binyam Mohamed," he said.

Lawyers for Mohamed are seeking secret U.S. intelligence and legal documents they say will prove the Bush administration sent Mohamed to Morocco, where it knew he would be tortured. They claim the documents also prove Britain was complicit in the abuse.

Unlike in the United States, Britain's leaders don't have a past government to blame — Prime Minister Gordon Brown's Labour Party has been in power for more than a decade.

But the case is also a test for Obama. While he has promised Guantánamo's closure and an end to torture, he has not yet publicly explained how his government will change the process of extraordinary renditions, which involve sending terror suspects to foreign countries to be interrogated.

CIA Director Leon Panetta has told Congress renditions could continue, but that prisoners won't be handed over to countries where they are likely to be tortured — which has always been the stated U.S. policy.

AP writer Pam Hess contributed to this report.

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Editorial

Juvenile offenders deserve second chance

As our law currently suggests, the behavior of a person when he or she is a minor is likely to reflect the way in which this person will behave as an adult. A 17-year-old marijuana addict and occasional Ecstasy user will no doubt move on to more advanced drugs by the time he or she reaches the age of 30. And the 14-year-old who lives for the thrill of covering the walls of public businesses with graffiti will probably move on to more severe criminal activities by early adulthood. This is, at least, what our treatment of juvenile delinquents would imply. An adolescent who commits any sort of serious crime is thrown into jail for life without any hope for pardon.

Senate File 74 seeks to change the way the law treats juvenile delinquents. Sponsored by Sen. Pam Jochum, D-Dubuque, the legislation would give juveniles who are sentenced to life in prison a chance to apply for a review, conducted by the Iowa Board of Parole, after they have served 15 years in prison. Those juvenile offenders who are eligible for a review would be allowed to reapply every two years after the initial 15-year waiting period.

According to a February 15th article in the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, the Iowa Department of Corrections reports that Iowa has 21 inmates serving life sentences who entered prison as juveniles. Another 18 of those inmates committed their crimes when they were juveniles but turned 18 before being sent to prison. Out of those 21 juveniles who were sentenced to life in prison, 19 were convicted of first-degree murder, and the other two were convicted of first-degree kidnapping.

Inmates who were booked for life in prison as juveniles should be given a chance to redeem themselves as adults. Many of them have committed serious crimes, and some have committed crimes as serious as murder. However, young adults are not always able to reason in the same manner in which an adult would reason. Juveniles have a more

difficult time grasping the consequences of their actions. In the time between adolescence and adulthood, the brain matures immensely, and there are probably few people who would argue that they are the same person now that they were as a teen. This is why sentencing juvenile offenders to life in prison with no chance for parole is excessive.

Every day, hundreds of prisoners are released. Countless thieves, scammers, and sex offenders re-enter the world, their criminal slates wiped clean. Many would argue that a person who commits first-degree murder should be punished much more severely than a person who robs a bank in a nonviolent way. Human life is, indeed, irreplaceable. But it isn't right to assume that the emotional scars a person who was molested as a child is forced to deal with as an adult are any less significant than the emotions a family endures after one of its members is murdered. A woman who is raped must deal with the same pain as the family of the slain, although we typically don't treat these cases in the same manner.

And not to be ignored are the monumental rates of incarceration in the United States. Our prisons have in many ways become receptacles for those people society just doesn't want to deal with. Despite the fact that we continue building more prisons because we lack space in our current facilities, there are prisoners who could be released — those who committed crimes as juveniles 15 years ago, for example — to make room for the criminals of today. Perhaps Senate File 74 could also help lower the rates of incarceration in the process.

Prisoners who committed crimes as adolescents should be given another chance. We offer second chances to those people who engage in criminal activity as adults. If they can prove to have progressed toward becoming normal, everyday citizens, why not offer the same opportunity to the prisoners who were sentenced to life in prison as teens.

Venus banking



BEAU ELLIOT
beau-elliott@gmail.com

Idly gazing at Venus on the half-sky, I wonder about the economy. And Republicans. And Roland Burris.

I don't know why, exactly. Maybe because Venus burns brighter than the economy. But then, these days, Sammy Sosa's and Mark McGwire's tattered legacies burn brighter than the U.S. economy.

(Well, OK, technically, Venus doesn't burn, it reflects light — details, details. Though, from what I remember about Venus in my brief vacation there, she is much hotter than Earth, and if you stay there too long, you get burned. Of course, you could say the same thing about the housing bubble. Or, before that, the high-tech bubble. Who knew bubbles could be so dangerously hot?)

I don't know why I think about the economy — it doesn't do any good, at least in the sense of making the economy better. You might as well think about the weather.

And as I remind myself (this is a trick we Geminis can do, but I don't recommend it for anyone else), thinking about the weather makes the weather better about as much as thinking about the Red Sox pitching staff makes it better. Then I think about all the hundreds of millions of minutes I've thought about the Red Sox pitching staff and how swell those hundreds of millions of moments worked out. Then I wonder why human beings bother to think at all.

But then Alan Greenspan speaks, and I start thinking about the sinking economy again. You all remember Greenspan, the economic wonder-czar, the emperor of free markets, who ushered our economy through extraordinary good times. (And through the high-tech bubble and the housing bubble, but details, details.)

Recently, Greenspan said, "It may be necessary to temporarily nationalize some banks in order to facilitate a swift and orderly restructuring."

Yes. The lion of conservative economic thinking brought up the "N" word — well, the "N" word in things economic. (That other "N" word will, one of these days, disappear, and our grandchildren or great-grandchildren will wonder what

all the fuss was about.)

(Yeah — I'm a dreamer.)

But when somebody such as Greenspan brings up nationalizing banks, it's almost as if Russian communists or Chinese communists embraced capitalism. (Oh, wait.)

I don't pretend to know if nationalizing some of the banks will work or not, but — at the risk of sounding like a socialist like Greenspan — it seems better than propping them up with taxpayer money so that the banks reap the benefits if that works and the taxpayers are on the hook if it doesn't work.

That's what Paul Krugman calls "lemon socialism." And, yeah, I know, Krugman is a liberal columnist for the *New York Times*, but he's also an economics professor and a winner of the Nobel Prize in the field. So he might know more than most of the rest of us.

And if I recall my ancient history well enough, temporarily nationalizing the banks is what Sweden did in the early '90s — and it worked. As I understand it, once the banks were stable, Sweden reprivatized the banks.

Oh, I know, Sweden is not the United States; even the Obama administration keeps reminding us of this. Yeah, well, for one thing, Sweden has a health-care system that works for everyone. And almost all educated Swedes can speak more than one language.

But if nationalizing some of the banks worked for Sweden, it can work for us. Swedes aren't necessarily smarter than we are. It just seems so some days.

And I know — Republicans would howl. Look at the way they caterwauled about the economic-stimulus package. But their ideas about free-market capitalism got us to where we are today. Which is pretty much so far into nowhere that a free-market guru such as Greenspan is talking about nationalizing banks.

Besides, let the Republicans howl — that's what they're good at.

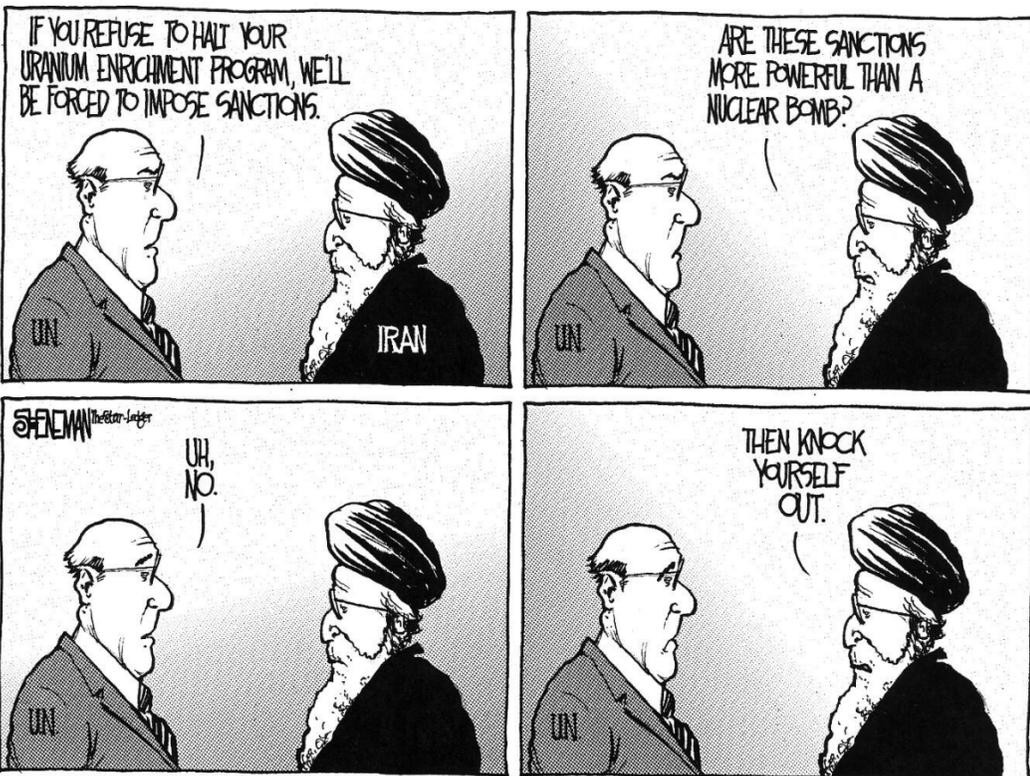
And Greenspan has given President Obama political cover.

He should use it. This is what happens when you idly gaze at Venus and start thinking about the economy, Republicans, and Roland Burris.

What about Burris? you say. What is there to say? He and A-Rod seem to be engaged in a desperate struggle to see who can be the bigger buffoon on the national stage.

I'd rather gaze at Venus. ■

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Guest Opinion

Tinkering with Electoral College unconstitutional

TIM HENDRIX
Ottumwa

There is a movement among the Iowa lawmakers to change the state's Electoral College voting system. The system currently mandated by the Constitution may seem to be outdated, cumbersome, and unfair at first look, but in reality it is not.

Now, when we vote for a particular person for president, the totals for the candidates are added up and the one with the most votes gets that state's

Electoral College votes. The number of a state's Electoral College votes is the same number as the total number of U.S. representatives and senators that state has. With Iowa's five congressional districts and two senators, we have seven Electoral College votes. After the election, seven voters from the winning party formally vote in the new president.

The movement to change the current system stems from the idea that if a person wins the popular vote, that person should be president. Al Gore won more

popular votes than George W. Bush in 2000, but Bush won the electoral vote. The argument goes then that Gore should have been president because he won the popular vote. What is proposed is that Iowa's votes go along with the person who wins the national popular vote even if Iowans by a huge margin want the other person to be president.

It sounds good and American, but in reality it isn't fair, especially to smaller states such as Iowa, and it gives too much power to the larger states. Actually, it unwittingly stabs smaller

states in the back. The top nine populated states could control the election and the direction of the United States without any input of the other 41 states. Do we really want such states as California, Texas, or New York imposing their social agendas on us without our input? And do we want to hand over our votes to the 29 other states that have greater populations than Iowa?

When campaigns are fought, they fight for electoral votes, not popular votes because electoral votes win elections. So to say that Gore beat Bush in popular

vote is true, but it is also true that neither side was fighting for the majority vote but for the electoral vote. There are different dynamics between the two types of campaigns, and a straight comparison of raw facts does not clearly present the truth.

Finally, we consider our votes to be nearly sacred in our country. I do not appreciate that we cleverly go around the constitutionally mandated process in order to get our own particular way. It may be legally cunning, but it bypass-

es the spirit of the Constitution. If we want to change the presidential voting system, fine, then let's do it by following the constitutional guidelines and have a national debate that would lead to a constitutional amendment. This is the correct way of changing the Constitution.

I urge you to contact your state representative and state senator to vote against HSB 98 because it would hurt Iowa, give our votes to other states, and undermine the U.S. Constitution.

CD REVIEWS

Obi Mediocore

Obi Best is a lot like teenager Daniel LaRusso in *The Karate Kid*: the band has the potential to take the indie music scene by storm, but it needs a Mr. Miyagi and a kick-ass montage to mold its raw talent into something more focused.

The side project of the Bird and the Bee backup singer Alex Lilly, Obi Best mixes the cheerfulness of She & Him with the ambiance of Goldfrapp, producing a distinct and highly marketable lounge-pop act. But despite its predisposition for success, Obi Best's debut album, *Capades*, ultimately disappoints listeners with its lackluster and immature songs.

Capades kicks off with "Nothing Can Come Between Us," a catchy spunky (though slightly annoying) lover's romp through rolling hills of wildflowers that ends at a bouncy castle filled to the brim with L.O.V.E. This saccharine sentiment is evoked repeatedly throughout the choruses of *Capades*'s various cuts, often to the detriment of the moody and complex instrumentals that set up the tracks (case in point: the irritatingly upbeat refrain of the otherwise brilliantly dark "Who Loves You Now").

Though Obi Best's positive personality gets old, lead singer Lilly's sweetly commanding vocals do not. She has successfully combined Feist's sensual sound with a punk edge à la Laura Veirs, resulting in an enchanting vocal delivery that mesmerizes on track after track. The jazzy "Days of Decadence" is a clear standout, allowing Lilly to showcase her sultry capabilities over a slow swing.

Rather than proving Obi Best a new force to be reckoned with, all *Capades* demonstrates in the end is that the Bird and the Bee should move Lilly from backup vocals to lead. But all is not lost. Because its strong instrumentals and dynamic arrangements show real potential, Obi Best would do well to start trying to catch flies with chopsticks and internalize the advice of one very wise warrior, "First learn stand, then learn fly."

Melea's Picks: "Who Loves You Now," "Swedish Boy," "Days of Decadence," "It's Because of People Like You"

- by Melea Andrys

Prog-rock maverick flies solo

Steven Wilson, best known as the frontman for progressive rock act Porcupine Tree, doesn't seem to have a problem with going solo. After all, he already writes the music, sings, and plays lead guitar in his main band. So what's different about *Insurgentes*, his first solo effort? Well, it's much more experimental (and, let's face it, self-indulgent) in ways that only a solo album can be. But where others might fail, Wilson proves he has the talent to pull the album's 10 tracks together into something cohesive and stunning.

Perhaps the most important decision he made on *Insurgentes* was to bring in bandmate Gavin Harrison on drums. His drumming is unparalleled in the rock world; his effect on the album is immediate and, as expected, brilliant. The rest of *Insurgentes*' instrumentation is superb as well. For example, the droning, hypnotic guitars



Steven Wilson
Insurgentes
★★★★ out of
★★★★

on "Salvaging" build slowly until, just when the song begins to feel stale, they explode with wave after wave of blissful distortion. Also, the inclusion of unexpected instruments, such as the koto, wah-flute, and recorder, interspersed throughout the album are a welcome change from the standard guitar/bass/drums formula.

Although the ambient noise parts of some tracks occasionally start to border on the tedious, Wilson smartly mixes things up before any of the songs lose their charm. Unsurprisingly, the result is yet another Wilson-led success. Longtime fans of the UK rocker will easily be sold with *Insurgentes*, but even casual progressive-rock fans should be able to find something they like here.

Brian's Picks: "Salvaging," "Harmony Korine," "Only Child"

- by Brian Dau

Bran flakes are for eating, not for listening to

The Bran Flakes' first album after a six-year hiatus, *I Have Hands*, displays the same monotony evident on the outfit's previous four releases. The same lines are looped over and over, making for an extremely dry listen.

The duo's members, one of whom hails from Montréal and the other from Seattle, can hardly consider themselves musicians because anyone with a computer can do what they do. The Bran Flakes' supposed craft is the kind of thing old-time musicians mock.

Although *I Have Hands* is quite colorful, utilizing a wide array of instruments, the majority of the tracks blend together. The album emphasizes voices and lyrics when being instrumental is the better path.

While the bright, poppy melodies on songs such as "Dance of the Sugarsnap Fairy" and "Butt Head" will bring smiles to listeners' faces, the annoying high-pitched children's voices on tracks, including "The Sidewalk Song" and "I Am A Promise," serve as potent buzz kills. The heavy, danceable bass punches and joyous synthesizer lines make "Jump Up" a catchy track, but the lame subliminal messages at the end makes listeners want to turn it off instead of going "back to the beginning of the record" as instructed.

Tracks such as "Hi" and "What It's All About" feature fast-paced Spanish-music-influenced tuba lines, while "I Comb My Hair Sideways" has

a Daft Punk-like feel, and "Sunshine Country" is eerie, intense, and quite enjoyable - until the vocals come in.

Although *I Have Hands* lacks the musical integrity that comes with being an instrumentalist, parts of it are definitely a bit of a guilty pleasure.

Nick's Picks: "What It's All About," "I Comb My Hair Sideways,"

- by Nick Fetty

Can you spare any change?

Occasionally, the review seems to write itself. Take, for example, these lyrics from "Everything to Nothing," a track off Lamb of God's latest album, *Wrath*: "A shadow of someone you used to be / You've seen so many in these flames / And swore that you'd never become the cliché / A long forgotten memory."

Sadly, *Wrath* marks the point where Lamb of God became a shadow of something it used to be. It seems 2006's excellent *Sacrament* set the bar just a bit too high for the Virginia metallers, as the band members tried painfully hard to recapture the magic of that album here but end up merely making *Sacrament 2.0*.

With song titles such as "Fake Messiah" and "Choke Sermon," it's ironic a band that so often takes aim at right-wing fundamentalism seems to be opposed to evolution, at least when it comes to its own sound. Songs that once felt fresh and heavy on *Sacrament* now feel tired and formulaic when rehashed on *Wrath*. Lyrical themes, breakdowns, and even individual riffs all start to feel interchangeable after a few tracks, with only a few snippets of clean guitar on "Grace" and "Reclamation" to break up the monotony.

It's difficult to blame Lamb of God for what it did on *Wrath*.

Technically, the members are all at the top of their games, especially Randy Blythe's vocals, which range with ease from guttural roars to frenetic screams. All they wanted to do was make

more of a good thing, and what's wrong with that? The problem lies in Lamb of God's inability to change from the sound it has grown comfortable with. The tracks on *Wrath* are simply not different enough to feel like a complete and separate entity from *Sacrament*. And after three years of waiting for a new album, that's not good enough.

Brian's Picks: "Grace," "In Your Words," "Choke Sermon"

- by Brian Dau



The Bran Flakes
I Have Hands
★½ out of
★★★★



Lamb of God
Wrath
★½ out of
★★★★

BOOK REVIEW

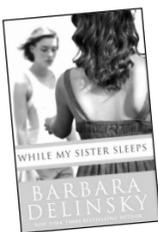
Coming through crisis

While My Sister Sleeps is a heartwarming yet bittersweet tale of familial relationships and sibling rivalry. Barbara Delinsky's latest fiction captures the heart.

By RACHAEL LANDER
Rachael.Lander@uiowa.edu

If author Barbara Delinsky is still upset from getting bumped from her Honors English class in high school for not being able to keep up, she sure doesn't show it. The best-selling writer has proven herself by having more than 20 successful books to her credit. Her latest, *While My Sister Sleeps*, is nothing short of a beautiful story.

The book tells the emotional tale of Molly and her (surprise surprise) sister Robin. Molly is overshadowed by her marathon-running sibling and is easily frustrated by her inability to discuss anything but athletics. One night, Molly receives a call from the hospital



Barbara Delinsky
While My Sister Sleeps

about Robin, whom Molly thinks is just out for an evening jog. Thinking the call concerns another one of Robin's benign running injuries, Molly feeds her cat and takes a shower before leaving to inquire about her sister.

Once she arrives at the hospital, Molly is struck with the horrible news that her sister suffered a heart attack and consequently is on life support. Robin's cardiac episode was the result of a genetic condition which caused her to have an enlarged heart that could not withstand her vigorous exercise. Throughout *While My Sister Sleeps*, Molly and her family cope with the possibility that they may lose Robin forever.

Delinsky's novels often focus on how people deal with emotional trauma. She says on her website that the reason she sticks to writing about crises is a direct result of her mother's death, which occurred when Delinsky was 8 years old.

While My Sister Sleeps tackles the topic of sibling rivalry. The two sisters, although close, are separated by closeted jealousy. Molly envies Robin's constant hold of their mother's attention, but Robin is also

jealous of Molly's character.

Throughout the duration of Robin's coma, Molly comes to terms with her personal relationships, namely the confusing bond she shares with her mother. Tragedy joins the women, and they finally repair their damaged relationship.

The transition into friendship isn't easy for Molly and her mother, but the characters persevere through even the toughest of spots. Throughout Robin's stay in the hospital, Molly and her mother finally address Molly's insecurities about being less of a source of pride to her family because she isn't a champion runner like her sister.

When Molly comes across Robin's diary, it reveals closely held secrets that make it easier for Molly to come to terms with the relationships she has with her family throughout *While My Sister Sleeps*.

Delinsky's ability to take a horrifying event and weave it into a beautiful familial tale is absolutely remarkable. *While My Sister Sleeps* is bittersweet and extremely moving, and with its frank display of sibling rivalry, shows that Delinsky can handle even the most sensitive topics in her novels.

ARTS

The feel-good Oscars

(AP) Maybe it was the adorable smile on that *Slumdog Millionaire* kid in his pint-sized tuxedo.

Or best director winner Danny Boyle bouncing in silly tribute to Tigger of "Winnie the Pooh."

The grinning, top-hatted dad of best actress winner Kate Winslet, whistling

like a champion to get his daughter's attention.

Or an entire crowd standing together in remembrance of Heath Ledger.

This year's Oscar telecast was striking for its many feel-good themes and moments - and perhaps exactly what we needed from a recession-era awards show.

Certainly, it was a notable

contrast to last year, when darkness and cynicism ruled the nominated films, capped by best picture winner *No Country for Old Men*, about a homicidal sociopath. The collective subject matter was so bleak that host Jon Stewart was inspired to say of *Juno*, the one comedy: "Thank goodness for teen pregnancy."

You deserve a factual look at . . .

Israel's Defensive Response to Gaza

Was Israel using "disproportionate force?"

Having absorbed over 10,000 rockets aimed at its towns and cities and having issued innumerable warnings, Israel finally decided to defend its citizens. It bombarded Gaza by air and by sea and ultimately invaded it. The "world community" is concerned and enraged about Israel's having used "disproportionate force" in its response. Is that a valid complaint?

What are the facts?

Some History: In order to understand what is happening, some historical review is in order. Israel captured Judea/Samaria (the "West Bank") and the Gaza Strip in June 1967, in a defensive war against three Arab states. Since then, Israel signed peace treaties with Egypt and with Jordan. It has returned the vast Sinai to Egypt. Attempts at peace with Syria have been unsuccessful so far. Although there have been many attempts to make peace with the Palestinians, Israel's most immediate neighbors, that has until now proven to be elusive. There have been any number of "interim" agreements, but a final peace agreement covering all aspects and all demands has not yet been reached.

With the concurrence and support of the US and of Israel, the Palestinians installed a Palestinian Authority (PA) to represent and to govern them. In order to move the peace process forward, former Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon decided to unilaterally disengage from Gaza. It was a very difficult and wrenching decision because 9,000 Israeli citizens who had been living there for generations had to be evacuated. Twenty-one communities had to be dismantled. Since then, there is absolutely no Israeli presence - civil or military - in Gaza.

In June 2007, Hamas wrested control over the Gaza Strip from the PA in bloody fighting. Hamas, classified as a terror organization by the United States and by most civilized nations, is openly dedicated to the destruction of Israel and for "carrying the banner of Allah over every inch of Palestine." Immediately after seizing power, Hamas began to fire rockets into Israel. It is estimated that so far close to 10,000 rockets have been launched, 3,000 alone in 2008. Even one rocket would be considered an act of war by any country. Constant barrages of rockets on Israel by Hamas are obviously intolerable. If a neighboring country would fire rockets against our cities we would respond with massive force. And that is exactly what Israel is doing.

Was Israel's Response Disproportionate? Article

Israel cannot possibly conclude a peace agreement with those who are sworn to destroy it and continue on that path. The PA, though still nursing impossible dreams of the division of Jerusalem and the "return" of the 1948 refugees, is amenable to diplomacy and can be dealt with. Final solutions have so far been unavailable, but there is indeed hope for ultimate success. The US government will wish to play a positive role in that. But before that, terrorist Hamas must be totally eliminated. That is the principle and the main goal of Israel's action against Gaza.

51 of the UN Charter is quite clear that any nation has the right to engage in self-defense against armed attack. The response has indeed to satisfy the principle of proportionality. But it is not correct to claim that Israel has violated that principle by killing more Hamas terrorists than the number of Israelis killed by Hamas rockets. There is no legal equivalence between the deliberate killing of civilians, which is what Hamas is doing by lobbing its rockets into Israeli cities without strategic significance, and the targeted killing of Hamas militants. The law is clear that any number of combatants can be killed to prevent the killing of even one innocent civilian.

In its air and ground operations against Gaza Israel went to unprecedented lengths to avoid killing civilians. In an area such as Gaza, one of the most densely populated areas in the world - and in view of Hamas's custom of locating its rocket launchers and other military installations in the middle of residential areas and even in mosques, using civilians as shields - that becomes particularly difficult. In what is certainly unique in the history of warfare, Israel, in its respect for human rights, dropped tens of thousands of leaflets over Gaza and placed telephone calls to warn residents of non-military installations to get out of the way of military action. The accusation that Israel is using "disproportionate force" is absurd.

What were Israel's war aims? The "world" most insistently demanded that an immediate cease fire be arranged. Remarkably, that same "world" did not utter a word or lift a finger when thousands of rockets fell on Israel. Israel cannot be expected to terminate its defensive action in Gaza until a comprehensive solution to the crisis can be reached. One can only surmise what Israel war aims were, but in all likelihood, at the very minimum the following: • Full dismantling of all military power of Hamas, including destruction of stockpiles of rockets and other weapons. • Increased Egyptian supervision of the border crossings between Gaza and Egypt. • Return of kidnapped Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit.

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FLAME

Facts and Logic About the Middle East
P.O. Box 590359 n San Francisco, CA 94159
Gerardo Joffe, President

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UI salutes Peace Corps

By LINI GE
lini-ge@uiowa.edu

Patricia Gillette celebrated her 59th birthday on Monday in a unique way — by presenting her experience working as a Peace Corps volunteer in Kenya at the Iowa City Public Library.

“When they told me I was going to present on [Monday], I thought, what a great opportunity to celebrate my life by celebrating some of the great journeys that I’ve been on and celebrating the people of Kenya,” she said at the library, 123 S. Linn St.

As part of the UI International Mondays lecture series, her presentation kicked off the university’s celebration of national Peace Corps Week.

Gillette set out for her Peace Corps trip to the town of Mariakani, Kenya, in 2006, after retiring from an executive position in a health-care business. There, she established a textile company employing vulnerable women and older orphans.

By the time she left in 2008, Lifeworks Shukrani — which means “thankful to God” in Swahili — employed 42 women and had started exporting to the United States and the Caribbean.

Gillette said working as a Peace Corps volunteer in Mariakani was “tremendously satisfying.”

“Every person who became employed affected their community by touching seven other people economically. It spreads well across the community,” she said.

She was among roughly 195,000 Americans who have served in 139 countries as Peace Corps volunteers since President John F. Kennedy signed



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Peace Corps volunteer Patricia Gillette speaks at the Iowa City Public Library on Monday. She talked about opening a textile factory employing 42 women in Mariakani, Kenya.

the executive order to establish the organization in 1961.

Applications to the Peace Corps across the nation increased 16 percent last year, the largest boost in the past five years. Nearly 7,900 Peace Corps volunteers are working in 76 countries across the globe.

The UI is also contributing to the humanitarian cause — more than 560 UI alumni have served in the Peace Corps since 1961. Roughly 30 UI students are volunteering in countries including Belize, Botswana, Moldova, Madagascar, Panama, and the Philippines. They work a variety of areas, including education and business development as well as health and HIV/AIDS education.

UI graduate student Becky Johnson quit her job to join the Peace Corps in 2000, working as a community health volunteer in Madagascar. She said she had

always wanted to be involved with the Peace Corps.

“It just seems like such a unique way to experience another part of the world. It’s such an intense experience that you can assimilate in a culture and learn the language,” she said. “And I really like that grass-root, long-term approach to working in another culture.”

Taking one step further in her efforts to serve the countries and people in need, Johnson became the UI’s on-campus Peace Corps recruiter in August 2008. Through monthly informational meetings, classroom and community visits, and interviews with potential applicants, she takes every opportunity to promote awareness for the cause.

Experiences of returned Peace Corps volunteers, such as Johnson, help enrich their communities, said Christine Torres, a Peace Corps public-affairs specialist in the Chicago regional office.

IPERS: Assets frozen

Associated Press

DES MOINES — Iowa’s largest public-employee pension fund says \$339 million in assets have been frozen pending a federal investigation into an investment broker-dealer it had ties to.

The Iowa Public Employees Retirement System said the move will not affect monthly benefits paid to its 85,000 pension recipients.

The system also said it has terminated its investment contract with Westridge Capital Management of Santa Barbara, Calif.

The National Futures Association, which regulates its own

members, has suspended the trading capabilities of two individuals who are principals in both WG Trading and Westridge Capital Management.

Westridge Capital Management completes transactions through WG Trading, a registered investment broker dealer.

IPERS spokeswoman Julie Economaki said WG Trading is under investigation by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Economaki said the \$339 million the system invested with Westridge Capital Management is “locked down” as a result.

IPERS serves current and

former employees and retirees of state, city, and county governments, school districts and other Iowa government agencies. It has more than 312,000 members.

Officials say the funds involved represents about 2 percent of the pension fund’s total assets.

IPERS has demanded the return of all its assets from Westridge Capital Management, which it hired in March 2007. It has also filed a claim with the National Futures Association for a release from the trading ban so the holdings can be liquidated and the assets returned.



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UI going a Twitter

By EMILY MELVOLD
emily-melvold@uiowa.edu

On Jan. 16, the Iowa Hawkeyes joined. On Jan. 21, the Pomerantz Career Center joined. And on Feb. 3, the IMU joined.

What are all these UI groups connecting to? Twitter — a growing online social network that allows people to send and read each other’s updates, or “tweets.” The name Twitter comes from an acronym originated by a founder of the site, Josh Marino: Typing What I’m Thinking To Everyone Reading.

But these UI organizations don’t intend to utilize the microblogging network to share their thoughts — they want to take advantage of the marketing potential of the site.

“We’re looking to use all channels possible, including Twitter, to get information about the IMU out to all populations,” said Dan Sweeney, an IMU marketing design artist.

He walks around the union and updates the Twitter account for the IMU, titled “imubuddy,” from his iPhone once or twice each day.

Sweeney’s “tweets” include events occurring in the building.

Another UI student on the IMU marketing team, Kelly Canfield, said she hopes the Twitter profile accumulates many followers and, in turn, attracts them back into the building after use dropped when the facility reopened, compared with pre-flood operation.

“Now that the building is getting back into the swing of things, we are trying to get students back in here, too, and re-acustom them to the building,” she said.

With 72 followers right now, the IMU is considering plans to hold contests and give away prizes to people who become new followers.

Even though Sweeney and Canfield are expecting a good following because of the new form of advertising, they don’t plan to decrease alternate forms of IMU publicity. They contend people use all sorts of media sources.

“Different people use different channels, so we’re just trying to cover all of them,” Sweeney said.

Similar to the “imubuddy” page, the Iowa Hawkeyes and

Pomerantz Center profiles feature promotional information rather than personal updates, such as a private user might post.

With a Hawkeye football picture as the background, the Hawkeyes sports page updates with headlines of the latest articles and a link to the Iowa Hawkeyes’ official website for users to read the full sports stories. It is usually updated five to 10 times per day. The Pomerantz Center highlights helpful information for UI students in the process of job hunting.

Seth Jacobs, an Information Technology Services help-desk consultant, said he doesn’t think Twitter is catered to the college demographic in the way Facebook is. He has his own account but admits he doesn’t update it very often.

He acknowledged it could be very useful for publicizing events on campus, though.

“I think it is useful when one person who needs to talk to a lot of people or when you have a lot of people that need to talk to one person,” Jacobs said. “And in that respect, Twitter could be pretty useful for the university.”

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BASKETBALL

Michigan State head coach Tom Izzo is raising his team's expectations as the Spartans get ready to play Iowa on Wednesday.

4B

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Utah 108, Atlanta 89
New Orleans 112, Sacramento 105

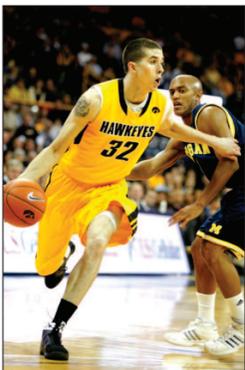
BKC
Alabama St. 76, Alcorn St. 71

Bethune-Cookman 69, Md.-Eastern Shore 52
Campbell 68, ETSU 62
Florida A&M 63, Delaware St. 61, OT
Hampton 49, Morgan St. 47
High Point 81, Longwood 69
Howard 81, Coppin St. 74
Jacksonville 81, Stetson 66
Kansas 87, Oklahoma 78

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2009

Daily Iowan Sports Desk: 319-335-5848 (phone) 319-335-6184 (fax)

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Jake Kelly

BASKETBALL

Kelly honored

Iowa sophomore guard Jake Kelly was named Big Ten Player of the Week on Monday after leading the Hawkeyes to a 70-60 overtime win over Michigan on Sunday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

Kelly, who recorded career-highs with 23 points, nine assists, and eight rebounds in his 45-minute effort against the Wolverines, earned the honor for the first time in his Hawkeye career.

"This is a deserving honor for Jake," Iowa head coach Todd Lickliter said in a statement. "Offensively, we've been pleased with his decision-making. Defensively, he has guarded our opponent's most aggressive perimeter player and has really taken that responsibility to heart. He's got great length and I think he's a terrific defender."

Forced to play point guard in a trying season for Iowa, Kelly has averaged 11 points per game in Big Ten play and held one of the league's leading scorers, Michigan's Manny Harris, to nine points on Sunday. Kelly scored nine of the team's 14 points in overtime against the Wolverines and combined for 42 points in the Iowa's last two games.

The Hawkeyes (14-13, 4-10) will travel to No. 9 Michigan State Wednesday night for a 7:35 p.m. tip-off on the Big Ten Network.

— by Charlie Kautz

GYMNASTICS

Rebecca Simbhudas honored

Iowa sophomore gymnast Rebecca Simbhudas has been rewarded for the hard work she put in for the GymHawks last week by being named co-Big Ten Gymnast of the Week.

In Iowa's most recent meet on Feb. 20, the GymHawks traveled to Southern Utah, where the Ontario native scored a 9.925 on the balance beam, the highest score of any Iowa gymnast since 2006. She also placed second in the all-around with a solid score of 39.250. On Feb. 16, in Iowa's Pink Meet against Iowa State, Simbhudas captured her first collegiate all-around title with a 39.225. She led the GymHawks into their first season sweep of Iowa State since 1992.

Against the Cyclones, Simbhudas won the uneven bars with a 9.825 and scored a 9.850 on the balance beam to win the individual title on those events. As a late replacement for an injured Kristen Ward, she scored a solid 9.800 on the floor exercise, helping her cause in winning the all-around.

The last Iowa gymnast to receive the honor was older sister and Hawkeye senior Jenifer Simbhudas last March.

— by Evelyn Lau

TV TODAY

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL
Penn State at Ohio State, 6 p.m., ESPN
Florida at No. 18 LSU, 8 p.m., ESPN
Texas A&M at Nebraska, 8:30 p.m., ESPN2
NHL
Anaheim at Buffalo, 6 p.m., VERSUS
Chicago at Nashville, 7 p.m., CSN

Women not exactly raining 3's



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa senior Kristi Smith shoots a 3-pointer during the Hawkeyes' game against Indiana in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 5. While Smith's 3-point field-goal percentage has increased this season, the team's overall 3-point percentage has declined since the new men's 3-point line was put in place this season.

Does the men's 3-point line have an effect on the women's game?

By JEFF PAWOLA
jeffrey-pawola@uiowa.edu

It's well-documented how the extra foot added to the 3-point line has affected the men's game — bringing down the national average for made 3-pointers to its lowest since the 1998-99 season at 34.23 percent, according to statsheet.com — but are there any effects on the women's game as a result?

The easy answer would be no, because the women's line has stayed in its original place, 19 feet, 9 inches from the basket. However, research by the *Daily Iowan* suggests the opposite — the women's 3-point percentage has decreased at almost the same rate as the men's 3-point percentage.

The 2007-08 season saw the highest 3-point percentage in the men's game, 35.02 percent, since the national adoption of the line before the 1986-87 season. In the BCS conferences of women's basketball — the ACC, Big 12, Big East, Big Ten, Pac-10, and SEC — the 3-point percentage has dropped more than 0.6 from last year: The percentage as of Feb. 18 in the major six conferences is 31.94, compared with last year's 32.58.

"It's hard, because I never really look down at the line," said Iowa senior Kristi Smith,

who is shooting 42.9 percent from beyond the arc. "If I catch it, I'm open and in range, I'm going to shoot it."

In an attempt to curb any decrease in 3-point shooting percentage, Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder addressed the problem at the beginning of the season by spending time in practice stepping on the men's line.

"I was so tired of our women spotting up from behind the men's 3-point line," Bluder said. "I actually just made them come out and jump on top of the men's 3 line so they got used to stepping on that line."

"It's human nature to not step on the line."

Despite the initial drill at the beginning of the season, senior Wendy Ausdemore, who is shooting 37.3 percent from downtown, admitted needing constant reminders during practice.

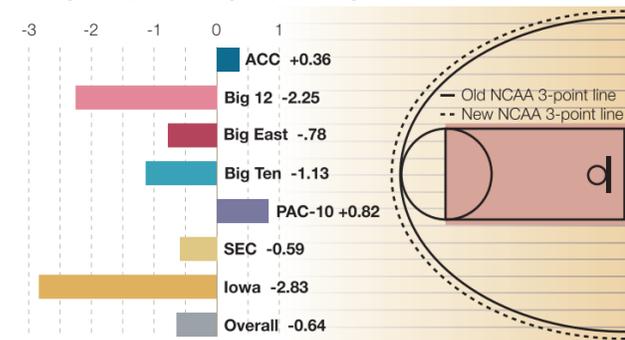
"Coach [Bluder] calls us out in practice all the time and she says, 'Make it easier on yourself. You're way behind the men's line,'" Ausdemore said. "But as a player, I guess I don't really notice when I do it except for if my shots are consistently short. Then, I can look down and tell that I've been behind the line."

SEE BASKETBALL, 3B

Three-point line affects women

Women's accuracy has shown an overall decrease after the 3-point line was moved back for the men's teams.

Change in 3-point field-goal percentage



Dan Ambrisco/The Daily Iowan

9th place, but with records

Iowa women's swimming and diving finished ninth at the Big Ten championships last weekend but set seven school records in the process.

By EVELYN LAU
evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

Usually, a ninth-place finish isn't much to brag about. Unless, of course, a team breaks seven school records and posts three NCAA B-cut performance times — then maybe it deserves some recognition.

While competing at the Big Ten championships in Ann Arbor, Mich., the Iowa women's swimming and diving team managed to pull those records off. Heading into the competition, the Big Ten had five teams ranked in the Top 25 and was considered one of the deepest conferences in the country.

"It's an extremely deep confer-

ence. There are 11 teams with a minimum of 26 athletes on each team," Iowa swimming head coach Marc Long said. "We were small, we brought 18 swimmers and three divers, so to get into the top 16 scoring position, can be difficult at times, let alone top eight."

Sophomore Katarina Tour and junior Christine Kuczek led the way for the AquaHawks. Tour set new school marks in the 100 breaststroke (1:01.95) and 200 individual medley (2:01.33), and Kuczek broke her own record in the 100 freestyle with a time of 50.21.

"I've been practicing way harder this year than last year," Tour said. "It's been much easier; I know what's going on in practice, I know what to expect from the coaches, and what they can expect from me."

SEE SWIMMING, 3B

Youth movement fuels track

The Iowa women's track and field team has benefited from its underclassmen this season.

By JAKE KRZECZOWSKI
jacob-krzeczowski@uiowa.edu

In 2008, the Iowa women's track and field team had four All-Americans. Coming into this season, only one of those four, senior Racheal Marchand, returned.

The makeup of this year's team is much different. Losing that much talent to graduation can be devastating for a team to handle, but luckily for Iowa, it has a solid group of underclassmen to lead the way for the next few years.

In previous seasons, freshmen and sophomores have not had as much asked of them, but this year's crop of youth hasn't felt any added pressure.

"We have an absolutely great staff of coaches who don't put that much pressure on us," Iowa sophomore Bethany Praska said.

The lack of pressure and chance to compete more often has allowed the women to blossom



WHITNEY WRIGHT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Sophomore Bethany Praska and freshman Nicole Erickson warm up for indoor track practice in the Recreation Building on Feb. 17. The Iowa women's track and field team received major contributions from its underclassmen at the Iowa Invitational last weekend.

som on the track. Nowhere else is this more evident than in the middle- and long-distance events, home of the lone all-American, Marchand.

In most meets this year, Iowa's top finishers in those events have been Marchand, followed by a swarm of young Hawkeyes not far behind. Seniors such as Marchand have gone out of their way to help the younger women in their first couple years on the team.

When Karessa Farley got

hurt during her freshman year, she turned to the older women for help.

"They have been very supportive and were great in helping me to get back to the track," said Farley, now a sophomore.

The support doesn't stop there. Praska spoke of a "mothering" attitude around the team in which each group of upperclassmen takes care of those below them.

SEE TRACK, 3B

BIJOU THEATER NOW PLAYING FEB 20 - FEB 26
HAPPY-GO-LUCKY
 Directed by Mike Leigh
 F-7:00, Sa-7:00, Su-4:30
 M-9:00, T-7:00, W-9:00, Th-7:00
 30-year-old Poppy (Sally Hawkins) is a London schoolteacher who sees the good in every situation. Ever the optimist, her daily life is filled with small delights. Her cheer is put to the test, however, when she begins taking driving lessons from Scott, an angry man who does all he can to take the pep out of Poppy.

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\$2 Bottles
\$2 Drafts
\$2 Wells
\$2/Hour Pool
10 BRAND NEW Pool Tables

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

Baseball out at UNI

MEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

Conference	W		L		PCT	
	W	L	PCT	W	L	PCT
Michigan St.	11	3	.786	21	5	.808
Purdue	10	4	.714	21	6	.778
Illinois	10	5	.667	22	6	.786
Penn St.	8	6	.571	19	8	.704
Minnesota	8	7	.533	20	7	.741
Wisconsin	8	7	.533	17	10	.630
Ohio St.	7	7	.500	17	8	.680
Michigan	7	8	.467	17	11	.607
Northwestern	5	9	.357	14	11	.560
Iowa	4	10	.286	14	13	.519
Indiana	1	13	.071	6	20	.231

Today's Game
 Penn State at Ohio State, 6 p.m. ESPN

Wednesday's Games
 Iowa at Michigan State, 7:30 p.m. BTN
 Northwestern at Indiana, 5:30 p.m. BTN

Thursday's Games
 Minnesota at Illinois, 6 p.m. BTN
 Purdue at Michigan, 8 p.m. ESPN

Saturday's Games
 Iowa at Northwestern, 1 p.m. BTN
 Ohio State at Purdue, 3 p.m. ESPN
 Indiana at Penn State, 5 p.m. BTN

Sunday's Games
 Michigan at Wisconsin, 1 p.m. BTN
 Michigan State at Illinois, 3 p.m. CBS

Calgary	35	18	6	76	187	173
Vancouver	30	21	8	68	181	170
Minnesota	30	24	4	64	151	135
Edmonton	29	25	5	63	165	182
Colorado	28	31	1	57	165	186
Pacific	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	11	8	9	91	200	140
Dallas	29	23	7	65	174	180
Anaheim	29	27	5	63	173	177
Phoenix	27	28	5	59	156	184
Los Angeles	25	24	9	59	155	170

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

Monday's Game
 San Jose 1, Dallas 0

Today's Games
 Anaheim at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
 Florida at Boston, 6 p.m.
 Colorado at Atlanta, 6 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Washington, 6 p.m.
 Vancouver at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
 Carolina at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
 Chicago at Nashville, 7 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
 Phoenix at St. Louis, 7:30 p.m.
 Tampa Bay at Edmonton, 8 p.m.
 Columbus at Calgary, 8 p.m.

By **LUKE MEREDITH**
 Associated Press

DES MOINES — Northern Iowa will eliminate its baseball program after this season, a cost-cutting measure officials say will save the school around \$400,000.

Athletics Director Troy Dannen made the announcement Monday, three days after the baseball team began what is now slated to be its last season. Dannen noted an expected athletics department budget shortfall of up to \$600,000 next year, thanks to a 9 percent drop in state funding.

The baseball program is expected to cost around \$485,000 to run in the 2009 fiscal year but only bring in about \$87,000 in ticket sales and fundraising.

Northern Iowa also plans to reduce its athletics travel budget by \$200,000 and leave some vacant staff positions unfilled to help fill the gap left by state funding cuts.

Northern Iowa coach Rick Heller broke the news to the team Feb. 20 — right after its season-opener at Arkansas-Little Rock — and Dannen spoke with the team for 90 minutes Monday.

"They're emotional," Dannen said. "I'm emotional, and they're mad. They should be mad because they've worked hard for a very long time to make this program go. We're at a point where, as much as we want it to go, we can no longer fund it."

Dannen said the athletics department based its decision on potential cost savings, facilities, weather and travel requirements, and

sex-equity issues.

The school said it decided to eliminate one sport rather than spread the cuts across the entire athletics department because of concerns that doing so would hamper the ability of the teams to stay competitive.

The elimination of baseball leaves Northern Iowa with 17 varsity teams, 10 of which are women's programs.

Dannen said that the decision to cut baseball wasn't directly related to the NCAA's Title IX sex-equity requirements. He said the school wouldn't have considered dropping any sports if it weren't for the pending budget cuts.

But because 57 percent of Northern Iowa's students are women, compared with just 39 percent of its athletes, Dannen said, cutting a women's program wasn't feasible.

"This isn't a matter of equity," he said. "This is a matter of funding."

The team has 35 players, and the NCAA will let those with remaining eligibility transfer to other schools without sitting out a year. Those who remain at Northern Iowa will have their scholarships honored.

Northern Iowa has gone 248-254-1 since Heller took over before the 2000 season.

The Panthers, who were picked to finish seventh in the nine-team Missouri Valley this season, don't have their own ballpark, playing instead at nearby Waterloo Riverfront Stadium. They'll also spend the first month of the season on the road to avoid playing in cold weather.

WOMEN'S BIG TEN BASKETBALL

Conference	W		L		Pct.	
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Ohio State	13	3	.813	22	5	.815
Michigan State	12	4	.750	19	8	.704
Purdue	12	4	.750	19	8	.704
Iowa	11	5	.688	18	9	.667
Minnesota	10	6	.625	17	9	.667
Indiana	10	7	.588	18	9	.654
Wisconsin	6	11	.353	16	12	.571
Penn State	5	11	.313	10	16	.385
Illinois	4	12	.250	8	19	.296
Michigan	3	13	.188	10	17	.370
Northwestern	3	13	.188	7	20	.259

Monday's Game
 Northwestern 62, Minnesota 58

Thursday's Games
 Illinois at Iowa, 8:05 p.m. BTN
 Michigan at Purdue, 6 p.m.
 Minnesota at Michigan State, 6 p.m.
 Northwestern at Penn State, 6 p.m.
 Wisconsin at Ohio State, 6 p.m.

Sunday's Games
 Iowa at Northwestern, 2 p.m.
 Purdue at Michigan State, 11 a.m.
 Michigan at Indiana, 1 p.m.
 Illinois at Minnesota, 2 p.m.
 Penn State at Ohio State, 3 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	46	12	.793	—
Philadelphia	27	28	.491	17½
New Jersey	25	32	.439	20½
New York	24	32	.429	21
Toronto	22	36	.379	24

Southwest

W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	41	14	.745	—
Atlanta	32	24	.571	9½
Miami	29	26	.527	12
Charlotte	22	34	.393	19½
Washington	13	43	.232	28½

Central

W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	43	11	.796	—
Detroit	27	27	.500	16
Milwaukee	28	31	.475	17½
Chicago	25	31	.446	19
Indiana	24	35	.407	21½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest

W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	37	17	.685	—
Houston	35	21	.625	3
Dallas	33	22	.600	4½
New Orleans	33	22	.600	4½
Memphis	15	40	.273	22½

Northwest

W	L	Pct	GB	
Denver	37	20	.649	—
Portland	35	20	.636	1
Utah	34	23	.596	3
Minnesota	18	37	.327	18
Oklahoma City	13	43	.232	23½

Pacific

W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	46	10	.821	—
Phoenix	31	24	.564	14½
Golden State	20	37	.351	26½
L.A. Clippers	14	43	.246	32½
Sacramento	12	46	.207	35

Monday's Games
 New York 123, Indiana 119
 New Jersey 98, Philadelphia 96
 Boston 114, Denver 76
 Utah 108, Atlanta 89
 New Orleans 112, Sacramento 105
 L.A. Clippers 118, Golden State 105

Today's Games
 Memphis at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
 Minnesota at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
 Orlando at Chicago, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
 Portland at Houston, 7:30 p.m.
 Charlotte at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	38	19	3	79	182	151
Philadelphia	31	17	9	71	189	169
N.Y. Rangers	31	23	7	69	151	170
Pittsburgh	29	26	6	64	185	191
N.Y. Islanders	18	35	6	42	144	198

Northwest

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Boston	40	12	8	88	200	137
Montreal	31	22	7	69	184	184
Buffalo	31	23	6	68	179	168
Toronto	22	26	12	56	180	219
Ottawa	22	27	9	53	144	168

Southwest

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	38	17	5	81	201	172
Florida	30	21	8	68	166	159
Carolina	31	25	5	67	162	176
Tampa Bay	20	28	12	52	152	191
Atlanta	21	33	6	48	176	211

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	39	13	8	86	228	177
Chicago	34	16	8	76	194	143
Columbus	30	24	6	66	165	169
Nashville	28	28	4	60	142	168
St. Louis	25	26	8	58	165	178

Northwest

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
San Jose	37	20	4	78	200	140

TRANSACCIONS

BASEBALL
 SEATTLE MARINERS—Re-signed OF Mike Wilson to a minor league contract.

National League
 WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Released LHP Odalis Perez.

FOOTBALL
 National Football League
 HOUSTON TEXANS—Named Geoff Kaplan director of sports medicine-head athletic trainer and Ray Wright strength and conditioning coach.

TOP 25 COLLEGE BASKETBALL

- #15 Kansas 87, #3 Oklahoma 78
- #6 Louisville 76, Georgetown 58

WOMEN'S SCORES

- #14 Texas A&M 57, #2 Oklahoma 56
- #10 North Carolina 74, North Carolina State 57

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Which Hawkeye will have the best NFL career?

Bradley Fletcher

Bradley Fletcher was always an under-appreciated talent during his four years in an Iowa football uniform. Although Fletcher didn't earn a true starting spot until his final season, he made his 2008 campaign count.

The senior cornerback totaled 60 tackles, three interceptions, and 10 pass breakups — good enough to earn an All-Big Ten honorable mention. He ended his college career strong, picking off a pass in the Outback Bowl. Many scouts also felt he was the most impressive cornerback at the East-West Shrine Game.

Although some feel that his speed leaves a little to be desired, his agility, deceptive strength, and general cover skills should allow him to remain at his natural position in the NFL. Still, his size (6-0, 196 pounds) should give him the ability to transition to free safety if necessary. Fletcher's overall athletic ability, not to mention his great defensive instincts, will secure him a place in the NFL for years to come.

You see, from February to April, every single year, the so-called experts compare times in the 40 and discuss pointless bench-press reps. Mel Kiper Jr. and Todd McShay will waste countless hours discussing whether a player who will never end up a star will go 15th or 16th. It's almost as if the whole reason the players are getting drafted — football — is forgotten.

"Fletch" can't have the best combine numbers out of any cornerback hoping to hear his name called this April. As of Feb. 22, ESPN.com even ranked him the 32nd best prospect at

corner. Many scouting sources don't have him being selected until the seventh round, while others don't believe the man who wore No. 29 for the Hawkeyes will even hear his name called at the podium on draft weekend.

But after you get past all the combine drills, the fancy numbers, the tests asking you such strange questions as if you have ever thought about killing someone, there's only one thing left to do — play football. That's where I think Fletcher will excel.

You see, Fletcher might not run the best 40-time, or be the strongest guy out there. But he's a damn good football player.

And isn't that what really matters?
 — by Jordan Garretson

Shonn Greene

Don't let the 40-yard dash fool you. Over this past weekend, 23-year-old Shonn Greene ran a 4.63 40 at the NFL scouting combine, which for him was an expected time. But while his speed isn't elite, Greene does have quickness.

A dominant north-south runner at 5-10 and around 230 pounds, great footwork near the line of scrimmage will undoubtedly aid Greene in having the best career of any Hawkeye in this year's draft.

While such guys as Bradley Fletcher and Mitch King also received invitations to the combine, they have much more to prove than Greene.

Fletcher has good size for the cornerback position, but he has around 25 other players with a higher draft stock. King is an incredible workhorse, but he has to put on about 25 pounds if he wants a shot at making a career as a defensive end at 6-2.

Greene's running style would probably fit best in Denver, a team that used around seven running backs last season and typically has the downfield running style, although that may change this year with new head coach Josh McDaniels.

Unfortunately for the Doak Walker Award winner, there aren't too many organizations in need of a running back. But that's where he can step in right away, wherever it may be, as a short yardage back.

Of course Greene's stock isn't going to rise from the combine, and he'll probably be a second-round pick at best.

However, Greene's ability to gain yardage after contact, his low center of gravity that carries him through defenders, and his ability to hit the holes will lead him to a prolific career in the NFL.

If you think the Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year's size and running style won't suit him well in the NFL, just look at these bruisers' careers — Ladell Betts, Brandon Jacobs, and Rudi Johnson.

— by Peter Gustin

Mitch King

Mitch King is going to have a long, productive NFL career simply because he plays too damn hard not to. King's motor made him a terror for Big Ten offen-

sive linemen. He had double-digit tackles-for-loss all four years he played. Last season, his 15.5 tackles-for-loss helped earn him the title of Big Ten Defensive Lineman of the Year as a senior.

He certainly doesn't fit the prototype for an NFL defensive tackle. At around 280 pounds, King's size may scare some teams away. However, his speed, relentlessness and skill with his hands could make him a valuable penetrator for a team that values undersized defensive tackles, such as the Indianapolis Colts.

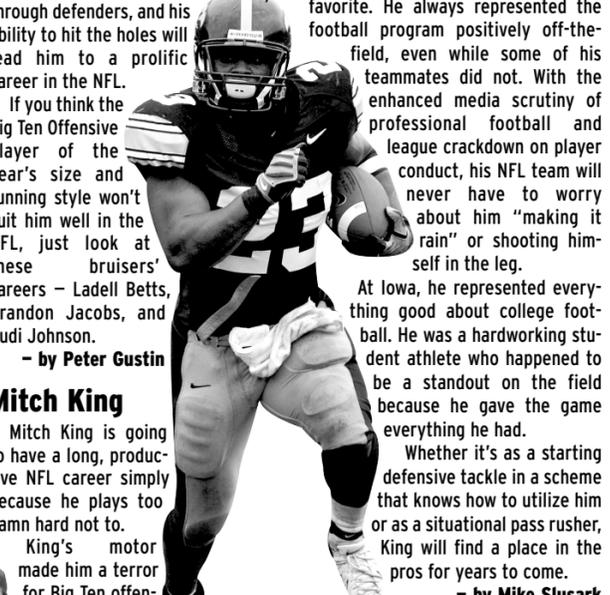
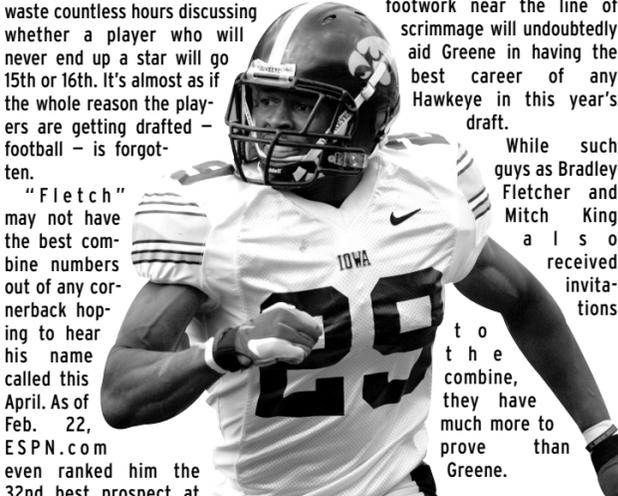
During Senior Bowl practices in January, King showed that his speed may help him overcome his lack of size, earning praise as he beat many of the top offensive linemen in the draft one-on-one.

Rob Bruggeman, who like King was invited to the NFL scouting combine this past weekend, said King was the toughest player he faced during his career with Iowa.

King's fierceness on the field and good character made him a fan favorite. He always represented the football program positively off-the-field, even while some of his teammates did not. With the enhanced media scrutiny of professional football and league crackdown on player conduct, his NFL team will never have to worry about him "making it rain" or shooting himself in the leg.

At Iowa, he represented everything good about college football. He was a hardworking student athlete who happened to be a standout on the field because he gave the game everything he had. Whether it's as a starting defensive tackle in a scheme that knows how to utilize him or as a situational pass rusher, King will find a place in the pros for years to come.

— by Mike Slusark



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 \$3 • Burgers
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 \$2 • Domestic Pints
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"FAT TUESDAY"
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 \$2 Fat Tire Pints
 \$3 Daquiris
 Beads and Giveaways
 5:00-10:00 p.m. \$5.99 • Conglomeration Baskets

Bo James
Burger Baskets
BIG ASS Beers
 No Cover
 21 to enter after 8pm

OPEN LUNCH
GUMBY'S
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OPEN LATE
35-GUMBY
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GUMBY COMBO
\$16.99 One Large
 1 Item Pizza
 Small Pokey Stix
 2-L

3's not so free

BASKETBALL
CONTINUED FROM 1B

Audemore estimated that she gets told at least once a practice by Bluder that she is well beyond the men's line. Despite the reminders, she has endured her lowest 3-point percentage since her freshman year — In 2007-08 she held the third-highest 3-point percentage in the NCAA at 45.6 percent, and in 2006-07 she finished in 14th, connecting on 41.6 percent of her 3-point attempts.

Only the two coastal conferences, the ACC and the Pac-10, have increased their 3-point percentages thus far in comparison with the 2007-08 campaign.

Iowa's Smith, whose 42.9 3-point percentage ranks 20th in the NCAA, has also increased her percentage from last year's 34.6 percent, and she has reason to believe the new men's line might actually be beneficial.

"Coach [Bluder] had us stomp on the men's line because she wanted us to toe up to the women's line," Smith said. "It's always in the back of my mind that I have to toe up and get that much closer."

Another issue to be taken into account when considering the decrease in 3-point percentage is the varying colors of 3-point lines. In Carver-Hawkeye Arena, the women's line is black, and the men's line is white. In contrast,

Duke, which Iowa played at Cameron Indoor Stadium on Dec. 4, has a white women's line and a blue men's line — Iowa's shot 27.78 percent from 3-point range in Durham, N.C.; its season average is 36.1 percent.

"What makes it also difficult is in our arena our line is the black line and the men's line is the white line. But you could go to a different arena, and it could be reversed," Bluder said. "I think it probably needs to be more uniform at least with the outside line being this color and the inside line one being darker and one being lighter. That could be maybe a national change that would help that situation."

Hawks records fall in pool

SWIMMING
CONTINUED FROM 1B

Long was impressed with Tour's showing, especially because he believes her potential is skyrocketing and she can still add more to her repertoire.

"Katarina's got a great future, and she's really a mature swimmer coming over from Sweden and had been a great age-group swimmer," Long said. "She kind of got reinvigorated here at school. She worked extremely hard this year. She's got real explosive ability, and sprinting ability so who knows?"

"I'm not even sure if the breaststroke is her best event, and that's the one where she broke a record in."

consisting of freshman Danielle Carty, Tour, freshman Daniela Cubelic, and junior Julie deBruin hit a time of 1:41.33. Closing out the meet as they started, the 400-freestyle quartet of Cubelic, Kuczek, Tour, and senior Alison Gschwend posted a NCAA B-cut school-record time of 3:21.27.

"I thought our relays did excellent, finishing in the top eight," Long said. "We're always looking for more of course, and we knew we were a small team and didn't have much depth, but we were looking for great performances in the relays and obviously trying to get women in scoring position."

"Overall good, but it's just a little step into the future of what the program needs to be doing."

On the diving side, junior Deidre Freeman had an impressive showing, finishing eighth in the 3-meter and 12th in the 1-meter dives. She also earned the Iowa Highest Point Award for netting 16 points for the AquaHawks with her placement finishes.

However, she felt a bit let down because she believes her nerves had gotten the best of her before competing.

"I was a little disappointed," she said. "I accomplished my goal which was to make top eight on at least one board. I thought it was a mediocre meet. I think my nerves kind of got to me on the 3 meter, but it was a good experience for me."

Despite the decent team showing, Long believes that the squad has made strides towards the future of the program.

"We still have a long way to go to move up as a team to get into that top five," he said. "But we feel we're definitely in the right direction and have some real hungry individuals so we're excited for the future."

Youth serving tracksters

TRACK
CONTINUED FROM 1B

"If you get to a meet and are a little nervous, they will sit you down and talk to you to get rid of that fear," Praska said about the older girls.

That is a major asset for a freshman such as Betsy Flood, who describes herself as a very nervous person by nature before a competition.

This is the same Flood that Iowa head coach Layne Anderson describes as having "the talent and level of commitment to be an All-American."

She's not the only one the coach feels that way about. The feeling on the team is the freshman and sophomore classes can be compared with those containing former All-Americans Kineke Alexander and Meghan Armstrong.

"They've come in, and they're at about the same level," Anderson said.

Along with Praska, Farley, and Flood are other standouts — including freshmen McKenzie Melander and Nicole Erickson and sophomores Tiffany Hendricks and Amanda and Lauren Hardesty.

The group has come together through the bonding of dinners out and long trips on the road. This team, however, is even closer. Many of the members are neighbors, and Flood even said she doesn't have many friends who aren't on the team.

The philosophy of the coaches paired with the general demeanor of the team has produced an atmosphere in which the young members of the team can prosper.

"We all know that we don't have to compete like freshman and sophomores," Praska said,



Iowa sophomore runner Bethany Praska holds freshman Nicole Erickson's shoes during a stretching exercise on Feb. 9 in the Recreation Building.

"We can step up and compete with juniors and seniors at any school." That confidence permeates graduation years.

"I feel that there is a lot of potential in everyone, we can do big things together," Flood said.

This weekend's Big Ten cham-

pionships in Bloomington, Ind., will be another chance for Flood, Praska, Farley, and the rest to try to put their names next to Alexander, Armstrong, Marchand, and all the rest of the great Hawkeye runners to come through Iowa.

SOFTBALL

Weil honored

Brittany Weil was named Big Ten Pitcher of the Week on Monday after another stellar weekend on the mound for the Iowa softball team.

The senior from Garden Grove, Calif., picked up three wins for the Hawkeyes at the K-Club Classic in Kennesaw, Ga. and added two appearances in relief — pitching a total of 19 2/3 innings without surrendering a run. The tournament was highlighted by Weil's second no-hitter of the season, which came against Kennesaw State, one week after throwing the first no-hitter of her career. She is only the second pitcher in Iowa history to pitch two no-hitters in a season. She was drafted Feb. 17 by the Akron Racers.

Weil (7-3) has posted red-hot numbers all-season in leading Iowa to an early 12-3 record. She has pitched eight complete games, surrendering 26 hits in 214 at-bats for an opponents' batting average of .121. Weil has tallied 90 strikeouts already this season and now sits just 124 behind Iowa's career mark of 946, set by Lisa Birocci in 2005. Her season ERA (1.08) is good enough for fourth in the Big Ten, according to conference databases.

— by Jon Linder

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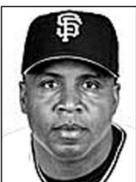
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Judge orders Bonds' trainer to appear in court

By PAUL ELIAS
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds' personal trainer was ordered Monday to appear before a federal judge and say whether he'll break his silence and testify at the slugger's perjury trial.



Bonds
former player

U.S. District Judge Susan Illston summoned Greg Anderson for the unusual hearing, scheduled for Wednesday. Anderson is considered a vital witness for the government as it tries to prove Bonds lied to a grand jury investigating steroid use by athletes. Prosecutors said the trainer can directly link Bonds to

three positive drug tests and other evidence collected during a September 2003 raid at the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, which was at the center of the steroids probe.

The judge has barred prosecutors from showing the jury the test results because Anderson is refusing to testify. Anderson is alleged to have collected the urine samples for drug testing at the lab. Without his testimony confirming the collection, Illston has said there is no way to prove the samples belong to Bonds.

Similarly, the judge said calendars that prosecutors say chart Bonds' use of performance-enhancing drugs can't be introduced without Anderson's testimony that he created them.

Messages left Monday with Anderson's attorney, Mark Geragos, were not immediately returned.

The trainer has already spent a year in prison on a contempt-of-court charge for refusing to testify about Bonds to a 2006 grand jury. He also declined to discuss his relationship with Bonds when asked by federal agents during a September 2003 raid of his home.

Bonds is charged with 10 counts of making false declarations to a grand jury and one count of obstruction of justice.

Illston scheduled the Wednesday hearing after Bonds' attorneys objected to having Anderson's refusal to testify — and possible jailing — play out in front of the jury. Defense lawyers argued that would be unfair to Bonds, who owns the major-league record for home runs with 762.

Illston's decision to hold a separate hearing with Anderson before trial, scheduled to begin March 2, will keep that drama

away from jurors.

Prosecutors and Bonds' lead attorney, Allen Ruby, declined comment Monday.

Legal experts expect the judge to put Anderson on notice that he will be put behind bars for the duration of the anticipated monthlong trial if he refuses to participate. Then, they say, Anderson would be called to the witness stand during trial — but outside the presence of jurors — and asked his intentions again. If he refuses to testify at the point, he may be jailed.

Federal prosecutors are discussing whether to appeal the judge's decision to bar the three steroids tests from being introduced at trial. They have until the first juror is seated — probably on March 3 — which would then delay the trial for an undetermined time. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals would decide the issue.

SPORTS

Barkley pleads guilty to DUI

PHOENIX (AP) — Charles Barkley has pleaded guilty in a Scottsdale court to charges of driving drunk and will face jail time.

According to Scottsdale court records, the 45-year-old former NBA star pleaded guilty Monday to two misdemeanor charges related to the same drunken driving arrest.



Barkley
former player

The NBA television commentator and basketball Hall of Famer is set to begin a five-day jail sentence on March 21. He must pay more than \$2,000 in fines and attend an alcohol-treatment program. Under Arizona law, he'll also be forced to install an ignition interlock device on his vehicles.

Barkley was stopped by police Dec. 31 shortly after leaving a Scottsdale nightclub. He was arrested after failing a field sobriety test.

Illini DL Brent pleads not guilty to DUI

URBANA, Ill. (AP) — Illinois defensive tackle Josh Brent has pleaded not guilty to misdemeanor charges of driving under the influence and driving on a suspended license.

Brent's appearance in court Monday came after his Feb. 21 arrest prompted Illinois coach Ron Zook to suspend the 21-year-old from the team indefinitely.

Brent played in 10 games last fall as a sophomore. He had 34 tackles, 8 1/2 tackles for loss and 1 1/2 sacks.

The Champaign County state's attorney's office says police on Feb. 21 also discovered a warrant for Brent's arrest for failing to appear in a Livingston County court on an earlier charge of driving on a suspended license.

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Izzo: Spartans must grow up



AL GOLDIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michigan State coach Tom Izzo yells instructions to his team during the second half against Wisconsin on Sunday in East Lansing, Mich. Michigan State won, 61-50.

BY LARRY LAGE
Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — If Tom Izzo gets his wish, Michigan State will go from good to great because its players figure out how to focus consistently.

Earvin "Magic" Johnson returned to campus last weekend to celebrate the 30-year anniversary of the championship he helped the Spartans win, and the Hall of Fame player said focusing was the key to success when he was in college and the NBA.

Michigan State (21-5, 11-3 Big Ten) has struggled to play at or near its potential during games and from week to week, but talent and hard work have put the program in position to win its first conference title since 2001.

The Spartans rallied from a 12-point deficit midway through the second half Sunday to beat Wisconsin by 11 points after getting routed at Purdue. They're ranked No. 9 this week, down three spots in the Associated Press poll.

Michigan State's road to an elusive Big Ten title will take it to Illinois, Indiana, and against Purdue in the regular-season finale.

But first, the Spartans have to make sure they don't overlook the 10th-place and banged-up Iowa Hawkeyes on Wednesday night at home.

"It's the perfect time of year to see if we're growing up enough to handle this in a business-type approach," Izzo said.

Michigan State is hoping backup point guard Korie Lucious will be able to shake flu-like symptoms well enough to go through a full practice Tuesday, preparing him to give Kalin Lucas more breaks against Iowa

and for the rest of the season.

The Spartans are also counting on Raymar Morgan to rebound to form after getting on the court for two games following a three-game absence because of various illnesses.

"I'm hoping by the end of this week, we've got him back fully," Izzo said. "We really need Raymar Morgan."

Michigan State has a one-game lead over Purdue and a 1 1/2-game edge on Illinois in the Big Ten standings.

After hosting the Hawkeyes — who rallied Sunday to force overtime against Michigan and to win — the Spartans will close the regular season on the road against Illinois and Indiana and against Purdue on March 8 in the Breslin Center.

SPORTS

Triathlon team race to be held in W. Des Moines

WEST DES MOINES (AP) — International Triathlon Union officials announced Monday that the union's Triathlon Team World Championship will be held in West Des Moines on June 28. Officials say it will be the first time a team world championship is held in the United States. It's also set to be the first coed team race.

The teams will include two men and two women. Each athlete will complete a 250-meter swim, a 7-kilometer bike ride and a 1.8-kilometer run.

Teams will be chosen from the roster of athletes competing in the Hy-Vee ITU Triathlon Elite Cup men's and women's races, which will be held June 27.

The purse for the championship is \$70,000. The winning team will receive \$40,000.

Tiger's opponent sees a big opportunity

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) — Tiger Woods announced his return to golf, and phones began ringing from Arizona to Australia.

The Accenture Match Play Championship usually attracts journalists from various parts of the world, and 473 media had requested credentials to come to high desert of Tucson. Then came Woods' statement that "I'm now ready to play again," and 105 more requests poured in. Three television satellite trucks were expected. Now the number is 11.

And in Australia? Brendan Jones, the last man to qualify for the 64-man field, was home with his family when he heard the news. Jones is no math major, but he knew the No. 64 seed plays the No. 1 seed in the opening round, and he knew who was No. 1.

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