

The Daily Iowan

FRIDAY, JULY 6, 2012

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50¢

Locals shrug off C'ville growth



Tammy Warner of Cedar Rapids browses through a rack of clothes in the White Rabbit on Thursday. City officials are working to improve public infrastructure downtown to cultivate a vibrant district that appeals to a wide range of shoppers. (The Daily Iowan/Rachel Jessen)

Iowa City residents and officials say Iowa City's reputation as a thriving independent retail locale will outshine Coralville's recent retail success.

By **ALY BROWN**
alyson-brown@uiowa.edu

Though Coralville is poised to transcend Iowa City in retail sales for the first time, city residents and officials say the Iowa City downtown will remain a unique destination for consumers.

Several downtown business owners and students say that the downtown should maintain its unique vibe, and at least one city official said there may be room for national brands to enter the mix.

Cortnie Widen, the owner of independent

store White Rabbit, said downtown Iowa City will thrive if more independently run stores find centrally located venues.

"I think that [downtown] should maintain its independent-store vibe," she said. "But where that is difficult is that the rents are so high downtown."

Widen said new business owners looking to set up shop don't have experimental venues such as the Hall Mall, which housed such stores as Beadology, Connexion, and White Rabbit as fledgling stores.

With the construction of Von Maur and Costco, and the Coral Ridge Mall's ever-

expanding store base, Coralville's retail market is booming. According to the Iowa Department of Revenue Iowa Retail Sales and Use Tax Report, Coralville earned roughly \$722 million in fiscal 2011, compared with \$696 million in the previous year. Iowa City raked in roughly \$741 million in fiscal 2011, up from \$725 million the previous fiscal year.

Geoff Fruin, the assistant to the city manager of Iowa City, said Johnson County's economy has proven resilient through

SEE RETAIL, 3

District returns to pay to ride

The Iowa City School District plans to offer parents within two miles of their children's schools the opportunity to pay for their kids to ride the bus.

By **ERIC LIGHTNER**
eric-lightner@uiowa.edu

Students forced to walk across unplowed sidewalks will have the option to catch a bus because the Iowa City School District recently resurrected its pay-to-ride program.

The program, which was shut down years ago, allowed parents within two miles of the school the option of having their children take the bus instead of walking to school for a per semester fee of \$195.

Steve Murley, the superintendent of the School District, said the program is designed to pick up more students at no additional cost to the district.

"We don't want to have to take money away from other programs to pay for the pay-to-ride program, so what we want is the pay-to-ride program to break even," he said.

Murley said under one portion of the No Child Left Behind Act, the school is required to spend 20 percent of federal money to provide students either transportation or additional tutoring.

The district will spend 15 percent of its allocation money on transportation this year. He said it costs the school \$40,000 per bus for the school to pro-

SEE BUS, 3

Locals organize petition on Moen development

Local residents have put together a petition after the Iowa City City Council voted to lend \$2.5 million in public money toward a 14-story mixed-use building earlier this year. The city councilors could end up reconsidering the agreement during their next meeting July 10.

The petition's deadline is after the public hearing, and organizers need the signatures of 697 eligible voters.

If the petition is successful, the city councilors may abandon the bond proposal, call for a special election on the bonds — as many locals are requesting — or use a bond that is not subject to a reverse referendum, according to city documents.

Many residents believe they should have been able to vote on whether developer Marc Moen should receive \$2.5 million in tax-incentive financing for his 114 S. Dubuque St. development.

The City Council will hold a public hearing on July 10 in which it will decide whether to authorize and issue \$2.8 million in taxable general obligation urban-renewal bonds.

The councilors will need to approve the issuance of the bonds in order to come up with the \$2.5 million TIF funding for Moen's building.

The council voted April 3 to provide Moen with the \$2.5 million TIF loan. Moen has repeatedly said he cannot complete the project without the city's help.

The standing agreement between the city and Moen allows for the upfront TIF money to be provided if Moen allows the city the right to a minimum assessment of roughly \$5.8 million on the development and roughly \$1.3 million on the Plaza Towers condominium unit.



Moen
developer

— by Kristen East

Urban chickens gain support

The I-CLUCK petition, favoring the legalization of urban chickens, has gathered 985 signatures.

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

Chickens may soon scratch their way onto an Iowa City City Council agenda, as local residents have formed a nearly 1,000-signature petition in support of an urban chicken ordinance.

A petition circulated by I-CLUCK — an Iowa City group in favor of legalizing urban chickens — has 985 signatures from local residents in support of an ordinance allowing backyard chickens in Iowa City, and local advocates say they've seen widespread support.

Iowa City resident Shannon Gassman, 25, who started the petition earlier this year, has seen mostly support when looking for people to sign it.

"Personally, I have seen mostly supporters, especially at the Farmers' Market," she said. "People would come up and want to sign it right away."

Gassman said organizers were able to obtain so many signatures because of going to events such as the Farmers' Market looking for people to sign the petition.

"We attended a lot of community events," she said. "We were just asking people on the street whether or not they'd support



Caroline and Natalie Young tend to their chickens on their family's farm near Iowa City on March 6. They run a small egg-distributing business as a part of their homeschool curriculum. (The Daily Iowan/Jessica Payne)

the cause, and we got a lot of feedback."

City Clerk Marian Karr said the group attended many City Council meetings with other petitions in the past. She said it is ultimately up to the council to decide whether it would direct the city staff to get more information.

Urban chicken keeping remains a pending work-session topic, and Karr said depending on how soon staff looks into the issue it could be on the meeting's agenda July 31.

The City Council has addressed urban

chickens in the past few years, *The Daily Iowan* has previously reported. According to a 2009 city memorandum, the Department of Housing and Inspection Services recommended councilors not amend the zoning code.

City councilors were not available for comment Thursday evening.

Gassman said she would like to have chickens in her backyard because of the cost benefits with having one's own eggs.

SEE CHICKENS, 3

WEATHER

HIGH 100 LOW 72



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Camp works on stuttering

The UI SPEAKS program helps kids with stutter problems at a local camp.

By **JOE HITCHON**
johitchon@gmail.com

For kids who stutter, the idea of being called on by a teacher to speak or read aloud in class can be a frightening possibility. But at the University of Iowa SPEAKS camp, these same kids are eager to participate.

"A lot of these kids think they are the only ones with a stutter," said Toni Cilek, the UI SPEAKS director and a clinical associate professor of communication sciences and disorders. "... But when they get here, they meet kids from around the Midwest who have the same condition. This is great for their self-esteem and for learning how to overcome their condition."

Held at the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic, the UI SPEAKS camp ran through the first week of June, with four follow-up sessions throughout the summer. The program has grown steadily from when it began six years ago with four or five campers — it has accommodated 14 the past two summers. The program has also begun taking in children from outside the state.

"We've started to get more kids from farther away, and we've had quite a few kids from surrounding states, so it is starting to look more like a regional camp," Cilek said.

Because there is no



Emily Mikels participates in a game of Drip Drip Drop in Hubbard Park on Tuesday as part of the UI SPEAKS camp. UI SPEAKS is a summer camp at the Wendell Johnson Speech and Hearing Clinic for children who stutter. (The Daily Iowan/Michael Fanelli)

known cure for stuttering — a condition affecting nearly 3 million Americans — the goal of the program is to provide a safe and supportive environment in which children ages 8 to 12 can learn strategies to increase their speech fluency, practice their speech, meet other children who stutter, and also understand and talk openly about the problem.

Another benefit of the UI SPEAKS camp is the intense and immersive model of speech therapy that can be offered during the summer months. Each child is paired with a certified graduate student clinician, which allows for more personalized speech therapy and more assistance in the activities.

The UI Communication Sciences and Disorders Department is home to the nation's first speech-pathology program and where Wendell Johnson pioneered a new approach to stuttering therapy in the

1950s, recognizing stuttering as neither a physical nor neurological problem.

Today, the program still uses a modified version of Johnson's approach, one that includes both individual and group therapy and involves clinicians working closely with their patients and their families to better understand their attitudes, thoughts, and experiences with stuttering.

"The improvement has really been amazing, and it does a lot for making the children feel more confident with the condition while at school and with friends," said Ronda Kopf of Des Moines. "This is the fourth year we've attended the camp, and the strategies the children learn have been very helpful."

The children are not the only ones who stand to benefit from the UI SPEAKS camp — the parents also find welcome support from meeting other parents who can relate to the concerns

UI SPEAKS Program

The UI SPEAKS Program hosts a camp each summer in which kids can benefit from speech therapy.

- Approximately 3 million Americans stutter
- UI SPEAKS camp held first week of June, with four follow-up sessions throughout the summer
- UI Communication Sciences and Disorders Department was the first speech-pathology program in the nation

Source: UI Communication Sciences and Disorders Department Press Release

of raising a child who stutters.

"It was really nice to meet other parents who had kids who stutter," said Andrea Jacobsen, who brings her son from Ankeny for the camp. "We could talk about things that worked for us or maybe did not work for us, share experiences, and relate. It just ended, and he is already asking about next year."

METRO

Supervisors to apply for LED grant

On Thursday, the Johnson County Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a motion to apply for two grants to fund a project to install LED lighting in all county buildings.

The supervisors will then assess which grant better meets the county's needs.

In order to finish the project by an Aug. 31 deadline, the supervisors hope to modify the project to keep its cost below the threshold requiring public bidding, a lengthy process.

Before the meeting, Johnson County grant specialist Sara Sedlacek and the supervisors believed that any project above \$100,000 required public bids, but Assistant County Attorney Andy Chappell noted that the threshold had been raised to \$125,000 this year.

The project as planned would cost \$109,609.81, but the initiative could be trimmed to \$97,466.88, Sedlacek said.

The supervisors also considered asking for a deadline extension to Oct. 31.

Sedlacek and the supervisors agreed that, considering the raise in the public bidding minimum, the state's energy grant is preferable because it could fund the project in its entirety.

— by Eleanor Marshall

Council to consider dam resolution

The Iowa City City Council will consider a resolution Tuesday

authorizing the city manager to sign a grant agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency to plan for the modification of the Burlington Street dam.

The EPA recently awarded the city a \$60,000 grant to enhance the safety of the dam, increase its recreational use, and help the environment, according to city documents.

The city councilors will consider the resolution at their next meeting, July 10.

— by Kristen East

Council to vote on air rights for Moen project

The Iowa City City Council will consider an ordinance July 10 vacating air rights in the public right-of-way located adjacent to 114 S. Dubuque St. — the site of developer Marc Moen's planned 14-story building.

Approval of the ordinance would allow the applicant to acquire air rights for a section of public right-of-way on the Pedestrian Mall and a section of public right-of-way in Black Hawk Mini Park, according to city documents.

The council will vote on the second consideration of the ordinance at its next meeting, July 10. An ordinance requires three readings before it can be approved.

— by Kristen East

Council to vote on Borlaug speed zone

The Iowa City City Council will consider an ordinance July 10

creating a school speed zone for Borlaug Elementary and repealing the speed zone for Roosevelt Elementary.

The school speed zone for Roosevelt will be eliminated because the school closed last month.

The new school speed zone of 20 mph will exist between Camp Cardinal Boulevard and Camp Cardinal Place. Borlaug Elementary will open next month.

Councilors will vote on the first consideration of the ordinance at their next meeting, July 10. An ordinance requires three readings before it can be approved.

— by Kristen East

Council to vote on car-sharing

The Iowa City City Council will consider a resolution July 10 awarding a contract to Zipcar Inc. for car-sharing services for the Transportation Services Department.

The University of Iowa first issued a request for proposals for this project and received proposals Aug. 30, 2011.

According to city documents, the Transportation Services Department will have no financial obligations other than the commitments of staff for marketing assistance and parking spaces for the car sharing vehicles.

The city councilors will vote

on a resolution awarding the contract at their next meeting, July 10.

— by Kristen East

Council ponders funding sources for River Trail

The Iowa City City Council will consider a resolution July 10 authorizing city officials to apply for no more than \$750,000 from three funding sources for the development of the Iowa River Trail.

The three are the State Recreation Trails Program, the Federal Recreation Trails Program, and the Statewide Transportation Enhancement Program.

Funds from any of these programs would be used to develop a 10-foot trail from Foster Road along Dubuque Street and over Interstate 80 to Waterworks Prairie Park, according to city documents.

City transportation planner John Yapp wrote in a proposal that the project would include a pedestrian bridge over I-80, and the bridge's design would be very similar to the bridge over I-80 and Highway 1.

City officials say the trail would increase recreation activities and improve the quality of life for residents of and visitors to Iowa City.

The project has an estimated cost of \$2.1 million. The city has received two federal grants for the project totaling \$935,000.

— by Kristen East

disorderly house.

Frank Webb, 60, address unknown, was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Isaiah Webster, 24, Coralville, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Kansas Ave., S.W., was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Patrick Cawley, 22, 903 Webster St., was charged Thursday with public intoxication.

Ross Dainty, 22, 529 S. Lucas St., was charged Wednesday with disorderly house.

Benjamin Gordon III, 49, 1100 Arthur St. No. M4, was charged May 25 with criminal trespass.

Megan Osayande, 20, 402 S. Gilbert St. No. 715, was charged Monday with littering.

Alex Slagle, 22, 529 S. Lucas St., was charged Wednesday with

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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TOP STORIES

Most-read stories on dailyiowan.com from Thursday.

1. IC, Coralville go ahead with fireworks despite heat wave
2. Breath-test machines help offset party-school ranking
3. Letters to the Editor
4. Should more money be invested in Hawk Alert alternatives?
5. Police cite youth programs in juvenile arrests decrease

OBITUARIES

William "Bill" C. Coonrod, 91, of Iowa City died June 28 at Briarwood Health Care Center. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. July 14 at Lensing Funeral Home, 605 Kirkwood Ave.

Mount Olivet Cemetery in Riverside.

William "Bill" S. Moeller, 87, of Iowa City died June 22 at Windmill Manor Care Center. Family Committal Services will be held at a later date at

George Wine, 81, of Coralville, died July 5 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. A memorial service is planned in the near future at Trinity Episcopal Church in Iowa City.

Find more information at dailyiowan.com.

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BLOTTER

Edmundo Alvarado, 44, 2018 Waterfront Drive No. 16, was charged Thursday with domestic assault with injury.

Rilen Carew, 20, West Branch, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Jillian Carmoney, 20, 4577

Kansas Ave., S.W., was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Patrick Cawley, 22, 903 Webster St., was charged Thursday with public intoxication.

Ross Dainty, 22, 529 S. Lucas St., was charged Wednesday with disorderly house.

Benjamin Gordon III, 49, 1100 Arthur St. No. M4, was charged May 25 with criminal trespass.

Megan Osayande, 20, 402 S. Gilbert St. No. 715, was charged Monday with littering.

Alex Slagle, 22, 529 S. Lucas St., was charged Wednesday with

RETAIL

CONTINUED FROM 1

the recession.

"While market conditions play a predominant role in the growth of the retail industry, cities must also ensure that they are creating an environment that fosters growth and reinvestment," he wrote in an email. "Iowa City is cognizant of this need, and we are actively working to

support and build our retail base."

Fruin said officials are working to improve public infrastructure downtown to cultivate a vibrant district that appeals to a wide range of shoppers, while working with building owners to increase the marketability of their property.

"We want [to] encourage an entrepreneurial environment that supports small-business development and growth, but [we] also feel there is a role for complementary national

brands," he wrote in an email.

This attitude reflects the results of the 2007 market niche analysis that suggests a focus on unique apparel, local artisan and crafters, and specialty goods with a mix of locally owned shops and regional or national chains growing in Iowa. The analysis also cites Coralville's aggressive commercial expansion as a top challenge, in addition to high downtown retail rent and lack of available space.

University of Iowa senior Anthony Kuzmanic said he

would like to see even more independent businesses lining the Pedestrian Mall.

"It's better for the community," he said. "Supporting local businesses is better than supporting large corporate chains."

But UI senior Taylor Cronbaugh disagreed, saying the district could use bigger brands.

"I really liked it when they had an Express downtown," she said.

Nialle Sylvan, the owner of the Haunted Bookshop, said Iowa City would attract more consumers by

improving its character neighborhoods and assisting new business owners.

"Watch while Iowa City becomes not the hub where locals go to get deals on national products, but the hub where the nation comes to find unique experiences ..." she said. "It may seem counterintuitive, but that is a recipe for paradise of the kind people just won't find in many other places. Build it, and they will come."

Retail sales

Fiscal 2011 records show a growth in Johnson County retail sales.

- Johnson County made roughly \$1.6 billion in taxable sales, growing from last fiscal year's \$1.5 billion
- Iowa City raked in roughly \$741 million in taxable sales, compared with last fiscal year's \$725 million
- Coralville earned approximately \$722 million, compared with last fiscal year's \$696 million

Source: Iowa Department of Revenue
Iowa Retail Sales and Use Tax Report

BUS

CONTINUED FROM 1

vide additional routes.

Even though the option costs money, one local parent said because the program would work similar to the lower-priced and free-lunch programs, the program would also benefit lower-income parents as well.

"It does take into consideration family income," Julie VanDyke said.

There have been similar

programs implemented in different school districts for several years. Matt Townsley, the director of instruction at Solon School District, said it has used a similar program with its students.

"For the most part, it's pretty well accepted," he said.

Townsley said the Solon program is similar to the Iowa City one in that it provides adjustable payment levels in much of the same way schools offer more affordable student lunch rates for lower-income families.

Townsley said the school charges \$100 per student per semester and a maximum charge of \$200 per household.

Even with the changeable pay scale provided by the schools, local Iowa City parent Phil Hemingway said there will still be a decision for parents to make on how they will pay for the pay-to-ride program.

"It's a decision that each family will have to make on their own, but I think its great the district is giving an option," he said.

Iowa City School Board

member Karla Cook said the school is using the pay-to-ride initiative as a way to provide parents with a safer option.

"I would imagine it's because [parents] viewed some parts of the walk for students as not entirely safe, but it was within part of the two-mile radius," she said.

Cook said she thought part of the reason the program will be re-implemented is the closing of Roosevelt Elementary. But the option will be a district-wide program.

Hemingway said the pro-

gram is ultimately a good way to provide families with more options.

"I think it's a viable option for parents who don't have the ability to go and pick their kids up," he said.

VanDyke said she believes the pay-to-ride option is great for parents who are within the two-mile limit.

"I am so pleased; if you're under the two miles, there are a lot of people who would like to be able to send their kids on the bus," she said.

Pay to Ride

The Iowa City School District announced the resurrection of the Pay to Ride program for students who live in the two-mile limit of the school.

- \$195 per student per semester
- The school district pays 15 percent of its Title I money on transportation
- Adding additional bus routes costs the school district \$40,000 per bus

Source: Steve Murley, School District superintendent

CHICKENS

CONTINUED FROM 1

"The reason I want to do it is because it seems comparable to getting true,

free-range, organic eggs," she said.

Local proponents cite other Iowa towns as one reason Iowa City should follow suit with allowing urban chicken keeping.

Both Cedar Rapids and

Ames allow backyard chickens.

Kevin Ciabatti, the Cedar Rapids building-services manager, said the city has issued 54 permits to have backyard chickens.

"I think its very beneficial for our citizens to be

able to have urban chickens," he said.

He said he feels it is a win-win situation, because officials were able to help the proponents of housing urban chickens, while also appealing the opponents by

having restrictions on the ordinance.

Jennifer Murtoff — a self-proclaimed urban chicken consultant in Chicago and a proponent of urban chicken keeping — said backyard chickens can be very educational and

informational.

"It can be very beneficial [to keep chickens in your yard] if they are keeping up with the code," she said.

"If some people do not keep up with the codes, they ruin the reputation for everyone."

METRO

Solon man faces many charges

A Solon man has been accused of breaking into a middle school, high school, recreation center, and RJ's Store.

Tyler Yakish, 20, was charged June 29 with second-degree mischief and six counts of third-degree burglary.

According to a Johnson County Sheriff complaint, Yakish admitted in an interview that he and two other codefendants broke into the Solon Middle School and took four LCD projectors and removed a large safe.

He allegedly admitted to breaking into Solon High with one other person with the intentions of taking money from an ATM. Yakish reportedly stole water and Gatorade from a vending

machine. He caused more than \$1,000 in damages to the school property by breaking a door, ATM, and vending machine, the complaint said.

According to the complaint, Yakish admitted to breaking into the Solon Recreation Area concession stand and stole soda and a nacho cheese dispenser, which was later located at his home.

In an interview, he also admitted to breaking into the back door of RJ's store with intention to commit theft but decided not to after hearing an alarm sound. He ended up going back in and took a 30 pack of Busch Light and Camel cigarettes with a codefendant, the complaint said.

Third-degree burglary and second-degree criminal mischief are Class-D felonies.

— by Amy Skarnulis

Man charged with burglary

An Iowa City man has been accused of possessing items that did not belong to him.

Manuel Moreno-Guzman, 21, 2401 Highway 6 E. No. 4616, was charged Wednesday with second-degree burglary.

According to a Johnson County Sheriff's Office complaint, Moreno-Guzman fled on foot from a traffic stop. He later entered a garage and was found in one of the cars by the residents of the house.

Moreno-Guzman fled from the garage and was later found by deputies a few blocks away. He had several items on him that allegedly did not belong to him, the complaint said.

Second-degree burglary is a Class-C felony.

— by Amy Skarnulis

UI student faces numerous charges

A University of Iowa student has been accused of taking his clothes off and singing loudly at the Old Capitol Town Center while under the influence.

Nathan Fleming, 22, 326 N. Dubuque St., was charged Tuesday with trespassing, consumption/intoxication, and disorderly conduct.

According to an Iowa City police complaint, Fleming was acting strangely in the Old Capitol mall, taking his clothes off, singing loudly, speaking gibberish, and throwing his belongings in the recycling bin.

Mall security responded to the disturbance after patrons and business owners complained to security officials. Fleming was reportedly asked to leave numerous times but ignored requests

from mall security, the complaint said.

When officers asked Fleming, he said he was smoking marijuana "chronic" and continued to act strangely.

Trespassing, consumption/intoxication, and disorderly conduct are serious misdemeanors.

— by Jordyn Reiland

State to benefit from GlaxoSmithKline settlement

The state of Iowa will recover almost \$3.5 million from a national settlement between GlaxoSmithKline and the federal government.

According to an Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals release, the federal government alleged that GlaxoSmithKline committed acts

such as unlawfully marketing certain drugs for which the drugs were not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, making false representations regarding the safety of certain drugs, and reportedly offering kickbacks to medical officials.

"This settlement represents the largest health-care fraud settlement in U.S. history," said Rod Roberts, the director of the Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals.

According to the release, the company also agreed to plead guilty to violating the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act.

In Iowa, allegations of Medicaid provider fraud are investigated by the Department of Inspection Appeals Medicaid fraud-control unit, which participated in the Iowa portion of the investigation.

— by Jordyn Reiland

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This Week's Featured Movie:

BIG FISH
(PG-13)
Saturday, July 7

Visit www.summerofthearts.org for information on cancellations.



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Editorial

Better bars, better reputation

Iowa City is a party town. The massive number of bars that make up the downtown scene is a huge reason the binge-drinking culture is what it is — with some bars in particular having a reputation for PAULAs and underage drinking.

A number of bars in the area have served as the late-night home for many drunk University of Iowa students. Summit, for example, has even earned the nickname “Scummit” among the very students it serves.

It has been known as one of the top drink-to-get-drunk bars with its dance-club-like atmosphere, great deals such as \$1-you-call-it nights, and the bar's ability to bring in hundreds of people on any given night.

But with the Summit's renovations and new ownership, we hope that this will signal other bars in Iowa City to clean up their acts and help better the reputation of Iowa City's nightlife.

Since the 21-ordinance was enacted, Summit and other big downtown bars have experienced shrinking attendance. Smaller crowds bring in less revenue, and less money can lower bars' standards of service and operation.

Summit is a prime example of how bars in downtown Iowa City can change for the better. Summit's new management has the chance to improve the quality of the bar, leading to a better reputation, and hopefully putting the days of the “Scummit” behind.

As *The Daily Iowan* has reported, the Iowa City City Council awarded the new owner, Andrew White, a new Class C liquor license. He is now the current owner of the bar and restaurant. The bar has now seen three different owners at the reins over the past two years, with hardly any success in improving the restaurant's reputation.

Improving bars' reputations from being primarily an underclassmen drinking-hole will also help bars improve relations with the Iowa City police — Summit is the most inspected bar in Iowa City.

According to the police website, in the month of May, Summit was checked by police 18 nights during the month, second only to Brothers. In the past 12 months, Summit has been checked the most in the UI area; the

bar was checked on 277 different occasions.

And, of course, the bar checks were successful — there have been 99 PAULAs written out at Summit in the past 12 months.

Being the bar with the most PAULAs in the past 12 months, Summit has been doing everything it can to decrease that number. With bars becoming less of the average nightlife scene, thanks to the 21-ordinance, this is the perfect opportunity for Summit to lower those PAULA numbers and keep the younger crowd out of its doors.

The bar is now undergoing renovations to improve its look, which will allow for a better clientele.

Because the bar is no longer 19 plus, Summit will hopefully be able to keep PAULAs to a minimum. The bar will not be able to take advantage of the six-month exception from the 21-ordinance, despite the change in ownership, as reported by the *DI*.

Kyle Steiger, a Summit employee who has worked at the bar for a year and a half, said he and the rest of the staff are excited to have the new management and get back to work.

“It's a good thing,” he said. “It will improve our business and be a plus for everyone.”

Summit is closed at present because of the new renovations being made; it is set to reopen before the school year commences. Although Steiger said he isn't sure as to what all the new renovations will entail, he said he definitely thinks Summit will be a greater bar.

No doubt the Summit will be a greater bar with a better atmosphere — an example to the Iowa City community to improve its binge-drinking scene and tidy up for the students. With this, we hope the bar can improve its reputation, taking Iowa City with it.

However to completely disconnect from the “Scummit” past, you may just have to give the bar a whole new name. Something to consider, we suppose, with the renovations.

Your turn. Will Summit's improvements improve Iowa City's reputation? Let us know at dailyiowan.com.

It's just the suburbs



BEN EVANS

benjamin-evans-1@uiowa.edu

My mother has an obsession with moving — it's one of those things that I'll never understand, like why eating fried butter on a stick is a good idea or how kissing your dashboard after you run a red light keeps cops from pulling you over.

The only tolerable thing about moving from house to house to house (eight in total) was that, well, we never moved to the dreaded suburbs where creativity and the road less traveled go to die a slow and agonizing death.

And then one weekend (as I wept over my stained, cherry, hardwood floors, which complemented the English-style windows and winding, '20s oak staircase) my parents told me they were going out to pasture: Mother had finally found the house of her dreams ... in the suburbs.

But moving to the suburbs is like going over to the Kardashian household for dinner: Once you get past the face-lifts and obvious boob jobs, it's really just having a bunch of regular people who prefer personal shoppers to culturally inclined merchants.

So, don't get too worked up about Coralville's economy transcending Iowa City's — I have lived in the suburbs, and I know no Von Maur or ice-skating arena can beat the culture Iowa City has cultivated through its people.

OK, so yeah, Coralville earned around \$722 million in 2011 — only about \$20 million off from Iowa City, according to the Iowa Department of Revenue Iowa Retail Sales and Use Tax Report.

And yes, it will probably pass us next year or the year after.

But when people come up to me and say, “Iowa City's economy is going to be surpassed, and we're not going to be able to survive next to

Coralville,” I don't know what the hell they are talking about.

Come on — we are a UNESCO City of Literature next to Prague, for God's sake. Let's have a little brava-do and sing from the rooftops. It's not like we are going to slip off the page into oblivion.

We have Prairie Lights — you know, one of the top independent bookstores in the nation, which has a killer espresso bar that can actually make a cappuccino. Not to mention UI is home to the Writers' Workshop, the renowned M.F.A. program sought out by writers from all over the globe.

I know I gripe about the drinking reputation the UI has, but look past that. We have Dirty John's beer selection (and wine selection) and its House of Glass to match, which literally sells kegs of Stella Artois.

We have the Englert and the Yacht House and Hancher and the Riverside Theater.

People attend the opera and go to concerts; they go to poetry readings and paint park benches.

Don't you see? It's the people who live here who make the culture and take in all Iowa City has to offer. It's not like they are magically going to acquire the taste for Panda Express over A Taste of India. It's not like the guy drinking Old Fashioneds is going to opt for a Bud Light.

Yeah, OK, obviously, it's easier to get Gap jeans at the Coral Ridge Mall. But why would you buy Gap jeans if you have been buying denim from a downtown shop for the past five years?

Independent businesses should be subsidized, rent control for small upstarts should be looked into, and there should be a great debate over TIF funding for the Moen Group. There should be entrepreneurs and venture capitalists beside local subsidies and government micro loans. And there should be more talk of getting rid of crappy bars to make way for a more sophisticated clientele.

But to be worried about Coralville's economy surpassing us?

Come on — it's just the suburbs. ■

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.

Reclaim the right to vote

We are reminded of how lucky we are to live in a democracy, with the right to vote for the elected officials we support. The League of Women Voters is an organization that believes that every citizen's right to vote should be protected and that no person should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination. The League of Women Voters of the U.S. believes that voting is a fundamental citizen right that must be guaranteed.

At present, there are changes taking place in a number of states that are making it more difficult for Americans to vote. At this time, 39 states have enacted strict new voter-ID laws or restrictions on early voting. These new laws will disenfranchise

as many as 5 million eligible voters this year. The supporters of restrictive voting laws claim “voter fraud,” but this is a problem that has not been shown to exist.

In a front-page story in the *Des Moines Register* on June 25, by the Associated Press, “Gov. Terry Branstad has made Iowa one of the most difficult states in the nation for felons to vote in. On the day he took office, Branstad signed an order reversing a six-year policy started under Gov. Tom Vilsack in which felons automatically regained their voting rights once they were discharged from state supervision.”

Kentucky, Florida, and Virginia are the other states that require felons to apply to the governor. Thirty-eight states allow individuals to immediately gain their rights once they complete their sentences.

As the *Register* reports, what is going on in Iowa and across the nation “harkens back the ugly techniques used throughout history ... the goal is to exclude specific people from the democratic process.”

Let us all remember that in this democracy, the League of Women Voters works to “Protect the Vote.” This year we are making a renewed effort to get individuals registered to vote, including high-school and college students, recently naturalized citizens, and all Iowa citizens who have that right. Watch for the League being active in your community.

Bonnie Pitz,
State president,
League of Women Voters Iowa
Newton

Column

We learn from our mistakes unless they result in death

There is an adage, among several million adages that form the soft cliché base of human experience and editorial writing, that states that we learn best from our mistakes unless our mistakes result in death.

The July 4 fireworks debacle in San Diego would be a nice “for example” example: a tremendous build up of hype for a show that would be “bigger and more intense than in years past” followed by something that was not.

While we can all watch the video online and chuckle at the giant plume of white light that lasted just 15 seconds, laugh a little harder at “premature ignition” (15 seconds is bet-

ter than zero seconds, right?), take a moment to feel sad for the children who were expecting something spectacular, then shrug and hope that it doesn't happen next year, we'd miss a key point of the story.

This story, while funny, has lurking beneath it a dark moral. Our “for example” example is for the wrong cliché. We should rather think of this in terms of a saying my father taught me: There was never a horse that couldn't be rode; there was never a cowboy that couldn't be thrown.

Or, even better: sh*t happens.

The homepage for the “Port of San Diego Big Bay

Boom” currently has a post that claims all preliminary tests went without a single problem. August Santore, a spokesman for Garden State Fireworks, claimed on CNN that “there was nothing in the pyrotechnics that went wrong — it was the electronics.”

There was no unheeded warning, no devious employee sabotage, no vast anti-American conspiracy to ruin the show. As far as we know (for now), it just didn't work correctly.

Of course, we're just talking about fireworks. The Declaration was actually signed on the third, and historically speaking, Independence Day celebrations tended to center on rioting rather than

watching fireworks — so no big deal. However, this is indicative of an increasing belief in the infallibility of modern technology that is verging on hubris.

You may recall that not too long ago the University of Nebraska experienced a massive breach of its digital student records — grades, bank account numbers, Social Security numbers, or OSU and Hawaii in 2010, or UCLA in 2006. Systems thought to be safe and well-monitored were breached via complex and dedicated attacks.

This isn't to say that all technology is bad or that things would've been better in San Diego if guys

were running around with lighters and better in Lincoln if they kept all their records in file cabinets. My birth is due to advances in medical science, and I make use of innumerable gadgets and devices that are simply marvels. However, the rhetoric of technophiles and futurists, in their ads, trade shows, online debates, belies a conviction that these clouds and tablets and whatever else, by their abstraction and interconnectivity, can overcome any limitations.

We're building a “smarter planet.” Yet our devices are made of finite materials, bound to the Earth despite our wishes,

and trapped in a geologic history of inevitable decay. The first humanoid to discover fire believed it had saved humanity from the cold until it rained; and, indeed, in our headlong rush to go digital, we proceed with the same certainty of invulnerability as did Franz Reichelt when he jumped from the Eiffel Tower wearing a canopy of silk sheets 100 years ago.

We can remove human error; we cannot remove error. Mineral deposits deplete, power grids fail, files simply vanish, hackers get bored, flash drives go missing, and sometimes fireworks all go off at once.

Jesse Marks
UI alumnus

I have studied many philosophers and many cats. The wisdom of cats is infinitely superior.

— Hippolyte Taine

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.



English 'Cuisine':

- **Bubble and Squeak:** left-over vegetables fried in bacon fat and also the noise you make choking it down.
- **Mushy Peas on Toast:** comes pre-mashed in a can and looks the same coming up as it did going down.
- **Bangers and Mash:** meaty sausages and mashed potatoes, best served in a hospital.
- **Mince and Mash:** loose hamburger served over mashed potatoes, kind of like Maid Rite ... but made wrong.
- **Bread Sauce:** stale bread boiled with milk and onion, one step up from a bread and water diet.
- **Beef Drippings:** congealed beef fat, sliced and spread on toast, otherwise known as "artery clogging manna from Heaven."
- **Yorkshire Pudding:** Milk, flour, and egg cooked in beef fat. Not sweet, not pudding, not eating.
- **Jellied Eels:** chopped eel boiled in broth and cooled to a jelly-like consistency, and you can't be quite sure if it's alive or dead as it slides down your throat.
- **Kippers:** smoked or salted herring boiled for breakfast. Cooked twice, yet they still taste like dead fish.
- **Spotted Dick:** steamed suet pudding and raisins. It's a dessert, not a disease.
- **Boiled Tongue:** boiled cow tongue, peeled, and served cold. Just eat it, and don't talk back.
- **Christmas Mince Pie:** minced meat, suet, candied fruits, and spices in pie crust, and like most things at Christmas, a deep disappointment.
- **Spaghetti on Toast:** chopped canned spaghetti served on toast. Also known as the Meth-Addict Special.

— **Duncan Stewart** has eaten English haute cuisine and lived to tell the tale.

The Daily Iowan
www.dailyiowan.com

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

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

2			6	1		3		
8						4	5	
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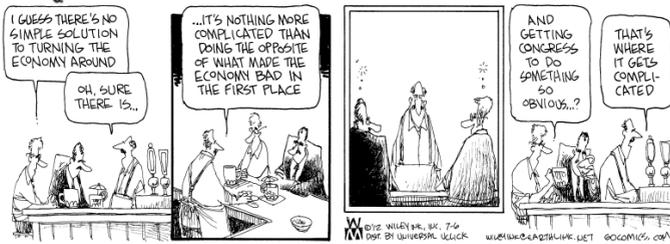
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HUNGRY?

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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

- **Treebrook Preschool Tour with Free Parent/Tot Class,** 9:30-11 a.m., Treebrook Preschool, 3217 Shamrock
- **Three Month Seminar, "Polydiacyclopentadiene: A novel organic solvent nanofiltration membrane,"** Abhinaba Gupta, Chemistry, 10 a.m., W323 Chemistry Building
- **Book Babies,** 10:30 a.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn
- **Stories in the Park,** 10:30 a.m., Mercer Park
- **Community Blood Drive,** 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Chess Group,** 1-4 p.m., Uptown Bill's, 730 S. Dubuque
- **Book Babies,** 1:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library
- **Knitting Nurse,** 2-4 p.m., Home Ec Workshop, 207 N. Linn

- **East Side Farmers' Market,** 4-7 p.m., Olde Towne Village, 610 Eastbury
- **UI Museum of Art First Friday,** 5-7 p.m., Vesta, 849 Quarry Road, Coralville
- **First Friday Fish Fries,** 5-7 p.m., KC Family Center, 4776 American Legion
- **As You Like It,** Riverside Shakespeare Festival, 8 p.m., Festival Stage, Lower City Park
- **Headhunter,** 8 p.m., Bijou
- **Lissie,** 8 p.m., Blue Moose, 211 Iowa Ave.
- **The Woman in Black,** Iowa Summer Rep, 8 p.m., Theater Building Mable Theater
- **Iowa Pro Wrestling Show,** 9 p.m., Wildwood, 4919 Walleye
- **Movement of the Midwest Tour,** 9 p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington
- **Diplomats of Solid Sound,** 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

UITV schedule

Campus channel 4, cable channel 17

Noon Fine Arts Friday UITV is moving, our normal schedule is interrupted today. We will have fine arts programming during the move.

1p.m. UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

2 UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

3 UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

4 UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

5 UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

6 UITV is moving, fine arts programming during the move

7 World Canvass, "Images of the American West," conversation and music with a global perspective from Joan Kjaer and International Programs, December 2010

9 Music IC Concert No. 1, Tricia Park hosts and performs, June 14

10 Music IC Concert No. 2, Proust's Musical Word concert, June 15

11 UI Chamber Orchestra Concert, Mozart, Debussy, Stravinsky, Copeland, March 4

horoscopes Friday, July 6

— by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** March 21-April 19 Group activity will help you gain confidence and will give you a chance to market your skills and present your ideas. People from your past can play a crucial role in helping you advance now. Romance will add spice to your life.
- TAURUS** April 20-May 20 Too much of anything will lead to disaster. Don't give in to someone asking for too much. You have to protect what you have from someone looking for a handout. Offer suggestions and hands-on help, not your hard-earned cash.
- GEMINI** May 21-June 20 You've got all the right moves. Take the initiative, and make changes that will ensure you the position you want or results that will make you more marketable. Changes made now will bring greater options. Love is on the rise.
- CANCER** June 21-July 22 Stay focused, and don't get sidetracked by what someone else does or says. Keep your thoughts to yourself, and refrain from upsetting any chance you have to reach a settlement or fix a pending problem. Think outside the box.
- LEO** July 23-Aug. 22 You have much to offer, and your enthusiasm will attract plenty of attention, but be careful — someone may take advantage of your vulnerability by offering you empty promises. Question everyone you deal with, both personally and professionally.
- VIRGO** Aug. 23-Sept. 22 Keep a close watch on what everyone is doing. You need to work hard and to stick to your plans, regardless of the temptations you come up against. Your biggest gain will come through your ability to finish what you start without complaint.
- LIBRA** Sept. 23-Oct. 22 A passionate approach to whatever you do will create greater popularity and spark the help that can put you ahead. Change is within reach, but you have to initiate what you want to see unfold. Don't wait; grab what you want, and keep moving.
- SCORPIO** Oct. 23-Nov. 21 Be creative with regard to your home and surroundings. You need a creative space if you are going to transform a good idea into a profitable venture. Don't let an emotional matter consume you. Follow your intuition, and move forward quickly.
- SAGITTARIUS** Nov. 22-Dec. 21 Take on a task that requires your talents, and you will set yourself up for advancement. Alterations at home may seem daunting at first, but they will be beneficial in time. A good relationship is apparent if you strive for equality.
- CAPRICORN** Dec. 22-Jan. 19 Take a trip, or attend an event that opens your mind to a new way of using what you have to offer. There is money to be made, but you must avoid impulsive decisions — do your due diligence.
- AQUARIUS** Jan. 20-Feb. 18 Focus on improving your financial, emotional, or physical situation. What you set up now will lead to a better lifestyle. Be open about the way you feel to find out where you stand with the people you love most.
- PISCES** Feb. 19-March 20 Not everyone will have your best interests at heart. You have to carefully choose with whom you do business, or you may end up losing out financially. Deception or disillusionment is apparent when dealing with others. Ask direct questions.

AT THE LIBRARY



Zachary Fern (left) and Emory Fern play in the Ellen Buchanan Children's Room in the Iowa City Public Library on Thursday. The Public Library provides a variety of facilities and activities, such as story times and reading programs, that children of different ages may take part in. (The Daily Iowan/Sumei Chen)

mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0601

- Across**
- Children's author Eleanor
 - Environment of many old PCs
 - Opposite of ample
 - Grapefruit taste-alike
 - Heated house for newborn chicks
 - Round number?
 - Restless, in scores
 - Go beyond seconds, say
 - Confirmation declaration
 - Some people in costume
 - "This doesn't exactly require a Ph.D."
 - 23 What big banks underwent in 2009
 - 24 ___ B (initial step)
 - 25 They may be studied along with languages
 - 33 What past performance may portend
 - 35 Wild West symbol of authority
 - 36 Practice at a track
 - 38 Went for something else
 - 39 SeaWorld attraction
 - 40 Put people in their places?
 - 41 Activity in "Ghostbusters"
 - 42 Firewood measures
 - 43 Attempt to recall the passed?
 - 44 Stunned, in a way
 - 45 German composer with a palindromic name

Down

- Enclose in a recess
- Eisenstein who directed "The Battleship Potemkin"
- Some Asian believers
- Hardly the self-effacing sort
- Not so frantic
- Really bothers
- Give a smug look
- Big name in diamonds
- Last name in Chicago lore
- It's unsettling to be out of them
- Patch up, in a way, as a space shuttle
- Quaint, dignified dance for couples
- Valentine verse starter
- Reach an agreement
- 22 Many a red dwarf
- 25 Things people "do" in the early afternoon
- 26 Mailbox checker's excited cry
- 27 Taught a lesson, maybe
- 28 Goes back on one's word?
- 29 Same old orders
- 30 Less congealed
- 31 Singer Morse with the 1952 hit "The Blacksmith Blues"
- 32 Giving expression to
- 33 Piñata-hitting occasion
- 34 Superlawyer Gerry who wrote "How to Argue and Win Every Time"
- 35 "___ no one"
- 37 "Old Time Rock & Roll" rocker

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S H I A T S U S T R I F E
M E L O N B A L L C H E E S E L O G
A I L E R O N H A N G I N G
L S A T S A B E R S S Y S
L E W R H E A P E W
I V A N A M D V I O N I N
M E L O T T C U B I T O C E L O T
A U T O O T O E S P E W S
T R A I L M I X P A S
T A B E P I C T A P
E F T B I A S E S R O N I
R E A G A N S A T L A R G E
R E L O C A T E S C O U N T S E L O R
S K O R T S E N V I O U S

Puzzle by Joe Kroll

- 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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11 am deadline for new ads and cancellations

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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MEDICAL

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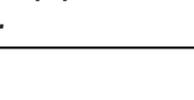
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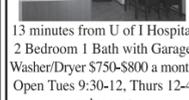
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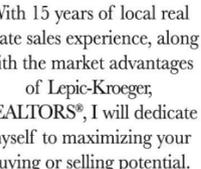
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TOWNHOUSE FOR RENT

Learning jiu-jitsu lifestyle



Jason McGriff (top) practices a jiu jitsu takedown maneuver at Fit2Live gym on Monday. Students used the session to spar against each other, focusing mostly on technique. (The Daily Iowan/Michael Fanelli)

Former National Guardsman, Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu trainer and Kidney researcher — Jason Clarke does it all.

By CARLOS SOSA
carlos-sosa@uiowa.edu

Jason Clarke is a former member of the National Guard who now makes his living in a very different field of work: He's a lab manager for University of Iowa Associate Professor of pediatrics Patrick Brophy.

And he also teaches Brazilian jiu jitsu in Iowa City.

"What I did in the military has nothing to do with what I do now," he said. "A guy in my National Guard unit worked at the University of Michigan. I was working construction trying to get through school. [My friend] worked at a lab and got me an interview."

Clarke started off as a dishwasher but moved his way up to lab assistant. Brophy, one of the scientists in the lab, had ties to the UI and chose to move his work to Iowa City in 2007.

He brought Clarke along as his assistant. The two specialize in kidney diseases and renal birth defects.

Clarke's time after work, however, is spent doing something very different.

He spends hours every day in his Iowa City gym, Fit2Live, teaching and training in martial arts.

Clarke became enamored with the sport after watching the first Ultimate Fighting Championship in 1993, and he wanted to try something similar.

"I saw the first Ultimate Fighting and saw some skinny dude kicking everyone's butt," he said. "I was a kick-boxer at the time and had been doing martial arts since I was 7, but then I saw Royce Gracie and Ultimate Fighting."

Clarke was stationed in Hawaii with the National Guard at the time.

There were only a few places in the 1990s with Brazilian jiu jitsu schools. Luckily for Clarke, Hawaii happened to be one of them.

He learned the art of Brazilian jiu jitsu in Hawaii from such legends as Carlos Gracie Jr., founder of the Gracie Barra School, and six-time world champion Saulo Ribeiro. Ribeiro founded the Ribeiro Jiu Jitsu Association in 1995.

"My first class, some white belt dislocated my elbow with an arm lock while we sparred," Clarke said. "I was blown away. I'm sadistic, and I thought I was tough, but I didn't know anything; it was my first class. I fell in love with the sport and how it's not just a martial art, it's a lifestyle."

The dedication to a jiu jitsu lifestyle is what Clarke tries to instill in all of his students.

SEE JIU-JITSU, 5

Hawkeye legend Wine passes away

Former Iowa sports information director George Wine died Thursday, but will influence Iowa athletics for years to come.

By MOLLY IRENE OLMSTEAD
molly-olmstead@uiowa.edu

George Wine loved Hawkeye sports. He earned a bachelor's from the University of Iowa in 1956 and moved away from Iowa City to serve as a sports-information director at now-Northern Iowa and Memphis.

But he came back after 12 years.

And he never left. Wine passed away Thursday of a heart attack at age 81, just two days after undergoing hip-replacement surgery at the UI Hospitals and Clinics. His legacy, however, will never fade.

Wine served as Iowa's sports-information director from 1968 to 1993 and as sports-information director emeritus until 1996, when he retired. But even in retirement, Wine didn't disappear.

The Coralville resident cowrote former Iowa football coach Hayden Fry's book, *High Porch Picnic*, in 1999 and chronicled 100 years of Iowa history in his own book, *Black & Gold Memories: The Hawkeyes of the 20th Century* in 2003.

Wine wrote a weekly column for Hawkeyesports.com, his last "Wine Online" column appearing on April 17.

"[Wine] was a very fine writer," current sports-information director Steve Roe told *The Daily Iowan* on Thursday. "He has had a continued effect on the department and continued to share his perspective on Iowa athletics since his retire-



Wine
Former Iowa Sports information director

SEE WINE, 5

Disc golf starts to fly high

Iowa City disc golf courses continue to attract more and more players to the addicting sport.

By CARLOS SOSA
carlos-sosa@uiowa.edu

Jeff Harper is a professional disc golfer and one of the reasons Iowa City has become a more and more popular place to throw the disc.

Iowa City, in the disc golf world, is known for its courses, such as Turkey Creek and Sugar Bottom.

"The course at Turkey Creek has been around since the mid-1980s," Harper said. "A lot of kids go out, and give it a try, and fall in love with it."

The sport of disc golf benefits from people inviting their friends to play at such courses as Turkey Creek. It's not a sport that regularly offers camps or training sessions — the disc-golf community relies on word of mouth to attract players.

People such as Alex Ludvick, a former University of Iowa student and current Iowa City resident, began disc golfing two years ago because of friends.

"Friends of mine were disc golfing, and one day they invited me to play," Ludvick said. "I lost a lot of their discs, so I had to buy some more, and I just kept playing."

Ludvick said one of the reasons he became interested in disc golf is that he finds the sport

SEE DISC GOLF, 5

4 decades of gracing the diamond

Former Hawkeye baseball player Duke McGrath, now 66, continues his career in the Iowa City Parks and Recreation Adult Softball League.

By TOM CLOS
thomas-clos@uiowa.edu

Duke McGrath played first base for the Iowa baseball team in 1967.

Now, 45 years later, his first-base playing days continue just down the road.

McGrath, 66, now lives out his lifelong passion for baseball in the Iowa City Parks and Recreation Adult Softball League each Thursday during the summer at the Hawkeye Softball Complex in Coralville.

"I guess I still have that passion for the game after all these years," he said. "Every time you get that solid hit, there's something about the sweet spot on a bat. There's no feel-



Duke McGrath stands around after an Iowa City Parks and Recreation Adult Softball League game on Thursday at the Hawkeye Softball Complex. McGrath is a former first baseman for the Hawkeyes' 1967 team. (The Daily Iowan/Ya-Chen Chen)

ing like it."

A baseball standout at Independence High in Independence, Iowa, he played one year for the Hawkeyes before joining the Air Force. There he restarted his career while stationed out west in 1972.

"When I was in the service, I played a little bit of fast pitch," McGrath said. "Then I got out and started playing slow pitch

before moving back here from Phoenix in 1978."

McGrath has played local softball recreationally ever since, with people spanning in age from their early 20s to their late-50s.

Not even a 108-degree evening could deter McGrath from trotting out to his home at the "other hot corner," in a game in which he went 1-for-3 and scored a run in

McGrath Financial's 11-10 loss to US Off on Thursday.

Fellow player Jason McDonnell said nights such as Thursday reaffirm what a force McGrath can still be on the field.

"We're talking about a man who's 66 years old who can out-athlete an entire team on his own," McDonnell said. "Duke has forgotten more about

SEE SOFTBALL, 5