

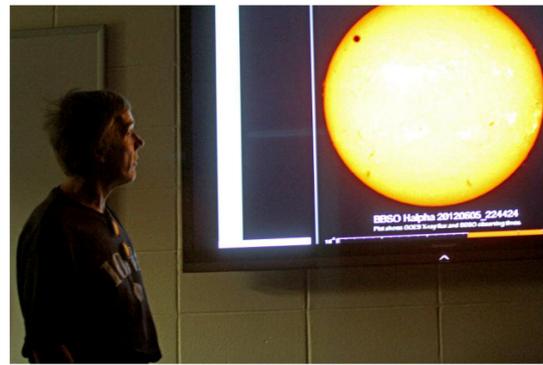
The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2012

NEWSPAPER •  DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢

Venus transit enthralls IC observers



Left: People gather on the roof of the Van Allen Hall to watch the transit of Venus on Tuesday. Special solar telescopes were set up for members of the public to safely view Venus passing between Earth and the Sun. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen) **Top right:** UI Professor Steven Spangler describes the transit of Venus as people watch a live feed in Van Allen Hall on Tuesday. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen) **Bottom right:** Sumner Wallace uses a special solar telescope on the roof of Van Allen Hall to observe the transit of Venus on Tuesday. This is the last chance to watch the transit of Venus until 2117. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen)

The Venus transit will not occur again until the year 2117.

By **AMY SKARNULIS**
amy-skarnulis@uiowa.edu

5:22. A moment we will never see again. Our children will never see. Our children's children may never see.

The planet Venus passed between the Earth and the Sun at 5:22 p.m. Tuesday, a transit that will not occur again until 2117. Viewers could see Venus silhouetted against the disk of the Sun.

On the roof of Van Allen Hall, five telescopes were set up, filled with lines of people awaiting the transit.

The Sun was so bright at 4:30 p.m. that people without sunglasses could not look

around without squinting their eyes. Attendees applied sunscreen, and many of them had high hopes they were going to be able to see the transit.

"Looks like we're in for a disappointment," someone in the crowd said referring to the clouds quickly approaching.

Physics and astronomy Professor Steven Spangler set up the event to give the public a new experience.

"It is a unique event, and I thought it was a good idea to have a public event," he said.

Fritz Benedict — a senior research scientist at the McDonald Observatory at the University of Texas-Austin — said the meaning of the event has drastically changed since it took place hundreds of years prior.

"Back in the day, [the event] was pretty much essential to figure out how far away

the Sun is from us," he said. "They would look at how long it will take for Venus to transit the Sun, then do very complicated arithmetic to find out the Sun is 93 million miles away from us."

Spangler said Venus is almost the exact size of the Earth, so viewers would be able to see the approximate size of the Earth in relation to the Sun.

Iowa City resident Brian Lenth, a spectator at the event, made a contraption to be able to see the transit without having to look directly at the Sun. The self-proclaimed "amateur astronomer" faced a pair of binoculars toward the Sun while holding a piece of white paper on the other side. This way, one could see the Sun on the paper.

"I've been doing this for a while," he said. "It's just basic mathematics."

Spangler said he wanted to have a pub-

lic gathering to educate people about the universe we are living in.

"This is really giving people a sense of what the Solar System is like," he said.

Thomas Barnes, the superintendent of the McDonald Observatory, said Iowa may only see portions of the transit because the Sun sets sooner compared with such places as Hawaii.

"We'll probably only see about a third of it," he said. "A place like Hawaii will see the whole deal."

National Weather Service meteorologist Dan Ferry said clouds can block the view of the transit.

"[If the sky is] overcast, people will not see it," he said prior to the event. "Ideally, there would be clear skies for something like this."

SEE VENUS, 3

UI alum wins GOP primary

Maison Bleam and Jake Highfill are both UI alumni.

By **NICHOLAS MILLER**
nicholas-j-miller@uiowa.edu

At least one recent graduate of the University of Iowa will see his name on an election ballot in November.

UI alumni Maison Bleam and Jake Highfill competed in primaries for the Iowa House on Tuesday in their respective districts. In House District 39, Highfill defeated Rep. Erik Helland, R-Johnston, with roughly 52 percent of the votes, according to unofficial results from Tuesday night. Final results were not available at press time for Bleam's race against Rep. Tom Shaw, R-Lau-



Bleam
candidate



Highfill
candidate

SEE ELECTION, 3

Board rejects bid for Roosevelt

Roosevelt Elementary School is appraised at \$770,000, and is waiting on a second appraisal.

By **ALEX SHEETS**
alexandra-sheets@uiowa.edu

Students walked the halls one final time at Roosevelt Elementary on May 31, but the fate of the property remains undetermined.

Iowa City School Board members rejected the first bid of roughly \$200,000 at Tuesday's School Board meeting, and they will seek out a second appraisal on the property.

A bid was received for the property through a competitive bid process by Place Partners LLC of Iowa City for \$201,595. Discussions will continue during the next meeting on June 19, after a second appraisal of Roosevelt has been completed.

Superintendent Steve Murley did not believe the bid was appropriate for the appraised worth of the property.

"[There was a] disparity of bid and appraised value," he said.

The community around Roosevelt has some restrictions for what the new property owners can do with the property. The potential buyers are not to touch the ravine on the property. In addition, the land is not to be used for retail shopping,



K-6 art teacher Michelle Cox gathers materials from her classroom at Roosevelt Elementary on Tuesday. The move from Roosevelt to Borlaug, a new school under construction, is proceeding on schedule. (The Daily Iowan/Juan Carlos Herrera)

liquor stores, bars, or gas stations, Murley said.

"[It should be] reflective of what the neighborhood fits," Murley said, noting the neighborhood wants a transitional piece of property.

In the original appraisal, an additional access road to the school was left out. Murley made sure to include that for the future appraisal, suggesting it would increase the property's value.

The board asked for feedback from the community about what kind of property should replace Roosevelt. It stands currently between a high density and single-family community.

Yet Casey Cook, appraiser at Cook Appraisal, said the reason the bid was so low is because of the pressure that the

SEE ROOSEVELT, 3

WEATHER

HIGH 77 LOW 57

Mostly sunny to partly cloudy, light winds.

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Hopeful stresses meshing

The UI College of Medicine continued the dean search process Tuesday.

BY KELLY OLIN
kathryn-olin@uiowa.edu

Stephen Strakowski said integrating research and education will ultimately lead to a better medical institution for the University of Iowa.

"My next step would be to integrate everything — align research with education, then align across the colleges' work with nursing and public health to find the best outcome at the least expense," he said.

The UI Carver College of Medicine hosted its first forum Tuesday to begin the process of finding a new dean for the college; current Dean Paul Rothman will step down at the end of this month. Rothman was appointed dean and chief executive officer of Johns Hopkins School of Medicine on Dec. 19, 2011.

Medical-school officials will interview five candidates in the Medical Education & Research Facility, and each will address the topic "What is Your Vision for the Future of Academic Medical Centers."

"My goal if I became dean here would be to take the very good medical school that's already here and help it to become the best medical school possibly — a truly elite college of medicine," he told *The Daily Iowan*.

Strakowski — the first candidate for the position



Carver College of Medicine dean candidate Stephen Strakowski speaks at a public forum in the Medical Education & Research Facility on Tuesday. Strakowski spoke about streamlining and leading the school through a period of growth and change. (The Daily Iowan/Ian Servin)

— is the senior associate dean for research at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, the vice president for research, and the Dr. Stanley and Mickey Kaplan Professor and chairman of psychiatry and behavioral neuroscience.

Strakowski said the integration of the colleges would allow for growth and change, and would unify the university more as a whole rather than as separate colleges.

"We need to reach out, to own the region and beyond because with great clinical care you get great clinical students," he said. "... He who controls the information controls the world."

Strakowski received a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and an M.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Medicine.

He said he was going to do whatever needed to make the UI medical school a renowned center in the country.

"I am willing to go anywhere people will send me," he said.

UI psychiatry Professor Susan Schultz said she's pleased with Strakowski's plans.

"I think many of us really like the approach of integrated care in a way that raises clinical excellence by teaming research and clinical operations in a way that gives us something to offer the state that's different from usual clinical practice," she said.

Sue Curry, the dean of the UI College of Public Health, said collaboration among UI colleges is a common goal for school administrators.

Dean search

UI Carver College of Medicine officials will hold forums to interview five candidates for the dean position:

- June 12
- June 19
- June 26
- June 29

Source: UI press release

"Having a dean who shares our collective mission and who values collaboration allows us to continue to grow the great work we do at the university and across the state," she said.

The forums will be held from noon to 1 p.m. in 2117 Medical Education and Research Facility, and receptions will follow each from 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the atrium.

Panel discusses new high school

The New Comprehensive High School could cost the district \$32.1 million.

BY ALEX SHEETS
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Overcrowding has been an issue for Iowa City high schools in recent years, and the Iowa City School District administration hopes to relieve it by creating a third high school.

To ease the overcrowding, a third high school, at present named the New Comprehensive High School, is being planned by the High School Study Committee Board.

Superintendent Steve Murley said he wanted some insight from the panel into the layout and costs of building a new high school at the meeting on Tuesday.

"Paint us a picture ... so the board is better informed," he said.

The meeting included a presentation from the committee about construction costs along with what a school fit to serve 800 students would look like.

Murley said the current high schools are not capable of holding the number of students enrolled.

Committee members said there are two possible scenarios for the population of the new high school. Eight hundred students could move from West High, or the new school could get 80 percent of its students from West and 20 percent from City High.

The committee looked at other schools as examples for the new high school, including Ankeny High, Ballard High, and Clear Creek/Amara High. There

are no concrete design plans for the school at this time.

"Function [of the school] will create the design," said Gregg Shoultz, a presenter for the committee. "[It is] the absolute earliest you can get a high school off the ground."

Shoultz said the committee foresees a 2016 completion date for the school.

Murley said \$32.1 million has been "earmarked" for construction costs. The money would come from the school infrastructure tax-option sales tax, and additional funding would come from the physical plant and equipment levy.

Building and running the school is expected to cost more than the \$32.1 million, Shoultz said. Con-

struction inflation and decisions about how large the common spaces will be could affect the total cost, he said.

The cost of staffing will also be less substantial because much of the teaching staff would move with the students to the new high school, Shoultz said.

In addition, several programs will have to be redesigned or combined for a small population.

Jen Greer, a mother of a West High student, said she is anxious to reduce crowding at West.

"Let's expedite the decision to get it started," she said.

The School Board will meet June 19 to continue discussion about the new high school.

METRO

Prairie Lights receives city grant

Iowa City Mayor Matt Hayek and City Councilors Michelle Payne and Susan Mims approved a \$27,500 grant for Prairie Lights at a Economic Development Committee meeting Tuesday morning.

Economic-development coordinator Wendy Ford said Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St., will use the funds to improve the bookstore in three ways.

The improvements include expanding its e-book market and Times Club Café and increasing the number of children's toys and gifts.

— by Kristen East

Man charged with forgery

A local man was charged with

allegedly forging a check in order to enroll in cosmetology school.

Rashoud Gayden, 25, address unknown, was charged May 29.

According to an Iowa City police complaint, Gayden altered both the amount of the check and to whom it was made out in order to enroll in cosmetology classes at the Salon Professional Academy.

The director of the academy questioned the authenticity of the check, and Gayden apologized and told her he would get his life together, the complaint said.

Forgery is a Class-D felony punishable by up to five years in jail and a maximum fine of \$7,500.

— by Amy Skarnulis

Officials give fire briefing

Officials updated the Iowa City

City Council and community members Tuesday night about the Iowa City Landfill fire, which started on May 26.

Fire Chief Andy Rocca, Johnson County Public Health Director Doug Beardsley, and city Public Works Director Rick Fosse spoke extensively about the state of the fire and its long- and short-term consequences.

Fosse said the fire — which has triggered flame tornadoes — is now contained but not extinguished.

Rocca applauded effort by various local and national agencies that assisted with the containment of the fire.

The three officials said they did not put out the fire immediately because a move like that would involve huge amounts of water and foam that could contaminate the groundwater that is currently protected by a 4-foot thick layer of clay underneath the landfill.

City officials will continue to monitor the situation, and updates will be made available as progress is made.

— by Rishabh Jain

Slockett loses primary

Johnson County Auditor Tom Slockett lost the Tuesday primary to Tiffin City Councilor Travis Weipert.

Slockett received roughly 2,000 votes, making up around 40 percent of the total votes, according to unofficial results Tuesday night. Weipert received more than 3,100.

Slockett has served as Johnson County auditor since 1977. Weipert will face a Republican candidate in November. No other candidates from any other party have announced candidacy.

— by Kristen East

BLOTTER

Adam Charley, 22, Cedar Falls, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Keith Couser, 29, 641 S. Governor St., was charged Sunday with public urination.

Brenda Lagunas, 21, Coralville, was charged Monday with assault

causing injury.

Kaefl Mohsen, 20, Cedar Rapids, was charged June 2 with presence in bar after hours.

Juan Pizarro, 33, 2239 Taylor Drive, was charged Monday with possession of a controlled substance and public intoxication.

William Prowell, 58, Cedar Rapids, was charged Sunday with OWI.

Keethan Roland, 20, address unknown, was charged May 7 with fourth-degree theft.

Brandon Stegall, 21, Tipton, was charged Sunday with public

intoxication.

Ashley Teno, 20, 201 Hawkridge No. 2313, was charged June 2 with presence in bar after hours.

Benjamin Zschack, 21, 5 S. Lucas St., was charged June 2 with public urination.

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Tuesday.

1. Freshman orientation focused on student engagement
2. Student leaders at UI, nationwide join forces to oppose loan increase
3. Iowa City officials begin "stir, burn, cover" method at landfill
4. The Art in State Building Program must go
5. Burning questions

CORRECTION

In the June 5 photo caption for "UI Orientation takes off," *The Daily Iowan* incorrectly described the photo as a campus Orientation tour. The photo is of an Admissions Visitor Tour for prospective students and families. The *DI* regrets the error.

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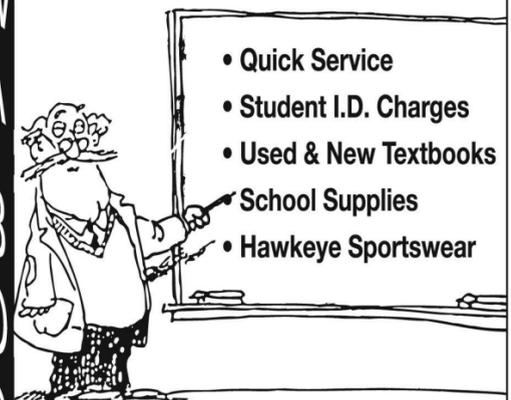
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VENUS

CONTINUED FROM 1

Even though the skies of Iowa City were overcast, blocking the view of the Sun, spectators were able to see the transit on a webcam stationed in California, where there were clear skies.

The projector in a classroom of Van Allen Hall showed a vivid, up-close picture of the Sun. Around

5:05 p.m., when the transit started, it looked like there was a tiny dent in the upper left hand corner of the Sun.

As the minutes passed, the dent was more and more prominent, which is called the "black drop effect," Spangler said.

Once people saw the first stage of the complete transit at 5:22, they began to file out of the classroom. They went back up to the roof to see if the clouds had moved at all, but it was just as cloudy as ever.

Venus transit

When the Venus transit occurs:

- 2004
- 2012
- 2117
- 2125

Source: Thomas Barnes, superintendent of McDonald Observatory at the University of Texas in Austin

"I am going to wait here," Spangler said. "The Sun may come right back out, and you can't beat seeing the live show."

ROOSEVELT

CONTINUED FROM 1

neighborhood around Roosevelt is putting on the School Board.

"[The neighbors] shouldn't always be getting their way," Cook said.

The surrounding community doesn't want any multiple-family facilities to be built on the property, he said. It is constraining the potential buyers, causing additional strains on the

School District budget. He also said the appraisal value would be much higher, along with the bid, if development for multiple-family housing was permitted.

The School District can choose to hire a real-estate agent to sell the property or go back to the competitive-bid process now that the original bid has been rejected.

There have been numerous inquiries since the bidding closed April 30 with interest in the property, according to the Tuesday board packet.

School Board President

Marla Swesey said several people in the neighborhood emailed her, pleased with the plan.

"[Place Partners has] been keeping a very open dialogue," Murley said in response.

Potentially, Place Partners could place another bid after the second appraisal.

The 81-year-old elementary school will be replaced by Borlaug Elementary in Coralville, which will open Aug. 16.

ELECTION

CONTINUED FROM 1

rens, in House District 10.

"I am going to sleep for three days, then go back to work at Acceleration Iowa and Hy-Vee," Highfill told *The Daily Iowan* after the results were posted Monday night.

The two UI alums credited their political experience to their time at the university. Bleam, 25, said he caught the "political bug" from his grandmother, Elaine Bleam, when she involved him as a junior delegate in state Republican Conventions.

"I started going to those with her at a very young age, and I guess she just kind of inspired me to get involved in the political process," he said.

Highfill, 22, took an interest in politics during his freshman year of high school.

Both Bleam and Highfill ran against incumbents.

One UI political expert said running against an incumbent can have both positive and negative effects.

"A negative for both is that they are running against incumbents who have more experience and name recognition," said Tim Hagle, a UI associate professor of political science. "But that can force them to work harder to get people to take them seriously, which can take the incumbents by surprise."

Bleam studied political science, ethics, and public policy while at the UI. He was also elected president of UI Student Government.

Bleam said he believes he became most prepared for his post-college political career when he wrote a brief to the UI administration against an increase in tuition and mandatory student fees.

"What really gave me the best preparation from being involved in student government wasn't necessarily doing the speeches or

going to foundation events and making a presence," he said. "It was literally about going and advocating on behalf of the student body to not have a tuition increase, to not have a mandatory student activities fee ... and actually learning about where these different pots of money go."

Current UISG President Nic Pottebaum said working with UI alums is always favorable.

"It's great to see former student leaders seek elected office after their time at the University of Iowa," he said. "Being a Hawkeye and a public servant is a great combination."

Highfill had similar political outreach experiences at the UI.

Highfill majored in business and minored in exercise science, but his political involvement at the UI began during the 21-ordinance debate in 2010.

"I worked the [21-ordinance] with a good friend of

mine, presenting classes; I was swamped busy, I had fun, we learned so much," he said.

Bleam and Highfill said they remained confident throughout their campaigns despite the age difference between them and their opponents.

Helland said he welcomed the idea of a younger candidate, remembering his first campaign.

"I was only 27 when I first ran. It is fantastic

when young people get involved," he said. "I wish more would."

When reflecting on his campaign experience, Highfill said he enjoyed meeting new people and giving them a face to his name.

"The overwhelming sup-

port is incredible; I door-knocked so many people ...

and they really enjoyed it," he said. "One-on-one contact with the candidate, when they look at the ballot, they feel like they really know that person."

SPI BOARD STAFF VACANCY

The Board of Trustees of Student Publications Incorporated, publisher of THE DAILY IOWAN, has two vacancies for staff representative – two-year terms covering the period from September 2012 through May 2014.

Nominees must be 1) full or part-time employees of the University of Iowa excluding faculty, and 2) committed to working on the board until the term expires. You may nominate yourself or someone else. The deadline for nominations is June 19, 2012 at noon. Nominations should be delivered to E131 Adler Journalism Building or placed in Campus Mail.

Nominees should provide the following information:
 Name of Nominee Home Address
 Position in the University Office Phone
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A brief description of why the nominee is qualified for the SPI board.

The election will be on the internet from June 2 - July 13 at dailyiowan.com

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Editorial

Put Moen-project up for vote

When it comes to making the many right moves needed to successfully build a new building, Iowa City developer Marc Moen is certainly an expert. This can be easily observed, as the Moen Group boasts a very impressive list of properties it has successfully constructed and now manages.

Some of the most notable on this list include the Plaza Towers, the magnificent structures that tower over Iowa City from its location near the Pedestrian Mall.

The property-management group hopes to build a 14-story tower on 114 S. Dubuque St.

To fund this \$10.7 million project, the organization is attempting to receive TIF money from the taxpayers of Iowa City.

The decision of whether the TIF money should be given to the Moen Group should be put up for a public vote, because this TIF money consists of the future dollars of the Iowa City taxpayers.

TIF stands for tax-increment financing, and it is most commonly used to generate money for economic development in

a specific geographic district. In this case, the TIF money that the Moen group would receive from the city would come from future taxes placed on Iowa City residents.

Several local residents have decided the people who would fund the Moen Group's most recent project — the taxpayers — should be the ones to decide whether the property-management organization receives the TIF funding.

These local residents have attempted to gather enough signatures to put the authorization of the TIF money up for a public vote.

Carol deProse is one of those residents who helped organize the petition.

According to deProse, Moen was able to privately fund the 12-story building that was to be built on the same site, but he went back to the City Council hoping to gain access to \$2.5 million from TIF so he could build a 14-story building.

DeProse said not allowing the public a chance to vote on the issue of Moen receiving tax dollars "undermines the foundations of democracy."

Ideally, TIF makes perfect sense.

People come together

to redevelop their cities, bringing business to new markets and smoothing over relations between businesses and their consumers.

TIF is a seemingly perfect solution to the age-old problem of redeveloping poorer areas and creating new economic opportunities for residents.

But that is not what TIF is being used for here. There is no real need for this redevelopment, and the majority share of the profits will end up going to the Moen Group, not the taxpayer.

TIF is meant to be used in areas in which redevelopment is necessary and money is tight — not to subsidize already successful millionaires such as the Moen Group.

There is a strong argument to be made for the TIF financing, as well.

When used responsibly, the tax system can increase property values, leaving cities with more revenue from property taxes.

Iowa City residents will undoubtedly pay more upfront taxes, but in the long run, the increase in value of their properties will fiscally benefit, more than harm,

the average person.

But in the end, it should be residents who get to make that call. Iowa City residents would be the investors, and therefore, they should have the choice of what to invest their money into.

If the Moen Group and the City Council are confident enough that the tower would benefit downtown Iowa City and the community, then they could look towards private investors to fund the project.

Private investors could choose to invest their money in the project, unlike than Iowa City taxpayers who won't have a choice unless the project is put up for a public vote.

When the use of TIF dollars in a project is as expensive and controversial as the purported Moen building, Iowa City residents should be the ones to determine whether TIF money will be used.

Your turn. Do you think the Moen project should be put up for a public vote?

Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

Bend over, Vatican

BENJAMIN EVANS
benjamin-evans1@uiowa.edu

I'd like to give a nice golf clap — heck, let's make it a round of applause — for Sister Margaret A. Farley, a theological scholar who wrote the book *Just Love: A Framework for Christian Sexual Ethics*.

This book would have never even come close to hitting anywhere near my literary radar if it weren't for the Vatican, in all its wisdom and glory, censoring it from all true Roman Catholic eyes. So, maybe I should give the Vatican a little clap, too — or maybe a metaphoric slap would be more appropriate.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith publicly came out and denounced Farley in an official "Notification" to the Catholic community this past Monday, saying the usual things any tyrannical group of individuals would say when something (like a better idea) is a threat to its power.

"The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith expresses profound regret that a member of an institute of consecrated life, Sr. Margaret A. Farley, R.S.M., affirms positions that are in direct contradiction with Catholic teaching in the field of sexual morality," the statement explained. "Furthermore, the Congregation wishes to encourage theologians to pursue the task of studying and teaching moral theology in full concord with the principles of Catholic doctrine."

What a load of crap. Typical, I know: A young, semi-liberal, and immensely handsome college male coming out against the Catholic Church. It seems cliché, I'll admit, but let's not make this about me. Let's make this about the book, *Just Love*.

Peel back the cover and any guilt-ridden Catholic like myself will find some solace in a different and oddly freeing interpretation of human sexuality: First, by admitting that it's there and it's nothing to be ashamed of, which for any hedon

who had a proper Catholic upbringing is more than a huge deal.

The book presents several contemporary, theological interpretations to ethics concerning same-sex marriage, divorce, remarriage, and the all-too-taboo act of masturbation — all closely considered and measured against traditional Christian law by this correspondent and, assumedly, by most young college students in their morally formative years.

"[The book] suggests the importance of moving from what frequently functions as a taboo morality to a morality and sexual ethics based on the discernment of what counts as wise, truthful, and recognizably just loves," Farley said in a responding statement to the Vatican's reprimand.

Farley goes on to say in her statement that *Just Love* "was not intended to be an expression of current official Catholic teaching" but rather was written to aid people when they "think through their questions about human sexuality."

Remember back when the demi-gods banned *The Da Vinci Code*? It wasn't such a big deal because, whatever, it's not the official stance of the Roman Catholic Church that Jesus knocked out Mary Magdalene — but this is a big deal. Someone in the Church is trying to have an honest to God, open debate about human sexuality, and the Vatican replies it's too dark and too disgusting to even touch, further demonizing it in the minds of young Christians.

It's not so much the censorship but the demeaning and repressive message sent to people struggling with personal sexuality in contemporary society: You think about sex in a healthy way, huh? Well, have fun in Hell.

Too bad, kid-who-has-questions-about-his-identity, keep repressing those thoughts until they put you in therapy. So sad, married-couple-in-a-committed-relationship, don't take birth control because then you won't get pregnant.

But what the Vatican can't stop is the idea this book represents: the tilt at the windmill, and the comfort in hoping that maybe, just maybe, you are all right. ■

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.

GOP backs unfairness toward women

Iowa Democratic Party Chairwoman Sue Dvorsky released the following statement today after Senate Republicans blocked the Paycheck Fairness Act, which would close loopholes that prevent women from fighting for equal pay and would

help stop pay discrimination before it starts:

"Apparently, Sen. [Chuck] Grassley and his Republican colleagues, as well as Mitt Romney, don't think this basic issue of economic fairness is a priority. In fact, despite being his party's candidate for president, Iowa women don't know where Mitt Romney stands on this fundamental legislation: on the

side of economic fairness or with the Senate Republicans?"

"Today, we saw that Mitt Romney was nowhere to be found when it came time to stand up for Iowa women and pass the Paycheck Fairness Act. And that's not working for Iowa women or their families.

"Unlike President Obama, who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to ensuring women receive

equal pay for equal work and has fought to enhance the economic security of our families, our communities, and our country, Mitt Romney today was silent — content to once again allow extreme voices in his party to push their out-of-touch agenda. That's not the kind of leadership Iowa women are looking for in a president."

Michael Hunt
Communication director,
Iowa Democratic Party

Guest Column

U.S. job-creation weapon against China in Africa

Every year, thousands of African students graduate from American universities. Some of them go back to Africa to work with their governments or to work in the private sector; some stay in the United States to look for jobs; others, who have green cards or are American citizens stay permanently and are under the responsibility of the U.S. government.

Recent statistics, released by the Labor Department on June 1, show, however, that the U.S. government is struggling to create jobs for Americans here at home and abroad.

But African students who graduate from U.S. universities, including the University of Iowa, every year can, if used strategically, help the United States become the No. 1 partner of Africa and help the U.S. government create jobs by trading with Africa.

A recent report by the African Bank for Development shows that Africa has a fast-growing middle class, and some members of the U.S. Congress, through the Increasing American Jobs Through Greater Exports to Africa Act of 2012, want the United States to increase its export to Africa by 200 per-

cent in the next decade. They argue that this will help create jobs for Americans at home and abroad.

Securing deals with African leaders or negotiators today is all about trust. Unlike China, the United States wants to be a partner that respects human rights and the rule of law. But because of history, many Africans see the U.S. approach as a way of imposing Western values, a form of neocolonialism. They see no difference between the Americans and the Europeans and have no other choice than to welcome China, which gives them loans with job-

taking conditionality and whose violations of human rights often pass unnoticed.

Maybe the United States does not have the money right now to do this kind of loan or it does not want to send taxpayers' money to Africa. But the government has to think strategically: It can offer incentives (financial and logistics) to those African American graduates who have double nationalities and who would like to go back to Africa to start their own business. This will help create jobs for Americans and for Africans and opportunities for joint businesses.

Unlike the United States, China is still trying to strengthen its relations with Africa. In his address to Kenyan students, titled "Strengthen China-Africa Friendship and Cooperation to Build a Better Tomorrow," Li Changchun, a member of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China, announced China's intention to increase the number of government scholarships to African students. By doing so, China wants to lay a solid foundation for future China-Africa friendly ties.

However, the United States already has a solid relation with many African countries; it has a better education system and better universities; and it has been training African students for decades.

I am certain that, due to their knowledge of Africa and their African origin, the students would be more welcome and trusted by African governments and would not have difficulties working with African business men and women.

Henri Nkuepo
UI law research scholar

ROCK CLIMBING

CONTINUED FROM 8

from a childhood of “climbing trees and houses and the neighbor’s garage” —

he’s still learning. He’s learning to not only become a better climber, but he also translates the lessons he’s learned on the rope to his life.

He’s learned how far he can push himself. “If you’re not bleeding when you

walk away from the wall, you’re not trying hard enough,” Randall said and followed with a slight laugh.

He’s learned to take “the path of least resistance,” to not complicate things, to live simply and freely.

He’s learned to love the very details of the rock under his calloused and peeling fingers, the chalk smears on his pant legs, the tightness of his climbing shoes. Climbing is hard work for Randall, but he

relishes the struggle.

“He definitely is determined to succeed every day, but mostly, he just finds so much joy in it,” Barr said. “You could just pound away at things and never love them, and it doesn’t feel good — it feels like it’s a

task. But with this, you have to think about the climb, and use your body efficiently, and really, truly love what you’re doing up there. That’s when you get good. Really good. R.J. is a perfect example of that.”

TRACK

CONTINUED FROM 8

zorek said.

With just six men and two women set to run, jump, and throw, Iowa likely won’t be at the top of the leaderboard. But the Hawkeyes have numerous chances for medals.

Iowa’s best shot at gold may be Troy Doris. The senior won the triple jump at this year’s Drake Relays, upsetting favorite Omar

NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships

Where: Drake Stadium, Des Moines
When: Today-Saturday
Where to watch: NCAA.com (free live stream); ESPN (Friday-Saturday)

Follow @ibmartin on Twitter for updates

Craddock of Florida. He also had the highest finish of any Hawkeye in the NCAA qualifiers when he

took second at the West Regional on May 25.

Wieczorek said the precedent for success this season has been set by cocaptains Doris and Sowinski. They were the only two Hawkeye first team All-Americans at the NCAA indoor track and field championships in March — Doris earned fourth in the triple jump, and Sowinski took bronze in the 800 meters. The seniors were exactly the lead-

ers their coach hoped they would be when they became captains.

“They’ve done just about everything in terms of having success,” Wieczorek said. “Oftentimes, we throw clichés around, but we couldn’t ask for two better role models.”

But Sowinski is cautious. The senior doesn’t expect an easy race just because he won bronze in the winter.

One reason is that there are some “really talented

guys” who only compete in the outdoor season, he said.

Instead of expecting to win, the athletes want to run their best race, toss their longest javelin or hammer, or jump as far as possible. Especially after qualifiers where most were near or at the last eligible spot for making it to the Des Moines finals, it’s a mantra of no regret.

An exemplar of this attitude is Melander, making

her first and last trip to the NCAAs as a senior. She knew her regional qualifying time of 16:26.06 in the 5,000 meter race wasn’t up to her capability.

“It definitely wasn’t the fastest [time I’ve run],” said Melander, whose personal best is 15:57.13. “For this race, it’s going to be ‘put everything out there.’”

SOFTBALL

CONTINUED FROM 8

eight ground-ball plays, and Laux was able to keep the ball from leaving the dirt.

“That thing that I was most pleased about tonight wasn’t necessarily the strikeout count,” Kelley

said. “It’s mostly about spotting up your pitches and letting the defense participate a little bit, too.”

Laux’s second no-hitter is more special for her, even though her team was able to ramp up the offense and end the game against Regina in five innings on June 1.

“This is another 5A school, and Regina isn’t

5A,” Laux said. “That was a little easier, you could say. But they have some really good hitters at City, so tonight was different.”

Laux only walked one batter — Little Hawk Ashley Duthie, who then stole second. Duthie was the only City player to reach base.

“When you throw as hard as she does and you

get as much movement on the pitch as she has, it makes it tough,” Kelley said. “She might be one of the top two or three pitchers in the state.”

DI reporter Tom Clos contributed to the reporting of this game.



City High’s Kira Dailey swings against West pitcher Mackenzie Laux at West High’s softball field on Tuesday. West swept City, 2-1, 9-0. (The Daily Iowan/Juan Carlos Herrera)

HOOPS

CONTINUED FROM 8

and fun; Davis’ team named itself “The Big Dogs.”

Eric Upchurch, a member of Till’s team, was happy to be on the green for

a good cause. He said the goal to send the Hawkeyes overseas stays in his mind throughout the event.

“If I could go anywhere overseas to play golf, I’d have to go to Ireland,” he said.

The women’s team went on a 12-day tour through Prague (Czech Republic),

Bratislava (Slovakia), Vienna, and Paris in August 2011. The Hawkeyes played three games while they were in Europe, all against teams local to the area they were traveling in at that time.

The Hawkeyes were able to share their experiences with Iowa fans while over-

seas. The team won all three games, and an online journal was updated by the players. They documented the competition of the teams they played and also the leisure time of the trip — the food they ate, things they learned, and memories they made sightseeing. The team doesn’t know

yet where it will go in three years, but officials are leaning towards Italy.

But the first step is finding the funds to make it possible. The women’s basketball team has created the perfect mix of competition and charity to get the job done.

Janet Holtus, a regular

participant in the Golf Extravaganza, sunk a putt for a birdie and celebrated. She accepted high-fives and congratulations from her teammates. “That was good, the best we could hope for,” Holtus said. “We’re just happy to be out here and support the women’s athletics.”

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Daily Break " Have you ever noticed what golf spells backwards? "

- Al Boliska

the ledge

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



Advantages of Landfill fire:

- The odor of burning garbage drowns out the overpowering aromas of patchouli oil and clove cigarettes left over from Arts Fest.
- It keeps the firefighters occupied, finally freeing up some space in the mustache-wax aisle at the greengrocers for the rest of us.
- If you live downwind from this disaster, the family dog is off the hook as flatulence scapegoat.
- The thick plumes of smoke obscure our little Gomorrah from the leering eye of any authoritative deities who peer down from above.
- While we're at it, any invasive and/or nosy extraterrestrials would be similarly thwarted, or at least inconvenienced. Take that, ALF and the aliens from *Aliens*.
- Many people forget that a fire can simply be part of the natural life cycle of a huge pile of shredded, vulcanized rubber.
- Providing a much needed shot in the arm to flagging local asthma-inhaler sales.
- It gives local news anchors the chance to haze (ha!) upstart cub reporters by sending them to provide live updates from the smoldering mess.
- Local authorities can make monetary lemonade out of this lemon by charging summer tourists admission to see "Iowa City's longest continuously burning pile of refuse (often imitated; never duplicated)."
- It's much more interesting and exciting than a fire at the recycling center.

- Will Hartman is working on a tag line.

Want to see your photos in the DI?

Submit your own photos to daily-iowan@uiowa.edu. Include your name, date, and a caption. You might just see it on this page!

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

Level:

1	2
3	4

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE

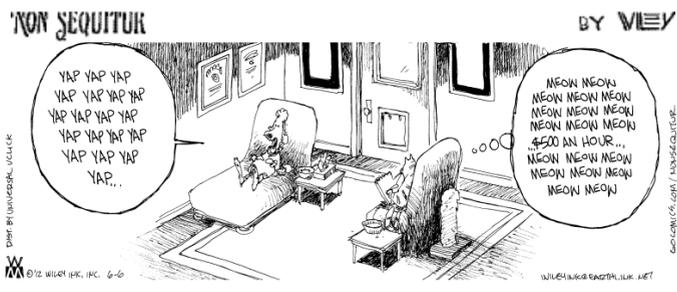
8	3	9	4	2	7	5	6	1
7	4	5	6	3	1	8	9	2
2	1	6	9	5	8	3	7	4
6	5	2	8	1	4	9	3	7
9	8	1	5	7	3	2	4	6
4	7	3	2	9	6	1	8	5
5	2	4	3	6	9	7	1	8
1	9	8	7	4	5	6	2	3
3	6	7	1	8	2	4	5	9

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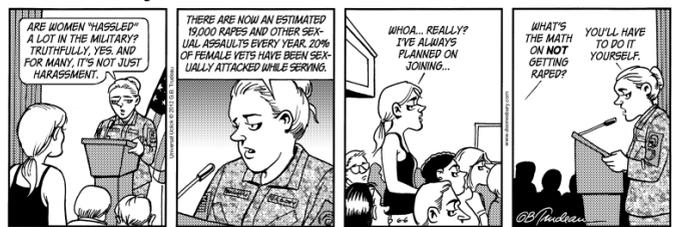
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OBJECTS OF ART

HUNGRY?

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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

- **Preschool Story Time**, 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Stories in the Park**, 10:30 a.m., Willow Creek Park
- **Identity Crimes**, 1 p.m., Senior Center, 28 S. Linn
- **Summer Reading Grades 1-4**, 1 p.m., Coralville Public Library, 1401 Fifth St.
- **East Side Hy-Vee Walking Club**, 4 p.m., Hy-Vee, 812 S. First Ave.
- **Farmers' Market**, 5-7 p.m., Chauncey Swan parking ramp

- **Bias Skirt**, 6 p.m., Home Ec Workshop, 207 N. Linn
- **Gray Knights Chess Club**, 6:30 p.m., Senior Center
- **Ruth Harkin Public Lecture**, 7 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **"Live from Prairie Lights," Adam Clay**, poetry, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Spoken Word**, 7 p.m., Uptown Bill's, 730 South Dubuque Street
- **Jam Session**, 9 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

- Noon** "Civility in a Fractured Society," Jim Leach, head of the National Endowment of the Humanities and former Iowa congressman, Feb. 16, 2010
- 1:30 p.m.** Souk Ukaz, "Writing In and Beyond the City," International Writing Program
- 2** International Writing Program New Symposium 2008, Greece
- 2:30** Human Rights Week, "Educating Leaders in Health Care for the 21st Century," Freeman A. Hrabowski III, President of University of Maryland-Baltimore County, Jan. 19, 2010
- 8:30** President's Lecture 2010, Pulitzer Prize author Marilynne Robinson, Feb. 14, 2010
- 4:30** "Civility in a Fractured Society," Jim Leach, head of the National Endowment of the Humanities and former Iowa congressman, Feb. 16, 2010
- 6** Souk Ukaz, "Writing In and Beyond the City," International

- Writing Program
- 6:30** International Writing Program New Symposium 2008, Greece
- 7** "The Ponseti Method," UI Health Care presents the story of Dr. Ignacio Ponseti
- 7:30** Human Rights Week, "Educating Leaders in Health Care for the 21st Century," Freeman A. Hrabowski III, President of University of Maryland-Baltimore County, Jan. 19, 2010
- 8:30** President's Lecture 2010, Pulitzer Prize author Marilynne Robinson, Feb. 14, 2010
- 9:30** "Civility in a Fractured Society," Jim Leach, head of the National Endowment of the Humanities and former Iowa congressman, Feb. 16, 2010
- 11** Souk Ukaz, "Writing In and Beyond the City," International Writing Program
- 11:30** International Writing Program New Symposium 2008, Greece

horoscopes Wednesday, June 6

- by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** March 21-April 19 Separate your emotions from your business dealings. Don't give an old flame a second thought. Any personal change you make should be looking forward, not backward. A connection with someone who shares your interests will bring in more cash.
- TAURUS** April 20-May 20 Discuss alternatives with those your decisions will affect, and you will find a way to proceed without opposition. Travel, if it will help close a deal or get better acquainted with a situation you face. Discipline and hard work will pay off.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 Take greater interest in what's going on around you. Pitch in, and you will raise your profile and enhance your reputation. Take on a challenge, but don't take chances. Prepare properly, give it your best shot, and excel.
- CANCER** June 21-July 22 Listen to suggestions being made, and you will recognize how much you have to offer and how little help you need. Change may be daunting, but once you get moving, you will impress everyone with your ability to adapt and proceed.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 Participation will open windows of opportunity, both personally and professionally. Share what you have to offer mentally, emotionally, and physically; you'll develop a long-lasting relationship with someone special. Love is on the rise.
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Listen carefully to what's being said. Problems will occur if you aren't precise about what you can and cannot do. Concentrate on doing the best job possible, and avoid unpredictable or unreliable people. Physical activity will relieve stress.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 Do whatever it takes to boost your confidence or make you feel good, look good, and be your best. Visiting a friend, lover, or relative will bring you closer together. Don't waste time or money. Set a budget, and stick to it.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Focus on creating a space at home that is conducive to productivity. A hobby, pastime, or interest can turn into a moneymaker. Present and promote what you have to offer. A partnership with someone you care about will be reinforced.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Your main interest should be on making partnerships work. Change your home environment if it isn't conducive to what you want to achieve. Expect confusion or delays while traveling. Don't fold under pressure.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Get together with old friends, or visit a place you haven't experienced for a long time. The memories you resurrect will remind you of old goals you can incorporate into new opportunities. Invest in something you want to pursue.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Pay more attention to your surroundings. The people and places around you will make a significant difference to the way you handle your personal and professional life. Love is in the stars, and it should influence a lifestyle choice you make.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-March 20 Do your part, but don't overdo it. Participating is one thing, but being taken advantage of is another. Disagreements will develop if you don't set boundaries. Equality is a must if you are going to work in conjunction with others.

SUMMER OF THE PIANO



Pianist Tyler Craft plays the piano on the Pedestrian Mall on Tuesday afternoon. The public pianos were first placed downtown in 2010, and they play host to musicians of all ages and abilities. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen)

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0502

- Across**
- 1 Pieces of mail
- 6 Watson's creator
- 9 Lots
- 14 "Features accompanying the comics, often"
- 15 What a baby may be
- 16 "Like some tennis volleys"
- 17 Atlas go-with
- 19 Legendary racing name
- 20 Blue-pencil
- 21 Grimm boy
- 23 Nashville sch.
- 24 Iceman Phil or Tony
- 26 H.S. excellence exam
- 28 Mined matter
- 29 John Jacob ___
- 30 Option after a transmission failure
- 34 Stalls
- 37 "Well, did you ___?"
- 38 Out of sorts ... or what completes the answers to the nine starred clues
- 40 Suffix with senior
- 41 Sweet breakfast pastry
- 43 "___ he-e-ere!"
- 45 Jewish wedding rings?
- 46 Radiologist's tool, briefly
- 47 Something to sing over and over
- 49 Ad come-on, redundantly
- 54 Boat propeller
- 55 Double curve
- 57 Inter ___
- 58 Beethoven's "___ Solemnis"
- 60 Makers of knockoffs
- 62 "Labradoodle, e.g."
- 63 Capital of Japan
- 64 "Symbol on some flags"
- 65 Davis of Hollywood
- 66 Couples' place?
- 67 Rub off

Down

- 1 "Gosh, you shouldn't've"
- 2 "Intersection"
- 3 Bygone U.S. Postal Service mascot
- 4 Keats's "___ Psyche"
- 5 Q-U string
- 6 Dream up
- 7 Good, to Guillermo
- 8 Cousteau's milieux
- 9 Forms
- 10 Reason not to do something
- 11 Cause for budget cutting
- 12 "Appear as Tootsie, e.g."
- 13 Parade
- 18 Low-quality
- 22 Life of Riley
- 25 Favorite ___
- 27 Fields of comedy
- 29 Olympics competitor of NZL
- 30 Union foe
- 31 Garden evictee
- 32 Upright swimmers

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

M	I	C	A	H	M	F	A	S	S	H	A	W
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- Puzzle by Paula Gamache
- 33 Fielding flaw
 - 34 "Weapon for William Tell"
 - 35 Novy ___ (Russian literary magazine)
 - 36 Guadalajara-to-Mexico City dir.
 - 39 Dorm figs.
 - 42 Campaign
 - 44 Rush
 - 46 Steve Buscemi's role in "Reservoir Dogs"
 - 47 Two-for-one, e.g.
 - 48 "Scope lines"
 - 49 Hall-of-___
 - 50 Swamp thing
 - 51 Actress Massey
 - 52 "Bygone Chryslers"
 - 53 Cup of Cannes
 - 56 Informal greeting
 - 59 Six, in Sicilia
 - 61 Former justice Fortas
- 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/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

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Follow Hawkeye Track at NCAA's
Look for breaking NCAA track updates from the action at Drake Stadium in Des Moines on the *DI* blog at dailyiowanmedia.com/live.

The Zen of the climb



R.J. Randall climbs the climbing wall in the Campus Recreation & Wellness on Monday. Randall said he has been climbing indoors on and off since he was 12-years-old. (The Daily Iowan/Chastity Dillard)

Rock climbing guru R.J. Randall climbs three to four times a week at the Campus Wellness and Recreation Center.

By **MOLLY IRENE OLMSTEAD**
molly-olmstead@uiowa.edu

There are thousands of artificial rocks bolted to the three-story climbing wall at the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center. They're gray and black, purple and rust-colored, highlighter yellow and sea-foam green and covered with man-made holds.

R.J. Randall doesn't need to use them. The 29-year-old North Liberty business owner has been rock climbing on and off for around 17 years — and become serious about it for the last five. He's so experienced on the wall at the Rec Center that he can scale all 52

1/2 feet without using any of the holds; he can use just the natural features — dips, cracks, bulges, and ridges — in the rock itself.

"There's a route that used to have both holds and a lot of naturals, and I could barely climb it," said Amy Barr, one of Randall's climbing partners. "Well, they took the holds off. I couldn't even get past the first four moves, and R.J. just skips up the whole thing. He's like Spider-Man."

Randall is arguably the best climber who frequents the wall, but he says he's inspired by the beginners and

the climbers who struggle to scale a height that Randall could master with his eyes closed.

"You sometimes get to this point where you feel like you're better than other people ... but then you see people who are just coming in to try it out for the first time or people who are still learning the very basics of climbing," Randall said. "They're humble, and they want to learn. They take advice and ask for help. They're scared, but they try it anyway. I love watching those people."

James Wetzel is one of these beginners. He started

climbing in February and immediately began looking to Randall for examples of exceptional climbing. He also asked the veteran climber for advice.

"If you have a question about a rock, you don't have to be shy to ask R.J. how he did it," Wetzel said. "You can learn a lot from him, and it's very inspiring to see him climb a wall with no holds like this. It helps you improve. I've been getting better and better in his footsteps."

Despite Randall's expertise — a talent that developed

SEE ROCK CLIMBING, 5

8 Hawks head off to NCAAs

Eight Hawkeyes will be at NCAA Championships in Des Moines through Saturday.

By **IAN MARTIN**
ian-martin@uiowa.edu

Drake Stadium isn't Iowa's home track, but it might as well be for the next four days.

Eight Hawkeyes will compete in nine events in Des Moines from today through Saturday, hoping to leave more of an impression on the home-state meet than last year's 46th-place finish.

The Hawkeyes have to travel a mere two hours to Drake Stadium for the championships for the second-consecutive year. There's a calming familiarity to the blue track — senior 5K competitor McKenzie Melander said it has a "comfy feeling."

And then there's the crowd. "There are going to be a lot of Hawkeye fans there ... a lot of Black and Gold," senior 800-meter runner Erik Sowinski said.

But in a stadium in which many Iowa athletes have raced for several competitions — whether in last year's NCAAs or the annual Drake Relays — the success hasn't come as easy as the drive.

"When we left Drake last year, we wanted to come back [in 2012] and have more of an impact at the meet," head coach Larry Wicczorek



Wicczorek
head coach

SEE TRACK, 5

The following eight Hawkeyes will compete at the NCAA outdoor track and field championships beginning today through Saturday in Des Moines.

Men:

- Justin Austin Jr. - 200 meters
- Matt Banse - hammer throw
- Matt Byers - javelin
- Troy Doris - triple jump
- Ethan Holmes - 110-, 400-meter hurdles
- Erik Sowinski - 800 meters

Women:

- Ashley Liverpool - 400 meters
- McKenzie Melander - 5,000 meters

No-hitter marks West High sweep

Iowa City West High pitcher Mackenzie Laux threw her second no-hitter in four days on Tuesday.

By **MOLLY IRENE OLMSTEAD**
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The game ended, and the Trojans cheered. Strangely, however, they were more excited about sweeping City High in a double-header, 2-1 and 9-0, than about their pitcher's outstanding performance.

West High softball pitcher Mackenzie Laux threw a no-hitter Tuesday night. It's Laux's second no-hitter of the season — her first came against Regina on June 1.

Throwing back-to-back no-hitters "isn't a big deal" for the pitcher, said Trojan catcher Michaela Recker, because Laux is "just that good."

"It was really great tonight, because Laux is a great pitcher," Recker said. "But it's not all that unusual, because she has great nights like this all the time. It's normal for Laux."

The owner of a self-proclaimed "pretty crazy" screwball, Laux also had

exceptional control of her drop and rise ball pitches. West head coach Jeff Kelley said he was most impressed with his hurler's pitch movement.

"Everything was working for her tonight, which is also normal," Recker said and chuckled. "She was hitting all of her spots, and on top of that, all of her pitches were breaking at the right time."

Laux threw 9 strikeouts — two looking and seven swinging. Laux was able to move the ball outside to get ahead in the count, then hit an inside pitch to jam the batters, forcing them to swing and then walk dejectedly back to the dugout.

The senior credited the defense behind her as a big part of her shutout. Her no-hitter against Regina included more strikeouts, but Kelley thought the hurler had better ball control against West.

The infielders made

SEE SOFTBALL, 5

Golfing for a good cause

Finkbine Golf Course hosts the annual Golf Extravaganza as a fundraiser for the women's basketball team's international training trip.

By **TAYLOR AXELSON**
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Teams of four sped off in golf carts across the Finkbine Golf Course Tuesday in support of the Iowa women's basketball team. The annual golf tournament raises money for the team's overseas trip that it takes every four years.

Many Big Ten teams take trips overseas to increase their skills and knowledge of the game and keep up with the competition. For the trip of a lifetime, the opportunity for the players is priceless — not only in terms of wins on the basketball court but also for seeing the world.

"We can find the best basketball competition, as well as taking the players to a new country to experience the culture," head



(Left to right) former Iowa men's basketball coach Tom Davis, Doug Jackson, Jerry Emmert, Leo Hensley, and Bob Hensley participate in the Women's Basketball Golf Extravaganza, a celebrity golf outing, on Tuesday at Finkbine Golf Course. The event raises funds for the Iowa women's basketball team. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen)

coach Lisa Bluder said. "Just being able to take our players to the Eiffel Tower — that's a memory I will never forget."

The Women's Basketball Golf Extravaganza is the only fundraiser the team hosts each year, and it costs each team \$500 to participate in the main competition. The amount of money the event produces varies, but it has stayed consistently around \$25,000

when the entry fees and other daily activities — such as a silent auction — are combined. This amount generates enough to send every player on a trip at least once during her Hawkeye tenure.

There were celebrity golfers in attendance, and teams were able to bid on them to join their group. The Hawkeye athletics stars — former men's basketball coach Tom Davis,

Athletics Director Gary Barta, former All-American tight end Marv Cook, women's golf head coach Megan Menzel, and women's basketball radio analyst Shelley Till — all gave an edge to the teams.

While the score is officially recorded, the golfers don't forget that their mission is to raise money for the Hawkeyes. The environment is lighthearted

SEE HOOPS, 5