

Digging the jig

UI junior Nora Murphy loves Irish dancing, and she's been across the globe to perform. METRO, 4A

THE SHOWDOWN

The top-ranked wrestlers meet No. 2 Iowa State in Ames this weekend. SPORTS, 1B



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

The Daily Iowan

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2009

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

50¢



BRENNAN NORMAN/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Annie Tye (middle left) and senior Anthony Berger explain their projects to onlookers during the first Fall Undergraduate Research Festival in the University Capitol Centre on Thursday. Undergraduate students presented their projects to UI faculty, students, and community members during the festival.

Mason got bonus in 2008

The regents may rethink offering bonuses to university presidents.

By **EMILY BUSSE**
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The same month that regents denied UI President Sally Mason a pay increase last year, in part because of the university's mishandling of an alleged on-campus sexual assault, she received a \$50,000 bonus.

The \$50,000 was guaranteed to Mason at the end of her first year as outlined in her original contract with the regents, said Regent President David Miles.

Though aware of her contract, officials interviewed were confused whether she actually received the money. Recent reports have said the state Board of Regents has never given any bonuses.

Miles said he is not sure why it has been reported for more than a year that regents have never issued any bonuses, adding, "If it's been reported, it's inaccurate."

Part of the confusion may be because the 2008 bonus was not documented to the extent that the regents' actions normally are, said Sheila Doyle, the regents' communications director.

"I think people lose sight of it, that's all," she said.



Mason
UI president

SEE **BONUSES**, 3A

A bonanza of research

UI undergraduate students show off versatile research skills.

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

UI senior Rebecca McCray spent her summer helping women make books at the Correctional Institution for Women in Mitchellville, Iowa.

An English major, her time there uncovered a passion for reaching out to the incarcerated masses — people who don't have access to resources that may help them once they leave the confines of prison.

"They really appreciate education in a way we don't because it's so accessible to us," she said.

McCray, who now hopes to

pursue a career in the corrections system, shared her experience with interested spectators as the first Fall Undergraduate Research Festival on Thursday.

From the development of sloths to varying portrayals of Africa in documentaries, students displayed an array of research at the University Capitol Centre for the event, which the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates sponsored.

Hailing from a slew of educational fields, 33 UI students showcased their work.

SEE **RESEARCH**, 3A

Undergraduate research

Projects included:

- Alex Einfeldt — infant motor development
- Erin Wahle — public service
- Justine Hart — prehistoric sloths
- Amy Palace — Darfur documentaries
- Rebecca McCray — education for inmates

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Check out a video feature of undergraduate research projects on display on Thursday.

Officials: Chemistry report faulty

By **SAM LANE**
samuel-lane@uiowa.edu

Some officials in the UI chemistry department say claims made in a recently released report regarding the condition of the Chemistry Building are an inaccurate representation of the department's laboratory procedures.

Compiled by a UI task force, the Nov. 6 report asserted some actions performed in the building's labs were unsafe and may have contributed to reported illnesses among several occupants.

David Wiemer, the chairman of the chemistry department, said the task-force report had many flaws, including placing too much

blame on lab safety and failing to enlist any chemistry experts.

UI officials launched the investigation in April following claims from 11 of the building's occupants that various conditions in the building caused their symptoms, which included respiratory problems, headaches, short-term memory loss, disorientation, and difficulty concentrating.

The investigation involved hiring two outside consultants for a total cost of \$30,000.

The task force, which included officials from various UI departments, was then responsible for compiling a summary report of the consultants' findings.

SEE **CHEM BUILDING**, 3A



LAURA WILLIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

The Chemistry Building is undergoing construction as seen on Nov. 18. Eleven individuals have reported health concerns with the building.

SEE **SENATE FORUM**, 3A

3 hopefuls focus on economy

Democrat Senate hopefuls also discuss Afghanistan and higher education in Iowa.

By **MITCHELL SCHMIDT**
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Three Democratic candidates running against Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, agreed on Thursday night: the economic crisis will continue to be a major issue throughout the 2010 campaign race.

The hopefuls spoke briefly about campaign plans in the Pappajohn Business Building to a group of more than 75 students and community members.

The event — cosponsored by UI Democrats and Johnson County Democrats — showcased the Iowa candidates for the upcoming U.S. Senate election: Roxanne Conlin, Tom Fiegen, and Bob Krause. Each had eight minutes to inform the public of their campaign platforms.

Candidates identified the current economic struggles of Iowans as the vital campaign issue.

DAILY IOWAN TV

To watch Daily Iowan TV, go online at dailyiowan.com or tune into UI TV. The 15-minute newscast is on Sunday through Thursday at 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., with reruns at 12:30 and 1:30 a.m. and 7:45 and 8:45 a.m. the following day.

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Check back for updates — features, commentaries, and photos — on men's and women's basketball games over the weekend. The men play Saturday and women play Dec. 6.

Check out Monday's edition of *The Daily Iowan* for an in-depth look at how downtown drinking is sending more to the hospital.



New UI club roils water

UI officials deny wrongdoing in formation of new swim club.

By **JORDAN FRIES**
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Officials from the UI Competition with Private Enterprise Committee failed to make a decision Thursday regarding a complaint filed by the Iowa City Eels swim club against the UI's new Iowa Flyers club.

UI spokesman Tom Moore said the complaint alleges that the Flyers — formed on Sept. 2 — violated an internal university policy against school entities competing with private enterprises unless certain requirements are satisfied, including the consultation of the community beforehand.

The committee reviewed the complaint on Thursday afternoon, but it postponed a decision until next week.

Eels, a nonprofit group that practices at the Mercer Park Aquatic Center, formed in November 1969, but according to club spokesman Paul Soderdahl, the UI Flyers' inception creates concern for the long-term viability of the Eels.

"The UI has endless resources that it can throw

at this new swim team," Soderdahl said. "We are concerned that this is tipping the scales and abolishing the free market of local swim clubs."

He wants the Flyers, who enroll 92 swimmers, reduced to a recreational program and its USA Swimming license stripped.

Soderdahl said the Eels, which targets the same 6- to 18-year-old audience as the Flyers, have lost 23 percent of their swimmers in the past year, dropping from 110 to 85 enrolled swimmers.

Other short-term concerns for the Eels include an \$8,000 budget hole, which could balloon to \$10,000 by May, Soderdahl said.

But Phil Julson, the UI's director of aquatics, said only nine Eels swimmers have transferred directly to the Flyers, which practice in the Field House. He believes the UI's new club satisfies a necessary market that wasn't previously available.

"We are trying to cater to the kids who finish their



RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI sophomore and Iowa Flyers assistant coach Grant Udning gives instructions to his 11- to 12-year-old W group swimmers during practice in the Field House on Thursday.

swimming lessons and feel comfortable in a pool but aren't quite ready to move up to hard-core competitive swimming," Julson said.

Soderdahl emphasized the complaint isn't about Iowa City's ability to support two swim clubs. He simply wants to ensure the UI follows its own protocol.

"All of the swim clubs in town should be on an even playing field, and the Eels are concerned that the Flyers are putting a monopoly on the local industry," Soderdahl said. "We want to make sure they engage with the community first

and gain mainstream approval."

But Julson said he does not think the Flyers are violating the policy, noting they have already spoken with community members, the Eels' Board of Directors, and gained approval from the UI Competition Committee to start their club. He cited the 50 Flyers swimmers who are new to the sport as a sign of Iowa City's need for a second competitive swim club.

If the committee chooses to deny the Eels' complaint, the two teams will compete in a swim meet this spring.

Furlough to create backlog

Clerks expect furlough day will push them two weeks behind.

By **REGINA ZILBERMINTS**
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The Johnson County court staff braced for the first of 10 furlough days today, but they didn't do much to prepare.

Because they couldn't. All they could do is wait to see how big the backlog of paperwork awaiting their return on Dec. 7 will be.

It took the Clerk of Courts Office two weeks to catch up after the last furlough day in the spring, said Johnson County Clerk of Court Lodema Berkley.

Furloughs — when the court's staff are temporarily laid-off for one day — are nothing new for an almost constantly overstretched court system, but not to this extent. Judges have only been included in furloughs once, during a spring furlough day earlier this year, said 6th District court administrator Carroll Edmondson.

In an effort to allow clerks to catch up on paperwork, Iowa Supreme Court officials mandated that all clerks' offices close to the public two hours early, two days a week beginning on Dec. 15. Officials tried a



JAY SCHLEIDT/THE DAILY IOWAN

The entrance to the Johnson County Courthouse is seen Nov. 10. Many county workers are concerned that furlough days will leave county clerks far behind on paperwork.

similar tactic during previous rounds of furloughs in 2004 and during the last fiscal year.

The extra uninterrupted hours helped but didn't entirely resolve the problem, Edmondson said.

And Berkley isn't hopeful they'll alleviate the backlog this time.

"We'll have 16 hours of work on the first day back," she said. "It's unreal to think it can be done."

The 26 clerks will have to contend with three furlough days this month alone, working with four fewer clerks than what the staffing formula says they should. The office in Johnson County processes about 1,000 documents each week.

Iowa Chief Justice Marsha Ternus issued orders on Tuesday outlining what cases should take priority for clerks, judges, and magistrates when they return to work.

First on Ternus' list for clerks is emergency matters, which include emergency commitments, domestic abuse issues, and criminal warrants.

These issues are common — clerks often deal with three cases involving domestic abuse a day — and must be addressed immediately because someone could be harmed if they aren't, Berkley said.

One judge will work in each of Iowa's 99 counties to handle any emergency

matters that arise on Friday. Court officials have tried notifying the public of the closures through releases to the media. They've also had notices posted on courthouse entrances for three weeks, Edmondson said.

For anyone who does show up, security staff on duty will be able to explain why the offices are closed. In Johnson County, the employees in the county attorneys office — located in the basement of the courthouse — and the deputy on duty have agreed to help if anyone comes to pay a fine, Berkley said.

The furloughs are a result of a 7.1 percent, or \$11.4 million, budget shortfall within the state's judicial system this year. With about 95 percent of the courts' operating budget spent on employees, officials were forced to rely on furloughs and layoffs. Officials laid off 105 employees, cut 100 empty positions, and reduced hours for an additional 58 people. Each of the judicial system's 1,935 employees will take 10 days of unpaid leave.

But officials worry the closures will affect not only court staff but the public as well.

"We hope that it stops sooner or later," Berkley said. "But it will take a toll on the public when it comes to cases to be heard."

METRO

Rettig receives nomination

Janelle Rettig received the nomination for the Democratic candidate for the vacant Johnson County supervisor seat Thursday night.

Rettig has filled for over a month after being chosen on Oct. 30 by an appointed selection committee, made up of Auditor Tom Slockett, Recorder Kim Painter, and Treasurer Tom Kriz. The position was left vacant after Supervisor Larry Meyers died in September.

She will now run in a the special election on Jan. 19.

Rettig, who moved to Johnson County over 19 years ago, won in a 66 to 7 vote among delegates against Johnson County resident Mary Jo Meggers. Meggers

nominated herself at the convention Thursday night.

Rettig said it feels a little odd running for a chair she currently holds, but added she is excited for the race. She vowed to do her best to show the same commitment as Meyers.

"There is no capability to fill Larry's shoes," she added.

— by Mitchell Schmidt

Number of UI alcohol crimes rise

Alcohol-related crimes at the UI are up, according to a state Board of Regents report released Thursday.

The report is for the third quarter, which ended Sept. 30, and since the quarter that ended June 30, driving under the influence, drunkenness, and

liquor-law violations have increased despite the university and community's recent attempt to crack down on binge drinking.

Released as an agenda item for the Dec. 11 regents meeting, the report showed drunken-driving incidents increased from 37 to 45, drunkenness incidents from 80 to 124, and liquor-law violations from 15 to 19.

— by Emily Busse

2 alums donate for Ponseti work

UI alumni Bob Whitmore and Molly Osterhaus Whitmore gave a \$1 million donation to continue the work of UI Professor Emeritus Ignacio Ponseti worldwide.

Bob Whitmore graduated from the UI in 1986, earning a bachelor's degree in mechanical

engineering, and Molly Whitmore graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in nursing.

Their gift will fund the UI Ponseti International Association, in the hopes of carrying on the Ponseti method — which helps cure children with clubfoot — in the poorest countries of the world.

Ponseti is known worldwide for his discovery of a revolutionary way for treating clubfoot. His method excludes the option of surgery, and can be performed by a variety of health-care professionals.

Ponseti joined the UI orthopedic staff in 1944. He died on Oct. 18 at the age of 95.

A celebration of Ponseti's life will be held at the Coralville Marriott on Dec. 6 beginning at 3 p.m. Everyone who has been touched by Ponseti is welcome to join.

— by Nicole Karlis

POLICE BLOTTER

Alberta Carter, 46, 1958 Broadway Apt. B11, was charged Nov. 24 with criminal trespass.

Tyler Devine, 18, 724D Mayflower, was charged Thursday with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Melissa Ramos, 25, 300 Grandview Court Apt. 300, was

charged Nov. 5 with simple assault.

Nathan Romont, 19, 1441 Chamberlain Drive, was charged Nov. 14 with public intoxication.

Levine Seals, 26, 1958 Broadway Apt. C3, was charged Nov. 12 with simple assault.

Devin Smith, 18, 1111 Hollywood

Blvd., was charged Tuesday with possession of marijuana.

Li Su, 19, 711 Carriage Hill Apt. 1, was charged Nov. 20 with fifth-degree theft.

Lindsey Thorson, 18, 2519 Burge, was charged Thursday with presence in a bar after hours and

public intoxication.

Lucas Udischas, 19, 724C Mayflower, was charged Thursday with possession of prescription drugs.

Logan Young, 19, 806 E. College St. Apt. 26 was charged Nov. 20 with fifth-degree theft.

The Daily Iowan

Volume 141

Issue 110

BREAKING NEWS

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

PUBLISHING INFO

The Daily Iowan (USPS 143.360) is published by Student Publications Inc., E131 Adler Journalism Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2004, daily except Saturdays, Sundays, legal and university holidays, and university vacations. Periodicals postage paid at the Iowa City Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 2, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Call: Pete Recker at 335-5783

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Subscription rates:

Iowa City and Coralville: \$20 for one semester, \$40 for two semesters, \$10 for summer session, \$50 for full year.

Out of town: \$40 for one semester, \$80 for two semesters, \$15 for summer session, \$95 all year.

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

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Thursday.

1. UI lays off 11
2. Ferentz, Barta push for BCS bowl
3. Ferentz staying put, Stanzi expected to play
4. Maxson eyes some mergers
5. Judging 'good moral character'

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RESEARCH

CONTINUED FROM 1A

"A lot of the research [at the UI] occurs across all disciplines — dance, arts, the humanities — not just science," said center Director Bob Kirby.

Research presented at the festival proved his point, coming from all areas of the university from geoscience to journalism.

Kirby said a quarter of all undergraduates take part in research projects, based on numbers gathered by the center. Students can design their own projects or brainstorm with professors.

McCray said becoming involved in research as an undergrad is important because it gives students hands-on experience in their field of interest.

"It gives you real-world

experience," she said. "You often work with a professional, and you can make relationships with people who can give you advice or write letters of recommendation for you."

McCray, who graduates in May, is applying to nonprofit organizations that help formerly incarcerated individuals reintegrate into society.

While she volunteered her time at the prison, undergraduates can receive research funding from a variety of UI programs and external grants.

Alongside a faculty member, geoscience major Justine Hart has been studying bones of prehistoric giant sloths found in southwestern Iowa in 2002. She receives funding through the center's grant project, and with the money, she is attempting to create a 3-D technological model of the sloth's bones.

"I'm studying how they

grew and their development and comparing it with the sloths of today," the UI sophomore said.

Amy Palace, a double major in journalism and international studies, was one of the several students displaying work from an Honors thesis project. She analyzed three documentaries about the conflict in Darfur, examining how the movies portrayed Africa, included credible sources, and the number of graphic visuals they used.

She said many of the films didn't provide viewers with enough information on the issue.

"It's good for people to act on it, but they need to know what they're acting on," she said.

Kirby said he hopes to showcase more undergrad-uate projects in the future.

"The idea is to make it an annual event," he said.

CHEM BUILDING

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Many said they are not upset with the actual investigation but rather the committee's interpretation of its findings.

Wiemer said he asked to be on the task force but was turned down because of a possible conflict of interest. He then asked for the panel to enlist an outside chemistry expert, but officials did not take his suggestion.

"The composition of the task force is interesting," he said. "I don't know why they didn't ask people with a chemical background [to participate]."

Task-force head Barbara Eckstein did not return calls for comment on Thursday.

Wiemer said he does not agree with the assessment that the illnesses can be attributed to actions

conducted in the building's labs.

He said that the chemistry department has always employed a significant number of safety procedures, including a required course for students on the importance of lab safety before the start of school.

UI chemistry graduate student Daniel Roston said he thinks the report inaccurately blames students for the health concerns of the 11 individuals.

The university should have involved a medical professional if it was concerned with occupants' health, he said.

One striking element of the report states that students did not properly follow safety procedures when they worked after hours. However, Roston said, he feels this stems from one extreme case in which a student spilled a certain solvent and passed out

from the fumes. No one was in the area to immediately assist the student, he said.

Amnon Kohen — an associate professor in the chemistry department — agreed that the report overemphasizes lab safety as a problem. To an outsider, the lab's condition may seem more unusual than to a chemist.

Kohen said a more likely cause for the illnesses is "disrupted air flow" as a result of ongoing renovation to the building. A large part of the report was devoted to the construction project as a cause for concern.

"Our hope at this time is that all the symptoms are renovation-related," Kohen said.

UI spokesman Tom Moore said committee members will review the concerns over the report. The task force will respond to anyone who has expressed concern and post responses on its website.

BONUSES

CONTINUED FROM 1A

Regent Robert Downer said on Thursday he didn't remember Mason getting the bonus in 2008.

"If this was paid, I was not aware of it," he said. "... I wouldn't have any significant complaint with it."

UI spokesman Tom Moore said Mason decided to donate the money to fund scholarships.

Compensation for the state university presidents is based on the regents' evaluation of whether they fulfilled predetermined goals for the previous year. But the \$50,000 in 2008 had nothing to do with Mason's performance during her first year of employment, Miles said. Instead, it was a promise made to Mason during the negotiation process following her hiring.

"It was intended to be a performance incentive, but as part of the negotiation process, the regents committed to pay it without respect to performance," Miles said. "It was simply part of the hiring negotiations."

While Mason was not

granted a pay increase to her \$450,000 salary in 2008 the Stolar Report showed the university mishandled the alleged sexual assault in Hillcrest in October of that year, the regents upped her potential incentive-based pay to \$80,000 for the next year.

Mason and the presidents of Iowa State University and the University of Northern Iowa turned down their incentive pay this year because of budget cuts facing their institutions.

The performance-based bonus program began at the UI upon Mason's hiring, and regents implemented it at ISU and UNI a year later.

The regents announced earlier this week that they may re-evaluate the bonus program.

Downer said the increasing controversy over bonuses for university presidents is not the sole reason for reconsideration.

"It's very difficult to speculate as to what the outcome will be," he said. "It has more to do with the economy than whether [bonuses] are appropriate."

UNI President Benjamin Allen and ISU President Gregory Geoffroy were

eligible to receive performance-based bonuses for the first time this year.

"The budget situation for the state is very serious, and President Allen doesn't think a bonus at this point would be an appropriate thing," said UNI spokesman James O'Connor.

Geoffroy adamantly denounced the idea of incentive-based bonuses at the Oct. 29 regents' meeting.

"These kind of performance-based bonuses are not good for public officials," Geoffroy said moments after declining his own. "I would urge you to think about other ways to structure compensation."

The regents will consider giving bonuses to the presidents next in June 2011, and Downer said he anticipates they may be reinstated in the future if regents decide to do away with them.

"I think it's entirely possible they could return," he said. "I think these things change and perceptions of them change over time."

Your turn. Should regents have made it more clear that President Sally Mason received a \$50,000 bonus? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

SENATE FORUM

CONTINUED FROM 1A

National unemployment numbers jumped from 9.8 percent to 10.2 percent in October, according to U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The employment rate in October 2008 was 6.6 percent.

Fiegen, a former economics professor at the UI, said he is upset at such a large number of unemployed Americans and vowed creating jobs would be a top priority if elected.

"I think the most pressing problem is work for those that want to work," he said.

Fiegen said he believes there should be a second stimulus for infrastructure projects to create jobs across the country.

He also emphasized negotiating trade agreements with such countries as China to "level the play-

ing field" for workers.

Conlin, an attorney from Des Moines, also noted the importance of providing jobs for Iowans.

"The issue in this campaign is going to be jobs, jobs, jobs," she said.

Iowa City resident Bob Engel said he plans to vote for a realistic candidate who has concrete ways to create jobs.

Candidates also raised the issue of sending more troops to Afghanistan. President Obama announced this week that he plans to send 30,000 more troops to the country over the next six months.

Krause, a UI graduate who spent 28 years in military service, said he supports the decision but officials need to put more focus on the ongoing cost of rehabilitation and treatment for veterans.

Krause, of Fairfield, said each soldier sent to Afghanistan costs \$1 million

to support.

If America is committing to sending soldiers to war, it needs to be ready to support them when they get back home, he added.

Higher education should also be a priority for leaders across the country, Fiegen said, noting loans and grants should be provided for anyone who needs them.

On the issue of education and university budget issues, Conlin said while it is early to make any definite comments, she wants everyone to have the right to an affordable higher education.

"Education will be a top priority," said Conlin, whose son graduated from the UI and grandson is currently enrolled.

Though candidates shared some differing views on issues, they all agreed Grassley, who has held the senate seat since 1981, has to go.

"The guy needs a rest," Conlin said.

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Spotlight Iowa City

When Irish eyes are dancing ...

UI junior Nora Murphy digs the Irish jig.

By **BRI LAPELUSA**
brienne.lapelusa@uiowa.edu

If jumping up and down in a black unitard, plastic silver mask, and thick leather shoes in excruciating summer heat for 16 hours isn't the definition of passion, the word is indefinable.

While most would consider such a feat unbearable, UI junior Nora Murphy retells the event with a wry smile and nostalgic twinkle in her eye. After she had spent 15 years as an Irish dancer, electronic company LG — its Korea branch — commissioned dancers, including Murphy, for a flat-screen TV commercial filmed in Chicago and the opportunity to train with Lord of the Dance. That's where the blistering heat came in.

Murphy has been in the trade since the ripe age of 3, and she has performed nationally and globally since she was 7.

It all started when the Chicago native's uninterested brother refused to wear the traditional Irish dance kilt. Murphy begged her mother to sign her up for classes instead. She's never looked back.

Her dreams came true the first time she first traveled

'It was obvious, from the age of 5, that Nora was very passionate about Irish dancing.'

— **Kathleen O'Carroll**, the director of Cross Keys School of Irish Dance and Murphy's former teacher

to Ireland to compete.

"I'd always dreamed of dancing in Ireland," she said. "I guess that was just a dream come true to be up on that stage; [it] was probably the highlight of my dancing career."

Accompanying Murphy to Ireland, fellow dancer Mary Lynch said nothing deterred her friend from dancing.

"She was always very motivated," Lynch said. "Even if she was struggling with a step or having a bad day, she'd fight through it and remain positive, no matter what."

It might have to do with that *something* the dancer has.

"It was obvious, from the age of 5, that Nora was very passionate about Irish dancing," said Kathleen O'Carroll, the director of Cross Keys School of Irish Dance and Murphy's former teacher.

That *something* also came across in Murphy's animated descriptions about the importance of

dance in her life. The wavy-haired brunette's passion was conveyed through her effortless concentration when improvising dance moves in her plaid sneakers. Her rubber-toed feet moved so fast they seemed to float over her kitchen's floor.

Murphy explained that Irish dancing often serves as an "icebreaker" because it is such a core element in her life.

"[Irish dancing] always seems to come up. Probably because I'm so in love with it," she said. "Then everyone becomes interested, and they want to see, so I'll end up dancing at parties where I don't know anyone."

In addition to teaching the art form to children in Chicago, she's managed to combine her love of theater and Irish dancing to pave a career path. Majoring in theater arts with a concentration in costume design, she has designed costumes for three productions at the university this year. That interest stemmed from

Nora Murphy

- **Age:** 20
- **Hometown:** Chicago
- **Has won:** More than 100 awards for Irish dancing
- **Currently studying:** For the "Teagascóir Choimisiúin le Rinci Gaelacha" exam, Irish Gaelic for Commission Certified Irish Dance Teacher.
- **At age 5:** Performed in front of the White House for a dance competition.
- **Loves:** Performing in the Chicago's South Side Irish Parade each year.
- **Has traveled:** All over the United States, Canada, and Ireland to compete.

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

UI junior Nora Murphy dances in the Field House on Thursday. Murphy competes internationally in traditional Irish dancing. Growing up in an Irish neighborhood on the South Side of Chicago, she began dancing in the traditional manner at age 3.

at the competitions." Fake tanning and glitter aside, her love of the dance thrives. "I love being able to hear the Irish tune and just belt it out," she said. "I love everything about it."

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Recovery still limping along

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New unemployment claims have fallen for a fifth-straight week, boosting expectations that the economy shed fewer jobs in November and remains on a path to recovery.

That optimism was tempered, though, by signs Thursday that the rebound will be slower and bumpier than those that followed previous recessions. Both retail sales and activity in the service sector unexpectedly shrank last month as consumers remained anxious about their jobs and hesitant to spend.

The surprise dip in the service sector was worrisome, because this area accounts for nearly 80 percent of the nation's economic activity. It includes such diverse industries as health care, retail, financial services, and transportation.

Productivity gains in the third quarter also showed that employers are managing to squeeze more work out of fewer workers. That's a potentially ominous sign for the nearly 16 million unemployed Americans.

Nigel Gault, the chief U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight, said the reports depicted an economy growing but only sluggishly.

"We have got a recovery, but it is going to remain pretty slow and well below what you would normally see coming out of this deep of a recession," he said.

Most worrisome for the economy, perhaps, is that consumers — who drive 70 percent of the econ-



AMY SANCETTA/ASSOCIATED PRESS
A customer pulls a cart filled with a flat-screen television and other items during the traditional Black Friday shopping day at the Target store in Mayfield Heights, Ohio, on Nov. 27.

omy — continue to limit their spending.

The latest evidence was the miserable November the nation's big chain retail stores reported Thursday. After posting two monthly gains after more than a year of declines, the stores said sales dipped last month — a critical decline because it meant the holiday shopping season got off to a lackluster start.

The more positive news Thursday was the Labor Department's report that the number of newly laid-off workers filing for unemployment benefits fell for a fifth-consecutive week. It dropped to a seasonally adjusted 457,000 last week. That's the lowest total since the week of Sept. 6, 2008.

The government is expected to report today

that employers shed 130,000 jobs in November, fewer than the 190,000 jobs lost in October. But forecasters think the unemployment rate will remain at 10.2 percent, a 26-year high.

President Obama kicked off a White House jobs forum Thursday, saying he was "open to every demonstrably good idea" to reverse the rising tide of job losses. But with limited government resources, the private sector ultimately will have to lead.

"We have to be surgical, and we're going to have to be creative," Obama said.

Companies have been laying off fewer workers. But they have yet to ramp up hiring, and the jobless rate is expected to keep climbing, probably hitting 10.5 percent or higher by the middle of next year.

Official: Drug-war aid still on track

By CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
Associated Press

McALLEN, Texas — The U.S. ambassador to Mexico said Thursday that programs to provide more than \$1.1 billion in equipment and training to help Mexico fight organized crime are on track.

Ambassador Carlos Pascual's comments followed the release Thursday of a government report showing only around \$24 million of the aid had been spent by the end of September. Congress appropriated the first \$400 million for Mexico as part of the Merida Initiative in June 2008.

Pascual said expenditures had increased several times since the report was completed and noted that five new helicopters would be delivered to Mexico in a matter of weeks.

"The snapshot showed where we were, and the

snapshot is very different today; it's going to be radically different in two weeks," Pascual said.

"In any program there is a necessary lead time for obtaining the resources, for executing the contracts, for producing the necessary equipment, for training the people on their use, and that's what we've been doing now," he said. "And what you'll see over the course of the next year and a half is a radical change in the pace of the implementation."

The report by the Government Accountability Office blamed bureaucracy, conditions placed on the funds by Congress, and preparations in recipient countries for the slow implementation of the \$1.4 billion Merida Initiative. The initiative provides resources to Mexico and Central America as well as the Dominican Republic and Haiti to fight the drug war.

Mexico's Department of Foreign Relations North America Desk said in a statement to the Associated Press that "the government of Mexico is prepared, logistically and administratively, to receive that assistance and use it to strengthen our national strategy against international organized crime."

"The administration of President Felipe Calderon recognizes the commitment of U.S. President Barack Obama to speed up the delivery of equipment and training," the Thursday statement said.

When Congress approved the first \$400 million installment for Mexico in June 2008, more than 4,000 people had died in drug-related violence in that country since Calderon launched an offensive against the drug cartels in December 2006. The death toll now stands at nearly 14,000.

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Editorial

Remain steadfast in commitment to research, reject potential cuts

The UI's established identity as a top research institution is at stake.

The state Board of Regents has asked the university to examine if cuts to research awards, which are called Professional Development Assignments, are possible for next year. This proposal by the regents fails to recognize the importance of these opportunities and dismisses the positive outcomes they create for faculty. The UI should do whatever is in its means to thwart this attack on academic scholarship.

Professional Development Assignments allow faculty to focus on their scholarly work for a period ranging from one to three semesters over three years while being free from the obligation of teaching classes. In certain UI departments, specifically the humanities, this time provides one of the only opportunities to conduct research.

Katherine Tachau, a UI history professor and the Faculty Senate secretary, disagrees with the potential cut.

"I think it's a mistake," she said. "What the common public calls sabbaticals is when continuing education occurs."

Tachau understands this philosophy. However, the regents clearly fail to see the power these awards provide.

Universities should promote the continuing research of its professors. Engaged and motivated faculty members make for better teachers, thus providing a better quality of education for university students. Any proposal that impedes that all-important mission should be scrapped.

Research opportunities give faculty members an increased breadth of knowledge to draw upon, making their contributions to this university more substantial. Furthermore, national recognition of UI research efforts gives the school a positive reputation and raises its stature in the academic community.

The UI faculty realize the importance of these research periods. Indeed, Tachau said, they often

take on additional students to make up for a missing faculty member.

"If we are teaching larger classes because somebody is on leave, we expect they will do that for us," she said.

UI Provost Wallace Loh has made it clear that the UI administration opposes curtailing research funding. "State-supported research is absolutely essential for the research mission of the university," he told the *DI*.

The 56 applications officials will present next week at the regents' meeting will cost the university an estimated \$1.9 million, a total he has said the university should accept. That number may sound significant, but Tachau asserts that over an extended period of time, the departments bring in enough to nullify the \$1.9 million cost.

There is no denying that current budget cuts have put a considerable strain on state-funded appropriations. Nevertheless, cutting research grants is not the answer and is entirely antithetical to our educational objectives. The regents are obligated to promote the success and welfare of the state's top institutions.

Cutting these research opportunities would stunt the UI's growth and make it harder to attract top-level professors.

"There would be nothing to teach if this system broke down," Tachau said.

If the quality of education does not decrease because of these awards, then we should leave the system in place. The UI is a top-tier institution because every faculty member believes research is not just a job requirement but an important totality that enhances the education we provide on a daily basis.

We urge the regents to maintain our standards of excellence by allowing our faculty to continue to receive these research awards.

Your turn. Should the state Board of Regents consider eliminating or deferring research grant money to the UI? Weigh in on dailyiowan.com.

The misogyny of magazines

SAMANTHA MILLER
samantha-a-miller@uiowa.edu

"*Cosmopolitan* is the lifestyle for millions of fun, fearless females who want to be the best they can be in every area of their lives."

So the titular magazine explains on its website. Given this declaration of female empowerment and improvement, the reality of what one of the United States' most-purchased newsstand magazines chooses to highlight for its women clientele is disturbing.

Have you opened *Cosmopolitan* or any women's magazine lately? Actually, you needn't bother even opening it — reading its cover will, for all intents and purposes, prove my point. The content contained in such magazines — I'll use *Cosmopolitan* as my example since it's the top seller in this category — is more offensive than any of the not-so-subtly misogynistic content contained in popular men's magazines. (*Details* magazine's recent "Can You Still Afford to be a Player" story is a gem.)

What *Cosmopolitan* gets so wrong, even more so than most of its competition, is the belief that the area "fun, fearless females" should be singularly concerned with is the improvement of their romantic (notably, always heterosexual) relationships. Each month's cover stories, for example, are all so unabashedly aimed at making the reader more attractive to men and making men happy, it feels like it's trying to take its "fun, fearless female" readers and turn them into something closer to needy, insecure women who have lives that revolve around the desires — often the carnal ones — of men.

Let's take a moment to examine the amazing examples of journalism that are December's *Cosmopolitan* cover stories.

The top story, listed in the page's largest print, promises to reveal "his No. 1 sex wish" accompanied by another story meant to warn you of the "wacked-out things guys say in bed." And if the previously mentioned sex wish doesn't make the

men flock to you, no worries! *Cosmo* will reveal the "colors that make a man's heart race." His heart still not racing, ladies? Well, maybe stress is "turning you into a raging bitch" (really?), or perhaps you just need to "get rid of your muffin top" to catch his eye. Still no luck? Well, "love is harder in the winter," so maybe it's not all your fault you're not getting a man.

If you do manage to attract a man using some of the ridiculous suggestions listed in *Cosmopolitan*, you'll have plenty of opportunities to scare any normal guy off after reading way too much into his body language in the "what his hug reveals" story (if he "thumps your upper back" that means he's not into you — it's science.) If this happens, fear not, for next month's issue will give you plenty of new tips to make your life revolve around men once again.

And if for some crazy reason you're not in the mood to read about how to get your man and keep him? Well, uh, there is a story about the pop performer Fergie in the magazine ... and how she gets and keeps her man (you see, she's the "Madonna and the whore"). Sigh.

Cosmopolitan published its first issue in 1886, making it one of the United States' oldest magazines still in circulation. In its 100-plus years of circulation, did it not get the memo that women no longer need to revolve their life around the opposite sex to be "the best they can be" and be happy? It's not 1886 anymore, *Cosmopolitan*. Two feminist movements, women presidential candidates, female Supreme Court members, and great strides in education and the workforce separate women now from then.

So why hasn't this magazine evolved with the rest of us?

It just seems wrong that the nation's most popular women's magazine places so much emphasis on females making the opposite sex happy instead of making themselves happy. It seems to me this will not bring anyone a whole lot closer to being a "fun, fearless female" than it will being consumed with simply pleasing a member of the opposite sex. ■

Letters

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

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

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

The controversial Antichrist

I am the executive director of the Bijou and wish to expand upon our reasons for programming Lars von Trier's *Antichrist* in our fall program, because there has been some controversy over this film and our choices. Our board was indeed torn on this issue.

While the movie has been publicly condemned for its violent depiction of human sexuality and graphic displays of sexualized violence toward women, we have decided to program it, and we will screening it today through Dec. 10. While many of us at the Bijou feel that von

Trier's film is perhaps in bad taste, nobody on our board wishes to play the role of the censor. For that reason alone, we submit to the campus community a complicated cinematic work so that they might be the judge of what is "too far."

With that written, I must also include a warning: This new film is not for the faint of heart, and if you do feel that you may become offended at extreme graphic violence, I would urge you to reconsider before taking a seat in our audience. I hope this notice has been clarifying if nothing else.

Evan Meaney
Bijou executive director

In defense of the bars

The City Council must halt its attack on Iowa City nightlife.

I have been following the Summit's court case through *The Daily Iowan* closely, and I find the Iowa City City Council to be bullying one of its biggest tax contributors. Denying a bar's liquor license does not solve the underage drinking problem. The consequences of removing the Summit, and bars similar it, has unrealized ramifications. The space that it occupies is extremely expensive and demands a high-revenue business. If the council thinks that seeing bar after bar downtown is an eyesore, imagine what an eyesore "for rent" signs will be.

I realize that the council and the students here at the University of Iowa have very different interests about what an ideal downtown could be composed of. The council needs to realize that there are 26,000 students here between the ages of 18-22, and their interests are a vibrant social life and places open until 2 a.m., not quaint coffee shops and independent bookstores. The bars and the city have a symbiotic relationship. All their tax revenue goes towards clean streets, a beautiful campus, and police and firefighters. This game of cat and mouse must end.

Charles Francis
UI sophomore

Guest opinion

The end of the public university as we know it?

By STEFFEN SCHMIDT

As winter approaches and budget cuts are implemented, it all seems so calm around the Iowa City campus. The panhandlers are at work. Too much alcohol is being consumed. Football fever is in the air. The Coral Ridge Mall is bulging with holiday shoppers. The Old Capitol Town Center still has the worst website I've ever seen.

There is no sign that a Force 5 Budgetary Hurricane is about to hit.

We want to enact these cuts without disrupting services, but you really

can't do more with less. In fact, you can't even do the same with less. We will do less with less. It's the law, like gravity. When a hurricane hits, you get damage and lots of beach erosion. We are about to experience that fury.

The financial storm will be fully felt when students can't get classes because they've been canceled or can't get into a class because of overbooking like an airline at Christmas. Graduating in four years, never easy, will be that much harder.

Want to talk to your academic adviser? Get in line.

And you may be talking to a general adviser, not someone who is familiar with your major.

Then you'll want a letter of recommendation for that internship, graduate school, or job. Good luck.

For public universities these budget cuts are putting them "at a competitive disadvantage to top private universities in retaining faculty and academic rankings," as the *Washington Post* put it in a Sept. 12 article titled "Funding Cuts Leave Area Colleges Gasping."

Dan Hurlley of the American Association of

State Colleges and Universities said the long-term effect of public budget cuts is a gradual shift in state-supported higher education "from a public good to a privately purchased good."

University of North Carolina President Erskine Bowles recently said about budget cuts, "It takes generations to build a university system like we have here. And you can destroy it in a second if you don't nourish it and sustain it."

Public universities have become much more like fancy private schools, so in the future they may need

to cater to those who can afford the price.

With a potential increase in tuition and fees at Iowa's universities, that future is closer than we may think.

What does this all mean?

I believe that we may be witnessing the end of the public university as we know it.

After all, American and Iowa leaders are afraid to raise revenue because they fear the anti-tax movement. We are in the midst of an anti-big-government movement as well. State universities are painted as

big government by the anti-tax Tea Party folks. So capitalism and the market seem to be finally hitting public universities.

A friend of mine — who is an entrepreneur — said to me, "I guess this means no more drinkin' and partyin' at my expense." If that's the way you want to look at it.

If you want a Cadillac or a BMW, you pay the price.

Get out your credit card, kids.

Steffen Schmidt is professor of political science at Iowa State University and a chief political and international correspondent for insideriowa.com.



BRENNAN NORMAN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City resident Hicham Chehouani adjusts a light in the soon to be open Crêpes De Luxe Café on Wednesday. The cafe will open in the coming weeks; Chehouani will present a menu with many "sweet and savory" items.

Crêpes coming to Iowa City

A local café hopes to bring a taste of joie de vivre downtown.

By ADAM SALAZAR
adam-salazar@uiowa.edu

From the outside, the covered windows don't give much to the imagination for those passing by. But that isn't the case inside.

Brightly painted walls of yellow and green, a crimson floor path that leads to a row of brown tables and chairs, and countless boxes filled with white ceramic plates and cups sit atop a lengthy countertop that will serve pastries and a foreign delicacy many Iowans don't eat every day.

For two months now, the prospective location of Crêpes De Luxe Café, 309 E. College St., has been closed because of constant renovations to meet city standards. However, owner Hicham Chehouani said that the time is certainly near. He wants to open sometime this month before the holiday season.

Only a few minor details prevent Chehouani from opening Iowa City's first and only full-service crêperie.

A French pastry with origins in the Northwest region of Brittany, France, crêpes are a type of a very thin pancake made usually from wheat flour. The food usually has a sweet or savory filling depending on the season or if they're eaten as a meal or as a dessert.

Fillings include asparagus, eggs, ham, and cheese for savory crêpes, which are made with buckwheat

flour. Sweet varieties can have Nutella, strawberries, and sugar. Chehouani, a native of Rabat, Morocco, will offer at least 14 different varieties of crêpes along with an assortment of pastries, coffee, and a retail section.

Chehouani, who arrived in Iowa City in 2003 after living and working as a model in Chicago and Los Angeles, was first introduced to crêpes as a child when his mother worked as a nanny for a French family shortly after the country's colonial period.

Unknown to most Iowans, crêpes are very popular in the Francophonie — a group of countries that recognize French as an official or auxiliary language.

Chehouani said many locals have only seen crêpes at festivals and on television, and the idea fits well with the local culture.

"It's something unique and [Iowa City doesn't] have it here, and everyone craves it," the 37-year-old said.

Opening the restaurant was not without problems, however.

Chehouani said it was not until he signed the lease in early September that he found out about the multitude of regulations and the permits that are needed to pass building codes to operate. Miscommunication was another factor.

"The rules are so hard; nobody gave me any direction of where to go," he said

However, after a couple of months of going back

DAILYIOWAN.COM



Check out a video tour of the Crêpes De Luxe Café and interviews with Hicham Chehouani and William Watson.

to the drawing board and an infusion of capital from friends and family, Chehouani said he has no problems complying with the city's regulations and only wants to open his business.

"There is a lot of red tape, but we see it as our job to help people to navigate through that bureaucracy," said Jann Ream, the Iowa City Department of Housing and Inspection Services code enforcement assistant.

Ream said the reason Chehouani needed to meet so many regulations was because the site was undergoing a change, from a former retail store to a restaurant, that required some adjustments.

In an e-mail after an inspection on Wednesday, she said that apart from a few minor issues, she seems confident that the city will issue a certificate of occupancy.

Good news for UI senior William Watson of Waterloo, who is Chehouani's only employee at the moment. The two have been friends for quite some time, and Watson jumped on board because his interest and support of the concept. William's only previous experience with crêpes was in a high-school French class.

"I think it's going to be a big hit," he said.

Art auction aids kids

Marketing student Ebaa El Melik invests her energy in helping the children at UI Children's Hospital.

By SARAH LARSON
sarah-larson@uiowa.edu

Ebaa El Melik just wants to thank Iowa City.

The Qatar native has lived here for only four years, but in that time, she has developed a love for the town. So as her way of giving to the community, the graduating senior decided to hold an auction to benefit the UI Children's Hospitals. The event will take place Saturday at Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert St., with a reception beginning at 7 p.m. and the auction following at 8. Admission is \$20; tickets are available at Chait Galleries, 218 E. Washington St., Velvet Coat, 116 E. Washington St., and Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. DuBuque St.

Melik said she is excited about the upcoming event. She has an extraordinary amount of confidence in the local community and has high regard for both the artists and sponsors.

"You would not know how amazing Iowa City is until you do something that has to do with philan-

thropy, and you have everyone helping you," she said. "So I am just excited to raise a lot of money for the Children's Hospital this weekend."

A variety of art work, including drawings, paintings, prints, and photographs, created by various community members will be available for purchase. All proceeds will go specifically to the Child Life Program.

The Child Life Program's focus is to make children's stay as easy as possible by creating group activities, having one-on-one sessions with children, and helping families cope and handle stress.

"They are wonderful," Melik said. "It's a wonderful program."

She has spent her last few weeks as a UI student putting together the auction.

"The response I got was great," she said. "With such a short amount of time and to get so many artists, everyone is just so generous in Iowa City."

Allison Colton, a UI senior who will graduate soon, is one of the con-

AUCTION

When: 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
Admission: \$20, with all proceeds going to the Child Life Program at UI Children's Hospital

tributing artists. Her donation was a fall theme painting of leaves.

For Colton, the cause is personal: Her 4-year-old brother has leukemia. She has done various things to donate to the cause, such as participating in both Dance Marathon and Locks of Love. She hopes the auction will be picked up again next year, she said.

"I think it's a great idea," Colton said. "I love the fact that I'm able to be involved with it ... It just gives me hope to know that I'm helping out a little kid somewhere. I think it's going to be really successful, and I think it's just great to get involved with it."

FROM THE BLOG

ANIMAL COLLECTIVE

Brooklyn-based indie band Animal Collective has been criticized for being an obscure, overrated object of hipster worship.

Although the judgment may be true, it is undeniable that these guys produce a constant stream of music that is consistently improving. I honestly can't decide if the Collective's newest release, the five-song EP *Fall Be Kind*, has followed the pattern of its progressive past.

It's true that any new Animal Collective usually takes more than one listen to fully

appreciate and obsess over, but I was sold on *Merrweather Post Pavilion* after the first listen to "My Girls."

The standout track on the EP is obviously the woodwind-powered "What Would I Want? Sky," though I personally appreciate the eerie second-to-last track, "On a Highway." Panda Bear's vocals

melt over the synths resulting in a constant buildup in a track that never lets down, although the result is serenity rather than frustration.

The whole compilation is a lot less transcendent than *Merrweather*; it's kind of a sneak preview to a *Strawberry Jam* throwback, and I can't decide if I like this direction or not.

Also, I can't quite figure out if the cover art depicts a blurry grim reaper or something embryonic.

— by Bri LaPelusa

NATION

Vicki Kennedy recalls reading memoir with husband

BOSTON (AP) — Vicki Kennedy says her late husband never saw a completed copy of his memoir, but Sen. Edward M. Kennedy knew it by heart because "we had read the entire book aloud

to each other."

Continuing her public re-emergence after the senator's death, Vicki Kennedy told a crowd at the John F. Kennedy Library on Thursday that *True Compass* arrived at their Cape Cod home on Aug. 25. Edward Kennedy died late that evening of brain cancer.

"He didn't have a chance to see it in final book form, but he knew every word," said his

widow. "We had read the entire book aloud to each other."

The book was released to the public in September and is based on contemporaneous notes the liberal Democrat kept for more than 50 years. It contains his reflections on current events, meetings with world leaders and his famous political family and was propelled by an oral history project he began about five years ago.

Ride along with paramedics



and *The Daily Iowan* on Monday,

as we take a look at how downtown drinking is sending more to the hospital than ever before.

- Read the article in Monday's *DI*
- Learn what the Editorial Board thinks should be done
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- Watch Daily Iowan TV (UITV 17, campus channel 4) at 9:30 p.m. for a special report

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Regina busing still up in air

Parents and officials are trying to provide alternative solutions.

By **HOLLY HINES**
holly-hines@uiowa.edu

North Liberty resident Sharon Romans might have to pull her kids out of private school next year if the Iowa City School District cuts its bus service for students at the Regina Catholic Education Center.

She and her husband both work full-time, which could make it impossible to transport their elementary-age children to and from school, she said.

"A lot of parents will be in the same boat as we are," Romans said, and the potential change is concerning the Regina community.

Iowa City School Board members agreed, but did not vote, to stop K-12 busing for Regina students in the 2010-11 school year — which would save the district roughly \$260,000 — last spring, but recently, they decided to reconsider the decision. Though the School District plans to reimburse parents for transportation costs if the change takes effect, Regina Center President Carol Truog said the estimated \$190 each semester could be insufficient for some parents.

According to Iowa law, school districts must provide transportation or

reimbursement for private schools in the area. The local School District has provided busing for Regina for several decades.

Truog said if the district provides reimbursement rather than busing, it will meet the minimum requirement. But the community would be "in an uproar" if the district met only the minimum requirement for other programs, she said.

District administrators and Regina officials are discussing possible compromises to help save the district money while also meeting the community's transportation needs.

Superintendent Lane Plugge said officials are considering combining Regina and district students on the same buses in an effort to use transportation more efficiently.

Regina parent Jodi Keating said parents have a lot of ideas for some possible solutions. Some parents have suggested that Regina officials could provide transportation for students living far from the school, while the district would continue to bus those close by.

"It's frustrating for [parents] because we haven't gotten a chance to say or do much," Keating said.

However, Plugge said, it

Busing Requirements

The School District must provide busing or reimbursement to private schools in one of these ways:

- Transportation in a public-school bus
- Contract with private parties
- Provide a reimbursement for transportation costs
- Contract with another public school district

Source: Iowa Law 285.1

would be difficult to save that amount of money with a different cut, and district officials need to make an effort to reduce spending.

Of the 360 school districts in Iowa, only 92 provided busing for private schools last semester; 128 chose to reimburse parents, Plugge said.

Anthony Ross, the principal of the catholic school St. Joseph's in Marion, said he hasn't heard of any plans to cut that school's busing service, which is provided by the Marion Independent School District.

He said officials may need to discuss bus to help solve budget issues. But he would be concerned if the Marion district decided to stop busing private-school students.

"That's a pretty big deal, getting your kids to school in the morning," he said.

UI on watch for ghostwriters

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

Some medical research is haunted by a specter — a ghostwriter.

Ghostwriters are hired to write works that are published under another name — such as in the legions of celebrity autobiographies on bookstore shelves.

But ghostwriting can take a more serious turn when applied to medical research appearing in professional journals.

UI officials enacted policies in July prohibiting ghostwriting, which is grouped under the broader Conflict of Interest policies, said Deborah Thoman, the UI Hospitals and Clinics assistant vice president for compliance and accreditation. A committee is working on identifying ways in which the policy can be enforced.

"Monitoring sometimes is difficult, because it depends upon people's ability to be honest and forthright," Thoman said.

However, she said, the UI plans to monitor the websites of drug companies, which publish money paid to professors. If a UI professor's name shows up on the website but the payment is not disclosed to university officials, the professor will receive a warning letter. In some instances, professors

are paid to sign their name on an article, said UI obstetrics Professor Jennifer Niebyl. Other consequences are possible, but she said plans are not completed.

Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, is investigating ghostwriting policies at the top-10 medical schools, and within the last month, he has sent letters seeking explanations of their policies. Grassley has also asked drug companies and medical journals their policies on the practice.

The ghostwriting criticized by Grassley involves drug companies paying researchers to study and report on products and then publish the information under the name of a prestigious researcher. As part of the national health-care bill under consideration by the U.S. Senate, drug companies would be required to report all money paid to physicians, said Jill Kozeny, Grassley's communications director.

Practicing physicians make decisions based on information from these journals, she said.

In a study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, roughly 11 percent of almost 500 research articles studied appeared to be written by ghost authors.

Despite the difficulty in policing the policy, UI Health Care received an A from the American Medical Student Association PharmFree Scorecard, Jennifer Brown, an associate editor for UI Strategic Communications, wrote in an e-mail.

UI ghostwriting policy

The UI recently revamped its Conflict of Interest policies, which include regulations on ghostwriting:

- May 2008: UI Office of Internal Audit report recommends strengthening the policy.
- January 2009: UI announces new policy.
- July: UI implements policy.
- Sept. 29: More than 99 percent of UI Health Care employees have completed a disclosure form, with 4 percent disclosing an outside relationship.
- Oct. 31: UI makes public disclosure database.
- Now: UI is completing plans for managing conflicts of interests.

Source: Jennifer Brown, editor, UI Strategic Communications

The association reviewed 149 medical schools across the nation. Only 10 other schools received As.

Articles sponsored by drug companies might contain biased information, Niebyl said. Having an undisclosed corporate ghostwriter floating behind the scenes to direct the pen can be a problem.

"You can take it with a grain of salt if you see it was written by the pharmacies," she said.

Thoman said she viewed the policies as important in maintaining patient's trust in the hospitals.

"They want to know the physician's first priority is them, not the money they are getting from someplace else," Thoman said.

STATE

Iowa woman accused of shoplifting 418 items

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — An Iowa woman is accused in a South Dakota shoplifting case that authorities say involved more than just a few items stuffed in a pocket. Sioux Falls police said a 51-year-old woman allegedly took \$2,200 worth of items from the Lewis Drug Store, hauling stolen merchandise to her car in bags and then returning to the store for more.

Officers say they found 418 stolen items in her car, ranging from books to jewelry.

The woman was charged with felony grand theft.

Ohio dismemberment killer files new delay request

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A condemned Ohio man asked a federal judge Thursday for an emergency order to stop next week's planned

execution, arguing the state is rushing too fast to use its new, one-drug lethal injection process.

Kenneth Biros said the untested method announced last month could jeopardize his right to an execution that does not constitute cruel and unusual punishment.

Biros, 51, says moving ahead with the process would amount to human experimentation with a system never used before in the United States "or any other civilized country."

Biros is concerned the method "will not result in the dignified,

humane, quick, and painless death that is required by the federal and state constitutions," his attorneys said in Thursday's court filing.

Biros has also challenged the one-drug method in federal court and also asked a federal appeals court in Cincinnati to delay Tuesday's execution.

Biros killed 22-year-old Tami Engstrom near Warren in 1991 after he offered to drive her home from a bar, then scattered her body parts in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

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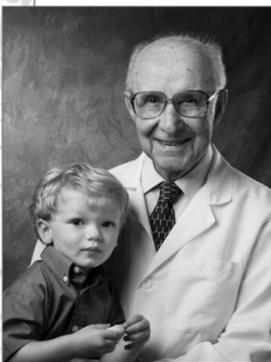
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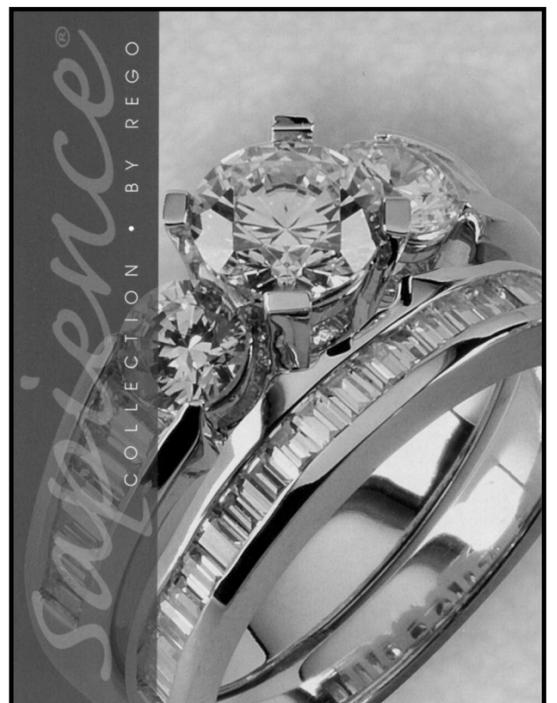
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GYMNASTICS

The Iowa men's and women's gymnastics teams begin the 2009-10 season with intrasquad meets on Saturday. **3B**

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Washington 6, Florida 2
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GYMNASTICS

Men's gymnastics inks 2

For the first time in head coach Tom Dunn's 30-year career, an Iowa City native will compete on the Iowa men's gymnastics team starting in 2011.

Dunn announced two gymnasts, Iowa City native Lance Alberhasky and Aurora, Ill., native Angelo Bronzino, signed national letters of intent for the 2011 season.

"We are very excited about our commitments from Lance and Angelo," Dunn said in a statement. "Both athletes are just beginning to come into their own, and the Hawkeyes will reap the benefits of their progress during the next four years."

Alberhasky, from Regina High, won state on the pommel horse, rings, and parallel bars as a junior, and he is expected to do the same this season. The Iowa City native has also qualified for the Junior Olympic Championships for the last seven years.

Bronzino, from Batavia High School, Ill., competes on the Bartlett Gymnastics Club. Three other Hawkeyes, sophomore Blaine Klaczak and freshmen Matt McGrath and Timm Krueger, are also alumni from the Bartlett Club, which won the 2009 National Club Championships.

Bronzino is also a five-time qualifier for the Junior Olympic Championships.

— by Clark Cahill

NFL

Jets top Bills

TORONTO (AP) — Mark Sanchez threw a go-ahead touchdown pass to Braylon Edwards before hurting his right knee, and the New York Jets' stingy defense finished the job in a 19-13 win over the Buffalo Bills on Thursday night.

Sanchez went 7 of 15 for 104 yards and a 13-yard scoring strike to Edwards that put the Jets up 16-10 late in the first half. But the rookie first-round pick was knocked out of the game when he injured his knee diving headfirst on an 8-yard run early in the third quarter.

Jay Feely hit four field goals, including a 49-yarder, as the Jets (6-6) won their second straight game.

The Bills (4-8) struggled in the second half, when their offense was limited to 36 yards and four first downs.

After Rian Lindell hit a 32-yard field goal to cut the Jets' lead to 19-13 with 5:28 left, the Bills were unable to muster a threat on their final possession.

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 discusses the most memorable moments from the Hawkeyes' 10-2 regular season.

No. 1 Iowa (7-0) vs. No. 2 Iowa State (1-0)

DEC. 6, HILTON COLISEUM, AMES, 6 P.M., TV: IOWA PUBLIC TELEVISION, RADIO: KXIC AM-800



FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa 165-pounder Ryan Morningstar defeats Iowa State's Jon Reader, 2-0, during the Iowa wrestling team's 20-15 win over the Cyclones in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 6, 2008.

Unfazed Hawks head to ISU

A confident Iowa wrestling team will face No. 2 Iowa State on Dec. 6 in Hilton Coliseum.

By J.T. BUGOS
joseph-bugos@uiowa.edu

Iowa head wrestling coach Tom Brands spoke to his team before practice on Wednesday, emphasizing that the Hawkeyes would need a sense of urgency this weekend when they travel to Ames to face the second-ranked Iowa State Cyclones on Dec. 6.

In a No. 1 versus No. 2 matchup, Iowa doesn't feel any pressure. Senior 149-pounder Brent Metcalf said there must be added awareness — especially when pitted against a ranked opponent.

Brands said pressure to perform is only a factor when wrestlers let it become one.

"It's something you deal with every day," the fourth-year Iowa head coach said. "You deal with it, you get ready to wrestle, and you wrestle. Pressure is the same on both sides, and pressure is a catalyst."

Wrestling in a hostile Hilton Coliseum won't faze the Hawkeyes, either. In fact, Metcalf said, the unfriendly crowd will make the meet more fun.

Two years ago, Iowa ventured to Ames and upset the then-top-ranked Cyclone party, and the two-time Big Ten champion enjoys going into another team's territory and winning — the biggest factor to quieting a raucous crowd.

Metcalf said Iowa needs to win in weight classes the team is favored in and win the ones they aren't.

Senior 197-pounder Chad Beatty noted the reason he is in the sport is for the big moments, such as the one he'll experience this weekend. The Wilton, Iowa, native said the Hawkeyes draw big crowds and compete under harsh conditions regularly, so he embraces a packed house.

Beatty will wrestle one of Iowa State's four

Probable matchups:

125 — No. 16 Matt McDonough (I) vs. No. 12 Andrew Long (ISU)
133 — No. 4 Daniel Dennis (I) vs. No. 5 Nick Fanthorpe (ISU)
141 — No. 7 Dan LeClere (I) vs. No. 2 Nick Gallick/Dalton Jensen (ISU)
149 — No. 1 Brent Metcalf (I) vs. No. 15 Mitch Mueller (ISU)
157 — Aaron Janssen/Jake Kerr/Matt Ballweg (I) vs. Nate Carr Jr./Andrew Sorenson (ISU)
165 — No. 4 Ryan Morningstar (I) vs. No. 5 Jon Reader (ISU)
174 — No. 2 Jay Borschel (I) vs. No. 12 Duke Burk (ISU)
184 — No. 2 Phillip Keddy (I) vs. Joe Curran/No. 18 Jerome Ward (ISU)
197 — No. 10 Chad Beatty (I) vs. No. 1 Jake Varner (ISU)
Hwt. — Jordan Johnson (I) vs. No. 5 David Zabriskie (ISU)

returning All-Americans in senior Jake Varner. Currently No. 1 in his weight class, Varner is the reigning 197-pound national champion.

SEE WRESTLING, 4B

Iowa (6-3) vs. Michigan (5-2)

DEC. 6, CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, 5 P.M., TV: BIG TEN NETWORK, RADIO: WMT AM-600, KXIC AM-800, WHO AM-1040

Women hoopsters set for Michigan

The Iowa women's basketball team will host Michigan in its Big Ten season-opener in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 6.

By EVELYN LAU
evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

Youth has carried the Iowa women's basketball team thus far in the season.

Playing short-handed because of injuries to three starters, the Hawkeyes (5-3) will try to get back to winning when they start their Big Ten season against Michigan (4-2) in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 6.

Iowa is 41-11 in the all-time series against the Wolverines, and it has won 12 of the last 13 meetings, including the last four.



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa freshman Jaime Printy races towards the hoop during the Iowa women's basketball game against Washburn in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Nov. 8. Printy scored eight points in 24 minutes of play.

"They're a very athletic team," head coach Lisa Bluder said. "They have a bigger center. They are probably a better defense team [than Boston College]. They're a very quick team."

After starting two sophomores and three freshmen during the last three games, the Hawkeyes have gone 1-2, the most recent defeat coming against Boston College in

the ACC/Big Ten Challenge. Despite the loss, Bluder was still proud of what she saw from her squad.

"I feel like we had an opportunity to tie it up at the end of the game," she said. "We had an opportunity, and that's what you want to be in. You want to be in that situation."

SEE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, 4B

Iowa (2-5) vs. Prairie View A&M (3-3)

SATURDAY, CARVER-HAWKEYE ARENA, 3:05 P.M., TV: MEDIACOM CONNECTIONS (CHANNEL 22 FOR IOWA CITY VIEWERS), RADIO: KXIC AM-800

Hawkeye men to host Prairie View

Coming off a six-point loss to Virginia Tech, Iowa will host Prairie View A&M on Saturday.

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

Through the Iowa men's basketball team's first five games, the squad's poor shooting was widely linked to its worst start in 80 years. The Hawkeyes only shot above 34 percent in two of those games, and their well-documented struggles beyond the arc didn't help their sputtering offense.



Lickliter
coach

But over Iowa's last two games, Todd Lickliter's group has, in some senses, found its offensive mojo, shooting 50-of-105 (48 percent). In the

Hawkeyes' 70-64 Tuesday loss to Virginia Tech at home, sophomore Anthony Tucker made six 3-pointers and netted 24 points.

Tucker and Company will host Prairie View A&M (3-3) at 3:05 p.m. Saturday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena to see if they can continue their streaky shooting and get their third win of the season.

"[Tucker is] a pretty good shooter, and you saw what he could do when his shot is on," freshman Brennan Coughill said after the Virginia Tech game. "That's something we're going to be able to expect out of Tucker. When he gets into a rhythm, he's a pretty tough guy to guard."

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, 4B



Intramurals

Favre shines in dodge-ball final

Intramural flag-football champs show they have what it takes on the dodge-ball court.

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

The idea of Minnesota Viking quarterback Brett Favre facing comedian Bob Saget in a sporting event is most likely impossible.

But in UI intramural sports, anything can happen.

The matchup became a reality at the Field House on Thursday evening when Favre's Favorites faced Team Bob Saget in the intramural dodge-ball championship in the best game since Average Joes played Globo Gym in *Dodge Ball: A True Underdog Story*.

Despite struggling in the final matches, Favre's Favorites held on to defeat Team Bob Saget, 10-7. Extremely fast-paced, each championship match lasted no longer than two minutes.

Also the All-University champion in intramural flag-football, the Favre's Favorites players showed they also have what it takes



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

(From left) intramural dodge-ball champions seniors Nick McCoy, A.J. Palash, and Derek Johnson throw dodge balls at teammate Jed Seward (not pictured) shortly after winning the championship game in the Field House on Thursday. Their team, Favre's Favorites, beat Team Bob Saget, 10-7, to capture the title.

on the dodge-ball court.

The squad — made up of seniors Derek Johnson, Nick McCoy, Jed Seward, and A.J. Palash — knows what it takes to win titles. This is the second-consecutive season Johnson has been a dodge-ball champ, and McCoy has also won the event three different times.

Johnson said he doesn't play dodge ball or any other intramural sports for the titles.

"It's just a lot of fun," he said. "I like throwing balls at people in proximity."

Getting to the title game was no easy task for either

squad. Both faced tough semifinal matchups.

Several calls came into question during Team Bob Saget's semi-final game. The opposing squad, Trojan +1, got into numerous arguments with the Team Bob Saget players regarding calls during the game.

Without any referees, the players are left to officiate on their own, opening the door for potential arguments.

But Johnson said there normally aren't many arguments on the court.

"Sometimes you just need to stop and talk about it really quick," he said. "If

one person sees it one way, and another guy sees it another way, then we just talk it out. It's usually no big deal."

Team Bob Saget overcame the arguments to defeat Trojan +1, 10-8, and Favre's Favorites beat Hit Squad in its semifinal, 10-7.

Favre's Favorites jumped out to an early 8-3 lead in the championship game thanks to great dodging skills. But Team Bob Saget stormed back to win four matches in a row with the aid of solid play from seniors Aaron Friederick and Weston Dunlap.

"They played tough in those final matches," McCoy said. "But we dug deep and fought back to win it. I'm proud of the way we played."

One of the keys to Favre's Favorites success was starting with two of the three dodge balls at the beginning of each match. The winner of the prior match gets the advantage of starting the next game with two.

Friederick said it was nearly impossible to mount a comeback when his team only had one ball throughout many of the matches. Favre's Favorites stuck to the strategy of trying to get

Team Bob Saget to throw the ball first, leaving Team Bob Saget at a huge disadvantage.

Team Bob Saget player Weston Slater summarized the title game best.

"The ball just didn't bounce our way," he said.

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Trumpeters horn in

Lego My Ego outlasts Apes in 3-on-3 losers' bracket game.

By IAN MARTIN
ian-martin@uiowa.edu

People in marching band are not typically thought of in an athletic light.

Yet Lego My Ego, a team made up of trumpeters in the Hawkeye Marching Band, defeated a deep Apes team in a loser's bracket game of the intramural 3-on-3 basketball tournament Thursday night in the Field House.

Lego My Ego — a team named after a "trumpet inside joke," players say — won the contest thanks in large part to strong rebounding performances. The team totaled 57 boards in the two games played, including 18 offensive rebounds, and 32 overall, from sophomore Thad Reeves.

"Thad is a monster," Ego junior Will Downey said.

Teammate Michael Boehm agreed.

"Yeah, just a beast," he said. Apes' Torry Holt, who sported Wolverine-esque sideburns during the game, said boxing out was the biggest reason for his team's defeat.

Down low, Reeves often snared the ball and dished it out to the senior Boehm. The lanky former high-school player drained 18 of his team's 30 total points, many

of them shots or penetrations off high screens from other Lego My Ego players.

The team also dealt with physical play from its opponents, which left nothing uncontested in the key.

The Apes, whose players got together because they are members of the Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity, also contributed to their own demise, missing a few putback opportunities in both games.

But there were bright spots, including a performance from freshman Zach Homer, who scored five points in the second game. Teammate James Hanovnikian shone, as well, with four scores.

As a team of five, Apes seemed to hold an advantage when it came to fatigue. While the squad was at a disadvantage in height, it boasted players with size.

Junior Gustav "Hurricane" Anderson tried to dominate down low. Homer also looked to have a post-worthy body, but he stepped out to take longer shots.

When the shots were on, the Apes were in control. The team took a lead early in the second game, 5-1. They then held a 10-6 lead for a long part of the set,



LAURA WILLIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa junior Will Downey (left) and senior Michael Boehm of Lego My Ego block junior James Hanovnikian (middle) of the Apes as he attempts to shoot during the 3-on-3 basketball tournament on Thursday.

which took more than 40 minutes to complete.

While Lego My Ego did win in straight games, the tedious contest took more than an hour of time. Lego My Ego ended the game on a 7-3 run.

"You just have to keep hustling," Boehm said. "Even when [your scoring] is in a dry spell."

Lego My Ego's win had

the group playing again in another tournament game later Thursday night.

Despite being eliminated from the tournament, the Apes' players said they want to play during the five-on-five season in the spring semester.

"I think we'll keep the core of the team together," Holt said. "But we'll also go out and get some athletes."

WOMENS TRACK

Tracksters face each other

Half of the team will experience their first college-level competition.

By MICHÈLE DANNO
michele-danno@uiowa.edu

Members of the Iowa women's track team will look at their teammates as competitors this weekend during the team's intra-squad meet. The annual event will open the harriers' season at home.

Although there is only one team competing, Iowa head coach Layne Anderson said the meet is run like any other during the regular season.

He said the women are placed in their various events and are marked, measured, and timed accordingly. The results are compiled and analyzed by coaches at the end.

"It is a good opportunity to evaluate everyone and to get an idea of how much progress they've made from fall conditioning," he said.

Because half the team this year is composed of freshmen, the meet gives the newcomers an opportunity to compete for the first time at the college level without the stress of being in a real meet.

Freshman long and triple jumper Leia Scott said she is expecting a lot out of herself. But she said she is going to channel her emotion and use it as a motivational source.

"All pressure is good pressure," she said. "Of course I'm nervous, but that's expected. My nerves

are just excitement."

Even with the her teammates competing against one another, she said, she doesn't expect the mood of the team to change.

Junior middle distance runner Bethany Praska agreed, noting that past years have proven the meet to be beneficial. However, one change from the past couple years is the size of the team, which markedly increased with the addition of this year's 23-person recruiting class.

The freshmen have helped fill events the team couldn't fill last year, Praska said.

"There are so many more people to push you this year," she said. "I think everyone will challenge each other."

While the Hawkeye fledglings will compete

against their upper-class counterparts over the weekend, Praska said, they will later add a great deal of competition to the Big Ten this season.

With last season's 11th-place finish in the Big Ten lingering over the Hawkeyes' heads, they are out to redeem themselves.

Anderson said the tracksters feel confident in their ability to be more of a threat in the Big Ten this year.

Although the Hawkeyes do not start competing officially until January 2010, the squad can use the results from the weekend meet as a training mechanism over the winter break.

"If they do well, we would like to see them go home and train to maintain their present level of fitness," Anderson said.

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as we take a look at how downtown drinking is sending more to the hospital than ever before.

- Read the article in Monday's *DI*
- Learn what the Editorial Board thinks should be done
- Log on to dailiowan.com for an eye-opening multimedia piece
- Watch Daily Iowan TV (UITV 17, campus channel 4) at 9:30 p.m. for a special report

Young GymHawks ready to swing

The Iowa women's gymnastics team will try to pick up some experience at Saturday's meet.

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

With its season on the brink of beginning, the Iowa women's gymnastics team will begin Saturday when the Hawkeyes compete against themselves.

The gymnasts will split up for their Black and Gold intrasquad meet in the Field House beginning at 2 p.m.

Head coach Larissa Libby is looking for consistency above all else from her young team this winter.

"That's kind of why we do the whole Black and Gold team intrasquad," she said. "It just gives us a better idea of what they'll do under the gun. In practice, anyone can be good, but when the green flag goes up, then we'll know what we're made of."

Although injuries caused the GymHawks to fall short of Libby's expectations last season, the one positive the fifth-year head coach took from the 2008-09 campaign was that the newcomers gained experience. Growth and development will be a major key this season — especially with only one returning senior in Jenny Donar.

The bulk of Iowa's routines will come from the freshman and sophomore classes, Libby said. After a terrific freshman season, sophomore Jessa Hansen will try to play a big role for the Hawkeyes.

"I think we're starting to put it together," said Hansen, a member of the Gold team. "Everyone's starting to realize our goals for the season. We're just trying to get further than last season. We were setting the standard. Now, we're trying to go higher this year."

Hansen said she has been training to compete in all four events — vault, uneven bars, balance beam, and floor exercise — to help the team. Balance in all four events is something Libby noted as an early strength.

Both on the Black team for the meet, juniors Andrea Hurlburt and Kelly Galau are enthusiastic about the upcoming season.

"I'm looking forward to seeing how far we can go together as a whole and



JOE SCOTT/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa gymnast Jessa Hansen competes on the balance beam in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 31. The GymHawks will field a very young team this season, and coach Larissa Libby hopes the gymnasts learn quickly.

individually and seeing if we can expand on our goals from last year and become better," Galau said. "This year, we have a lot more experience, so I think that will come in handy."

Because of the team's youth, Hurlburt said, Iowa will peak later in the season. However, the youngsters have impressed the third-year Hawkeye so far with their work ethic.

"Sometimes pressure is good," Hurlburt said. "Most of our freshmen and sophomores have really, really stepped up this year. I don't think successful gymnasts come from timid people. It's the type of people who thrive under pressure, and so, this is a good chance for all the new girls to shine."

The contradiction of youth and experience has Libby telling the Hawkeyes that, basically, the sky is the limit for this year's group.

"This is a pretty fun team," she said. "They're the right kids, but they have a hard time seeing themselves as champions yet. It's hard to train kids who have no idea how good they are. It's our job to pull that out of them. I think if we're going to establish an identity. Maybe in the beginning it's going to be the 'quiet noise.'"

Iowa aims to establish itself in the Big Ten first before looking ahead to tournament time, Libby said. It all starts with the intrasquad meet, in which the Hawkeyes will learn a

BLACK AND GOLD INTRA-SQUAD MEET

When: 2 p.m. Saturday
Where: Field House

Black roster:

Jenny Donar
Arielle Sucich
Rebecca Simbhudas
Kelly Galau
Emma Stevenson
Andrea Hurlburt
Jordan Eszlinger
Heather Fomon
Olivia Beatty

Gold roster:

Houry Gebeshian
Annie Szatkowski
Jessa Hansen
Amy Center
Rachel Corcoran
Melissa Miller
Rachel Nash
Jennie Schurman
Kaitlynn Urano

lot about being a new team before its first meet, at Michigan on Jan. 9, 2010.

"We've tried to tell the girls not to make goals that are lofty and unrealistic," Libby said. "Yeah, everybody wants to go to the national championship. So what? How are you going to get there?"

"That's how we try to set the culture and the precedent of our team based on how you establish the groundwork to achieve those goals. If you don't have the base, you can't do anything. Whatever happens after that is just icing on the cake."

Men gymnasts raise the difficulty

The Iowa men's gymnastics team has worked on improving its start values to battle tough competition.

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

A top-10 ranking in the nation usually means a team is in the upper-echelon of its conference and should have a record to prove it at the end of the season.

For the Iowa men's gymnastics team, that is not quite the case.

The Hawkeyes are the No. 10 team in the nation, according to the preseason coaches' poll. But they find themselves looking up at the only other five teams in the conference — No. 4 Michigan, No. 5 Illinois, No. 6 Penn State, No. 7 Ohio State, and No. 8 Minnesota.

"If you do well in the Big Ten, you do well in the NCAA championships," head coach Tom Dunn said. "There are no weak links. They are all strong, but that is the road we have to take."

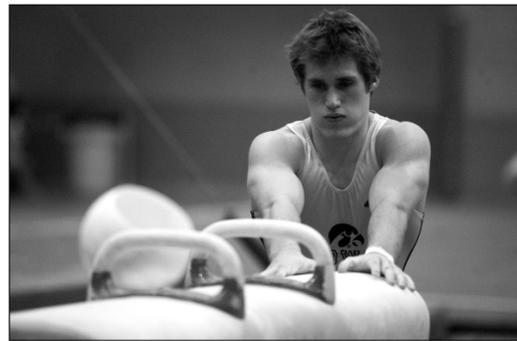
Despite a No. 11 national ranking at season's end, the Hawkeyes sported only a 4-10 record and finished in sixth place, dead last, at last year's conference championship.

In order to combat the brutal Big Ten competition the Hawkeyes will face this season, Dunn decided each team member had to improve his start values — maximum amount of points one can receive according to difficulty of a routine — for each event.

"We have to perform at a higher level than we did last year," Dunn said. "I think we have done a good job learning new skills, and things are coming together."

Senior Jon Buese, who qualified for the individual NCAA championships in the all-around last season, said improving the difficulty of his routines has been a good experience.

"It is kind of stressful



FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa junior Jon Buese prepares to mount the pommel horse during the men's gymnastics teams' meet against the University of Illinois-Chicago on Jan. 24. Buese took first in the all-around during the meet with a total score of 81.55.

learning new skills," he said. "But our coaches have been on us a lot more about it, so it makes you want to do better."

The Hawkeyes lost their only All-American, Geoff Reins, to graduation, which, Dunn said, leaves the team with one less consistent high-scorer.

"He hardly ever missed. He was like a rock," he said. "I think we have guys who might be as good, but we'll miss that solid score you can always count on."

Despite Reins' absence, Dunn believes the team will be better overall because of an increase in depth.

"We've struggled in the past couple years with smaller rosters and injuries, so there was no competition for spots," he said. "If we keep the roster size bigger and have that competition, the guys on the bubble are going to get better and be pushed harder."

Buese agreed with the coach about the potential for heavy competition.

"The average scores are going to be higher, so you are going to have to bring something good to the table," he said.

Adding to the team's

depth are six freshmen, including Anton Gryshayev and Matt "Chewy" McGrath, who Dunn believes will be able to have an immediate effect on the team. Both have potential to make to the NCAA championships individually.

The Hawkeyes will unofficially begin their season on Saturday in the Black & Gold intrasquad meet.

Dunn said the competition is a great signifier of where the team's progress is before officially beginning the season in Chicago at the Windy City Invitational on Jan. 16, 2010.

"There is always a conflict between learning new skills, increasing your difficulty, and then putting it all together for a competition," he said. "We will have judges to give us the real story about what we are worth at this time."

Gryshayev said he is anxious to see where he stands.

"I need to see what adjustments need to be made to help the team," he said. "It will be good to see where we are and what we have to do to be better than we were last year."

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Men's track ready to roll

The Iowa men's track and field team unofficially begins the 2009-10 season with its annual intrasquad meet on Dec. 6 at 4 p.m.

By **JAKE KRZECZOWSKI**
jacob.krzeczowski@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's track and field team will begin its season with its annual intrasquad meet in the Recreation Building at 4 p.m. Dec. 6.

The meet is a cherished part of Iowa head coach Larry Wiecek's season. It allows to see his team in a competitive setting before going against other squads.

The meet also provides student-athletes a manageable segue between fall training and winter competitions.

"You have practice on the one hand and competition on the other hand," Wiecek said. "This is kind of the middle ground where you can see those nerves, put the jerseys on, yet be competing against your teammates."

The distance portion of the team that competed in the cross-country season during the fall will be held out of the weekend's meet to allow the runners an extended break before competing once again.

While everyone on the team excites Wiecek,

the newcomers have truly gotten his blood racing.

Jeffrey Herron, a transfer from Texas-San Antonio, could have an immediate effect in his first year with the Hawkeyes. Having jumped a career-best 6-10 at his conference meet last year, he should bring bounce to his coach's step in the coming months.

The new crop of freshmen includes Schaumburg, Ill., native Kyle Reid, a decathlete, Ethan Holmes, an Iowa state champion hurdler from Clinton, and Kevin Dibbern, a product of City High and one of the state's best 400 runners.

Sunday's meet will not only be for the youngsters, though. Seniors Adam Hairston, Paul Chaney Jr., and Ray Varner return to lead the Hawkeyes after stellar 2008 campaigns that ended in the semifinals of the NCAA national meet.

As a leader for younger members of the team, Hairston is far from worried about any possible trouble as the season gets underway.

"I think we're pretty

INTRASQUAD MEET

When: 4 p.m. Dec. 6
Where: Recreation Building

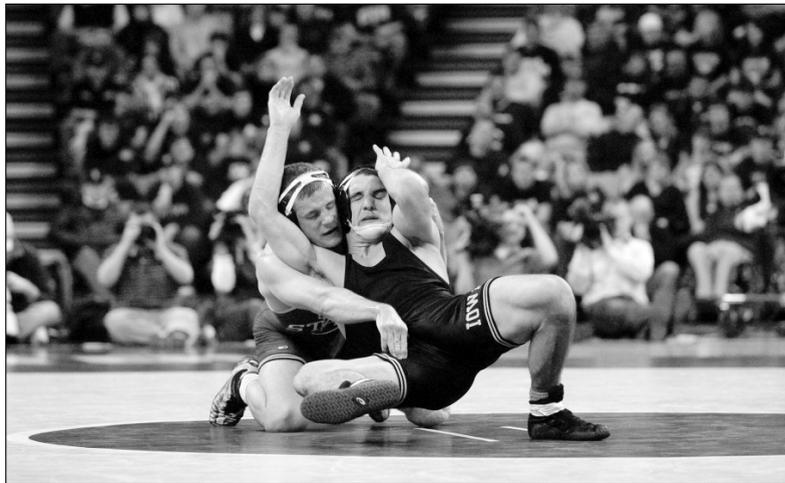
strong all around," he said. "I think this is one of the best all-around teams we've had since I've been here — from the distances to the throws.

"We had a lot of regional qualifiers, and Ray and I qualified for nationals, so that's something we can build off as a strength."

The meet will also allow team members to shake off whatever dust, rust, or cobwebs that may have accumulated since the end of last season.

The team will officially open competition on Jan. 9, 2010, in a dual meet against Illinois in Champaign, Ill. The general feeling among the Hawkeyes is that January can't come soon enough.

"I'm just looking forward to competing again," Hairston said. "It's been a while, since June. Just looking forward to getting back on the track in a competitive atmosphere and seeing where my fitness is at after the fall training."



FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa 149-pounder Brent Metcalf defeats Iowa State's Mitch Mueller during the Iowa wrestling team's 20-15 win over the Cyclones on Dec. 6, 2008, in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

WRESTLING

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Beatty hasn't faced Varner during his career, but he is confident his coaches have prepared him well, and he is excited about the opportunity.

Brands said the wrestlers won't need to be perfect to be victorious. Rather, he's looking for them to be tough.

"We need to be tough in tough situations," he said. "Toughness is what wins a lot of these matches. It's a big match, but it's going to

come down to toughness." Additionally, all the accolades each team has received become null, Brands said. If the Hawkeyes are ready, compete at a high level, and wrestle to their potential, he said he likes the chances of Iowa earning numerous victories.

In order for the Hawkeyes to widen the gap against a squad ranked directly behind them, Brands said, they must build their leads through the seven minutes of regulation.

Iowa has won the last four meetings with its in-state

rival, including a 20-15 win last year in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The Hawkeyes are confident that if they're ready to go when they step on the mat in Hilton Coliseum, the marquee match will give the squad five-straight wins.

"We have to wrestle smart and hard, and if we do that, good things will happen," Beatty said. "We have to go out and perform. Nothing is given to us, and they aren't going to lie down. We know they're hungry, and they're coming after us. We have to stick it right back to them."

MEN'S BASKETBALL,

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Even with the sophomore's career-high-tying contributions, Iowa couldn't keep the Hokies from going on a key 8-0 second-half spurt that gave them seven-point lead with 4:32 remaining.

The same story line was present in each of the Hawkeyes' last three losses. Tied at the half against then-No. 3 Texas in Kansas City, Lickliter's team gave up a 17-0 run, succumbing to the Longhorns' athleticism and size advantage. Texas went on to win, 85-60, in the Sprint Center.

A night later, Wichita State's 13-2 first-half run gave the Shockers just enough of a cushion to put Iowa away for good.

"We kind of got — not lazy — but relaxed, which we've got to really work on," freshman point guard

Cully Payne said after the loss to Virginia Tech.

Prairie View has experienced scoring problems of its own. Up 46-36 in the second half at Cincinnati on Nov. 16, the Panthers didn't score another point for eight minutes. By the time Darnell Huges hit a basket with 7:53 remaining in the game, Prairie View A&M had lost its lead.

Bryon Gimm's team fell, 69-62, to the Bearcats.

In the last week-and-a-half, the Panthers have lost to No. 19 Texas A&M and Oklahoma State by a combined 47 points. Their three wins came over Schreiner, Florida Gulf Coast, and Champion Baptist College.

But Prairie View won't get any sympathy from the Hawkeyes, who have only tasted victory twice this year.

"I think we played well enough to win," Tucker said after the Virginia Tech game. "It's disheartening when you look up and there's four seconds left, and you're down six points. But we've got to bounce

back; we've got to get better in practice."

An important cog in the Hawkeye offense, forward Aaron Fuller, has only played seven minutes in the last five games as he continues to heal from an ankle injury suffered against Bowling Green. He could see more floor time on Saturday.

Without Fuller, the Hawkeyes have continued to inch closer to becoming a more complete squad, according to those on the team. Payne said, "We were better [against Virginia Tech] than we were against Wichita State, which is a plus."

Lickliter said, "My thing with this team has been improvement, continue to grow, and accept tough situations. We're going to have plenty of tough situations. This is a great group of guys. They play the game the right way, and if they keep doing it, then — not by luck — they're going to make good things happen."

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1B

Staying healthy has been a difficult task for the Hawkeyes.

Senior JoAnn Hamlin was the first to go down after suffering a blood clot in her right leg. While she has gotten the clot removed, the Douglass, Kan., native will be out for the entire season. Sophomore guard Hannah Draxten is also questionable after suffering a herniated disc in her lower back.

But the absence of junior guard Kachine Alexander, who suffered a stress fracture in her right leg on Nov. 18, is perhaps the biggest. Alexander has been the team's leading scorer and rebounder, averaging a double-double with 21 points and 15.7 boards in three games played.

She is expected to miss around a month with the injury.

Kamille Wahlin has led the Hawkeyes in her place. The sophomore scored double figures in the last five games, and she averages 18.4 points this season, ranking third in the Big Ten.

"I think Kamille's always been a tremendous player," Bluder said. "I think now, it's kind of like the realization that, 'Hey, you have to do this. You've got to carry this load for us.' I think it's a realization she needs to step up.



BRENNAN NORMAN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa sophomore Kelly Krei attempts to score during the Iowa women's basketball team's game against Boston College on Wednesday in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Iowa lost, 72-67.

She's a veteran player as a sophomore."

Another strong addition has been the play of center Morgan Johnson. Originally the backup for Hamlin, the 6-5 freshman is averaging 10.3 points with 6.1 rebounds per game.

"I look at it as a challenge," she said. "I'm a freshman going up against juniors and seniors. But that's not the way I try to look at it. I try to look at it as player on player, and it's a goal for me to get better

each game." Junior guard Veronica Hicks leads the Wolverines in scoring with 14.5 points while also serving as an outside threat, shooting 44.4 percent from the 3-point line.

"I think there's just always a lot of adrenaline going on at the end of the game," Wahlin said. "You're not paying attention to your legs or whether you're tired or not. I mean, that's not what you're mind is focusing on."

FOOTBALL

No. 7 Oregon headed to Rose Bowl

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Redshirt freshman LaMichael James ran for 166 yards and three touchdowns Thursday night to send No. 7 Oregon to the Rose Bowl with a 37-33 victory over No. 13 Oregon State in the Civil War.

Oregon (10-2, 8-1) also claimed the Pac-10 championship with the victory, ending USC's seven-season hold on the title. The Ducks, who have not been to the Rose Bowl since 1995, will face Ohio State in Pasadena on New Year's Day.

LeGarrette Blount, who hadn't played since throwing a punch after Oregon's season-opening loss to Boise State, returned to the field and scored on a 12-yard run in the third quarter.

Oregon State (8-4, 6-3) was vying for its first Rose Bowl berth since the 1964 season. The Beavers will have to wait until the rest of the Pac-10 wraps up the season to find out which bowl they will play in.

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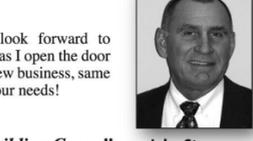
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Call Jim, Service Manager at Carousel Nissan (319) 337-5000.

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DI CALENDAR BLANK

Mail or bring to The Daily Iowan, Adler Journalism Building, Room E141. Deadline for submitting items to the calendar column is 1pm two days prior to publication. Items may be edited for length, and in general will not be published more than once. Notices which are commercial advertisements will not be accepted. Please print clearly.

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Daily Break

The folly of mistaking a paradox for a discovery, a metaphor for a proof, a torrent of verbiage for a spring of capital truths, and oneself for an oracle, is inborn in us. — Paul Valéry

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

Amazing, but true (but not)

- "Hooch" from the movie *Turner & Hooch* was originally conceived as a lungfish.
- Joseph McCarthy's life and family's sizable fortune were spent fighting Communism after he was inspired by a swarm of blacklists flying through an open, moonlit window in his manor.
- Consuming smoked salmon is the second leading cause of lung cancer.
- The package of hotdogs contains 78.2 percent post-consumer waste.
- The FIFA Club World tournament has been successfully sued 18 times for anti-Antarcticism.
- "Mardi Gras" is French for "Pants Optional."
- All species of dung beetle poop miniature hamburgers.
- When seahorses hatch, they have four fin-like legs — just like real horses. The legs slowly atrophy and fall off as the seahorses mature and stop entering races.
- Monkfish caught in the Yellow Sea differ from those caught in North Sea, as they know martial arts.
- The cockatrice was an actual animal; scientists estimate it went extinct around the same time Nutella was invented. These facts may or may not be related.
- All elephants are female.
- You can stand an egg on its end during the equinox. Actually, you can do it any other day, as well, but they'll brand you a heretic and practitioner of witchcraft. Sooooo unfair.

— Andrew R. Juhl thanks his friend Erik for help with today's Ledge.

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.

THE COLD ARRIVES



KC MCGINNIS/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI business junior Justin Rocca walks past the Christmas decorations of the Design Ranch on Dodge Street on Thursday. With decorations on more local houses and businesses and temperatures below freezing, winter made an entrance into Iowa City yesterday.

mc ginsberg.com
PRESENTS...

horoscopes Friday, December 4, 2009

— by Eugenia Last

ARIES March 21-April 19 Put forth your best effort, and you will reach your professional and financial goals. This is a great day to make some personal alterations to boost your confidence and enable you to do things that you may have been reluctant to try in the past. Domestic issues may surface.

TAURUS April 20-May 20 Taking time out to make some much-needed changes at home will pay off. You can add value to something you have to offer. A change in a friendship will allow you the freedom to try something new.

GEMINI May 21-June 20 You will be faced with far more than you anticipated, making it difficult to carry out your promises. A work-related opportunity will open up; however, compromising your code of ethics may be requested.

CANCER June 21-July 22 Whether you travel physically, mentally, or down the information highway, the end result will be the same. What you learn and the people you meet will enable you to flex your muscles in a sticky situation that needs immediate attention.

LEO July 23-Aug. 22 Socializing will be your thing, but refrain from divulging any information that may compromise you late in the day. Keep things light and playful. Romance or improving your current relationship will lead to a brighter future.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Personal problems will complicate your life. Your indifference will be what saves you if someone tries to trick you into doing something you don't want to do. Make positive changes to your personal life, regardless of what others do.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Don't give in to peer pressure. If something doesn't fit your lifestyle, back away. It's more important that you finish what you start and strive to reach your goals than it is to satisfy someone else's whims.

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Turn on your Scorpio charm. Your fascination with the people you meet will bring about a very special connection, changing your way of thinking and your course of action. Someone you love will broaden your awareness.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Experience may count, but so will fresh ideas and the desire to do your best. Take what information you can from the wise, and rework what you learn so that it takes on your personality. Confidence and consistency will win in the end.

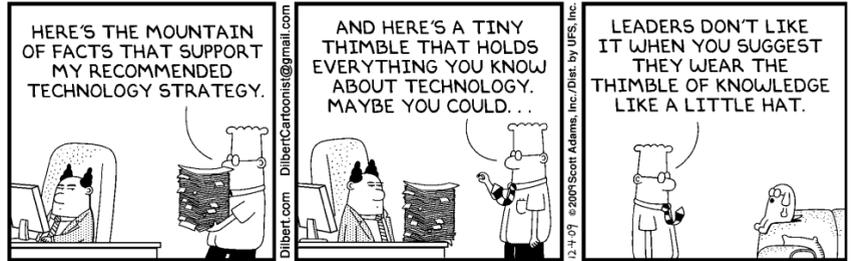
CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Take what you want, and keep moving. It's slowing down that will give someone the chance to derail your plans or ideas. Love is in the stars, so don't waste time if someone special wants your undivided attention.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Ask someone you feel comfortable with about a problem you are having at work or with your finances. An honest answer may not be what you want to hear, but it will help you get back on the road to recovery.

PISCES Feb. 19-March 20 Tread carefully. Not everything will be as it appears. An older or younger person in your life who has a tough situation to deal with will trigger an emotional change. Your support will make a difference.

DILBERT

by Scott Adams



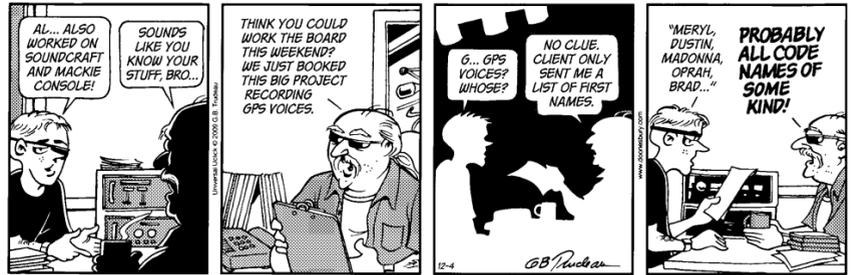
'NON SEQUITUR

BY WIEV



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

- **European Studies Conference**, Memories and Visions: Europe 20 Years after the Fall, keynote speech, "Germany 1989: A New Kind of Revolution?," Konrad Jarausch, University of North Carolina, 9:15 a.m., 315 Phillips Hall
- **Blood Drive**, 10 a.m., Collins Community Credit Union, 1655 Jordan Street, North Liberty
- **English Conversation Group**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Book Babies**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Funded Retirement & Insurance Committee Meeting**, 11:30 a.m., 302 University Services Building
- **"Manners and Mores in Jane Austen's World,"** 2 p.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth
- **After School Activities**, 4 p.m., Scanlon Gymnasium
- **Biology Seminar**, Anne Calof, University of California-Irvine, 4 p.m., 101 Biology Building East
- **Listening Post with Terrence Neuzil**, 4 p.m., Iguana's Grill, 555 Highway 965, North Liberty
- **The 40th Anniversary of the Founding of African American Studies Event: Building Upon a Legacy & Securing a Future**, 4:30 p.m., IMU Black Box Theater
- **Dawn's Coffeeshouse**, 5 p.m., Dawn's Hide & Bead Away, 220 E. Washington
- **Joy Calico**, Opera lecture, 5:30 p.m., 252D University Capitol Centre
- **Tempered Brass Band**, 6:30 p.m., Walden Place Retirement Residence, 2423 Walden Road
- **Antichrist**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Grease**, 7 p.m., West High, 2901 Melrose Ave.
- **Holiday Story Time**, 7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, Coral Ridge Mall
- **"Live from Prairie Lights,"** Stephen Bloom, nonfiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights Books, 15 S. Dubuque
- **The Nutcracker**, 7:30 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington
- **U.S.A. Dance Christmas Dance**, 7:30 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **The Savage Young Taterbug and the Old Scratch Revival Singers**, 8 p.m., Java House, 211½ E. Washington
- **Graduate/Undergraduate Dance Concert**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place
- **Yellow City**, University Theatres Gallery Series, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B
- **8 Seconds**, 9 p.m., Agave, 2781 Oakdale Blvd., Coralville
- **Beaches of Agnes**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Friday Night Karaoke**, with Gemini Karaoke, 9 p.m., American Legion Post No. 17, 3016 Muscatine Ave.
- **Liberty Leg CD Release Party**, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Natty Nation and Uniphonics**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Big D's Karaoke Jamz**, 10 p.m., Saloon, 112 E. College
- **Campus Activities Board Movie**, *Julie and Julia*, 10 p.m., 348 IMU
- **No Shame Theatre**, 11 p.m., Theatre B

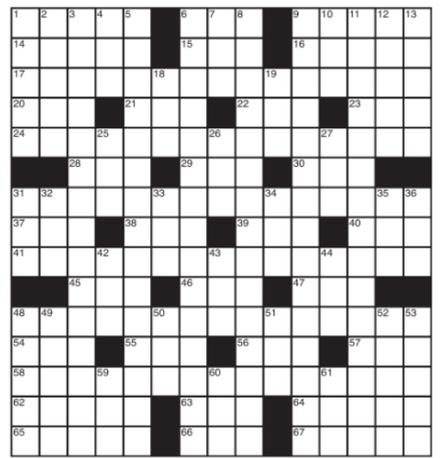
The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1030

- Across**
- It no longer circulates around the Seine
 - Skate part
 - Rite reading for some 13-year-olds
 - ___ state
 - One may be significant
 - Whitney Houston hit recorded for the 1988 Summer Olympics
 - Fat standard, say: Abbr.
 - One of Steinbeck's twins
 - Salt additive?
 - Turning meas.
 - 1974 Rolling Stones hit
 - Thread: Fr.
 - Long time: Abbr.
 - Bookie's charge, for short
 - Home for an addax and dorcas gazelle
 - Tic-tac-toe loser
 - Im-ho-___, Boris Karloff's role in "The Mummy"
 - Celtic sea god
 - Vote in une législature
 - Maisonette
 - Cartoonish cry
 - Behind
 - "___ Town Too" (1981 hit)
 - André Gide novel whose title comes from Matthew 7:14
 - Kind of flakes
 - Went nowhere
 - Anthropomorphic film villain
 - Parisian pronoun
 - Big newsstand seller for some magazines
 - Looped handles
 - Teacher's deg.
 - "I'm Henry VIII, I am" singer
 - Some lock changers
 - Deflation indication
 - Kite relatives
- Down**
- Mil. base until 1994
 - Concerto component
 - Bailiwick
 - Site of many '60s tours
 - Sweet little things with points to them
 - Soil water saturation limits
 - Travel guide listing
 - Country music contraction
 - Taken things a bit too far
 - Diamond figure on a 2006 postage stamp
 - Like grandchildren
 - A musician might pick it up
 - Childish comeback
 - He said "Learn from the masses, and then teach them"
 - Like some candidates: Abbr.
 - Slam
 - "Bull Durham" director Shelton
 - French suffix with Québec
 - Green land
 - Hearing aids, briefly
 - Stewie's sister on "Family Guy"
 - "A pity"
 - Like a lion's coat
 - Cross character
 - Ate
 - Odds' end?
 - German indefinite article
 - Nick, say
 - Bears make them, in brief
 - The Blue Jays, on scoreboards

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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



- Puzzle by David Levinson Wilk
- Canto contraction
 - French suffix with Québec
 - Death, in Deutschland
 - The Astros, on scoreboards
 - Spell
 - Austrian article
 - "Bull Durham" director Shelton
 - Charge stuff
 - Green land
 - Hearing aids, briefly
 - Stewie's sister on "Family Guy"
 - "A pity"
 - Like a lion's coat
 - Cross character
 - Ate
 - Odds' end?
 - German indefinite article
 - Nick, say
 - Bears make them, in brief
 - The Blue Jays, on scoreboards

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