

# The UI administration reasserts that UI plans and the 21-ordinance likely led to reported dip in the binge-drinking rate. Page 4.

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

# The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 2011

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50¢

## Council delays levee contract

The Iowa City City Council decided to defer the decision to grant the Idyllwild/Taft Speedway levee contract during its Tuesday night meeting.

"The state has asked us to take a look at expanding to address the effects on the Parkview Terrace neighborhood in addition to the Taft Speedway," said City Attorney Eleanor Dilkes.

The current proposal — to decide if raising streets anywhere between 4 and 15 feet would be beneficial — is set to review only the floodplain effect in the Taft Speedway area.

Parkview Terrace resident Mary Murphy wrote a letter to the city asking to include her neighborhood in the plan.

"I don't think the oversight was intentional," Murphy said. "But the city needs to step back and look at the impact on the entire community."

A vote on the resolution would have authorized an agreement between the city and HDR Inc. to provide engineering consulting services for the Taft Speedway Flood Mitigation project, according to the City Council.

— by Chastity Dillard

## Moped parking passes first test

The Iowa City City Council voted Tuesday night to move forward with changes to fines and permits for downtown moped parking. The vote was 7-0 on the first of three votes needed to enact the changes.

An annual prorated \$45 permit from Aug. 1 through July 31 would be required to use all moped parking stalls.

Director of Transportation Services Chris O'Brien and Associate Director for Transportation Services Mark Rummel recommended the change from the previously proposed \$25 semiannual permit and \$50 annual permit.

"Our goal is to really clean up downtown," Rummel said. "The bike racks really aren't designed for mopeds."

O'Brien also recommended using designated parking areas near campus, allowing for 142 spaces downtown.

Raj Patel, the University of Iowa Student Government City Council student liaison, said he "is happy to see designated parking" for mopeds.

But not all councilors agree permits will be beneficial.

"We are trying to encourage people away from driving cars," Councilor Connie Champion said. "[Mopeds are] a more economical and environmentally clean way."

— by Chastity Dillard

## DAILY IOWAN TV

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## WEATHER

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Partly cloudy, breezy



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN  
A budget agreement banning K2, a synthetic cannabis, has been passed by the Iowa Legislature; manufacturers might be able to make minor alterations and market the product as a different substance.

## The Iowa House and Senate have completed a budget agreement that would make K2, salvia, and bath-salt sales an aggravated misdemeanor.

By LUKE VOELZ  
[luke-voelz@uiowa.edu](mailto:luke-voelz@uiowa.edu)

Jake Missen watched the world become 2D.

The University of Iowa junior had just taken a hit of pure JWH-018, the chemical compound present in the synthetic-cannabis drug K2. Later calling it "the worst thing I experienced," the 21-year-old first tried the powder after K2 became temporarily illegal last July.

"I started to feel extremely panicked," he said. "The world became like a dot painting and starting moving, like there

## K2

Some states that have banned K2 or related products:

- Arizona
- Illinois
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina
- Oregon

Source: [erowid.org](http://erowid.org)

was something on the other side — someone trying to break through reality."

Though legislation banning the sale and possession of K2 and other synthetic

cannabinoids passed on June 30 as part of the new state budget bill, manufacturers can still make minor chemical alterations and market the blend as a different substance — such as K3 and Syn.

While Gov. Terry Branstad has roughly 30 days to sign the bill, lawmakers said they're worried about additional synthetic compounds that will likely arise, making further regulation necessary.

"We had a terrible time trying to come up with a law broad enough to cover

SEE K2, 3

## Prison guards warn about safety

Staff at the Oakdale prison in Johnson County has 57 fewer correctional officers than in 2010.

By ZACHARY POUND  
[zachary-pound@uiowa.edu](mailto:zachary-pound@uiowa.edu)

Danny Homan stood outside the Iowa Medical & Classification Center on Tuesday afternoon in front of a memorial dedicated to officers who have died in the line of duty.

Homan, the president of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees Iowa Council 61, told the staffers Gov. Terry Branstad and Iowa Department of Corrections Director John Baldwin needed to "get real" and provide enough money to safely operate prisons.

"Before we have another officer killed and need to add another rock to this monument," he said.

Homan and fellow union members expressed concern about the lack of funding and shortage of staff at the center and across the state, potentially endangering the lives of inmates and prison guards.

The Oakdale prison is run by 254 correctional officers, or "circulators," who deal directly with the prisoners — 57 positions fewer than in 2010 and



ANTHONY BAUER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Correctional officers who work at the Iowa Medical & Classification Center attend a press conference on Tuesday. The officers' union, AFSCME Iowa Council 61, said low staffing levels in Department of Corrections prisons have raised safety concerns.

59 fewer than in 2009. The shortage of staff can be attributed to the lack of funding, unwillingness to hire new staff, and freezes on overtime pay, Homan said.

He pointed out Baldwin took out \$1.7 million from the facility's funding to give it to other institutions in the Department of Corrections around the state that are also experiencing problems maintaining

staff at an operational level. However, \$287,000 of this donation went directly to the administrative office.

"There is no excuse for that money going to the central office when currently all overtime is being denied," Homan said. "People at the central office aren't responsible for guarding cell houses or keep-

SEE PRISONS, 3

## Council OKs law on vendors

The ordinance will take effect this coming football season.

By CHASTITY DILLARD  
[chastity-dillard@uiowa.edu](mailto:chastity-dillard@uiowa.edu)

The Iowa City City Council took its final action on the Melrose ordinance during its meeting Tuesday evening, voting 7-0 to enact regulations on game-day vendors across from the stadium.

The new ordinance will prohibit the sale of alcohol and limit areas for vendors to set up on University of Iowa football game days. Vendors will also have to pay a \$75 permit fee to sell products in the regulated zone.

"The positive thing is that we are on the table and the university is on board at this point," said Doug Boothroy, the city's director of Housing and Inspection Services.

But only time will tell if the ordinance will be worth it to the city, Councilor Terry Dickens said.

"You have to try it out to see if it'll work," he said. "It's good to see the university and the vendors working together."

Vendor Chuck Ford, the voice of the "Big Ass Turkey Legs" stand, said Tuesday's vote was a "no-brainer."

"I think they did the right thing, and I don't have a problem with the rules and regulations," he said.

SEE MELROSE, 3



Spotlight Iowa City



ZHONGZHU GUO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Megan Flanagan, the managing director of the Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, stands in front of the construction site in Coralville on Tuesday. The center will hold its grand opening on Aug. 26.

# Creative passion leads to C'ville

Megan Flanagan earned a B.A. in English and theater at Florida Southern College.

By JULIANA FABIANO  
juliana-fabiano@uiowa.edu

Megan Flanagan has occupied every role in the creative world of theater. She tried acting. She directed and designed costumes — anything to be around the stage.

“I really enjoy constantly being around creative and passionate people,” the 34-year-old said. “I like to think I do what I can to support the creative process and add contributions to art.”

Her newest contribution is taking on the position of managing director of the new Coralville Center for the Performing Arts. The center is set to open Aug. 26.

A confident and enthusiastic woman, she sat in her cramped temporary office in the Coralville Public Library on Tuesday afternoon. A red sign reading “Keep Calm and Carry On” lay behind a stack of papers on her desk. In past positions, she said, her employees recognized her calm demeanor in all situations.

“Whatever happened, we’d get it done,” she said.

At present, her focus is to plan events for the grand opening of the 482-seat

## Megan Flanagan

- **Hometown:** Grew up in an Army family, lived all over the U.S. and Europe
- **Age:** 34
- **Favorite Food:** Sushi
- **Favorite Play:** Mary Zimmerman’s *Metamorphosis*
- **Favorite Movie:** *White Christmas*
- **Favorite Artist:** Ben Folds
- **Favorite Pastime:** Spending time with her two children

Know someone we should shine a light on? E-mail us at: [di-spotlight@uiowa.edu](mailto:di-spotlight@uiowa.edu). Catch up with others from our series at [dailyyowan.com/spotlight](http://dailyyowan.com/spotlight).

Coralville Center for the Performing Arts in a few short weeks. She began her busy task — hiring staff, booking performances, planning programs, and developing a ticketing system — after she received her position in March.

“Our space is unique, so our mission is to ensure our bookings and audiences know they’re going to have a good experience in coming to our theater,” she said.

Flanagan hired Eric Burchett as the technical supervisor for the center. Burchett, who controls the

light, sound, and scenery aspects of the theater, said Flanagan always has a positive attitude and her excitement for theater is contagious.

“You don’t realize when you’re starting off there can be so many daunting tasks to keep track of,” Burchett said. “[Flanagan] has no fear, though; she just dives in and does this.”

Flanagan’s “go-to attitude” stems in part from her extensive work in theater.

Starting as an undergraduate in theater and English at Florida Southern College, she soon began working in many facets of theater: stage managing, directing, designing costumes, marketing, and developing scenery.

“I really enjoyed the creativity of costuming,” she said. “I liked the research aspect of it, and that I could build something out of just fabric was always fun.”

After college, Flanagan decided to focus her career on the marketing and public-relations aspects of theater.

“When I was doing volunteer work for Open Eye Productions, I was asked to write a press release on a

show, and it ended up getting really great press coverage,” she said. “Ever since then, I accidentally slid into marketing.”

Initially starting at *Soap Opera Digest* in Chicago, Flanagan also worked at the Chicago Theatre, the Auditorium Theatre, and Stage 773, where she became executive director.

Flanagan’s husband, Dave Pratt, said her job entails a large number of responsibilities. But it is a job she has always tried to do and has been driving her career. She has enjoyed working with the theater community of Coralville, and the job is a great fit for her, he noted.

“She has always had an admiration for theater, so this job allows her to combine that with her marketing experience,” Pratt said.

And Flanagan’s excitement about the job has only grown since taking over her position.

“We are really excited about seeing the final product and providing the community and organizations around the area with this space,” she said. “We’re opening up other opportunities to bring art to life.”

## METRO

### CR man charged in alleged sexual assault

A Cedar Rapids man was arrested after he allegedly attempted to sexually assault his daughter’s roommate, Coralville police said.

According to police, 48-year-old Brent Michael Humble made “lewd” comments toward the woman and another young female in their Second Street, Coralville, apartment on June 16.

Reports said Humble grabbed the woman by the neck and forced her head into his lap in an attempt to have sex with her. He also grabbed the woman’s breast and buttocks, despite her attempts to push him away.

Assault with intent to commit sexual abuse without injury is an aggravated misdemeanor punishable by up to two years in prison and a maximum fine of \$6,250.

— by Brian Albert

### Firefighters extinguish Laura Drive fire

The Iowa City Fire Department was dispatched Tuesday around 9 a.m. to a fire at 1205 Laura Drive Lot 1.

According to a press release from fire authorities, a high-voltage surge from a nearby transformer caused an outlet in the residence to overheat, setting the structure ablaze.

No occupants were in the building at the time.

Firefighters arrived with three engines, a ladder truck, a battalion chief, and 13 firefighters. Smoke could be seen at the roof line of the single-wide residence, according to the release.

Fire crews controlled the blaze within half an hour. Flames were entirely extinguished within 45 minutes from the time of alarm. Crews were on scene for a total of three hours.

— by Brian Albert

### Council considers changing 1-way section of Washington St.

The Iowa City City Council voted to move forward on possibly changing the one-way section of Washington Street to a two-way street at its meeting Tuesday night.

Discussion in favor of the change focused on freeing up streets downtown such as Iowa Avenue and giving more business to downtown business owners.

Loading zones will be taken away if the change is implemented.

Concerns were raised about buses being unable to unload students on the street to the many events at the Englert Theatre.

City councilors are awaiting further discussion from the city staff.

— by Chastity Dillard

### Council OKs hiring consultant for development

The Iowa City City Council voted 7-0 to hire HDR Engineering Inc. to provide consultant services for the downtown and Riverfront Crossings areas.

According to a letter from senior planner Robert Miklo, the project is to create a “form-based zoning code” and undergo a housing and office market assessment. The analysis will show what kind of development could be feasible in the two districts over the next five years.

The physical plans to develop these areas are central elements of the city’s comprehensive plan, the letter said.

The total cost of services is \$164,440 — part of which will be funded by a \$50,000 state grant.

— by Chastity Dillard

## BLOTTER

Sara Boothe, 23, Norwalk, Iowa, was charged Monday with possession of marijuana, public intoxication, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Marcela Martinez, 24, 2128 S.

Riverside Drive Apt. 19, was charged Monday with fifth-degree theft.

Jeremy Smith, 31, address unknown, was charged Sunday with possession of open alco-

hol container in public.

Jackson Timothy, 50, 100 Bjaysville Lane, was charged Sunday with possession of open alcohol container in public.

Antonio Townsend, 21, 2441 Whispering Meadow, was charged June 19 with interference with official acts and possession of open alcohol container in public.

## The Daily Iowan

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### BREAKING NEWS

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## TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on [dailyyowan.com](http://dailyyowan.com) from Tuesday.

1. Bachmann focuses on waffles, not issues in Iowa City
2. Iowa City could do away with free moped parking
3. Should the Iowa City City Council approve a plan to revamp moped parking?
4. Taking the Fourth
5. Point/counterpoint: Which league is damaging its reputation more by locking out players?

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**PRISONS**

CONTINUED FROM 1

ing the public safe.”

In a press release from the Department of Corrections, spokesman Fred Scaletta said department officials do “a remarkable job providing a wide array of safety services” under the circumstances of losing staff.

While no violent incidents have occurred recently at the center, there has been a rise in stabbings and weapons being found in prisoners’ possession in different parts of the state.

“If there was an emergency such as a fight or medical problem with staff or an inmate, there would be no one there to help that correctional officer,” Homan said.

He said that over the weekend, there had been a day shift was so short of

staff members they did not have one circulator working. When administration was notified, they refused to hire a circulator or pay overtime.

Bruce Marlowe, a correctional officer and response specialist, said prisoners know there is a problem with adequate staffing, and he worries they might take advantage of the situation.

“If I could, I would put a TV in every cell,” he said. “That way [the prisoners] would be occupied and not noticing the problems that we’ve been having with the staff.”

Scaletta said continuing funding has affected all levels of correctional operations. Yet, he said, in the release the department is “grateful” for the funds allotted from Branstad’s budget, which would enable corrections to hire 40 more officers.

“The department will

**Iowa Medical and Classification Center**

**Other correctional facilities funded by the state for population growth in 2011:**

- Iowa State Penitentiary
- Anamosa State Penitentiary
- Department of Corrections Administration
- Newton Correctional Facility
- North Central Correctional Facility
- Clarinda Correctional Facility

Source: John Baldwin, director of Department of Corrections

continue to work to provide safety, security, treatment, and reentry services within the appropriated resources available to us,” he said.

Marty Hathaway, the president of AFSCME Local 295 and a correctional officer of 32 years,



ANTHONY BAUER/THE DAILY IOWAN

**Danny Homan, the president of AFSCME Iowa Council 61, speaks at a press conference on Tuesday. Homan said low staffing levels in the Department of Corrections prisons have led to safety concerns.**

expressed frustration with Branstad and the tax cuts that are being given to large companies instead of

being appropriated to the correctional facilities. “I want to go home to my family,” Hathaway said.

“All these people who work here want to come in, do their jobs, and then go home to their families.”

**K2**

CONTINUED FROM 1

everything that might come up, yet narrow enough to not punish too many people for smaller infractions,” said Sen. Tom Courtney, D-Burlington. “Once this was passed, we knew someone would come up with something that doesn’t fit the law. That’s what we had in mind, and that’s what we’re trying to do.”

Some Iowa City shops sell K2 alternatives. The Den, 123 E. Washington St., offers Syn as an herbal incense. The In Zone, 116 E. Washington St., has also sold K2 alternatives in the past.

K2 and similar blends are typically marketed as “herbal incense,” with labels warning the compounds are for incense use only.

Rep. Clel Baudler, R-Greenfield, said he’s confi-

dent in the government’s ability to stop the manufacture of alternate forms of K2.

“We think we have our bill written so it includes anything those sick sons of guns can think up,” he said. “If we don’t, we’ll address it immediately.”

The state government should continue to regulate new forms of K2, said Rep. Dave Heaton, R-Mount Pleasant.

“If they change them, I’ll go after that,” he said. “We’re looking at purposeful mind-alteration, and it just drives me crazy.”

Yet Missen, who stopped using synthetic drugs after his experience on JWH-018, said further legislation is only going to drive up black-market demand for similar substances.

“When they made K2 and [K2 form] Zero Gravity illegal, they put all these chemists out of business,” he said. “They’re not illegal to create, so they’re going to find loopholes to make the money — that’s

the world that it is. It only makes sense, now that we’re selling marijuana-crack on the market.”

But some shops have avoided sales due to K2’s tenuous legal status and lack of production regulation.

“We don’t know who’s making it,” said the Konnexion owner Kelly Stucker. “They could be spraying it down in a goddamn garage — there are no regulations.”

Stucker said the Konnexion began receiving floods of offers — as many as 10 in a single day — to sell K2-alternatives as the blends grew more popular from media exposure.

“Everyone’s trying to make quick money, so they’re just trying to flood the market with herbal incense,” she said. “But we don’t know if it’ll be illegal in the next two weeks, so we don’t want to bother.”

**MELROSE**

CONTINUED FROM 1

Several officials expressed caution about exempting organizations from the alcohol-sale rule, among them the Magic Bus.

“This is a road map for all other nonprofit groups that want to find a way around the regulations,” said City Attorney Eleanor Dilkes.

Noah Silvey, the president of the Magic Bus, said he is working to find a new way to appeal to the council.

“Right now, we’re working with lawyers and trying to figure out a way to work with the council,” he said. “We thank the staff for giving us a chance to try to move forward to get an exemption.”

City officials began formulating the ordinance in April after an Iowa City

**Melrose Vending**

**The City Council votes in favor of the Melrose ordinance on July 5. The new ordinance mandates that all vendors:**

- Pay a \$75 permit fee
- Set up allowed no earlier than 10 a.m.
- No vending will be allowed outside of game day
- No exemptions to alcohol sales

Source: Iowa City City Council

panel suggested prohibiting all vendors after hearing neighborhood complaints. Residents called for a vendor ban because of the problems created by tailgating, including trash, vomit, and public urination.

Public outcry followed the suggestion, prompting city officials to negotiate with the vendors to craft a compromise ordinance. At that point, the university had not taken a strong stance on the issue.

At a June 29 council meeting, Boothroy announced the UI would possibly provide Dumpsters and portable toilets.

More recently, a letter offering amendments to vending regulations was submitted to City Council by Jean Walker, a Melrose Neighborhood representative.

Walker said she is happy that the council has taken her neighborhood’s suggestions into consideration.

However, the council did not agree to ban shish-kebab sticks even though she had raised concerns about their being a hazard to “pets and the neighborhood wildlife.”

“Everybody is looking for creative ideas to make this work,” Boothroy said.

Boothroy also discussed a possible nonprofit working with the city on game-day cleanup.



**ELECTION WATCH FOLLOW THE RACE ON TWITTER AT #IACAUCUS**

**Gingrich: Resist Obama on debt ceiling**

ATLANTA — GOP presidential-nomination hopeful Newt Gingrich on Tuesday urged fellow Republicans to stand firm in their battle with President Obama over raising the federal government’s debt ceiling.

In a policy paper provided to the Associated Press, Gingrich invoked the twin government shutdowns during the 1990s when he was House speaker. Republicans, he said, were unfairly denounced by liberals and the news media at the time.

“Ultimately, standing firm led to the first four balanced budgets in our lifetime,” Gingrich said. “Proving we were serious changed the attitude of the Clinton White House toward

working with us. Being firm led to both a policy and political success.”

Gingrich says the choice today doesn’t have to be between tax increases and draconian spending cuts. He says reining in waste and abuse in government programs such as food stamps coupled with streamlining government management could help save money.

He declined to put a price tag on how much.

Congress is facing an Aug. 2 deadline to raise the \$14.3 trillion debt ceiling or the United States could face a first-ever default.

Republicans and Democrats are deadlocked in deficit-reduction talks in Washington. Republicans say they cannot support a plan that boosts taxes. Democrats argue that

deep spending cuts would be disastrous to the fragile economic recovery.

Gingrich was widely derided for his leading role in the government shutdown during his tenure as speaker. But he has embraced the issue on the campaign trail as evidence that he has the courage of his convictions.

— Associated Press

**NEA backs Obama**

CHICAGO — The nation’s largest education union has endorsed President Obama’s 2012 re-election campaign.

Members of the National Education Association voted to support Obama on Monday at their annual convention in Chicago.

In a statement, NEA President Dennis Van Roekel

says Obama and the union share a vision and members wanted early and strong support to help his election.

The endorsement comes a day after Vice President Joe Biden addressed thousands of educators at the convention. The association has 3.2 million members and bills itself as the largest labor union nationwide.

Biden’s speech largely praised teachers and he took jobs at Republicans, saying they don’t share the same views on public education.

But Biden drew applause when he briefly acknowledged there’s widespread unhappiness among teachers for the Obama

administration’s education policies.

— Associated Press

**Pawlenty hires Huckabee’s daughter**

DES MOINES — Republican presidential-nomination candidate Tim Pawlenty is naming the daughter of 2008 Iowa caucus winner Mike Huckabee to help lift his own effort ahead of a key test of strength in Iowa.

Pawlenty’s campaign says Sarah Huckabee Sanders will begin work today as the former Minnesota governor’s senior

adviser for the state’s Republican Straw Poll.

The Aug. 13 event at Iowa State University is seen as a test of strength for Republican presidential-nomination candidates ahead of the leadoff caucuses, set for February.

Pawlenty has spent a year and a half meeting Iowa Republicans and building a circle of top Iowa consultants, but he registered only 6 percent in a recent Iowa poll.

Sanders was Huckabee’s 2008 national political director. Huckabee finished second in the August Straw Poll and surged to win the caucuses.

— Associated Press



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## Editorial

## Delay of levee vote should prompt better communication

On Tuesday night, the Iowa City City Council was set to vote on the next phase of building a levee to protect the Idyllwild neighborhood from floods similar to 2008 levels.

But the City Council delayed the vote (which would hire a consulting firm to revisit the plan) to early next month, in deference to a swirling controversy: Some residents who wouldn't be protected by the plan are protesting, there are doubts about the efficacy of communications, and residents of other neighborhoods have expressed concerns over potential repercussions. While swift action to prevent another 2008-style disaster is important, the move to push back the vote is prudent — and gives time for residents' concerns to be fully addressed.

The proposed levee would be constructed near the Idyllwild neighborhood and Foster Road. Idyllwild residents fully support the levee, which would be funded by funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. But residents along Taft Speedway who wouldn't be protected by the levee are upset about being left at the mercy of floodwaters. Parkview Terrace residents on the other side of the river are also worried: They claim the levee would cause the floodplain to redirect floodwaters into their neighborhood.

Taft Speedway residents assert that they were not well-informed by the city about being left out of the levee or about a buyout option from FEMA. The city began the buyout process on July 23, 2008, contacting residents through a blue informational form. Residents were supposed to return the form with a yes or a no and any comments. However, the attorney for Taft Speedway residents, Wally Taylor, contends that the residents he represents were never informed about a buyout option.

"Residents didn't know anything about a buyout. They've been ignored," Taylor told the *DI* Editorial Board. "The city is claiming it's a matter of counting numbers, and the Taft Speedway people don't count. That's pretty crass. Idyllwild folks are being selfish."

With this level of ostensible miscommunication and dissatisfaction, the push for an outside expert is understandable.

Originally, Stanley Engineering recommended the levee plan for the Idyllwild neighborhood and surrounding area. However, after Taft Speedway residents raised their concerns, the Iowa Department of Economic Development suspended the grant for the levee project, requiring that the city commission an outside firm to conduct a study in response to citizens' worries.

Both Iowa City and neighborhood residents agree that an outside firm is necessary.

"The city is looking forward to having the study done," Iowa City community-development planner David Purdy told the *DI* Editorial Board. "It will quantify all the effects, address everyone's concerns, identify other alternatives, and answer a lot of questions."

Taft Speedway residents see the commission of an outside firm as a positive achievement.

"This is a step in the right direction," Taylor said. "Residents are definitely in support of an outside firm coming into the process."

But with the raising of new concerns from Parkview Terrace, the scope of the consultation is expanding. Initially, the consulting firm would only conduct meetings with Idyllwild and Taft Speedway residents; following complaints from the other side of the river, the Iowa Department of Economic Development has recommended that the consulting firm broaden its operation to that neighborhood, too.

The City Council is considering bringing in HDR Inc., an engineering and consulting firm; the consultations would cost the city approximately \$84,500. In approximately three months, HDR would gather neighborhood input regarding flood-mitigation ideas and concerns, identify alternatives to a levee, and then conduct a formal public meeting. There, the company would gather recommendations and reports from the neighborhood regarding alternatives. After this process, a final recommendation will be made by HDR on the best option for the neighborhood.

This best option could remain to be the levee, it could be some other sort of flood-mitigation tool, or it could be for the city to do nothing at all.

With the expanded scope of the project, the City Council's decision to delay the vote until August makes sense. Ultimately, residents will have to trust the judgment of the outside firm in choosing the best option for their community. The longer the debate goes on, the longer the area goes without disaster mitigation; it's important to act quickly — but not if that means ignoring the voices of people who might be affected by the new levee.

And perhaps the expanded time frame will allow Iowa City to inquire about any miscommunications that may have occurred in 2008 and take steps to avoid leaving people out in the future.

Your turn. Should the city have delayed hiring a consultant for the levee project?

Weigh in at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).

## Wins for liberty



ADAM B SULLIVAN  
sullivan.ab@gmail.com

You are freer today than you were at the beginning of the legislative session.

While a handful of bills garnered the lion's share of attention this past legislative season, lawmakers in Des Moines passed more than 30 meaningful laws, according to *Gazette* Statehouse reporter Rod Boshart. While there are wins and losses in this year's crop of laws, this session can be considered a win for liberty.

### Win: Mourning-dove hunting

To the vast majority of Iowans, lifting the ban on hunting mourning doves (the sorrowful birds, not the early rising ones) means nothing. Indeed, lawmakers were criticized for pushing this measure through before tackling such bigger issues as abortion restrictions and education funding. But small freedoms count, too. Even as a vegetarian who has no interest in blowing a bird's brains out, I appreciate having the right to do so.

### Loss: Lower boating blood alcohol

The argument is reasonable enough — if drivers can't operate cars with blood-alcohol contents greater than .08, neither should skippers be able to operate their boats. However, driving a boat is much different from driving a car because you have more reaction time and a greater margin of error. And with little evidence that a higher boating blood-alcohol content has led to many deaths or injuries, this seems like a solution in search of a problem.

### Win: Juvenile-parole reform

While we all agree there are some things people ought to be put in jail for, there's something unsettling about locking up a teenage forever. Giving kids not convicted of murder the opportunity for parole eventually is a good thing, especially in a world where there's still a very real risk of prejudiced conviction and sentencing.

### Win: Motorcycle training wheels

This one makes you wonder why putting stabilizing wheels on a motorcycle was ever outlawed in the first place. Of course you should be able to attach extra

wheels to your vehicle. It's your hog — do what you want.

### Loss: Ban Four Loko ... again

Even though there's no national ban on the books, federal regulators had set a precedent of disallowing the sale of caffeinated energy drinks. But Iowa lawmakers passed a ban on the drinks anyway. Not only does this needlessly double up on federal policy, there's very little credible research to suggest high-caffeine booze is a serious public-health threat. Iowa lawmakers should not have given a stamp of approval to over-reaching federal bureaucrats.

### Win: Open-records reform

As is usually the case with open-government issues, this bit flew mostly under the public radar: Open-records law violators now face tougher penalties. That's great, and it's a win for freedom, but lawmakers once again failed to push for big reforms that are needed to keep Iowa governments accountable.

### Win: State budget online

This is a no-brainer. Of course there should be a searchable database of state spending online. Part of being free is operating with complete information, and this helps voters do that.

### Win: Gas-station liquor

In a society in which most of us agree adults ought to be able to buy and drink alcohol, it's frustrating that special interests try to manage where and how those sales can take place. While it's probably good nobody is calling to allow the sale of open containers at drive-throughs, allowing convenience stores to carry booze is a win for freedom.

### Win: No gay-marriage ban

What the Legislature didn't do is important, too. Democrats successfully blocked Republican attempts to ban same-sex marriage. While I'd like to see civil marriage done away with altogether, it's likely here to stay for the foreseeable future. While it's here, gay people ought to be able to join in.

There are no libertarian game-changers coming from this year's legislative session, but small changes are perhaps even more important as they're the ones most likely to go unnoticed. Freedom doesn't go away all at once; instead, it is usually whittled away. This year, luckily, lawmakers did little whittling. ■

## Letter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via e-mail to [daily.iowan.letters@gmail.com](mailto: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.  
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### Debt-ceiling fight exemplifies partisan hypocrisy

President Obama is trying to figure out how to persuade Republicans to raise the national debt limit, so as to

avoid defaulting on the U.S. debt. I have a suggestion: Obama could switch parties and become a Republican.

When Republicans are in the White House, the national debt ceiling is not an issue. It's all borrow and spend like there's no tomorrow.

When George W. Bush was president, we went from a surplus to a massively compounded debt. Under Bush, Republicans voted seven times to raise the debt ceiling. Then-Vice President Cheney said, "Reagan taught us that deficits don't matter."

So, the way I see it, if Obama becomes a Republican, we won't have any problem raising the national debt limit. Republicans only oppose debt when Democrats are in power.

Marc Perkel  
Gilroy, Calif.

## Guest opinion

## Rocklin: Programs caused binge-drinking drop

The real world is a messy place to collect data and draw conclusions, and *The Daily Iowan's* June 27 editorial, "Drinking stats encouraging, not proof of programs' efficacy," did a good job of pointing out some of the challenges in interpreting data from the spring administration of the National College Health Assessment. Those data indicate that University of Iowa students have reduced their high-risk drinking rate by 8 percent.

The *DI* editorial suggests that the way in which the data were collected means that the results might not general-

ize to the undergraduate students as a whole. Both the 2009 and 2011 data were collected from students enrolled in Health and Physical Activity Skills courses. As noted in the fact sheet referenced in our press release, these students are similar to undergraduate students at large in terms of major, year in school, sex, GPA, membership in the Honors Program, and other characteristics. This convenience sample, with its 98 percent response rate, is actually a good deal more representative than the typical random survey on our campus, because those surveys usually get very low response rates and



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Go online to see the full results from the National College Health Assessment's study on drinking at the University of Iowa.

those nonresponders are systematically different from the responders. So, the national-assessment results are a pretty good description of the drinking behaviors of undergradu-

ate students.

The editorial also suggests that the changes we have observed in drinking behavior might have nothing to do with the changes in the environment (including the 21-ordinance) and might even have occurred before those changes took place.

In the messy real world, any conclusions about what led to observed changes have to be made cautiously and tentatively. That said, they do have to be made if we are to decide whether to continue, modify, or drop our efforts.

I have two reasons to believe that the decrease in high-risk drinking is due to changes described

in our Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan along with the city ordinance. First, in other data sets related to alcohol harm (students admitted to the Emergency Treatment Center with alcohol-related problems, residence-hall sanctions, students transported by ambulance for alcohol poisoning, for example), we see improvements from the fall of 2010 to the fall of 2011, consistent with the hypothesis that changes in the environment in the year leading up to the 2011 data collection led to changes in student behavior. Second, we relied heavily on a growing body of

research specific to best practices in reducing high-risk drinking on college campuses in developing our Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan.

That research has helped us choose a set of interventions that are designed to meet the unique needs of our campus and have proven effective elsewhere, and we have every reason to believe that they have been effective here.

In the end, though, the *DI* editorial is exactly right: "No matter where the credit is due, increased student safety is always welcome."

Tom Rocklin is the University of Iowa vice president for Student Life.





PRIME TIME

CONTINUED FROM 8

strong/Kroeger (2-3) on Tuesday. He scored 9 points and added 3 rebounds and 2 assists. He also drew an offensive foul in the first half.

Incoming Iowa freshman and summer-league teammate Josh Oglesby said he was impressed with Brommer's first game in North Liberty.

"You can't really take any first impressions of someone coming off [an] injury, but he played well," Oglesby said. "He moved well and got the ball down low with strong rebounding. My first impression was he's good."

Randy Larson, the Prime Time commissioner and Brommer's and Oglesby's coach, said he was also impressed with Brommer.

"I think what he needs to continue to do is get to where he plays naturally," Larson said. "He's just always been a kid who didn't have as much confidence as I think he should



Eric May, Andrew Brommer, and Kyle Schlaak sit on the bench during the second half of a Prime Time League game on Tuesday in North Liberty. Brommer saw his first Prime Time action in his squad's 88-72 victory because he was recovering from an injury.

have — that's one of the reasons I think he's a good candidate to have a breakout senior year."

Oglesby led McCurry's/Gatens in scoring with 18 points, and he also grabbed 7 rebounds.

The Cedar Rapids native was the beneficiary of good ball movement throughout the game, and he made 4-of-9 shots from behind the 3-point line.

"[In] this league, there isn't a lot of defense," he

said. "If you move the ball a couple of times, people aren't going to want to play [defense]. All they want to do is get on offense and showboat."

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

you've survived, and you're like, 'You know what? I can play here.'

"I'd say I agree with those feelings. I feel pretty confident going into this season."

That confidence hasn't gone unnoticed by his

coaches and teammates. Parker said Morris' maturity is most evident off the field, especially in the film room.

"He studies [film], and he does that stuff like you'd expect an older guy would do it," Parker said. "He approaches the game like you'd expect a junior or senior to approach the game. He's very professional in

what he's doing and how he approaches it and everything. He's a kid who, if you had a whole bunch of those guys, it would be an easy situation."

Senior linebacker Tyler Nielson, whose injuries last year helped pave the way for Morris to become a star, said he doesn't think his young teammate has nearly reached

his potential on the field.

"We gained a lot of experience [last year]," Nielson said in April. "Morris is looking good ... It's always competitive, and it's just going to be exciting watching the younger guys come along. They came a long way in the spring, and I think they're going to do the same thing again in the fall."

Hapless Brewers try to regroup

By COLIN FLY  
Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Brewer manager Ron Roenicke rarely calls team meetings, opting to let his players work it out on the field.

After eight ugly days, he'd witnessed enough.

The Brewers spent more than 15 minutes discussing their woes after falling into an early six-run hole behind starter Randy Wolf and losing to the Arizona Diamondbacks, 7-3, on Tuesday night.

"There are a lot of guys who are frustrated. We need to stop it. We need to turn this thing back around again," Roenicke said. "Coming home, we've played so well at home, I thought we'd do it. These first couple games got away from us. We need to play well these five games [before the All-Star break]."

Milwaukee (45-42) has

lost seven of eight since taking a three-game lead in the NL Central and dropped five games in that span in the standings, falling behind St. Louis and Pittsburgh.

The Brewers also lost consecutive games at Miller Park for the first time this season after having the major leagues' best mark for most of the year.

Everything is unraveling at the wrong time, too, with their pitchers' recent struggles and a homer-happy offense suddenly unable to outscore opponents.

"We definitely want to play better than what we're playing," Wolf said. "We know we have a good team, but we're not playing well, especially right now. That's very frustrating for all of us because we do care about the end result. We want to win here, and when we don't, we take it personally. If you care, sometimes you do put a pressure on your-

self and sometimes that is counterproductive."

Justin Upton and Gerardo Parra homered for the Diamondbacks, who built a 7-1 lead early and improved to 3-2 on this 10-game road trip before hosting the All-Star game Tuesday.

Milwaukee failed to figure out Zach Duke, who tossed seven effective innings to win for the first time in 12 starts in Miller Park. David Hernandez picked up his fifth save.

Ryan Braun missed his third game with a strained left calf and watched Milwaukee blow five-run leads on Sunday at Minnesota and in Monday's opener. There was no chance of that in this one after trailing 7-1 after three.

"I'm not putting this on Wolfy. My gosh, why can't we come out and score three, four runs in the first inning? Our offense should be as good as what we're

playing," Roenicke said. "We've got a good offense. We need to take it to somebody else just as much as they take it to us."

Prince Fielder hit an RBI infield single off Duke (2-3) in the first before his 22nd homer landed deep into the right-field bleachers in the sixth to make it 7-2.

Corey Hart hit a solo shot in the eighth, his second homer in as many days, and Milwaukee got the tying run into the on-deck circle with two outs in the ninth. But Hernandez entered and forced Hart to ground into a fielder's choice to end it.

That led to the postgame meeting that Roenicke hopes will change Milwaukee's direction quickly. After Wednesday's series finale, the Brewers play four games with Cincinnati before the break, followed by a 10-game road trip with stops in Colorado, Arizona, and San Francisco.

Cards crush Reds

By R.B. FALLSTROM  
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Albert Pujols stayed on the bench in his first game off the disabled list. The St. Louis Cardinals had plenty without the three-time National League MVP.

Matt Holliday homered twice hours after being picked to represent the National League in the Home Run Derby, and Jaime Garcia had another stingy home outing in an 8-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night.

Holliday said he knew about the Home Run Derby a few days ago.

"No correlation, I wouldn't think," Holliday said. "I'm just trying to hit the ball hard."

Holliday is not a prototypical home-run hitter, totaling 77 the last three seasons and entering the game with just 10 in 62 games. He powered up against Edinson Volquez (5-4) with a solo shot in the first and three-run homer in the fifth for his 16th career multi-homer game and first since July 7, 2010, at Colorado.

The Cardinals activated

Pujols before the game but did not use him after putting him through an extensive pregame workout. Pujols beat the estimated timetable for his return from a broken left wrist by a month, emerging on his first day of eligibility from the disabled list, and he is expected to start today.

"If it was a game situation, he was ready," manager Tony La Russa said. "But I didn't see one. So he'll go tomorrow."

Holliday and Lance Berkman homered on consecutive at-bats in the first inning.

Berkman leads the league with 23 homers after a drive to right estimated at 452 feet, the longest at 6-year-old Busch Stadium, and with 350 career homers, he is tied for fourth with Chili Davis on the career switch-hitter list, trailing only Mickey Mantle, Eddie Murray, and Chipper Jones.

The Reds, defending champions in the NL Central, have lost four of five, and they fell a game below .500 for the first time since May 3. Manager Dusty Baker dipped below the break-even point, too, with a record of 286-287 in his

fifth season with Cincinnati.

"We're a good team, but we're just playing terrible ball," second baseman Brandon Phillips said. "Nice and simple, that's it. That's all that's going on."

Central-leading St. Louis is 12-0-1 in series at home against the Reds since 2006, and the Cards will go for a three-game sweep tonight with Jake Westbrook opposing Bronson Arroyo.

Garcia (8-3) allowed one run and two hits in six innings and is 5-1 with a major league-best 0.94 ERA at home. The left-hander didn't allow a hit until Phillips doubled leading off the fourth, eventually scoring on two groundouts.

"It's always good for the team; we're doing great hitting," Garcia said. "But to be honest with you, I'm trying to do my best at not worrying about what's going on offensively or with the other pitcher."

The Reds threatened again in the fifth, walking the bases on two leads and a single by Volquez before Phillips grounded into a forceout on a bang-bang play at second after shortstop Ryan Theriot fielded the ball in the hole.

Theriot added a two-run double off Sam LeCure in a three-run sixth that made it 8-1.

Volquez has allowed 22 runs in the first inning, permitting at least one run in half of his 16 starts. He had allowed a total of three homers his previous five starts before giving up three against St. Louis to match a season worst and gave up seven runs, six earned, in 5 1/3 innings.

"He wasn't even that sharp," Baker said. "He just missed location, that's kind of what was happening all night."

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## PRIME TIME LEAGUE

# Surprise: Brommer returns

Andrew Brommer is back on the court for the first time since he had right knee surgery on May 12.

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

A familiar face was back in North Liberty on Tuesday night, and it surprised just about everyone.

Even Anthony Hubbard didn't expect to see Andrew Brommer in uniform for the evening's Prime Time League action.

As the Iowa wing walked in front of the bench the 6-9 forward was sitting on, he saw Brommer and took a step back.

"Brom, Brom, Brom," he said with a smile on his face. The pair talked for a few minutes before Brommer took the court and helped his team to an 86-72 win.

Iowa's senior post player saw his first Prime Time action Tuesday night after having knee surgery during finals week in May. The procedure cleaned out scar tissue from around his right kneecap and also removed a bursa, a small collection of fluid that helps cushion the surrounding joint.

Brommer said his knee felt good in his first time back on the floor, but noted his rehab limits him to 10 minutes a half.

"I feel like I'm moving really well, but the thing I can feel a little bit of difference in is my jumping ability," he said. "But that'll come back [after rehab]."

The Rosemount, Minn., native said he felt at around 90 percent, and he expects to be fully healthy in about two weeks.

The summer has been one of recovery for Brommer, who was pulled from Iowa's 66-61 loss to Michigan State in the first round of the Big Ten Tournament on March 10 because of a neck injury.

"It's been a lot of rehab and a lot of upper body lifting and core to try to stay in shape," he said about his summer workouts.

And while there was definitely some rust on the big Minnesotan's game, he still performed reasonably well as McCurry's/Gatens (2-3) beat Arm-

SEE PRIME TIME, 6

# Morris' maturity stands out



ANTHONY BAUER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Iowa linebacker James Morris addresses the media on June 28. The 19-year-old finished last season with 70 tackles.

Sophomore linebacker James Morris is ready to lead a young defense after a breakout freshman campaign.

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

In a few short weeks, Iowa football fans will get to watch linebacker James Morris zipping around the field in Kinnick Stadium.

And if those same fans wait long enough, they might get to see the Solon native somewhere completely different — on a grocery store shelf.

"He's a Wheaties box kind of guy," Iowa defensive coordinator Norm Parker said in April. "He's sort of the All-American boy. He works hard, he studies hard, [and] he just does everything right."

Morris looked the part when he met the press last week, wearing a black T-shirt emblazoned with the phrase "Iowa Strength" and with his dark hair swept to one side.

The 19-year-old is young, but he is the centerpiece of a defense that has plenty to prove after a tumultuous season last year. Injuries to the linebacking corps forced Morris into a starting role midway through the 2010 campaign, and the lifelong Iowa fan stepped up to become one of the few bright spots on a unit that crumbled late in games on several occasions.

He didn't show any jitters in his first start, collecting nine tackles in a 37-6 blowout win over No. 5 Michigan State on Oct. 30. That was the first of six-straight starts, including the Insight Bowl, in which he tallied at least seven tackles per game — including a career-high 13 against Northwestern on Nov. 13 and nine on Nov. 20, his 19th birthday.

Morris finished the season with 70

tackles, the fourth-best number on the team. For his efforts, he was named a first team Freshman All-American by CollegeFootballNews.com and a member of Rivals.com's Big Ten All-Freshman Team.

He said he isn't satisfied with resting on his impressive freshman season, though, and he believes that the team's off-season has brought a new perspective to the game.

"Things have changed a lot ... there are all the things outside of football, [and] as far as football-wise, I'm just a lot more comfortable with myself and the teams," he said on June 28. "It's that thing where, when you're a freshman, you're not really sure if you're good enough, all those little insecurities. By the time this year [comes around],

SEE FOOTBALL, 6

## 5 football Hawks honored

Five members of the Iowa football team were placed on preseason award watch lists on Tuesday, according to a release.

Sophomore running back Marcus Coker was named to the Maxwell Award list and senior defensive back Shaun Prater was named to the Bednarik Award list.

The Maxwell Award is given each year to the most outstanding player in college football. If Coker wins the award, he will join Nile Kinnick and Chuck Long as the only Hawkeyes to receive the honor since its inception in 1937.

The Bednarik Award is presented to college football's top defensive player; it has never been won by a Hawkeye. It has, however, found its home in the Big Ten in seven of its 16 years of existence.

Senior wide receiver Marvin McNutt, senior defensive lineman Mike Daniels, and junior defensive back Micah Hyde were named to the College Football Performance Awards watch lists for their positions.

The trio joins sophomore kicker Mike Meyer as Iowa's representatives on the list. The kicker was named to the organization's placekicking and kickoff specialist lists earlier in the summer.

— by Seth Roberts

## Iowa 43rd of 284 in college sports

The Iowa Athletics Department scored 510 points in the annual Learfield Sports Directors' Cup during the 2010-11 college-sports year, a total good enough for 43rd place among 284 Division-I schools.

Iowa's 510 points were the most in school history, and the

43rd-place finish was also one of the best results for the Hawkeyes; the Black and Gold's best overall finish came in 2004-05, when they finished 39th.

The Hawkeyes were among the lowest-ranked teams in the Big Ten, though; Iowa finished ninth of 11 in the conference.

Points in the competition are distributed to each Division-I institution based on the school's finishes in 20 different national-championship competitions.

The bulk of Iowa's points came from the winter sports season, when the Hawkeyes pulled in 372.75 points thanks to its results at the NCAA wrestling (third place), men's and women's indoor track (eighth and 50th, respectively), men's and women's swimming and diving (35th and 30th), and men's and women's gymnastics (eighth and 25th) championships.

Iowa also received points in the fall from the football team's victory in the 2010 Insight Bowl and in the spring by the Black and Gold's 10th-place finish at the NCAA Division I men's golf championship.

"The Directors' Cup is just one of a handful of tools our staff uses to measure success, so it's exciting to see the hard work of our coaches and student-athletes has been rewarded by this achievement," Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta said in a release. "The plan now is to take the momentum of this year and build on it."

Stanford racked up 1,550.25 points to win the Directors' Cup for the 17th year in a row. Ohio State finished in second place, and California rounded out the top three.

— by Seth Roberts

## BoSox win, lose Lester

BOSTON — Darnell McDonald threw out Edwin Encarnacion at the plate on a single to short left field for the final out, and the Boston Red Sox held on for a 3-2 win over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday night.

Jose Bautista had hit a two-run homer with no outs in the ninth off Jonathan Papelbon. Then a single by Encarnacion and a walk to J.P. Arencibia put runners at first and second with two outs. John McDonald looped a single that Darnell McDonald charged and, on the run, fired the ball on the fly to Jason Varitek.

The catcher tagged Encarnacion to end the game.

Papelbon got his 18th save in 19 chances, and Matt Albers (3-3) picked up the win.

Brett Cecil (1-4) went all the way for Toronto, giving up two runs in the second on an RBI double by Jason Varitek and a run-scoring single by J.D. Drew and one in the third on Dustin Pedroia's homer.

Boston starter Jon Lester allowed no hits in four innings before leaving with a strained muscle on the left side of his back. Albers worked two scoreless innings and gave up Toronto's first hit, a two-out single by Bautista in the sixth overall.

Drew then hit a hard shot into the hole between first and second that went off the foot of second baseman Mike McCoy for a single.

Cecil set down the first two batters in the third. Then Pedroia, batting fourth while Kevin Youkilis sat out with a bruised back muscle, drove a 1-2 pitch over the left-field wall for his eighth homer.

— Associated Press

## PRIME TIME LEAGUE



ANTHONY BAUER/THE DAILY IOWAN

Bryce Cartwright goes up for a dunk during the second half of a Prime Time League game on Tuesday in North Liberty. Cartwright's mouth was bloodied in a scrum in the second half, but he overcame that to finish with 21 points, 8 assists, and 8 rebounds in an 88-76 win.