

The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2011

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50¢

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• Student activists launch a new email-writing campaign to lobby state lawmakers for higher-education support. **Page 2**

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• Hawkeye basketball player Melsahn Basabe on tonight's in-state game against Northern Iowa: "It's kill or be killed. That's it." **Page 10**



BP accuses Halliburton of spill cover-up

NEW ORLEANS — BP in a high-stakes court filing is accusing Halliburton of destroying damaging evidence about the quality of its cement slurry that went into drilling the oil well that blew out last year and caused the nation's worst offshore oil spill.

On Monday in a New Orleans federal court, BP accused Halliburton of having intentionally destroyed evidence about possible problems with its cement slurry poured into the deep-sea Macondo well approximately 100 miles off the Louisiana coast. An oil well must be cemented properly to avoid blowouts.

— Associated Press

Judge to sentence Blagojevich

CHICAGO — He was convicted of trying to sell the president's former Senate seat. Yet Rod Blagojevich says he also did good while he was Illinois' governor, and he has two young daughters to support and no previous criminal record.

Judge James Zagel will weigh such factors Tuesday as he begins calculating how much time the disgraced former governor should spend behind bars. He's said he'll pronounce his sentence Wednesday, concluding what could be a surprise-filled hearing.

The 70-year-old judge must answer nuanced questions according to complex federal sentencing algebra, including whether Blagojevich lied when he denied any wrongdoing from the witness stand at his trial. If Zagel agrees with prosecutors that Blagojevich did lie, that could add years to his sentence.

— Associated Press

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WEATHER

HIGH **28** LOW **16**
Mostly cloudy, breezy

Plummer's bail still \$100K



Branden Plummer is escorted into the Johnson County Courthouse on Monday. Plummer has been charged with the attempted murder of an Iowa City police officer on Nov. 18. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

A judge rules that Branden Plummer will not be released to complete his finals at the UI.

By **ERIC MOORE**
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An official at the Department of Correctional Services said Monday he would not be comfortable releasing Branden Plummer from custody.

Plummer, a University of Iowa student charged with attempted murder after allegedly strangling a police officer last month, appeared calm throughout his bond-review hearing Monday.

And while a judge ultimately ruled that Plummer's \$100,000 cash-only bond would not be reduced, one expert said some aspects of Plummer's situation may have contributed to his bond being "extremely high."

"The circumstances surrounding the case are obviously something that you'd want to take into consideration

when determining a bond," said Robert Rigg, the program director of criminal defense at Drake University. Rigg said a normal bond for attempted murder is around \$25,000 — but the fact that an officer was the victim could have influenced the figure.

Plummer's attorney, Patrick Ingram, argued that his client's bond was "excessive" because he is a student. He also requested Plummer be released in order to finish finals.

Rigg said Ingram's request to have Plummer released is not unusual, and his student status had the potential to help him be released without paying bail.

"The fact that you're a student does help you in that it helps to establish you through the community," Rigg said. "Being a student doesn't hurt

you necessarily, but there are circumstances that are going to weigh in."

Department of Correctional Services pretrial counselor Richard Sills recommended Plummer's bond remain at \$100,000 because of the "violent nature and circumstances of the charge." He said he would not be comfortable having Plummer released, even under supervision, in Iowa City or his home in Urbandale.

Johnson County prosecutor Anne Lahey also said Plummer's bond should remain the same because the incident was an "unprovoked, violent attack on an officer."

"For the sake of the community and everyone— particularly law enforcement — Mr. Plummer needs to be held on a high bond," Lahey said.

Sixth Judicial District Judge

SEE PLUMMER, 5

Probe of shooting continues

Officials say the investigation into Sunday's incident is expected to wrap up later this week.

By **MATT STARNES**
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It's rare for Iowa City police officers to open fire on suspects, records reviewed by *The Daily Iowan* this week show.

The shooting of a local man by an Iowa City police officer Sunday morning is still under investigation, officials said Monday. Iowa City police Sgt. Denise Brotherton said officer-involved shootings such as this are rare.

"Unfortunately, [shooting] can be a result," she said about police encounters with armed subjects. "It's all up to what the person is doing."

The investigation comes after Chad Newmire, a 21-year-old Iowa City resident, was shot Sunday by Officer Alirio Arcenas after Newmire allegedly reached for a gun in the waistband of his pants.

Online records through the Iowa City City Clerk's office indicate officers haven't discharged a weapon to de-escalate a situation involving an armed subject since at least before 2009 — the furthest back use-of-force records are available.

Officers have, however, displayed a firearm on several occasions, with seven displays in 2011, 20 in 2010, and 25 in 2009.

A statement from the police said the incident occurred when an officer responded to 1009 N. Summit St. at 6:11

SEE SHOOTING, 5



GOP hopefuls against more gay rights

Two presidential-caucus candidates support same-sex marriages.

By **CHASTITY DILLARD**
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Poll numbers show Americans are becoming more progressive on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues, but most of the 2012 Iowa caucus candidates oppose expanding gay rights.

Earlier this year, a Gallup poll found just over half of Americans are in favor of same-sex marriage. Still, only two Republican presidential-nomination candidates — California gay-rights activist Fred Karger and former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson — have announced full support for gay rights, including gay marriage.

"Government's role when it comes to marriage is one of granting benefits and rights to couples who choose to enter into a marriage contract," Johnson said during an online town-hall meeting earlier this month that was co-hosted by GOProud, a gay conservative organization. "As I have examined this issue, consulted with folks on all sides, and viewed it through the lens of individual freedom and equal rights, it has become clear to me that denying those rights and benefits to gay couples is discrimination plain and simple."

But Gary Cass, the CEO of Defend-Christians.org, said LGBT items in the political debate aren't issues of rights.

"You can't make right what is wrong because homosexuality is against the laws of nature and the laws of God," he said. "And therefore, because homosexuality violates both of them, how can you therefore give rights to behavior?"

Cass said the change in public opinion is because of decades of homosexual propaganda inundating society and that polls

SEE CAUCUS, 5

Vets happy to be home

John Mikelson says roughly 350 UI faculty and staff identify as veterans.

By **KRISTEN EAST**
kristen-east@uiowa.edu

Sgt. 1st Class Wayne Loveland spent last Christmas in Afghanistan. Now home, Loveland, a member of the Army National Guard, will be able to spend the holidays with his family.

"Last Christmas was a little tough spending it away from my family," he said. "I'm going to try to make up for it this year."

He won't be the only local veteran home for the holidays this year.

Loveland is one of six AFSCME Local 2985 members who returned home in July from deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq. The members were honored at the Iowa Medical & Classification Center in Oakdale on Monday morning for their service and for donating more than \$1,000 worth of toys to Toys for Tots this holiday season.

The six veterans were also part of the largest deployment Iowa has ever seen, said Marty Hathaway, the president of AFSCME Local 2985. According to NBC, roughly 3,000 Iowa Army National Guard soldiers were deployed in August 2010 for one year, making it the largest deployment



Correctional officers and employees honor six Iowa National Guard soldiers for serving in the military by donating \$1,000 worth of toys to Toys for Tots on Monday. Instead of receiving gifts for their deployment service, they instead wanted to donate to Toys for Tots. (The Daily Iowan/Gabrielle Eliason)

ment of the Iowa Guard since World War II.

Sgt. Justin Gilbert, who served in Afghanistan with the Army National Guard, said it was "an honor" to be in the group.

"We got to do a lot of great things; we got to help a lot of people," he said. "It was a fairly good time."

The Afghanistan and Iraq wars started in 2001 and 2003, and all combat troops are expected to return from Iraq by the end of the year, according to an announcement by President Obama in October.

Many University of Iowa students who were deployed last August have also returned home.

"We've got a large group of students who came back with that group," said John Mikelson, the UI Veterans Center coordinator. "They served Iowa proudly, and they've come back

to take their rightful place in society. They did what their country needed them to do."

With the possibility of the Department of Veteran Affairs being hit by other funding cuts, Mikelson said, it's "absolutely critical" for the community to support returning veterans.

"We spend months training a civilian to be a warrior; they train all the time in preparation for war," Mikelson said. "On the backside, we're sending them home, and they spend a few days at a demobilization site before they're sent back to society."

Mikelson said the government needs to think very carefully about cuts made to military spending and veteran funding.

"We always recognize the

SEE SOLDIERS, 5



Iowa student Greg Branson (right) talks to fellow members of the Hawkeye Caucus about effective lobbying of elected officials in the IMU on Monday. The group is starting a pen-pal program to put students in better contact with their representatives in Des Moines. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

Program aims at lawmakers

The pen-pal program has 40 members, and they hope to increase the number of students involved next semester.

By **JORDYN REILAND**
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The University of Iowa is one of the first to have a program dedicated solely to the act of student lobbying. But legislators and experts disagree on whether the Hawkeye Caucus group's new pen-pal initiative — in which students will exchange emails with legislators to lobby for state appropriations — will be effective.

And though organizers of the student group feel the email program is beneficial, some say it depends on the way the situation is handled.

Tim Hagle, UI associate professor of political science, said students writing to legislators can put a personal touch on the issue depending on how they approach it.

"It depends on the specific things students are writing about," Hagle said. "They need to be delicate in how they approach their issue to the legislator."

Abbey Moffit, the founder of Hawkeye Caucus, said the group is strongly pushing for a professional, polite relationship.

"I can see where [Hagle] is coming from," she said. "We are coming about it as students just advocating and creating professional, long-lasting relationships."

Rep. Linda Miller, R-Bettendorf, said the most important thing is creating the personal relationship, and making it a two-way street for the student and legislator.

"If you can develop a relationship anytime with your legislator you get to vote for or elect, I think it's a great cause," she said. "It's a way to share your views, as well as seeing

Tuition increases

Roughly 40 students are corresponding via email to state legislators about continuing appropriate funding for Iowa to keep tuition costs reasonable.

- Tuition:**
- 2009-2010 in-state, \$6,824; out-of-state, \$22,198
 - 2010-2011 in-state, \$7,417; out-of-state, \$23,713
 - 2011-2012 in-state, \$7,765; out-of-state, \$25,099

source: Office of Financial Aid

what the legislator feels."

Moffit said the communication will occur over a series of four emails starting at the end of the month, the first one as an introductory welcome and the rest focusing on the continuation of appropriate funding for the UI.

Other universities, such as the University of Northern Iowa and University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, have lobbying groups on campus, but none have planned a similar pen-pal program.

UNI Director of Governmental Relations Rhonda Greenway said external relations is the "lobbying arm" of the Senate.

The group collaborates with the goals of the Senate to work with legislators at the Capitol. The members put on such events as post-card drives, a voter-palooza — an event promoting voting with games and other activities — voter registration drives, and tutorials on how to lobby.

"We have seen good responses from legislators in the area," Greenway said. "Across the state, it depends on when you go to



Rep. Mary Mascher, D-Iowa City, talks to student members of the Hawkeye Caucus group in the IMU on Monday. The group is starting a pen-pal program in which students will regularly contact representatives to lobby them against raising tuition. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

the Capitol and what your message is."

Don Nelson, the director of state relations at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said state relations — the equivalent of the UI Student Government — works directly with legislators and helps educate legislators with issues that come up, as well as help from the student government.

Nelson said he thinks the partnership is an important part of the communication process.

"Legislators come from

all parts of the state, and so do our students," Nelson said. "It's important to hear issues from students in their legislators' districts ... it makes the message more effective."

There are currently 40 members signed up for the pen-pal program, and Moffit said she hopes more will sign up as the process continues to develop.

"It's how everyone can have an impact on the status of higher education in the future if they just communicate," she said.

Romney backs extension of payroll tax cuts

WASHINGTON — Republican presidential-caucus candidate Mitt Romney said Monday he supports the extension of payroll tax cuts, a proposal President Obama is championing.

In an interview on a conservative radio show, Romney said he wanted to make sure the cuts are

extended because middle-class workers are "having a hard time."

"I would like to see the payroll tax cut extended just because I know that working families are really feeling the pinch right," Romney told conservative radio host Michael Medved.

Romney called the extensions "little Band-Aids" in October, but in a recent debate, he said he wouldn't oppose the one-year provision.

— Associated Press

METRO

Woman charged with credit-card forgery

A woman was charged Nov. 29 after she allegedly used a forged credit card to purchase merchandise at the Coral Ridge Mall, according to a complaint by Coralville police.

Police said Melissa Zehr, 28, allegedly used a credit card at

Dillard's on Nov. 22 that had been altered, making the magnetic strip on the back of the card link to another person's account information. Zehr allegedly purchased more than \$1,300 in merchandise with the card, the report said.

Credit-card forgery in an amount over \$1,000 but less than \$10,000 is a Class-D felony.

— by Matt Starns

BLOTTER

Kevin Blocklinger Jr., 20, 1006 Oakcrest St. Apt. 105, was charged Sunday with possession of marijuana.

Austin Dean, 22, 439 S. Johnson St. Apt. 9, was charged Monday with public intoxication and disorderly conduct.

Willie Ferguson Jr., 20, 2110 Broadway Apt. H, was charged Sunday with driving with a revoked license.

Louis Harvey, 21, Austin, Texas, was charged Monday with public intoxication.

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BREAKING NEWS

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CONCERT ATMOSPHERE



The University Concert Band, directed by Mark Heidel, performs in the IMU on Monday. (The Daily Iowan/Toan Nguyen)

McCain: Pakistan funding needs strings attached

WASHINGTON — Sen. John McCain says the billions of U.S. aid to Pakistan must come with strings attached.

The top Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, which helps to oversee that money, says Pakistan should demonstrate it's helping to "prevent the needless deaths of young Americans."

McCain's comment on CNN's "State of the Union" shows the acute frustration in Congress because of alleged ties between Pakistan's intelligence outfit and anti-U.S. insurgents.

U.S.-Pakistan relations have become even more strained after NATO air strikes killed 24 Pakistani troops along the Afghanistan border. Pakistan retaliated by shutting down U.S. supply lines.

— Associated Press

High court to hear Secret Service appeal

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal from Secret Service agents who say they should be shielded from a lawsuit over their

arrest of a Colorado man who confronted Vice President Dick Cheney.

The justices said Monday they will review a federal appeals-court decision to allow Steven Howards of Golden, Colo., to pursue his claim that the arrest violated his free-speech rights. Howards was detained by Cheney's security detail in 2006 after he told Cheney of his opposition to the war in Iraq.

Howards also touched Cheney on the shoulder, then denied doing so under questioning. Appellate judges in Denver said the inconsistency gave the agents reason to arrest Howards. But the judges also said Howards still could sue the agents for violating his rights.

— Associated Press

Attacks not deliberate, Obama tells Pakistan

WASHINGTON — President Obama has told Pakistan's president that the NATO air strikes that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers were not deliberate attacks and that the U.S. is committed to a full investigation.

The strikes along the border with Afghanistan last weekend have further

strained ties between the U.S. and Pakistan as the Obama administration tries to wind down the war in Afghanistan.

The White House says Obama and Pakistan's president, Asif Ali Zardari, reaffirmed their countries' relationship and agreed to keep in close touch.

Obama called Zardari on Sunday.

— Associated Press

Obama pushes for extension of payroll tax cut

WASHINGTON — President Obama says Congress needs to extend a payroll tax cut, saying the economic recovery is "still fragile" and middle-class families need the money.

The president is urging Republicans to "keep your word to the American people" on not raising taxes.

Obama has been seeking an extension and expansion to the payroll-tax cut that will expire at the end of the year. The White House says taxes on the average family would increase by \$1,000 if the cuts are not extended.

— Associated Press

Sales-tax backers lose champion

By HANNAH HESS
IowaPolitics.com

IOWA CITY — With the suspension of Herman Cain's presidential campaign, the 2012 field lost its most forceful proponent for a national sales tax, advocates say.

But those who supported the 9-percent national sales tax in Cain's 9-9-9 plan, which also included a 9-percent tax rate on corporate and personal income, could be attracted to U.S. Rep. Ron Paul's plan to phase out the income tax completely, National Taxpayers Union Executive Vice President Pete Sepp said Monday.

The nonprofit, nonpartisan group advocates for lower taxes and small government at all levels, including here via Iowans for Tax Relief, and, like many of the 2012 Republican presidential-caucus candidates, calls for a sweeping reform of the 72,000-page tax code.

Cain, a former business executive, supported phasing out corporate and personal income taxes after implementing his 9-9-9 plan and eventually replacing all three taxes with one 23 percent national sales tax. No Republican candidate campaigning in Iowa endorses that idea.

But Paul envisions shrinking the size of federal government to the point

where tax revenue is unnecessary.

While it remains to be seen who will "pick up the mantle of leadership" on the sales-tax portion of Cain's plan, Sepp said sales-tax supporters "could be a significant voting bloc in the primaries."

Paul, a libertarian-leaning Texas congressman, could push himself into front-runner status if he picks up Cain supporters.

Paul placed second in an Iowa Poll released Sunday. He had the support of 18 percent of likely Iowa Republican caucus-goers, compared with 25 percent for former U.S. House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney ranked third with 16 percent. Cain registered 8 percent.

The poll of 401 likely Republican caucus-goers had a margin of error of plus or minus 4.9 percentage points. It was conducted Nov. 27-30 for the *Des Moines Register* by Selzer & Co. of Des Moines, a public polling research company.

Fox 5 Atlanta reported Sunday that Cain would endorse Gingrich. But Gingrich supports a different tax plan, said Katie Koberg, Iowa senior adviser for the Gingrich campaign.

Gingrich has called the sales tax an "interesting idea" but said he is "not convinced it would be doable."

Before implementing a national sales tax, Gingrich said, Congress would need to repeal the 16th Amendment to the Constitution to take away the federal government's authority to collect income taxes.

Instead, he said he wants to give taxpayers the option of paying a 15-percent flat income tax, or filing under the current system, which is written so the more taxpayers earn, the higher their rate.

Sepp said many sales-tax supporters believe the flat income tax proposed by Gingrich and Texas Gov. Rick Perry is a "poor substitute," because they want the income tax cleared from the books, believing it stunts economic growth.

Cindy Canevaro, the national campaign manager for the Houston-based Americans for Fair Taxation, a grass-roots group that advocates for the system, told IowaPolitics.com that Cain's campaign "elevated the public discussion around tax reform."

In a nationwide telephone survey conducted by Americans for Fair Taxation from Nov. 14-18, 56 percent of respondents to the 480,000 phone calls made said they supported a plan to replace the current tax code with a 23-percent national sales tax.

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Editorial

Don't get caught in a snow job

Avoid paying a minimum of \$130 in fines by learning about Iowa City's snow-removal procedures.

After the first snow of the season, many veteran Iowa City residents will rush to prepare for the winter weather, but others will be left to learn the hard way — especially when it comes to on-street parking.

Though many efforts have been made by the city to increase awareness of the snow-emergency ordinance, there is more that can be done so that residents can avoid paying hundreds of dollars to recover their vehicles.

Last year, Iowa City and its surrounding areas were hit with one of the most massive snow systems to pass through in decades, canceling University of Iowa classes and highlighting a trend of powerful winter storms that the Midwest has seen recently. As a result, many Iowa City residents inadvertently found themselves with costly parking tickets and towing fees related to snow removal.

In 2009, the city of Iowa City increased the fine for violating the snow-emergency ordinance from \$15 to \$50. Once that fine is paid to the city, car owners must then find a ride to the lot that their vehicles were towed to (often by Big Ten Towing) and pay another fee. The base towing fee for small vehicles is \$80, and there are many other additional charges that can be tagged on (winching, \$100 minimum; “standby time,” \$50 per half hour, etc.). The longer a car is in the tow lot, the more one must pay to recover it. Big Ten Towing charges \$15 to \$30 per day of storage.

The City Council has made many attempts to raise residents' awareness of snow-emergency procedures over the past few years. The city maintains a webpage dedicated to information related to its snow-emergency ordinance (which the City Council voted to enact in November 2008) and maintains a Twitter account (@ICSnowEmergency) for snow-emergency declarations.

Last year, City Councilor Susan Mims informed *The Daily Iowan* that she was planning to work with the university to send a mass email to the students. No such email was sent — providing Iowa City and university officials with easy potential for improvement before the first snowfall of this coming winter.

“The city of Iowa City has worked with the University

of Iowa since the beginning of the snow-emergency ordinance in December 2008; however, it had its own policy limitations,” Carol Sweeting of the city's Public Works Department wrote in an email to the *DI* Editorial Board on Monday. “The UI has been able to help us more efficiently beginning spring of 2011, because it has been able to use mechanisms such as Facebook and Twitter to assist both students and staff.”

No matter the efforts taken, it seems that many students have found themselves out of the loop year after year. With the possibility of a record- and wallet-breaking snowstorm always only weeks away, here's the information students and residents need to know:

City officials will declare a snow-emergency, which lasts a minimum of 48 hours, when it deems necessary. They are required to provide a minimum of four hours' notice before enforcement begins. If the declaration is after 8 p.m., enforcement will begin at 8 a.m. the next morning.

For streets that usually allow parking on both sides, parking will only be permitted on one side during snow emergencies. On even-numbered days, parking will only be allowed on the even side of the street (i.e., addresses with even numbers). Likewise, on odd-numbered days, parking will only be permissible on the odd side of the street. For streets that alternate on odd and even days, the same rules apply, except the Sunday and evening parking exceptions do not apply. On streets with no parking prohibitions, alternate side parking will be put into effect. There will be signs to clarify.

If a car is parked in violation of the snow-ordinance during a snow-emergency for an extended period of time, that car will likely be towed, and hundreds of dollars in fines will result.

In order to avoid unforeseen budget-breakers, Iowa City residents who rely on street parking must keep up with the city's persistent announcements.

Like most college towns, Iowa City has a high rate of resident turnover. Residents knowledgeable about the city's snow-emergency procedures should do their part in informing those unaware — because despite its best efforts, Iowa City's message still misses too many budget-conscious residents.

Your turn. Does Iowa City provide enough information? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Letter

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

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

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

HPV editorial 'inappropriate'

I am disheartened by *The Daily Iowan's* editorial, “Recommend Pap smears, not vaccines.” By highlighting the inflammatory opinion of a single physician, the *DI* Editorial Board has jeopardized the health of the public it serves — students compose the age group most affected by HPV. The board's role is not to dispense medical advice to students. Seeking to editorialize on cervical cancer is inappropriate, and it is morally

wrong to contribute to misinformation regarding the vaccine.

A Pap smear is a scraping of cervical cells to screen for the effects of human papillomavirus (HPV). It does not prevent cancer. It is a diagnostic tool to discover pre-cancerous cells. Pap smears are important to continue regularly, but the HPV vaccine is a preventive measure. By preventing HPV infection, we can prevent cancers caused by the virus.

What Dr. Diane Harper refers to is a wildly literal interpretation of vaccine studies. The

vaccines are new, so it is true that long-term effects upon cancer development have not yet been observed. We do know that so far in preliminary studies (including one published by Harper herself), the vaccines do prevent cancer.

It is telling that the *DI* used only Harper's widely publicized anti-vaccine rhetoric while ignoring the opinions of many excellent physicians and researchers to whom we entrust our health each day at the University of Iowa. I am surprised that the board would

publish her literal interpretations of scientific results so assuredly without questioning her political motivations. By resorting only to sources widely available on the Internet, the *DI* has sacrificed its integrity and misled the student population.

I am hopeful that students will be vigilant about their health and consult with physicians regarding the vaccine if doubtful, and that the *DI* will refrain from irresponsibly dispensing such medical misinformation in the future.

Katie Ryken
UI senior

Being there, there



BEAU ELLIOT
beauelliot@gmail.com

This year, NPR cheerily informs us, the U.S. Air Force will train more drone pilots than fighter pilots and bomber pilots combined.

I'm not sure how to digest that news, because Herman Cain is gone, and that makes me sad.

Well, yes, you're right — Herman Cain is still on this Earth, so far as we know, and in that sense, he's not gone. There is some there there, wherever there might be. (I'm betting against Gertrude Stein's Oakland.)

But Cain is gone, at least for now, from the Republican presidential-nomination race (which gets serious in Iowa four weeks from today), and that leaves a gaping entertainment gap in the GOP campaign.

I mean, whatever else Willard “My first name is Mitt” Romney is, he's associated with “entertaining” about as often as China is associated with fair labor practices.

Cain is gone, of course, because of allegations from some women who say some of his practices were — how to put this delicately — not quite fair.

Cain, as is everybody else, innocent until proven, etc. Just as that guy who allegedly attacked an Iowa City police sergeant is innocent until proven, etc. Good luck finding an unbiased jury in Iowa City on that one.

(Though you gotta admit, showing up shirtless in a restaurant with security cameras three minutes after the alleged incident is perhaps not the most Einsteinian decision to make.)

So, Herman Cain perhaps cannot keep his hands off you know where and also can't keep his you know what you know where, proving, if nothing else, there is some where there. (Who's afraid of Gertrude Stein?)

But now the Hermanator (as the *New York Times'* Maureen Dowd once called him) is off our radar screens (actually, mine is collecting dust in a corner, because I once told it everybody should collect something), and we're left

with Newt “I am not a lobbyist” Gingrich and Mitt “Don't ever call me Willard, even though my parents did — my father was brain-washed, after all.”

It's like watching dough rise.

(Maybe Newt could resort to using his full first name, Newton. Even if it doesn't lend his remarks some gravitas, it might give them some gravity. As an added bonus, then we wouldn't mix him up with the Geico gecko.)

My favorite Herman Cain moment, if I have to pick just one, came back in the Middle Ages, maybe September or August — but who can tell when it comes to the Middle Ages?

Standard & Poor — remember those geniuses? — had just lowered its bond rating for the United States, and Cain, drawing on his vast business experience, told an audience that this meant doom, because nobody would buy U.S. Treasury bonds anymore.

On that day, U.S. Treasury bonds set a record for the number of buyers (and thus, set a record for low interest rate).

Apparently, vast business experience can only take you so far.

Take Standard & Poor, for instance (known affectionately as S&P, because we absolutely must abbreviate everything. It's in the Constitution or something.)

Back in the days before the Middle Ages, when the economy was humming along (Remember? Me, neither.), S&P gave the mortgage-backed securities its highest rating, AAA.

Those would be the same securities that Warren Buffett labeled economic weapons of mass destruction. So S&P is always right, right?

Yeah, right. And Dewey beat Truman, George Washington chopped down the apple tree, and the Red Sox won the 1986 World Series when Bill Buckner cleanly fielded Mookie Wilson's sharp grounder and beat him to first for the final out. (Red Sox pitcher Bob Stanley, known as the Stanley Steamer, is still desperately churning his way to first all these 25 years later.)

Maybe Gertrude Stein was right about there. Being there.

Or not.
There, there. It's OK. ■

Guest opinion

Overcoming the gay-marriage stalemate

As a strong supporter of gay marriage, I believe every state in the union should legalize it. However, governments can legalize it all they want, and the churches can still refuse to wed gay or lesbian couples. Separation of church and state works both ways, much to our frustration in this scenario. If you want to keep any religious affiliations out of politics, then you have to keep politics out of religion. Several times, this line has been blurred, and it is best that it remains a massive wall.

Should churches refuse to wed gay or lesbian couples, it is their right as our government sees them as sovereign entities. They cannot be influenced by legal means. To overcome this stalemate, we need to treat them the same way we treat other sovereign entities in our country — protesting and policymaking.

The Westboro Baptist Church shouldn't be the only group out there protesting other churches. That said, you may need to be conscious of what is

going on during the day before you protest said church. Certain events would be met with high resistance, and it's important to recognize that religion is a very sensitive topic, and this idea could lead to high tensions. Choose a day with a normal service. At the same time, make sure your protest does not have any political affiliation, as this could blur the line again and be used against you.

The next way to get past the stalemate, and one that is occurring already, is for

groups of supporters to form or modify their own congregations. Several churches have negotiating bodies in addition to resources for branching out and creating more congregations, as well. There are congregations that will wed homosexuals, and that's totally cool. Get in contact to see how they justify their church's views.

The idea that gay marriage is what destroys the sanctity of it all is completely backwards and wrong. There are a multitude of things that one

could do to destroy the sacredness of marriage. Marrying for political gains, sensationalism, or money will destroy a sanctified marriage. Simply put, divorce destroys marriages. The United States has a high enough divorce rate. We shouldn't teach our kids that the gender of those getting married determines its sanctity. We should teach kids that, gay or straight, you make that marriage work.

The important thing we should shun in society is divorce. Divorce is an

extremely messy process, which destroys marriages and can cause problems for children. Nobody marries, ideally, with the intention of getting divorced, but 50 percent of first marriages in the United States will end that way. Divorce itself is not something unjustified or unwarranted. There are situations that completely warrant a divorce, such as abusive relationships. But if abusive relationships are the reason for divorce, then why the hell does the United States have so many of them?

Jordan Gillard is a senior geology student at the University of Iowa.

PLUMMER

CONTINUED FROM 1

Paul Miller ruled the bond would remain at \$100,000 cash-only, saying the violent nature of the attack outweighed any "favorable facts" presented by the defense.

Iowa City Police Chief Sam Hargadine agreed with the judge's decision, saying "he sent out the right message."

Plummer, 20, was charged with attempted murder after he allegedly strangled Iowa City police Sgt. Brian Krei and hit his head against the sidewalk, causing him to lose consciousness on Nov. 18.

Police complaints said Krei initially approached Plummer because he was disrupting traffic at the intersection of Linn and Burlington Streets. Plummer reportedly fled the scene following the alleged incident.

Hargadine said several witnesses interviewed by police have said Plummer wasn't intoxicated at the time of the incident, but whether he was or not is still unknown.

"We don't have any reason to speculate that," Hargadine said.

As of Monday night, Plummer was being held at Johnson County Jail after being transported from Muscatine County Jail for his court appearance.

Ingram, Plummer's lawyer, was unable to be reached Monday night.

SHOOTING

CONTINUED FROM 1

a.m., after police received a report from a relative who had received a despondent text message from Newmire.

The officer reportedly located Newmire outside the house, with a handgun in the waistband of his pants. Additional officers responded to assist, and police negotiated with Newmire for approximately 40 minutes.

Newmire then allegedly began to reach for the gun in his waistband, prompting officers to fire less-lethal bean-bag rounds and a Taser. Arcenas then fired his handgun, preventing Newmire from reaching his weapon.

Brotherton said officers are trained to assess situations and use the appropriate amount of force to safely de-escalate a situation.

"The person we're dealing with dictates — [officers are] going to respond to what that person's doing," she said, and that encountering an armed subject doesn't necessarily warrant the use of lethal force. "They're not going to fire until that person shows some action that they're going to do something with that weapon."

Iowa City police policy says an officer may use "deadly force" for self-protection or the protection of others from what they believe to be an immediate threat of death or serious injury.

Arcenas, a two-year veteran of the department, has been placed on paid leave. It is standard policy for an officer who used lethal force to be placed on paid administrative leave pending the investigation of the incident.

Newmire sustained injuries that were described as "not life-threatening" in a release by the Iowa City police.

The shooting is being investigated by the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, in conjunction with the Johnson County Attorney's Office.

"Interviews are still going on, and it's still being investigated," Johnson County prosecutor Janet Lyness said, and she believes the investigation should be completed later this week.

When contacted, DCI officials deferred comment to Lyness.

CAUCUS

CONTINUED FROM 1

aren't always indicative of electoral support.

"What people tell pollsters and how people actually vote on the issue of same-sex marriage are not always the same thing," he said. "We know that the poll numbers and the actual voting percentages never match and people always answer the polls in a more liberal fashion than they actually vote."

Some political experts say Republicans face a tough challenge on gay issues: In order to be successful in caucuses and primaries, candidates need to take anti-gay rights positions, but those stances aren't always popular among general-election voters.

Clyde Wilcox, a government professor at Georgetown University, said candidates who take harsh anti-gay stances may jeopardize their campaigns by coming off as very intolerant and out-of-touch to independents and moderates.

"It's one thing to win a [caucus] vote in Iowa and another to win an election," he said. "They have to be careful because [now] you are trying to win the right, but in the general election, the public has really shifted. It's just a

This is the seventh in a 10-part series previewing the top issues of the 2012 caucus season, leading up to a special voter guide on Dec. 12.

- Nov. 28: Health care
- Nov. 29: Energy
- Nov. 30: Taxes
- Dec. 1: Afghanistan and Iraq
- Dec. 2: Military spending
- Monday: Immigration
- Today: LGBT issues
- Jobs
- Higher education
- Federal debt

risky dance for Republican candidates."

Outside marriage rights, other hot topics regarding gay rights include non-discriminatory and regulatory laws, openly LGBT military-service members, and gay adoption.

Gregory Lewis, a professor of public management and policy at Georgia State University, said the country is split. Support for gay rights has been growing for decades, but even voters who support gay rights may not prioritize that in a presidential election.

"In general, people think it's right to protect gay rights and that gay people should have equality under the law but I don't think that is anywhere near as important as the state of economy," he said.

And Clarke Cooper, executive director of Log

Candidate's LGBT issues positions

Ron Paul

Paul has said the definition of marriage is an issue for states, but is in favor of the Defense of Marriage Act. Though he initially opposed overturning the U.S. military "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, Paul chose to vote in favor of the repeal. Paul does not support a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

Mitt Romney

Though Romney opposes same-sex marriage, he does not believe in discriminating against people in based on their sexual orientation — particularly when it comes to employment or other opportunities. Romney favors gay rights but not same-sex marriage.

Michele Bachmann

Strongly opposed to same-sex

marriage, Bachmann has also vowed to reinstate the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" military policy if elected. During a recent stop in Iowa, Bachmann said gay people do have an equal right to marry as long as it is to someone of the opposite sex.

Newt Gingrich

Gingrich has not wavered on his opinion that marriage is between man and woman. Whenever Gingrich is asked about his views on gay marriage, he says marriage has been between man and woman for all of history, adding he thinks it is "a temporary aberration that will dissipate." Gingrich thinks gay marriage "fundamentally goes against everything we know."

Gary Johnson

Johnson announced support for all gay rights during an on-line town hall on Dec. 1.

Rick Perry

Perry has signed the Family Leader marriage pledge, indicating he vows to uphold the legal definition of marriage as a union between one man and one woman. Perry has also said he thinks the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy "worked very well" and is open to reinstating the legislation.

Rick Santorum

Santorum is strongly opposed to expanding LGBT rights. He would repeal "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and make same-sex marriage federally illegal if elected president. Santorum has also said our country will "fail" if we do not protect the institution of marriage.

Jon Huntsman

As governor of Utah, Huntsman proposed legislation to allow same-sex couples to have civil unions in 2009.

Cabin Republicans, says gay issues will become less important, especially among younger voters.

"I talk about generational difference," he said. "College Republicans are the future of the party. I found it very interesting as an indicator of the party."

Even so, Peter Sprigg, a senior fellow for policy studies at the Family Research Council, is happy most Republican contenders oppose "the homosexual political agenda."

"We believe that society gives benefits to marriage

because marriage gives benefit to society," he said. "I just don't feel that they can meet that burden of proof."

But for people such as Iowa City native Bridget Malone, recognition of gay marriage has a direct personal impact.

Malone is one of the hundreds of Iowans who entered into same-sex marriages when the state Supreme Court legalized the unions two years ago. A Constitutional amendment banning gay marriage, as many Republicans have called for, would

not allow other gays and lesbians to marry.

For Malone, marrying her partner of 22 years feels safer, but they are still losing out on federal benefits.

"We are still discriminated against on a national level," said Malone, vice president of gay-rights group Connections. "[But] I'm so tickled that Iowa has [made the changes], and I think it will come in the future. So we are still plugging away, and personally, I am optimistic."

SOLDIERS

CONTINUED FROM 1

need, but once the war is over, we cut back and we move the services, and we just need to be more careful in how we do that," he said.

This fall, 468 students are using government funds to attend the UI using some type of Veteran Affairs or GI Bill, Mikelson said. Additionally, roughly 350 UI faculty and staff identify as veterans.

Now home, the soldiers said they continue to do what they can to support their community.

Loveland said donating money to Toys for Tots was more important for the group than receiving recognition upon returning home.

"We all kind of agreed that our needs were already met," Loveland said. "We had a place to come back to. We're a lot more fortunate than a lot of people. We figured we could donate that [money] instead."

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UI Stormwater Management Program

The University of Iowa operates its own stormwater system under the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II Program. The complete program the University is required to follow to maintain this permit is called a Stormwater Phase II Program. This program uses several techniques to reduce the amount of pollutants discharged, protect water quality, and satisfy water quality requirements of the Clean Water Act. These techniques consist of a public education and outreach program, public participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site runoff control, post-construction runoff control, and pollution prevention by using good housekeeping practices. UI received its second five-year permit in May of 2009.

What is stormwater runoff?

Stormwater runoff is rainfall or snowmelt that runs off permeable surfaces or impervious surfaces like roads, buildings, sidewalks or compacted ground surfaces. It can drain directly into streams, rivers, and lakes by traveling over ground or through storm drains. These drains, commonly called storm sewers, should not be confused with sanitary sewers that transport wastewater to a treatment plant before discharging to surface waters. Stormwater entering storm sewers does not receive any treatment before it flows to surface waters such as lakes and streams.

Why is stormwater runoff a problem?

Stormwater can pick up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flow into a storm sewer system or directly to a lake, stream, river or wetland. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged untreated into the water bodies we use for swimming, fishing and providing drinking water.

Stormwater pollutants and sources

- Sediment from construction sites
- Pesticides and nutrients from lawns, parks and roadsides
- Bacteria from pet waste
- Oil and grease from car leaks, gas stations, and industrial areas
- Trash such as cigarette butts, paper wrappers, and plastic bottles
- Illegally dumped pollutants
- Thermal impacts from sun-heated impervious surfaces
- Illicit connections to storm sewers

For additional information, see <http://www.facilities.uiowa.edu/uem/stormwater.html>.



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the ledge

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



More *DI* Rejected Headlines:

- House fires while vacationing nothing to write home about
- Convicted calendar thief receives 12 months
- Haunted elevator lifting town's spirits
- Planned morgue expansion meets stiff opposition
- Casino-worker union requests new deal
- Female accountant unbalanced
- Old police cars retired
- Militant babies attempting revolutionary coo
- Treasury ceases minting coins, cites "fear of change"
- Area man slides hand up Freudian slip, finds penis
- Funeral home adding graveyard shift to meet with rigorous demand
- America's history teachers worry about future
- Unemployed contortionist seeking new position
- Marijuana found in cow pasture a high-steaks issue
- Game of strip poker won in a tie

- Andrew R. Juhl thanks his friend Lindsey for help with today's Ledge.

The Daily Iowan
www.dailyiowan.com

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

	8	2		6		4		
				8	4	7		6
				9		3		
	4					2	3	
				8				
	5	6						7
		1		5				
	7		4	2	8			
		9		7		6	8	

Level: **1** **2**
3 **4**

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

5	8	1	2	6	7	9	3	4
2	3	4	9	8	1	7	5	6
6	9	7	4	5	3	8	2	1
7	4	6	5	9	8	2	1	3
9	1	5	3	2	4	6	7	8
3	2	8	1	7	6	5	4	9
1	5	2	8	4	9	3	6	7
4	6	9	7	3	5	1	8	2
8	7	3	6	1	2	4	9	5

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CHECK OUT dailyiowan.com FOR MORE PUZZLES

DILBERT

by Scott Adams

WARREN BUFFETT SAYS YOUR TAX RATE IS HIGHER THAN MINE.

THANK YOU FOR SUBSIDIZING MY MANSION. I REALLY APPRECIATE IT.

A GOOD LEADER ALWAYS SHOWS APPRECIATION TO HIS UNDERLINGS.

NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEV

HEY-HEY, HO-HO...

...THE SCOURGE OF HOMEWORK HAS TO GO!! AND BRUSSELS SPROUTS, TOO...

SO IS THE SYSTEM BENDING TO YOUR WILL YET?

I DON'T THINK SO... MAYBE I NEED A BIGGER BULLHORN

COMPLAINT DEPT.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

HOW CAN THE DEAD-ENDERS STILL BE BLOWING UP STUFF?

THEY'RE DIGGING US, MAN! DON'T THEY GET THAT THEY'VE LOST THE WAR?

MAYBE THEY'RE SAYING GOODBYE.

BOOM!

I'M REPORTING THIS!

YOU'RE REPORTING WAR IN A WAR ZONE?

HUNGRY?

Check out The Daily Iowan Dining Guide only at dailyiowan.com



today's events

SUBMIT AN EVENT
Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply submit the details at: dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html

- **Morbidity and Mortality conference**, 7 a.m., 1502 UIHC Colleton Pavilion
- **Issues in Transplantation conference**, 8 a.m., SE 422 UIHC General Hospital
- **Burn Rounds**, 8:30 a.m., Burn Unit, 8 Colleton Pavilion
- **Pharmacology Visiting Seminar Speaker, "Subcellular Trafficking of Proteins in Neurons: Old Questions, New Approaches," Donald Arnold, University of Southern California**, 10:30 a.m., 2189 Medical Education & Research Facility
- **Pediatric Surgery Teaching Rounds**, 11 a.m., 2966-Z UIHC Pappajohn Pavilion
- **Pediatric Surgery GI Conference**, noon, 2699-Z Pappajohn Pavilion
- **Nursing home staffing**, 12:15 p.m., 01288 UIHC Pomerantz Family Pavilion
- **Microbiology Seminar, "Exploring the genetic basis of Francisella tularensis virulence," Bradley Jones, Microbiology**, 3 p.m., Bowen Auditorium 3
- **Faculty Senate meeting**, 3:30 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber
- **Vascular Conference**, 3:30 p.m., 1502 Colleton Pavilion
- **Occupational and Environmental Health Seminar**, 4 p.m., 123/125 Institute for Rural and Environmental Health
- **Dubuque Sustainability Initiative Seminar, Charles Connerly**, 4:30 p.m., 104 Iowa Advanced Technology Labs
- **Grand Rounds**, 4:30 p.m., 1502 Colleton Pavilion
- **English Conversation Group**, 5:30 p.m., UIHC Atrium A
- **For Staff By Staff, Staff Council**, 5:30 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Weekend**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **Jazz Repertory Ensemble**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- **A Hamlet, Mainstage Series**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Thayer Theatre
- **Latitude Ensemble**, 8 p.m., University Capitol Centre Recital Hall
- **Within Our Gates (1920)**, 9:15 p.m., Bijou
- **Flight School**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

UITV schedule

- 1:30 p.m. **Montana Ranching: Raising Family and Beef**, a film by UI alumna Lauren Chase (2010)
- 2 Women at Iowa Part 1, interview with Kathleen Edwards, UI Museum (2009); Part 2, Shari Rhoads, School of Music (2009)
- 3:30 University of Iowa Choir and Orchestra, Timothy Stalter directs J.S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, Dec. 1, 2010
- 5:30 Deborah Whaley Lecture, "We Strive and We Do: Black Sorority Activism," Iowa Women's Archive, March 2
- 6:15 Lisa Bluder News Conference, Coach Bluder's weekly news conference, Dec. 5
- 6:30 Women at Iowa Part 1, interview with
- Campus channel 4, cable channel 17
- Kathleen Edwards, UI Museum (2009); Part 2, Shari Rhoads, School of Music (2009)
- 7:30 University of Iowa Choir and Orchestra, Timothy Stalter directs J.S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*, Dec. 1, 2010
- 9:30 Daily Iowan Television News
- 9:45 Deborah Whaley Lecture, "We Strive and We Do: Black Sorority Activism," Iowa Women's Archive, March 2
- 10:30 Daily Iowan Television News
- 10:45 Women at Iowa Part 1, interview with Kathleen Edwards, UI Museum (2009); Part 2, Shari Rhoads, School of Music (2009)

horoscopes Tuesday, December 6, 2011

- by Eugenia Last
- ARIES** March 21-April 19 Use your personal experience to get ahead professionally. Set up meetings, and play an aggressive role in getting what you want, when you want it. Your spirit will raise greater interest in what you have to offer. Show your skills proudly.
- TAURUS** April 20-May 20 Let your feelings be known. Don't be shy or too stubborn to admit what's on your mind and what you intend to do. Meetings will bring good results and allow you to find out who wants to get involved in your plans.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 You must deal with red tape, institutional matters, or government agencies quickly. Someone will not be happy with a decision you make regarding a partnership. Don't be too hasty to make a deal, or you will give up too much for too little.
- CANCER** June 21-July 22 Getting involved in a worthy cause will lead to all sorts of perks. Not only will you meet someone stellar, but you will also discover potential partnerships that can help you get ahead financially. Love is highlighted.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 Have fun in the company of those who share your interests. Shopping will be exhausting and could be expensive. Budget wisely, and keep your expenditures to a minimum. You don't have to impress anyone.
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 You need to get out and experience new people, places, and things. A heartfelt matter can be addressed. Plans to get involved in something you believe in will lead to greater knowledge and the opportunity to expand your interests.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Put more focus on your personal finances, finding ways to lower your taxes and improve your home. Letting others determine what you can do will be your downfall. Do research, and make decisions that will benefit you, not others.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Live, love, and laugh, but most of all, get involved in things that make you happy. Passionate times will bring back fond memories and open up future opportunities. Set the wheels in motion now for what you would like to see happen.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Take any precautions necessary when it comes to travel or experimenting with activities that involve an element of danger. You don't have to show off. Everyone will love you for your wit, intelligence, and playful personality.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Take precautions when dealing with people you have an emotional connection to. Don't make promises that will be too difficult to keep or offer to pay for something you cannot afford. Call the shots instead of taking orders.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Don't let financial uncertainty get you down. Seek extra work or find a way to offer your services in different circles. Diversity will keep you ahead and ease stress. Setting a new budget will help stretch your income.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-March 20 Rely on the past to help you make the right choices now. Someone may confuse you, but if you talk to a trusted friend who knows your situation, you will find a way to move forward. Love is on the rise.

m.c. ginsberg

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1101

- Across**
- Course in the biology dept.
 - Prize won by Obama and Carter
 - Pickle containers
 - Rogen of "Knocked Up"
 - Strong adhesive
 - Black cloud or black cat, to some
 - Do-it-yourselfer's activity
 - Spanish sparkling wine
 - Came next
 - Compares (to)
 - With 51-Across, nitpick ... or a hint to 17-, 37- and 60-Across
 - Affirmatives
 - Turns down
 - Last word of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow"
 - Altogether it's worth the most bonus troops in Risk
 - Giraffe's cousin
 - Snowmobile part
 - New York singing group that last performed in 2007
 - It's "the word"
 - Ability
 - Digital camera mode
 - Reminder of an old wound
 - Tot's enclosure
 - Suffix with Kafka or Zola
 - See 23-Across
 - Come together
 - Preparing to drive, with "up"
 - Half-pint
 - Forum cheer
 - Govt. meat-stamping org.
 - What "O" stands for in the magazine business
 - Knock for a loop
 - Son of John and Yoko
 - "GoodFellas" Oscar winner Joe
 - Gulp from a flask
- Down**
- Stadium (Big Apple tennis locale)
 - Vegas gas
 - Dinero dispensers
 - Bar habitué's order, maybe
 - Replaceable part of a phonograph
 - Antonym: Abbr.
 - Blowhard's claim
 - Interstate sign
 - Vega's constellation
 - Big name in underwear
 - Pile up
 - Show with skits
 - Alternatives to buttons
 - Contract negotiators, for short
 - Critic of the selfless
 - Weathercaster's pressure line
 - Chicago mayor Emanuel
 - Jacob's twin
 - Unwilling to budge
 - Place for a facial
 - Short albums, for short
 - "-Tiki"
 - With 57-Down, memorable "Seinfeld" character, with "the"

- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | S | A | P | M | E | T | A | A | R | M | O | R | | |
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- Puzzle by Kristian House**
- Charlie Brown toy that's often "eaten" by a tree
 - Two-dimensional measure
 - Superman costume part
 - Hosiery shades
 - "Vidi," translated
 - Steel component
 - Drunk
 - Post-lecture session, informally
 - 57 See 34-Down
 - TV's Clamptets, e.g.
 - Ones named in a will
 - Pitcher Maddux with four Cy Young Awards
 - Mideast bigwig
 - Woodworking or metalworking class
 - Fond du ... Wis.
 - Contract negotiators, for short
 - 48 Hosiery shades
 - 56 "Vidi," translated
 - 38 Show host
 - 50 Post-lecture session, informally
 - 57 See 34-Down
 - 40 TV's Clamptets, e.g.
 - 51 Ones named in a will
 - 58 Pitcher Maddux with four Cy Young Awards
 - 44 Mideast bigwig
 - 53 Woodworking or metalworking class
 - 61 Fond du ... Wis.
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ON THE STREET

Do you plan to travel to the Insight Bowl? Why or why not?

'No, I'm not really on top of university events, because I live off campus. I did go to some of the football games, though.'

Mary Dowd
UI sophomore

'I wish I could. It's actually my little sister's 16th birthday. Otherwise, I definitely would be going.'

Kylie Lemkau
UI senior

'No, it's a little too expensive. And if I were to go to a bowl game, I would probably go to one that's a little more famous.'

Jake Burgers
UI first-year law student

'No, it's too far away and probably costs too much for me at the moment.'

Logan Weyandt
UI freshman

Postal cuts to slow mail



Mail carrier Zack Wyscarver delivers mail in freezing temperatures in Omaha on Monday. Unprecedented cuts by the cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service will slow first-class delivery next spring and, for the first time in 40 years, eliminate the chance for stamped letters to arrive the next day. (Associated Press/Nati Harnik)

By HOPE YEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Unprecedented cuts by the cash-strapped U.S. Postal Service will slow first-class delivery next spring and, for the first time in 40 years, eliminate the chance for stamped letters to arrive the next day.

The estimated \$3 billion in reductions, to be announced in broader detail later Monday, are part of a wide-ranging effort by the Postal Service to quickly trim costs and avert bankruptcy. They could slow everything from check payments to Netflix's DVDs by mail, add costs to mail-order prescription drugs, and threaten the existence of newspapers and time-sensitive magazines delivered by postal carrier to far-flung suburban and rural communities.

That birthday card mailed first-class to Mom also could arrive a day or two late if people don't plan ahead.

"It's a potentially major change, but I don't think consumers are focused on it, and it won't register until the service goes away," said Jim Corridore, analyst with S&P Capital IQ, who tracks the shipping industry. "Over time, to the extent the customer-service experience gets worse, it will only increase the shift away

from mail to alternatives. There's almost nothing you can't do online that you can do by mail."

The cuts would close roughly 250 of the nearly 500 mail-processing centers across the country as early as next March. Because the consolidations would typically lengthen the distance mail travels from post office to processing center, the agency would also lower delivery standards for first-class mail that have been in place since 1971. Currently, first-class mail is supposed to be delivered to homes and businesses within the continental U.S. in one to three days; that will be lengthened to two to three days, meaning mailers could no longer expect next-day delivery in surrounding communities. Periodicals

could take between two and nine days.

The Postal Service already has announced a 1-cent increase in first-class mail to 45 cents beginning Jan. 22.

Around 42 percent of first-class mail is now delivered the following day; another 27 percent arrives in two days, approximately 31 percent in three days, and fewer than 1 percent in four to five days. Following the change next spring, approximately 51 percent of all first-class mail is expected to arrive in two days, with most of the remainder delivered in three days.

The consolidation of mail-processing centers is in addition to the planned closing of about 3,700 local post offices. In all, roughly

100,000 postal employees could be cut as a result of the various closures, resulting in savings of up to \$6.5 billion a year.

Expressing urgency to reduce costs, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said in an interview that the agency has to act while waiting for Congress to grant it authority to reduce delivery to five days a week, raise stamp prices and reduce health care and other labor costs. The Postal Service, an independent agency of government, does not receive tax money, but is subject to Congressional control of large aspects of its operations. The changes in first-class mail delivery can be implemented without permission from Congress.

Lost drone no problem

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. military officials said Monday they are concerned that Tehran may have an opportunity to acquire information about the classified surveillance-drone program after one of the stealthy aircraft crashed in Iran while patrolling in western Afghanistan.

But experts suggested that even if the Iranians have found parts of the unmanned spy plane, they can probably glean little from it. Because it likely fell from a high altitude, there may be very few large pieces to examine.

The RQ-170 — known as the Sentinel — has been used in Afghanistan, particularly along the border, for several years. The U.S. Air Force has just "a handful" of them, said defense analyst Loren Thompson, with the Virginia-based Lexington Institute.

"I think we're always concerned when there's an aircraft, whether it's manned or unmanned, that we lose, particularly in a place where we're not able to get to it," Navy Capt. John Kirby, a Pentagon spokesman, told reporters Monday.

U.S. officials have acknowledged that the military lost control of one of the stealthy drones while it was flying a mission over western Afghanistan. Iran's official IRNA news agency has said that Iran's armed forces shot it down. U.S. officials have

rejected that claim, saying there are no indications the Sentinel was shot down. In either case, officials said this would be the first Sentinel lost by the U.S.

Analysts, however, played down any serious effect of the drone — or pieces of it — falling into Iranian hands.

"This is an aircraft that evades radar because of its shape and because of the special material used," Thompson said. "It won't enable the Iranians to build a stealthy unmanned aircraft."

Analysts said that stealth technologies — primarily the low-observable shape and the materials used — are fairly well known but often hard to replicate. The Sentinel, made by Lockheed Martin, has a swept-wing shape, much like the B-2 Stealth bomber. And it's been called the "Beast of Kandahar" because of its use in Afghanistan.

"They were designed to be silver bullets that could go places that other manned or unmanned aircraft would not be able to go. It specifically is designed to be very difficult for enemies to track and target," said Thompson. "This is a high-flying unmanned aircraft that malfunctioned and then fell to Earth. It's likely to be broken up into hundreds of pieces."

John Pike of the GlobalSecurity.org think tank said the Iranians already have all the data on the drone's external shape, "and there is nothing particularly unique about this configuration."

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BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10

“There’s nothing like shutting down a hostile crowd.”

The Hawkeyes won last year’s matchup, 51-39, but they haven’t beaten the Panthers in Cedar Falls since 2007. Iowa players said they’re expecting tonight’s game to be much like last year’s, likely featuring the hard-nosed, grind-it-out pace the Panthers like to play.

Statistically, UNI won’t open many eyes. Head coach Ben Jacobson’s squad ranks 207th nationally in points per game (67), 326th in rebounding (30.3), and 246th in assists (11.6).

Iowa boasts better numbers in all three categories — 76.4 points, 37.1 rebounds, and 15.6 assists per game — but has a slightly lower shooting percentage. The Hawkeyes have connected on 42.7 percent of their shots, and the Panthers have hit on 46.5 percent of theirs.

McCaffery said UNI’s offensive depth and the number of shooters the team has was one thing that caught his attention in preparing for the contest. Junior guard Anthony



Iowa point guard Bryce Cartwright drives to the hoop on a fast break during the Hawkeyes’ 51-39 win over Northern Iowa on Dec. 7, 2010, in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The Panthers host this year’s installment of the in-state rivalry; they are 3-0 at home. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

James and redshirt junior forward Jake Koch are the only Panthers to average double-digit points, at 14.0 and 10.1, respectively. But six other players score at least 5 per contest, and the team is shooting 3-pointers at a 38 percent clip.

“Anytime you have a team that has that many guys who can make shots, it’s a hard team to prepare for [and] a hard team to defend,” the second-year Hawkeye coach said. “We stress this all the time — but it may be as important in this game as in any

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other — is communication defensively. You have to talk to each other out there.”

Iowa forward Eric May had similar thoughts about UNI’s deliberate offensive attack, and he said facing the team on its home court will only make coming away with a win more challenging.

Iowa (5-3) at Northern Iowa (7-1)

When: 7 p.m. today
Where: McLeod Center, Cedar Falls
Where to watch or listen: ESPN3.com; KXIC-AM 800

“Every in-state game is tough,” he said. “They’re a good team, especially at home. We’re going to really have to bring our energy, bring our focus.”

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM 10

nesses, we can help each other become better as we learn together. With all of us, it’s OK to be horrible at an event.”

The different backgrounds include two pentathletes who decided to perform the events just this season. Miller was the Iowa women’s only high jumper last season. Ryan is a freshman who placed second in the long jump at the 2011 Iowa high-school state championship last year.

Schmitt and Thompson became pentathletes midway through last season; they switched over from sprints and hurdles, respectively.

Even though they only spent part of a year being multi-event athletes last season, both Schmitt and Thompson became more knowledgeable of what it takes to succeed and score points. They also learned it takes a lot of motivation and dedication.

Schmitt said most athletes arrive in the pentathlete family knowing only some of the events, which allows the athletes to learn and grow together.

This was particularly evident in the shot put; all

four admitted they didn’t know the proper throwing techniques when they became pentathletes. This was an opportunity for the entire group to not only grow closer as friends but to learn a new skill that would help them compete and score for Iowa at meets.

“Throws are something we all had to learn together,” Schmitt said. “But we all work together really well, and that helped a lot.”

It’s that family-like chemistry that keeps each pentathlete training hard. They don’t do it for their individual gain, they said, they work for each member of the family.

“It should translate well

The Penathalon

Four Hawkeyes are pentathletes who compete in the five events during every track and field met:

- 60-meter hurdles
- High jump
- Shot put
- Long jump
- 800-meter run

into the season, because we all practice and compete together,” Thompson said. “If you have a teammate there next to you during a meet, it’s very encouraging and will keep us going.”

DODGE BALL

CONTINUED ON 10

the pump-fake in there a

few times — I think it worked OK,” he said. “Also, getting a one-two throw, too — getting them to move on the first one and hit them with the second when

they’re frozen.”

Sons of Thunder will face Pi Kappa Alpha in Wednesday’s quarterfinal, and Lord said he’s thinking ahead.

“Maybe Wednesday, we’ll slow it down a little bit, get control of the balls, and pick our throws a little better ... to save our arms for the rest of the game,” he said.

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Who will win BCS?

LSU (13-0, 8-0 SEC)

First, a disclaimer: This article was written at about 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 4, several hours before any of the official BCS bowl matchups were announced.

That’s how confident I am that LSU will win the national championship.

The Tigers have proven all season that they are the best in the country — and, thanks to Houston’s collapse last week, LSU was the only team in Division-I to finish undefeated.

LSU went to Tuscaloosa, Ala., and beat the then-No. 2 Crimson Tide on Nov. 5. The Tigers stomped an Arkansas team that was ranked No. 3 at the time by 24 points. Don’t forget their victory over Oregon — also ranked No. 3 at the time — in the season-opener.

LSU’s second defeat of Alabama could very well end up looking a lot like the first. If the game is another defensive struggle — the first installment ended without a touchdown, 9-6 — it’s safe to expect the Tigers’ Tyrann “Honey Badger” Mathieu to make a game-changing play or two.

In a year that has seen early Heisman favorites — see: LaMichael James and Andrew Luck — fail to deliver a single season-defining moment, a strong

case could be made for Mathieu. He probably won’t win, but he’s the closest to a defensive player taking home the award since Charles Woodson did so at Michigan in 1997. And like Woodson, the LSU sophomore makes big plays on special teams, too — he has returned four punts for touchdowns this year.

For four months, the Tigers have made the claim they’re the best team in college football. On Jan. 9, they’ll prove it.

— by Ben Schuff

Alabama (11-1, 7-1 SEC)

In 1971, boxer Muhammed Ali squared off with Smokin’ Joe Frazier in what would later be named the “Fight of the Century.” The bout featured two of the best boxers in the history of the sport; both were undefeated. Frazier took the win via unanimous decision.

Ali and Frazier met again for a rematch three years later, giving Ali a chance to avenge the first loss of his professional career. And he did just that, claiming a unanimous decision.

Fast-forward to the 2007 NFL regular-season finale, featuring the undefeated New England Patriots and the New York Giants. And after a grueling dogfight

full of hits, penalties, and many points, the Patriots came out on top; the 38-35 win clinched their 16-0 season.

But just a few weeks later, the Giants found themselves in Super Bowl XLII against the Patriots for a rematch. After another hard-fought 60 minutes of action, New York shocked New England, 17-14.

I’ll throw one more your way. Many doubted undefeated Wisconsin would lose this season before they traveled to East Lansing, Mich., to face off against Michigan State. But the Spartans threw a wrench into the BCS by winning the game, 37-31, on a last-second Hail Mary.

But wait, could it be? The Badgers got a rematch? They defeated the Spartans, 42-39, to claim the first-ever Big Ten championship game.

It’s common for great teams and athletes to take advantages of rematches, especially if they lost the first meeting; it’s rare for one great team to defeat another great team twice in the same season.

Ergo, Alabama will defeat LSU and claim its 14th national championship. The Crimson Tide are great, and great teams never get beaten twice.

— by Cody Goodwin

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Hawks gird for road contest

Fran McCaffery and Company will play their first true road game of the year tonight at Northern Iowa.

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

Melsahn Basabe responded quickly when asked about his mental approach heading into in-state rivalry games such as the one in which he'll play tonight.

"It's kill or be killed," Basabe said. "That's it."

The Hawkeyes (5-3) will get their first taste of a true road environment when they play Northern Iowa (7-1) at 7 p.m. in the McLeod Center in Cedar Falls.

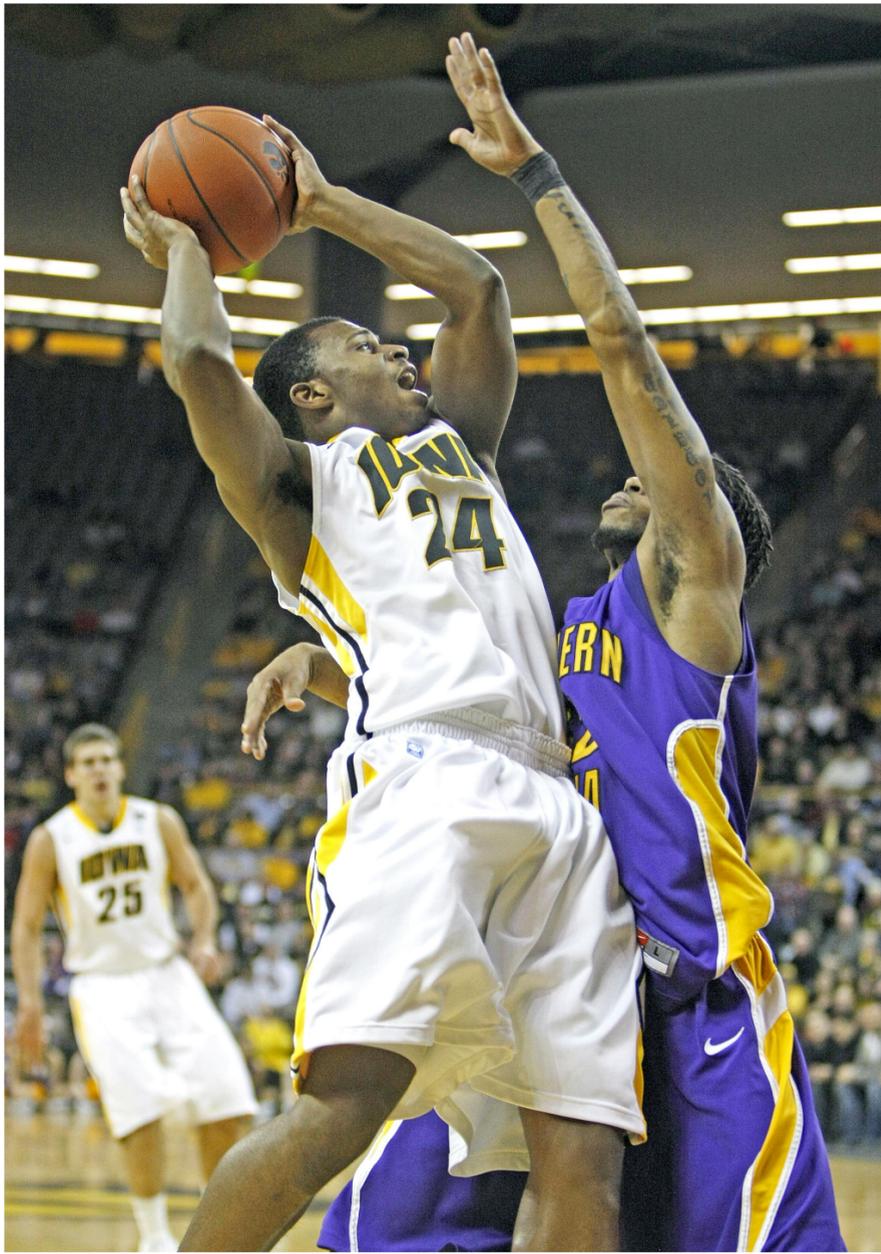
Iowa has only played one game away from Carver-Hawkeye Arena so far; the team lost to Creighton by 23 points in Des Moines on Nov. 20. The Hawkeyes have sputtered to a 2-2 record after losing to the Bluejays.

Northern Iowa is 5-0 over the same two-week period, including wins against Providence and at Iowa State.

Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said the first in-state showdown of the season should test his group's toughness.

"[We're] going to really have to concentrate and stay together," he said. "Anytime you go on the road — especially when you're playing a really good team — you have to compete together. That's what I'm looking forward to seeing."

Basabe is excited about going on the road for the first time this season following the team's 75-54 defeat of Brown on Dec. 3. The sophomore said he believes he plays better on the road — a claim his scoring average from last year would seem to



Iowa point guard Bryce Cartwright shoots over Northern Iowa's Anthony James during the Hawkeyes' 51-39 win over the Panthers in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Dec. 7, 2010. The in-state rivalry will be renewed tonight in Cedar Falls. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

back up. Basabe averaged 9.9 points in 18 home contests last year but scored 13.9 points in 13 road games as a freshman.

"I love road challenges. I'm from New York, so I've been playing in hostile environments all my life," the Glen Cove, N.Y. native said. "I just

love the energy. I love when everybody is against you, and no one wants you to do well.

SEE BASKETBALL, 8

Pentathletes stick together

The four pentathletes on the women's track and field team carry a strong bond.

By **CODY GOODWIN**
cody-goodwin@uiowa.edu

A family is usually a group of people from a common stock; the average family might be considered a mother and a father with a child or two.

But a different kind of family exists in a small group of athletes on the Iowa women's track and field team: the pentathletes.

"I like it; it's been fun to have people encourage you," said Zinnia Miller, a sophomore who participates in five events during each meet. "Together, we don't feel any pressure for one certain event."

Fellow pentathlete Mary Kate Schmitt agreed.

"If you're doing some really hard workout by yourself, it's a lot harder than if someone else was there, pulling you and pushing you to keep going," she said. "The presence of other people makes [practices] a lot easier."

The practices for a combined-event athlete are longer and more demanding than those for single-event athletes. With five events to master, workouts for the four Hawkeyes in the group become competitions that can last more than two hours.

Pentathlete Sarah Ryan admitted the group sometimes grows weary of the long sessions.

"It's so much easier to get through the workout with the others motivating you and pushing each other," the freshman said. "It's not as draining, and it feels like practice goes by a lot quicker."

Surviving practice may be just one aspect in which having a smaller, close-knit group can be advantageous; the Hawkeyes also said it helps when learning a new concept.

The pentathlon consists of five different events: the 60-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, long jump, and the 800-meter run. But not every athlete who declares to be a multi-event athlete is an expert in all five. As Emelia Thompson put it, having a teammate who is better at one or two of the events can be humbling.

"We each come from different backgrounds, so we each have our strengths and weaknesses," she said. "With those weak-

SEE TRACK, 8

HAWKEYE ACADEMICS

Football's graduation rate high among bowl teams

The Iowa football team's graduation rate is the eighth-best of the bowl-bound schools in the country, according to a release.

Kirk Ferentz's team is one of only nine to score 80 percent or better on the NCAA Graduation Success Rate measurement; the Hawkeyes tallied 83 percent.

"This ranking is a compliment to our student-athletes, coaching staff, academic support staff, and our faculty and staff on the UI campus," Iowa Athletics Director Gary Barta said in a release.

Iowa as a whole posted an 86 percent rate, a measurement that includes the movement of transferring student-athletes and also considers midyear enrollees. This year's scores are based on the four classes that entered school from 2001-02 through 2004-05.

Five women's teams — basketball, field hockey, golf, gymnastics, and softball — tallied perfect scores of 100. The women's swimming and diving (95) and rowing (93) squads weren't far behind.

The Hawkeye men were led by the baseball team's 96, the best score in program history. The men's gymnastics (88), tennis (86), football, and cross-country/track and field (81) teams followed.

— by Seth Roberts

Soccer team receives academic honor

The Iowa soccer team received further recognition after a season in which it tied the record for most wins (13-4-2) and set the highest winning percentage (.737) in school history.

The Hawkeyes were honored for their work in the classroom on Monday, according to a release. The squad was named to the 2011 National Soccer Coaches Association of America College Team Academic Award list. To be eligible, teams must have a combined grade-point average of 3.0 or higher.

Head coach Ron Rainey's team had a team average of 3.17 and made the list for the fifth-straight season.

Iowa is one of 10 Big Ten women's soccer teams to be honored. Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Northwestern, Ohio State, Penn State, Purdue, and Wisconsin also received recognition.

Almost 800 college programs earned academic awards this season, including more than 550 women's teams. More than 150 institutions were represented on both the men's and women's lists.

— by Ben Wolfson

INTRAMURALS

Thundering dodge ball

Sons of Thunder 2 advanced to the quarterfinals with a pair of wins.

By **ALEX FRENCH**
alexander-french@uiowa.edu

Sons of Thunder 2 used back-to-back wins to advance to the quarterfinals of the single-elimination intramural dodge-ball playoffs on Monday night in the Field House.

Thunder defeated the DodgeFathers, 8-2, then beat Hesstosterone in a sudden-death thriller, 8-7.

Having to play two games back-to-back wasn't an issue for the Sons of Thunder, said team member Rob Lord; he said fatigue may have had some sort of effect, but the scheduling actually helped in the long run.

"I think just because we had the first game, we were a little more warmed up," the senior said. "We came out really strong initially [in the second game] and just held on for the win."

Teammate Tyler Brewer agreed, but he said having an extra person for substitution was equally important for the team's success — especially against the DodgeFathers in the first match.



Andrew Rietgraf, a member of the Sons of Thunder 2, tries to catch the ball during the team's game against the DodgeFathers on Monday in the Field House. The Sons Of Thunder 2 beat both the DodgeFathers and Hesstosterone on Monday to advance to the quarterfinals. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

"I think it's an advantage; just having a fourth person makes a huge difference, [because] our arms were feeling it," he said.

The DodgeFathers didn't get to enjoy the luxury of an extra player; only a third of the team showed up.

"We have a nine-person team, and only three showed up," said team captain Greg O'Hara, a resident assistant who built his

roster from the people on his floor. "Not having two of our bigger, stronger arms hurt. Your arms get tired playing eight games."

Although fatigue can come into play, there are other ways besides rotating personnel to help avoid it, Lord said.

"I also think picking our throws [helps with fatigue], too," he said. "I know the first game we were really anxious, and we were throwing a lot."

Hesstosterone brought a substitute and played smart dodge ball, but Sons of Thunder 2 jumped out to an early 5-1 lead. Hesstosterone stormed back and took six out of the next eight but fell short.

Lord attributed part of his team's success to the different strategies the players used.

"We were trying to work

SEE DODGE BALL, 8