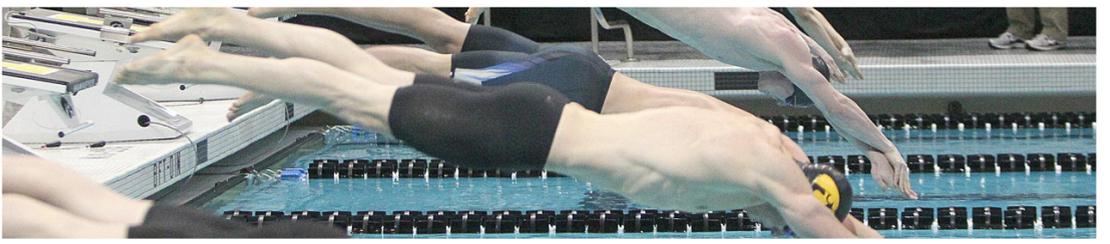


**IN THE SWIM OF THINGS**  
Iowa moved from eighth to fourth place by the end of the second day of the Big Ten meet. **SPORTS 10**



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

# The Daily Iowan

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2012

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50¢

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Women tracksters overcome important injuries in time for Big Tens. **Page 8**



Sophomore forward Melsahn Basabe and teammates celebrate with fans after upsetting No. 16 Wisconsin, 67-66, in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Thursday. The Hawkeyes swept the Badgers this season, winning in Madison on Dec. 31, 72-65. See page 7 for photos from the game, and log on to [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) for more coverage. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

**DAILYIOWAN.COM POLL:**

**Do social-networking sites have a negative net effect on our social lives?**



**ON THE WEB TODAY:**

**STORY:** Men's hoops defeats Wisconsin, 67-66.

**SLIDE SHOW:** Iowa men's basketball team takes down Wisconsin in Carver Hawkeye Arena.

**SLIDE SHOW:** Men's swimming improves to fourth overall after second night.

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**WEATHER**

HIGH **32** LOW **18**  
Cloudy, very windy, 30% chance of snow.

## Details still debated after the fall

Officials in India disagree about when they were informed about UI student's fall.

By **RISHABH R. JAIN**  
[rishabh-jain@uiowa.edu](mailto:rishabh-jain@uiowa.edu)

More than five months after a UI sophomore died while studying abroad in India, questions still surround the details of the subsequent search and rescue efforts. Thomas Plotkin died after falling off a trail during a hiking trip near Munsiyari, India, in September. Plotkin was on a semester-long trip through the National Outdoor Leadership School. A *Daily Iowan* investigation earlier this month showed authorities in India were critical of the School's response to Plotkin's fall. However, company officials are taking issue with that criticism. They say their response to the incident was appropriate.

School officials said Ravi Kumar, the School's India project manager, called Vikas Gupta, chief instructor at the Uttarakhand Disaster Management Department in Munsiyari, at 8 p.m. — just a few hours after Plotkin's fall. "Whether that constitutes an official report or whether it doesn't, I don't know, but we did talk to

him about it, and he was aware of it," School spokesman Bruce Palmer told *The Daily Iowan* this week. Gupta, however, told the *DI* he didn't receive the call until later and wasn't given enough details. "They called me at around 11 p.m. and asked me to assist their

SEE **NOLS, 5**

## UI adjusts finals

The UISG developed the new final-exam policies alongside the university's new final-exam-scheduling software.

By **ANNA THEODOSIS**  
[anna-theodosis@uiowa.edu](mailto:anna-theodosis@uiowa.edu)

A University of Iowa Student Government initiative has made significant changes to final-exam policies.

The revised policy would allow students with three or more finals in one day to file for a conflict allowing them to reduce the number of finals to two. Students will also be given at least half an hour between finals instead of 15 minutes and will not have any



A teaching assistant passes out a Statistics for Business test booklet to students Thursday for the midterm exam. A new method has been put into place for final-exam scheduling. (The Daily Iowan/Asmaa Elkurti)

finals after 5 p.m. Friday. UISG President Elliot Higgins said he developed the idea after sending a university-wide email asking for students' opinions on final-exam policy. Only one out of the 100 responses were satisfied with current policy.

"There were some frustrations among students regarding finals policy," Higgins said. "I took it upon myself to meet with the Office of the Provost to relay some of those concerns."

SEE **FINALS, 5**

## Locals decry 3rd-grade proposal

Local leaders say emphasis should be on early education.

By **LOGAN EDWARDS**  
[logan-edwards@uiowa.edu](mailto:logan-edwards@uiowa.edu)

Local education leaders are siding with Democrats on whether to hold back third-graders who fail proposed reading exams.

Republicans and Democrats in Des Moines are at odds over the issue. Republicans have been pushing to hold those students back, but that measure is gone from an education bill advanced in the Democrat-controlled Senate this week.

The Republicans want a bill that will set a standard level of reading required for third-graders to progress to the fourth grade. It will be implemented gradually

SEE **EDUCATION, 5**



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HOOP IT UP



Stephanie Schmidt shoots over Jacob Vandenbos in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center on Thursday. The rec center and the Field House are both popular places for people to play pickup games. (The Daily Iowan/Melissa Wilson)

# Pay walls coming

Gannett will move the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* and the *Des Moines Register* behind online pay walls.

By DEREK KELLISON

derek.kellison@gmail.com

Local officials have mixed reactions to a new plan that will require readers to pay for online access to two Iowa-based newspapers.

Gannett — which owns the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* and the *Des Moines Register* — announced Wednesday that it would move online editions of its community newspapers behind a pay wall, charging readers to access the websites. Company officials say the plan would add \$100 million in publishing earnings beginning in 2013.

In Iowa City, the *Press-Citizen* is the paper of record, so local governments are required to publish certain information there. However, leaders say

**Gannett**

The company's new policies include:

- Content-charging subscription model
- Relaunch of desktop, mobile and tablet products over the next one to two years
- Expansion of USA Today Sports Media Group
- New digital marketing service business

Source: Gannett Co. Inc.

the pay wall won't affect that function.

Iowa City City Councilor Terry Dickens said he was confident citizens could still easily access public documents without the online edition. Those records are still available on city and county websites, as well as city handouts such as maintenance bills, he said.

"We can't control what newspapers do," he said. "We just post the documents we're required to."

However, Johnson County Supervisor Janelle Rettig criticized the pay-wall move.

"I'm really sorry to hear that," she said. "This sort of thing is going to drive the readership away."

Rettig suggested instead that the newspapers add more online advertising to improve their profits, similar to popular free social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

Rettig also said smaller local news operations could pick up the slack when corporate-owned organizations such as the *Press-Citizen* and *Register* move behind pay walls.

"There's a future for

independently owned, locally owned papers," she said.

University of Iowa journalism Assistant Professor Melissa Tully said she agreed.

"People want the local news from the local news source," she said.

Though Tully said she predicted a move to pay walls, she said newspapers need to be flexible about online options since some pay wall models have been received poorly. Other sites' news that will remain free could also take up hosting free public documents, she said.

Rettig said she believed a hybrid of online and print newspapers would be a more successful approach.

"I want an old-school paper, and I want that online," she said.

**METRO/NATION**

**Lawsuit involving UI dismissed**

A case involving the University of Iowa and UI Pharmaceuticals as plaintiffs and Callisto and Synergy Pharmaceuticals as defendants was dismissed Tuesday.

Iowa Assistant Attorney General Jordan Esbrook said she asked that the case be dismissed because a settlement had been reached, with the defendants agreeing to pay around \$90,000 within a week.

She said Callisto and Synergy do not plan to appeal the ruling.

The plaintiffs originally requested a default judgment in January because the defendants failed to answer the petition within the required time frame.

The request was denied without prejudice until a default was entered and supporting affidavits submitted, in compliance with the Iowa Rule of Civil Procedure

1.972 regarding default judgment. — by Beth Bratsos

**3 charged with assault**

Three people were charged with assault causing injury after an altercation last month.

Levi Sedlacek, 20, Courtney Young, 21, and Morgan Kremer, 20, were charged on Jan. 1 with assault causing injury.

According to an Iowa City police report, another man was assaulted by the three individuals during an argument in a common-area hallway at 366 S. Clinton St. The man was struck several times and suffered a broken nose, a mild concussion, and a cut on his cheek, police said.

Sedlacek allegedly stated he punched the man to defend the two females and because he "didn't like the look on [the alleged victim's] face."

Assault causing injury is a serious misdemeanor, punishable

by up to a year in jail and a maximum fine of \$1,875. — by Conrad Swanson

**State DOT creates online train forum**

The Iowa Department of Transportation has created an open online center for feedback on a proposed passenger rail train.

The department, working with the Federal Railroad Administration, is considering five possible passenger rail routes through Iowa, one which would connect Chicago to Omaha. The route would include stops in Joliet, the Quad Cities, Iowa City, and Des Moines.

**Number of college grads growing**

Americans 60 or older are more likely than ever to have college degrees, helping redefine work and retirement as educated

baby boomers swell the senior population at rates faster than young adults earn diplomas.

Census figures released Thursday highlight changes in U.S. college completion, which reached a high of 30.4 percent last year. It comes amid increasing shares of older Americans in the workplace and record drops in employment for young adults, an age twist that is historically unprecedented.

"This is an important milestone in our history," Census Bureau Director Robert Groves said, referring to the increase in people with college degrees across all age groups. "The more education people have, the more likely they are to have a job and earn more money, particularly for individuals who hold a bachelor's degree." —Associated Press

**BLOTTER**

Xavier Murarsheed, 23, 2240 Taylor Drive, was charged on Dec. 8 with fifth-degree theft.

Jeffery Nason, 44, Coralville, was charged on Feb. 17 with public intoxication.

Adam Parker, 21, 729 N. Dubuque St., was charged on Tuesday with public intoxication.

Timothy Parris Jr., 22, 717 E. Jefferson St., was charged on Tuesday with possession of drug

paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, and possession of a controlled substance.

Anthony Rublaitus, 19, 4245 Burge, was charged on Sunday with public intoxication.

Guadalupe Sanchez-Diaz, 40, West Liberty, was charged on Tuesday with fifth-degree theft.

Jeffery Schmelzer, 21, Cedar Rapids, was charged on Feb. 18

with possession of prescription drugs and public intoxication.

Christopher Smead, 23, Coralville, was charged on Sunday with carrying weapons.

Mallory Smith, 26, 260 Scott Court, was charged on Wednesday with OWI.

Dylan Tarango, 19, 2457 Hummingbird Lane, was charged on Tuesday with PAULA.

Daniel Verhille, 21, 620 E.

Bloomington St., was charged on Tuesday with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Christopher Wall, 19, N402 Hillcrest, was charged on Feb. 18 with public intoxication.

Kevin Wolter, 19, 335 S. Johnson St., was charged on Feb. 18 with public intoxication. assault causing injury.

**The Daily Iowan**

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**BREAKING NEWS**

Phone: (319) 335-6063  
E-mail: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu  
Fax: 335-6297

**CORRECTIONS**

Call: 335-6030

Policy: *The Daily Iowan* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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Call: Juli Krause at 335-5783

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**STAFF**

**Publisher:**  
William Casey ..... 335-5788

**Editor:**  
Adam B Sullivan ..... 335-6030

**Managing Editors:**  
Hayley Bruce ..... 335-5855  
Sam Lane ..... 335-5855

**Metro Editors:**  
Alison Sullivan ..... 335-6063  
Luke Voelz ..... 335-6063

**Opinions Editor:**  
Chris Steinke ..... 335-5863

**Sports Editor:**  
Seth Roberts ..... 335-5848

**Arts Editor:**  
Hannah Kramer ..... 335-5851

**Copy Chief:**  
Beau Elliot ..... 335-6063

**Photo Editor:**  
Adam Wesley ..... 335-5852

**Design Editor:**  
Alicia Kramme ..... 335-6063

**TV News Director:**  
Jake Abrams ..... 335-6063

**Web Editor:**  
Tony Phan ..... 335-5829

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Debra Plath ..... 335-5786

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**TOP STORIES**

Most-read stories on [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) from Thursday.

1. IDs for cupcakes: College Republicans peddle baked goods to support voter ID bill
2. Red-light cameras likely coming to Iowa City soon
3. Local officials: Gas tax would benefit travelers through Iowa
4. Iowa City managers say \$10 minimum wage would be bad business
5. Notebook: Stokes steps in, Cartwright questionable

**IRL, Edward would be arrested for stalking**



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# Igniting dreams

By **LOGAN EDWARDS**

logan-edwards@uiowa.edu

A new blog aiming to get college students to connect their jobs with their passions.

David Gould, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences associate director for student professional development, launched Ignite a Dream early this month. The blog allows students to post their dream profession or long-term goals in an open forum, on which people can respond with relevant advice.

So far, the project has released approximately 30 "dream" posts. Gould said he obtained these and 70 other dream ideas during a Life Design course he taught through the UI Leisure Studies program last fall.

"The theory behind [the Life Design] course is to take the students and help them look at the university differently, almost like a laboratory," he said. "The class is based on the idea that this is the window that you should be trying to do all of the kind of things that you can test-drive. What resonates? What fits?"

Gould said his goal is to help degree-oriented college students make connections between their need for jobs and their passions.

"Intellectually, they get it. They know that their job may be better with a degree but they don't know emotionally why they are here," he said. "They haven't connected it to what they are passionate about. There is a real responsibility that people my age have toward



Elizabeth Bledsoe, a UI graduate student and cofounder of Ignite a Dream, talks about the program Monday. Ignite A Dream is a website on which students can post their career and life goals to receive feedback from the Iowa City and UI communities. (The Daily Iowan/Asmaa Elkeurti)

[younger people]. We need to be mentors; we have to give affirmation to the students."

UI sophomore Sam Stewart, who submitted his dream of becoming a videogame journalist, said he has received feedback.

"I didn't think [Ignite a Dream] was my thing," he said. "I didn't think I had a dream that I'd be willing to put into the public and get feedback."

Stewart said he has begun blogging following the suggestion of a videogame-company employee on his "dream" site.

Liberal-arts Associate Director Diane Hauser said college officials were looking for ways to help students get more from their

education before Life Design's development.

"[Ignite a Dream] was a lot like [Gould's] class, Life Design," she said. "The students offered up their dreams, and the only way they could effectively bring it to campus was to create a blog."

Ignite a Dream will feature guest bloggers catered to specific students' needs, said Life Design graduate assistant Elizabeth Bledsoe.

"They acknowledge a student's specific needs, and it's a little bit more tailored to what they want to do," she said.

One current example, Gould said, includes a Pulitzer Prize-winner doing a guest blog for a student

who wants to be a journalist. When the more personalized blogs arrive, Gould or one of his graduate assistants will send an alert to the relevant student.

"I have to say that Dave is instrumental in finding people who might be the professional kind of bloggers to come in and write on our blog," Hauser said. "They are usually really happy to do that and give their own professional advice."

Gould said college students can get the most help out of such advice.

"One thing about the 20-somethings is that it is so critical," he said. "Many paths that are to come before [students] ... start here."

# Supervisors eye expanded trails

By **BETH BRATSOS**

Bethany.Bratsos@gmail.com

Iowa City residents may soon have an easier time traveling to Cedar Rapids by bike.

As part of a county trails plan approved by the Johnson County Board of Supervisors on Thursday, a pedestrian bridge will be built over Interstate 80 to allow bikers and other travelers to ride toward Cedar Rapids via Dubuque Street.

Supervisor Terrence Neuzil said the project will more directly connect Cedar Rapids and Iowa City on trails or wide-paved road shoulders.

"There is a way to already ride [Dubuque Street], but it is pretty inconvenient," he said. "[The current] trail goes from Dubuque to Foster Road, and you have to travel all the way to Mackinaw Drive. Mackinaw takes you under the interstate."

Kris Ackerson, assistant transportation planner at the Metropolitan Planning Organization of Johnson County, helped develop the project. The Dubuque Street bridge, he said, will connect an Iowa City trail to the Cedar Valley Nature Trail.

"Having Iowa City linked with Cedar Valley Nature Trail will be a tremendous asset for Iowa City and also for the region as a recreation destination," he said.

Terry Dahms, a Johnson County Trails Advisory Committee member, said local officials will only need to add another five or six trail miles near Iowa

City to have a full connection to Cedar Rapids once the Dubuque Street bridge is finished.

Construction on the bridge will begin shortly after July, though officials have yet to settle on who will build it, he said.

"Once they start on that bridge, they will have a pretty clear idea of how they will connect [to Cedar Rapids]," he said. "[The trail] goes all the way through Cedar Rapids. It's all done within the city limits of Ely through Waterloo."

Ackerson said the plan will also focus on the creation of new equestrian, snowmobile, and water trails across the county. Officials hope further promotion of the Iowa River as a recreation resource will bring more visitors to Iowa City to use the water trail, which extends from Ferry Park on the South Side of Iowa City to the Mississippi River, he said.

"We want to encourage more boating and kayaking," he said. "It's noteworthy that you can go 77 miles without encountering a dam."

Mark Wyatt, the executive director of the Iowa Bicycle Coalition, said he would like the plan to help smaller Iowa cities receive more tourism money. Long-term planning is also important because of the environmental renovation necessary for trail development.

"It takes a lot of patience in trail-building. It takes a number of years and dollars to invest in this but it has a great return," he said. "I think it's a great step for the county."

Coming Soon

# Night Owl

The Daily Iowan

**NEW FRONTIER AIRLINES SERVICE BRINGS LOW COST FARES TO EASTERN IOWA AIRPORT STARTING MAY 17**

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Cedar Rapids/Iowa City regional travelers are now able to book additional non-stop flights on Frontier Airlines, launching a year-round service from its Denver (DEN) hub to The Eastern Iowa Airport, Cedar Rapids, Iowa (CID).

Frontier flights are scheduled for Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, departing Denver at 3:10pm, and arriving in Cedar Rapids at 5:59pm; and departing Cedar Rapids at 6:35pm, and arriving in Denver at 7:43pm.

For more information or to purchase a Frontier flight, visit [FrontierAirlines.com](http://FrontierAirlines.com).

\*Introductory fares begin at \$60 each way for the Frontier Denver-Cedar Rapids service. The introductory fares are available at FrontierAirlines.com through Feb. 29, 2012, for travel mid to late June, depending on the market.

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GUEST OPINIONS, COMMENTARIES, and COLUMNS reflect the opinions of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Editorial Board.

## Editorial

## Should Iowa's minimum wage be increased to \$10 an hour?

## No

A proposal in the Iowa Legislature to increase the minimum wage from the national rate of \$7.25 an hour to \$10 an hour over three years is dangerous and should not be allowed in a fledgling economy.

As *The Daily Iowan* reported on Wednesday, local business owners are skittish about the proposal and fear that this 38 percent increase will squeeze their payrolls. They will be less inclined to hire college students and those who are just entering the job market in service sectors of the economy: grocery stores, restaurants, retailers, etc.

Basic business and economic theory tells us that when a wage floor such as this is mandated, it results in employers not wanting to hire anyone they feel is only worth what lies in the "basement," in this case anything less than \$10 an hour. When people wish to be hired, they must have skills to sell that a buyer finds worthy, just as a grocer only buys from vendors who provide good products at reasonable prices. If employers hire an unworthy worker anyway, it must result in an increase of prices for the customer or cuts in costs to make up the difference. Are people ready to have their grocery bills jump or for their sandwich at lunchtime to cost more?

San Francisco has experienced this many times in recent history. It raised their minimum wage on Jan. 1 from \$9.92 per hour to \$10.24 per hour, but it has implemented slight increases for years. *The Wall Street Journal* reports that fast-food prices rose 6.2 percent in San Francisco compared with the rest of the Bay Area in 2004 after a minimum-wage increase.

There's a chance that Iowa business owners or entrepreneurs looking to start businesses here may look to other states with lower minimum wages. It's all about competition. If an employer in Iowa must pay a worker at least \$20,800 per year at \$10 an hour before taxes, what would stop them from moving to Wisconsin, where they have to pay that same worker \$15,080 at \$7.25 an hour if that makes the difference in their overhead?

This is not collusion but market competition. If a free market were to exist, wages would achieve equilibrium and follow the natural motions of the economy. We have exchanged an economy based on the merit of one's abilities for one filled with regulations and mandates from the top-down that cradles labor and punishes business through a redistributive scheme. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the average wage in 2010 was \$21 an hour, nearly three times that of the minimum wage and still above what is generally accepted to be a "living wage." This is a purely political game, as Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Iowa City, admits.

Oppose this minimum-wage increase.

— Joe Schueller

## Yes

The prospect of a \$10 minimum wage should have everyone in Iowa City jumping for joy — students, city councilors, even dance-club owners.

Jump around, dance-club owners. Jump around.

I know, I know. You're all like, "but increased wages would mean a cut in my profits." Chill. That will be more than offset by better business and better employees.

About the better business: Think of your typical clientele. It's college students, many of whom relying on minimum-wage jobs for discretionary income (e.g. extra dough for more shots, more Pancho's, more taxi-rides).

Low-wage earners are hugely more likely to spend any extra money than anyone expected to trickle down their profits. Hundreds of studies have proved this. According to a 2004 study from the National Bureau of Economic Research, for example, those earning \$25,000 or less spend either all of their income or more than all of their income. Any marginal increase in their wage goes directly into the economy, directly into the housing market, directly into Brothers, Martinis, what have you.

Also, employers might actually save in employee expenses because of the minimum-wage increase. With better wages, more people will want to go to work. With more people working, the more competitive the job market, which means more potential employees from whom to choose and better employees eventually chosen. Better employees (not to mention happier employees, because they're earning \$10 per hour) means less people to fire, which saves a bunch of money.

It's been estimated that the cost of hiring a new minimum-wage employee is about \$3,700 from costs and production loss. Divide that by the proposed increase, \$2.25, and you get 1,345 hours of employment, or about a year's worth of 25-hours-per-week employment. So, if the raised minimum wage prevents the firing of two employees in a year, the minimum-wage has effectively doubled its investment for that year. Hell, from this data alone it may be smart for employers to enact their own minimum-wage increase.

Now that we've covered the microeconomic argument, I'll provide some big-picture evidence for such a minimum-wage increase.

The United States is ranked 15th worldwide in GDP per capita. There are only two countries ranked ahead of the United States that can be reasonably compared with such a large nation — Canada and Australia. The lowest minimum wage in Canada can be found in the Yukon — \$9 an hour (or \$9.01 in U.S. currency). The minimum wage in Australia? \$15.51.

Stop listening to your gut and look at the numbers. Raise the minimum wage and make basically everything better.

— Chris Steinke

Your turn. Should the minimum wage be increased? Weigh in at [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com).

## Letters

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

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

READER COMMENTS that may appear below were originally posted on [dailyiowan.com](http://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.

## Santorum scares me

A video surfaced on Tuesday in which GOP presidential-nomination candidate Rick Santorum said in a 2008 speech that Satan has been "attacking the great institutions of America, using those great vices of pride, vanity, and sensuality as the root to attack all of the strong plants that has so deeply rooted in the American tradition."

The last thing I want to do is start a theological debate about the existence or nonexistence of God(s), an Anti-Christ, etc. But who in their right mind believes Satan has been deliberately attacking America?

One of the main things students are taught throughout grade school and more intensively in a high-school government class is that the First Amendment ensures that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..." — effectively separating church and state.

Apparently Santorum pays no regard to the language of our

founding documents. It seems to me that Santorum's mind is completely fogged with the idea that federal government should promote Christian values. It is not the government's job to do that — it's explicitly stated that it can't. But for fun's sake, picture the following: a president who contends homosexuality will lead to the legalization of "man-on-dog sex"; a president who wants to control what goes on between two consenting adults; a president who believes contraception is "not OK;" a president who believes the idea that "Palestinians" do not exist; a president who views women as the inferior sex, and so on.

Now am I saying the other three current GOP candidates are any better? No. Am I saying President Obama is the best thing since sliced bread? Absolutely not. All I know is the very idea of a "President Santorum" scares me more than an Obama victory in November scares the Republican Party.

Brett Wallace

UI student

## Both parties not incompetent but criminal

Modern-day patriots are often misunderstood as merely GOP tools, because these "Tea Partiers" found most agreement with the lip service Republicans give Constitutionally limited government, fiscal responsibility, personal liberty, and free markets, and most are incensed by Democrats' usual hostility to those.

However, when Democrats do right by the people, and Republicans do wrong, we must be equally vocal.

Recent Iowa Statehouse activity demands such denunciation.

Even some Tea Partiers we last elected are guilty of the crony capitalism we so loathe.

On nearly party-line votes, Republicans approved utilities charging customers for new power-plant construction (even unapproved nuclear designs), even before beginning, with no guarantees they'll ever be built, rate payers will ever benefit or that we can recoup our money in that event.

This epitomizes the unholy alliance that big government and big business often form to fleece the people.

Only Senate Democrats stand between us and a scalping like Floridians already experienced.

Likewise, Dems are more right, and GOP more wrong, on property-tax reform, though both are still far from the positive wealth-creating tax reform we really need.

It seems they only agree on shearing Iowa drivers with another fuel-tax increase, so farmers and corporations remain shielded from paying the actual damages they cause to our roads.

Whether using the state's coercive power to steal through unequal taxation or force unsecured investment in a publicly granted monopoly, most government officials — of both parties — are not merely ignorant of our rights, they are liars and thieves — not just incompetent but criminal in their machinations.

Larry M. Aden

Jolley, Iowa

## Update from Central America

One weekend my friends and I made plans to hike a volcano. We asked our *tico* parents — our guardians while studying abroad here in Costa Rica — how long it would take to walk to the top and got a range of answers from 50 minutes to four hours — we had no idea what we were getting ourselves into.

We loaded a bus and took it to what we thought was the base of the volcano — only to find out we were six miles from the base. Six miles for a group of 15 young college students should not be a problem. However, these miles were all up the steepest hills I have ever seen. By the time we reached the base, we had been hiking for three hours. An hour more of the same steep hills on rocky roads, and we were at the National Park where we paid \$8 to walk around the park for an hour and look at clouds. Needless to say, we were exhausted at that point and did not want to walk back in the dark. Good thing *tico* culture is to help everyone. A nice family drove the eight of us who were left back to Heredia.

The next day was Super Bowl Sunday. A group of University Studies Abroad Consortium students got together, cooked dinner, watched the game, and then played the most intense game of charades I have ever been a part of. Just some of the words: analogy, Galapagos Islands, the bombing of Guernica, and sea urchin.

This past weekend, we went to Montezuma. It took a good eight hours to get out to the end of the peninsula, but the sunset on the ferry and running into some German friends we made in Puerto Viejo made the trip more enjoyable. Our group split up into three different hostels (this time none of them involved hammocks). We went to the one dance club on the beach for Friday night and fell asleep to the sound of waves.

The next morning, we woke up to the sound of waves. Saturday was spent hiking to waterfalls and then hiking to the top of them — this time when I say hiking, I mean even steeper than the week before. Getting to the top of the waterfalls meant using ropes to scale and

descend rocks. I'll admit my fear of heights was in full force, but I managed to face my fears and keep climbing. The view from the top was well worth it. We were at the top of a series of three waterfalls looking down at where our adventure had begun. After 20 minutes of convincing and watching my friends bravely splash into the water, I jumped off the top waterfall. We spent the rest of the day swimming in the natural pool, lying on the rocks, and climbing behind the waterfall.

All of the climbing in the sun built up quite an appetite, so we used the kitchen in the hostel to make a meal of coconut rice, fish, fresh fruit, and fresh vegetables. One of my friends mentioned the rice needed some more flavor and all of us said, "Add some beans" — a clear sign that we are accepting the *tico* ways. After a night on the beach with a fire and friends, we went to bed tired but content with the successful day we had.

On Sunday morning, a few of us woke up early enough to watch the sunrise before our 6:20 a.m. bus ride home. I had the pleasure to see the same golden glitter I saw dusting the mountain tops a short month ago. This time, it was sprinkled across the water. It may have been early, and I may have been tired, but seeing the sunrise over the ocean was well worth it.

So those were my two most recent adventures. Spanish II started this week, and so has month No. 2 in Central America. I appreciate the support from everyone at home while I study here. The experiences I have been having go beyond my stories of spending time with friends.

I have met people who speak four or more languages, people who recently quit their jobs to travel the world, people who are traveling to build houses for those less fortunate. I have had to face my fears, to find my way with directions in a foreign language, to lower my standards on what clean bathrooms or comfortable beds are. It's not always easy, but it's worth it when I can look up at the mountains on my way to school and think to myself, "I climbed to the top of that."

Anna Zoerner is a UI junior psychology student. She's from Cary, Ill.

## NOLS

CONTINUED FROM 1

team that was arriving from Ranikhet," Gupta said. "I was informed very late, and they didn't give me any concrete information, as they didn't know too much at that time."

Gupta also said instructors and students on Plotkin's trip didn't inform

an Indo-Tibetan Border Police post located less than a mile from the site of Plotkin's fall.

"When the students came down to take the first group of students back up to the chai shop from Lilam Village, the [Indo-Tibetan Border Police] officials had asked the students if an incident had happened but weren't given any answers," Gupta said in Hindi. "If they had taken assistance from the [police]

right away, some additional efforts could have been made on that very evening."

But Palmer said it was not the School's intention to keep the Indo-Tibetan Border Police in the dark.

"I don't believe we ever decided *not* to inform [police] at all. It was a student group — maybe they didn't know what they should do," Palmer said. "But [the National Outdoor Leadership School] at no

point made any decision not to inform anybody of anything. We informed people we thought could help us."

Palmer also noted that the nearby Indo-Tibetan Border Police post was a supply post, and it wasn't necessarily equipped to help in rescue efforts.

"Supply post doesn't say to me people are qualified to do search and rescue in high altitude," Palmer said.

But Jaswant Singh Rathore, sub-divisional magistrate in Munsiyari, said the Indo-Tibetan Border Police post in Lilam Village carries supplies to the highest Army posts in the area and is thus very well-equipped and experienced with the terrain.

Despite inconsistencies between company officials and authorities in India, Palmer insists the School did its best with the infor-

mation it had at the time.

"It's pretty easy after the fall to try to pull things apart," Palmer said. "I feel the institute handled itself very well, was very thoughtful about how it was going about the work and really held nothing back in terms of doing the work, and I think that that is worth noting. Tom's death is horrible. It's the worst possible outcome you could imagine."

## FINALS

CONTINUED FROM 1

Some students said they're ready to see the change.

"I definitely think [the changes in policy] will be beneficial," UI freshman Taylor Mathis said. "For people who have really close finals, [the changes] could give them time to get there or study in between. And three finals would be

so crazy, so only having two would help."

UI senior and former business major Siya Mali said he agreed, noting that business finals tend to be lumped around the same time during finals week.

"A lot of my classmates were not so happy about three exams in a day," he said. "The testing schedule for a business major might be way tougher if they're taking all business courses." Over the next several days, students will receive their final-exam schedules with potential conflicts

highlighted. Professors will also receive a list of students in their classes with potential conflicts.

Higgins said he and many responding students agreed final exams were not always accurate interpretations of what students learned over the semester if they had to take three or more in one day.

"If student have to take three tests on the same day, it's not going to be an accurate reflection of what they learned in class," he said. "In the past, students were only given 15 minutes in

between finals, which is not enough time to collect yourself."

Associate Provost for undergraduate education Beth Ingram agreed.

"Elliot's data were pretty convincing that having to take three exams [in one day] put a lot of pressure on students," she said. "My expectations is that students will now do better on their final exams."

Higgins said the officials in the Provost's Office were very responsive to the proposed changes.

"The faculty were very

sympathetic," he said. "The only issue they raised is that if there was a change in policy that it wouldn't adversely affect scheduling."

Higgins and Ingram agreed that seniors should be able to have the Friday before graduating to themselves so they can spend time with friends and family before commencement.

"[Not having finals after 5 p.m. Friday is] especially important for seniors graduating the next day," Higgins said.

### Final exams

**After receiving complaints from students about a hectic finals week, UI officials enacted the following changes:**

- If student have more than two finals scheduled on the same day, they have the option to file conflicts.
- At least 30 minutes will be given to students in between finals.
- No finals will be scheduled past 5 p.m. on Friday.

Source: UI Student Government

## EDUCATION

CONTINUED FROM 1

so the new requirements will be known at the beginning of a student's education.

Iowa City School Board member Sarah Swisher said that singling out a child at a young age can have a very negative effect.

"They would be old enough to recognize that they were separated from their peers but too young to understand the rationale," she said.

Third-grade teacher

### Iowa Education

**Members of the Iowa House education subcommittee include:**

- Greg Forristall
- Jeremy Taylor
- Sharon Steckman
- Curtis Hanson
- Linda Miller

Steve Sproule of Shimek Elementary shares Swisher's view that holding students back harms them emotionally and academically.

"What they don't take into account is that a lot of students who can't read well are just auditory learners, and even though

they may have difficulty reading their materials, they just need to be approached in a different way," Sproule said.

He believes the attention of the state should be shifted to early education instead of the third-grade ultimatum.

"We need state-funded preschool," he said. "It should be available to everyone. They should also make [reading-aid] programs such as Head Start accessible to everyone."

Kindergarten and first-grade classes need smaller sizes so teachers can better identify which students need extra help, Sproule said.

Iowa City School Board member Jeff McGinness said he agreed that statewide preschool programs should become a priority.

"One argument that the House has behind it is that by third grade, you shouldn't be learning to read, you should be reading to learn," he said. "But instead of pulling students out completely, you should pull them from one class or put them in a program to catch them up to speed."

Some state legislators staunchly support the

third-grade reading policy.

Rep. Linda Miller, R-Bettendorf, said the plan will ensure that all third-graders — no matter their background — are able to read at a third-grade level.

"The reason why you do third-grade retention is to make the parents realize that their student needs help and that it's not optional," she said. "It puts a pressure upon the parents and lets them know that there is a deadline."

Miller said that if a student is struggling with reading, teachers need to

pursue many different methods of teaching.

"What research showed is that there needed to be a stitch in the system that said, 'If your child is not at this level, then you must do something,'" she said.

Rep. Curtis Hanson, D-Fairfield, said parents must become more of a partner in their children's education.

"The bill should be thought of as a complete program, the third grade retention being the final act," he said.

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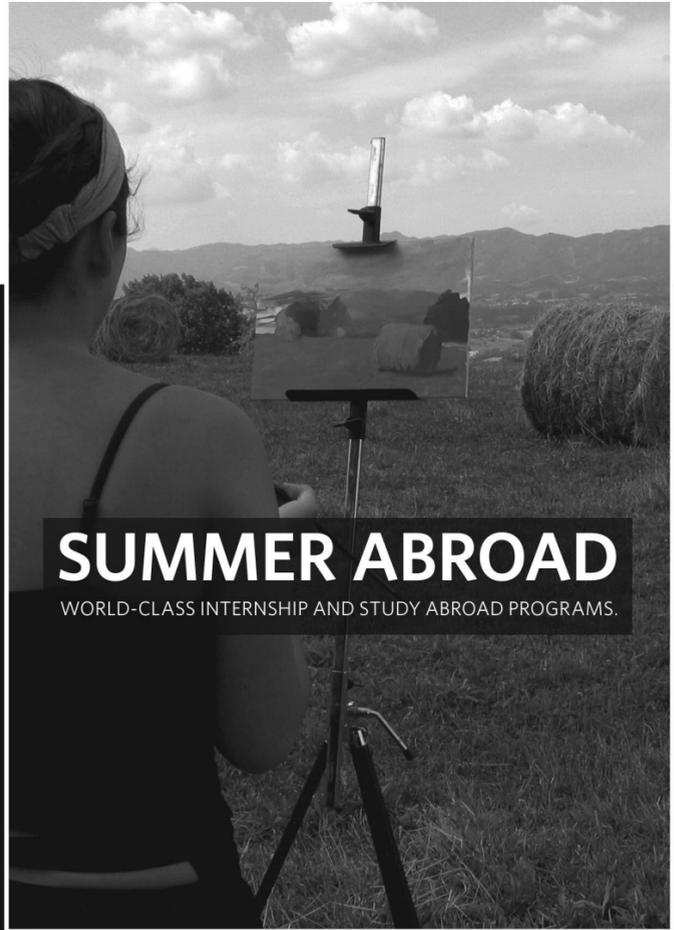
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## the ledge

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



### Lesson Learned in Risk:

- International trade is complex and difficult, particularly because all ships sailing to Europe must pass through Greenland.
- Germany might have won World War II if Hitler had just finished Europe before trying to conquer Russia and North Africa. He would have gotten five extra armies per turn. Rookie mistake.
- Life is simpler when the Middle East is one united region.
- The person who named Canada could spell Alberta and Ontario, but not Québec. Eastern Canada is beautiful this time of year.
- If you live in Australia, make friends with Vietnamese people. You can't ever leave without going through them.
- Japan has roughly the same strategic value as Madagascar.
- Egypt is the only country on the African mainland that anyone knows by name. Because of the presence of East, Central, and North Africa, I'm pretty sure South Africa was just a lucky guess.
- The words Eastern Australia and Western Australia are longer than the continent of Australia when next to each other. They must overlap to fit. And that, my friends, is the origin of the non-natural border.
- America only needs military bases in Greenland, Brazil, and Alaska to defend itself. Anything else is superfluous. Let's see you strike now, Steve, you overly confident fool.

— Chuck Kirk swears there was no collusion.

The Daily Iowan  
www.dailyiowan.com

## SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

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

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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](http://www.sudoku.org.uk)

SOLUTION TO THURSDAY'S PUZZLE

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

CHECK OUT [dailyiowan.com](http://dailyiowan.com) FOR MORE PUZZLES

### DILBERT

THIS IS SVEN, OUR BIGGEST CUSTOMER FROM ELBONIA.

WHOA! NO HANDSHAKE. THAT'S AN INSULT. THE FIRST TIME YOU MEET AN ELBONIAN YOU KISS HIS MITTEN.

SERIOUSLY? OH, WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED.

by Scott Adams

### NON SEQUITUR

BERT EASES HIS WAY INTO SOCIAL MEDIA

STOP FOLLOWING ME @ #MINDYOUROWNBUSINESS

BY VIEV

### DOONESBURY

FORTUNATELY, MY CELL PHONE DIDN'T DIE BEFORE THE TROOPERS LOCATED US...

MEANWHILE, ALEX DECIDED IT WAS THE PERFECT TIME TO PROPOSE MARRIAGE TO LEO. BY TEXT.

HE REPLIED HE WANTED TO TALK ABOUT IT IN PERSON.

SOUNDS PROMISING. SHE MUST BE THRILLED.

YOU'D THINK.

HE'S GOING TO DUMP ME - I KNOW IT!

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

## HUNGRY?

Check out The Daily Iowan Dining Guide only at [dailyiowan.com](http://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](http://dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html)

- Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems Symposium 2012**, "The European Sovereign Debt Crisis: A Critical Assessment of the Euro and EMU," all day, Boyd Law Building Levitt Auditorium
- English Conversation Group**, 10 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- Memoir in the World**, Robert Leleux and Honor Moore in conversation, 10 a.m., 304 English-Philosophy Building
- eBook & eAudiobook Class**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library
- Chess Club**, 1 p.m., Uptown Bill's, 730 S. Dubuque
- Music by Three for All**, 2 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- Chemistry Colloquium**, "Novel Laser Based Instrumentation: Glyoxal as a Probe of Atmospheric Oxidation and Aerosol Formation," Frank Keutsch, University of Wisconsin, 3:30 p.m., W128 Chemistry Building
- Friday Night Jazz**, 5 p.m., Uptown Bill's, 730 S. Dubuque
- Family Free Night**, 5 p.m., Iowa Children's Museum, 1451 Coral Ridge, Coralville
- SyZyGy: Alignment of Heavenly Bodies Lecture Series**, Anthony Castronovo, visiting professor in sculpture, 5 p.m., 116 Art Building West
- National Theatre Live, Traveling Light**, 7 p.m., Englert Theatre, 221 E. Washington
- Carnage**, 7 p.m., Bijou
- "Live from Prairie Lights,"** Jennifer Wilson, nonfiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- The Toymaker's War**, Working Group Theatre, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theatre, 213 N. Gilbert
- Dr. Faustus**, 8 p.m., Theatre Building Theatre B
- Anthology to Get Rid of that Rash**, 8 p.m., Public Space One, 129 E. Washington
- Bandwith.org Fest**, 8 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- Puppets and Pastries: Dessert Theatre for Adults**, 8 p.m., Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company, 8 p.m., 319 N. Calhoun, West Liberty
- Sean Boarini**, 8:30 p.m., Gilbert Street Piano Lounge, 8:30 p.m., 347 S. Gilbert
- The Envy Corps and Bright Giant**, 9 p.m., Blue Moose, 211 Iowa
- Once Upon a Time in Anatolia**, 9 p.m., Bijou
- SCOPE Concert**, Kids These Days, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- Campus Activities Board Movie, Immortals**, 10 p.m., 348 IMU
- Campus Activities Board Nighthawks**, Speed Dating, 10 p.m., Carrier Van Oel Multipurpose Room
- Ladies' Night**, 10 p.m., L&J Kitchen BBQ House, 320 E. Burlington

## UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- 12:30 p.m.** Latin Jazz Concert, Oct. 23, 2011
- 2** Piano Sundays Concert, Old Capitol, Nov. 6, 2011
- 3:30** Iowa Brass Quintet Concert, Nov. 9, 2011
- 4:30** Latin Jazz Concert, Oct. 23, 2011
- 6** Piano Sundays Concert, Old Capitol, Nov. 6, 2011
- 7:30** WorldCanvass, "Women, Hysteria, and Medicine," Joan Kjaer and International Programs, January
- 9:30** Graduate-Undergraduate Dance, Dance Department, Dec. 8, 2011
- 11** Graduate-Undergraduate Dance, Dance Department, May 6, 2011

## horoscopes Friday, Feb. 24

— by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** March 21-April 19 Settle down before you make a mistake. Misunderstandings are apparent, and emotional upset will escalate. Counteract your impulsive reactions by keeping busy and steering clear of anyone who may get your dander up. Make love, not war.
- TAURUS** April 20-May 20 Put more effort into friendships, learning, and expanding your interests. The more you do for others, the better you will feel about who you are and what you are capable of doing. A new beginning will change your life.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 Do for others what you expect in return. Don't give in to anyone trying to make you look bad. Rise above controversy, and make the most of your day by using your skills and charm to win favors and excel.
- CANCER** June 21-July 22 Follow through with a creative idea, or sign up for a class that will allow you to use your imagination. Communicate to bring about changes you feel are necessary to a healthy relationship with a friend, relative, or neighbor.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 Live a little; bring some excitement into your life. A last-minute change of plans or visiting a place you've never been before will be a great catalyst to get you moving in a new direction. Love and romance are highlighted.
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Put more emphasis on money matters and how you can make assets grow and liabilities disappear. Change is required, and opportunity is present, so don't hesitate to take advantage of a chance to stabilize your future.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Don't give in to intimidation. Take control, and make up your own mind regarding what you want and how you are going to get it. Re-evaluate an important relationship. Equality will help rekindle the connection.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Put your heart on the line. Let the people in your life know how you feel and what you intend to do. Opportunity will develop if you share your ideas. Consider partnering with someone who can contribute to your success.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 You can make a difference at home if you do your best to contribute to changes that keep everyone happy. Refrain from trying to manipulate a situation that must be allowed to develop naturally. Love is in the stars.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Get in touch with people you have worked with in the past. Don't let the expectations of others get you down. You have to do what works best for you. Experience will help you make the right choice now.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Making a lifestyle change and hanging out with different people will do you good. A chance to try something new or to put your skills to work is apparent. Once you get started, many doors will open. Love is on the rise.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-March 20 Be honest about your capabilities. If you cannot live up to the picture you've painted, you will ruin your chance to work with someone special. Your willingness to take direction and learn from others will make a difference.

# m.c. ginsberg

OBJECTS OF ART



## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0120

- Across**
- Semimonthly tide
  - Mooring post on a ship
  - Head nurse on "Scrubs"
  - If you add up the pros and cons
  - Nautical direction
  - Pitcher of the only no-hitter in World Series history
  - Small truck manufacturer
  - Highly rated 1997 film with the song "Tupelo Honey"
  - Take in, possibly
  - Flogs
  - Like yoga instructors
  - Pink shade
  - Secures every share from
  - Early man?
  - Had some inventory problems
  - \_\_\_ lane
  - Berate profanely
  - Court
  - What mansions rarely are
  - "\_\_\_ = Politics" (TV slogan)
  - Inventor given a gold medal by Titanic survivors
  - "Goodness me!"
  - U.K. Triple Crown racecourse site
  - Dance trio?
  - Suddenly took interest
  - Motivated
  - Go on

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17									18			
19									20			
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37									38			
39									40			
41									42			
43									44			
45									46			
47									48			
49									50			
51									52			
53									54			
55									56			

- Down**
- "Well, of course"
  - Name on a famous B-29
  - Mammy's son
  - Adjective applied to ginger ale
  - Things towed along towpaths
  - Expanse beneath an arch?
  - Certain lymphocyte
  - Works behind a counter
  - Prompter
  - Get rid of
  - Like some store furniture
  - North American home of 30,000 islands
  - Tiramisu ingredient, often
  - Frequent photo prop for Will Rogers
  - "\_\_\_ furtiva lagrima" (Donizetti aria)
  - Walked away with
  - Star of Ang Lee's "Hulk"
  - Looked for a phenomenon, maybe
  - Blackened
  - Leroux who created the Phantom
  - Premium number
  - What a dickey simulates
  - Lady of Paris
  - Junk car
  - Some funeral attendees
  - "We're Madly for \_\_\_" (old campaign song)
- Puzzle by Patrick Berry
- For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit [nytimes.com/moblexword](http://nytimes.com/moblexword) for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](http://nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: [nytimes.com/wordplay](http://nytimes.com/wordplay). Crosswords for young solvers: [nytimes.com/learning/xwords](http://nytimes.com/learning/xwords).

## ON THE STREET

How many caffeinated drinks do you consume in a day on average?



'Maybe one or two.'  
**Jake Nolan**  
UI freshman



'More than I should.'  
**Jasper MacDonald**  
UI senior



'Probably none.'  
**Nick Fanelli**  
UI sophomore



'I would say one a day, sometimes none.'  
**Summer Garcia**  
UI freshman

122 Wright St., Iowa City

819 S. 1st Ave., Iowa City

210 N. Linn St., Iowa City

# Opening the flood Gatens



Iowa forward Melsahn Basabe dunks against Wisconsin in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Thursday. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

Matt Gatens did it again.

The Iowa men's basketball team (15-13, 7-8 Big Ten) rode Gatens' 33-point performance to a 67-66 win over No. 16 Wisconsin (20-8, 9-6) in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Thursday night. The win was Iowa's second straight over a ranked team and sealed the first season sweep of the Badgers since the 1994-95 campaign.

Gatens made his first 5 3-point field goal attempts and finished 7-of-10 behind the arc. The senior from Iowa City is the first Hawkeye to record consecutive 30-point Big Ten games since

Adam Haluska in 2006-07.

Gatens also nailed a pair of free throws with three seconds left to ice the win. Wisconsin guard Jordan Taylor's 3-point buzzer-beater wasn't enough to keep the 5,000 students in attendance from spilling onto the court and hoisting Gatens on their shoulders.

Freshman Aaron White finished with 12 points, and sophomore Devyn Marble added 11 and 8 assists.

Log on to dailyiowan.com for full coverage of the game, including articles and a photo slide show.

- by Seth Roberts



The Iowa student section cheers as Iowa guard Matt Gatens directs the Iowa defense in the final minutes of the Hawkeyes' 67-66 victory over Wisconsin in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Thursday. Gatens had 33 points in the victory. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)



Iowa guard Devyn Marble celebrates with fans following the Hawkeyes' 67-66 victory over Wisconsin in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Thursday. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)



Iowa guard Matt Gatens drives against Wisconsin in the Hawkeyes' 67-66 victory over the Badgers. Gatens had 33 points in the win. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

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An aggressive, talented individual is sought as editor of *The Daily Iowan*, Iowa City's largest news organization, with an editorial staff of more than 100 young professionals, an editorial budget exceeding \$300,000 and readership of over 60,000. The board of Student Publications, Incorporated and the publisher of *The Daily Iowan* will soon interview candidates for the position of editor for the term beginning June 1, 2012 and ending May 31, 2013.

The editor of *The Daily Iowan* must have strong journalistic abilities, skills in management and a clear sense of editorial responsibility. The board will weigh heavily scholarship, previous news writing and editing experience (including working at *The Daily Iowan* or another daily newspaper), and proven ability to lead, organize and inspire a staff.

Applicants must be enrolled in a UI undergraduate or graduate degree program. Candidates must submit completed applications and supporting materials by noon, Friday, February 24, 2012.

**Susan Elgin**  
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**SWIMMING**  
CONTINUED FROM 10

some unhappiness with the results from the first day of the championships, but his sentiments changed after swimming in the 50 free.

"I was really happy with my performance — I shaved 0.3 seconds off my personal best time," Partridge said. "Today was a day where we had to get a lot of swimmers in the finals, and that's what we did this morning."

Partridge's finish in 19.68 seconds puts him third all-time in the 50 free at Iowa.

Phelan also posted a personal-best time of 19.73 seconds, the fourth-best mark in school history. The senior captain said he was happy with the improvement the squad made, and he relished the opportunity to score points for the home squad.

"I'm happy we had three Hawks in the finals; I was proud to be a part of that," the Cedar Rapids native said. "[Scoring points] is what I came here to do — to help out and score points any way possible. I have the 100 freestyle coming up Saturday, and I look to do my best in that."

Thursday's round of the championships ended with

the 400 medley relay. The Hawkeye quartet of Grant Betulius, Andrew Marciniak, Byron Butler, and Partridge placed fourth in 3:11.87 minutes, earning 30 points for the Black and Gold. Michigan's relay squad took first, notching a pool-record 3:07.32-minute finish.

Iowa climbed up to fourth place at the end of Thursday with a total score of 152 points. Michigan is in first with 253, followed by Ohio State with 218, and Indiana with 189.

Head men's swimming coach Marc Long said he was content with his

squad's performance at the second day of the meet, but, he said, he would prefer to see more of his athletes in event finals.

"To get three people in the finals [of the 50 free] is outstanding," he said. "We're always greedy, though. We would like to have everybody swimming there. It's still a tremendous start, but there's still a lot of swimming and diving to go here."

Long gave a simple answer when asked how he sees his squad scoring points in the next few days. "We'll see," he said softly. "I won't know until tomorrow."

**TRACK**  
CONTINUED FROM 10

pretty much repeating the volume I put up last year,"

he said. "I'll try to go for first in the mile and just stay competitive, depending on where we are place-wise with the rest of the races."

Thode didn't qualify for

nationals last year until his final opportunity at a last-chance meet, and he's preparing himself for that possibility with just two meets remaining.

"Honestly, we're just going to play it like last year," he said. "Wait until the last meet of the year — the last-chance meet — and hope."

# GymHawks hit stride

The GymHawks will try to top No. 22 Minnesota tonight while keeping an eye on the Big Ten Championships.

By ALEX FRENCH  
alexander-french@uiowa.edu

The Iowa women's gymnastics team (2-3-1, 1-2-1 Big Ten) has hit the halfway point of the 2012 season with six meets under its belt.

Not everything has gone smoothly, but senior Jessa Hansen said the team and coaches have identified what needs to be addressed in practice. Now, the Hawkeyes are focusing on details for the second half of the season.

"We know what we need to do to improve," she said. "[We're working on] skills aggressively and sticking landings, especially. It's the last thing the judges see, so it's like an exclamation point."

Freshman all-around competitor Emma Willis said improving the performance aspect of events — like the choreography of the floor routine — will result in an important scoring boost, too.

"We're focusing a lot on details, like little steps on landings," she said. "But it's



Iowa's Tessa Cox competes on the beam against Iowa State at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 17. The Hawkeyes will host Minnesota at 7 p.m. today. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

a combination of arts and details. We're trying our best to get our scores to count."

Iowa's performance Feb. 17 against Iowa State resulted in the GymHawks' second-highest beam score of the season — a 48.375. The beam had been a problem for the Hawkeyes; assistant coach Caleb Phillips said the team put the event on a pedestal. But now, Iowa has the confidence — a large component in the balance beam — to remain consistent.

"It was a big confidence-boost for us," Phillips said. "We know that if scoring is tight, we can hit and score well [on beam]."

From here, Phillips said, the team can focus on details to improve both individual and team scores.

"They look sharp, and last weekend was telltale," he said. "We want to salvage as many details as we can. Once we get over the hump, it'll be all downhill."

With the Big Ten championships looming exactly one month away, Iowa could be hitting its stride at the right time. Hansen admitted one eye is on March 24, but said the other is on tonight's meet against No. 22 Minnesota.

"[The Big Ten meet is] always in the back of our head," she said. "We want to improve every meet, but

**Iowa vs. No. 22 Minnesota**  
When: 7 p.m. today  
Where: Carver-Hawkeye Arena

we can't look too far ahead."

Phillips wants and expects postseason competition out of his gymnasts. But for now, he said, there's no point looking to March when a nationally ranked team is visiting this weekend.

"We train all season long with the idea to be solid and consistent," he said. "We take things one meet at a time. We want to be solid and consistent [each meet]."

**BIG TEN INDOORS**

# Now healthy, Hawks set to go

The Hawkeyes are finally healthy and ready to compete in Lincoln.

By CODY GOODWIN  
cody-goodwin@uiowa.edu

The Iowa women's track and field team has waited all season for this weekend. The Hawkeyes have trained for months for the Big Ten indoor meet. Now, Iowa will get the chance to showcase its; the meet will open today at 10 a.m. in the Devaney Center Indoor Track in Lincoln, Neb.

Head coach Layne Anderson has preached all season that this meet is what his athletes train for and what counts the most. Their attitude, as it has been throughout the indoor season, is optimistic.

"We've been working hard for this chance," the head coach said. "We have the potential to go and

score high. This weekend is the chance to finally do it."

The potential has been there all season long, Anderson said. Several issues have kept the Hawkeye tracksters from realizing their potential this season, including a plague of injuries to premier athletes; Anderson pointed to some of his distance athletes who had to sit early in the season because of injuries and health problems from their cross-country season.

But another crucial loss this season has been sophomore sprinter Ashley Liverpool, who has been nursing a shin injury that held her to only two meets this season.

The Cincinnati native's absence has been critical to the production of the Black and Gold this season. Liv-



Liverpool sophomore

erpool ran the lead leg of the 1,600-meter relay team that grabbed second place at the Big Ten indoors last season. She also claimed second place in the 400 meters.

But she will be in action this weekend, and she hopes to help her team place higher at the conference meet than the tie for eighth place the Hawkeyes notched last year.

"We're excited to see her come back," Anderson said. "She'll definitely help us out from a points standpoint. She's a true competitor out there, and tag that with her talent, she'll give everything she's got."

Liverpool won't be the only previously injured Hawkeye ready to compete this weekend.

Junior thrower Rachel Curry, who placed 12th at last year's conference championship, has been nursing a small stress fracture in her throwing hand that forced her to sit out of the Iowa Invitational.

Throwing coach Scott

Cappos took precautions this week to help Curry heal in time for the meet. Even with those precautions, though, he said he wants Curry to be careful when she throws this weekend.

"We're going to wrap it up and tape it," Cappos said. "Hopefully that will provide some cushion for her when she throws. I think we'll be fine, but only time will tell."

Both Liverpool and Curry are ready to compete, and the Black and Gold are ready for today's competition.

But to simply compete is one thing, the coaches said repeatedly. To do well — and score points — is another.

"This season has been a little bit more difficult [than usual]," distance runner McKenzie Melander said. "Anytime the entire team is ready to go, it only helps our confidence."

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When asked to give a reference for Terri, Xuyea Cai and Yue Li said the following kind words:

真诚, 易相处, 负责, 这就是我对Terri的感觉。自从我们第一次见面, 她开始帮助我寻找理想房子的时候, 我一直可以很轻松的问她关于房子的任何问题, 她的回答也总是非常及时而有用。而且, 即便是等我们把房子买好了, 她还是很愿意帮忙。我和Terri现在已经是朋友了, 并且在很长时间内都会是朋友。  
**Terri is licensed to sell Real Estate in Iowa.**

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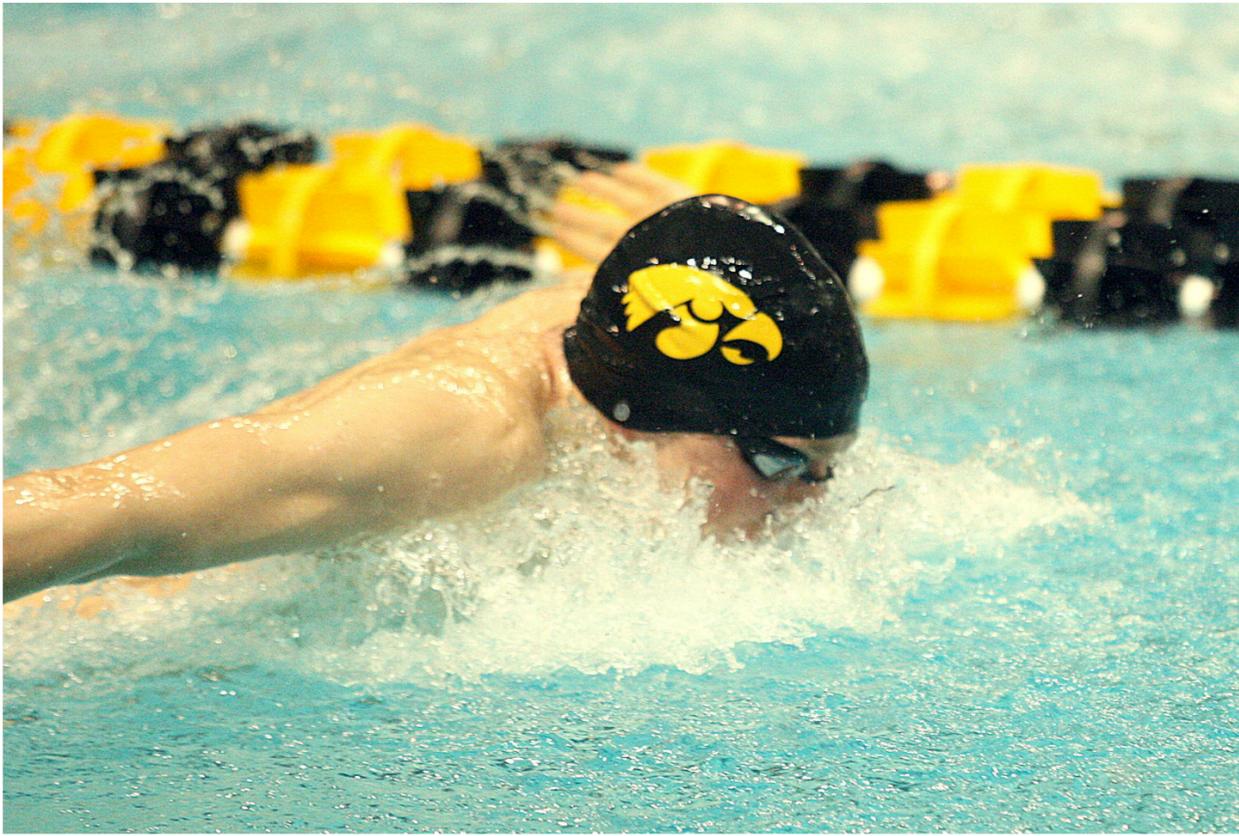
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**BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS**

# Hawks jump up in Big Tens



Iowa's Tyler Lentz swims in the 200 medley finals during the Big Ten meet on Thursday in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center. Lentz and the Hawkeyes are in fourth place after two days of competition. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

Iowa climbed from eighth place to fourth after having three All-Americans compete in a single event.

By **BEN ROSS**

benjamin-d-ross@uiowa.edu

The Iowa men's swimming team crawled out of eighth place in the Big Ten meet on Thursday in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center by recording strong finishes in the 500 and 50 freestyle and 400 medley.

Iowa had a score of 48 points

coming into the day, putting the Hawkeyes just two places from the bottom. That changed after sophomore Manuel Belzer provided a surge with a sixth-place finish in the finals of the 500 free. Belzer notched a time of 4:21.79 minutes; Michigan's Ryan Feeley placed first in 4:15.12 minutes.

Iowa's Tyler Lentz and Kyle Noser then earned a few more points for the squad, with 11th- and 15th-place finishes in the 200 medley.

The Black and Gold's biggest burst was in the 50 freestyle. Iowa had three swimmers in the eight-man final, senior All-Americans Duncan Partridge, Ryan Phelan, and Paul Gordon.

DAILYIOWAN.COM

Follow *DI* men's swimming reporter Ben Ross on Twitter for live updates from the Big Ten meet: @BenEross

The trio placed fourth, fifth, and sixth, respectively, and earned the Hawkeyes 42 points in the event.

Partridge had expressed

SEE SWIMMING, 8

**IOWA 70, NORTHWESTERN 63**

**Hoopsters win 7th straight**

The Iowa women's basketball team completed a season sweep over Northwestern and extended its winning streak to seven games with a 70-63 win on Thursday night in Evanston, Ill.

The Hawkeyes haven't lost since Jan. 26 at Nebraska.

"February has been a pretty good month for us," head coach Lisa Bluder said after the game. "I kind of wish it was a longer month the way we've been playing. To get seven wins in a row in the Big Ten is amazing, and four of



**Bluder**  
head coach

them have come on the road. That's very good, especially with Jaime [Printy] going down."

The Hawkeyes hit 6 first-half 3-pointers as they cruised to a 38-22 lead at halftime. Junior center Morgan Johnson paced the Black and Gold with 12 points through the first stanza.

But Northwestern slowly whittled away at the lead during the second half, and the Wildcats got as close as 6 points. In the end, though, the Hawkeyes' offense — even though it was only 9-of-30 from the floor in the second half — was too much.

Johnson led the team with 18 points and 4 rebounds. Senior point guard Kamille Wahlin added 14 points. Freshman guard Sam Logic recorded her fifth double-double of the season and third straight; she finished with 17 points, 10 rebounds, and 5 assists.

Logic hit 4 of her 5 free throws with the game winding down to ice the win for Iowa.

"We hit clutch free throws and maintained a calm presence at the end of the game," Bluder said. "For a freshman to step up in that kind of situation is really good — we're happy for Sam and the way she stepped up in that situation."

— by Ben Wolfson

**Baseball heads to S. Carolina**

The Iowa baseball team will travel to Myrtle Beach, S.C., this weekend to play in the 13th-annual Caravelle Resort Baseball at the Beach Tournament.

Head coach Jack Dahm's squad (1-2) will face three teams on the trip, including host Coastal Carolina at 3 p.m. today in the first-ever meeting between the schools. The Chanticleers (1-2) made the NCAA Tournament last season.

Iowa will also play George Mason (1-2) on Saturday and Virginia Tech (3-1) on Feb. 26.

Left-hander Jarred Hippen will lead off the starting rotation today and will be opposed by Coastal's Tyler Herb. Hippen

yielded 10 hits and 5 runs in 5 2/3 innings last week in a no-decision against Pittsburgh.

Herb is a sophomore right-hander who anchors the rotation for the Chanticleers this season. He gave up just one run and struck out 4 in 7 innings in a win over James Madison last week.

Iowa infielders Chett Zeise and Andrew Ewing have paced the Hawkeye offense thus far. Zeise is 6 for his first 12, including 3 doubles and 2 RBIs. Ewing is hitting .429 (3-of-7) with a run scored and 1 RBI.

— by Matt Cozzi



**Hippen**  
left-hander

**Softball heads to California**

The Iowa softball team rewrote the school record book in a tournament in Arizona last week, and it will continue racking up frequent flier miles this weekend when it travels to California today to compete in the Cathedral City Classic.

Iowa (6-4) will kick off the tournament at 2:30 p.m. today against Fresno State in the first game of a double-header. The Bulldogs are 7-2 and boast a 0.80 team ERA. The nightcap will feature the Hawkeyes and Oregon State (7-3).

The Black and Gold will then take on Cal State-Northridge (0-10) on Saturday and finish the weekend against Long Island-Brooklyn (1-9).

Iowa has four Golden State natives on its roster, so a few of

the Hawkeyes should feel at home. Megan Blank (Culver City), Nikki Gentile (Martinez), Brianna Luna (Indio), and Kayla Massey (Foothill Ranch) will all make the trip.

Head coach Marla Looper's squad goes into California with a .378 team batting average. Blank — who earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors on Feb. 13 for her performance at the Gettnerman Classic in Texas — leads the team with a mark of .533.

Iowa will continue its cross-country trip next weekend when it travels to three cities in Oklahoma — Stillwater, Oklahoma City, and Norman — to compete in the Hall of Fame Tournament.

— by Ben Ross



**Massey**  
pitcher

**BIG TEN INDOORS**

# Tracksters up for Big Tens

Throwers and All-Americans alike will have to step up for Iowa to claim the Big Ten indoor title.

By **ELDON GIANNAKOUIROS**

eldon-giannakouros@uiowa.edu

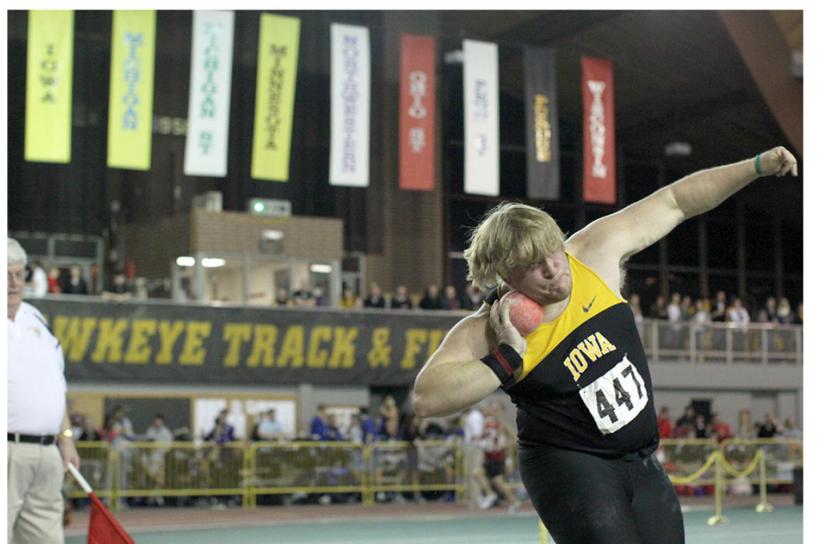
The climax of the indoor men's track season has arrived.

The Big Ten indoor meet will begin tonight and continue through the weekend in Lincoln, Neb., and the Hawkeyes hope to make a statement as they enter competition as the defending conference outdoor champions.

"The Big Ten indoor championships is always a key meet for us to build toward outdoors," assistant coach Joey Woody said. "One of the biggest signs of us having a champion-level Big Ten outdoor team, as we did last year, is what we do at the indoor championships."

Woody said the Hawkeyes — especially All-Americans Erik Sowinski, Troy Doris, Jeff Thode, and Justin Austin — will have to step up and continue to provide explosive performances in order to stay in contention at the championships.

But the Hawkeyes will also need to make some changes in an area in which they haven't been dominant in the past. No



Iowa's Matt Banse competes in the shot put at the Iowa Invitational track meet in the Recreation Building on Feb. 17. Banse and the Hawkeyes will travel to Lincoln, Neb., for the Big Ten indoor meet tonight. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

Iowa thrower scored at last year's indoor championships; seniors Matt Banse and Ryan Lamparek plan to walk into the throwing circle and change that this weekend.

"We're going to have to really step up because in order to [win a Big Ten championship], you have to have scorers in every event," Banse said. "You can't have lapses anywhere."

Banse has had a breakthrough season, but fouled out last weekend at the Iowa Invitational. It was a reality check in a season that has seen him top both school records and his own expectations.

"It was a humbling experience. It showed I can still have bad meets even though in the weeks

before, I was doing so well," he said. "It kind of brought me back down to ground level and gave me stuff to work on in practice this week."

With that experience behind him, he is confident he'll find the distances he needs this weekend.

"He came up to me right afterwards and said, 'I fouled out, but better this weekend than next weekend,'" coach Larry Wiczorek said. "He's been throwing well, and he said he's got a few things to work on in practice, but he reassured me he's going to be fine for the Big Ten championships."

The looming national championships are another change athletes will have to avoid as they try to keep their focus on the Big

**Big Ten Indoor Championships**

**When:** 10 a.m. today, Saturday  
**Where:** Devaney Center Indoor Track, Lincoln, Neb.

**MORE INSIDE**

Key pieces of the Iowa women's team are finally healthy and ready for the Big Ten indoors. 8

Ten meet. Thode has yet to qualify for the NCAA indoors, and although he'll compete in an ideal field for a qualifying time this weekend, he'll have to measure his efforts as he increases his event load for the sake of the team.

"I'm running every race but the 3 kilometer; I'm

SEE TRACK, 8