

FINAL DESTINATION

LISA BLUDER AND THE HAWKEYES
WILL KNOW THEIR NCAA TOURNEY
FATE EARLY NEXT WEEK. SPORTS, 12



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

The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010

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50¢



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI freshman Anna Zoerner signs a petition in favor of an 18-ordinance from Union employee Conor Fudge on the Ped Mall on Tuesday. Tom Lenoch, the manager of One-Eye Jakes, Vito's and Summit, is the head organizer of the petition drive.

GROUP PROPOSES SHIFTING BAR-ENTRY AGE TO 18

18-ordinance proposal could go on the Nov. 2 ballot.

By NICOLE KARLIS

nicole-karlis@uiowa.edu

Some opponents of the newly resurrected 21-ordinance aren't just interested in keeping the status quo for bar-entry age. They think 18-year-olds should be allowed in, too.

Tom Lenoch, an Iowa City bar manager, and UI junior Dan Tallon filed an initiative with the City Council Monday proposing downtown bars be allowed to admit 18-year-olds after 10 p.m.

"My hope is that this provides an opportunity to work with the City Council and find a happy medium," said Lenoch, a lifelong Iowa City resident.

Lenoch, the general manager at Jakes, Summit, and Vito's, said he and other bar owners aren't looking to



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN
UI sophomore Matt Hall (center) checks an ID at One-Eyed Jakes on April 25, 2009. In response to a proposed 21-only ordinance, Tom Lenoch has proposed an ordinance that would allow 18-year-olds admittance to bars after 10 p.m.

allow 18-year-olds in the bar, they simply want to prevent the council from rushing to pass the 21-ordinance.

Despite the new proposal, city officials say the 21-ordinance will still be on the March 23 meeting agenda.

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Watch a video feature with students' opinions on the petition at dailiyowan.com.

Filing will not prevent the council from acting on the 21-ordinance, said City Attorney Eleanor Dilkes.

The initiative is a petition that must first collect 2,500 signatures before May 7. All 2,500 people who sign the petition must be registered voters in Johnson County, said City Clerk Marian Karr.

Once the signatures have been submitted, Karr will verify them, and the proposal will appear on the Nov. 2 ballot, Dilkes wrote Tuesday in a memorandum to the council.

SEE ORDINANCE, 3

SEE COUNCIL, 3

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Watch a video report detailing what happened at the Faculty Council meeting Tuesday on dailiyowan.com.

SEE COUNCIL, 3

District searches for revenue

Lawmakers must confirm budget details before Iowa City schools can move forward.

By NORA HEATON

nora-heaton@uiowa.edu

After initially drafting a certified budget that outlined a possible 15 percent increase in property taxes, Iowa City School District officials say there might be another place to scrape for revenue.

Instead of boosting the tax burden for area residents, school-infrastructure sales-tax funds could be used to fill budget gaps left by declining financial support from the state. Johnson County approved the 1 percent local-option sales tax increase in 2007.

The use of those funds, School Board member Sarah Swisher said, could decrease the need for a property-tax hike.

Paul Bobek, the district's executive director of administrative services, updated the board on the preliminary certified budget for the 2010-11 school year. The plan calls for a 15 percent property-tax increase to compensate for fewer state-allocated dollars.

SEE TAX, 3

Group tries to improve retention

A UI team provides assistance when financial situations threaten retention.

By MORGAN OLSEN

morgan-olsen@uiowa.edu

Students with unpaid university bills will soon be hearing from collection officials.

But they're not the typical agents one might expect. They're University of Iowa faculty, tasked with making sure the students are going to stick around.

The 20-member UI Early Intervention Implementation System Committee helps students who may be struggling

at the university — emotionally, academically, and financially.

Already, in the group's first year of existence, the university has seen results. The team contacted more than 350 "at-risk" freshmen last semester. The UI usually loses around 250 freshmen between first and second semester; 191 didn't return this academic year.

"No one should have to leave this university unless he or she wants to," UI Registrar Larry Lockwood said.

The UI has one of the worst freshman-retention rates in the Big Ten — 17 percent of the UI's freshmen don't return for a second year.

The team keeps an eye on students' midterm grades, financial status, registration records, and discipline reports to identify students who may not make it into the next semester.

The toll taken on retention in the spring almost doubles — an average of 450 students opt not to come back for a second year at the UI. At an

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Check out a video report on the retention issue at dailiyowan.com.

early intervention meeting Tuesday, the team discussed this and the goal to reduce that number to around 300.

If the group meets that goal, the UI's freshman-retention rate would increase 5 percent, to an overall 88 percent.

SEE RETENTION, 3

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

INDEX

Arts 5
Classifieds 10
Crossword 6

Opinions 4
Intramurals 8
Sports 12

WEATHER

54 12C
45 7C

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Check out footage from men's basketball head coach Todd Lickliter's press conference Tuesday.



Spotlight Iowa City

Prof leads probe into rare eye disease

Vinit Mahajan spent time at an eye institute before coming to the UI.

By SETH ROBERTS

seth-roberts@uiowa.edu

Vinit Mahajan has one very ambitious aspiration.

"My mentors have invested their efforts into training me for one goal," said the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics doctor. "Cure the blind."

Mahajan is an assistant professor of vitreoretinal surgery and diseases who has been researching, teaching, and performing eye surgeries at the UI for almost four years. The 40-year-old comes to Iowa City after his residency at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at the University of California-Los Angeles, an internationally recognized center working to prevent blindness.

His enthusiasm has rubbed off on his colleagues.

"He came from Los Angeles being extremely highly touted," said James Folk, a UI professor of ophthalmology, who noted that hospital officials worked hard to bring Mahajan here. "He is young and energetic, and I feel as if that has re-energized and reinvigorated some of the older staff, including myself."

Mahajan officially joined the faculty of the Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration after completing a fellowship with the UI ophthalmology department. His background in biochemistry, in particular, gives him a novel perspective about the eye. He has the ability to help what is estimated to be more than 25 million Americans who "have trouble" seeing or are blind,



CHARLIE ANDERSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Vinit Mahajan sits in his office at the UI Hospitals and Clinics on Tuesday. Mahajan led a team of researchers that found a rare gene that causes degeneration of a section of the retina called the macula.

according to findings from the 2008 National Health Interview Survey.

"He's the whole package — an excellent clinician, surgeon, and researcher — and that's really hard to get," Folk said. "Doctors are usually one or the other, and it's rare that someone fits all three criteria."

Not surprisingly, then, Mahajan has made strides in understanding some forms of blindness. In 2008, he and a team of researchers — including ophthalmology Professor Stephen Russell and vitreoretinal Professor Edwin Stone — discovered a rare genetic eye disorder that occurs in degeneration of the macula, a region of the retina essential for sharp central vision.

It started with a young woman. She was experiencing bleeding and vision loss — something Mahajan said doctors couldn't seem to find the root of the symptoms. Many of the woman's family members had histo-

ries of eye problems.

This began what Mahajan and his colleagues call an "Iowa road trip." The team loaded a van with personnel and equipment and drove six hours to examine 17 of the subject's family members. The voyage showed at least seven members of the subject's family, between the ages of 5 and 65, had similar symptoms. This suggested a genetic correlation to the condition.

Mahajan spearheaded the investigation.

"Mahajan was crucial in organizing doctors, nurses, and photographers," Russell said. "He was responsible for a lot of detail."

Mahajan's findings were published in the November 2009 edition of *Archives of Ophthalmology*, and the team has since been searching for the gene responsible for the condition.

Russell said that search has now been narrowed to a specific chromosome. The doctors are working to find

Vinit Mahajan

• Age: 40

• Hometown: Cleveland, but was "raised mostly in California"

• Length in Iowa City: 3½ years

• Favorite personal accomplishment: "Recently restoring vision in someone who has not seen for years."

• Hobbies: "Chasing my three kids, doting on my wife, and paying all their bills."

• Favorite aspect of Iowa

City: "It has the highest density of good people in our country, a kid-friendly environment, and the enthusiasm for all things Hawkeye."

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.

the part of the chromosome that causes the physical symptoms.

Macular degeneration can occur because of a variety of causes, ranging from age to diabetes. The genetic connection to this particular strain was something that the research team had not seen before, however. Mahajan said he is undaunted by the rarity of the condition, explaining that the technology available at the UIHC is making it easier to study diseases of all types.

"We have broken down the artificial barriers that exist among the patient clinic, operating room, and the basic science research lab," Mahajan said.

Changes ahead for vendors

Downtown vendors will soon to be subject to higher fees.

By GRACE SAVIDES

grace-savides@uiowa.edu

Downtown and hungry on a Saturday night? Soon, there may be more options.

The Iowa City City Council is moving to allow two more street vendors to move onto the Pedestrian Mall. At present, the city allows six food stands to operate in the area.

This is good news for Mokotsi Rukundo, a University of Iowa senior and co-owner of CorNroC which vends grilled corn on the cob on Iowa Avenue.

"This is going to be a nice way to actually get the name out and to have a new set of potential customers," said the business student.

In addition to the Ped Mall change, the city wants to increase the vendors' fees. Last week, the City Council passed a resolution

that increases the fee for ambulatory and mobile vending permits from \$750 a year to \$1,000. This is the first time the fee has been raised since 1988.

When Rukundo stated he originally envisioned selling his food on the Ped Mall. Though he said Iowa Avenue has its good days, he is eager to peddle his handheld treat on the Ped Mall.

Street vendors in the area are required to be open during certain hours. From May 1 through Oct. 1, vendors must be open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday through Sunday.

But the ordinance in question could also change that by reducing the hours vendors are required to be out.

If the ordinance is

passed, the vendors would only have to sell between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday. Vendors are allowed to add any other hours they desire.

Some city officials are concerned that the hours requirement in place could put a strain on vendors, given the current economic climate.

Councilor Regenia Bailey said the council was willing to make the change because it made sense and helped the businesses.

"We've always felt that the food vendors downtown add to the vibrancy of the plaza," she said.

Bailey went on to say that many of the things that the council has done to the Ped Mall have been to create a pleasant atmosphere.

"We want people out and about, enjoying downtown,"

she said.

Josh Wachendorf, the owner of the Walking Taco Stand, will also move from Iowa Avenue to the Pedestrian Mall. While he is in favor of the changes, he is not overly optimistic that business will be better once he moves his cart.

While vendors' feelings on the changes were mixed, Wachendorf and Rukundo agreed the fee increase is reasonable.

"It's definitely not too outrageous," Wachendorf said.

Wachendorf said he's unsure if the move will affect his business. However, he is in favor of dropping the required 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. shift, which, he said, is a time when most people have gone home and the UI holds fewer classes.

"I'm trying not to have too high of hopes," he said. "I'm hoping it's going to be better."

METRO

Man charged with fifth OWI

Police charged a man with his fifth OWI after officers found his truck stuck in the mud.

Robert McDowell, 42, Kalona,

was charged Sunday with OWI. According to police reports, McDowell had been drinking in his truck as he drove through Lower City Park.

He allegedly left the paved surface and stuck his vehicle in the mud. Police found McDowell

intoxicated in the driver's seat, police said.

McDowell could hardly stand, police reported, and he was too intoxicated to complete all field sobriety tests. He allegedly blew a blood alcohol content of .233.

He has four previous convictions for OWI in the past 12 years.

Third-offense or greater OWI is a Class D felony generally punishable by up to five years in prison and a maximum fine of \$9,375.

— by Jordan Fries

POLICE BLOTTER

Nicholas Amato, 18, N324 Hillcrest, was charged Sunday with unlawful use of another's ID. **Roman Antolic**, 38, 1104½ E. Bloomington St., was charged Sunday with OWI and possession of a controlled substance. **Christopher Calmer**, 21, Wilton, Iowa, was charged March 6 with OWI. **Kyle Cummins**, 18, Downers Grove, Ill., was charged March 6 with public intoxication and unlawful use of another's ID.

Jaimie Emerson, 18, 1227 Quadrangle, was charged Sunday with possession of drug paraphernalia. **Rei Gjeci**, 19, Grand Rapids, Mich., was charged Sunday with PAULA. **Joshua Holtkamp**, 18, G036 Hillcrest, was charged March 6 with possession of a controlled substance. **Patrick Hughes**, 19, 144 Rienow, was charged Sunday with public intoxication. **Joseph Meade**, 19, Colesburg, Iowa, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Daniel Metz, 26, Riverside, Iowa, was charged March 6 with public intoxication and indecent exposure. **Kody Murphy**, 19, 504 Rienow, was charged Sunday with interference with official acts. **Megan O'Connell**, 19, 0447 Slater, was charged March 5 with public intoxication. **Vanessa Ruiz**, 19, 808 Stanley, was charged Sunday with public intoxication. **Stephen Smith**, 22, Davenport,

was charged Sunday with OWI. **Sophie Stephenson**, 19, 2256 Quadrangle, was charged Sunday with possession of a controlled substance. **Kyle Trautvetter**, 22, 366 S. Clinton Apt. 2615, was charged March 5 with public intoxication. **Lauren Vance**, 21, 308 N. Clinton Apt. 3, was charged Sunday with public intoxication. **Brett Warner**, 19, 4132 Burge, was charged March 5 with public intoxication.

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Phone: (319) 335-6063
E-mail: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu
Fax: 335-6297
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Send address changes to: *The Daily Iowan*, 100 Adler Journalism Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2004.

■ STAFF
Publisher: William Casey.....335-5788
Editor: Kelsey Beltramea.....335-6030
Managing Editor: Kurtis Hiatt.....335-5855
Metra Editor: Brian Stewart.....335-6063
Opinions Editor: Shawn Gude.....335-5863
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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Tuesday.

1. Voters may see 21-ordinance again
2. Authorities await autopsy in suspicious death
3. Brent Metcalf rebounds from championship loss
4. Was the Iowa City Housing Authority right...?
5. Grassley: Scrap current health-care bills

METRO

District settles with bus company

The Iowa City School District

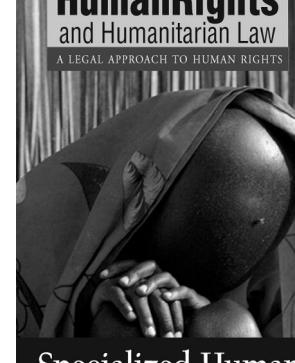
will pay a settlement of \$200,000 to First Student Inc., after the bus company threatened to take legal action against the district for its payment practices.

The agreement, which was approved by the School Board at its Tuesday meeting, required the district to make the payment within five business days.

The settlement agreement noted the litigation would have "[arisen] out of the district's nonpayment of certain invoices and alleged communications with the University of Iowa regarding First Student's billing practices."

Under the agreement, the district must pay First Student, and the company acknowledged it would not sue the district.

— by Nora Heaton



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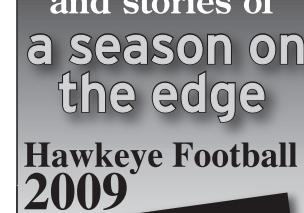
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Hawkeye Football 2009

COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM 1

"This is something I feel very strongly about," said Faculty Senate President David Drake. "These are our students, and we care deeply about them."

Two drafts were circulated at the meeting — one supporting the 21-ordinance and the other encouraging faculty to schedule classes on Friday if possible and appropriate. Councilors passed both drafts.

The document also noted that evidence supports increasing bar-entrance age to 21 will reduce alcohol abuse. Drake attributed the information cited in the draft to a national study, but he didn't have access to the study on Tuesday. Some against the 21-ordinance have argued that raising bar entry age wouldn't affect drinking.

One caveat to supporting the 21-ordinance was looking into providing additional weekend activities for students as alternatives to the bars.

"Decisions about these things has to be driven by the students," said Thomas Rocklin, the UI interim vice president for Student Services. "Last fall, we had 11,500 students under 21 — we need to make sure they have entertainment, too."

While the majority of Faculty Council members were in support of the 21-ordinance, some were wary.

"I think it's absolutely inappropriate for Faculty Senate to vote on a political issue," said council member Sheldon Kurtz, who personally supports the 21-ordinance. "I don't believe this is part of the role we play."

Drake fired back that the issue went beyond politics.

"I disagree — this is our students' health and well-

being," he said. "It's not a reasonable enough argument to prevent us from caring."

The Faculty Council refrained from endorsing the 21-ordinance in 2007, when the proposal failed to garner enough support in a public vote.

Thursday night binge drinking was also a topic of discussion at Tuesday's meeting.

Takacs presented his research of UI students admitted to the emergency room from 6 p.m. on Thursday to 6 a.m. on Friday. During the last school year, 69 students were admitted during that time span. That was down from 78 the year before.

Takacs attributed the decrease to the increasing number of Friday classes.

"It's hard to know for sure if more Friday classes were the cause," he said. "I do believe it has something to do with it."

RETENTION

CONTINUED FROM 1

Officials said finances often are a part of students' decision not to continue their education at the UI.

Lockwood estimated that as of last November 2009, 5,100 students had a financial hold on their registration — meaning they couldn't register for the coming semester because of monetary issues.

Finances have become an increasingly difficult issue for UI students in tough economic times, Lockwood noted.

According to a recent study by the state Board of Regents, 24 percent of students who didn't return for their sophomore year in 2008 opted to go to a cheaper school.

"The student is under contract to pay tuition, not mom and dad," Lockwood said. "We help them with that by making contact through e-mail and asking them to come in to talk to us."

The team has a scale for

dealing with different amounts owed for tuition, including agreeing to a contract to pay the money back or sitting down with someone from the Registrar's Office to plan finances.

Letters from the team will soon be sent to students who have unpaid tabs with the university. The letters encourage students to settle their bills or come talk to someone who can help.

Lockwood noted the team helped keep around 60 students enrolled this semester.

"Each of those students may seem like a small success, but when you put it all together, it's a big success for the university," he said.

But the group's focus isn't limited to money problems. Diane Hauser, an associate director of academic programs & services in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, works to offer students academic support.

"We're planning on having a class that would help freshmen explore a range of majors at the university," she said. "It will help

Financial resolutions

How the Early Intervention team can help students financially:

- Students who owe less than \$500: Sign commitment contract stating money will be paid by a certain date.
- Students who owe between \$500-\$1,000: Sit down with Registrar officials and discuss ways to pay tuition and ensure funds will come.
- Student who owe more than \$1,000: Must provide documented plan on how to pay off university bill — such as a loan confirmation.

Source: Larry Lockwood

students find the majors that best fit them or decide on a new major."

Maureen Schafer, an academic adviser in the UI Academic Advising Center, said it's important that improving retention has become a universitywide effort.

"When I'm working with a student and there's a need I can't solve, there's a good chance I know someone who can help," she said.

ORDINANCE

CONTINUED FROM 1

"If it goes on the ballot in November, and people are in favor of it, it could change to 18," Dilkes said.

But whether voters will try to change the bar entry age from 19 to 18 or 21 to 18 will be determined by the council's actions in coming months.

As of 9 p.m. Tuesday night, bar employees, managers, and students had collected around 500 signatures. Lenoch says the group plans on submitting the signatures before the

council's March 23 meeting.

Tallon, who ran for City Council in November 2009, is leading the petition in hopes to give the public another chance to voice their opinion.

"The public voted it down before," Tallon said. "If it's going to be voted back in, it should be voted by the people."

While some councilors recognize their opponents' view, this initiative does not change their stance on the issue.

"They have the right if they get the 2,500 signatures," said Councilor Terry Dickens.

Dickens, who supports

the 21-ordinance, is worried about the pace of the council's actions. The council has expressed interest in implementing the ordinance this semester.

"It's moving a little fast," he said.

However, other councilors are not sympathizing.

Councilor Mike Wright said bars had a chance to change the ways in which they monitored underage drinkers after the 2007 election.

"There are some bar owners who have done a good job," he said. "And others who don't give a damn about the law."

TAX

CONTINUED FROM 1

Board member Tuyet Dorau said she was hesitant to support a move that would rely too heavily on tax increases to boost revenue. She said it seemed too much like "robbing Peter to pay Paul."

To counteract those increases, she suggested the board more comprehensively review general-fund spending and make efficiency cuts.

"I'm not convinced that we are being the most lean and efficient district we can be," she said. "We've got to make sure we uncover every stone."

But the board has already examined the general fund, Swisher said.

"I just don't see where

the resources are to cut any more and still deliver education at the quality that students in our district are used to receiving," she said.

Especially in reviewing redistricting feedback, Swisher said, she felt resources covered by the general fund were particularly important to the community. She estimated approximately 50 percent of the e-mail messages sent to the district expressed concern that students shifting to different schools might lose essential resources.

But even if the board is able to trim the general fund further, Board President Patti Fields said, those trims will never equal the \$12 million the district needs in revenue. Acknowledging that residents were struggling with the economic downturn, she stressed the need to prioritize.

Lack of solid data from the state level laced the board's discussion with hypotheticals and uncertainties. Bobek said the financial support from the state might change by the time the district is scheduled to adopt the budget next month.

"We know that it's not going to be able to finance all the state aid," Bobek said. "The biggest challenge we have before us now is trying to estimate, how much that will be?"

Until those numbers have been released, he said, the district has given a high estimate of changes to be made. The board can approve a tax increase at or below the proposed rate.

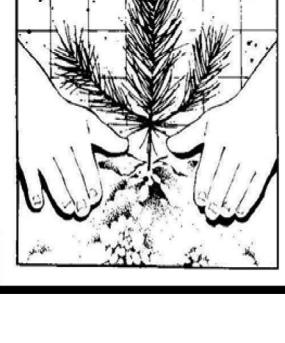
On April 13, the district is set to conduct a public hearing on the issue, and it will certify and adopt the budget on the same day.

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Editorial

One-party UISG election underscores political apathy on UI campus

The deadline to petition for University of Iowa Student Government president and vice president passed Monday, and the echoes of political competition failed to ring.

For the first time in at least 30 years, only one ticket will run for the highest student offices. UI juniors John Rigby, a UISG senator, and Erica Hayes, the current speaker of the Senate, will make up the only duo running for president and vice president.

The news only underscores the increase in on-campus political apathy.

Student political participation was once a hallmark of this institution. But it is now clear the only on-campus catalyst of activism is the 21-ordinance. While we applaud students for getting involved with issues they care about, it is disheartening to know that the majority of the students regard student-centered issues such as the tuition hike and surcharge as less important.

UISG President Michael Currie sees a reason behind this lack of participation.

"Students definitely have more control over the outcome of a 21-ordinance vote, in terms of being able to overturn the council's decision with a referendum vote, than they do with the Board of Regents," he told the Editorial Board.

Currie is correct to point out that students have more power locally than they do in rallying against tuition spikes. However, we disagree that protests and correspondence could not have influenced the minds of the regents or state lawmakers. Student apathy makes us a docile target of continued cuts to higher education.

A Facebook group called "University of Iowa Students Against the 21-ordinance — 2010 Edition" has more than 5,000 members, and that

number is growing by the day. If such a sizable group was organized against tuition increases, we suspect that state officials would take notice. And if a mass of students mobilized a demonstration on the Pentacrest, elected officials and regents alike would certainly pay attention.

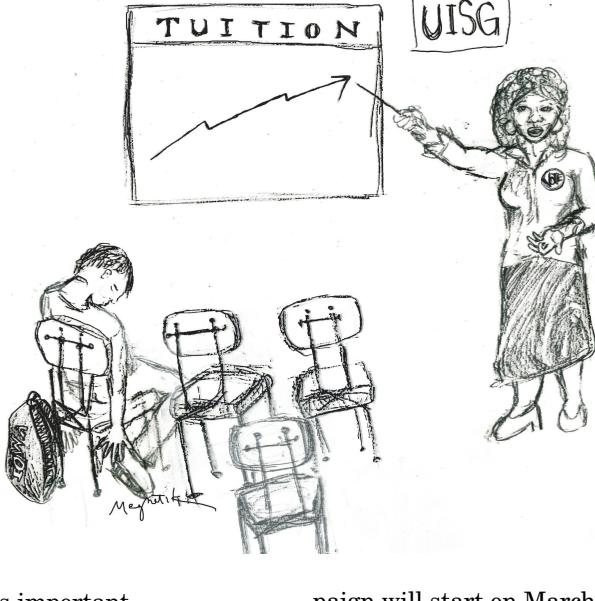
This lackluster activist ethos applies not only to tuition hikes but student turnout in City Council elections.

On Election Day last November, only 17 people cast votes at the UI Main Library, the polling station for many UI students. In 2007, with the 21-ordinance on the ballot, students turned out in droves. On Oct. 24, 2007, two satellite polling places on the UI campus — Burge Hall and the Main Library — saw more than 1,200 votes cast. It's no wonder councilors have no political incentive to listen to students.

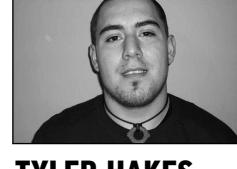
The UISG campaign will start on March 29, ending with a vote on April 7 and 8. Unfortunately, it will give Rigby and Hayes the opportunity to set their agenda without the watchdog atmosphere of a multiparty election. Political competition promotes accountability and diversity of opinion, two characteristics key to the survival of the democratic process not only on this campus but across the country.

And the one-party election will serve as just another example of the political inattention of UI students. The 21-ordinance debate is a good opportunity to spur increased participation. Still, it should be part of a larger shift toward increased vocalism in student elections, city elections, and regent proposals.

Your turn. What are your thoughts on the one-party UISG election? Weigh in on [dailiyowan.com](#).



Health-care conundrums



TYLER HAKES

tyler-hakes@uiowa.edu

Health-care reform as we know it would be more accurately described as health-insurance reform.

I say this because, for the most part, Americans and politicians in favor of the current legislation have focused on changing regulations on medical benefits and insurance companies. They haven't made much of an effort to control rising health costs.

That needs to change, and young Americans need help to change it. If skyrocketing health costs are not addressed, then any improvements in the insurance industry will essentially be negated, because ballooning medical bills force them to raise their premiums.

"[Problems in the health-care industry] are not being addressed sufficiently," said Samuel Levey, a professor of health management and policy at the University of Iowa College of Public Health.

Overhauling the insurance industry helps to solve the problem of accessibility. It would extend insurance to millions of Americans without it. The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office has estimated that both the House and Senate bills would expand coverage to more than 30 million people.

But that does not fix problems with the health-care providers themselves.

Last summer, Atul Gawande, a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, found some shocking things about McAllen, Texas, and our nation's health-care system:

- McAllen's high health-care costs are caused, in large part, by pure over-utilization: Doctors run more tests and provide more — in terms of quantity — care than anywhere else.

- McAllen's quality of care is among the lowest in the country. As a national trend, areas paying the most for medical treatment are receiving the worst care, and McAllen is no exception. The Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., ranks within the bottom 15 percent nationally in terms of cost of care, yet its quality is universally known as some of the best.

Young people will feel the effect of letting these issues slip under the radar. If the current legislation passes and doesn't address the problems that plague the medical world, we will face the same looming difficulties and will have accomplished nothing of significance.

We as a country — and specifically, our generation of young voters — must push for more responsible controls of health-care costs now, not later.

Letter

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

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

READER COMMENTS that may appear below were originally posted on [dailiyowan.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.

Opposition to 21 only

I believe that passing the 21-ordinance would reduce the number of PAULAs given out, but not because underage people will be drinking less. I have heard many of my classmates talking about how they are happy they have an apartment or house next year, where they will be able to drink instead if it passes.

If going to be much harder for Iowa City police to regulate

drinking citywide, as opposed to two-blocks-wide. I have friends who go to small schools, such as Bradley University in Illinois, to friends who attend Michigan State University, and they all talk about the high amount of drinking that goes on at their schools.

I also thought to see what a college town with a university that is ranked higher than us in many academic areas and overall — but is also known for its 19-year-old entry age at the bars — thought about the issue.

I went to the *Daily Illini* and searched "City Council." The first thing I saw was an article titled "Champaign City Council votes no to underage-drinking-enforcement ordinance."

It voted "no" to receiving money from the government if it cracked down on underage drinking. Why, you may ask?

Because: "We want the people of our community to be safe, and not build lifelong habits such as alcohol over-consumption," said Thomas Bruno, a councilor at large. "But we want

to be careful not to drive kids to drinking at private parties. It's much worse for us to have students drinking in apartments than at a public bar, where their activity can be watched."

This is my point exactly. It will be much harder for police to monitor private properties than public bars. If the Iowa City city councilors think they can make a Big Ten college town dry just by raising the bar age, I think they should think again.

Brianna Knoll
UI freshman

Guest opinion

A journey from a human being to an alien

By LAMIA ZIA

Holding a backpack filled with books on U.S. culture and history, an English dictionary, and too many stereotypes in my mind, I started my journey from the other part of the world, Pakistan, to explore the diverse and unique culture of the United States. Just like my backpack, my mind was filled with hundreds of questions about the world I was going to enter in the next 24 hours.

In more than six years of journalism experience, I had come across hundreds of people who were either desperate to know more

about the United States — or were totally disoriented about the perception of a country that never ceases to impress the rest of the world because of its successes in all walks of life. The journalist inside me was not only curious to experience the culture; I was equally excited to share my culture, traditions, and values with the common man of the United States.

Boarding an airplane, my heart filled with ecstatic joy and sadness of leaving my homeland and becoming an "alien." Despite the stereotypes, I was curious to know

about the characteristics of American culture: values, styles of communication, thinking patterns of its people, customary behaviors, and how Americans are different from other cultures. Let me introduce some interesting things I read in the books — never call someone in the U.S. fat or a redneck, or question people why they aren't married, or whom they voted for. All these things are common questions in Pakistan that everyone asks freely, and no one gets mad.

These books helped me prepare to face a new cul-

ture and absorb the possible cultural shock, which I was about to get in the next few hours. My plane landed in the wee hours at the O'Hare International Airport. I felt myself lost in the hustle and bustle of this new, stunningly bright, and entirely different world. Looking at my watch, I realized that when I was traveling for a new dawn in my life, my country was already in the dusk: It's a 12-hour time difference between the United States and Pakistan.

I went to the immigration officer to get an entry stamp into the new world.

The officer looked at me, and the first sentence he said was, "So you are an alien here." Obviously, it bewildered me. I thought that I was a human being, not an alien. Sometimes it takes just a few hours for you to become an alien from a sane human being — welcome to the United States.

I wrote this column as an effort to promote better understanding of the two cultures located on extreme ends of the same planet. There is a dire need to remove misunderstandings and misperceptions between two countries.

With a fragile democra-

cy and an enormous number of social problems, why is Pakistan becoming crucial for the United States? The nations from both sides of the Earth are perplexed with such questions. They need veracious answers. One cannot measure the water until one jumps in; similarly, issues from security to poverty in Pakistan cannot be gauged sitting thousands of miles away in a serene environment.

This is where Lamia Zia begins. She worked as a print and broadcast freelance journalist in Pakistan. This is the first of her guest columns for *The Daily Iowan*, which will appear regularly.



A hodgepodge

Ron Howard's latest television project, "Parenthood," is setting itself up for failure.



PUBLICITY PHOTO
NBC's latest show, "Parenthood," is a hot mess of characters, plots, and drama.



RACHAEL LANDER

rachel.lander@uiowa.edu



I miss "Arrested Development."

The smart humor coupled with quirky characters and a cleverly narrated plot was producer Ron Howard's finest contribution to television. So when previews for "Parenthood" began airing, his first TV project since the Bluth family days, a natural assumption was that "Parenthood" would be part comedy, part brilliance. Unfortunately, the first episode was neither.

But "Parenthood's" early trailers did support those assumptions. Clips showed famed "Gilmore Girls" star Lauren Graham hooking up with Mike O'Malley ("Yes, Dear") and getting caught by her teenage son. That scenario had all the potential to be akin to the funny yet awkward humor of "Arrested Development." But the trailer left out what happened afterwards — the son runs away to his estranged rocker father. And then there is crying.

All right, so "Parenthood" isn't going to be a comedy — it's an all-out drama with a few comedic sprinkles. (Which is even more odd, because "Parenthood" is based on Howard's 1989 flick

Parenthood, starring Steve Martin. And it was funny).

Though it's hard to judge a show solely on its pilot episode (experience tells us pilots are always underdeveloped), there are still many issues in the premiere that may cause the series to be dropped after its first season.

"Parenthood" is very typical. The show focuses on Camille (Bonnie Bedelia) and Zeek (Craig T. Nelson)

Braverman and their four kids, Sarah (Graham), Adam (Peter Krause), Crosby (Dax Shepard), and Julia (Erika Christensen).

Sarah is the single mom with two misfit kids, trying to date and keep daughter Amber out of jail, while feeling bad that her son doesn't have a strong fatherly role model. Adam is happily married, but his child is diagnosed with Asberger's, and he and his wife have to learn how to cope with it and the effects it has on their son.

Crosby is the uncommitted guy, terrified of marriage and even more so of having kids. So naturally, he finds out he has actually had a child running around for a few years. And Julia is the workaholic who has to deal with her daughter wanting her father more than her mother.

So, really, there's no way to describe that setup other than typical. While it's interesting to have so many different viewpoints on life occurring simultaneously, the biggest problem with "Parenthood" is exactly that.

Dramas that have a

large number of characters doing so many different things run into a problem with development. It's hard to really create a strong character with a lot of depth without the show becoming entirely focused on them. But sometimes a central focus is the way to really make a program work. (Need an example? Just take a look at "Grey's Anatomy").

"Parenthood" almost wants to put the focus on Julia, except then it abruptly switches to making Adam's story the focal point, and then brings on plot twists for Crosby, while zeroing in on Julia's working lifestyle at the same time. All of the plots will erupt in a gigantic mess if writers and producers ultimately decide they want to give every character equal airtime. Hopefully, the next few episodes of "Parenthood" will give it the focus and push that it needs to become a well-developed drama that will resonate with viewers as much as "Arrested Development" has. Though, I bet Howard would appreciate it if "Parenthood" developed a fan-base before it gets canceled.

JAY GOLDBERG EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT

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PHOTO CREDIT KEVIN BROWNING

Chicago-based band Umphrey's McGee will bring its always-changing live concert to the IMU tonight.

Longtime favorite returns

Umphrey's McGee will perform at 8 p.m. today in the IMU Main Ballroom.

By HANNAH KRAMER

hannah.kramer@uiowa.edu

make sure we play things we haven't played before."

Iowa City fans reciprocate that by supporting the band whenever it is in town. The last time the musicians played here, the show sold 600 to 700 tickets. Because Umphrey's set lists include a varying selection of original and covered music, fans such as Meyers keep coming back for more.

"I have seen many, many different bands live, but Umphrey's ability to create a different show every night is something special," he said. "I just love how this band is not afraid to take any chances."

Umphrey's McGee blends genres from rock to reggae and covers songs by artists ranging from Led Zeppelin to Nine Inch Nails. Its music is accompanied by lighting effects that create a trippy atmosphere.

Because of their Midwestern background, the band's members are humble despite their talent. Umphrey's McGee formed in 1997 at Notre Dame. The group's home base is now in Chicago, where it has produced eight albums.

Guitarist Jake Cinniger said that while the band performs around 100 shows a year, members especially like coming to Iowa City.

"[Iowa City] has some of the best fans in the middle of the country for us," he said. "When we go out on stage, we try to

sponsoring the show, expects more than 700 attendees, according to its Facebook invitation — an encouraging indication for the success of the concert.

"The thing about Umphrey's is that it's built on the reputation of being exemplary of what having an innovative live show means,"

said TC Lockhart, SCOPE's general manager. "You can see it 100 times, and it is really different every time."

For Umphrey's McGee fans in Iowa City, the wait for the shows they rave about is over, and they can expect a few surprises.

"We are always trying to see what is just around the corner for our music," Cinniger said.



dailiowan.com



GIVE A LISTEN

Umphrey's McGee Mantis

Featured

Track:
"Made To Measure"

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SCOPE PRODUCTION

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Warning to customers with shrimp allergies: Shrimp products are prepared at this location. Food products may come in contact with shrimp during cooking and/or serving. Price excludes tax. Limited time only. No purchase necessary. A purchase will not increase your chances of winning. Void in Florida and where prohibited by law. Entries must be sent via mobile messaging program. Limit one (1) registration per person. See official rules for details. Sweepstakes begins on March 8, 2010, and ends on April 11, 2010. Entries must be received by April 8, 2010. Entrants must be registered University of Iowa Students. Odds of winning depend on number of eligible entries received. In lieu of mobile messaging entry, you may also mail a 3x5 card with your Name, Address, Age, and Phone Number to P.O. Box 789, Fort Smith, AR 72902.

Daily Break

"Nothing is impossible for the man who doesn't have to do it himself."
- A.H. Weiler

the ledge

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



ANDREW R. JUHL

andrew.juhl@uiowa.edu

Accolades that have been edited out of Superman's standard introduction

• Able to do the Sunday *New York Times* crossword puzzle in under 10 minutes.

• Able to look manly in a blanket.

• More helpful than Wikipedia.

• Able to watch Old Yeller without crying.

• Smells faintly of lavender.

• Accelerates faster than an out-of-control Toyota Corolla, AND is capable of stopping.

• More thoughtful than a boyfriend who used to be your best friend and wants to impress your parents during his first Christmas at your family's.

• Capable of rocking you like a hurricane.

• Huggably, squeezably soft.

• Able to wear white after Labor Day.

• Is an above-average dancer.

• More caustic than your mother-in-law's opinion of everything you've ever done.

• Cosmetologist to the stars!

• Fair and balanced.

• Capable of being a brown-noser who'll do anything for the promotion we both know

I deserved to get.

• Hypoallergenic.

• Knows about that thing you like. You know. That thing you like. No, not that one; the other one. The really dirty one. Yeah ... that one.

He knows about it.

- Andrew R. Juhl is more powerful than a (toy) locomotive. He able to leap (toy) buildings in a single bound. He is faster (in bed) than a speeding bullet. He's lonely.

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.

IN WITH THE NEW



AMY OLESON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa City resident Brett Heaford, 24, peels back black lettering from the glass of the former downtown Iowa City bar Et Cetera on Tuesday. The Iowa City City Council has approved the liquor license and dance permit for the new establishment, Slippery Petes.

mc ginsberg.com
PRESENTS...

horoscopes

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

- by Eugenia Last

ARIES March 21-April 19 Keep a low profile, and you will stand a much better chance of getting things accomplished. An emotional moment with someone you work with or for will set you back or cause you to miss out on an opportunity to advance. Don't mix business with pleasure.

TAURUS April 20-May 20 Someone from your past will offer you an opportunity. Your involvement in something that you believe in and the help you offer will raise your profile and your reputation. A stubborn attitude will cause problems at home.

GEMINI May 21-June 20 Don't count on getting the help you need or the favors promised. Concentrate on the people you love most or the organizations you feel most akin to. At the very least, your efforts will make you feel good about yourself.

CANCER June 21-July 22 A partnership that offers you the opportunity to get involved in something that interests you will lead to a better position and future. It's important that you clearly state your concerns and what you need in return for your services.

LEO July 23-Aug. 22 Put more time and effort into your relationships. Your energetic approach to whatever you do will lead to impressive accomplishments. A business trip will allow you to show what you have to offer firsthand.

VIRGO Aug. 23-Sept. 22 The more you do with friends, peers, and family, the better. Sharing your thoughts with people you trust will lead to opportunities and ideas. The more fun you make a project, the more help you will get and the sooner it will be completed.

LIBRA Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Your determination and effort will not go unnoticed. A physical problem must be taken care of immediately if you don't want it to spin out of control. Be careful while traveling.

SCORPIO Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Stop dreaming; concentrate on what's factual, and you will be able to stay on course and accomplish what you set out to do. Present what you have to offer, and you will get what you need to proceed. Don't let friendship get in the way.

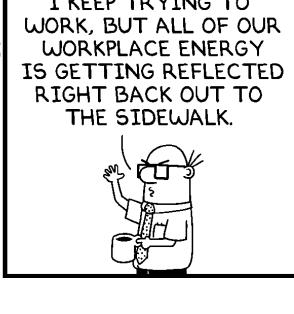
SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You are likely to be criticized if you are too eager to share your thoughts and plans. Empty promises will be misleading, and they can cause you to lose valuable time and ruin a potential partnership.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22-Jan. 19 You'll be torn between what you should do and what you want to do. Don't let your heart lead you in the wrong direction when so much is on the line. Pushing too hard will lead to opposition. Honesty will bring the best results.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Put your heart and soul into ways to make more cash. Don't let red tape or institutions cause you emotional upset. Deal with matters as they arise, and you will avoid feeling pressured, stressed, and overwhelmed.

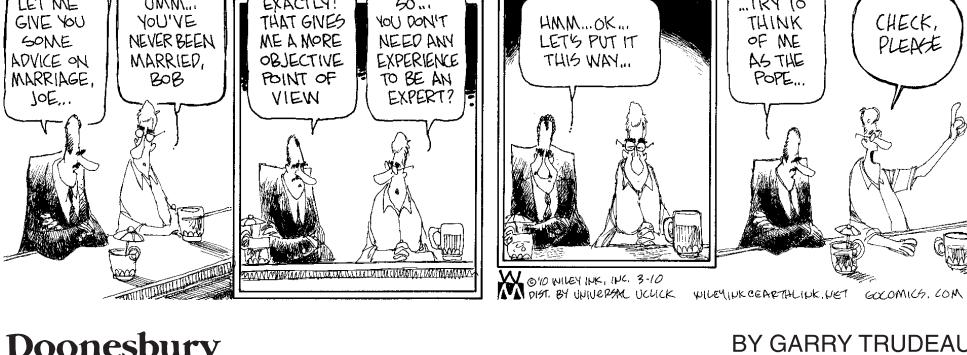
PISCES Feb. 19-March 20 Your good deeds for others will bring you benefits, experience, and the opportunity to use your attributes or skills in a new way. Once you have proven how effective you can be, you will have the ability to earn more.

DILBERT



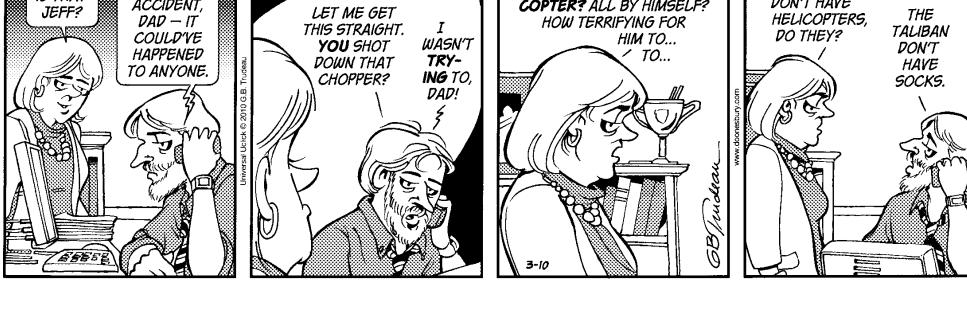
by Scott Adams

'NON SEQUITUR'



BY WILEY

Doonesbury



BY GARRY TRudeau

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0203

Across	28	Actress	Benedict of	61	Newcastle upon	England
1	Inflamous motel	of film	"Petticoat Junction"	62	One of a Disney	septet
6	Son of Seth	31	Parental order	63	Big laughs	
10	Dual_ engine	36	Stallion-to-be	64	Marked, in a	way
14	"__ Jubilee,"	37	Sculler's need	65	Ranee's wrap	
	weekly 1950s	38	of lamb			
	country music	39	Parental order			
	program on ABC	40	#3			
15	Serenader's	44	Place for a			
	subject	45	mudbath			
16	Baseball family	46	Seasoning for			
	name	47	pommes frites			
17	Amish	48	Hubub			
	conveyance	49	Govt.			
18	__ fixe	50	investigation			
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19	Main point	52	#1 hit "Empire			
20	Parental order	53	State of Mind"			
23	"Darn tootin!"	54	Put on			
24	Inauguration	55	Reply to the			
	Day words	56	question in 13-			
25	Rte. 66, e.g.	57	and 57-Down			
26	Co. split off from	58	57 "#1!"			
	Time Warner in	59	Emphatic type:			
2009	2009	60	Abbr.			
27	Dr. with several	59	Wheel on a spur			
	Grammys	60	"Flower power"			
			musical			

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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Down	1	Coventry cop	IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, DAD — IT COULD'VE HAPPENED TO ANYONE.	61	Newcastle upon	England
2	Fair-weather hue	LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. YOU SHOT DOWN THAT CHOPPER?	I WASN'T TRYING TO, DAD!	62	One of a Disney	septet
3	Touch base after a fly-out	I WASN'T TRYING TO, DAD!	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	63	Big laughs	
4	Joule fractions	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	64	Marked, in a	way
5	Abdul-Jabbar's trademark shot	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	65	Ranee's wrap	
6	Silas Marner's creator	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	66		
7	Slangy "That's obvious!"	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF? HOW TERRIFYING FOR HIM TO... TO...	JEFF SHOT DOWN A HELICOPTER? ALL BY HIMSELF?			

METRO**UISG split on Hawks Nest funding**

University of Iowa Student Government senators were divided on legislation Tuesday night that would allocate \$25,000 to the Hawks Nest Hawkapalooza, voting 18-9 to table the decision.

Last year, UISG approved a \$30,000 request from the organization for its first event. Held on Sept. 3 2009, the event drew a crowd of more than 10,000 students and was highlighted by a Lupe Fiasco concert.

Hawk's Nest President Tim McLaughlin said the group would not require UISG funds in the future but needs the money now as a bargaining chip when asking for donations.

Senators held opposing views about allocating the money.

UISG allocates far less money to other large campus groups, UISG President Michael Currie

said, so it would be unfair to grant Hawkapalooza such a large sum.

"It doesn't seem equitable to me," he said. "If it had passed tonight, I probably would have vetoed it."

Sen. Alejandro Alonso took a more favorable stance.

"Other schools have all these great traditions, these big concerts, big events, and we just

don't have that," he said.

Although it allocated \$30,000 to the event last year, UISG doesn't always have that money to give, Currie said. Last year, UISG was using

excess money that hadn't been used from the Collegiate Readership Program. However, funds from that account are diminishing, Currie said.

- by Michelle Hillenbrand



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- Kathy Lewis,
Bounce Back
Program participant



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INTRAMURALS

Blowout ends intramural season

The Ballers end the intramural basketball season hot with a 66-28 win over the Snatchers Tuesday night.

By ETHAN SEBERT

ethan-sebert@uiowa.edu

It wasn't close, but it was exciting.

The Ballers dominated the Snatchers, 66-28, in both teams' final game of Men's Open division pool play on Tuesday night. Bodies hit the floor on both ends of the court as the two teams tried to set a fast pace.

The high tempo caused some sloppy passing and play, and 15 fouls were called during the game.

The Snatchers won the opening tip and promptly scored the first two points of the game in what turned out to be the team's only lead. The Ballers answered with two points, and the onslaught began.

The Ballers scored 35 points in the first half while holding the Snatchers to just 15. However, the Ballers struggled to stop freshman Andrew Gordon, who scored all but two of the



SLADE KEMMET/THE DAILY IOWAN
Freshman Andrew Gordon dribbles down the court with senior Gary Wright in pursuit during an intramural basketball game in the Field House on Tuesday night. After getting blown out in the game, Gordon's team, the Snatchers, fell to 0-4.

Snatchers' first-half points.

"I'm just finding lanes, and my teammates are doing a good job of setting screens," Gordon said at the half. "But obviously, I'm not happy; we're down by 20."

Junior Kyle Yoder lit up the scoreboard in the first half for the Ballers despite not playing the entire period. Yoder left the game with 9:25 left in the half because of an ankle injury.

"I was trying to do a spin move and came down on the side of my foot, so it was sore for a couple of minutes," Yoder said.

He came back with 6:49 left and immediately nailed a 3-pointer.

Yoder also made a blind steal when the Snatchers tried to inbound the ball to freshman Greg Gregory with 1:53 left in the half. Yoder drove the ball to the basket, hitting a lay-up and drawing a foul.

Yoder then sank his free throw to complete the 3-point play, giving him 12 points for the half and the game — he had to leave at halftime for a class.

The rest of the Ballers made up for that, especially junior Ryan Horn. Horn led the game in scoring with 23 points, 14 of which came in the second half.

"I just felt really motivated to do well for my team, and everyone was making

good passes," Horn said.

The Ballers maintained a fast-paced offense in the second half, scoring most of its points in transition.

"We like to run, and it usually works out," junior Baller Danny Freese said. "Which is good because we don't have a lot of size."

The Ballers also made some adjustments on defense, switching from its usual man-to-man to a 2-3 zone to prevent Gordon from driving. The new defense worked well, holding Gordon to just two points in the second half.

Besides Gordon's two, the Ballers only allowed 11 points in the second half, six from freshman Snatcher Doug Fowler.

The Ballers improved its record to 3-1, and the Snatchers fell to 0-4. The Ballers' only loss came in its last game, on March 2, when it lost to the American Gladiators, 65-48.

The win on Tuesday night guaranteed the Ballers a spot in the playoffs and a possible rematch with the undefeated American Gladiators. The team members said they were excited about the playoffs and thought Tuesday night was a good tune-up game for the postseason.

Besides working on their zone defense, the players also learned a valuable lesson — not to eat at Burge before a game.

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Sophomores spark GymHawks

Iowa women's gymnastics coach Larissa Libby describes her sophomore class as the glue holding the Hawkeyes this season.

By ROBBIE LEHMAN

robert-lehman@uiowa.edu

Nine awestruck freshmen arrived in Iowa City about a year and a half ago not knowing exactly what to expect.

Now sophomores, they are having an enormous impact on the Iowa women's gymnastics team.

"When you have that many people in one class, they tend to dominate what happens on the team," Iowa head coach Larissa Libby said. "They do a good job just being a positive, influential group."

GymHawks Amy Center, Rachel Corcoran, Jordan Ezslinger, Heather Fomon, Jessa Hansen, Melissa Miller, Rachel Nash, Jennie Schurman, and Annie Szatkowski make up Iowa's second-year class, which fills up half of the 18-member squad.

Libby recruited the larger-than-average bunch expecting they would require ample time to learn and develop mentally and physically before competing. But she didn't anticipate needing to employ nearly all of them into her lineup this season.

"They're getting the opportunity to compete in pressure situations," Libby said. "That's certainly going to help us down the road in

the future. They've done such a wonderful job pushing hard and training hard, showing themselves as prominent people in the lineup. That class has really been the glue to the team this year."

One senior, five juniors, and three freshmen round out the rest of the Hawkeye roster. Youth has been a major theme for Libby this season, because the underclassmen double the upperclassmen, 12 to six.

However, the sophomores unquestionably stand out because of their overwhelming number and a collective passion for gymnastics.

Hansen, Center, Miller, Szatkowski, and Ezslinger are all regulars at the moment, and all were instrumental last weekend in Iowa's posting its two highest scores of the season and two upsets wins over No. 17 Iowa State and No. 21 Southern Utah.

Corcoran was also a strong presence in the lineup to begin the season before suffering a knee injury and undergoing surgery.

The class is a mix of walk-ons and scholarship athletes, and every sophomore knows her role, with all-arounder Hansen undoubtedly standing as the leader in the gym.



BRENNA NORMAN/THE DAILY IOWAN
Iowa sophomore Jessa Hansen performs a floor routine during the women's gymnastic meet against Iowa State in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 21. With nine members, sophomores make up half of the GymHawks.

The Clive, Iowa, native has consistently placed at the top of the all-around results during her second season.

Fomon, who has battled numerous injuries in her career — including three surgeries — is the morale manager, making her voice heard during practice and meets on the sideline. The product of Iowa City said the class has a special bond as teammates and friends.

"We're just really close, so we know how to push each other," she said. "We know when someone needs a hug. We know what the other person needs without her having to tell us."

Szatkowski, the group's

self-appointed social-events coordinator and frequent mass texter, chose "chill" as the defining term for the sophomores.

The Reno, Nev., native described the sophomores' relationship as almost telepathic, and she's extremely enthusiastic about the class' future.

"Our junior and senior year, we're going to make up still a big portion of the team and be even more experienced," Szatkowski said. "More of us are going to be in lineups, so I feel like all of us are going to be doing something and make a huge impact on the team in the next two years — if not this year."

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VALENTINE'S DAY (PG-13)

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WHEN IN ROME (PG-13)

5:10, 7:20, 9:30

WHEN IN ROME

LICKLITER

CONTINUED FROM 12

strides," he said. "We're still young, and I feel like all this time that the freshmen are putting in playing in the Big Ten, it's only going to make us better in the future. Right now, it is kind of disappointing, but I feel like we got a bright future coming up."

The third time is the charm

One classic cliché has served as the motto for the

Hawkeyes this week.

Not only is Thursday's battle the third time Iowa will face the Wolverines this season, it's also the third-straight meeting with Michigan in the conference tournament's opening round.

The Hawks have yet to beat the Wolverines.

"Hopefully, times have changed, and we'll get them this year," junior Jarryd Cole said.

Players haven't forgotten about last year's 73-45 drubbing in Indianapolis — a game in which Michigan's DeShawn Sims and Manny

Harris matched Iowa's point total.

Of all the Big Ten teams, the Wolverines definitely catch Iowa's attention. Sophomore Matt Gatens said being able to prevail over Michigan would be a tremendous boost to the Hawkeyes' morale.

"It would show that we can learn from previous games, and at the same time, it'd take a step forward in the right direction," he said.

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 12

One aspect that hasn't changed throughout the season has been the squad's strength in the batter's box.

Iowa is hitting .279 as a team. And while the squad has belted 12 home runs, Blevins and Stephenson said they have not put an added emphasis on hitting for power.

Leading the way is junior Chelsey Carmody, whose .415 batting average and five home runs tops the Hawkeyes. Carmody, who had only two career home runs heading into the 2010 campaign, is a product of her hard work, Stephenson said. The ball must look as big as a beach ball to the Marion native right now, the assistant said.

"Chelsey has a great approach," Blevins said. "She's one of the players who you want the young players to model because she makes adjustments at the plate."

- Gayle Blevins, head coach

we start having more of a focus in practice, then these things will carry over in the game. We're kind of miss-

ing the details. Once we see the small details, we'll start winning these ball games."



FILE PHOTO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa junior Taylor Leichsenring beats a throw to first during the second game of a double-header against Penn State on April 4, 2009. After a good start, the Hawks have cooled off in their last eight games.

WOMEN'S HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM 12

run to the conference title game, defeating Penn State and No. 23 Michigan State before falling to then-No. 10 Ohio State.

With that late-season run, sophomore Kamille Wahlin said, she thinks the team did enough to earn an invitation to the tournament.

"From what I hear from other people, you know, that we do have a good shot of getting in," she said. "So hopefully, we proved ourselves in the [Big Ten] tournament that we are capable of playing in the NCAA Tournament."

Some things considered for determining at-large bids include record, rankings, and strength of schedule. A key element includes Ratings Percentage Index, which ranks teams based on their wins, losses, and strength of schedule.

The Hawkeyes are ranked 43rd in the country.

With the Big Ten boasting formidable teams, head coach Lisa Bluder said she expects at least four teams to make it, including her own.

"I feel confident that we belong there," Bluder said after the team's loss to the Buckeyes. "It's obvious that Ohio State is going to



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN
Trisha Nesbitt passes the ball during the Big Ten championship game in Conseco Field House on Sunday. The Hawkeyes lost in the final seconds of the game, 66-64.

be there, and Michigan State and Wisconsin having such great RPIs and being in the top four in this conference, I think we'll get four [teams] in."

Originally, Iowa was considered a squad on the bubble and possibly advancing further into the postseason as one of the final selections.

Before the Big Ten Tournament, Bluder said she believed two wins would be enough to help the Hawkeyes' cause.

With their run, it now seems that Hawkeyes might receive an 11 or 12 seed.

"Two months ago, no one thought we'd be there so that's a good thing we have going for us," freshman Jaime Printy said.

Winning 11 of its final 14 games, Iowa has 16 possible locations it could end up at depending on

what the 10-person committee decides. ESPN's women's bracketologist Charlie Creme predicts the Hawkeyes will be an 11th-seed taking on No. 6 seeded Vanderbilt in Tallahassee, Fla.

The team has made the tournament the last two years. Last season as a No. 8 seed, it suffered a first-round loss to Georgia Tech in Carver-Hawkeye Arena.

"We haven't won a first-round NCAA game in a while," junior Kachine Alexander said. "So, I think that's definitely going to be another goal of ours. We've been playing really well for the last 13, 14 games or so. So I think it's going to give us a little bit of momentum going in."

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RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN
Iowa junior Vince India chips on the 18th hole at the Golfweek Conference Challenge in Riverside on Aug. 30, 2009. India finished the day with a one-over-par 73 and tied for 23rd place.

From stairs to yoga, Hawk golfers prepare

The Iowa men's golf team uses an extensive workout schedule for both mental and physical gains on the golf course.

By JESSIE SMITH

jessica-c-smith@uiowa.edu

The 35th-ranked Iowa men's golf team opened practice inside the Bubble March 5 just as one might imagine.

Some players did warm-up stretches, and others popped on their headphones and hit a few easy shots to get loose for the three-hour skill-training session ahead.

But Iowa head coach Mark Hankins' group starts practice four days a week quite differently.

The team runs stairs and does core exercises in Carver-Hawkeye Arena every Monday and Friday morning with spin classes and swimming workouts in the Field House every Tuesday and Thursday. The squad also mixes up the routine by doing "hot yoga" on Wednesday afternoons.

Aside from conditioning, the Hawkeye golfers dedicate approximately nine hours a week to putting, chipping, hitting, and general training. And their extensive training schedule is what Hankins hopes will prepare his nine-man roster for its upcoming 36-hole competition days away in Texas, Arizona, and Florida.

"I feel like we can control how

'We can't control the weather. We can't control different things on golf the courses. But we can control not getting tired over a three-round tournament.'

- Mark Hankins, head coach

good of shape we're in," Hankins said. "We can't control the weather. We can't control different things on golf the courses. But we can control not getting tired over a three-round tournament."

This arduous in-season work-out provides the golfers with plenty of physical gains. Hankins' squad also sees the mental benefits of such a rigorous routine.

Sophomore Chris Brant said the tough workouts build a mental edge that will directly help the Hawkeyes' performances on the links.

"We believe they build mental toughness," he said. "If you're going up that last flight of stairs, and you don't want to, you have to push through it, and that relates a lot to golf."

The weekly hour-and-15-minute yoga class on Wednesday is the latest addition to the team's workout schedule. Hankins added the class to improve his group's mental toughness and also to address the golfers' inflexibility.

"I think the yoga was an addition we put in there because time and time again our guys have noted their lack of flexibility," Hankins said. "They're just very inflexible, which can cause injuries from overuse and bad posture in your golf swing."

Sophomore Barrett Kelpin said he thinks the addition of the yoga class is something the entire team benefits from.

"I like the yoga a lot. Running stairs just really keep us in shape for the days we have to walk 36-holes," he said. "But everyone on the team is inflexible in some part of his body, so [yoga] really helps us out a lot."

The Hawkeyes' in-season training schedule may seem lengthy, but the Iowa golfers acknowledge it will pay off in the end.

"The more you work, the more you expect to play well, because you put in the time," junior Brad Hopfinger said. "So I think [the workouts] are really beneficial for us."

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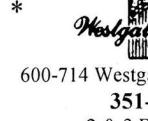
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Sports



INTRAMURALS

Thanks to 35 first-half points, the Ballers handles the Snatchers Tuesday night in the Field House.

8

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010 Daily Iowan Sports D



Sonja Molnar

TENNIS

Molnar honored

Iowa sophomore Sonja Molnar was named Big Ten Player of the Week on Tuesday following a successful two-game stretch at the Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex over the weekend.

Starting on March 6 against Missouri, Molnar won her singles match (6-0, 6-4) after she and senior Merel Beelen won their doubles contest, 8-4.

Molnar's victory on Sunday had fans on edge. In a match that lasted more than 30 minutes, the native of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, defeated singles opponent Anna Redecsi of DePaul (6-4, 7-6 [7-5]), to give the Hawkeyes a 4-3 win over the No. 24-ranked Blue Demons.

Molnar also helped her team in doubles play. Facing the 10th-ranked duo in the nation in Redecsi and Selma Salkovic, Molnar and Beelen won the match, 9-7, to help Iowa to win the doubles point.

Molnar, who plays in the No. 1 spot, improved her record to 9-1 in doubles play, 18-6 overall.

The Hawkeyes will resume play in San Diego against Wichita State on March 17.

— by Jon Frank

NBA

Jazz blast Bulls

CHICAGO (AP) — Deron Williams got the better of Derrick Rose, finishing with 28 points and a season-high 17 assists, and CJ Miles scored a season-best 26 points Tuesday night to lead the Utah Jazz to a 132-108 victory over the Chicago Bulls.

Williams threw down a hard dunk on Rose during a 13-1 run late in the third quarter that broke a 77-all tie and sent Utah to its 22nd win in 27 games. Miles scored 18 in the fourth, hitting four of his six 3-pointers, as the Jazz outscored Chicago 40-27 and secured at least a .500 record for the 26th time in 27 years.

With 25 points and 13 assists, Rose didn't exactly get dominated in a matchup of star point guards. But the Bulls tied a season high with their fifth-straight loss even though Brad Miller scored 20.

Luol Deng added 14 points after missing practice the previous day with flu symptoms, but he sat out the fourth quarter because of a strained right calf, another blow for a team in the middle of a brutal nine-game stretch against contenders.

MORE COVERAGE

The Iowa men's basketball and wrestling teams are competing for championships, and *The Daily Iowan* has you covered.

This week, Todd Lickliter and the Hawkeyes will head to Indianapolis for the 2010 Big Ten Tournament looking to make a run. Tom Brands and his crew will head to Omaha next week, seeking a third-straight national championship.

From stories to photo slide shows to live Tweets, the *DI* will have ample coverage of both events. Be sure to visit dailyiowan.com starting Thursday for the Big Ten Men's basketball tourney, and all next week throughout the NCAA wrestling championships.

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RYAN MILLER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa men's basketball head coach Todd Lickliter applauds his players before entering a time-out huddle during the second half of Iowa's game against Northwestern on Feb. 10 in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. "I think there's a lot to be said about guys who don't give up and persevere," Lickliter said after the 78-65 win.

Hoopsters still hopeful

Sophomore Matt Gatens says being able to beat Michigan would help Hawkeye morale.

By BRENDAN STILES

brendan-stiles@uiowa.edu

The 2009-10 regular season didn't conclude the way Todd Lickliter envisioned. In fact, the ending probably couldn't satisfy anyone in the Iowa men's basketball program.

The Hawkeyes didn't just lose road games at Wisconsin and Minnesota last week — they got shellacked.

After falling by 27 points to the Badgers, they went up to Williams Arena in Minneapolis on March 7 and left 35-point losers, the most Iowa has lost any game by in 20 years.

But as quickly as Iowa fell

behind, the Hawkeyes have appeared to just as rapidly skip ahead.

Lickliter knows that this season, the Hawks have experienced growing pains similar to those in the first two years of his tenure. But Iowa's 21 losses doesn't stop him from asking a lot from his squad, especially from younger players such as freshman Eric May, who was named to the Big Ten All-Freshman squad on Monday.

"I liken it to when you're in a tough course, and you're struggling. The professor's probably pretty demanding. Well, I'm pretty demanding on these guys," Lickliter

said. "I got to get them to be 'A' students. I'm sure it's taxing for them, but they have not backed down."

Iowa will face Michigan in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament on Thursday in Indianapolis, and while Lickliter made it clear at his press conference on Tuesday that the season hasn't officially concluded, his outlook on the team's future remains optimistic.

"This is a group that will want to help the new guys make an easier transition," the third-year head coach said. "They know what they've gone through, and I think they'll be able to help that next group, and then it starts — that's

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Watch some video highlights from the head coach's press conference on dailyiowan.com.

now the norm. That's what we're trying to get to."

That grind is something players, such as sophomore Aaron Fuller, are using as motivation for when the season ends, knowing another year together should provide what they hope is a better representation of Hawkeye basketball.

"I feel like we're making

SEE LICKLITER, 9

Hawks try to get out of slump

After a hot start, the Hawkeyes have dropped six of their last eight games.

By MITCH SMITH

mitchell-e-smith@uiowa.edu

With three of the four best hitters returning for the Iowa softball team, the Hawkeyes are on pace to hit more home runs than the 37 they tallied last year.

Still, the 2010 season hasn't quite gone the way the Iowa softball team wanted.

"We're not very happy with where we're at right now," senior Katie Brown said.

"We're disappointed with the outcomes of the games."

After the team won six of its first nine games during the season's initial two weeks, the Hawkeyes have since spiraled, doing a 360-degree turn in their last eight contests.

Iowa (8-9) has lost six of its last eight games — five of those coming by three runs or fewer.

Assistant coach Diane Stephenson said players are learning a lot about

themselves and figuring out what needs improvement. One of the most important aspects, she said, is closing out games.

"One of the things you see with young teams is you have to learn to finish games," she said. "We have to continue to put numbers up throughout the game. We've got to be able to score five, six, seven runs."

Iowa head coach Gayle Blevins wants to see progress in the pitcher's circle.

Hawkeye hurlers have allowed 54 earned runs and 50 walks through the first 17 games, both on pace to surpass the 77 earned runs and 123 base on balls recorded last season.

"We need to get a little better performance out of our pitching staff," she said. "The difference could be one fewer walk or just making quality pitches. If we can see some reductions in those areas, we give ourselves a better chance."

SEE SOFTBALL, 9

Hawkeyes wait for Dance invitation

The Iowa women's basketball team will learn where it stands in the NCAA Tournament on March 15.

By EVELYN LAU

evelyn-lau@uiowa.edu

The Iowa women's basketball team left Conseco Field House in tears after a disappointing 66-64 loss to Ohio State in the Big Ten championship game on Sunday.

However, the Hawkeyes (19-13 overall) still have a chance to continue their season with an at-large bid to the women's NCAA Tournament starting on March 20.

The 64 teams selected — 31 automatic bids, 33 at-large berths — will be announced in a selection show on ESPN on March 15.

After starting the Big Ten season 1-6, Iowa won nine out of its last 11 games to finish third in the conference. As the No. 3 seed, the Hawkeyes made a



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN
Jaime Printy shoots over Samantha Prahalis of Ohio State in Conseco Field House during the Big Ten Tournament championship game on Sunday. Printy, the Big Ten Freshman of the Year, scored nine points in Iowa's 66-64 loss.