

The Daily Iowan

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50¢

Experts decry exempting governor from records law

The bill would create the Iowa Public Information Board to oversee records requests.

By SARAH BULMER
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Open-records advocates are praising a bill that would create a state board to handle public-information complaints, but they said exempting Iowa's governor from the committee's oversight would likely be an anomaly.

Harry Hammitt, a member of the Virginia Coalition for Open Govern-

ment who has studied open-record and open-meeting issues for two decades, said he's never heard of such an exclusion.

It doesn't surprise him, though. "I would suspect that one thing that would make it palatable for the Governor's Office would be to say, up front, that it's not subject," Hammitt said.

Branstad told *The Daily Iowan* on Tuesday that he supported a transpar-

ent government.

"We're not exempt from transparency," he said. "There's no one who's more committed to transparency than I am."

But Branstad, who has served on the Iowa Newspaper Foundation's board, insisted the proposed Public Information Board shouldn't review



Branstad

governor, would be exempt from board's oversight

SEE OPEN RECORDS, 6

Higgins, Caplin sweep in UISG vote

Elliot Higgins and Brittany Caplin will be inaugurated on April 17.

By ALLIE WRIGHT
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The Action Party presidential ticket won the University of Iowa Student Government elections in a landslide — with 100 percent of the votes, to be exact.

"[I'm] very, very happy," said UISG President-elect Elliot Higgins. "Honored is the better word."

More than 3,000 votes were cast in this year's election — more than 15 percent of the undergraduate population. Higgins and Vice President-elect Brittany Caplin were the lone contenders for the top two spots to serve during the 2011-2012 school year.

Caplin said she felt "phenomenal" after the victory as she received applause and hugs from UISG senators.

Collectively, the Action Party presidential ticket received 2,341 votes. The overall 3,000 voting number is nearly double the amount of students who voted last year, but it's roughly half the number from 2008. Since 1993, there were only two years — 2010 and 2011 — with only one party.

The pair of UI juniors said they will now pick the members of their executive board, follow up with administration and work to execute the goals of their platform. Their plans include working to allow students to charge items and services from downtown businesses to their U-bills, expand Nite Ride, and advocate for lower alcohol-related fines.

As the current UISG liaison to the Iowa City City Council, Higgins recently asked councilors to consider reducing the fine for being caught in a bar underage after 10 p.m. The council agreed to address the issue at a July meeting.

Higgins and Caplin said they have met with the president of the University of Iowa Community Credit Union to discuss possible details of their U-bill plan.

UISG President John Rigby said both Caplin and Higgins are hard workers and with much experience. Rigby noted he believes the U-bill idea is possible "with good, hard work and dialogue."

But UI officials said attaining this goal will be a difficult feat. Both Tom Rocklin, the UI vice president for Student Ser-



Higgins
president elect



Caplin
vice president elect



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Hazel Pelley chooses ingredients for dish at Kirkwood Community College on Wednesday. Kirkwood provides students with the opportunity to work in its hotel, which allows students to work with professional chefs.

Kirkwood labs aid would-be cooks

Nationwide, some policymakers have criticized the disparity between culinary graduates' large amounts of debt and the often low starting incomes for chefs.

By SARAH BULMER
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It's 7 a.m., and nine students in Chef Jeremy Ralph's four-hour Stocks and Sauces lab at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids listen as their instructor explains the value of Khira raita, a cucumber-yogurt salad typically served as a condiment with Indian cuisine.

Since Ralph began teaching culinary school at Kirkwood in 2000, he's seen a growing number of students interested in culinary education and food-related jobs.

"It takes longevity," Ralph said about culinary careers. "You have to love it, otherwise, you're not going to make it."

Nationwide, some legislators have recently criticized the eco-

nomie strength of culinary degrees. Lawmakers have questioned whether the starting income of culinary-school graduates is worth what they paid for a degree, said Jarrel Price, an analyst at Height Analytics, an independent policy research group.

"Countering the industry position, many policymakers have argued that it is fair to evaluate for-profit students based on their initial salary, because that's when they need to be able to repay their loans," Price said.

Officials are more concerned with specialized institutions such as Le Cordon Bleu, which lists a tuition of \$19,350 for a culinary-arts certificate and not with community colleges such as Kirkwood.

SEE CULINARY, 6

Groups work for Fair Farm Bill

The Fair Farm Bill has been debated since the start of the Great Depression.

By MICHELLE MCCONNAUGHEY
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Five years ago, the University of Iowa Environmental Coalition started gardening a small plot of land near North Hall. Two years later, the members expanded their garden into a larger area on the West Campus. And today, they're teaming up with a national nonprofit

organization to raise awareness about a long-debated farming bill.

UI student gardeners will meet with members of the national consumer advocacy organization Food and Water Watch today to dedicate a workday in their garden to spread the word on the importance of the Fair Farm Bill.

SEE FARM BILL, 5

UI project aids young students

Ten graduate students worked closely with the middle schoolers this week.

By HAYLEY BRUCE
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Briana Wessley had no idea she was going to extract DNA from a banana when she woke up Thursday morning.

But that's what the 14-year-old Columbus Community Middle School student did as part of University of Iowa's Project HOPE.

"It looked kind of disgusting," she said.

But the dissection won't prevent her from wanting to become a forensic psychologist.

The simulation was

one of five put on through a collaboration of the University of Iowa College of Education and the UI's various health-science colleges. It was part of a project that aims to offer health-care career education to children of under-represented minorities and rural communities.

Project HOPE first started in 2005 as a general career education program, and it has now expanded into a week-long event in which eighth-graders work with graduate students to tar-

SEE HOPE, 6



RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Columbus Community Middle School eighth-grader Rachel Bean watches on as eighth-grader Jazzmen Brionnes plays with sand during a play-therapy psychology workshop as part of the UI's Project HOPE on Thursday in the Lindquist Center.

DAILY IOWAN TV

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

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WEATHER

HIGH 59
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Mostly cloudy, 20% chance of rain early, then turning partly sunny.

HUNGRY?

Check out *The Daily Iowan Dining Guide*. Use your smart phone and any QR reader to scan the QR code to the right for a guide to local restaurants, including full menus. **Bon appétit!**





Confab promotes safety

The Federal Partnerships to Prevent Injuries conference concludes today.

By **HEATHER EDELMAN**
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The more education a community receives on injury prevention, the healthier it ultimately becomes.

This was one topic of discussion on Thursday during the Federal Partnerships to Prevent Injuries conference, an event in conjunction with the 2011 National Public Health Week to discuss safety.

The conference — hosted by the Injury Prevention Research Center based in the University of Iowa College of Public Health, — featured a wide range of national injury-prevention experts who addressed possible ways to prevent violence against women, work-related injuries, mental-health related issues, and other sources injuries. The event concludes today.

"I would like to see [injury prevention] become a normal part of our lives, even more so than it is now," said Linda Degutis, the director of the National Center for Injury Prevention, which is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "Not just wearing a seat belt, but tuning in and knowing what's going on and what the risks are."

According to experts, education is the best way to achieve this goal.

Corinne Peek-Asa, the director of the UI Injury Prevention Research Center, noted injury prevention has always been a relatively small field in relation to the size of the problem.



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Neal Walker, chief of the Mental Health Promotion Branch for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, speaks at the Federal Partnership to Prevent Injury conference at the Marriott Hotel on Thursday. The conference gathered working professionals who deal with injury prevention.

Injury prevention

Some statistics about injuries in Iowa:

- 73: percent of injury deaths classified as unintentional
- 5: percent of hospitalizations related to injuries
- 22: average years lost because of injury-related deaths
- 20: percent of outpatient hospital visits due to injuries

Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

According to the state Department of Public Health, unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death for Iowans between the ages of 1 and 34 and the fifth-leading cause of death for all Iowans.

One speaker, Susan Carbon, the director of the

Office on Violence Against Women in the U.S. Department of Justice, said her office continues to look at how it can incorporate more prevention in the programs that exist.

"If all we do is look at something after the fact and never rewind that script to intervene earlier," she said, "we are never going to break the cycle of violence."

Iowans suffer more than 1,500 injury-related deaths each year — approximately 6 percent of all deaths in the state, according to the most recent statistics from the Public Health Department.

Further, more than 17,000 Iowans are admitted to hospitals for unintended injuries each year, and 250,000 Iowans are treated on an outpatient

basis for injuries.

And experts suggested there's hope to reduce the amount of injuries.

"Many injuries can be prevented through known evidence-based programs," Peek-Asa said. "In many ways, injury-prevention efforts are one of the most promising and winnable battles to improve the health of U.S. citizens."

Neal Walker, the chief of the Mental Health Promotion Branch for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, said people have to speak up in their communities and work together with surrounding communities to address injury prevention.

"We need to build bridges," he said.

County, city agree on bridge

Iowa City received a \$500,000 grant to improve the Butler Bridge.

By **KATIE HEINE**
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Two days after Iowa City city councilors completed plans to create a pedestrian trail for local bikers and runners along the Iowa River, the Johnson County Board of Supervisors said they were unaware a portion of the trail would consist of a sidewalk attached to a county-owned bridge.

"We were disappointed we weren't part of the discussion," said Supervisor Sally Stutsman, noting there were "ample opportunities" to inform the supervisors.

At their Thursday meeting, the supervisors approved the signing of an agreement with the city, allowing the city to build a pedestrian trail attached to the existing county-owned bridge.

Supervisors also voted unanimously to send a letter to City Council encouraging earlier communication for future projects. But supervisors said com-

munication glitches weren't detrimental by any means.

"It doesn't undermine the value of the project," Supervisor Janelle Rettig said.

The Butler Bridge spans the Iowa River north of the city's water plant on Dubuque Street N.E. The Iowa River Corridor Trail is interrupted by the bridge and forces users to remain on a narrow shoulder, said City Councilor Regenia Bailey.

To make it more convenient, she said, a pedestrian trail will be cantilevered along the side of the bridge. But county officials said they were never informed about the city's idea.

"It's a great project," Rettig said. "But the city of Iowa City never formally or informally talked to county about the fact that



Stutsman
supervisor

Dubuque Street / Butler Bridge

Plans for improvements:

- Attaching a cantilevered pedestrian bridge to the existing bridge
- Extending the Iowa River Corridor trail system north to Quarry Road and south to Iowa City Waterworks Park
- Dedicating a sidewalk to pedestrians along Dubuque Street

Source: Project agreement

it would be cantilevered to the county's bridge."

The city has been working on the project for more than five years, and county officials have been included during the discussions, Bailey said.

"It's interesting they wouldn't be aware of this," she said.

The projected cost for the project is around \$1 million, said John Yapp, the executive director for the Metropolitan Planning Organization of Johnson County.

Iowa City recently received a \$500,000 grant from federal transportation funds, he said, and the remaining funds will be matched by the city through local money. The project is expected to be completed this summer, Yapp said.

Once the supervisors found out county property was involved, they quickly created an agreement with Iowa City to determine maintenance responsibilities, Yapp said. The bridge and road will remain in control of the county and the attached pedestrian bridge will be in control of the city.

"We think this is a key trail system," Yapp said.

Supervisor Terrence Neuzil said the supervisors do not anticipate any problems with the plans, and he's glad they're collaborating with the city to improve the narrow bridge.

"It's going to be a real fantastic thing," he said.

METRO

Iowa leads in wind power

Iowa is the leading generator of wind power in the United

States, according to an annual report by the American Wind Energy Association.

Roughly 15 percent of the state's electricity comes from

wind generation, up from 7 percent in 2008.

Trailing Iowa is Minnesota, which is powered by 9 percent of electricity from wind. Iowa is one

of the nation's leaders in the wind industry and has the second most installed wind capacity in the nation.

— by Alison Sullivan

BLOTTER

Joseph Berns, 22, 218 N. Dubuque St., was charged Thursday with OWI. **Gretchen Brown**, 33, 1833 Lakeside Drive, was charged Tuesday with driving while revoked. **Tammie Escher**, 41, 314 Cherokee Trail, was charged Thursday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Francis Gakinya**, 29, Coralville,

was charged Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Rolando Garcia**, 24, Ongara, Ill., was charged Thursday with OWI. **James Goodwin**, 69, 1100 Arthur St. Apt. H4, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication. **Alfred Jackson**, 20, 2110 Broadway Apt. E, was charged

Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Antonio Jackson**, 45, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 3207, was charged Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Mark McClintick**, 50, address unknown, was charged Thursday with disorderly conduct. **Lamont Monroe**, 21, 2112 Miami

Drive, was charged Wednesday with driving while revoked and OWI. **Dahoneyshe Perry**, 35, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 4802, was charged Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Alexander Schepman**, 18, West Des Moines, was charged Tuesday with fifth-degree theft.

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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.

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Thursday.

1. Branstad: Paid-leave bill 'only fair'
2. Hawkeye still has rhabdo symptoms, looks to other schools
3. UI defends increase in travel expenses
4. Should all state employees convicted of crimes be required to return paid leave salaries?
5. City Council agrees to consider reducing 21-only fine

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RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

West High senior Elizabeth Lin and junior Andrew Altmeier sit in a music room in West High on Wednesday. The 17-year-olds will appear on the NPR program "From the Top" on April 16 and 17.

2 from West to play NPR show

The West High students will showcase their musical talent on national airwaves.

By **JON FRANK**
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Until now, West High students Andrew Altmeier and Elizabeth Lin have performed in front of crowds no greater than 100 people.

But on April 16 and 17, more than 700,000 will hear their solos.

The 17-year-olds will appear on the NPR program "From the Top," which features five pre-college musicians each week. The show broadcasts 20 shows each year.

"It's definitely a great achievement, because it's a very selective process," said Erin MacCurtian, the director of communication for "From the Top." "We look for a fairly high caliber in our young musicians."

The majority of the nationwide pool of applicants for the show submit their auditions via the Internet. But through Iowa Makes Music, a program funded by the U.S. Department of Education that hosts live events and school visits led by teens, producers ended up hearing the young musicians live in the fall of 2010.

Altmeier, who plays the cello, has appeared on the show once before as an accompanist. Lin plays alto saxophone.

Producers recorded a live concert March 30 at the Gallagher Bluedorn in Cedar Falls. They also recorded an additional take during the dress rehearsal prior to the show at the Gallagher Bluedorn, in case of a mistake.

Prior to recording their performances, the West High students visited and performed at local elementary schools March 29 to encourage youngsters to take an interest in music.

"Some of the kids are so excited, and they want to

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Log on to watch a photo slide show of the two West High students to be featured on NPR.

hear you play," said Altmeier, a junior. "You were having a profound effect on some of them."

Lin agreed the tour was a positive experience.

"One of [the kids] came up to us afterward and asked for our autographs," the senior said.

The students have been musicians for most of their lives.

Lin started with piano and violin when she was 5, but she didn't care much for either instrument.

"I was just kind of playing the notes," she said.

In fifth grade she picked up the alto saxophone. But her passion grew after she started taking private lessons in eighth grade, which is also when she was introduced to the piece she performed in Cedar Falls, "Prelude, Cadence, and Finale," by Alfred Desenclos.

"I always really liked that piece, but I never thought I'd be able to play it," she said.

Altmeier, on the other hand, has 13 years experience playing cello, and he also plays piano.

During his performance, the Iowa City native played the second movement of Dmitri Shostakovich's "Sonata for Cello and Piano." He was accompanied on piano by Christopher O'Riley — the host of "From the Top."

Lin said her choice of school will determine her musical future. After high school, Altmeier is unsure what role music will play in his life.

"Next, I'm taking a break," he said. "I have a feeling it's going to be more of a hobby than a career."



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Fun Follies

Members of Alpha Phi sorority and the National Pan-Hellenic Council end their skit during Greek Follies in the IMU Main Lounge on Thursday. Follies was the final event of Greek Week. Pairings of fraternities and sororities received points at Follies for their artistic backdrops, male and female vocalists, video presentations and first-, second-, and third- place finishes. Groups also began the week with 100 "sportsmanship" points, which could be reduced during Follies for talking during skits and leaving early.



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Editorial

SF430 would increase transparency
— with one large exception

Government by the people works best when the people know what the government is doing.

Some Iowa legislators are recognizing this fact by proposing Senate File 430, which creates the Iowa Public Information Board for answering questions and resolving disputes about open government laws and clarifies the protocol for open-information violations.

Open-record and open-meeting laws are a crucial tool for citizens to maintain an accountable and representative democracy. Gov. Terry Branstad, as well as government agencies across the state, need to take open-record and open-meeting laws seriously. Senate File 430 would be a decent step forward for transparency in Iowa's government, and we wholeheartedly endorse its passage — while condemning an exemption for the Governor's Office.

Many improvements are still needed in Iowa government's transparency. The nonprofit transparency watchdog Sunshine Review gives Iowa's government a C grade for transparency and its county governments a D.

The largest problem for transparency in Iowa is enforcement. "Lack of enforcement is our Achilles' heel; it's really our greatest weakness," Drake Professor and Director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council Kathleen Richardson told the *DI* Editorial Board on Wednesday.

There are few resources for citizens to resolve open-record and open-meeting disputes. The only way to contest a refusal of information from Iowa's government is to hire a private attorney and sue. The Iowa Public Information Board would also be a resource for government officials to aid their compliance with transparency laws. "I frequently get calls from people serving on school boards and other voluntary boards who are wondering exactly what they need to do to comply with these laws," Richardson said, "Most government officials do want to follow the laws, but many of them don't know how."

The current enforcement mechanisms require heavy investments of time and money for citizens and for government entities as well, and the Iowa Public Information Board would greatly improve the process.

One entity falling outside the board's jurisdiction will be the state executive branch. Unfortunately, SF430 gives the governor an opportunity to appear committed to

transparency by supporting a bill that will have little effect on his own activities.

The Governor's Office is currently embroiled in a controversy over documents regarding the development of an executive order. The Governor's Office and the Iowa Freedom of Information Council disagree on whether records of activities by the governor's transition team fall under the purview of Iowa's open-record law.

This is exactly the type of situation that the Public Information Board could solve. Without jurisdiction over the state executive's office, however, the board will be unable to mediate these types of conflict. The only recourse for citizens who feel the governor isn't complying with open-record laws is the Iowa court system, and Branstad's history with Iowa's courts doesn't instill much confidence that the prospect of a court order will deter him.

Branstad insists that exempting the Governor's Office from the board's jurisdiction is crucial, because citizens can't take up the governor's time by forcing him to appear before the board for mediation. "There's no one that's more committed to transparency than I am," the governor told *The Daily Iowan*. However, he still feels that "The chief executive should not be subject to having people harass him all the time by filing all kinds of accusations and things like that."

We disagree. The chief executive should be one of the officials who is most subject to transparency questions. The governor's response reflects an attitude that citizens who desire accountability and transparency from the chief executive are wasting his time, an attitude that is severely misguided (to say the least). Even if a couple of records disputes are malicious, it is better to treat all disputes as serious matters; transparency demands that we err on the side of indulgence.

We hope that the Iowa Legislature passes SF430, and that the legislation is soon expanded to incorporate the executive office, as well. The people should know how Iowa's government operates — it is ostensibly a government in their hands.

Your turn. Should records requests to the Governor's Office fall under the board's jurisdiction? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Old Capitol dreaming

EMILY INMAN
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Finals week, fall semester: The campus is adorned with sparkling Christmas decorations and a light dusting of snow. Students walk through campus, books and lattes in hand, no coat or wallet in tow. They meet in groups of four or five at the coffeehouse, near the dorms and some sort of wonder-mart where they can purchase whatever their hearts desire — from foam fingers for the football game to grocery bags full of soup to the perfect Christmas present for their love of the week.

"The College Years" spin-offs of the '90s teen sitcoms I watched as a kid teem with these campus utopias (and a side of cheese). The University of Iowa, however, wasn't built by cheesy teen sitcom writers, and our campus is quite different from most others.

Downtown Iowa City has the dual obligation of servicing college students while maintaining a community atmosphere for its citizens. Though I love Iowa City, sometimes this rocky marriage between the college students and the community does students a disservice in terms of what's available downtown. It's hard being a college student, without a car and much money, to find stores downtown that cater to our needs.

For instance, young women have limited options when it comes to buying clothing. The Express in the Old Capitol Town Center was an excellent idea, yet it failed. Hundreds of college women need a place to buy clothes for various occasions; why not put a clothing store right in the middle of town?

It was great at first. But after a while, everyone began to notice that everyone else was wearing the same outfit. Wearing an Express shirt became a faux pas. Now the Express is going to be replaced by Four Seasons, a local

women's clothing store that typically serves an older demographic. The owners of Four Seasons have said they plan to target younger adults in their new store.

However, one has to question their knowledge of the current college-woman dress trends, given a 25-year style difference. Four Seasons is most likely going to go down the same path as Express, yet for different reasons.

The Old Capitol mall needs to cater to its college audience. It needs to seriously rethink leasing spaces out to stores that won't accomplish this goal. Several young women's clothing stores not already located in the Coral Ridge Mall would go over great.

A shoe store would be great, too. Many occasions come up that students haven't anticipated or packed for, like a new job that requires only white shoes. Students are often unable to find what they need in a reasonable amount of time without venturing far off campus.

Clothing and shoe stores aren't the only entities that could thrive in the Old Capitol mall. Grocery shopping is also hard to do downtown. Granted, there is the Bread Garden Market and the New Pioneer Co-op (with 8 million different varieties of beans), but there's a need for a central complete-service grocery store.

A 24-hour fast-food restaurant would also be popular with students. Many students complain about the lack of late-night food options, especially those that they were used to in high school such as Burger King, McDonald's, and White Castle.

Empty store spots won't provide these benefits. A Four Seasons or other similar stores won't, either. The Old Capitol mall needs a revitalization; this revitalization should occur with the needs and desires of students governing each decision.

Maybe then we, too, could have a fanciful campus where coats aren't necessary during winter and no one ever breaks up — like in your favorite '90s teen sitcom. ■

Letter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to daily.iowan.letters@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.

Player transfers are part of basketball fabric

Another men's basketball player is leaving Iowa. While this is not good, it's also not surprising.

Basketball has grown into a game that promotes "I" players rather than "we" players in the past 10 to 15 years. Look no further than the Amateur Athletic Union circuit to find your answer to why this is happening to the great game of basketball. AAU promotes developing a

player's individual game by playing spring and summer ball in tournaments with teammates with whom they have no real connection. The players they run up and down the court with don't go to their school; hell, they might not even be from the same state. In AAU ball, it's every player for himself. The players who score lots of points get the basketball coaches around the country beating paths to their doors.

There is nothing wrong with scoring points, but where is the reward for setting screens, mak-

ing the extra pass, and playing defense with all your heart? Don't look too hard for these selfless acts in an AAU game, because there is very little reward for doing them.

The players who decide to transfer have been taught to worry about themselves more than their team from a very young age. What should we expect when something doesn't go just right for a college player? Their teammates are easily forgotten, and their eye for the greener pasture will not be overcome by any sense of loyalty.

Ever wonder why college football teams with more than 105 players on the roster have relatively few transfers (excepting health dust-ups)? Maybe it's because there are no AAU football teams to damage their sense of loyalty to and love for their teammates.

To any high-school player reading this rant: Keep on playing AAU ball, but remember that your high-school team is where your heart and soul should reside.

Dave Linder
UI alumnus

Guest opinion

Two futures and the national debt

On Tuesday, Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI, released the proposed Republican budget for fiscal 2012. Our national debt tops a staggering \$14 trillion, and it is being compounded by President Obama's trillion-plus deficits annually. The Republican budget confronts the debt crisis head on. While it seems Obama and the Senate Democrats want to continue America's plunge into insurmountable debt, we choose a brighter future — the "Path to Prosperity."

The United States is headed to an economic apocalypse if we continue unabated. In fact, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office's computer models of status-quo

spending break down by 2058 because of an extraordinary deficit. We face the most predictable, yet daunting, financial crisis in our nation's history. Do we allow the crisis to continue and push America into obscurity, or do we make the painful choices to put America back in the right direction?

Fiscal responsibility should not be a partisan issue. The economic prosperity and viability of America is at risk. We simply must fix this problem while it can still be fixed.

Ryan's proposed budget will do just that. His plan reduces government spending to below 20 percent of the national economy and reduces the president's proposed debt spending by

streamlining government agencies and vastly reforming the government's medical programs — saving an astounding \$6 trillion over the next decade.

The Democratic political machine would like to persuade you that any substantive reforms will eliminate access to affordable health care. The truth is that without immediate and decisive measures to reform and save these programs for future generations, they will contribute to the end of America's prosperity and functioning economy. Entitlement programs are the drivers of our debt.

We cannot make an impact on reducing our debt without changing Social Security, Medicare,

and Medicaid. Analyses by the pro-free-market National Center for Policy Analysis show that our unfunded liabilities in these three areas will top \$100 trillion over the next 80 years; in 15 short years, every cent of every tax dollar will be needed just to fund the government's health, retirement programs, and interest on the debt. Reform is clearly needed, and Ryan has given us a plan.

For once, our politicians are not concerned about reelection. Cutting entitlement programs has long been considered political suicide. Ryan openly admits this plan provides Democrats with political attacks for years to come. However, he knows that if

we do not change course quickly the America we have known and loved will cease to exist for our children and grandchildren. Ryan's budget will streamline government agencies, provide for the common defense, end corporate welfare, and promote private enterprise ahead of government bureaucracy.

Each American generation has been tested, and each generation found strength in America's highest principles and virtues to ensure the next generation inherited a stronger, more prosperous and free America. Our debt jeopardizes this sacred legacy.

As Ryan stated in his Path to Prosperity, "without reforming spending on government health and

retirement programs, we have zero hope of getting our spending and as a result our debt crisis under control." It is up to our generation to make tough decisions and merely "hoping" for "change" is not enough. The real question is, will we do it or not?

If you remember just one thing from this article, remember this: Rep. Ryan's budget aims to pay off the debt while President Obama's aims to accumulate trillions more. We have a choice of two futures; pick your side and be ready to defend it. Our children will be anxious to hear your explanation.

John Twillmann, Dan Jensen, and Logan Pals are the heads of the UI College Republicans, UNI College Republicans, and ISU College Republicans, respectively.

Spotlight Iowa City

Fashioning success

Michelle Morgan, copresident of Ed On Campus, looks to increase membership in the student organization before she starts her fourth internship this summer.

By **JESSICA CARBINO**
jessica-carbino@uiowa.edu

Michelle Morgan gawked at racks of clothes at another one of *Cosmopolitan* magazine's marketing appointments. The New York fashion-magazine editors, with the help of intern Morgan, judged the crepe rosette dress and black cut out gowns among other new designs planned to be featured in the publication the following spring season.

But the University of Iowa junior's New York experience won't end there. Rather than taking a break during the summer, she will return to the Big Apple for her fourth internship — this time at *W* magazine.

"She's still striving for success," said Darling Phongsavanh, a friend of Morgan's and copresident of Ed On Campus.

Now Morgan, also a copresident of Ed On Campus — a student organization that brings aspiring magazine journalists together — is continuing to gain experience and assist others in doing the same.

Since taking over a leadership position her sophomore year, she and Phongsavanh have increased membership from around 10 members to 30, organized trips to Chicago and Des Moines, started a magazine, workshopped résumés, and invited guest speakers, including the founder of the UI's Ed On Campus chapter Heather Loeb, who now works as health editor at About.com.

Phongsavanh said she enjoys working with Morgan to manage and improve the group.

"She's a really motivated and reliable person," Phongsavanh said. "We balance each other out really well."

The duo's partnership draws students to the group

Michelle Morgan

- **Age:** 21
- **Hometown:** Aurora, Ill.
- **Major:** Journalism and international studies with a focus on international business
- **Dream job:** Editor at *Glamour*
- **Favorite internship:** Fashion intern at *Cosmopolitan*

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.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Check out a photo slide show of Michelle Morgan.

ON DAILY IOWAN TV

Watch an interview with Michelle Morgan on DITV.



DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

UI junior Michelle Morgan leads discussion during an Ed On Campus meeting in the Adler Journalism Building on Tuesday. The copresident of the student organization will head to New York for her fourth internship this summer — this time at *W* magazine.

go is scheduled for next week.

In between the educational trips, professionals also speak to the group, including writers and editors from *Little Village*, *The Paris Review*, and *ESPN.com*. The common advice they give is to gain as much experience as possible and make connections, which has served Morgan well so far and is something she hopes to extend to group members.

Because of her connections with editors and taking advantage of Ed On Campus opportunities, Morgan has quality experience in the journalism industry, which she said has prepared her for a career in writing for fashion and women's interest magazines.

But for now, she's focused on Ed On Campus.

FARM BILL

CONTINUED FROM 1

"We thought it would be a good idea to team up with [UI Environmental Coalition] gardens to highlight what they've been doing," said Matt Ohloff, the Iowa representative of Food and Water Watch.

The federal Fair Farm Bill is the primary legislation that funds the programs and writes the rules for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, said Daniel Imhoff, a researcher, author, and publisher who concentrates on farming and the environment.

"This bill goes all they way back to the Great Depression," he said. "The government stepped into the food system, and since then, it has never gotten out."

The national group contacted the UI Environmental Coalition to organize today's event. The student group donates crops grown at the Student Garden to be used by IMU dining, and today, speakers from the two groups will discuss the work they're doing to promote healthy, local, sustainable food on campus.

"Our purpose of the garden is to educate students on where their food comes from and educate students on food-related issues," said Jacob Snyder, a UI senior and Environmental Coalition member.

Ohloff said this event is one of dozens happening around the country. The movement is known as "Sowing the Seeds for a Fair Farm Bill" — a nationwide push to reform the national food policy through the Fair Farm Bill in 2012.

UI Environmental Coalition Workday

The UI Environmental Coalition and national advocacy group Food and Water Watch event:

- When: Friday from 4-4:45 p.m.
- Where: The intersection of Hawkeye Park Road and Prairie Meadow Drive
- Why: To promote local, healthy, sustainable food

Source: Sustainability at Iowa Blog

Imhoff said 70 percent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's funding is used for food stamps, and 20 percent is used for commodity groups, such as corn and bean farms. This leaves only 10 percent of funds for farm habitat planting, helping farmers maintain farms, research, marketing, food safety, and projects.

The bill is re-evaluated and reauthorized every five to seven years, and funds can shift from around \$300 billion to \$450 billion, Imhoff said. Because the bill can affect the environment, farmers, and rural communities, groups such as Food and Water Watch are gearing up for the next discussion.

Though the 2012 bill discussion is months away, organizers said they hope the event will educate members of the community on the issue.

UI senior Caitlin Diggan, an Environmental Coalition member, said the organization focuses on social and health issues, which is why the members started it in the first place.

"We want to get our name out so people know about our farm," she said. "And we want to show everyone that young people care about fair farming too."

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HOPE

CONTINUED FROM 1

get their interests, sign up for simulations, and get hands-on experience in their area of interest — ranging from dentistry to psychology.

"Kids about as young as 2 start narrowing their [career] options based on ethnicity, socioeconomic status, and their perceptions of their abilities; it's

pretty young," said UI Associate Professor Saba Ali, the director of Project HOPE. "And so what we wanted to do was try to really broaden their opportunities, especially for underrepresented minorities, in health sciences."

Earlier in the week, students participated in mock interviews, went through a résumé and cover letter workshop, and discussed their interests.

Then, the roughly 80 middle-schools students

ranked their simulations and traveled from Columbus Junction to the UI as the final event of the week.

Funded with an \$11,000 grant from Roy J. Carver General Trust, Ali said the UI aimed to pair the need for young students to gain hands-on work experience with the ways Iowa's economy is growing. Officials decided to focus on careers in health sciences.

"One of the things the health-science world is trying to do is really trying to grow the population of

bilingual and culturally competent health-science workers," Ali said. "This is really to increase the numbers ... because what we know is they're more likely to practice in medically underserved areas."

Briana said she enjoyed the program so much she plans to attend the UI.

"I always thought that this was maybe a party college," she said, shaking a strand of curly hair out of her face. "But now that I see all these students and they're really dedicated to their studies, I

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Check out a video and photo slide show of the Project HOPE event.



realize it's a pretty good college ... and it will let me become what I want to be."

Teachers with the school said they thought the project was "wonderful."

"The students really seemed to enjoy the program, and, besides that, got a lot out of it," Columbus Community Middle School science teacher Jan Rutt wrote in an

e-mail. "I really feel they have a better idea of what a 'career' is and how they will attain one in the future."

Columbus Community Middle School paraeducator Tammi Edwards emphasized the importance of introducing students to different careers at an impressionable age.

"You know, these kids are our future," she said. "And if they don't decide what they're going to do, we could be lost forever."

OPEN RECORDS

CONTINUED FROM 1

his office. The bill also excludes the Legislature and the courts from the board's oversight.

"The chief executive should not be subject to having people harass him all the time by filing all kinds of accusations and things like that," he said in an interview in Des Moines. "We would spend all of our time defending against people that want to prevent me from doing my job."

"There is nobody that's more for open government than I am. I have a press conference every week. I go to every county every year. I'm a big believer in open-

ness, but I don't believe in those people that just want a confrontation or want to harass people who are trying to do their job."

Kathleen Richardson, the executive secretary of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council, said the exemption isn't fair.

"I would think that the Governor's Office should fall under the jurisdiction of the [board]," Richardson said.

And Adam Goldstein, the attorney advocate for the Student Press Law Center in Arlington, Va., said the exclusion of Branstad from the policies of the bill is likely intentional.

"If you want the governor to sign the legislation, exclude him from it," Goldstein said with a chuckle.

He said there's "no question" access to the Governor's Office is "what's best for the citizens."

Tim Albrecht, Branstad's spokesman, noted that the bill only exempts the governor from the board's oversight and not from complying with open-government laws.

In other states, such as Minnesota, Virginia, and South Dakota, the governor and his office are accessible through similar organizations.

These states — and at least 10 others — have adopted an ombudsman-like approach to dealing with open-record requests, creating boards similar to the one being debated in Iowa, according to recent article about public records mediation by Hammitt, who is also the editor of *Access Reports*.

"States have found that mediation works because it develops an office that has substantial expertise, and has political and legal credibility," Hammitt said.

In Virginia, the Virginia Coalition for Open Government assists with public-record requests. Megan Rhyne, the executive director of the coalition, said the system is "more efficient" because the majority of the people who come to the board are government employees.

"They are able to get quick answers, and therefore perform their jobs better," Rhyne said.

Under Iowa's bill, the board would consist of a citizens' aide or designee and six members nominated by various Iowa boards and appointed by the governor.

Residents and officials will be able to come to the board with questions and concerns regarding public information, replacing the necessity to hire an attorney to sue the government for withholding records.

That action is expensive and time-consuming, Richardson said. The board would have the authority to fine officials up to \$2,500 for violating open-government laws.

In addition to dealing with complaints, the board would also make recommendations to the governor and the Legislature regarding improved open-government legislation.

The proposed board would relieve the State Ombudsman's Office, which handled 286 public-record, open-meeting, and privacy complaints and requests in 2009.

Despite the criticism, Richardson said she recognizes the openness of records is a gradual process and said she hopes the bill will pass in some form.

"Anything that can pro-

Iowa Freedom of Information Board

The board would consist of six nominated members to represent:

- Iowa Broadcasters Association
- Iowa Freedom of Information Council
- Iowa Newspaper Association
- Iowa League of Cities
- Iowa State Association of Counties
- Iowa Association of School Boards

Source: Senate File 430

vide a resource for Iowans who have problems with open government will be helpful," she said.

The bill passed the Iowa Senate last month and is set to be debated by the House.

CULINARY

CONTINUED FROM 1

Career Education Corp., the company that owns Le Cordon Blue, is being sued by a group of California students who allege the school made false promises, according to a National Public Radio report. The school is paying a \$40 million settlement in a similar class-action suit filed by students struggling to pay large amounts of debt, and it has made some graduates to help students graduate and manage their loans.

"The model doesn't work," the students' attorney Michael Louis Kelly told NPR. "You can't go to school, accumulate \$30,000 or \$40,000 or \$50,000 in

debt, and then go into an industry where you're going to have to start out at \$8 or \$12 an hour anyway."

Still, concerns about where culinary graduates find themselves in the job market still exist at Kirkwood, where an Iowa resident's average full-time tuition runs roughly \$1,770.

"You're not going to leave this facility and be the head chef at a five-star restaurant in downtown Chicago," said Kasi Tenborg, the restaurant and beverage manager at the Hotel at the Kirkwood Center. "You're going to leave this facility and be a line cook. There's nothing wrong with that, because that's where you're going to learn."

The average yearly salary for line cooks was \$29,622,

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Log on to view a photo slide show from Kirkwood culinary arts classes.

according to the trade publication *Star Chefs*.

The Kirkwood Center's Hotel houses the restaurant Class Act, in which culinary students pair with professional chefs to run food service. The Hotel is the largest and most comprehensive teaching hotel at a community college in the United States, according to the Hotel's website.

Degrees weren't always necessary for those looking to cook in restaurants.

Tony Walsh, the head chef at One-Twenty-Six, 126 E. Washington St., and its sister restaurant

Hearth, didn't attend culinary school.

"If you try hard and have a couple brain cells to rub together, it's not terribly difficult to rise through the ranks," Walsh said.

But he said degrees are becoming increasingly important.

Kirkwood culinary instructor Saralyn Smith agreed. Despite some people being able to find success without a degree, she said, hands-on education is always beneficial and worth the cost.

"It's true that you can work your way up in the industry, and you don't have to go to culinary school," she said. "But I think it's an advantage to learn the science and theory behind the foods that

you're working with."

In the past half-century, the food industry has changed dramatically, said Brad Barnes, the senior director of Culinary Education at the Culinary Institute of America.

"Folks expect a reasonable credential from anyone who is going to be a real culinary professional,"

Barnes said.

Despite concerns nationwide, Kirkwood Center Hotel banquet chef Justin Billings said education is the best choice for chefs-to-be.

"[School] puts you on the fast track to knowing the right people and knowing the nuts and bolts of an organization," he said.

UISG

CONTINUED FROM 1

vices, and Dean of Students David Grady, said there will be many logistical problems in setting up this kind of system.

Rocklin noted setting up a system that would allow the charges to get back to the student's U-bill system in a secure fashion could be a complex process.

"I think it's going to be challenging, and I told [Higgins] and [Caplin] that there were a lot of potential

complexities," Rocklin said.

But both noted many of the other campaign goals are much more feasible.

"[Higgins] is a bright guy, and I look forward to working with both [him] and [Caplin]," Grady said.

Elaborating on another platform item, Caplin said UISG will work with IMU Marketing to implement a website that will allow students to rate their landlords and management companies, similar to Ratemyprofessor.com.

Gordon Sonnenschein, director of the Student Elections Board, said he credits

voter turnout to the efforts of the campaigns, an increase in undergraduate enrollment, and candidate involvement in student organizations.

UI senior Xavier Woodson received the most votes for UISG senator with 815 — nearly 27 percent of the votes. Only five of the 44 senator candidates who ran weren't selected.

"I've had a good experience every year," said Woodson, who has served three terms in the senate.

He said he will concentrate on promoting safety on

Past UISG voter turnout

The various points go below:

- 2010: 1,776 votes cast
- 2009: 4,318 votes cast
- 2008: 6,357 votes cast

Source: Student Elections Board

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Log on to see the full list of those elected to UISG, including the 39 senators.



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Folding cranes to help Japan

The Japanese Cultural Association will hold a crane-making event from 5 to 8 p.m. in 315 Phillips Hall.

By NINA EARNEST
nina-earnest@uiowa.edu

David Sutton made a series of complicated diagonal, horizontal, and vertical folds in a piece of square paper.

Within two minutes, the paper became a crane.

For the students in Chie Muramatsu's third-year Japanese class, the origami folds were easy following weeks of practice. Small paper cranes — in purple, pink, magenta, and white — quickly took shape in the fourth-floor classroom of Phillips Hall on Wednesday.

"I'm making it crane up in here," Sutton said, laughing, as he turned to a classmate.

The activity is part of the Million Crane Project, a student-driven effort to show support for Japan after the earthquake and tsunami hit the island nation on March 11. Founded at Princeton and Stanford Universities, the project aims to collect 1 million cranes by May 11 to be used in a piece of memorial art.

The Japanese Students and Scholars Club and the Japanese Cultural Association are organizing the effort at the University of Iowa.

Sutton, the president of the cultural association,



MATT LA LUZ/ THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Brett Carman shows off one of his paper cranes he folded in his Japanese class on Wednesday.

said he first heard about the program from Asumi Shibata, a Princeton University student who grew up in Iowa City.

"It was nice to involve the Japanese Cultural Association and have it spearhead something," Sutton said.

Shibata, 18, said she felt compelled to do something for the tsunami victims as the vice president of Princeton's Japanese Student Association. She said she recalled when her mother had emergency surgery, someone gave her 100 paper cranes as a show of support.

A Japanese legend tells that folding 1,000 paper cranes — senbazuru — can grant one's wish. But the legend took on a new

meaning when 11-year-old Sadako Sasaki was diagnosed with leukemia due to the radiation from the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

The child attempted to make the cranes, but died before she was able to make enough to restore her health.

The crane project has become even more significant after another 7.0 earthquake hit Japan Thursday.

"They were affected, are still affected, and people still need support right now," Shibata said.

Muramatsu, a UI teaching assistant, said the Japanese people now recog-



MATTHEW LA LUZ/ THE DAILY IOWAN

UI senior Sergei McNulty and freshman Mia Siebrasse work to create origami cranes in Japanese class on Wednesday in Phillips Hall. This was McNulty's first time making an origami crane on his own.

DAILYIOWAN.COM
Check out a photo slide show of the Million Crane Project.

nize the support symbolized in the cranes. She said she has heard stories of peoples' suffering in Japan that would defy expectations.

"We live so far away, and we have a normal life," she said. "I can't even imagine how they feel."

Students in her class said they appreciated the chance to show their support.

Brett Carman created several small pink and white cranes scattered on his desk. The senior studied abroad in Tokyo last summer.

"We all obviously care about Japan, so it's good to be doing something," Carman said.

Tonight is the last time the organizations will hold a

crane-folding event before sending the origami figures to Princeton. Muramatsu said organizers expect to send roughly 4,000 cranes.

She wants to help as much as she can, Muramatsu said. Japan doesn't just need money, the people needs to know others care.

"To me, as a Japanese person, of course I want to do something," Muramatsu said. "This is what I can do."

METRO

Iowa City's unemployment rate nearly best in U.S.

Iowa City has one of the lowest jobless rates in the nation, according to a metropolitan area employment and unemployment report released Thursday by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Thursday.

Iowa City's rate sits at 4.7 percent, tied for third in the country.

Ames had the same jobless rate. Overall, February unemployment rates were lower than the previous year in 208 of the 372 metropolitan areas listed.

Lincoln, Neb., had the lowest rate in the country at roughly 4.2 percent, and Centro, Calif., had the highest unemployment rate at 26.9 percent. March's national unemployment rate was 8.8 percent.

— by Alison Sullivan

Dance Marathon's center to be dedicated

A dedication ceremony for the completed renovations of the Dance Marathon Pediatric Cancer and Blood Disorders Research Laboratories will take place today at 11 a.m.

The ceremony is in honor of the UI Dance Marathon's \$1 million pledge to the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. UI President Sally Mason, along with leaders of UI Dance Marathon, will be joined by members from UI Health Care and the UI Children's Hospital and UI Foundation to celebrate the dedication.

The UI Dance Marathon's pledge is part of a \$750,000, two-year pledge to aid renovations of laboratory space. The organization also donated \$250,000 to establish a special research fund. Both donations have been to support research for pediatric cancer and blood disorders.

— by Alison Sullivan



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BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1

Wednesday's game in the seventh inning. He ripped a double down the left-field line and knocked in a run with a single in the eighth frame.

"They're starting to do a good job in batting practice, and [they're] taking what they're doing in the batting cage to the game," Dahm said. "It's all about the

Iowa (11-15, 1-2) at Illinois (9-14, 1-2)

When: 6:05 P.M. TODAY AND SATURDAY; 1:05 P.M. APRIL 10
Where: ILLINOIS FIELD, CHAMPAIGN, ILL.
Where to watch or listen: BIG TEN NETWORK (SATURDAY)

process. We're trying to simplify things for our guys, and they're doing a good job with it."

The idea of simplicity

was echoed by senior utilityman Zach McCool. The career .290 hitter is having a subpar year at the plate, batting just .225 in 26 games, but he said breaking down his at-bats has helped his approach.

"Take one pitch at a time," he said. "You go out there every single day and play to your best ability. You have to keep playing the simple game of baseball — keep hitting. If we keep going, our confidence is

going to build."

The confidence can only benefit the Hawkeyes as they readjust to Division-I pitching. Illinois pitchers haven't been stellar this year, giving up a .274 batting average to their opponents, but each of the likely starters has struck out at least 22 batters and Dahm said his team can't afford to underestimate the Illini.

"Whenever you play Illinois — I don't care what

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 1

leading up to the games this weekend, the team will focus on reacting and responding to the ball instead of analyzing.

"I think not having aggression comes down to over-thinking too many things," Keim said. "Right now, everyone is working on not over-thinking every at-bat — not expecting a pitch or waiting to see a strike or anything. We're naturally go-getters, so we're training mentally to be confident and get ourselves in the natural attack mode so we don't have to over-think in the game."

During practice, the

Hawkeyes have been focusing on their transitions in and out of their circle of focus, which is the 25-30 seconds between when the pitch is delivered, hit, and the play made, Looper said.

Whether they're in the batter's box or on the field, the Iowa players practice getting into their circle of focus to concentrate on the play without over-thinking. But they also practice getting out of it in between plays to communicate with their teammates and analyze the next move.

The goal is to be in the circle of focus without thinking, just reacting to the ball naturally, which means the Hawkeyes are playing smart and playing aggressively at the same time.



Iowa's Michelle Zoeller hits the ball during the Hawkeyes' game against South Dakota on March 20 at Pearl Field. Zoeller scored two runs in the 10-0 win over the Coyotes.

"As a whole team, we're working on trusting what we're doing without needing to think through every move," Zoeller said. "We put all the work in during

the week and our bodies know what they're doing, so it shouldn't be a problem for us. We just have to trust what we can do, and then do it."

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM 1

"The weather every year we've gone has been good, but it doesn't mean at some point we'll have some crummy weather — that could very easily happen."

To avoid possible overheating challenges, Anderson said he is putting all but one of the long-distance runners in the shorter 1,500-meter race. Sophomore Megan Ranegar is the only Hawkeye running

in the 5,000-meter race.

Weather aside, he said about 85 percent of the squad will travel to Tempe. Another seven to eight athletes will compete at the Cornell Open in Mount Vernon, Iowa.

Arizona has traditionally been a good meet for the Hawkeyes, said assistant coach Clive Roberts.

"Even though some people have had one meet or two meets, it's the first one we can sit down and just put everything out there and see how we do," Praska said.

Another reason Anderson said it's a good meet for the entire team is because there is an appropriate level of competition.

"Our training's been consistent, everyone's been staying together, so it will be fun to just get with my old racing group and warm up together," junior captain Betsy Flood said. "And hopefully, we can just all lead each other to [personal records] and great races at least."

The overall goal in the

meet, for the Hawkeyes, is to keep building.

"It's just the next meet for us," Roberts said. "One of the things we've talked about, especially in the women's sprint group, is just we're going to focus on what this meet is, building on the future, but we're not going to worry about the future, we're going to take care of today."

"This is just the next meet that we've got to get going. And we're going to get out there and challenge ourselves once again."

Men's tennis faces Wildcats

With its highest ranking of the season, Iowa is doing all the right things to reach its goal of making it to the NCAA Tournament.

By **BEN ROSS**
benjamin-d-ross@uiowa.edu

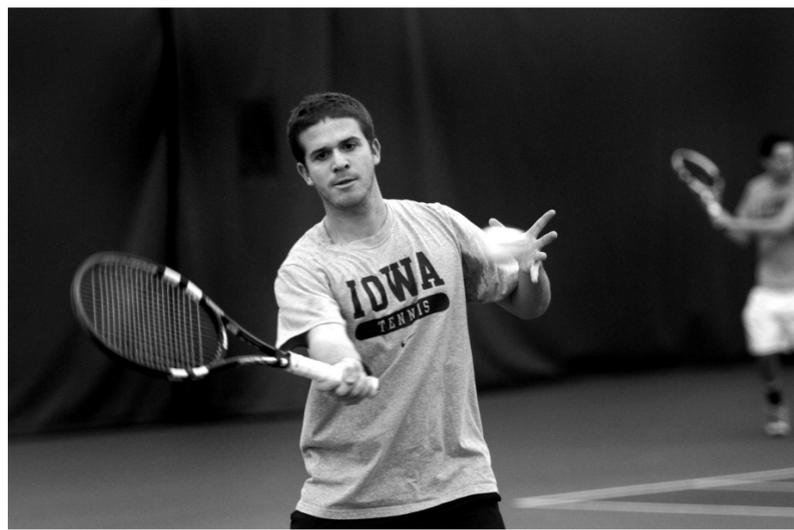
After splitting matches in road tests against Purdue and Indiana last weekend, the No. 57 Iowa men's tennis team (8-7, 2-3) will compete in a border battle against the Northwestern Wildcats (10-8, 1-3) at 2 p.m. today at the Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex.

Iowa defeated Northwestern in Iowa City last year in a 6-1 rout, but Northwestern holds an overall advantage in recent meetings, winning five of the last seven contests. Northwestern also boasts a ranked singles player on its roster in Joshua Graves, who is No. 119.

The players are anxious to play their first outdoor home match of the season, something that they have been hoping to do for the past few weeks. As long as the temperature stays above 50 degrees Fahrenheit — and the wind and rain don't cause too much trouble — it appears the Hawkeyes will get their wish. Junior Will Vasos said the team has been practicing heavily outdoors, and he believes it will pay dividends.

"I hit as many balls as I can," he said. "Working on serving and getting outdoors and used to outdoors, you have wind and getting used to the elements. Hopefully, it all pays off in the end."

The Hawkeyes have played four matches out-



Iowa junior Will Vasos practices in the Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex on Jan. 26. Vasos has amassed a 41-20 overall record in singles play during his first two seasons as a Hawkeye, and he is 10-3 this season.

No. 57 Iowa (8-7, 2-3) vs. Northwestern (10-8, 1-3)

When: 2 P.M. TODAY
Where: HAWKEYE TENNIS & RECREATION COMPLEX

doors this season, going 3-1 without a roof over their heads. Three of those matches were in sunny Florida on its spring trip, however; the only outdoor Big Ten contest came last weekend at Purdue, where Iowa had to rally to secure a 4-3 victory. Head coach Steve Houghton believes outdoor home matches are a recipe for success for his players, and he said they gain extra motivation from competing at home.

"Our team has played better at home," he said. "It's a real boost, guys are looking forward to playing outdoors. The Purdue match was extremely windy; as long as conditions are suitable, our guys would prefer outside."

The Hawkeyes have jumped 17 spots in the rankings since the beginning of the season, when they were ranked 74th out of 75 teams. The rankings are important for qualifying for the field of 64 teams in the NCAA championship — which begins May 19 in Stanford, Calif. — and Houghton thinks the next stretch of matches will be the most important in determining if his squad makes the cut.

"It's been close the last couple of years," he said. "We need to be in the upper half of the Big Ten to make it. We probably need to be ranked in the 40s. We need good wins. We have five Big Ten matches left — we need to win at least half of those."

It appears to be the coach's job to worry about the rankings though, most of the players don't think much of it. Garret Dunn believes that the number associated with the team doesn't matter as much as one would think.

"The ranking doesn't make a difference," the sophomore said. "I mean some guys look, but it doesn't make a difference if we're 157 or 57. We're ready to go regardless of what it is."

sport it is — it's always a battle," the eighth-year coach said. "They're a very good club. They hit a little bit of a rut lately, but ... Illinois is right there on the cusp of breaking out, and they're looking forward to us coming in. They want to win the series at home, and we want to win it on the road."

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Hawks head to Ariz.

The Iowa men's track and field team will travel to Arizona State this weekend for its second outdoor meet of the year.

By **BEN SCHUFF**
benjamin-schuff@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's track and field team will continue its lengthy travels this weekend when the squad heads to Arizona State for the 32nd-annual Sun Angel Classic.

This marks the fourth-straight year the Hawkeyes will make the roughly 1,500-mile trek to the desert. Four top-25 teams are set to compete this weekend in Tempe, Ariz.: No. 11 Minnesota, No. 15 BYU, No. 17 Oklahoma, and No. 18 Virginia Tech. Iowa will be one of four Big Ten schools at the meet, along with Michigan State and Purdue.

"Generally speaking, anytime we get on an airplane, we're going someplace where we think we can do something significant against tough competition," head coach Larry Wiecezorek said. "The Sun Angel is one of the traditional meets in the country where a lot of people come to perform at a high level."

The "something significant" Wiecezorek discussed includes making a trend of the team's scoring patterns from a

32nd-annual Sun Angel Classic

When: SATURDAY
Where: SUN ANGEL STADIUM, TEMPE, ARIZ.

week ago. At last weekend's LSU Invitational, Iowa had at least two athletes finish in the top-eight in eight events. That includes three top-eight finishes in the 800 meters, 110-meter hurdles, and the 400-meter hurdles.

"We talked about that after the meet, the fact we can score points like that," Wiecezorek said. "Wherever we can get them, we don't care. But where we have strength like that, it certainly helps the process."

Among the country's elite athletes at the Sun Angel will be the Black and Gold's Matt Byers. Last year's conference champion in the javelin, the sophomore broke the Big Ten record on his first throw of the outdoor season with a toss of 245 feet, 8 inches at last weekend's meet. That throw ranks third in the country.

While throwing coach Scott Cappos expected improvement from Byers', he said he needed to hear the distance a second time to believe it.

"It was hard to tell how far it was," Cappos said. "I thought it looked pretty good, and then they measured it [245 feet, 8 inches], and I wanted to make sure maybe I didn't mishear it."

One of the Hawkeyes joining Byers this weekend will be Justin Austin; the sprinter missed the LSU meet because of a nagging injury to his left quadriceps.

The Hawkeyes are hopeful Austin will join Byers as one of the coun-

try's elite track and field athletes. The Milwaukee native placed fifth in the 200 meters at the NCAA indoor championships in March. The sophomore is slated to run in the 100-meter dash premier, the 4x100-meter relay, and the 4x400-meter relay.

The relay groups will be another area worthy of extra attention this weekend. Wiecezorek and Company decided early in the week to send three 4x4 groups to the Sun Angel this weekend. The "A" four-some consists of Erik Sowinski, Patrick Richards, Chris Barton, and Steven Willey, all of whom were All-Americans in the event last year. Austin is listed on the heat sheets in the "B" group with Paul Chaney Jr., D'Juan Richardson, and Ethan Holmes.

As was expected heading into the outdoor season, the spots on the 4x1 have been hotly contested through the first few weeks of the season. This weekend's quartet includes Chaney, Tevin Mincy, and Zeke Sayon — who all ran the event at LSU — with Austin running in place of Richards, who ran the event in Baton Rouge.

Assistant coach Joey Woody was hopeful at Wednesday's practice that the meet will provide an opportunity to keep competition within the team strong.

"I hope it's similar to the 4x4, where we always have two or three guys who can jump in there," he said about the 4x1 relay. "Especially with sprinters, there are always things that come up injury-wise, so you hope things are like with [Richards], where you can throw him and still run a pretty decent time."



Wiecezorek
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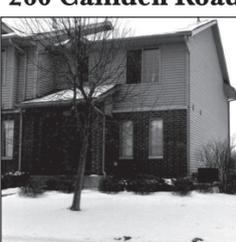
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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Three Hawkeyes boast winning streaks entering today's match at Illinois. www.dailyiowan.com



Iowa's Katie Keim catches a throw to force out South Dakota's Stephanie Hall during their game at Pearl Field on March 20. Iowa won in five innings, 10-0. The Hawkeyes will take on Michigan State this weekend.

DAVID SCRIVNER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Baseball tries to stay hot

The Hawkeyes will attempt to keep their suddenly potent offense rolling on the road against the Fighting Illini.

By **SETH ROBERTS**
seth-roberts@uiowa.edu

The spring is still chilly, but the Iowa baseball team's bats are scalding hot.

The Hawkeyes (11-15, 1-2 Big Ten) have scored 33 runs and clubbed 32 hits in their past two games, a 19-7 win over Michigan State on Sunday and a 14-1 pounding of Coe College on Wednesday. The outburst came after the team averaged just over 3 runs per game during a four-game losing streak.

"We went through a really tough time ... where we just weren't driving in runs," head coach Jack Dahm said on Wednesday. "[Now], our guys are sticking with their approaches, simplifying things, and not trying to do too much."



Dahm
coach

While it's unrealistic to expect the team will post those kinds of numbers on a regular basis, the Hawkeyes' vastly improved approach gives the team a vital weapon heading into a weekend road series with Illinois: confidence.

Granted, the Black and Gold didn't face the kind of pitching in their midweek game against Division-III Coe that they will see this weekend from the Fighting Illini (9-14, 1-2). Second baseman Mike McQuillan said as much after he worked three walks on Wednesday, saying there's a "big difference" between the Kohawks' 80-mph fastballs and the 90-mph heat he expects to face tonight from Illini ace Kevin Johnson (1-3, 3.56 ERA).

But when a team is as confident in the batters' box as the Hawkeyes appear to be right now, opponents are hard-pressed to record outs.

Even Iowa's reserves have gotten in on the action. Freshman outfielder Kyle Haen was 0-for-9 this year before entering

SEE **BASEBALL**, 9

Softball not following Descartes

The Iowa softball team is focusing on aggressiveness and confidence going into a weekend series against Michigan State.

By **MOLLY IRENE OLMSTEAD**
molly-olmstead@uiowa.edu

The Hawkeye softball team will challenge Michigan State at 2 p.m. Saturday and at 1 p.m. April 10 in Pearl Field. Iowa is 19-15, 2-2 in the Big Ten, and the Spartans enter Iowa City at 20-15 (2-4 Big Ten).

After lacking aggressiveness in its game against Drake on Wednesday, Iowa will focus on attacking the ball on offense and defense this weekend against Michigan State, head coach Marla Looper said.

When the Hawkeyes have scored first, they are 18-7, compared with a 1-8 record

Iowa (19-15, 2-2) vs. Michigan State (20-15, 2-4)

When: 1 P.M. SATURDAY, 2 P.M. APRIL 10
Where: PEARL FIELD

when the opponent tallies the first run.

"Because softball is very momentum driven, one thing we've talked about is starting that momentum for ourselves," Looper said. "When we can score first, we usually do pretty well because we keep our momentum going. But when we don't, and it takes a few innings to get swinging, we kind of get back on our heels and fall behind."

Against Drake on Wednesday, the Hawkeyes broke a

0-0 tie in the top of the sixth inning when junior Katie Keim reached first with a single to right field and was advanced by sacrifice hits from her teammates.

Despite scoring first, the Hawkeyes only registered two hits — both from Keim — and plated only one run. Iowa's low score was the result of a lack of aggression, Looper said, and the Hawkeyes lost the game in the bottom of the seventh when the Bulldogs plated two runs.

The lack of aggressiveness has emphasized what Iowa needs to work on to prepare for the series against the Spartans: Being smart, confident, assertive, and energetic.

SEE **SOFTBALL**, 9

Event to honor Gable

A retirement celebration for former Iowa wrestling head coach Dan Gable will be held on June 4 at the Coralville Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. The event will be called "Gable's Gold: A Celebration of Dan Gable's Legacy."

Gable will step down from his position in the Iowa athletics office as assistant to the athletics director and also assistant to the director for performance enhancement. He will be honored with a reception and banquet that is open to the public.

Tickets for the reception and dinner are \$50 per person or \$500 for a table of 10. The tickets are available through the Iowa Athletics Ticket Office, at hawkeyesports.com, by phone at (319) 335-9323 or (800) IA-HAWKS, or in person at the west entrance of Carver-Hawkeye Arena. Ticket office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday.

The reception is scheduled to start at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served an hour later. A special program will follow, including featured guest speakers Tom Brands, the current Hawkeye wrestling head coach, Olympic teammate Ben Peterson, former Hawkeye wrestlers Terry Brands and Mike DeAnna, and Athletics Director Gary Barta.

Gable is regarded as the best collegiate wrestling coach in history. He finished his 21-year coaching career at Iowa with a 355-21-5 record, 15 national championships, and 21 Big Ten team titles.

— by **J.T. Bugos**

Hawkeye football nabs first 2012 recruit

More than two months after national signing day for the class of 2011, the Iowa football team has received its first commitment for the class of 2012.

Mitchell

Keppy gave the Hawkeyes an oral commitment Wednesday. Keppy is a 6-5, 287-pound offensive lineman from Port Byron, Ill.

In addition to playing football at Riverdale High, Keppy is an accomplished prep wrestler, finishing as a state runner-up at heavyweight in each of the last two seasons. He recorded a 38-2 record this past year.

He also has Hawkeye football in his blood. His father, Myron Keppy, lettered at Iowa as a defensive lineman in 1986-87.

The Hawkeyes' current incoming recruiting class (2011) includes 24 players and was ranked as the nation's 30th-best by Rivals.com. Of those 24 players, three are offensive linemen, including 6-4, 260-pound Jordan Walsh of Glendale Heights, Ill. Walsh was slotted as a four-star prospect by Rivals.com.

— by **Jordan Garretson**

Family member says Lowe could remain at UI

Though Willie Lowe has been granted a release from his scholarship, he might still choose to remain at the UI, a relative told the *Des Moines Register* on Wednesday night.

"If I had to guess right now, I'd say Willie goes through the process of seeing if there are other options, and then at the end of the day sticking with the Iowa program," Troy Fultz, Lowe's uncle, told *The Register*.

The Hawkeye senior cornerback — one of 13 players hospitalized earlier this year with rhabdomyolysis following an intense team workout — told ESPN.com's Tuesday he was still suffering symptoms, and wasn't sure if he'll ever be able to play football again.

Rhabdomyolysis is a condition in which muscle fibers break down and enter the bloodstream; it can result in fatal kidney damage.

Head coach Kirk Ferentz said March 23 said 12 of the 13 affected players had been medically cleared to participate in spring practice. Linebacker Shane DiBona is recovering from shoulder surgery.

Athletics Director Gary Barta said in a statement Wednesday the UI hopes Lowe remains a Hawkeye, but will support his final decision.

Fred Mims, the associate athletics director for student services and compliance, said on Wednesday he wasn't aware of any other football-transfer requests.

Lowe didn't return calls and messages left by *The Daily Iowan* Thursday.

— **Jordan Garretson**

Women's track off to Arizona

Although it's not the Hawkeyes' favorite meet of the outdoor season, they are still preparing for good competition and the next challenge.

By **AMY TIFFANY**
amy-tiffany@uiowa.edu

What isn't to like about the weather in Arizona?

The Midwest boasts extremely volatile spring weather, ranging from freezing temperatures to nearly summer-like temperatures. Arizona, for the most part, doesn't face the same meteorological challenges.

The Iowa women's track and field team will compete in the Sun Angel Classic today and Saturday at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz. A big meet in the outdoor collegiate track and field season, the classic brings good competition from across the country.

Although it's a competitive meet, senior Bethany Praska and junior Nicole Erickson said it wasn't one of their favorite meets of the outdoor season for a number of different reasons.

One, they said, is because sometimes it's less like a track meet and



ROB JOHNSON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa senior runners Bethany Praska (left) and Tiffany Hendricks warm up on Dec. 14, 2010, in the Recreational Building. The Hawkeyes will compete in the Sun Angel Classic today and Saturday at Arizona State University.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Log on to view a video feature on the women's track and field team.

more like a show — for instance, last year's event included fireworks. The meet also runs through the entirety of both days, and Praska said in the morning it might be really hot, but then during the next race, it might be raining, and then back to hot a half hour later.

Despite the possibility of erratic weather, the warm climate is still one of the reasons it draws a number of teams from the northern areas of the country.

Head coach Layne Anderson had more favorable view of the meet and weather.

"It's in the desert — you're typically pretty confident you'll get some good weather," he said.

SEE **TRACK**, 9