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The Daily Iowan

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NEWSPAPER •

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50¢

Locals split on Sat. mail



A U.S. Postal Service employee helps an lowa City resident at the Post Office on Monday. The Postal Service has announced that a five-day delivery week will begin in August. (The Daily Iowan/Sarah Sebetka)

By NICK HASSETT

After a decision by the U.S. Postal Service to discontinue the Saturday delivery of most letters, mailers, and catalogues, some in Iowa City are concerned about the trend of mail service in general.

The Postal Service announced the change on Feb. 6 as a way to cut costs from the independent agency of the government. The service is plagued by debt, and on Sept. 28, 2012, the service hit its \$15 billion debt limit set by Congress. It cannot borrow more without Congressional approval.

The measure would discontinue Saturday delivery service except for packages, mail-order medicines, Priority Mail, and Express Mail. The changes will take effect on Aug. 10, 2013.

Bill Nusser, the owner of Hands Jewelers, 109 E. Washington St., said the change would negatively affect his business.

"We do receive Saturday deliveries; a lot of things in the jewelry business are last-minute," he said. "It's unfortunate, but I understand the market factors behind the decision. ... Use has declined."

Nusser thinks the Postal Service is the safest and most reliable shipper for his merchandise, and using alternative methods of shipping can make his insurance costs rise.

"A lot of people are moving to email, but as somebody who ships objects, [safety] is a big deal to me," he said. "I don't want to see the service dumbed

Iowa City City Councilor Susan Mims believes a lot of businesses were

making the transition online, but she wanted to see more information on the issue.

"I don't know for sure," she said, in response to how the change might affect local businesses. "So many people do a lot of things electronically.

However, City Councilor nie Champion thought the change wouldn't be a major issue.

"I don't think it's a big deal; I think we can get along without Saturday mail," she said. "[The Postal Service] has to make ends meet."

Raymond Riezman, a University of Iowa professor of economics, thinks the changes could affect small businesses.

"It might affect certain businesses, like small-town newspapers that deliver once a week," he said.

SEE MAIL. 3

Locals wary of Branstad's test data

By BRENT GRIFFITHS

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Gov. Terry Branstad outlined some of his education benchmarks during a press conference in Des Moines Monday morning, and while local officials welcome his intense focus on education, they approach his use of test scores with caution.

"Looking at test scores as a single point [of comparison] is a disservice to the educational process and our kids," said Tuyet Durau, an Iowa City School Board member. "We need to look beyond [test scores] and look at the individual growth the children are experiencing."

She pointed to a specific program used by Mann Elementary in which binders are kept for students with their test-score history, so each teacher can help keep track of their progress. Overall, the district is pleased with the focus on student achievement, but emphasized it will take more then just teachers to help meet the goals.

"In order to reach and sustain superior levels of learning in math, we'll need



lowa Gov. Terry Brandstad speaks to approximately 70 people at the lowa City Chamber of Commerce in 2011. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

to work together," Ann Feldman, assistant superintendent of the Iowa City

SEE **BRANSTAD**,3

Tang takes plea deal

Peng Tang originally faced a first-degree kidnapping charge in connection with a March 2012 incident.

By CASSIDY RILEY

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A former University of Iowa student pleaded guilty Monday

to lesser charges in the case of a 2012 sexual assault. Johnson County

prosecutor Janet Lyness confirmed 22-yearold Peng Tang, a native of China, pleaded guilty to third-degree sexual abuse, extortion, and



Tang

to a separate charge of solicitation to $\,$ commit tampering with a witness.

Tang's guilty plea to sexual abuse was an Alford plea, meaning he believes a jury could find him guilty but that he wasn't admitting to the crime. Lyness said Tang could serve up to 17 years in prison. He may serve up to 10 years for the sexual-abuse charge, up to five years for extortion, and up to two years for solicitation to commit tampering with a witness.

Calls to Tang's attorneys Monday were not returned.

On March 29, 2012, Tang allegedly kidnapped a woman and sexually assaulted her while seeing her apartment for a possible sublet.

He allegedly locked the bedroom door behind him in her apartment and tried to tie her arms around her back

District warned on plan

The school district must provide the Iowa Dept. of Education detailed plans for the diversity policy by March 8.

By KRISTEN EAST

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Although the diversity policy passed the Iowa City School Board's final test, the Iowa Department of Education wants more information on how the School District will implement the policy before moving forward.

In a letter sent Monday to Superintendent Steve Murley, the state education department requested that the Iowa City School District provide further information about the policy.

"While the [Department of Education] is not opposed to school diversity plans or the use of socioeconomic factors in crafting these plans, we are concerned with the proposed use of freeand reduced-price-status information which could inadvertently identify individual students," Ann Feilmann, the

SEE **DIVERSITY**, 3

WEATHER

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News

Issue 135

Study: UIHC ups transparency

Researchers say the hospital was seen as quite forthcoming.

By LAUREN COFFEY

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A study focused on cost availability in the healthcare system shows that the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics ranks very high in transparency with

The UIHC is among the top-ranked hospitals in the nation, and researchers found the hospital made the cost of hip replacements as forthcoming as possible.

"Most hospitals we had to call, and they would give us a price and then refer us to a physician for her or his price," study conductor Jaime Rosenthal said. "The UIHC gave us a direct number."

study released The Monday — conducted by JAMA Internal Medicine —looked at the difficulty patients and consumers face when looking at various prices for a hip replacement. Researchers at the UIHC and the Iowa City VA Medical Center conducted the study, which looked at 120 hospitals both top-ranked and nontop-ranked.

UIHC spokesman Tom Moore said officials strive towards keeping the hospital as transparent as possible for the sake of the families and patients.

"[Transparency] is a work in progress," he said. "In the last few years, we've made a real effort to provide information in a way that makes it understandable for the patients to provide an excellent service, but we're not done

METRO

Man faces drug,

driving charges

A Cedar Rapids man has

been arrested after police offi-

cials allegedly located a large

bong containing drug residue.

possessing prescription drugs,

possession of marijuana, and

failure to have affixed a tax

Miller was stopped by

after they reportedly saw a

had barred driving status,

traffic-control violation. Miller

police said. The passenger in

the vehicle then admitted to

police officials that there was

contraband in the car. Police

officers searched the car and

water bong that contained

reportedly located a large clear

drug residue, a clear container

containing hashish that tested

container containing 97 Alpra-

said. The passenger stated the

items belonged to Miller, and

Miller confirmed that they did

not belong to the passenger.

A prohibited act of pos-

sessing prescription drug is a

serious misdemeanor. Driving

possession are aggravated mis-

demeanors. Failure to have an

affixed tax stamp is a Class-D

- by Rebecca Morin

while barred and marijuana

positive, and a prescription

zolam, the police complaint

University of Iowa police

Sunday with driving while

barred, prohibited acts of

Adam Miller, 33, was accused



The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics is shown in January. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

The hospital goes as far as providing advocates who are available to help patients and families understand the language in the health-care system. According to the study, however, acquiring the price for a surgery was not difficult for their "secret shopper" to do at the UIHC.

The study was conducted to find the transparency in hospitals regarding prices for surgical procedures rather than the quality of the institution.

"[Discussion of transparency is] in the government, it's in Wall Street, and it's also a buzzword in quality and pricing in the case of health care," said Peter Cram, a co-conductor of the study and a UI associate profes-"There sor of medicine. is a wealth of data for consumers who want to know about the quality: government websites and for-profit websites. We wanted to find out also

about the transparency in pricing."

Of the 120 hospitals Rosenthal surveyed, 60 percent of them gave definitive prices for their surgery. Although this is a higher success rate than a failure rate, the researchers were still not happy with the results.

"How can hospitals not know their price?" Cram said. "Would you use a cellphone carrier who couldn't give you any idea what your cell-phone bill would be every month?"

Mercy Iowa City, 500 E. Market St., even though not included in the study, is also committed to transparency. Officials said they also provide a phone number for patients to call in case they would need assistance understanding terms in the health-care system.

"I think the more transparent we are, the better off our country will be," said Tim Ahlers, vice president of marketing and business development. "Whether it's

a 15-year-old said he was

physically assaulted by Martin.

Martin said he was disciplining

his nephew. During the incident,

Martin allegedly choked, punched,

pushed, and grabbed the teen by

his neck. Martin then reportedly

pushed teen's head to the corner

of a wall, causing pain and a large

UIHC transparency

The University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics recently ranked highly in transparency following a study released Monday.

• 60 percent of the 120 hospitals surveyed gave a definitive price for a hip-replacement surgery · UIHC had a direct answer quickly.

• UIHC provides employees who help patients understand the language in the healthcare system.

Source: UIHC study results, UIHC

in pricing or in quality." Cram said he wasn't surprised at the high transparency rate from the UIHC.

"The University of Iowa has worked incredibly hard to help the customers," he said. "I am very happy and proud [with the UIHC's transparency success]."

The Daily Iowan

Volume 144 **BREAKING NEWS**

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TOP STORIES

Most read stories on dailyiowan.com from Monday.

The Right Fit: A look at the future of retail in lowa City

2. The Airliner reinstates 21-ordinance exemption

3. UI Career Center helping students with undeclared majors **4.** Will the real Devyn Marble please stand up?

5. Hawkeye wrestlers cruise to Big Ten dual-meet title

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ARGO (R) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 BULLET TO THE HEAD (R) ~ BULLET TO THE HEAD (R) VX

🖥 DJANGO UNCHAINED (R)

HANSEL & GRETEL 3D: WITCH HUNTERS (R) VX

4:30, 7:00, 9:30 Previews of Upcoming Films Begin at Advertised Showtimes IDENTITY THIEF (R) ~

4:40, 7:20, 10:00

LES MISERABLES (PG-13)

MAMA (PG-13) 4:40. 7:10. 9:40

PARKER (R)

SIDE EFFECTS (R) ~

4:30, 7:10, 9:50

SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R) 4:10, 7:00, 9:5**0**

WARM BODIES (PG-13) ✓ 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

ZERO DARK THIRTY (R) 4:20, 7:50

LINCOLN (PG-13) 4:45, 8:10 SIDE EFFECTS (R) ~ 4:25, 7:15, 9:50 SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (R)

4:00, 6:50, 9:40 WARM BODIES (PG-13) ✓

5:15, 7:30, 9:45

5:00, 8:45

DJANGO UNCHAINED (R)

HANSEL & GRETEL 3D:

WITCH HUNTERS (R) VX

HOBBIT 2D: UNEXPECTED

LES MISERABLES (PG-13)

JOURNEY (PG-13)

IDENTITY THIEF (R) ~

4:05, 6:50, 9:40

4:20, 8:00

4:15, 7:00, 9:25 ZERO DARK THIRTY (R)

Beatriz Cabrera, 33, 1909 Flatiron Ave., was charged Sunday with driving with a suspended/ canceled license.

Geoffrey Cronin, 20, 318 N. Dubuque St., was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA.

Jacob Downen, 19, Cedar Rapids, was charged Feb. 9 with OWI. Cheick Drame, 25, 2401 Highway 6 E. No. 3009, was charged Feb. 9 with domestic abuse. Michael Goodwin, 35, Coralville,

was charged Feb. 8 with driving while barred. Philinise Hamlin, 34, 2401 High-

way 6 E. No. 3814, was charged

Sydney Votroubek, 20, was charged Feb. 9 with willful injury. The alleged victim's friend

Woman charged

with willful injury

A Coralville woman has been

arrested after allegedly striking a

woman in the face with a cocktail

bumped into Votroubek, causing her to insult the woman and her friend, according to police. The woman then pushed Votroubek into a trash can. She reacted violently by allegedly striking the woman in the face with a cocktail glass. Votroubek continued to punch and pull the woman's hair as she lay on the floor until the bar staff pulled Votroubek off.

The woman suffered severe lacerations to the face and chest that required stiches and swelling near her left eye. Iowa City police located Votroubek shortly after with cuts on her hands that she said was caused by glass, the police complaint said.

Willful injury is a Class-C felony. - by Rebecca Morin

AMan charged with endangerment

A local man has been arrested after allegedly forcing his teenage nephew's head into a corner of a wall in their home.

Shawn Martin, 28, was accused Feb. 9 with child endangerment. Iowa City police officials responded to a report in which

contusion to his head, the police complaint said. Child endangerment is a Class-D felony. - by Rebecca Morin

Pledge program working

The Golden Pledge program is having an effect for the University of Iowa. According to a university

press release, since UI President Sally Mason announced the program in late October 2012, the university and the UI Foundation have received more than \$2 million in gift commitments.

The program is designed to match the payout from new, privately funded, endowed scholarships of \$100,000 or more through 2017.

One alumnus who graduated in 1969 saw the program as an opportunity to endow an accounting scholarship in his

"I have always had in the back of my mind the idea to fund my own scholarship," Ira White said in the release. "Even though I have been donating

\$1,000 per year to the Accounting Department for several years, the endowed scholarship was still a goal of mine. Last June, my wife died unexpectedly from an accident in our home. It made me realize that life is short, and I need to get this scholarship endowed.

UI officials to talk to legislators

Several University of Iowa administrators will address subcommittees of the Iowa Legislature this week to lobby on behalf of better opportunities for students.

UI President Sally Mason will address the education appropriations subcommittee today to outline the university's student-focused priorities, according to a UI press release.

Mason will speak to legislators about the UI's goals to keep tuition affordable.

On Thursday, Daniel Reed, UI vice president for Research and Economic Development, and David Hensley, interim associate vice president for Economic Development, will ask the economic development appropriations subcommittee for support of the UI's entrepreneurship programs.

UI officials have requested \$7 million in new funding for entrepreneurship initiatives, the release said.

- by Kristen East

BLOTTER Sunday with fifth-degree theft.

Kyle Hodorowicr, 18, 2332 Burge, was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA. Adam Jacobs, 19, 2330 Burge, was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA.

Saira Jacobs, 26, 2401 Highway 6 E. No. 3814, was charged Feb. 10 with fifth-degree theft. Christopher Jennings, 20, Des Moines, was charged Feb. 8 with

Shawn Martin, 28, 8 Coneflower Court, was charged Feb. 9 with child endangerment.

Thomas McClelland, 19, Ames, was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA.

Nicole Mordini, 19, Elmhurst, III., was charged Feb. 8 with

Joshua Naber, 20, Sleepy Hollow, III., was charged Feb. 8 with Chad Norris, 18, 311 Currier, was

charged Feb. 8 with PAULA. Scott Nowicke, 21, 412 S. Dodge St. No. 1, was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA. Jose Nunez, 45, address un-

public intoxication and interference with official acts. Richardson, Devonte Coralville, was charged Monday

known, was charged Feb. 9 with

canceled license. Shelby Rouse, 20, Bettendorf,

Friendship St., was charged Sunday with OWI. Curtis Seal, 48, 1611 Crescent St., was charged Sunday with

Peyton Smith, 18, Runnells, Iowa, was charged Feb. 8 with unlawful use of ID and PAULA. Sydney Votroubek, 20, Coralville, was charged Feb. 9

with willful injury.

with driving with a suspended/ was charged Feb. 8 with PAULA.

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CONTINUED FROM FRONT

News

As for how much money eliminating most Saturday mail service would save, Riezman thought it wasn't enough.

"It's only going to cover a small part of their downfall," he said. "But it's about all they can do. It's either that or raise rates.

A spokesperson for the Postal Service was not available Monday evening.

postal worker One didn't think the measure would have much of an effect on the local facili-

Brianne Wulf, a customer-service representative for the post station on 1720 Waterfront Drive, didn't think the changes would reduce the number of employees.

The cutting of Saturday delivery won't be the first time Iowa City has felt the effect of the Postal Service's budget woes.

On Sept. 9, 2011, the postal substation at 121 E. Washington St. closed its doors for good, and its employees were moved to the Clinton Street location.

However, Wulf doesn't think any more offices are in danger of being closed.

"[The Postal Service] probably wouldn't close any others," she said. "There's too much business."

But after the closing of the Washington Street office and now the elimination of most Saturday deliveries, Nusser thinks the Postal Service's decisions are questionable.

"I wish they would use a better decision-making process," he said. "[The debt] is not an unforeseeable problem, but they act like it just hit them yesterday. They should be smarter in how they operate."

Nusser thinks the changes represent an overall trend in mail delivery, something he thinks will only continue.

"There are lots of conventions that you don't want to send in an email," he said. "Sympathy notes, love notes. I think as a country we're eroding ourselves in how civilized we are. First it's closing on Saturday, then it'll be Wednesday. It's the beginning of an end."

BRANSTAD

School District, wrote in an email. "We must engage [and not alienate] teachers, university leaders, principals, community and school leaders, and parents in doing the hard work of creating action steps and holding ourselves accountable to our aim."

Branstad's goals focus on two benchmarks on the National Assessment

of Educational Progress test. He would like to see fourth-graders test among the top-10 states nationally in reading and eighth-graders in math by 2019. In 2011, the most recent year available, fourth-graders were 29th nationally in reading, and eighth-graders were 25th in math.

"Iowa eventually will need to benchmark not only against No. 1 Massachusetts but against academic stars like Singapore, Canada, and Finland," Branstad said in a

press release.

The director of the Iowa Testing Programs, a research component in the University of Iowa College of Education that works on the Iowa Assessments, said the goals were "realistic" but noted that schools should continue to focus on individual student data versus statewide data, the type

in Branstad's proposals. "Test scores have a very important use, and while they tend to be overused on the gross aggregate level they can help improve instruction if used correctly," said Steve Dunbar, the director of the Iowa Testing Programs. "When used at the school level, they can provide a much more detailed analysis."

The governor also wants to attract top students into teaching, noting on Monday that students currently interested in teaching in Iowa have lower ACT scores on average at 20.8 than other test-takers, who scored 22.2.

One UI official cautioned against solely focusing on test performance but said the College of Education is taking more selective standards into account during the admissions process, including raising the GPA requirement from 2.7 to 3.0 starting this semester.

"While I do believe in selectivity in who comes into the teaching profession, and I want to draw the best and brightest knowledge ... they must have the right deposition," said Susan Lagos-Lavenz, associate dean of the College of Education.

Lagos-Lavenz said she

would like to see more focus on implementing the policies, which she feels is one of the lessons from the No Child Left Behind

Branstad said his reforms, if passed, would be fully implemented by 2017 to 2018. But Lagos-Lavenz believes education reform will continue to be a pressing issue.

"Education is a fluid process, and I don't think we will see a day when we're not talking about reform in this field," she said.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

department's bureau chief of nutrition and health services, wrote.

The School Board approved the diversity policy on Feb. 5 on a 4-3 vote. The policy seeks to better distribute students who participate in free- and reduced-lunch programs in the district. Furthermore, the policy defines minorities as "students who are receiving free or reduced-price lunches offered under the district's nutrition program" and nonminority students as

those not receiving them. In order to prove the legality of the policy on both the state and federal level, School District officials have been asked to provide

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the Education Department with the following information by March 8:

- Identify names of the staff who will develop the implementation plan.
- Identify the parameters of the "aggregate data" the School District plans to
- Identify the step-bystep process that is proposed to implement the plan.

District Superintendent Stephen Murley responded Monday by saying the School Board and the Education Department will continue to work together.

"The administrative team will now work to operationalize [the diversity policy] through an implementation plan," he wrote in an email. "The administrative team plans to work closely with the Department of Education to ensure that the plan complies with all appropriate state and federal laws."

The Education Department initially sent a letter to Murley on Jan. 31 with concerns about the policy, stating that the plan to use free- and reduced-pricemeal eligibility data is illegal.

"It's perfectly fine for school districts to use that data internally, but they cannot use it in a way that potentially identifies students ..." Štaci Hupp,

the department's director of communication, previously has told The Daily Iowan. "The risk in Iowa City's proposal was that it uses the data to physically move students to particular schools."

Though the Iowa City City Council endorsed the policy during its Jan. 22 meeting, City Councilor Connie Champion expressed concerns Monday night about how the district would put the policy into effect.

"I don't see how it's going to implement it," she said. "It's going to have to move kids. That's the only way it can do it, so that's my problem with [the policy].

City Councilor Susan Mims didn't want to speak directly about the diversity policy, but she said when the council endorsed the policy, the councilors did not specify how the policy should be implemented.

The Education Department advises that the School District halt all

plans to move forward with the diversity policy until after plans are reviewed.

"Until a detailed implementation plan has been provided to the [Department of Education] for review and approval, the School District should not allow access to free- and reduced-price-status information in connection with this diversity plan," Feilmann wrote.

Metro reporters Brent Griffiths and Nick Hassett contributed to this story.





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daily.iowan.letters@gmail.com.

EDITORIAL

State inheritance tax could provide additional revenue

the multifaceted fiscal cliff crisis earlier this year was the increase in federal estate tax by 5 percentage points.

An opinion piece titled "Increase the estate tax to fuel campus diversity" published on Feb. 3 by USA Today College argued that further increasing the federal estate tax could lead to more campus diversity.

The Daily Iowan Editorial Board, acknowledging that the University of Iowa is a state public institution, believes the only way to enact this change for this particular campus is if the state government takes action. The board urges the state to act through the state's inheritance system to provide more revenue for state education, which could in turn promote diversity on the UI campus.

Distribution of wealth is key to the proliferation, or lack thereof, of diversity among classes on campus. Going to a four-year university, especially the UI — one of the top universities in the state — is more difficult for low-income students

Though the tax on a person's inheritance or estate is not directly based on socioeconomic factors, it can still provide necessary tax revenue to allow the state to ease tuition concerns. This is where Iowa's inheritance tax can provide relief.

When a person dies, there is generally a transfer of property, be it physical property such as a house, or a sum of money, from an individual to one or many individuals. This property is called an estate, and both the federal and state governments can tax it.

However, there is a subtle but distinct difference between the federal estate tax and Iowa's inheritance tax.

The federal estate tax sets up a system in which the entirety of a deceased person's estate is taxed according to a percentage of the amount. Because of the fiscal-cliff deal, this tax rose from 35 percent to 40 percent on estates of more than \$5.12 million, meaning a deceased's estate amount to that amount or higher would pay around \$2 million to the federal govern-

Iowa's state inheritance tax is distinct in that

ne of the minor details almost lost among it does not rely on the whole amount of an estate but on the relationship between the beneficiary and the decedent of the estate.

Kay Arvidson, an assistant public information officer at the Iowa Department of Revenue, wrote in an email that there are different tax rates depending on each individual relation-

"Iowa taxes the beneficiaries based on their relationship to the decedent and the size of the share of the estate that was received," Arvidson said. "There is no tax if the beneficiaries are parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, or other direct lineal descendants.'

An obvious argument that would increase the amount of tax revenue for the state government would be to switch the entire inheritance-tax system to model the federal estate tax or to tax all estates over a specified amount.

But this solution may not be a solution at all. The state of Washington has a similar system to the federal government; it taxes the entirety of an estate instead of the beneficiary. In fiscal 2012, its estate tax accounted for approximately 0.7 percent of the entire revenues. This is nearly equal to Iowa's inheritance-tax revenue, which accounted for slightly more than 1 percent of the tax revenue. The difference between the two is essentially insignificant.

A less revolutionary reform could blossom from Iowa's only exemption from the inheritance tax — that is if the net of the estate is less than \$25,000, pursuant to Iowa Code section 450.10.

If this exemption is modified to encompass estates of \$12,500 and over, or eliminated all together, the revenue from the additional revenue could provide some relief to allow the Legislature more leeway when the budget concerns public-university tuition.

This, in turn, could lead to a further diversification of wealth and more diversity in classrooms around campus.

> Your turn. What do you think about the Iowa inheritance tax? Weigh in on at dailyiowan.com.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via email 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 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.

Breath of stale air



By BEAU ELLIOT beauelliot@gmail.com

Former Stealth President Dick Cheney has criticized President Obama's national-security team, telling a group of Wyoming Republicans on Feb. 9 that the guys Obama has chosen (John Kerry, Chuck Hagel, John Brennan) are not "good folks."

I'm not sure exactly what he meant by "good folks"; well, possibly, they're not good folks because not one of their first names happens to be "Dick."

I'm not so concerned with first names (what's in a name, Good Will Writing once wrote) as I am with, Why all these older, white guys? Our first African-American president (well, by half), and suddenly we revert to the Eisenhower administration?

"Frankly, what he has appointed are second-rate people," Cheney said, presumably not referring to skin color, given his history. And his skin color.

Maybe we should cut Cheney some slack; I mean, he is rather an expert on second-rate people. He has spent his entire life looking up at them.

And Kerry, Hagel, and Brennan are clearly not "good folks" — they have never shot one of their longtime hunting part-

Now, it is possible that some of the nominees like Brie (it's an alleged French cheese, for those of you who don't get out of the garage all that often). Liking Brie is a practice that, apparently, disqualifies you from holding important offices or from being "good folks."

(Brie is Parisian cheese; even Parisians make fun of it is my experience. Make note of this before your next wine-andcheese party just in case a Parisian unexpectedly shows up. Those unexpected Parisians, as Samuel Beckett knew so well, as he waited, can foul up, to put it politely, your wine and cheese choices.)

Well, OK, shooting the hunting partner was an

accident on Cheney's part. I'm assuming. I take his word that an old friend suddenly, and momentarily, morphed into Osama bin Laden.

And I'm sorry that Cheney, the old warrior (who managed to get five or so deferments to keep him out of the Vietnam War), never "got" bin Laden. Or just didn't, somehow. I mean, anybody could have had a Tora Bora. Including "Seinfeld." Wasn't that an episode?

But why should we care what Cheney told a bunch of Wyoming Republicans? Which brings up the bigger question of, Why should we care what any Republicans say? As Paul Krugman of the New York Times points out, Virginia will conduct a study on the threat of flooding along the coast. (Yes, Virginia, Virginia has quite a coastline, and no, Virginia, we will not bring up global climate change, because the GOP believes those words are pornographic. Liberals, where the tall porn grows.) Krugman notes, however, that in the flooding study, "Republicans in the state Legislature have specifically prohibited the use of the words 'sea-level rise.'

So don't worry, Seychelles. We don't use the words "sea-level rise" anymore, so now you're safe from it. No thanks necessary.

Or there's House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, coincidently also from Virginia (what are Republicans smoking there?), who wants to cut off all federal dollars for research on social-science issues. Hey, we don't need to study human behavior; we're all humans, we know it when we see it.

So why listen to Cheney? Well, there is his track record in determining who are "good folks" and who are not. Back in the days when he was a Republican congressman from Wyoming (when you could still stumble across horses and buggies in the streets of Iowa City), Cheney lauded the apartheid regime of South Africa for imprisoning Nelson Mandela.

Yep. Nelson Mandela. Cheney truly knows "not good folks" when he sees them.

And I know a breath of stale air when I hear it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why rehire Gray?

The article in today's paper ["UI audit finds no irregularities in Athletics Department, Gray situation," DI, Feb. 8] regarding the treatment of the Peter Gray affair indicates that no effort on the part of the university has been addressed or reported publicly regarding the rehiring of Gray when he had already taken severe advantage of students.

That question is why was Peter Gray rehired in the first place? When that issue is addressed, I will believe that the university is truly being open

about this issue so crucial to the well-being of students. **Mari Struxness**

Urban-renewal blues

Déjà vu 1957, the début of urban renewal. Cities renewed themselves by tearing down so-called inferior, but affordable, housing that was never replaced then or even now. This is why, in spite of time and economics, there is so much homelessness. Promises were made in the 1950s at replacement, but the last attempt ended in 1968.

Decisions made in City Council

are about to revive this social travesty at Gilbert and College Streets. In its present urban-renewal plans, the city seems to have reneged on its promise to build affordable housing. It does not want to reconsider the builder's plan that factored in affordable housing and the protection of small business at the same site. All this is done in the name of center city expansionism.

The council in its semi-final decision in January misled the public into believing that the Chauncey is a done deal when it came out at the zoning-board meeting on Feb. 7, that the city had not even

bothered to have the plot zoned.

If the council selects its favored contractor, who does not specialize in affordable dwellings, then the middle and working classes will be forced to move elsewhere for affordable housing.

This will lead to situations. which occurred in the inner cities of all major cities that participated in urban renewal in the 1950s. If you hollow out the middle of cities and prevent the middle/ working class from finding affordable housing, you automatically erode the tax base and leave a space for "big-city problems" (Chicago, Philadelphia,

Detroit, Washington, D.C, etc.). It is the middle class and working classes, which hold moral sway over an urban environment and small businesses, that help cities to survive in times of stress.

Mary Gravitt Iowa City resident

Defining scientific SUCCESS

In his Feb. 8 column regarding Sen. Tom Harkin and testing of alternative therapies, Zack Tilly mentioned a massive meta-analysis that determined that only 5 percent of tested alternative therapies were

shown after rigorous testing to be better than a placebo. I am not an advocate for

alternative therapies; as a scientist, I strongly believe in rigorous testing. However, what Tilly neglected to mention is that a 5 percent success rate is a breathtaking success rate for a drug company, university, or government lab.

Look at the literature about testing of potential new drugs, some carefully designed, some natural products. See for example: http://www.cancer. gov/cancertopics/factsheet/ NCI/drugdiscovery.

Barbara Booth UI faculty

News

Locals debate estate tax

By CASSIDY RILEY

cassidy-riley@uiowa.edu

State policymakers are at odds over whether an increase in the federal estate tax will help or hurt Iowa families.

The federal estate tax, which taxes the assets people leave behind after they die, rose from 35 to 40 percent as part of the fiscal-cliff legislation passed in Janu-

Sen. Tod Bowman, D-Maquoketa, said it only seems fair the money that heirs inherit is taxed the same way any income is taxed.

"I think the real question is that people who work 40 hours a week making \$15 an hour pay an income tax, but if there was not estate tax, people who inherit million of dollars wouldn't pay any taxes," he said. "It seems a little inconsistent."

The estate tax currently will only tax what is inherited after the first \$5.12 mil-

There are multimillion dollars that you can inherit tax free under the estate tax currently," Bowman said. "At what level should we begin to tax people who receive a huge chunk of money?"

Timothy Hagle, a University of Iowa associate professor of political science, said the argument that the class gap can be bridged by raising the estate tax is a view typically held by those who are more left-leaning on the political scale. He said they trust the federal government to redistribute the wealth in a more equal way.

"This is another way for those on that side of the ideological field to get more money for the government," he said.

Hagle said on the other side of this issue people will argue that each generation generally tries to leave a better life for those who come after them and a high estate tax tends to make that difficult.

"It also makes sense to say, 'Well look, I want to provide for my family," " Hagle said. "You're basically saying that you can't do that [and] everyone has to start from

Rep. Dave Deyoe, R-Nevada, said in Iowa, the estate tax can be harmful for farmers and the children who inherit the farms.

"You may need to have millions in dollars in assets just to make an average living," he said. "You may need that much an asset just to make a living off of a farm."

A high estate tax on the children of families who inherit family farms will have a hard time keeping the farm, he said.

"Now they have to go sell half the farm just to pay the tax," he said.

Dave Rep. Jacoby, D-Coralville, said, breaking with his party, that the estate tax should be even lower.

"The only way to bridge the gap is to help bring lower-income-status groups up to the middle class," he said. "The death tax doesn't level any playing field, in my book.

Jacoby said the only thing raising the estate tax accomplishes is making those paying the tax angry, while the lower classes don't worry themselves about it.

"The estate tax really isn't on their radar screen, and it shouldn't be, because they are just trying to get by," he

CHINESE NEW YEAR



Students eat Chinese food and write their names in Chinese in the Pappajohn Business Building on Monday. Sunday ushered in the Chinese Year of the Snake. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

> For more news, visit www.dailyiowan.com







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GED test to go digital

The new computer-based GED test is likely to help maintain Iowa's title of the state with the highest pass rate.

By MANDI CAROZZA

News

mandi-carozza@uiowa.edu

In order to maintain Iowa's position as the state with the highest GED pass rate, instructors in both Iowa City and across the state will practice new methods to prepare their students for a new computer-based test.

"Since the GED remains a timed assessment, digital literacy will need to be incorporated into the instruction of future testing candidates," said Alex Harris, state director of adult education at the Iowa Department of Education.

Sean McAtee, an Iowa City GED instructor and coordinator at Kirkwood Community College High-School-Completion Programs, agreed.

'We will have to make sure our students are prepared to use the computer for testing," McAtee said. "Assessing their computer skills will become more important as we want to make sure each student feels comfortable in a [computer-based test] environment."

Marcel Kielkucdirector $_{
m the}$ high-school-completion programs at Kirkwood in Iowa City, said the college will start offering computer-based GED testing in March in an effort to phase students into the new format.

"The big way we will need to change is to incorporate more computer activities in our preparation programs - eskeyboarding," pecially Kielkucki said.

McAtee also highlighted the importance of training students in typing proficiency.

We are working to offer more word-processing coursework for students so that they are able to simply type fast enough for a timed test," he said.

Roughly 1,500 to 2,000 students enroll in Kirkwood's High-School-Completion Programs per year. Of those students, around 450 to 475 earn either a GED or an adult high-school diploma, Kielkucki said.

In 2011, 3,573 people took the complete GED test in Iowa. Of those people, 3,499 people passed the test and received an "Iowa High School Equivalency Diploma," Harris

"Iowa has the highest pass rate in the country," said CT Turner, the director of public affairs at GED Testing Service, noting that Iowa has a pass rate of around 97 to 98 percent, which has stayed consistent over recent years.

Though Iowa preparatory programs will need to make changes to maintain the highest pass rate, Kielkucki said computer-based tests will be more convenient for students.

"Right now, we offer

paper-based testing two days a week in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City," he said. "With [computer-based testing], our current plan ... will allow students to test Monday through Friday at our test center in Cedar Rap-

McAtee said the new test makes the GED more accessible to students.

"The GED will be easier to fit into students' busy lives, because once they have pre-registered, they will be able to go take the test whenever the test center is open," he said.

What's more, Turner said, test results could come immediately after completion of the test.

"People will get instant score reports," Turner said.

McAtee said instant results eliminate anxiety caused by waiting.

"By taking the GED on the computer, students will get instant scores rather than having to wait - sometimes nervously — 24 to 48 hours as with the paper version," he said.

Turner said the test has been well received

"We're getting rave reviews," he said.

Turner said test takers who take the computer-based GED test are more likely to finish faster and pass the test.

The new test will be released Jan. 2, 2014.

and put a towel in her mouth before assaulting her. Before leaving the apartment he also allegedly took explicit photos of the victim and threatened to put them on the Internet if she told the police.

He was originally charged on March 30, 2012, with first-degree kidnapping.

Tang was also later charged with solicitation to commit an aggravated misdemeanor and tampering with a witness or juror. While being held in Johnson County Jail on a \$800,000 bond, Tang allegedly wrote a letter to a friend asking that friend to find the victim of the kidnapping case and ask her to drop the charge.

Tang reportedly asked the friend to tell her if she did not drop the charge, Tang would be in jail for the rest of his life and that he could promise her anything if she did. He also allegedly asked his friend to persuade the victim to tell the police she lied and that they had consensual

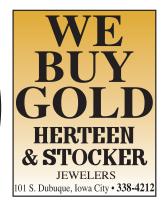
On April 11, Tang's parents, Xuefan Tang, 57, and Li Qiao, 49, were charged with tampering with a witness for allegedly attempting to bribe the victim into changing her story. The charges were later dropped over "cultural differences," according to Lyness. Peng Tang's primary language is not English, an issue that arose numerous times in proceedings leading up to the plea.

Earlier this year, Tang was also charged with third-degree burglary and second-degree theft.

Tang's kidnapping trial was originally scheduled to begin next week. If convicted of first-degree kidnapping, Tang could have faced life in



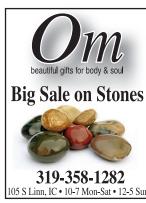




















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UP TO







Peace Corps gains in popularity on UI campus

There are currently 28 University of Iowa alumni serving the Peace Corps in 24 different countries, including Albania and Zambia.

By BRIANNA JETT Brianna-jett@uiowa.edu

An increasing number of University of Iowa students are choosing to not only study abroad but also to work and volunteer overseas. The university is ranked 46th, among schools of its size, in the number of students graduating and joining the Peace Corps.

The UI recently increased its response to this demand by creating a position specifically geared toward students wanting to work, intern, or volunteer abroad.

The position has been in place for 18 months, and officials have seen good re-

"It's an area of growth," said Downing Thomas, the dean of International Programs. "I think there are different ways students decide to become involved abroad."

Currently, there are 28 UI alumni serving with the Peace Corps in 24 different countries.

"I think the UI has consistently had a strong number of students go into the Peace Corps," said Meredith Mahy Gall, the UI Peace Corps representative.

For those students considering applying for the corps, there is a revamped online application aimed at making the process smoother and faster. Application times can take as long as nine months.

"The whole internal system has changed," said Jessica Mayle, the public-affairs coordinator of the Peace Corps Chicago regional office. "Just in general,

we expect people to move through the system faster."

But even without online applications, UI alumni have been a part of the Peace Corps since it was created in 1961 — and both sides have benefited.

"Peace Corps service really makes a difference in the lives of those served and of those who volunteer," Mayle

UI alumni currently serve all over the world, from Albania to Zambia. They work in varied sectors: agriculture, education, environment, health, community economic development, and youth development.

"They're in all of the sectors, doing all the kinds of work Peace Corps volunteers do," Mayle said. "That's really interesting because it shows the wide range of skills UI students have.'

For Mahy Gall, who works to recruit UI students, the program is personal; she served in Botswana from 1995-1997.

"It gave me a chance to experience life differently," she said.

Mahy Gall appreciates the strength of the relationship between the UI and the Peace Corps, seen both in the support from faculty and staff and the enthusiasm from past volunteers.

The Peace Corps does not just take students from the UI — sometimes, those students come back.

"There is a great community of returning volunteers," Mahy Gall said.

Some return to attend graduate school — some return later as faculty or staff.

"The Peace Corps opportunities are a big commitment, but those who have taken that up and come back have grown tremen-

dously," Thomas said. But the benefits aren't limited to personal rewards.

"[The program] really helps volunteers launch a global career," Mayle said.

Thomas hopes the university will continue to increase its international programs.

"The UI is only growing its global footprints," he said. "Students and faculty are the ones who will benefit."

Peace Corps

University of Iowa is ranked 46th in the number of students who have joined the

- Peace Corps this year. • 28 alumni are currently serving in 24 different countries.
- · The University of Washington is ranked No. 1 with 107 students.

Source: Official Peace Corps website and Jessica Mayle, public-affairs coordinator for the Peace Corps



UI spring 2008 Peace Corps representative Becky Bowman works in her office in the Linquist Center. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)







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Each week for six weeks, one semi-finalist will receive a prize and be entered into the Grand Prize drawing to be held on March 7. Semi-finalists will be announced each Tuesday and will win men's wrestling or basketball tickets, women's basketball tickets or a DI t-shirt.

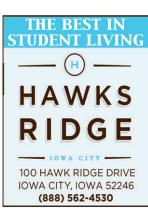
One entry per person per day.





















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The Daily Iowan BREAK



The belief in the possibility of a short decisive war appears to be one of the most ancient and dangerous of human illusions.

- Robert Wilson Lynd

the ledge

author and not the DI Editorial Board, the Publisher, Student Publications Inc., or the University of Iowa.



Lyric Answer Man:

Q: How many roads must a man walk down before you call him a man?

A: Zero; he's already a man, otherwise the question would be, "How many roads must a boy walk down before you can call him a man?"

Q: Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir? A: Oui. Très oui.

Q: Why don't we do it in the road?

A: Because it's really dangerous. And dirty. Q: Who let the dogs out? A: My Uncle Willard, when I was 7. Two of them came home. The third was hit by an Oldsmobile and died a few days later. Thanks for bringing it up. Q: Who is the man that would risk his neck for his brother man?

A: John Shaft. Q: Do you believe in magic?

A: No. Q: Have I told you lately that I love you?

A: Even if you have, it never hurts to say it more often. Q: Does your chewing gum lose its flavor on the bedpost overnight? A: Sadly, yes.

Q: How come every time you come around my London, London Bridge wanna go down? A: Because you're a tramp. Q: Will you love me forever? A: Let me sleep on it.

Q: Will you still love me tomorrow? A: Now you're just being

pushy. Q: He was a boy, she was a girl; can I make it any more obvious? A: Apparently not, otherwise, you could have saved me three minutes.

Andrew R. Juhl thanks Google for helping assemble this list.

www.herteenandstockerjewelers.com



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Level:

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

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SOLUTION TO

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3 6 8

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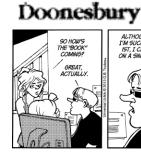
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2/12/13







by Scott Adams









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OBJECTS O F

64 At least once

67 Covers, as a football field

2 Lie ahead

з Dweebish

5 Dance music

6 Rights org. since 1920

7 Restaurant

8 What a horseshoer shoes

9 Like "The

10 Nondance

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Exorcist" and "Lethal Weapon"

music genre

11 Frequent, as a

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65 Firebug's offense

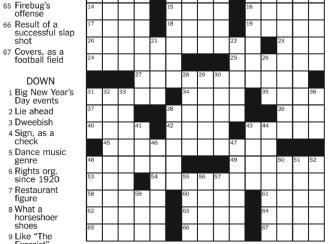
The New Hork Times Crossword

- 1 Constant nuisance
- 5 Dashboard device, briefly 9 Post-op program
- 14 Writer Wister 15 Say again
- 16 To love, in Milan 17 Voting district 18 Laine of jazz fame
- 19 South Pacific island nation 20 1977 Boz Scaggs hit
- 23 Neth. neighbor 24 "Sophie's Choice" novelist 25 Hoyle of "Hoyle's Rules of Games"
- 27 Source of ground chuck
- 31 Bird with red-eyed and yellow-throated varieties
- 35 Common cotton 63 Hankering 37 Italian diminutive suffix
- 38 Unsportsmanlike 39 Year, in Yucatán
- 40 Film terrier played by Skippy 42 "Picnic"
- playwright
- 43 Volga River native 45 All-in-one offer 48 Takes hold
- 49 Skeptic's response 53 Here, to Henri
- 54 Something with which you might do the actions at the ends of 20-, 27- and 45-Across
- 58 Hurricane, e.g. 60 Fair share, maybe

- 34 Coal-rich area in Europe 62 Toy truck maker
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0108



Puzzle by ALLAN E. PARRISH

32 Lestrade of

_ favor

12 One side in the Falklands War

13 Vandyke, e.g. 21 Manhattan district with art galleries 22 Doubting

26 1974 John Wayne crime drama

28 Taking drugs regularly

38 Photographer Arbus

29 Popcorn order for two, maybe 30 Passé 31 Going by way

43 Baby powder Sherlock Holmes stories,

41 Some window

48 Woman with an Afro, maybe installations, for short

52 Bygone Russian leaders 44 Whom G movies are for 46 Best Actress 55 Down in a winner for Hours" 56 Corn syrup

component

brand Tower 57 Gymnast Korbut

51 Sharp-

59 Original "King Kong" studio 50 "Good job!" For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit

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today's events

- Story Time with Judy Nyren, 10 a.m., Sycamore Mall Pharmacology Postdoctoral Workshop, "RGS6 is a Novel Suppressor of Breast Tumor Initiation and Progression."
- Biswanath Maity, 10:30 a.m., 1117 Medical Education & Research Facility
- Toddler Story Time with Vickie, 10:30 p.m., Iowa City Public Library, 123 S. Linn University Club February Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.,
- University Club. 1360 Melrose • Iowa City Foreign Relations Council Spring
- Luncheon, "Romania's role in the EU," Diana Rus, noon, Congregational United Church of Christ, 30 N. Clinton
- Tech Help, noon, lowa City Public Library • English Conversation Classes, 12:30 p.m., UIHC Pomeranzt Family Pavilion Melrose Conference Center 6 • Microbiology Seminar, "B cell and repertoire development in swine: a challenge of current paradigms," John Butler, Microbiology, 3 p.m., Bowen Watzke Auditorium
- SUBMIT AN EVENT Want to see your special event appear here? Simply submit the details at: dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html
- Faculty Senate Meeting, 3:30 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber • Library-Community Writing Center, 4 p.m., lowa
- City Public Library
- "Mocktail" Party, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Levitt Center • T'ai Chi Open Practice, 5:30 p.m., Senior Center, 28
- Heart Month Program: Caring for your Physical,
- Emotional, and Spiritual Heart, 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Society, 10 S. Gilbert • The Loneliest Planet, 7 p.m., Bijou
- Learning Laboratory \bullet Zath, with Nerv, Supersonic Piss, Phosphenes, 8p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington

• I-Envision Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Bedell Entrepreneurial

- Mission Creek Presents Menomena, with the Olympics, 9 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- Francine, 9:30 p.m., Bijou
- Heaven and Hell, Fat Tuesday Dance Party, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

UITV schedule

3 p.m. UI Band Extravaganza, Carver-Hawkeye Arena,

4:30 "Marvin Bell Set to Music" Concert, music by David Gompper, poems and performances, Feb. 19, 2012 6 Iowa Magazine, human-interest stories on research, service, and education

6:30 Iowa Basketball with Fran McCaffery, weekly show with Iowa men's basketball head coach Fran McCaffery, hosted by Gary Dolphin, produced by HawkVision

7 Latin Jazz, Nov. 11, 2012 8 Hawkeye Athletics, A History of Greatness, a look at Campus channel 4,

some of the most memorable seasons of lowa athletics over the years, produced by UI graduate Nick Fetty 9:30 Daily Iowan TV News Update

9:45 Inside Iowa, weekly campus magazine covering education, research, and service at the UI 10 Lisa Bluder Weekly Media Conference, press confer-

ence with the lowa women's basketball coach 10:30 Daily Iowan TV News Update 10:45 Inside Iowa, weekly campus magazine covering education, research, and service at the UI 11 Best of Java Blend, live musical acts from the Java

House, produced by Iowa Public Radio

horoscopes

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Someone interesting who can offer you good advice or an opportunity will come into your life if you volunteer or use your talents to help others. A serious union will help you explore new possibilities. Your experience will pay off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Share information, and you will come up with something that works. You will make new allies and bring about a collaboration with people who share your concerns, values, and solutions. Discipline coupled with action will pay off.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Too much of anything will turn into a bad experience. You have to

gauge your time and your input so that you aren't taken advantage of or treated wrongly. Focus on what you know you can accomplish, not what others want you to do. CANCER (June 21-July 22) A steady pace will ensure that you make headway. Put a little

muscle behind whatever you set out to do. Strength, courage, and originality will lead to your success. A serious relationship must be nurtured. Impulse is the enemy. **LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Visit unfamiliar places, interact with people who come from different walks of life, and you will gather interesting information that will enable you to let go of the

past and move full speed into the future. Love is in the stars. **VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Don't judge others or jump to conclusions without having all the facts. Take your time, listen, and show compassion. Communicating openly will help you

decide what to do next. Don't allow someone's demands to ruin your plans. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Revisit old ideas, and do what you can to spice things up. You will get a far better reaction if you let your imagination wander and your creativity flow. Don't worry

about others. Put your needs first and foremost. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Put more time and effort into creative endeavors. Not everyone will appreciate what you do, but the ones who do will also offer contributions that will help you develop something unique and serviceable with potential to be profitable as well. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Listen, but hold your response until it's appropriate. You will face trouble, opposition, and challenges if you are too outspoken or pushy about what you want to see happen. Stick close to home, and prepare what you want to do next.

this deter you from following through with your plans. Use your imagination.. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Focus on the positive, and look at what you can gain by attending a lecture or talking to someone with expertise in a field that interests you. You'll come across an opportunity that can result in a new beginning. Embrace change.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll need to show compassion if you want others to help in return. Someone will have a change of heart or make last-minute changes, but you mustn't let

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Stabilize your situation, taking control and making things happen. It's up to you to enforce what you want and to follow through. You have great ideas and the drive to excel. Don't let a personal contract interfere with your plans.



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Midnight-2 a.m., Steven Conlow



Girl Scout troop 8579 sells Girl Scout cookies outside lowa Book on Monday. The girls are participating in a program in which costumers can send cookies to troops at war. The girls are also trying to raise money to go horseback riding in the spring. (The Daily Iowan/Joshua Housing)



Hawkeye freshman Kyra Trowbridge performs a floor routine in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 8. (The Daily Iowan/Chris Willauer)

By MATT CABEL

matthew-cabel@uiowa.edu

Stevenson stands with her back bent, hands on her hips, head down. The senior gymnast waves to the crowd as an up-tempo song begins to play. She runs, somersaults, and twists. She moves gracefully across the blue square area, as if she is one with the music.

Her teammates dance along. They've seen this routine many times be-— they know it well and love to show support for their teammate.

When gymnasts perform on the floor, things get personal.

"It's like a show: you're trying to engage the audience, you're trying to engage your team members, you're trying to engage the judges," senior Maya Wickus said. "You pull them in with your dance, and you wow them with your tumbling."

Gymnasts perform these routines on the spring floor — a 39-by-39foot erformance area. Any music and type of routine is game, as long as the gymnast stays inside the confines and doesn't perform longer than 90 sec-

Routines have two main aspects, said women's gymnastics head coach Larissa Libby: the physical and the artistic. The gymnast's endurance and tumbling skills make up the physical, while her dance moves, leaps, and jumps form the artistry.

Gymnasts must perform at least three tumbling passes in their routines. Passes can consist of "anything from a round-up backhand spring double Arabian to a front handspring double full," Wickus said. Libby choreographs the routines but lets the gymnasts have input to individualize the routine.

Libby also allows her gymnasts to choose their own music. Once a song has been decided, Libby creates the mix herself. Iowa gymnasts have the option to have their coach pick music for them, but it's a practice Libby doesn't suggest. She believes her gymnasts won't perform their routines as well if it doesn't reflect their personality.

"A lot of times it's because they don't think they can physically dance to that," Libby said. "But until you get them going, they never know."

Gymnasts receive bonus points from the judges based on the difficulty of their passes, up to a score of 10, and are judged on the difficulty and execution of their leaps and presentation during the routine.

"Everything counts: your leaps, your landings, your presentation," sophomore Jessica Morreale said. "Gymnastics is skills, power and endurance, but it's also the way you present yourself."

Morreale performs her routine to Pitbull's "Hotel Room Service" as a reflection of her upbeat personality, a song that allows her to showcase her smile.

The GymHawks have found success on the floor so far this season, sitting at 15th in the national rankings. The team scored a season high 49 against Michigan on Feb. 2 and topped the score on Feb.

8 in a meet against Illinois-Chicago and Michigan State with 49.275.

Stevenson leads Iowa on the floor. The Winfield, Ill., native is ranked 42nd in the nation in the event, with an average individual score of 9.845. The routine has personal significance to the senior. The two songs, "Rayos Del Sol" and "Danza Kuduro," take Stevenson back to last summer, where she heard both the songs while traveling in Spain.

Back on the floor, Stevenson stands in the bottom right corner. She begins to run again, somersualts, and lands

safely in the opposite corner. She falls to the foor with a spin, raising an arm high towards the ceiling. She remains still as the music fades, a smile on her face. The crowd begins to cheer; the senior breathes a sigh of relief.

"It's a really good time — I'm not ever nervous in the routine," Stevenson said. "It's more just like getting the crowd involved, getting the judges involved, of course getting my team involved. I try to just have a good time with it — it is only a minute and 30 seconds of that kind of attention. It's kind

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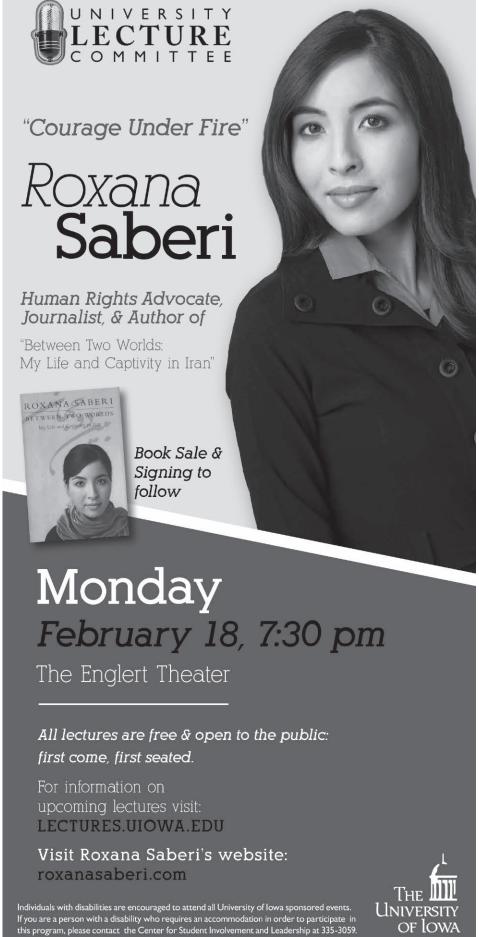
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JEWELERS



Iowa forward Eric May shoots against Northwestern in Carver-Hawkeye on Feb. 9. (The Daily Iowan/Adam Wesley)

BOX SCORE

CONTINUED FROM 12

men Anthony Clemmons and Mike Gesell have each posted a sub-40 percent field-goal percentages. Oglesby is the biggest offender; through 23 appearances, the underclassman has shot just 28.9 percent from the field. Iowa is almost 8 percentage points off the league lead in fieldgoal percentage, led by Indiana at 50.1 percent.

Points Per Game - 72.2 (5th in Big Ten, 71st in NCAA)

Even though Hawkeyes are such a poor shooting squad, they rank near the top of the Big Ten in points scored per game. This has been helped

outstanding player, but

he's one of our biggest

leaders," Yacinich said.

"And when Shep tells

you to do something, you

do it."

thanks mostly to a soft nonconference schedule in which the Black and Gold scored 70 or more points on nine occasions. Iowa's highest point total of the season was a 90-46 win over South Carolina State on Dec. 19. Conference play, on the other hand, has been a different story. The Hawkeyes have posted 70 or more points in just five of 11 league contests and are averaging 66.5 points per game in conference play. Iowa also posted season-low point totals (59) in losses to Michigan State and Minnesota. Still, through all of the losing conference play has handed the Black and Gold, it's an amazing fact the Hawkeyes remain one of the Big Ten's top offensive teams.

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NOTEBOOK

CONTINUED FROM 12

Sports

"I'm excited. It's only my second year here, but there's a lot of good chemistry," he said. "All the guys are tight, and there are some good leaders here, too."

 Des Moines The product noted that because the roster is so youth-driven, the sophomore has taken it upon himself to pass on whatever he can to the latest crop of freshmen.

"[Leadership] kind of comes with the position; they call shortstop the 'captain of the infield,' " Yacinich said. "It's a different perspective from freshman year; instead of always looking for advice, I can give it now, too. Sasha

Sophomore

Kuebel could stand to give a few pointers as well after earning freshman All-American honors a season ago. In 13 starts as a rookie, the St. Louis native went 6-0 with a 2.67 earned run average and two com-

plete games. Kuebel and Yacinich are two big reasons 10thyear Iowa head coach Jack Dahm believes his Hawkeyes, though young on paper, have a shot to return to the Big Ten Tournament.

"We're going to have a lot of sophomores on the field, and they know what to expect," he said. "They're a year stronger."

Healthy Sheppard vital for Hawkeyes

Youth may reign supreme at Banks Field this season, but an old guard will still occupy the most important position on the diamond.

Senior catcher Dan Sheppard may have returned last season from Tommy John surgery, but the Illinois native knew he still wasn't 100 percent. It showed on the field as he labored down the stretch - posting a .234 batting average and 10 RBIs in 94 at-bats.

There's some good news for the Black and Gold: Shep's back and hungrier than ever.

"I feel good. We're ready to get outside, we've been inside for the whole winter," Sheppard said. "[The injury] was frustrating, but that's all in the past. I'm good to go."

Iowa hopes their backstop can return to freshman form, when he hit .260 with 20 hits in 28 games. The team is also counting on having the upperclassman in the lineup every day, something he has yet to accomplish in his fractured career because of injuries.

Sheppard's veteran presence would be valuable even on a balanced roster, but with the youth-driven Hawkeyes, the senior's appearance looms large.

"Getting Sheppard back 100 perecent [is huge]. He's a very talented defensive catcher," Dahm said. "We're very excited."

Yacinich has shared a field with Sheppard for only half of a season and has yet to witness the senior's full capabilities. Yet, the sophomore star knows that his catcher is one of the most important pieces to his squad's 2013 puzzle.

"Shep's not only an







lowa center Morgan Johnson fights for a rebound in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Monday. The Hawkeyes lost to Nebraska, 76-75. (The Daily Iowan/Sam

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROM 12

A huge 3 from Dixon fueled the Hawkeyes' final surge. With just under 2:30 remaining, the Johnsburg, Ill., native drilled a 3 from the corner to cut the lead to 72-65. A pair of free throws from Printy and another two from sophomore Samantha Logic cut the Husker lead to 3 with just over a minute remaining.

After a pair of Husker free throws, the Hawkeyes answered with another clutch 3-pointer by none other than Dixon. Dixon's fifth trey of the game cut the Nebraska lead to 74-72 with 12 seconds remaining on the scoreboard.

But time ran out for the Hawkeyes.

After another set of Husker free throws, junior guard Theairra Taylor nailed a 3 at the buzzer to end the game at 76-75.

Johnson, who com-

Iowa							Nebraska						
STARTERS	MIN	FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS	STARTERS	MIN	FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS
PRINTY	38	6-14	2-2	4	4	16	H00PER	31	11-23	5-6	8	0	29
DOOLITTLE	16	0-3	0-0	5	0	0	CADY	33	3-5	1-2	8	4	9
JOHNSON	31	9-11	1-3	10	1	19	MOORE	40	3-8	6-6	7	7	14
TALYOR	34	3-10	4-4	5	5	11	SAMPLE	25	1-3	2-2	4	6	4
LOGIC	38	2-8	4-6	8	6	8	THEROIT	23	2-4	0-0	1	2	6
BENCH	MIN	FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS	BENCH	MIN	FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS
NESBITT	8	0-1	0-0	0	0	0	WILLIAMS	10	1-3	0-0	1	0	2
DIXON	32	7-15	0-0	0	3	19	SIMON	6	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
THOMAS	3	1-2	0-0	1	0	2	JEFFERY	20	4-9	0-0	3	- 1	10
							LAUDERMILL	12	1-5	0-0	2	1	2
TOTALS		FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS	TOTALS		FGM-A	FTM-A	REB	AST	PTS
		28-64	11-15	33	19	75			26-60	14-16	35	21	76

piled her 20th career double-double, did her best to avoid dropping a fourth-straight game but ended up just short.

"You just focus on the loss, and it just hurts even more when you did everything you could," Johnson said.

JOHNSON

CONTINUED FROM 12

rubs off on everyone else – everyone else wants to work hard because Morgan works hard."

As one of the team's

four seniors, Johnson knows what her team needs to do to close out the season and earn her a bid to the NCAA Tournament: win.

She still believes her team is more than capable of winning games.

"Staying together as a

team is hard whenever you get down this far," Johnson said. "Understanding that we're a team that is more than capable, and that we can come back, and that we are a good team, and just

believing in that." Luckily, Johnson and the Hawkeyes will have another chance to earn a win against the Cornhuskers when they travel to Nebraska for a Feb. 24 rematch.

"We're gonna get one against them," Johnson said. "We're gonna get the next one.



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Tuesday, February 12, 2013

NEBRASKA 76, IOWA 75

Hawkeye rally falls short



lowa guard Jaime Printy attempts a lay-up in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Monday. The Hawkeyes lost to Nebraska, 76-75. (The Daily Iowan/Sam Louwagie)

Since receiving a top-25 ranking, the Iowa women's basketball team has lost four-straight games.

By NICK DELAQUILA

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Iowa's women's basketball team lost a thriller, 76-75, to visiting Nebraska to fall to 16-9 (5-6 Big Ten.) The loss is the squad's fourth straight since entering the rankings at No. 24 a few weeks ago.

Senior center Morgan Johnson led the way for the Hawkeyes in both points and rebounds with 19 and 10. Sophomore Melissa Dixon added 19 points off the bench, shooting 5-of-10 from behind the arc, and senior guard Jaime Printy added 16 for the struggling Hawkeyes.

"Well, another tough one tonight — anytime you lose by 1 point, you always have those what-if situations," Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder said. "Those are the ones that are going to keep you

'It's definitely frustrating – that's one team we haven't beat since I've been here at Iowa. But it's good, though, because we get another shot, and we'll prepare and get ready for them.'

– Jaime Printy, guard

awake at night."

Printy noted that the two teams will meet again in a little less than two

"It's definitely frustrating — that's one team we haven't beat since I've been here at Iowa," Printy said. "But it's good, though, because we get another shot, and we'll prepare and get ready for them."

Nebraska used an 11-2 run to open up the game early before the Hawkeyes countered with a 9-0 jolt of their own to tie the game up at 11. That was the only time Nebraska did not lead in the game.

The lead came courtesy of Jordan Hooper, who tallied 17 points on 7-of-14 shooting for the Huskers in the first half. She finished the game with a game-high

29 points on 11-of-23 shooting.

Iowa held on tight during the first half until Nebraska pulled off a 6-0 run to end the first half and give the Huskers a 41-32 lead.

Coming out of halftime, behind the strong play of Johnson, who seemed to have a hand in every offensive play for the Hawkeyes, Iowa cut the deficit to 48-43 with just over 16 minutes remaining.

However, unable to contain the Nebraska 3-point threat, (the Huskers finished 10-of-23 from behind the arc), Nebraska once again pulled away from the Hawkeyes, pushing the lead to 64-52 with eight minutes remaining.

SEE **BASKETBALL**, 10

Still winless against Huskers

By MATT CABEL

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Morgan Johnson has a chip on her shoulder.

In a career that will end in Iowa women's basketball history, she has yet to do one thing: earn her team a win against Nebraska.

From the tipoff, it was clear she wanted that to change.

Her effort, however, a 19-point, 10-rebound outing, was not enough. Despite a furious second-half rally, Johnson's team fell short in a 76-75 loss Monday night in Carver-Hawkeye Arena

Johnson was hot in the first half, scoring 14 of the Hawkeyes' 32 first-half points. The center dominated the paint, making her first five field-goal attempts.

"We definitely wanted to get the ball in her hands," head coach Lisa Bluder said. "She was shooting the ball well tonight."

Johnson's outing gave her an eighth double-double this season and 20th of her career. Her 19 points came on 9-of-11 shooting, and 7 of the senior's 10 boards came on the offen-

The accomplishment, however, will always come with the memory of a bitter loss to a rival team.

"I don't really think about [stats]," Johnson said. "It's kind of bitter at this point. As a senior, it doesn't matter about those stats; it just matters about the team."

The senior was pivotal in the Hawkeye's second half rally. She scored 6 of the team's first 8 points in the second half and assisted teammate Theairra Taylor for the other pair. Her offensive rebounds were crucial down the stretch.

"Morgan's an awesome teammate," senior Jaime Printy said. "She brings so much energy to our team. She's big and goofy, and she doesn't care. She brings so much energy every day to practice and works so hard every single day in every drill. I think it

SEE **Johnson**, 10

THE BOX SCORE

Hawkeyes don't seem like dancers

By TOM CLOS thomas-clos@uiowa.edu

With about a month remaining in the Black and Gold's regular season, Iowa sits at 15-9 overall, 4-7 in the Big Ten — good for eighth place in the league. With seven games remaining and an RPI of 92, the Hawkeyes are desperate for any sort of victories they could boast on their tournament résumé come Selection Sunday.

But as the numbers show, this has been easier said than done for the Black and Gold this season.

Wins against top-25 RPI Teams – 0

The Hawkeyes have the misfortune and luxury of playing in the top conference in America. The downside is the top-level competition Iowa sees night in and night out, making victories a premium. The advantages though, are the numerous opportunities to score season-defining victories thanks to the elite teams they see, some twice a season. The problem the Hawkeyes have run into is that through five games against top-25 RPI competition, they are winless. The Black and Gold have blown late leads at home against Indiana and Michigan State as well as last week at Minnesota. Only two contests

versus top-25 RPI teams remain in the Hoosiers and Gophers, and when this season is all said and done, look at the Hawkeyes' record against top-25 RPI teams as a key reason they are NITbound.

Road Victories – 1

Iowa has played 24 games and has won 15 times. Amazingly, only one of those victories has come in a true road game. The Hawkeyes lost their lone nonconference road test at Virginia Tech Nov. 27, and they have dropped six of their seven treks into Big Ten country, the exception being their 70-50 win at Northwestern Jan. 13. There's no single magic formula for making the NCAA Tournament, but it's safe to say a team probably needs to win more than one road game. Iowa beat Northern Iowa in Des Moines, and its win over Western Kentucky as well as its loss to Wichita State were in Mexico, all considered neutral-site games.

Field-Goal Percentage - 42.4 (8th in Big Ten, 216th in NCAA)

The Hawkeyes have consistently been one of the poorest



lowa head coach Fran McCaffery shouts at guard Devyn Marble during a time-out in the game against Northwestern in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 9. (The Daily

shooting teams in the nation, thanks to a backcourt that hasn't been efficient from the field, to say the least. Junior

guard Devyn Marble, sophomore Josh Oglesby, and fresh-

SEE **BOX SCORE**, 10

NOTEBOOK

Baseball goes young

Iowa baseball has experienced a full-fledged youth movement. Also, catcher Dan Shepard is back and hungrier than ever.

By TOM CLOS thomas-clos@uiowa.edu

The last time the Iowa baseball program appeared in the Big Ten Tournament, all but five of its current players were still in high school.

The last time the Hawkeyes danced in the NCAA Tournament, not one member of the roster had even been born

So, welcome to the great unknown that is the 2013 Iowa baseball team.

To say the Hawkeyes are young is a grave understatement. The Black and Gold feature 24 underclassmen, four juniors, and five seniors.

Only two seniors, catcher Dan Sheppard and starting pitcher Matt Dermody, are expected to make an every-day impact in the lineup.

Conversely, five sophomores are expected to carry the daily workload in outfielders Eric Toole and Kris Goodman, second baseman Jake Mangler, third baseman Nick Day, and shortstop Jake Yacinich.

Yacinich returns as the key to the bunch following a banner freshman campaign in which he hit .292 with 8 doubles and 24 RBIs. The native Iowan was recently a preseason All-Big Ten selection by College Sports Madness.

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