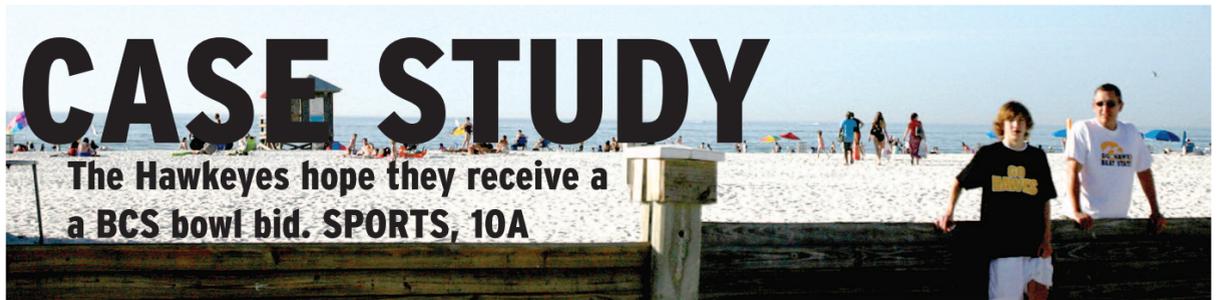


Still waiting

Iowa City and state officials still haven't heard about a grant for an Amtrak service to Chicago. METRO, 4A

CASE STUDY

The Hawkeyes hope they receive a BCS bowl bid. SPORTS, 10A



THE INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009

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

50¢



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI junior Lucas Connor eats dinner in the Burge Market Place on Wednesday. In an effort to reduce the amount of waste produced by students, the Hillcrest and Burge dining halls will likely eliminate trays next year.

The trays may have had it

Hoping to gain more support, UI officials hope to have trays gone by next year.

By **JORDAN FRIES**
jordan-fries@uiowa.edu

The UI dining halls will likely go trayless next year, catching up with at least six peer institutions that have dumped tray use to try to prevent waste and save money.

Director of UI Food Services Greg Black said the university hasn't gone trayless sooner because students haven't expressed much interest in the idea.

"We consider this a resident-student issue, so we are open to their recommendations," he said. "Unfortunately, there's just a lack of student support for it."

In addition to the food thrown away by diners, both Hillcrest and Burge Market Places produce more than 1.3 tons of waste each week from unused leftovers. Black said eliminating trays will help diminish the amount of food thrown out.

But Black said students have cited the spacious size of the Market Places as an impediment toward a trayless transformation. It's almost an entire city block from the south end to the north end of Burge,

SEE DINING, 3A



JAY SCHLEIDT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Trash-filled trays move along the conveyor belt in the Burge Market Place on Wednesday. Marketplace manager Anne Harkins said students ask occasionally about the growing trend of eliminating trays.

All UI students eligible for vaccine

With production of H1N1 vaccines increasing, officials hope to expand vaccination to the general public by January.

By **LAUREN MILLS**
lauren-mills@uiowa.edu

All UI students are now eligible for the H1N1 vaccine.

The Johnson County Public Health Department expanded the priority groups for the vaccine to individuals from 6 months to 24 on Wednesday, said Doug Beardsley, the director of Johnson County Public Health.

This week's shipment to Johnson County should contain roughly 12,000 vaccines — far more than the 1,000 or 2,000 in previous deliveries, Beardsley said.

The UI Student Health Service received approximately 650 doses, said Mary Beth Kelch of the service. Although Johnson County is limited to individuals up to the age of 24,

Student Health does not have an age limit.

"All they have to do it walk in and ask for a vaccine," Kelch said.

Until Thursday, vaccines were limited to students with chronic health problems, such as UI senior T.J. Gorman, 22, who suffers from pulmonary lung disease. He received the vaccine at Student Health last month after his mother made a worried call to the UI Hospitals and Clinics following news about H1N1-related deaths of people with lung diseases.

According to the Associated Press, the Iowa Department of Public Health reported three

H1N1 vaccinations

The UI Student Health Service will offer vaccines to all students:

- **Location:** UI Student Health, in Westlawn
- **Time:** Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Source: Student Health

more H1N1-related deaths, bringing the Iowa death toll to 30. All three had risk factors.

Although all students are now eligible for vaccination, some healthy students won't jump in line at the clinics.

SEE HINI, 3A

UI lays off 11

By **REGINA ZILBERMINTS**
regina-zilbermints@uiowa.edu

Hopes that the UI could escape the budget crisis without layoffs ended Tuesday when officials sent layoff notices to 11 staff members.

Employees from UI Pharmaceuticals are the first to receive such notice since the state Board of Regents approved part of the UI's plan to plug a \$24.7 million shortfall on Oct. 29.

University officials said they had hoped to protect staff and faculty, but budget woes forced them to resort to the layoffs.

"Very few, if any, layoffs will be needed to reach the original budget target cut-backs," UI President Sally Mason told the regents at their Oct. 29 meeting.

The loss of 400 positions, along with losses through attrition and retirement over the last year, had allowed Mason to all but eliminate layoffs as an option in her plan.

UI Pharmaceuticals is a service division of the College of Pharmacy. UI spokesman

Other measures

In hopes of avoiding layoffs, officials implemented other options:

- Furlough days
- Leaving empty positions unfilled
- Early and phased retirement
- Hiring and salary freezes
- Using stimulus money

Source: UI budget-reduction plan

SEE LAYOFFS, 3A

Maxson eyes some mergers

Dean Linda Maxson recommends drastic administrative changes.

By **KATHRYN STINSON**
kathryn-stinson@uiowa.edu

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences — the largest school on campus — may soon undergo a revamp of administrative positions to ensure it can provide students with professors and keep classes small.

College Dean Linda Maxson has recommended consolidating the administration of several departments in the college in order to maintain students' quality of education and save money.

"When there are budget cuts, we can't replace employees," she said. "Instead, we can take faculty out of administrative positions and put them back in the classroom where we need them."

The consolidation would merge numerous departments with one head, reducing administrative positions across the departments. It would allow faculty members to return to the classroom and spare the college the economic burden of hiring non-tenure-track faculty. Maxson said if five department heads were cut, a minimum of 10 more classes would be made available.

SEE CLAS, 3A

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

INDEX

Arts **1B** Opinions **6A**
Classifieds **9B** Sports **10A**
Crossword **10B**

WEATHER

32 OC  21 -6C

CORRECTION

In the Nov. 30 article "UIHC trip defended," the *DI* inaccurately reported the name of the University of Kansas Hospital and inaccurately stated how much the hospital had raised its customer-satisfaction levels. The hospital increased them to the 90 percentile. In addition, the hospital cut administrative ties with the university for more reasons than solely patient satisfaction and cited several other favors that lead to higher satisfaction levels. The *DI* regrets the errors.



Witness remains in jail

Police are tight-lipped, awaiting evidence that could solve a homicide.

By **MARLEEN LINARES**
marleen-linares@uiowa.edu

The material witness held in connection to the Southeast Side shooting that killed Cordova, Ill., resident John Versypt will stay in jail until trial or authorities no longer have concern about his whereabouts, police said.

Police filed an arrest warrant for 19-year-old Justin Alexander Marshall on Nov. 18 for allegedly having "information in his possession material to the offense," according to court documents.

Marshall is being held at the Johnson County Jail on a \$150,000 cash-only bond.

Police arrived at 1958 Broadway Building C at 4:08 p.m. on Oct. 8 and found 64-year-old Versypt's body dead from an apparent gunshot wound. Officers found Versypt's wallet and a gun near his body. Versypt was a landlord of the Broadway Condominiums and was there to check on the residence.

The Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation is testing evidence related to the crime that could provide more information, but Iowa City police Lt. Jim Steffen said he did not know when the results might be in.

"We're hoping the results will help solve the crime," he said, noting it is a possibility that Marshall could be directly involved with the homicide.

Police have yet to file any other charges in relation to the crime and have declined to say whether they have a suspect in custody.



Cordova, Ill., resident Janet Versypt, the wife of the late John Versypt, sits on the deck of her 18628 River Road home with son Joel Versypt while flipping through a scrapbook on Oct. 11. John Versypt was the victim of a homicide Oct. 8 at the Broadway condominiums he owned.

According to reports, investigators spoke to Marshall, who lived at 1958 Broadway Apt. 5C, the night of the shooting. Marshall told police his whereabouts at the time of the slaying, but several statements were "proven to be incorrect through conversations with other witnesses."

Through following

conversations with Marshall, investigators found he changed his story about his knowledge of the shooting and where he was before and after the shooting, according to reports.

Marshall then agreed to take a polygraph test about the shooting, and officials "determined that he was being deceptive," reports said.

Order of events

Iowa City police could not provide specific dates for some events:

- John Versypt is found dead on Oct. 9
- Investigators question Justin Marshall
- Marshall fails polygraph test
- Officials learn Marshall's reported plan to leave Iowa City
- Marshall is put in custody as a material witness

Source: Johnson County Court documents

Police said they decided to take Marshall into custody after receiving information that he was planning to leave the area.

Steffen said Marshall has not been questioned again since authorities placed him in custody but added police will be in contact with his attorney "at some point."

Johnson County prosecutor Janet Lyness said holding a material witness is not very common and noted they usually are not in custody for "a very long period of time."

Lyness declined to answer questions about Marshall's case.

"I can't discuss any details on the case specifically," she said.

Though Marshall is in custody, Steffen said, the case is still ongoing.

"We're still investigating and still trying to determine who was involved," he said. "The people involved may or may not be in custody."

Judging 'good moral character'

States differ in their definitions of 'good moral character.'

By **NICOLE KARLIS**
nicole-karlis@uiowa.edu

Beyond enforcing Iowa laws, bar owners must display what is dubbed "good moral character" in order to obtain or keep a liquor license. But the definition of this term can be murky to owners and the public.

State officials say judging people on their good moral character is the most important factor in deciding if a person can obtain or keep a liquor license for his or her business.

And with three Iowa City bars facing the possibility of liquor-license denials or suspensions at the state level after the Iowa City City Council denied their renewals, these owners' "good moral character" will be examined.

However, this factor wasn't specifically brought up at two hearings on Oct. 23, when the owners of 3rd Base, 111 E. College St., and Et Cetera, 118 S. Dubuque St., went before the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division to appeal the denial of their license renewals.

"That's the main test to whether or not you're going to get a license," said Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division Administrator Lynn Walding, and three elements make up defining good moral character.

Bar owners must not be a convicted felon, have a good financial standing, and be able to comply with the law, he said. If they meet these, owners are generally considered to be in the clear.

Judging one's moral character should answer the question "are you someone that is appropriate to



People walk by Et Cetera night club on the Pedestrian Mall on Sept. 1. The City Council denied the liquor-license renewals of Et Cetera and 3rd Base in July because of the high ratio of PAULAs issued at the bars per police visit.

be in this business?" Walding said.

While he admits the wording is slightly strange, he said, the standard has been around since the repeal of Prohibition in 1933.

Other Midwest states look at the same criteria in their liquor-license decisions.

In Missouri, officials also judge a licensee on their good moral character.

"It generally means that the person isn't in any trouble, like criminal conduct," said Mike O'Connell, the director of communications at the Missouri Department of Public Safety.

However, he said, in Missouri, if people have a charge on their criminal records 20 years ago but haven't had a conviction since, they can now be considered to have "good

moral character." "Because you have redeemed yourself," O'Connell said.

While some states don't use the exact phrase, they look for the same concept.

Indiana officials look to see if the person has a "high and fine reputation," said Jennifer Fults, community and public affairs officer at the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission of Indiana.

This merely means that the person is in good standing with the Indiana Department of Revenue and has a clean criminal record, Fults said.

Illinois has a more specific definition of the personal standard bar owners must meet.

While officials still consider this good moral character, the phrase itself isn't actually written in the books, said Susan Hofer, a

Moral character

States that take moral character into account for liquor licenses:

- Illinois
- Indiana
- Michigan
- Missouri
- Colorado
- Utah

Source: DI survey

spokeswoman at the Illinois Liquor Control Commission.

Every applicant must fill out a form with more than a dozen questions ranging from taxes to child support and criminal backgrounds when analyzing an owner's personal character, Hofer said.

Et Cetera and 3rd Base are still awaiting a decision from Administrative Law Judge Margaret LaMarche.

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Wednesday.

1. Regents delay tuition decision
2. Council passes curfew for 2nd time
3. Iowa loses 70-64 against Virginia Tech
4. IC joins towns in push for bar law
5. To ensure dorm safety, UI should mandate RA IDs

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AFFIRMATIVE

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NEGATIVE

Sarah Spring GS, Stow, Ohio

David Hingstman, Moderator

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POLICE BLOTTER

Samuel Saltzman, 18, 736C Mayflower, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Devin Smith, 18, 1111 Hollywood Blvd., was charged Tuesday with possession of marijuana.

James Wachendorf, 24, Coralville, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Logan Young, 20, 806 E. College St. Apt. 26, was charged Nov. 26 with fifth-degree theft.



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CLAS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

But some faculty and administrators are wary of the proposed revamp.

The move from an administrative position to a faculty position could result in a 25 percent pay cut for some, said UI biology Professor John Menninger.

He also questioned the idea that certain departments are similar enough to be efficiently run by one administrative body. Different academic cultures among departments could make a consolidation difficult, he said.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences offers 70 undergraduate majors and certificates and more than 50 graduate programs. It is comprised of nearly 40 administrative units ranging from performing arts to natural sciences.

Maxson emphasized that

the departments being considered for consolidation could decide independently if they wanted to join with other departments to create a division.

In the wake of the UI's roughly 25 percent total budget cut, she said, she would be unable to fill positions left open by retiring faculty. The proposed consolidations would help solve that problem, she said, and she hopes a reorganization decision would be made by next fall.

Most recently, the dean's office facilitated discussions concerning consolidation among communication studies, journalism and mass communication, and rhetoric.

UI School of Journalism and Mass Communication Director David Perlmutter noted nothing has been decided.

"We are just beginning to investigate the concept," he said. "This is the beginning journey of exploration."

The division encompassing dance, music, and the-

ater departments will serve as a model for the college, Maxson said.

Division of Performing Arts Director Alan MacVey said the dance department was leery at first about taking part in the consolidation, fearing it would be swallowed by the size of the other two departments.

But he said the division, in place now for roughly nine years, has seen extraordinarily strong results. Students saw no change in curriculum following the decision to collaborate, he noted.

"Additional resources, preventing faculty loss, and a stronger staff all resulted from the division," MacVey said. "I don't see anything negative about our decision."

UI journalism Professor Judy Polumbaum supported Maxson's efforts to begin discussion on collaborations.

"I think this is a great idea," she said. "There is already too much bureaucracy. Thinning the ranks is good for everybody."



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

(From left) Wei Jiang, Guanduo Li, Bo Liang, and Dong Mao eat in Burge on Wednesday. In an effort to reduce the amount of waste produced by students, next year the Hillcrest and Burge will likely no longer have trays.

DINING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

which makes it inconvenient for students to make more than one trip to the food-service area, he said.

UI sophomore Ming Tran, the head of the UI's 12-person Residential Dining Advisory Committee, which meets with Black once a month, said overcoming the student uncertainty about a trayless university is the primary concern.

"I wish that people recognized trayless as the wave of the future," Tran said. "It saves money, prevents waste, and still allows people to go back for more food."

The UI attempted to go trayless three years ago but was unsuccessful, Tran said. And efforts to establish a voluntary trayless program during Earth Week in 2008 received lackluster interest.

But at some of the UI's

peer universities, according to the state Board of Regents, the benefits of going trayless outweigh the inconveniences.

During the two years students at the University of Texas-Austin have feasted without trays, the dining halls have seen a 48 percent reduction in waste, said Meagan Jones, an environmental specialist at the university.

The University of Arizona has done away with trays at 35 of its 38 dining areas, Director of Student Affairs Nick Adamakis said.

All of Iowa State University's dining halls are trayless — up from 30 percent last year.

But the University of Wisconsin-Madison has no plans to eliminate trays. Instead, it forces students to pay for each item they take, said Brian Burke, a spokesman for the school's dining and culinary services.

Before the UI would go trayless, officials are looking to bring enough stu-

dents on board. Around 50 percent of students support the idea, according to a student dining survey conducted last week.

UI Student Government officials have also endorsed the trayless transition, though some students are still opposed.

"I am completely against the UI going trayless," UI freshman Brandon Sleik said. "How else would I carry delicious meals back to my table? It makes my life much easier to know that I put everything on my tray that I want."

Tran acknowledged that the dining hall plates are not fit for carrying much food but said larger, square plates would solve that problem. Bigger cups are also in the dining halls' future, he said.

And as long as the UI's hungry masses can still munch to their stomach's content, Black said, trays will be prehistoric before they know it.

H1N1

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"I've never had the flu in my life," said UI freshman Amanda Shine and she won't get the vaccine.

Shine admitted H1N1 was different from the regular flu in that it targets the college-age population, many of whom live in proximity in the dorms.

"It will spread it more than if you were living at home," said the Mayflower resident.

In Johnson County, vaccines are still restricted among individuals 25 or older, but Beardsley said he hoped to open up vaccination to the general public by January.

According to the American College Health Association, H1N1 cases decreased throughout November. The association collects weekly data on new cases from 243 colleges across the country.

Incidents of new cases peaked at more than 9,000 college students during the last week of October. Since then the number of cases took a steep dive, plunging to under 4,000 during the week of Nov. 20.

About 25 students attended the UI Student Health clinic on Tuesday, said Kelch. In the beginning, there were over a hundred a day. They're expecting more students following the expansion of eligibility.

Though recent trends show cases decreasing, offi-



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Respiratory therapist Shanna Seigel changes fluids on an extracorporeal membrane oxygenation machine in the UIHC Intensive Care Unit on Nov. 16. The UIHC has three such machines, and it expects to receive two more this week.

'We should see more cases after the holidays after people have gotten together for Christmas and New Year's and spread diseases around'

- Polly Carver-Kimm, spokesperson

cialists are preparing for the next wave, said Polly Carver-Kimm, spokesperson for the Iowa Department of Public Health, warning against complacency.

"We should see more cases after the holidays after people have gotten together for Christmas and New Year's and spread diseases around," she said.

LAYOFFS

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Tom Moore said he couldn't disclose the positions or salaries of those laid off from the division.

The group manufactures, tests, and develops drugs for clients — including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Cancer Institute.

It develops products both commercially and for clinical trials and is collaborating with faculty from the College of Pharmacy. UI Pharmaceuticals began developing additional facilities at Oakdale Research Park in June.

Officials from the College of Pharmacy were not available for com-

ment on Wednesday.

Administrators can't set a timeline for when the employees will actually leave the UI, Moore said. The regents must approve the layoffs, and it wasn't clear Wednesday evening whether they would discuss the issue at their Dec. 10 meeting. That date could also depend on employees' contracts and notification period, Moore added.

Officials at the state's other regent universities haven't sent any layoff notices since their mid-year budget proposals were approved. None of the three institutions included layoffs in the plans presented to regents, but all left the possibility open.

Iowa State University had layoffs as part of the restructuring of its extension service earlier this fiscal year.

In hopes of avoiding layoffs, officials implemented several other options, including furlough days, hiring and salary freezes, and early and phased retirement.

Administrators will use left over federal stimulus money as well. A \$100 tuition surcharge and tuition increase are still on the table; on Monday, the regents announced they would delay voting on the tuition increase until February.

Your turn. Should the UI lay off faculty or staff to save money? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

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Forum with leaders draws few students

Mason said those receiving PELL grants and other need-based aid would be exempt from spring surcharge.

By KATHRYN STINSON
kathryn-stinson@uiowa.edu

Few students attended the UI Student Government's first open forum Wednesday evening, to which students had been invited to address their tuition concerns to UI President Sally Mason and Provost Wallace Loh.

Fewer than 20 students attended the forum, but Loh said he was still pleased with the outcome of the night.

"A real audience is an active audience," Loh said. "The size is irrelevant."

UISG President Michael Currie said many factors, including lack of advertising and date selection, contributed to the low student turnout.

Mason greeted the handful of students with a basic synopsis of the university's current financial situation. She discussed goals to maintain faculty and teaching positions as well as the university's educational quality. She plans to meet these goals with her recommendation for a 6 percent tuition hike as well as a mid-year \$100 surcharge for UI students, she said.

"We think a \$100 surcharge is a reasonable request," she said. "A 6 percent tuition increase would generate roughly \$18 million for the university's general education fund."

The money brought in through student charges doesn't come close to the roughly \$65 million the university was forced to cut this year. Mason said her goal was to avoid asking students to make up the cuts, but to do their part in sharing the burden to help the university sustain its academic programs and faculty.



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

(From left) UI Student Government President Michael Currie, UI President Sally Mason, and Provost Wallace Loh address student questions about budget issues during a forum in the IMU on Wednesday. Students asked questions about whether a potential \$100 spring surcharge would apply to students who receive financial aid and how the UI compared with other schools in terms of possible tuition hikes.

The floor was then opened to student questions, when one UI senior asked how the university will help students who might have trouble affording the \$100 spring surcharge.

Mason said students facing financial burden who receive PELL grants or other need-based financial aid would be exempt from the extra fee.

UI senior Samantha Malloy asked Mason about her potential bonus. Mason, who refrained from taking what the state Board of Regents refer to as incentive pay this year, said taking that type of compensation would be inappropriate given the economic times, noting the performance-based pay was not described as a "bonus" in her original contract.

"I think it was informative," Malloy said. "It was good to be here and listen to the plans they have."

But Malloy did express

concerns with the mid-year surcharge, despite Mason's rationale.

Mason also addressed concerns that many teaching assistant positions could be cut.

She said the university is not looking to cut any TA positions and will hold up the commitments they have made to graduate students, but noted the university doesn't have the funds to fill all vacant positions next year.

Two additional forums have been scheduled for February and March of 2010, and Currie said he is hopeful student turnout will be higher. UISG officials plan to pursue better marketing strategies for future forum events, he said.

Officials waiting for a train

Iowa City and state officials wait to hear about grant for train.

By ASHLEY OERMAN
ashley-oerman@uiowa.edu

A record-breaking number of Amtrak riders in Iowa has reinforced Iowa City officials' push for a passenger rail service to Chicago.

According to Amtrak, 66,286 passengers rode the rails in Iowa this fiscal year — the most riders the state has seen since Amtrak was created in 1971.

Despite the positive numbers, those figures most likely won't be factored into a grant application filed by the city in October for federal funding that would go toward the rail line, said Amanda Martin of the Iowa Department of Transportation's Office of Rail Transportation.

Tammy Nicholson, also in the Office of Rail Transportation, said Iowa is one of 24 states that has applied for the grant through the Federal Railroad Association to get passenger service in their cities.

The association will announce which states receive funding in early 2010, Martin said.

The \$8 billion grant was given to the Railroad Association as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act passed in February 2009.

Lawmakers reserved the money in the plan for passenger train use to stimulate an expansion of the nation's intercity railways.



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City Chamber of Commerce Vice President Rebecca Neades speaks at a public forum on proposed Amtrak service between Iowa City and Chicago on March 12. Record numbers of Iowans using Amtrak have renewed city officials' hope for the rail service.

Iowa City Mayor Regenia Bailey said the Iowa City Council added railway plans to its list of priorities to be discussed with federal officials on Dec. 7.

Nicholson said if Iowa is not selected for the grant, the state will continue planning and apply for other federal funding.

But if Iowa is chosen, the track could be running by 2014.

Nancy Quellhorst, the president of the Iowa City Chamber of Commerce, said the railway would not only serve as transportation for UI students from the Chicago area but also would carry tourists, businessmen and patients of UI Hospitals and Clinics.

"There are a variety of reasons why people visit the Iowa City area," she said.

Cara Schmale, a UI pharmacy student from Minnesota, said if an Iowa City-Chicago rail service were available now, she would use the track to visit friends in Chicago.

The 22-year-old said she

Come on ride the train

Other states that applied for train grants:

- Minnesota
- Wisconsin
- Illinois
- Michigan

Source: Iowa Department of Transportation Office of Rail Transportation

thinks the train could also encourage out-of-state students to attend the university.

UI junior Mike Hubert, a Davenport resident, said he thinks rail transportation between the two cities is a good idea because it is safer and better for the environment.

He had heard about plans for a train connecting his home town and Chicago in the past, he said, and he is excited for the potential railway, which would make a stop in the Quad Cities.

"It should have been done a long time ago," Hubert said.

You deserve a factual look at . . .

Israel: A Light unto the Nations

Those who demonize Israel are either misinformed or malevolent

If that proverbial man from Mars came to visit and read the world's newspapers, especially those in the Arab and Muslim world, he would be convinced that Israel was the most evil nation in the world and the source of all of the world's strife.

What are the facts?

A nation to be emulated. The reality, of course, is that Israel is a nation, a society, that should be admired and emulated by many countries in the world. The very fact of how the State of Israel came into being is one of the most inspiring in history. Born out of the ashes of the Holocaust, it has emerged as one of the most advanced, productive and prosperous countries in the world.

The demonization of Israel, assiduously cultivated by the Muslim world, has reached a crescendo following Israel's recent defensive action in Gaza. Instead of being grateful to the hated Jews for having totally withdrawn, the Palestinian Gazans showed their gratitude by almost daily pounding Israeli towns with close to 10,000 rockets and bombs. After countless warnings, Israel ultimately decided to put an end to this travesty.

When Israel finally did invade Gaza it took the most elaborate precautions not to hurt civilians. As a first in the history of warfare, Israel dropped tens of thousands of leaflets, warning the population and urging it to abandon areas in which military action would take place. The Israeli military made thousands of phone calls urging people to leave areas that would come under attack. But fighting in a densely populated environment is difficult and loss of civilian life is hard to avoid. Hamas fighters wear no uniforms. It is impossible to tell them from civilians. Is a person who allows a rocket launcher in his backyard a civilian or a fighter? And how about using schools, hospitals and mosques as munitions depots and staff centers? The hue and cry of Israel's demonizers in accusing it of "disproportionate force" is totally absurd. The ultimate insult, comparing Israel to the Nazis, is freely bandied about by Israel's detractors.

Israel is not an "apartheid state." Another familiar tack of Israel's vilifiers is to call it an "apartheid state," on the model of former South Africa. But that is so

ridiculous, so preposterous, it is hard to believe that serious people can countenance it. The exact opposite is the case. Israel is the only country in its benighted neighborhood in which people of all colors and religions prosper and have equal rights. Israel, expending substantial effort, rescued tens of thousands of black Jews from Ethiopia. And it has given assistance and absorbed countless Christian expatriates from Sudan, who escaped from being slaughtered by their Muslim countrymen. Israel's over one million Arab citizens enjoy the same rights and privileges

as their Jewish fellows. They are represented in the Knesset, Israel's parliament, and are members of its bureaucracy, of its judiciary, and of its diplomatic service.

All over the world, Leftists, including in the United States and, sad to say, even in Israel itself, tirelessly condemn and vilify Israel. Why would they do that? First, of course, there is good old-fashioned anti-Semitism. Second, many of those who hate the United States vent their poison on Israel, which they consider being America's puppet in that area of the world. But Israel should certainly get top grades in all areas important to the Left. In contrast to all its enemies, Israel has the same democratic institutions as the United States. All religions thrive freely in Israel. Also, in contrast to all of its enemies, women have the same rights as men. The Chief Justice of Israel's Supreme Court is a woman. One-sixth of the Knesset are women. Compare that to Saudi Arabia, a medieval theocracy, where women are not allowed to drive cars, where they cannot leave the country without permission of a male relative, and where they can be and often are condemned to up to 60 lashes if the "modesty police" deems them not to be properly dressed in public. Gays and lesbians are totally unmolested in Israel; in the surrounding Muslim countries they would be subjected to the death penalty.

In spite of demonization and vilification by so much of the world, Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations. The State of Israel is the foremost creation of the Jewish enterprise and Jewish intellect that has benefited every country in which Jews dwell, certainly our own country, the United States. Second only to the United States itself, Israel is the world's most important factor in science and technology, way out of proportion to the small size of its population. Israeli Jews are at the forefront of the arts, the sciences, law and medicine. They have brought all these sterling qualities to bear in building their own country: Israel. By necessity, they have also become outstanding in agriculture and, most surprisingly, in the military. What a shame that the Arabs opted not to participate in this progress and this prosperity and chose instead the path of revenge, of Jihad and of martyrdom. As the prophet Isaiah presaged: Israel is indeed a Light unto the Nations.

This message has been published and paid for by



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

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Spotlight Iowa City

UI senior is paging all pagans

UI senior Kirk Cheyney works to tell people what paganism is about.

By TOMMY MORGAN JR.
tommy-morgan@uiowa.edu

The mention of the term "pagan" often connotes thoughts of the dark arts, ritual sacrifices, and any number of Goth stereotypes.

But for UI senior Kirk Cheyney, it's not about any such thing. It's more about nature and a deep personal spirituality that he can share with his family.

Cheyney serves as the president of the Society of Pagans Invested in Reviving Ancient Lifestyles, which bills itself as the UI's pagan student union.

And for the 32-year-old, paganism isn't something to hide.

"I'm very out," he said, showing off his light blue T-shirt advertising Lammasfest, a pagan harvest festival he and his wife help organize. "I don't mind everyone knowing."

Cheyney hopes to use the group to educate more people about paganism and to provide a meeting place for pagans who may or may not be open about their faith with their friends and family — or "out of the broom closet," as he calls it.

Paganism can mean any number of things, he said,

though "pagan" usually denotes someone who believes in numerous gods.

Traditionally, pagans worship at least one god and one goddess. Other gods, including Greek or Native American or even Christian deities, can also be worshiped. Groups dedicated to the religion exist, or have existed, at the UI and other Iowa schools, including Grinnell College and Iowa State University.

Cheyney has been a devout pagan for 18 years. After going to church sporadically with his family, he found that Christianity did not answer some of the questions to which he sought answers.

"The blind faith thing didn't work for me," he said. "So I looked for something that explained itself in a more natural way. Paganism does that."

As he searched for a new religion, Cheyney studied several books on paganism before getting involved in it.

"He has a lot of knowledge about pagan things," said pagen-group Vice President Johanna Burdinie.

His parents approved of his decision. In fact, though his father doesn't really practice, both of his parents have since converted to the religion.

Kirk Cheyney

- **Hometown:** North Liberty
- **Favorite movie:** *Phenomenon*
- **Favorite musical artist:** Belly
- **Favorite vacation:** On a cruise, anywhere
- **Favorite part about engineering:** It answers important questions
- **Favorite class:** Materials and Implants
- **Favorite family activity:** Camping, going to pagan festivals

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.



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Senior Kirk Cheyney talks about paganism near the Iowa River late Wednesday. Cheyney is the president of Society of Pagans Invested in Reviving Ancient Lifestyles.

Paganism also helped Cheyney grow a family. He met his wife, Marsha Cheyney, when they were on the committee for a pagan festival. They have a 16-month-old daughter, and they are expecting another child in April.

While his wife works to support their family, Kirk Cheyney plans to return the favor when he graduates so she can go back to school to get a doctorate (she has a master's degree in public health).

Cheyney's interest in natural answers has shown itself not just through his beliefs but in an unlikely major as well. He is a biomedical engi-

neering student, and he hopes to one day work on designing more natural prosthetic arms that use biofeedback, an approach that connects the brain to prosthetics.

"He has a great sense of duty. He likes to take care of people," Marsha Cheyney said. "He likes to build and create things."

He originally went to school to study theater and art but dropped out to work before enrolling at the UI at age 28 to study engineering.

"I didn't have the grades, and I wasn't good at math and science," he said. Few of his credits from his previous studies transferred, so he essentially had to start from scratch.

In addition to being a full-time student with a family and running the pagan group, Kirk Cheyney also organizes Lammasfest annually.

"He does a stunning job of keeping all of his fires burning," Marsha Cheyney said.

Kirk Cheyney also hopes that finishing his studies will give him more time with his family. When at home, he enjoys being with his daughter, who danced and played around him as he discussed his work and his beliefs on Monday.

"Sometimes, we don't get to spend all of the time together we'd like to spend," Marsha Cheyney said. "We've just acknowledged that as the way it's going to be for now."

METRO

Ponseti memorial service set

A memorial service for Ignazio Ponseti will be held on Dec. 6 from 3-5 p.m. in the Coral Ballroom of the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Coralville.

The service celebrates the life of the UI professor emeritus, who developed a non-surgical clubfoot treatment that helps thousands of children and bears his name.

Ponseti died Oct. 18 after a sudden illness. He was 95. He joined the UI faculty in 1944.

Though he retired in 1984, he returned to work in 1986 and continued to treat patients, teach, and conduct research. He was working in his university office just days before his death.

He is survived by his wife, Helena Percas-Ponseti, and his son, Bill Ponseti.

The service is open to the campus community and the public.

— by Lauren Mills

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GUEST OPINIONS, COMMENTARIES, and COLUMNS reflect the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editorial Board.

Editorial

Council should reject curfew in favor of juvenile officer

The proposed curfew facing the Iowa City City Council is too broad, and it will punish young people who do not deserve it. Instead of the misguided curfew, the council should opt to hire an officer specifically tasked with handling juvenile crime.

The council first considered the curfew ordinance in September, passing it with a majority vote. But Councilor Mike Wright asked the council to defer the vote in order to seek out other viable options. The council revisited the issue Tuesday night and voted in favor of the curfew, 4-3. The next time the councilors vote in favor of the curfew, it will be their final decision.

While we realize the city needs to take steps to curb juvenile violence, we urge the council to reject a curfew that would unnecessarily punish innocent youth. And a more equitable, effective option is already out there.

In October, Councilor Amy Correia and other city officials visited the Davenport police to look into the possibility of adding a special juvenile officer to the Iowa City police force, a position that has proven beneficial in Davenport. Correia said she hopes the city will decide to hire the new officer by May 2010, but she thinks the move may occur closer to next July.

In addition, Correia said, the proposed franchise fee would provide a source of funding for the position. The tax, which would tack an extra 2 percent onto Iowa City residents' utility bills, is designated specifically for improving public safety. Despite our discontent with the franchise fee, we see its enactment as inevitable and therefore agree the fee is a practical way to finance the new position.

The officer would not take sole responsibility of juvenile crime in the city, but he or she would focus on the issues, do investigative work to prevent

crime, and become familiar with young people in the community and their parents. Currently, the responsibility of enforcing juvenile law is spread throughout the department, and assigning a single officer to specialize in juvenile crime would allow the department to allocate more of its time and focus to the issue.

Sgt. Troy Kelsay said the Iowa City police are not proposing the addition of a new officer, but he said it would help.

"It is an asset that would have gone directly toward the problems that are occurring down there," he said. "And not just the investigation of it, but having the information, the contacts, the knowledge about the individuals that would have made policing it — both investigating it and preventing it — hopefully easier." The department can't afford to take a current officer from patrol and make her or him a juvenile officer.

Sue Freeman, the director of the Broadway Center and a member of the Safe Neighborhoods Coalition, has been actively involved in finding a solution to the problems

on the Southeast Side. She has distributed surveys around the community to ask residents what they want to see in their community.

While official results are yet to be released, her findings so far have been simple.

"Everyone wants the same thing: to feel safe and to prosper here," she said.

A juvenile officer would help to do just that — without wantonly punishing innocent youth.

Your turn. Should the city hire a new officer devoted to juvenile issues? Weigh in on dailyiowan.com.



Letter

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.

The Hancher conundrum

The desire of the UI music faculty to be accessible to campus is understandable. However, the music school has special needs for performance venues. These venues need to be accessible to patrons.

If Hancher were to be relocated downtown, a large

proportion of traffic would have to arrive via Clinton Street or Burlington Street, which are already busy. The planners state that there would be enough parking available behind the courthouse and jail, plus the various city ramps. However, one could easily imagine the traffic jams as patrons search from one place to another, looking for a spot to park.

The question of the expense involved in buying this land is puzzling, to say the least. The owners of the Pentacrest Apartments have just indicated that they do not wish to sell. The Federal Emergency Management Agency has said that it will pay for 90 percent of the cost of the project, but one has to wonder if the economic situation will allow such an

open-ended project to be undertaken. Is this the only feasible city site?

There is limited time for thoughtful input from engineers and all those who would use Hancher to make serious suggestions on this subject before the regents decide in February 2010.

Sonia Ettinger
Iowa City resident

Guest opinion

Negative report against chem department erroneous

By DANIEL ROSTON

The recent report on the health situation in the chemistry building (*Daily Iowan*, Nov. 19) was negligent in its failure to assess the response of those in the chemistry department who are afflicted with health problems.

The published report by the UI task force is offensive in its suggestion that chemistry department personnel are to blame for their health problems. Any reasonable look at the situation shows how naive that conclusion is. The report primarily cited lapses in lab safety as the source of

health problems, but a number of people who have reported health problems do not work in labs.

The task force's findings that dry sink traps were a potential source of vapor contamination in labs was a compelling finding, but it failed to explain the frequent smell of fumes in hallways and offices, which have no sinks.

Most of the chemistry-department personnel with firsthand knowledge of the situation believe that the air circulation system is to blame for the problems. The renovations to the building have been characteristically sloppy. Given

the vast advances in chemical-safety practices since the original construction of the building, it would be a shocking coincidence that lab safety suddenly plunged at the same time as it was being renovated. A more compelling explanation is that health problems are connected to careless construction of the newly renovated lab and office spaces. Only after students have moved into the renovated sections of the building have they reported health problems. Still, the task force blames the students.

The members of the task force were exceptionally

unqualified to conduct a proper investigation into this matter. The committee consisted of an ombudsperson, a human-resources representative, an associate provost, a lawyer, a professor from the UI College of Public Health, and an industrial hygienist from the College of Public Health.

Given the findings of the task force, it seems that the lawyer was the most vital member of the committee. The final statement of the article in the *DI* on the subject was very telling. Apparently the most important aspect of the situation is whether

"any of the affected occupants have taken legal action against the university."

Nobody wants to sue because nobody knows who (if anyone) is to blame for the current problems. The students just want to be able to do their research, graduate, and start their careers without worrying about their health. The truth of the matter is that the task-force members could not determine what the source of health problems is. But rather than admitting they don't know, they blamed the students. Given the fact that a dozen

chemists could not find any problems with their lab practices, it is fairly difficult to imagine that a committee spearheaded by an English professor would be able to make such a conclusive determination. As an Iowa taxpayer, I see the need for the university to cover itself in the legal department. But when students' and employees' health is at risk, the university has a moral obligation to do everything it can to alleviate those risks. The university has failed to meet that obligation.

Daniel Roston is a Ph.D. candidate in the chemistry department.

Climate change sacrifice

SIMEON TALLEY
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One week before the most important international gathering ever to take place, President Obama formally announced his troop escalation in Afghanistan. But regarding the most pressing global problem — climate change — we are still left wondering whether the United States will be able to rise to the challenge. For climate change, if left unchecked, will wreak a havoc far surpassing any terrorist network or radical ideology.

Throughout American history, Americans have burdened tremendous sacrifices during war. In fact, Obama was speaking directly to the young men and women who will be asked to put themselves in harm's way to protect our national security. In life and in treasure, in suppression of material goods and wants, Americans have shouldered much.

As Obama wonderfully articulated in his speech on Tuesday, America has done more than any other country to underwrite global security and stability. America is not perfect; it never will be. But this is a country that, throughout its history, has done much to advance freedom and equality — not only inside its own borders but all across the world.

In one week, we'll send an American delegation to participate in the U.N. Climate Change conference in Copenhagen. On his way to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, Obama will stop in Copenhagen to address delegates and conference participants. It will be an opportunity once again for the world's greatest power to lead. I hope the administration views the threat posed by climate change as significant — if not more imperiling — than threats from a loose network of militants. But what I truly hope to convey to the public is that we must begin to think anew about the challenges that face this country and what we are all willing to sacrifice to meet them.

Despite recent attempts to undermine

the scientific consensus that exists, global warming is happening. And human activity is driving it. The science tells us that a marginal, 2-degree Celsius increase in the temperature would have calamitous effects, some of which are already visible. Arctic sea ice is melting much faster than originally estimated. We've seen a higher-than-expected rise in sea levels. Rich and poor countries are dealing with droughts and floods. The planet is changing in ways that outstrip the scientific predictions of only a few years ago. Climate change even serves as a security-threat multiplier, exacerbating the conditions that lead to failed states — the breeding grounds for extremism and terrorism.

I contend that the threat is real and cuts across many areas — health, the economy, national security, etc. There are, of course, cynics and those who deny that climate change is indeed fact. Yet even those who deny the science must agree that investing in renewable energy and clean technology can create jobs and spur innovation and growth. Even those who dispute these claims may agree that unliking our economy from foreign oil can better our foreign policy and national security.

The students on this campus and on campuses all across the country should pay keen attention to the Copenhagen conference. Several students from the UI — including me — will attend to observe and advocate for a new international climate-change treaty. After all, it's your future that is being leveraged.

Climate change is the greatest threat known to humanity. Never in the course of human history has a threat emerged like it. Wars, no matter how devastating, encompass only a handful of countries. No one — regardless of nationality, age, ethnicity, or sex — will escape the devastating effects of a warming planet. Americans have sacrificed so much in the past and are being asked to sacrifice once again in the name of war. In Copenhagen, from Dec. 7-18, the battle lines for a new and more dangerous war will be drawn.

What will we be willing to sacrifice? ■

Hawks pumped up for meet

Iowa men's swimming is hoping for a 'coming-out party' during the Short Course National Championships Dec. 3-5.

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

The Iowa men's swimming team will travel to Federal Way, Wash., today to compete in the AT&T Short Course National Championships.

The tournament, which will run through Dec. 5, features some of the best college and club swimming teams in the nation.

Junior cocaptain Max Dittmer, who will be one of the Hawkeyes competing in the event, said it's key for the team to be swimming its best right now. He said all the swimmers feel strong, and they've all been placing a significant amount of emphasis on this meet.

"We're just really excited to go swim," he said. "Essentially the event is like any other big meet, but from our perspective ... it's the biggest meet this year."

Dittmer said during recent seasons, the swimming world has taken Iowa for granted.

Despite registering wins in recent years against such teams as Michigan State, Wisconsin, Purdue, and Missouri and hanging with swimming powerhouse Minnesota, the Hawks have felt left out.

"We've been under the radar for a long time," Dittmer said. "We've won big meets and not really gotten any credit for it. We're really excited to go



GEORGE POTERACKI/THE DAILY IOWAN

An Iowa swimmer practices relay exchanges in the Field House pool on Nov. 2. The practice was a "speed and power day," assistant coach Kirk Hampleman said.

"We're just really excited to go swim. Essentially the event is like any other big meet, but from our perspective ... it's the biggest meet this year."

— Max Dittmer, junior cocaptain

swim fast and put our name on the map.

"We definitely are in need of a coming-out party to turn this program around. And we think this could be the next big step to doing so."

Assistant coach Kirk Hampleman said the swimmers have been pointing to this meet.

"We have a core group of qualifiers that have identified this as a meet where they can really break out and show up on the national level to swim against some of the best swimmers in the world," he said. "It's a great place for our swimmers to see and be around fast swimming."

To qualify for the U.S. Nationals, a swimmer must make the U.S. National cut.

But the Hawkeyes decided to set a higher standard.

While most of the Hawkeyes have U.S. National cut time, the coaching staff conferred last spring and told the men they were going to use the more prestigious U.S. Open cut time as the

standard for qualifying for this meet.

"We used the U.S. Open time cut, which is just a bit quicker, to help make this a little more of a special meet," said head coach Marc Long. "We're taking just under half the guys. We wanted our top relays there."

The event is assembled similarly as a championship style meet with scorings for the team and individuals. Long said the structure of the event and the level of competition is what is most intriguing.

"We wanted to add this to the schedule to give our athletes an opportunity to compete against some of the best in the country," he said. "And as exposure as they prepare for [the championship season]."

"When you look at the seedings in the meet, there's a lot of outstanding athletes there. We're just looking to get some night swims, and get some experience in that environment. We really want our relays stepping up and to be in the final heat to get experience for the rest of the year."



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Members of the Iowa women's swim team talk before their meet against Minnesota on Nov. 6. Minnesota defeated Iowa, 176-118.

6 AquaHawks head for Washington

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

After nearly a 2,000-mile journey, the Iowa women's swimming team will compete on the national stage today in Federal Way, Wash.

The AquaHawks sent six of their best swimmers to compete in the AT&T Short Course National Championships. The USA Swimming-sanctioned meet is a three-day event, beginning today and wrapping up on Saturday.

The group is a good mix of younger swimmers and upperclassmen.

Senior Christine Kuczek, juniors Verity Hicks and Katarina Tour, sophomores Danielle Carty and Daniela Cubelic, and freshman Sarah Galvin will compete in Washington.

The event is the toughest competition the AquaHawks have seen thus far. Iowa hasn't competed since the Hawkeye Invitational on Nov. 22, but Cubelic said the extra time to prepare has the AquaHawks better rested and poised to swim faster times.

The group will compete against hundreds of other swimmers from across the country, including some members of the 2008 U.S. Olympic team.

"We're going to out there on an individual basis to get more experience," Iowa head swimming coach Marc Long said. "They're going to get a chance to swim against some amazing competition."

Kuczek leads the way for the AquaHawks.

The senior is off to one of the best starts in her collegiate career with eight individual first-place finishes this year, in addition to having this season's top times in the 50, 100, and 200 freestyle events.

Kuczek said getting herself in a position to score will hopefully get her closer to accomplishing the goal of competing at NCAA championships at the culmination of the season.

"I'd like to go lifetime-best time at this meet," she said. "Getting lifetime best will give me both a good seed for Big Tens and set me up for ultimately my career goal of competing at NAAs."

Tour has also seen recent success for the AquaHawks, having set a Field House pool record on Nov. 21 in the 100 butterfly during the Hawkeye Invitational.

She also holds the AquaHawks' season best time in the 200 individual

medley, while Carty, Cubelic, and Hicks hold a season best time in an event this year, as well.

While the focus of the meet is to gain valuable experience individually, the squad is also focused on representing the Iowa program and getting the AquaHawk name out to the rest of the country.

"Getting a presence at this meet is important," Long said. "It is going to be a chance to get our name out there and have our team seen far out on the West Coast and for people to see that we've got some really good things happening in our program."

For some of the swimmers, such as Cubelic and Galvin, this will be their first opportunity to compete in a national event, which could produce some nerves. But Long said that a little bit of nervous energy can be a good thing.

"It's about experience," he said. "We want our swimmers to step up and see that they can race with the top competitors. A couple months from now they can use that experience when it really counts for us collegiately."

Salmons, Rose lead Bulls past slumping Pistons

By **RICK GANO**
Associated Press

CHICAGO — John Salmons scored 22 points, Derrick Rose added 19, and the Chicago Bulls ended a five-game losing streak by beating the Detroit Pistons, 92-85, on Wednesday night.

Detroit's Ben Gordon made his return to the United Center and heard the boos from the crowd. Gordon, who led the Bulls in scoring the previous four

seasons before signing a five-year, \$55 million contract with Detroit in the off-season, scored 18 points on 6-of-16 shooting and picked up five fouls.

The Bulls used an 11-0 third-quarter run to pull out to a comfortable lead and get a victory in their first home game since a 1-5 trip, mostly to the West Coast.

Gordon entered the game with 6:24 left in the

first quarter to a mixed greeting that was mostly boos. And when he went to the line less than two minutes later, the boos grew louder before turning to cheers when he missed the free throw. The boos continued every time he touched the ball during the game.

Gordon, who missed the Pistons' previous two games with a sprained left ankle, finished the half with five points and

three fouls.

The Pistons clipped a 10-point halftime deficit to three in the third quarter before the Bulls took off. Rose drove through the lane for a hoop, Joakim Noah hit a short jumper, Salmons connected on a 3-pointer and then took a nice pass from Rose for a lay-up, and Brad Miller followed in a shot during the 11-0 run that put the Bulls up 63-49. They led by 17

after three quarters.

Detroit scrapped in the final quarter and whittled the lead to five with 16 seconds left on Gordon's two free throws before Miller hit a pair from the line to ice it.

The Bulls jumped out to a 23-6 lead against the cold-shooting Pistons and led 24-10 at the end of the first quarter. Detroit, missing injured stars Richard Hamilton (ankle),

Tayshaun Prince (back) and Charlie Villanueva (broken nose), shot 5 of 20 in the opening period.

Chicago led 48-38 at the half behind 13 points from Salmons and 50 percent shooting.

NOTES: Noah had 14 rebounds. ... The Pistons have lost eight of nine. ... Chicago's Kirk Hinrich sat out his third-straight game with a sprained thumb.



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BOWL GAME

CONTINUED FROM 10A

Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta acknowledged on Wednesday the three likeliest destinations for the Hawkeyes are the Fiesta, Orange, and Capital One, with the first two being BCS contests.

Of the triad, the best-case scenario for the No. 9 Hawkeyes would be the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, played at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz., on Jan. 4, 2010.

Should No. 3 Texas beat No. 21 Nebraska on Saturday, the Longhorns will play in the BCS national championship game, which then allows Fiesta Bowl officials to choose a replacement for its Big 12 representative before all



Iowa senior Matt Herrington celebrates on the field after Iowa's win over Minnesota on Nov. 21 in Kinnick Stadium. Iowa won the regular-season finale, 12-0.

remaining at-large selections can be chosen.

Barring an upset against Texas this weekend, the consensus seems either Iowa or No. 10 Penn State will be the Longhorns' replacement. Both

the Hawkeyes and Nit-tany Lions posted 6-2 records in Big Ten play and are 10-2 overall.

On Sept. 26, Iowa won the head-to-head meeting in State College, Pa., 21-10. Barta said both squads

are deserving of BCS bids and likened the situation to going up against a brother for a job because both schools hail from the Big Ten.

But he's all about getting the Hawkeyes to the one BCS berth the two are competing for.

"I do put weight on the fact that head-to-head, we were fortunate enough to come out on top at their place, so we've made sure that everybody's reminded of that," Barta said. "But beyond that, we're talking about the strengths of Iowa."

"We're talking about our fans traveling, our television ratings, our history in bowl games, and focusing on what we'll bring as opposed to what

someone else might not."

To go along with the head-to-head argument, Ferentz also noted Iowa's success against quality opponents. Six of the Hawkeyes' 10 victories came over bowl-eligible teams, with two coming in non-conference play against a 6-6 Iowa State and an Arizona team sitting at 7-4 entering its game at No. 20 USC this weekend.

However, Ferentz said he won't be entirely disappointed with his team's ultimate fate.

"I've never been to a bad bowl. Never had a bad bowl experience, and I think that's definitely going to

definitely be the case here," Ferentz said. "We're very excited about what our team has done, and whether we're playing in a BCS bowl or any of the other bowls, they're all great experiences."

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10A

Despite the daunting challenge and a 14-point deficit with 15:46 remaining in the game's second half, Iowa trailed by three points with 37 seconds remaining. Tenth-year Hawkeye head coach Lisa Bluder couldn't say enough about her team's resiliency, which ultimately gave Iowa a shot at sending the game into overtime.

"I am so proud of my players for the type of effort that they continue to give us every single game," Bluder said. "If you just looked at it on paper, we were totally out-matched. But I know my players will never give up. They will fight hard."

Sophomore Kamille Wahlin, who scored a game-high 23 points, got a clean look from distance with seven seconds left, but her shot hit short off the rim.

Although she refused to use the miss as an excuse in the team's postgame press conference, tired legs



Iowa's Theairra Taylor maneuvers past Boston College's Stefanie Murphy (left) and senior Brittany Johnson during the Iowa women's basketball team's game against Boston College in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Wednesday.

may have played a difference for the Crookston, Minn., native. Wahlin played all 40 minutes of Wednesday's clash.

"When it comes to close games, as a player, you kind of are excited," Wahlin

said. "You're not going to back down from those opportunities to take a last shot. At the end of games, you just have to remain confident and believe that the ball is going to go in."

Following Wahlin's miss,

two free throws from Boston College's Mickel Picco sealed the game for the Golden Eagles.

Iowa freshman center Johnson matched up with Boston College's 6-6 junior center Carolyn Swords, a preseason All-ACC selection. Swords entered the game averaging 17.2 points and 10.3 rebounds per contest.

But Johnson finished Wednesday's game with 16 points and six rebounds. Swords posted 11 points and five rebounds and fouled out of the game with 12:17 remaining — largely because of her freshman player's ability to challenge her and draw fouls.

Despite being the only true opponent's available for the Hawkeyes, Johnson embraced the challenge. She will do the same for the remainder of the season.

"We all like challenges," Johnson said. "I just see it as an opportunity for us to get better for the future and not only that, but beat some teams while we're at it."

Iowa will open its Big Ten slate against Michigan (4-2) on Dec. 5 at Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Tip-off is set for 5 p.m.

sophomores wouldn't usually be successful.

While Iowa has only gone 1-2 when Bluder uses her current lineup, the two losses have come by a combined six points.

Wahlin's competitiveness and desire has yet to waver despite the Hawkeyes being short handed for much of the start of this season.

Wahlin made a splash in the Big Ten her freshman year. Only a second-year player, she looks to get stronger as the season and her career goes forward.

With three starters out with injuries, including leading scorer Kachine Alexander, it's Wahlin who has taking the leadership position despite being a sophomore.

Last season, she impressed many and earned All-Big Ten freshman team honors. Wahlin is also second on the team in scoring with 18.4 points per game, currently ranking third in the conference for players who have played at least 75 percent of their games.

Wahlin's been hot from the field, going 9-for-16

against the Eagles and shooting 46.2 percent on the season. Even from beyond the arc, she's been sharp with a 43.9 shooting percentage.

Her ability to elevate her performance has slightly helped soften the difficult blow dealt to the Hawkeyes lately with Alexander, senior center JoAnn Hamlin, and sophomore forward Hannah Draxten out.

Yet as freshman center Morgan Johnson simply put it, "No one ever said basketball was easy."

Any team starting three freshmen and two

WAHLIN

CONTINUED FROM 10A

She leads Iowa in minutes played during four of the squad's last five games and currently averages 36.4 minutes per game, ranking first in the Big Ten.

"I love it when she is leading our team," Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said. "She is so mentally strong. I love her jump shot. She gets now the toughest defensive assignments, so she's got a lot going on. But I just don't think there's anyone more qualified than Kamille."

Ferentz: 'Not a vagabond'

Despite the rumors about Notre Dame, Kirk Ferentz made his intentions clear on Wednesday about staying put as Iowa's head coach.

By BRENDAN STILES
brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

On a day when Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz made himself available to discuss the No. 9 Hawkeyes' bowl options, the first question fired at him pertained to a coaching rumor.

Ferentz's name has been among others linked to the head coaching vacancy at Notre Dame after the school fired former coach Charlie Weis on Monday. The 11-year head coach shot down speculation Wednesday, saying he's content in Iowa City.

"I like it at Iowa," Ferentz said. "I've had paychecks from three different places now since 1981. My first full-time job was here."

"I'm not a vagabond coach, and I like it where I'm at."

That wasn't the only speculative question thrown Ferentz's way. He made mention of instructing his players not to answer any questions

regarding his standing as Iowa's coach, or the draft status of any juniors who may forego their senior years to pursue careers in the NFL.

The three Hawkeye juniors whose names have been circulating around such talk are offensive tackle Bryan Bulaga, cornerback Amari Spivey, and defensive end Adrian Clayborn.

Bulaga was selected this year as the Big Ten's Offensive Lineman of the Year.

Under Ferentz, only two players have left Iowa early for the NFL — tight end Dallas Clark, the first-round pick for the Indianapolis Colts in 2003, and running back Shonn Greene, a third-round draftee by the New York Jets after winning the Doak Walker Award last season.

"To me, my job is to make sure we get the information — accurate information — in front of the players," Ferentz said. "Then it's up to them to figure out what it is they're looking for."

Injury front looking better

Ferentz also addressed the team's list of injuries, particularly on offense.

He said junior quarterback Ricky Stanzi will be able to start throwing the ball in practice this weekend and that redshirt freshman running back Adam Robinson should practice this weekend. Both are coming off ankle injuries.

"I fully anticipate him to be full speed probably next week," Ferentz said about Stanzi, who suffered an injury in Iowa's 17-10 loss to Northwestern on Nov. 7. "He could probably play this week. It would be a little shaky or what have you."

Ferentz called offensive lineman Dace Richardson's situation "the diciest." Richardson broke a bone in his ankle during the Hawkeyes' 15-13 win over Michigan State on Oct. 24.

However, Ferentz said 6-6 senior could be at full strength after finals and was optimistic about him

returning for the Hawkeyes' bowl game.

Ferentz goes to bat for Lickliter

Switching away from football, Ferentz said he attended the men's basketball game between Iowa and Virginia Tech at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Tuesday. He also spoke up on behalf of third-year coach Todd Lickliter, whose team currently holds a 2-5 overall mark.

Ferentz said he likes the direction Lickliter is taking his program and likened the basketball team's situation to his first two seasons as Iowa's head football coach, when the Hawkeyes went a combined 4-19.

"I don't know squat about basketball, but when I watch our guys play, we're really young right now," Ferentz said. "The energy our guys have, we're not that far off."

"I don't go on those chat boards, message rooms ... I don't do that stuff. But I just hope everybody realizes it's a process."

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White Girls Can Jump can't win

Veteran Dime Pieces takes down a young but scrappy competitor.

By IAN MARTIN
ian-martin@uiowa.edu

Dime Pieces' play was in mint condition.

While normally having four players available, only three played on Tuesday night, but it didn't matter. Dime Pieces won a close first game over White Girls Can Jump, 15-13, and then had an easier time in the second game, winning 15-8.

'We're athletic, so we like to run the court. We can't do that in 3-on-3.'

-Megan Hullermann, UI senior

"[Dime Pieces] plays good defense," said White Girls sophomore Nikala Earlywine, who scored 7 points in the first game, then dropped only two in the second. "They took away my left hand, and shots just went cold."

And while defense is what wins championships, there was also a strong offensive element to the Dime Pieces.

Almost all the offense for the squad ran through senior Megan Hullermann, who could be found shooting from inside and outside the 2-point line. She had 15 of her team's 30 points in the two games, including five 2-pointers in the matches, which use a scoring system of 1- and 2-point shots. Hullermann also

had seven rebounds.

Her teammates in the game, senior Dani Olerich and junior Liz Bloyer, were key cogs in the smooth pass and cut offense. Olerich was an offensive-rebound guru, tallying five. Bloyer kept pace with her with five offensive boards of her own to go with 7 points in the two games.

But despite the difference in final score, both teams agreed on a dislike for the 3-on-3 style of basketball, which led to sloppy play early in the games.

"We're athletic, so we like to run the court," Hullermann said. "We can't do that in 3-on-3."

White Girls freshman Lindsey Reed, who played point guard for her high-school team, agreed, saying, "You have to use a lot more ball movement, and height matters more [in 3-on-3]."

She may be on to something — Dime Pieces did have a minor height advantage.

Reed also said her team was at fault because of their play.

"We moved around a lot," Reed said. "We just didn't move the ball a lot."

In the coming rounds, Dime Pieces will likely continue to rely on the outside shot of Hullermann, as well as the continued contributions of its other three players. The team now will move on to the quarterfinals, beginning at 8:30 p.m. today.

For White Girls, its run



KC MCGINNIS/THE DAILY IOWAN
Senior Megan Hullermann of Dime Pieces fights her way around defender Nikala Earlywine of White Girls Can Jump during the second-round game of the women's intramural 3-on-3 tournament in the Field House on Wednesday. Hullermann had an impressive performance for Dime Pieces in their two-game victory.

in the tournament may not be over. Because of the double-elimination format of the bracket, the women will get a College World Series-esque chance at redemption; the squad will face the Dream Team in an elimination game at 6:30 p.m. today. The winner of that game will have to then turn around and play

another elimination game at 8:30 p.m.

But if the players want to be successful, they say they must improve on a few things. First, they cited "fatigue" in the second game, and they also want to employ a new strategy.

"We need more pick and rolls," Reed said. "A lot of them."

Blue Chips lights it up

By MATT SCHOMMER
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CR Finest was unable to survive a barrage of jumpers from the aptly named Blue Chips Wednesday in the Field House, and the Chip-pers took the best-of-three series, 15-5 and 15-4.

"We like to make it rain," said senior Mike Thomas of Blue.

And rain it did.

Blue Chips shot a sizzling 58 percent in the two contests as all three members found their shooting strokes early and often. The only important shot the team couldn't hit was the free-throw to determine which squad would start with the ball.

"They kind of lit it up from deep," senior T.J. Sayre of CR Finest said.

But it was a different story for CR Finest. The team finished with a 24 percent shooting performance.

The contest was extremely fast-paced with the only time for a breather coming between games. It didn't help there were only five offensive rebounds in a total of 69 shots. That made for a lot of one-shot possessions and quick transitions to defense.

But if offensive rebounds were sparse, experience certainly was not.

Both teams boast all seniors, but the Blue Chips players took advantage of their basketball background.

Everyone transferred from Augustana College, where all three played on the basketball team.

"This is a lot more fun," Brian Larson said. "I got kind of burned out [at Augustana]."

But there certainly weren't signs of fatigue or rust when Blue Chips took the court.

Some of the team's motivation may have come from its infatuation with a woman named Morgan — someone the players said they really like and dedicated their performance to.

Unfortunately, the enigmatic Morgan wasn't there to see the game, and neither was CR Finest's captain. Bronner said the team missed his leadership, among other things.

"We wanted to sub, but he was missing tonight," he said.

Blue Chips was at a slight disadvantage as well.

Thomas was sporting a heavily self-taped right hand for the game. He said he was picking up a loose ball when an opposing player dove and fell on his hand, jamming his thumb back into his wrist.

"I'm not sure if it's dislocated or what," he said. "But what can you do about it?"

Whatever the injury, it didn't seem to affect his play. Thomas hit the majority of his shots, including a nice spin move in the lane for a bucket.

"We just get it to the hot hand," he said.

That distinction certainly belonged to Blue Chips' Mike Kolze.

Kolze was Devan Bawinkel-esque as he made shot after shot from beyond the arc. It didn't matter if the shot came off the dribble or he spotted up — it just seemed to fall.

"We take after our football team," Kolze said. "We don't want to take any prisoners."

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Dougherty excited by new job

The new women's head tennis coach is ready to build a program at Iowa.

By PATRICK RAFFERTY
patrick-rafferty@uiowa.edu

Katie Dougherty has always wanted to be a head coach in the Big Ten.

She got her wish at Iowa. Now, she's hoping to make the most of it.

Her résumé is filled with experience from Big Ten schools — she served as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at Wisconsin — where, years before, she was also a nationally ranked doubles player — and assistant coach at Penn State. She's also coached at American University.

"Being in the Big Ten for so long, I always liked coming here," said Dougherty, an Ellicott City, Md., native. "I liked playing here. I always liked the feel of the town. I think it's a great Big Ten school; the academics are fantastic. Now with a brand new facility, I think it has the pieces in place to build a fantastic tennis program."

Serving as recruiting coordinator the past two seasons, Dougherty received national recognition and votes for a top 25 recruiting class.

"This has been my plan since I got into coaching. I feel very fortunate that I got this job when I did," she said. "Getting a job in the Big Ten is like a dream come true for me."

Recruiting is an integral part of a successful college tennis program, and Dougherty knows this firsthand.

The new coach said a lot of the Big Ten schools recruit the same prospective players. Therefore, a school must be substantially more selective.

"It's finding the right fit," she said. "The kid who's going to be OK in this climate, who's going to do well academically in a high-level

school such as this, and someone who's going to help the team.

"I'm hoping to put us back in the top 25. It's going to be a process, but competing for Big Ten championships and being ranked in the top 25 in the nation is always going to be the goal."

Dougherty has only had a few days with the team, but she lauded the players' attitude and work ethic thus far.

"The young women are doing everything I'm asking and more right now," she said. "It's tough when you have a new coach. They hadn't had a female coach before. They're doing a great job of holding up their end of the bargain, and hopefully, they're

enjoying themselves."

Junior Lynne Poggensee-Wei said she's relieved the search for a new head coach is over.

The junior said it's only been a few days, but she can already notice a difference.

"I think so far everything is going well," she said. "She's really positive and high energy. I think it's a great change for our team, and change is whatever you make of it."

The Hawkeyes will also continue to see a familiar face on the staff in assistant coach Mira Radu, who Dougherty praised for keeping the team focused.

Radu is excited to have Dougherty on board.

"We are thrilled to have

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Check out a video feature on the Iowa women's tennis team's new head coach.

her here," she said. "The girls are excited, and I'm excited. She's bringing a positive energy to the team and to the program. I think it's going to be great for years to come."

"Now, I think things are starting to fall into place, and we're going to be able to focus on the goal of playing good tennis and winning matches."

Dougherty said she enjoys Iowa City.

"I don't think I've met nicer people," she said. "Honestly, the way I've been embraced by the athletics department and around town has been unbelievable. The people are fantastic."

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Kirk Ferentz

FOOTBALL

Ferentz wins regional coach award

Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz was named the Region III Coach of the Year by the American Football Coaches Association on Wednesday. It marks the second time Ferentz has been selected for the honor, with the first coming after the Hawkeyes' 2002 season, when Iowa went to the 2003 Orange Bowl.

The announcement comes a little more than a week after Ferentz, who took over the Iowa program in 1999, received his third Big Ten Coach of the Year award.

This season, the Hawkeyes went 10-2 during the regular season, marking the fourth 10-win season Iowa has had under Ferentz's watch. The Hawkeyes finished tied for second in the Big Ten with Penn State at 6-2 in conference play.

Four other head coaches — Cincinnati's Brian Kelly, Alabama's Nick Saban, Texas' Mack Brown, and TCU's Gary Patterson — were also selected for regional Coach of the Year accolades by the association on Wednesday.

The national award will be announced on Jan. 12, 2010, in Orlando during the group's national convention.

— by Brendan Stiles

GYMNASTICS

Trouch promoted

Preparing gymnasts at Iowa under head men's coach Tom Dunn for 14 years has paid off for Dmitri Trouch, and he is ready to move on to the next level.

Trouch is one step closer to becoming a collegiate head coach after Dunn promoted him from an assistant to associate head coach.

The promotion will give him a more administrative role with the Hawkeyes.

"Primarily, I want to get him ready to be a head coach because that is what he wants to do," Dunn said. "I'm going to be helping him get a handle on some of the things I do on the administrative side."

Trouch will be more involved with recruiting, scheduling, and keeping track of the daily operations of the NCAA and its requirements.

Originally from Russia, Trouch helped the Russian team win a gold medal in the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta.

Trouch came to Iowa that same year to replace Kurt Golder, who accepted the head-coach job at Michigan.

— by Clark Cahill

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 reacts to Kirk Ferentz's press conference on Wednesday.

Ferentz, Barta pitch bowls



Iowa quarterback James Vandenberg throws a pass during the Hawkeyes' game against Minnesota on Nov. 21 in Kinnick Stadium.

JULIE KOEHN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Kirk Ferentz and Gary Barta both made cases for why Iowa should play in a BCS bowl game.

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

Election Day may be in November, but the week leading up to the announcement of all 34 college football bowl games seems to have politicking left and right.

When Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz held a press conference to discuss the Hawkeyes' postseason possibilities on Wednesday, he did the same.

As Ferentz made his pitch for why his team is "worthy" of a Bowl Championship Series bowl game, he noted two observations he made while watching other NCAA contests during Thanksgiving.

One was the number of close games that took place, some of which were upsets. The other was highly regarded teams suffering injuries.

He then tied both observations back to what his team dealt with all season — from the close victories to the several sustained injuries along the way.

"Those things all influence how a season goes, how a team performs, and I think those things actually reinforce the job that our players did this year because we certainly had our set of challenges," Ferentz said.

Since taking over at Iowa, he has led the Hawkeyes to seven bowl games and boasts a 4-3 record in those contests — the most recent being a 31-10 victory over South Carolina in the Outback Bowl last season.

SEE **BOWL GAME**, 8A

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Check out video footage from Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz's press conference on Wednesday.



BOSTON COLLEGE 72, IOWA 67

Hawkeyes come up short

A shorthanded Iowa women's basketball team falls to Boston College in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge.

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

The Iowa women's basketball team was out-matched in terms of size, experience, and number of players in its Big Ten/ACC Challenge game against Boston College on Wednesday night in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

Those factors combined to give the Hawkeyes (5-3) their third loss of the season. The Golden Eagles (4-3) prevailed, 72-67, to earn their fourth-straight victory.

But if the Iowa players knew they were at a disadvantage in all those categories, they didn't show it.

With injuries to senior,



BRENNAN NORMAN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa's Kamille Wahlin drives past Boston College's Kelsey Reynolds during the second half of the Iowa women's basketball team's game against Boston College in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Wednesday. Iowa lost, 72-67.

JoAnn Hamlin, sophomore Hannah Draxten, and junior Kachine Alexander, a Big-Ten-issued one-game suspension to freshman Gabby Machado for a flagrant foul against Columbia on Nov. 28 that was seen as fighting, and an indefinite suspension to sophomore Shante Jones for a violation of team

rules, the Hawkeyes were left with seven players.

Two of those, sophomore Kelly Krei and freshman Morgan Johnson, stand more than 6 feet tall. Just one Hawkeye, junior Kelsey Cermak, who only played nine minutes, is an upperclassman.

SEE **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**, 8A

COMMENTARY

Wahlin checks in, steps up



EVELYN LAU
evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

With time running out, the Iowa women's basketball team trailed Boston College by one possession.

Looking to get the tying basket, it wasn't surprising which Hawkeye player took the ball for the final shot.

Sophomore guard Kamille Wahlin launched a 3-point attempt a few feet away from the Hawkeyes' bench with seven seconds

left in the contest.

The ball fell short, hitting the rim before being snatched by Boston College's Mickel Picco, who essentially sealed the Golden Eagles' 70-67 victory Wednesday night.

Despite the disappointing loss, one thing was apparent: Wahlin's play kept Iowa in the game.

The sophomore guard stepped up in the absence of the numerous injuries that has plagued the Hawkeyes so far this season. Having only seven players available against the Boston College, the Crookston, Minn., native played the entire game.

SEE **WAHLIN**, 8A



PHOTOS BY: CHARLIE ANDERSON
GRAPHIC BY: BRENDAN SULLIVAN

In the spirit

December: a month for dropping temperatures, bundling up, and holiday-theme events. The local arts scene is bustling with concerts, plays, and celebrations of all kinds during the holiday season.

Beautiful, unkempt music

Natalie MacMaster, "Christmas in Cape Breton", 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 3184 Highway 22, Riverside

Balancing the tasks of being a performer and a mother can be difficult for Natalie MacMaster. Yet, she manages to be both a world-class fiddler and a mother of three.

"It's really hard," she said. "It's something that I'm always trying to find a proper balance. My children are my priority. To define what priority means is what I'm searching for."

She manages the balance by not traveling so much. The two-time Grammy nominee decreased the number of her performances in order to remain home with her children, ages 4, 2, and 9 months.

MacMaster will play both mother and performer when she performs the show *Christmas in Cape Breton* at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday. The holiday-theme show will take place at Riverside Casino and Golf Resort, 3184 Highway 22, in Riverside. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$45. The show will consist of Celtic fiddling, step dancing, and guest performers. Music has always been a part of

MacMaster's family. She grew up in a musical culture and family, and she has been playing the fiddle since she was 9, when a relative gave her the instrument. She has a degree in education but said she will never teach – she's involved with the fiddle.

"For me, playing fiddle is truly as much a part of me as my accent," the 37-year-old said. "It's something I don't even think about."

Step dancing is also a part of MacMaster's show. She said she never took step dancing as seriously as the fiddle and called it something "that everyone could do in Cape Breton."

She draws a lot of her inspiration from her home of Cape Breton, an island off the east coast of Canada that is part of Nova Scotia. She described it as "incredibly beautiful, rustic, and unkempt."

"The music in Cape Breton is very unrefined as well," she said. "The power of the music and the land comes from the natural beauty of it. It's a real strong force, very rhythmical but also very modern, and it comes across. It's a hand-me-down tradition."

Hancher programming director Jacob Yarrow said he is excited about her performance.

"She is energetic and an exceptional performer," he said. "She is a real master of Celtic fiddling style."

– by Sarah Larson

More than a dream

The Nutcracker, 7:30 p.m. Friday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Dec. 6, Englert, 221 E. Washington

'Tis the season for the curtain to rise for one of the most famous Christmas traditions – *The Nutcracker*.

The timeless holiday tale comes to life with professional dancers and local children from Nolte Academy of Dance and other studios. *The Nutcracker* will begin its three-day run at the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington, at 7:30 p.m. Friday. Saturday performances will be at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and the Dec. 6 performance is at 2 p.m. Admission ranges from \$16 to \$22.

The Nutcracker is a unique and entertaining Christmas classic, and one of the most popular ballets in Western countries. It is based on the story of "The Nutcracker and the King of Mice," written by E.T.A. Hoffman.

The story follows the journey of Clara

Stahlbaum as she receives the gift of a Nutcracker – a soldier-type doll – from her Uncle Drosselmeyer. While wandering her house, at the stroke of midnight, Clara hears the sound of mice. The Nutcracker comes to life to help Clara defeat the fierce Mouse King.

After the victory, the Nutcracker transforms into a prince, and he and Clara enter a world of dancing snowflakes and fairies. While in the magical Land of Snow, the two arrive with delight to the Kingdom of Sweets – where the Sugar Plum Fairy and her people dance for Clara and the prince. Clara then awakens from her dream to find herself with the Nutcracker by the Christmas tree.

The Nutcracker typically includes eight dance performances, including the Nutcracker March, the Sugar Plum Dance, and the Waltz of Flowers. The original music of the ballet was composed by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky in 1892. The Nolte Academy's version being presented at the Englert will feature a live orchestra of local musicians, led by Carey Bostian.

– by Josie Jones
SEE HOLIDAY 4B

ON THE AIR

It's Thursday, which means 80 Hours on Air is invading the airwaves of KRUI 89.7 FM and its online stream at krui.radio.org. Listen to *DI Arts* reporters discuss this weekend's events and play tunes from artists featured in this week's 80 Hours.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

The first decade of the new millennium is drawing to a close, and what better way to celebrate than to reminisce? Log on to dailyiowan.com to vote for your favorite movies and albums from the last 10 years.

ON THE BLOG

For more sweet Arts and Culture goodies, check out our blog at dailyiowanmedia.com/artslive.



NEW MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEKEND



Brothers

Sycamore 12

Sam Cahill (Tobey Maguire) is a decorated Marine shipped out to Afghanistan for his fourth tour of duty. When Sam goes missing overseas, little brother Tommy (Jake Gyllenhaal) steps in to take care of Sam's wife, Grace (Natalie Portman), and his two daughters. A simple helping hand seems to bring more consequences to the foundation of the family than expected.



Armored

Sycamore 12

Matt Dillon and Laurence Fishburne star as officers at an armored transport security firm, with an infallible plan to launch the ultimate robbery. This is not just any robbery - it is against their own company. Their plan of attack seems flawless, until an unexpected witness interferes.

AT THE BIJOU



Antichrist

Showtimes: 7 p.m. Friday, 5 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Dec. 6

After losing their child, an unnamed couple (Willem Dafoe and Charlotte Gainsbourg) retreat to the middle of a forest hoping to ease their grief and mend their marriage. Their new home is also the home of Satan's essence, and it brings the couple far more pain than the pleasure they had anticipated.

TRACKS FROM THE PAST

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

I've lived through a few memorable events. I remember being in Mr. Rogers' eighth-grade literature class when I found out about 9/11. And walking on the field in my first game playing varsity high-school football. And my bones vibrating at the first concert I attended (the Wallflowers at the Iowa State Fair).

But few of these moments (outside of not learning any grammar or punctuation) compare with the first time I heard *Kid A*, by Radiohead.



Kid A

by
Radiohead

Released
Oct. 2, 2000

I was a sheltered child when it came to music. I blame this mostly on the place I lived (a small town in western Iowa). I knew about Radiohead but never gave the band much of a shot.

One day, my new roommate, Jack from Chicago, asked what I thought about Thom Yorke and how weird he was. I asked who that was, and he stared blankly at me, emphasizing my ignorance.

Later, I learned Yorke was the frontman for the English rock band Radiohead. To cure my sheltered life, I immersed myself in the group's discography (this was about the time that *In Rainbows* released).

During my quest, the night that sticks out was the first time I heard the pulsing of "Everything in its Right Place," the first track from *Kid A*. It was early December, and snow pelted the outer walls of Currier Hall. We sat in our oversized fourth-floor room and blasted *Kid A*.

Yorke's voice howled and strained itself over bouncing synthesizers and guitars in such tracks as "The National Anthem" and "Idioteque."

After the album finished, I finally felt like I knew something about music. Exactly what, I wasn't quite sure, but I deleted Lil' Jon from my iTunes library.

— by Eric Sundermann

Today 12.3

MUSIC

- **Bright Giant** (formerly Josh Davis Band), 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Melt Banana**, 9 p.m., Picador, 330 E. Washington
- **Pert Near Sandstone**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

WORDS

- **"Live from Prairie Lights,"** Stephen Elliott, memoir, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque

THEATER

- **Yellow City**, University Theatres Gallery Series, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B

DANCE

- **Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place



don't miss!

Lost and Found Archival Film Series: Intimate History

Where: 7 p.m.

When: 101 Becker

Why you should go: If you're a film buff or just enjoy learning about different cultures, these two films by director Peter Forgacs provide for a rich evening. The first, *Dusi and Jenó: Private Hungary 2*, details the lives of the Hungarian middle-class through a secret film diary shot by Jenó between 1936 and 1966.

FILM

- **Metropolis**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Lost and Found Archival Film: Intimate History**, 7 p.m., 101 Becker

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Campus Activities Board Comedy**, Adam Grabowski, 9 p.m., IMU

Saturday 12.5

MUSIC

- **Dave Zollo & the Body Electric**, 9 p.m., Mill
- **Dennis McMurrin & the Demolition Band**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Nihil Seraph**, 9 p.m., Picador

THEATER

- **Yellow City**, University Theatres Gallery Series, 8 p.m., Theatre B

DANCE

- **The Nutcracker**, 2 and 7:30 p.m., Englert
- **"Christmas in Cape Breton,"** Natalie MacMaster, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Casino & Golf Resort Event Center, 318 Highway 22, Riverside
- **Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place

FILM

- **Beaches of Agnes**, 7 p.m.,



don't miss!

Nihil Seraph w/ Four Story Fate and Lost Nation

Where: 9 p.m.

When: Picador

Why you should go: Local metal-core band Nihil Seraph totally rocks the socks off hard-core music fans. And the show is free. What more could a thrifty metalhead need?

Bijou

- **Antichrist**, 9:30 p.m., Bijou
- **Julie and Julia**, 10 p.m., 348 IMU

MISC.

- **Holiday Thieves Market**, 10 a.m., IMU

weekend calendar of events

Friday 12.4

MUSIC

- **BackDrop**, 6 p.m., Picador
- **Liberty Leg record release party**, 9 p.m., Mill
- **Natty Nation**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club

WORDS

- **"Live from Prairie Lights,"** Stephen Bloom, nonfiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights

THEATER

- **Yellow City**, University

Sunday 12.6

MUSIC

- **UI Philharmonia and All-University String Orchestra**, 3 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- **Center for New Music Ensemble**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall

THEATER

- **Yellow City**, University Theatres Gallery Series, 2 p.m., Theatre B

DANCE

- **The Nutcracker**, 2 p.m., Englert

FILM

- **Antichrist**, 3 p.m., Bijou
- **Beaches of Agnes**, 5 p.m., Bijou
- **Latino Native American**

Theatres Gallery Series, 8 p.m., Theatre B

DANCE

- **The Nutcracker**, 7:30 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington
- **Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert**, 8 p.m., Space/Place

FILM

- **Antichrist**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Beaches of Agnes**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Julie and Julia**, 10 p.m., 348 IMU

Center for New Music Ensemble

Where: 7:30 p.m.

When: Riverside Recital Hall

Why you should go: Mezzo-soprano Ann Cravero and viola player Nathalie Cruden are featured as guest artists at this concert. These musicians have impressive musical histories, helping to create a treat for classical music lovers. Additionally, Cravero is a UI alum and Cruden is an Iowa City native.

Cultural Center Movie Night, Sin Nombre, 6 p.m., Latino Native American Cultural Center

MISC.

- **Holiday Thieves Market**, 10 a.m., IMU

A course that truly applies

The journalism and computer-science programs receive a technological boost.

By REBECCA KOONS
rebecca-koons@uiowa.edu

Say you want to learn the inner-workings of creating an iPhone application. There's a class for that.

Next semester, the UI School of Journalism and Mass Communication, in coordination with the computer-science department, will feature a new course in which students will work to create an original application for the iPhone.

'I thought of it as an expression of our interest in finding new ways to integrate content creation and the newest communication technology.'

— David Perlmutter, journalism school director

Apple's original iPhone emerged in June 2007, and it has, arguably, revolutionized the concept of the smart phone. This is mostly because of the thousands of applications one can use on the device,

in addition to its touch screen and high-speed capabilities. Though the iPhone remains exclusive to AT&T, other cell-phone manufacturers are jumping on the bandwagon, coming up with their own touch-screen competitors.

The idea of creating an application for the iPhone sparked journalism-school Director David Perlmutter into action. In July, he proposed the idea of a new course to computer-science Professor Jim Cremer, as well as Steve Buttry, the C3 innovation coach for Gazette Communications. In September, several computer-science and journalism faculty members held meetings to brainstorm the course, resulting in the spring 2010 offering.

"I thought of it as an expression of our interest in finding new ways to integrate content creation and the newest communication technology," Perlmutter said.

In a time in which budget, faculty, and other cuts are the norm at many colleges and universities, the idea of adding a course may appear counterintuitive. The iPhone-application course is being taught on "overload" in the comput-

er-science department, Cremer said, which means that it will be taught in addition to the faculty's full course load. However, Perlmutter, Cremer, and Buttry believe that having such a course is too important not to add to the curriculum, and Cremer said it's "worth it" to have the exciting new opportunity.

Despite the course's being brand-new and only available to relatively few students, there is the hope that having a class such as this will spread to other academic departments at the UI. Outside of journalism and computer science, Perlmutter and Buttry see classes of this nature being relevant in the areas of advertising, health promotion, and business, to name a few.

The course will allow students to work together on creating an application, which may prove to be the real experiment. Having students from fairly different educational backgrounds on the same project will help them expand their horizons, Cremer said, which "can be extremely valuable for their futures."

"My sense is that when people from different disciplines work on a



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Check out an interview with David Perlmutter and Jim Cremer.



project together, they start off with quite different ideas about the 'boundaries' of the design space," he said.

Because the ability to operate several types of technology is becoming ever more vital to the proper functioning of a modern journalist, this course is one, Perlmutter said, he hopes will add to the skills needed to obtain jobs in the communication industry.

"Increasingly, those jobs require not just thinking, writing, and picturing conceptual skills but becoming a 'one-woman/man band' of technology applications," he said. "They need to be the storyteller and the IT guy."

ART

Rare exhibition brings together Spanish sacred art

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — El Greco's vision of the veil of Veronica hangs near a golden crown with 447 emeralds. Just a few steps away, a recumbent sculpture of the crucified Jesus Christ rests before its return to a Spanish hermitage in time for Holy Week.

"Sacred Spain: Art and Belief in the Spanish World" at the Indianapolis Museum of Art is drawing visitors from around the world for an unprecedented exhibition of 71 pieces from 45 lenders — many of them private — in Spain, Mexico, Peru and other countries. Madrid's Prado has loaned five works alone.

The free exhibition, which continues through Jan. 3, has thrilled experts and other visitors alike. Harvard Art Museum curator and cultural historian Ivan Gaskell said it inspired him intellectually like no other exhibition he has seen this year.

"I was moved by the totality of the exhibition, by the selection," Gaskell said.

First conceived more than a decade ago and more than three years in development, the exhibit won't travel beyond Indianapolis. Many pieces must return home to convents and parishes in time for Lenten observances that begin Feb. 17.

Others rarely go on public display at all. A private collector loaned the golden Crown of the Andes, originally cast three to four centuries ago to adorn a statue of the Virgin Mary in a Colombian cathedral. It's reputed to be the oldest and largest collection of emeralds in the world.

"The owners of the objects want them back," exhibition curator Ronda Kasl said.

"Sacred Spain" reunites Juan de Valdes Leal's twin paintings "Allegory of Vanity" and "Allegory of Salvation," which had been separated since they were sold at auction in 1938. They're the first works the visitor encounters as Kasl introduces the exhibition with a gallery called "In Defense of Images."

A gathering of holiday artists

Midwest artists will exhibit and sell holiday-theme works.

By **HANNA ROSMAN**
hanna-rosman@uiowa.edu

Art is capable of being delicate and fine in design. But can it be packaged in wrapping paper for the holidays?

The UI Fine Arts Council aims to do just that. The organization will host its annual Holiday Thieves' Art Market on Saturday and Dec. 6 in the IMU Main Lounge.

This year, more than 90 artists will display work, including paintings, ceramics, photography, wood-working, drawing, jewelry, metal, fiber, and more. For their work to be entered, artists had to submit it to a jury, said Makinze Meiners, a UI freshman majoring in art and codirector of the Fine Arts Council.

Rhonda Scott, a resident of Ames, will sell her jewelry in her first time at the Thieves' Market. She constructs pieces with materials such as glass beads, sterling silver, and pearls. She fires the glass beads she works with herself.

Her work in glass stems from a curiosity of how color affects the mind.

"I love life and nature. I think it is a way to combine my love of the natural world with art," she said. "I see [those animals] as beautiful and would like to show [the world] how I see them."

— **Kristin Hill**, artist

"I have always been interested in color and the impact of color on mood and memory," she said. "I can combine colors in interesting and unexpected ways."

Scott entered her pieces in the Thieves' Market after a recommendation of another artist. Rather than trying to make a profit, she would like to meet new people.

"I am looking forward to seeing what draws people to [the market]," she said.

Kristin Hill will display her sculptural art, ranging from function to beauty. Her work includes mugs, sculpture, and clay items such as dragons, frogs, and turtles. Her attraction to capturing these animals in clay is based upon her belief that they are striking to the human eye.

"I love life and nature. I

ART SALE
Holiday Thieves' Art Market
When: Saturday through Dec. 6
Where: IMU Main Lounge
Admission: Free

think it is a way to combine my love of the natural world with art," she said. "I see [those animals] as beautiful and would like to show [the world] how I see them."

The Thieves' Market is one of Hill's "best shows" because of a large following in the Iowa City area. She is able to work as a full-time artist, supporting her family along with her husband, who is a chef and a fellow artist. Their four children are also artistically talented, she said, which



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rhonda Scott of Ames will display her jewelry during this weekend's Holiday Thieves' Art Market. The event showcases Midwestern artists.

acts as an inspiration to her work.

The Holiday Thieves' Market has grown to be a trademark of the Fine Arts Council, and the event generates a financial foundation for other arts programs, such as the Student Art Grants.

As holiday shopping continues, original gifts are not always easy to come by. Meiners said the work displayed at the Thieves' Market can provide many options.

"[The work is] original and unique," she said. "It can't be molded, or commercial, or imported. It has to be original."

IPOD PLAYLIST

BEST TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS SONGS

What better way is there to await the joys of Christmas Day than with the Rat Pack? This playlist combines the romantic and the childlike aspects of Christmas from timeless artists, which lends to the Christmas theme of contrasting environs of hostile weather and crackling fires in the hearth.

- Doris Day and Bing Crosby, "Baby, It's Cold Outside"

This flirtatious duet between two classic figures from the golden era of film and easy listening will bring romance among the frosted flakes falling from the sky.

- Bing Crosby, "White Christmas"

While walking through the crusted snows of campus, dream of a white Christmas on route to class or a leisurely stroll.

- Dean Martin, "Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer"

Reminisce over a childhood favorite with Dean Martin as he brings playful jazz to a classic tune.

- Frank Sinatra, "It's Christmas Time"

Let in the warm dulcet tones of Ol' Blue Eyes on a cold winter's night of studying.

- Nat King Cole, "The Christmas Song"

This song builds a frosty atmosphere for

those nights when Jack Frost whispers in your ear.

- Frank Sinatra, "I'll Be Home for Christmas"

While slaving away and pulling hairs over final projects and studying, Sinatra can bring a warmhearted reminder that Christmas is not far away.

- Louis Armstrong, "Zat You Santa Claus?"

This bluesy, jazz beat and Armstrong's throaty tones bring mystery to Jolly Old St. Nick.

- Dean Martin, "Let it Snow"

Martin's timeless voice and charm polish this classic Christmas song into a perfect tune to trek across campus with.

- Nat King Cole, "O Holy Night"

This immortal Christmas Eve tune is perfect for sipping eggnog and gathering around the hearth with family.

- Bing Crosby, "Silent Night"

Crosby's velvety, rich tones compliment the light, orchestral background, creating an ideal tune to listen to while in a cocoon of blankets shielding from the chilly night air while waiting for Christmas Day.

— **by Hanna Rosman**

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94 min, 1922, silent, digital format
Vampires are all the rage right now. Come see the granddaddy of all vampire films, the one that spawned them all: NOSFERATU!
Tuesday December 1 @ 7pm: NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD
96 min, 1968, English, digital format
From the master of all things zombie, George A. Romero, NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD did for zombies what NOSFERATU did for vampires, making the flesh-eating reanimated corpses part of the cultural lexicon.
Wednesday December 2 @ 7pm: M
110 min, 1931, German w/English subs, digital format
Popping up in many discussions of the greatest films of all time, M follows the pursuit of a child-murderer by both the police and other criminals.
Thursday December 3 @ 7pm: METROPOLIS
124 min, 1927, silent, digital format
Arguably the 1st science-fiction film ever made, METROPOLIS is a dystopian film where the future has created a major class divide and the invention of a new robot threatens the survival of the working class.
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\$3.75 Pitchers PBR \$3.75 Burger Baskets
\$3.75 1/2 Order Hot Wings or Chick Strips
Thursday **BRIGHT GIANT w/UNKNOWN COMPONENT**
Friday **LIBERTY LEG w/SARAH CRAM & THE DERELICTS, THE BOXKNIVES**
Saturday **DAVE ZOLLO & THE BODY ELECTRIC**
Sunday **STUDY HALL**
Monday **OPEN MIC**
Tuesday **U OF I JAZZ PERFORMANCE**
Wednesday **BIRTH RITES w/COYOTE SLINGSHOT & GRAND TETONS**

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Sat. Dec 5 **Nihil Seraph** Four Story Fate Lost Nation
Thurs. Dec 10 **Cross Canadian Ragweed**
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HOLIDAY

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Holiday Harmony

Jefferson High School, Cedar Rapids, 1243 20th St. S.W., 7:30 p.m. Saturday

Grab a Santa hat, an ugly sweater, add more than 100 male voices, maybe throw in some eggnog, and get ready to celebrate.

On Saturday, the Eastern Iowa Barbershop Chorus will perform a free holiday concert at Jefferson High School, 1243 20th, Cedar Rapids titled "Holiday Harmony" at 7:30 p.m. Doors will open at 7 p.m., and admission is free.

The group pulls members from all over the eastern part of the state, including Iowa City, Muscatine, Waterloo, Cedar Rapids, Dubuque, Davenport, Elkader, and New London. Each are part of chapters in the Barbershop Harmony Society and are nonprofit organizations, advertising that each member serves the "community with a song in [their] hearts."

While performing holiday music a cappella, "Holiday Harmony" will try to create a family friendly environment, with the website guaranteeing "100 percent family fun."

Audience members will also have the opportunity to join in the holiday fun and offer a donation of money or a new, unwrapped toy to the local Cedar Rapids area Toys for Tots, a institution that does its best to ensure every child gets visited by Santa this holiday season. Organizers list suggestions for toys on their website, ranging from books to dinosaurs.

Toys for Tots has distributed more than 20,000 toys to more than 2,700 children, the group reports. Beyond that, the group has provided more than 1,500 food boxes to families in need.

- by Eric Sundermann

Kwanzaa

6 p.m. Dec. 9, IMU Black Box Theatre

Kwanzaa is based on the Nguzo Saba, or the seven guiding principles, and one is celebrated each day of the holiday, from Dec. 26 through Jan. 4. Among these principles are "umojia," or unity, which stresses the importance of community togetherness.

Enjoy an evening brimming with "umojia" at 6 p.m. Dec. 9 during a Kwanzaa celebration in the IMU Black Box Theatre.

Special guests include African-American folk storyteller Kunama Mtendaji and the Afi Ama Music and Dance Ensemble. The evening will showcase conga, djembe, dunun, and kutiro music, along with traditional African and Afro-Caribbean movements.

Though this is not the first year for a UI Kwanzaa celebration, an assistant director of Student Life, Katherine Betts said this is the largest-scale celebration yet.

Neither political nor a religious holiday, Kwanzaa is not a substitute for Christmas - it is rather a time for focusing on traditional African values of family, community, responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement.

Sponsored by a host of UI student and faculty groups, the Kwanzaa celebration encourages everyone to share in unique performances and authentic soul food. RSVP by Dec. 7 to dinette-myers@uiowa.edu.

- by Dee Fabbriatore



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Orchestra members prepare to begin rehearsal for *The Nutcracker* ballet at the Englert Theatre on Tuesday. The ballet is a classic holiday performance.

Festival of Carols

7 p.m. Dec. 17, The Englert, 221 E. Washington

Free cocoa and cookies, anyone?

In the season of giving, it's hard to refuse free sweets and stories, and that's just what the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St., will dish out this season.

After bad weather forced the Englert to cancel the event last year, there's plenty on the docket for the Dec. 17 celebration. Among the highlights include performances from the MetroMix chorus, Iowa City Community Theatre, Catalyst Acting Company, and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" by Roy Justis to the music of Dan Knight.

"It's going to be a feel-good night the whole family will love," said Englert CEO Sean Fredericks, "We have a great lineup of performers and plenty of singing, dancing, sing-alongs, and hot cocoa."

The Festival of Carols will kick off at 7 p.m., and the audience can expect both new and traditional holiday songs, with a big sing-along at the end of the night. Joe Jennison, the executive director of the Iowa Cultural Corridor Alliance, will be the MC.

"A lot of families are looking for things to do together that don't cost a lot of money," Fredericks said. "Thanks to our sponsors ... we're able to put this on absolutely free."

- by Dee Fabbriatore

A Christmas Carol

Dec. 11-13 and Dec. 17-19 (Thursday-Saturday 7:30 p.m., Sunday 2 p.m.), Iowa Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall

After a trip to the movies to see this season's *Disney's A Christmas Carol* in 3D, catch a stage showing of the traditional Charles Dickens tale. After all, who doesn't want to spend double the time with Scrooge and Tiny Tim?

Enjoy a live performance of the spirited classic at the Iowa Children's Museum, in the Coral Ridge Mall, Dec. 11-13 and Dec. 17-19.

A Christmas Carol Radio Play captures the sounds of old-time radio theater and tells the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, who learns the true meaning of Christmas spirit when he is visited by three ghosts on Christmas Eve. Performed by Coralville-based City Circle Acting Company and directed by Chris Okiishi, the play experiments with audio effects and re-creates the popular Christmas story.

Tickets are on sale at J. Frahm

Music, 1841 Lower Muscatine Road, and the Coralville Recreation Center. Tickets are also available at the Children's Museum theater box office 45 minutes before each performance. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for children and seniors.

- by Dee Fabbriatore

All wrapped up for Christmas

Today through Dec. 13, 1:30 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, Iowa Theatre Artists Company, 4709 220th Trail, Amana

In the tiny town of Amana, only about 20 miles west of Iowa City, sits an old barn. Inside, 102 seats crowd together in front of an old stage. Inhabited by thespians, the venue beams to life as dancing and singing voices bounce off the walls.

This weekend and next, the Iowa Theatre Artists Company will continue its production of the musical *All Wrapped Up for Christmas* at 4709 220th Trail. Admission ranges from \$10 to \$20.

Described as a musical fairy tale for the holidays, *All Wrapped Up for Christmas* tells a story about a family that have come together at a breaking point.

Since opening the weekend before Thanksgiving, Meg Merckens, a cofounder of the Iowa Theatre Artists Company and coproducer of the musical, said she is extremely happy with the production, especially considering the musical is an original work of her husband, Tom Johnson.

"There's been a terrific reaction," she said. "Our first week of audience members didn't know what they were getting into, but we loved the fact that people came out anyway."

The cast of the show ranges from age 11 to 75, and everyone on stage plays an instrument. Merckens emphasizes the originality of the show because each person brings a different twist.

"It's a holiday tale of the likes of which you'll never see again," she said. "Mainly, because the story is based on the 10 individual people in the show."

Merckens points to theater as a great opportunity for parents to not only spend time with their kids but show them how fun the arts can be.

"It's a wonderful chance to see something as a family," she said. "We've had a lot of productions, but this is the first one

that is totally family oriented." - by Eric Sundermann

A Christmas Past

Friday through Dec. 6, Various locations in West Branch

While Christmas is traditionally observed on one day, one local community will dedicate three days to the holiday.

The town of West Branch will begin its Christmas celebrations this weekend with its annual townwide A Christmas Past events.

A Christmas Past will begin Friday and will run through Dec. 6. The event has been going on for several years, said Rod Ness, the programming director for Main Street West Branch.

West Branch will kick off the festivities with a Christmas tree lighting ceremony, which includes a performance by the West Branch High choir.

The tree lighting has not happened for the past couple of years, Ness said, because the live tree the town uses grew too big and the town did not have enough lights.

A visit by Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Town Hall will coincide with the tree lighting. They will return the next day as well.

There will also be several kid's craft opportunities available, as well as readings of *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas* at Ye Old Main Street Sweets at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

"We try to make it a low-cost, family-friendly environment," Ness said.

In addition to the tree lighting and visits by Santa, several area businesses, churches, and government organizations will open their doors to the public for food, crafts, and performances.

The happenings will also include horse-drawn carriage rides sponsored by the National Park Service. Old-fashioned open fireplaces located on the sidewalks will allow passersby to roast marshmallows.

"The Boy Scouts make doughnuts over an open fire that are mighty tasty," Ness said.

The Hoover Library Museum's *Holidays with the Hoovers* exhibit, which will run through Jan. 3, showcases different Christmas trees; it will be open from 5 to 8 p.m. on the Friday and Saturday of A Christmas Past.

- by Tommy Morgan Jr.



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Tad Snider rehearses for his part as the title character in *The Nutcracker* at the Englert Theater on Tuesday. Snider is also an assistant director of the ballet, which runs Friday through Dec. 6.

Campus Activities Board Shopping

Buses depart IMU at noon and 1:15 p.m., Tanger Outlet Center, Williamsburg

As holiday shopping - and end-of-semester projects and tests - reaches a fever pitch, it can be difficult to get all of one's shopping done in time.

The Campus Activities Board hopes to at least alleviate the stress of the holidays by providing a shopping trip to the Tanger Outlet Center in Williamsburg on Saturday. Tickets for the trip can be purchased for \$5 or by bringing an item for a donation to a charitable organization. Organizers have not yet determined which organization that will be.

The board will offer free transportation from the IMU to the outlet stores and back for students who signed up at Burge, Mayflower, or Hillcrest. The group will offer sign-up opportunities today at Burge from noon to 2 p.m., and Burge and Mayflower on Friday from 5-7 p.m.

Those who are unable to sign up for the trip at the dorms can do so the day of the trip by arriving at the IMU early.

Students will have the opportunity to shop at stores such as the Nike Factory Store, Calvin Klein, and Brooks Brothers, none of which can be found in the Iowa City/Coralville area.

Participants will receive a coupon book for the outlet center in addition to transportation. Buses will depart from the IMU on Saturday at noon and 1:15 p.m.; they will return from Williamsburg at 5 and 6:15 p.m.

The shopping trip is sponsored by the Campus Activities Board Roads Committee, which started this semester. This is its first shopping trip, though the group did sponsor a trip to Six Flags in October.

- by Tommy Morgan Jr.

Winter Wonderland

10 p.m. Dec. 11, IMU Main Lounge

Not every student celebrates Christmas, but even fewer celebrate winter. With Winter Wonderland, the Campus Activities Board will seek to change the view on winter with a celebration of all the best parts of the season. The event will be held at 10 p.m. Dec. 11 in the IMU Main Lounge.

"I think we can all agree that winter in Iowa is usually nothing to celebrate about," Kelsey Dallas, the board's Night Hawks director, wrote in an e-mail. "We wanted to put together a night that draws on the fun stuff we all did as kids that gets forgotten about as we get older."

Winter Wonderland will include crafts, games, and plenty of hot chocolate.

"[It] is essentially a celebration of all the best parts of winter - the hot chocolate, snowmen, tasty treats, and so on," Dallas wrote. "We brainstormed and came up with some ridiculous winter activities."

Crafts, including gingerbread houses, snowmen made of socks and rice, and make-your-own thermometers, will be at the forefront of Winter Wonderland.

"This event is a little different from things we've tried before," Dallas wrote. "Instead of centering on games and having people earn tickets for prizes, the prizes instead become the craft projects that you make yourselves."

Games will still play a role, though, Dallas wrote. Campus Activities Board will be holding games of bingo in which participants can win such prizes as winter gear. There will also be a sponsor on hand that will take photos and put them into snow globes.

Winter Wonderland is not just an opportunity to celebrate all (good) things winter, it also gives students one last break before finals week.

- by Tommy Morgan Jr.

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PLANET 51 (PG) ✓ 5:00, 7:10, 9:20	BLIND SIDE (PG-13) ✓ 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
2012 (PG-13) ✓ 4:30, 8:00	PLANET 51 (PG) ✓ 5:00, 7:10, 9:20
BLIND SIDE (PG-13) ✓ 4:15, 7:00, 9:50	GLEN BECKS CHRISTMAS SWEATER: A RETURN TO REDEMPTION LIVE (NR) ✓ 7:00
MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 4:40, 7:30	OLD DOGS (PG-13) ✓ 5:10, 7:20, 9:30
OLD DOGS (PG) ✓ 5:20, 7:40, 9:40	2012 (PG-13) ✓ 4:30, 5:30, 8:00, 9:00
FANTASTIC MR FOX (PG) ✓ 4:50, 7:20, 9:30	A CHRISTMAS CAROL 2D (PG) 4:00, 6:30, 9:00
A CHRISTMAS CAROL 3D (PG) ✓ 5:00, 7:15, 9:30	MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS (R) 5:10
NINJA ASSASSIN (R) ✓ 5:20, 7:40, 10:00	A SERIOUS MAN (R) 7:10, 9:40
COUPLES RETREAT (PG-13) 9:40	PIRATE RADIO (R) 4:10
	FANTASTIC MR FOX (PG) ✓ 5:00, 7:10, 9:30
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WOMEN'S FASHION



LAURA WILLIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Winter attire is displayed at downtown boutique Dulcinea on Wednesday. "Scarves, furry vests, and oversized sweaters will be popular this season," said owner Sandra Navalesi.

Smart for winter

Fashion trends are changing to accommodate low Iowa temperatures, and some items are flying off the shelves in local stores such as Dulcinea, Catherine's, and Lyla's in downtown Iowa City. Twyla Tindall of Lyla's Boutique said these items are "selling across the board to individuals of all ages."

- **Fly-away cardigans**
They're oversized and comfortable. They are also able to be paired with many other items of clothing, such as a simple shirt.
- **Vests**
Also a great trend to be paired with simple items for a relaxed yet clean look.
- **Sparkles**
They can be put anywhere on clothing. As a border around the top of a cami, on the pockets of a fly-away cardigan, and even on a belt, sparkles are eye-catching and girly. They also look great on most types of material, including denim and cotton.
- **Scarves**
A lightweight scarf adds flavor to a simple shirt. Printed scarves also give more personality to a casual outfit.
- **Skinny jeans**
They can easily be worn with anything. Skinny jeans make a lazy sweatshirt day more

impressive, and they complement cardigans to perfect a cute, informal look.

- **Boots**
Thick boots keep toes warm during the chilly season, even with snow covering the ground. Flat boots give off more of a put-together vibe when paired with skinny jeans.
- **Military jackets**
Fit jackets like these ones are best when paired with skinny jeans and a pair of boots. It looks like a tailored look.
- **Leather**
Leather looks good with most everything this season. As a jacket, a bag, and fringe on low rise, short boots, leather presents a sophisticated, clean image.
- **Studding**
Studding adds a bit of a hard-edge to simple things, such as jeans and a bag.
- **Belts**
Belts of all sizes are a great accessory. They add a classic touch to any outfit.
- **Layering**
Why not pair the items together? A simple T-shirt paired and a sparkle-accented cardigan paired with skinny jeans is ideal for the winter season.

- by Josie Jones

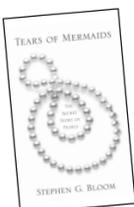
Following the pearl

The UI's Stephen Bloom will recount his encounters with pearls in a reading of his new book Friday.

By BEN EVANS
benjamin-evans-1@uiowa.edu

It is early in the morning — the Sun has barely risen above the horizon. All deckhands are already hard at work, hauling up from the depths thousands of the world's largest oysters.

Stephen Bloom looks out into the ocean and sees in the distance arches of three whales migrating south, their tails spraying water into the faint sunlight.



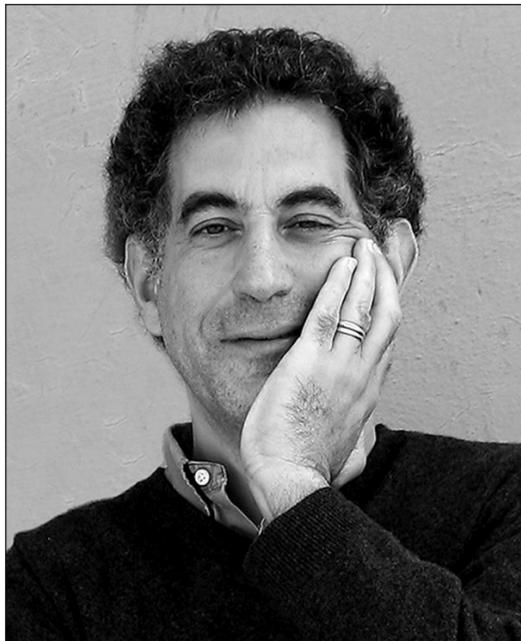
Stephen Bloom
Tears of Mermaids

This is the life of a deckhand on a pearling vessel near northern Australia, one of the countless adventures Bloom records in his new book, *Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls*.

A UI journalism and mass communication professor, he has written two other books, *Postville* and *The Oxford Project*, which have both achieved a tremendous amount of success. Bloom will read from his new book at Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque St., at 7 p.m. Friday. Admission is free.

Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls follows the life of a pearl from the moment it is scooped out of the ocean to the moment it dangles from a person's neck.

"The idea with the book is to attempt to trace every single rung of the giant pearl ladder," Bloom said. "It was a fascinating moment to see how the oldest gem continues to be processed



PUBLICITY PHOTO

UI Professor Stephen Bloom will read from his new book Friday at Prairie Lights Books. The book focuses on the pearl industry.

'My mother use to wear a single, modest strand of pearls that as a little boy I was just fascinated watching.'

- Stephen Bloom, author

and readied for the consumer."

The book follows more than just the incredible story of a pearl; it also covers the people who come into contact with it.

"At the book's heart, the heroes of this book are really unsung men and women who toil away in anonymity," he said.

And he strove to capture the essence of these unsung workers through experience. To prepare for the book, he dove for pearls in the Philippines and China, interviewed pearl lords surrounded by guards in rough jungle compounds, bargained with Chinese pearl bro-

kers, and shadowed pearl dealers.

"The book is all about pearls on one hand, but really on the other hand, it really isn't about pearls at all," Bloom said. "It is about people along this global assembly line."

The reading provides him with a chance to share some of his exotic experiences with readers. Jan Weissmiller, a co-owner of Prairie Lights, said the readings at the bookstore allow authors to reach their audience in an unique way.

"It gives the author a sense of his readers," she said. "This is a small enough town that it is

READING
Stephen Bloom, *Tears of Mermaids: The Secret Story of Pearls*
When: 7 p.m. Friday
Where: Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
Admission: Free

nice to be able to read to people you normally know socially, and in Iowa City, the author reads to people of all ages."

Bloom's readership is attracted by something deeper than his engaging themes, Weissmiller said, noting his rare, personal relationship with his subjects. His new book is no exception.

His fascination with pearls was, in fact, one of his inspirations for writing this book.

"My mother use to wear a single, modest strand of pearls that as a little boy I was just fascinated watching," he said. "I still have the vision of my mother and father walking out of a very middle-class front door to their moment of celebration, with these glistening, luminescent pearls leading the way."

Bloom utilized his emotional connection with the pearl as a way to delve into the lives of individuals inside a world unnoticed by average human beings.

"This book is a way to plunge into a world that is wholly distinct from the reader's world and a way to go from country to country following these pearls as they go from continent to continent, following unsung heroes the entire way," he said.

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After the plague in Yellow City

Yellow City follows a group of 20-somethings surviving in a post-pandemic wasteland.

By DEE FABBRICATORE
danielle-fabbricatore@uiowa.edu

Living through a frightening epidemic is more than a plot line for Jen Silverman.

In 2007, the playwright was living in a small, rural, southern Japanese town when the avian-flu outbreak hit.

"[The town was] ringed by hills, so there really wasn't anywhere to go or anything to do — just wait it out and be careful," she said. "Whatever 'being careful' meant to you."

Silverman re-creates this terror in her new play, *Yellow City*, which will hit the stage as part of the Gallery Series today through Dec. 6 in the Theatre Building's Theatre B.

The play is set in a post-pandemic wasteland in which four young 20-somethings face the aftermath of a deadly virus outbreak. Left to die amid rubble, gang fights, and destruction, the group's only hope is the sound of a saxophone at sunrise, a hopeful entity they dub "the Yellow Man," who they believe will save them.

Silverman has deep interest in the way humans interact with each other during a pandemic.

"You can't know who's infected, so your trust in the people around you is instinctively replaced by wariness and fear," she

said. "Physical contact we take for granted, like a handshake or a kiss, automatically carries a new danger."

Director Anthony Nelson (who recently directed the UI Mainstage production *The Book of Liz*) experimented with anime-like movement among characters.

"I've encouraged the actors to think about their bodies differently," he said. "They're stripped away from modern technology, so I want them to revert to cold-blooded, primal instincts."

Actors Sarah Helt, Kyle Niemer, Nigel Brown, and Megan Norman play Rat, Lynx, Swan, and Ava, respectively, and their movements reflect these creatures.

"Especially in the scenes between Lynx and Rat, there's this kind of animal-energy, this cat-and-mouse danger, that's exciting to me and feels right for the characters," Silverman said.

Yellow City takes cues from both past and present events. She said she pulled ideas from 14th-century journals about the bubonic plague and sketches that show Death dressed in a fancy cloak, dancing through town.

"There's a certain cynical, morbid sense of humor that kicks in, where laughter is the only reaction that

PLAY
Yellow City
When: 8 p.m. today through Saturday, 2 p.m. Dec. 6
Where: Theatre Building Theatre B
Admission: Free with valid UI student ID, \$5 for nonstudents

"I'm fascinated and unsettled by how we, as a country, have reacted to diseases such as SARS, bird flu, and H1N1 — the near-hysteria in the media, the finger-pointing, the urgent desire to single out a country or an ethnicity"

— Jen Silverman, playwright

will keep you from losing your mind," she said.

Amid the recent H1N1 outbreak and heated health-care debate, the play has relevance.

"I'm fascinated and unsettled by how we, as a country, have reacted to diseases such as SARS, bird flu, and H1N1 — the near-hysteria in the media, the finger-pointing, the urgent desire to single out a country or an ethnicity," Silverman said. "Those reactions make me think



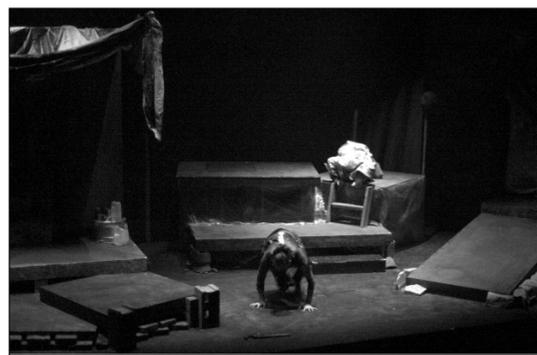
JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

(From left) Nigel Brown, Sarah Helt, and Megan Norman play Swan, Rat, and Ava in Jen Silverman's play *Yellow City* in a rehearsal in the Theatre Building on Tuesday. The group, left behind after an apocalyptic pandemic, spontaneously started playing music together despite their bleak situation.

that it isn't so far-fetched to imagine people building these huge barriers and guard towers around an infected city and leaving everybody inside to die."

Nelson said that while the play is scary, it does more than create a depressing atmosphere in which characters are forced to live in subway cars and urinate in cans. He said the plot sparks interesting conversations about what it would be like to live without everyday luxuries.

"Disease makes everybody feel helpless, especially disease for which vaccines haven't yet been created, and that's something that, as a country, we're not



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Sarah Helt plays Rat in the play *Yellow City*, by Jen Silverman, in a rehearsal at the Theatre Building on Tuesday. The play presents an postapocalyptic pandemic scenario, in which four 20-somethings are left to fend for themselves outside the "barricades."

accustomed to feeling," Silverman said. "Maybe disease is one of the only things left that can really make a 'First World' country feel helpless."

Unimpressed with *Dancing's* latest star

'Dancing with the Stars' needs to branch out.



PATRICK BIGSBY
patrick-bigsby@uiowa.edu

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Last week, another season of "Dancing with the Stars" mercifully came to an end with the predictable victory by someone old, wholesome, and white.

While grandparents everywhere were delighted with this outcome, I was relatively underwhelmed by the news. Consequently, I spent my Thanksgiving being thankful for the end of *USA Today's* insanely thorough coverage of what is among the dumbest shows on

television and also thinking up a few ideas for possible guest stars who would add some much-needed spice.

Though "Dancing with the Stars" has seen its fair share of professional athletes, I'd like to see some jocks with a little less built-in charisma given a shot at the title. For example, William "The Refrigerator" Perry seems like a natural choice. The Fridge has cashed on in his football fame before, and the show would give him the chance to elevate the Super Bowl Shuffle to new heights in the world of dance.

Joe Namath would provide an interesting challenge for his partner, as he would no doubt attempt to kiss her during every routine. The inclusion of a controversial figure such as Barry Bonds could also generate interest, plus set an important precedent for



PUBLICITY/ADAM LARKEY/ABC

The wholesome Donny Osmond won the latest season of "Dancing with the Stars" Nov. 22 with professional dance partner Kym Johnson. But honestly, was anyone surprised?

mandatory drug testing among performers. (I'd hate to think that Donny Osmond's recent win might be in any way tainted.)

Entertainment per-

sonalities on the show have typically been rather bland choices — the producers should think outside the box to keep the show fresh. Instead of Kelly

Osbourne's recent inclusion, Ozzy should have entered the running. That his mental faculties are suspect is irrelevant to his candidacy (at least that was the case

with this season's sleeper, Tom DeLay).

What about Little Richard, who, no doubt, invented dancing? That kind of innovation might give him an edge, but I hope it would encourage other competitors to raise their respective games.

Finally, "Dancing with the Stars" needs to make more of an effort to include genuinely crazy celebrities. I'd like to nominate the Octomom (with her brood forming a supporting kick line, obviously) to participate. Not only would her bizarre reputation attract a new segment of the viewing population, but the show's producers could use her physical appearance to their advantage and bill her as Angelina Jolie. Then, for the first time ever, the show would have an actual star. Avoid close-up shots, and America's grandparents would be none the wiser.

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BOOK REVIEW

Koontz's latest somewhat out of breath

Dean Koontz provides a blend of the uplifting, suspenseful, and slightly inconclusiveness in *Breathless*.

By REBECCA KOONS
rebecca-koons@uiowa.edu

I sat down with Dean Koontz's latest novel, *Breathless*, after having heard many a guilt trip because I had never explored his terrain. This kind of pressure led me to believe that I was in for something spectacular, among the likes of which I'd never read or would ever read again.

But *Breathless*, while an intriguing read, never quite finds itself capable of tying all of its many loose ends together. After eagerly reading through 337 pages full of captivating twists and turns, I felt a bit let down with a conclusion

that seemed to put out the flame of my absorption.

The novel consists of the separate lives of several characters. The two heroes of *Breathless* are Grady Adams, a furniture maker who lives with his dog, Merlin, and Cammy Rivers, a 30-something veterinarian who has dedicated her life to saving those who can't save themselves. It seems that Rivers' traumatic personal history may have



Dead Koontz *Breathless*

affected her career choice — she was once a child in a helpless living situation.

Adams encounters two unidentifiable beings, later named Puzzle and Riddle, that astound every human and animal they encounter. It becomes the duty of Adams and Rivers to make sure these creatures are kept out of harm's way. When Adams presents the creatures to Rivers for evaluation, the two protagonists begin their friendship.

However, we never quite learn the fate of Puzzle and Riddle, which is one big reason that kept me turning the pages. This, among other unanswered questions, will probably

drive a few readers nuts, because this strong level of curiosity propels the story and allows the readers to immerse themselves in the story.

Other "main" characters of *Breathless*, while attention-grabbing in their own right, don't ever seem to make the meaningful connection to the central plot that I had anticipated. Resident criminal Henry Rouvroy offers up a good portion of the suspense in *Breathless*, yet simultaneously spends his time wondering if someone is out for revenge, only to find out. A gambler who is well-versed in chaos theory, Lamar Woolsey, seems anything but relevant until the story

is nearing the very end. His placement is almost too convenient and not clever enough to warrant much of an "Aha" response.

Breathless, despite plot-related shortcomings, does tell an entertaining story. The wonderment of Puzzle and Riddle are enough to inspire what-if thoughts about what else is really "out there." The chemistry between Adams and Rivers is something that could almost create its own spin-off novel, but they decide to keep any feelings at bay. Some ne'er do wells hold up a mirror to the human condition. These people who can be outwardly offensive actually carry incredible emotional depth, which

Koontz unfortunately seems to only skim the top of.

He is a master of detail and imagery and paints numerous remarkable scenes in *Breathless*. He puts phrases together in such a way that readers believe what he writes, no matter how outlandish it may seem, and he gives his characters real voices, which only serves to enhance the effect of the story.

Readers are forced to draw their own conclusions, though, despite the vivid visual descriptions. *Breathless* leaves too many questions unanswered to be considered a satisfying suspense novel.

Murder, masochism, addiction

By ERIC ANDERSEN
eric-p-andersen@iowa.edu

Stephen Elliott knows addiction. The 37-year-old author used to shoot heroin and said he still takes 10 mg of Adderall a day — a drug he has been using for years.

Early into his latest nonfiction book, *The Adderall Diaries*, Elliott writes, "An author writing a story can be like a junky looking for a fix." This addictive passion for writing is was even harder when he suffered from a year-and-a-half of writer's block.

"To get out of it, I just started documenting my life," he said. "I was going back on Adderall, so I started documenting that."

He will visit Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque St., to read from *The Adderall Diaries: A Memoir of Moods, Masochism, and Murder* at 7 p.m. today. In the book, the author tries to sort out his life and failed relationships, while telling the tale of Hans Rieser, a famous computer programmer who killed his wife.

"When Hans was found guilty of murder he said, 'I'm the best father I know how.' That was just chilling," Elliott said. "It was such a strange parallel with my father, who also confessed to a murder in his unpublished memoir. I started

READING
Stephen Elliott
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Where: Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
Admission: Free

'He really puts all of his heart and soul and guts into his readings.'

- Vauhini Vara, UI student

thinking about how these guys related and the justifications they were relying on to define themselves and their actions."

While he does focus much of his book on the murder and learning to understand his father, he also tries to cope with the things going on in his own life. He talks of numerous relationships with women and his sexual desire for pain, which he wrote more thoroughly about in *My Girlfriend Comes to the City and Beats Me Up*.

"I don't go out too often to S&M clubs anymore, but it's still my sexuality," he said. "It's not foreplay for me. It's the whole act. If you're gay, you're gay, if you're into S&M, you're into S&M."

Elliott said he doesn't see how authors can write a true memoir if they don't focus on all aspects of their life — even the most taboo of topics.



PUBLICITY PHOTO

Writer Stephen Elliott's novel centers on his experiences with sex, addiction, and death in *The Adderall Diaries*. He will read from the book today at Prairie Lights Books.

"I'm exploring the landscape of the mind," he said. "If you're writing about sex or anything, you should just try to be really honest about it. I don't think a reader should have to read a book that only goes halfway."

This no-holds-barred approach is what makes his writing so compelling, according to Vauhini Vara, who is studying fiction in the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

"He really puts all of his heart and soul and guts

into his readings," Vara said. "When you read Steve's writing or hear him read from his work, your first response is one of embarrassed discomfort, as in, 'Should I really be hearing about this?' Then you realize that's what makes it so brilliant: such generous, unflinching honesty is rare in literature, but it's what writers should strive for."

Once Elliott completed *The Adderall Diaries*, he put a message on his website stating he would send out an advance copy of his

The Adderall Diaries

On May 5, 2007, Floyd Mayweather meets Oscar De La Hoya at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. The fight has been hyped for five months. Floyd will make more than \$20 million and De La Hoya will make more than \$30 million. De La Hoya is heavier and Mayweather faster. Mayweather goes running late at night in Las Vegas, 3:00 AM sprints in the dark. The underlying drama is that Floyd's father had been in jail for drug running. Floyd trained with his uncle instead.

The boxers move quickly inside the ropes, sweat pouring down their backs like glaze. Mayweather peppers the older De La Hoya, landing a shot in the tenth that snaps De La Hoya's head back like a spring toy. De La Hoya, well past his prime, comes out hard in the final rounds, his shoulders turning as if on rotors, delivering a flurry of jabs into Mayweather's ribs. Mayweather just barely wins the fight and tells anyone who will listen, "This proves I'm the greatest fighter of all time." But it doesn't. Floyd Mayweather was supposed to win big, and he squeaked by. Floyd's father sits ringside, a guest of his son's opponent. The father has long braids and cheeks so sharp it's as if his face was engraved. After the fight the older Mayweather says he thinks De La Hoya should have won.

I know everything there is to know about fathers who root against their sons.

Stephen Elliott, excerpt from *The Adderall Diaries*. Copyright © 2009 by Stephen Elliott. Reprinted with the permission of Graywolf Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota. www.graywolfpress.org.

book to people who wanted to read it, and they would then have to forward it to the next reader within a week.

Four hundred people responded. Soon, Elliott came up with the idea to book a reading tour based out of people's own houses, which resulted in the current 90-stop tour, covering 33 cities.

"When I'm reading in people's homes, it's just whoever the friends are of the person whose home I

am in who show up — it's a reflection of their world," he said.

The stop at Prairie Lights is unusual because it is set in a bookstore. The writer said he wanted to read at the shop because of its fame and because he finished writing *The Adderall Diaries* in Iowa City, despite living in San Francisco.

"I needed to be somewhere where it was quieter," he said. "I love [Iowa City]."

DVD VAULT

A place for us to reminisce about the movies we loved, lost, and still live for to this day.

Dumb and Dumber, 1994

Dumb and Dumber — the godfather of all intuitive wisdom in this strange reality we call life. It has the answer to any question a person could ask, such as, "Where should I go for spring break this year?" "Somewhere where the beer flows like wine, where beautiful women instinctively flock like the salmon of Capistrano — a little place called

Aspen." Or, "What should I tell my touchy-feely doctor the next time he asks me if I'm sexually active?" "I got worms."

Whatever the question, Dumb and Dumber has the answer.

It all starts with Mary Swanson, one of those pretty girls with a lot of money to buy shiny earrings at the mall. Our, dare I say, dumb protagonist, Lloyd Christmas — played by none other than Jim Carrey — falls for this millionaire mistress

as he drives her to the airport on a brisk Providence morning. Then Swanson, in a moment of distraction, leaves one of her bags in the terminal, and Lloyd heroically swoops in and saves the luggage from the clutches of two cliché thugs. To Lloyd's painful dismay, Mary's plane has already taken off. In a desperate attempt to impress the leading lady, Lloyd, along with his best friend Harry, decide to trek cross-country in an effort

to return the lost briefcase.

And so, the journey begins. I don't know how many times I have seen this movie, but every time I do, I laugh louder than the time before. I can't get past how the movie flows from joke

to joke with almost perfect timing. The genius of this movie still baffles me — it is a simple premise, yes, and frankly has a basic plot line, but in the end, Dumb and Dumber is still one of the most hilarious films I have

ever seen.

So whether you need a question answered or you are just looking to laugh until you get a hernia, Dumb and Dumber is exactly what you need.

— by Ben Evans

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CONCERT

Exploding torsos and other dances

Eight choreographers will showcase work at this year's Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert, and each dance differs from the others.

The performance will take place at Space/Place; admission is \$12 for adults, \$6 for seniors and youth, and free for UI students with valid IDs.

The show's choreographers include graduate fellow Jiayi Li, who prepared a contemporary ballet titled "Dimensional Current," and graduate student Johanna Kirk, the creator of "The Second Story." Graduate choreographer Amy Barr-Holm's duet "Conversations With Becky" features text and popular music. She said the dance will involve "inflatable torsos that are silver, and they blow up in the beginning of the piece."

With inflatable torsos thrown into a mix of modern dance and contemporary ballet, the performances run the gamut of dance. Choreographers and performers have been rehearsing for approximately two months.

In addition to choreographing, leaders also must search through a huge inventory of costumes, create set designs to fit their themes, and choose their types of music. Some dances have no music — just text.



CHRISTY AUMER/THE DAILY IOWAN
Erin Donohue (right) prepares to run into the audience during a Dance Gala rehearsal in Space/Place on Oct. 27. The UI dance department will host its Graduate/Undergraduate Concert this weekend.

DANCE

Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert

When: 8 p.m. today through Saturday
Where: North Hall Space/Place
Admission: \$12 for adults, \$6 for seniors and youth, free for UI students with ID

Because the Graduate/Undergraduate dance is performed annually, the participants must get an early start. "The students know right away they want to start preparing if they want to adjudicate

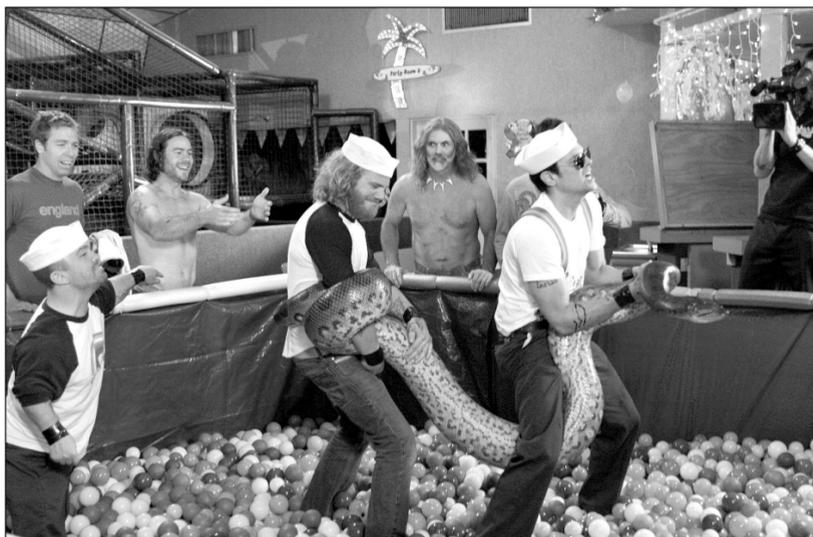
their work," said Charlotte Adams, a UI dance department faculty member.

Choreographers created their pieces from scratch. From approximately 15 submissions, eight were chosen. Adams described the following dancers' auditions as exciting because of the large variety of talented people who participated.

"That was a really good process to have everybody auditioning and seeing who is out there and wants to be dancing," she said. "The choreographers needed a lot of dancers, so it will definitely be interesting to see the variety of talent brought in."

— by Alissa Rosen

The Jackass dimension



PUBLICITY PHOTO

The guys behind *Jackass* plan to voyage into 3D territory. Funny? Yes. Capable of bettering a new art form? Unlikely.

Do we really need *Jackass* to sell 3D movies and advance the art form?



TOMMY MORGAN JR.
tommy-morgan@uiowa.edu

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Confession time: I'm a fan of *Jackass*.

Perhaps it's because my tween and early teen years were during the height of *Jackass*' popularity. I was one of the many young boys who ignored the "do not try this at home" warnings and tried to make my own series of dangerous home movies. These never got more deadly than bad skateboarding videos, but I was proud to defy the warnings in my 14-year-old attempts at glory.

Nowadays, as I grow older and pretend that I'm wiser, whenever I see new information about *Jackass*, I still give it a passing glance.

When *Jackass 2* hit theaters in 2002, I was mostly uninterested, until the 12-year-old in me took over and I went on opening night to see the *Jackass* guys do whatever their depraved minds came up with that time around. The same thing happened in 2008 during their "takeover" of MTV. I

wasn't glued to the television for all of it, but I still tuned in from time to time.

Now, I think I have to draw the line.

Wednesday, Johnny Knoxville officially announced that the crew will begin filming *Jackass 3* next month. And it might be in 3D.

"Whatever dimension it's in," Knoxville said on the franchise's website, "just know its going to be f'ed."

I'm all for 3D movies. The potential for entertainment seems limitless, capped only by a technology of which we haven't yet discovered the true limits. It's an advancement toward more technology and greater entertainment (and potential *Lawnmower Man* scenarios, but let's focus on the positive).

However, is it possible for a mostly new and exciting art form to be advanced by a movie such as this?

I mean, it might be. I suppose *Jackass 3* will be a move in a direction. 3D filmmaking, after all, has for the most part been the realm of kids' movies, bad horror flicks, and IMAX snooze fests. But is it a step in the right direction?

Of course, as humans, we seem to always take the most depraved route

to advance technology. Many have said the success and longevity of VHS and DVD were brought about because of the adult-film industry.

Perhaps, instead of taking such a route with 3D films, we should work on advancing the art and the medium, not merely use it for two-hour-long penis and flatulence jokes.

Even in the realm of *Jackass*, I'm not sure this would be the right call. There are plenty of nearly vomit-inducing moments in the series, and bringing in 3D would most likely push that over the edge. Plus, looking back at the previous incarnations of the *Jackass* franchise, I'm not so sure that my viewing of the "Butt Chug" would really be enhanced by 3D technology.

As always, though, there is hope on the horizon. More and more action movies — *The Dark Knight* made use of IMAX and 3D technology — and good horror movies such as *Zombieland* are about to get the 3D treatment. We don't need *Jackass* to sell people on 3D movies.

Let's just hope that, in the end, it is the good movies (and the potential of the medium) that win out, and that our lasting 3D legacy isn't Johnny Knoxville getting a bowling ball dropped on his privates or Chris Pontius dancing around in a "Party Boy" thong. Then, we viewers would be the jackasses.

DI RECOMMENDS

THE WEEKEND, PLANNED FOR YOU

Today

- Stock pile blankets and create a warm, cozy nest in your living room. December has arrived in full, bone-chilling force, so keep yourself from freezing — and keep your heating bill down.
- Rediscover an old favorite album. Dig through your iTunes library or stack of vinyl records for an album you used to rock out to on a daily basis. The burst of nostalgia can do wonders.

Friday

- See *Antichrist* at the Bijou. The film, from acclaimed Danish director Lars von Trier, has polarized critics and audiences through its use of violence, nudity, and other graphic material. Judge for yourself — is it art or gratuitous sex?
- Try out the various flavors of hot chocolate that are available. Sure, the classic plain flavor is always a good choice. But store shelves are also stocked with caramel, French vanilla, and dark chocolate. Maybe you will discover a new holiday favorite.

Saturday

- Before the craziness of finals week arrives, take some time to relax. Try your hand at a crossword puzzle. Not only is the hunt for the perfect word a nice distraction, but it will jog your brain just in time for those hectic studying cram sessions.
- Plan a trip. Winter break is mere weeks away, so find somewhere exotic to spend all of that time off. Soak up some UV rays in Maui, try your hand at the roulette table in Las Vegas, or indulge in the nightlife in New York City. Just be sure to avoid the madness of holiday travel.

Sunday

- Learn to knit. The hobby was once reserved for grandmothers, but it's making a comeback in hip, do-it-yourself crowds. With cold weather settling in, now is the perfect time to knit a scarf, hat, or mittens. Or make an inexpensive gift for friends and family.
- Want to go on a bar crawl, but can't get into the bars? Have non-alcoholic alternative — hit up all the coffee shops in town. Java House, T-Spoons, Tobacco Bowl, and Capanna offer a variety of coffees and treats.

NATION

Attorney says DNA sought from Yale suspect fiancée

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — An attorney for the fiancée of a Yale lab technician charged with killing a graduate student said Wednesday he's been told authorities are seeking a sample of her DNA.

Robert Berke, attorney for Jennifer Hramadka, told the Associated Press that it's unclear why authorities want her DNA. He says he was told in September after Annie Le was killed that she is not a suspect.

"I've been advised that they're seeking a sample of her DNA," Berke said.

Hramadka's boyfriend, Raymond Clark III, is charged with killing the 24-year-old Le five days before Le's wedding in September.

Berke said investigators wanted to interview Hramadka shortly after the crime, but the interview did not take place.

Berke declined to comment on his reaction to the move.

A prosecutor and police declined to comment.

Clark and Hramadka were seen leaving a coffee shop in a car in which "blood-like stains" were found hours after Le was killed, according to search warrant affidavits unsealed Wednesday.

New Haven police said in September that they didn't expect to make more arrests in Le's killing.

Le's body was found stuffed behind a research lab wall in September on the day she was supposed to get married on Long Island. Autopsy results show Le was strangled, but the motive remains unclear.

Experts said investigators may seek someone's DNA to exclude them as a source of the DNA that was collected as evidence.

"It sounds like they have some DNA they don't know who it belongs to," said Dr. Bruce

Goldberger, director of toxicology at the University of Florida. "They're trying to rule her in or rule her out as a contributor to that DNA."

Dr. John Howard, president of the National Association of Medical Examiners, cautioned against drawing conclusions about the move. He said investigators might want to address any claims or anticipated claims by the defense, such as that blood found was the suspect's fiancée's from a nosebleed.

Two days before Clark was arrested, investigators said they found blood "in plain view" on

the kitchen floor near the entrance to his apartment, according to the search warrants. The warrants do not indicate the source of the blood found in Clark's apartment.

Authorities took plastic door panels and carpeting with "blood-like stains" from the Taurus in which Clark was riding in the hours after Le's disappearance.

Clark sent e-mails to Le "in the recent past," the affidavits said. Her e-mail address was found in a laboratory locker labeled "Ray," the documents said.



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Classifieds
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319-335-5785
fax: 319-335-6297

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BONUS TO BUYERS
Seller to match 1st Time Homebuyer Tax Credit, Extra \$8,000*
The Peninsula Neighborhood, located on a bluff high above the Iowa River valley, resembles the special historic neighborhoods of cities in the Mississippi River region of the upper Midwest. Founders Row Condominiums (2 BRs, 2 baths) in tasteful brick and stone building with central deck gathering space, elevator, and lower-level garage. Has washer, dryer, dishwasher, disposal, and stainless steel appliances. Close to downtown, parks, golf, dog park, trails, playground & river footbridge. City bus service. Dog friendly.
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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

Topic ideas for that term paper you still haven't written

- How the Popularity of GraphJam.com Ruined the Credibility of Graphical Analyses: A Graphical Analysis
- Why All Men Suck: What I Learned as a Women's Studies Major
- The Sexual Habits of the American College Sophomore: Hypotheses and the Need for Thicker Dorm Walls
- You Gonna Finish That?: A Survey of the Gastronomical Proclivities of Midwestern Olive Garden Patrons
- The Positive Effects of Suicide on the Field of Poetry: An Examination of Funny but Tasteless Joke Term Paper Ideas
- The Circuitous Redundancy of Multiple Repetition: A Journalistic Exposé of Journalism
- An Exhaustive Critique of the Lesser Novels of Margaret Mitchell
- Typesetting as Vocation: Making the Bold Decision
- Bedknobs and Broomsticks: Inside the Daily Life of a Dominatrix
- The Legalization of Marijuana: A Totally Unbiased Opinion from Someone Who Totally Doesn't Smoke a Lot of Pot
- Homicidal Mimes: The Silent Killer
- Chocolate Chips and Jalapeño Pepper Sandwiches: Why Monthly Paychecks Are a Bad Thing
- Target Employee and Managerial Attention to Automatic Shoplifting Alarms: A Field Study
- Case Study of Celebrity Depression with American Idol's Randy Jackson: Singers in the Hands of an Angry Dog

— Andrew R. Juhl wishes everyone well with his or her final papers.

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

GET ON THE BUS!



JAY SCHLEIDT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City Transit driver John Eggenburg awaits passengers for a free shuttle on Wednesday at the downtown bus interchange. Eggenburg, an Iowa City native, has been driving local buses for 22 years. This semester is his turn to drive the free shuttle, which makes three crowded loops on the South Side, only to roll almost vacant through the North Side of town. "I'd like to see more riders," he said regarding his route around the north neighborhood.

mc ginsberg.com
PRESENTS...

horoscopes

Thursday, December 3, 2009 — by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** March 21-April 19 Prepare to do things yourself. Taking on someone else's fight will tax you more than you realize. Be patient, and let everything fall into place before making your next move.
- TAURUS** April 20-May 20 Don't put yourself in a compromising position because you don't want to be challenged. You have what it takes to win if you push your own needs and desires. A short trip will clear up some pending issues.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 Money matters will escalate if you try to buy your way out of a sticky personal situation. You may not want to give in to someone's demands, but if it will allow you the freedom to do something you want to do, it will be worth it in the end.
- CANCER** June 21-July 22 Separate your personal and professional goals in order to get the most mileage out of your efforts. Showing your ability to multitask will impress someone who can make a difference to your future.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 Take an entertaining approach to whatever situation you face at home or at work. An interesting partnership will enable you to find new means of raising or making money. Don't wait or give anyone a chance to catch up.
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 If you don't put in your two cents worth, you cannot expect to have a voice when you don't like what's happening around you. You can make a difference not only to yourself but to those counting on your expertise.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Your concern and interest will help you draw attention to something you believe in and want to pursue. Don't be afraid to contact someone for input. Your thoughts will be heard and met by someone with influence.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 You may feel motivated to take matters into your own hands, but consider the people who will be affected by your actions. Change may be inevitable and, if handled properly, can actually benefit you. Don't let your emotions get involved.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Think big. Put your thoughts into motion. You will come up with a plan that should benefit you financially. A change forced on you by a personal partnership will be to your advantage. Let the situation run its course.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Taking on too much will be your downfall. You may not like what someone is doing, but by being a good sport, you will be spared some of the blame when things don't turn out as planned.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 If you cannot follow through with the promises you made, you will lose the respect and confidence of someone important. There is no point in trying to push someone who isn't going to budge. Find a new venue for something you want to promote.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-March 20 Do whatever it takes to get people to recognize what you are up against or trying to prove. You may not win everyone's favor, but you will gain enough support to get started. Don't make someone else's confusion your problem.

DILBERT

by Scott Adams



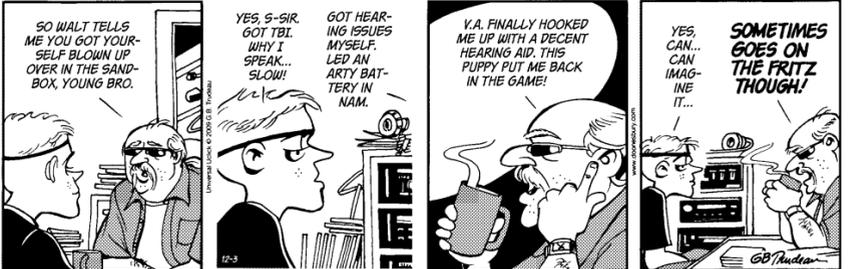
'NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



today's events

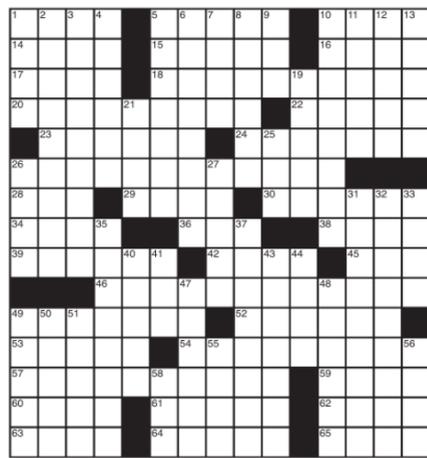
Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply e-mail the name, time, date, and location information to: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu

- **Tot Time**, Scanlon Gymnasium 9 a.m., 2701 Bradford Drive
- **Tuble Tots**, 10:15 a.m., Performance Health and Fitness, 3290 Ridgeway Drive, Coralville
- **Wee Read**, 10:15 a.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
- **Fit 4 Fun**, 10:30 a.m., Performance Health and Fitness
- **Preschool Story Time**, 10:30 a.m. Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Pharmacology Graduate Student Workshop**, "Role of AKAP150 in the synaptic complexes of b2AR/Cav1.2 and b2AR/GluR1," Mingxu Zhang 12:30 p.m., Bowen Spivey Auditorium 2
- **"Geopolitics of Global Energy Supply: An Examination of U.S.-Nigerian Naval Cooperation Under AFRICOM in the Gulf of Guinea,"** Celestine Bassey, University of Calabar, Nigeria, 2:30 p.m., 61 Schaeffer Hall
- **Art Adventure: Make Your Own Gift Wrap**, 3 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum, Coral Ridge Mall
- **"Permanent Resettlement Sites in Post-Tsunami South India: A Case of 'Build Back Better' or tabula rasa spoiled?,"** Luke Juran, 4 p.m., 315 Phillips Hall
- **"Memories and Visions: Europe 20 Years after the Fall,"** *Das Leben der Anderen* (The Lives of Others), 4 p.m., 100 Phillips Hall
- **Taco Supper and Holiday Vendor Market**, 5 p.m., Horn Elementary, 600 Koser
- **FitStart Youth**, 5:30, Performance Health and Fitness
- **Students for Austrian Economics**, 6 p.m., 257 IMU
- **Four-Day Free Movie Series**, *Metropolis*, Bijou
- **Couples Country Dance Lessons**, 6:30 p.m., Wildwood, 4919 Walleye Drive, Coralville
- **AIDS Awareness Week**, "Culture for a Cause," Global Health Club, 7 p.m., Industry, 211 Iowa Ave.
- **Fall 2009 Proseminar in Cinema and Culture: LOST AND FOUND: ARCHIVAL FILM, Dusi and Jenö and Either-Or**, 7 p.m., 101 Becker
- **"Live from Prairie Lights,"** Stephen Elliott, fiction 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Social Justice Potluck**, 7 p.m. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Resource center
- **Grease**, 7 p.m., West High School, 2901 Melrose Ave.
- **Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place
- **Yellow City**, University Theatres Gallery Series, 8 p.m., Theater Building Theatre B
- **Bright Giant**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Campus Activities Board Comedy**, Adam Grabowski, 9 p.m., IMU Black Box Theater
- **Good Time Karaoke**, 9 p.m., Nickelodeon, 907 Second St., Coralville
- **Jazz Jam**, 9 p.m., Sanctuary, 405 S. Gilbert
- **Pert Near Sandstone**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1029

- Across**
- They're akin to khans
 - Punts, e.g.
 - Maintain
 - Joining of opposite sides
 - First word of the Lord's Prayer in French
 - Drop
 - ___ perpetuum (let it be everlasting)
 - Sinclair Lewis novel
 - Settling piece
 - Exotic fish
 - Venetian feature
 - Rankle
 - Series of sorties
 - Half of bi-
 - Big do
 - Tricolor pooch
 - Wind element
 - Title not
 - acquired by Miss Spain?: Abbr.
 - ___ ring
 - Set on the court
 - Utah ski resort
 - Mass ender?
 - Gateway Arch designer
 - Made a switch in a game
 - Carriers of arms
 - Beethoven dedicatee
 - Has been around since, with "to"
 - Bomb
 - Funny Wilson
 - Went after
 - Tag words
 - "Doctor Who" villainess, with "the"
 - Italian rumber
 - Big ados
 - Putin input?



- Down**
- Galoots
 - Refinery products
 - Insurance company employees
 - Like some traffic
 - Suddenly break, as a twig
 - Ones examining bodies of evidence?
 - Juan's other
 - Betrays, say
 - Finish (up)
 - They're out standing in their field
 - Somewhat
 - Not natural, in a way, after "in"
 - ___ Allen
 - Hold (off)
 - Coin "swallower"
 - Trunk part
 - Goddess of breezes
 - Charles and others
 - Kind of party
 - What's barely done in movies?
 - Ill in modern Rome
 - Biblical money units
 - Fleischer and others
 - It doesn't end in 00
 - Natural
 - Quit
 - Unalaska native, e.g.
 - It may precede a storm
 - Play start
 - Work on a muffler, say
 - Walk-___



Puzzle by Joe Krozel
For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/moblexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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