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The Daily Iowan

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50¢

Hope House escapee caught

Alajuwon Johnson, who reportedly escaped from the Hope House during work leave almost three weeks ago, was caught Thursday and placed in the Johnson County Jail, according to jail officials.

The 27-year-old is being held under the charge of voluntary absence on a \$2,000 cash or surety bond.

Johnson was previously charged with accidentally killing 20-year-old Kylie Jo Perkins in her apartment Dec. 30, 2009. He entered an Alford plea to a charge of involuntary manslaughter, a Class D felony, and he received a sentence of five years in prison.

After failing to return from a June 13 work release from the Hope House, he was placed on escapee status July 1.

According to Iowa City police, Johnson's girlfriend, Stephanie Dunbar, was arrested Wednesday after allegedly helping the inmate evade officers last weekend.

Dunbar reportedly admitted under Miranda she had picked Johnson up after he took off running from police July 2. Dunbar was charged with aiding and abetting Johnson.

— by Ariana Witt

Bachmann, Dvorsky not eye-to-eye on debt

Republican presidential hopeful Michele Bachmann and Iowa Democratic Party Chairwoman Sue Dvorsky clashed on Thursday over raising the federal government's debt ceiling.

The federal government's debt is expected to reach its legal limit of \$14.3 trillion later this year. Politicians have been wrestling for months over whether Congress ought to increase that limit.

Bachmann launched a campaign ad in Iowa this week in which she vows not to vote for raising the debt limit.

In response, Dvorsky issued a statement accusing Bachmann of "playing politics with our national economy."

"While Bachmann is not willing to risk losing the support of the GOP establishment by voting against [Rep. Paul Ryan's budget plan], she is more than willing to put our economy at risk by letting the U.S. default on our debt," Dvorsky said.

However, the United States would not necessarily default on its debt if the borrowing limit stays at its current level. Republican lawmakers have pointed out that federal revenues would easily cover the amount needed to cover debt servicing and avoid default.

— Adam B Sullivan

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WEATHER

HIGH 86 LOW 66
Mostly sunny, calm.



Jerry Stimmel of Cosgrove, Iowa, rides his ATV four-wheeler near Oxford, Iowa, on Thursday. The UIHC is emphasizing health safety practices for ATV users and owners as injury and death numbers rise.

GABRIELLE ELIASON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Officials warn of ATV dangers

Higher top speeds — up to 85 mph in some cases — also increase danger.

By ZACHARY POUND
zachary-pound@uiowa.edu

Officials at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics are taking measures to promote safety standards for operating all-terrain vehicles as accident rates continue to climb for increasingly popular machine.

"ATVs are becoming heavier and faster," Charles Jennissen, the director of pediatric emergency medicine at the UI Hospital and Clinics. "And riders are putting themselves into situations on these machines that they are not able to handle."

The UIHC has seen more than 200 ATV-related deaths since 2002, said Kristel Wet-

jen, a pediatric trauma-nurse coordinator at UIHC.

Each year, she said, officials estimate that approximately 500 deaths and 1.1 million emergency-room visits occur nationwide because of these accidents.

And accidents in Iowa continue.

On Tuesday, 10-year-old Bluegrass, Iowa, boy was killed in an accident when his ATV flipped over on him. And a 16-year-old from Brooklyn, Iowa, died on June 25 in a similar incident.

"One out of every three ATV accidents involves a child under 16 who was operating it," Wetjen said. "We hold assemblies at middle schools to teach the kids there about the

safety issues of riding ATVs."

The school visits are made possible by a \$167,000 grant from Kohl's as part of its Keeping Kids Safe program. The physicians at the UI Children's Hospital said they hope education on proper safety guidelines and awareness of ATV dangers will cause a decrease in the number of accidents and deaths.

Wetjen said the most common injuries are beheadings and abdominal injuries from the machine rolling onto the driver. There are three main causes of accidents, she said: rid-

SEE **ATV**, 3

Officials push for justice center

The maximum cost for a new facility is \$39 million including renovation of the current Courthouse.

By ASMAA ELKEURTI
Asmaa.Elkeurti@gmail.com

The long-awaited plans to build a new justice center for Johnson County are finally underway.

And Courthouse officials said the plans for a center are necessary as they continue battling overcrowding and safety problems in the 108-year-old structure.

"There's no way of making the present Courthouse secure," said Pat Harney, the chairman of the Johnson County Board of Supervisors and a member of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee. "This space is just inadequate for all these mingling jurors and other individuals who need to be kept separate. There are no real quarters for judges, either."

The Criminal Justice Coordi-



ZHONGZHU GUO/THE DAILY IOWAN

Workers replace the front steps of the Johnson County Courthouse on Thursday. The combined cost of the Johnson County justice-center construction and Courthouse renovation is estimated to be \$39 million.

nating Committee set a maximum request of a \$39 million bond at its Wednesday meeting. Harney said this includes construction of a new justice center as well as renovations on the Courthouse.

The new structure, which would probably be located on the block south of the Courthouse, would allow installation of a better security system and safer transfer of the inmates, said Johnson County prosecutor Janet Lyness.

"We're out of room in the

Courthouse," she said.

Harney said officials have been discussing an expansion for around 10 or 12 years.

In April, the supervisors voted unanimously to approve the purchase of 514 and 520 S. Capitol St. and 4 E. Prentiss St. for nearly \$1.1 million for the new center.

Johnson County Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek said he's glad to see the plans finally underway following Wednesday's

SEE **COURTHOUSE**, 3

UI OKs more clusters

UI colleges began the cluster-hiring application process in January.

By LUKE VOELZ
luke-voelz@uiowa.edu

University of Iowa officials announced approval Thursday for additional research positions in Obesity and in Genetics Initiatives, part of the university's cluster-hiring initiative.

Each program will acquire 10 faculty members, a total of 20, at estimated salaries of \$60,000 to \$100,000 per year. These positions will spread throughout various UI colleges to contribute to broad areas of research in their respective programs, UI leaders said.

The new programs mark the fourth round of cluster-hiring grant approvals since the fall of 2010, adding this month's initiatives to water sustainabil-

SEE **HIRINGS**, 3



Spotlight Iowa City



Eric Vance holds a water pipe at Venomous Glass Works on Thursday. Venomous Glass Works is the only Iowa carrier of Hladeph, a coveted brand of tobacco pipe.

Definitely a glass act

A young businessman draws his inspiration from comic books

By **SETH ROBERTS**
sethroberts@uiowa.edu

Eric Vance really likes comics.

The self-described “Marvel head,” a reference to his favorite comic-book company, decorated his workplace with posters depicting such characters as Thor and Captain America.

One character in particular stands out, though. Plastered on one wall is a huge portrait of the hulking, fanged super-villain Venom, from the Spider-Man universe.

“I’ve always like Venom and thought he as an awesome, awesome character,” said Vance, who used the villain’s name as the basis for a green-and-black tattoo on his forearm.

The posters and body art also guided the 19-year-old Iowa City native when he was naming his business. Vance opened Venomous Glass Works in the space above TCB Pool Hall on June 10.

“It kind of fell into my lap,” he said and laughed. “I’ve always been really good friends with the guy who used to own it, and I bought the business from him, and now it’s mine.”

The store used to be called Head Hunters Glass

and was owned by glass-blower David Albery. When Albery decided to focus more on the artistic side of the business, Vance bought the space and rebranded it after his favorite comic-book character.

Albery still produces the bulk of the store’s wares. His work ranges from small, colorful pipes that sell for around \$35 to ornately twisting, much more expensive waterpipes.

Vance said he likes the idea of supporting local artists by selling pieces created in Iowa, and he buys most of the material on his shelves from Albery’s studio in Davenport or from blowers in Coralville.

“Why not buy locally? Why help everybody else out if you can keep your money in your community?” he said. “We’re about the only place in town that actually has locally blown [glass]. We’re not buying too much off the Internet [or] trying to sell people cheap, janky glass for expensive prices.”

Instead, he said, he wants to combine the local appeal with low prices to build a customer base for his store.

The main challenge has

Eric Vance

- **Age:** 19
- **Hometown:** Iowa City
- **Favorite movie:** *Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai*
- **Favorite musician:** Madlib
- **Favorite pizza topping:** Sausage
- **Favorite comic book character:** Venom, from “Spider-Man”

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.

been advertising — Venomous is hidden away in a dark corner of the Hall Mall. Vance’s older brother, Nick — who, unlike his younger sibling, has prior business experience — has taken on some of the advertising responsibility and is using fliers, word-of-mouth, and a giant TV pointed out on the Ped Mall to gain attention.

Nick Vance, 23, who joined his brother in the early stages of planning the store, described their business relationship as an equal partnership.

“We got all of our fighting out as we were children,” he said and laughed. “We decide everything together — if one of us doesn’t like [something], we don’t go through with it.”

Nathan Gilpin, who has known Eric Vance since the two were in seventh grade, said the early success of the shop is a factor of Vance being an “extremely hard-working person.”

“He didn’t get any handouts growing up — he’s always had to work hard,” Gilpin said. “I definitely see the small businessman mentality running in him, and that’s what sets apart his business.”

Vance said he expects his sales to increase exponentially once the fall semester starts, but for now, he’s happy to sit back and enjoy his first business endeavor.

“We’ll see where it takes us,” he said. “Hopefully, it’ll turn out as a career, but as it is now, it’s a stepping-stone. Maybe there’ll be more things to come — maybe we’ll expand and move and that sort of thing. We’ll see.”

METRO

City to adjust precincts

The Iowa City City Council is set to re-evaluate and vote July 12 on the city’s precincts and boundaries, according to the council.

The most recent federal census showed Iowa City’s population rising from 62,220 in 2000 to 67,862 in 2010.

Law dictates that the City Council must review its district boundaries and voting precincts after each census.

With the proposal, written by city staff and the Johnson County Auditor’s Office, precincts would drop from 25 to 24 in Iowa City to prevent discrepancy in precinct size.

Each district is limited to 3,500 residents and under the revision; Iowa City’s three districts would undergo minor changes.

The changes will not affect November’s election; they will go into effect in January 2012.

— by Chastity Dillard

Obama leads GOP in Iowa Electronic Market

Trading numbers from the Iowa Electronic Markets’ 2012 presidential-election prediction indicated Thursday morning President Obama had a leading chance to be re-elected, according to a press release.

The real-money prediction market, operated by researchers at the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business, set the Democratic contract at 57.2 percent on the Winner Take All markets of 9 a.m. Thursday.

The Republican contract was

selling for 42.7 cents, indicating the eventual GOP nominee has a 42.7 percent probability to win the 2012 general election.

Contracts for candidates who receive the most popular votes pay \$1, but losing contracts pay nothing. The presidential-election market opened July 1.

The market, which opened in 1988, is a research tool which UI experts say has a prediction record often more accurate than opinion polls.

— by Nina Earnest

Officials want to sell UniverCity house

Iowa City officials propose to sell the single-family residence at 826 E. Davenport St., under the

UniverCity Neighborhood Partnership Program grant, according to the Iowa City City Council.

The program is a collaboration between the University of Iowa and the city “to encourage home ownership and reinvestment in designated neighborhoods surrounding the university,” according to city officials. The sale would provide affordable housing in the University of Iowa area.

A \$1.25 million grant allows the partnership to buy and restore 25 units in the area. Each residence is allotted \$50,000 in grant money.

The City Council will have a public hearing authorizing the sale at its meeting July 12, which follows a resolution for the purchase adopted Tuesday.

An offer was received to purchase the home for \$136,000, the amount paid by the city, “Carrying costs” would also be provided.

— by Chastity Dillard

BLOTTER

Mary Bobotaylor, 47, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 3612, was charged May 2 with fraudulent credit-card acts and fourth-degree theft.

Matthew Day, 36, Riverside, Iowa, was charged Aug. 10, 2010 with second-degree theft.

Patrese Harvey, 21, address unknown, was charged Wednesday with interference with official acts.

Trishon Harvey, 43, address unknown, was charged Wednesday with assault on personnel, second-offense OWI, fifth-degree theft, interference with official acts, and driving

while revoked.

Crystal Hawkins, 26, 2254 S. Riverside Drive Apt. 25, was charged June 22 with interference with official acts.

Trevor Howland, 31, 717 Woodside Drive, was charged Thursday with smoking in prohibited areas.

Michele Kearney, 28, North Liberty, was charged Thursday with public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

Benjamin Lucas, 34, Miami Beach, Fla., was charged Thursday with smoking in prohibited areas and interference with official acts.

Juan Martinez-Lopez, 25, 1425 Langenberg Ave., was charged June 23 with illegal dumping.

Christy McGinnis, 40, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 2433, was charged July 2 with possession of an open alcohol container in public.

Lucas Othmer, 29, 222 E. Market St. Apt. 33, was charged Thursday with disorderly conduct.

Jamee Pickens, 27, 619 S. Johnson St. Apt. 7, was charged Wednesday with violating a no-contact domestic abuse protective order.

Benjamin Powers, 21, 327 S.

Lucas St. Apt. B, was charged Thursday with keeping a disorderly house.

Evangelina Romero-Ramirez, 33, 1205 Laura Drive Apt. 16, was charged Wednesday with obstructing an officer.

Hugo Salguero, 27, 2401 Highway 6 E. Apt. 3608, was charged June 23 with illegal dumping.

Vladimir Vasilyevich, 22, Cedar Rapids, was charged Thursday with public intoxication.

Juan Vazquez-Ayala, 19, 831 Cross Park Ave. Apt. C, was charged June 23 with illegal dumping.

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BREAKING NEWS

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DI TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Thursday.

1. Santorum in eastern Iowa calls to reduce federal higher ed support
2. Some concerns linger in Johnson County emergency facility's second year
3. No policy changes in the works following convict escape
4. Ali Farokhmanesh goes from big-time to Prime Time
5. Bachmann focuses on waffles, not issues

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ATV

CONTINUED FROM 1

ers not wearing a helmet, more than one person riding the vehicle, and people operating ATVs that are too large for them.

ATV engines are made to fit the type of rider and type of riding. Vehicles for children as young as 6 are made with smaller engines — 70 cubic centimeters or less — which can reach a maximum speed of 15 mph.

Adults, however, can ride ATVs with engine capacities of 800 cubic centimeters and top speeds of 85

ATV safety commandments

The Keeping Kids Safe program strongly recommends the following for ATV operation:

- Always wear a helmet
- One person at a time
- Ride correct size ATV
- Take ATV safety course

Source: Kohl's Keeping Kids Safe program

mph. The current volume is an upgrade from the average engine size available in years past.

The increase in injuries in the past 15 years is related to the growing pop-

ularity of the vehicles, Jennissen said.

And Jennissen, whose work involves research on ATV-injury prevention, said adults could be at a greater risk than years before.

“We’ve actually seen child accident and deaths level off but seen an increase in adults getting hurt or killed,” he said.

Only a few stores in Iowa City sell the vehicles. Don's Honda, 537 Highway 1 W., has been selling ATVs and other motor vehicles for 33 years.

Don's Honda sales manager Michael Zeman said the manufacturers of the ATVs — such as Honda

and Polaris — offer a four- to six-hour free safety training class to provide operating and safety instructions for buyers.

But most of the buyers don't go through with the safety programs, Zeman said, because they have riding experience or do not have the time.

“Most of the people who are buying ATVs are already owners of one and just getting a new one,” Zeman said. “Most of the people buying them use it for agricultural purposes and have been riding ATVs for many years.”

Jennissen said the injuries that are continually



GABRIELLE ELIASON/THE DAILY IOWAN

Jerry Stimmel does a wheelie on his ATV on Thursday in Oxford, Iowa.

seen at the UIHC are tough to call recreational. Many accidents are farm-related,

he said, so determining if harm was caused by a recreation or work can be difficult.

HIRINGS

CONTINUED FROM 1

ity, digital public humanities, and aging clusters. Genetics Initiative Co-Chairman Jeffrey Murray said his cluster's research will include personal genetics, which maps DNA to determine disease susceptibility and medicine resistance.

“One of the things we hope to do is draw new research in this area to

Genetics Initiative

UI areas in the Obesity Initiative include:

- Carver College of Medicine
- College of Public Health
- College of Nursing
- College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
- Tippie College of Business

Source: University of Iowa

help make Iowa the leader in applying personalized medicine,” he said.

The UI Office of the Provost designed fund-

matching largely to help departments interested in a cluster's area of research, said Tom Rice, the UI associate provost for Faculty.

“We're not investing in areas we don't have a lot of strength in,” Rice said. “Most of these [cluster] hirings probably would be areas colleges would have invested in, anyway.”

Colleges will expand these areas of study by collaborating with other areas. For instance, Murray said possible ethics problems in personal genetics — such as employers discriminating against

employees who are likely to inherit a certain disease — require aid from the UI College of Law.

The law school would join the Colleges of Medicine, Public Health, Engineering, Nursing and Liberal Arts & Sciences in research contributions.

“We're just getting off the ground,” said Allyn Mark, the Obesity Initiative co-chairman. “We see this [cluster research] as an ongoing process.”

Mark said economic research through the Tippie College of Business will

help the medical school's studies in obesity.

“The business [faculty] are interested in the economic consequences of obesity,” he said. “Both the cost in health care from illnesses related to obesity and economic factors that may contribute to poor lifestyles promoting obesity.”

UI spokesman Tom Moore said all cluster-hiring funding will come through a reallocation of budget resources instead of raising additional funds.

For each faculty member an area hires, the Provost's

Office will allocate \$100,000 toward the salary of an additional new position. This fund-matching will extend through the acquisition of all 10 cluster faculty, a process Murray estimates will take up to three years.

“It won't happen immediately,” he said. “But we're trying to hire and place as many people as quick as possible. The idea is to hire people who will take advantage of existing genetics infrastructure.”

UI officials said they will conduct a nationwide search to fill the positions.

COURTHOUSE

CONTINUED FROM 1

meeting.

“Johnson County has grown to be the fourth most populous county in the state, and yet, we have the 15th largest jail in the state,” Pulkrabek said.

Because of lack of space in the jail, inmates are transported to other counties. The jail size has not kept up with the growth of the county population, having been built for 46 inmates, Pulkrabek said.

Upwards of 210 inmates would need to be housed in the jail on an average day, but the facility can only handle up to 92, he said.

“We've been transporting prisoners around the state, and we spend about \$1.2 million to \$1.3 million on that annually,” Harney said.

The problem, however, does not just lie with the lack of space for inmates. The main complaint about the Courthouse is in the inability to provide adequate security.

“It just was not designed for our needs today,” said David Kempf, the Johnson County facilities manager.

County officials had considered buying University of Iowa parking lot property north of the jail for the justice center in 2006. But UI officials wanted the property for future university expansion. And despite having prop-

erty for a new center, officials are continuing renovations on the old Courthouse.

The project to update the Courthouse started in the late summer and early fall of last year. The limestone steps are being evened out for aesthetics and safety and to provide better accessibility to the building, Lyness said.

But officials are still set on completing the justice center.

“This is something that's a longtime overdue for Johnson County,” Harney said.

The vote for the plan is projected to be held in fall of 2012, potentially in late August or even as part of the general elections in November.

Business school all a-Twitter

Some UI officials said they don't see Twitter as relevant to their application process.

By **BRITTANY TREVICK**
brittany-trevick@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa Tippie College of Business has garnered plenty of attention recently for a new web-based initiative, but leaders in other UI programs say the twidea isn't likely to catch on.

College officials recently announced that the most creative answer to the question “What makes you an exceptional Tippie full-time M.B.A. candidate and future M.B.A. hiring?” submitted in 140 characters on Twitter will win a full-time financial award in the amount of \$37,000.

But while business-school candidates will log on to Twitter to finish their applications, officials in other UI colleges said their applicants won't see this option anytime soon. Those officials said they are interested by the idea but hesitant to incorporate it into their application process.

“It's clearly a wonderful opportunity for the students to express their feelings,” said John Keller, the dean of the Graduate College. “... [But] I would be concerned about using that kind of forum for making such an important decision.”

Keller said social media's informality was one of the characteristics he didn't like about Twitter, but he didn't completely rule out the possibility of adding it.

“It's not necessarily out of the question,” he said.

Tippie officials continue to be excited about the opportunity.

“The essay's been around for ages,” said Jodi Schafer, the director of full-time M.B.A. admis-

Full-Time M.B.A. at the Tippie College of Business

Important dates for the Tippie Twitter competition:

- June 30 - Students could officially start to Tweet
- July 28 - Last day to Tweet
- Aug. 4 - The winner will be announced

Source: Jodi Schafer, director of full-time M.B.A. admissions and financial aid

sions and financial aid. “We wanted to do something unique and different.”

John Achrazoglou, the director of the University of Iowa Educational Technology Center, praised the

idea, saying social media inform students about important announcements and events. The new scholarship incorporates the culture and the technologies students are accustomed to use, he said.

“I think it's a wonderful idea,” he said. “I think it's a trend we will be seeing used in many different avenues.”

Tippie applicants were able to start tweeting on June 30; the deadline is July 28. The winner will be announced on Aug. 4, and the \$37,000 tweet will be made available to the public with the winner's consent. The students who participate in the program

will not have to pay the application fee.

Schafer said tweeting is currently an optional part of the process, but if it goes over well, it could become a part of the fall 2011 application.

But Penny Rembolt, the assistant director of financial services in the Carver College of Medicine, said she was unsure if the school would work Twitter into its applications. She was intrigued by the idea, she said, but it might not

be appropriate for the medical school because its essays focus on how humanism can be achieved in the medical field — something difficult to explain on Twitter.

“I think the context is different, and you have to look at what your goal is,” she said.

Current business students are not eligible for the scholarship, because they have already applied to the school and been reviewed by both the

admissions board and the financial-aid board. But, Schafer said, she has not seen any complaints from upset students as of yet.

“I think it's a really cool opportunity,” said UI sophomore and business student Katherine Knight. “I love how they're incorporating social networking.”

Schafer said she has already received a few Tweets and encouraged students to use creativity.

“This is brand-new, so you kind of have to think outside the box,” she said.

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Editorial

With new center, Courthouse preservation still important

The Johnson County Courthouse cuts a majestic figure over the Iowa River. In the past year, though, the large steps and central tower have been covered by a network of scaffolding. The Courthouse is undergoing a time- and labor-intensive renovation, even while the Johnson County Board of Supervisors pushes to partially replace it.

This may seem like an odd use of taxpayer money, but the current renovation is the right decision to preserve its function and historical value. Fiscal crises can cause local governments to neglect spending on infrastructure and public buildings, and the Johnson County Board of Supervisors is wise to avoid this problem.

The supervisors hope to construct a new Criminal Justice Center. The new, larger building would sit on the block south of the Courthouse. The supervisors have pushed the project for much of the past decade, and the new building may be approved in the next few years.

Although the Romanesque structure will no longer be the principal building for criminal justice in Johnson County, maintaining the Courthouse is important because of its historical value. American courthouses have traditionally been built to instill a sense of majesty in their visitors, reinforcing the respect that our justice system deserves. The Johnson County Courthouse is an excellent historical example of this type of architecture, and it should be preserved — even if that takes place on the taxpayers' dime.

During recessions, the state and federal governments often accelerate construction projects to stimulate growth, yielding large results such as the Hoover Dam or newly paved highways. Cities and municipalities have neither the amount of funds nor the borrowing power enjoyed by their larger counterparts, and so local governments may wish to hold off on construction projects to balance the books.

The renovation of the Courthouse is not directly funneling money away from any crucial projects, because the original budget plan was for it to be done when the new building was constructed. The county had planned to complete the process earlier, but because the construction of the new criminal justice center has been continuously delayed, the

opportunity never prevented itself. Eventually, the building repairs could not wait any longer, Johnson County facilities manager David Kempf told the *DI* Editorial Board.

The repairs underway at the Courthouse include tuck-pointing, a process that involves removing the old mortar from a structure and replacing it with new mortar to maintain stability. Tuck-pointing is necessary on any buildings using mortar that develop cracks and holes between the bricks, usually because of moisture or insect activity. The Johnson County Courthouse is 108 years old, and the process is severely overdue.

The consequences of forgoing the renovation would be more than superficial. The deteriorating mortar could cause irreversible damage to the structure, rendering it unusable. Brick usually lasts much longer than mortar, and once the tuck-pointing is complete, the building's health will be guaranteed for many years to come.

Because the mortar surrounding each individual brick needs to be laboriously removed, supported, and replaced, the process is costly. Renovations on the Courthouse cost the county \$488,800 in the last fiscal year alone, on a project that began in the summer of 2010. Still, the cost of waiting for the mortar to deteriorate further would be even higher.

The date for the construction of the new building, or even the likelihood, is still uncertain; waiting for the towers to crumble during a workday would be the wrong choice. Counties and municipalities do not always have the luxury of an ideal economic climate when appropriating necessary funds, but the supervisors are doing the best with what they have — in this instance, at least. Even if the Courthouse no longer serves its original purpose, the historical value is enough to justify maintaining it. Post-Soviet decay left blighted landmarks across Eastern Europe, visible signs of a country's collapse; maintaining the Courthouse is important for morale, as well as the preservation of history.

The place the criminal-justice system holds in our culture merits repairs of the iconic Iowa City building's steps and spires.

Your turn. Should Johnson County be repairing the Courthouse? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Letters

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.

Prohibition is still ineffective

The rise in synthetic cannabis products on the market is in direct response to marijuana prohibition. These synthetic alternatives can be produced at a rate faster

than the legal system can ban them. There have even been cases of "Backyard Cooks" in New Zealand who purchase the key chemicals from overseas and create their own synthetic cannabis products.

Criminalizing synthetic cannabis products is not the answer to solving this problem. A state-regulated market for marijuana would seriously undermine the market for more dangerous synthetic alternatives. It's

time to bring the enormous, unregulated marijuana market into the light of day and under the rule of law once and for all.

Jeffrey Quittman
Shambron Fellow
Drug Policy Alliance
Los Angeles

Editorial Cartoon



Don't follow me, bro



CHRIS STEINKE
steinke25@gmail.com

As you can tell by the title, this is definitely not a shameless attempt by me to gain followers on Twitter. The point of this column is to spread the word: Twitter is the bomb.

I know what you're thinking. You're like, "Twitter is so lame. It makes it so much difficult for me to, like, purport a false image of myself to my acquaintances. Hell, I can't even get a reasonable estimate of how many people, like, appreciated my post about how much I like Young Jeezy. I was like, 'Why is nobody "Liking" this? What? Twitter doesn't even have, like, a "Like" button? I don't like that.'"

Yeah, so word on the street is that Twitter isn't cool, and if you actively tweet, you either have no tangible social network or really like your American Express card.

But Twitter is starting to become way cool in Iowa City, and I think it's because of me. It has to be. Two months ago, I decided to create an account as a way of telling the world, "Hey. Twitter's all right. Chris Steinke created an account." I have had wild success, soliciting nearly 35 followers. I'm pretty sure that I have also, in some way, inspired the creation of two majorly cool local Twitter ventures: a Tippie M.B.A. scholarship competition and Novel Iowa City. If you can answer "What makes you an exceptional Tippie M.B.A. candidate and full-time M.B.A. hiring?" better than the other four people that have heard about it, you can win a full financial-award package. The catch: It has to be to Tippie's graduate program.

If you plan on entering the program this fall, anyway, I would suggest saying how hard of a worker you are and citing your impressive follower/followee ratio. You can save character cap room by placing a hash tag in front of your entire post, which is what Tweeters with broken spacebars do.

#Eitherthatorrthe
likegivingme-
headachetrying-
toreadtheirbullshit.

If you're looking for a little inspiration, allow me to suggest browsing Iowa Sen. Chuck Grassley's profile. Nobody's better at balancing character efficiency with mellifluous and inspirational prose. His July Fourth tweet reads, "Thank God 4 incite our Declaration of Independence writers had for our great republic. Celebrate 4th w thankfulness 4 freedom." U no I'll, Chuck. U no I'll.

Then there's Novel Iowa City, which is, in my opinion as both a business student and someone who thinks he can write, even cooler. For three days, people around the world are encouraged to tweet something with the hashtag #icbfn. A group of writers will then compile and organize the tweets and attempt to make a logical novel.

I plan on being the first one to contribute to the project, starting at noon on July 15. I'm going to tweet "Once upon a time" and "The end," and I better get compensated for my art, dammit. Also, don't steal my idea. It's plagiarism. I'll sue you.

If you're still not sold on Twitter, let me be the first to admit that there are a lot of people who do make Twitter uncool. Don't follow them. Unless they're your friends, in which case that's your fault for having annoying friends.

If you have a lot of annoying friends, Twitter may not be right for you.

If you want to be a part of an undeniable cultural phenomenon, one that has been used as both a catalyst and an organizational tool for worldwide protests and government upheavals, one that you can customize to cyber-hand-feed you only the information that you find interesting, Twitter may be right for you.

I hope my column inspired a few of my readers to create a Twitter account to see what it's all about — unless I have no new followers after this, in which case, screw you all.

@ChrisFnSteinke. ■

WRESTLING

CONTINUED FROM 8

Terry, and Dan — nobody cares as much about your experience,” he said.

Luke Eustice, Iowa’s director of wrestling operations, credits the influence of Iowa’s wrestling program and the difference between the wrestling program and other high-profile Hawkeye sports programs.

“Our program goes behind Iowa borders,” he said. “The high standards of what we want to accomplish each year is something everyone can see.”

Eustice also attributes the success of the wrestling camps to the program’s availability to the public, something that is not common among all Hawkeye sports programs.

“Our program is pretty accessible; anyone can come and watch practice,” he said. “There’s a lot of access to coaches and players, and you don’t get that with football and basketball.”

The camp was held at the hot and humid Recreation Building, and although 210 young wrestlers were training at once, the coaches gave their orders at normal volume. The room wasn’t filled with shouts or music; instead, the air was filled with the thud of bodies on the wrestling mats and the occasional quiet squeak of wrestling shoes.

The wrestlers themselves appeared to be composed, and they quickly formed circles around the coaches for instruction. The circles broke with a unified clap, a testament to the camp’s discipline.

As Eustice kept an attentive eye on the wrestlers, he said what the coaches teach extends beyond the mat or the wrestling room.

“We teach the mentality, the amount of work it takes to be good, and high standards of excellence both on and off the mat,” he said. “While they’re learning about that, they also learn the wrestling moves and techniques. The work they put in carries over to their jobs, school, their social life — everything.”



A camper shoots during the Iowa wrestling camp on Thursday in the UI Recreation Building. More than 200 wrestlers attended the camp.

RACHEL JESSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

HIGHLANDERS

CONTINUED FROM 8

cians served as ambassadors of both the university and the U.S. They aided many philanthropic efforts, including the 1953 war-bond effort in which the state of Iowa earned honors from the U.S. Treasury Department by raising \$30 million.

The Highlanders also traveled to entertain people around the world, both live and on television. Notable performances included those on “The Tonight Show” and “The Ed Sullivan Show,” as well as appearances at the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade, the New York World’s Fair, Chicago’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade, and Disney theme parks.

The numerous travel opportunities made the band even more desirable for young women. The Highlanders toured Europe seven times from 1952 to 1976 and went to two Rose Bowls (1957 and ’59) to march in the Parade of Roses and perform at halftime.

“[The highlight of my years as a Highlander] was the opportunity to travel,” said former member Bettina Hass, a native of Miles, Iowa, who performed with the group from 1971-75. “During the school year, we went to one [Big Ten] away football game and performed ... and every four years, they planned a trip to Europe.”

Hass’ trip to Europe occurred during her sophomore year at Iowa, in the summer of 1972. The group spent two weeks in London and Scotland before traversing the continent for a month.

The former drum major recalled the interesting people she met and the problems she encountered while trying to fall asleep on her European excursion.

“Another Highlander [Susan Hayes Tabor] and I stayed in the home of a retired dentist, and he showed us how to mash our potatoes and peas against the back of our fork before spearing our meat to eat efficiently — the Scottish way,” Hass said with a smile. “[It was] fabulous; we had a blast.”

Few members were able to experience a trip to Europe more than once, but former member Heather Stockman — formerly Heather Adamson — was able to go three times.

“My first European trip with the Highlanders was when I was 10,” said Stockman, the daughter of original band director William Adamson. “You always think you grow up in a normal family, and everyone has the same type of experience that you do ... so I just figured that everybody went to Europe every four years.”

Stockman went to Europe again when she was 14, and one final time when she was 18 — but this time, she attended as a Highlander herself.

“My trip to Europe in 1965 was my favorite memory of being a Highlander,” she said. “I was a performing Highlander myself and just had a great time.”

End of the Highlanders

The university withdrew its funding for the program in 1981 because of heavy budget cuts. The group survived, but it was responsible for seeking sponsors and donations without the help of the administration. The sheer size of the group made it difficult for the students to manage and maintain by themselves.

The decision to stop funding had a profound effect on the Highlanders. Members such as Hass said she felt “detached” from the group once the university stopped backing the band, and Stockman had similar feelings.

“After the university stopped funding the Highlanders in ’81, it became more of a social club,” she said. “Yes, they tried to maintain their Scottish authenticity, but ... you just can’t maintain that without support.”

Facing dwindling participation and a lack of financial support from the university, alumni began to worry about the future of the Highlanders.

The final nail in the coffin was hammered in Jan-

uary 2008, when the university officially disbanded the band. With this move, one of the oldest and most recognizable traditions at the university was gone.

Rebirth of the Highlanders

But the group lives on among the alumni who spent their college years entertaining people at football games and around the world.

And soon, a whole new generation of Hawkeyes will be able to see firsthand what the Iowa Scottish Highlanders meant to the university. The group will be recognized at Fry Fest on Sept. 2 in Coralville, and the Highlander exhibit at the Hall of Fame will include such paraphernalia as the band’s drumheads autographed by former President Dwight Eisenhower and such entertainers as Bob Hope.

“[The Highlanders is] an important part of Iowa history,” Fry Fest organizer Kelly Hayworth told *The Daily Iowan* in April. “That’s what Fry Fest is all about — looking at all the great things about being a Hawkeye.”

RANKINGS

CONTINUED FROM 8

lost its first game by 10 points. Since then, however, it has won two-straight games by a combined 31 points.

Last week: No. 3

4 Vinton Merchants/McCurry’s (1-2)

Inconsistent play has hurt Vinton Merchants/McCurry’s. The squad won its opener by a landslide 24 points but has dropped its last two. Kamille Wahlin and Company lost by 10 points on June 29 before falling by 37 points to Monica’s on Wednesday.

Vinton still features one of the best players in the league in Wahlin, though. The Game Time League’s No. 1-overall draft pick has averaged a league-best 25 points per game.

Last week: No. 4

5. Pelling/Culver’s (0-3)

You know how defense wins championships? Apparently, Pelling/Culver’s doesn’t. The squad has given up a league-worst 83 points per game.

The team’s lone bright spot has been its first-

round draft pick, Iowa center Morgan Johnson. The 6-5 center from Platte City, Mo., has averaged 19 points and 9.6 rebounds per game.

Still, the team showed some improvement on Wednesday. After being blown out in its first two games by 24 and 27 points, Pelling came within a few points of knocking off undefeated and No. 2-ranked Cullen. A late rally wasn’t enough, though, and the squad fell, 79-73.

Last week: No. 6

6. Two Rivers/Coach’s Corner (0-3)

Injuries have cost the Two Rivers/ Coach’s Corner — All-American Jaime Printy, the team’s first-round draft pick, hasn’t played all summer while recovering from wrist surgery.

Printy hasn’t been the only Two Rivers player to miss substantial amounts of time. Four other players — Caitlin Kray, Jenna

Lehman, Zoe Dutchik, and Ally Disterhoft — have missed at least one game.

Last week: No. 5

Player of the Week: Morgan Johnson

Johnson had her best game of the summer on Wednesday, and beat out Alexander and Logic for the Player of the Week award.

The center’s 25 points tied for the league lead, and she also pulled down 16 rebounds. What pushes her over the top, though, was that she played against tougher competition by facing undefeated Cullen, while Logic and Alexander defeated teams by 19 and 37 points, respectively.

The *DI*’s Game Time rankings will be published every Friday. Teams are ranked by overall record, and tiebreakers are decided by record over the past two games.

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The pipes are calling

The Iowa Scottish Highlanders was a fixture at Hawkeye football games for almost 75 years.

By **ERIK PAPKE**
erik-papke@uiowa.edu

Close your eyes and imagine the University of Iowa.

What image comes to mind? Some might see the wrestling team hoisting another national championship trophy. Others may think about the hustle and bustle of campus during the fall and spring semesters or the exciting nightlife of downtown Iowa City.

But for a select group of Hawkeyes, the UI brings back fond memories of kilts, bagpipes, and drums.

Not too long ago, Iowa was well-known for its world-famous bagpipe band, the Iowa Scottish Highlanders. The group got its start in 1936, when the school was still known as the State University of Iowa, and it lasted almost 75 years before it was disbanded in 2008.

This fall, Highlander alumni will return to Iowa City and their old stomping grounds at the football stadium for the group's 75th anniversary. The celebration will run Sept. 1-4 and will include an unveiling and dedication of a permanent Iowa Scottish Highlander exhibit at the UI's Karro Athletics Hall of Fame.

Highlanders' early history

The Highlanders' rich past began as an idea from Col. George Dailey, who envisioned a bagpipe band that would accompany Iowa's ROTC military corps. The colonel enlisted William L. Adamson, a Boston native and descendent of Scot-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO/UNIVERSITY OF IOWA LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES
Iowa Scottish Highlanders Deanna Grundmeier (left) and Christine Fisher work on their drumming in 1968. The pair are wearing real leopard skins as part of their authentic Scottish attire.

tish immigrants, to make his dream a reality.

Adamson was successful, and in the fall of 1937, the Scottish Highlanders made the first of many appearances at University Stadium when the group performed at halftime at an Iowa football game.

The band was originally composed of only male musicians, but that changed in 1943. As

America increased its involvement in World War II, 71 of the 75 Highlanders were called up to serve in the military, and the band opened membership to female students.

The overwhelming number of female applicants gave Adamson the idea to change the Highlanders into an all-female band. The change was wel-

comed, and the Iowa Scottish Highlanders became more popular than ever, eventually becoming the world's largest all-female bagpipe band.

Traveling Band

The Highlanders did more than just perform at halftime of Iowa football games; the musi-

More than just wrestling tech

Young wrestlers have come from as far as Japan and England to learn from Iowa wrestling icons.

By **CONRAD SWANSON**
conrad-swanson@uiowa.edu

The University of Iowa is hosting an intensive wrestling camp from July 4-14, the longest and most competitive of four Iowa wrestling camps this July.

Unlike most other Iowa summer camps, the majority of the 210 wrestlers in attendance came from out-of-state. Two wrestlers even came from out of the country — one flew in from Japan, and the other came from England.

All the wrestlers, however, had a common goal: to hone their wrestling skills under the supervision of Tom and Terry Brands, with occasional appearances by Dan Gable.

"It's the most exceptional camp we have, whether it's the techniques, the intensity, or the overall experience," said Josh Berka, the director of UI sport camps since 2005.

The success of this camp is something that many coaches travel a long way to find. Victor Lorenzano, a high-school coach in St. Cloud, Fla., has brought his Celebration High wrestlers to Iowa City for 22 years. He brought 10 kids this year, and he has brought as many as 25 in previous summers.

He said there was some difficulty raising the money for his athletes to come wrestle at the camp this year, and he attributed the difficulty to a slow economy. Some last-minute donations made the trip possible, though, and Lorenzano said feels the camp is well worth the trouble.

"We've gone other places, but nobody does as good of a job as Tom,

SEE **HIGHLANDERS**, 5

SEE **WRESTLING**, 5

Football gets 2012 oral commitment

The Iowa football team landed four-star defensive tackle Jaleel Johnson on Thursday morning, according to HawkeyeReport.com.

The 6-2, 277-pound native of Lombard, Ill., orally committed to the Hawkeyes and posted the news on Facebook.

"After long talks with friends and family it has come down Michigan State and the University of Iowa," he posted on his Facebook page. "Long story short, I JUST COMMITTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA!! HAWKEYES BABY!!!"

Johnson helped lead his Montini High team to a 12-2 record and Illinois Class 5A championship in 2010. The Broncos conceded 12.4 points per game and were MaxPreps.com's No. 6-ranked team in the state after a perfect 6-0 league record.

While the defensive lineman narrowed his final decision to just two schools, he also fielded scholarship offers from Arizona, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Boston College, Tennessee, Vanderbilt, and Toledo, according to HawkeyeReport.com.

Johnson is considered a four-star recruit on a five-star scale by both Rivals.com and Scout.com. He becomes the sixth Iowa commitment for the Class of 2012.

— by **Seth Roberts**.

Blanks leads Deere Classic

Round one of the John Deere Classic began Thursday at the

TPC Deere Run golf course in Silvis, Ill.

Kris Blanks finished the day atop the leaderboard with a 8-under 63, and three golfers finished with 7-under 64s.

Two-time defending John Deere Classic champion Steve Stricker carded a 66, and he is tied with several other golfers for seventh. The American's performance in the opening round wasn't as good as last year's, when he wowed those in attendance with a 11-under 60.

Cedar Rapids native Zach Johnson had a solid first day on the course. The Hawkeye fan wore a black-and-gold ensemble in honor of the tournament's University of Iowa Day and finished the round 5 under.

Four golfers withdrew from the tournament on day one.

A pair of golfers withdrew after signing their scorecards. George McNeill bowed out after carding a 76, and Scott Verplank withdrew after he shot a 78.

Verplank didn't give an explanation for his early exit.

David Toms was 1 over through nine holes when he was forced out of competition with a hip injury. He said on Wednesday that his hip was bothering him, but his injury will likely keep him out of next week's British Open. The Monroe, La., native's first career PGA win was at the John Deere Classic — then named the Quad City Classic — in 1997.

Robert Garrigus also left TPC Deere Run early. Garrigus was 5 over through nine holes when a back injury resulted in his departure.

Check dailyiowan.com all weekend for live day-by-day recaps and reactions from golfers at the John Deere Classic.

— by **Ben Schuff**

GAME TIME LEAGUE

Alexander's squad leads pack

One week remains in the Game Time League regular season, and *The Daily Iowan* breaks down the action to produce its weekly rankings.

By **ERIK PAPKE**
erik-papke@uiowa.edu

1. Monica's/Bob's Your Uncle (3-0)

Monica's/Bob's Your Uncle has been the most consistent team in the Game Time League. Led by former Hawkeye standout Kachine Alexander, the squad has dominated its first three games and outscored its opponents 278 to 186.

Alexander looks like she hasn't skipped a beat since her days at Iowa. The 5-9 guard from Minneapolis has averaged 22 points,



JESSA HANSEN/THE DAILY IOWAN

Monica's/Bob's Your Uncle players huddle during a Game Time time-out in North Liberty on June 30.

10.3 rebounds, and 4 assists per contest.

Last week: No. 1

2. Cullen Painting/Falbo (3-0)

Cullen Painting/Falbo may be the luckiest squad in the league. The team's 9.3-point margin of victory — including a 6-point nail-biter on Wednesday — is the slimmest in Game Time.

Cullen features a pair of Hawkeyes, senior forward

Kelly Krei and incoming freshman Melissa Dixon. The duo has performed well throughout the summer, averaging a combined 36 points per game.

Last week: No. 2

3. Coralville Hy-Vee (2-1)

The Coralville Hy-Vee squad features two of the Game Time League's most exciting players, incoming Iowa freshmen Samantha Logic and Virginia Johnson.

Logic was an ESPN.com five-star recruit, and the 5-11 Racine, Wis., native has not disappointed fans so far this season, averaging 21 points per contest. Johnson, a 6-1 Iowa City native, leads the Game Time League in rebounding with 10 boards per game.

Coralville Hy-Vee got off to a slow start this season and

SEE **RANKINGS**, 5