Iowa emergency rooms saw more than 14,000 dental visits in 2009.

By CHASTITY DILLARD

An apple a day may keep the dentist away, but staying away from the dentist might be a bad move. In fact, at cost state as much as $5 mil-

lion each year. A recent Pew Center report showed more Americans are gambling against traumatic dental vis-

its. Instead of visiting the dentist for checkups or treat-

ment for minor issues, more Americans are ignoring their oral health problems.

But when these problems worsen, many of these people are ending up in the emergency room.

In 2007, 10,000 emer-

gency-room visits in Iowa were for oral health rea-

sons — costing the state $5 million. In 2009, these numbers had tripled to 30,000, with 75 percent adults aged 18 to 44.

Michael Kanellis, the associate dean for patient care at the Uni-

versity of Iowa College of Dentistry, said Iowa doesn’t have it as bad as many states in which large urban areas suffer the most, but it’s still an issue here.

“With more people out of work, the first thing they will stop spending on is dental care, and so they can end up in the hospital, which isn’t good because they will wind up with pal-

lative care,” said Kanellis, who is also a pediatric dentist.

The UI Hospital and Clinics’ emergency and specialty dental clinic sees roughly 150,000 patients each year. That offsets the number of dental injuries seen in the emergency room.

Kanellis said emergency-room treatments are only able to temporar-

arily alleviate a patient’s pain or swelling. Most doctors recommend fol-

lowing up with a visit to the dentist, and those who don’t usually end up back in the emergency room.

And emergency rooms aren’t equipped to handle dental problems.

“The problem is, No. 1, it’s high cost care in the dentist, and those who don’t usually end up back in the emergency room.”

Branstad pushes ed funds

Emily Busse never imagined leading The Daily Iowan when she started work-

ing as a freshman, but the UI junior will be given a chance to do just that next year.

Iowa state senator and long-time Iowan Tom Branstad has proposed a $20 million increase to the Iowa regents schools.

Emily Busse had two longer-form pieces published in The Daily Herald when she was in high school.

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Iowa moves up in ‘sunshine’

Officials say Iowa’s government transparency grade is on the rise.

BY RETH BRATOS
rethbratos@thdailyowan.com

A 2011 bill may have improved Iowa’s transparency grade, but that’s only one way more can do.

Reth Bratos

“Analysis from the Sunshine Review organization gave Iowa a B- ‘sunshine rating’ for 2012. which is an improvement from C+ in 2011. The Sunshine Review analyzes access to data on the number of people,” wrote the organization’s administrative assistant, Cristian Rios, in a press release. “Officials say Iowa’s transparency grade is improved, which is likely to be consistent with the new reporting law passed in July 2011. The survey was made available to the series’ objective and non-partisan approach. The survey includes companies, public and private entities, and government organizations. The survey was made available to the series’ objective and non-partisan approach. The survey includes companies, public and private entities, and government organizations. The survey was made available to the series’ objective and non-partisan approach. The survey includes companies, public and private entities, and government organizations. The survey was made available to the series’ objective and non-partisan approach. The survey includes companies, public and private entities, and government organizations. The survey was made available to the series’ objective and non-partisan approach.
for more news — is a such a big part of scholar, gave her said, something dentists many problems, Caplan of toothaches.” We have a lot of preven-
ting cavities and a lot.

“Because if your rate of people going to the emer-
gency room for dental problems is above zero, it basically means that some people can’t get

services.” Gehshan said there are low-cost programs states can use to help tackle the problems. If water is fluoridated, you have to make sure that they continue to fluoridate,” she said. “All states should do a better job on getting more sealants on low-income kids’ teeth. It’s really a toy cost.” Another problem is Medicaid reimbursement rates — 50 to 60 percent nationwide — which push dentists to not accept these patients. But more than 70 per-
cent of Iowa dentists accept Medicaid, Kamen said. Demano said the prob-
lem is people think of den-
tal health issues as optional.

“We are learning more and more that it isn’t separ-
ate,” he said. “An infec-
tion in your body is an infection in your body.”

EDITOR
CONTINUED FROM 1

as a writer, Opinions editor, News editor, and editor-in-chief, she said, the limited nudity what it meant to have a big audi-
ence — even in high school. Busse wrote two longer-
form pieces for her high-
school paper that were eventually published in the Daily Herald.

“I just kind of fell into the high school world, and I really, really did well in high school, you can reach a huge audi-
ence,” she said. Busse said she looks for-
ward to taking on her larg-
er role. “I am quoted to be a big part of the DI because the DI is a such a big part of the community,” she said.

As a writer, Opinions editor, News editor, and

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Editors and other staffers all thought she was the person the right choice. “She was the perfect choice, and she was the one that, of other staffers, all thought she was the only candidate, she was the right choice.”

She said she wants to see every staff member produce more content and put a greater emphasis on beat reporting. “I think it’s important for a TV reporter to write-stuff in print and have more people producing content,” she said. Busse said her experi-
ence before the DI gave her a taste of what professional journalism would be like. She started her journal-
ism career in high school with The Prospector, Principle High School’s school newspaper — where she both wrote and edited.

An Iowa State University media relations official did not return a call requesting more information. But in the big picture, it’s really not.”

Iowa’s tough economy, Busse said, has also supported the pro-
posed budget. “The Iowa Constitution actually dictates how funds should be used, and educ-
tion in Iowa.”

“I think [the proposal] fits the larger agenda on refor-
ming and improving education in Iowa.”

Members of the State Board of Regents have applauded the governor for offering some increased support, but they say the $20 million is not enough and are instead pushing the governor and the legis-
lature to increase support by $40 million.

Gov. Terry Branstad answers questions about his new budget proposals for education at a press conference Monday in Des Moines. Branstad’s proposed calls for a $20 million increase to the state Board of Regents’ schools. (The Daily Iowan/Asmaa Elkeurti)

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Smokers should weigh health risks before going synthetic

We won’t all be children, as “If you’re going to make something, do it right?” There are people who tốp household choose such as washing dishes and making our Star-Wars-chips have to do it right. While the Daily Journal editorial board does not nêglect the health issues associated with smoking, we should carefully weigh the health and legal impacts of replacing real marijuana with synthetic substances. As R. J. Cigan — both of which have been banned in Iowa — synthetic marijuana is an alternative to drugs that can be used for enjoyment.

The Daily Journal, however, sees the synthetic marijuana as a temporary solution, offering that it is not a cure-all. They argue that real marijuana versus synthetic marijuana (also known as "fake marijuana") should carefully weigh the legal and health impacts of using synthetic marijuana. They suggest that real marijuana is far safer than its synthetic cousins.

For most Americans, St. Patrick’s Day is a day to recall the story of the miracle. According to legend, Patrick — a holy bishop sent to Ireland. He is known for his powers of many miracles and is responsible for "snakes" out of Ireland.

The editorial writers of the Daily Journal have made a strong case for the legalization of marijuana. They argue that marijuana has proven not to be detrimental to health by any significant measure. It may be able to enjoy your high throughout your life your rights. If you are able to comply with the above, you should consider it a reasonable and legal right.

Rushing to judgment

Editorial

Smokers should weigh health risks before going synthetic

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News
dailyIowan for more news

Records law still too complex, some say

By DEREK KELLISON

A bill mandating state- sponsored training for direct-care providers has provoked mixed responses among local caregiving officials.

"I don't think licensing would be a good safeguard against untrained workers because we already have a system in place," said Sen. John Hale, D-Mailport, a legislative policy consultant for the Iowa Caregivers Association.

"Our concern is that the bill would not put uniform financial strain on affected businesses. All training will be affordable," he said. "It will not strain employees economically." Hale said both training standards in Iowa and the direct-care field is one of the largest in Iowa — with 72,000 employees — she expressed concern that the workers going into the field without adequate training may not be ready to handle the full range of the job requirements.

"The training is common sense for most AARP members," she said. "For those who have not yet been trained, we encourage them to attend one of the programs they're offering in Emmetsburg, Iowa." Hale said both training standards in Iowa and the direct-care field is one of the largest in Iowa — with 72,000 employees.

"Most general services workers have training requirements..., and we encourage all of them to take training courses that are available in Emmetsburg," she said. "They're just trying to ensure at least some basic training."
The research team has spent $2.4 million on the floodplain mapping project.

By DORA GROTE

The Iowa water-resource officials say any research progress is accelerating after they established effective methods for the Iowa Floodplain Mapping Project.

"The first year was a learning experience, trying to make sure we had good prowess in place, hire staff, and do other things," said Nathan Young, an associate research scientist/engineer for the Iowa Flood Center.

"It was a start-up period. We were not so productive," he said.

The team, established following the catastrophic 2008 floods, began digitizing Iowa floodplains last year.

By DORA GROTE

In spring 2009, Housing and Urban Development distributed funds granted the Iowa Flood Center $8.6 million to create floodplain maps for the 85 counties declared federal disaster areas: 49 watersheds — and hydrologic analyses to estimate hydraulic computer models. The mapping uses such an enormous area managing such a large amount of data, said Young, who is leading the project.

"The biggest difficulty is ensuring such a large data set," he said. "We are covering such an enormous area and generating a lot of data, but it came as an unexpected challenge.

The project funds 13 full-time University of Iowa research staff and nine UI graduate and undergraduate students. Project coordinators met last week to update and re-evaluate the mapping plan based on current workforce, said Scott Rolleston, the Iowa Flood Center floodplain mapping coordinator. The project is digitizing the southwest part of the state, he said.

"There are seven watersheds that we are basically said don’t want to do. We are about half way through," Rolleston said, referring to the recent agreement between the Iowa Army Corps of Engineers and Natural Resources. "We remapped the rest of it. The boundaries change between years a little bit. We moved around some areas; FEMA has some funds there to do work that it didn’t have originally.

The Iowa floodplain maps are based on state LiDAR data, an area survey of the land using lasers. The mapping uses hydrography — which measures the depth of the water — and hydraulic analyses to estimate water movement in a given stream or river. The analyses also predict the depth and timing of flooding based on the estimates.

"If you understand where you’re at in possession of the tools that help you make a better decision on how to live, what type of businesses you might own, or what the community should do with that land," said Flood Center Managing Director Carmen Lansing.

Connie Wensmann, a senior natural-resources program specialist with FEMA, said the updated digitized floodplain maps will determine flood-prone areas.

"The collaboration between Natural Resources and the Floodplain Center has also sparked new projects, she said.

"We work a lot with the engineering research and, (Natural Resources) knows most of the governmental issues," he said. "The complementary relationship has also fostered some other collaborations on other projects including the stream-sensor project.”

Watersheds

• 15 Iowa creation detailed mapping area; 49 watersheds.
• 13 watersheds not detailed; 7 watersheds.
• 23 primary analyses completed.
• 53 floodplains completed.
• 13 floodplains completed.
• 13 floodplains completed.

Source Nathan Young, associate research scientist/engineer for Iowa Flood Center.

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The Daily Iowan's Grand prize winner of a $100 Master Card debit card.

Thank you to all 31,470 readers who entered our Grand Giveaway contest!
**Gymnastics**

CONTINUED FROM 10

The No. 1 seed in the 2012 NCAA meet in the James E. Martin Aquatic Center in Auburn, Ala., on March 15-17.

NCAA meet and has recorded 16 doubles, as well as two Big Ten Swimmer of the Week on Feb. 15-18. Freshman Becky Stoughton claimed Big Ten Swimmer of the Week on Monday.

**Point/Counterpoint**

**Who Will Win Big Ten?**

The No. 1 seed in the 2012 NCAA meet in the James E. Martin Aquatic Center in Auburn, Ala., on March 15-17.

No. 3-seed Ohio State

The Buckeyes have been named Big Ten Tournament team on Monday. This season; she took home Freshman of the Year in 2011.

No. 2-seed Wisconsin

The Badgers are the reigning Big Ten Conference champions, having won the tournament in 2011 and 2012.

No. 1-seed Michigan State

The Spartans have been one of the most consistent teams in the Big Ten, finishing in the top three of the conference in each of the past five seasons.

**Sports**

Davie said he had been bedridden with a severe throat infection and couldn’t leave the house, so his wife took care of the boys.

Michigan until the champion- son title. This will allow for the Big Ten regular-season tournament to fall into a three-way tie last two conference games. Dermody received a no-decision.

Riverview Inn Classic All-Tourney team on Monday.

The Buckeyes' defense has been solid all season, giving up only 82.4 points per game in conference play.

McGrath said it will be important for the Hawkeyes to stay focused on their shooting.

The Buckeyes' defense was able to hold the Hawkeyes to just 64 points, while Michigan State was able to score 71 points.

**Michgian State will occupy the tournament's No. 1 seed.**

The Spartans will be able to build on their success from last season, where they won the tournament title.

The Buckeyes have played well against Big Ten competition, winning four of their last five conference games.

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**Sports**

Stoughton heads to NCAAs

The Iowa women's swimming and diving team will be represented at the NCAA meet for the first time in 11 years.

Stoughton qualified in both the 50 and 100 freestyle and the 100 backstroke.

She will compete on Feb. 25-27.

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Persia scores the game-winner off Fake Madrid as or die for intramural soccer matthew-cabel@uiowa.edu soccer match ed to respond, Fake stage late in the first half. give his team a 1-0 advan- keeper Ciesco Febrian to close to the goal to score.” Emadi said. “We tried to pass a lot and bring the ball created numerous turnovers. 

“Two late goals — one from Persia captain Majid 

“Emadi took the reins and attempt- Aghaami stretched down- and the half the flying past Fake Madrid goal- 

“As a result, Aghaami was held out of the game. The 

“Persia’s physical play by employed by both teams from the start began to take a toll in the second half as play was stopped numerous times for free kicks. Emadi have thrived without the worry of dropping scores. The 

“Despite their huge home crowd, the Hawks were simply out-muscled in the loss. 

“Emadi’s performance was impressive and he will certainly be a key player for Persia in the upcoming games.”