

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2012

NEWSPAPER • **DI** DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

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Yes - 69 percent

No - 31 percent

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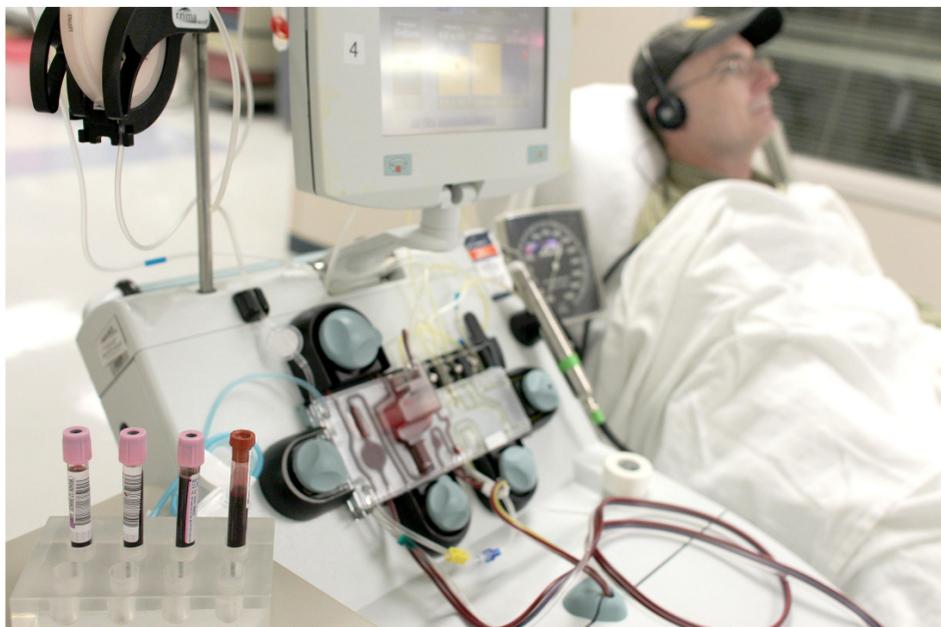
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WEATHER

HIGH **34** LOW **21**

Partly cloudy to cloudy.

Transplants matches tough for minorities



John Yutzy of Iowa City donates platelets at the UIHC DeGowin Blood Center on Wednesday. Because of different compatibilities across ethnic groups and a shortage of donation from minorities, non-whites in Iowa face a longer wait for a match from donations of blood, marrow, and organs. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

By **JENNY EARL**
jennifer-earl@uiowa.edu

More than 640 Iowans every day wait for an organ transplant that could save their lives.

But minorities in the state wait longer than most.

Because of a lack of minority donations and registered donors, minorities in need of transplants are having a difficult time finding matches.

Only 4 percent of minorities in Iowa are organ donors.

"We need more — we need more people of diverse ethnic backgrounds to register — people's lives depend on it," said Colleen Chapleau, the assistant director of the UI Blood and Marrow Transplantation Program.

In 2011, minorities made up only around 6 percent of the living donors in Iowa. No African Americans or Asians were living donors.

"It's kind of like a lottery — your 10 numbers need to match the 10 numbers of someone not related to you," Chapleau said. "There are tissue types that are more common in the population for

whites, there are tissue typings more common for African Americans and other types. Whatever your ethnic group is, if there is a large number of people registered — you have a much better chance."

Medical professionals recovered organs from 40 deceased Iowans in 2011, but only three of those individuals were not white.

Compared with regional data for Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, and Wyoming, Iowa minority donors are 15 percent behind the regional average.

Tony Hakes, public-affairs coordinator for the Iowa Donor Network, said a slight discrepancy exists between the percentage of minorities on donor waiting lists and the percentage of minorities in Iowa. He said only 9 percent of Iowans are minorities, but 25 percent of people on an organ waiting list are minorities.

"I can't speculate why," Hakes said. The "Be the Match" registry, a registry in which people with leukemia and other life-threatening

SEE **MARROW**, 3A

Officials defend alerts

By **AUDREY DWYER**
audrey-dwyer@uiowa.edu

A top campus-safety official defended the university's HawkAlert system on Wednesday following complaints about the system's timeliness and usefulness this semester.

HawkAlerts are sometimes sent out much later than reported incidents because officials have to verify basic facts, Charles Green, the assistant vice president for the University of Iowa police, told a Staff Council meeting Wednesday. Staff Council President Michael Schueller said he invited Green to talk to the council about "how the system works specifically."

Green told the council members the system is intended to notify the campus in emergency situations that present threats to physical safety, including tornadoes, violence, and hazardous material incidents. HawkAlerts are disseminated to students faculty and staff through mobile phones, landlines, and emails, he said. Using the university's enterprise directory — which allows individuals to update their own contact information — officials can notify the entire campus of an emergency within 15 minutes.

However, recently, some have criticized the timeliness of alerts. In November, officials issued a HawkAlert about an armed suspect on campus more than an hour after police received a call of a domestic dispute.

"It's a real challenge," Green said, "With an emergency alert there is less information and not much time."

Delays in the release of a HawkAlert is often due to authorities' need to verify information. If officers are notified of an emergency, they must determine if it poses any real danger to individuals on campus.

In the November HawkAlert, Green said, officials first thought the situation posed no danger to campus. But police then received a report that the suspect was headed toward campus.

The communication between dispatchers and police officials can be difficult, Green said. If officers are not sure about a given situation until they head to a location, they will often question whether or not to issue an alert, Green explained.

Still, Green said officials strive to provide a small amount of information, even if they are not completely sure the campus faces real danger.

"You expect it to be accurate," Green said. "That's the problem we are having. We, meaning all universities nationwide."

Green also addressed concerns that alerts are not specific enough.

At the meeting, Julie Sexton, a human-resources representative with Student Health Service, asked Green if an event happened on Oakdale Campus or nearby areas, would people on the campus be notified of the alerts.

Green said they would and explained public-safety officials hope to better pinpoint where the danger may occur and determine if an alert should be sent out.

"There will always be some gaps," he said.

Green said he is working on improvements to the system with individuals such as Dave Wilson of Johnson County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency. He said those improvements may include a plan for Iowa's three regent universities to agree on a notification template to allow individuals at different locations around the state to receive an alert. Officials are also working on improvements to the HawkAlert website.

HIV law under fire

Iowa is one of 34 states and two U.S. territories that have criminalized HIV transmission.

By **LINDSEY MOON**
iowaWatch.org

Spend a few minutes with Donald Bogardus, and you probably would never imagine that he would even think of hurting another human being.

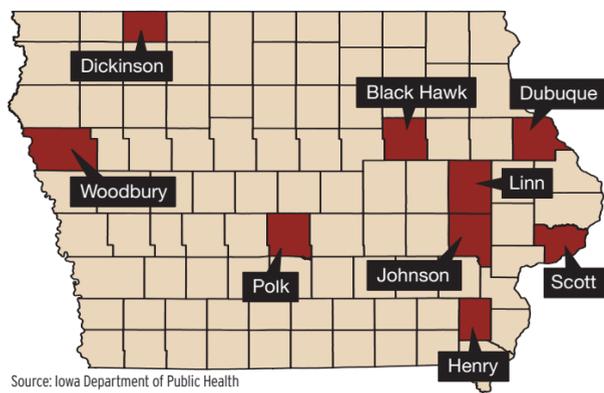
He speaks with a lisp and walks with a limp because of cerebral palsy, but his warm smile and friendly demeanor puts others at ease. He works as a nurse's assistant at a nursing home in Waterloo, is active in his church, and cares assiduously for his pet goldfish, Survivor.

Yet Bogardus is an accused felon, facing up to 25 years in prison and a lifetime as a sex offender, because he was afraid of losing a friend and kept a secret from him. Bogardus is HIV positive and gay.

"I wanted to tell him," Bogardus recalled, "but when I went to

Prosecuting Counties in Iowa

HIV-related prosecutions have occurred in nine Iowa counties.



Source: Iowa Department of Public Health

Alicia Kramme/The Daily Iowan

say it, I clammed up. So many things came across my mind. I was afraid he was going to blab it out to everybody. But I still regret not telling him. I really do."

Now, he is charged with criminal transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus because he didn't reveal his secret. Iowa's HIV criminal-transmission statute was applied to Bogardus, because it requires people carry-

ing HIV to inform their partners before they have sex.

Bogardus' case exemplifies what critics see as major flaws of many of these laws.

Law has many critics

The criticisms come from public-health authorities, medical caregivers, legal analysts, legisla-

SEE **HIV**, 3A



Spotlight Iowa City



Maggie Blake, Maggie Jones, and Theresa Augsburger on the stage of the Osage Summer Theater Program. (Contributed Photo)

Not just kidding around

Maggie Blake a senior at the UI is using her theatrical background to teach children in Osage, Iowa.

BY SAMANTHA GENTRY
samantha-gentry@uiowa.edu

Princess Maggie. At least that's how the kids at the Osage Summer Theater Program refer to Maggie Blake.

After telling a mythical story during snack time about how frogs became small creatures, the camp kids truly believed she was royalty.

Working with a children's theater is not something Blake pictured being involved in, but she was pleasantly surprised with the program.

"After this experience, working with children is kind of a really fun thing to do because you get to play, imagine, and really get to see the kids develop from theatre," she said. "I'm kind of venturing off that way and it's really exciting."

The theater major started her career on stage in high school, where she was originally interested in stage management.

But after auditioning for her first play and getting the part, acting became her true passion.

In her four years at the UI, Blake acted in 10 plays

and was also a stage manager. Last semester, she performed in *The Cherry Orchard* and *Hamlet*.

During her remaining months at the UI, Blake was the assistant costume designer for the play *Jenga*, is currently costuming a new play called *Sidewinders*, and she is looking forward to auditions for the New Play Festival.

With all of that on her plate, Blake continues to promote the Osage Summer Theater Program around campus.

The ideas for this summer's plays are already in the works, and Blake hopes to add an intern to the program as well.

She hopes that students from the university will jump at the opportunity to become apart of this summer's camp.

"We are hoping to involve more people, more kids, and more of the community to come out and see our shows," Blake said.

Currently, all of the kids participating in the camp are on stage for the final performance, but in the future, Blake hopes to add the different theater components, including lighting and scenic design to the program.

She also thinks it would be a wonderful thing if the program could start to include musicals along with the straight plays.

But Blake's involvement in this program wouldn't be possible if it weren't for her friend and UI alum, Maggie

Jones. Jones wanted to create a program in her hometown of Osage, Iowa, because there weren't many theater opportunities available.

"I wanted to create an outlet for young kids who didn't want to play sports because that's what I would have wanted," Jones said.

When Jones ran her idea past Blake and another friend, UI alum Theresa Augsburger, they immediately jumped on board.

"She is very professional and personal at the same time," Jones said. "The kids are so willing to learn from her, and everyone wants to be her friend."

Not only is Blake great with the kids, but for Augsburger she is also a great partner to have in this project.

"[Blake] is one of those people who you just love right away because she has a really strong presence that is very grateful," Augsburger said. "She has this wonderful kindness to her and working with her in Osage is so phenomenal because she can work with the administrative portion and she is a ball of energy with the kids."

The day camp has kids ranging from kindergarten to 12th grade and each of them participates in a different play, depending on their age group.

This past summer, Blake, Jones, and Augsburger, helped the kindergarten group write their own play called *Super Pigs*.

During this experience,

Maggie Blake

- Age: 21
- Hometown: Kansas City, Kansas
- Favorite Food: Pizza
- Favorite Book: *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- Favorite Iowa City spot: Marco's Grilled Cheese stand
- Favorite Hobby: Marco's Grilled Cheese stand

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.

Blake was surprised at how responsive the younger kids were to the projects they were introduced to.

"It was interesting that our younger kids were really able to catch on to the more abstract ideas," Blake said. "Of course they wanted to play and eat snack, but most of the time they were really focused and ready to be there."

With graduation quickly approaching for Blake and the possibility of Los Angeles in her future, her involvement with the Osage Summer Theater Program is something she still wants to continue.

"We hope to keep it going as long as we can, but we also hope to inspire community members to take charge and provide that for the community," Blake said. "This might be a nice way for communities to put the theater components back in [to their schools]."

The Daily Iowan

Volume 143

Issue 139

BREAKING NEWS

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PUBLISHING INFO

The Daily Iowan (USPS 143.360) is published by Student Publications Inc., E131 Adler Journalism Building, Iowa City, Iowa 52242-2004, daily except Saturdays, Sundays, legal and university holidays, and university vacations. Periodicals postage paid at the Iowa City Post Office under the Act of Congress of March 2, 1879.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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E-mail: daily-iowan-circ@uiowa.edu

Subscription rates:

Iowa City and Coralville: \$20 for one semester, \$40 for two semesters, \$10 for summer session, \$50 for full year.
Out of town: \$40 for one semester, \$80 for two semesters, \$20 for summer session, \$100 all year.

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PHYSICAL



People work out in the Campus Recreation and Wellness Center as traffic passes on Wednesday night. The temperatures are scheduled to drop into single-digit lows after a relatively mild week. (The Daily Iowan/Ian Servin)

BLOTTER

Skyler Cowden, 28, 2427 Petsel Place, was charged on Tuesday with unlawful use of driver's license.
Sean Cummings, 29, 2342 Nevada Ave., was charged on

Wednesday with urinating in public.
Alexandra King, 20, 328 N. Clinton St., was charged on Tuesday with presence in bar after hours.

Taylor Koenig, 23, 630 S. Capitol St., was charged on Wednesday with public intoxication and urinating in public.
Jeffrey Sands, 21, 221 S. Lucas St., was charged on Wednesday

with public intoxication.
Paige Sypersma, 20, 328 N. Clinton St., was charged on Tuesday with presence in bar after hours.

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State GOP looks for leader

Current Iowa GOP head Matt Strawn's resignation is effective Friday.

By KRISTEN EAST
kristen-east@uiowa.edu

University of Iowa College Republicans said they want the new Iowa GOP leader to be just as involved with young voters as outgoing head Matt Strawn.

Strawn, who has served in the position since January 2009, recently announced he'll resign his position, citing personal and professional reasons. Strawn was widely criticized earlier this year after a mix-up with caucus votes.

"Strawn, to me, was perfect. He was very active in issues, came to many events of ours, and those across the state," said Natalie Ginty, the head of the Iowa Federation of College Republicans. "So, it does make a difference in who is elected."

Ginty said she and members of the UI College Republicans have discussed the GOP-leader election, but they won't take action because they would have no influence on how the State Central Committee votes.

UI political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle, the College Republicans' faculty adviser, said the group isn't too involved at the state level.

"What happens at the state party level isn't always a direct connection to what's happening at any chapter level," he said. "Chapters are usually busy enough with membership recruitment and individual activities on campuses."

One candidate for the GOP spot is reaching out to young voters.

Dave Funk, a co-head of the Polk County Republican Party, told *The Daily Iowan* he is seeking the GOP state position.

Funk has notified young voters of his candidacy, posting a petition to the UI College Republicans' Facebook page, asking the group for its support.

"In these trying times, let's elect a leader who can unify the GOP and lead us to victory this November," he wrote Tuesday. "Let's build on the solid foundation currently in place and ensure that we return Iowa to greatness again."

Funk said his first priority — if elected — would be keeping Iowa's caucuses the first in the nation. But he said reaching out to younger voters is also important.

"It's a smaller number than the rest of the voting population, but it's an

important one because there's a lot of energy coming out of the younger population," he said.

Funk said he would hire a field representative to visit campuses in order to create connections and mentor college Republican groups.

Bill Schickel, the current co-head of the party, will become the interim leader starting Friday, when Strawn's resignation becomes effective.

Schickel is also the owner of a Christian radio station.

Ginty said she favors Schickel and will be surprised if he isn't elected.

"With Schickel, they will probably keep the same staff," she said.

He has not officially announced his candidacy, and he was unable to be reached for comment Wednesday evening.

There are three committee members in each of the State Central Committee's five Congressional districts. Those 15 members, in addition to the committee-woman and committee-man, vote for the GOP leader, Ginty said. The committee hasn't set an election date.

Hagle said Strawn's resignation has been "a black eye" for Iowa, and the timing wasn't the best because of the upcoming presidential election.

"... We're still only in February," he said. "There's still time for someone to come in and get the state up to speed. That's at least what we'd hope for."

MARROW

CONTINUED FROM 1A

diseases depend, shows 70 percent of patients who need a marrow transplant don't have a matching donor in their family.

Without a blood relative match, patients rely on strangers to be the match that could save their life.

Unfortunately, only four out of 10 patients receive the transplant they need, often because they can't find a matching donor.

"The patients who come to us with diverse backgrounds are not finding that perfectly matched donor," Chapleau said. "Of course, the first place we look is among one's own family, but we do know

that two-thirds of people won't have a match in their family. They need to rely on these unrelated registries to find their perfect match."

Chapleau said she has seen a lot of patients at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics with minority backgrounds in need of transplants, but with the likelihood of finding a match being low, doctors turn to the next best thing — a close, but not perfect, match.

Hakes said the Iowa Donor Network doesn't focus on one group to find donors, but recruits across the board.

"We work with the [Department of Motor Vehicles], hospital, fire, law enforcement, schools, EMS — we work with all sorts of agencies, we aren't specifically targeting one

group — simply all Iowans," he said.

The UI is taking a different approach.

Julee Darner, donor services coordinator for the Iowa Marrow Donor program, said she is working to fix the problem with diversity donors.

Currently focusing on college recruitment, Darner works with the UI student organization Project Marrow, which enlists college students to be a part of the donor registry by swabbing their mouths and adding their health history and personal information to a computer database.

"[Project Marrow] is trying to figure out a way to get more of a minority presence — the goal is for each student minority organization to hold a drive within their minori-

ty classmates," said Darner.

Darner said the recruitment efforts of the student organization helped raise the number of minorities enlisted on the registry. The organization brought in a total of 850 students to the "Be the Match" registry since last fall and the group is now planning for spring recruitment.

"It's a great opportunity while you're in college to become aware of the population ... and to reach out to the world," said Darner. "Every person represents hope for a patient who needs a [transplant] — you may be the only match in the world to give them the opportunity to survive a deadly disease."

HIV

CONTINUED FROM 1A

tors, and activists who say the laws are counterproductive and discriminatory.

The days when HIV was considered a death sentence are long past, experts say, but legal measures lag far behind current medical knowledge and treatment. At both national and state levels, campaigns to roll back these laws have gained momentum over the past year, and the issue is likely to arise in Iowa's current legislative session.

Bogardus didn't actually transmit the virus, nor did he intend to do so. He takes anti-retroviral drugs that make transmission highly unlikely, but none of those things matter. So, in December 2009, he became an accused felon.

Bogardus' case shows how complicated and even painful disclosure itself can be. In retrospect he says he would do things differently. He didn't tell his partner his status



DAILYIOWAN.COM

This story was produced by the nonprofit Iowa Center for Public Affairs Journalism. Go online to read an extended version of this report.

because he was afraid of what kind of reaction he would get, not because he wanted to spread the virus.

Bogardus says he wanted to use a condom, but his partner refused. That doesn't matter under the law. Even if they had used protection, Bogardus still could have been prosecuted.

Current law called outmoded

Iowa is one of 34 states and two U.S. territories that have criminalized HIV-transmission, and one of a subgroup of states that prosecute simply for nondisclosure of HIV positive status prior to intimate contact.

Catherine Hanssens, the executive director of the New York-based Center for HIV Law and Policy, calls the policies underlying most HIV transmission laws "decades out of date" and

says a much more nuanced approach is needed.

"Most laws treat HIV like it is transmitted with ease," she said. "With modern medical knowledge, we

understand that this is just not the case."

Sean Strub, an Iowa City native, nationally known HIV/AIDS advocate, and founder of the magazine *POZ* — standing for HIV positive — says that even among consenting adults, Iowa's law allows individuals to place responsibility for personal sexual health entirely on a partner.

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Editorial

States should take notes on Iowa's mapping policies

Partisanship is detrimental to an effective democracy. Political district-mapping, or gerrymandering, can be used as a mechanism to minimize the effect of such political polarity. States should look no further than Iowa's mapping restrictions for an admirable precedent.

There are few images in American politics more powerful than that of powerful men, shrouded in a haze of cigar smoke, brokering deals as far from sunlight as possible. What is interesting, however, is that whether you view these men as crooked largely depends on whether you voted for them or their bosses.

Christopher Anderson and Yuliva Tverdova of Brigham Young University make this point in their paper "Corruption, Political Allegiances, and Attitudes Toward Government in Contemporary Democracies," in which the scholarly duo show that the perception of corruption diminishes as party allegiance intensifies.

This allegiance bias does not, however, weigh equally in all cases of questionable conduct. For example, most Americans consider partisan gerrymandering to be a political carcinogen — yet it persists despite broad public disapproval.

Thirty-six of 50 states in the United States still rely on inherently partisan bodies, such as state legislators, to redraw their Congressional district lines every 10 years — threatening the foundation of our representative democracy. Luckily, states such as Iowa have established a sound precedent to minimize the potential of gerrymandering, and should serve as an example to the rest of the nation.

"Iowa remains a hub of competitive swing districts because of its nonpartisan approach to drawing districts," said University of Iowa political-science Associate Professor Tim Hagle.

The federal court system is an invaluable backstop protecting the representative nature of our legislative bodies, but there is no reason why this nation should risk even the smallest chance of voters being disenfranchised by partisan mapping. This is especially valid considering very simple institutional rule changes restricting this already exist.

For decades, the state of Iowa has abided by a handful of rules that have nearly eradicated any measurable risk of gerrymandering. Iowa relies on a five-member nonpartisan commission. This commission is only permitted to consider four factors when drawing district lines — population, contiguity, compactness, and existing boundaries. Perhaps more importantly, Iowa law forbids the use of demographic data, previous election results, or registered voter rolls. These simple rules make it exceedingly difficult and costly to try to redraw district lines in a way that might favor one partisan bloc over another.

Not only does this fend off the risk of disenfranchisement, it fosters more competitive elections. Hagle made just this point when discussing the value of the Iowa model.

"Because incumbents are not drawn into safe districts, retirements are more commonplace," he said. "This offers opportunities for new blood at both the state and the national level. Potential candidates are more likely to run for office if it does not entail running against a safe incumbent."

There are a wide variety of reasons to find the practice of gerrymandering objectionable. For example, many often cite gerrymandering as a primary driver behind the increase in partisan gridlock. However, while there is little doubt that gerrymandering contributes to polarization, there is good reason to think that the degree to which gerrymandering is blamed is overblown. This conclusion can be reached by only looking at the Senate: Senate lines are state lines and thus cannot be gerrymandered. Yet, few rational observers would argue that the Senate is the paragon of political harmony. So, we need to look elsewhere to grasp the risks posed by gerrymandering.

For a prime example of the real and demonstrable risks posed by gerrymandering one need go no further than the recent United States Supreme Court case *Perry v. Perez*. Since the last census was taken, Texas's population grew by 4.3 million people, and minorities represented 90 percent of that population gain. The Republican-controlled Legislature in Texas, however, gerrymandered Texas's districts to produce one minority-dominated district and three districts that heavily favored Republicans.

Numerous plaintiffs filed suits in an attempt to block imposition of the newly redrawn map. Since then, the Republican map has been thrown out in federal court, dealt with in the Supreme Court, and is now once again being handled by the federal judges in San Antonio.

As the Texas case shows, the dangers of gerrymandering are real. Forget gerrymandering as the primary driver of polarization. Think of it instead as an unacceptable threat to the representative nature of our democracy.

There is no need to reinvent the wheel. States such as Iowa have already done all of the work by providing a framework for other states to follow. It is about time that the 36 states that have simply chosen to allow this dangerous practice to continue to take notice.

Your turn. Should states follow Iowa's lead?
Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Romney not meshing with conservatives

Mitt Romney just can't shake his difficulty attracting conservatives. And that reality is undercutting his effort to cast himself as the inevitable Republican presidential nominee and prolonging a race that each day exposes deep divisions within the party.

Newt Gingrich also now faces a fresh challenge to his claim that he's the chief conservative alternative to Romney, the GOP front-runner.

Those were the big takeaways from Rick Santorum's surprise victories Tuesday night in Colorado, Minnesota, and Missouri — which, for now at least, keep his struggling candidacy alive.

"Conservatism is alive and well in Missouri and Minnesota," the former Pennsylvania senator told cheering supporters before the Colorado results were known. "I don't stand here to be the conservative alternative to Mitt Romney. I stand here to be the conservative alternative to Barack Obama."

Santorum broke a four-state losing streak by successfully pitching himself as the only true conservative in Tuesday's races.

The results focus attention on Romney's and Gingrich's weaknesses, while underscoring the degree to which the GOP primary battle is likely to stretch well into the spring and perhaps even the summer. The outcomes also are likely to detract from Republicans' efforts to lambaste President Obama.

While Santorum may get a short-term boost of momentum, it's unclear whether the cash-strapped candidate has the resources to capitalize quickly on the wins and compete against Romney's national political machine.

Santorum is a candidate with a post office box as a national headquarters. He's using volunteers to handle his scheduling. And he has

virtually no staff to help turn momentum into votes in the critical Super Tuesday contests that are now four weeks away.

His rivals face problems of their own.

Romney has struggled to win over conservatives, who for years have viewed him skeptically for his shifts and reversals on issues they hold dear, like abortion and gay rights.

Romney hadn't lost a nomination fight since his second-place finish in South Carolina 17 days ago. He went on to comfortably win the Florida primary and Nevada's caucuses. And polling in those two states suggested that Republicans of all stripes — social conservatives, tea party activists and those in the mainstream — had finally begun to set aside doubts about his conservative credentials.

Romney used that, and his back-to-back victories, to his advantage. He had started to portray himself as the presumptive nominee as establishment Republicans rallied behind him.

But in recent days, Romney sensed a Santorum surge in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri, and started to court social conservatives with get-tough positions against abortion and gay rights as he worked to convince them that he was pure on key issues despite his more moderate positions of the past.

It didn't work — and he recognized as much in a brief speech to a partially empty room of supporters gathered in Denver as the results came in.

"This was a good night for Rick Santorum," a more subdued Romney said. But he added, "We'll keep on campaigning down the road, but I expect to become our nominee with your help."

Steve Peoples covers national politics and the presidential campaign for the Associated Press.

Letters

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UI Meme page is an embarrassment

As an '09 alumnus of the University of Iowa, I am usually proud to say I'm a Hawkeye and hail from Iowa. That has, unfortunately, changed with the discovery of the UI Memes fan page on Facebook.

While much of the page is relatively innocuous jokes about campus — pedestrians walk with impunity in front of Cambuses; some students have a bizarre fetish for Ron Paul; the elevator is the most popular means of transport in Daum Hall (I should know; I lived there) — several images, which were extraordi-

narily popular, were blatantly racist and sexist.

And it is not unusual for Iowa to have race issues. I think any socially conscious person would say that any university would be challenged with such an overwhelmingly white population to not be. But the racism and sexism on the page is abhorrent.

This may be surprising news to some, but women are not supposed to be objectified. And purposefully getting someone drunk to have sex with them has a name: rape. Anyone liking or contributing to such a negative image of the university, what it stands for, and for the student body — past, present, and future

— should be ashamed of themselves.

But even worse, it belies a fundamental problem with the university: that anyone could ever think that sort of behavior was appropriate, or not oppressive to people of color, women, and international students on campus.

I'll make me want to hang up my Black and Gold.

Matthew Nelson
UI alum

Column didn't incite Occupy violence

I find it totally abhorrent to suggest that a journalist should

be blamed for a violent act committed by self-possessed individuals as Jacob Rigal did in Wednesday's Letter to the Editor.

For whatever reason, even if the assault was in some way inspired by Matt Heinze's column, the "college frat guys" took their own meaning from the column and acted of their own volition. Unless opinion columns now have the magical ability to incite violence by simply existing, I'd say we should look to blame the attackers in this situation and not the journalist who gave his opinion.

Ryann Sparrow
UI grad student

Guest opinion

Occupy IC making progress helping the homeless

There are a lot of people in the public and Iowa City government who are wondering what the hell is going on with Occupy Iowa City and the Occupation at College Green Park. As I am hereby just now deciding to reverse my termination of my being a member of Occupy Iowa City, I am making this public statement both to Occupy Iowa City and to the *Iowa City Press Citizen* and to *The Daily Iowan*, and I give my permission for them to publish this statement.

As a member of Johnson County Local Homeless Coordinating Board, my invitation from Occupy to speak to today's Homeless

Board meeting was accepted by Steve Hoffelt, Dave Dunlap, plus Occupy IC supporter Dawn Jones — although as she works for University of Iowa downtown, she has domestic responsibilities where she lives south of Iowa City and cannot often attend Occupy activities and General Assemblies, although she has sometimes been able to.

What has changed my mind about quitting Occupy IC were the very diplomatic conversations to our board that Hoffelt, Dunlap, and Jones presented in behalf of Occupy IC and the homeless population. Let me emphasize in total honesty

and I have been a member of the Homeless Board for more than one year — that I have known these very important members of board, who are each in very influential positions in their various organizations, and that as members of the board, they all were very impressed with Occupy Iowa City due to some high quality presentations, and it is clear to me that this board has a new understanding and appreciation of the group now.

I will reiterate what I said in my Occupy IC proposal on Sunday, that this is the very first constructive effort that the group

has made to create social change in a meaningful way; that although the marches and demonstrations and our Occupation of College Green Park have been essential in putting Occupy into the public eye; that for the first time, our local Occupy is working with a charitable establishment to make a start in changing the status-quo that keeps the homeless and the impoverished from living in a decent lifestyle; that we are actually doing something critical to correct the inflicted disadvantages that contemporary society has suffered by,

under our modern technological, political, and economic upheaval.

Hoffelt, Dunlap and Jones are Occupy IC's perfect volunteer ambassadors to the Homeless Coordinating Board, as now the wheels are turning with board members beginning the "proactive" process of creating the essential preliminary data to pursue a "wet shelter" for the homeless or impoverished citizens of our society. Johnson County Local Homeless Coordinating Board has invited Occupy IC to join the board.

This is a major progress which potentially might develop into a regional

model and a model for our entire state of Iowa, which may ultimately involve Iowa City and Johnson County and our state and maybe even the federal government in a new paradigm that Occupy IC initiated and influenced! And for that reason, I am going to dedicate myself to work both within Occupy and as a member of Homeless Board to advocate for a "wet shelter" which will serve responsive alcohol and/or drug dependent homeless and/or impoverished citizens in restructuring their lives.

Libris Fidelis is an Iowa City resident and member of Occupy Iowa City and various other local organizations.

Obama plan enrages GOP

BY DONNA CASSATA
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans vowed Wednesday to reverse President Obama's new policy on birth control, lambasting the rule that religious schools and hospitals must provide contraceptive coverage for their employees as an "unambiguous attack on religious freedom in our country."

The White House pushed back in the face of a political firestorm, arguing that Obama was sensitive to the objections and looking for a way to allay the concerns. Democratic women lawmakers put up a united front in defending the administration.

"Women's health care should not depend on who the boss is," said Illinois Rep. Jan Schakowsky.

The fight over the administration mandate escalated as House Speaker John Boehner accused the administration of violating First Amendment rights and undermining some of the country's most vital institutions, such as Catholic charities, schools, and hospitals. He demanded that Obama rescind the policy or else Congress will.

"This attack by the federal government on religious freedom in our country cannot stand, and will not stand," Boehner, a Catholic and Ohio Republican, said in a floor speech rare for the speaker.

The contentious issue has roiled the presidential race and angered religious groups, especially Catholics, who say the requirement would force them to violate church teachings and long-held beliefs against contraception.

It also has pushed social issues to the forefront in an election year that has been dominated by the economy. Abortion, contraception, and any of the requirements of Obama's health-care overhaul law have the potential to galvanize the Republicans' conservative

base, critical to voter turnout in the presidential and Congressional races.

Clearly sensing a political opening, Republicans ramped up the criticism. Shortly after Boehner spoke, GOP senators gathered on the other side of the Capitol to hammer the administration and insist that they will push ahead with legislation to undo the requirement.

Sen. Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., called the new rule "an unprecedented affront to religious liberty. This is not a women's rights issue. This is a religious liberty issue."

The issue is not contraception, said Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., but "whether the government of the United States should have the power to go in and tell a faith-based organization that they have to pay for something that they teach their members shouldn't be done. It's that simple. And if the answer is yes, then this government can reach all kinds of other absurd results."

LOVE, SEX, & RELATIONSHIPS

Where did sex drive go?

By DEBBY HERBENICK
Kinsey Confidential

Q: I'm a 22-year-old woman and have almost entirely lost my sex drive. I am in the mood for sex perhaps once every two months, and even then it takes me a long time to get my body into a state of arousal that makes intercourse possible (all the plumbing and hardware works fine then, though). This is a huge departure from the past, were I have consistently had a very strong sex drive. But about three years ago, my sex drive rapidly dwindled and disappeared over a period of a few months. My low sex drive is causing me to fear intimacy (because it could lead to sex, which feels like a dreaded, somewhat painful chore), which is destroying my relationship. I have no desire for anyone at all and have even stopped masturbating.

A: Great question. We're often asked if it's true that oral contraceptives (the birth-control pill) and other hormonal birth control are linked to low desire among women? And if so, what other options

are available for couples who want to have sex but don't want to become pregnant?

First, it is true that hormonal contraception has been linked with low desire among women. That said, we need more research to understand why and the how and whether there are certain brands of birth control pills (or other types of hormonal contraceptives) that are less likely to cause sexual side effects than others. There isn't much funding available for this type of research — which is a shame given how many couples it impacts.

As for options, condoms are an option for many couples, but some don't feel they're a good option. If size is an issue, you two might consider looking for smaller or larger sized condoms that will be comfortable for him. If he's had emotionally difficult experiences related to condom use, he may find it helpful to meet with a counselor or therapist to talk about any issues that are currently interfering with his life.

Intrauterine devices are an option. While there are hormonal IUDs available, there is also a non-hormonal IUD available, and you may find it helpful to talk with

your health-care provider about the IUD as an option. It's more expensive in the short-term but if you're not planning to become pregnant for a long time, if ever, it may be a very good option to consider.

If your boyfriend can reliably — and I mean, very reliably — ejaculate when he wants to and hold off until he's ready (i.e., if he can easily control the timing of his ejaculation) then withdrawal ("pulling out") is another option to consider. It's less effective than hormonal birth control, but it's more effective at preventing pregnancy than many people believe.

Various natural family-planning methods are yet another option that may interest you. They don't involve taking hormones; however, they're most effective when health educators and/or nurses or doctors walk you through the most reliable ways to tell when you are likely to

conceive and when you are very unlikely to conceive. True, it means that some days of the month may be days you decide to skip sex so as not to become pregnant but frankly it sounds like right now there are far more days that you're skipping, or rather avoiding, sex because of your feelings related to low desire.

Finally, although low desire is not necessarily "in your head," you expressed ways that this frustrates you and is getting in the way of your relationship. This can become a difficult cycle, full of challenging relationship dynamics. Meeting with a sex counselor or therapist may be helpful.

Dr. Debby Herbenick is a sexual-health educator at the Kinsey Institute and author of *Because It Feels Good: A Woman's Guide to Sexual Pleasure and Satisfaction* and *Read My Lips: A Complete Guide to the Vagina and Vulva*.

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DIXON

CONTINUED FROM 8A

to be special when she saw how unfazed her young player seemed to be by the college game.

"The kid came in, and she was willing to put the ball up without hesitation," Bluder said. "I knew

Iowa (14-10, 6-5) vs. Minnesota (12-13, 4-7)

• When: 7 p.m. today
• Where: Carver-Hawkeye Arena
• Where to listen: AM-800 KXIC

from watching her play that she was going to be a

WANT LIVE B-BALL UPDATES?

Follow "DI" women's basketball reporters Matt Cozzi and Ben Wolfson on Twitter for live updates from Carver-Hawkeye Arena - @mfcozzi & @bwolf08

shooter; she had that mentality."

Dixon will remain in the starting lineup alongside fellow guards Logic and senior Kamille Wahlin as

the team continues to make an NCAA Tournament push over its final five games.

While several Hawkeyes acknowledged no player can replace Printy or her 16.9 points per game, each player will do her part to shoulder the scoring load. The addition of Dixon in the starting lineup gives the Hawkeyes a capable long-

range shooter and lockdown defender.

Logic and junior center Morgan Johnson both talked to Dixon before the Indiana game and tried to calm her nerves.

They told her not to overthink anything and to let the game come to her.

Dixon set career highs in points (19), 3-pointers made (5), field goals (7),

steals (3), and minutes played (28). Now, the Johnsburg, Ill., native says she has the confidence to give the Hawkeyes an edge in their remaining games.

"The kid is fearless; she absolutely plays without fear," Bluder said. "She can miss three shots in a row and not hesitate to take the next one. She's a competitor."

MEN'S BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8A

right now, at a pretty high level. He's got a lot of different guys, a lot of different combinations of guys that can score. [Iowa is] really a different team

than in the past."

Iowa would seem to have the statistical advantage heading into tonight's game. The Hawkeyes average almost 8 more

points per game than the Wildcats, while Northwestern allows about 3 fewer per contest than Iowa.

But McCaffery recog-

nizes the threat Northwestern presents, he said on Monday.

"You look at them right now, they're a team I think is making a run to get into

the NCAA Tournament," he said. "I think right now, they're probably playing as well as they've been playing all year long."

FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8A

upset had [Ferentz] promoted Phil Parker back in December," Rittenberg responded on Wednesday. "But there was more to this search and outside candidates were contacted, I'm told. Ultimately, Iowa went with Phil Parker, who will maintain the defensive structure we've seen under Norm [Parker]."

Ferentz probably won't take quite as long to fill his vacant offensive coaching positions, including the

offensive coordinator spot; spring practice begins on March 24.

"We have some ideas where to go," he said. "... I'm not ruling anything out right now. We're just going to take a little time here, think about things, and see what's there."

Special teams to remain a shared job

Newly named defensive-backs coach Darrell Wilson and 12-year running back coach Lester Erb have split Iowa's special-team duties since Wilson arrived on campus in 2002.

Ferentz said both Wilson

and Erb will remain on special teams for the foreseeable future, but that he may throw another coach into the mix, too.

"A couple, three guys will have very prominent roles," he said. "I want to make sure we don't short-change [Wilson] on the transition ... I might have to ease his burden a little bit."

Four incoming graduate assistants could help out in the film room, Ferentz said. Iowa had two graduate assistants last year.

"At least we have a little bit more manpower now," the head coach said. "Now we've got four guys to

abuse, instead of two."

Ferentz on Coker: 'It wasn't a fun period'

Wednesday marked the first time Ferentz discussed former running back Marcus Coker since the Big Ten's second-leading rusher in 2011 decided to transfer to Stony Brook in New York.

Ferentz didn't elaborate much on the circumstances in which Coker left the program — he was suspended for the Insight Bowl after an unspecified "violation of the UI Student-Athlete Code of Conduct" and was the subject of a local sexu-

al-assault investigation. He was not charged.

"He made a decision to leave here. I don't know if it was a surprise," Ferentz said. "It wasn't a fun race to run there, or fun period. Ultimately, there was probably a little frustration there. He made a decision he felt was best for him."

RYDZE

CONTINUED FROM 8A

find out Christy had never worked from that height before.

But that different perspective was also something Carlton said was helpful for the team — especially when it came so close to the Big Ten cham-

pionships, which start next week.

"I think what was beneficial about me being there was a fresh set of eyes," she said. "They're about to go into conference championships, and they're going to have a bunch of judges looking at them who have never seen them dive before. So maybe it was good for them to hear what a third party had to say."

Rydze said he was lucky his medical issues happened when they did, and his daughter agreed; she said that if her father's absence had come any later, things would have been "a lot worse." But Veronica Rydze said her father was able to make a seamless transition back into coaching about month ago.

Iowa's senior All-Ameri-

can said the experience is something the team can use going forward.

"We had to have a lot of mental toughness," she said. "There were a lot of emotions going on, but we still had to do what we needed to do. I can see that helping us at Big Tens, because it's going to be a little chaotic. I think we'll be more prepared."

Evans' 'pin-manship'

Redshirt freshman Mike Evans has ended 25 percent of his matches this year with pins.

By MOLLY IRENE OLMSTEAD
molly-olmstead@uiowa.edu

Iowa wrestler Mike Evans pinned Minnesota's 14th-ranked Cody Yohn in 6:02 on Jan. 29. He pinned Wisconsin's 12th-ranked Ben Jordan in 3:23 a week later.

A redshirt freshman, Evans is the No. 8 165-pounder in the country and finished the regular season with a 20-4 record (11-3 Big Ten).

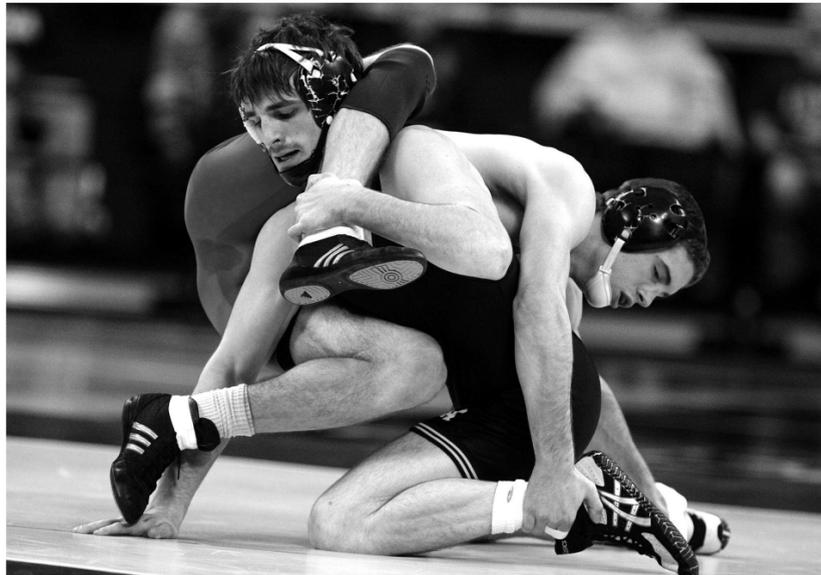
Evans has scored one technical fall, four major decisions, and six pins this season. He'll try to add more bonus points to his name at the National Duals regional in Ames this weekend.

Head coach Tom Brands said Evans was "gutsy" after he pinned Jordan, the Badgers' only ranked wrestler. Evans and Jordan had met previously — at the 2010 Midlands Tournament, when Evans wrestled unattached as a true freshman, and at the same tournament in 2011. Evans won a 6-2 decision the first time he faced him. The second time, he won a 13-3 major decision. The third time, Evans pinned him.

"I tell you what — you watch that match, that's not an automatic," Brands said. "That's a tough opponent. And the gap keeps getting wider. That's a tribute to Mike Evans' state of mind. That guy [Jordan] is not a pushover wrestler."

Teammate Matt McDonough also praised Evans for his pins. McDonough credited Iowa's narrow 19-17 win over Minnesota to the bonus points Evans earned when he pinned Yohn.

"I put Mike Evans ... in



Iowa redshirt freshman Mike Evans takes down Wisconsin's Ben Jordan during the Hawkeyes' 39-3 win over the Badgers in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Sunday. Evans pinned Jordan in 2:23; he has ended a quarter of his matches this year with a pin. (The Daily Iowan/Ricky Bahner)

Next Up: Iowa at National Duals

• When: 11 a.m. Feb. 12
• Where: Hilton Coliseum, Ames

the middle of the spotlight for going out there and dominating for seven minutes," said McDonough, who didn't score any bonus points against the Gophers. "And in Evans' case, it doesn't even take seven minutes."

Evans is humble about his recent dominance, despite all the praise he's received for ending 25 percent of his matches in pins this year.

When asked about pinning Jordan, Evans said he simply saw an opportunity and took it.

"That's all that happened, really," he said. "[Pinning guys back-to-back] is what I can do when I wrestle my match and stay calm and work my own moves ... I'm always looking for pins — it just so happens that I got two in a row."

Evans seems to be a shoo-in for the 165-pound spot on Iowa's roster heading into tournament time;

he wrestled at the middleweight in every one of Iowa's dual matches.

But he's still trying to prove himself worthy of the 165 spot for National Duals, Big Ten meet, and beyond.

"You never have your own spot," Evans said. "I still have to show up to practice, I've still got to out-work the guys at 165 ... I've still got to protect what I've already earned."

Brands said the young wrestler needs to focus on preparing for his matches and being ready to go.

"You've got to believe that you're one bad man," Brands said. "When he believes he's a bad man, and he gets ready like a bad man, then he's one bad man."

Evans has shown some inconsistency this season — faults in preparation and failures to attack early led to a seventh-place finish at Midlands and each of his four losses. But Brands said he thinks his grappler will walk into Ames for National Duals like he's a bad man who's ready to pin.

"Is he going to pin everybody? I don't know if I can speak for him, but I'm sure

he's going to try," Brands said. "He's wired that way — he's a pinner."

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WRESTLING

Redshirt freshman Mike Evans is a "bad man," says head coach Tom Brands. 7A

'Fearless' Dixon ready

Dixon had a career-high 19 points in her first collegiate start.

By **BEN WOLFSON**
benjamin-wolfson@uiowa.edu

Iowa freshman guard Melissa Dixon wasn't sure she'd see the court this year when she committed to play basketball under head coach Lisa Bluder.

Now, she's starting as the Hawkeyes (14-10, 6-5 Big Ten) enter the home-stretch of the season.

It hasn't been an easy road. She wasn't offered a scholarship at first. Once she had one, she tore her meniscus and missed a month of the season.

And then, of course, there's the reason she's starting in the first place: The Hawkeyes are without leading scorer Jaime Printy, who tore her ACL in the final minute of a 85-79 overtime victory over Wisconsin on Feb. 2.

It was the team's first road win in conference play, but freshman guard Sam Logic said the bus ride home was somber because it cost Iowa's best player her season.

Bluder replaced Printy with Dixon, despite the freshman's lack of experience; her first start came in her third career Big Ten game.

Dixon had a breakout performance. She scored 19 points on 7-of-12 shooting as the team won, 83-64.

"I'd been out [injured] for a month, and I don't think they knew who I was," Dixon said and laughed. "I think I'll have more pressure on me now."

She didn't have a scholarship offer when she first visited Iowa, and she planned on being part of the team as a gray-shirt practice player. But things changed when Marion native Kiah Stokes spurned the Hawkeyes for Connecticut during recruiting, opening up a scholarship spot.

Logic, who had played AAU ball with Dixon in high school, had committed to the Hawkeyes a few weeks before Dixon did.

"I got a text that said, 'Guess who's going to spend the next four years with



Iowa guard Melissa Dixon shoots over Winona State guard Katie Wolff during the Hawkeyes' 65-51 exhibition win on Nov. 6, 2011, in Carver-Hawkeye Arena. The freshman started in place of the injured Jaime Printy on Sunday and poured in 19 points. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

you?" Logic said. "I was really pumped; I loved playing with her in AAU, and now [I was] getting another chance to

play together for four more years."

Bluder saw Dixon had the potential

SEE DIXON, 7A

NOTEBOOK

Ferentz happy with 'D' choice

Kirk Ferentz addressed the state of his coaching staff, special teams, and Marcus Coker on Wednesday.

By **SETH ROBERTS**
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Almost two months passed between the time former Iowa defensive coordinator Norm Parker retired and the day the Hawkeyes hired his replacement.

That replacement, which took the shape of a promotion for former secondary coach Phil Parker, was announced on Tuesday. Iowa head coach Kirk Ferentz spoke to the media on Wednesday afternoon; he said he settled on Parker after carefully considering what he called "a lot of tremendous options," both from within and outside the program.

"There were a lot of interesting candidates, and new ones kept appearing along the way," Ferentz said. "I just didn't see any advantage to moving quickly. Unless you have to, there's no real advantage to that."

Ferentz said Parker wasn't always the leading candidate for the job, but that he eventually separated himself from the pack because of his teaching ability and track record.

"He's a really respected, outstanding coach," Ferentz said. "I think he's got a vision for what he wants to do, and the ability to communicate that to the staff and to our players — and to lead our players, ultimately."

But not everyone is as happy with Ferentz's decision as the coach himself appears to be. ESPN.com writer Adam Rittenberg responded to a question in his weekly chat that characterized the choice as "vanilla" and fodder for "more 'bend but don't break (but actually break) defense."

"I don't think Iowa fans would have been



Ferentz
football coach

SEE FOOTBALL, 7A

Diving sub makes a splash

A fresh set of eyes in a time of need gives the Hawkeyes an edge.

By **TORK MASON**
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Losing your coach is never a good thing. It's especially difficult for a team when the athletes are working to fine-tune their techniques.

But the Iowa diving team was recently forced to go without Bob Rydze for 10 days when the 37-year coach needed his tonsils removed.

UI English Ph.D. student Lisa Carlton — a two-time All-American diver at Indiana whose husband, Marc, runs Iowa's junior swimming club — was asked to step in, and she said she was a little intimidated when Rydze approached her about the job.

"Bob is a legend in the sport of diving," she said. "He's so well-known [in the diving community], and being asked to substitute for him is [difficult]. He casts a big shadow."

Carlton admitted she felt some added pressure coaching Veronica Rydze, Iowa's senior All-American and Bob Rydze's daughter.

"While I was coaching, I did think a lot, 'Oh boy, I hope I'm not saying anything wrong or doing anything bad, because Vern is going to home and tell her dad,'" she said and laughed.

But Bob Rydze said he was pleased with the work Carlton did and said her youth probably helped her to connect with the divers quickly. He said it was likely beneficial for his athletes to have someone who had performed many of the dives they were trying to work on.

Rydze said Carlton was only available for the team's afternoon practices, and so the divers had to coach themselves in their morning sessions. He said he thought that helped bring the group closer together, and gave the Hawkeyes something he can't.

"Divers helping each other are better, sometimes, than a diving coach," he said. "They're the ones doing the dives. I never did any of the dives they're doing; we're in a different age."

Carlton admitted that she lacked familiarity with the athletes and their capabilities. She said she asked redshirt freshman Joelle Christy to do a routine on the 10-meter platform, only to

SEE RYDZE, 7A

Hawks head to unfriendly confines

The Hawkeyes head into Northwestern tonight seeking to do something they haven't done since Steve Alford was the head coach.

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

The Iowa men's basketball team is trying to accomplish something it hasn't done in five years: win three-straight Big Ten games.

Iowa (13-11, 5-6 Big Ten) will play at Northwestern (14-8, 4-6) tonight, and the Hawkeyes hope to build on the success of last week's victories over Minnesota and Penn State.

Hawkeye guard Devyn Marble said the key to winning the team's third in a row is to not think about such a streak at all.

"Just by preparing mentally and physically the right way for each and every game, and just thinking about the game that is ahead of you and taking it one at a time — that's how you rack up the wins in consecutive games," he said.

Iowa will have plenty else to think about — the Wildcats boast two of the Big Ten's top scoring threats. Forward John Shurna leads the conference with 19.6 points per



Iowa guard Devyn Marble starts a fast break against Northwestern in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Jan. 12, 2011. The Hawkeyes will play the Wildcats tonight in Evanston, Ill., where the Black and Gold haven't won since the 2007-08 season. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

game, and wingman Drew Crawford is fourth in the Big Ten with an average of 17.2 points per contest.

Shurna has been playing particularly well of late. The senior scored 28 points against Nebraska on Feb. 2 and 24 points at Illinois on Feb. 5 in Northwestern's first conference road win of the year. Shurna will likely be a problem for Iowa for all of tonight's contest — he's played 37 minutes or more in each of the Wildcats last 12 games.

Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said Shurna has been "phenomenally impressive" since McCaffery arrived in Iowa City.

"You talk about consistency — he plays with

such a great energy level," the Hawkeyes' second-year head coach said. "Everybody is focused on stopping him, yet he always seems to be open — and if he's open, he puts it in the hole."

"He's played with a confidence level of a guy who expects to be a first-team all-league player, a guy who wants to play when he's done at Northwestern, and I think that's really helped that team."

McCaffery was asked during a league teleconference on Monday what concerned him the most among Shurna, Northwestern's Princeton offense, or Northwestern's 1-3-1 defense, and he said, "I don't think it's one. I

think it's all of that."

All of that has given Iowa fits in Welsh-Ryan Arena over the past few years. The Hawks haven't won in Evanston, Ill., since Todd Lickliter's first season with the program, in 2007-08.

Despite his recent success at home against the Hawkeyes, Northwestern head coach Bill Carmody acknowledged both teams have changed since their previous matchups.

"Last year was Fran's first year; he was getting used to them, and they were getting used to him," Carmody said in the league teleconference. "They're playing very well

SEE MEN'S BASKETBALL, 7A

80 HOURS

THURSDAY TO SUNDAY PM
THE WEEKEND IN ARTS AND CULTURE
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THE
IOWA

OPERA HOUSE PROJECTS

COMING TO THE ENGLERT

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221 E. Washington

TONIGHT



The Iowa Opera House Project brings the sound of local musicians to historical venues around Iowa.

By **SAMANTHA GENTRY**
samantha-gentry@uiowa.edu

Around 1,500 opera houses dotted small towns around Iowa in the late-19th century.

Now, some 300 remain and native Iowan Sam Knutson wants to keep that tradition alive with the help of local musicians.

"My goal is to take great acoustic shows to places that were built for that sound," he said. "They are acoustically awesome, because [they were built] before the invention of sound systems."

Knutson, the founder of the Iowa Opera House Project, will bring his vision to Iowa City's own opera house, the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St., at 8 p.m. today. Admission is \$10.

In the summer of 2011, Knutson was invited to see a country-folk band perform at an opera house in What

Cheer, Iowa. He was immediately struck by the strength of the acoustic sound at the venue. So he created a project in which local musicians could play at venues similar to it.

He began searching the state for the remaining opera houses. To his surprise, he found that there was even one in his hometown of Decorah.

"[In the past] these theaters acted as a gathering place for a community," Knutson said. "People came in from out of town, and it didn't matter what the show was, that's what they doing for entertainment."

He has traveled to approximately 40 of the 300 opera houses that still remain in Iowa. Many of them are being renovated for performances or are used for storage.

One of his long-term goals with the project is to

SEE **OPERA**, 3B

The thundering heard



The Iowa Percussion ensemble rehearses under the direction of Dan Moore. The group will perform Saturday in the Riverside Recital Hall. (The Daily Iowan/Ian Servin)

Iowa percussionists use unusual objects to create music.

By JULIA JESSEN

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As the thunder rolls in, the storm begins and creates symphonies of deep reverberation. This music is not exactly the natural occurrence one might expect — it is the sound of performers in Iowa Percussion shaking sheets of thin aluminum that stand 4 to 8 feet tall.

“As percussionists, we try to make music out of literally everything,” said Devon Curry, a member of Iowa Percussion.

The musicians will start to make everything into an instrument in the Riverside Recital Hall at 3 p.m. Saturday, when Iowa Percussion will perform in an Arts Share concert with the theme “Music From (Nearly) Nothing.”

The musicians in the group said percussion allows them to play in a variety of musical genres with many types of instruments, and they never get bored.

“I can play everything from classical music to jazz and world music to contemporary music,” said music Professor Dan Moore, the director of the group. “I can easily switch from drums to melodic instruments, then African drums to crash cymbals, depending on how I feel.”

Iowa Percussion

When: 3 p.m. Saturday
Where: Riverside Recital Hall
Admission: Free

In the concert, the musicians will use “found” objects, items people wouldn’t normally think of as being musical instruments.

UI senior and percussion-performance major Christine Augspurger said that frequently, composers use vague terms for what instruments should be used, such as metal or wood. It becomes the performers’ job to find sounds that best fit the composition.

“Having the right piece of wood can really change the whole sound of whatever you’re doing, so all of us spent a lot of time digging through our closets and going to Ace Hardware and thrift stores and coming up with all kinds of different stuff,” she said.

Because the performance is part of the Arts Share series, it will be appealing and accessible for people of all ages, the musicians say.

“It’s been really geared toward families,” said Curry. “It’s a good way to introduce kids to a more classical style of music,

but it’s not really heavy and dense. It’s really light.”

The concert also provides a stimulating experience for the eyes as well as the ears.

“Percussion concerts are always fun, because you’re not just listening, you’re totally watching,” Augspurger said. “There are tons of people and things to see and interesting sounds.”

The musicians said they want audience members to take away a little more knowledge about what they are doing as percussionists from the concert and learn that beautiful music can be found in unusual places.

“Just because you’re not playing a violin concerto or listening to an orchestra doesn’t mean that it’s not classical music and potentially really beautiful,” Augspurger said.

Moore said he wants to show people that percussion is not just loud and noisy but rather a complex and varied music that is also fun.

“It isn’t every day that you can hear musicians playing music using a children’s audio story book, toys, and everything else,” he said. “Including the kitchen sink — literally.”

Good vibrations

A UI theater production will undoubtedly cause a buzz over the next two weeks.

By JORDAN MONTGOMERY

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In *The Next Room* (or *The Vibrator Play*) tells the story of how the buzzing bedroom apparatus was first employed in 19th-century medical-exam rooms.

The play, nominated for three Tony Awards in 2010, will open as a University of Iowa Theatres Mainstage Production at 8 p.m. Friday. Performances will continue at that time Saturday and Feb. 16-18 and at 2 p.m. Feb. 12 and 19 in the Theatre Building’s Mabie Theatre. Tickets are available at the Hancher Box Office; admission is \$17 for general public, \$5 for UI students, \$12 for senior citizens, and \$10 for youths.

The play takes place at the end of the 19th century, at the dawn of harnessed electricity, said dramaturge Jenni Page-White. It centers on two characters, Dr. Givings, who uses a radical new way to treat women for “hysteria,” and his wife, Catherine Givings, who tends to the couple’s home. Their home and his

In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)

When: 8 p.m. Friday, Saturday, and Feb. 16-18; 2 p.m. Feb. 12 and 19
Where: Theatre Building’s Mabie Theatre

Admission: \$17 general public, \$5 UI students, \$12 senior citizens, \$10 youth

office are separated by a thin wall, and much of the play deals with the two of them coming to an understanding about each other.

The vibrator was one of the first small appliances to be electrified, and it is the tool Dr. Givings uses to “heal” patients such as Sabrina Daldry (Amelia Peacock). “It was thought to release pent-up fluids in a woman’s womb,” Peacock said. “[My character] receives his treatments and ends up wanting much more.”

In *The Next Room* is one of the most-produced plays across the country this year, Page-White said. Its popularity can undoubtedly be attributed

its humor. But also because, she said, even though the play is set at the turn of the 20th century, it raises provocative questions about sex-role expectations today and where they come from.

“What drew me on a more personal level was the story of the relationships in the play,” Peacock said. “Women feel alone and disconnected from their lives and their husbands. They want love and closer relationships, which really rings true in our modern society.”

Husband and wife Kurt and Michelle Smith play husband and wife Dr. Givings and Catherine Givings in the production. They, too, were initially drawn to the play because they can relate to the themes.

“It deals with relationships, and this other facet, the vibrator,” Kurt Smith said. “But it deals with relationships and how technology gets in the way. A problem we are always dealing with today — it’s like texting rather than talking to someone in person.”

MOVIES | MUSIC | WORDS | FILM
DANCE | THEATRE | LECTURES

weekend events

NEW MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEKEND



Safe House

This action-thriller directed by Daniel Espinosa follows the story of a young CIA agent Matt Weston (Ryan Reynolds), who is in charge of watching over fugitive Tobin Frost (Denzel Washington) in a safe house. When the hiding place is attacked by someone from the outside, Weston has no choice but to go on the run and to leave Frost in charge of the plan of action. The two must stay alive long enough to find out who wants them dead, because they know no one is safe.



The Vow

In a movie inspired by true events, *The Vow* comes out just in time for Valentine’s Day weekend. This story that is sure to make any romantic’s heart melt. Director Michael Sucsy uses his all-star cast of Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum to showcase the struggle of trying to find love for the second time. Paige (McAdams) is a victim of an accident and falls into a coma. She wakes up with a strong case of memory loss and doesn’t remember her husband. In an effort to show her what their relationship used to be like, Leo (Tatum) tries to win her heart back by reminding her of all the memories they shared.

AT THE BIJOU



The Way

Showtimes: 9 p.m. Friday, 4:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. Saturday, 3 p.m. Feb. 12

The Way, directed by Emilio Estevez, is a story about the power of family and friends and how they deal with the obstacles of an ever-changing world. Martin Sheen plays an American doctor who goes to France to collect the remains of his son, who recently died in a storm. Instead of going home, Sheen’s character decides to go on a journey in his son’s honor to find what the things for which his son was searching.

BEER OF THE WEEK

Sierra Nevada Bigfoot

This week’s beer of the week is the Sierra Nevada Bigfoot.

The brew is a barley-wine ale. But despite its name, barley wines are very much beers and often strong and intense beers at that. The Bigfoot has a medium-heavy body and an alcohol content of 9.6 percent.

The brew is mildly sweet with notes of fruit, caramel, and cotton candy. It has a hoppy flavor, but the brewers in Chico, Calif., didn’t go overboard with the hoppiness. “This is a great winter beer that is best served by itself,” said Joe Hotek of John’s Grocery, 401 E. Market St. “But if it has to be served with something, I would suggest a rich dessert.” So pick up a six-pack of Bigfoot and bake yourself a pan of fudge brownies; you’ll be the life of the party. Cheers.

— by Jordan Montgomery

Today 2.9

MUSIC

- **Taize Iowa City**, 5 p.m., Old Brick, 26 E. Market
- **Open Mike** (Singer/Songwriter), 7 p.m., Uptown Bill’s, 730 S. Dubuque
- **UI Jazz Performances, Hard Pop Quintet**, 7 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Iowa Opera House Project, featuring Sam Knutson**, 8 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington
- **Gone South with the Treats**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Free Soul Dance Party**, 10 p.m., Gabe’s, 330 E. Washington
- **Mixology**, 10 p.m., Gabe’s

WORDS

- **“Live from Prairie Lights,” Chinelo Okparanta & Ben Marcus, fiction**, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Live Literary Stream to Feature New Marcus Novel**, 7 p.m., www.writinguniversity.org
- **Campus Activities Board, George Watsky**, 10 p.m., Java House, 211½ E. Washington

LECTURES

- **Lecture by Jared Sprecher, Visiting Artist in Painting**, 7:30 p.m., 116 Art Building West

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Art & Music Night**, 6 p.m., Uptown Bill’s

Friday 2.10

MUSIC

- **Friday Night Jazz**, 5 p.m., Uptown Bill’s
- **Jazz After Five, with Cassius Goines Groove Theory**, 5 p.m., Mill
- **Chucho Valdés and the Afro-Cuban Messengers**, 7:30 p.m., Englert
- **Voicebox**, 8 p.m., Yacht Club
- **Cop Bar, Los Voltage, Mighty Accelerator, Fetal Pig, and 100 Degree Centipede**, 9 p.m., Gabe’s
- **Iowa City Pride: Music Showcase**, 9 p.m., Mill
- **Mike and Joe Band**, 9 p.m., Blue Moose
- **People Brothers Band and Exposed Fiction**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club

WORDS

- **D.A. Powell, poetry**, 8 p.m., Dey House

FILM

- **Passione**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- **The Way**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Campus Activities Board Movie, Breaking Dawn**, 10 p.m., 348 IMU

THEATRE

- **Guys on Ice: An Ice Fishing Musical Comedy**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **Sans Merci, Dreamwell Theatre**, 7:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Society, 10 S. Gilbert
- **In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)**, Mainstage Series, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

Saturday 2.11

MUSIC

- **Arts Share Percussion Concert**, 3 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- **Music for Meals**, 5 p.m., Old Brick
- **Dustin Busch**, 7 p.m., Mill
- **Gathe Raho**, 7 p.m., Englert
- **Saturday Night Music**, 7 p.m., Uptown Bill’s
- **Bruckner 5**, 7:30 p.m., West High, 2901 Melrose Ave.
- **Haiti Benefit, with Item 9 7, the Mad Hatters, Zeta June, Gone South, Caterwaula, Nebula Was, and Unnamed Acoustic**, 8 p.m., Gabe’s
- **Split Lip Rayfield and Head for the Hills**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club

WORDS

- **History Time: Grant Wood**, 10:30 a.m., Old Capitol

FILM

- **The Way**, 4:30 p.m., Bijou
- **Passione**, 7 p.m., Bijou

- **The Way**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- **Campus Activities Board Movie, Breaking Dawn**, 10 p.m., 348 IMU
- **Midnight Movie Series, Casablanca**, 11:59 p.m., Englert

THEATRE

- **Guys on Ice: An Ice Fishing Musical Comedy**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **Sans Merci, Dreamwell Theatre**, 7:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Society
- **In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)**, Mainstage Series, 8 p.m., Mabie Theatre

DANCE

- **International Folkdance Iowa City Social and Lessons**, 6 p.m., Wesley Center, 120 N. Dubuque

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Vietnamese Student Association’s Lunar New Year**, 5 p.m., IMU second-floor ballroom

Sunday 2.12

MUSIC

- **Patricia von Blumroder, piano**, 12:30 p.m., 2780 University Capitol Centre
- **Student Piano Recitals**, 2 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- **Orchestra Iowa Brass Quintet**, 2:30 p.m., Coralville Center for the Performing Arts, 1301 Fifth St.
- **Music Therapy Club Recital: Jazz Standard Songs for Voice and Piano**, 3 p.m., University Capitol Centre Recital Hall
- **“Musicircus,”** 4 p.m., University Capitol Centre second floor
- **Darwin Day, “Rap Guide to Evolution,” Baba Brinkman**, 7 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington
- **Center for New Music, David Gompper, director**, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- **F*** Love!!!**, 8 p.m., Gilbert Street Piano Lounge, 347 S. Gilbert
- **Ballyhoo!**, 9 p.m., Mill

FILM

- **LGBT Movie Series at the Senior Center, A Jihad for Love**, 1 p.m., Senior Center
- **The Way**, 3 p.m., Bijou
- **Passione**, 5:30 p.m., Bijou
- **Guys on Ice: An Ice Fishing Musical Comedy**, 2 p.m., Riverside Theatre
- **In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)**, Mainstage Series, 2 p.m., Mabie Theatre

LECTURES

- **John Cage panel discussion**, 1:45 p.m., 2780 University Capitol Centre
- **John Cage’s “Lecture on Nothing,”** 3 p.m., 2780 University Capitol Centre
- **“Paper, Scissors, Ash: Defaced Books and the House of Fiction,”** Garret Stewart, 3:30 p.m., Levitt Center fourth floor assembly hall

MISCELLANEOUS

- **Figure Drawing**, 11 a.m., Senior Center

WEB CALENDAR

Let us know about your upcoming event. Submit information to the DI's online event calendar and we'll publish it there and on the Daily Break page. To submit a listing, visit dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.

ON TWITTER

Get updates about Iowa City's Arts and Entertainment events - follow us on Twitter @DailyIowanArts.

D(EYE) ON ARTS BLOG

Check out the D-eye on arts blog to read this week's post about the new University of Iowa Memes Facebook trend at dailyiowanarts.blogspot.com.

OPERA

CONTINUED FROM 1B

demonstrate that the opera houses exist. He hopes to raise funds from Iowans to renovate them.

While the old-time mystique of the opera houses is part of their appeal, the sound that the venues have catches the interest of local musicians.

"The room is built to make sound audible everywhere in the room, so the focus of attention is right there on stage," Knutson said. "Every little sound is forced to come back out into the audience."

In upcoming years, he plans to widen the variety of musicians who will play in the opera houses. Currently, acoustic folk musicians most commonly take the stage.

Jordan Sellergren of Cedar Rapids-based Milk & Eggs, a songwriter who has played several shows with Knutson, decided to be a part of the September 2011 show.

"The sound projects off the stage in an ideal way — where, as in a bar, there are so many obstacles," she said. "There is an air of vulnerability when you play that is really satisfying."

Iowa Opera House Project

When: 8 p.m. today
Where: Englert, 221 E. Washington
Admission: \$10

Sellergren said she thinks this project is a great idea to enhance Iowa's artistic culture.

"I'm on board 100 percent," she said. "This project is quite visionary in its history, and it incorporates local artists who are trying to express themselves to the public."

Dustin Busch, who also supports the concept, has performed at two of the project's shows, and he said he hopes to continue working with Knutson and the rest of the musicians.

For him, the important part of playing at the opera houses is the audience. People come to the show intrigued not only because it is a new project, he said, but also because it is not a typical opera-house event.

"We are putting unique music into these opera houses, making it curious for the listener," he said. "In a way, it's dry, because we just kind of get up there and do our thing, but it's very exciting and keeps people on their toes."

The performance spaces are located in such towns as What Cheer, Clermont,

Coggon, Cedar Bluff, and Brooklyn. The small-town atmospheres produces a variety of crowds, Busch said.

"I think that's what makes the show more colorful, because it's cross-generational," he said. "It adds a spice to the show when you're playing in a really cool space with people of all different ages."

While Iowa City may not be as small as the other towns, the musicians still look forward to playing at the Englert.

Newcomer to the project John Waite has seen many shows at the Englert, and he said he is "stoked" to play on stage.

"I'm really excited to play at the Englert, because I love that venue," he said. "But I'm a little nervous, too."

The traditional roots and bluegrass musician will play a solo set for the performance, something that is unfamiliar territory for him.

He doesn't usually get the chance to play his own songs, because he is part of the Mount Vernon-based Kodiak Flats.

"It's definitely been a motivation to come up with something," Waite said. "It's a really good chance to go in and showcase original material."

Knutson and a potential surprise guest will join Waite on stage for the

Iowa City performance.

He doesn't believe that he will play at every venue because he'd rather showcase the space than his music. But at this performance, the Iowa native will play from his new solo album, *Reinventing the Wheel*.

The record focuses on American folk music and pays close attention to country blues, a sound that originated during the time the opera houses was built.

"I look at it as a synchronicity," Knutson said. "I planned to do the Iowa Opera House Project without a connection to the music, but it just sort of happened that the theaters were built at the same time."

The musician hopes to host shows at as many opera houses as possible in Iowa and spread the word about the importance of the project to Iowa's musical culture.

"There are people interested in even making a documentary about the performances and the spaces," Knutson said. "It's one of those things that once you get the ball rolling, people want to become a part of it."

ARTS

Valentine's Day Cabaret

F*** Love.

It's the sentiment heard throughout the world every Valentine's Day. A day that brings despair to those without a significant other and those with a significant other who has no idea what gifts to shower upon her or his love.

While this year the holiday will be no different, the Fourth Room Theatre hopes to lighten the mood with "F*** Love: An Anti-Valentines Day Cabaret" at 8 p.m. Feb.12 at the Gilbert Street Piano Lounge, 347 S. Gilbert St.

The event will include tunes enjoyable for both those who hate the holiday and those who adore it. Many well-known love songs will be featured throughout the evening, including pieces by Cee Lo Green, George Michael, Stephen Sondheim, Adele, Dolly Parton, Willie Nelson, Burt Bacharach, Weird Al Yankovic, and Leonard Cohen.

F*** Love is a fundraiser for Fourth Room Theatre, a new theater company in Iowa City. The event will help the troupe to raise funds for its 2012 season and future seasons.

— by Julia Jessen



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Dr. Cary Covington
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Iowa Memorial Union (IMU)
Ohio State Room (343)



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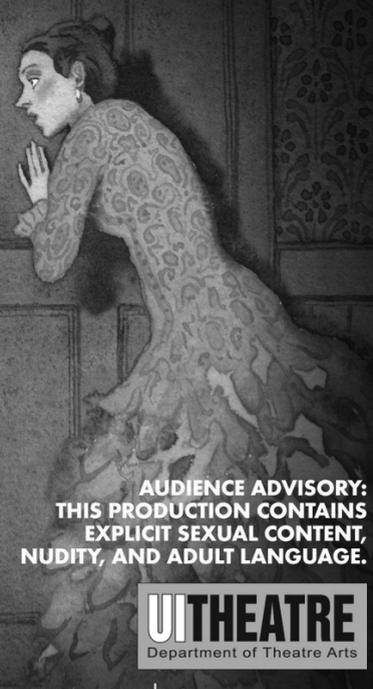
Englert

FEB. 9
SAM KNUTSON
FEB. 11
MIDNIGHT MOVIE: CASABLANCA
FEB. 12
THE RAP GUIDE TO EVOLUTION
FEB. 13
ZOE KEATING
FEB. 15
TALKDEMONIC
FEB. 16
GAELIC STORM
FEB. 17
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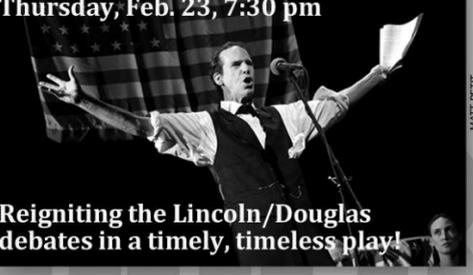
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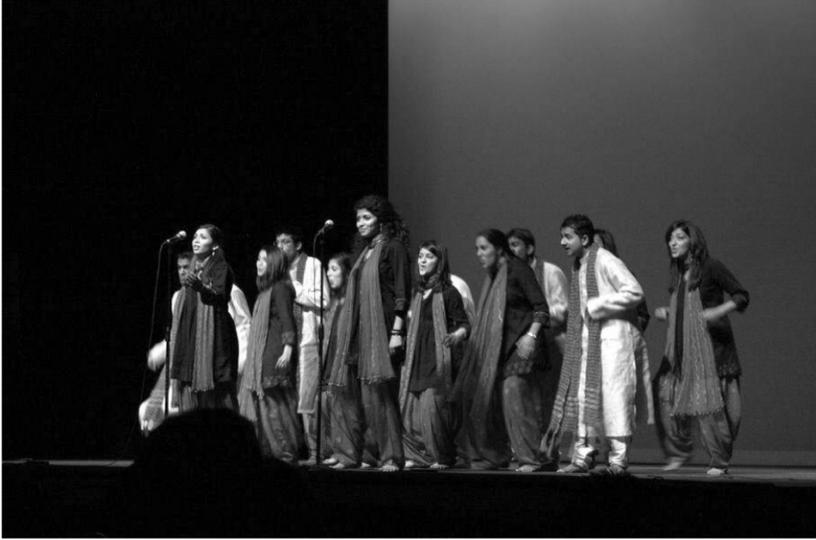
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To keep on singing



A cappella performers sing tunes that fuse South Asian and Western music at last year's Gathe Raho competition. (Contributed Photo/Bethany Byers)

By HANNAH KRAMER
hannah.kramer@uiowa.edu

The phrase "gathe raho" means "keep on singing" in English, and that's exactly what these a cappella performers plan to do.

Seven college teams from around the country will compete at 7 p.m. in the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St., on Saturday to showcase a fusion of South Asian and Western music at the Gathe Raho competition.

"For me, as an Indian American, this event epitomizes who I am," said Jostna Dash, the University of Iowa Indian Student Association publicity head.

Admission for Gathe Raho is \$5 for students, \$8 for general admission. Comedian Vidur Kapur will host the event.

The UI's South Asian a cappella team Agni will perform this year; the group took a hiatus last year. The all-female Agni team will showcase a piece that fuses the songs "Fix You," by Coldplay, and "O Palan Hare," a Bollywood tune.

"A benefit [of an all-female group] is that our group clicks pretty well and gets along," Sraavya Undurty. "We can tailor our songs to emphasize and bring out a feminine tone. But drawbacks are that we don't get the bass tone, and it limits our song selection."

As a first-year participant, Undurty said she looks forward to the big event. The group members practice from two to five hours weekly, and they are excited about sharing their performance with the Iowa City community and visiting acts.

"I think we have a really great group, and we are all

Gathe Raho

When: 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: Englert, 221 E. Washington
Admission: \$5 for students, \$8 for general public

really excited to see all the teams from around the country," Undurty said.

Members of the visiting teams share her enthusiasm.

Northwestern University sophomore Priyanka Tilve will travel to Iowa City with her team, Brown Sugar. The team from Northwestern took first place at the event last year and in 2010.

"Overnight trips are so much fun for our group, and it is fun to get to know other groups and make those connections," she said.

The UI Indian Student Association selected teams to compete this year by watching audition tapes from college groups around the country. The universities in this year's event include Vanderbilt, Illinois-Champaign/Urbana, Michigan, Northwestern, Carnegie Mellon, Texas A&M, and California-San Diego.

The teams will each perform a 10-minute fusion of English and South Asian music, and the grand-prize winner will receive \$4000.

Dash said Gathe Raho provides a platform for understanding Indian culture without traveling thousands of miles.

"I can honestly say this is the unique show you will see on campus," Dash said. "These are class-act performances from students just like us."

Musicircus

At 4 p.m. Feb. 12, the second floor of the University Capitol Centre will be filled with more than 400 performers to re-enact a piece of work created by John Cage. Admission is free.

While working in New York, Cage and his collaborators created what he called the *Happenings*, which was a term to describe an event that encouraged a spontaneous interaction between performers and the audience.

While teaching at the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana, Cage tried out this concept with the use of

Musicircus, which was at the time staged in a livestock-judging pavilion.

In the original performance, the performers were placed on platforms in order to take on the role of the livestock judges, and the audience played the part of the livestock.

In an effort to celebrate the centennial of Cage's birth, organizations all over the world will perform *Musicircus* on Feb. 12. The event is said to be similar to a modern-day flash mob.

Along with the performance of *Musicircus*, there will be four other free events during the day. At 12:30 p.m. in 2780

University Capitol Centre, a performance of *Sonatas and interludes* by pianist Patricia von Blumroeder will take place. Immediately following will be a panel discussion featuring faculty from the School of Music at 1:45 p.m. in 2780 University Capitol Centre. At 3 p.m. in 2780 University Capitol Centre, there will be a *Lecture on Nothing*, narrated by University of Michigan musicologist Mark Clague.

To finish the evening, the CNM Ensemble will feature Cage compositions from the 1930s to the 1970s at 7:30 p.m. in the Riverside Recital Hall.

— by Samantha Gentry

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Celebrating science through rap

By **JORDAN MONTGOMERY**
jordan-w-montgomery@uiowa.edu

Six years ago, the first Darwin Day celebration was planned at the University of Iowa, but a blizzard forced all of the events to be canceled.

Since then, the yearly tradition has grown larger, and this year's celebration will end with a biology-based rap performance on Feb. 12 in the Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington St.

Darwin Day 2012 is actually three days in Iowa City, from Friday to Feb. 12.

Throughout the three days, events will take place in various locations about campus.

"Our list of speakers this year is stellar," said John Logsdon, the director of the Pentacrest Museums, a UI associate professor of biology, and a cofounding member of Darwin Day in Iowa City. "[They] are top-notch scientists from the United States and Canada."

The speakers will present talks on this year's Darwin Day theme, the origin and evolution of birds.

Among the presenters are

Ellen Ketterson of Indiana University, Scott Edwards of Harvard University, and Philip Currie of the University of Alberta.

Darwin Day cofounder John Stamler said that Darwin Day gained popularity at Stanford University around 1995, and that the idea is not just to celebrate Darwin but scientific discovery in general.

"Holidays and celebrations are often narrowly defined for a certain group, religion, or nation," he said. "But the idea behind Darwin is a celebration about

scientific achievement and the benefit to humanity that science has brought out. So this celebration encompasses everyone in the world.

The three-day celebration will culminate with a performance by Baba Brinkman, a hip-hop artist who gained national attention with his unique and educational raps.

Brinkman first received widespread media attention with his one-man show "The Rap Canterbury Tales."

He developed the rap while he was working on his



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Go online for a complete lineup of Darwin Day events and to hear *The Rap Guide to Evolution (Revised)* by Baba Brinkman.

master's thesis in which he argued that modern hip-hop freestyle battling is the closest parallel to the way in which Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales* and the poetry of William Shakespeare was recited.

After literature, he began studying human evolution and primatology and developed "The Rap Guide to Evo-

lution." The show enjoyed a five-month run Off-Broadway in New York. At 7 p.m. on Sunday in the Englert, he will perform the one-man production. Admission is free.

"Rap is definitely a diverse culture," he said. "And when it comes to my music, educating people is part of my agenda."

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