

The Daily Iowan

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2009

IOWA 15, MICHIGAN STATE 13

IN 8TH HEAVEN

A final-second touchdown strike brought the Hawkeyes to a 15-13 victory and a historic undefeated start. See Sports, 1B.



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

LICENSE TO SERVE

Bars' fate in hands of judge

She will decide if the PAULA guidelines are enough to deny renewals.

By NICOLE KARLIS
nicole-karlis@uiowa.edu

ANKENY, Iowa — After a seven-hour hearing, it is still unclear whether the state will uphold Iowa City's guidelines for denying liquor licenses to bars with high underage drinking tickets.

The intense discussion took place before an administrative judge at the state's Alcoholic Beverages Division building on Oct. 23, as legal teams from two Iowa City bars fought city attorneys for their businesses.

Administrative Law Judge Margaret LaMarche did not issue a ruling. Instead, she is focusing on the language of the new city guidelines and bars' ability to comply, and will review last week's arguments and evidence, as well as taped discussions between city councilors from when they developed the new guidelines in February.

The owners of Et Cetera, 118 S. Dubuque St., and 3rd Base, 111 E. College St., must wait up to a month to hear LaMarche's decision. The two downtown bars were the first to be denied under the new regulations, which require Iowa City police to recommend license denials if bars have more than one underage drinking ticket per police visit.

SEE HEARING, 3A

Regents mull surcharge

Eligible students could see more financial aid if regents approve a midyear surcharge on tuition.

By JOHN DOETKOTT
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The state Board of Regents will discuss imposing a surcharge of \$100 per full-time student at the three state universities at its meeting Thursday in Cedar Falls.

The regents will also consider a 6 percent tuition hike for the next school year. Regent Rose Vasquez said the regents worked with officials at the three public universities to determine how much of an increase they should propose.

Institution leaders, including UI President Sally Mason, are set to present plans

to the board on Thursday on how they hope to trim roughly \$60 million from the schools' budgets. The UI has been asked to cut \$24.7 million. The budget-reduction plans won't be made public until the meeting, but officials have said they are considering salary decreases, layoffs, furloughs, and benefit reductions in addition to the tuition increase and surcharge.

The surcharge — which would affect all students at the UI, Iowa State University,



Mason
UI president

and the University of Northern Iowa and would be prorated for part-time students — would draw in approximately \$5.7 million for the regents. This equals roughly 10 percent of what they've been directed to cut in response to Gov. Chet Culver's recent 10 percent across-the-board reductions to the state budget.

Students eligible for financial aid could see more help for the surcharge, if eligible.

Vasquez said she supports both the tuition increase and surcharge but recognized the burden it puts on students.

SEE REGENTS, 3A

UI strives to reach out with degrees

Officials say degrees from distance campuses equal those earned in Iowa City.



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Tammy Bach, Graciela Hammel, and Zeddy Kiche study in the lounge of Kirkwood Community College on Oct. 20 at the Iowa City campus. Students enrolled at local community colleges can receive UI degrees without having to take classes at the UI.

By KATHRYN STINSON
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Students at four Iowa community colleges can now earn a UI degree without ever setting foot on the Iowa City campus.

As part of a new strategy, the UI is expanding its influence to the students unable to commit to the traditional four-year undergraduate experience.

This semester is the first term the UI is using both the Internet and an in-person employee to teach the program's two UI courses, Globalization and Entrepreneurship.

UI Globalization teaching assistant Alex Cohen — who drives to Cedar Rapids, Davenport, and Des Moines every other week to hold evening meetings for his class — said he thinks the program is a good investment.

"Distance students are being given an opportunity to interact with course material that may not be available at their local institutions," he wrote in an e-mail.

The program is aimed at students with family or job commitments, making it difficult for them to uproot and move to Iowa City.

Interest in the program has yet to meet expectations, but officials said they hope enrollment will grow with increased marketing strategies and class options.

SEE COLLEGE, 3A

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

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OFF DEADLINE

Look inside for the Daily Iowan's magazine, *Off Deadline*. This issue includes journalistic stories as well as fiction and poetry submissions.





UI plans on growing

Iowa Promise initiative could take longer than expected to accomplish.

By **EMILY BUSSE**
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Even with massive budget cuts, the UI is looking to grow by the hundreds.

With the Iowa Promise initiative, UI officials plan to add 100 new tenured faculty positions and increase enrollment by 100 students each year over a five-year period, said UI Provost Wallace Loh.

Formed before recent budget cuts were announced, the Iowa Promise may now take longer to complete than the five years officials had originally planned.

Although some question the university's ability to add new positions and students during the budget crisis, Loh emphasized the importance of considering growth rather than only downsizing.

"I think the worst thing you can do is to think cut, cut, cut," he said. "You also have to think build, build, build for the future ... so we don't wake up and say, 'Wow the university has been decimated.'"

UI Director of Admissions Michael Barron said the university will not

lower admissions standards in order to add more students, instead focusing on more aggressive recruiting methods.

"[One hundred new students] is not going to affect quality in the sense that we won't be more generous with our admission offers," he said. "It certainly wouldn't make sense to achieve a goal by lowering one's standards."

The added enrollment could bring in roughly \$1 million in tuition revenue, Loh said.

While the university will take in the extra money from tuition, it must also take into account how much is spent on a student over the four years he or she attends the university.

But, Loh said, the additional students would be spread out over the hundreds of class sections and is a low enough number to avoid adding much cost to the university.

Revenue garnered from the added tuition would "go right back to the students" by funding other areas of the Iowa Promise, such as adding more first-year seminars and establishing

living-learning communities aimed at increasing retention, Loh said.

The goal to add 100 tenured faculty positions comes in the form of "cluster hirings" by the initiative's Task Force on Research and Creative Excellence, said Michael Cohen, the task force's chairman. After identifying five to 10 global issues such as water sustainability, the task force will work with departments to hire 10 new positions for each area of focus.

The new positions, funded by money set aside for the initiative, will fill spots left open in departments after losing 100 faculty in the past seven to eight years, as well as the other spots that may be left open after potential layoffs due to budget cuts, Loh said.

Although some question adding positions during discussions of layoffs, Loh said it may have a positive effect.

"In a sense, hiring these positions also helps alleviate some of the pressures caused by positions that have been eliminated," he said.

Increasing retention rates

In addition to adding faculty and students, the Iowa Promise includes plans to help students connect to the university:

- Add more first-year seminars
- Provide access to peer mentors
- Place every first-year student in a living-learning community
- Provide freshmen with access to career advisers
- Increase study-abroad scholarships and research opportunities

Source: UI Provost Wallace Loh

Members of the task force said the goal of building expertise in specific areas is to increase the quality of education while also enhancing the UI's reputation in the U.S. and internationally.

"If you think about a professional football team, you have to be strong in every position," Cohen said. "You also really need to be superb in some."

METRO

Police probe assault

Iowa City police are investigating an assault inside a Pancho's Mexican Grill over the weekend.

According to police reports, the victim of the assault was ordering food around 1 a.m. Sunday at Pancho's, 965 S. Riverside Drive. As he was ordering, a man reportedly approached him and hit him in the eye after calling him a "zombie."

Police said the victim tried to use his cell phone to call police, but the assailant punched him again, breaking his nose. He fled out the back door; the victim was taken to the UI Hospitals and Clinics for treatment.

The man accused of assaulting the victim is described as a dark-complected white man with short brown hair, around 20 years old, between 6 foot and 6-2 and 200 to 230 pounds.

- by Marleen Linares

Woman charged with endangerment

An Iowa City woman allegedly left her 4-month-old baby alone while she went to a bar.

Arlene Green, 23, 240 Highway 6 E. No. 4001, was charged with child endangerment.

According to reports, police were called to an apartment, where the resident said he found Green's baby after being gone all day. He told police he tried to call Green, but she didn't answer her phone. Green later arrived at the apartment and denied leaving the baby and that the baby was with her. The cab driver who drove Green said she didn't have a baby with her.

Green had a wristband from a bar downtown and had a blood alcohol content of .264. The legal limit is .08.

Green is in custody at the Johnson County Jail with a \$3,000 cash-only bond.

- by Marleen Linares

POLICE BLOTTER

Jordan Bettis, 19, 25 Lincoln Avenue No. 14, was charged Oct. 23 with PAULA.

Douglas Bishop, 25, 1205 Laura Drive No.145, was charged Oct. 24 with domestic assault with injury.

Kaylee Busse, 22, 220 S. Johnson St., was charged Oct. 23 with OWI.

Sean Cunningham, 22, 520 S. Capitol St., was charged Oct. 24 with public intoxication.

Tamra Denny, 49, Riverside, Iowa, was charged Oct. 23 with driving with a suspended or canceled license, possession of drug paraphernalia, and OWI.

Michael Dhooge, 20, 218 N. Lucas St., was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Bryan Dodes, 18, 947 Slater, was charged Oct. 23 with PAULA, presence on premise after hours, and unlawful use of authentic driver's license or ID of another.

Marcus Dresen, 22, Woodbine, Iowa, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Alan Edler, 28, 863 Page St., was charged Oct. 23 with second-offense OWI.

Rex England, 49, Keota, Iowa, was charged May 18 with second-

UI withholds building naming information

UI officials aren't revealing any details about the proposed naming of a university facility.

The agenda for this Thursday's state Board of Regents meeting shows the UI is requesting to name a campus building, though it does not state which one.

The UI faced controversy in 2007 after Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield offered a \$15 million gift in exchange for naming rights of the university's new public-health building.

Iowa State University submitted a naming request as well, but in contrast to the UI, it listed both the proposed name and specific building affected.

Iowa State officials have requested the institution's basketball practice facility be named the Sukup Basketball Complex, in honor of the family that committed a lead gift of \$2 million in funding for the new facility.

- by Kathryn Stinson

Hospitals restrict visitors

Visitors to flu-stricken patients at local hospitals now face new restrictions by hospital officials.

Officials from the UI Hospitals and Clinics, Mercy Hospital, and the Veterans Affairs Medical Center announced their decision Oct. 23 as a response to the record-breaking number of emergency-room visits from patients with flu-symptoms.

Under the new policy, patients are only allowed two adult visitors, neither of whom can show any signs of infection. In addition, no one under 18 will be allowed in the patient-care area, because UI spokesman Tom Moore said, minors have a higher risk of being infected.

The approach has previously

been implemented by St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids. Sarah Corizzo, St. Luke's media-relations specialist, said the Linn County Health Department recommended officials restrict visitation.

"I have been told that other hospitals have done similar things," she said. "It does have the tendency to reduce illnesses."

- by Scott Raynor

Woman charged with endangerment, possession

Iowa City police arrested a woman for allegedly possessing drugs in her home around her two children.

Ruby Harden, 28, 1103 Hollywood Blvd. No. 11, was charged with endangerment and possession of a controlled substance.

According to reports, Harden gave consent to officers to search her apartment after her boyfriend was arrested for possession of marijuana. Officers allegedly found a large bag of marijuana on the floor and on a table in the living room. Police also allegedly found cocaine in Harden's bedroom. Harden allegedly admitted to knowing the marijuana was on the floor and table. She also allegedly admitted to using marijuana in the home where her two children, ages 5 and 3, live.

Possession of a controlled substance is a serious misdemeanor and is generally punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$1,500. Endangerment is an aggravated misdemeanor and is generally punishable by up to two years in prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.

- by Marleen Linares

UI police probe reported assault

The UI police are investigating

a reported assault in Burge.

According to reports, the incident occurred around 4 a.m. on Oct. 21 on the 1500 floor of Burge. A woman said she woke up to find a man in her room, touching her leg. When she woke up, the man covered his head with a blanket and left.

The man is described as a taller white male, wrapped in a dark-colored blanket or comforter. Officials urge anyone with information to contact UI police or the Burge coordinator.

- by Marleen Linares

Women face numerous charges

Iowa City police arrested two women on drug-related charges and child endangerment.

Kenyatta Taylor, 20, 2502 Bartlett Road 1B, and Alicia Reed, 20, were both face numerous charges, including possession with intent to deliver, drug tax-stamp violations, and child endangerment.

According to reports, police had a search warrant for the apartment after receiving information there were drugs present. When officers entered, Reed attempted to leave the apartment carrying a 3-month-old baby. When officers asked to look through the baby's blankets, a bag of marijuana fell onto the ground. Reed was allegedly in possession of several individual bags of marijuana.

Officers searched the rest of the apartment and allegedly found marijuana, packaging materials, a digital scale. Taylor allegedly admitted her house has been used for purchases of illegal drugs. In the home, Taylor had her three children, ages 1, 2, and 3.

Possession with intent to deliver and drug-stamp violation are Class D felonies and are generally punishable by up to five years in prison and a fine of up to \$7,500.

- by Marleen Linares

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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

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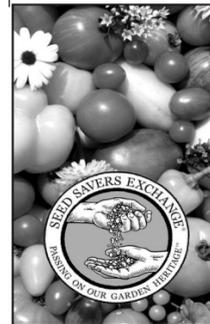
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CORRECTION

In the Oct. 23 brief, "Woman charged with possession of pseudoephedrine," the location of Christine Schonberg's arrest was

inaccurate. She was arrested at 501 Elkhorn Trail, not at her address, which police listed as 1822 Flatiron Ave.



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degree theft by check.

Eric Even, 19, Cascade, Iowa, was charged Oct. 23 with public intoxication.

Jeffrey Farmer, 29, Cedar Rapids, was charged Sunday with second-offense OWI and driving with a suspended or canceled license.

Austin Fisher, 20, 130 N. Linn St. No.2425, was charged Oct. 23 with keeping a disorderly house.

Donte Green, 27, 1102 Hollywood St. No. 1, was charged Oct. 24 with possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver.

Emily Green, 20, 111 E. Bloomington St., was charged Oct. 23 with PAULA.

Jeremiah Hagen, 18, N256 Hillcrest, was charged Oct. 23 with public intoxication.

Clinton Ivy, 20, Cedar Rapids, was charged Oct 23 with PAULA.

Dawn Jackson, 45, Cedar Falls, was charged Oct. 24 with OWI.

Shango Johnson, 19, address unknown, was charged Oct. 24 with driving while license revoked.

Christopher Kotars, 21, 551 S. Linn St., was charged Oct. 23 with keeping disorderly house.

Nicholas Kriz, 20, Naperville, Ill., was charged Sunday with public

intoxication.

Ann Lane, 18, 2519 Burge, was charged Oct. 23 with PAULA and presence on premise after hours.

Jack Lewis, 20, 512 N. Gilbert St., was charged Oct. 22 with providing a tobacco product to a minor.

Jonathan Olbrich, 19, Marengo, Ill., was charged Oct. 24 with unlawful use of authentic driver's license or ID of another.

Dylan Miller, 19, Victor, Iowa, was charged Oct. 23 with public intoxication and possession of marijuana.

Mitchell Moeller, 19, N316 Hillcrest, was charged Oct. 23 with presence on premise after hours, unlawful use of authentic driver's license or ID of another, and PAULA.

Christopher Moen, 18, 449 Hillcrest, was charged Oct. 24 with public intoxication and unlawful use of authentic driver's license or ID of another.

Shannon Nehring, 34, Lone Tree, was charged Sunday with child endangerment with no injury.

Zachary Newman, 18, 612 S. Dodge St. No.5, was charged Oct. 23 with OWI.

Steven Nunnally, 33, 2801

Highway 6 E. No.321, was charged Sunday with child endangerment with no injury.

Olga Nikolayenko, 20, 504 S. Van Buren St. No.2, was charged Oct. 23 with PAULA.

Matthew Porter, 21, 434 S. Johnson St. Apt. 2, was charged Oct. 24 with public intoxication.

Whitney Rodriguez, 20, 2656 Roberts Road Apt. 1C, was charged Sept. 6 with fraudulent criminal acts with a credit card and fifth-degree theft.

David Salamone, 19, Cedar Rapids, was charged Oct. 23 with public intoxication.

Cody Shank, 20, 321 S. Linn St. No.321, was charged Oct. 23 with second-offense public intoxication.

Heather Vignes, 23, 2159 Kountry Lane S.E. Apt. 6, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Dillon Weaver, 19, 200 S. Mount Vernon St., was charged Oct. 24 with allowing a person to drive while revoked and public intoxication.

Adam Willey, 24, Solon, was charged Oct. 24 with public intoxication.

Kyle Zearley, 19, 6828 College Park No.4, was charged Oct. 23 with possession of marijuana and fourth-degree theft.

REGENTS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"It's not a good place to be," she said. "I wouldn't be surprised that [students] don't really welcome it."

UI junior Alec Siglin said he wouldn't be enthusiastic about the surcharge, and he thinks it is unfair to charge students midway through the year.

"That just seems unnecessary, maybe excessive," Siglin said.

UI graduate student Jared Vavroch was also opposed to the idea of charging students while already well into the school year.

"I think once tuition is

set for the year, it should be set in stone," he said.

But he said he understood the need for the increase and could accept it "as long as the university isn't taking it lightly" and "always keeps in mind it works for us."

Vasquez defended the increase, saying a balanced approach to budget cuts is the best solution.

"The more you can spread and distribute the ouch-factor, the better it is for everyone," she said.

The regents aren't scheduled to make an official decision on either proposal this week; tuition decisions are slated for the board's December meeting. A 6 percent increase in tuition would translate into an

additional \$346 for in-state residents, and \$1,268 for out-of-state residents.

As for the idea that tuition increase and surcharge could affect retention rates — the UI already has the lowest retention rate in the Big Ten at 83 percent — Vasquez said she was confident they would not have a serious effect.

"I'm not worried about it," she said. "I don't think we're pricing them out."

On top of a 6 percent increase in tuition at the UI, the board is considering raising mandatory fees by 23.7 percent. That equals an 8.7 percent total increase for in-state students and a 6.8 percent total jump for out-of-state students.



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Zach Taylor (left) and Brandon Hanes work in a lab at Kirkwood Community College in Iowa City on Oct. 20. Students enrolled in community colleges can receive UI degrees without setting foot on the UI campus.

HEARING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Eric Goers, an assistant city attorney, argued that Iowa City has battled a reputation for binge drinking, adding the PAULA-per-visit ratio is the city's attempt to curb this image.

But the businesses' attorneys shot back, stating the new guidelines are unclear and should not be the sole reason for denying liquor-license renewals.

"The city of Iowa City is relying on an illegitimate standard," said Matthew Adam, who represented 3rd Base. "The data it has compiled is inaccurate and misleading; evidence will show its resolution is vague."

Police base their decision on the number of "bar checks," not "police visits," Adam said, noting the definitions are different.

Iowa City Police Chief Sam Hargadine said police use "the number of times a

police officer enters an establishment with a purpose to see if it is in compliance with the state law" when calculating the ratio. Hargadine also said officers decide how many visits certain establishments receive based on the likelihood of finding underage drinkers.

The city also called Sarah Hansen, the director of assessment and strategic initiatives for UI Student Services, to testify.

She said UI students typically know where it's easier to obtain alcohol as a minor.

"They learn from each other where to access alcohol," she said. "Our goal as an institution is to have our students succeed. Alcohol affects that."

But bar owners contend they're doing what they can to control underage boozers.

"We have a zero-tolerance policy for illegal activity," said Rafer Mateer, the general manager of 3rd Base.

Despite questions raised about the city's guidelines

The path to a potential liquor-license revocation

- Feb. 10 - City Council passes resolution with new guidelines
- July 1 - New guidelines go into effect
- July 28 - City Council denies renewal of Et Cetera's and 3rd Base's liquor licenses
- Oct. 23 - State appeal hearing at the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division

Source: www.icgov.org

on Oct. 23, city councilors still support the new standard and its effectiveness.

"I think the guidelines are fair," said Councilor Matt Hayek. "The PAULA ratio is [just] one piece of the renewal process."

After LaMarche's hands down her decision, both parties will have the option of appealing to Alcoholic Beverages Division Administrator Lynn Walding, who would make his decision based on the Oct. 23 hearing.

METRO

Everson's trial delayed

The trial for a former Hawkeye football accused of sexual assault has been delayed until next spring.

But according to the judge's order, it is the last time a continuance will be allowed in this case.

Cedric Everson, who is charged with second-degree sexual abuse, will now go to trial after former teammate Abe Satterfield.

Satterfield, who is charged in connection with the same alleged incident, will go to trial April 12, 2010, after a series of delays.

Everson's attorney had requested his client's trial be held after

Satterfield's and when a judge approved moving Satterfield's trial, Everson's was also delayed.

Both men are accused of sexu-

ally assaulting a female student-athlete in a Hillcrest dorm room on Oct. 14, 2007.

— by Regina Zilbermintz

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Editorial

UI should reverse decision to close Chicago Center

A UI flag will no longer be flying in the Windy City. Budget cuts have largely forced the university to close its Chicago Center in November.

As a top institution, the UI fights for each and every student on a yearly basis. We are in constant competition with our surrounding Midwest brethren to protect our place in the hierarchy of upper-level public universities. The budget cuts require us to find various areas to slash.

If the university wants to remain competitive, however, we must keep the UI Chicago Center open.

Chicago and its surrounding suburbs have long been a focal point for the UI's recruitment efforts. One-third of the university's freshman class came from the Chicago area during the office's first year in 2007. And last fall, Illinois students totaled almost 5,800, according to the registrar's office.

Beth Ingram, the associate provost for undergraduate education, told *The Daily Iowan* last week that although the physical space will close, the school will continue to use the center's phone service and online applications.

The university deemed the office to be unnecessary because of a lack of foot traffic and a \$36,000 yearly lease. Erin Bloomquist, the director of the Chicago Center, will continue her work at home, while staying in close contact with the Pomerantz Career Center.

"This is a very important market for the [UI]," she told the *DI*.

The UI continues to look at all possible scenarios in which to save money, and it's understandable officials would consider shuttering the Chicago Center's doors because of budgetary constraints. But closing the university's office in Chicago will do more harm than good. For those individuals in Chicago looking to continue their education at a four-year university, this office exists as place of information and guidance.

Not all college-bound students or their families can afford numerous college visits. Phone

calls and e-mails to answer questions on the UI will not do, especially when tuition for out-of-state students exceeds \$21,000. Parents need to see faces and understand there is a difference when it comes to the education this university provides.

Officials have said they will continue to market the university to potential students and employers by other means, such as social networking and public relations.

Still, this recruitment method fails to allow a face-to-face relationship among the university, employers, and, more importantly, the students.

Recruiting a qualified and talented student population requires a contribution of effort and visibility. Students can hear the advantages and qualities of our institution secondhand, but nothing can make up for a one-on-one meeting between prospective students and UI officials. The Chicago Center provides that opportunity for those unable to make a trip to the Iowa City campus. We cannot ignore the economic hardships that potential students have to wade through to get to Iowa City.

Will closing the Chicago office help solve our budget woes in the short term? Yes. But what advantages does it provide in the long-run?

Students in the Chicago area will make less-informed decisions on their future because we have not provided them the resources to ask questions and meet real people who can address their prudent concerns.

Closing this office will likely save us money. But when reaching out to potentially great students, do we really need to be viewed as cutting corners? Visibility is a shared commodity that all universities covet. Without it, we lack a connection and fall short in our efforts to bring the best to this top institution.

Can we really put a price tag on that principle?

Your turn. Is the UI right to close the Chicago Center? Weigh in on dailyiowan.com.

The financial blame game

JUSTIN SUGG
justin-sugg@uiowa.edu

A global battle rages on — and I'm not talking about Afghanistan.

This is a battle of economics.

The financial crisis has prompted economists and politicians to call for increased regulation, while a chorus of free-market thinkers is countering such calls. A question of blame is at the heart of this debate. To answer this question, I'll need to go over the financial collapse's history.

The '90s were a period of unparalleled prosperity for America. In 1998, the Russian government defaulted on its debt, much of which American companies owned. The Federal Reserve feared those companies' collapse could trigger a panic, so it pumped more than \$3 billion in the market by financing a failing hedge fund called Long-Term Capital Management.

Imagine a balloon being filled with a steady amount of air. Now, imagine the Federal Reserve taking a deep breath and blowing a whole bunch of air into that balloon because it thinks the panic will deflate it. The balloon hyperinflated at a fast pace and instead of deflating, the balloon popped.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average — which rose steadily to near 10,000 points in 1998 — shot straight to 11,000 in 2000, before crashing to around 7,000 in 2002. The Dow's dive took the economy with it. The country's growth rate dropped from 6 percent in the second quarter of 2000 to around .2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2002.

The Fed took drastic measures, whittling away interest rates from 6.5 percent in 2001 to 1 percent in 2003. The federal government also gave generous tax cuts to people buying homes. This combination kicked off the largest housing boom in U.S. history, according to a *New York Times* report.

Banks, unable to make any money from the interest rates off these loans, sold the debt to other banks, who then sold it to investment

banks. These investment banks turned this amalgamated debt into a financial product called a derivative. People buying these would get a return based on the increasing housing values and mortgage rates. The cheap money and incentives did a good job of stimulating the economy. By 2004, the country was in full-fledged recovery.

It didn't last.

The housing market went under in 2006, rendering the derivatives worthless and bankrupting financial institutions all over the world. Pro-regulationists argue the deregulation in the '80s and '90s — including Congress repealing the Glass-Steagall Act in the late-90s — caused the crisis. The Glass-Steagall Act prevented investment banks and lending banks from merging.

If banks couldn't merge, they argue, then the housing crisis wouldn't have spread to other parts of the economy. Sharers of this view also argue that if the government properly regulated the derivatives and required banks to keep cash reserves to cover potential losses, then the derivative market might not have collapsed.

This argument doesn't address the root cause of the crisis, namely the Fed's irresponsible actions. Not only did the Fed drastically lower interest rates, it kept them low. The Fed didn't start to raise rates until around 2004 and didn't even raise them back to 2001 levels. These low rates made banks super-dependent on derivatives.

Talk of regulating those products is also a knee-jerk reaction and smacks of 20/20 hindsight. The housing market was the most stable growth-driven market in the United States and wasn't the only market that derivatives used. If the Fed and the federal government acted using free-market principles, they would've raised rates sooner and more aggressively.

Right now, pro-regulationists seem to be winning this argument. Congress earlier this year passed new credit-card regulations, and the president is championing more financial regulation.

But the government should regulate itself before regulating others. ■

Letters

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to diopletters@gmail.com (as text, not as attachment). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* reserves the right to edit for length and clarity. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

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.

READER COMMENTS that may appear below were originally posted on dailyiowan.com in response to published material. They will be chosen for print publication when they are deemed to be well-written and to forward public discussion. They may be edited for length and style.

Support those fighting for single-payer

Our government's existence is chartered of, for, and by the people — not of, for, and by profits or corporations. The government, when it necessary to promote the public good, is the protector and provider of the people. That is not socialism; it is protecting democracy. Unregulated capitalism, as demonstrated by today's corporate greed, is an enemy of democracy and an enemy of the people as a whole.

Please make your voice heard today.

Support the single-payer amendments from Rep. Anthony Weiner, D-N.Y., Sen. Dennis Kucinich, D-Ohio, and Sen. Bernie Sanders, D-Vt. Re-establish that the citizens of this nation have representatives who work for the people, not representatives who stomp for (after the campaign is financed by) CEOs and management who see themselves as monarchs of corporate kingdoms.

Michael Mitchell
Swisher resident

Herwig for Coralville City Council

Coralville citizens would be well served by re-electing Henry Herwig to the Coralville City Council. Henry works as a team member in numerous capacities that help make Coralville a great place to live. He serves as a representative on the Johnson County Council Of Governments' Urbanized Area Police Board, is the chairman of the East Central Iowa Council Of Governments,

participates in seeking funding for area flood recovery efforts, and serves as mayor pro-tem.

His past includes a 21-year service record with the Coralville Fire Department. Henry does his homework. Henry comes prepared.

He is prepared to serve Coralville well for another four years. Please join me in voting to keep Coralville sound, progressive, and a great place to live with a vote for Henry Herwig for Coralville Council.

Eve Casserly
Coralville resident

Guest opinion

Expel UI students charged with alcohol-related offense

By MARSHALL POE

It was 3 a.m., and someone was trying to kick down our front door.

My wife and I were terrified. We feared for our children who were sleeping in the next room. She called the police, and I went downstairs to defend my family in case the intruder entered. The door was shaking violently as I approached. I yelled through it for the man to leave. He persisted. I foolishly opened the door. And there stood a young man so drunk he could barely speak. He mumbled something about wanting to go to bed upstairs. I told him

the police were on the way. The police arrived, but he was gone.

We didn't sleep well. We still don't.

I have had enough. Over the course of our time in Iowa City, we have witnessed in our immediate vicinity countless acts of violence, vandalism, and conduct unbecoming in every variety imaginable. This is not "kids just being kids." It is drunk students, encouraged by a permissive drinking culture and acting without fear of university sanction, causing mayhem in the very city that welcomes them and among the very people who teach them.

A student could be arrest-

ed for an off-campus murder, and the administration would not catch the charge until one of its rare statistical reviews. The deans would read about it in *The Daily Iowan*, just like you and me. And what would they do once they found out? Probably nothing. They can't. The UI's student code of conduct applies only on university grounds and at university events. Had the student who tried to kick in our front door been arrested, he could have been bailed out the next day and come to my class.

The UI already has a bad national reputation, fueled by its remarkable laxity when dealing with out-of-

control drinking. It's getting worse. As director of undergraduate studies in the history department, I meet prospective students and their parents regularly. What am I supposed to tell them? That the UI is a fine place — except that if you go downtown on a Thursday, Friday, or Saturday night that you might well be beaten unconscious by someone who is too drunk to know his own name?

Enough. We are a world-class institution of higher learning, not a place to take some classes, get really smashed, and cause havoc. The students who believe

we are the latter and not the former must be asked to leave for our sake and theirs. They — and I specifically mean students who violate the law while under the influence — are not hard to identify. The *DI* gets a list of them from the police every day. You'd think the university could do the same. Once identified, they could be dropped from the roles and told to go away until they are mature enough to be members of our community. I will be the first to welcome them back when they are.

But for now, enough. No more committees. No more consultants. It's time for

action, and the course is clear: Extend the student code of conduct to cover all of Iowa City and monitor the police blotter for university students who are charged with OWI, public intoxication, public urination, interfering with an official act, assault, breaking and entering, theft, keeping a disorderly house, etc. Banish these students from the university and Iowa City for a definite period; bring them back when they are ready to act as the fortunate students of a great university should.

Marshall Poe is an associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in the history department.

MOVIE REVIEW

Came. Saw. Conquered.



PUBLICITY PHOTO

Saw VI is the latest installment in the popular series.

Saw VI is a semi-intelligent and entertaining entry into the long-running horror franchise.

By ERIC ANDERSEN
eric-andersen@uiowa.edu

It's Halloween, which means one thing — another *Saw* movie.

Six films into the franchise, it would be easy to pass off the latest installment as more of the same (i.e., just another crappy gore-filled horror movie). Surprisingly, *Saw VI* is actually good — and not just in comparison with past *Saw* films.

The story is finally coherent (which was one of the bigger problems with *Saw IV* & *V*). The original Jigsaw killer is dead (expertly played by Tobin Bell), and so is his helper, Amanda (although they both appear by way of flashbacks in the current installment). Lt. Matt Hoffman (introduced in *Saw III*), balances his time between being a detective and killer, setting up evil traps to spread Jigsaw's message of the life

appreciation.

In *Saw VI*, Hoffman finally holds his own as the new Jigsaw killer, providing a performance of the calm and cool renegade detective who might just snap at any second. Although it still seems strange that a detective would emerge as the Jigsaw killer, at this point it's something that viewers just have to accept. (Also, watch for actor Darius McCrary, known for his role as Eddie Winslow on classic '90s sitcom *Family Matters*, playing a minor role as one of Hoffman's victims.)

The story line for this film (written by UI alumni Patrick Melton and Marcus Dunstan) focuses on William Easton, a health-insurance executive who came up with the equation used to distinguish between patients who do and do not qualify for health-care coverage. The all-too-obvious references to the current health-care debate flow throughout the movie, but it actually makes for an thought-provoking premise. Easton becomes the new target of a deadly game of survival when it's revealed he has ties to the original Jigsaw.

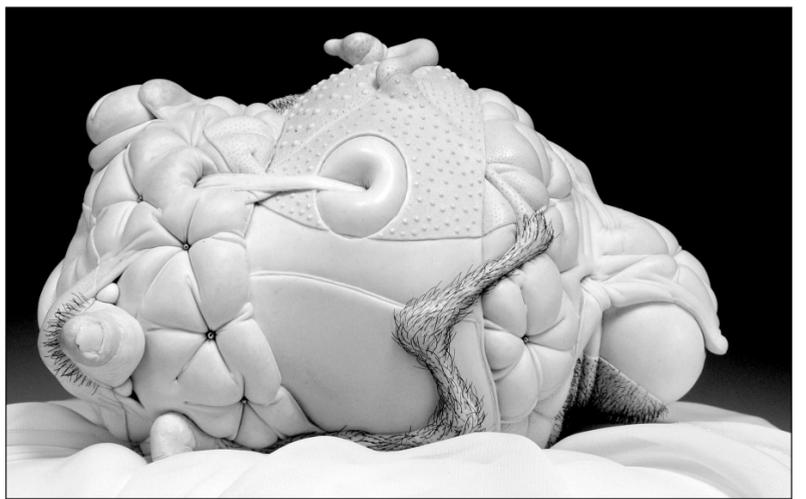
As always, the mainstays of the *Saw* series are the

vicious traps that victims must escape in order to live. *Saw VI*'s opening number (involving the shedding of body parts), is one of the series' most brutal and over-the-top. Not for the squeamish, most of the film's grisly situations are memorable, culminating in a six-person spinning trap that is simple yet ingenious — and one of the coolest in the *Saw* franchise history.

And of course, the film wouldn't be complete without a twist ending (once again, one of the best in *Saw* history). Though the last few twists in previous *Saw* movies were predictable, this one not only leaves the viewer guessing until the very end but also sets up an awesome premise for *Saw VII*.

Yes, *Saw VII*. (In fact, the writers are already done continuing the story through *Saw VIII*. Oh, and the next film is going to be in 3-D.)

Any of the casual/disenchanting *Saw* fans who are still reading this should go check out the film. It is a great, blood-soaked addition to the series that fits right alongside the series' best (*Saw* and *Saw III*) — with an intelligent story as a bonus.



PUBLICITY PHOTO

Internationally known Tennessee ceramic artist Jason Briggs reflects on the evolution of his art through a lecture tonight.

Foreign but familiar

Tennessee artist Jason Briggs lectures today about the progression of his art.

By HANNA ROSMAN
hanna-rosman@uiowa.edu

Art is evolutionary, a creative extension of the mind that grows and adapts as the artist does.

Jason Briggs, a visiting artist in ceramics, will lecture today at 6 p.m. in Van Allen Lecture Room 2, where he will discuss his path from his first interest in ceramics to his current work. During his stay in Iowa City, he will give two demonstrations, as well as individual meetings, specifically for ceramics students.

His lecture will consist of a 30-minute PowerPoint presentation followed by questions from the audience. He will show images that first piqued his interest in ceramics as well as his influences with an underlying theme of progression. The lecture is targeted at UI students of ceramics, but nonartists will be able to glean a perspective of art from the lecture as well.

"The best comments on work have come from peo-

ple who have just stumbled in [to my lectures]," Briggs said.

His art combines abstract concepts with the mind's impulse to touch. His work frequently includes sexual references through intricate surface details that cause viewers to long to touch his artwork. Other techniques he uses are based on the concept and balance of beauty and hideousness by involving visual references that are recognizable, but distorted. If a piece of artwork was just about beauty, it would be easier to understand and it would not stick with a viewer, Briggs said.

The ceramic art that Briggs creates combines the abstract with impulses of the mind to invoke the desire of touch. He often includes sexual references of attention to surface to invoke a longing of touch that matches the power of it. To hold the viewer's eye, he balances the concept of beauty and hideousness by involving visual references that are recognizable but unknown. If a piece of artwork was just about beauty, it would be easier to understand and it would not stick with a viewer, Briggs said.

"I hope to engage a viewer for longer than just a few seconds by making objects that are foreign but still familiar to make the

LECTURE

Jason Briggs

When: 6 p.m. today

Where: Van Allen Lecture Room 2

Admission: Free

viewer intrigued," he said.

His aspiration is to create artwork from a fresh perspective to form objects he has never seen before. His aim is to form art that vaguely and secretly insists upon contact with the viewer.

This will be one of many trips Briggs has taken to Iowa City. His first visit was more than 10 years ago for a workshop in 1994, and he instantly fell in love with the city and was almost tempted to attend graduate school at the UI in 1996.

"I love [Iowa] City; I love the size," Briggs said. "It has everything I like about a college town."

His work in ceramics is globally known by being showcased in places such as the World Ceramics Center in Ichon, South Korea, and the Ceramics Research Center in Tempe, Ariz. Although his work is known on an international level, Briggs enjoys traveling across the U.S. to do approximately three workshops per school semester.

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November 5, 6
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Oct. 31 & Nov. 7
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the ledge

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



ANDREW R. JUHL
andrew-juhl@uiowa.edu

Mini-Ledge Monday!

Injuries during Saturday's game:

- 1st quarter: Iowa, Dace Richardson (leg)
- Halftime: Iowa, Andrew Juhl (liver)
- 3rd quarter: Iowa, Brett Greenwood (helmet-to-helmet collision)
- 4th quarter: Iowa, Andrew Juhl (multiple myocardial infarctions)
- 4th quarter: Michigan State, fans (broken hearts)

HANGING OUT



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Grinnell seniors Mark Sullivan (left) and Jeff Otis sit on a railing in front of the Old Capitol on Sunday. They came to Iowa City looking for falafel, but were disappointed that Oasis was closed. They said they liked the view, so they decided to wait there for their friends while they went to get food.

mc ginsberg.com
PRESENTS...

CAN'T GET ENOUGH SUDOKU?

CHECK OUT DAILYIOWAN.COM FOR MORE PUZZLES

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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3 4

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

SOLUTION TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLE

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

10/26/09

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UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 3 p.m. "Black Holes of All Sizes," Philip Kaaret, Oct. 14
- 4:15 Joe. L. Parkin Memorial Lecture, "Palliative Care in Hospitals," Diane E. Meier, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Sept. 23
- 5:30 "Get Ready for the Boom," Hawkeye Marching Band
- 5:55 University Lecture Committee, Paul Krugman, March 27
- 7 "Black Holes of All Sizes," Philip Kaaret, Oct. 14
- 8:15 Joe. L. Parkin Memorial Lecture, "Palliative Care in Hospitals," Diane E. Meier, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, Sept. 23
- 9:30 Daily Iowan Television News
- 9:45 Ueyee, student life and activities
- 10 Talk Iowa, Student Video Productions
- 10:30 Daily Iowan Television News
- 10:45 "Black Holes of All Sizes," Philip Kaaret, Oct. 14

horoscopes

Monday, October 26, 2009
— by Eugenia Last

ARIES March 21-April 19 A little give-and-take will show your ability to adapt to whatever you face and come up with workable solutions. A relationship can become a great partnership, professionally and personally. Your enthusiasm will enhance your reputation.

TAURUS April 20-May 20 Someone you rely on will disappoint you by leaving you in an awkward situation regarding promises you made to others. A serious, responsible attitude regarding your financial situation will help to clear some debt you've incurred.

GEMINI May 21-June 20 There is an opportunity awaiting you. Long-range statistics will help you make up your mind. Sending your résumé and/or going for an interview will all be met with satisfaction and a brighter future.

CANCER June 21-July 22 Getting out and away from your normal surroundings may not be your idea of a good time, but the experience will spark some interesting ideas and help you make a decision. If you don't choose to alter your course, the choice may be made for you.

LEO July 23-Aug. 22 You'll have plenty to think about regarding your home life and the people you are involved with personally and professionally. Don't let anyone cause you anxiety or lead you to believe that you have to follow through with someone you aren't happy about.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You need to engage in more entertaining activities. It will help you develop new ideas you can implement into your work and daily routine. Concentrating on your health and fitness will ensure that you are up for the opportunities ahead of you.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Put time and effort into your personal and social life, and you will develop relationships that will help you excel. An idea you have been mulling over should be taken to the next stage. Love and romance will unfold if you send the right signal.

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Do the unexpected, and you will be able to outmaneuver anyone trying to get the better of you. Maintain a certain amount of control both at home and work if you don't want to lose ground. Be subtle but intent.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Stick to what you know and do best. If you pretend to have a handle on things, you will fall short of your goals and promises. Avoid sudden changes or decisions that can have repercussions.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Poor directions or misinterpretation will cause upset and wasted time. Map out what you want before you get into a lengthy conversation that can lead you down the wrong path. Emotional upset is apparent.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 You have lots going for you and a chance to make headway financially, legally, and personally if you set your plans in motion. Don't hold back when there is so much you can do to please others as well as yourself. Love is on the rise, and romance should be your intent.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20 Don't let someone else's uncertainty cause you to miss out. It's important to view things as they are and deal with each situation constructively and objectively. It's time to move forward with a contract, settlement, or agreement.

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

PANDEMIC PLANNING
IN THE WORST-CASE SCENARIO, THE ONLY SURVIVORS WOULD BE COCKROACHES AND ALICE.

POW! POW! POW!

AIRBORNE VIRUS. IT'S SAFE NOW. I BROKE ITS PROTEIN COAT.

'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY

SLOTH, ENVY, GREED AND DELUSIONS OF GRANDPEUR...

SEE? ALL OF OUR ESSENTIAL FOOD GROUPS ARE HERE IN ONE GLASS...

THE ORGANIC EXECUTIVE LUNCH

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

WHAT'S UP, SPECIALIST?

I'M TOGGLE, FIRST SERGEANT. THE XO SENT ME OVER TO DRIVE TODAY. YOUR BOYS ON SICK CALL.

TOGGLE... WHY DON'T YOU KNOW THAT NAME?

PROBABLY FROM MY BATTLE MILES. I LOAD IPODS, BRIGADE-WIDE.

WITH WHAT?

WHATEVER THE GUYS WANT. MOSTLY RAP AND HEAVY METAL—EVIL HEART-PUMP-IN STUFF!

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today's events

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

- **Tot Time**, 9 a.m., Scanlon Gymnasium, 2701 Bradford Drive
- **Sociable Seniors**, 10 a.m., North Liberty Community Library
- **The Adventures of Great Rabbit**, 10 a.m., Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre, 319 N. Calhoun, West Liberty
- **Toddlers Story Time**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Carney Strage's Keynote Address on Campus Environmental Design**, 11:15 a.m., IMU second-floor ballroom
- **International Mondays**, "Rehabilitated — Anna Goeldi, the 'Last Witch,'" Waltraud Maierhofer, noon, Iowa City Public Library Meeting Room A
- **Euchre Club**, 2 p.m., Legacy Senior Living Community, 1020 S. Scott Blvd.
- **Internships in Human Rights**, 4:30 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **School of Art and Art History lecture**, Jason Briggs, visiting artist in ceramics, 6 p.m., Van Allen Lecture Room 2
- **The Cove**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Iowa City Book Club**, *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, by Oscar Wilde, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Monday Night Swing**, 7:30 p.m., 515 Field House
- **Open Mike**, with JayKnight, 8 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Public Lecture**, "Moral Machines," Colin Allen, Indiana University, 8 p.m., Main Library Shambaugh Auditorium
- **Thirst**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Over the Throne**, with Hollow Point and ILLTH, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **ONGOING**
- **Abstract Confections**, Alicia Brown, Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- **After the Flood**, Lucy David, MidWestOne Bank, 102 S. Clinton
- **Art in Roman Life**, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, 410 Third Ave. S.E.
- **Floods of 2008**, Johnson County Historical Society, 310 Fifth St., Coralville
- **Harvest Art**, Tam Bryk, Sara Lee Brown, Matt Lyvers, Bekah Ash, and John Coyne, Chait Galleries Downtown, 218 E. Washington

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0921

- Across**
- 1 Even a tiny bit
 - 6 Family group
 - 10 Employ
 - 14 Tia ___ (coffee liqueur)
 - 15 Opposite of taped
 - 16 Having everything arranged just so
 - 17 Official with a stopwatch
 - 19 Goat cheese
 - 20 Bragging sort
 - 22 Uncle's partner
 - 25 Going ___ (bickering)
 - 26 Alternatives to woods
 - 27 Sags
 - 29 Pinup's leg
 - 30 Broadcast
 - 31 Resuming the previous speed, in music
 - 35 See 5-Down
 - 39 What 17-, 20-, 56- and 60-Across are?
 - 42 Writer/illustrator Silverstein
 - 43 Stroke gently
 - 44 Owns
 - 45 Firms: Abbr.
 - 47 Subject of a will
 - 49 Stable bedding
 - 52 "The Thin Man" pooch
 - 55 Wild goat
 - 56 One good at forming connections with others
 - 59 "And so ..."
 - 60 Miser, e.g.
 - 64 Sir Christopher the architect
 - 65 ___ Minor (constellation)
 - 66 Bedtime story?
 - 67 Fill
 - 68 "Leave in," to a proofer
- Down**
- 1 Quantity: Abbr.
 - 2 ___ chi ch'uan
 - 3 Where the humerus and ulna are
 - 4 Doesn't level with
 - 5 With 35-Across, view from Cleveland
 - 6 Split
 - 7 Florentine painter Fra Filippo ___
 - 8 Prevent, as disaster
 - 9 Detective ___ Wolfe
 - 10 Not yet in a recognizable shape
 - 11 Take care of
 - 12 All gone, as dinner
 - 13 Constellation elements
 - 18 Stretchables
 - 21 Actress Farrow
 - 22 John or John Quincy
 - 23 Dickens's Heep
 - 24 Oslo's country, to natives
 - 28 La ___, Bolivia
 - 29 Takes it slow
 - 32 Disney deer
 - 33 Mal de ___
 - 34 Lead-in to nuptial
 - 36 Program for kicking a habit

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- 37 Angry, and then some
- 38 County on the Thames
- 40 Gangster a k a Scarface
- 41 Nincompoop
- 46 "Who... whoo..." caller
- 48 Cassiterite
- 49 Gushes
- 50 ___ firma
- 51 Thesaurus compiler
- 52 Toward the left side of a ship
- 53 Taste or touch
- 54 Halloween goody
- 57 Down Under birds
- 58 Former G.M. make
- 61 Sign flashed by Churchill
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Puzzle by Mark Feldman

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Spotlight Iowa City

Hands-on experience guides artist

One local draws from his past experience as a surgeon to create delicate art.

By SARAH LARSON
sarah-a-larson@uiowa.edu

William Blair stepped to the door pulling off ink-blotted latex gloves, revealing his aged hands. These hands, which had been printing images from copper plates, were once used to perform intricate hand surgery.

Blair is more than an artist — he was once a hand surgeon at UI Hospitals and Clinics. The two seemingly disparate qualities may not be so different.

“I think it’s not that terribly uncommon,” the lanky 61-year-old said, sitting in the Lasansky Gallery in Iowa City among his varied prints. “I think there may be more crossover than people appreciate.”

Blair always had a love and passion for the arts, but when it came time to pick a major in college, he chose science — something he was good at.

In medical school, he eventually began training in orthopedic surgery — later specializing in hands — attracted by the problem solving that came with it.

“I thought, ‘I think I can do that,’” he said about becoming a hand surgeon.

Now retired from time with the operating table — and currently working at a private practice — he has a little more time. Outside of work, Blair intaglio prints — the process of engraving metal plates, inking them, and pressing the image to paper — at the Lasansky Gallery. He spends his nights in his home studio drawing, preparing plates and engraving. The result is abstract, maybe with a mixture of lines forming a



RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

William Blair demonstrates the engraving process he uses to create a design on a metal plate at his residence on Oct. 23. The Iowa City resident, a retired hand surgeon, now works at a private practice, which he said gives him more time to focus on artistic endeavors.

ON THE WEB

To see a photo slide show of surgeon/artist William Blair, click on over to dailyiowan.com.

figure.

Blair’s daughter, Lindsay Warren, recalled her father going upstairs to paint at night after work. Her father’s resulting product reflects the man’s profession, she said.

“I haven’t really seen anything like it, and it seems very meticulous and very detail-oriented,” said Warren, who lives in Madison, Wis. “I think that kind of reflects his personality. He’s very thorough in what he does, and I just see that through his artwork. He was very neat and very orderly. I think as a surgeon you have to be pretty detail-oriented and meticulous.”

Jon Fasanelli-Cawelti, a friend and fellow featured artist at the Lasansky

Gallery, said a background in surgery brings a new perspective.

“I think it’s very interesting when someone is highly trained in another field,” Fasanelli-Cawelti said. “He brings something special from that little world. It really reflects in his work.”

Blair said he was

always attracted to abstract, expressionist art, remembering visits to museums in Europe, his art courses in college, and how he was attentive to different vibrant colors, like those in a garden.

His own painting began “decidedly nonfigurative,” but when he began to use his hands more in his drawing and printing, it

became “decidedly figurative work.”

“I have an intense interest in my art,” Blair said. “It pre-occupies much of my energy and my time and my thought process. It has evolved significantly over the past two years, and I hope it continues to evolve and interest me in a way that I have not yet imagined.”

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William Blair

- Age: 61
- Hometown: Cedar Falls
- Favorite color: Blue-green
- Favorite restaurant: El Cactus
- Favorite food: Chicken mullet
- Pastime: Enjoys tending to his garden

Know someone we should shine a light on? E-mail us at: di-spotlight@uiowa.edu. Catch up with others from our series at dailyiowan.com/spotlight.

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09/09

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Sports



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Adrian Clayborn

FOOTBALL

Clayborn honored

Iowa junior defensive end Adrian Clayborn was named co-Big Ten Defensive Player of the Week on Sunday after the No. 7 Hawkeyes moved to 8-0 with a 15-13 victory at Michigan State.

Clayborn shares the honor this week with Ohio State defensive end Thaddeus Gibson.

Against the Spartans, the St. Louis native recorded four tackles, three of which were for a loss of yards, two sacks, and forced a fumble.

It is the second time this season Clayborn has received an accolade from the Big Ten. Earlier in the fall, he was named the conference's Special Teams Player of the Week after blocking a punt against Penn State and returning it 53 yards for what ultimately became a game-winning touchdown.

Clayborn also becomes the third Hawkeye this season to garner the defensive honor, joining teammates Tyler Sash and Pat Angerer.

— by Brendan Stiles

BCS RANKING

Iowa 4th in BCS

On Oct. 24, the Iowa Hawkeyes defeated Michigan State by two points. On Sunday, they climbed two spots in the latest BCS standings.

Although the Hawkeyes remain seventh in the AP poll and eighth in the coaches' poll, Iowa is now ranked No. 4 in the BCS, which eclipses the previous high of No. 5 in the BCS set by the 2002 squad.

The Hawkeyes are 8-0 for the first time in school history after a 15-13 win over Michigan State that came on the game's final play. It was the fourth victory this season Iowa has attained by three points or fewer, and the first nail-biter to take place away from Kinnick Stadium.

Florida sits atop the BCS standings, Alabama is second, and Texas is third. All three, like the Hawkeyes, are unbeaten. USC rounds out this week's top five.

Iowa's next game is on Saturday at Kinnick Stadium against Indiana. Kickoff is scheduled for 11 a.m. The game will be televised by ESPN.

— by Brendan Stiles

MAILBAG

Got a question for *The Daily Iowan* football beat writers? They have an answer. Send them an e-mail at disportsmailbag@gmail.com, or submit one via Twitter @disportsbag.

FOOTBALL FORUM

Be sure to visit dailyiowan.com every day throughout the 2009 football season for the *Daily Iowan* Football Forum, an in-depth discussion among *DI* and *Daily Iowan* TV football reporters about the Iowa Hawkeyes.

The daily videocasts can be viewed exclusively online. Today's Football Forum recaps Iowa's last-second 15-13 win over Michigan State over the weekend to go 8-0 for the first time in the program's history.



IOWA 15, MICHIGAN STATE 13



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

With two seconds left on the clock going into the play, Iowa wide receiver Marvin McNutt catches a 7-yard touchdown pass from Iowa quarterback Ricky Stanzi to win the game against Michigan State on Oct. 24 in East Lansing. The 15-13 victory gives the Hawkeyes an 8-0 record for the first time in school history.

MIRACLE WORKERS

The Iowa football team reaches 8-0 for the first time in program history after a last-second 15-13 victory over Michigan State in East Lansing.

By **BRENDAN STILES**
brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

EAST LANSING, Mich. — For all the tradition and storied history surrounding the Iowa football program, never have the Hawkeyes opened a regular season winning their first eight games.

Until now.

All season long, the Hawkeyes have given fans plenty to remember. Last weekend's 15-13 win over Michigan State was no exception.

When Ricky Stanzi found Marvin McNutt on a slant route in the end zone with no time remaining on the clock, a crowd of 74,411 inside Spartan Stadium stood in silence as it witnessed the No. 7 team in the country reaching heights never achieved before.

The current 8-0 record wasn't a thought on the team's mind as it staged its last-second miracle against Michigan State. But it was something the players acknowledged after the final whistle blew. It's also something they have taken pride in.

"There's been a lot of great football players that have played here, and a lot of good coaches," senior linebacker Pat Angerer said. "For us to do that, it means a lot."

The season is only two-thirds complete, but McNutt's touchdown certainly added to an ongoing list of memories that will last a lifetime.

SEE RECAP, 3B



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa wide receiver Marvin McNutt celebrates after catching the winning pass as time expired during Iowa's game against Michigan State in East Lansing on Oct. 24.

'I told myself coming out just to run a perfect technique, do what you've been taught, and it worked. I felt like I got a good release and looked in, and Rick [Stanzi] threw a perfect strike.'

— Marvin McNutt, sophomore wide receiver

McNutt shines in clutch

Marvin McNutt's 7-yard touchdown catch on the game's final play stuns Spartan Stadium, as No. 7 Iowa escapes with a win over Michigan State.

By **BRENDAN STILES**
brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

EAST LANSING, Mich. — He didn't have a single reception until the final drive. In fact, it was only three weeks prior against Arkansas State that Marvin McNutt even learned what it felt like to catch a touchdown pass in a game.

But on a seven-yard slant route, the Iowa sophomore made perhaps the biggest play of the season for the Hawkeyes.

With the seventh-ranked Hawkeyes' hopes of remaining unbeaten on the line, McNutt delivered in crunch time, reeling in a touchdown reception as

time expired in Iowa's 15-13 win over Michigan State at Spartan Stadium.

"I told myself coming out just to run a perfect technique, do what you've been taught, and it worked," McNutt said. "I felt like I got a good release and looked in,

and Rick [Stanzi] threw a perfect strike."

The victory was significant on many fronts. It put Iowa at 8-0 for the first time in school history. It also keeps the Hawkeyes in sole possession of first place in the Big Ten.

But one of the biggest

SEE McNUTT, 3B

COMMENTARY



SCOTT MILLER
scott-t-miller@uiowa.edu

EAST LANSING, Mich. — When Iowa beat Penn State on Sept. 26 to start 4-0, it was fun. After all, the unexpected is always fun.

SEE COMMENTARY, 3B

ON THE WEB

Be sure to visit dailyiowan.com for a multimedia piece from Iowa's game against Michigan State.



Male AquaHawks win twice

The Iowa men's swimming and diving team dominates in its home-opener.

By **PATRICK RAFFERTY**
patrick.rafferty@uiowa.edu

In dominating fashion, Iowa swam past the competition in its home-opener.

After downing Michigan State and Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Oct. 23, the Iowa men's swimming and diving team went on to beat Missouri State, 188.5-109.5, on Oct. 24.

With its first double-dual meet of the season and little time to rest for Missouri State following nearly four hours of competition the previous day, the early Hawks definitely got the worm at the Field House.

"Last night was a long meet," Iowa head coach Marc Long said. "Those double-duals in a facility like this take a long time, and they stepped up.

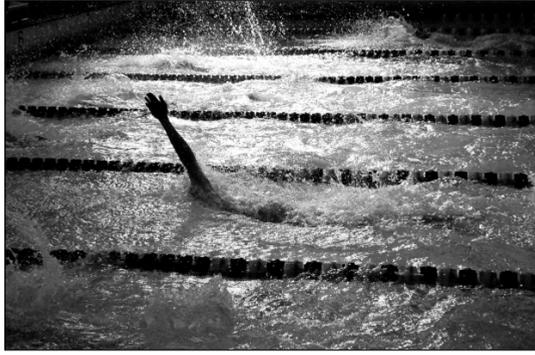
"That's why we did this back-to-back. Learning how to prepare to race in a long meet like last night against quality opponents and waking up for a real tough Missouri State team. And sometimes not getting the warm down you're used to and the sleep you're used to ... We have a lot of work to do, but we saw some positives."

Pacing the Hawkeyes in their winning ways were senior diver Frank Van Dijkhuizen and sophomore swimmer Paul Gordon.

Van Dijkhuizen won the 1-meter dive with a score of 331.95.

Gordon won three individual events, the 100 butterfly (49.60), 200 freestyle (1:41.17), and 100 freestyle (45.43).

He was also involved in the winning 400-freestyle



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN
Iowa freshman Donny Warren swims the 100 backstroke during the Irving Weber Meet against Missouri State in the Field House on Oct. 24.

relay (3:04.18) with freshmen Jordan Huff, sophomore Duncan Partridge, and sophomore Ryan Phelan.

"As far as my own personal performance, I was happy with it," Gordon said. "I achieved my goals. We were able to kind of work as a team to get some

ON THE WEB

Check out dailiowan.com for a photo slide show from the Irving Weber Meet over the weekend.

of the points we needed. We kind of rolled along with our confidence."

Gordon said his success during the meet helps keep

other teammates at ease, knowing they have the points already needed to win.

With back-to-back meets, Gordon said the team was tired but not down.

"I would say that we are hurting a little worse today than we were yesterday," he said on Oct. 24. "But our success [on Oct. 23] put us in a really good place mentally for getting up and preparing to race a team we knew was going to be good. We knew what events we would be strong in, and which ones were going to be tough. We just needed to be contending and ... we did more than just contend."

Even though the Hawkeyes won by a wide margin, one event created some controversy.

During the start of the 50 freestyle, a clock malfunction forced the race to stop. Coaches elected to restart the event, and Patridge lost the only race

of the meet for Iowa, 21.42-21.47.

"It's just a mechanical malfunction," Long said. "The coaches met and just decided to re-swim it. I don't know. We need a new pool."

"Missouri State had some great races and have some outstanding swimmers. They out-raced us in that event. That's what I like about restarting it. Just race it and have it out, instead of arguing about times."

Still trying to gauge how he felt about the situation, Patridge said nothing like that had happened to him before.

"I'm pretty sure all of us were kind of worried about what was going on," he said. "But when they told us just to get back up and race again, I was ready."

"I was close. I was kind of upset. I got out-touched, but it was close, and it was an experience."



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN
Iowa sophomore Danielle Carty dives into the water during the 100 backstroke against Missouri State on Oct. 24. Carty finished second to teammate Daniela Cubelic.

Women dunk 3 opponents

The Iowa women's swimming and diving team defeats three opponents in its home-opening weekend.

By **MITCH SMITH**
mitchell.e-smith@uiowa.edu

It couldn't have been a more successful home-opener for the Iowa women's swimming and diving team.

The AquaHawks dominated their opponents in the Field House this past weekend, taking first in 24 of the 32 events.

The squad defeated Michigan State as well as Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Oct. 23 in its first double-dual meet of the year. The team then woke up the following morning and defeated Missouri State, 188-112.

The three victories improved Iowa's record to 4-1 on the year.

The style of meet is something Iowa head coach Marc Long said is necessary in order to prepare for both the Big Ten championships and the peak parts of the season yet to come.

"We need the experience to do that, and we stepped up and raced well," he said. "We're happy with where we are at, but it's only October. We're looking toward February and March."

The AquaHawks had a grocery list of successful races, with many of Iowa's veteran swimmers finishing first in numerous events over the weekend.

Seniors Christine Kuczek and Julie Feingold scored numerous first-place finishes: Kuczek tallied four, and Feingold had three.

While extremely happy with her individual performance and the team's performance, Kuczek said there is always room for improvement.

"[These wins] give us some good confidence," she said. "We came in and defended our pool in our last year in the Field House. That's one of our goals for this year."

ON THE WEB

Go to dailiowan.com for video footage from the Irving Weber Meet over the weekend.

Sophomore Daniela Cubelic swept the backstroke events, also taking first in four races.

Other swimmers with numerous individual wins included juniors Verity Hicks and Kelsie Neubauer. The relay teams also swept their events, taking first in all four relay races.

The 200 relay team is made up of junior Katarina Tour, sophomores Danielle Carty and Daniela Cubelic, and redshirt freshman Grace Borchers. Cubelic and Carty are also members of the 400 relay team.

Some of Iowa's less-experienced swimmers also scored well over the weekend. Freshman Lauren Eytalis managed a first-place finish and a pair of third-place finishes, and diver Mary Sue LeMay scored a second-place finish in one-meter diving.

"The team did really well, both [Friday] and [Saturday]," Hicks said. "I think being able to step up after such a long meet on [Oct. 23] shows that we're really tougher than we think. It's really positive for the team."

Iowa's next meet will also be at home against Minnesota on Nov. 6.

This being the home-opening weekend, the AquaHawks placed much of its focus on defending their home water. It is the 83rd and final season of swimming at the Field House, and although the pool is antiquated to say the least, the Iowa swimmers want to leave the pool on a good note.

"This is our home, and we love it," Feingold said. "It's old school, and when we swim at home, we always bring it."

Field hockey falls, 2-0

The Iowa field-hockey team loses to Louisville on Senior Day.

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

There are a plethora of different statistics in athletics.

But sometimes those statistics don't correlate with the numbers that truly matter — the game's final score.

The Iowa field-hockey team's (6-9, 3-3 Big Ten) 2-0 loss to No. 14 Louisville on Sunday at Grant Field was a perfect example of such a phenomenon.

The Hawkeyes entered their Senior Day trying to carry momentum over from a 1-0 overtime victory at Northwestern on Oct. 23. Despite outshooting the Cardinals 14-10 and earning more penalty corners, 13-8, Iowa couldn't match Louisville in the category that mattered most — goals.

"To be able to out-corner and outshoot [Louisville] and not get the result, that's always really hard," Iowa head coach Tracey Griesbaum said. "But we've been on the other end of that, too, this season. We've had some of those [games] where we've won, and we haven't necessarily out-started our opponent. That's just the game."

Louisville utilized an aggressive front that saw as many as seven players pressuring deep into Iowa's half of the field. As a result, the Hawkeyes spent the majority of the first half trying to get the

ball out of their own zone.

Fortunately for Iowa, freshman goalkeeper Kathleen McGraw continued her recent string of great play. Coming off two-consecutive shutouts, she helped hold down the Louisville offense, recording four first-half saves.

"She's not playing like a freshman anymore," Griesbaum said. "We're really, really impressed and proud of how she's handled herself."

A late first-half flurry saw the Hawkeyes fire six shots, but none found the back of the net.

The Cardinals finally broke through for the game's first goal at the 54:49 mark during the second half. Assisted by Nicole Youman, Louisville's Karah Nall tallied her fifth goal of the season on a deflection off a penalty corner.

Fewer than five minutes later, Youman scored on a chip-in to put Louisville up, 2-0.

Even with eight shots and seven penalty corners in the second half, Iowa could not find a way to cut into the deficit.

Senior Tricia Dean cited a combination of Louisville's defense and Iowa's lack of execution for her team's inability to break through.

"We dominated in stats," she said. "Their goalkeeper played really well, but we definitely have to find a way to put [the ball] in the net."

The Hawkeyes will trav-

el to Washington, D.C., this weekend for the final two games of the regular season. Iowa will take on No. 9 James Madison at 1 p.m. Friday at American University. The Hawkeyes will then play American at noon Nov. 1.

HAWKEYE SPORTS

Soccer fails to score

The Iowa soccer team lost a match to No. 24 Indiana, 2-0, on Sunday in Bloomington, Ind.

The Hawkeyes (8-9, 0-7) gave up the first goal to the Hoosiers in the 84th minute off a rebound. Indiana then scored its second goal on a breakaway at the 89:50 mark — 10 seconds before time ran out.

Iowa senior Alex Seydel led the Hawkeye offense with three shots, two on goal. The midfielder took a penalty kick in the 87th minute but was unsuccessful.

Sophomore goalkeeper Emily Moran collected four saves in the match.

Iowa remains winless in the conference and in last place in the Big Ten standings.

The Hawkeyes have three matches left this season, and they will host Michigan at the Iowa Soccer Complex at 7 p.m. Friday.

— by **Robbie Lehman**

Regionals continue

The Iowa men's tennis team continued play at the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Regional tournament over the weekend in Tulsa, Okla.

Sophomore Tom Mrozwicz and senior Tommy McGeorge advanced to the third round in the qualifying bracket on Oct. 22. Mrozwicz ousted Tulsa's Albert Jou in straight sets, and McGeorge defeated St. Louis' P.J. Hendrie, also in straight sets.

McGeorge continued to play well, winning in the first round of the main draw. However, Mrozwicz fell in the round of 64 to Oklahoma State's Oleksandr Nedovysov (6-3, 6-2).

McGeorge eventually lost in the second round of the singles main draw but advanced to the quarterfinals of the doubles main draw alongside Mrozwicz. The pair fell to Christopher Aumueller and Benedikt Lindehm from Nebraska.

Of the five Hawkeyes competing in the back draw portion of the competition, senior Reinoud Haal, junior Nikita Zotov, and sophomore Marc Bruche each won two singles matches, and they will continue play today.

The tournament will run through today, with the back draw matches continuing.

— by **Jake Krzeczowski**

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THE COVE
Directed by Louie Psihoyos
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THIRST
Directed by Park Chan-Wook
F-9:00, Sat-7:00, Sun-4:30, M-9:00, T-9:00, W-7:00, Th-9:00

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CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2D (PG) 5:10, 7:15, 9:20	CAPITALISM: A LOVE STORY (R) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
COUPLES RETREAT (PG-13) ✓ 4:50, 7:20, 9:50	CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2D (PG) 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
LAW ABIDING CITIZEN (R) ✓ 4:15, 7:10, 9:40	COUPLES RETREAT (PG-13) ✓ 4:15, 7:10, 9:45
SAW VI (R) ✓ 5:30, 7:50, 10:00	INFORMANT (R) 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
STEPFATHER (PG-13) ✓ 5:00, 7:30, 9:50	INVENTION OF LYING (PG-13) 4:15, 6:45, 9:00
TOY STORY 1 & 2 3D (G) ✓ 4:30, 8:00	LAW ABIDING CITIZEN (R) ✓ 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (PG) ✓ 4:20, 7:00, 9:20	SAW VI (R) ✓ 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
ZOMBIELAND (R) 5:25, 8:00, 10:00	STEPFATHER (PG-13) ✓ 4:25, 6:50, 9:20
	WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE (PG) ✓ 4:15, 6:45, 9:20
	ZOMBIELAND (R) 5:10, 7:20, 9:30

COMMENTARY

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Beginning the season 6-0 was different and ridiculous in its own right, too. After all, it was the first time in 24 years a Hawkeye team had done that.

But now, with head coach Kirk Ferentz's team sitting at a cool 8-0, the only sufficient description is: "Are you freaking kidding me!?" After all, forever is a long time to wait for anything, and Iowa hasn't been 8-0 in, well, forever.

"We are 8-0, and we are happy about that," Ferentz said.

On a cool Michigan night, junior quarterback Ricky Stanzi orchestrated the drive of his life — into the wind, no less — taking the Hawkeyes 70 yards in 97 seconds to beat Michigan State, 15-13.

Are you freaking kidding me!?!?

On the final play of the game, wide receiver Marvin McNutt snagged the catch of his life — a 7-yard game-winner as time expired. Oh, by the way, the sophomore has a bum thumb and was playing quarterback a year-and-a-half ago.

Are you freaking kidding me!?!?

On a rainy Sunday

night in Iowa City, the Hawkeyes stood No. 4 in the latest BCS standings. It is the highest BCS ranking in school history.

Florida, Alabama, and Texas are the only teams ahead of Ferentz and Company, which have won 12 consecutive games dating back to last season — the second-longest current streak in the country.

Are you freaking kidding me!?!?

This just doesn't happen. Not here. Not ever.

After Iowa started 6-0, wide receiver Derrell Johnson-Koulianos said, "I never thought when I came to Iowa, really, that I'd be a part of a 6-0 team."

Nor should he have. Players don't come to Iowa expecting to contend for national championships — at least not in football. If anyone tells you differently, he's lying.

This isn't a school that sits in the middle of fertile recruiting ground. This isn't a school that consistently contends for BCS bowl berths. This isn't a school that rakes in five-star prospects as often as Derek Jeter rakes in celebrity girlfriends.

Quite simply, this isn't Florida or USC or Oklahoma or Alabama.

But here Iowa sits, eight games down and four to go — three of which are at home against mediocre Big Ten

opponents. Here Iowa sits, with one of the toughest road schedules in the country nearly complete. And here Iowa sits, with Pasadena, Calif., in its sights for the first time since 1991.

A few days before the beginning of the season, I remember sitting in a bar with a few friends, discussing the Hawkeyes' chances this year. Ever since stud running back Shonn Greene left for the NFL, I had staunchly maintained that Iowa was destined for another 8-4 season, which qualifies as a better-than-solid campaign around these parts.

I laughed uncontrollably as one of my friends predicted that the Hawks would go 12-0. He smiled, but he wasn't joking.

The possibility of Iowa going 12-0 seemed certifiably insane two months ago.

But now, after Saturday night's last-second victory over the Spartans, 12-0 isn't just attainable; it's realistic. And everyone in college football knows what 12-0 means: A trip to the Rose Bowl — not for the actual Rose Bowl, but for the BCS national championship game.

Now wouldn't that be fun?

Are you freaking kidding me!?!?

Volleyball falls to Illini

The Iowa volleyball team drops seventh Big Ten match.

By JAKE KRZECZOWSKI

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On a night when alumni filled the stands, the Iowa women's volleyball team readied itself on Oct. 24 for a tough match against eighth-ranked Illinois.

Looked upon as possibly the best blocking team in the nation, the Fighting Illini came into Iowa City fully equipped with a fan section that threatened to drown out both the fans and former Hawkeyes in attendance for alumni weekend.

Illinois controlled the match throughout, handing Iowa its seventh Big Ten loss of the season in straight sets (25-23, 25-15, 25-22). The Fighting Illini also amassed 16 blocks, which doubled the Hawkeyes' total and stood as the most blocks against Iowa this season.

Junior Laura DeBruler piloted the Illinois attack with 17 kills and 13 digs. Sophomore Michelle Bartsch complemented her teammate with nine kills and eight digs.

"They're probably the best blocking team that I've seen in a while," Iowa head coach Sharon Dingman said. "What they do, they do well."

Pink dotted the cavernous Carver-Hawkeye arena. Everything from jersey numbers to seat cushions made distinguishing fan allegiance difficult.

The influx of pink was to



GEORGE POTERACKI/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa senior Christina Meister gets ready during the Iowa volleyball team's game against Illinois in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Oct. 24. The Hawkeyes lost to the Fighting Illini in three-straight sets.

ON THE WEB

Go to dailyiowan.com for a photo slide show of the volleyball game against Illinois.

commemorate Iowa's "Pink Weekend," also celebrated by the Hawkeye field-hockey and soccer teams, to raise breast cancer awareness. And every Hawkeye point reminded the crowd of the message as the pink "POINT IOWA" gleamed above the court on the arena Jumbotron.

Only down a point, 23-22, in the first set, Iowa eventually was overcome, 25-23.

The Hawkeyes thrived off the serves from junior Becky Walters in that first set, giving Iowa a 15-10 lead early. Walters led Iowa in kills with seven while tallying three spikes and two digs.

Illinois eventually overpowered Iowa, though, tying the score at 17-17.

The second set was a different story. The Illini looked calm and relaxed halfway through the second set, pummeling Iowa en route to an early 13-6 lead that they never relinquished. Illinois eventually took the set, 25-15.

Trying to stave off a loss in straight sets, the Hawkeyes came out

aggressive in the third. Senior Megan Schipper paced Iowa with four of her five total kills coming in the final set, and junior Mara Hilgenberg posted 11 assists in the set and 25 total in the match.

The rush was short-lived, though, as the Fighting Illini's play at the net became the deciding factor. Illinois ended the match with a 25-22 win.

Coming into the game, nerves were an assumed part of the match. But even with Illinois' fan support, the crowd's choreographed cheers careening off the Carver-Hawkeye rafters, the Iowa players said they didn't feel the heat.

"We've been through it before," said junior Malloory Husz, who recorded six kills and two digs, and led Iowa with nine points. "We played [No. 1] Penn State already, so we were ready. We just need to work on the little things."

RECAP

CONTINUED FROM 1B

They began against Northern Iowa with two rare moments in college football history: Blocking consecutive field goals to preserve a 17-16 win. They continued with timely plays from all three phases of football — offense, defense, and special teams. And they cumulate to exemplify resiliency that shows there is no quit in this group.

Whether it's a goal-line stand by the defense or a last-second touchdown pass from the offense, the win over Michigan State was another microcosm of what has defined this 2009 season.

"One thing is for sure, we give the fans their money's worth because we have taken them right down to the wire a couple of times now," Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz said. "It's a real credit to our players. They realize there's ebb and flow in a game, and that's football."

Hawkeye fans have happily been enduring those heart-attack moments and are reveling in the accolades.

Iowa sits alone in first place of the Big Ten and has three of its remaining four contests in the confines of Kinnick Stadium.

um. Three more wins will clinch at least a share of the school's third Big Ten championship in 11 seasons under Ferentz.

Finishing with victories in all four remaining games would give Iowa its first outright Big Ten title since 1985, and only the fifth outright conference crown in school history. Those potential Ws would also cap the first unbeaten season for Iowa since 1922, and a 12-0 record would likely earn the Hawkeyes a trip to Pasadena, Calif., for either the Rose Bowl or the BCS national championship.

As always, the players and coaches will remain determined to keep their focus solely on Iowa's upcoming opponent, Indiana, which will come to Kinnick Stadium this weekend.

But at the same time, the Hawkeyes know what they've done and what they can potentially do during the season's home stretch.

"It's just a great feeling to know that you are a part of something special and to make history," red-shirt freshman running back Adam Robinson said. "And to just know all the hard work and time and effort and stuff you've put into this season, just to see the benefits of it, is a great feeling."

Iowa City goes wild

Fans hung their heads and staved into their laps on the evening of Oct. 24 as Iowa quarterback Ricky Stanzi's third-down pass landed incomplete, leaving two seconds on the clock and one shot at school history.

"It was a dark moment for a second, and the next it was the greatest moment in the history of my life," said UI alumnus Brett Heaford, who works downtown. "The doors opened up and you could just hear it — all the bars, the Ped Mall, and downtown was erupting."

UI senior Derek Reinglass, from the Chicago area, said he made the decision to come to Iowa based on the prestige of the Hawkeye football program, despite his family's affinity for Michigan.

"Now, I get to throw it in my dad's face," he said. "It has made the year."

Reinglass celebrated the historic win downtown with droves of fellow students and loyal fans.

UI student Slade Kemmet said he could hear the celebration all the way from his home on South Lucas Street, and immediately headed out with his camera to snap some shots of the Hawkeye faithful.

Lines snaked out of Ped Mall bars with bass pounding inside as the smell of gyros and chicken kabobs filled the air. Groups of high-fiving fans chanted an exaggerated rendition of the school's fight song.

— by Parker Smith

MCNUTT

CONTINUED FROM 1B

observations one could take is the transition of McNutt, from a quarterback who could barely see the field one year ago to a wide receiver making one of the biggest plays of the Kirk Ferentz era.

Junior kicker Daniel Murray can relate. The Iowa City native boomed a 31-yard field goal through the uprights at Kinnick Stadium to lead the Hawkeyes to a 24-23 win over Penn State last year that began Iowa's ongoing 12-game winning streak.

This time around, Murray got to talk about McNutt coming through for Iowa in the clutch.

"It's a special feeling," he said. "For me, last year, Penn State, I'll remember that forever. I think this is one thing that will make it, or define, [McNutt's] career. From where he goes from here is something that he'll always be working on, but I think he'll always remember this game."

McNutt's grab on the



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Hawkeyes surround Iowa wide receiver Marvin McNutt after he caught the winning pass as time expired during Iowa's game against Michigan State in East Lansing on Oct. 24.

game's final play even got noticed by a defense that uncharacteristically allowed Michigan State to take the lead with 1:37 left on a 30-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Kirk Cousins to wideout Blair White.

"For him to come in late and step up big, it's awesome," senior linebacker Pat Angerer said. "That guy has been through a lot, and for him to step up and make a play, it's unbelievable."

In the box score, only two catches for 23 yards receiv-

ing stand alongside McNutt's name. But that second reception will forever be a part of Hawkeye lore.

"We knew whoever we put out there and whoever ran that route was going to do a great job," Stanzi said. "To see Marvin, being the big body that he is and the skill sets that he has, he's got defenders thinking fade and his quickness is something that people underestimate, and he was able to break inside."

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Iowa 15
MSU 13

Hawkeye Football 2009

SLIDE SHOW



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BREAKDOWN

Key

Iowa Michigan State

FIRST DOWNS

Iowa: 18
Michigan State: 17

RUSHING YARDS

Iowa: 138
Michigan State: 85

PASSING YARDS

Iowa: 138
Michigan State: 225

COMP-ATT-INT

Iowa: 11-27-0
Michigan State: 16-32-0

KICK/PUNT RETURN YARDS

Iowa: 4-84/3-34
Michigan State: 3-62/3-24

AVERAGE PUNTS

Iowa: 44.7
Michigan State: 42.8

LOST FUMBLES

Iowa: 0
Michigan State: 0

PENALTY YARDS

Iowa: 38
Michigan State: 56

TIME OF POSSESSION

Iowa: 32:02
Michigan State: 27:58

BOX SCORE

IOWA 15, MICHIGAN STATE 13

Iowa	0	3	0	12-15
MSU	3	0	3	7-13
First Quarter				
Michigan State - FG Swenson 34, 3:39				
Second Quarter				
Iowa - FG Murray 37, 12:44				
Third Quarter				
Michigan State - FG Swenson 23, 5:21				
Fourth Quarter				
Iowa - FG Murray 20, 11:43				
Iowa - FG Murray 20, 2:56				
Michigan State - White 30 catch from Cousins (Swenson kick), 1:37				
Iowa - McNutt 7 catch from Stanzi (TEAM rush failed), 0:00				

INDIVIDUAL STATS

RUSHING—Iowa, Robinson 27-109, Wegher 6-30, Stanzi 6-minus 1, Michigan State, Baker 11-68, Caper 12-28, Martin 2-12, Cousins 5-minus 23.
PASSING—Iowa, Stanzi, 11-27-0-138, Michigan State, Cousins 16-32-0-225.
RECEIVING—Iowa, Johnson-Koulianos 3-59, McNutt 2-23, Sandeman 2-7, Wegher 1-23, Stross 1-21, Moeaki 1-4, Robinson 1-1, Michigan State, White 3-95, Cunningham 3-33, Dell 2-42, Linthicum 2-26, Gantt 2-18, Baker 2-5, Caper 1-3, Hawken 1-3.

PRIME PLAYS

In the third quarter, the Iowa defense came up with a critical goal-line stand, stopping Michigan State on three-straight plays from the 1-yard line and forcing the Spartans to settle for a 23-yard field goal.

Trailing 9-6, Michigan State was able to pull off a hook-and-ladder on its final offensive series, which led to a 30-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Kirk Cousins to wide receiver Blair White.

On the Hawkeyes' final drive, senior wide receiver Trey Stross made his lone reception of the evening on a third-down play, getting 21 yards on the catch.

Iowa escaped Spartan Stadium with the 15-13 victory on the game's final play when quarterback Ricky Stanzi hit sophomore wide receiver Marvin McNutt on a 7-yard strike in the end zone as the clock expired.



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa running back Adam Robinson leaps over Michigan State linebacker Greg Jones during the first half of Iowa's game against Michigan State on Oct. 24 in East Lansing, Mich. Robinson ran for 109 yards on 27 carries in the Hawkeyes' 15-13 win over Michigan State.

DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN
Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz is congratulated after Iowa's victory over Michigan State in Spartan Stadium on Oct. 24. The Hawkeyes sit atop the Big Ten standings at 4-0 in the conference, 8-0 overall.



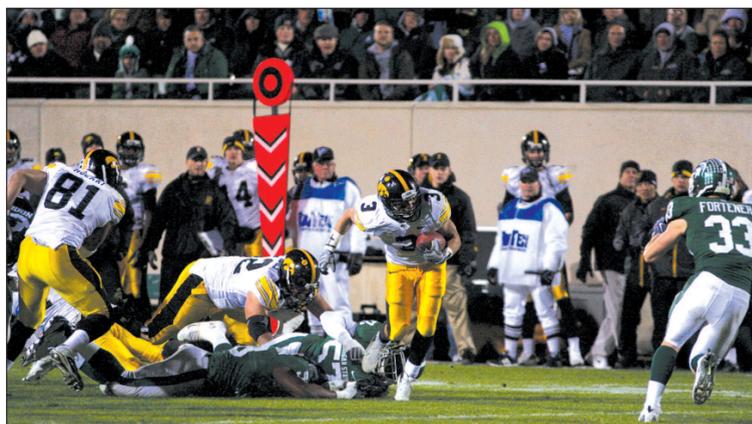
JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Above: Iowa running back Adam Robinson is tackled at the Michigan State 3-yard line during the fourth quarter of Iowa's game against the Spartans on Oct. 24 in East Lansing, Mich.

Below: Michigan State fans stare in silence after a last-second touchdown catch by Iowa wide receiver Marvin McNutt on Oct. 24 in Spartan Stadium.



JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa running back Brandon Wegher breaks a tackle during Iowa's game against Michigan State on Oct. 24 in East Lansing, Mich. With the 15-13 win over the Spartans, Iowa has won 12-straight games dating back to last season.

IOWA GAME BALL MARVIN MCNUTT



The Hawkeye sophomore only hauled in two grabs, but both catches came on the game's final drive, including the game-winning score that got Iowa to an 8-0 overall record for the first time in school history.



MSU GAME BALL GREG JONES



The Spartan linebacker lived up to his billing once again as the best defensive player in the Big Ten, recording 12 tackles against the Hawkeyes, six of which were solo.

QUOTED

'Once I caught it, I still didn't believe I caught it. I was in the end zone, and until everybody jumped on me, I couldn't breathe. That's when I caught the ball and realized that we won the game.'

— Marvin McNutt on his game-winning catch.

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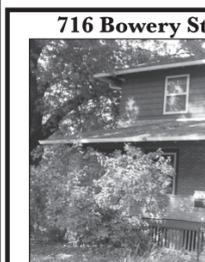
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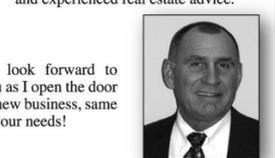
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IC VARSITY

Linn Mar trounces West High

West lost big on Senior Night, 41-10.

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

Wind, rain, and cold are not the most favorable conditions for a football game, and they got the best of the West High Trojans in their last home game of 2009 on Oct. 23.

Players could not seem to hold on to the slippery ball, which resulted in a slew of turnovers, safeties, and touchdowns, leading the Linn Mar Lions to a win, 41-10.

But the weather was not the only factor working against West High — the seventh-ranked Lions were heavily favored to defeat the unranked Trojans.

West High senior captain Jamal Thompson said his team's performance in this game was not what they expected of themselves.



West High senior Tayler Bontrager celebrates after scoring a touchdown during the Torjans' game against Linn-Mar on Oct. 23. West lost to Linn-Mar, 41-10, on Senior Night.

"It wasn't how we seniors wanted to go out," he said. "We thought that it would have been a lot closer game then it came out to be. There are a lot of things we all

wish we could go back in change that we did in the game, but it doesn't work that way."

Despite their less-than-ideal record (3-6), the Trojans have an opportunity

to redeem themselves in the first round of the Class 4A substate playoffs on Oct. 26.

Head coach Brian Sauser was relieved that this game's loss to the

Lions was not the last game of the season.

"Thank goodness our seniors aren't going out on that note," he said.

The pressure is on for their first playoff game, pitting West High against their crosstown rivals, the City High Little Hawks.

City is currently ranked second in the state for Division 4A high-school football, a marked difference from West High's ranking of 59.

But senior lineman Jacob Gannon said his team is not intimidated by City High.

"We're looking to have a really good week of practice," Gannon said. "We plan on playing a lot harder physically against City, and we're going to try to match their intensity."

The only time West High had the momentum during the Oct. 23 game was after an impressive 21-yard touchdown run by senior wide receiver Tayler Bontrager that consisted of a

double-reverse handoff and a leap over a Linn Mar defender into the end zone.

The crowd exploded after this play, but they were soon silenced by two Linn Mar touchdowns that made the score to 32-7 going into halftime.

Gannon said he felt his the Trojans had a stronger performance after the halftime break, but it came a bit too late.

"We made too many mistakes early," Gannon said. "Mentally, we weren't all there in the first half, but we started to come back and play better in the second half."

However, the only points the Trojans gained in the second half was a field goal in the third quarter.

Although it is too late in their season to make any significant changes to their lineup or strategies, members of the team and Sauser agreed they need to play a more "physical" game against City High.

Men's golf hunts for success in Texas

The Iowa men's golf team heads to the Baylor Intercollegiate for its final tournament of the fall.

By **CLARK CAHILL**
clark-cahill@uiowa.edu

It's all about being relaxed and staying in the present.

That is what the Iowa men's golf team will try to do today as the Hawkeyes tee off in their final tournament of the fall season at the Baylor Intercollegiate.

After stumbling in the final three holes at the Fighting Irish Gridiron Classic on Oct. 6, the Hawkeyes dropped two places to finish sixth, ending a three-tournament streak of top-five finishes.

Head coach Mark Hankins said the team, which has not competed since the South Bend, Ind., tournament, has had tough intrasquad competition in the past two weeks.

"After that tournament, I decided every

team member had to compete to fight his way onto the team for this final tournament," he said. "It's important for us to have intrasquad competition because it makes us compete in practice, which translates to the tournaments."

Hankins said one thing he made one thing clear to the team after the bad finish: Every shot counts.

"You know that same scenario ended up working in our favor in Virginia," Hankins said about the Hawkeyes' move from seventh to fourth place on the final day of the VCU Shootout on Sept. 29. "You have to stay focused at all times, because just one bad hole can end up costing you a few places."

After the intense team competition, junior Brad Hopfinger, junior Vince



Iowa men's head golf coach Mark Hankins stands on the putting green at Finkbine Golf Course on May 11.

India, sophomore Barrett Kelpin, sophomore Chris Brant, and sophomore Brad George made the trip to Dallas for the Baylor tournament.

The quintet played in the Golden Gopher Classic, in which the

Hawkeyes finished in fifth place and the VCU Shootout, in which they finished in fourth.

India, who finished in 10th place individually at the Fighting Irish Classic, said staying in the present is key to Iowa's success

the week.

"We have always had trouble with that," he said. "We have to make sure we don't get ahead of ourselves or think about the outcome before we are actually there."

Hankins said getting off

to a good start will be important for another top-five finish.

"In general, when you play a good field like the one this week, we just want to at least be in the hunt with 18 holes left to play," he said. "As long as we are in decent position after day one, our experience in other close tournaments will help us finish in a good spot."

The tournament field at the Royal Oaks Country Club features a variety of tough competition, including fourth-ranked Texas and ninth-ranked Texas A&M.

Hankins is confident with the high level of play the team has competed with in its fall tournaments, he said, and another solid finish will be a great boost heading into the spring.

"We will be going 100 percent, and as long as we continue to stay consistent, we will be in good shape to end the season," he said.

IC VARSITY

Clippers finish 2nd in district after loss to Williamsburg

Clear Creek-Amana's defense had trouble stopping Williamsburg's rushing attack all

night resulting in a 48-7 Raider victory in a contest between the district's top teams.

The Clippers' lone touchdown came from a long pass to Ted Hergert from quarterback Blaze Smith. The Clippers will host Carlisle in the first round of the playoffs today.

— by Kayla Buffington

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Photo slide shows

- Let them eat cupcakes
- The space of our desire

Audio

- Hear *Off Deadline's* student poets read their works.

Poem

- "Gideon's Daredevils" by Ben McFarlane

About *Off Deadline*

Off Deadline is a submissions-based arts and culture magazine published once a semester by *The Daily Iowan*. The *Off Deadline* editorial board reviews and selects all submissions anonymously. Submission guidelines are available online.

Let them eat cupcakes

A growing international cupcake craze makes its way to Iowa City thanks to a fresh batch of local creativity.

BY KATHLEEN SERINO

kathleen-serino@uiowa.edu

A few years ago, Brenna Eldeen heard a shopkeeper say there wasn't a place in Iowa City to buy "a good cupcake."

Ask any gourmand and he or she will tell you there's something special about cupcakes — something uncomplicated and delightfully stylish — that only a small, yet mighty dessert can pull off.

So with the comment fresh in Eldeen's mind, the self-proclaimed foodie followed the frosting-piped trail of one California cupcake bakery. With the example of Sprinkles Cupcakes in Beverly Hills, which claims to be the original "cupcakery," she launched a similar venture.

Now, more than a year after Eldeen's sweet decision, her at-home business, Sugarplum Cupcakes, is flourishing.

"I have an obsession with cupcakes now," she said, thanks to Sugarplum, whose products are sold at the Iowa City Farmers' Market and Revival clothing store, 117 E. College St.

Eldeen's cupcakes are easy to spot. They can be decorated with maraschino cherries, whimsical swirls of lavender frosting, edible glitter, even gobs of Snickers. And they come in such flavors as "Peanut Butter and Jelly" and "Maple Bacon" ("Because, you know, everything's better with bacon," she said with a chuckle).

And Eldeen's not the only one who's obsessed with couture cupcakes.

Thanks to a rise in the number of cupcake bakeries across the nation and a bit of chance, Iowa City has adopted a national obsession that's practically catapulted the cupcake into stardom. Larger cupcake bakeries have been tending to their desserts for a while now. The Magnolia Bakery, opened in the 1990s, now has three locations in New York City. Sprinkles Cupcakes has expanded with eight locations across the United States, and it is looking to open 15 more. According to the *New York Times*, cupcake bakeries have also spread internationally, reaching major cities in Italy, Turkey, Germany, South Korea, and Australia. The *Times* reported that the craze has even spread to Jordan — one Palestinian enjoyed his first Magnolia cupcake so much that he opened his own shop, Sugar Daddy's, in Amman.

In Iowa City, many bakeries cater to lovers of the decadent treats.



RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Freshly vanilla buttercream frosted chocolate truffle cupcakes sit on a counter in UI senior Ashley Baldinelli's kitchen on Oct. 13. Baldinelli's cupcakes have made appearances at rehearsal dinners, weddings, parties, and even the grand opening of Lyla's Boutique in Iowa City.

"People just stop in before work to get a cupcake," said Mary Simmons, a cheery, gray-haired woman who works at Deluxe Cakes and Pastries, 812 S. Summit St. She's bewildered by the fad, she said.

As she helped put together a red velvet sheet cake, Simmons said aesthetic value is key to a good cupcake — as well as a good baker. The bakery's retro, bubblegum-colored shop is almost as sweet as its cupcakes decorated with perfect swirls of frosting and white chocolate flowers.

"If something has been carefully attended to, and made to look that way, it will probably taste that way," she said.

Although the craze is a seemingly indulgent panacea, Deluxe owner Jamie Powers sees cupcakes in a different light.

"It's just another accessory for girls," the 33-year-old said.

To Powers, cupcakes are more of a fad than anything, which she's admittedly capitalizing on, thanks to their popularity and her all-natural ingredients. Her on-and-off relationship with cupcakes is currently on, so long as cupcakes sell. "I've embraced cupcakes," Powers said.

On average, cupcakes are a just supplement to bakeries. Nichole Wander, a manager at Yummy's Gourmet Cakes' Coralville location, 2180 Norcor Ave. (the original is located in Fairfield), said cupcakes make up approximately 20 percent of its bakery sales — a steady figure.

For up-and-coming cupcake maker Ashley Baldinelli, a UI senior, cupcakes are the foundation of her business, Short-Cakes.

Tips for captivating cupcakes

Cupcake makers know when it comes to their creations, everything — ingredients, temperatures, measurements, timing — must be just right.

UI senior Ashley Baldinelli, the owner of Short-Cakes, her self-run cupcake business, swears by top-quality ingredients such as butter and vanilla (and her mother's old KitchenAid mixer) to achieve delicious results. The student also has a few tips for making velvety frosting that could turn even the worst of critics into believers.

Here's how:

- Baldinelli melts the sugar for the frosting into the egg whites over heat. But you have to know when to pull it off the burner: Wait until the sugar dissolves completely. Baldinelli said this perfect timing will produce an ideal consistency.
- Use a very cold bowl to whisk the egg whites after heating them.
- With the help of a KitchenAid or a hand-held mixer with a whisk attachment, stir the mixture rapidly.

Although she won't give up the recipe for her Chocolate Truffle cupcakes, Baldinelli recommends trying Martha Stewart's One-Bowl Chocolate Cupcakes, which can be found online.

The 22-year-old's cupcake-baking flurry began only recently, resurfacing from the time spent in her youth avidly using an Easy-Bake Oven.

On spring break in March, Baldinelli fell in love with Lola's Cupcakery in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She said Lola herself recommended a strawberry cupcake for her to try. After that inspiring taste, a calling was born.

"I don't ever follow one recipe," she said while pouring Malibu Coconut Rum into a bowl full of snowy cupcake batter. Though she reads up on cupcake blogs and compares recipes in her cupcake cookbooks, she said, she keeps her methods a secret — especially that for her vanilla buttercream frosting.

Not only have Baldinelli's cupcakes appeared at the grand opening of Lyla's Boutique in Iowa City, they've also been savored at rehearsal dinners, weddings, and birthday and office parties, as well as other events.

At Yummy's, Wander said, wedding cupcakes are popular as well. They make for an economical dessert because they are easy — there's very little serving required and a variety of flavors to mix and match, she pointed out.

Perhaps cupcakes are the perfect prescription in this downtrodden economy.

Charles Whiteman, a senior associate dean of the Tippie College of Business and forecaster for the UI Institute for Economic Research, said if he were in the cupcake business, he would be concerned, because he doesn't consider the goods necessities.

"It's typically the case that people cut back on discretionary spending in a recession," he said.

Although he said he hasn't done any specialized research on the cupcake industry, he's intrigued by the business' success in a difficult economic time.

"More power to them," he said about the cupcake entrepreneurs. "This seems like an interesting innovation in the snack-food market."

Sugarplum sells between 80 and 100 dozen cupcakes every month and appears unaffected by the recession.

"It has been crazy," Eldeen said. "There has been a much bigger demand than I expected."

These individual affordable sweets satisfy something special that other desserts simply cannot. Baldinelli said a good cupcake will taste good and look cute, which cake can't always do.

"A big slice of cake makes you feel *blah*," she said.

And consumers, such as UI senior Emma Cutkomp, agree. "Cupcakes have a perfect icing-to-cake ratio," the 23-year-old said as she licked her fingers free from Deluxe bakery's red velvet cupcake frosting.

At home, Eldeen said, she's teaching her two young daughters how to bake in hopes that when she's older, they'll be fighting her off from their cupcakes instead of the other way around.

To Baldinelli, cupcakes are a comfort. "They are essentially very homey," she said.

"You don't go into a nice restaurant and see cupcakes on the menu. Although you should."



RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN
UI senior Ashley Baldinelli prepares vanilla buttercream frosting to be topped on chocolate truffle cupcakes at her residence on Oct. 13. Baldinelli had the idea to open her own cupcake bakery, Short-Cakes, after visiting Lola's Cupcakery in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., last March.

Until that day comes, the cupcake will capture the senses of connoisseurs everywhere, even in Iowa City.

Cakes may tower over them, and the economy might put them out, but "a good cupcake" refuses to be humbled. ■

Kathleen Serino was raised in Naperville, Ill., and now resides in Iowa City. She is a senior in the UI School of Journalism and Mass Communication and has reported for The Daily Iowan. She hopes to become a magazine editor someday.



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Going beyond playing tag

Art student Erica Tuke finds an alternative way to spread powerful messages through graffiti.

BY KELLY WILLE

kelly-wille@uiowa.edu

At 1:15 a.m. on a Thursday, amid the downtown disarray, a young woman slinks in the blackened alleyways. She carries an armful of paste, paintbrushes, and posters. Her art begins.

Erica Tuke, a UI sophomore, takes risks with her artwork. Bold and innovative, the lanky artist chooses to express herself through controversial means.

She creates a mixture of water, sugar, and flour, three environmentally friendly ingredients that will ultimately land on a downtown Iowa City building. Wheatpaste, as it's called, is a less permanent form than a typical graffiti artist's aerosol can; it only lasts for approximately two months. She will use this method to hang her own style of graffiti art — posters with messages that she hopes will reach a larger audience than her traditional work.

The artist's graffiti career began during a final project last spring.

Exposed to different styles of graffiti while visiting Spain, Tuke discovered the genre in a place that considers it an appreciated art form. Barcelona has been one of the most influential cities in the street-art movement for more than a decade, inspiring her to experiment with the art style.

This assignment was the time for her to take chances. If this was going down, it was going down with style and audacity.

Graffiti falls under the category of criminal mischief, which is based on the amount of damage caused, said Iowa City police Sgt. Troy Kelsay. While it is illegal to damage, deface, or destroy property of another person, there must be a victim for a graffiti artist to be criminally charged.

"Graffiti itself is not illegal," Kelsay said.

Poster graffiti such as Tuke's would fall under fifth-degree criminal mischief, in which damages would amount to under \$200 because the project is water-soluble, he said.

Many graffiti artists destructively tag buildings without any artistic statement, disrespecting private building owners. New to the inside world of graffiti, Tuke does not view it all as art.

"If people actually take it seriously as a piece of art and go out with the notion of making some kind of statement, and it's evident, then I respect that," she said.

Tuke prepared for her own project by posing while her friend snapped an assortment of action photographs. After the shoot, the pictures were resolved, enlarged, and taken to a photocopy center to be printed into life-size posters.

The chosen photo shows her maple-leaf, red-brown hair blowing backwards from her run. Her piercing blue eyes are shielded by black sunglasses. Wearing '80s-style high-top Nikes, she holds a sign that reads "EVIL SPELLED BACKWARD IS LIVE."

Tuke took precautions when getting the prints, aware that her actions could look suspicious.

'If people actually take it seriously as a piece of art and go out with the notion of making some kind of statement, then I respect that.'

ERICA TUKE, UI SOPHOMORE AND ARTIST



UI sophomore Erica Tuke places a "u" on the sign of the Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity on Oct. 12. Tuke uses an organic paste-like glue that is biodegradable.

ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

"How many people come in asking for 6-foot posters of themselves?" she joked.

She created a fake name, a man's, and paid in cash to conceal anything that would point to her and cover every lead — except that it would be her face on the building. With support from her family, the adventurous artist began her first graffiti experiment.

She pressed the photo up against the building, careful not to tear it. With her right hand, she lathered on the heavy paste, which looked like oatmeal and smelled like Elmer's glue. The photo adhered to the cement like wallpaper.

The pale, spindly art student waited near Iowa City's alternative bar, Studio 13, beginning her work only when she was lost in the darkness of the night. She scoped out the eerie alleyway and began to do her graffiti.

For the project, Tuke fashioned an art piece that displayed a message about the stereotypes of homosexuality and graffiti.

"I wanted to make a statement about something in Iowa City but at the same time have this juxtaposition that would bring people to the piece," she said.

According to the book *Graffiti World: Street Art from Five Continents* by Nicholas Ganz, graffiti art experienced a surge in America in the '60s. Underprivileged kids made up many of the artists, aiming to prove to society that they had talent and dedication.

Graffiti fulfilled for them a form of expression and self-identification. Tuke, however, uses her identity to display a message that speaks beyond personal values.

As she discussed the project, her long legs intertwined. She draped one arm over the back of her chair, looking cool and relaxed. Tuke's freckles peppered across her cheeks and her eyes smiled as she explained her art.

The idea began with the conception that many people view homosexuality as evil. This led her to the location of her work.

Posting the piece in proximity to a gay bar created an unspoken connection. The theme and method of her project flowed seamlessly, because many perceive the act of graffiti, like homosexuality, to be wrong as well.

Julia Schwadron, a former visiting assistant professor who taught Tuke's Life Drawing class last spring, said she was impressed with her technique and creativity. Schwadron said she encourages all of her students to take risks and supported Tuke's

'I wanted to make a statement about something in Iowa City but at the same time have this juxtaposition that would bring people to the piece.'

ERICA TUKE

decision to use graffiti to express a message.

"I am in favor of art over much else," Schwadron said. "I think that when individuals think for themselves, invention can occur."

Graffiti art commonly carries a negative connotation. Illegally using the walls of private property as a canvas can be offensive and disrespectful. Without permission from property owners, spray-paint art is not protected by the First Amendment, said officials at the American Civil Liberties Union in Des Moines. Tagging consumes time and money for businesses, blocking the artistic value of graffiti.

Dave Armstrong, the manager of Starbucks, 228 S. Clinton St., understands both perspectives. Graffiti surrounded the Chicagoland native on the city walls lining his hometown streets. However, from the business viewpoint, it is simply another task to deal with at work.

"Personally, I enjoy graffiti," he said. "But as a corporation, I'm not supposed to like graffiti art."

Self-described graffiti artist Sean Corbut,

a UI junior art major, believes that at times, graffiti artists can abuse the art, chalking their tags around town simply for self-promotion. Over time, he said, graffiti art has progressed into much more than taglines. Artists use graffiti as a way of displaying their work to the public.

"People can't get their stuff into galleries, so they turn to alleyways," he said.

To channel her artistic muse, Tuke turns to music. Her go-to jams are the rock bands of the '70s, which move her by their instrumental monumentality. Countless hours spent listening to Pink Floyd's *Dark Side of the Moon* led her to search for other inspiring musicians.

"I discovered the world of underground hip-hop, where independent artists were emerging from nowhere with real-life lyrics and a down-to-earth passion for poetry, beats, and performance," she said.

By absorbing hip-hop culture, a prominent influence on graffiti art, Tuke then learned about the alternative forms of the medium.

Inspired by the freestyle attitudes of lesser-known artists, she rejects conformist behavior.

And with future poster-graffiti plans in progress, Tuke will continue leaving her mark across Iowa City. ■

Kelly Wille is a UI junior from Cary, Ill., with majors in journalism and art history.

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The space of our desire



KC MCGINNIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Moving from 1,800 square feet to 140 square feet put one UI staff member's life into perspective.

BY KURT CUNNINGHAM

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Just off Melrose Avenue near the UI's Boyd Law Building, nestled between two trees and propped up on a trailer bed, sits a house built in inches, not feet.

This 140-square-foot dwelling is smaller than the average-sized dorm room and looks similar to a tree fort children long to have.

But for nearly six years, it has served as Gregory Johnson's home.

The UI technology-support specialist doesn't own a car, nor does he pay a mortgage. Until two months ago, the 45-year-old didn't have running water or electricity. His tiny home had just the basic necessities — a loft, a place to store clothes, and a porch to read on.

The smell of camping lingers on the walls that span only as far as he can reach, and the cobwebs create an illusion of a log cabin pitched in the middle of the forest. But this small, quaint home sits on the east side of his parents' property.

Although Johnson recently made the switch to a small apartment roughly twice the size of his tiny home, he said his goal to inform others of the benefits of simple living is not over.

"What I've learned over the last six years is that the fewer material objects one owns, the less stress one has," he said. "Something all people can appreciate."

As Johnson stood next to the porch — only wide enough for a folding chair — he said size was the only issue that kept him and his fiancée, Makur Jain, from living in the home. She noted with a laugh that she also needed a properly working bathroom.

Though Johnson knows this is not the most convenient lifestyle, he hopes people can take parts of his life and apply them to their own. He stressed that living with the basic essentials takes some getting used to, but it promotes a rewarding, eco-friendly way of life.

Developing a routine is at the core of successfully living in such a non-materialistic lifestyle. Johnson's began in the summer of 2001.

"I would wake up, ride my bike to the gym [rain or snow], shower, and get ready there," he said. "Then, I would go on with my day. I didn't see the point of paying for something like water."

Changing where and how he started his day, he was able to stay disconnected from the city's grid and pay \$15 to \$30 a month on heat. He maintained a relatively normal lifestyle by taking advantage of utilities from different resources. Because Johnson didn't have electricity or running water, he charged his appliances at work and showered at the gym.

"I made a few small changes and saved a lot of money," he said.

Jain, a UI graduate student, said the first time she saw the house, she was taken aback by how small it was.

"It was so dark the first time I saw his house," she said and laughed. "I remember thinking, 'OK, where is the rest of it?'"

A native of Lucknow, India, she shares Johnson's outlook on life. Her father instilled in her a lifestyle of having only necessary items while she was growing up, she said.

"He always told me, 'If you need two pairs of shoes, OK, or if you need two outfits, OK, but don't worry about having more than you need.'"

Both Johnson and Jain are drawn to what they call the simple "college life" living style, in which everything they own has a practical use.

In fact, they recently moved all their possessions into the bathroom at their new apartment in order for a maintenance crew to change the carpeted floor to hardwood.

"I think that is when I realized just how few things we own," Jain said. In fact, the couple doesn't even own a bed; they sleep on yoga mats and find it just as comfortable.

Johnson isn't the first UI employee to live this way. With the help of a former UI art Professor Jay Shafer — now a co-owner of Tumble Weed Tiny House Co. in California — Johnson spent the summer in 2001 building his home and simplifying his way of living.

"I moved things out little by little," Johnson said. "What I didn't need, I left behind. I wanted to know what it would be like to live as simply as possible."

Shafer's home designs have been featured by the *New York Times*, CNN, and even Oprah Winfrey.

Above: Gregory Johnson's small home stands on the east side of Johnson's parents' property in Iowa City on Oct. 6. Johnson promotes the Small House Society, which serves as a tool for people looking to live in smaller environments.

Left: Gregory Johnson sets up a ladder to the loft in his small house in Iowa City on Oct. 6. Technically, the smallest house allowed by Iowa City zoning code is 335 square feet. Johnson's former home is 140 square feet.

Like Johnson, Shafer's involvement with the tiny-homes movement is all about practical living. Not wanting to pay rent or a mortgage, either, he built a home he could pay off quickly.

Shafer cofounded Tumble Weed because he recognized the need for something that would change how much Americans were spending on living expenses.

"These homes have the ability to bring a second income to people that have extra living space in their backyards and need help paying off high mortgage loans," he said.

Other green builders have seen similar results. Shay Salomon, the author of *Little House on a Small Planet*, said that with the recent trend in the housing market, it is harder to buy and build large houses.

"The current mortgage crisis is destroying or at least changing people's dreams," she said. "The dream of 'bigger is better' is quickly fading."

When Salomon first got in the market of building tiny homes, she primarily catered to two types of people — families looking for a second, third, or fourth vacation home and individuals fed up with the "McMansion" trend.

"Now, I'm seeing people who want a primary residence or a guest unit in their backyard that they can rent out," she said.

Shafer can see a growth of interest in tiny homes. In 2007, he sold more than



KC MCGINNIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Gregory Johnson slept in the upper level loft of his small home in Iowa City, pictured on Oct. 6. In the mornings, Johnson rode his bicycle to a local gym to shower before going to work.

250 sets of plans and 10 houses — exceeding his combined totals from 2001-2006. Now, he is transitioning into holding workshop sessions on how to build smaller.

"Business just seems to get better as the economy and housing market gets worse," he said.

As of now, four states have changed their zoning ordinances to accommodate tiny homes in urban cities. However, the Iowa City Planning and Zoning Commission is reluctant to embrace these homes.

Jann Ream, the Iowa City code-enforcement assistant, said these homes do not fit into the current zoning ordinance primarily because of their size.

"A home must be 20 feet wide for 75

percent of its length," she said. "Thus, the smallest square-footage allowed by Iowa City is 335 square feet."

Appearance plays a major role in the decision-making process as well, and she said some still feel these tiny dwellings are unattractive.

"It is bad for neighbors who want to sell their homes and around the corner there is this small house with lots of propane tanks cluttering the front yard," Ream said. "Although we are a free country, we still have to think about others."

There have been only two incidences in which individuals sought permits to build small homes on plots of land in Iowa City. The first was Shafer and the second, Johnson. Though Johnson's request was

denied, and the city amended the ordinance, he was able to live in his home for nearly six years, because, he said, the city picked the location where his house could sit.

After his attempt to change the ordinance, officials created new provisions to permit accessory dwellings but with one stipulation: They had to be attached to some aspect of the main home. Otherwise, officials considered them mobile homes and could only be on an individual's property for 45 days per year.

Ream said the city likes the idea of allowing individuals extra housing that is attached to their houses, because it gives the elderly the ability to have another set of hands and also provides an additional source of income.

She was less than optimistic about whether the city would consider revamping its current plan.

"It has always been this way; there would have to be a definite trend," she said. "I don't see us ever changing the ordinance."

Although Johnson moved out of his tiny home, he still feels houses such as his have a place in the community.

"Not all communities will embrace these homes like mine did," he said. "But there are clear advantages to them that I think towns will come to realize." ■

Kurt Cunningham is a senior studying journalism and mass communication, with a double minor in history and English. He currently works as the design and graphics editor at The Daily Iowan. He hopes to land a job writing for a news publication upon graduation.

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Crafting an emporium online

Local crafts makers define the new free marketplace by becoming part-time business owners and connecting with customers worldwide online at Etsy.com.

BY VANESSA VEIOCK

vanessa.veiock@gmail.com

With the holidays edging closer, two worries are fated to fill every consumer's mind — buying the perfect gift and having enough money to pay for it. But for many, the unrivaled response to shopper anxiety lies as close as a desktop computer and a craft box (or three) in the basement, thanks to Etsy.com.

This online handmade goods emporium hosts more than 250,000 sellers in more than 150 countries, together offering millions of products on a single website. Think of it as an all-inclusive global arts festival in which anyone can buy, create, and sell at all hours of every day.

“It’s an outlet for originality, ideas, and gifts at a reasonable price,” said Etsy-shopper and UI designer Ann Freerks. “You go to one place and find all these wonderful personalities sharing their artistic genius.”

With products ranging from the obscure (clocks made out of burger baskets, bent-spoon bookmarks, origami earrings) to the conventional (recycled stationary, baked goods, crocheted doilies) and craft supplies, too, every seller can find a market and every buyer can find a one-of-a-kind gift. In Iowa City, many of the local 76 Etsy vendors are turning hobby talents into cash during their free time. Ranging from stay-at-home moms and freelancers to professionals and students, all devote varying amounts of time to earn supplemental incomes or bonuses, many times on crafts they would have created anyway.

Created in 2005 by painter-carpenter-photographer Rob Kalin, Etsy.com provides a viable marketplace for artists and crafters to sell their work to curious consumers and fellow creators. Now, anyone with Internet access and a handicraft can become an instant entrepreneur with round-the-clock customers and practically no overhead. Membership in Etsy is free, and for just 20 cents per item, anyone can list a good on a personalized web shop and market to users from Japan to Dubai to Iowa.

A profitable pastime

Buying, selling, and even making a product used to take a lot more time and money pre-Etsy. Now, the multifaceted website allows members to share ideas, shop, learn about selling techniques through



VANESSA VEIOCK

Elizabeth Williams sits in her laundry room/studio in the basement of her Iowa City home. Before she joined Etsy, she sold her jewelry to friends and family at home shows. Now she sells at craft fairs in addition to wholesaling to specialty shops and keeping up with Etsy sales.

online handbooks and blogs, and make friends along the way. Etsy's \$99.4 million in sales generated through August of this year (up from \$87.5 million in 2008 and \$26 million in 2007) doesn't seem so unbelievable with the craft industry pulling in almost \$6 billion in annual revenue and 57 percent of U.S. households making crafts, according to the most recent data from the Craft and Hobby Association.

For consumers such as Freerks, who estimates she's made almost 50 purchases on Etsy.com, buying on the website is a hybrid shopping experience.

“You go to Etsy when you want something original and meaningful that someone put a lot of care into making,” she said. “It's more personal than going to the mall. You get to know the sellers and explore who they are. And if you think of one of the products in the middle of the night, you can go look at it in your pajamas, compare it with other things, and you don't have to waste the gas, get the kids ready, and leave the house.”

Like shopping on Etsy, selling on the site reaps similar benefits. Elizabeth Williams and Sarah Massagee, two successful Etsy vendors with local ties, said their online businesses function foremost as stress relief. The supplementary income is an added (and addicting) bonus.

More Iowa City crafters on Etsy.com

The business: Cricket

The goods: Sailor-knot and tape-measure headbands; recycled, vintage hair combs

The person: Christine Boeckholt, 23, UI first-year law student



The business: Paper Prayers

The goods: Poetic wall hangings, word brooches to inspire

The person: Jill Brown, 34, stay-at-home mother

The business: downstairs Designs

The goods: Hold-everything clutches, brightly patterned iPod pouches

The person: Jennifer Wilkins, 37, former UI financial analyst before taking on Etsy full-time



“[Soapmaking] started as something to distract me from school,” Massagee, a UI law student now relocated to Charleston, S.C., wrote in an e-mail. “[My Etsy shop] has really exceeded my expectations and become a small but viable business that I’m proud of and really enjoy. I’ve subsequently come to depend rather heavily on its income.”

Before opening her shop, 4th Ave. Soap Co., on Etsy two years ago, she occasionally sold her soaps, lip balms, and floral waters at farmers’ markets back home in North Carolina. Since joining Etsy, she has made more than 2,400 sales while working her business into her schedule.

Her inventory fluctuates depending on how much time she has to create. For example, since May, Massagee has turned on Etsy’s vacation-mode feature, allowing sellers to temporarily close shop. A packed summer working full-time in the law school’s legal clinic and moving cross-country made it necessary for her to put Etsy work on hold. She plans to reopen her store on Etsy before the holidays and run it full-time until she takes the bar exam next summer.

Williams, a full-time art teacher at McKinley Middle School in Cedar Rapids, also finds the flexibility of Etsy its strongest advantage. Like Massagee, creating her jewelry is something she wants to do, regardless of the business on Etsy.

“Living in Iowa has enabled me to create more because winter is so harsh,” the Illinois-native said. She said she also spends time making pieces after school, finding it a necessary relaxation method.

Before joining Etsy, Williams often sold her jewelry at home shows. Those sales didn’t compare with what Etsy brought — such as wholesale agreements and more than 1,000 sales. The possibility of Etsy as a full-time job is alluring to the 32-year-old, but practicality holds her back.

“I like a consistent paycheck, and I like teaching art too much to give it up,” she said in the basement studio she shares with the washing machine and dryer.

Because Williams doesn’t depend heavily on her Etsy income, she puts the extra money back into her business by buying more supplies and advertising on popular blogs. The leftover goes toward a new car fund and supplemental teacher retirement.

Creating a career

It started with knitting. Then a small craft show in December 2007 for fun, a sewing machine from her mother at Christmas, and casual poking around on Etsy.com at a friend’s suggestion. Then UI senior Brittany Burggraaf made her first clothing sale on Etsy in November 2008.



VANESSA VEIOCK

Twenty-three-year-old Brittany Burggraaf cuts and glues catalogues during an interview. Her younger sister, a University of Northern Iowa student, models the clothing Burggraaf makes, and Burggraaf’s older sister shoots all the photography for the business.

‘There’s this mentality when you’re on Etsy. It’s like going to your local arts festival. I like to think the whole world is being creative and making creativity a priority.’

**JENNIFER BLACK REINHARDT,
LOCAL FREELANCE ILLUSTRATOR**

“I never realized I could get paid for doing something I love,” she said, nimbly cutting out photos of her sister modeling her newest fashion line for a catalogue. She sat comfortably, but concentrated in her office in the Bedell Entrepreneurship Learning Laboratory on Clinton Street. Roles of fabric fill the corners of her space, ingredients that will soon inspire one of her creations. Many of the student’s garments begin with an idea she’d happily wear — simple designs enhanced by bright, creative color arrangements and inventive embellishments, such as apron strings and fabric hearts. Lately, she’s expanded her line with custom-made Halloween costumes.

Today, more than 250 Etsy sales later, she has an office, a studio, employees, her own clothing line called Knotty Sisters, and enough Etsy revenue to pay rent. She also sells her pieces in four other stores — two in Iowa City (Revival, 117 E. College St., and White Rabbit, 109 S. Linn St.), one in Atlanta, and another in Columbus, Ohio. Once she receives her degree in women’s studies, she plans on devoting all of her time to the business — buying warehouse

space and hiring new employees.

Burggraaf credits her success to Etsy’s untraditional model. The Fairfield native continues to grow her venture without the usual risks. By creating her own hours, she could (and still does) go to school and keep three jobs (as a waitress at Hamburg Inn, yoga instructor at Downward Dog, and saleswoman at White Rabbit). While the time commitment for her business increases (she sews 30 hours a week, plus other Etsy-related upkeep such as e-mails and packaging), it’s something she does by choice, with the confidence from her past success.

Another perk of Internet biz? There’s no worry about keeping a tidy physical location for customers.

“My studio is busy and chaotic, full of energy and plants, crayons and sketches, and thread and animals,” she said. “Sometimes, there’s just a carpet of scraps, and the floor is covered with winding threads. It’s probably a lot of people’s worst nightmare, but it’s how my mind works.”

While Burggraaf’s studio may be artistically cluttered, her business doesn’t have to be. For the able-fingered sewer, it all comes back to a simple business philosophy.

“I’m not trying to make a million dollars,” she said. “I just want to sew.”

Getting Personal

For Jennifer Black Reinhardt, a local freelance illustrator, Etsy served as the impetus for a jewelry-making obsession focused more on nostalgia and social interaction than making a profit.

“I’m not out to be the next jewelry guru of the world,” she said. “I just thought, ‘Wouldn’t it be great if some-

one bought something?’”

Reinhardt started exploring Etsy after she complimented a friend on a necklace bought from the website. Feeling inspired, she decided to use the trinkets she’d inherited from her grandmother to create vintage collage jewelry.

“My grandmother and I bought bits and baubles by the pound,” the Pennsylvania native recalled, smiling widely. “Her bathtub was filled with jewels, and she always had jars of jewelry on the windowsill.”

Teaching herself the craft, she joined Etsy in March 2007. Four hundred sales later, she continues working with Etsy, while freelancing her illustrations and taking care of her two children, ages 11 and 14, with her husband, UI biomedical engineering Professor Joseph Reinhardt.

“It’s like being schizophrenic having all these different things I do,” she said, sipping ice water from an etched potter’s glass bought on Etsy in her cozy, curio-filled kitchen. “How many hats can I wear?”

For Reinhardt, it’s all about making priorities. Her hobby on Etsy fits into her primary career as an illustrator. Because she’s not dependent on Etsy as a main source of income, she doesn’t have to worry about creating for consumers.

“I make things just how I would like them,” she said. “I like being able to mix bronze and silver and do all the things you’re not supposed to do.”

Etsy also allows Reinhardt to make one-on-one relationships with customers from around the world. She met one of her closest friends, an English woman from London, through the site. Last Christmas, she received packages and cards from international customers.

For Reinhardt, Etsy means community and supporting one another in artistic endeavors. One day, she hopes to merge her hobby and occupation by distributing her illustrations through Etsy too.

“There’s this mentality when you’re on Etsy,” she said. “It’s like going to your local arts festival. I like to think the whole world is being creative and making creativity a priority.”

From the consumer side of things, Etsy-shopper Freerks sees each product as a gift from a close friend.

“It’s like you’re the first person to appreciate a work of art,” she said. “It’s like making history.” ■

Vanessa Veiock is a recent UI grad who frequently dreams about dropping out of the real world and going back to college permanently. After leaving Iowa City on graduation day in May, the former Off Deadline editor jumped across the pond to London and then trekked to Paris before teaching summer school in Atlanta. Today she teaches first and second-grade Spanish speakers in Denver as a Teach for America corps member.

The Umbrella Tree

BY MIRIAM WEINER
miriam-weiner@uiowa.edu

The white-haired man stood looking at the plant on the dusty windowsill, his stomach protruding just enough to stretch the buttons of his old gray cardigan.

“But you, gracious and growing thing, with those leaves like stars, I shall soon give all my attention to you,” Harold whispered hoarsely into the leaves of the umbrella tree as the cat wrapped her orange body around his legs, mewing jealously over the attention the green invader of her territory was receiving. Missy would later prove her superiority over the plant by using its soil as her toilet.

Harold was not the type of man who spoke to, or even owned, plants. At his appointment that afternoon, Dr. Schefflera had informed him that he was depressed, one of the multitude of ailments faced by men his age. While Harold rejected the doctor’s suggestion that he take a medication to treat this ailment — he was already taking such a plethora of colorful pills each morning that he could no longer look at so much as a bag of M&Ms without cringing — the doctor recommended that he should make an effort to make some aspect of his life “new and exciting.” At 78, Harold felt it was only appropriate to stick to something small and, because he remembered watching his late wife, Moira, gardening, he decided to purchase a plant.

At the garden store, the umbrella trees had looked heartier than any of the other house plants, and as a first-time plant owner, Harold decided that this was probably the most important factor in choosing his and Missy’s new housemate. The particular umbrella tree he chose had one shoot that had grown about six inches longer than the rest and looked like of an antenna.

By the time Harold returned home from the garden store, it was 8:09 p.m. He brushed aside a dead fly, its legs crossed like those of an Egyptian mummy, before placing the plant on one of Moira’s old doilies in the window above the radiator in the living room, with the oddly long shoot pointed toward the dimly lit street.

This was when Harold discovered the little booklet of instructions attached to an elastic that was wrapped around the plant’s terra cotta pot. He read it passively as he put his frozen meatloaf dinner in the microwave and walked to the living room to avoid the radiation from the microwave that he had heard about on the news last month. At this moment, without knowing why, he read a line of poetry out loud into the leaves of the plant when he discovered it printed in the booklet.



Illustration by Megan Joy Ostermann

Harold ate his dinner on an old wooden TV tray while watching the evening news, then cleaned Missy's litter pan and filled her water dish before retiring to his bed for the night.

Upon walking into the living room the next morning, Harold stepped in a pile of some combination of cat feces and potting soil and effectively ground a significant amount of the substance into the rug. In demonstrating her authority over the plant, Missy had flung dirt all over the room and had made an impressive mess. While Harold was pleased to see that the plant looked relatively undisturbed, he was surprised to notice that its unique shoot had rotated away from the window and now pointed in the general direction of his bedroom. He assumed this had something to do with the changing position of the sun.

It was a Sunday, and Harold had nowhere to be until 11:30, when he was to meet Murray to play checkers, so there was ample time to clean up the cat's mess. Missy was generally a very clean cat, so he had none of the appropriate materials to remove the dirt from the carpet. So, Harold got dressed, retrieved his cane and tweed cap, and began the three-block walk to the supermarket. He looked at his watch as he walked out the door to make sure he wouldn't arrive at the supermarket before it opened at 8:30. It was 8:27 a.m.

When Harold returned to the house at

9:12 a.m., something odd happened. He said "Hello, Moira. I'm home," as he walked through the door and set his cap on the coffee table. Three years ago, this would not have been odd. Three years ago his wife was still alive and would have expected Harold to greet her as he entered their home. Missy sauntered over to greet Harold, unaware that his salutation had not been intended for her, and he absent-mindedly scratched her behind the ears. Shaking his head, Harold walked into the living room with his new cleaning materials and knelt on the floor awkwardly as he went to work scooping up the mess and scrubbing it out of the carpet.

"Well, Moira, I just don't know why Missy decided to do that. I suppose the dirt seemed similar to the litter in her box. I have checkers with Murray in a few hours, so you will have some time to —"

Harold was so startled when he noticed that he was talking again that he dropped the dustpan full of dirt and spilled it back onto the rug. There wasn't a thing in the world that Harold could think of to explain why he was talking to an umbrella tree as if it were his deceased wife. Although he shut his mouth immediately, he was somewhat concerned that when the doctor had said depression, he had actually meant dementia. Harold was consciously silent until he finished cleaning, at which

point he somewhat apprehensively glanced up at the umbrella tree. The antenna-like shoot that had been facing the window when he entered the room was now pointed directly to where he had knelt on the floor cleaning just moments before.

This is the moment Harold decided that he was losing his mind. He decided that he would continue his day and meet Murray for checkers as if nothing were wrong but concluded that if he were still having such ridiculous delusions tomorrow, he would call his daughter and tell her it was time to find a nursing home with nice people to help him when he really lost it. Harold showered, shaved, and trimmed his mustache in preparation for what he expected was one of his final days of lucidity, then dressed himself to walk to the coffeehouse down the street for checkers.

As Harold walked through the living room to leave at 11:18, he glanced at the umbrella tree in the living room. As he had grimly expected, its long shoot was now pointed towards the bathroom where he had spent the past hour or so. "I'll be back around 2, my dear," Harold accidentally announced as he walked out the door. Missy meowed.

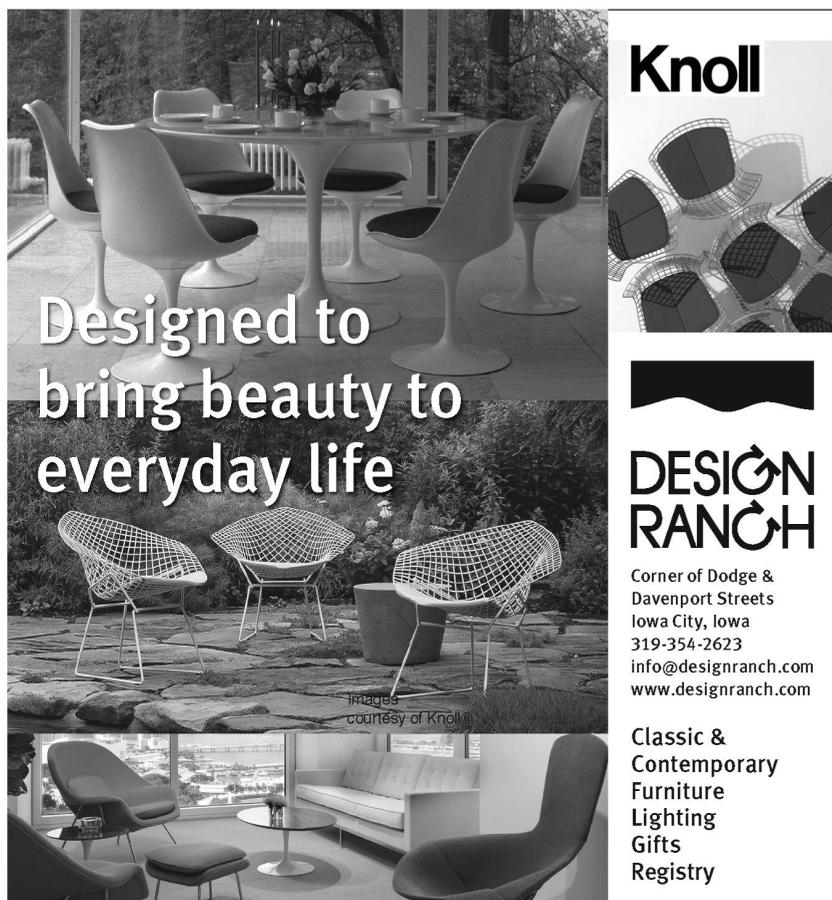
Harold lost so badly at checkers that it prompted Murray to ask him if he wasn't feeling well, but he chose not to tell Murray about the umbrella tree. On his

walk back to the house, he considered how dull the rest of his life would be, holed up in a home with nurses who wore too much perfume and spoke to him as if he were 7, rather than 78. This was such a gloomy prospect that by the time Harold reached his home he had changed his mind and decided to lose his mind quietly. After all, talking to plants and hallucinating about a branch following him around were not dangerous activities.

The umbrella tree (with the long shoot facing the window) and Missy were waiting for Harold when he returned. "Moira, I'm home. Murray is well; he beat me quite spectacularly in checkers. I'm glad Missy has learned that your pot is not her new lit—" At first, Harold cut himself off, but then he figured, what the hell. A bit of conversation never hurt anyone.

"Sorry, Moira. What I was saying was that I am glad Missy has learned that your pot is not her new litter box. I hope you are enjoying your spot in the sun there; it seems to be the perfect time of day for you to get some rays. I lost badly at checkers, but I think we'll play again next week." ■

Miriam Weiner is a senior from Iowa City and is majoring in psychology and pre-medicine. She plans to attend medical school next year and can't decide whether she is excited or terrified that she has no idea where that will be.



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The Crick

BY JACOB SEIFERT
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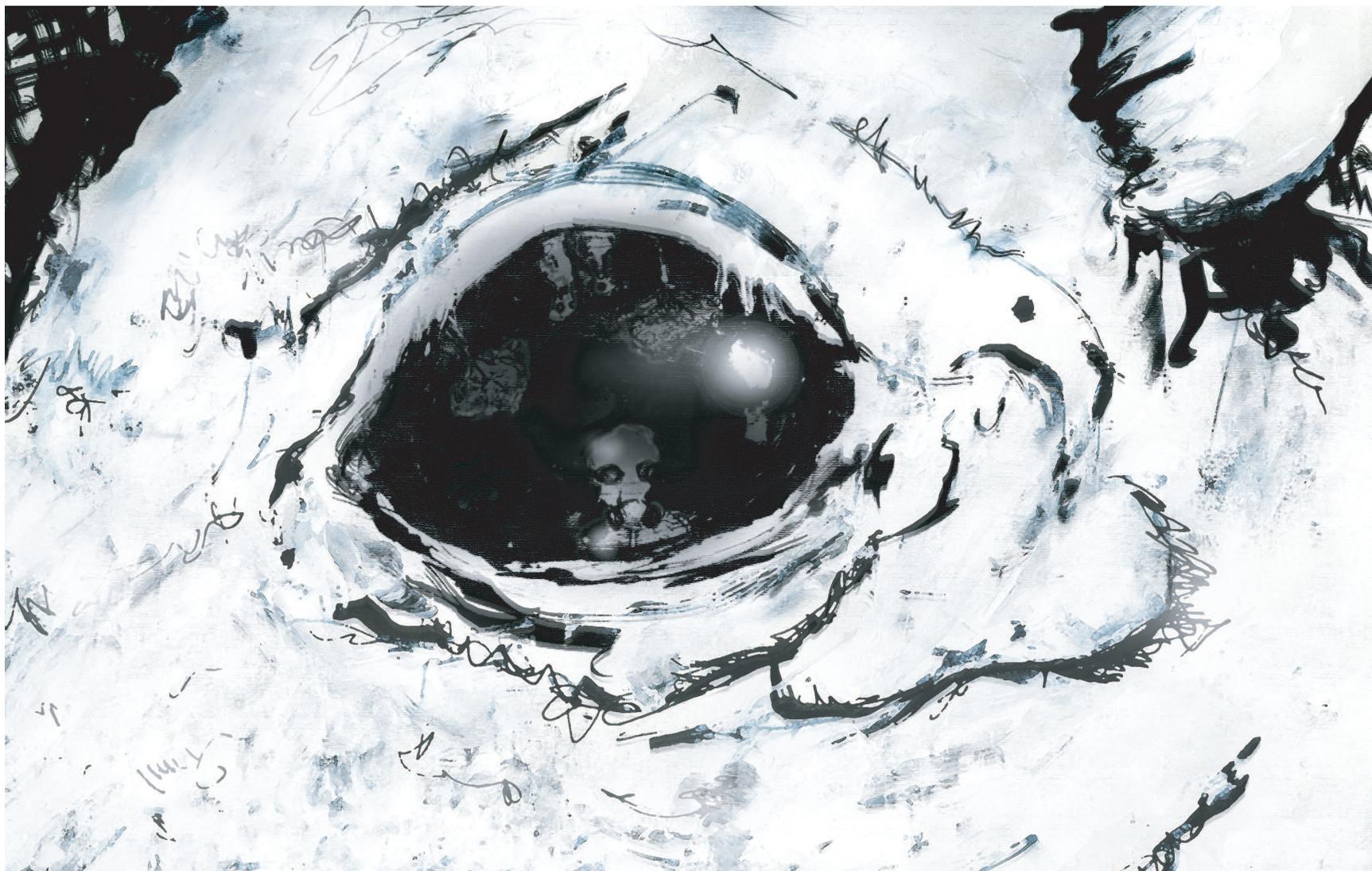


Illustration by Megan Joy Ostermann

Growing up, there was a grove of trees by my house. Me and my two best friends, Billy Sallister and Candace Romney, used to play in there just about every day. The grove itself wasn't terribly big, but was the perfect escape from our parents and the dorkier or younger kids of the neighborhood. We spent so much time in there, hiding and seeking between the trunks, splashing around in the crick that ran through the center of it, or doing whatever seemed like fun at the time. We loved that place — our place — would have defended it to the death against invading forces until one summer afternoon when we found the crick all gunked up.

The crick itself was very small, hardly a trickle worth noticing, but one day it was thick with what looked like a semi-shiny mixture of rubber cement and milk. Of course, we treated it just as any other 10-year-olds would. With curiosity.

We started off by straddling the crick and laughing and daring each other to take a drink of the sludge that was oozing its way through our personal oasis. We tired of slapping each other with the title of chicken pretty quickly and decided to conduct a series of experiments. We dropped rocks into the shiny slime to see if it would splash — which it didn't. We poked it with sticks to

feel its consistency — which was something like thick glue. And we even lowered our nostrils close enough to get a whiff — but we couldn't smell anything. We thought it was fun. It was something new and strange, and we didn't even think to tell our parents about it until the next day, when we found all the dead animals.

We were going to check on the crick's mystery substance but didn't even step foot into the grove because the cat, bird, dog, skunk, possum, raccoon, and deer carcasses were so thick that you would've had to step on them to go any farther. We stood there, hypnotized, coughing the

stench of rotting flesh out of our lungs and sweating beads of ice despite the heat that pulsated against our skin.

We stood there for a while. Silent. Swallowing bubbles of nausea that kept working their way up our throats. Then I got this gut-hollowing impression about what had happened, that the animals had fought each other to get to the ooze, that they'd been spellbound by the shininess of it and couldn't help but lap it up. The ooze was responsible. I just knew it. And then I remembered how we'd dared each other to take a drink of the stuff. None of us had touched it

directly — thank goodness — but seeing what happened to those animals and the thought of what could have happened to us made it impossible for me to stand there any longer. We ran back to my house on numb legs and told my mother everything between pants and tears.

Within three hours, a caravan of EPA vehicles had the grove taped off. They went to work as the locals cocked their heads around their neighbors to get a better look at the plastic suits and space-age equipment.

Of course, the spectacle sent whispers sizzling through the milling crowd. There were whispers of failed governmental experiments and whispers of the conspiracies that always follow such things. Whispers of contaminated groundwater. Whispers of possible side effects. Mr. Harrison, not whispering, began saying he had a pain in his chest, and Mrs. Green, also not whispering, started saying her vision was going blurry. Their complaints scared me at first, but my mother quietly explained what a hypochondriac was and that Mr. Harrison and Mrs. Green were a pair of the worst kind.

I don't think anyone would have tired of speculating and craning his neck or her neck. The whole town probably would

have stood out there for days if a meeting hadn't been called. As soon as word came that Mayor Dresden had spoken with the EPA and was going to address us, the crowd surged down the streets and filled the high-school gymnasium to the point of

Seeing what happened to those animals and the thought of what could have happened to us made it impossible for me to stand there any longer. We ran back to my house on numb legs and told my mother everything between pants and tears.

overflowing. The bleachers were packed, people lined the walls, and curious heads poked in through the open doorways as our nervous chatter filled the air. It was deafening. But the moment Mayor Dresden stepped into that gym, there was instant silence. He walked in, head down, eyes fixed on the floor as he walked to the

microphone stand, his footsteps echoing in a hollow way. When he did look up, after situating himself behind the microphone, his eyes betrayed him. It was clear that he was intimidated by the massive assembly and the tension it radiated.

He started off by assuring everyone that there was nothing to worry about. Of course, no one believed that. People started shouting, demanding to know where the ooze came from and if it'd gotten into the drinking water. It took a while for everyone to quiet down again before the Mayor was able to continue.

He then told us that the EPA was almost certain that the town's drinking water had not been contaminated, but the town needed to take precautions. He then informed us that we were all being put under a mandatory quarantine for a minimum of two weeks. No one who had come in contact with city water within the past month was allowed to leave the city limits.

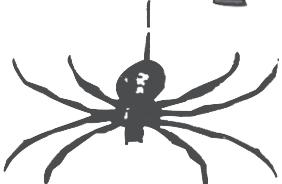
That caused an even bigger outburst.

There were a lot of farmers in the crowd. They were the ones yelling the loudest, wanting to know what would be done about their crops. They didn't live in the city limits but could be found every morning at the Early Bird, eating breakfast

and drinking coffee that had been made with city water. I turned around just in time to see Mrs. Green faint. She fell backwards, knocking someone into someone else who knocked into yet another person. I also saw Mr. Harrison bounding down the bleachers, clutching his chest with one hand and waving the other in the air, calling for medical attention. People started standing up all around me, pressing into one another as they tried to move off the bleachers. My father wrapped an arm around my mother's shoulder and pulled me into his lap. He hunched over us as the people frantically milled about, none of them really getting anywhere. But even with all of the shouting and fear, no one was trampled. No fights broke out. Amazingly, it eventually calmed down. People retook their seats and the mayor continued.

The first rule of the quarantine was that no one was allowed to leave the city limits until the EPA lifted it. The second rule was that everyone was to undergo a series of medical tests to make sure no one had been contaminated. The third rule was that we weren't allowed to tell anyone about the quarantine, friends or family, until it was over. And the fourth rule was

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that we were not to come in contact with any city or water until it was all cleared as safe. The EPA was hauling water into town, and everyone would be given a daily allotment.

My parents were pretty relaxed about the entire thing. My father worked in a town 30 minutes east but was unable to leave for two weeks. The EPA promised that everyone would be compensated for the work missed because of the quarantine. So, my father rationalized, because he and his family weren't being harmed and he wasn't losing any money, it was a paid vacation. My mom was also calm. I never heard her complain about having to go down to Main Street to get our water or not being able to wash her hair or take a shower. I admit, part of their indifference may have been staged for my sake, to not get me worked up. But I think they really weren't concerned. They even let me run around unsupervised. The only thing they ever did was warn me to not play too hard and get dehydrated because water was in such short supply.

Some people, on the other hand, were beside themselves with fear. Candace's parents were pretty over the top. They wouldn't let her leave the house or anyone else inside. We tried talking to her

through a window one day, but her mother told us to go away and closed the curtains. The only time any of the Romneys left the house was when it was their turn to get tested at the makeshift lab in the town hall.

Everyone was given a schedule to follow, usually three or four hours every second or third day. A lot of the tests were pretty normal, like breathing into machines or checking vision or testing reflexes. Even having to provide several skin, blood, and urine samples wasn't given a second thought. But when they hung us upside down for 10 minutes or sent little electrical shocks through different parts of our bodies, people got a little uncomfortable. They injected different things in different places, as they vaguely put it, to measure reactions. They put us in dark containers and asked us to concentrate on different images in our minds. They asked us what cards they were looking at when we couldn't see what they were. They even asked us how we were feeling, like if we were sad or frustrated or felt like getting violent against anyone. I didn't mind any of it too much. I actually thought it was kind of fun. For me, it was something to do to pass the time. For others, it was a violation and deception. I didn't fully

understand what they were getting at back then, but there were a lot of experiments that had nothing to do with our physical health. People had their theories, and I've since developed mine, but that's all they are. Theories. It's done and over, and we'll never know for sure what they were looking for.

I guess that's somewhat anticlimatic. I apologize if a more dramatic ending was wanted. But the two weeks came and went, and the EPA took down the barriers and packed away the medical equipment. The EPA people were gone within an hour, before the mayor had even called another town meeting to present us with the EPA's results.

As would be expected from such a sudden, impersonal departure, the mayor assured us that everything was back to normal, that no physical or mental abnormalities had been found from anyone in the town — despite the complaints from Mr. Harrison and Mrs. Green. He also said that all contaminated water had been disposed of and that the town's water quality had even been improved through installing new purification equipment in the treatment facility.

We wanted more details than the mayor said he was able to provide. We wanted to know why the animals were so eager to

drink that stuff up, what it was in the ooze that killed them, where it'd come from, what the EPA had done to clean it up, if it was going to ever come back, and a whole slew of other things. The mayor almost threw the town into a riot when he took off without answering any of these big questions. Some people were real nasty to him after that, and he was never voted back into office.

Despite the assurances, a fear-inspired cautiousness overran our town for several months. The crick was checked up on regularly, people bought more bottled water than ever, and not a single child played in a sprinkler the remainder of that summer. Eventually, the caution faded. Hardly anyone talks about it anymore. But, every once in a while, someone will remember those two weeks, the experiments, and the unanswered questions, and they'll raise the glass of water they'd planned on drinking close to their eye before putting the rim to their lips. It's more silly than anything, but I'm not ashamed to admit that even I do it every now and then. ■

Jacob Seifert is a senior from the Council Bluffs/Omaha area with an emphasis in creative writing. He hopes to pursue a career in writing or "just being creative."

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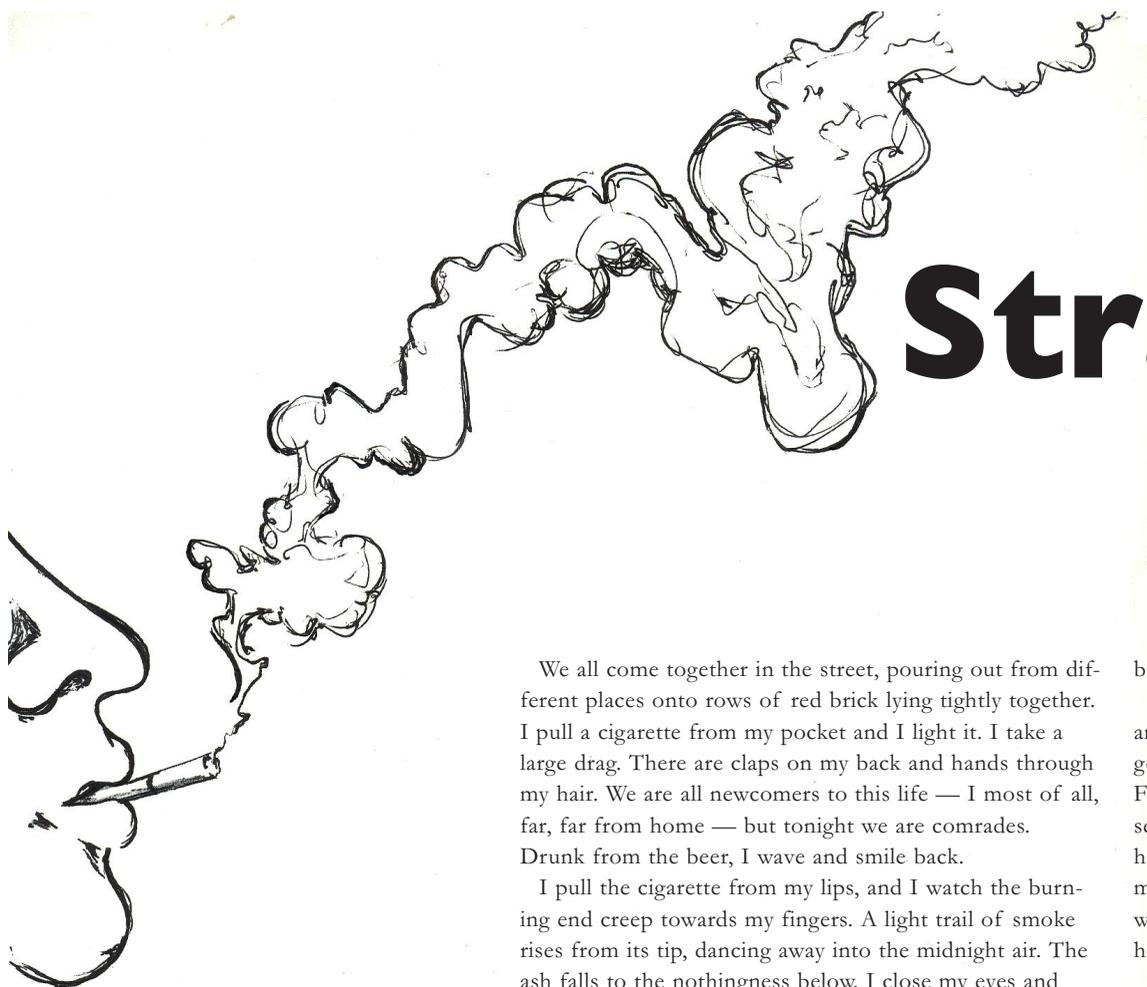


Illustration by Megan Joy Ostermann

Stranger's Blues

BY DEREK RODGERS

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We all come together in the street, pouring out from different places onto rows of red brick lying tightly together. I pull a cigarette from my pocket and I light it. I take a large drag. There are claps on my back and hands through my hair. We are all newcomers to this life — I most of all, far, far from home — but tonight we are comrades. Drunk from the beer, I wave and smile back.

I pull the cigarette from my lips, and I watch the burning end creep towards my fingers. A light trail of smoke rises from its tip, dancing away into the midnight air. The ash falls to the nothingness below. I close my eyes and exhale through my nose, and my mind ascends above my

body to join it. We dance together under the stars.

I look around. My comrades are gone. We lose ourselves among each other. We diffuse into the street, and we are gone. The unfamiliar smell of the city invades my nostrils. For a second, my stomach burns as I realize all the faces I see are strange and unfamiliar. My mind drifts toward home, more than a thousand miles, to an old version of me on the porch with my brother. I was a child then, and we raced cars along the railings. I held mine above my head, and it flew through the air like an airplane.

The sound of a guitar breaks the surface of the dull static of the crowd, and for a single moment, I know



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exactly where I am. I see it on a globe spinning in darkness, a fluorescent tack pinning a note that says, “You are here.” I take another drag from my cigarette, and I hear the sounds again. At the center of the street is an old man in a dirty, brown suit strumming a guitar and playing a harmonica attached to his head. Behind his feet are holes in the ground from which long streams of water jet up, peak, curve down, and fall back to the earth, splashing before him. He plays beneath these fountain waves — weightless and smooth as if on a track — tapping his foot, keeping time in the puddles.

The crowd members notice, too, and they stand around him. Like Greek columns, they are motionless with cold, blank stares. They do not know what to make of him. They do not know what to think. The music comes and lifts my toes and releases them to the beat like a metronome.

The music man pulls his lips from the harmonica. He strums harder on the guitar strings. Throwing his head back, he sucks on his long, white mustache with his bottom lip. His eyes are lost in the streams of water arching above his head; his mind flies higher into the night sky,

and I feel him looking down at us. His body plays the music.

A long, slender hand appears before my face and pulls the cigarette from my lips. It is a girl, blond and slim. She dances in a circle and her skirt sways, hurrying to keep up. She waves the cigarette about her as she dances, painting the air with its smoke and ash.

She stops and puts the cigarette to her lips. She stares at me. Her hair drapes over half of her face, and I see only one of her eyes. Though it is night, I see that it is blue. The tip of the cigarette burns bright orange, and she pulls it from her lips and offers it to me again. I reach to take it back, but she grabs my hand and smiles. The smoke escapes her mouth through her parted lips. She turns her body and pulls me through the crowd toward the music man.

She does not look back. Her grip is tight, and I do not fight it. People stand in our way watching the man play. We dodge them like trees in a forest; we skip like children through a hayfield to the summer flowers beyond it.

When we breach the edge of the wall, she turns and grabs my hips. The music man just plays. We dance with each other in front of him. She runs her fingertips

down my spine and across my cheek. I hold her hip and lower back. I look at her, and she looks back with her one, blue eye. She puts the cigarette to my lips, and I take a long drag and blow the smoke above our heads.

The music man pounds the ground with his foot, splashing water up to his knees. His face slides from one side of the harmonica to the other as if shaking his head in disapproval. Though his eyes look of pain I know there is nothing else he could ever do. The crowd just watches.

She squeezes me tight, then pushes me away. She grabs my hands and swings me around and around. I look up. A stream of water falls from the sky and bursts into my face, and the cigarette falls from my mouth, extinguished. The girl laughs.

I look at the wet cigarette lying on the brick street. It is tiny and defeated. My stomach burns. I see the toy car flying above my head. It reaches the end of the railing and flies out into the lawn, over the grass. She touches my lips with her fingers, then runs them through my hair. Her blue eye looks at me. In it I see the globe spinning with the note, “You are here.”

She comes in close, the water pouring

off her head. She looks into my eyes: one and then the other. Then she kisses me; softly, like you would an infant. She laughs again, and we dance beneath the fountain streams beside the music man. I laugh.

Tomorrow, I will wake and think of her. I will think of her blue eye and her hidden face. I will think of how her lips tasted. I will run my hands through my hair to see if it is still wet but it won't be. I will smell smoke on my clothes, and the girl will disappear from my mind. She will raise her hands above her head, look at me one last time, and dance away into nothingness. She is an illusion; false. She does not exist. I will think of my comrades melting into the columns unaware.

Then I will think of the old man in the dirty, brown suit playing the guitar to a cold, brick wall, unfazed. I will hear his foot pounding in the puddles below it. His eyes will cease to be eyes, and his mind will wander up into the night sky until his mouth sings, “I am here.” ■

Derek Rodgers was born in St. Albans, Vt. and lived there until he came to Iowa to study English and writing. He is also pursuing a teacher's certification and would like to remain in Iowa for graduate school.



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The Mist

BY COLIN DOHERTY

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Through life I cruise like a World War I battleship
 My rust-eaten prow
 From it
 Is hung the world's smallest paper lantern.
 Its light running backwards and dying at the hands of
 The mist
 But I
 Do not panic tinkling my little bell
 Ship on the river
 Ill-prepared
 Warship lost at the mouth of history
 Stay fast and find ease in the nothingness
 Lost in
 The fog
 One day you too will find harbor
 till then
 Ship on the river
 till then.

Colin Doherty is a UI freshman from San Francisco majoring in creative writing. He spends his time thinking about thoughts, riding his bicycle around Iowa City, and laughing at the most egregious jokes.

Poetry online exclusives

Check out dailyiowan.com/offdeadline for another poem, "Gideon's Daredevils" by Ben McFarlane, and audio of *Off Deadline's* student poets reading their works.



Illustrations by Megan Joy Ostermann

spinning the silk and circumstance of dreams

BY ERIC BENNETT

eric-d-bennett@uiowa.edu



only imagination could
 make you be that one sipping champagne at my side as the tide rippled beneath the foundation
 of the dilapidated beach house we stood in with our vast picture windows and player
 pianos and views of cities rising from metaphoric earths that lay within the soil
 of the plankton of the sand of the disintegrating blue whales sinking
 piecemeal in the deep, floating islands raising and dropping clod
 debris and skyscrapers pumping with ethereal life precariously
 atop the chunk of physics-defying land, bizarre three
 dimensional trees bending in rings 'round the
 epicenter of whatever it was we were
 cooing at, between jostling bubbles
 and a convoluted world through
 water or variations on the
 theme. roots pulled in
 like to a black hole,
 string bean feelings
 pulled irresistible
 toward the
 rotating
 cone of inexplicable corroding soil.
 waking up breathless and confused. where are you, who are you, what is the difference anyway?

Eric Bennett is pretty much lost. Some say he's a junior majoring in English, others insist he doesn't do anything but watch the seasons change. He tends to be the most antisocial person on the planet but doesn't mean to be. Throw him a bone, and he'll probably accidentally throw it back.



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