



The Daily Iowan

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50¢

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West-bound Washington Street traffic starting soon

Construction on Washington Street will soon come to an end, and two-way traffic will be open between Linn and Clinton Streets at 10 a.m. today.

Kristopher Ackerson, a transport planner at the Metropolitan Planning Organization of Johnson County, said there is still work to be done but construction has gone smoothly.

"With students gone [during spring break], there was a minimal impact on the downtown business community," he said. "But the project is still in front of students so they're aware of the change firsthand."

Ackerson said the change from one-way to two-way traffic will improve downtown accessibility for bicycles and emergency vehicles.

Washington Street has been a one-way since 1976. According to a city press release, downtown business owners and local residents wanted to see the city revert the street to two-way. Construction began more than a week ago to coincide with spring break.

City officials expect construction will be completed this week. **- by Kristen East**

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WEATHER

HIGH **36** LOW **21**

Mostly cloudy, quite windy, 50% chance of rain-T-storms.

UIHC meth-lab burn numbers up



The UI Hospitals and Clinics Burn Unit saw 11 meth-lab related burn patients in 2010.



UIHC patients with methamphetamine-related burns have increased from two in 2007 to 11 in 2010. Starting from the top left, Edward Neuzil, Veronica Collins, Patrick Cupples, Barton Haigh. Bottom Left, Rena Kelley, Nicholas Nash, James Johnston. (The Daily Iowan/Contributed Photo)

By **DORA GROTE**
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Patients with methamphetamine-related burns are filling up the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics burn unit once again, UI officials say.

The steady rise comes from the popularity of the one-pot — also known as “Shake and Bake” — method. The method uses a significantly smaller amount of pseudoephedrine but also makes significantly less meth, causing the meth maker to produce more frequent, smaller batches, according to the Iowa City police.

Patients in the UIHC burn unit with meth lab-related burns rose from two in 2007 to 11 in 2010.

“[Patients] don’t always come out and say they were burned making methamphetamine,

but if they would have, it could have helped their care if we would have known earlier,” said Lucy Wibbenmeyer, the interim codirector of the Burn Treatment Center.

Wibbenmeyer said meth-related burns tapered off because of the 2005 Federal Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act, which regulates over-the-counter purchases of pseudoephedrine — a drug used in methamphetamine production.

People who come with meth-related injuries sustain some sort of a chemical burn, which can become a scald injury at high temperatures, she said. Patients with such injuries receive a thorough irrigation treatment — cleaning of the wound — followed by ointment. If the wound does not look as though it will heal, patients then go into surgery for a skin graft.

“A lot of these people [with meth burns] do

not have insurance, so the hospital doesn’t get compensated for care,” Wibbenmeyer said. “And when they leave, we have a hard time finding therapy for them.”

Patients typically have to stay in the hospital one day per percent body area burned. After leaving the hospital, patients must attend occupational or physical therapy to help them relearn everyday exercises, Wibbenmeyer said.

UIHC occupational therapist Melinda Shetler said burns that cross a joint will often scar and cause the skin to become tight, restricting moving and bending.

“It’s kind of a life-changing event,” Shetler said. “They have to make the commitment to doing that therapy, and if they don’t, they run

SEE METH. 3

Little UI interest in Illinois primary

By **KRISTEN EAST**
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Local Republicans are keeping an eye on today’s GOP nominating contest in Illinois, but few are getting deeply involved, despite a large number of Land of Lincoln transplants at the University of Iowa.

“There’s a good number — but not a majority — of [College Republicans] from Illinois,” said Kelsey Boehm, the president of the UI College Republicans. “We do pay a lot of attention to the results of other states.”

Illinois is the top feeder state for the UI, bringing in 1,524 first-year students for the fall of 2011.

Boehm said UI students were more interested and involved in the Iowa caucuses because of their relevancy.

“The race has been drawn out, and I think this will be an important result to watch, and it will have an impact on who will be the eventual nominee,” she said.

One Republican leader in Illinois said the primary



Republican presidential-nomination candidate Rick Santorum speaks on March 17 during a campaign appearance at Herrin High School in Herrin, Ill. Santorum visited several Illinois towns March 17 to help build momentum before today’s primary. (Associated Press/ The Southern, Alan Rogers)

should be an important issue for students even if they’re out of the state attending school.

“For Illinois students attending the UI, it would be very important that they’re knowledgeable about who’s running,” said Mick Paskiewicz, the head of the Illinois College Republicans Federation.

Paskiewicz said students should invest in their native state, even while away, espe-

cially because many Illinois residents have moved to other states.

“A lot of people do come home [from college] to their own communities to vote,” he said. “Students need to get involved with the candidate that they like.”

However, this doesn’t appear to be the case at the UI. Boehm said she wasn’t aware of any UI students

Freshman remembered as bright, motivated

Ahmed was pursuing a career in dentistry at the University of Iowa.

By **ELDON GIANNAKOUIROS**
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University of Iowa freshman Ahsim Ahmed died when his car collided head-on with another vehicle on March 17 while visiting family and friends in his hometown of Eagan, Minn.

Eagan police declined to comment on the exact circumstances of the crash, only confirming Ahmed and 42-year-old Kelly Kristiansen — the driver of the other vehicle — were the only casualties. There were no passengers in either car.

Ahmed graduated from Eagan High School with honors in 2011. Principal Polly Reikowski said Ahmed participated in few extracurricular activities, but he was an enthusiastic member of the school’s Lincoln-Douglas debate team.

“He was a very bright kid,” she said. “An honors student and the pride of his family, no doubt about it.”

Ahmed came to the University of Iowa to pursue a career in dentistry, and his Rienow hall floormates said he always

SEE ILLINOIS. 3

SEE CRASH. 3



MARCH SANITY



Guys play basketball on another warm day outside Burge Hall on Monday. Rain is forecast for the rest of the week. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

More women wanted in STEM areas

The number of women in UI graduate engineering programs has decreased by 3 percent in the last 10 years.

By ASMAA ELKEURTI
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Sex disparities in math and science fields are more complex than they first appear, higher education officials say.

The rate at which females enter science, technology, engineering, and math — known collectively as “STEM” fields — is increasing at what some officials call a “snail’s pace,” but members of the governor’s STEM advisory council are aiming to accelerate the process.

“We have had great interest in equalizing STEM opportunities by gender and by racial diversity,” said Jeff Weld, the executive director of the governor’s advisory council. “The last three years, we’ve had some modest initiatives, and I’m excited by the governor’s work.”

He said the Governor’s Office has been focusing on erasing gender-based stereotypes in math and science and making STEM fields more appealing to women.

“We want to help them teach in ways that welcome men and women and are equally honoring contributions in the classroom,” Weld said. “The awful things that teachers have



Rachel Melvold and Becky Kohles work in the Seamans Center last March. Both are majoring in civil engineering. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

STEM

The number of women pursuing science, technology, engineering, or mathematics degrees in Iowa regent schools increased between 2000 and 2008:

- Undergraduate: 1,103 to 1,203
- Graduate: 478 to 667
- Professional: 143 to 160

Source: Iowa Math and Science Education Partnership

been known to do is say, ‘You’re good at math for a girl.’ We want to help people avoid such faux pas.”

According to the Iowa Math & Science Education Partnership, state Board of Regent schools’ rates for women in STEM-related graduate programs have increased from 478 degrees awarded in 2000 to 667 in 2008.

James Brown, the executive director of the STEM Education Coalition, said

the lack of women and other minority demographics in science and math fields is a multifaceted problem with no simple solution.

“People want to make this a one-dimensional issue, like it’s a factor of mainly aptitude or mainly biases or mainly culture, but the reality is there’s no one single factor,” Brown said. “If brain power is distributed equally through the population — and I think it is, regardless of demographic — you have to draw from all parts of the population, whether it’s for STEM fields or other areas.”

Officials in STEM fields should look to students of all demographics in order to maintain a talented workforce.

“If you’re trying to get more of our brightest students in our STEM fields so they can be future innova-

tors, you have to make sure that you’re drawing from all backgrounds,” he said.

Catherine Whiting, a fourth-year UI graduate student studying theoretical physics, said she has rarely been judged directly based on her sex.

“If I feel any inequality, it’s with people who aren’t physicists. A construction worker once thought I was the secretary,” she said. “That’s the only time I feel that my gender would play a role.”

However, she said, the lack of female peers did lead to some social difficulties.

“When I was first starting out, there weren’t a whole lot of women in the grad program, and it’s hard to connect with the guys,” she said. “The social aspect was also affected by my gender.”

METRO

IC man sentenced in crack case

A local man was sentenced to more than 12 years in prison for conspiracy to distribute crack cocaine, according to a Department of Justice press release.

Antonio Nathaniel Martin, 32, of Iowa City was sentenced March 16 by District Judge John Jarvey. He must also serve 10 years of supervised release and pay \$100 to the Crime Victims Fund, according to the release.

Martin entered a guilty plea in federal court to conspiring to distribute at least 280 grams of crack cocaine from July 2010 through Nov. 4, 2010, and possession of a firearm.

According to the release, Martin admitted to conspiring to distribute crack cocaine with four different people.

The case was investigated by numerous law-enforcement agencies, including the Iowa City

police and the Iowa Department of Public Safety Division of Narcotics Enforcement.

— by Jordyn Reiland

Hawkeye charged with theft

A University of Iowa student-athlete has been charged with second-degree theft.

According to an Iowa City police report, Hawkeye swimmer Aiste Dobrovolskaite, 21, W214 Hillcrest, was charged Sunday with second-degree theft.

According to police, Dobrovolskaite was observed entering two different dressing rooms with several items and leaving the rooms without them. She was reportedly stopped as she left the store with her backpack.

Police officials allege that the backpack contained a total of 38 stolen clothing items totaling \$1,262.

Dobrovolskaite admitted she took the items without paying for

them because she did not have the money, according to the report.

Second-degree theft is considered a Class-D felony and is punishable of up to five years in jail and a maximum fine of \$7,500.

— by Jordyn Reiland

Panel drops UI student’s complaint

The Iowa House Ethics Committee dismissed an ethics complaint Monday in which a University of Iowa student accused a state representative of bribery.

UI student Jake Highfill accused Rep. Erik Helland, R-Johnston, of bribing him with two jobs to stop campaigning for Helland’s House seat. Highfill and Helland are both candidates for the Johnston House seat in the June Republican primary.

The committee dismissed the complaint on a 4-2 vote.

— by Kristen East

Reynolds meets with Xi

Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds met with China’s Vice President Xi Jinping Monday.

The 45-minute meeting came during Reynolds’ trip to Beijing on a trade mission with the Iowa Soybean Association.

Xi made a trip to Iowa in February to highlight friendly relations between Iowa and China.

“The meeting was a reaffirmation of a partnership that Gov. Branstad and Vice President Xi established nearly 30 years ago,” Reynolds said. “Our friendship with Vice President Xi is an important one that offers great potential that could help the people of Iowa. China imports more Iowa soybeans than all other countries combined, and we look forward to a strong trading partnership with them in the future.”

Xi said he looks forward to visiting his “old friends” from Iowa in the future.

— by Dora Grote

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BREAKING NEWS

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Monday

1. Advocates say physical barriers impede southeast Iowa City neighborhoods
2. NCAA Championships: McDonough already looking ahead
3. Commentary: Not enough upsets for Hawkeye wrestlers
4. NIT: Porous defenses end Iowa’s season in 108-97 loss at Oregon
5. Letter to the Editor

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ILLINOIS

CONTINUED FROM 1

traveling to Illinois today to vote.

Tim Hagle — a UI associate professor of political science — said it's especially important for students to participate this year in the Illinois primary.

"This time [the results] seem to make more of a difference, and one wouldn't want to miss out on being a part of that process," he said.

The 69 delegates up for grabs in Illinois are impor-

tant because there isn't a clear front-runner in this election cycle, Hagle noted.

"By the time you get to this point in the process, there is a clear front-runner," he said. "[Mitt] Romney is in the lead, but some people are still arguing that it's not certain that he'll be the nominee."

Though the Illinois primary comes at an important point in the delegate race, Hagle said, winning every state is just as important for the candidates.

"It's not just that it's Illinois in particular but that every state up to this point has been important," he

said. "[Romney] hasn't been winning all the contests. Every one of these states is important until you see a large shift in delegates."

Paskiewicz agreed, noting that the Republicans' delegate race all boils down to the general election in November.

"Win or lose, after Tuesday, we're all going to come together for the real election in November," he said. "Right now, we're just working to gauge interest and get people motivated for the real fight."



Republican presidential-nomination candidate Rick Santorum (left) shakes hands with supporters on March 17 during a campaign appearance at Herrin High School in Herrin, Ill. (Associated Press/The Southern, Alan Rogers)

METH

CONTINUED FROM 1

risks of potentially being disabled and not being able to just perform daily living skills."

Shetler said psychosocial components are also a factor in therapy. Patients must learn how to cope with how society views them after their appearance has changed from a burn.

Society plays a big role in the beginning stages of addiction to drugs, said UI nurse practitioner Dave Barloon.

"It's usually a combination of the culture they grow up with and group they hang out with," he said. "It's a learned behavior, and sometimes when you're hanging out with others who are abusing alcohol and pot, someone is going to pull out something

Meth Labs

Police follow a specific routine when they are called to the scene of a meth lab.

- Secure the scene
- Remove people from the building
- Assess the scene
- Get a search warrant if necessary
- Dismantle lab
- Dispose of hazardous waste

Source: Iowa City Police

a little stronger to get a little higher high."

Barloon said addiction could sometimes be influenced by genetics. He said some people try meth and don't like it, but others like the effect and want more.

"For something as serious as meth, the approach would not be to cut down or slow down, the approach would be abstinence," he said. "Just get them off of it. Our other approach is you don't do it alone."

CRASH

CONTINUED FROM 1

struck them as a straight-laced, highly motivated student.

"He was the nicest kid I've ever met. He didn't drink — he didn't do anything like that," said UI student Robbie Sakas, a friend. "He had high aspirations; he wanted to be a dentist. He was so kind."

Dentistry was the easy answer — the one he gave most of his friends and roommates — roommate Gregory Freebeck got to know Ahmed well enough to uncover the true passions within the soft-spoken 18-year old.

"Music. That was his huge passion, he was so driven for success," Freebeck said.

Freebeck chose to become Ahmed's roommate after discovering their shared passion for music.

Ahmed often invited local hip-hop artists up to his room, where he had set up a makeshift recording studio to capture and remaster their songs. He believed the tracks he mixed would someday lead to a better life for himself, his friends, and his family, Freebeck said.

"Everything he would say was, 'When I'm famous,' 'When we're famous,'

Ahsim Ahmed

The UI freshman died in a weekend car crash.

- Graduated with honors from Eagan High School in 2011
- Four-year member of high-school Lincoln-Douglas debate team
- Dental student at University of Iowa
- Recorded and mixed rap tracks in his Rienow dorm room

Source: Gregory Freebeck, Polly Reikowski

"When I'm famous I'll finally pay my parents back," he said. "I feel like with all that's happened, he finally is famous."

While at the UI, Ahmed also lent the video and audio editing skills he'd developed as a dorm-room musician to the UI College of Law's video department.

"He was a wonderful addition to the video department," the College of Law wrote in a post on their website. "He provided a level of knowledge seemingly beyond his young age ... he will be deeply missed."

Funeral services were held directly after the release of Ahmed's body, keeping with the wishes of his family, Reikowski said.

"It's unbelievable that he's gone — we're all going to miss him," Freebeck said.

Illini faculty upset with Hogan

Approximately 123 University of Illinois faculty signed the letter sent to the Board of Trustees.

By JORDYN REILAND
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A former University of Iowa provost is under scrutiny and discussion following complaints at his current place of employment.

University of Illinois faculty and staff wrote two letters over the last two months stating concerns about university President Michael Hogan. Hogan served as the UI provost from 2004 to 2007.

The letter discussed a lack of trust between Hogan and the faculty, saying it would be nearly impossible for Hogan to regain it.

"Trust and respect, once lost, are not so easily recaptured by any such façade, no matter how skillfully manufactured," the letter said.

Hogan was a finalist during the UI's most recent presidential search;

University of Illinois President

University of Illinois faculty and staff addressed their issues with university President Michael Hogan through a letter on March 14. Some of the issues included:

- Bullying other faculty and staff members
- Mistrust
- Miscommunication of successes and failures

Source: March 14 letter

the position was ultimately given to current President Sally Mason.

UI professors said they were confused by University of Illinois faculty's complaints.

"He was very consultative when he was a provost here," said UI history Professor Jeffrey Cox. "I think he was a really good provost."

Before becoming provost at the UI, Hogan served as a UI history professor.

Cox said Hogan had been open when discussing matters with faculty and staff members and did his job well. Yet Hogan's position at Illinois, Cox noted, is in jeopardy because he cannot be

a good leader without the trust of his faculty.

"I am surprised that it happened to Mike Hogan," Cox said.

However, Cox said, when a president loses the confidence of the faculty, he or she loses the ability to be effective.

UI history Professor Katherine Tachau said she also knew Hogan when he was teaching and when she served as Faculty Senate president, but she declined to comment on Hogan's issues at Illinois.

While serving as UI provost, Hogan coordinated the construction of the UI's strategic plan, The Iowa Promise, reallocated \$10.9 million toward faculty salary competitiveness, and created the "2 Plus 2 Guaranteed Graduation Plan" program, according to a 2007 university release following his being hired to become the president of the University of Connecticut.

The letter written to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees on March 14 expressed the urgent desire for the board to let Hogan go.

"Given the challenges that the university faces in an uncertain period for

the state of Illinois, we view it as essential that Hogan's failed presidency be seen for what it is and that a path be forged which can rapidly restore a healthy governance structure," the letter stated.

University of Illinois spokesman Tom Hardy was not available for comment Monday night.

While University of Illinois Board of Trustee members were not able to discuss the most recent letter in their last board meeting March 15, members have been discussing personnel matters at the most-recent meetings.

"His ability to get along with the faculty seems to cause the most friction," said board member Tim Koritz. "The faculty are certainly entitled to their opinions."

Yet, Koritz said, sensitive issues such as the faculty's concerns can often be misconstrued or misunderstood.

"We want to do what's best for the university," he said. "A lot of times letters are written, things are said, [and people] may not know all of the data at hand."

You Are Invited to Meet the Doctors



Hilary H. Barr, MD



Padmalatha Collappakkam, MD



Jamie Greiner, MD

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Point/Counterpoint

Should online school be adopted in Iowa?

Yes

Iowa families should welcome online public K-12 schooling as it becomes more available throughout the state. Homeschooling families should pay special attention to this option, because it could be a strong supplement to their children's fundamental education.

The *Iowa City Press Citizen* reported on March 14 that there are at least five local families who have enrolled their children in online programs for the fall 2012 session. These programs are administered by state education officials and are held to the same standards as traditional public schools.

They can even offer things that some school districts cannot, such as Advanced Placement courses and college-preparatory classes. A study by the Sloan Consortium suggests online education can provide not only the essential curriculum to rural school districts that are not meeting basic requirements but advanced courses as well.

There are many negative perceptions of online schools — such as the University of Phoenix or DeVry University — that don't apply to the K-12 level, and they are generally the same misconceptions that people have of homeschooling. While these programs provide students more freedom to individualize their education experience, it doesn't give them the opportunity to fall behind or neglect what students learn in traditional schools.

Programs such as Connections Academy stress student accountability with more frequent assessments and report cards that "go beyond simple letter grades." Attendance is taken through the completion of assignments submitted online, while students can also take part in group discussions — a Skype-like program that provides a more social, face-to-face experience. Also, the programs provide students an opportunity to become more familiar with technologies that they will need to use later in life in the workplace.

Even a study released by the Education Department in January found online K-12 education broadens access, individualizes a student's learning experience, increases the rate of learning, and reduces costs. This is why online education is something to seriously consider as an alternative to our current system, which has not lived up to what it promised to be. Our public schools were weak compared with those of other nations even before No Child Left Behind became law. The system is based on an antiquated one-size-fits-all approach that cannot work any longer.

But don't be mistaken — we shouldn't dive headfirst into this shallow pool. This system could be abused easily, such as teachers being replaced with computers solely to save money or reduce class sizes. Let's take a good, hard look at online education and make the best of it.

— Joe Schueller

No

I think it's great the Iowa Legislature is looking into online schooling. I think it's a terrible idea to start implementing it next year.

This is exactly what two out-of-state companies are going to do in two separate Iowa school districts.

Next fall, ladies and gentlemen, online schooling will come to a computer near you. And the beautiful thing is, anyone can enroll from any school district, making it available to even you.

The only problem is that it's too idealistic to work. The program will be abused by adolescent students and teachers alike. Parents will do homework so their kids can slide by, and the managers of the programs won't be any the wiser.

And it's a computer — and it's the Internet. My question is, what do you do on your computer? You write papers, you research projects, you do spreadsheets, right?

Sure, you do — but at the same time you are stalking that cute guy on Facebook, while simultaneously pinning to your "Style" board on Pinterest. Two hours of homework takes all night because you stumbled upon a new UI Meme page. I'm with you — I spent all night on that page before it was canceled, and I had a test the next day.

Now, imagine a lone senior in high school given a computer and told to follow a curriculum set up by an administrator in a far-off district. Yeah, right. Can you say Maxim?

Which brings up another problem: the socialization of American teenagers. Giving young minds a computer as their primary means of connecting to society will only further isolate and confuse them when the real world comes knocking.

Dealing with bullies and those stereotypical cliques is never fun, but no computer program will stop that. The sad truth is bullies and cliques don't stop at high school, they extend into every social facet in life. Dealing with stupid people in high school provided us with social skills to deal with stupid people later in life. And this is exactly what real high school teaches kids: how to survive and thrive in a cut-throat world.

Giving a teenager a screen and calling it "school" only teaches the next generation to look at a computer and call it "life."

— Benjamin Evans

Your turn. Should Iowa consider online schooling?
Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Letter

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

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

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

Ag act needed

The Agriculture Protection Act, signed into law March 2 by Gov. Terry Branstad, is not about prohibiting undercover videos, as some want you to believe. The new law only attempts to protect farmers from people who seek and obtain employment under false pretenses with the intent to commit an unauthorized act. Farmers, like any other business people, should have

the right to know the true identity of job applicants.

Undercover videos have produced just one valid case of livestock abuse on an Iowa hog farm: PETA's video taken in 2008 at a Bayard farm. All other undercover videos have simply shown common animal-handling practices, which could be taken out of context by those unfamiliar with livestock production.

The Iowa Pork Producers Association strongly condemns

any abuse of livestock and applauded the conviction of those involved in the Bayard video. The association recommends that any perceived abuse be reported immediately. The undercover investigator did not report the Bayard abuse: PETA released a video three months later, instead.

The pork industry has had quality-assurance programs and systems in place to ensure the health and safety of hogs for more than 20

years. Producers are subject to inspection and review by veterinarians and other third parties on a regular basis.

If you want to see what hog farmers are doing, then just ask. Pork producers aren't hiding anything. They're humanely raising quality pork. The new law is about ethics and honesty, and we don't think that is too much to ask.

Ron Birkenholz
Iowa Pork Producers Association

Overreach-
iness (sigh)BEAU ELLIOT
beauelliot@gmail.com

The Supreme Court is about to take up a case involving the health-care reform of a couple years ago (yeah, I know — yawn), so many news-media outlets, including NPR, have produced stories focusing on the country's health-care system (yeah, I know — double yawn).

We'd rather talk about the weather, except that the weather has been so nice, there's nothing to talk about. Welcome to San Diego of the Prairies.

Well, actually, there were some interesting nuggets in, say, NPR's coverage. For instance: We all know that the European model for health care is bad, bad, bad; it's big government overreach at its overreachiest (yes, I know; I made that word up, and no, I'm not proud of myself), and the road to socialist hell is paved with overreachiness (see above).

So the Europeans are bankrupting themselves with their cradle-to-the-grave universal health care, right?

Right. Um, not exactly. The European nations, NPR cheerily reports (well, it sounded pretty cheery, but perhaps I'm comparing it with a typical Mitt Romney speech), spend around just under 10 percent of GDP on their health-care systems.

The United States (that would be us, such as we can use the word "us" to describe "us" anymore) spends nearly 17 percent of GDP on health care.

And, of course, we have nothing approaching universal health care.

That sounds — well — unhealthy.

But then, I'm a bit biased, having once lived in Germany and having been the beneficiary of the German health-care system (which is excellent).

We Americans, of course, staunchly stick to our private health-care system, because

the road to socialist hell is paved, etc.

But here's another interesting health-care nugget from NPR:

Something around 16 percent of Americans have no health insurance. Yeah, most of us knew that. Another 45 percent, roughly, have some sort of government-provided health insurance. That figure includes the military, federal government employees, state government employees, and teachers, police officers, firefighters — well, you get the idea.

So that leaves somewhere around 39 percent of Americans who hold private insurance. Which, you have to admit, doesn't sound very much like a private health-care system.

And when you consider that the 16 percent who are uninsured generally resort to hospital emergency rooms when they need health care, and that they generally wait until they're really, really sick before they go to the ER, and that they generally can't afford to pay for that care, so the taxpayers wind up footing the bill — well, our health-care system, such as it is, doesn't seem very private at all.

Frankly, it seems like a mess.

Or, as the old sheriff in the Coen brothers' *No Country for Old Men*, after his young deputy said, "This is a real mess, isn't it?" (or words to that effect), put it:

"It'll do until the real mess gets here."

Frankly, I'd rather talk about the weather.

Nice enough for you? (Double yawn.)

Oh, for the days of Michele Bachmann (remember her? me, neither) regaling us with tales of Obamacare and death panels and Paul Revere riding to Concord, N.H., to warn the patriots that the British were coming to impose socialist health care on the Americans.

I miss those days.

No, really, I do.

Another nice day, huh? ■

Guest opinion

Korean controversy embarrassing for Obama

WASHINGTON — A long-range rocket launch planned by North Korea probably would wreck its recent food-for-nuclear concessions agreement with the United States — and with it hopes for quickly improving relations under the North's new leader, Kim Jong Un.

The North announced March 16 its planned launch of a satellite into space, marking a sharp and sudden turn just 17 days after the two countries offered unexpected signs of hope that three years of tensions were easing. Such a launch would violate a U.N. ban.

"It's a real slap in the face," said Victor Cha, a White House director for Asia policy during the George W. Bush administration. "It undercuts a lot of theories that the young leadership might be different. If anything, it shows that it's very much the same as before, only more unpredictable."

It is an embarrassment in an election year for President Obama, who has been labeled by Republican presidential-nomination candidates as naive in his foreign policy. Republican lawmakers already have accused

his administration of "appeasing" Pyongyang by offering 240,000 tons of food in exchange for a freeze on nuclear activities and a moratorium on nuclear and long-range missile tests.

If North Korea carries out the launch, it will be hard to keep alive the accord announced Feb. 29. State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said on March 16 that a satellite launch would be a "deal-breaker" and indicated that the United States would be very unlikely to send the food notwithstanding what Washington

says are the purely humanitarian reasons for offering to feed malnourished North Koreans.

A launch in violation of the North's commitments, she said, would undermine confidence that the North would allow proper monitoring of the distribution of the aid.

The North's announcement highlights the pitfalls of negotiating with a secretive regime, which views its nuclear program as a deterrent against invasion. The United States retains 28,000 troops in South Korea, a legacy of the 1950-

53 Korean War, and the two Koreas remain in a state of war because the conflict ended without a peace treaty.

Previous U.S. efforts over the past two decades to persuade North Korea to disarm have ended in disappointment. Even before the March 16 announcement, a group of five Republican senators wrote to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton accusing the administration of accepting the North's "hollow commitments."

Although North Korea says the rocket launch will

be for peaceful means, the same kind of technology is used for ballistic missiles, which could eventually provide a delivery system for a nuclear weapon if the North should become able to miniaturize one for use on a warhead.

"[North Korea] is putting the Obama administration in a very, very difficult position," said Evans Revere, a former senior State Department official for East Asia. "The administration would have little choice but to react in a firm way to this."

Matthew Pennington
Associated Press

College programs may be cut

The University of Iowa has eliminated 25 programs in last two to three years.

By **CHASTITY DILLARD**
chastity.dillard@uiowa.edu

Higher-education officials nationwide are searching for ways to offset tuition increases sparked by budget crises, with some officials favoring program cuts in academic areas.

"Because states are contributing less every year as far as per student appropriations, campuses have to evaluate what they are spending on — some are eliminating programs," said Tom Harnisch, a policy analyst for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

Iowa's regent universities aren't immune to the situation. The University of Northern Iowa recently proposed changes that could eliminate or restructure 77 academic programs.

Stacey Christensen, the University Relations public-relations manager at UNI, said the university is considering cuts to nonacademic programs, but those cuts haven't been enough.

"What we were really trying to do is take a look and position for our future, so that we can position our university's future to provide the best quality education for our students," she said.

To offset the \$5 million deficit, the UNI proposed cutting \$500,000 from athletics programs and closing printing services and the university museum.

The proposal also includes cutting 23 undergraduate programs, 19 minors, and 16 graduate programs and restructuring 19 programs.

Though the UI and Iowa State University are not experiencing issues as heavily as the UNI, officials at both schools said they are continually monitoring programs and the needs of students at the universities.

"We are not looking to close down majors [at the UI]," said Beth Ingram, the UI associate provost for undergraduate education. "Shutting down a degree for the most part doesn't save any resources."

Ingram said the university doesn't measure the contribution of a department by one dimension — a lot of factors play into a decision about elimination.

For instance, she said, the UI Statistics Department is small but serves many other departments of the university with courses and has strong research.

John Keller, the dean of the UI Graduate College, said in the last two to three years, the university has eliminated 25 degree majors and subtracks in degree majors and certificates, restructured 11 programs, and established nine new graduate programs.

"In the last two to three years, we have done a thorough analysis of the UI's

programs looking at viability, sustainability, and quality as they look to the future," he said.

Karen Zunkel, the director of undergraduate support services for the ISU Office of the Provost, said many factors have to be looked at when considering program cuts.

"Sometimes, there is a reason to have low enrollment — you may want to have smaller sizes," she said. "Rather than eliminating courses, we evaluate when we can offer."

Another factor for UNI is the school's small out-of-state and international-student populations, which can contribute more tuition. Officials at the UNI as well as ISU and UI are focusing on more recruitment in these areas.

Sen. Bob Dvorsky, D-Coralville, who voted in favor of a measure giving UNI \$4 million more than the UI and ISU in general state funding on Monday, said UNI has a different demographic.

"Iowa State and the UI have a good proportion of out-of-state students, and their tuition covers in-state students' tuition," he said, noting UNI's 90 percent in-state student population. "It's kind of a hardship."

Cutting programs is painful because some of these programs are popular, Harnisch said.

"But ultimately, they have to prioritize what the campus is spending the money on," he said. "And in difficult financial times, that means programs may be cut or eliminated."

DOG'S-EYE VIEW



A small dog takes in the scenery from the back of a Harley Davidson in Dubuque over the weekend. (Associated Press/Telegraph Herald, Jeremy Portje)

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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.



Reasons not to get a haircut:

- Imagine the money you'll save on scarves.
 - You can use your tresses to conceal the headphones you popped in during lecture.
 - That sloppy bun doubles as a pillow when you pass out in the dorm elevator.
 - You're growing a toupee for a birthday gift to your boyfriend.
 - Long hair can hide your new gangsta neck tattoo at the plasma center.
 - You were always jealous of your Rapunzel Barbie. Now, it's your time to shine.
 - You'll never have to look for your feather duster again. Or the dust mites.
 - You love Willow Smith so much that you want to recreate her music video and become the next YouTube sensation.
 - You dislike La' James and its unnecessary apostrophe.
 - Having long hair means always having emergency dental floss for after your dinner date at McDonald's.
 - You don't want anyone to forget the chick from *The Grudge*.
 - Because your favorite thing to do after you take a shower is get in bed with your man and toss and turn - smacking him in the face every time. (If I can't sleep, why should he?)
 - So that creepy guy with the orange tie can keep pulling your ponytail and giving you dollar bills ... for coffee.
 - Just in case your hot TA is gone the day you "forget" to wear a bra.
- Trisha Spence wonders if Locks of Love has a donation limit.

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SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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3 **4**

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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today's events

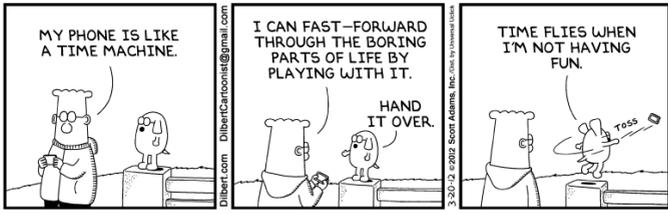
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Want to see your super special event appear here? Simply submit the details at: dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html

- **Pharmacology Faculty Seminar**, "The AKTins Diet: Metabolic Role of PPAR in Skeletal Muscle," Andrew Norris, Pediatrics, 10:30 a.m., 1117 Medical Education & Research Facility
- **Community Writing Center**, 4 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Microbiology Seminar**, "Stress adaptations and Mycobacterium tuberculosis persistence," Thomas Zahrt, Medical College of Wisconsin, 3 p.m., Bowen Auditorium 3
- **Water Sustainability Seminar**, 4:30 p.m., 104 Iowa Advanced Technology

- Labs
- **Life in Iowa - Career Series: Interviewing**, 5 p.m., 1117 University Capitol Centre
- **Youth Yoga**, 6:30 p.m., Campus Recreation & Wellness Center
- **Czech Connection**, St. Joseph's Day Celebration and pot luck 8 p.m., 612 Phillips Hall
- **Theater Honors Week**, 8 p.m., 172 Theater Building
- **The Men**, with Nude Beach, Super Sonic Piss, Los Voltage, 9 p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington
- **Flight School**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

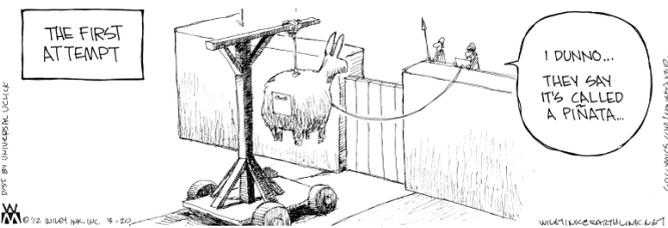
DILBERT

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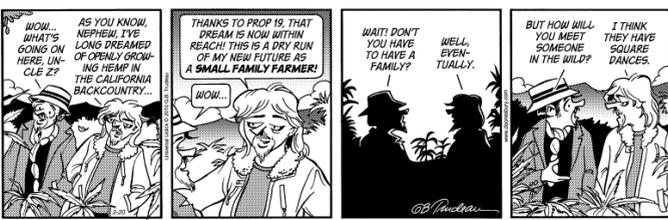
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BY GARRY TRUDEAU



m.c. ginsberg

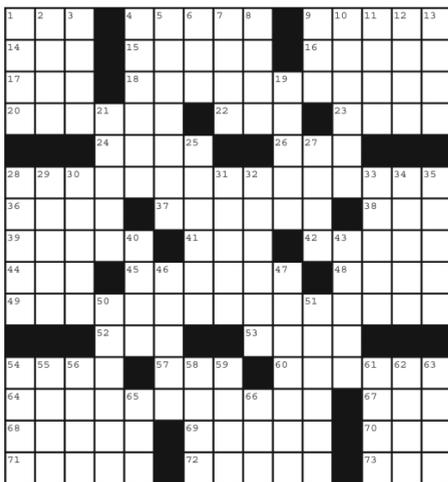
OBJECTS OF ART



The New York Times Crossword

- Across**
- TV shopper's channel
 - Quaint "Oh, don't be silly!"
 - Cathode's counterpart
 - Part of AT&T: Abbr.
 - Period in history
 - Examiner of sunken ships, perhaps
 - Glass of "This American Life"
 - Neighbor of Venice
 - Some makeup
 - RR stop
 - Tweak some text
 - Western Indians
 - Kanye West's genre
 - Cocktails made with Southern Comfort, sloe gin, amaretto and orange juice
 - Anti-bullfighting org.
 - Thing
 - Sign before Virgo
 - With 42-Across, one who might memorize 64-Across?
 - Lower, as the lights
 - See 39-Across
 - Charlottesville sch.
 - "Rats!"
 - Wren den
 - Perfect Sleeper and others
 - Alias
 - Flat bottom?
 - 54 40 acres, maybe
 - N N N, to Greeks
 - Small bus
 - Classical trio found inside 18-, 28- and 49-Across
 - Simple vow
- Down**
- Common makeup applicator
 - Florida's Beach
 - Crab serving
 - Old Spanish coin
 - "I'm tired of your lies"
 - Baby doll
 - Takes steps
 - "Guess ___?"
 - Hubbub
 - School night bedtime, maybe
 - Poet banished by the emperor Augustus
 - Prefix with bel
 - Quod ___ demonstrandum
 - The Marquis de Sade delivered his eulogy
 - United Arab Emirates member
 - Actress Bullock
 - nitrate
 - 100
 - Time off
 - Oil from flower petals
 - Time in the service
 - "The Few, the Proud ..." grp.
 - Coal-rich region of Germany
 - Approaching
 - Cheese coated in red wax
 - Partner of hard
 - 55 Cannonballs and such
 - Fad item of 1962
 - Bumped into
 - Hamm of soccer

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0214



- Puzzle by Paula Gamache
- Boundaries
 - "The Lord of the Rings" race
 - Pee Wee of baseball
 - Does some pre-laundry work
 - Fargo's state: Abbr.
 - First stage
 - Big appliance maker
 - Paris and Hector, e.g.
 - "Hot" dish
 - They hold power
 - Partner of hard
 - Cannonballs and such
 - Make muddy
 - "The Few, the Proud ..." grp.
 - Coal-rich region of Germany
 - Approaching
 - Cheese coated in red wax
 - Partner of hard
 - 55 Cannonballs and such
 - Fad item of 1962
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



ON THE STREET

What's the first thing you typically think about when you wake up in the morning?



"Everything that I have to do that day."
Ellen Hovey
UI junior



"Homework for that day."
Whitney Boedeker
UI sophomore



"I chastise myself for staying up too late."
Robert Crozier
UI junior



"Breakfast."
Katherine Ryan
UI senior

Locals skeptical of ed move



West High students walk through the crowded halls to get to class. The Iowa House Education Committee has voted to take money away from a program designed to reduce class sizes in Iowa. (The Daily Iowan/Jacklyn Couppee)

By ANNA THEODOSIS
anna.theodosis@uiowa.edu

Local educators say legislative efforts to improve K-12 literacy rates requires policymakers to look at more than they currently are.

The Iowa House Education Committee voted last week to take \$20 million from a \$30 million education program to reduce class sizes and strengthen child literacy and put it entirely toward an education-reform bill. The bill would split funds with the current education program, which aims to cut class sizes in order to ensure higher test scores.

Part of that bill would require third-grade students to pass a reading exam or be held from moving to the next grade.

Hoover Elementary Principal Diane Bradford said legislators are right to focus on improving literacy.

"I think that it's very

important that the third-grader is ready to move on to fourth grade," she said. "I think putting as much money as we can into an early childhood program is important."

Iowa City fourth graders are basically on par with the rest of the state, with a 79.16 percent reading proficiency level as of 2009, compared to the 79.39 percent level statewide, according to a report by the Iowa Department of Education.

However, Bradford, said she remains unsure if money should be shifted around in the process.

"If I had to lean one way or another, it would be preparing kids to move on in order for them to be more literate later on in life," she said. "We don't have the opportunity to always control the number of students in the classroom."

Lincoln Elementary Principal Ann Langenfeld said

legislators will have to provide additional tests to ensure third-graders are maintaining the required reading levels.

"I think it would be a major shift in thinking," she said. "How do you define if a third-grader is ready for fourth grade? There are so many things that need to be clarified."

House members are split on whether the money shift will be effective in reforming education in Iowa.

"It's not really changing the purpose of the money," said Rep. Linda Miller, R-Bettendorf. "I think it makes sense — why wouldn't you use the money and make it more purposeful?"

But Brad Hudson, the Iowa State Education Association government-relations specialist, said moving the money around takes away from other programs.

"The [initial] program was a reading-recovery initiative," he said. "If you were above class size, you needed to reduce it. To see \$20 million taken away from that program to put it right back into reading recover, so how do you expand these programs?"

Miller said shifting the \$20 million from the current education program would strengthen literacy efforts.

"The outrage about stealing money from one pot and putting it into another is somewhat fringe," she said. "Of course, everyone in education wants more money for their programs."

Hudson said new programs should be formed instead of breaking existing ones.

"What we need is additional resources to help students," he said. "We think the programs in place are successful, but we need to look at some additional programs."

However, Rep. Curtis Hanson, D-Fairfield, said shifting money is pointless.

"I think it's shuffling the debt chairs to take money from a program that is designed to reduce class sizes and put it into another program [doing the same thing]," Hanson said. "It's renaming [the program], but it's not going to be truly reformed because we were doing this before."

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FOOTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10

C.J. Fiedorowicz came on strong at the end of the season but finished with only 16 catches and 1 touchdown — significant departures from the numbers posted by former tight ends Tony Moeaki and Allen Reisner.

Iowa's leading returning running back, Jordan Canzeri, finished the season with 31 carries for 114 yards; senior Jason White could see some carries as

well (he left the team after his redshirt junior season last year but decided to come back). It wouldn't come as a shock to see some true freshman tailbacks get playing time.

How will Iowa fix its 2011 road struggles?

The Hawkeyes were excellent in Kinnick Stadium, where they posted a 6-1 record and didn't lose until Senior Day.

That wasn't the case away from Iowa City — the team was 1-5, including a 1-4 mark in true road games (the fifth, the Insight Bowl loss to Okla-

homa, was at a neutral site). Ignoring the 41 points Iowa posted in its triple-overtime loss to Iowa State, the Hawkeyes scored 66 points on the road. They scored 241 at home.

The 2012 schedule is home-heavy and includes a four-week stretch in September where the team won't leave Iowa City at all. But that stretch could hurt the Hawkeyes if they get too used to playing in front of friendly crowds before opening the true road schedule at Michigan State.

Still, Iowa has a good chance to come out on the other end of 2012 feeling

better about its road performances than the 2011 team did. The Black and Gold will play five road games; Northern Illinois will be a tossup, and Michigan and Michigan State are dangerous, but Northwestern and Indiana look — at least for now — like fairly winnable contests.

What changes will Greg Davis and Phil Parker bring to the Hawkeyes?

By now the consensus seems to be that first-year coordinators Davis and Parker won't do much to change the DNA of Iowa football.

Parker worked under the retired Norm Parker for 13 years, and he jokingly asked a reporter to draw up and submit blitz plays during his introductory press conference on March 2.

Davis ran schemes largely similar to Iowa's during his 13-year tenure at Texas, although he made some temporary departures to better utilize dual-threat quarterback Vince Young.

But a few small changes are inevitable given that Iowa has new coordinators for the first time since 1999.

We'll just have to wait a while to find out what they are.

Neither Davis nor Parker gave much away — if anything — about their game plans when they spoke to the media earlier this month, so the earliest opportunity to see change will probably be at the team's annual open practice on April 14.

And even then, the reality is the team may not reveal anything substantial at a scrimmage in front of a few thousand particularly dedicated fans. There's a good chance we'll have to wait until September for a concrete answer.

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10

Basabe's numbers this season would be more than passable for a Big Ten bench player — if you hadn't seen the talent he displayed last season. He eventually seemed to find a rhythm late, particularly in the NIT, when he totaled 32 points in Iowa's two games. The Hawkeyes need

more performances like those next year as opposed to his four-consecutive 2-point games from Nov. 20-29, in which Iowa went 1-3.

Most Valuable: Matt Gatens

Plenty of Hawkeyes won more games in their careers than Gatens, but few can claim to have had as much of an effect on the program.

The Iowa City native's first three seasons on campus were some of the worst

in school history. Many of Gatens' former teammates chose to depart the program each year. Former coach Todd Lickliter was fired after the second, and McCaffery became Iowa's third coach since Gatens committed to become a Hawkeye as a ninth-grader.

Gatens never wavered. This season, "Matty Fresh" was the primary reason for the beginning of Iowa's basketball renaissance. Gatens' 15.2 points per game were the most by an Iowa player since Adam

Haluska (2007), and he earned second-team All-Big Ten honors from the league's media. He also became Iowa's most reliable defender, regularly neutralizing opposing teams' best perimeter threats.

Gatens' late-season tear — 20-plus points in eight consecutive games — pushed Iowa to an NIT berth. But most importantly, he helped make Iowa basketball fun again.



Iowa guard Matt Gatens (5) leads the huddle before Iowa's Big Ten Tournament game against Illinois at Bankers Life Field House in Indianapolis on March 8. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

INTRAMURALS

Sigma Chi plays sweetheart soccer

BY MATTHEW CABEL
matthew-cabel@uiowa.edu

With a trip to the intramural soccer semifinals on the line, Sigma Chi used strong defense and capitalized on turnovers to zoom past the previously undefeated Minutemen, 5-0.

The game began slowly — neither team could keep possession of the ball. Sigma Chi attempted to score early, but poor shot selection and dominant goalie play by the Minutemen kept both teams in the game.

The Minutemen players are known for their quick offense and scoring, but they couldn't execute offensively at the onset of the game. It seemed as if the second their feet touched the ball, it would go out of bounds or be stolen by a Sigma Chi defender.

"We gave it our all for the whole season, but tonight, we couldn't physically keep



Sigma Chi goalkeeper Adam Lasswell turns away a shot in an intramural soccer game at the Bubble on Monday. Sigma Chi beat the Minutemen, 5-0. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

up with them," Minutemen member Andy Kemerley said.

But both teams showed up defensively in the first half, stealing the ball easily and working hard to keep the other side away from the goal. Both goalies had their hands full but man-

aged to make effective and difficult saves that kept the game scoreless deep into the first half.

That changed when Sigma Chi's Jake Remegi sent the ball flying into the net to give his team a 1-0 lead with three minutes left in the period.

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The Sons of Thunder scored more times in their quarterfinal match against the Man Dimes than they had all season; log on for the full story.

Remegi shoved a Minutemen defender after his goal, which drew an immediate chat with the referee; the official instructed members of both teams to calm down before the next Minutemen possession.

Kemerley cited the "play-off atmosphere" as the reason behind the aggressive nature.

The Minutemen closed the half aggressively but couldn't manage to find the goal before the whistle.

It was all Sigma Chi from the onset of the second half. Tough defense was a large reason, and the team continued to force turnovers that allowed ample one-on-one opportunities.

The second goal came off an in-bounds kick, and Sigma Chi managed to score again seconds later after stealing the ball from the Minutemen just after the ensuing kickoff. Five different members of Sigma Chi scored during the game, including Remegi, Jon Krupko, and captain Sam Driscoll.

"We kept up the intensity in the second half," Driscoll said. "We also started putting our shots away."

The Minutemen were visibly frustrated with the blowout, and turned to Trevor Davis to see what he could do with his team down by 5. It looked as if Davis would put his team on the board when the physical nature of the game gave him a free kick.

His shot, a perfect kick to the center of the goal, appeared to be going into

the net, but Sigma Chi goalie Adam Lasswell tipped the ball over the crossbar.

Further attempts by Davis and his teammates were also futile, and the high-scoring Minutemen faced being held scoreless, something the team was used to seeing from the other side of the scoreboard.

"The Minutemen will be back next year," Kemerley said.

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POINT/COUNTERPOINT

Which Big Ten team will go the furthest in the tournament?

Michigan State

This is just silly. The argument over which Big Ten team will advance furthest in the NCAA Tournament can be answered with two words: Draymond Green.

The 6-7 Michigan State senior forward kicked off his postseason by hoisting the Big Ten championship trophy in Indianapolis on March 11. Green was named the MVP of the tournament, and it's unlikely he would be denied the honor for the NCAA tourney if he continues to play the way he has been.

Green recorded a triple-double against Long Island-Brooklyn and a double-double against No. 9 seed St. Louis in the Spartans' first two games of the tourney.

The trio of Green, Brandon Wood, and Keith Appling has proven to be too much for the competition — the three have combined to score 86 of the Spartans' 154 tournament points — and it looks as if the sky is the limit for the squad led by CBS Sports Coach of the Year Tom Izzo. The team has been training for the Big Dance all year, going 13-5 in the strongest basketball conference in the land.

The Green and White have more depth and talent than the rest of the remaining Big Ten teams still in the tournament. That's why the Spartans will advance past Wisconsin (what is it doing this far in the tournament?), Indiana (no chance it upsets Kentucky again), and Jared Sullinger (Ohio State).

Izzo's group will continue to assert its March Madness dominance when it faces No. 4 seed Louisville on Thursday. The Cardinals struggled in its weaker Big East schedule, so it's likely the songbirds won't be able to match up against the bigger Spartans.

Michigan State arguably has the easiest road to the Elite Eight of any of its Big Ten partners, but that doesn't even matter when you have the talent, coaching, and experience to back it all up.

— by Ben Ross

Wisconsin

The Badgers are the Big Ten team best suited to make a run to the Final Four. Bo Ryan's squad will square off a game against the "Fab-u-less" Syracuse Orange in the Sweet Sixteen.

The loss of 7-0 center Fab Melo leaves the Orange

without a developing offensive weapon in the paint and weakens Syracuse's vaunted 2-3 zone defense. That's not a recipe for success against a team like the Badgers.

If there were ever a team tailor-made to break Jim Boeheim's defense, it's Wisconsin. Big Ten coaches have decried the notion of Wisconsin's great defense as a myth and point to the Red and White's slow-tempo offense as the true reason for low point totals. But it's the perfect tool against the challenges now facing the Badgers.

Point guard Jordan Taylor has more than enough athleticism and court savvy to take down Syracuse, and duo of Ryan Evans and Jared Berggren gives the Badgers a pair of solid secondary options. The team makes smart decisions and limits turnovers, which is what Syracuse thrives on creating.

The Badgers would likely square off against Big Ten rival Ohio State once clearing the hurdle of beating a No. 1 seed. The two squads split the regular-season series; Jared Sullinger hasn't been the dominant force he was a year ago, and he had just 8 points against the Badgers

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Log on to read arguments on behalf of Indiana and Ohio State, and weigh in on the debate.

in Columbus. Buckeye star William Buford also struggled against Wisconsin's stingy defense.

No other Big Ten team left in the tournament has such a suitable draw to the Final Four. Indiana has to play Kentucky, the most talented team in the nation and the heavy favorite to win the title. The Hoosiers beat Kentucky at home this year, but this game will be on a neutral floor, and Indiana will have to do without top assist man Verdell Jones III, who tore his ACL in the Big Ten Tournament.

Michigan State will face off against No. 4 seed Louisville in the round of 16. If the Spartans somehow top the Cardinals, they will likely see No. 3 seed Marquette. Sparty may be the best team in the conference, but it also has one of the toughest draws going forward.

Bottom line: Wisconsin will be the last Big Ten team standing in the Dance because of its offensive efficiency and ability to dictate the tempo of the game.

— by Tork Mason

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COMMENTARY

Football faces question marks



Iowa quarterback James Vandenberg throws during the spring scrimmage on April 16, 2011, in Kinnick Stadium. Vandenberg is entering his second season as Iowa's starting gunslinger; spring practice will begin Wednesday. (The Daily Iowan/Ricky Bahner)

Questions abound for the Hawkeyes as they prepare for spring practice.



SETH ROBERTS
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Spring is in the air. The daffodils are blooming. Winter coats have been

retired and replaced by shorts, sundresses, and flip-flops.

And, perhaps most importantly, the Iowa football team is gearing up for the start of spring practice. The Hawkeyes will take the field at Kinnick Stadium for the first time on Wednesday.

Iowa faces a multitude of questions as it tries to

move past what many considered a disappointing 2011 campaign — a season that included close losses to Iowa State and Minnesota and whippings at the hands of Michigan State, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

Who will step up on offense?

Arguably the best wide

receiver in Iowa history is gone. Three members of the 2011 offensive line will likely spend their falls in the NFL. And there's the small matter of having no established running game going into spring ball.

The obvious anchors are quarterback James Vandenberg and center James Ferentz. It's murky beyond them.

Keenan Davis will likely start the spring as Iowa's No. 1 receiver; he's big and played well in stretches last season, but he seemed to drop as many passes as he caught. Kevonte Martin-Manley played in the slot and was brilliant early in year but faded badly down the stretch.

SEE FOOTBALL, 8

Stubbs to transfer

Iowa backup point guard Branden Stubbs won't play for Fran McCaffery and the Hawkeyes next season. The walk-on from Pleasant Hill, Iowa, will leave the program in hopes of more playing time elsewhere.

Stubbs appeared in 12 games this season and averaged 1.2 points. He totaled 6 assists and 6 turnovers to go along with 4 steals. He didn't respond to an interview request on Monday.

"He wants to play more, and we respect that," Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery said in a statement. "Everyone — from the players, coaches, and staff — loves Stubby, and we will do whatever we can to help him during this process."



Stubbs
sophomore

Stubbs was an accomplished prep player at Des Moines Christian High; he was a three-time all-state honoree and dished out the second-most assists in Iowa high-school history (717).

While the sophomore's in-game role at Iowa was minimal, McCaffery praised his ability to quickly learn opponents' offenses and valued his part on the scout team.

Stubbs' departure and the graduation of seniors Matt Gatens and Bryce Cartwright means Iowa will return five guards — Devyn Marble, Josh Oglesby, Eric May, Stephen McCarty, and Kyle Denning — next year. Of those, only Marble, May, and Oglesby saw significant playing time.

— by Ben Schuff

Men's golf wins again

The Iowa men's golf team won its second match in a row at the Calloway Collegiate Match Play Championship in Bradenton, Fla..

The No. 8 seed Hawkeyes defeated No. 13 seed Colorado State, 3-2, on Monday morning at the Concession Golf Course.

Two Hawkeyes improved their individual records during the championship to 3-0 with victories over the Rams. Senior Chris Brant defeated Cameron Harrell 2-up, and sophomore Steven Ihm knocked off Kirby Pettitt 1-up to claim two of Iowa's three victories. Senior Barrett Kelpin claimed his first victory in Bradenton with a 1-up victory over the Rams' Zahkai Brown.

All three Iowa victories came down to the 18th hole of the matches.

Iowa's freshmen didn't fare well; Ian Vandersee fell to Mike Wuertz, and Brian Bullington lost to Parker Edens.

The Hawkeyes will finish play this morning against Liberty, which is seeded seventh in the tournament. The winner of the match will take ninth place with a 3-1 record, and the loser will place 10th at 2-2.

— by Ryan Murphy

Big Ten honors Cox

Iowa women's gymnast Tesla Cox was named second-team All-Big Ten according to an announcement made by the conference office on Monday.

Cox, a sophomore, competed on the beam and uneven bars in all 11 meets this season for the GymHawks; she also competed on the vault in 10.

The Greenville, S.C., native said the honor is a piece of a much bigger picture.

"I couldn't have done it without an amazing coaching staff pushing me to grow into a mold that I'm starting to fill," she said on Monday. "I also couldn't have done it without my teammates behind me and supporting me in every aspect of gymnastics."

Cox, who averaged 9.75 in the uneven bars this year, is ranked third in the North Central Region and is tied for 38th nationally. Her 9.9 against Southeast Missouri State, BYU, and Texas Women's University on March 3 was a career-best in the event and earned first place.

She set season-high scores of 9.825 in vault and beam on Jan. 27 at Iowa State and March 3 in Denton, Texas, respectively.

— by Alex French



Cox
sophomore

COMMENTARY

Best of the hoops class

A trio of Hawkeyes helped make Iowa basketball fun again, but not every player had a positive season.



JORDAN GARRETSON
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The Iowa men's basketball team's second season under Fran McCaffery is in the books, and *The Daily Iowan* looks at who helped the Hawkeyes reach their first postseason since 2006 — and who held them back from potentially achieving more.

Freshman of the Year: Aaron White

There is no argument here. White was not only this team's best newcomer, but he impressed observers as much as any Hawkeye freshman in recent memory. The Strongsville, Ohio, native led Iowa in rebounding with 5.7 per game and finished third in scoring at 11.1 points per contest. He victimized opposing Big Ten coaches enough for them to select him to the league's All-Freshman team.

But the scariest thing about the rangy 6-8 forward? He got better as the season went on, a description not often linked to freshmen. White reached double-digit scoring in four of 13 nonconference games, then went for



Iowa forward Aaron White leads a fast break against Dayton in the first round of the NIT in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on March 13. White had 25 points and 11 boards in the Hawkeyes' 84-75 victory over the Flyers. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

double figures in 10 of 18 Big Ten regular-season games.

He saved his best for Iowa's biggest wins. White was 6-of-7 for 18 points in a road win at then-No. 11 Wisconsin on Dec. 31. He scored a season-high 25 in Iowa's first-round NIT win against Dayton.

McCaffery said it simply following the Dayton game: "We knew we had something in Aaron White when we signed him."

Most Improved: Devyn Marble

Marble barely edged Zach McCabe for this distinction.

The sophomore guard made a push for MVP until finally slowing down slightly during

the second half of the Big Ten season. But before Matt Gatens carried Iowa to a berth in the NIT, Marble rescued the team from drowning in disappointment earlier in the year. Marble was virtually forced into full-time point-guard duty for a six-game stretch from Dec. 6-28, and he averaged 16.5 points, 5.2 assists, and only 1.3 turnovers.

Marble is likely to assume the role of Iowa's leading scorer next season after averaging 11.5 points this year. And 48 hours ago, I would have said he desperately needs to improve his jump shot to soften that transition.

That was before he poured in a career-high 31 points on

Sunday against Oregon, a scoring display that saw him make 7-of-8 3-pointers.

Looks like he's more than ready for the role.

Most Disappointing: Melsahn Basabe

This selection requires the consideration of context.

At the surface, Basabe's season averages of 8.2 points, 4.8 rebounds, and 1 block per game appear solid. But the effect wears off when you take a look at what he accomplished last season as a freshman: 11.0 points, 6.8 rebounds, and 1.3 blocks per game.

SEE BASKETBALL, 8