

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

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

50¢

80 HOURS

Ha Ha How To
Flip to 80 Hours for this week's humor-infused front, which previews tonight's performances by comedians Bob Zany and Costaki Economopoulos. **1C**



NEWS

Update on H1N1 in Iowa

New cases are reported in the state, and local researchers are tracking the virus on social-networking sites. **2A**

Preventable measures

Find out what UI officials are doing with the IMU and Mayflower to try to avoid damage in future floods. **5A**

Asian-based sorority?

Some in the UI community want to begin the first on-campus Asian-interest sorority. **8A**

SPORTS

Hawkeyes sweep Badgers

The Iowa softball team won both games of a double-header over Wisconsin on Wednesday at Pearl Field. **1B**

OPINIONS

Bad bar ban

Not only would a proposed zoning ordinance not likely be effective in cutting down on dangerous drinking, it will likely strangle revenue coming in to the city from downtown watering holes. The city should closely examine all aspects of the measure before councilors move forward. **6A**

ASK THE DI

Have a question or a curiosity? Want to know the fastest way to get to the newly opened Theatre Building? 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 UI TV. The 15-minute newscast is on Sunday through Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., with reruns at 12:30 and 1:30 a.m. and 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. the following day.

Today's webcast

Find out more about three engineering students who are working to get a car to drive itself.

WEATHER

70 **48**
21C 9C
Partly sunny to cloudy, windy, 50% chance of rain/T-storms.

INDEX

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

Fry could face reduced time

Sixth District Judge Mitchell Turner will read the sentence at 10 a.m.

By **ZHI XIONG**
zhi-xiong@uiowa.edu

Curtis Fry will likely serve less than half of the 10-year maximum for beating an Iowa City man to death in February 2008.

Sixth District Judge Mitchell

Turner has found Fry guilty of voluntary manslaughter in the death of 75-year-old Patrick McEwen. The judge will sentence Fry today.

Legal experts said several factors could reduce prison time for the 22-year-old, including time

served and a lack of a previous criminal record.

In Iowa, there is no required minimum sentence for voluntary manslaughter unless the guilty person uses a weapon. Fry's attorney, Peter Persaud, said on Monday that Fry will not have a mandatory minimum sentence; there was no weapon involved.

Fry killed McEwen with his fists.

On Feb. 7, 2008, he traveled from Wilton, Iowa, to Iowa City to

celebrate his 21st birthday. Heavily intoxicated, he later broke in to McEwen's apartment, 513 S. Van Buren St., and beat him to death.

The state charged Fry with second-degree murder. It is generally considered killing without premeditation and carries a maximum 50-year prison sentence.

Attorneys Persaud and Quint Meyerdirk plucked a 1914 Iowa Supreme Court case from relative obscurity — *State v. Wilson*

— and won him a lesser conviction. Though experts had testified Fry was blacked out during the attack, his lawyers did not use an intoxication defense.



Fry awaits sentence

SEE **FRY**, 3A



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

George's patrons Sarah Klahs (right) and Stefanie Bewell talk on Wednesday evening. Many bar owners say that despite a potential new city ordinance that would prohibit bars opening within 500 feet of one another, business will not be affected.

BAR OWNERS: NO EFFECT FROM LIMIT

Bars owners outside downtown say they aren't worried about a potential citywide ordinance.

By **TYLER LYON**
tyler-lyon@uiowa.edu

While a proposed city ordinance is meant to limit the number of bars downtown, it would apply to bars and restaurants with liquor licenses throughout Iowa City.

The ordinance is aimed at decreasing the high bar density downtown and, in turn, curb the area's binge-drinking problem, but some

say expanding the measure to the entire city is going too far.

"It went far beyond its intention," said Iowa City Councilor Mike O'Donnell, who has voted against the ordinance. "If there's a restaurant in a mall, then that will affect the rest of the mall."

The Iowa City City Council voted in favor of the ordinance — only a first consideration — at its meeting

Tuesday night. The measure would prevent any new bar — a business open between midnight to 2 a.m. whose main revenue comes from consumption of food or drink — from opening within 500 feet of another bar anywhere in Iowa City.

The council first considered the ordinance because of the excess of binge drinking downtown among students, but UI researchers who presented to local officials rec-

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

To see a video feature of the 500-foot law issue, watch Daily Iowan TV at dailyiowan.com.

ommended expanding the measure's jurisdiction, Mayor Regenia Bailey said.

This expansion is meant to prevent any potential binge drinking from occurring in other parts of town, O'Donnell said.

The ordinance would not affect existing establishments that are located near another bar.

SEE **BAR**, 3A

Life after tax vote

Lone Tree, Oxford, Swisher, Tiffin, and Solon are all towns using tax money for projects unrelated to flood relief and prevention.

By **SHANE ERSLAND**
shane-ersland@uiowa.edu

Some of the communities that OK'd the 1 percent local-option tax — pitched as the answer for flood-related projects — will not be using the funds for flood relief because there is no need, their leaders say.

But Iowa City officials assured people Wednesday all this city's funds will indeed go toward flood relief and prevention projects.

Though the results of Tuesday's local-option sales tax remain unofficial — absentee ballots count if received up to May 11 — Iowa City Councilor Connie Champion said all of the money Iowa City would earn would be spent on raising the Park Road bridge and Dubuque Street.

SEE **TAX**, 3A

Nighthawks in the classroom becoming a trend

In response to positive student feedback, UI administrators are continuing to offer more night classes.

By **MICHELE DANNO**
michele-danno@uiowa.edu

The UI is offering 200 more night classes for fall 2009 than two years ago, and officials said they will most likely increase more in the future.

For the fall 2009 semester, the UI will offer 879 night classes — a spike from 759 in fall 2008 and 678 in fall 2007.

While some UI students feel university officials are adding night classes — defined as a class after 3 p.m. — in another effort to curb binge drinking, officials said this is not the sole reason behind the increase.

"We have been offering night classes for 35 years, but they used to be more available for nontraditional students," said Doug Lee, the associate dean of the Division of Continuing Education. "But over the last several years, we've recognized that they have become more popular with our regular students."

The increase has mostly taken place in the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Business, and Education, Lee said.

"I like night classes," UI sophomore Derek Jones said.

Night classes more popular

The UI continues to increase night classes in response to positive feedback from students.

Night class enrollment per semester:

- Fall 2007: 10,472
- Fall 2008: 11,667
- Fall 2009: 12,758

Number of night classes offered per semester:

- Fall 2007: 678
- Fall 2008: 759
- Fall 2009: 879

Source: Office of Continuing Education

"It's easier for me to focus at night because I'm always up at that time anyway — 7 p.m. is way nicer than 8:30 a.m."

SEE **NIGHT CLASS**, 3A



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

A Ceramics I class meets for its final critique in the Studio Arts Building on Wednesday. The UI will offer more night classes during the fall of 2009 because they are becoming increasingly popular, officials say.



Hygienic Lab gets test OK

The new certification means quicker turnaround time for test results in Iowa.

By **CHRIS CLARK**
christopher-p.clark@uiowa.edu

The UI Hygienic Laboratory became on Wednesday one of the first state public-health laboratories certified to test for the H1N1 virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention approved the UI lab to conduct testing on its own. To get the OK, CDC officials had to confirm five cases already confirmed by the Hygienic Lab to ensure scientists are testing properly. The CDC provided a testing kit which allows for 200 individual tests. Scientists can request more as needed.

Pat Blake, spokeswoman for the Hygienic Laboratory, said the certification is "great news for the university, and our staff and for Iowans."

As of Wednesday, the Oakdale-based laboratory had received more than 600 specimens for testing since April 27. Doug Beardsley, the director of the Johnson County Public Health Department, said four newly confirmed H1N1 cases bring the state's total to five. Thirty-five additional state samples are also probably H1N1, Beardsley said.

"When you're testing more

and testing quicker, you're more likely to find something," Beardsley said. "There are always more cases out there than what is tested and confirmed."

Prior to approval, local officials sent specimens to the CDC headquarters in Atlanta, which usually took up to four days for processing, Blake said. Now, she said, tests can be completed within 24 or 48 hours.

"This testing will provide faster results to our partners at the Iowa Department of Public Health and allow them to accurately track the H1N1 'swine-like' in Iowa, and implement public health interventions," Lucy DesJardin, program manager for molecular research and development, said in a statement.

More rapid testing across the nation could mean an increase in the number of confirmed cases being reported, CDC acting director Richard Besser said at a press briefing Wednesday.

"The rapid increases in confirmed cases that I had predicted for today that we're reporting is largely due to the ability of more and more states to do testing and so some of the backlog on testing is going to lead to catch up and we are going to continue to see those numbers increase," Besser said.



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Health-scientist Robin Volk transfers patient specimens to test them for influenza at the UI Hygienic Laboratory on the Oakdale Campus on April 30. UI researchers can now do confirmatory tests on the virus without having to send samples to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in Atlanta.

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Watch Daily Iowan TV for more information on the H1N1 virus at dailyiowan.com.

If Hygienic Laboratory officials confirmed a case in Johnson County, Beardsley said the public would be aware, but advice to prevent the flu will likely not change.

"The primary thing is to self-isolate — stay at home. Any caregiver should take normal precautions, like wearing a mask so they're not breathing in droplets [of the virus]," he said.

Iowa H1N1-flu facts

The number of H1N1 cases continues to increase, and state testing is more widespread.

- Five confirmed cases of H1N1
- Thirty-five probable cases of H1N1
- UI Hygienic Laboratory received CDC certification to conduct confirmatory testing for the flu Wednesday.
- Turnaround time for test results will likely be cut in half.

Source: UI Hygienic Lab and Johnson County Public Health Department

Prof tracks Tweets on the flu

Researchers are finding new ways to track discussions about a new flu.

By **ANNA LOTHSON**
anna-lothson@uiowa.edu

From Winnipeg, Canada, to Orlando, Fla., Twitter "Tweets" about the H1N1 virus have been flocking in by the minute.

Moving quicker than the flu scare itself, UI computer-science Professor Alberto Segre has been tracking the Tweets — or short posts on the social networking site — as part of computational epidemiology research to track public perception of the virus.

"It surprises me that people put so much time putting out Tweets," he said, noting after roughly two weeks their research site is being hit with more than 10,000 Tweets per hour.

Gauging people's feelings about H1N1 — which was first labeled swine flu — can help scientists understand how reaction correlates to the actual spread

of the disease, Segre said.

Furthermore, Segre said their findings can help health-care providers understand whether people are thinking about getting the vaccine, allowing staff to be better prepared.

One comment coming from the San Francisco area read, "stand 6 feet away from anyone to prevent swine flu," and another Twitter user complained about the idea of mandatory H1N1 vaccines.

Another Tweet from central Iowa read: "So my mom just called, she has swine flu ... like, for real."

Segre said some of the comments are outlandish, while others can be extremely useful in keeping up with "real-time" of the latest updates of the flu.

UI Ph.D. candidate Alessio Signorini, who started the project, said the site can communicate news and public perception

faster than some health-care professionals are able to report it to the community.

But sometimes, Twitter users might not know the credibility of that information.

For example, a Tweet from Cedar Rapids on Wednesday spoke about five confirmed H1N1 cases in Iowa, while the Iowa Department of Public Health had only reported one at the same time. The number of confirmed cases in Iowa rose to five on Wednesday, said Doug Beardsley, director of the Johnson County Health Department.

By having a database of specific words — such as swine flu, H1N1, fever, nausea, or antiviral — the site has been able to track how people report symptoms compared to the number of actual cases reported, said Philip Polgreen, a UI assistant professor of infectious diseases.

"Every time people Tweet, we capture that," he said, and even if specific cases cannot be tracked, levels of awareness and concern can be monitored.

Polgreen said by viewing the time stamp of the Tweet, the research reveals if the responses correlate with breaking news — something that can hint whether media reports influence public perception.

Outside the world of Twitter, UI researchers are also using the Iowa Health Prediction Market.

The health market predicts how long the H1N1 outbreak will last, how many states will contract at least one confirmed case, how many people will die, how many countries will be affected, and what the total number of cases in the U.S. will be.

And with a constant influx of data streaming in, the researchers said discussion on social networking sites like Twitter can help health care officials become better equipped to deal with these influenza spreads.

"We may see if H1N1 will be the dominant strain next year," Polgreen said.

METRO

Police search for alleged flasher

Iowa City police are searching for a man they said exposed himself to two young girls.

According to police reports, the 11-year-old Roosevelt Elementary students were walking home from their school, 611 Greenwood Drive, on Monday when one saw a white male standing near a fence between 751 and 755 W. Benton St.

He reportedly had his "thing" out of his pants, she told police and was possibly masturbating, authorities said. When the second girl looked, she saw the male zipping his pants.

One of the girls thought she had seen the same man sitting on the steps at the west side of 751 W. Benton St. while walking home Tuesday, officers said.

Authorities said Iowa City School District officials are aware of the report.

The suspect is described as a white male, possibly 30 to 40 years old, wearing a ball cap, dark-colored sunglasses, a blue shirt, and blue "uniform" pants, police said.

— by Regina Zilbermints

Ex-prof asks for sentencing delay

A former UI professor charged with attacking his wife last September and violating a no-contact order afterwards has asked to delay his sentencing.

Puneet Handa, 52, allegedly assaulted his wife in their Coralville home. Records show police found the woman bruised and bloodied at the door. She said Handa choked her and injured her face.

Handa was arrested Sept. 22 for domestic abuse with intent to inflict serious injury. As an aggravated misdemeanor, the charge carries a maximum two-year prison sentence and a \$6,250 fine.

He allegedly called his wife's residence from the Johnson County Jail the next day. Records show Handa, who taught in the Tippie College of Business, threatened to kill his wife and other members of her family.

For violating a protective order, Handa was served another aggravated misdemeanor charge for first-degree harassment.

— by Zhi Xiong

Matthews appeals

Micah Matthews, sentenced last month to life without parole for burglarizing an Iowa City woman's home and sexually abusing her, will take his case to the Iowa Supreme Court.

Matthews, 33, filed the appeal May 4, contesting his February conviction. Sixth District Judge Douglas Russell found him guilty of first- and second-degree kidnapping and first-degree burglary. The kidnapping conviction also included first-degree sexual abuse.

In June 2007, Matthews entered a house on Jema Court, forcing its female resident to try to withdraw money from an ATM. He then attacked her back at her home.

Matthews had requested a delay in judgment and sought post-conviction relief weeks before the April 17 sentencing. He claimed his attorneys, Paul Miller and Davis Foster, misrepresented him.

Miller and Foster filed joint motions to withdraw as his legal counsel on May 4. Records show Russell agreed. A state appellate court defender will represent Matthews in the appeals process.

— by Zhi Xiong

Ex-football players' trials may be delayed

Trials for two former Hawkeye football players accused of sexual abuse will likely be delayed again.

Abe Satterfield's attorney, Alfredo Parrish, filed the request Wednesday morning. According to the motion, obtaining important medical records and witness testimonies will take 60 more days.

Satterfield's trial had already been rescheduled from March 30 to May 18. He is accused of third- and second-degree sexual abuse of a former UI athlete in Hillcrest.

Cedric Everson, 19, will likely have his June 1 trial rescheduled as well. He is accused of second-degree sexual abuse, or aiding and abetting the crime that allegedly occurred in October 2007.

Both the state and Everson's attorney, Leon Spies, agree the move is necessary to fully prepare for trial, records show. Spies said Wednesday he would file a motion to delay Everson's trial as well.

The court will decide whether to allow the delay today at 11 a.m., Satterfield's final pre-trial conference.

— by Zhi Xiong

POLICE BLOTTER

Christina Bacon, 44, 204 S. Chestnut St. Apt. 2, was charged Tuesday with assault and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Eugene Beard, 28, 106 Baculis Trailer Court, was charged Tuesday with fifth-degree criminal mischief.

Justin Burrage, 21, Davenport, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Danielle Davis, 23, Coralville, was charged April 26 with driving while barred and tampering with records and

Wednesday with OWI and driving while barred.

Reuben Grandon, 22, 537 S. Van Buren St. Apt. B, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Alexander Hanson, 22, Ankeny, Iowa, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Kevin Hoffman, 19, 401 S. Gilbert St. Apt. 210, was charged Tuesday with unlawful possession of prescription drugs.

Sae-hoon Kim, 22, Solon, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Michael McFolling, 18, G38 Mayflower, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication and presence in a bar after hours.

Shayne Presley, 21, Cedar Rapids, was charged Wednesday with urinating in public.

Stephanie Readman, 20, 2941 E. Washington St., was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Tracey Robinson, 21, 758 Westwinds Drive Apt. 6, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Gregory Sewalson, 22, address unknown, was charged Tuesday with interference with official acts.

Aaron Shupert, 27, Cedar Rapids, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Christina Zesemos, 22, 626 S. Van Buren St. Apt. 1, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

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BREAKING NEWS

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

CORRECTIONS

Call: 335-6030

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

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

STAFF

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

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com for Wednesday, May 6

1. Sales tax unofficially passes by six votes in Iowa City
2. Council passes bar limits
3. Woman on scooter pushed under Camby by SUV
4. Bouncers handling bar security
5. Gun numbers increase in eastern Iowa partially because of rampant fear

She would love a new oven for Mother's Day



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IOWA BOOK

Fry awaits sentencing

FRY

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Turner decided the verdict instead of a jury. He believed that in hitting McEwen, Fry acted as a sober person would have done if surprised by an intruder — or someone mistaken for an intruder. He threw out the murder charge for voluntary manslaughter, which carries a 10-year maximum prison sentence.

But, even if Fry receives the

maximum penalty, the prison system — given jail overcrowding — could cut his jail time to 40 percent of the sentence, said Johnson County prosecutor Janet Lyness.

Iowa Board of Parole officials will also subtract the time Fry spent in jail before his sentencing, roughly one year. Finally, board members will consider good behavior when they review Fry's punishment.

Parole hearings are open to the public. It is a chance for

McEwen's friends — members of the synagogue he attended several times a week — to voice their opinions. With the board in Des Moines, the public and offender meet in Cedar Rapids and conference over the web.

"Friends of Patrick's might attend," Lyness said. "And I might go as well."

Fry's parents, Jim and Cathy Fry, said April 3 they would speak to the press following today's sentencing. At the verdict reading, Fry's family and friends

packed the Johnson County Courthouse. They know him as an exceptional high-school athlete and religious man.

Some of them testified during the trial and, likely, not in vain. Fry's reputation could be a key ingredient in formulating the sentence.

"[Turner] will be most influenced, I think, by the defendant's lack of criminal history or record of violence in his past," said UI law Professor David Baldus.

Bar limit doesn't worry owners

BARS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Owners of bars in areas outside of downtown said they aren't worried about losing business if the measure passes. In fact, reduced competition could bolster the number of customers they see.

Alex Karr, the manager of George's, 312 E. Market St. — a few blocks from downtown — said his business sees a good crowd on the weekends.

He said he doesn't expect his business to be affected by the 500-foot ordinance.

"We get different types of people from those who go to the bars downtown," he said.

Carmen Legaspi, the owner of Larenya Restaurant, 1937

Keokuk St., said she is happy competition could be down but she feels bad for anyone looking to open a new restaurant or bar.

"It's going to be hard for new owners," she said.

O'Donnell said it will be years before the ordinance would affect the city residents' drinking habits. Councilor Connie Champion also said the law's effect is "not going to happen quickly."

Another part of the ordinance — which only applies to the downtown area — would limit a new liquor store from being built fewer than 1,000 feet from another liquor store.

Bailey said the council debated making this requirement apply to the entire city as well but said it seemed unnecessary.



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

(From left) Aba Mbirika, Sarah Klahs, Cynthia Burke, and Stefanie Bewell sit in George's on Wednesday evening.

"We don't want to pass an ordinance we can't enforce," she said. "If it becomes a problem, we can amend the ordinance."

Towns to use tax for communities

TAX

CONTINUED FROM 1A

This will take up the majority of the profit from the 1 cent increase that would run from July 1 through June 30, 2013.

"Then we're going to run out of money," Champion said.

Officials have also considered consolidating the North Wastewater Treatment Plant — which flooded last summer — with its southern counterpart.

Tuesday's vote was extremely close in the largest cities involved

in the voting. Unofficial results show Iowa City voters passed the tax by six votes, and Coralville residents opposed it by seven.

Other towns involved — including Lone Tree, Oxford, Swisher, Tiffin, and Solon — passed the tax, and officials in those towns have said they plan to use funds for non-flood-related projects.

Steve Greenleaf, the city attorney for Lone Tree, Oxford, Swisher, and Tiffin, said none of the four towns had flood-remediation problems to deal with.

"None of them tied the sales

tax to any particular project," Greenleaf said. "All of them talked about community-improvement projects."

It made sense for residents in those towns to vote for the tax so they could get a share of the pot.

"Those people aren't any more pro-tax than the average Joe," he said. "They stand to gain a lot by the sales tax revenues."

Solon City Administrator Cassandra Lippincott said although the town's city council hasn't formally specified a project for the funds, officials have tentative plans to create some turn lanes

at the Highway 1 and Fifth Street intersection.

The 1 percent sales tax was originally projected to garner \$70 million in funds if passed in all 13 areas that voted on it, but if Coralville — a main commercial center in the county — maintains its opposition to the tax after an official count, the picture is less clear.

"If it doesn't pass in Coralville, we'll have a lot less money," Champion said, noting that money spent in Coralville businesses won't be included in the tax dollars.

The Lodge Price Breakdown

A Lodge 4 BR apartment:	\$450/month
All Inclusive Lodge Utilities Package for a 4 BR apartment: (cable, internet, electric, water, heat, sewer, trash removal)	\$85/month
A Lodge Underground Parking Space:	\$45/month \$540/annually
A Lodge Shuttle Bus Pass:	\$100/semester \$200/annually
Fully Furnished Apartments (Included) Total Furniture Expenses: Living Room: 2 pieces of furniture (sofa & loveseat), coffee table, end table, TV stand + build-in shelves Kitchen/Dining Room: kitchen table + chairs, refrigerator, microwave, oven/stove, pantry, kitchen sink with garage disposal Bedroom: full mattress + bed stand, night stand, dresser, built-in desk + chair, spacious closet, build-in book shelves, ceiling fan, private vanity	\$1,800
Two Lodge Tanning Beds (Included):	\$0.00
The Lodge 24/7 Fitness Center	\$0.00
Safety (Included): • State of the Art Sprinkler System in every apartment • Limited Access • Electronic Lock System • Security Guards Patrolling	\$0.00
Amenities: Hot tub, sauna, indoor basketball gym, game room, theatre room, study lounges, on-site laundry and patio area	\$0.00

Rent + ALL Amenities : \$580/month
Furniture expenses: \$0
1st Time Renter: \$7,160/annually

VS. THE LODGE

100 Hawk Ridge Dr.
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The Competitor Price Breakdown

A 4 BR apartment:	Total: \$2,040 Per Person: \$510/month
Total Utilities: The hassle of calling utility companies and putting the utilities in your name Basic Cable & Internet Electric/Heat/Gas Water Trash Removal Sewer	\$117/month (Per Person) \$100/4 = \$25 \$175/4 = \$44 \$120/4 = \$30 \$32/4 = \$8 \$40/4 = \$10
Average Parking:	\$83/month = \$996/annually
A Monthly City Bus Pass (Extra):	\$25/month = \$300/annually
Unfurnished Apartments Total Furniture Expenses: Full Mattress & Bed Stand Set: \$400 Night Stand: \$65 Desk & Chair: \$150 Dresser: \$150 Book Shelves: \$45 2 pieces of furniture: \$600 Coffee & End Table: \$150 + \$50 = \$200 Kitchen Table + Chairs \$350 TV Entertainment Center: \$140	\$2,100
Average Tanning Package (Extra):	\$25/month
Average Fitness Center (Extra):	\$40.00/month
Safety: • Why do you need a sprinkler system? • Ability to make Duplicate Keys • Open Access Entrances	\$0.00
Amenities.....what are those?!?!?!?	\$0.00

Rent: \$710/month + Extra \$90 = \$800/month
Furniture expenses: \$2,100
1st Time Renter: \$9,600/annually + \$2,100 = \$11,700

Night-class popularity up



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

A Ceramics I class meets in the Studio Arts Building on Wednesday. There are 200 more night classes for fall 2009 than two years ago.

NIGHT CLASS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Marlys Boote, assistant director of the Division of Continuing Education, said the increase is due to the interest shown by students. In fall 2007, 10,472 students enrolled in night classes. For the fall of 2009, 12,758 students have enrolled, according to the Office for Continuing Education.

"The trend in the last decade has made virtually everyone a nontraditional student or at least more students want to take advantage of nontraditional opportunities because of daytime jobs," Boote said. "I think it's more prevalent now with the increased cost of tuition."

UI officials have tried to offer Friday night classes to keep students from binge drinking, she said, but they were all canceled because of low enrollment.

"Some have been added to give students an alternative to the bar scene," Lee noted. In fact, the Division of Continuing Education is offering a dance class which runs from 10 p.m. until 1:30 a.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays to offer an alternative to the bar scene.

"I think it definitely would give students another option if

"This way, they're obviously not in a bar so I think it benefits both the students and the university. I'm not against spending time in bars, but the main focus needs to be on spending time on school."

—Doug Lee, associate dean of the Division of Continuing Education

they schedule a night class," Lee said. "This way, they're obviously not in a bar so I think it benefits both the students and the university. I'm not against spending time in bars, but the main focus needs to be on spending time on school."

But some UI students said offering more late classes will not keep students from drinking.

"I don't think night classes will stop anyone from drinking as much as they do already," UI junior Brett Flander said. "If you have a night class on a Thursday or Friday, you can still just go out and meet up with your friends when it's over."

The Daily Iowan GRADUATION EDITION

A keepsake edition to be published on May 14, 2009

This special edition tab will feature personal advertisements placed by parents, family members and friends of Iowa graduates to offer congratulations as well as graduation schedules, stories and memories of graduating students. In addition to our regular circulation, this edition will be available at graduation and local hotels. You will also be able to view the tab online at www.dailyiowan.com.

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Jailed journalist ends hunger strike

By ALI AKBAR DAREINI
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — An American journalist jailed in Iran on charges of spying for the United States has ended her two-week hunger strike for health reasons, her father said Wednesday.

Roxana Saberi, a 32-year-old dual Iranian-American national, was convicted last month of espionage and sentenced to eight years in prison after a one-day trial behind closed doors. The U.S. government has called the charges against her “baseless” and demanded she be freed.

“Roxana called last night to inform me that she has ended her hunger strike,” her father, Reza Saberi, told the Associated Press. “I’m relieved that she has done so to avoid a deterioration of her health.”

Saberi’s case has been an irritant in U.S.-Iran relations at a time when the Obama administration has said it wants to engage its longtime adversary in a dialogue. The case has also drawn the concern of press freedom groups.

Iran has promised a complete review of the case on appeal and insisted Saberi will be allowed to provide a full defense at that point, possibly an indication it wants to ease the tensions with the United States. On Tuesday, the judiciary said the appeal will be heard next week and judiciary officials have suggested her jail term could be reduced.

On Wednesday, U.S. State Department spokesman Robert Wood said Iran has not responded to repeated requests for information about Saberi.

Iranian officials denied sever-



Members of Reporters Without Borders hold placards with the picture of American journalist Roxana Saberi, who is jailed in Iran, outside the Iran Air office in Paris on April 28. An Iranian court will hear Saberi’s appeal next week.

al times over the past two weeks that Saberi was even on a hunger strike.

Media freedom group Reporters Without Borders said she was briefly hospitalized on Friday in Evin prison, where she has been held since her arrest in January, after she intensified her hunger strike by refusing to drink water.

Saberi’s Iranian-born father said Roxana began a hunger strike April 21 to protest her imprisonment, vowing to keep it up until she was freed.

“My wife and I met her in Evin prison Monday morning and gave her some yogurt. We asked her to stop the hunger strike,” he said.

Saberi was born in New Jersey and raised in Fargo, North Dako-

ta. She moved to Iran six years ago and worked as a freelance journalist for news organizations including National Public Radio and the British Broadcasting Corp. She received Iranian citizenship because her father was born in Iran.

She was arrested in late January and initially accused of working without press credentials. But earlier this month, an Iranian judge leveled the far more serious allegation of espionage.

Reporters Without Borders said it was relieved to learn Saberi had ended her hunger strike.

“The press freedom organization continues to call for the appeal against her conviction to

be given a fair hearing and not any sham proceedings,” the statement read.

The State Department on Wednesday asked Iran to free both Saberi and U.S. aid agency worker Silva Harotonian, an Iranian citizen who was helping run a maternal and child health project for the U.S.-based International Research and Exchanges Board.

The 34-year-old Harotonian, who was arrested in June, was convicted of trying to foster a “soft” or “velvet revolution.” She was sentenced in January to three years in prison.

Her lawyers planned to file a second appeal in her case Thursday; a first one was denied in March.

2 top Republicans iffy on running against Culver

By MIKE GLOVER
Associated Press

DES MOINES — Two high-profile Republicans haven’t ruled out a run for governor, but neither sound eager to take on Democratic Gov. Chet Culver in 2010.

In interviews Wednesday with the Associated Press, Agriculture Secretary Bill Northey and Auditor David Vaudt acknowledged they’ve been encouraged by key Republicans to challenge Culver. As statewide elected officials, they arguably are in the strongest position to mount a gubernatorial run.

But neither man expressed much eagerness to run for governor.

“I’m really leaning toward running for secretary of Agriculture,” said Northey. “I’ll make a final decision this summer.”

Vaudt wouldn’t go that far, saying, “The real question I need to answer for myself is where I can make the greatest difference.”

But Vaudt, who promised a decision soon, seemed more focused during the interview on his accomplishments as auditor.

“If you stop and look back at when I first took office, there’s a much better recognition of what’s taking place with Iowa’s finances,” said Vaudt.

Northey, a Spirit Lake farmer, is in his first term as Agriculture secretary. Vaudt, a West Des Moines accountant, is in his second term as state auditor.

Northey said he’s been encouraged to seek the state’s top job but isn’t likely to do so.

“There’s certainly been some encouragement,” said Northey. “I really enjoy what I’m doing.”

Vaudt said there’s plenty of time for potential candidates to make a decision, while conceding he’s done little of the groundwork needed to challenge Culver.

“If you look back at the national election, a lot of people thought the election cycle went on way too long,” said Vaudt. “I think a shorter type of process is going to be better.”

When talking about potential opponents for Culver, Vaudt spoke of unnamed other contenders rather than himself.

“In June, we’re still 12 months away from the primary,” said Vaudt. “I think we’ve got plenty of time, with the right people getting organized and doing fundraising, we will come out with a candidate who will be able to compete.”

As Republicans decide whether to make a run at Culver, they must deal with the political realities in Iowa, where incumbent governors have a history of being re-elected.

Republicans Bob Ray and Terry Branstad were in office for 14 years and 16 years, respectively, and Democrat Tom Vilsack served eight years before deciding to leave office voluntarily.

Although Culver has been forced to deal with a deep recession and severe budgets cuts, both Branstad and Vilsack dealt with similar economic downturns and survived.

Going out ‘green’ becoming more popular

By MARGARET STAFFORD
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Someday soon, the grass may be greener for people laid to rest in a section of one Lawrence, Kan., cemetery.

The first plot has been sold in a city-owned cemetery that offers the dearly departed a chance to be buried without being embalmed, in a biodegradable casket, with no concrete grave liner or a traditional cut or polished headstone.

When the Lawrence City Commission decided to set aside about a third of an acre in Oak Hill Cemetery for “green” funerals, the college town with an environmentally friendly reputation joined a growing national trend.

In Lawrence, the green burial area of Oak Hill Cemetery is on a wooded hillside, where plots were laid out around the trees. The city installed some natural log benches for visitors.

In the natural burial section, visitors will not see artificial flowers, ornaments or other grave decorations. Headstones can be only natural rocks. Wildflowers and grasses will grow over the graves, eventually returning the area to its natural habitat.

It’s all tucked away in a 45-acre cemetery where up to 10,000 people have been buried since the cemetery opened in 1865.

Around 50 plots are currently available, but the area could be expanded into an additional five to 10 acres, said Mitch Young, cemeteries supervisor for the city’s Park and Recreation Department. Although only one plot has sold since they became available in January, Young said several people have come to see the site.

Larry McElwain, a co-owner of Warren-McElwain Mortuary in Lawrence, expects demand to grow.

“This is really the front edge,



A path leads to the area set aside for “green” burials at Oak Hill Cemetery in Lawrence, Kan., on Tuesday. A “green burial” entails no embalming, in a biodegradable casket, with no concrete grave liner or a traditional cut or polished headstone.

and a lot of people don’t know yet what [green burial] means,” McElwain said. “We’ve had a lot of questions. I think it will definitely grow over time.”

Funeral directors and city officials had several questions of their own when the idea first came up. McElwain said maintenance, logistical, legal, safety, and aesthetic issues all had to be addressed.

For example, how do you get a body into the ground if the family doesn’t want the traditional motorized lowering device? How do you safely get the body to a wooded, hilly grave site? And do you use heavy machinery to dig?

They discussed the issues with the Green Burial Council, a national group that certifies if cemeteries meet strict green guidelines, although the Lawrence cemetery has not been certified.

The Lawrence effort would be a hybrid because it does not meet all the Green Council standards, but Joe Sehee, director of the council, still praises city officials.

“We applaud them because

they are making the option available,” Sehee said. “A lot of times these things can unravel but I applaud them for making the effort.”

Lawrence decided to allow the lowering device unless a family declines. Then city staff will help lower the casket, using biodegradable materials. City staff will hand shovel the first one-third of the grave, with the rest done by machinery. Loved ones can help with the shoveling.

“We don’t want to this to be a bad experience for people. We tried to anticipate the ‘what ifs?’” McElwain said. “We may not be 100 percent green, but it’s a dramatic shift toward that.”

As for cost, green burials can be between 25 to 75 percent less than a traditional burial, depending on family preferences, McElwain said.

Family preferences and legal requirements mean green burials and products used in them vary across the country, said James Olson a spokesman for the National Funeral Directors Association and a funeral home director in Sheboygan, Wis.

Dining out?

Dining out?

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For IMU, Mayflower, UI tries prevention

No major repairs have been done to the basement of the IMU or Mayflower, but officials said they are ready for any potential floodwater this summer.

By TYLER LYON
tyler-lyon@uiowa.edu

Because the IMU and Mayflower will not be relocated, UI officials are instead finding ways to prevent future flood damage.

Facilities and housing officials said they will not start any major repair projects on the two buildings until Federal Emergency Management Agency officials tell them how much of the price tag they will pay, but local officials expect the agency to foot 90 percent of the bill.

"Right now, we are using temporary solutions — we are working with FEMA to find permanent ones," said University Housing Director Von Stange.

One of those changes includes using the riverfront walkway on the west side of the IMU as a foundation for Hesco barriers to control potential floodwaters, said Rodney Lehnertz, the UI Facilities Management's director of design and construction.

These barriers were successful in protecting parts of campus during last summer's flood, he said, noting that the walls can provide up to 12 inches of vertical protection.

Lehnertz said the IMU



Water flows under sandbags and into the IMU parking lot on June 13, 2008.

flooded last summer through its inundated tunnels. To prevent this from happening again, workers are building a new system of more flood-resilient tunnels.

While unsure of when these new additions will be complete, Lehnertz said he is confident the tools are appropriate preventive measures.

At its April 30 meeting, the state Board of Regents estimated repairs to the IMU will cost roughly \$17 million, plus the cost of mitigation components. Officials plan to reopen the ground level in the fall of 2010.

While the majority of Mayflower repairs are finished, university officials are continuing with precautions to help keep potential floodwaters out of the residence hall.

Stange said the UI is still waiting to see if FEMA will cover the expected 90 percent of the project's costs — one idea involves building a flood-resistant wall outside of Mayflower that would be movable to specific areas of the facility.

Stange said University

Housing is also looking to permanently move all of Mayflower's mechanical systems to higher ground should the floodwaters reach the building again.

Kate Fitzgerald, an assistant director of University Housing, said the repairs to Mayflower are going according to plan.

"All areas, except the C-Store, have been rebuilt," she said. "Only thing left is some more extensive elevator work scheduled for this summer."

Of the buildings affected, only the Hancher/Voxman/Clapp complex and the original Art Building are expected to be relocated after a review by FEMA.

Damage to these facilities exceeded 50 percent of their value before the flood, meaning FEMA will pay 90 percent of the costs to repair or replace them. Both the IMU and Mayflower didn't suffer more than 50 percent of their value in damage.

The state Board of Regents approved the UI's request to move the Hancher/Voxman/Clapp complex at its April 30 meeting.

Beauty pageant with heavy robes, veils

By DONNA ABU-NASR
Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Sukaina al-Zayer is an unlikely beauty queen hopeful. She covers her face and body in black robes and an Islamic veil, so no one can tell what she looks like. She also admits she's a little on the plump side.

But at Saudi Arabia's only beauty pageant, the judges don't care about a perfect figure or face. What they're looking for in the quest for "Miss Beautiful Morals" is the contestant who shows the most devotion and respect for her parents.

"The idea of the pageant is to measure the contestants' commitment to Islamic morals ... It's an alternative to the calls for decadence in the other beauty contests that only take into account a woman's body and looks," said pageant founder Khadra al-Mubarak.

"The winner won't necessarily be pretty," she added. "We care about the beauty of the soul and the morals."

So after the pageant opens Saturday, the nearly 200 contestants will spend the next 10 weeks attending classes and being quizzed on themes including "Discovering your inner strength," "The making of leaders" and "Mom, paradise is at your feet" — a saying attributed to Islam's Prophet Muhammad to underline that respect for parents is among the faith's most important tenets.

Pageant hopefuls will also spend a day at a country house with their mothers, where they will be observed by female judges and graded on how they interact with their mothers, al-Mubarak said. Since the pageant is not

televised and no men are involved, contestants can take off the veils and black figure-hiding abayas they always wear in public.

The Miss Beautiful Morals pageant is the latest example of conservative Muslims co-opting Western-style formats to spread their message in the face of the onslaught of foreign influences flooding the region through the Internet and satellite television.

A newly created Islamic music channel owned by an Egyptian businessman aired an "American Idol"-style contest for religious-themed singers this month. And several Muslim preachers have become talk-show celebrities by adopting an informal, almost Oprah-like television style, in contrast to the solemn clerics who traditionally appear in the media.

Now in its second year, the number of pageant contestants has nearly tripled from the 75 women who participated in 2008. The pageant is open to women between 15 and 25. The winner and two runners up will be announced in July, with the queen taking home \$2,600 and other prizes. The runners up get \$1,300 each.

Last year's winner, Zahra al-Shurafa, said the contest gives an incentive to young women and teens to show more consideration toward their parents.

"I tell this year's contestants that winning is not important," said al-Shurafa, a 21-year-old English major. "What is important is obeying your parents."

There are few beauty pageants in the largely conservative Arab world. The most dazzling is in Lebanon, the region's most liberal country, where contestants appear on TV in one-piece swimsuits and glamorous evening gowns and answer questions that test their confidence and general knowledge.

There are no such displays in ultra-strict Saudi Arabia, where until Miss Beautiful Morals was inaugurated last year, the only pageants were for goats, sheep, camels and other animals, aimed at encouraging livestock breeding.

This year's event kicks off Saturday in the mainly Shiite Muslim town of Safwa, and mostly draws local Shiite contestants. But it's open to anyone — and this year, 15 Sunni Muslims are participating, al-Mubarak said. "This is a beautiful thing," she added.

Mexico cache of confiscated weapons holds 300,000

By E. EDUARDO CASTILLO and MICHELLE ROBERTS
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — Deep inside a heavily guarded military warehouse, the evidence of Mexico's war on drug cartels is stacked two stories high: tens of thousands of seized weapons, from handguns and rifles to AK-47s, some with gun sights carved into the shape of a rooster or a horse's head.

The vault nestled in a Mexican military base is the government's largest stash of weapons — some 88,537 of them — seized from brutal drug gangs. The Associated Press was recently given rare and exclusive access to the secure facility.

The sheer size of the cache attests to the seemingly hopeless task of ever sorting and tracing the guns, possibly to trafficking rings that deliver weapons to Mexico. And security designed to keep the guns from getting back on the streets is so tight that even investigators have trouble getting the access they need.

The warehouse — on a main drag in northeastern Mexico City near the horse racing track — is surrounded by five rings of security. There are two military guards at the door and five more are in the lobby. Inside, another 10 soldiers sort, clean, and catalogue weapons. Some are dismantled and destroyed, a few assigned to the Mexican military.

The guns are stacked to the two-story ceiling in a warehouse the size of a small Wal-Mart. The rifles lie on 22 metal racks; the pistols hang from metal poles by their triggers.

The cavernous warehouse is impeccably clean, the only smell coming from the coffee the soldiers prepared for their rare visitors. The clash of metal and sounds of the soldiers at work echo off the walls.

The security, bolstered by closed-circuit cameras and motion detectors, makes the



In this April 24 photo, seized weapons sit on racks in a seized weapons warehouse at the Secretary of the Defense headquarters in Mexico City. In all, the military has 305,424 confiscated weapons locked in vaults, just a fraction of those used by criminals in Mexico.

warehouse practically impenetrable, said Gen. Antonio Erasto Monsivais, who oversees the armory.

In all, the military has 305,424 confiscated weapons locked in vaults, just a fraction of those used by criminals in Mexico, where an offensive by drug cartels against the military has killed more than 10,750 people since December 2006. But each weapon is a clue to how the cartels are getting arms, and possibly to the traffickers that brought them here.

The U.S. has acknowledged that many of the rifles, handguns and ammunition used by the cartels come from its side of the border. Mexican gun laws are strict, especially compared to those in most U.S. border states.

The Mexican government has handed over information to U.S. authorities to trace 12,073 weapons seized in 2008 crimes — particularly on guns from large seizures or notorious crimes.

But the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which handles the U.S. investigations, is at the mercy of local Mexican police for the amount and quality of the information.

"Many of these rural

municipalities that may come into a gun seizure ... may not even know anything about tracing guns," ATF spokesman Thomas Mangan said.

A police officer in Mexico submits a description, serial number and distinctive markings of the gun. The weapons are then turned over to the military for storage in one of a dozen armories such as the one in Mexico City.

When U.S. investigators need additional details, as they often do, the request goes back to the original police officer, who must retrieve the gun from a military vault — sometimes hundreds of miles away.

Mexican police must ask permission each time they need to look at a stored gun, Monsivais said. Even if that permission is granted, the investigator cannot go past the metal fencing separating a reception desk and the shelves holding the guns. A soldier has to bring out the requested weapons.

The security, language differences and bureaucracy add up to a painstaking process, said J. Dewey Webb, special agent in charge of the ATF's Houston Field Division.

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Editorial

Bar measure more likely to hinder revenue than cut drinking

A diverse economy is an important reason behind Iowa City's proposed zoning ordinance. If approved, the measure would prohibit new bars from opening within 500 feet of existing bars. City Councilors hope the so-called 500-foot rule, which passed its first vote Tuesday night, will make way for a wide variety of businesses to replace bars as a downtown staple.

Good luck. For that to happen, Iowa City will need to do more to compete with other communities for entrepreneurs' affections. Unfortunately, the bar-restriction move could strangle an essential revenue source in Iowa City.

The measure also prohibits liquor stores downtown from opening within 1,000 feet from another liquor store. Most of the discussion leading up to this vote was concerned with curbing underage drinking and alcohol violence in Iowa City. At a meeting on Tuesday, the City Council invited members of the UI's new Alcohol Steering Committee to speak about studies showing correlation between bar density and problem drinking.

All this talk about binge drinking and bar density has overshadowed Iowa City's desire to diversify the local economy.

The council has made very strong arguments about restricting bars and restaurants operating downtown, but it has made little indication on what it wants to replace the bars with. The councilors also haven't addressed other problems nonservice-based businesses face moving downtown, other than competing with bars for building space.

It is questionable that the new zoning ordinance will even decrease the number of bars downtown. While the ordinance does prevent new bars from opening up in proximity, it does not impose any restrictions on existing establishments. New bars could still move into spaces older bars inhabited. Besides, downtown Iowa City's limited available space already makes it prohibitive for any business, let alone a bar, to move downtown.

Further, taxes could be a major hindrance for newer businesses looking to move downtown. Iowa City has the highest tax rate on commercial properties in Johnson County. Businesses that rent still feel the hardship of higher taxes through higher rents landlords charge as a result.

Coralville presents numerous challenges for Iowa City as well. It has a lower tax rate than Iowa City, though it does not need lower taxes to compete with Iowa City. The Coral Ridge Mall has direct access to two of the state's major highways. That intersection brings in people from all over eastern Iowa.

These two issues alone underscore the numerous challenges Iowa City faces in diversifying its downtown. Restricting the number of bars will probably not give the economic boost Iowa City is looking for; in fact, it may hinder the city's fiscal viability. Bars are a central element to the city's economy and a major money-maker for both their owners and the city. If the zoning ordinance is effective in reducing the number of bars, it could cut into a vital source of revenue with little guarantee that other businesses will take their place.

Defective party



ADAM SULLIVAN
adam.sullivan@uiowa.edu

Hubbub over Sen. Arlen Specter's defection is beginning to quell. And I use that word, hubbub, very deliberately here. What followed Specter's party switch was not discussion, commentary, or debate; it was hubbub, defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as "a chaotic din caused by a crowd" or "a busy, noisy situation."

Said hubbub almost invariably falls into two categories: comments throwing the blame at Specter for making a purely political move or comments shaming the Republicans for pushing moderates such as Specter away. Like almost anything in politics, neither camp is totally right; Specter's motives for leaving the party were undoubtedly partly for a better shot at re-election and partly because today's Republican Party isn't the same as the Republican Party he was elected with in 1980.

This situation isn't unique. You can't fill a whole newspaper or a 24-hour cable newscast without a sizable amount of near-meaningless noise — hubbub, if you will. And, it's no worse than the hubbub that surrounds the Republican Party itself.

Big-name conservatives spend too much of their time playing the blame game, trashing their opponents just because. Worse, they spend an even bigger chunk of their time preaching about their ancient social values.

Slowly but surely, the Republican Party has made itself obsolete so far as young voters are concerned. To remedy that move, Republicans will have to cut the noise and start talking about things young people care about.

Have you ever listened to Rush Limbaugh, Sarah Palin, or Mike Huckabee? No, not read their quotations the next day on your favorite blog, but tuned in to listen to or watch a whole interview? Their inextinguishable passion for so-called "moral issues" (gay marriage and "strong families" invariably at the top of the list) is nonsense. Nonsense to me, at least. Maybe it speaks volumes to an older crowd. But the usual GOP suspects are painful-

ly out of touch with young people like you and me.

Bob Vander Plaats — an Iowa Republican who hopes to become our governor after the 2010 gubernatorial election — appeared on Huckabee's Fox News show this week to rip on Iowans for not standing up against gay marriage. He sang the same tune he's been singing for a month by urging Gov. Chet Culver to prevent same-sex marriages.

Regardless of whether or not it's legal for Culver to do such a thing, Vander Plaats' suggestion pushes away young voters. We're smart enough to recognize that what Vander Plaats and his boy Huckabee are spouting is nothing but noise.

For such an old guy (he will turn 80 next winter), Specter can tell us a lot about what today's GOP means to young people.

While fiscal issues (Specter voted with the Democrats on President Obama's spending bill), which ultimately pushed Specter over the edge to the Democratic Party, it's clear social issues have long set him apart from his fellow Republicans. As far back as the 1990s, Specter was an opponent of the religious right; in 1996 — when faces such as Pat Robertson's represented the GOP — Specter ran for president.

Almost 15 years later, his battle against the right-wing nuts led, in part, to Specter's departure from the GOP. Undoubtedly, that same feeling will lead millions of young voters to not join the Republicans in the first place.

Another old guy shared Specter's distaste for letting social issues divide the party.

"... what constitutes a Republican: our belief in restraining government spending, pro-growth policies, tax reduction, sound national defense, and maximum individual liberty. As to the other issues that draw on the deep springs of morality and emotion, let us decide that we can disagree among ourselves as Republicans and tolerate the disagreement," conservative icon Ronald Reagan once said.

Read that carefully: "Restraining government spending, pro-growth policies, tax reduction, sound national defense, and maximum individual liberty." If that's not a trim, cut, and concise political manifesto for a micro-blogging generation, I don't know what is. ■

Letter

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GUEST OPINIONS that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.

CEOs to save the world?

Eve Rodriguez' May 6 commentary ("President's auto plan should put profit first) is a remarkable pile of dogmatic bullshit that neatly avoids anything resembling objective reality.

The business plans and SUVs of GM and Chrysler CEOs did, in fact, lead to ruin. They weren't profitable. There are externalities, for which we all pay, that do not appear in the expense lines of any corporation. The government, and President Obama as our representative, does have a legitimate public interest in mitigating the worst of these externalities.

Do other major shareholders merely "encourage, coax, and cajole" when faced with egregious incompetence? Poor CEOs, when they came, hat in hand, for billions of taxpayer dollars they were sent "back to the drawing board." Rick Wagoner, an overcom-

pensated loser who ran GM into the ground, was sacked. What an outrage!

Again, we are told it is the unions, not the demonstrably incompetent management, that is responsible for this current situation. And we are told that, despite the fact that United Auto Workers, having built the wealth now lost, is willing to attempt to pull the industries' fat out of the fire. Heaven forbid that now that they are a majority shareholder in Chrysler they should have a say in what is to be done. A more democratic model of capitalism may be in the offing. Reliance on authoritarian and arbitrary decision making based on near sociopathic self-interest may be tempered. Horror of horrors!

Maybe if we just keep our hands off and let the folks who led us down this ruinous path straighten things out, everything will be hunky-dory again. And when that day comes we can all ride unicorns instead of SUVs.

Gary Smith
Iowa City



Guest Opinion

Viewing unemployment as a new kind of employment

By BARBARA EHRENREICH
Los Angeles Times

In most parts of the world, mass unemployment brings the specter of mass social unrest. Not in the United States, though, where 13 million people have accepted joblessness with nary a peep of protest.

Many reasons — from Prozac to Pentecostalism — have been cited to explain American passivity in the face of economic violence. But the truth might be far simpler: In America, being unemployed doesn't mean you have nothing to do but run around burning police cars. Unemployment has been reconfigured as a new form of work.

Nowhere is this clearer than in the white-collar world, where the laid-off are constantly advised to see job searching as a full-time job. As business self-help guru Harvey Mackay advises: "Once you're fired, you already have a job. The job you have is tougher than the last

one. It's more demanding." How demanding? He says you need to "plan on 12 to 16 hours a day."

Picture it: People across America rising at the usual time, suiting up in full corporate regalia, and setting themselves down at their laptops to fiddle with résumés, peruse Monster.com, and pester everyone on their address lists for leads.

Some people no doubt have found jobs in this manner; but there have been no scientific comparisons of the technique with, say, printing a résumé on a sandwich board and parading around Times Square.

If there is something familiar in the image of laid-off workers soldiering on, it may be because of films such as *Tokyo Sonata* and the 2001 French film *Time Out*, in which the heroes — laid-off executives — conceal their status from their families and continue to mime the daily ritual of going to work. In the movies, this behavior seems pathetic — a case of terminal denial — but it's exactly what

the American "transition industry" of career coaches and outplacement companies recommends: If you don't have a job, fake one.

In real life, it's OK for a man to tell his wife he's lost his job; he should just never reveal that he has time on his hands. A February article in the *New York Times* featured a laid-off Illinois man who justified his refusal to do more around the house by saying, "As one of the people who runs one of the career centers I've been to told me: 'You're out of a job, but it's not your time to paint the house and fix the car. Your job is about finding the next job.'"

At the kinky extreme, laid-off white-collar people are advised to simulate the office environment further by finding someone to play the part of a "boss" — a spouse, a friend, a paid career coach — to whom you report every few days on your progress.

The white-collar unemployed are subjected to gerbil-like exercises of their own. While white-collar layoff victims are encouraged to polish the "brand called you," blue-collar people are told they have nothing to offer unless they start all over with "retraining." Hence, in part, the current surge in community college enrollments.

But in his 2006 book *The Disposable American: Layoffs and Their Consequences*, Louis Uchitelle raised the obvious question: "Retraining for what?" At the beginning of the decade, computer skills were all the rage; then the low-level computer work vanished to India. Air-conditioner repairing is popular right now, and big-rig truck driving is a perennial favorite. There are no guarantees, of course, of eventual jobs. In a recent report for the organization Food AND Medicine on laid-off manufacturing workers in Maine, Steve Husson, who himself was laid off as a DHL driver, found papermill workers stuck with inter-

mittent seasonal work and low-paid service-sector jobs despite stints of retraining.

Even two or three years ago, when the economy was apparently healthy, average layoff victims "landed" in new jobs paying 17 percent less than the old ones — if they landed at all. Today, with the country losing more than a half-million jobs a month, both white-collar job searching and blue-collar retraining are becoming surreal exercises in futility. No matter how smart you are — how flexible, personable and skilled — you can't find a job that isn't there. At least until the unemployment benefits run out and the credit cards are canceled, you might as well devote yourself to Madden NFL and Minesweeper.

Of course, there are a few constructive, work-like alternatives. You could join one of the emerging efforts to organize the unemployed, such as Food AND Medicine in Maine, the Unemployed and Anxiously Employed Work-

ers Association of Allen County, Ind., or the nationwide group United Professionals, which I helped start. Or you could pitch in with one of the several organizations fighting for single-payer health insurance or at least a huge expansion of public health insurance for the unemployed. You could get together with laid-off friends and coworkers to discuss how you would design an economy that made use of people's precious skills instead of periodically tossing them out like so much trash.

But the first step, as in any 12-step program, is to overcome denial. Job searching is not a job; retraining is not a panacea. You may be poorer than you've ever been, but you are also freer — to express anger and urgency, to dream and create, to get together with others and conspire to build a better world.

Barbara Ehrenreich is the author of *Bait and Switch: The (Futile) Pursuit of the American Dream* and *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. This commentary appeared in Tuesday's *Los Angeles Times*.

Dozens killed in U.S. air strikes, Red Cross says

By JASON STRAZIUSO and LARA JAKES
Associated Press

KABUL — Villagers dug dirt graves Wednesday to bury what the international Red Cross said were dozens of Afghans — including women and children — killed in American bombing runs. A former Afghan government official said up to 120 people may have died.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said the U.S. “deeply, deeply” regretted the loss of innocent life, and the U.S. military dispatched a brigadier general to investigate the deaths in two villages in western Afghanistan’s Farah province.

The top U.S. and NATO commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David McKiernan, voiced doubts about whether it was an American air strike that caused the tragedy.

McKiernan said U.S. military personnel had come to the aid of Afghan forces who may have been ambushed by Taliban militants on Sunday. He said the Taliban beheaded three civilians, perhaps to lure police.

“We have some other information that leads us to distinctly different conclusions about the cause of the civilian casualties,” McKiernan said. He would not elaborate



Afghan villagers are seen near the newly buried bodies of people who were killed during the coalition air strikes in Bala Baluk district of Farah province on Tuesday. The international Red Cross said Wednesday that its officials saw women and children among dozens of dead bodies in two villages in western Afghanistan targeted in U.S. bombing runs.

but said the United States was working with the Afghan government to learn the truth.

A senior U.S. Defense official said late Wednesday that Marine special-operations forces believe the Afghan civilians were killed by grenades hurled by Taliban militants, who then loaded some of the bodies into a vehicle and drove them around the village, claiming the dead were victims of an American air strike.

A second U.S. official said a senior Taliban commander is believed to have ordered the grenade attack. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to release the information.

Two other senior Defense officials said the grenade report comes from villagers interviewed by U.S. investigators who went to the site, but there is no proof yet that the report is right.

If correct, it would be the first time the Taliban has used grenades in this way, presumably to mimic the effect of a bombing.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai called the deaths “unacceptable,” speaking only hours before his first face-to-face meeting with President Barack Obama at the White House. Karzai has long pleaded with the U.S. to minimize civilian deaths during its operations, contending that such killings undermine support for the fight against the Taliban.

Obama’s national security adviser, James Jones, said Obama led off his meeting with Karzai by expressing great sympathy over the loss of life and pledging that investigations into what happened in the bombing will be “pursued aggressively.”

The number of civilians killed in Afghanistan’s worsening conflict jumped 40 percent to a new high last year, though more than half of the deaths were inflicted by Taliban insurgents and other militants, the U.N. has reported. A record 2,118 civilians died from violence last year, up from 1,523 the previous year.

AP reporters Fisman Abrashi, Heidi Vogt, Rahim Faiez, Kevin Maurer, and Matthew Lee contributed to this report.

Senate passes foreclosure aid

By ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Trying to curb home foreclosures, the Senate voted on Wednesday to make it easier for homeowners with risky credit to switch to a lower-cost mortgage backed by the government.

The bill, passed 91-5, also would give banks a break by encouraging reduced fees they must pay for the government to insure deposits.

While both steps put taxpayer money on the line, lawmakers say the legislation is needed to prevent the economy from getting worse.

“Given the size and scope of the struggles too many Nevadans and Americans endure, it will take more time before housing normalizes again,” said Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev. “But with this bill, we are working to hasten that day so that no family will ever accept losing its home as the way it is.”

Absent from the measure was a bankruptcy provision that President Obama had promised to push through Congress, but he backed down after encountering stiff opposition from banks. The provision, rejected by the Senate last week in a 45-51 vote, would have allowed bankruptcy judges to lower a person’s mortgage payment.

While the House included the provision when it passed its version of the bill in March, lawmakers said it didn’t have enough support to insist it be included in the final compromise bill. The two chambers have to iron out their differences in the legislation before it can be sent to Obama to sign.

“That issue is a dead letter,” said Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., the chairman of the Banking Committee.

Also on Wednesday, the House agreed to a Senate-passed bill that would hire hundreds more FBI agents and prosecutors to investigate mortgage fraud. The legislation, expected to reach the president’s desk soon, also would establish a \$5 million, independent commission to investigate the cause of the financial crisis and chart a path forward.

The Senate housing bill would expand an existing \$300 billion program called “Hope for Homeowners,” which encourages lenders to write down an individual’s mortgage if the homeowner agrees to pay an insurance premium. The program, which is set to expire in 2011, is intended to swap out a homeowner’s high-interest rate for a 30-year fixed loan backed by the Federal Housing Administration.

So far, the program has been a dud.

When it was established last year, Congress envisioned helping some 400,000 troubled homeowners. But because eligibility requirements were so strict, one borrower has completed the refinancing process and only 51 more are in the works, according to statistics released last week.

The Senate bill would expand eligibility. For example, the program currently bans participants who intentionally defaulted on the mortgage or other substantial debt. The Senate bill would narrow that prohibition to defaults within the last five years.

Republicans swung behind the proposal to expand the program using \$2 billion from the \$700 billion Wall Street bailout fund. Sen. Richard Shelby of Alabama, the top Republican on the Banking Committee, co-sponsored the bill with Dodd.

Obama: Pakistan, Afghanistan committed to fighting militants

By MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Obama declared he got the commitments he wanted Wednesday from the leaders of Pakistan and Afghanistan to more aggressively fight Taliban and Qaeda militants who are gaining power and sowing violence in their countries.

“I’m pleased that these two men, elected leaders of Afghanistan and Pakistan, fully appreciate the seriousness of the threats that we face and have reaffirmed their commitment to confronting it,” Obama said at the White House.

The presidents of the two countries stood at his side after a day of joint meetings. Obama is sending 21,000 fresh U.S. troops into Afghanistan to help with the antiterror war.

The high-stakes diplomacy had Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai and Pakistan’s Asif Ali Zardari meeting with U.S. officials separately and together, first at the State Department and then at the White House. Looming over the sessions was a bombing on Monday in Afghanistan that officials there said killed dozens of civilians and for which the Obama administration apologized.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told Karzai that the Obama administration “deeply, deeply” regretted the loss of civilian lives. When Obama went before the cameras, he pledged



President Obama speaks in the Grand Foyer of the White House on Wednesday after meeting with Afghan President Hamid Karzai (left) and Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari.

his administration would “make every effort to avoid civilian casualties” in both Afghanistan and Pakistan, where U.S. airstrikes have stoked anti-American sentiment.

Obama’s national-security adviser, James Jones, later said Obama led off his meeting with Karzai by expressing great sympathy over the loss of life and pledging that investigations into what happened in the bombing will be “pursued aggressively.”

In Afghanistan, the U.S. forces commander said it wasn’t a certainty that the deaths happened as a result of U.S. military action. Gen. David McKiernan said American forces came

to the aid of Afghans who may have been ambushed by the Taliban in Farah province on Sunday. He said the Taliban beheaded three civilians, perhaps to lure police, and that the United States is working with the Afghans to learn the truth about the incident.

State Department spokesman Robert A. Wood said Clinton’s remarks were offered as a gesture, before all the facts of the incident were known, because “anytime there is a loss of innocent life we are going to be concerned about it, and we wanted to make that very clear.”

Obama emphasized the progress he said was achieved in the Washington meetings, thou-

sands of miles from the conflicts.

“We have advanced unprecedented cooperation,” Obama declared. “We will work for the day when our nations are linked not by a common enemy but by a shared peace and prosperity.”

Gathering the three leaders together at one table, along with lower-level officials from the three countries, “reflects the kind of concrete cooperation and detail that is going to ultimately make a difference in improving opportunity and democracy and stability in Pakistan and in Afghanistan,” Obama said.

The stakes couldn’t be higher, he said.

“We have learned time and again that our security is shared,” the president said. “It is a lesson that we learned most painfully on 9/11, and it is a lesson that we will not forget.”

The president said all three governments must cooperate in fighting insurgents who control parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan and must “deny them the space” to threaten local residents — or Americans.

Earlier in the day, Clinton told reporters that Karzai and Zardari made specific commitments of how they would increase the fight against militants. She wouldn’t name their promises yet, but said the talks were “producing some very promising early signs” of greater cooperation.

AP writers Ben Feller and Robert Burns contributed to this report.

NATION

Informants allege proposed Blackwater weapons dump

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A defense contractor charged with trying to smuggle firearms out of Iraq claimed Blackwater guards asked him to help get rid of weapons after a deadly 2007 shooting in Baghdad, two government informants say in court documents.

The contractor told one of the informants that Blackwater guards wanted to dispose of the weapons before an investigation into the September 2007 shooting that left several civilians dead, according to a criminal complaint filed in the smuggling case. The contractor, John Houston, did not work for Blackwater.

Both informants, whose names weren’t revealed by federal investigators, were Army reservists stationed in Iraq. Houston approached them for help with smuggling, the complaint states, and one of them tipped off investigators about the scheme.

Five Blackwater guards face manslaughter and weapons charges in the shooting, which prosecutors say was an unprovoked attack on civilians. The shooting strained relations between Baghdad and Washington and led Iraqi leaders to order Blackwater out of the country.

A spokeswoman said the North Carolina-based company, now known as Xe, only recently learned of

Houston’s claims and has never been contacted by investigators about them.

“This individual’s claims may make for a juicy story, but time may tell a more truthful one,” spokeswoman Anne Tyrrell said in a release.

Houston, a retired Special Forces soldier, was indicted last week in federal court in Maryland on a charge of conspiracy to smuggle firearms into the United States and attempted smuggling. Houston was working with New York-based SOS International Ltd. at the time of the 2007 shooting but left the company a year later to work for another defense contractor.

A second man, Michael Henson, was charged with the same attempted smuggling counts and making false statements. Court documents do not describe Henson’s employer or role in Iraq.

An attorney for Houston did not return a call seeking comment, and court documents didn’t list an attorney for Henson.

Court documents say Houston offered to ship weapons for Henson to Fort Bragg, N.C., and asked Henson to pick up the weapons when they arrived.

Houston told one informant that Blackwater guards gave him firearms after the Nisour Square shooting, and Houston asked the reservist to ship the weapons to the United States, court documents say. In return, the informant could keep two guns, but the person instead reported the matter to military investigators.

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Some eye new sorority for Asians

Women met Wednesday to discuss the possibility of beginning a new Asian-interest sorority at the UI.

By **MAGGIE PETERS**
margaret-peters@uiowa.edu

With the help of 12 dedicated members, the UI may soon add a new Asian-based sorority to its 36-chapter greek community.

UI officials held a meeting Wednesday night in the IMU to bring together and inform potential members about the new sorority, alpha Kappa Delta Phi. The sorority, a nationally recognized chapter, was established in 1989 at the University of California-Berkeley. If a chapter started at the UI, it would be the university's first Asian-interest sorority.

The goal of Wednesday night's meeting was to inform potential new members about the organization, what membership requirements are, and what it means to be involved, said Kelly Jo Karnes, the associate director of the Office of Student Life.

"We are trying very hard to grow our greek community here," she said. "But I think this is one void that we have — an organization that is based around our Asian women."

For alpha Kappa Delta Phi to receive a charter, a minimum of 12 women must commit to the organization and establish relations with the sorority's national board expansion adviser, Karnes said. They must then submit a letter of intent to the board, and once it is approved, they become a colony, allowing members to take executive roles and start making decisions.

"Once a colony is started, the women will get to make their own decisions on how to live out the values of the



AMY ANDREWS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Kelly Jo Karnes, the associate director of Student Life, talks to a group of women about an alpha Kappa Delta Phi sorority that could be started on campus in the IMU on Wednesday. The sorority is the first and only nationally recognized Asian-interest sorority.

group here at Iowa," Karnes said.

To get the organization off the ground, another meeting will be held for interested women in the fall once more women have gotten the opportunity to communicate and network over the summer, said Melissa Shaub, the coordinator for campus programs and student activities in the Student Life Office.

"We'll take all the women who were here tonight plus the women who were unable to make it and start them on a list serv," she said. "Once we get that core group of 12 to 15 women, we'll start to work through the process for the national organization."

UI freshman Shaina Chechang said she was interested in alpha Kappa Delta Phi not only for the purpose of socializing but for the chance to participate in the sorority's philanthropy and to gain leadership experience.

"I've always been very involved since high school," she said. "I could use my past involvement to help lead the group."

Chechang is a member of the UI Pre-Dentistry Club, Dance Marathon, and Relay for Life, and she said she has seen and heard her friends talk about how much they

Alpha Kappa Delta Phi

Their values

- **Sisterhood:** The sorority takes pride in the close ties formed in alpha Kappa Delta Phi, and it has a well-established National Alumnae Association.
- **Asian Awareness:** Creating a presence for Asians in the community is accomplished through participation in campus cultural events and Greek Week celebrations.
- **Philanthropy:** The sorority understands the importance of giving back to the community through volunteering. The sorority's national philanthropy is Breast Cancer Awareness.

Source: alpha Kappa Delta Phi National Sorority - Interest Group Expansion Handbook, www.akdphi.org

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

To see a video feature on this story, go to dailyiowan.com, and check out Thursday's Daily Iowan TV.



enjoy their sororities.

"I think it would be really cool to be a part of something like this that is so historic," she said.

Karnes and Shaub encouraged the women to pass on the information to their friends and check out the national alpha Kappa Delta Phi website.

Maine, N.H. lawmakers OK same-sex marriage

By **GLENN ADAMS** and **HOLLY RAMER**
Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine — In a banner day for advocates of gay marriage, Maine legalized the practice Wednesday, and the New Hampshire Legislature voted to do the same.

If New Hampshire Gov. John Lynch signs the bill or lets it become law without his signature, his state would become the sixth overall to allow gay marriage and the fifth in New England. Rhode Island would be the region's only holdout.

Maine Gov. John Baldacci, a Democrat who hadn't indicated how he would handle his state's bill, signed it shortly after the legislation passed the Senate on a vote of 21-13 — a margin not large enough to override a veto.

"In the past, I opposed gay marriage while supporting the idea of civil unions," Baldacci said in a statement read in his office. "I have come to believe that this is a question of fairness and of equal protection under the law and that a civil union is not equal to civil marriage."

Lynch, also a Democrat, remained uncommitted but has said he believes the word "marriage" should be reserved for unions of a man and a woman.

"I'm going to talk to legislators, and I'm going to talk to the people of New Hampshire and ultimately make the best decision I can for the people of New Hampshire," the governor said Wednesday evening.

The New Hampshire bill squeaked through on a 178-167 vote after an hour of impassioned debate. Both chambers appear to be far

short of enough votes to override a veto.

Rep. David Pierce, who has two daughters with his partner, described telling his 5-year-old that "some people don't believe we should be a family."

"When my kids grow up and are old enough to understand what we're doing here today, I want them to know I did everything I could to fight for our family," said Pierce, D-Hanover.

Maine's bill authorizes marriage between any two people rather than between one man and one woman, as state law currently allows. The House had passed the bill Tuesday.

The law is to take effect in mid-September but could be sidetracked before then. Opponents promise to challenge it through a public veto process that could suspend it while a statewide vote takes shape.

Sue Estler, of Orono, said she and her partner of 20 years, Paula Johnson, plan to get married. But she also thinks opponents might collect enough signatures to force the referendum.

A professor at the University of Maine, the 64-year-old Estler said she sent an e-mail to out-of-state friends and family members Wednesday saying "Oh, my god. The governor just signed the bill."

"But I said, 'Don't make your travel plans for the wedding yet. There's still probably a referendum to go,'" she said.

Legislative debate in Maine was brief. Senate President Elizabeth Mitchell, D-Vassalboro, turned the gavel over to an openly gay member, Sen. Lawrence Bliss, D-South Portland, for the final vote.

Republican Sen. Debra

Plowman of Hampden argued that the bill was being passed "at the expense of the people of faith."

"You are making a decision that is not well-founded," warned Plowman.

Both states' bills specify that religious institutions don't have to recognize same-sex marriages.

The activist group Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders has targeted all six New England states for passage of a gay marriage law by 2012.

Connecticut has enacted a bill after being ordered to allow gay marriages by the courts, and Vermont has passed a bill over the governor's veto.

Massachusetts' high court has ordered the state to recognize gay marriages. In Rhode Island, a bill to legalize same-sex marriage has been introduced but is not expected to pass this year.

New England states have acted quickly since gay marriages became law in Massachusetts in 2004 because it's a small region with porous borders, shared media markets, and a largely shared culture, said Carisa Cunningham of the gay defenders group.

Outside New England, Iowa is recognizing gay marriages on court orders. The practice was briefly legal in California before voters banned it.

If it comes to a statewide vote in Maine, Estler is confident gay marriage will prevail.

"I think Maine people will support it," she said. "Part of the reason I say that is Maine is a state where people, regardless of party affiliation, really believe in live and let live."

AP writer Clarke Canfield contributed to this report.

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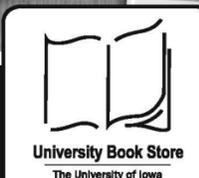
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BASKETBALL

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2B

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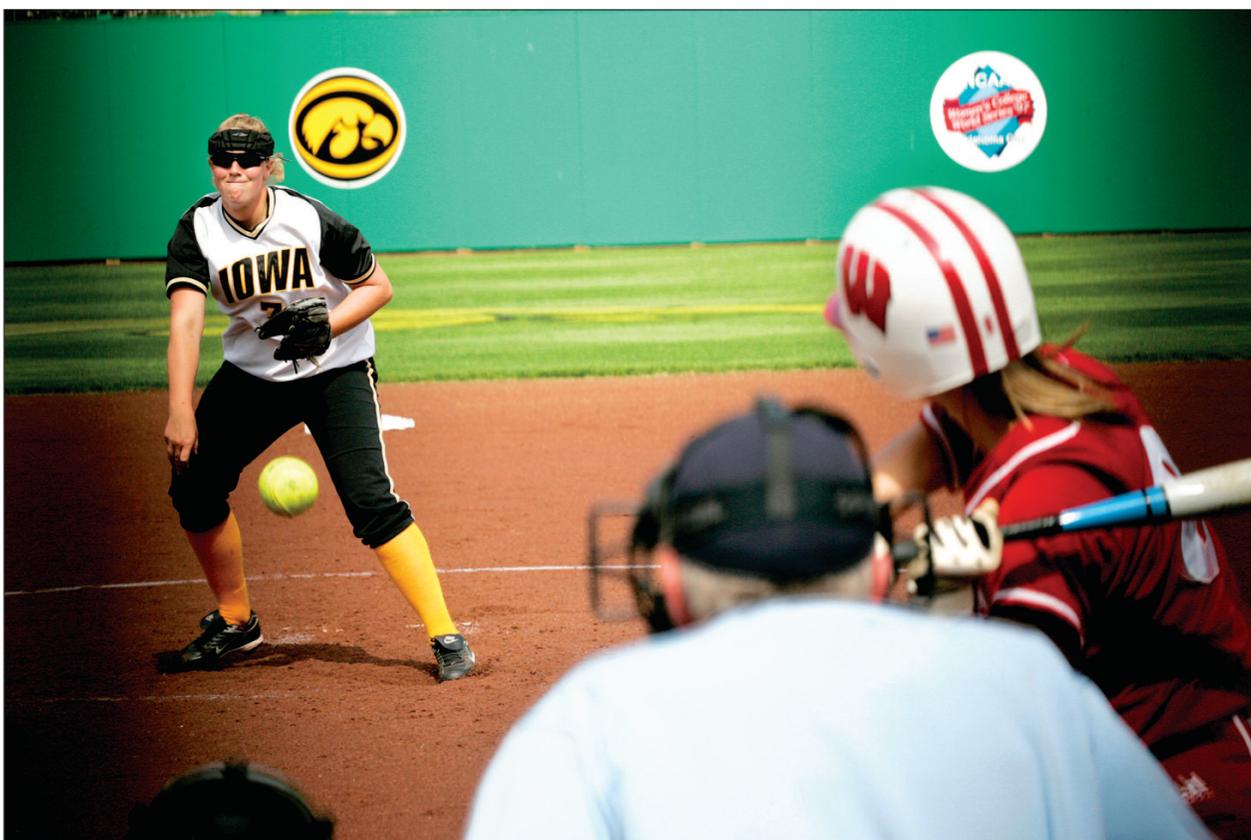
MLB

Milwaukee 15, Cincinnati 3
Atlanta 8, Florida 6
N.Y. Mets 1, Philadelphia 0
Chicago Cubs 6, Houston 3
St. Louis 4, Pittsburgh 2
Colorado 11, San Francisco 1
Arizona 3, San Diego 1

Tampa Bay 4, N.Y. Yankees 3 (10)
Baltimore 4, Minnesota 1 (6)
Cleveland 9, Boston 2
Kansas City 9, Seattle 1
Detroit at Chicago, ppd., rain
Texas 3, Oakland 2
Toronto 13, L.A. Angels 1

IOWA 8, WISCONSIN 0 / IOWA 5, WISCONSIN 4

Softball sweeps Badgers



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa starting pitcher Brittany Weil pitched her fifth no-hitter of the season in the first game of a double-header against Wisconsin at Pearl Field on Wednesday.

Iowa sweeps Wisconsin with a no-hitter and walk-off homer.

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

ON THE WEB

Go to dailyiowan.com for an exclusive photo slide show from the first game of Iowa's double-header with Wisconsin on Wednesday at Pearl Field.

With another no-hitter and an extra-inning walk-off home run, the Iowa softball team swept a double-header from Wisconsin, 8-0 and 5-4, on Wednesday afternoon.

The Hawkeyes (40-14, 11-7) tore through the Badgers in the first game with hot bats and a fifth no-hitter for Brittany Weil, which sets a career and single-season record.

However, the last-place Badgers (15-38, 3-15) stuck with Iowa until the ninth inning in

the second game — until Iowa senior Colleen McGlaughlin hit the first walk-off home run of her career to clinch the sweep for the Hawkeyes.

"It's our mentality we have, it's so important to have. You find a way to get it done," Iowa head coach Gayle Blevins said. "Our kids really fought hard in that second game."

McGlaughlin's winning drive

was her first hit in four games, a rare slump for the .367 batter.

"That's a great way to end it," she said.

It could also have an effect on the postseason outlook for the Hawkeyes, who are battling for fourth place in the Big Ten.

"If you're playing well down the stretch, that really bodes well with the committee as they're selecting teams," Blevins said.

After an RBI single by freshman Katie Keim in the second inning of the first game, the Hawkeyes exploded with a five-run third inning on six hits to go up 6-0.

Sophomore Chelsea Carmody began the inning with a triple and scored on a double by junior

IOWA 8, WISCONSIN 0 (GAME 1)

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W: Weil (23-10)

L: Vanevenhoven (7-14)

IOWA 5, WISCONSIN 4 (GAME 2)

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Wisconsin	003	001	000	4	7	1
Iowa	000	121	001	5	10	1

W: Weil (24-10)

L: Vanevenhoven (7-15)

Lindsey Digmann.

SEE **SOFTBALL**, 3B

Cubs spank Astros

By **KRISTIE RIEKEN**
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Reed Johnson hasn't had much luck at the plate lately. So when he saw speedy center fielder Michael Bourn chasing his fly ball in the first inning, he figured he'd catch it.

Instead Bourn's diving attempt came up just short, and Johnson ended up with a bases-loaded triple to help the Chicago Cubs past the Houston Astros, 6-3, on Wednesday night.

Rich Harden pitched into the eighth inning, and Aramis Ramirez added a solo home run for the Cubs, who have won five of six.

"I really actually thought he would [catch it], especially the way things have been going for me lately with runners in scoring position," said Johnson, who was 0-for-4 in the last two games and had one RBI before Wednesday. "I haven't been taking good at bats, and when I do, I would hit them right at somebody. I was thinking when I hit it, if anyone can run it down, he can."

Harden (3-1) allowed his first run with two outs in the fourth before retiring the next 10 batters.

"He did a heck of a job," manager Lou Piniella said. "He maintained his velocity. We thought if we get seven we were going to be pleased."

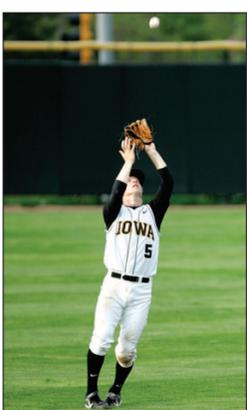
Harden didn't give up another hit until Bourn singled in the eighth, and Lance Berkman followed with a home run.

Johnson put the Cubs ahead in the first against Mike Hampton (1-3). Johnson scored on a passed ball by Ivan Rodriguez to make it 4-0.



Harden
pitcher

SEE **CUBS**, 3B



Chett Zeise

BASEBALL

Weather homers; baseball sits

Inclement weather forecast for Iowa City on Wednesday kept the Iowa baseball team off the diamond for the second time this season.

With meteorologists anticipating thunderstorms on Wednesday, the Hawkeyes' mid-week contest against Summit League opponent Western Illinois at Banks Field was canceled and won't be rescheduled.

"Really, [Western Illinois'] athletics director didn't feel comfortable having them come if there was a pretty good chance of not playing," Iowa head coach Jack Dahm said. "I think that's where this time of the year with some budget crunches too, they didn't want to have to spend the money on the buses if they didn't have to. I think a trip is about \$1,500 or \$2,000."

Iowa's last rainout was April 19, one day after the Hawkeyes snapped a nine-game losing streak on the road with a 10-1 win against Northwestern.

That spurred Iowa to win two more games before entering its recent eight-game skid, which ended on Tuesday with an 11-4 win over Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

— by **Ryan Young**

GOLF

Big Ten announces awards

On Tuesday, the Big Ten named its award winners for the 2008-09 men's golf season.

Freshman Chris Brant was the only honoree from Iowa despite the team's first NCAA regional berth since 1995. The Edwardsville, Ill., native, carded a 72-hole score of 294 (10 over) at the 2009 Big Ten championships on May, leading the Hawkeyes to a sixth-place finish — their best in eight years.

That performance was Brant's best of the season and slotted him for a 15th-place tie. "It's been a lot of fun to achieve things that this program hasn't done in a while, and our win in the fall was great," he said earlier in the season.

"We strive for greatness every day, trying to do new things, trying to do better things, and just trying to get this team back to where it was."



Brant
freshman

Other award winners included Indiana senior Jorge Campillo as the conference's Player of the Year, while Northwestern's Eric Chun was named Freshman of the Year — the school's first such honoree since 2001. Illinois' Mike Small was named Coach of the Year for the second time in his career after guiding the Fighting Illini to its first Big Ten Title since 1988.

— by **Jordan Garretson**

TV TODAY

NBA PLAYOFFS

• Eastern Conference semifinals, Game 2, Atlanta at Cleveland, 7 p.m., ESPN

NHL PLAYOFFS

• Western Conference semifinals, Game 4, Vancouver at Chicago, 7 p.m., VERSUS

• Western Conference semifinals, Game 4, Detroit at Anaheim, 9:30 p.m., VERSUS

MLB

• Detroit at Chicago White Sox, 7 p.m., CSN

• Chicago Cubs at Houston, 7 p.m., CSN-plus

NCAA bounces 2 from postseason

By **MICHAEL MAROT**
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Centenary's men's basketball team and Tennessee-Chattanooga's football squad didn't make the grade with the NCAA, and it will cost them a chance to compete for a national championship next season.

Those teams became the first to be banned from postseason play because of poor Academic Progress Rate scores. Jacksonville State's football team, which is appealing a postseason ban, could join them. A decision is expected within six weeks.

NCAA President Myles Brand said Wednesday's announcement sends a message to the nation's college teams: Repeatedly failing to make grades comes at a heavy cost. "I think it is a watershed because it shows the depth and severity of the penalties for schools that cannot come into compliance with academic performance," Brand said during a conference call. "Think back as a mode of comparison to when we have recruiting infractions, and we withhold them from postseason play, that's a big deal."

Consider, too, that the NCAA has backed away from handing down postseason bans for rules infractions over the past

decade, a move that made Wednesday's announcement more emphatic.

It was a tough day for Centenary.

While the NCAA was making its announcement, Summit League Commissioner Tom Double said the Gents would be banned from playing in the season-ending conference tournament, too.

The scores are calculated based on data from the fall semester in 2004 through the spring semester in 2008. Each athlete receives one point per semester for remaining academically eligible and another point each semester for remaining at that school or graduating.

A mathematical formula is used to correlate a final team score, with 1,000 points being perfect. Teams that fall below 925 annually can be subjected to immediate penalties. Those consistently falling below 900, such as Centenary and Tennessee-Chattanooga, face harsher sanctions.

Next year, schools with four-straight years of poor scores could face the NCAA's most severe penalty, restricted Division I membership for the entire athletics department.

SEE **NCAA**, 3B

A summer of 'hard' tennis ahead for Hawks

Members of the Iowa women's tennis team will try to improve their games over the summer.

By **ROBBIE LEHMAN**
robert-lehman@uiowa.edu

There is a reason they are called "cliches." It's because they are expressions that have been overused almost to the point of irrelevance. However, the Iowa women's tennis team still believes in one: "Players are made in the off-season."

"That's a huge factor," head coach Daryl Greenan said. "I think a lot of the top programs do have players who are going home and taking their game to the next level and their conditioning to the next level and playing tournaments. It does make a difference when most or all of your team trains through the summer."

The six players returning in the fall have worked out individually with Greenan since the dual-meet season ended with a first-round loss to Wisconsin in the Big Ten Tournament on



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa freshman Sonja Molnar jumps to return a serve during her singles match against Northwestern's Georgia Rose at the Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex on April 12. Molnar will return to her native Canada to work on her game this summer.

ON THE WEB

Go to dailyiowan.com to hear more on how members of the Iowa women's tennis team are planning to spend their summers.

April 23. However, unlike many other sports teams at Iowa, the women's tennis players will leave Iowa City for their hometowns after finals week. They all plan on working out with their own trainers and playing in singles tournaments to improve their games.

"Some of them will play tournaments that are entry-level professional tournaments," Greenan said. "There is money involved, but they have to do that within the rules. Some of them will play open tournaments. There is also an [Inter-collegiate Tennis Association] summer circuit that was developed six or seven years ago to give the college players some

SEE **TENNIS**, 3B

SPORTS 'N' STUFF

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes East Division, Central Division, West Division, and Wednesday's Games.

NBA DAILY PLAYOFF GLANCE

Table with columns: Conference, Team, W, L, Pct, All Games W, L, Pct. Includes Eastern Conference Semifinals and Wednesday's Games.

BIG TEN BASEBALL

Table with columns: Team, Conference W, L, Pct, All Games W, L, Pct. Includes Illinois, Minnesota, Ohio State, etc.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns: Division, Team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes East Division, Central Division, West Division, and Wednesday's Games.

BIG TEN SOFTBALL

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct, W, L, Pct. Includes Michigan, Ohio State, Northwestern, etc.

Celtics have all the magic

By JIMMY GOLEN Associated Press

BOSTON — Rajon Rondo took the pass from Eddie House and bolted for the basket, cutting between 6-11 Dwight Howard and 6-10 Rashard Lewis for a thunderous dunk.

In a crucial game for the Boston Celtics, the little guys came up big.

Rondo had 15 points, 18 assists, and 11 rebounds for his third triple-double of the playoffs, and House scored a career playoff high-shattering 31 points on Wednesday night to lead Boston to a 112-94 victory over the Orlando Magic in Game 2 that evened the Eastern Conference semifinals.

"I've seen some great shooting shows in my life, but that was unbelievable," Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said. "We didn't take away anything; they got everything they wanted. They just had us running around. ... And we did not handle it well."

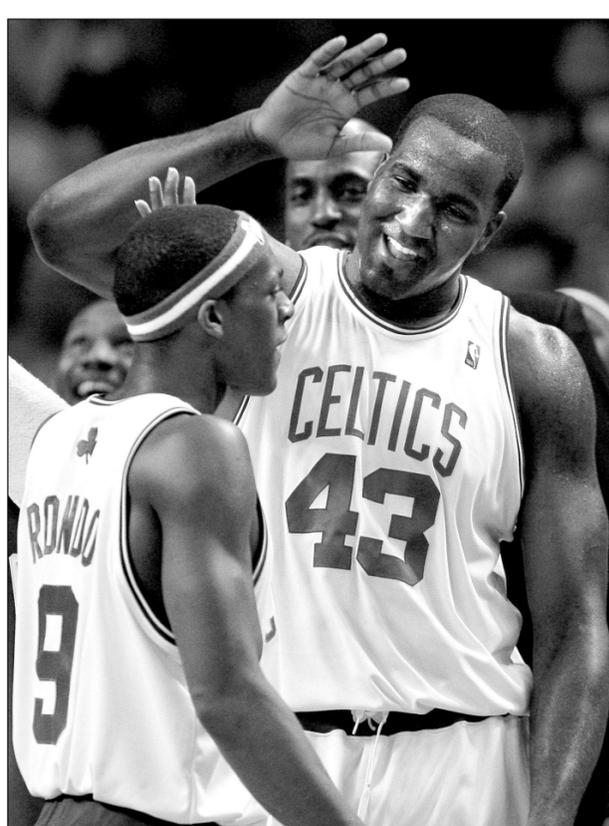
Howard had 12 points and 12 rebounds, and Lewis had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Magic, who stole Game 1 on Monday night despite blowing almost all of a 28-point lead. Orlando never led Wednesday night, trailing by 15 at halftime and by as many as 26 in the second.

Game 3 is Friday night in Orlando.

"They got what they wanted: They got a win. Now they have home court," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "We have to go there trying to get wins."

Rondo had 12 assists without a turnover at halftime and finished one assist short of his career high. The only time the 6-1 point guard has had more than 18 assists was the triple-overtime Game 6 of the first-round series against Chicago in which he played 57 1/2 minutes.

Rondo has five career triple-doubles — three in the last eight games. He is the only Celtic other than Larry Bird to



Boston's Kendrick Perkins (43) celebrates with Celtics' Rajon Rondo during a time-out in the second quarter of Game 2 against the Orlando Magic in their NBA Eastern Conference semifinals in Boston on Wednesday.

have three playoff triple-doubles in one season.

"I was sluggish to start Game 1 and didn't come out with enough passion," Rondo said. "And that will never happen again."

Ray Allen scored 22 points for the defending NBA champions, who will have at least one more home game.

Celtic All-Star Paul Pierce scored three points in 16 minutes, hitting a 3-pointer for the first basket of the game. But he picked up two fouls in 50 seconds early in the first quarter and headed to the bench, played

just 2 more minutes in the second quarter before picking up his third and lasted 4:07 into the third before drawing his fourth and sitting back down.

"That's a championship team," Howard said. "When one player's not playing as good, everybody else picks it up."

By the time Pierce came back in, Boston was coasting to victory with an 18-point lead and just 7:06 left and a crowd was chanting "Eddie" for the backup whose 20 second-half points were more than he had scored in any playoff game in his career. House, who once scored

31 in a regular-season game but never more than 16 in the playoffs, also goaded Magic guard Rafer Alston into a head slap that led to a double-technical.

"All I did was hit a shot, turn the other way, and I got hit upside the head," House said. "I guess he was tired of getting hit upside the head."

Van Gundy, who coached House in Miami, put the blame on his own team.

"If he gets under guys' skin, it's just because he gets very excited when things are going good," he said. "He's really excited, and he's going to let you know he's kicking your butt. There's a lot of guys like that in this game."

Van Gundy said he couldn't worry about whether Alston would be suspended by the NBA. The Magic lost Howard to a suspension for Game 6 of the first-round series against Philadelphia — but won.

House went 11 for 14 from the field, making all four of his 3-point attempts and adding four 2-pointers from at least 20 feet in 27 minutes — the most he's played in a playoff game since he was a rookie with Miami in 2001. In the last three games, House is 18 for 24 from the field and 10 for 12 from 3-point range.

Notes: Celtic legends Bill Russell, Tommy Heinsohn, JoJo White, John Havlicek, and Kevin Garnett watched the game from courtside. ... The Celtics had never beaten the Magic in a playoff game in Boston, having previously met in the best-of-five first round in 1995. ... Orlando's J.J. Redick was ejected from the game after he fouled out with 4:45 left. ... Orlando had won its previous three playoff games by an average of 14 points. ... Van Gundy said Courtney Lee, who is recovering from a fractured sinus, didn't seem ready to play in Wednesday's shootaround. "I really, right now, don't know," Van Gundy said.

Penguins win, avoid huge hole

By ALAN ROBINSON Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — The Pittsburgh Penguins finally solved Simeon Varlamov, finally controlled Alex Ovechkin for most of a game, and got the victory they needed to get back into their playoff series against the Washington Capitals.

Kris Letang scored his first career playoff goal on a shot from the point at 11:23 of overtime, after Sidney Crosby's faceoff win, and the Penguins avoided going down three games to the Capitals by winning, 3-2, in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference semifinals on Wednesday night.

Letang's shot deflected off Capitals defenseman Shaone Morrisonn and past Varlamov, who had stopped nearly everything the Penguins threw at him. Washington scored first — on a goal by, who else, Ovechkin — then let Pittsburgh control the play for most of the game. The Penguins outshot the Capitals 42-23 and had a 7-2 edge in power plays.

Pittsburgh also got Evgeni Malkin's pivotal first goal in six games and shook off Nicklas Backstrom's late power-play goal to win their sixth consecutive overtime playoff game, five by 3-2 scores.

The victory prevented near certain elimination for Pittsburgh. No NHL team has rallied from a 3-0 playoff deficit in 34 years.

Game 4 in a series in which Washington won the first two games by one-goal margins at home is Friday night in Pittsburgh. Game 5 will be Saturday night in Washington.

Malkin, the NHL scoring champion who hadn't scored in five games, snapped off a wrist shot from the high slot on a power play with 4:59 remaining that gave Pittsburgh a 2-1 edge.

Crosby, who had four goals in the first two games, didn't score in Game 3 but set up the goals by Malkin and Letang for his first assists in six games. Letang, a defenseman, was uncertain he would play until



Pittsburgh Penguin Brooks Orpik (left) sends Washington Capital Alex Ovechkin flying during the third period of Game 3 of their NHL second-round playoff series in Pittsburgh on Wednesday. The Penguins won 3-2 in overtime.

earlier Wednesday because of a shoulder injury.

Pittsburgh pressed constantly for the go-ahead goal after Ruslan Fedotenko tied it near the midpoint of the second period, throwing flurry after flurry at Varlamov — the cool-as-it-gets rookie who played only six games during the season. Malkin finally got a shot through with Bill Guerin screening in front.

The goal by Malkin gave a huge lift to the Penguins and appeared to be enough to get them back into the series. Thanks to Backstrom, it wasn't.

The Capitals, scoreless and badly outshot since Ovechkin scored his fifth in the series off a seemingly harmless dump-in 83 seconds into the game, got the tying goal with 1:50 to play on a bad-angle shot by Backstrom from behind the goal line with 1:50 to play.

With Washington on its first power play since before the halfway point of the first period, Ovechkin got the puck down low to Backstrom and he banked it in off the back of goalie Marc-Andre Fleury.

As in each of the previous two games of a tightly played, physical and fast-paced series, the visiting team got the first goal and controlled the early tempo only to have the home team regain the momentum.

Ovechkin scored his eighth of the playoffs after Mike Green's dump-in ricocheted wildly into the slot, causing Fleury to accidentally lose his stick as he unsuccessfully scrambled back to the net to try to defend the shot.

Right about then, some of the 17,132 fans in the standing room crowds had to be wondering if the Penguins were ever going to shut down Ovechkin, who already had five goals in the series that

was only two games and less than two minutes old.

At that point, Ovechkin (5) and Crosby (4) had all but four of the 13 goals in the series.

The Penguins, badly outplayed in the opening 10 minutes, tied it at 9:29 of the second as Max Talbot took the puck away from Tomas Fleischmann and started a rush that ended with Fedotenko wringing a shot that Varlamov couldn't control at 9:29. It was the first goal by a Penguins forward other than Crosby in the series.

Notes: The Capitals previously were 3-0 in the postseason when tied after two periods. ... Pittsburgh is 6-2 against Washington in Game 3s and 7-3 in Game 3s when down 2-0 in a series. ... The Penguins scratched F Petr Sykora and played F Miroslav Satan for the third time in the playoffs.

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No rest for tennis players

TENNIS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

more competition. It's done regionally."

The summer offers more time that can be dedicated to tweaking minor changes in one's game, something not typically done during the college season. The women are focusing on attention to detail.

"I'm working on a lot of technical stuff right now, so try to hit a lot of balls and straighten that out and play a lot of matches," sophomore-to-be Ally Majercik said.

Majercik will head home to Overland Park, Kan., to train, as well as work at a local tennis facility. She will also take chemistry at a local community college, and she plans on playing several tournaments in July.

Sophomore-to-be Sonja Molnar will travel back home to Guelph, Ontario where she will also train with her own coach.

"I'm going to go back home to Canada, and I'll be basically

training every day, playing tournaments and getting ready for the fall," she said.

Molnar played in a tennis association summer circuit last summer, in which she saw quality competition and plans on participating in a few more this summer. When asked about a specific improvement to her game, the 91st-ranked singles player had to think about it for a second.

"That's a good question," she said. "I guess probably my net play. I lost a couple matches this spring because of my net play. I think that would make my game a lot better."

For some players, Greenan has pointed out specific things to work on in the summer. He even videotapes them hitting balls to analyze their swings, serves, and volleys.

"Some of them are going to work on some technical changes or additions to their games over the summer," Greenan said. "It's a good time to do that. For most of them, it's just staying in shape and playing some tournaments."

Several of the women will also teach tennis this summer. Lake Villa, Ill., native and junior-to-be Lynne Poggensee-Wei will go home to coach tennis and practice with her coach for the summer.

Junior-to-be Alexis Dorr will travel to her home state of Pennsylvania, as well as Florida, to work out. She will also visit Molnar in Canada for a few weeks, then head to Syracuse, N.Y. to work out with a private coach.

The lone senior for Iowa next season, Kelcie Klockenga, will train in Kansas City, but she also plans to take time off for a boating trip to Eastern Europe.

The only Hawkeye still considering staying in Iowa City for the summer is junior-to-be Jessica Young, who is trying to decide whether to take summer classes.

No matter where they go to train, the Hawkeyes believe that summer progress will translate to court success in the fall.

"If you're training hard before the season, it's eventually going to pay off," Molnar said.

Softball sweeps 2

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Although there were no outs, the Badgers intentionally walked junior Katie Brown, a decision freshman catcher Liz Watkins made them regret when she cleared the bases with a three-run home run.

The Hawkeyes added two more runs in the fourth to lead 8-0 through four innings.

The forecast for rain, which caused the first game to be moved up two hours, showed up in the top of the fifth. The Badgers had runners on first and second when the game was delayed due to lightening detected within six miles of Pearl Field.

After the rain passed, Weil came back in and escaped the inning to preserve the eight-run lead and win the game in five innings for the Hawkeyes.

In the second contest, the Badgers displayed rare offensive power. Wisconsin loaded the bases in the second inning against junior Amanda Zust when Badger left fielder Alexis Garcia, just a .185 hitter on the season, smacked a two RBI base hit to center. The Badgers added another run in the inning to take a 3-0 lead.

Iowa responded in the fourth when senior Erin Riemersma reached on an error and scored Brown from second.

Weil came in to relieve Zust in the fifth inning after Badger catcher Theresa Boruta reached on a throwing error and stole second base.

The Hawkeyes rallied in the fifth with a two-out triple by Digmann. McGlaughlin walked and Watkins once again came up big with the first triple of her career to score two runs and tie the game 3-3.

Badger right fielder Ashley Hannevich put Wisconsin ahead again in the sixth with her first home run of the season, a rocket to center field that would have hit the scoreboard had it not been caught in the black netting above the center field wall.

But Iowa came back again in the sixth on an RBI base hit by



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN



BENJAMIN ROBERTS/THE DAILY IOWAN

TOP: Iowa softball head coach Gayle Blevins calls signals to Hawkeye catcher Liz Watkins during the first game of Wednesday's double-header against Wisconsin at Pearl Field on Wednesday. Iowa swept the double-header from the Badgers.

ABOVE: Hawkeye third baseman Katie Keim is tagged out at home plate by Wisconsin catcher Nichole Whaley during the first of two games between the Hawkeyes and Badgers at Pearl Field on Wednesday. Iowa took both games of Wednesday's twin bill.

"It's our mentality we have, it's so important to have. You find a way to get it done. Our kids really fought hard in that second game."

- Gayle Blevins, Iowa head coach

Keim to tie the game. Neither team scored again until the ninth, when McGlaughlin went yard with her solo shot. She is now tied for the Big Ten lead with 49 RBIs this season.

Solid hitting from the second half of the lineup was key for Iowa in both games. Keim was 3-for-5 on the afternoon with 2 RBIs after coming in batting a mere .158 on the season.

The Hawkeyes finish the regular season at home this weekend with games on Friday and Saturday against Minnesota.

Cubs knock off Astros

CUBS

CONTINUED FROM 1B

The Astros had an emotional day in their return from a rain-soaked road trip filled with delays. Third baseman Aaron Boone visited the team for the first time since open heart surgery before the team learned that hitting coach Sean Berry has what is likely a cancerous tumor on his kidney.

"Definitely a difficult day," manager Cecil Cooper said. "That's pretty tough news today. Kind of a roller coaster day because we get the news on Sean and we see Aaron today. We've gone through four or five days that have been really tough for us, travel days and long days at the ballpark. [But we] cannot make excuses. We still got to go out and play."

Harden made his longest start of the season, surpassing his previous high of six innings. Carlos Marmol relieved Harden in the eighth after a single by Carlos Lee and retired three batters.

Kevin Gregg pitched a perfect ninth for his fifth save.

Hampton hit an RBI single in the fourth that made it 4-1.

Johnson walked to start the sixth, Micah Hoffpaur doubled and Aaron Miles walked to load the bases. Johnson scored on a passed ball by Rodriguez — his second of the night — to push Chicago's lead to 5-1.

practice times in both sports. The SEC led the six biggest conferences with five teams penalized. Mississippi and Minnesota were the only BCS schools sanctioned in football.

College teams face penalties

NCAA

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Centenary coach Greg Gary, who just completed his first season at the school and lost five players after being hired, is trying to turn things around with a stronger emphasis on academics.

Tennessee-Chattanooga, which competes in Division I football's second tier, contends it has consistently improved its APR number over the past several years, and hopes a better score in October will stanch the penalties next year.

"We can't do anything about the first three bad scores," Chattanooga associate athletic director Laura Herron said. "We improve year-to-year and we'll get out of this cycle."

Not all of the news was bad Wednesday.

The overall scores in baseball, football and men's basketball all showed improvement over the 2003-04 numbers. There was also a 23 percent drop among student-athletes leaving school in poor academic standing since 03-04.

The list of underachieving teams also showed a distinct delineation between programs

with a lot of money and those with less funds.

Of the 85 teams penalized in football and men's basketball, only 10 came from the six traditional power conferences (Big East, Big Ten, Big 12, Atlantic Coast Conference, Southeastern Conference, Pacific-10), and none received the two most severe penalties — a reduction in practice time or a postseason ban.

"I think it [money] will always be a problem because when you take those who come in and are at risk, it is an expensive ordeal," Brand said. "Those schools who can't afford it are more likely to run into trouble, and I expect that will continue. It takes an investment to make sure the students are able to succeed academically."

One hundred seventy-seven teams overall were penalized.

Football and men's basketball accounted for 76 teams, discounting Jacksonville State.

Ten schools were cited in both football and men's basketball but only two — Alabama-Birmingham and New Mexico State — play in college football's top level. UAB was the only school in the major football to receive a reduction in

practice times in both sports.

The SEC led the six biggest conferences with five teams penalized. Mississippi and Minnesota were the only BCS schools sanctioned in football.

MAY 2009

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Spite driving Brett Favre?

By **CHRIS JENKINS**
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — For most of his career, he was celebrated as a tough guy playing a man's game with the joy of a little boy. Now, Brett Favre stands on the verge of plunging the sports world into yet another off-season's worth of waffling on his retirement.

Does Favre really want to play for the Minnesota Vikings — or is he simply willing to jump at any chance to play against the Green Bay Packers and prove a point to the man who traded him, general manager Ted Thompson?

That doesn't seem to be a particularly important question in the Twin Cities right now, where the potential signing of Favre is seen as the final piece in an otherwise Super Bowl-ready roster. The chance to tweak a division rival makes it even juicier.

Even Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty — perhaps forgetting that he'd need to pick up a vote or two in Wisconsin if he runs for president in 2012 — called the potential Favre signing "a wonderful little salt to rub in the eyes of some of our Green Bay Packer friends" on Wednesday.

"Can you imagine Brett Favre going into Lambeau Field in Viking purple and maybe even wearing No. 4?" Pawlenty asked. "There would be audible gasps."

Right now, the collective sound emanating from Wisconsin — and anywhere else fans have tired of Favre's now-annual bouts of public indecision on his football future — is a loud, protracted groan.

The 39-year-old Favre, who is

a free agent after retiring for the second time in as many years and being released by the New York Jets, is scheduled to meet with Minnesota coach Brad Childress this week to discuss the possibility of playing for the Vikings, according to several media reports.

Favre's agent, Bus Cook, did not return messages left by the Associated Press. But in an interview posted on *USA Today's* website Wednesday afternoon, Cook iterated that Favre remains retired, said he wasn't aware of any meeting with Childress, and denied that Favre would return simply out of spite.

"Are there certain things about the Packers, how things ended there and he felt they didn't treat him right? That's true," Cook told the newspaper. "Does he have a certain vendetta against them? That's not true. If he came back, it would be because he wants another chance to win a Super Bowl."

For now, much remains unclear about Favre's situation, including just how much he has left to give. He was awful at the end of last season, and apparently hasn't had surgery to fix an arm injury that might explain his subpar play.

That's the danger in a comeback: While Favre would get a few of chances to stick it to his old team with the Vikings, he also could sustain a serious injury, alienate whatever remains of his fan base in Wisconsin and become a national punch line in the process.

And he shouldn't expect his former Packers teammates to take it easy on him.

Packer linebacker Nick Barnett posted on his Twitter account Wednesday that Favre should "do whatever he feels is

in his heart" — as long as he's prepared for Packers players to treat him like the enemy.

"Once he puts [on] that purple, he will become an enemy which is all part of the game," Barnett said. "It's hard to imagine him doing that."

But given the squishy nature of Favre's relationship with the concept of retirement and the depth of his distaste for Thompson, it really isn't all that hard to imagine.

Even in his announcing his second retirement in February after one season with the New York Jets, Favre had a hard time hiding his grudge against the Packers general manager.

"My stay in Green Bay was unbelievable, unbelievable," Favre said at the time. "And not one thing could take that away, not one person. And that organization has been outstanding to me throughout my career. It is what it is. It's unfortunate."

Favre went a step further in a subsequent interview with SI.com's Peter King, saying, "Part of me coming back last year, I have to admit now, was sticking it to Ted."

Favre's list of complaints against Thompson stretches back several years, and includes the Packers letting a pair of veteran offensive linemen leave through free agency, not signing wide receiver Randy Moss, and not interviewing Favre's friend, Steve Mariucci, after Mike Sherman was fired.

The camera-shy Thompson hasn't taken public potshots at Favre throughout the controversy, and Packers coach Mike McCarthy tried to distance himself from the subject last week.

"If Brett wants to play football, he should play football," McCarthy said. "And that's

really my stance on it. I mean, if he still wants to play, he should take advantage of his opportunities."

McCarthy clearly didn't want to get sucked back into an issue that became a major distraction during the team's training camp last year, before Favre ultimately was traded to the Jets.

"The what-ifs and the hypothetical stories, you know, I thought maybe you guys would give me a bye this year," McCarthy joked to reporters. "I did such a good job last year."

Meanwhile, Favre's once-untouchable popularity in Wisconsin seems to be waning — although one of the team's most famous fans, NASCAR driver Matt Kenseth, said he wouldn't mind Favre playing for the Vikings.

"I hope he comes back and plays again," Kenseth said. "I think it would be fun to have him in the division and play at Lambeau Field again."

But former Packer and Viking safety Darren Sharper said Favre's image would likely take a big hit in Wisconsin.

"He's not going to want to answer any fan mail," Sharper said, in an interview on Sirius NFL Radio. "He's not going to want to look at any Web sites or blogs. Because the way I took a beating when I left Green Bay and headed to Minnesota, to think of Brett Favre, a legend for the Packers, going to Minnesota? He won't be able to go back to, I think, Wisconsin to get inducted into the Packer Hall of Fame because they're going to be a little bit upset."

AP writer Jenna Fryer contributed to this story.

Major sports eye recession

By **RONALD BLUM**
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball attendance is down 7 percent, and the average crowd for 19 of the 30 clubs has dropped from a year ago. The NFL, NBA, and NHL are nervously monitoring the recession but hopeful they will weather the downturn.

Despite ticket prices at Yankee Stadium that climb to \$2,625 and empty seats near the field at every game since opening day, baseball Commissioner Bud Selig is confident teams have established enough bargain admissions for the current economy.

"I think overall the clubs have been remarkably sensitive," he said Wednesday following a panel discussion of the commissioners of the four major U.S. sports leagues. "I think it's the reason our attendance is holding up as well as it is. We have fan initiatives everywhere."

Through Wednesday, the major-league average was 28,591, down from 30,751 through May 5 last year.

Among the big drops: Washington (39 percent), the New York Mets (23 percent), Toronto (23 percent), Atlanta (21 percent), Detroit (17 percent), Cleveland and Houston (14 percent), and the Yankees (12 percent).

Moving to new ballparks, the Mets and Yankees have lower capacity combined with far higher ticket prices.

"I really believe the clubs know their market better than I do," Selig said. "The clubs I think have done more marketing this year and been more aggressive than I've ever seen, and I hope that will continue. So I've got to let the local clubs make that decision."

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said 24 of 32 teams didn't increase ticket prices for next season. Full houses are important for his league because unsold tickets lead to television blackouts.

"We want every game to be sold out," he said. "It also helps on the television side in the sense that when you're showing a game with 75,000 people screaming and yelling, and they're enjoying an afternoon or an evening, that's great for

television."

In the NHL, around two-thirds of the teams are leaving ticket prices flat. NBA Commissioner David Stern said 27 of his 30 teams will have ticket prices that are either flat or down next season.

"I think that there are going to be adjustments based upon the economy," he said. "I think there will be some repricing mechanism built in."

With economics at the forefront, Selig and Stern said they weren't worried about teams defaulting on debt payments for their new buildings. During the discussion, arranged by the *Wall Street Journal*, Selig didn't like when a questioner called the new ballparks "gilded palaces."

"The stadiums have been great public-private partnerships," he said.

Said Stern: "There's no chance of a foreclosure."

On another topic, Stern sounded worried about the spread of gambling and cited the presence of betting windows at European soccer stadiums, specifically Manchester United matches.

"Gambling is the American way. Some 40-some-odd states probably have lotteries. Those that may or may not, they authorize reservation gambling. Now it's the slots being at race-tracks, and more is coming," he said. "This is an issue that over the course of the next decade we're all going to have to deal with as a country and a business and as sports leagues. I don't know where it's heading."

Selig sidestepped questions about Alex Rodriguez. Major League Baseball is investigating whether the three-time AL MVP was truthful when he said he only used steroids from 2001-3. The sport's officials also planning to check into allegations contained in a new book that he tipped pitches to opponents in blowout games but have not decided whether that will be handled by the investigations department or baseball operations.

"We have a department of investigations that was set up as a result of Sen. Mitchell's recommendations," Selig said. "It's now a full-flown department, 11 people in it. They'll investigate whatever they think is necessary."

SPORTS

Hobbs to get ISU degree Saturday

DES MOINES (AP) — Nettie Hobbs has a wall in her Dallas-area house that she's kept unadorned, leaving enough space to hang four college diplomas.

After Saturday, she'll finally have something to put up there.

Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Ellis Hobbs, the oldest of Nettie and Ellis Jr.'s four children, will return to Iowa State this weekend to receive his diploma, four years after leaving to pursue a career in the NFL.

Hobbs was drafted by New England in the third round of the 2005 NFL draft and left Iowa State seven credits shy of his bachelor's degree in art and design.

"We always talked about him going back, and he said, 'Momma, I'll promise you I will get my degree for you. All that hard work won't go in vain,'" Nettie Hobbs said. "He kept that promise, he did what he needed to do, and now he's getting it, and it's just a wonderful feeling. It really and truly is."

Hobbs finished his education while playing for New England, which recently traded him to Philadelphia. Hobbs took a speech class at a nearby junior college and landed an internship at

Kraft Sports Productions, a company owned by Patriots chairman and CEO Robert Kraft.

Hobbs, who started 38 games for the Cyclones from 2001-04, said his off-season internship included special-effects animation.

"Football is not always promised, and one day it's going to have to end. And you don't know when it might end. Having a degree is something he can fall back on," Nettie Hobbs said.

Ellis is the oldest of four children, and his mother said all his siblings are in line to join him on the wall. His brother, Donald, is attending North Texas, and sisters Angi and D'Andra are both at Auburn.

They're all planning to head to Ames for Ellis' graduation ceremony Saturday, capping a hectic few weeks for Hobbs. After starting every game the past two seasons for New England at cornerback, he was unexpectedly shipped to the Eagles for a pair of fifth-round draft picks.

Though the trade was a surprise, Nettie Hobbs said her son is excited about the move to Philadelphia.

"Like I told him, 'We can't help but be in good spirits because the Lord has blessed you with another job,'" she said.

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THREE bedroom, College Green area, \$895 plus utilities and deposit. No pets. (319)321-2239.

CONDO FOR RENT

the ledge

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



ANDREW R. JUHL
andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu

Re-examining a few more well-known sayings

- “The best way to a man’s heart is to go through his stomach.” And the best way to a woman’s heart is through a man’s wallet.
 - “Call a spade a spade.” Especially if you’re playing high stakes poker; nobody wants to get shot over trying to cheat a flush draw.
 - “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure.” And one man’s junk is another man’s sausage.
 - “It’s better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.” More bullshit Jedi propaganda.
 - “Laughter is the best medicine.” That’s why we’re hoarding it and not giving any to the Africans.
 - “There’s a sucker born every minute.” That means there’s 525,600 suckers a year. Thanks, *Rent!*
 - “It’s easier to get forgiveness than to get permission.” Tell that to OJ.
 - “You can’t make a silk purse out of a sow’s ear.” Yes, but did you know that the opposite holds true, as well? Of course you did; the question was rhetorical. Yes it was. STFU.
 - “She can’t hold a candle to him.” Well ... good. He might be inflammable.
 - “Sing like no one’s listening, dance like nobody’s watching.” Fart like nobody in the theater can smell it.
 - “Give until it hurts.” Or until right before it hurts. I mean, there’s no reason to be needlessly macho about charity, bro.
 - “You are what you eat.” Then you can just call me “Beef Satay with a Peanut Dipping Sauce” from now on.
- Andrew R. Juhl knows the truth will set you free (and it will probably piss you off a little bit, too).
- Think you’re pretty funny? Prove it. *The Daily Iowan* is looking for Ledge writers. You can submit a Ledge at daily-iowan@uiowa.edu. If we think it’s good, we’ll run it - and maybe contact you for more.

HOMER-WORD BOUND



Danielle Hoskins reads on the Pedestrian Mall on Wednesday. The classics department held a Homer-a-thon, a full day reading of *The Odyssey*, by Homer, from 8 a.m.-10 p.m.

WHITNEY WRIGHT/THE DAILY IOWAN

DI CAN'T GET ENOUGH SUDOKU?

CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR MORE PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

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

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

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SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE

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

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 12:30 p.m. News from Québec, in French
- 1 "Prairie Lights" Archive, Elizabeth Rosner
- 2 News from Germany, in German
- 3 "Java Blend," Dick Prall
- 4 African American Athletes in the 21st Century, Charles Martin; "Benching Jim Crow, The Rise and Fall of the Color Line in Southern College Sports," 1890-1980
- 5:30 Piano Sunday Concert, April 4, 2009
- 6:30 Incompetent Sports Talk
- 7 "Java Blend," Dick Prall
- 8 Winner's All, Panel discussion on women's athletics
- 9:30 Daily Iowan News
- 9:45 Incompetent Sports Talk
- 10:15 Student Affairs, Information on Student Life
- 10:30 Daily Iowan News
- 10:45 "Java Blend" Encore
- 11 "Java Blend," Dick Prall

today's events

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

- Department of Biochemistry Seminar, "Genetically Encoded Luciferase Biosensors for Life Science Research and Drug Discovery," Frank Fan, senior research manager, Promega Corp., 10:30 a.m., 2117 Medical Education and Research Facility
- Brown Bag Lunch, "Diversity in the News," 12 p.m., Asian Pacific-American Culture Center
- United Action for Youth Parenting Skills Workshop, 12 p.m., Lone Tree Elementary School, 303 S. Devoe St.
- Iowa New Play Festival, Selections from the Undergraduate Playwrights Workshop, 1:30 p.m., 172 Theater Building
- Shoppers Showcase, 3 p.m., Bickford Cottage, 3500 Lower West Branch Road
- Teen Tech Zone, 3 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- Learn to Knit, 4 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn St.
- Introduction to Cake Decorating, 5:30 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn St.
- Bicyclists of Iowa City Thursday Night Leisure Rides, 6 p.m., College Green Park, College and Dodge Streets
- Che, Part Two, 7 p.m., Bijou
- Explorers Seminar Series, Greg McDonald, "The Museum and the Magalonyx: A history of Great Aspirations and Sloths in Iowa," 7 p.m., UI Museum of Natural History, Macbride Hall
- Proseminar in Cinema and Culture, "It's Better to be Healthy and Rich Than Sick and Poor," Changing Currencies in post-89 Central-European Cinemas, *Karamazovi* [TheKaramazovs] (Czech Republic, 2008) and *Workingman's Death* (Austria, 2006), 7 p.m., 101 Becker
- Writers' Workshop, 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 1451 Coral Ridge Mall
- Bob Zany and Costaki Economopoulos, comedians, 7:30 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- Weber Days Annual History Lecture, 7:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- Drinking Liberally, 8 p.m., Old Capital Brew Works, 525 S. Gilbert St.
- Karaoke and Tacos, 8 p.m., Fiesta Mexican Restaurant, 320 E. Burlington St.
- Poetry reading, James Galvin, 8 p.m., Lecture Room 2, Van Allen Hall
- Big D's Karaoke, 9 p.m., Gus' Food and Spirits, 2421 Coral Court, Coralville
- Chris Galbuda, 9 p.m., Quinton's Bar & Deli, 215 E. Washington
- Hasan Minhaj, comedian, 9 p.m., River Room Dining Area, Iowa Memorial Union
- Massage Chairs, 9 p.m., Hubbard Commons, Iowa Memorial Union
- Paperback Rhino Improv Comedy, 9 p.m., Public Space One, 115 E. Washington
- The High Strung, 9 p.m., The Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- White Tornado Outbreak CD Release, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- Skills Like This, 9:30 p.m., Bijou
- Homecoming Council Pancake Dinner, 10 p.m., River Room Dining Area, Iowa Memorial Union
- Alley Cabaret: Graduation, 11:30 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington

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PRESENTS...

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

TOPPER

I'M PAINTING MY OWN HOUSE TO SAVE MONEY. THAT'S NOTHING!

I HAD SPIDER GLANDS TRANSLATED INTO MY BODY SO I CAN MAKE MY OWN SILK GARMENTS.

THAT DOESN'T SEEM...

WHO WANTS MITTENS!

www.dilbert.com

'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY

IT'D BE A LOT EASIER TO BLAME THE PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION IF YOU KNOW WHO WASN'T SITTING RIGHT HERE...

THE DOWNSIDE OF ABDICATION

WILEY INC. © CAPITAL WIKI, INC. 5-7

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

HAVE YOU DISCUSSED YOUR ASSIGNMENT WITH OPERATIONS YET?

NOPE.

WELL, MY IMPRESSION IS THE NEED IS GREATEST IN HELMAND PROVINCE...

AAFARIN! EE! ASAAN GHWASSI GILAAS KHATTI KHAR GHWARR!

HOW'S YOUR PASHTO?

IMPRESSIVE. WHAT'D YOU SAY?

NO IDEA. BUT IT TASTES A BIT LIKE CHICKEN.

© 2009 Garry Trudeau

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0326

- Across**
- 1 Yeshiva student
 - 4 Happy sound
 - 9 Crazy excited
 - 14 The Cavaliers of the N.C.A.A.
 - 15 Railroad between Illinois and Atlantic avenues
 - 16 Bag
 - 17 Co-creator of Dungeons & Dragons
 - 19 N.B.A. star point guard Kidd
 - 20 Award since 1956
 - 21 Holiday servings
 - 22 Sly
 - 25 Is off guard
 - 28 Fish whose skin is sometimes used for leather
 - 29 Spread selection
 - 30 French auto race
 - 33 Its gatherings are smart things to attend
 - 35 Beginner: Var.
 - 36 N.L. team, on scoreboards
 - 38 Squeeze (out)
 - 39 Trademarked brand of waterproof fabric
 - 42 Grp. with the 1979 hit "Don't Bring Me Down"
 - 43 Rx specification
 - 44 Indigo dye source
 - 45 "Revolutionary Road" novelist Richard
 - 47 Palate-raising response
 - 51 Scourge
 - 52 Sawbuck
 - 53 Snake's bioweapon
 - 54 Splitsville parties
 - 55 Walk, e.g.
 - 57 Raw material?
 - 59 Weird Al Yankovic's "on Jeopardy"
 - 61 Vaudeville brother born Milton
 - 66 Starbucks size
- Down**
- 1 Water holder
 - 2 Actress Mendes
 - 3 Drug
 - 4 Old N.Y.C. club said to be the birthplace of punk
 - 5 Harvesting for fodder
 - 6 Ready to roll
 - 7 Vitamin abbr.
 - 8 Chicken
 - 9 Financial daily, in brief
 - 10 More ridiculous
 - 11 Levy at a BP or 69-Across station
 - 12 Part of an old Royal Navy ration
 - 13 Urges
 - 18 Dingbats
 - 22 Streaker seen at night
 - 23 Pub container
 - 24 Thirtysomethings
 - 26 Femur neighbor
 - 27 Lather
 - 28 Sticker?
 - 31 "Forgot About (2000 Grammy-winning rap song)
 - 32 Compound used in aviation fuel
 - 34 "F Troop" corporal
 - 37 Michelangelo sculpture on a biblical subject
 - 67 Eddie Murphy's role in "Coming to America"
 - 68 Fotos
 - 69 BP competitor
 - 70 Ex-lax?
 - 71 Cuff

Puzzle by Brendan Emmett Quigley

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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The Daily Iowan

For home delivery, phone 335-5783



Altruism Unlimited

Michael Scheib and his band, Scheush, will rock the Mill on Saturday night to raise money for Systems Unlimited, which aids the disabled and their families.

4C



How to be a standup comedian

Life in the funny lane

Comedians Bob Zany and Costaki Economopoulos on how to do standup: Tell some jokes, do some tricks, and be prepared for some rough terrain.

By MELEA ANDRYS
melea-andrys@uiowa.edu

Comedian Bob Zany knows that embarking into the profession of standup is no laughing matter.

"I was abandoned on a doorstep in a mall," he said. "And the workers at Hot Dog on a Stick took me in and thought I was funny."

Then again, maybe there's nothing serious about the life of a comedian at all.

"No really; it was either comedy or follow in my father's footsteps as a painter," Zany said. "I was never good with a putty knife."

Or perhaps standup surpasses surface-level jokes into a realm of comedic complexity, requiring the perfect blend of critical thinking with a quick wit, perfect timing, and constant charisma.

"Standup comedy is such a beautiful, fantastic little thing," said fellow comedian Costaki Economopoulos. "It's a room full of people laughing, sharing in an experience. If you watch a sitcom, you laugh a few times in a half hour, but if you watch a good comic, you're laughing every single second for a half hour. It's a very intense pure form of comedy. It's just so simple — it's a guy and a microphone."

Tonight, Zany and Economopoulos will bring their sophisticated, straightforward standup comedy routines to the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St. The show, presented by Penguins Comedy Club and 100.7 the Fox, kicks off at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25.

"Comedy always does really well at the Englert," said Sean Fredericks, the theater's managing director. "We've had a string of successful shows with Mike Birbiglia, Drew Hastings, and Kevin

McDonald, so this show seemed like a natural fit. People always want to laugh, and there aren't many places in Iowa City where you can go see a top-notch standup comedy show."

Both Zany and Economopoulos are big names in the comedy community, each boasting regular weekly radio stints on the "Bob and Tom Show" (with "The Zany Report" and "Economonologue") and touring nationally as headlining acts. Zany, a 30-year comedy veteran, is known for his trademark cigar, audience interaction, and signature elongation of the word "Bay-Bee." Economopoulos, the boyfriend of comedian/actor Caroline Rhea, includes everything in his act from political satire to poking fun at his very long, very Greek last name.

"Some of it's political, some of it's dark, some of it's smart, some of it's heavy, some of it's light," he said. "I've always tried to have a lot of range in the show. Maybe I should pick one path and really nail that, but I like to bounce around."

Penguin's Comedy Club manager and fellow comedian Danny Franks attested to the quality of both comedy acts just the way they are.

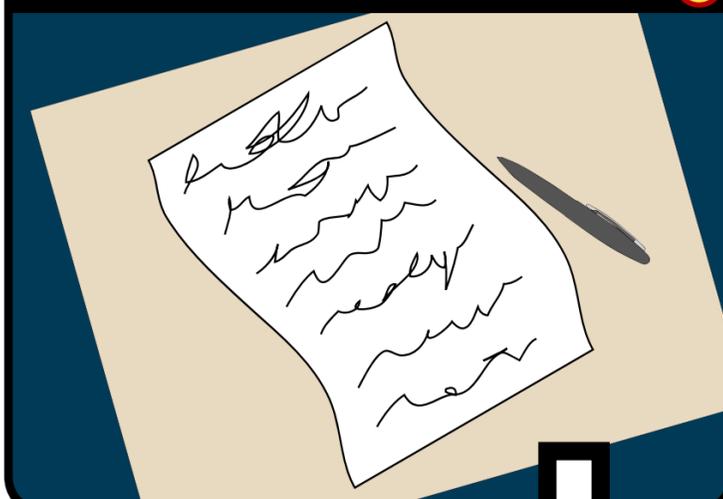
PERFORMANCE

Bob Zany and Costaki Economopoulos

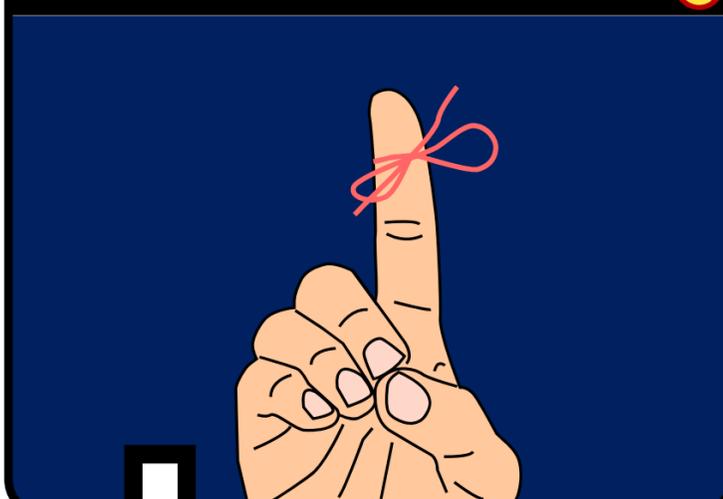
When: 7:30 p.m. today
Where: Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
Admission: \$25

SEE STANDUP, 3C

Step 1: Prepare your jokes



Step 2: Memorize your set

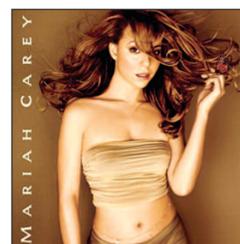


Step 3: Win over the audience



• Illustration by: Dan Ambrisco

DI RECOMMENDS



Thursday

- Listen to **Mariah Carey**. Sure, she's lost her mind, and yeah, her music hasn't been good for about five years, but Mimi still has a diva's pipes — and a diva's 'tude to match. Celebrate the one-year anniversary of her marriage to **Nick Cannon** by playing one of her old classics (my choice is *Butterfly*).
- Needle over Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn, and learn to knit at **Learn to Knit**. The class starts at 4 p.m. and might lead to an awesome Mother's Day gift — or at least an "A" for effort.



Friday

- Tap into that inner **Elton John** and key over to the Senior Center, 28 S. Linn, for some adult piano lessons. It's only a matter of time before you're playing "Bennie and the Jets" for packed houses.
- **Ron Howard** recently stepped into some holy hot water with buzz from his latest film, *Angels and Demons*. Remember his less-controversial days and rent *Splash*.



Saturday

- Revert to adolescence and lower your self-esteem by reading **teen magazines**. You'll learn valuable life lessons, including what to do when your kiss is a miss, how to deal with gossip, and fashion tips to impress that guy in study hall.
- Celebrate Mother's Day early at the Englert, 221 E. Washington, where Maia Quartet violinist **Tricia Park** and pianist **Conor Hanick** will play an evening of Mother's Day friendly tunes. The event starts at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday.



Sunday

- Feel your feelings. As the end of the semester approaches, take a chance to demonstrate how intensely you feel for the ones you love. Take a note from **Lloyd Dobler** in *Say Anything*, and hold a boom box high in the air outside your beloved's bedroom (or maybe just watch the movie).
- Music can be so serious. Take a break from the emo and head to the **West High** auditorium at 2 p.m. on Sunday to hear **Trout Fishing in America**. The act is kid-appropriate and still entertaining.

STEP-BY-STEP COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

Score points with Mom this Sunday and cook this week's menu. Whisk over to dailyiowan.com for an exclusive video tutorial featuring eggs Benedict and monkey bread.

ON THE WEB

Go to dailyiowan.com for a web exclusive preview of riverboat-inspired songster Pokey LaFarge, who will grace the Mill Friday night. Be sure to listen to the MP3, too.

D(EYE) ON ARTS BLOG

Bono + George Clooney = Something so hot it'll scorch the newspaper. Click over to dailyiowanarts.blogspot.com to read Rachael Lander's fiery live blog of "When Bono Met Clooney."



**NEW MOVIES
OPENING THIS WEEKEND**



Star Trek
Coral Ridge 10
The legendary *Star Trek* franchise gets a sleek and updated look on the big screen courtesy of J.J. Abrams, one of today's leading sci-fi directors. The movie reveals the origins of Captain James T. Kirk, Spock, and a slew of other characters time-warping through space on the USS Enterprise. The cast includes Winona Ryder, Eric Bana, and British comic Simon Pegg.

AT THE BIJOU



Waltz with Bashir
Showtimes: Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m.
This 2008 Academy Award winner for best foreign-language film delves into 1982's Lebanon War. Ari Folman wrote and directed the Israeli animated documentary, which is derived from his own memories - or lack of memories - of time spent in the Israel Defense Forces. Folman claims to not remember any details of his time fighting in the Lebanon War, and he made *Waltz with Bashir* as an antiwar message.



The Class
Showtimes: Friday at 9 p.m., Saturday at 7 p.m., and Sunday at 5 p.m.
The Class (Entre les murs) is a French movie portraying the struggles of a young inner-city literature teacher in Paris. Laurent Cantet directed the 2008 film, which is based on François Bégaudeau's novel of the same name.

**TRACKS
FROM THE PAST**

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

Since Peaches' latest album, *I Feel Cream*, dropped on Tuesday, it only makes sense to devote this week's Tracks from the Past to her better and dirtier album, 2006's *Impeach My Bush*.

Peaches' electronic sound has been consistent since her 1995 debut, resulting in dance beats that are best enjoyed with a side of drunkenness.

Although *Impeach My Bush* is deliciously inappropriate, it also contains a strong political subtext. Just take a second glance at the title or listen to the album opener "Fuck or Kill," in which Peaches says "I would rather fuck who I want than kill who I am told to." Although most people would probably pick having sex with people they like as opposed to carrying out hits (or possibly fighting a war), the message (somewhat vaguely) shines through.

"Tent in Your Pants," "Slippery Dick," and "Stick It to the Pump" all make *Impeach My Bush* a must listen, or a must re-listen.



Impeach My Bush by Peaches

Released July 11, 2006

-by Rachael Lander

Today 5.7

MUSIC

- **New Horizons Band Ensemble Concert**, 2:30 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- **This Year's Heroes**, 8 p.m., Industry, 211 Iowa
- **The Burning Halos, with Raw Mojo and Red and the Eds**, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **The High Strung, with Dimas Lemus, Teddy Boys, and Lipstick Homicide**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **The White Tornado Outbreak CD Release, with Daphne Willis & Co.**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

WORDS

- **Writers' Workshop reading, James Galvin, poetry**, 8 p.m., Van Allen Hall Lecture Room 2

LECTURES

- **Explorers Seminar Series**,

"The Museum and the Megalonyx: A History of Great Aspirations and Sloths in Iowa," H. Greg McDonald, National Park Service, 7 p.m., Macbride Auditorium

2009 Irving B. Weber Days History Lecture, Jeff Stein, 7:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn

THEATER

- **Iowa New Play Festival reading, Selections from the Undergraduate Playwrights' Workshop**, 1:30 p.m., 172 Theatre Building
- **Alley Cabaret: Variety Show Blow Out**, midnight, Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington

DANCE

- **Learn to Court Dance**, 4 p.m., Senior Center

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Shoppers' Showcase**, 3 p.m., Bickford Cottage, 3500 Lower West Branch Road
- **Learn to Knit**, 4 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop, 207 N. Linn
- **Bicyclists of Iowa City Thursday Night Leisure Rides**, 6 p.m., College Green Park
- **St. Baldrick's Cancer Benefit**, 6 p.m., Charlie's, 450 First Ave., Coralville
- **Creative Photo Seminar**, 7 p.m., Senior Center
- **Writer's Workshop**, 7 p.m., Barnes and Noble, Coral Ridge Mall
- **Bob Zany and Costaki Economopoulos**, 7:30 p.m., Englert Theatre
- **Karaoke and Tacos**, 8 p.m., Fiesta Mexican Restaurant, 320 E. Burlington
- **Big D's Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Gus' Food and Spirits, 2421 Coral Court Suite 4, Coralville

Friday 5.8

MUSIC

- **Adult Piano Lessons**, 8:30 a.m., Senior Center
- **David Zollo**, noon, M.C. Ginsberg, 110 E. Washington
- **Gregory Hand, organ**, 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 2701 Rochester Ave.
- **Camerata and Women's Chorale**, 8 p.m., IMU Ballroom
- **Guerilla Hustle Records Presents Animal Planet Tour**, 8 p.m., Industry
- **Unknown Component**, 8 p.m., Wedge, 136 S. Dubuque
- **Birth Rites CD Release, with Noumenon, DADKIDS, and Capes of Lead**, 9 p.m., Picador
- **Pokey LaFarge Duo, with Dr. Eli Calico's Medicine Show and**

Illinois John Fever, 9 p.m., Mill Lodge, 225 Highway 1 W.

Public Property, 9 p.m., Yacht Club

THEATER

- **Iowa New Play Festival reading, In the Starry Nights**, 1:30 p.m., 172 Theatre Building
- **Iowa New Play Festival: The Decline of the Front Porch**, 5:30 and 9 p.m., Theatre Building Thayer Theatre
- **Fairy Tale Courtroom**, 7 p.m., Iowa City Community Theatre, Johnson Country Fairgrounds
- **Alley Cabaret: Variety Show Blow Out**, midnight, Englert

DANCE

- **Country Dance**, 7 p.m., Eagles

Ballroom Dance, 7:30 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market

MISCELLANEOUS

- **English Conversation Group**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Friends of the Coralville Library's Book Sale**, 1:30 p.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 First St.
- **Knitting Nurse**, 2 p.m., Home Ec. Workshop
- **Open House: UI Center for the Book**, 3:30 p.m., North Hall
- **"Know the Score Live"**, 5 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber
- **Riff Raff Theater, Alien Vs. Predator**, 8 p.m., Englert
- **Karaoke Night**, 9:30 p.m., Saloon, 112 E. College

Sunday 5.10

MUSIC

- **Hancher Presents: Trout Fishing in America**, 2 p.m., West High Auditorium, 2901 Melrose Ave.
- **The Birthday Massacre, with I Am Ghost and Dommin**, 6 p.m.,

Picador

Semi-Annual Last Chance Percussion Concert, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Mabie Theatre

THEATER

- **Jane Austen's Emma**, 7 p.m.,

Old Capitol

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Sunday Bicyclists of Iowa City Ride**, 9 a.m., North Dodge Hy-Vee, 1201 N. Dodge
- **Study Hall (the Game)**, 9 p.m., Mill

**weekend
calendar
of events**

Saturday 5.9

MUSIC

- **Victorian Parlor Concert on College Street**, 6 p.m., Musser/Dixon House, 715 E. College
- **Mother's Day Music Fundraiser, featuring Tricia Park and Conor Hanick**, 7:30 p.m., Englert
- **East 18, with Janus and Seven Day Sonnet**, 8 p.m., Industry
- **Kantorei and University Choir**, 8 p.m., IMU Ballroom
- **Johnny Kilowatt and Friends**, 8:30 p.m., Charlie's
- **Bumpus and the Big Funk Guarantee**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **The Escape the Floodwater Jug Band, with Dunebuggy and the Ghost of Willabong**, 9 p.m., Picador
- **Systems Unlimited Benefit Concert featuring Scheush, the Brown Note, and Beast Wars**, 9 p.m., Mill

WORDS

- **1142 Book Signing**, noon, Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Tom Pilarzyk**, 1 p.m., Barnes and Noble

LECTURES

- **Meet the Collector, Doris Montag**, 2 p.m., Johnson County Historical Society, 860 Quarry Road, Coralville

THEATER

- **Iowa New Play Festival reading, The Promised Land**, 2 p.m., 172 Theatre Building

- **Iowa New Play Festival, Truth and Truth**, 5:30, Theatre Building Thayer Theatre
- **Jane Austen's Emma**, 7 p.m., Old Capitol
- **Iowa New Play Festival: The Decline of the Front Porch**, 9 p.m., Theatre Building
- **Iowa New Play Festival: Truth and Truth**, 9 p.m., Theatre Building

DANCE

- **Milonga en El Centro**, 7:30 p.m., Senior Center

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Iowa City Farmers' Market**, 7:30 a.m., Chauncey Swan parking ramp
- **Friends of the Coralville Library's Book Sale**, 9 a.m., Coralville Public Library
- **Saturday Bicyclists of Iowa City Ride**, 9 a.m., Napoleon Park
- **Knitter's Breakfast**, 10 a.m., Home Ec. Workshop
- **Pet Adoption Day**, 10 a.m., PETCO, 2515 Corridor Way, Coralville
- **Weaving Community Symposium 2009**, 10 a.m., Hickory Hill Park
- **"SPOT: The Hancher Family Arts Adventure," Trout Fishing in America, Story Time and Performances**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library Meeting Room A
- **"SPOT: The Hancher Family Arts Adventure," Trout Fishing in America, Interactive Performance**, 2 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall

'Truth' in time travel and other promises

The Iowa New Play Festival draws to a close Saturday with two plays about truth and the 'real' Promised Land.

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

From H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine* to *Back To the Future*, the concept of time travel has intrigued authors and playwrights for hundreds of years.

Now, UI writer Sheela Kangal utilizes at the plot device in her new play, *Truth and Truth*. The work completes the Iowa New Play Festival on Saturday with two performances at 5:30 and 9 p.m. at the Theatre Building's Thayer Theatre.

Truth and Truth features a young woman who revisits her childhood in an attempt to better understand the cycle of abuse inherent within her family.

"Hopefully, the play will unfold somewhat like a dream to the audience," *Truth and Truth* director John Kaufmann said. "It is one of those plays that walks over the audience. It takes them to new places in a nonlinear way."

The Iowa New Play Festival began in the 1960s, and it has since been a staple celebration for the UI theater department. All the plays use UI undergraduates and M.F.A. students for acting, dramaturgy, design, stage management, directing, and other technical aspects.

The hour-long *Truth and Truth* is one of four plays performed throughout the week,

along with six readings. The play has been in the rehearsal process for about a month, and Kaufmann said it underwent numerous rewrites.

"With a complicated play such as this, it's easy for things to go wrong," he said. "It's kind of like a puzzle, not a traditional narrative, so I have to have a good relationship with the playwright."

Also on Saturday, actor and M.F.A student in literary translation Puja Birla will perform Tali Ariav's one-woman play *The Promised Land* at 2 p.m. in 172 Theatre Building. Ariav arrived in Iowa City six years ago from Israel, and she is in her second year of pursuing an M.F.A. in playwriting.

The Promised Land is a semi-autobiographical play centered on an Israeli woman named Shelly who immigrates to Iowa and has to adjust to American culture. The play focuses on eight different characters — both American and foreign — all performed by Birla, with eight costumes. The play, which runs a little more than an hour, is described as a reading on the Iowa New Play Festival's bill, but Ariav said it is far from a standard scripted reading.

"I have been working on the play since December," she said. "And believe me, the actress won't just be standing

PLAY
New Play Festival, Truth and Truth
When: 5:30 and 9 p.m. Saturday
Where: Theatre Building Thayer Theatre
Admission: \$7 early show; \$5 late show

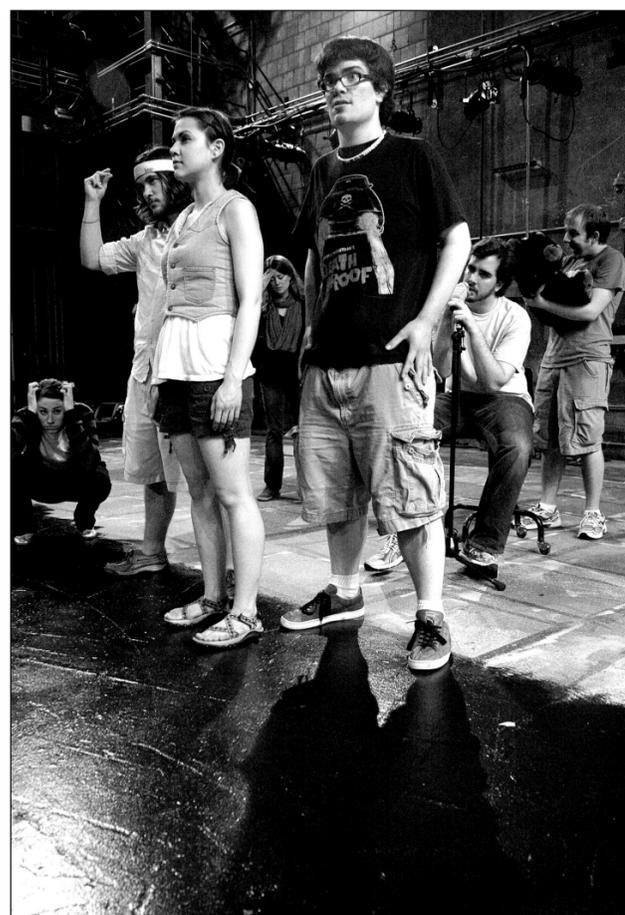
READING
New Play Festival, The Promised Land
When: 2 p.m. Saturday
Where: 172 Theatre Building
Admission: Free

there reading, she will be running around and moving a bunch. It is something else to see Puja playing eight different characters."

Second-year M.F.A student Connie Winston directs the production. In February, Winston directed Ariav's UI Theatres Gallery Production *No Good War*.

"This production is very personal for me," Ariav said. "I've been very involved with the play, and it was important for me to have a director who really understood what it's about."

Despite the array of characters, *The Promised Land* still has one binding narrative theme.



REBECCA MNUK/THE DAILY IOWAN

The cast members of *Truth and Truth* get into character in the Mabie Theatre on Wednesday. *Truth and Truth* is a new play by Sheela Kangal; it will be performed Saturday in the Thayer Theatre.

A MEAL FOR MOMMY

Mother's Day is on Sunday and nothing says "sorry about ripping through your abdomen" like breakfast in bed or a family brunch. It is time for the kids to get in the kitchen to give Mom a break, after all, she sacrificed her bikini-ready bod for you. Try some Eggs Benedict and Monkey Bread.

EGGS BENEDICT

What you need:
1 English muffin
1 egg
ham or bacon
Hollandaise sauce

What to do:

Poach the egg. While it is cooking, toast the English muffins. Cook the bacon or ham. When all the contents are cooked,

butter the English muffin and place the meat on top of it. Then place the poached egg over the meat. Add Hollandaise sauce.

MONKEY BREAD

What you need:
4 cans refrigerated biscuits
1 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 sticks butter
1/2 cup white sugar
2 tablespoons cinnamon

1/2 cup raisins (optional)

What to do:

Heat the oven to 350 degrees and grease a Bundt pan. Mix sugar and cinnamon in plastic bag. Cut the biscuit into halves and put them in the cinnamon-sugar mix and shake. Take the biscuit pieces and layer them in the pan. Put the raisins among the biscuit pieces. Melt the butter over medium heat in a small saucepan. Boil for

one minute, then pour over the layered biscuits. Bake for 35 minutes. Be sure to let the bread cool before putting it on a plate.

ICING

What you need:
1/2 lb. cream cheese
1/2 lb. butter
1 lb. powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla

1 teaspoon lemon

What to do:

Allow the butter and cream cheese to reach room temperature. Mix butter and cream cheese in a large bowl using a mixer. Slowly add the powdered sugar. Once all of the powdered sugar is added, mix for 11 minutes. Add the lemon juice and vanilla when mixing is almost complete.

- by Jenna Scheirman

Enter laughing

STANDUP

CONTINUED FROM 1C

"Costaki and Bob are nonstop writers," he said. "Bob probably writes five or six new jokes a week, and Costaki is always writing. They're both great writers and performers, which is rare, because often, when headliners get their one 55-minute set, they stop writing, and neither of those guys stop."

For Economopoulos, the process of constant revision is an essential component to the art of standup.

"Standup is very much a medium that's a lot of trial and error by nature," he said. "You sort of polish a line or premise or joke and learn by repetition where the beats are and where the payoff is — it's very subtle. It's easy to do a line badly and not get a laugh but also to do that same line again and get a laugh, so you gotta learn all that stuff by doing."

As Franks can confirm, this "doing" is far easier said than done. A comedian's life isn't all giggles and guffaws and usually requires extensive travel, tough crowds, and low-paying gigs in a continual effort to gain exposure.

"There were times in my early career where I would have to drive up to Minneapolis once a month to do a three-minute set," Franks said. "It's a 5½ hour drive, but you have to do it."

Economopoulos recalled similar stories from his starting days. "Being a comic is a really

weird life," he said. "It's a great job — it's the best job in the world. But it's a strange life with all the travel and time away and everything — you're not in it for money, that's not why you do standup."

So what is it that's so intoxicating about standup comedy? What entices people to follow such a potentially difficult career path? And why are audiences drawn to bars, clubs, and theaters to watch these masochists perform?

"Usually, it's hot out, and there's air conditioning [inside the building]," Zany said. "And I think people want to laugh. They always want to just forget their problems. I always say I make people forget about their problems by creating new ones, but we all just want a release. We all want to say, 'Oh, look at that, maybe I'm not that screwed up after all — 'cause that comedian really is.'"

Zany's release hypothesis may eventually have medical support. Though no definitive research has been done on the potential health benefits of laughter, scientists acknowledge the human body does physiologically change when a person laughs, stretching muscles and sending oxygen to tissue in ways similar to exercise. A November 2008 study by University of Maryland cardiologists suggested laughter may help prevent heart disease, and Maciej Buchowski, a researcher from Vanderbilt University, found that 10 to 15 minutes of laugh-

ter actually burned 50 calories.

Economopoulos agreed with Zany's ideas about this comic release but delved further into both the commercial and philosophical arenas to the rationale behind standup.

"Standup is the last non-corporate art form because there are no associated advertisers," he said. "The only pressure on a comedian is to be funny. That's a lot of pressure, but in terms of creative pressure, no one's saying you can't make fun of Dahl's and you really shouldn't do a joke about Wal-Mart. There's something beautiful about that. I think one part of standup is that it's just a release from the tension and stress of life, but maybe a comic is also a social commentator. You can poke holes in the system, and hold it up, and look at it from the comic's point of view, which can be a pretty powerful tool."

Though Zany initially joked a comedian's function in society is to "not go on government assistance and be a burden to society," he shares Economopoulos' viewpoint.

"I think comics are B.S. detectors, that's my serious answer," Zany said. "We just happen to be nutty enough to point it out and get paid for it."

It may be a bumpy road from the open mike to the national stage, but as the masters of standup know, it's all part of the dramatic setup to the ultimate payoff.

"People come to see me now," Economopoulos said. "And it sounds silly, but that's all I ever wanted."

Successful births, successful rites

By JENNA SCHEIRMAN

jenna-scheirman@uiowa.edu

Over winter break, Birth Rites' band members were literally trapped indoors while recording their first album in Davenport because of the 45-below temperature.

"We were locked in an old converted school," said vocalist and guitarist Jack Hennessy. "We had all of this musical equipment and nothing to do but think about music. It was maddening. We lost track of time, but it was also cool in that sense."

The Iowa City-based band will release *All Success Stories*, the fruit of that chilling experience, at its show on Friday. The concert will begin at 9 p.m. at the Picador, 330 E. Washington St. Tickets are \$5.

Individuals from Mission Freak Records, the label affiliated with the annual Mission Creek Festival, approached Birth Rites to record an album last year.

"These guys have been friends with us for a while, and we have watched them grow," said Tanner Illingworth of Mission Creek. "We're interested in helping talent around here get exposure. Putting out an album for them seemed like the next logical step."

Birth Rites formed in 2008. Hennessy, drummer Greg Markus, and bassist (and former *DI* Arts reporter) Jarrett Hothan went to the same high school. Guitarist Setu Vora rounds out the band's lineup.

"It is kind of partying, hard-partying-rock stuff. Fun rock," Hennessy said. "We like to party ourselves, and I think that comes out in our music. There's not too much to think about. It's not too complex."

Hennessy found the structured atmosphere of recording an album to be restrictive. He missed being able to improvise, a quality he appreciates in much of his favorite music.

"When you record, you have



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO/ ED BORNSTEIN

Iowa City quartet Birth Rites will release its first album on Friday at the Picador. The band features former *DI* Arts writer Jarrett Hothan on bass.

to set a definite structure that determines how people hear songs and what they're going to think," he said. "Sometimes, that goes really well, and sometimes that destroys songs. [Recording] changes the possibility of the song. You can't expand it after that."

Yet the Birth Rites musicians enjoyed being in the studio because they were able to experiment with sound, and they exhibited great passion for the project.

"You're devoting yourself to one thing in particular, pushing yourself," Hennessy said. "It was a fun experience. You get immersed in it."

The quartet decided to name its debut *All Success Stories* after agonizing about it — the members went through hundreds of album titles before selecting the moniker.

"It was kind of a fun name, kind of self-boasting," Hennessy said. "It was just a cool title."

Birth Rites has opened for numerous national acts including, Titus Andronicus, No Age, and HEALTH.

"All the bands we play with are really nice," Hennessy said. "[As the opener], we just don't have to play so late. That's nice — then we can just get drunk."

Birth Rites has only headlined a few of its own shows, but the members look forward

to having some merchandise at Friday's performance. The bandmates have also talked about rolling their own cigarettes and calling them Birth Lites.

"I would love to do that," Hennessy said. "It has just been an idea. We've never actually put it into action."

Even without its own brand of cigarettes, Illingworth believes the band creates its own spark on stage.

"It's a really dynamic band," he said. "Everyone is really skillful at the instruments he plays. [The members] bury their styles and sound seamlessly."



dailyiowan.com



GIVE A LISTEN

Birth Rites
All Success Stories

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• "Beringia"
• "Singing to Myself"

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See BIRTH RITES with Noumenon, DADKIDS, and Capes of Lead, at the Picador, 330 E. Washington, at 9 p.m. Friday, \$5.

The grace of knowing

UI alumnus and Writers' Workshop faculty member James Galvin will read from *As Is*, his newest poetry collection, which explores catastrophe.

By RACHAEL LANDER

rachael-lander@uiowa.edu

For many, the poetry unit in school is enough to fill one with dread. It drives some to pull a Ferris Bueller just to get out of reading Walt Whitman or Emily Dickinson. But poetry can be enjoyable, said Iowa Writers' Workshop faculty member James Galvin, as long as it's read for sheer pleasure.

Biased as he may be — after all, he's a poet — Galvin will read from his latest poetry collection, *As Is*, at 8 p.m. today. The free event will take place in Van Allen Hall Lecture Room 2.

Growing up in Colorado didn't do much to spark his early writing. Despite noting his early interest in reading poetry, he didn't actually begin crafting poems until he moved to Ohio, where he received a B.A. at Antioch College.

"Having been raised in the American West, you could go through your whole life and no one would ever ask you to write a poem," Galvin said. "They might ask you to kill things, but they won't ask you to write a poem."

After receiving an undergraduate degree, he attended the Iowa Writers' Workshop,

where he received an M.F.A.. After a five-year stint teaching at two colleges, the poet settled down in 1983 as a permanent member of the poetry division in the Writers' Workshop.

Galvin isn't limited to just writing poetry, however; on top of numerous published poetry collections, he also has a memoir, *The Meadow*, and a novel, *Fencing the Sky*, to his credit. Despite experimenting in different writing forms, he unhesitatingly declared poetry to be his favorite form.

"Poetry is a much more joyful experience for me to write," he said. "Writing prose seems strangely like typing."

As Is, which hits stores next week, dabbles in exploring catastrophe.

"In a way I think the major anxiety that drives that particular book is the anxiety of trying to live fully and productively and gracefully during a catastrophe," Galvin said.

He has been working on this collection for the past six years, a time of great social and political change, both in the United States and abroad. He found inspiration in these transpirations.

"It sort of started around the time George Bush got

READING
James Galvin
When: 8 p.m. today
Where: Van Allen Hall Lecture Room 2
Admission: Free

elected," he said before launching into a list of catastrophes that included Hurricane Katrina, the tsunami in Indonesia, and last summer's flood. "So that stuff has been happening for the whole time I wrote this book. Really, I just wanted to write about being alive and mortal on Earth, but history wouldn't let me."

Galvin said perusing verse is an intensely pleasurable experience when readers allow themselves to succumb to the words.

"I think that a lot of times the way poetry is taught in school is as if it were not art but philosophy in a can, and the teacher has the can opener — and that's no fun for anyone," he said. "The ideas in it are pleasure, and the sensations in it, the images and the sounds and the textures, are all there for pleasure. It's not that it can't be analyzed like painting or music, but one's first experience of it should be some kind of conversation between the body and the mind that feels good."

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FIGHTING (PG-13) ✓ 5:25, 7:50, 10:10	GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13) ✓ 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST (PG-13) ✓ 5:00, 7:20, 9:40	I LOVE YOU MAN (R) 9:00
HANNAH MONTANA THE MOVIE (G) 4:40	MONSTERS VS ALIENS (PG) 4:45
MONSTERS VS. ALIENS 3D (PG) ✓x 5:00, 7:15, 9:30	OBSERVE & REPORT (R) 7:10, 9:20
OBSSESSED (PG-13) ✓x 4:50, 7:00, 9:50	OBSSESSED (PG-13) ✓x 4:15, 6:50, 9:20
STATE OF PLAY (PG-13) 4:15, 7:00, 9:50	SOLOIST (PG-13) ✓ 4:10, 7:00, 9:45
X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13) ✓x 4:30, 5:25, 7:00, 7:50, 9:25, 10:15	STATE OF PLAY (PG-13) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
	SUNSHINE CLEANING (R) 4:00, 6:30
	X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE (PG-13) ✓x 4:00, 5:00, 5:45, 6:30, 7:30, 8:15, 9:00, 10:00

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Directed by Steven Soderbergh
F-9:00, Sa-7:00, Su-5:00
M-9:00, T-7:00, W-9:00, Th-7:00
In this second part of the epic film CHE, Ernesto "Che" Guevara (Benicio Del Toro) leaves Cuba to begin a larger Latin-American revolution. He starts training forces in Bolivia, and despite mounting odds and increasing problems with his asthma, Che remains defiant and loyal to his revolutionary cause. Determined, Che continues bravely on, though time catches up to him and ends his mission — once and for all.

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Austen city limits

By NICK FETTY
nick-fetty@uiowa.edu

Long before Alicia Silverstone tasted fame as Cher Horowitz, Jane Austen wrote the story of a girl named Emma. Director Amy Heckerling transformed that tale into the 1995 hit film *Clueless*.

Now, an area group will do the same with Austen's work. On Saturday and May 10, the Ushers Ferry Historical Society of Cedar Rapids' Parlour Theater Company will perform a theatrical version of the 1815 novel *Emma*. The show will begin at 7 p.m. both days at the Old Capitol Senate Chamber. Admission is free.

"[*Emma*] was a great choice because it is a fun story," said society education coordinator Darrin Crow. "It is a fairly familiar piece of Jane Austen but not quite so well known as, say, *Pride and Prejudice*."

Emma deals with a romantic spiderweb linking the protagonist, her new friend Harriet, a farmer named Mr. Martin, and Mr. Elton, the town's preacher. "Emma is a play that isn't done quite as often as others," said Ann Cejka, the program coordinator for Ushers Ferry Historical Society.

The Parlour Theater company has performed historical pieces of literature for approximately 10 years. The choice to house a production of *Emma* at the Old Capitol made a lot of sense, because the museum is also featuring an exhibit on female British authors, including Jane Austen.

Usually, the troupe stages seven or eight programs



Actors get ready before a rehearsal of *Emma* in the Old Capitol Senate Chamber on Tuesday. The show will premiere Saturday, in the same location, at 7 p.m.

annually. In the past, the company has performed the works of Mark Twain, Edgar Allan Poe, and Orson Welles.

"Basically, we're featuring all 19th-century authors and people who tend to be forgotten about," Cejka said. "That's our mission at the Parlour Theater, to resurrect some old forgotten gems."

Since the June 2008 flood destroyed the 10-acre historical village, located in northeastern Cedar Rapids, the Historical Society has worked with other area organizations to continue its mission of preserving the past.

"Being able to perform at Old Capitol is really exciting for us," Crow said. "The people at the Old Capitol Museum are terrific folks, and they run a great museum, so we felt very privileged to get to work with them on the project."

Following the performance,

EMMA

When: 7 p.m. Saturday and May 10
Where: Old Capitol Senate Chamber
Admission: Free

Cejka, the cast members, and those working at the museum's British female authors exhibit will discuss Austen. Audience members are welcome.

Cejka pointed to the story's lead character as one of her favorite elements.

"It's a good show, it's a good story, it's funny," she said. "The thing that I kind of like about *Emma* is that she's a character for a main character — she's a character that no one could possibly like except for the author."

Far from the maddening garage

By HANNAH JONES LAWRENCE
hjonelawrence@gmail.com

Whoever said garage bands would never play anywhere but inside garages clearly had never heard of the High Strung.

Comprising vocalist and guitarist Josh Malerman, bassist Chad Stocker, and drummer Derek Berk, the High Strung has bouncy attitudes and surprisingly insightful sounds.

The group will play at 9 p.m. today at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington St. Admission is \$6.

While the High Strung has been classified as a group of the "garage rock" persuasion, Malerman remains unpersuaded that the title applies to his band.

"I like garage rock, but I honestly feel like we just don't have that sound," he said. "The reason we got lumped into that genre was because we were from Detroit and we started releasing albums when that whole garage-rock scene started ... But we really aren't like the bands that make that kind of music."

And in the music industry, where bands break up quicker than the time it took them to form, the High Strung is a model for groups in which the musicians are truly friends — and have every intention of staying that way.

"After being together for nine

years, we have learned what arguments each of us can win, which arguments can promote good discussion, and which arguments shouldn't be argued," Stocker said.

"While not everything is always grapefruit and granola, and even though we are going to have different opinions, we have become so comfortable with each other that they can't get in the way."

On April 21, the High Strung released its sixth album, *Ode To The Inverse of the Dude*.

Featured Tracks:

- "Real Stone"
- "Guilt Is How I'm Built"

If you like it: See **THE HIGH STRUNG** at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington, at 9 p.m. today, \$6.

Campepinos, the new record represents the group's expansion

upon its upbeat attitude.

"When we made this record, we were looking to grow," Malerman said. "While our other albums had songs that were similar to character sketches and funny stories about people, *Ode* has more psychoanalytic vents ... but positive ones. It is more personal and celebratory — like, 'Oh, look what we came up with.'"

Stocker also acknowledged *Ode's* sonic roots in producer David Newfeld's guidance and instruction.

"This album is definitely a step in a new direction," the bass player said. "David was more hands-on than any other producer we've had, but the differences in songwriting are a bit more subtle. In the past, Josh wrote songs about the experiences of characters as opposed to us. But *Ode* is more personal and more experimental — we started throwing synthesizers and electric drums into the mix."

Andre Perry, one of the Mill's entertainment bookers, who saw the High Strung perform at South by Southwest, said the band stands out because of its natural talent.

"The High Strung is one of those underappreciated bands," he said. "It has true songwriters with great energy. They just sing and play well, and that is pretty rare nowadays."



GIVE A LISTEN

The High Strung
Ode to the Inverse of the Dude

Featured Tracks:

- "Real Stone"
- "Guilt Is How I'm Built"

If you like it: See **THE HIGH STRUNG** at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington, at 9 p.m. today, \$6.

Hard rock for a good cause

By MELEA ANDRYS
melea-andrys@uiowa.edu

Michael Scheib might be a superhero.

He may not be in tune with a "spider sense" or be able to fly faster than a speeding bullet, but Scheib certainly lives the kind of double life made for comic books. By day, he plays the role of the mild-mannered senior counselor at Systems Unlimited, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting eastern Iowa's disabled and their families. But when night rolls around, he grabs his guitar and assumes the role of rock 'n' roll god in the bluesy, punky, garage band-esque duo Scheush.

"[We play] raw, loud, man-rock," he said.

On Saturday, Scheib will flaunt its musical testosterone at Systems Unlimited's first benefit concert. Scheib conceived the event as a way both to raise money and awareness for his employer, and the concert's lineup also includes fellow Iowa City acts the Brown Note and Beast Wars — and possibly a surprise special guest. The concert kicks off at 9 p.m. at the Mill, 120 E. Burlington St. Admission is \$5.

"I always wanted to do something for Systems because it's a place that I really like working for, and I think it does a good thing," Scheib said. "So I guess I was just trying to find a way to mix the stuff that I do outside of Systems, and it seemed like the perfect match for a benefit."

Andre Perry, the Mill's talent buyer, said the local concert venue was more than happy to assist Systems.

"If there's a community organization that we believe in, we can come up with the stage to help them out," he said. "We're all a part of the community, and it's just part of our responsibility."

Systems Unlimited has served Iowa City for 38 years by providing supported living, vocational services, elderly care, and other aid for disabled community members. The agency serves more than 1,000 children, adults, and families in 45 cities across eastern Iowa, generating more than \$13.7 million in annual revenue.

"We're continuing to expand our service in the area," said Megan McCannon, Systems Unlimited's community-resource coordinator. "We've increased the number of children's homes — we're actually one of the only three programs in the state that provide assisted community living for



Scheush's Michael Scheib (left) and Aaron Preusch pose in their practice room in the Hall Mall on Wednesday. Scheush will play a benefit concert for Systems Unlimited this Saturday at the Mill.

'It's gonna be an awesome rock 'n' roll show. It's in line with what we usually do, but the difference is that the money is going to a good cause and the bands are donating their time to a good organization.'

— Andre Perry, the Mill's talent buyer

children. We've just overall continued to grow our services in the last years."

Scheib said he finds his job at Systems Unlimited both fun and rewarding.

"I work in a house with three different guys, and I support them as much as I possibly can while helping them be as independent as they can," he said. "That's our big mission here at Systems: treating everyone with respect and equality."

All proceeds from the concert will go directly to Systems Unlimited to assist the organization in its mission.

"We hope people will just have a really good time," McCannon said. "And for people who have never heard about Systems, [we hope they] get to know us, and they will probably meet a lot of our employees. We hope to meet people who are looking for a job

CONCERT
Systems Unlimited Benefit Concert featuring Scheush, the Brown Note, and Beast Wars

When: 9 p.m. Saturday
Where: Mill, 120 E. Burlington
Admission: \$5

or are interested in the field; we also hope to increase our overall community awareness."

Perry said he has high expectations for the event in both its music and its message.

"It's gonna be an awesome rock 'n' roll show," he said. "It's in line with what we usually do, but the difference is that the money is going to a good cause and the bands are donating their time to a good organization."

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