

The Daily Iowan

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50¢

Alcohol letters decreasing



An ambulance is parked at the Johnson County Ambulance Service building on April 7, 2012. Last fall, 52 percent of all UI students transported to emergency rooms were 18-year-olds. (The Daily Iowan/File)

University of Iowa officials last fall saw a decrease in the number of letters mailed to parents regarding students transported to the emergency room for alcohol-related reasons.

By **REBECCA MORIN**
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Parents of University of Iowa students received a little less mail from the university last semester regarding their students' dangerous drinking habits. In fall 2012, UI officials sent 47 parent-notification letters regarding students who had been found passed out in a public location or transported to the emergency room because of high-risk alcohol consumption.

However, that number has dropped from the 58 letters sent in fall 2011. The number of letters for fall 2012 decreased to around the same number of letters sent before the 21-ordinance was implemented. In 2009, officials sent 45 letters to parents. Although the number of letters sent home has decreased, officials from the Johnson County Ambulance Service have not seen a decrease in people being trans-

ferred to the emergency room. "We are busier now than last year, as well as the year before," said Steve Spenler, the director of the Johnson County Ambulance Service. "Last fall, we had some extremely busy weekends, especially the UI-Iowa State game." UI officials created a comprehensive plan in 2010 to target students' alcohol consumption, and they believe they are

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No 'Rutgers' at Iowa

UI athletics officials say they're confident the department would never have problems regarding respecting athletes.

By **LAUREN COFFEY**
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University of Iowa officials say they're positive the mistreatment of athletes, such as physical and emotional abuse, would never happen at the UI because of guidelines that have been in place for three years.

"We have all sorts of rules and processes that make sure student-athletes have respect and responsibility," said Professor N. William Hines, the head of the UI Presidential Committee on Athletics. "We are very proactive. What happened at Rutgers wouldn't happen here."

Mike Rice was fired from his position as head basketball coach at Rutgers in early April after videos surfaced of Rice physically and emotionally abusing his players.

In an interview with *The Daily Iowan* on Thursday, UI President Sally Mason said there is an important guideline to draw between being an energetic coach and becoming an abusive coach.

"I appreciate emotion, and I appreciate excitement, and I appreciate energy as much as the next person," Mason said. "But there are lines that do need to be drawn. From time to time, sometimes we have to remind people that you have an audience here of young people, including children, that come to watch sporting events. Let's keep it so families continue to want to

SEE ATHLETES 5

Coffee prices staying steady locally

By **QUENTIN MISIAG**
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Good news, coffee connoisseurs: The price for that daily cup of coffee may soon cost less, because bean prices have continued to decrease since January.

Frequent gourmet coffee shop customers in Iowa City and across the United States could see the caffeinated beverage price drop as popular trends, including fair trade and organic options, grab a bigger piece of the market.

According to the International Coffee Organization, the global bean price per pound in March fell 13 cents from February to \$131.38. A year ago, that price was more than \$30 higher, at \$167.77. The third highest point since 1998 stood at \$224.33 in March 2011.

Despite the recent drop, local coffee prices have remained steady this year, and local cafes don't forecast a rise in the near future.

Sam Caster, a barista at the Times Club Cafe in Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St., said although club's roaster, Stumptown Coffee of Portland, Ore., has increased per pound bean pricing, a rise in price per cup isn't anticipated over the coming year.

He said the nature of the climate



Coffee beans sit in the Java House on Washington Street on Thursday. Fluctuation in the international wholesale price of coffee sometimes changes the price of a cup of coffee locally. (The Daily Iowan/Juan Carlos Herrera)

change in Ethiopia, Guatemala, and Indonesia — the the source of the bulk of the club's coffee — can dictate the drink prices here.

"There's a huge level of variance, but the main thing is just going to be quality,"

he said. "If you make a really good cup of coffee, people are going to pay more for it."

GO TO DAILYIOWAN.COM TO READ THE REST OF THIS STORY

Alford 'regrets' comments

Former men's basketball coach Steve Alford issued an apology for his handling of the controversial case of Pierre Pierce.

By **TORK MASON**
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It's been more than a decade since former Iowa men's basketball player Pierre Pierce was charged with sexual assault, but the dark cloud that has hovered over the program since that time was brought back into focus since



Alford
former coach

SEE APOLOGY, 5

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M.B.A. students to meet Buffett

The Tippie College of Business Omaha meeting with Warren Buffett began in 2008, following a rigorous application process.

By **HILLARY ROSEN-CRANTS**
hrosencrants@uiowa.edu

When one considers finances, investing, and the business world, it is more often than not that a single name comes up — Buffett. Not Jimmy, of course, but Warren — businessman extraordinaire, and extraordinarily wealthy.

In a stroke of good luck, a group of 20 of the University of Iowa's M.B.A. students will be sent to Omaha today to meet with Buffett. Boston University's College of Business and Notre Dame were also invited, among others.

It wasn't exactly luck that landed these UI students with such a golden opportunity. The process that accompanies attending these meetings is a little more complex.

First, universities are invited to apply. Four years ago, the UI Tippie College of Business's application was accepted, and UI students have been invited back ever since.

The quadruple invitation is slightly unusual — not all schools are welcomed back with open arms so many times in a row.

Vince Hahn, second

year M.B.A. student at Tippie's School of Management and the trip organizer, said there is a certain set of guidelines that Buffett expects attendees to follow.

"They typically invite schools back if they show appreciation and are respectful," he said. "We always make sure we follow everything to a T."

Tippie students are expected to be professional and to represent the UI and the Tippie in a highly positive light.

In order to be selected to attend, students are asked to send in a variety of questions that they would ask Buffett, because a large portion of the visit consists of a Q&A with the man. Because it is such a popular trip, M.B.A. students can only attend once.

Spencer Anderson, an M.B.A. student who will attend the meetings today, said he expects to gain insight from Buffett and learn about several companies and industries in the Berkshire Hathaway portfolio.

"I applied simply because I'm very interested in investments and I enjoy learning about how companies operate, and the key



Tippie College of Business students surround Warren Buffett during the 2012 trip. (Daily Iowan/Contributed photo)

drivers of their industry," Anderson said. "[Buffett's company] Berkshire Hathaway is a conglomerate that owns many companies in a variety of industries, and this trip provides an opportunity to learn the strategy behind making investments in these companies."

Bright and early Friday morning, the event begins with a trip to Nebraska Furniture Mart, one of the three main businesses Buffett has invested in in Omaha. The excursion consists of a tour and a Q&A, followed by the Q&A with Buffett.

After the meeting with Buffett, students are treated to lunch at Piccolo Pete's, which is reportedly one of Buffett's favorite Omaha locations.

The tours begin again at Borsheim's Jewelry, and then the students will head to Oriental Trading Company, which is new to the trip as of this year. Buffett bought the company in 2012.

Anderson, a self-professed fan of Buffett's investment style, is most interested in the two-hour Q&A with Buffett.

"He seems very cordial and professional on TV, and I am excited to hear his advice for young investors like myself," Anderson said.

One of Hahn's favorite parts of the trip is simply the opportunity to learn from one of the best leaders of his era.

"Actually, he's a lot of fun," Hahn said. "He's a very lively person, and he tells a lot of jokes."

Mason sees no change in regents

UI President Sally Mason said she looks forward to working with the new members of the state Board of Regents.

By **BRIANNA JETT**
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Even as the state Board of Regents prepares to lose a few members next month, University of Iowa President Sally Mason doesn't expect much change when it comes to the regents' goals.

Mason believes the regents deserve thanks for all the hard work they have contributed, and she looks forward to working with whoever the new regents will be.

"Citizen volunteers — that's who these people are that serve as regents, and they are hard jobs," she said in an interview with *The Daily Iowan*. "I'm prepared, anxious, and willing to work with anyone who is appointed."

Although a few faces are changing, Mason does not expect big change.

"I don't know that the challenges are going to be very different," she said. "The challenges are helping the institutions,

the special schools, and the three universities — helping us obviously achieve our aspirations and our goals."

Historically, Regent Robert Downer said, change does not usually come in swift and strong, but there are smaller differences between people.

"I haven't seen that we've seen abrupt changes in direction," he said. "Every time you see people come on, you see different changes in opinion."

Bill Monroe, Gov. Terry Branstad's transparency adviser, is not expecting any huge shift in regards to transparency efforts.

"It's my expectations that the Transparency Task Force will continue with the full support of the Board of Regents," he said.

At the end of April, three regents will leave the board — the terms of Regent President Craig Lang and Regents Jack Evans and David Miles will end. Branstad had

hoped Lang would stay on, but the Iowa Senate failed to confirm him, in addition to Robert Cramer.

Downer says there will be an action taken to replace Lang as president, but that it is currently not an emergency situation, and he has not talked to anyone yet about the next step.

Appointed to the regents in 2007, Lang became president in 2011. Over the last few years, Mason said, she has worked closely with him.

"I've had a good working relationship with President Lang," she said. "We've certainly had many, many opportunities for discussion and conversation. He needs to be thanked for his service on the board. He has done a good job on the Board of Regents."

When asked if she agreed with the Senate's rejection of Branstad's appointments, Mason said she works well with all of those who

serve as regents.

Lang will be missed among the faculty at the UI.

"I think as a Faculty Senate officer, we had a nice working relationship with him and he appreciated and supported shared governance," said Erika Lawrence, the vice president of the Faculty Senate. "I think he will be missed because of that."

Lawrence said Lang was always willing to take the time to meet with faculty, staff, and students. She and the rest of the Faculty Senate will watch the process to fill Lang's position, and the other regents' spots, closely.

"The Board of Regents has an extremely important and powerful role," she said. "It's important for them to continue to work with President Mason, the faculty, and appreciate the difference and challenges each university has and work with us collaboratively to meet the challenges."

METRO

City puts park access road on hold

Iowa City will shelve plans for an access road after complaints from residents in the area.

The City Park Secondary Access Road project, which would have extended an access road across City Park to Normandy Drive, was scheduled for completion in the fiscal 2014 Capital

Improvement Plan budget.

However, after city staff held discussions with neighbors in the affected area, the project was postponed.

"Right now, I don't see an urgent need for this to be done as we can still accommodate the concerns we had in the area in terms of safety, access, and traffic flow," Michael Moran, the director of Parks and Recreation, said in an email to City Manager Tom

Markus.

Tom Novak, a resident of Parkview Terrace, said he was concerned about a road's effect on traffic in the area.

"There are not many places in town where people can bike or Rollerblade, and that's the nice thing about this neighborhood," he said. "We have a lot of recreational traffic, and increasing the traffic flow of cars can be a safety hazard."

Novak also worried about

the effects of a road running through the park.

"This is a real gem of a park, and putting a road through it just isn't the direction I'd like to see it go in," he said.

Moran said he would like to postpone the project for at least one construction season and revisit it after the city had completed other projects in the area.

— by Nick Hassett

BLOTTER

Ernesto Antonio, 47, 1429 Hollywood Blvd., was charged Wednesday with domestic abuse.

Toby Becker, 31, 429 Southgate Ave., was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

Henry Black, 19, 606 Mayflower, was charged Wednesday with fifth-degree theft and PAULA.

Kevin Fisher, 30, Bloomfield, Conn., was charged Wednesday with public intoxication.

David King, 41, Columbus Junc-

tion, Iowa, was charged Wednesday with OWI.

Danny Morales, 20, Dubuque, was charged March 17 with fraudulent criminal acts.

Matthew Neely, 46, 2018 Waterfront Drive No. 49, was charged

Wednesday with public intoxication.

Matthew Seiter, 36, 205 E. Bloomington St., was charged Thursday with public intoxication and possession of drug paraphernalia.

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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Policy: *The Daily Iowan* strives for accuracy and fairness in the reporting of news. If a report is wrong or misleading, a request for a correction or a clarification may be made.

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TOP STORIES

Most read stories on dailyiowan.com from Thursday.

1. UI College Republicans continue promoting 2nd Amendment week
2. Bolander: It's a lock for Hawkeye basketball

CLARIFICATION

In the April 11 Guest Opinion "Gravitt: Objectivism seen on the Iowa City City Council," submitted by Mary Gravitt, *The Daily Iowan* has learned that several paragraphs were plagiarized from Wikipedia.com without citation. The *DI* regrets the error and will no longer accept submissions from this writer.

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LETTERS

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

now seeing those results come to fruition.

The Alcohol Harm Reduction Plan is in its third year and targets four denominators that students face around campus and in the community involving alcohol.

"We're taking a comprehensive approach that targets not only the campus but the community," said Kelly Bender, harm-reduction-initiatives coordinator for the Partnership for Alcohol Safety. "We want students to focus more on academic life rather than a social life."

The plan was created from research that statistically proved alcohol education is ineffective, Bender said.

"Research says cultural change is not made by ed-

ucation, but to be effective, you must alter the conditions influencing students' choices," she said. "Altering issues related to easy access of alcohol, physical availability of it, how it is being marketed, and how much it costs is a priority."

Bender expressed her concern about the number of students responding to the Responsible Action Protocol, a policy that was implemented in case a student was in danger from overdosing on alcohol.

"There is an increase of students calling for help for friends," she said. "But students still should not feel afraid to call for help; it's better to be safe than sorry."

UI Dean of Students David Grady said since the implementation of the Responsible Action Protocol, the number of students making emergency calls has leveled off.

"[There was] an increase

Notification Letters

The University of Iowa sends emergency notification letters to parents of students who end up in the emergency room or have been found passed out in a public location. The number of letters sent recently:

- Fall 2009: 45 letters
- Fall 2010: 26 letters
- Fall 2011: 58 letters
- Fall 2012: 47 letters

Source: DI archives, UI Dean of Students David Grady

over when there was no policy, but the numbers are low and steady," Grady said in an email, referring to the Responsible Action Protocol. "Even though [the calls are] low, every call results in a student getting the emergency assistance that he or she needs."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BILL



Ed Saunders, an associate professor of social work, and Mercedes Bern-Klug, also an associate professor of social work, attend the coffee crawl at Wild Bill's Coffee Shop on Thursday. This coffee crawl was in honor of what would have been Bill Sackter's 100th birthday. (The Daily Iowan/Chris Willauer)

METRO

Transparency panel set for public meetings

The state Board of Regents' Transparency Task Force will hold several public hearings throughout Iowa in the coming weeks.

The first of four public hearings will take place at Johnston High School in Johnston at 6 p.m. April 17.

Iowans have the option of participating in the public hearing through several Iowa Communication Network locations.

Dates and Iowa Communication Network locations for the following public hearings in Council Bluffs, Muscatine, and Dubuque will be announced next week, according to a press release.

The panel chose these locations rather than Ames,

Iowa City, or Cedar Falls as a way to reach as many Iowans as possible, a regent official said.

The Transparency Task Force, which was first proposed by Regent President Craig Lang, conducted its first meeting on April 5. The force is composed of officials from each regent university, the state Legislature, the regents, and the public.

- by Kristen East

20th Annual Pow Wow

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Specials

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GUEST COLUMN

Length of the VA benefit backlogs is shameful

While President Obama certainly needs to manage politics in order to get his priorities passed, being president is more than just being politician-in-chief. The president is the nation's leader. While a leader must provide a vision that energizes and provides others direction, leaders must also ensure effectiveness of execution.

Regardless of Mayor Michael Bloomberg's grand design for New York City, his credibility nearly crumbled when the city was buried under snow that couldn't be plowed in a reasonable amount of time.

If Bloomberg hadn't figured out how to eventually solve the problem, he would have been remembered as being defeated by snow. Obama faces a similar situation now with Veterans Affairs' inability to handle its benefit-claim backlog.

Obama's ideas have supporters and detractors, but his grand designs are immaterial if he cannot, after a time, ensure a minimal effectiveness by his federal agencies. Effectiveness of execution is Obama's responsibility as leader, a responsibility that transcends politics.

The VA had the same backlog problem under President Bush, though it wasn't as egregious then as it is now that the majority of the veterans from Bush's two wars are returning home.

The problem wasn't fixed under Bush, and that is an indictment of the effectiveness, when the rubber hit the road, of his leadership. Another indictment of Bush's effectiveness was his handling of Hurricane Katrina, a natural disaster exacerbated by a managerial catastrophe. Obama realized that history would scruti-

nize and compare his handling of super-storm Sandy with Bush's handling of Katrina, so Obama made sure to get ahead of any potential issues and ordered all federal red tape cut.

Now, it's time for Obama to come to the same realization regarding the VA. Currently, veterans wait an average of 300 days before their benefit claims are even opened. Some veterans in large cities wait two or three times longer. After their claims are opened, they may be denied and require appeals — which requires more waiting. When asked, the VA has a lot of explanations for the shameful wait.

For example, officials didn't anticipate the rapid increase in claims over the decade even though the nation fought two wars, claims are increasingly complex, and more than 90 percent of the VA's claims are still

paper and cannot be handled as efficiently as electronic records.

Obama needs to realize that if he doesn't want the history books to include an asterisk by his name with the note that thousands of wounded American heroes waited upwards to a year for their earned benefits under his presidency, then he needs to focus the nation's attention and energy on this problem. Obama may not directly supervise daily VA operations, but he is responsible for them.

The captain that Obama put in charge of the VA can't seem to right the ship, so Obama must step in. Let's hope Obama is too intelligent to fail to understand that leaders' vision is quickly forgotten if they cannot first make sure the basics are done well.

Andy Koons
Guest columnist

Chain of fools



By ZACH TILLY
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On Wednesday, President Obama released a 2014 budget proposal that includes one very prominent signal that he may be ready to negotiate with Congressional Republicans on a long-term deficit-reduction package: a glorified accounting trick called the Chained Consumer Price Index.

It's not a deficit-killing silver bullet by any stretch of the imagination, but it's an indication that Obama is willing to trade modest reforms to Social Security and Medicare — major drivers of the federal budget deficit that are usually off-limits for Democrats — in exchange for increased tax revenue.

Here's how the Chained Index works: every year the government increases Social Security benefits as the cost of living rises. This annual cost-of-living adjustment is determined by the rate of inflation; as products get incrementally more expensive over time, benefits are increased proportionally so that Social Security recipients have roughly the same purchasing power every year.

Currently, the government uses a measurement that I will call the Unchained Consumer Price Index to estimate cost-of-living inflation. It basically works by totaling up the goods and service a person needs to live and monitoring changes in the cost of all those goods and services. The problem is that the Unchained Index assumes that when the price of coffee rises, for example, people will continue to buy coffee instead of opting for some cheaper drink such as tea or Pepsi.

Because it doesn't allow for economic substitutions such as the coffee-for-Pepsi switch, many people believe that the Unchained Index overestimates the rate of inflation, causing the government to make overly generous adjustments to Social Security payments.

The Chained Index changes the way the government measures cost-of-living inflation by factoring in that economic substitution. Switching to the Chained Index would mean that the government would produce more conservative inflation estimates, and, as a result, Social Security benefits would grow more slowly.

Peter Orszag, the former

director of the Congressional Budget Office, estimates that adopting the Chained Index would subtract about \$150 billion from the federal deficit over a decade.

So it's not much, but it certainly seems like a good-faith effort to start building a bipartisan agreement — the Republicans previously asked Obama to adopt the Chained Index during the fiscal-cliff negotiations that rang in 2013.

As with any attempt at compromise, though, Obama's Chained Index proposal has drawn criticism from both ends of the political spectrum.

But Orszag and Robert Greenstein of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities believe that the Chained Index would have a relatively small effect on Social Security beneficiaries — even after 20 years, Social Security benefits would only be reduced by about 2 percent, Orszag projects.

On the right, where the Chained Index is typically well-received, the reaction was unexpectedly mixed.

Speaker of the House John Boehner tepidly praised the president's budget for its commitment to "incremental entitlement reforms," but other party members were not so supportive.

Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., the chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, called the Chained Index "a shocking attack on America's seniors."

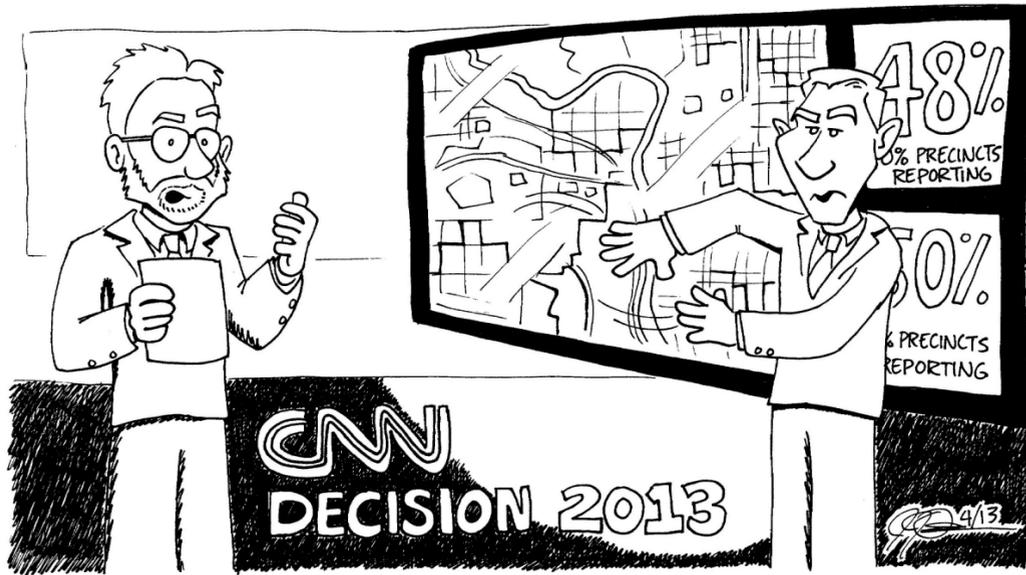
Walden, whose committee is charged with supporting the re-election of the Republican House majority in 2014, is blatantly attempting to pin the blame for the Chained Index benefit cut on Obama.

And here we find again the Republican cowardice that colors so much of the interminable budget debate in Washington.

They, the party of abstract spending cuts and deficit reduction, raise hell about out-of-control "entitlements" and creeping socialism, but they recoil at the thought of having to defend even the most arcane reform to Social Security.

Yes, the party that lionizes Paul Ryan for his plan to convert Medicare to a "premium support" voucher program is threatening to lay the blame for the Chained Index at Obama's feet.

It's clear that the Republican-initiated budget conflicts of the past few years have been more about obstruction than reform. But now that Obama is ready to come to the table, it remains to be seen whether the Congressional Republicans will set aside their fantasies and join him. ■



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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Evans wrong on UISG candidates

I am proud to identify myself as one of the HOUSE Party's campaign managers. As a senior who has never been involved with UISG, Benjamin Evans's opinion piece (*DI*, April 11) seems to be a pretentious, hastily written assessment by someone who has obviously never had an extensive conversation with the candidates he quotes.

He claims both campaigns lack critical thought, then proceeds to critique the chosen names of each party, failing to mention HOUSE is an acronym or what TOGA stands for, and does not mention a single platform

idea from either side.

Evans also fails to mention that both sides' bar crawls began well before 10 p.m., with many students eating dinner during the HOUSE Party bar crawl, which doesn't constitute illicit behavior to me. There were also not HOUSE Party shots, another false claim.

However, what is most disheartening about this piece is the implicit accusation that these students are not hardworking or do not take UISG seriously. As that full-time student with a serving job on the side who pays for her own out-of-state tuition, the students I have met through this experience amaze me. They care enough about the needs of

students at this school to sacrifice their time and jump-start positive conversations about the problems facing our university.

If Evans had been present during our 10-hour meetings, extensive debate prep, and constant revisions of the platform, I think he would retract his statement that "both parties just seem to be going through the paces, creating childish but catchy slogans, inspiring loyalty through liquor, and making poor campaign moves without thinking them through."

And to clarify, there is a difference between admitting to and then apologizing for an orchestrated effort to place stickers on nearly every newspaper

before students wake up and instructing your senators not to repeat the illegal activity and then informing *The Daily Iowan* about the incident.

Margaret Murphy
UI student

Back the justice center

There are many safety, security and space concerns about Johnson County's existing courthouse and jail that make the proposed Justice Center a critical ballot issue in the upcoming May 7 special election.

Concerns include safety risks for deputies and inmates caused

by crowded jail conditions, no way to provide secure courthouse entrances, and insufficient space and design in the courthouse to keep prisoners separated from the general public.

As a volunteer with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, I'm convinced that the Board of Supervisors used a thoughtful and open process in developing plans for the proposed Justice Center. The cost has been pared down from an original \$72 million to the current not-to-exceed \$43.5 million bond request.

It has been done by eliminating non-critical space and reducing the number of courtrooms and jail beds. The \$43.5 million bond request now represents the

absolute minimum for providing a safe, secure, and functional Justice Center.

The resulting property tax impact for county residents would be \$22.46 per \$100,000 of assessed property value per year for 20 years.

This is the right plan and the right time to approve this bond issue. Interest rates are at an all-time low and we can expect that current safety, security and space issues will only get worse over time.

In addition, the more than \$1 million now being spent annually to house prisoners in other counties would stay in our county.

Larry T. Wilson
Iowa City resident

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News

APOLOGY

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

March 30.

That's when former head coach Steve Alford was announced as the new leader of the historic UCLA basketball program, and he seemed ill-prepared to answer questions regarding his handling of the incident at his introductory press conference. Alford released a statement on Thursday expressing regret over his decisions regarding the case.

"At that time, I instinctively and mistakenly came to [Pierce's] defense

before knowing all the facts," Alford said in the release. "I wanted to believe he was innocent, and in response to a media question, I publicly claimed his innocence before the legal system had run its course."

Pierce was a sophomore guard in the fall of 2002, when he was charged with the sexual assault of another student. Alford's forceful and adamant defense of his standout player drew fire from some fans after Pierce plead edgily to a lesser charge and was allowed to return to the team after a one-year suspension.

Alford's support of Pierce

remains a point of discomfort for Karla Miller, the executive director of the Rape Victim Advocacy Program in Iowa City.

"He never withdrew his support, even when Pierce pleaded guilty," Miller said. "It's good to hear his apology, but timing seems like an issue. It seems he brought it up to get on with his appointment [at UCLA]."

But Miller said it wasn't just that Alford supported Pierce publicly. The manner in which he did so highlighted a disconnect between Alford and the victim, she said.

"It says somebody here is lying," Miller said. "It's

not my guy, so the victim is lying.' If he believes his guy isn't lying, the victim suffers. In the form that other fans and people say horrible things about the victims, tear down their character. The coach tells them to treat the victim as a liar. There's a ripple effect that isn't avoidable."

Pierce returned to the team in the fall of 2003 and blossomed into one of the Big Ten's best players before being dismissed from the team in January 2005, when he was named the focus of an investigation involving the assault of his girlfriend.

Randy Larson, an Iowa City attorney and founder

of the Prime Time League, said Pierce's reinstatement after the 2002 incident shrouded the city with an air of uncertainty. Residents could only speculate on what happened, which kept the matter at the forefront of public discussion. And the 2005 assault, he said, sealed the opinions of many regarding Pierce's initial crime.

At UCLA, *Daily Bruin* Sports Editor Andrew Erickson said the reaction to Alford's hiring has been mixed, although university officials haven't commented on the matter.

"You have people who are happy about his pedigree, and others who have

become skeptical," Erickson told *The Daily Iowan*. "Nothing, no real campus figures have said anything [about the Pierce incident]."

But Miller said the assault, and Alford's handling of it, has left a black mark on the program that is only just beginning to heal.

"[Pierce] had the unqualified support of his coach," she said. "It was outrageous, the hubris that ran out of that program at the time was stunning. It was a terrible time; things happened in that case we didn't think could. It set back the basketball program horribly."

ATHLETES

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

come to these events."

UI officials added a statement of student-athlete rights and responsibilities to the athletes' handbook three years ago, stating that students are obligated to report any occurrence that makes the athlete feel uncomfortable, and the UI would protect the student from any repercussions that would occur in the aftermath.

"You always have a person in that vulnerable position," Hines said. "If they blow the whistle, they worry they could lose their position [on the team] or lose their scholarship. We expect our students to report it, and we will protect and support them with the repercussions."

Other UI officials said the act at Rutgers is an incident that would be unthinkable to occur at

the UI.

"We certainly all saw the video, and I had not seen anything like it in my career," Athletics Director Gary Barta said. "[At the UI], physical contact is certainly not acceptable, and verbal abuse, such as using homophobic slurs, is also unacceptable. There are specific ways every student-athlete should be treated appropriately, and that applies in every place on campus."

Head wrestling coach Tom Brands said that as a coach, he would never condone the actions Rice made.

"These aren't professional athletes," Brands said. "It's one thing to try to motivate them and hold them accountable, but to me, [Rice's actions] were almost personal."

Brands said communication is the biggest factor to ensure good relationships between coaches and their athletes.

"I think communication is a main factor for good relationships," he said.

"By communication being consistent, there's understanding. It's important to let [athletes] know when they're doing a good job and also when they're doing a bad job."

UI officials agree that the university follows guidelines regarding the respect given to their athletes, and the close community that comes with the UI fosters trust.

"It's hard to imagine a student that wouldn't immediately report a complaint," Hines said. "We have a very compact climate [at the UI], and that means everyone is involved. I can't imagine someone hearing the treatment of someone and not doing something about it, and I am very confident in that. We talk about doing things

Student-athletes' rights and responsibilities

- The student-athlete handbook has a clause stating students should report any wrongdoings in their athletics environment.
- Rutgers University head basketball coach was fired earlier this month for mistreatment of his players.
- The university protects the athlete against any repercussions should they submit a complaint about a coach.

Source: N. William Hines, head of the Presidential Committee on Athletics

the 'Iowa way,' and that means doing things the right and responsible way."

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Sports

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WOMEN

CONTINUED FROM 10

petitive team," Chelsie Crouse said.

Along with a less competitive and more enjoyable environment, some coed intramurals incorporate incentives for including women on the team.

"For flag football, for example, if you utilize the girls, you score more points," Iehl said. "If there is a girl quarterback, they can run the ball — guys cannot. There are rules to

make it, quote, unquote, easier for girls, and I think that girls tend to appreciate that when they have a bit of a disadvantage just in physical abilities."

Sarah Eikleberry, who recently earned a Ph.D. in health and sport studies, is working to publish her dissertation, "More than Milk and Cookies: A Cultural Analysis of the Women's Play Day." It focuses on the sports experiences of women and high-school girls from the 1920s up until the early 1970s.

She said making the intramurals program more

female friendly is crucial.

"There are little indicators when you approach a physical activity space or you're considering entering a physical-activity culture that may or may not dissuade you," Eikleberry said. "So really kind of overly sexist or masculine or homophobic team names is a way that limits its participation, because it scares people off."

Some of the more flamboyant names include "Premature Shooters," "The Pistols," and "Team Ramrod."

Intramural officials are

continuing to work on closing the gap between male and female participation, and they have plans for their summer efforts.

"We're looking forward to over the summer determining some more ways that we can do better with our marketing and use some more of these ideas to reach female potential participants," Schorer said. "We plan to send the same survey out again to see if anything has changed, or to see if we're still getting some of the same feedback and things like that, and go from there."

GOLF

CONTINUED FROM 10

[the players] on a pretty tight schedule, because they're playing 36 holes Saturday," Hoffman said. "We can't go out and start doing any of our prep work until the frost is off."

Sophomore Brian Bullington said he is confident the course will be in pretty

good shape.

"It's a little slower; in the last two or three days, we've had rain that has greened it up," Bullington said. "They've been cutting the greens, and they're getting faster. By Saturday, they'll be in good condition."

Iowa head coach Mark Hankins said even though the team is at home, this tournament will be entirely different from competitions

to which they're accustomed.

"We played in front of no one last week. This week, it'll be the total opposite," he said. "We have more people following us than they'll have all year long. They have to manage the ability to have their friends out there, distractions of staying at home and not in a hotel that's managed. Just a lot of different things."

Despite the added distractions and the less than ideal weather compared with other places the squad has played, junior Steven Ihm said he is excited at the chance to play in the Hawkeye State.

"Most of us are from the Midwest, so this is just another spring round of golf for us," Ihm said. "It's just a good chance to play on our home course and, hopefully, put up some good rounds."

BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10

transition period as far as the focus that you need to have every day in practice and in the approach."

Dahm said he's followed Kenyon's career throughout high school and at Black Hawk after coaching his older brother, Zach, in 2008-11.

"The one thing he could always do was hit," Dahm said. "I thought that he could be a guy that could come in here and be a middle-of-the-order type of hitter and give us some pop and drive in some runs."

And he has. Iowa has averaged nearly 6 runs a game since Kenyon was put back in the lineup. The prior 19 contests, the Hawkeyes averaged 4.4 runs a game.

Another reason Kenyon is thriving is because he's such a being a tough out, Dahm said.

"He makes the pitchers work," he said. "He's going to swing at the first pitch if it's a good pitch to hit, but yet, he's also going to work them if they're trying to pitch around him. He hasn't chased too many bad pitches."

Kenyon constantly looks for more ways to help his team. In the upcoming game against Kansas State, he said, he needs to produce more RBIs.

"This [opportunity] is a big deal to me. I've worked for it my entire life," Kenyon said. "I went the [junior college] route and started off still knowing that I had a chance to come up here."

"I've always wanted to get Iowa back on the map. Coming here, it just takes time, and hopefully, I can do my part."

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Sports

Iowa softball tries to remain road warriors

Iowa softball returns to the road this weekend against Northwestern.

By **NICK DELAQUILA**
Nicholas-delaquila@uiowa.edu

The Iowa softball team has played 28 of its 37 games away from Pearl Field this season. The extensive travel might annoy some players, with the buses and hotel rooms. The only thing to help the dreadfulness of travel would likely be to win games. That's exactly what the Hawkeyes have done thus far on the road, accumulating a 20-8 record outside Iowa City.

This weekend's agenda for the Hawkeyes: a three-game series against Northwestern. The first pitch is scheduled for 4 p.m. today in Evanston, Ill. Although most teams prefer to play at home, in front of their own fans and on their own field, this particular Iowa squad doesn't seem bothered by the constant travel.

"I don't dislike playing at home, I just know we play better on the road," Iowa head coach Marla Looper said. "And because of that, I am anxious to get back on the road."

That better road record isn't a lie. The Hawkeyes are a mediocre 2-7 in home games this season,

'We just need to go into every game with the mentality that we are the best in the Big Ten.'

-Chelsea Lyon, pitcher

thanks in large part to the stiff competition they have had visit them. Their last six games at home have been against No. 18 Nebraska and previously No. 23 Wisconsin. The Hawkeyes have scored 11 runs in their last six home games.

"They are really good teams. We have also played good teams in the past, and I think we have won against six ranked teams," pitcher Chelsea Lyon said. "We just need to go into every game with the mentality that we are the best in the Big Ten."

Iowa will get another shot to prove its Big Ten worth this weekend while at Northwestern. The Wildcats come into the series with a 20-14 record, including a 5-3 mark in conference. The highlight of the Wildcats' season came in February, when they upset No. 4 Tennessee, 3-2.

It will be the best of

Softball Iowa: (22-15, 2-7 Big Ten) vs. Northwestern (20-14, 5-3)

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both worlds this weekend. Iowa plays well on the road, and the Wildcats have success at home, sporting a 6-2 record in Evanston. Iowa will need shortstop Megan Blank and her hot bat to continue her productivity. Blank leads the Big Ten in RBIs with 46.

Iowa might need more production out of the middle of the order, including No. 4 hitter Kayla Massey, and No. 5 Michelle Zoeller, if it wants to win this weekend. Zoeller admitted that it might be mental when it comes to her squad's poor performance when playing unranked teams.

"Sometimes, when we play teams in the top 25, we go in with a different mentality," she said. "We have underestimated our competition a little bit, which we can't do anymore."



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Where are the women?



A member of the Tropics makes a pass during an intramural basketball game in the Field House on March 28. Rec Services has seen a decline in female participation this year. (The Daily Iowan/Tork Mason)

By **SCOTT ALBANESE**
scottalbanese@uiowa.edu

Women are not nearly as well represented as men in intramural sports at Iowa. In fact, there is nearly a 13:1 ratio of the number of intramural men's basketball teams compared with the number of women's teams.

And the ratio is getting worse. The number of women's basketball teams dropped nearly 50 percent in one year, from 14 in 2011-12 to eight in 2012-13.

In order to increase female participation, the intramural program is conducting surveys in the form of focus groups.

The program completed two sessions last spring. One group consisted of female students who participate in intramural sports, and the other group consisted of female students who do not.

Officials asked questions about what could be done to improve the program and increase female participation. Recreational Services also sent a survey in the form of emails to all female students at the university asking if they do or do not participate.

"We asked them a bunch of questions to just kind of get some feedback on what may be hindering their desire to play intramural sports and things like that," Intramural Sports Assistant Director Tommy Schorer said. "It's definitely provided us with some feedback that we can definitely use."

Schorer and the rest of the program learned from the focus groups that most students think of intramural sports as activities for men, not women. They also learned that a lot of female students

are unaware that the program even includes women's leagues.

With these results, program officials said, they're increasing efforts to reach out to the female population.

Intramurals has tried various marketing methods, including sending fliers to Cambus and residence halls and postings at every Recreational Services facility.

But, Schorer said, there is a limit to what the department can do.

"When thinking about marketing initiatives, the first factor we have to consider is budget," he said. "We are not unlimited in our funding.

So, we have to determine what is the best use of our funding. In addition, our marketing department is for the entire Recreational Services program, not just intramural sports. Our marketing staff does an outstanding job, but it services the entire department and not just one program area."

Abbie Crouse, a sophomore intramural participant, said she believes the organization could benefit from more effective promotion strategies.

"They promoted a lot at the Field House, but girls don't go to the Field House as much as guys do, so putting it in places where girls go [would help]," Crouse said. "I didn't know where to go and how to sign up for it, or who to contact for it, so I don't think it's promoted as well as it should be and can be."

Second-year physical-therapy gradu-

ate student Kristin Iehl said she feels the women themselves are part of the problem.

"I think a big part of it is that the guys seek it out, and the girls don't," she said.

Some students cited the competition level in intramural women's basketball as a possible reason for the low numbers.

"[Women] look for intramurals more for fun, not for the competition," Crouse said. "They think the main focus is winning, and that's not really what they're focused on."

'They think the main focus is winning, and that's not really what they're focused on.'

-Abbie Crouse, sophomore intramural participant

Intramurals do support competition, but it is not the central focus. Crouse and twin sister Chelsie Crouse — who also is an intramural participant — said they feel that separating those who want to play competitively and those who do not could be a way to increase participation.

"If they had a competitive league and then they had more of a recreation league, that might help it, too," Chelsie Crouse said.

The program has included coed leagues for women and men to play together for the past 10 years. Some students said they feel the coed leagues offer a more laid-back environment.

"I think for girls, it might be easier if they start into a coed, not on a com-

SEE **WOMEN**, 7

Baseball looks to Kenyon

Community-college transfer Trevor Kenyon has improved drastically from the start of the season.

By **JALYN SOUCHEK**
jalyn-soucek@uiowa.edu

Though the Iowa baseball team has hit a rough patch (11-16, 2-7 in Big Ten), junior Trevor Kenyon has done the opposite. Instead, he's rebounding from his rough start.

Kenyon, who played his first two seasons at Black Hawk Community College, struggled in the beginning the season, only hitting .154. Since returning to the starting lineup on March 30 against Indiana, he's improved drastically.

In his eight starts back for the Hawkeyes, Kenyon has hit 15-for-34 (.441) and has accumulated 9 runs, 10 RBIs, four doubles, and a triple. He leads the team with a .362 average, 200 points higher than where he began the season.

"Earlier on, he hadn't gotten the opportunities, I would say, but now he's kind of built his way on the team to a major role," senior pitcher Matt Dermody said. "He adds a lot of energy. He's also a good offensive producer for this team. I think we really rely a lot on him."

Iowa head coach Jack Dahm said he knew the team needed that energy when recruiting Kenyon. He also calls the former junior-college player gritty.

"He's a guy that stands in there and has come up with some big hits for us, not only getting hits but extra-base hits," Dahm said. "We just don't have too many guys right now that are driving the baseball, and Trevor's doing that."

Kenyon isn't just a powerhouse offensively — at first base, he's one of the few to have gone error-free on a team that ranks second in errors in the Big Ten.

While at Black Hawk, Kenyon was a two-time first team all-conference selection. In his sophomore campaign he hit .397 with 7 home runs and 58 RBI, and broke the career doubles record. All while leading his team to two conference titles, a third-place national ranking, and two regional qualifiers.

"He's very similar to a lot of [junior-college] transfers. It is different going to a Division-I program from a junior college from high school," Dahm said. There's a

SEE **BASEBALL**, 7

Iowa baseball (11-16) vs. Kansas State (24-10)

Where: Banks Field and Principal Park in Des Moines

When: 3:05 p.m. today, 1:05 p.m. Saturday, 3:30 p.m. April 14 (Des Moines)

Where to Watch: BTN.com

Despite weather, Finkbine to be set

After playing mostly in the West and South, the men's golf team will play its first Midwestern tournament, which should pose different course conditions.

By **KEVIN GLUECK**
kevin-glueck@uiowa.edu

Golf course superintendent Mike Hoffman has had a lot to do in the past weeks. Winter has seemingly ended — well, sort of — meaning preparation for the 2013 season at Finkbine Golf Course has begun.

There's one thing, though.

The Iowa men's golf team will host the Hawkeye-Great River Entertainment this weekend, an event that normally doesn't happen until about a month into the golf season.

"This has actually been fairly slow spring coming out of winter compared to the last two or three years," Hoffman said. "We've really only mowed most things other than greens once."

The lack of substantial snow for much of the past winter has left the course a little brown as the spring begins, but wet weather this past week has greened up the grass for the upcoming tournament. However, it may be too much rain, too fast.

"Ideally, I would've liked to see a half inch to an inch [of rain] Monday, because



Then-senior Hawkeye Brian deBuhr drives the ball over land and water on Finkbine's signature hole, No. 13, at the Hawkeye Intercollegiate Golf Meet in September 2006. (Daily Iowan/File Photo)

that really got things going," Hoffman said. "Even if we could mow some of the rough areas, it's just too wet now."

Hoffman estimated that at this point last year, the course had been mowed about "a dozen" times, which is something that is key to keep the different lengths of grass on the course consistent.

Even as the course is reaching near championship-level conditions, the upcoming weather could come into play, too. With a low of 28 degrees Friday night, leading

into Saturday morning, and a low of 38 degrees leading into Sunday morning, the 9 a.m. shotgun starts could face some frost.

"Our biggest concern right now is that

SEE **GOLF**, 7

Where to Watch: Hawkeye-Great River Entertainment Invitational

Where: Finkbine Golf Course

When: All Day Saturday, All Day April 14

Brands to fight for Olympics

Iowa head wrestling coach Tom Brands announced his plans to be among those fighting for Olympic Wrestling at an international meeting in May.

During a Presidential Committee on Athletics meeting Thursday, Brands said he planned to attend the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board meeting in St. Petersburg, Russia.

At that meeting, eight sports will make their pitches for inclusion as an additional sport — as opposed to one of the 25 core sports — in the 2020 Olympics.

Brands called the possibility of wrestling's re-inclusion as a core Olympic sport "highly unlikely."

"Right now, either way is tolerable," Brands said. "Because right now, we're not in [the Olympics at all]. We need to do our job as a sport at the international level to put ourselves into a position in the light that we represent ourselves in — that we are valuable to the general Olympic movement."

— by **Lauren Coffey**