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The Daily Iowan

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2013

NEWSPAPER • **DI** DAILYIOWAN.COM • TELEVISION

50¢



FIVE YEARS LATER

The 2008 flood damaged more than 20 University of Iowa facilities. Students and faculty reflect on the effects of the disastrous flood.

By **CHRISTINA TARGOSZ**
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The once theatrical Hancher Auditorium now sits abandoned among mounds of dirt, construction tape, and heavy machinery.

June 2008 will be remembered for the infamous flood that damaged much of the University of Iowa riverside campus.

While most damage to the campus was minor, the Arts Campus on the west bank of the Iowa River took a devastating hit. Hancher, once host to a variety of shows ranging from music to dance is still shut down by floodwaters that exceeded stage level. Art Buildings East and West, Voxman Music Building, and Theater Building were also severely damaged and closed after water flooded their main levels.

Fast-forward to 2013 and the impending five-year anniversary of the flood.

Even though a majority of the facilities reopened in the months following the flooding, the Arts Campus still remains in limbo, as do students and faculty. The flood damage has created a list of inconveniences, including travel time to relocated buildings, in addition to not being able to experience previous buildings' amenities.

Art Major



Jessica Isadore

UI art major Jessica Isadore knows all too well the difficulties of having class at the Studio Arts

Building, 1375 Highway 1 W., not that far from the Iowa City Airport. She has to allow around 15 minutes of travel time to get to the temporary space in the old Menards. Besides the distance and time it takes to commute, the physical structure of the facility has its setbacks.

"When planes go over, it's very loud, and when it rains, it's very loud," she said. "It makes it really hard [to pay attention]."

The classrooms at Studio Arts are set up like cubicles rather than regular classrooms, making it hard to keep the sound separated from each room. Add the traffic noise from Highway 1, and it can be very hard to concentrate during a lesson.

The reopening of Art Building West last spring semester had a huge effect on the atmosphere of the School of Art and Art History, despite the challenges of getting the building reorganized.

"It's really good to be back here; being here makes you feel like you're an art student," Isadore said.

The reopening of Art Building West marked the completion of renovations to the first major campus building that had been severely damaged by the flood. Part of the \$14.2 million that went into repairing the facility the university used to create an "invisible" floodwall — a removable 900-foot wall that can be built in two to three days in case a major flood approaches again.

Isadore said she has been lucky to be able to use Art Building West, but unfortunately will graduate before the completion of the new arts facility.

"Travel between the two buildings will be so nice because everything will just be kept together and be a united School of Art and Art History again," she said.

Music Major

For UI sophomore and music-therapy major Delaney Donohue, the closed facilities are making scheduling classes for next semester a hassle. "Next semester, I'm probably going to have to end up switching a class I really need to take,

SEE FLOOD, 5

Twenty stories is out

Iowa City officials and the Moen Group acknowledge the Chauncey will most likely not be 20 stories tall.

By **NICK HASSETT**
nicholas-hassett@uiowa.edu

The Iowa City City Council approved the Moen Group's Chauncey development in January, but more than four months later, the project is still being challenged — this time in City Hall.

The council will consider the College/Gilbert rezoning request this evening. The request would rezone the lot from a Public (P) to Central Business Support Zone (CB-5).

CB-5 zoning allows up to 75-foot buildings. As-is, the Chauncey development would need to seek CB-10 zoning, which has essentially no height limit.

The proposal includes two Film-Scene theaters, residential and office space, and entertainment venues. It was originally slated to be 20 stories. However, in discussions between the city and the developer, the group agreed the building would not be 20 stories tall.

"The indication is that it's not 20 [stories]," developer Marc Moen said. "There's no decision yet on what height it will be."

Previous discussions included the possibility of a 16-story building for the Chauncey proposal, but that's still too high for the Iowa Coalition Against the Shadow, the group submitting the rezoning request.

"The height limitation is just one part, and even if it were 16 stories, it would still be the tallest building in the history of Iowa City," said Rockne

SEE CHAUNCEY, 7

Bike it, officials say

Ride Your Bike to Work Week began Monday with a friendly competition among local government officials.

By **STACEY MURRAY**
stacey-murray@uiowa.edu

It only took 14 minutes for three area officials to travel the four miles necessary to kick off Ride Your Bike to Work Week.

Johnson County Supervisor Terrence Neuzil, Iowa City City Councilor Jim Throgmorton, and University Heights City Councilor Mike Haverkamp raced from the Coralville Public Library to the Iowa City Public Library to promote the weeklong celebration of cycling in Johnson County.

The three city officials used various modes of transportation to cover the

SEE BIKE, 7



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News

Students test out the walk of life

Iowa City elementary schools unveiled a pilot program aimed at reducing childhood obesity.

By **LAUREN COFFEY**
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Thirty-one children crunched across the dewy green grass as their school day was about to begin. With flushed cheeks and smiles on their faces, they reached out their hands to receive pedometers from an adult. The children exchanged their stories of walking or riding their bikes to school, which is now possible thanks to the pilot phase of the Walking School Bus program in two Iowa City elementary schools.

The weeklong program kicked off Monday morning at Twain and Horn Elementary Schools after the two were chosen to receive \$1,200 each to test the program.

The money is part of a larger grant given to Iowa through the Affordable Care Act — the Community Transformation grant. The grant aims to look at various environmental factors to help improve the health of the community, such as walking to school instead of

taking a school bus.

"We're trying to get back to making walking part of a routine," said Doug Beardsley, the director of the Johnson County Department of Public Health. "There is an issue with obesity, and so much of it is tied into activity. Nutrition and activity, they go hand in hand."

There were various routes mapped-out for the children to walk or ride their bikes. The five groups of children were paired with an adult, or a "walking bus driver," who led the students to their school. This program will last until May 17, and then the school will decide if it would like to continue with the program.

Horn Elementary Principal Kristin Cannon said the school originally wanted to have the program last year, but because of the closing of Roosevelt Elementary, Horn Elementary received more students and parents that were supportive of the idea. She is excited at the success of the program that is now in place.

"Last year, we talked about a walking school bus initiative, and we looked for parent support but didn't really receive any," Cannon said. "This year, we got a new population of students, and we were approached to have this program. Today has just been a huge success."



Kids participate in the walk-to-school initiative at Horn Elementary on Monday. (The Daily Iowan/Sarah Sebetka)

Emily Britt, a parent who volunteered as a walking bus driver, said she liked the idea of being able to have a parent with the children to help with safety, and she said the program is also beneficial for the children to start their day off with exercise.

"Just even this morning, all the kids were so excited to see their classmates," Britt said. "It's important to have that social interaction with their peers both inside and outside of the classroom. I also think it's absolutely great to have them get exercise first thing in the morning."

Fourth-grade student Claire Gienapp said that she likes the social aspect of walking to school.

"I got to walk in a group of people, and I was a little bit excited," she said. "I knew some of the people, and I

Walking bus program

Horn and Twain Elementary Schools kicked off a pilot program to promote a healthy lifestyle in which students walk to school instead of riding the school bus.

- The schools each received \$1,200 for the program.
- Students walk with an adult "walking bus driver" that leads them to school.
- The program will last until May 17 and then be up for discussion.

Source: Doug Beardsley, director of Johnson County Public Health

didn't know some of them. I would tell my friends to do it, too, so I could see my friends while I walk."

METRO

Rocca retirement celebrated

Iowa City Fire Chief Andy Rocca celebrated his retirement Monday afternoon.

Rocca rose through the ranks of the department during his nearly 35 years of service. He was appointed fire chief on Feb. 26, 1996. Between 1996 and today, Rocca boosted the Iowa City Fire Department's Insurance Services Organization Public Protection Classification from a Class 4 to a Class 2.

This rating, which dictates costs for insurance premiums, is an important indicator of the strength of a city's fire department. A Class 2 rating is nearly unheard of — only 1.5 percent of fire-protection areas across the United States are awarded the rating.

Rocca said he feels that his services to the Fire Department were important for different reasons.

"I don't know that I personally have a greatest accomplishment," he said. "When I think back to all the people I've come in contact with, I think I'm most proud of the relationships I've built with my coworkers, with City Hall and so on. It's humbling to see so many people here today."

Joe Campanelli, a longtime friend and fellow member of the Optimus Group, said that Rocca's official presence will be greatly missed now that his retirement is instated.

"He is a very well respected person by his peers as well as by the community," Campanelli said.

— by **Hillary Rosencrants**

Downtown District to work against cigarette litter

The Iowa City Downtown District will take part in a program this year to reduce the effect of cigarette-butt litter.

According to a press

release, cigarette butts are the most-littered item in America.

The Keep America Beautiful Cigarette Litter Prevention Program addresses the issue through four approaches including enforcement of litter laws, raising awareness through public-service messages, placing ash receptacles around town, and handing out pocket ashtrays to adult smokers, the release said.

The district received a \$1,000 grant from the program to purchase ash receptacles for a few areas downtown that are currently missing containers. It has also received 600 pocket ashtrays that will be distributed at outdoor events this summer and in the Downtown District office.

— by **Jordyn Reiland**

3 fail alcohol stings

Iowa City police conducted alcohol-compliance checks on May 10 at 40 local businesses licensed to sell alcoholic beverages.

According to an Iowa City police press release, plainclothes officers worked with underage participants who attempted to illegally purchase alcohol.

There were 37 businesses that refused to sell to underage buyers. Including Blue Bird Diner, DC's, Fieldhouse Bar, Basta, Casey's, and Bo-James.

Three businesses checked by police sold to underage buyers. The employees who sold were charged with selling alcohol to persons under age 21. The businesses who failed were the Pit Smokehouse, Creekside Market, and Smokin' Joes.

— by **Jordyn Reiland**

Branstad appoints new auditor

Gov. Terry Branstad appointed Mary Mosiman the new state auditor on Monday, making her the first female auditor in

Iowa's history.

Mosiman assumed the office on Monday, replacing former Auditor David Vaudt, who resigned from the position to become the chairman of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

Mosiman previously served as deputy secretary of state and as the Story County auditor and commissioner of elections. An Iowa State University with a degree in accounting, she lives in Ames with her family.

"I am honored to accept this position and will do my best to earn the respect of Iowans as well as validate the confidence of the governor," Mosiman said in a press release. "David Vaudt provided an excellent service to Iowans in his role as the 'Taxpayers' Watchdog.' I look forward to building on his efforts. Working with Iowa's leaders to maintain sound budgeting principles, communicating state budget information, and providing all the necessary audit responsibilities will be my top priorities."

— by **Kristen East**

IC gets bicycle-rating upgrade

The League of American Bicyclists upgraded Iowa City's bicycle-friendly status from bronze to silver on the first day of Bike to Work Week.

The national organization reviews a city's Bicycle-Friendly Community status every four years, according to a city press release. Some of the city's recent efforts include implementing sharrows and bike lanes on heavily traveled streets, installing additional bike racks downtown and near the University of Iowa campus, and establishing a permit system for on-street parking for mopeds and scooters, the release said.

Signs displaying the city's bicycle-friendly designation

will be upgraded to reflect the change.

— by **Kristen East**

Man hit with third OWI

An Iowa man has been accused of striking a roadway barrier while driving under the influence of alcohol.

Adam Hebl, 38, was charged Monday with third-offense OWI.

According to an Iowa City police complaint, law-enforcement officials were alerted about a vehicle that was "all over" the road and had struck a barrier on Interstate 80. The vehicle also hit road cones and nearly hit another vehicle, the report said.

Officers located the vehicle, a red 1998 Ford Escort, which Hebl was driving. According to the complaint, police said Hebl allegedly smelled strongly of an alcoholic beverage, had bloodshot, watery eyes, and admitted to drinking.

Third-offense OWI is a Class-D felony.

— by **Rebecca Morin**

RVAP seeks volunteers

The Rape Victim Advocacy Program is looking for volunteers for the summer.

According to a press release, RVAP will begin its 32-hour volunteer-training program on June 10. The deadline to apply for volunteering opportunities is May 31.

RVAP volunteers provide a place in which rape survivors can seek support and be directed by information and referrals, the release said.

The training involves topics such as teaching counseling skills, role-plays designed to replicate typical calls received from victims or survivors, and sexual assault.

— by **Jordyn Reiland**

Drive Apt. N307, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Urric Seiler, 38, Sioux Falls, S.D., was charged May 10 with OWI.

Zachary Stitz, 20, 436 S. Johnson St. Apt. 5, was charged Sunday with PAULA.

Jacob Varn, 20, 436 S. Johnson St. Apt. 1, was charged May 11 with keeping a disorderly house.

Dimione Walker, 20, 1100 Arthur St. Apt. K2, was charged May 10 with third-degree theft.

Colin Yakish, 22, Lone Tree, was charged May 11 with OWI and driving with a revoked license.

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

Call: 335-6030
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 Monday.

1. UI REACH graduation marks 5th year of program
2. Johnson County parties discuss plans for 2014 election after Rand Paul visit
3. Ponnada: One feminist's manifesto
4. DI Male Athlete of the Year: Derek St. John
5. Cedar Falls retailer opening new downtown Iowa City location this week

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BLOTTER

Nicole Bailey, 21, Wilton, Iowa, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Joshua Barnett, 24, 1312 Spruce St., was charged May 10 with public urination.

Jorey Butterbaugh, 22, Coralville, was charged May 11 with public intoxication.

Alex Conner, 23, 630 Westgate St. No. 36, was charged Sunday with public intoxication.

Malique Fox, 18, Chicago, was charged May 11 with PAULA.

Garrett Gadola, 22, 948 Spring Ridge Drive, was charged Sunday

with OWI.

Patrese Adams Harvey, 23, Cedar Rapids, was charged May 11 with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Eric Martin, 23, S301 Parklawn, was charged May 11 with public intoxication.

Eric Merriam, 20, N445 Hillcrest, was charged Monday with possession of controlled substance.

Ryan Mulholland, 34, Noblesville, Ind., was charged with charged May 11 with public intoxication.

Robert Nietupski, 27, 810 W. Benton St. 270B, was charged Sunday

with public intoxication.

Brandy Pizano, 19, Bettendorf, was charged May 11 with PAULA.

Courtnei Poell, 20, DeWitt, Iowa, was charged May 11 with PAULA.

Nickolas Pulido, 19, 711 Burlington St., was charged May 10 with public intoxication.

Nathan Rummel, 21, Elk Grove Village, Ill., was charged May 11 with possession of an open container of alcohol in public.

Korey Schneider, 19, N445 Hillcrest, was charged Monday with possession of drug paraphernalia.

Collin Scott, 18, 449 S. Riverside

An icon at the *DI*



Daily Iowan archivist Caroline Dieterle organizes past news clips in the newsroom in the Adler Journalism Building on Monday. Dieterle began working at the *DI* in September 1977. (The Daily Iowan/Nicholas Fanelli)

By BRENT GRIFFITHS
brent-griffiths@uiowa.edu

The Daily Iowan newsroom no longer has the haze of smoke from frantic writers clacking away at manual typewriters and lighting cigarettes.

But despite the small differences and major shifts in journalism, Caroline Dieterle has remained a constant fixture at the *DI* since September 1977.

Dieterle has served as *DI* librarian and archivist for more than 35 years.

At the end of this semester, the archivist position at the *DI* will come to an end as the archives have moved to a digital format.

In 1977, she applied, but got no response. She returned to the newsroom countless times before she finally got her answer.

"Finally, the editor said, 'Look, I'll show you what the problem is — I don't think you'll want this job,'" she recalled. "He showed me the library ... and it was piled up with photographs and back issues of the paper, and they said the previous librarian had the whole thing get away from him."

Despite the large task, Dieterle took the job, and devised a system to clip, cut, and file each story for each author and photographer. In the days before comput-

ers, she also created a daily index for writers on small hand-typed index cards.

Dieterle said the *DI* welcomed her, and Publisher William Casey told her they would accept anyone with a good attitude.

"The Daily Iowan staff treated me the same as ever, and Bill said anybody can work here as long as they're not an asshole," she said. "You know, over the years I have had some pretty strong opinions and worked on a bunch of campaigns; there has never been any flack from anybody here about how I should shut up ... because it was a place where people respected free speech and the idealism of the Fourth Estate."

Daughter Jennie Embree said Dieterle is especially sad to lose her chance to interact with students.

"The thing about the *DI* is it was such a flexible job, and she was able to juggle it with the other interests and able to without it being too stressful," Embree said. "She always said being around the students is what keeps her young."

Throughout her time, Dieterle fondly remembers many activities with the college-age staff, including resounding defeats of the Iowa City Press-Citizen at softball and canoe races on the river.

Casey said he's witnessed the digitization of media operations replace several staff positions over the years. Casey said Dieterle's work will undoubtedly be missed.

"Even in the digital era of archives, we'll probably never have them as well-organized as she did," he said.

She has witnessed changes firsthand as *The Daily Iowan* print edition has become smaller, and the newsroom a much less busy version of its former self — many reporters work from other locations.

"One of the saddest things for me is that even worse than being redundant and losing my job, because they don't need me anymore, is the fact the paper has become so much smaller and the print edition is so less important anymore," she said.

Dieterle said she will miss the atmosphere in the newsroom, despite the fact that it has changed so much in her nearly 36 years of work.

"I'm not [retiring]. I am being made redundant here with what is being made with technology," she said. "I would be happy enough to file the paper indefinitely as long as I was healthy enough to drag myself down to the newsroom."

Into the soul of words

A UI assistant professor of English published his first scholarly study that focuses on a trend of prize-winning African-American novelists.

By REBECCA MORIN
rebecca-morin@uiowa.edu

After teaching a course about African-American novels in the Reagan Era, Michael Hill published a scholarly study this semester of the trend of prizewinning writers from 1977 to 1993.

"There is not a ton of African-American writers," he said. "There were 16 African-American writers during the Reagan Era, and out those, 12 of the writers won an award; I just wondered why that was the case."

Hill, a native of Georgia, began working at the University of Iowa in 2006 in the English Department with a joint appointment in African American Studies.

Hill is also the president of the UI African American Council. He currently teaches a course on rap music and hip-hop culture in the 1980s, said Horace Porter, a professor of English and American Studies.

Hill began researching for his first book, *The Ethics of Swagger: Prize-winning African American Novels 1977-1993*, in 2008 after a course he taught piqued his interest in the book's topic.

Through funding from the English Department and several grants, Hill traveled to Harvard University, Emory University, and several other schools to conduct in-depth research on several African-American novelists, such as Alice Walker



UI Assistant Professor Michael Hill stands in Art Building West on April 29. Hill recently published his first book, *The Ethics of Swagger: Prize-winning African American Novels 1977-1993*. (The Daily Iowan/Juan Carlos Herrera)

and John Wideman.

Professor Claire Sponsler, the head of the UI English Department, said she was delighted to find ways to support Hill in his travels to research for his book.

"The *Ethics of Swagger* is a book anyone interested in the novel, the culture of literary prizes, or African-American writing will find deeply rewarding," she said. "We hope it will spur further research by scholars in the field."

Hill's findings revealed that many African-American writers in the Reagan Era consulted with each other.

"The group of writers in [the Reagan Era] gave one another the chance to give feedback and gave potent critiques of one another's work," Hill said. "They wanted to effectively and innovatively capture the black culture."

Sponsler said the book's topic is groundbreaking.

"A book like this one has never been written before, but clearly should have been," she said. "Writing a good scholarly book is a long and painstaking process, but the payoff can obviously be well worth the effort."

Hill and his wife are working on editing a book called *Invisible Hawkeyes* under contract with the UI Press. It will focus on fine arts and performing arts from the 1940s to the 1960s.

Hill's colleagues in the English Department say they are proud of his accomplishments and believe they are lucky to have him in their department.

"Professor Hill is an invaluable colleague," Porter said. "He is a walking encyclopedia on African-American novels."

STUDY HAUL



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The Daily Iowan OPINIONS

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Read today's Editorial, and email us at:
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EDITORIAL

Regulation of homeschooling should not be removed

Republicans and Democrats in the Iowa Legislature have been creating compromises on reforms to K-12 education in recent months, but disagreements on whether to change homeschooling regulations have stalled the process.

Gov. Terry Branstad released an education-reform plan in January that would include increasing teachers' salaries, improving teacher evaluations, and instituting various structural changes in public schools to give Iowa students a "world-class education."

Because test scores in Iowa's public schools were once among the best in the nation but have since shown little improvement in recent years as those in other states climb, Branstad made this initiative one of his top priorities.

The House of Representatives' version of the education-reform bill includes changes to homeschooling. One would permit homeschooling instructors to teach up to four unrelated students. Another change would eliminate the state requirement to file paperwork with a local school district and have testing administered by an independent teacher (i.e., a teacher that is unrelated to the student).

The *Daily Iowan* Editorial Board feels that some of the proposed changes in homeschooling are irrelevant or present a conflict of interest, and homeschooling itself does not belong in this legislative package.

Sen. Herman Quirnbach, D-Ames, said a procedure for teaching unrelated students exists.

"[Having an instructor teach unrelated pupils] would essentially be creating a private school," he said. "There's already a procedure in the law for getting certification to do that."

Aside from what appears to be a completely irrelevant proposal is also the outright demolition of an important piece of oversight: having unrelated teachers administer tests to their students.

We trust that like most public-school teachers, homeschooling teachers generally have their students' best interests in mind, but oversight, rules, and regulations exist for a reason. Putting homeschooling instructors who are usually the students' parents in a position where they oversee their children's testing is asking for trouble. If the state is to increase accountability standards for public-school teachers, it makes no sense to hold homeschooling instructors to lower standards.



John-Paul Buss does schoolwork in his family's Cedar Rapids home on Jan. 21, 2010. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

"There's a public interest in making sure that every child gets a quality education," Quirnbach said. "I don't think we can abandon that responsibility."

In fact, homeschools can actually be extraordinarily beneficial for some students. A study from the International Review of Education concluded, "Scientifically speaking, there is nothing to support the view that homeschooling is an academically inferior educational option ... learning is possible — if not more effective — at home."

Simply put, homeschooling in Iowa is just fine. Parents have plenty of options for enrolling their children in a variety of educational settings, including private schools that are often run by religious institutions and different school districts.

Clearly, homeschooling is a legitimate option for parents who believe their children would be better served learning at home. We do not oppose homeschooling. We oppose removing restrictions and regulations that ensure homeschooling teachers are playing by the rules and students are receiving the quality education they deserve. This is about fairness. By all means, increase teacher accountability in public schools within reason, but leave the homeschooling issue for another day.

Your turn.

Do you think restrictions and regulations of homeschooling should be fewer?
Weigh in: 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.

Conspiring nation



By **BEAU ELLIOT**
beauelliott@gmail.com

Benghazi. The IRS. Libby Lewis. Or was it Lewis Libby? Who can remember these days?

So many conspiracies. So little time. (Says the guy who lives on a grassy knoll.)

Of course, so little time is far better than so little thyme, which has no rhyme or reason this season and will also throw a restaurant kitchen into complete disarray. (Having worked in many restaurants, I know that restaurants work best in a Zen-like incomplete disarray. It's something on the order of the Seven Wonders of the World that any customer ever gets served. And we're just talking the Wonders of the World in the 20th century, which is over and done with. Except that, it turns out, nothing is ever really over and done with.)

Take college, for instance. You who will graduate this weekend believe that this is it; college is over and done with.

But no. College will follow you for the rest of your lives. The friends you made, the friends you didn't make. What you learned, what you didn't learn (takes you a lot longer to realize what you didn't learn). And then, of course, there's the Alumni Association, which will kindly remind you about college all the time.

It's not necessarily a conspiracy, though.

At least, not necessarily a conspiracy like the United Nations, which apparently has spent the last 60 odd (yes, they have been odd) years trying to undermine the United States.

A personal note: Some years ago, my brother who

had worked with the United Nations in Somalia rolled his eyes when I described the black helicopters and the U.N. organizing a plot to overthrow the U.S. way of life. Echoing Saul Alinsky talking about Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin, my brother said, The U.N. couldn't organize a luncheon.

But here comes Rand Paul, a Republican senator from Kentucky (and famously the son of Ron Paul, the former congressman from Texas — conspiracy?), warning us about President Obama in league with the United Nations and "anti-American globalists plot[ting] against our Constitution." (Courtesy of Ezra Klein of the *Washington Post*.)

"Dear fellow Patriot," Rand Paul writes (I believe his first name comes from right-wing favorite Ayn Rand, but that might be a conspiracy in the making, so I'm not going to say it, even though I just did — college graduates, this is the way the world works).

Paul the Younger goes on to note that the Obama administration on Nov. 7, "... gleefully voted at the U.N. for a renewed effort to pass the 'Small Arms Treaty.'

Paul goes on and on (and on, till you start to wish there really were U.N. black helicopters circling and circling the nation, waiting to pounce and take this nation to its knees, starting with Rand Paul).

You get the idea.

But if you really want a conspiracy, what about the universe?

Everything we can see and know, apparently, is something around only 4 percent of the universe. Then there's all this black energy and black matter.

Benghazi. The IRS. Libby Lewis. Or was it Lewis Libby? Who can remember these days?

So many conspiracies. So little time.

Happy graduation. ■

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR/ONLINE COMMENTS

The Shadow knows

The Iowa City City Council meeting today is of vital concern to all Iowa City residents. The council will be considering a petition from the Iowa Coalition against the Shadow to rezone the intersection of College and Gilbert Streets to CB-5, which would limit the height of a building to 75 feet (approximately eight stories).

Why is this so important? Because in January, the council selected a proposal for a much taller structure, the Chauncey, which, if built, would tower over its neighbors at 20-plus stories. Erecting something so disproportionate to its surroundings is misguided and a disservice to the entire community.

The CB-5 petition was previously submitted to the Planning and Zoning Commission, which voted against it at its April meeting (but without endorsing the CB-10 rezoning the Chauncey needs). The Shadow Coalition and its supporters are putting the same request before the council, bringing the issue back to where it started and giving those of us opposed a larger forum in which to express our dismay at the implications of building a skyscraper next to the Robert E. Lee

Recreation Center, Trinity Episcopal Church, and Chauncey Swan Park.

Such a clash in scale violates the conclusions of the city's own Urban Planning Division. The College-Gilbert site is adjacent to, and will eventually become part of, Iowa City's Central District (east of downtown). The Central District Plan (found at www.icgov.org, under "District Planning") emphasizes the importance of transition zones between commercial and residential areas. On page 62, it states that "residential density, building bulk and height should gradually decrease the farther these areas are from the Central Business District in order to provide a transition to lower-density residential areas that surround the downtown."

In other words, in transition zones between downtown and residential neighborhoods buildings should gradually decrease in size. Putting the Chauncey in one such zone flagrantly violates that principle. The district plans were created to guide development in Iowa City. They're a matter of public record. If city officials are able to ignore them at will, why were they drawn up in the first place? Any rezoning decision made by City Council for the College-Gilbert site should

honor, not contradict, those earlier decisions and agreed-upon goals for responsible development.

The recent debate over the proposed justice center has shown that we live in a community that cares deeply about its future. Economic development, redesigning of public spaces, and distribution of resources are matters that concern all of us, not just elected or appointed officials.

Today, many of us will speak to the City Council about the necessity of rezoning the College-Gilbert site CB-5 to help preserve the integrity of that neighborhood and, by extension, every other neighborhood in Iowa City. For all our sakes, let's hope the councilors listen.

Phil Beck
Iowa City resident

RE: 'Iowa City red-light-camera petition gets signatures, forces city action'

It is great news that the petition achieved the needed signatures. Whether the City Council passes the required ordinance or puts it to a vote, this should mean that Iowa City residents and visitors will

not be subject to ticket cameras and other forms of unmanned surveillance.

Ticket cameras are for-profit business partnerships between camera vendors and cities willing to mis-engineer their traffic-safety factors to cause more tickets for more ticket revenue. In almost every case, better safety results can be achieved with better traffic-safety engineering — without taking thousands or eventually millions of dollars out of the hands of residents and visitors.

Not having ticket cameras keeps more dollars circulating in the local economy to benefit local businesses and local employment.

Congratulations to all who worked on and signed the petition.

James C. Walker
Life member, National Motorists Association.

RE: 'Ponnada: One feminist's manifesto'

The mainstream dropped the hairy-legged lesbian with hairy-armpits stereotype more than 30 years ago. Feminists hang onto it as a red herring to distract us from the real reasons most people shun the feminist label: sexism.

Feminism has become sexist. Feminists stereotype masculine attributes as negative and feminine attributes as positive. Feminist stereotypes women as victims and men as predators. Feminism is sexist, and the Movement for the Establishment of Real Gender Equality has long since become the province of the Men's Rights Movement.

Rod Van Mechelen

I've never heard of the Movement for the Establishment of Real Gender Equality. I'm a feminist, and I do not stereotype masculine attributes as negative.

For me, my feminist education has taught me that gender inequality comes from the ways men and women are socially constructed to behave in different ways. Sure, biology and hormones are part of the picture, but I do not think women tend to be more timid and less assertive because of chemicals. I think male "attributes" such as being assertive and independent are positive qualities that more women should be able to access.

It seems to me that people have a problem with feminists because we are assertive, and we want the choice of being independent

without being seen as a spinster. Feminists aren't afraid to get angry, but our culture seems to have a problem with feminine anger, because angry women are called "bitch." While angry men are called "leaders," women are and have been socially constructed to be nurturing (white, middle-class values, anyway). Much more could be said on this.

My point is, I am a feminist, and I am not sexist. I think there are positive and negative qualities to all attributes of humans. It's too bad that traditional gender roles attribute half of the good qualities to men (the strong kind) and the other half to women (the sweet kind). Men and women should all be able to be strong and sweet.

It's funny that "bra-burning feminist" is such a go-to slur, because bra burning never happened. Feminists gathered to protest the Miss America Pageant in 1968 by throwing bras, among other things, into trash cans. No match was struck, no fire was made.

A journalist who picked up the story compared the protest to that of men who burned their draft cards to protest the Vietnam War. Boom. Bra burning is a myth.

Caitlin Paler

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News

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FLOOD CONTINUED FROM FRONT

because I wouldn't be able to get across the river in time," Donohue said.

Like the art students, music students have had to deal with difficulties scheduling classes because of commuting between buildings. The School of Music has space on Clinton Street and the University Capitol Center, and it uses Music West Interim Building as a rehearsal space for large ensembles, which causes the problem of getting across the river quickly between classes, often while carrying an instrument.

Figuring out how to work out a music schedule is difficult for students because there are lots of extra requirements, including solo and group rehearsals and practice time.

Overall, the effects of the flood have not diminished Donohue's experiences in the music school, but they have added some interesting aspects.

"You just grow a bond with everyone going through the same thing as you," she said. "It's nice to have people around you who will help you not have a meltdown."

Dance Major

UI senior and dance major Hope Spear, spent her last four years as an undergrad performing at Space/Place in North Hall — the substitute stage for Hancher Auditorium.

While Space/Place provided a place for her to show off her dance skills, she said, she was disappointed in not getting the Hancher performance experience during her four years.

"It is definitely sad to not get to experience such a huge part of the Dance Department's history at the university," Spear said. "Space/Place is great, but not the same as performing in such an extraordinary theater as Hancher."

But her performances weren't the only aspect affected.

"We also missed out on all of the renowned dance companies and performances that used to come to Iowa City to perform at Hancher," she said.

Art and Music Faculty



David Gier

David Gier, the director of the music school, recalls working quickly to keep the school up and running after the water spilled over the banks.

The August after the floods, the music school was housed in 19 different locations. Most academic majors could get away with makeshift offices and classrooms, but the needs of music students are much different.

"We have things such as large ensembles that need a lot of space and produce a lot of sound," he said. "And you really have to have a room with a lot of volume in order for it to actually be safe for the participants."

Campus played a major role in making all of the commuting possible by adapting its schedule and putting in an extra bus route for students who connected between the makeshift facilities of the music school.

However, one of the biggest hurdles has been the absence of a large concert hall, which has had an effect on the school's undergraduate recruitment.

"When they come, and they don't see that comprehensive facility, I think it affects the decision somewhat," Gier said.

But now, with the beginning of construction on the



Construction on a new Hancher is seen on Monday. (The Daily Iowan/Callie Mitchell)



Hancher Auditorium sits in the Iowa River floodwater on June 16, 2008. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

new music facility, he is excited to tell prospective students that they'll play their senior recital in a new building.

"We are going to end up with a magnificent building, and it's going to be eight full years out of our facilities," Gier said. "We're paying a fairly hefty premium for this whole recovery effort, but it's going to be great."

UI art Professor Steve McGuire recalls how, three days after he was flooded out of his house, he had to figure out where to put the art and art history school.

A former colleague suggested the Old Menards building, and the project went from design to construction in seven days. The gray panels that make up the walls of the classrooms were shipped overnight from Las Vegas, and a year's worth of construction was done in about seven weeks to ensure the building would be ready for students.

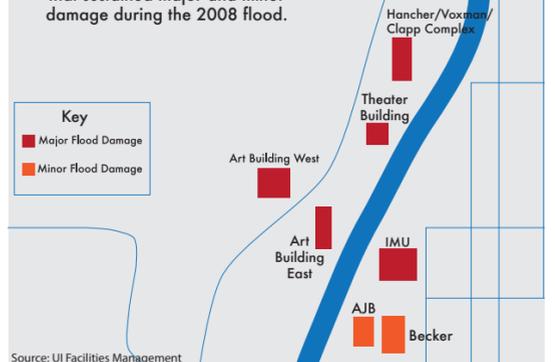
But the departments will eventually be separated as construction is ready to begin on a new studio-arts building — something McGuire says is a milestone.

"Freshman students entering next year will see their last academic year in that new building, which is pretty exciting," he said.

2008 Flood Damage

Map shows a number of the buildings that sustained major and minor damage during the 2008 flood.

Key
■ Major Flood Damage
■ Minor Flood Damage



Source: UI Facilities Management

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CHAUNCEY

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Cole, a member of the group. "It also uses TIF funding, and environmentally, it's not very sustainable. Focusing on the height fits most into the zoning issue, but there are other concerns."

Cole said if the zoning request passes, the group would consider working with Moen to develop a proposal that fits into the CB-5 zone.

But one Iowa City city councilor still plans on supporting the development at tonight's meeting.

"I'm still in favor of the

Moen building," Councilor Connie Champion said. "At this point, I think it's the best thing for the city."

Champion said the height of the building, whether 16 or 20 stories, wouldn't change her opinion.

John Yapp, the executive director of the Metropolitan Planning Organization of Johnson County, said it wasn't entirely out of the ordinary for a group of citizens to apply for a zoning request for land they don't own.

"It's unusual but not unheard of," he said. "Typically, when they're rezoning for property someone doesn't own, it's a neighborhood-wide application."

Yapp said while CB-10

zoning didn't necessarily have a height limit, there were other factors to take into account.

"The only thing in the local zoning code [for CB-10 zoning] is a floor-to-area ratio of 15, meaning you can have 15 square feet of floor area for every one square foot of lot area," he said. "The smaller the footprint, the taller it can be."

The height of the building has been the most contentious issue at city meetings.

The rezoning request also went before the city's Planning and Zoning Commission on April 18, where community members filled the seats of the council chamber to voice their opinions on the

measure. Ultimately, that request was denied by a 5-2 vote.

Champion expected the public to weigh in at tonight's council meeting.

"I think it'll be an interesting discussion with lots of input from the public," she said. "I'm looking forward to it."

Cole said he didn't want to elaborate on the coalition's plan if the rezoning request fails with the City Council, but the group would issue a public statement outlining the next step.

"We're going to remain committed to all options; we're still evaluating them," he said. "We're in it for the long term until a modification is made to this deal."



Johnson County Supervisor Terrence Neuzil (center) begins a bike race at the Coralville Public Library on Monday. (The Daily Iowan/Sam Louwagie)

BIKE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

trip between the libraries. Neuzil rode a bicycle, Throgmorton drove a vehicle, and Haverkamp rode a city bus for a majority of the trip before reverting to his bicycle.

But the race, which Neuzil won, had a symbolic rather than competitive purpose.

"The main idea is to show that riding your bike and putting your bike on a rack that is provided are just as competitive time-wise as driving your car for short trips," said Kris Ackerson, an assistant transportation planner at the Metropolitan

Planning Organization of Johnson County.

Throgmorton said in addition to the value of commuter biking in a safe, effective environment, Johnson County has allotted for the growth of bike trails.

"There's been a huge increase in the number and miles of bike trails available to use," Throgmorton said.

Currently, Iowa City has 17 bike trails open to the public. Coralville has roughly 20 miles of trails with the potential to add 40 miles with development.

Iowa City has plans to expand its bike trails, which include establishing a trail to run along Ralston Creek between

Creekside Park and Court Hill Park.

Haverkamp, who came in third in the race, said as community residents think of a growing area, it's easy to overlook the area's actual size.

"I think it's easy to forget the metro region has grown tremendously, but it's still a small area," Haverkamp said. "It's still possible to get from one area of town to the other in 15 minutes."

In addition to the trails, Haverkamp said, three aspects of the metropolitan area work together to provide easy transportation for residents.

"We have good bike routes, a small geographic area, and three mass-transit systems," he said. "And

all three cooperate."

Also on Monday, the League of American Bicyclists upgraded Iowa City's bicycle-friendly status from bronze to silver. The organization reviews a city's Bicycle-Friendly Community status every four years, according to a city press release.

Neuzil said Ride Your Bike to Work Week is an example of the work among local government officials to promote something they've all made progress on.

"This is a good reminder of how we can all come together as intergovernmental community leaders to promote not just bikes and bike trails but a healthier lifestyle," he said.

Appeal in murder case expected

Officials and law experts say appeals in homicide cases are extremely common.

By **CASSIDY RILEY**
cassidy-riley@uiowa.edu

Despite Justin Marshall's appeal to the Iowa Supreme Court, Johnson County prosecutor Janet Lyness said she is confident his first-degree-murder conviction will be upheld.

Marshall, 22, was convicted on Feb. 7 in the 2009 slaying of John Versypt, the former landlord of Broadway Condominiums. Marshall was sentenced to life in prison on April 26, and he filed for an appeal on May 9.

"I would have been shocked if he hadn't appealed," Lyness said. "[He doesn't] have anything to lose by appealing."

Robert Rigg, a professor of law at Drake University, said anyone convicted of a crime has a right to an appeal.

"Appeals for murder convictions are not only frequent, it's almost a given," he said. "You're going to appeal, and

you're going to raise as many issues as you possibly can."

Rigg said that while the vast majority of appeal cases do not result in the verdict being overturned, he would consider it almost negligent for an attorney to not advise a defendant to appeal.

"The fact that you don't get a reversal doesn't mean you shouldn't appeal," he said. "You don't know the answer to the question until you ask it."

At the time of the slaying, Marshall was living with his aunt, two cousins, and his cousin's boyfriend, Charles Thompson. Thompson was the original suspect in the case, but his trial ended in a mistrial because of a mistake made by the prosecution. He later pleaded guilty to accessory to a felony and signed a document stating that he knew Marshall had killed Versypt.

On Oct. 3, 2011, the third suspect in the

case was charged with first-degree murder. Courtney White was allegedly seen running from the scene where Versypt's body was found, according to a police complaint.

White pleaded guilty to tampering with a witness on April 26 and was credited the time he had already served.

Jerry Foxhoven, a professor of law at Drake University, said appeals to the Iowa Supreme Court go through a screening process, and the court will decide whether to review the case or give it to the Iowa Court of Appeals. He said the next step for Marshall's appeal would now be collecting the transcripts of what happened at his trial.

"They look at the testimony and the exhibits that came into the [original trial]," he said. "This is not a place to bring any new witnesses or new exhibits. They just

look at the record as it was."

Foxhoven said the purpose of an appeal only involves looking for a possible error in the trial that occurred and that the entire process of an appeal can take quite a while.

"Any time there's an appeal, that's hard for the victim or victim's family because they have to wait longer for it to be done," Lyness said.

Versypt's widow, Janet Versypt, was visibly relieved after Marshall's sentencing for the trial to be over. At the time of the sentencing, she was unaware Marshall planned to appeal.

"Going through these judicial trials and postponement[s] have left us mentally exhausted," she said in a statement to the court on April 26. "One day, there seems to be a light at the end of the tunnel, and then something happens to prolong the whole mess."



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Sports

MVP

CONTINUED FROM 10

in the Game 1 loss to the Spurs. The way Curry is playing, look for the Warriors to continue to compete in the playoffs. He has thus far been the MVP of the postseason.

— by **Scott Albanese**

LeBron James

Really, who else can you pick? While his numbers in the Eastern Conference semifinals against the Bulls haven't been as flashy as the ones he put up in round one against the Milwaukee Bucks or in the regular season, his overall performance definitely merits recognition.

It goes without saying that LeBron is the back-

bone of the Heat. Everything starts with him. Facilitating the ball? LeBron's job, not Mario Chalmers. Scoring? That can be his job, too, and with deadly precision at that. He scored 27 points on 9-of-11 shooting in Game 1 against the Bucks. LeBron has averaged about 7 assists and rebounds per game so far in the playoffs, along with 23.7 points.

Has anyone seen Nate Robinson or Steph Curry put up those kind of numbers over the course of a season or the postseason? Curry comes close with averages of 25 points and 8 assists per game, but he's also played three more games than LeBron and the Heat.

To even call Robinson the MVP of the Bulls is incorrect — that role falls to Jimmy Butler. Robin-

son played the game of his life in a Game 1 win against the Heat, scoring 27 points and tallying 9 assists, prompting Bulls fans to call him the 5-9 Derrick Rose. Not quite: Robinson has been a non-factor since then, thanks to stiff defense from LeBron and guard Norris Cole.

LeBron, meanwhile, has responded since his 2-point first quarter in Game 1 against the Bulls. In Game 2, the MVP scored 12 of his 19 points in the first quarter alone and facilitated the ball to the tune of 9 assists in 32 minutes.

He finished Game 3 with 25 points, 9 rebounds, and 8 assists and a 2-1 series lead over Chicago.

Sounds like an MVP to me.

— by **Matt Cabel**

Nate Robinson

If I told you at the beginning of the season that Chicago would win a playoff series against the Nets by stealing Game 7 in Brooklyn without Kirk Hinrich, Luol Deng, and Derrick Rose, you would probably have thought that I was borderline insane. Yet, I'm not crazy — the Bulls did do it, and Nate Robinson is driving force behind their improbable playoff success. Nate Robinson has been the catalyst for the Bulls' offense this postseason as he's put the team on his back.

Robinson exemplifies Stacey King's new catch phrase "heart, hustle, and muscle" for this Bulls team. His intensity is contagious while the United Center crowd, and his teammates feed off his swagger. The 5-9

Seattle native has been the heart and soul of the Bulls during the playoffs. The point guard's production in the postseason has been stellar for a team lacking a true offensive threat. Over the course of the postseason Robinson is averaging 17.4 points per game while shooting 47.8 percent during 32.6 minutes per game. But his late-game heroics have been the bigger story.

The Bulls would have lost Game 4 of their opening-round series against the Nets if it weren't for Robinson. Chicago was down 109-95 with fewer than three minutes to go in the fourth quarter until Robinson went on a 12-0 run to bring the Bulls within 2.

Nate the Great continued his stellar play in the opening round of the Bulls' heated matchup

with Miami. Robinson was crushed by LeBron James' 6-8, 270-pound frame in the second quarter of Game 1, resulting in 10 stitches on his upper lip. Not only did Robinson come back in the game, but he also led the Bulls on a 10-0 run with 1:59 left in the fourth quarter to steal Game 1 from the King and his men.

This is a guy who wasn't signed to a guaranteed contract at the beginning of the season. Still, he's given Chicago something to cheer about in the dark days of Rose's absence. He's entertained the fans while giving them hope in a season in which there wasn't supposed to be any. He's not the tallest or most athletic player in the playoffs, but he is the most valuable.

— by **Dominick White**

MCGRATH

CONTINUED FROM 10

event guy, and floor was one of our weakest events this year," Iowa men's gymnastics coach JD Reive said McGrath. "The vault was mediocre for us. He's going to be a huge contribution to the routines that we lost and

actually will be bringing us up a bit."

Numbers on the judges' scorecards aren't the only meaningful contributions McGrath will make next season. All-Americans Javier Balboa and Anton Gryshayev, as well as two-time All-Big Ten team member Brody Shemansky, will depart because of graduation. This leaves the Hawkeyes young and

inexperienced.

Having a successful and experienced gymnast such as McGrath return, the Hawkeyes say, will be extremely beneficial for several lower-classmen.

"It's a big class that we're losing, so to keep one of them is awesome," redshirt sophomore Lance Alberhasky said. "He's a leader on this

team, too. Just to have guys back with experience that we can rely on is always good."

McGrath admits it was difficult at times to be a spectator this past season, but there may not have been a bigger supporter of last season's fifth-place finishers at the NCAA championships than McGrath. Watching the team gave him a

new sense of purpose. By focusing on the areas in which he felt the team needed improvement, he was able to tinker his rehab in a way that would benefit the squad the most. And no one is more motivated than he is for competition to begin again.

"I was pretty proud of them," McGrath said. "They were showing ev-

eryone how JD's program is supposed to run.

"... Obviously, it was a little bit hard because I saw spots where we were a little weak on floor and vault and I could have filled and maybe helped out a little more. But in the end, it was a great experience to watch, and I'm pretty excited to see where next year takes us."

BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM 10

rience and get something out of it."

The biggest success story to come out of the senior hurlers this year was Sandquist's. Coming into the 2013 campaign, the Fort Dodge native had an ERA of 8.91 with 39 walks and 31 strikeouts. Sandquist made some adjustments to his delivery, switching from a more standard technique to throwing sidearm, and practically became a new pitcher.

His season ERA sits at 2.23, the best on the team, and he has compiled 29 strikeouts, which is nearly how many he got in his

first three seasons combined as a Hawkeye.

"We've all just put it on the line," Sandquist said. "We wanted to have one good last year. We all just go out there without any nerves and try to have fun. That's been the biggest difference for most of us."

The team's season hasn't worked out the way the players might have hoped, though. After Sunday's loss to Michigan State dropped the Hawkeyes to 7-14 in conference play — 19-27 overall — Iowa was eliminated from contention for a seed in the upcoming Big Ten Tournament.

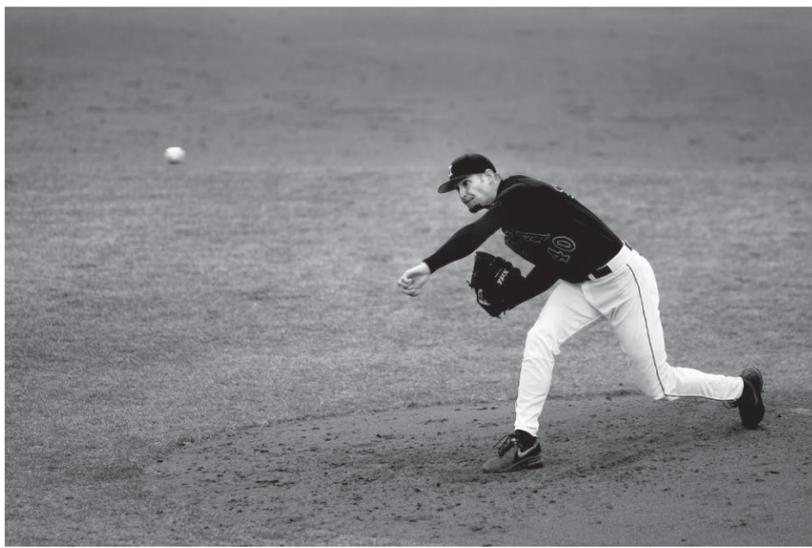
Dahm acknowledged that he would have preferred that things had gone better but said the

squad would likely have been worse off without the strong performances of those senior pitchers.

"If you're going to have a really good team, you need to have your seniors have good years," he said. "They need to play well. I don't know where we'd be without those seniors this year."

Sitting in ninth place out of 11 teams in the Big Ten standings isn't where the team wanted to be, but Dahm said the seniors can be proud of what they personally accomplished this year.

"They wanted to go out on top," he said. "Unfortunately, we're not going to make that Big Ten Tournament, but those guys had very, very good years for us."



Iowa pitcher Matt Dermody pitches against Indiana at Banks Field on March 30. (The Daily Iowan/Juan Carlos Herrera)

SPORTS

Baseball Hawks add 6 recruits

The Iowa baseball team has not yet concluded its 2013 season, but that hasn't stopped the squad from looking forward. Iowa head coach Jack Dahm announced the addition of six more players for the 2014 recruiting class, bringing the total to 11 new players.

All six players come from from the Midwest: Matt Allen from Buffalo Grove, Ill., Tanner Hinkle from West Des Moines, Will Polley from River Forest, Ill., Jason Samuelson from Rochester, Minn., Jake Sharp from Rock Island, and Brandon Shulista from Solon.

"These six players are going to add a lot of depth to our program," Dahm said in a release. "There are a lot of pitchers that we feel have the opportunity to help us on conference weekends and midweek games. From a position-player standpoint, we're adding good, athletic guys who can develop into very good players for us."

The addition of four more pitchers will match the four senior pitchers the Hawkeyes will lose come the end of this season.

Allen, a right-handed pitcher, had a 2.80 ERA as a junior with a 5-1 record, while throwing 38 strikeouts throughout his 48 innings of work. Hinkle plays both infield and outfield and put up a .396 batting average with 4 home runs,

33 RBIs, and 10 steals.

Three of the recruits — Polley, Sharp, and Shulista are transfers. Polley is RHP transfer from Parkland College. In his senior year at Oak Park-River Forest High, he had a 2.11 ERA. He redshirted his freshman season at Nebraska before transferring to Parkland.

Another one of the more talented recruits is outfielder Samuelson, a 2013 Under Armour Preseason All-American following his junior season, in which he hit .585 with a .660 on-base percentage. He batted at .524 in his summer Legion season, accounting for 27 RBIs, 25 runs, 12 doubles, 2 triples, and 1 home run.

— by **Jalyn Soucek**



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Seniors command the hill



Iowa's Ricky Sandquist pitches against Western Illinois on April 2 at Banks Field. (The Daily Iowan/Tork Mason)

The Iowa senior pitchers have been the most dominant hurlers for the club.

By **TOMMY REINKING**
thomas-reinking@uiowa.edu

Jack Dahm didn't have a large presence of upperclassmen on his roster heading into his 10th season as head coach of the Iowa baseball team. Of the 16 pitchers on the staff, only four were seniors.

Of those four, only two had ever had an ERA below 5.40 in their careers at Iowa before this season. Yet unexpectedly, Dahm was often able to turn to their experience as the group became the anchor for an otherwise young pitching staff.

"Their attitudes have been outstand-

ing," Dahm said. "They really get after it. There was a sense of determination from them. They want to do anything they can to help the team win. You love having players like that."

Matt Dermody and Ricky Sandquist have been Hawkeyes for four years, but Ben Bergman spent a year at Kirkwood before transferring to Iowa, and Andrew Hanse spent two years at Ellsworth Community College before joining the Black and Gold.

Prior to this season, the four pitchers had a combined 5.84 ERA for Iowa. This year, however, the quartet has vastly improved to

post a solid 3.67 ERA.

Three of the four have set career marks in innings pitched, and Dermody needs to retire just two more batters to surpass his season-best mark. The group has also been dominant in regards to their strikeout-to-walk ratio, collecting 127 Ks on the year to only 59 walks.

"Our main thing we bring is experience," Dermody said. "Ricky and I have been pitching since freshman year, and I think that experience has caught up to us. We've been able to harness that expe-

SEE **BASEBALL**, 8

McGrath's return welcome

Senior Matt McGrath will give a much-needed boost on floor and vault events for the Iowa men's gymnastics squad.

By **RYAN PROBASCO**
ryan-probasco@uiowa.edu

After going through two separate knee surgeries and a stem-cell injection, fifth-year senior Matt McGrath is finally ready to return for the Iowa men's gymnastics team.

McGrath missed several events during the 2011-12 season because of his initial surgery to repair a cartilage explosion on the right side of his patella and femur. He then had the more extensive surgery after hobbling through the latter part of his junior season, which caused him to miss all of what was supposed to be his senior campaign this past year.

"They injected stem cells to regrow that cartilage," McGrath said. "After that, I had to keep my knee straight for four to six weeks. That was probably the most difficult part."

"I was trying to get my knee to bend to 90 degrees again and then farther because when your knee's locked out for a month and a half, it does not want to bend."

Luckily, his school schedule, along with NCAA rules, allowed him to red-shirt this past season.

The 2011 NCAA All-American will provide his squad a much needed boost on the floor exercise and vault — events in which the Black and Gold struggled during the 2012-13 season.

"He is a big scorer and a big-leg



McGrath
senior

SEE **MCGRATH**, 8

END OF THE YEAR AWARDS

The heart of the Hawkeyes' offense

Megan Blank spent the 2013 softball season hitting her way into the Iowa record books.

By **CODY GOODWIN**
cody-goodwin@uiowa.edu

Iowa sophomore Megan Blank came into this spring season with a new mindset, new goals, and, ultimately, a new swing.

The outcome was about what she expected, too.

Blank was the heart and soul of the Iowa softball team's offense during the 2013 season. She led the squad in RBIs with 59, doubles with 15, in batting average at .437, as well as many other offensive categories.

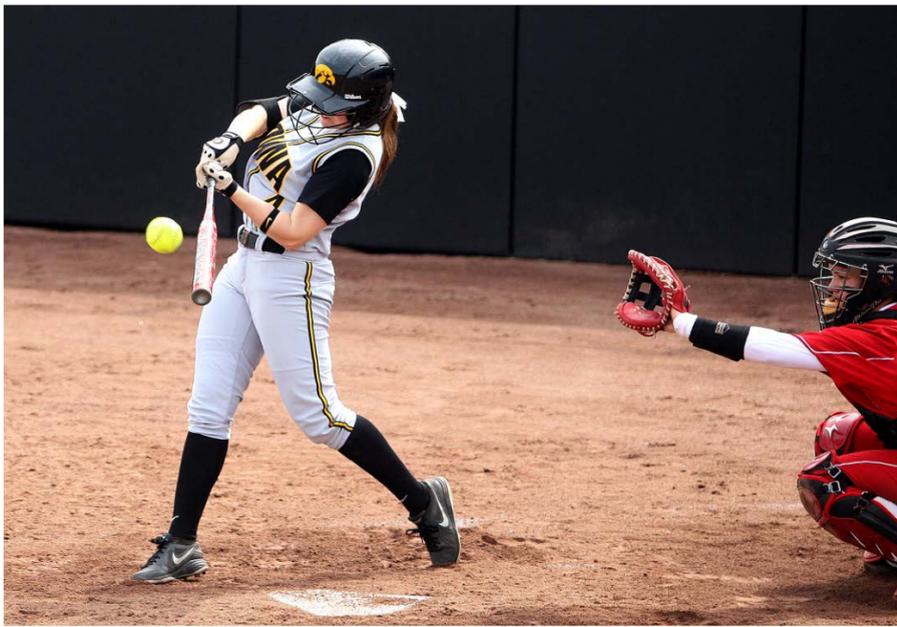
"Megan's a good hitter, and that's no secret," Iowa softball hitting coach Stacy May-Johnson said. "She's transitioned really, really nicely over the last year."

A few of Blank's offensive numbers in 2013 even broke, or at least challenged, Iowa softball records.

Blank's .437 clip broke a record that's been around since 1993. Kim Davis hit to the tune of .428 that season. Blank's record makes her just the seventh Hawkeye to hit over .400 in any given season.

The young Hawkeye's RBI total of 59 this year sits as the second-most in a season by an Iowa player. Only Debbie Bilbao hit for more when she tallied 61 in 1997. Blank's RBI numbers proved vital for the Black and Gold, accounting for 25 percent of the team's total offensive production of 239 RBIs in the 2013 season.

Beyond the Iowa record books, the Culver City, Calif., native's RBI total was the second-most in the Big Ten this season.



Iowa infielder Megan Blank hits a home run at Pearl Field on April 7. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

"It was kind of what I was looking for," Blank said about her season totals. "The one thing I had thought about, like the one weakness I thought I would have is that I'd have more strikeouts this year, just because my swing is more aggressive and bigger."

In that regard, Blank surpassed even her own expectations. Of the nine Hawkeyes who normally started for the Iowa softball team, Blank struck out the least among them with a grand total of 11 on the season.

But these power-hitting numbers might not have been possible if not for the change she made in her swing over the summer.

"The biggest thing is that she cares enough about her team that she's willing to do what she can in order to — yeah, it ultimately helps her, but in turn, it helps her team, too," Iowa softball coach Marla Looper said. "To some people, it may look selfish, but you have to be selfishly unselfish, and that's part of it."

Perhaps the biggest surprise was Blank's ability to accrue these numbers even while being walked so many times. Her 35 free passes led her team and was the third-most in the conference. Michigan's Sierra Romero and Penn State's Cassidy Bell led the conference with 42 each.

That fact adds a little

more pressure to Blank's legitimate at-bats. She expects some pitchers to toss around her, which means she needs to take advantage when they hurl her way.

"I love those moments," Blank said. "I always want to be the one to be up in a clutch situation because I know I can get it done."

DI End of the year awards:

- Monday:** Derek St. John, Male Athlete of the year
- Today:** Female athlete of the year
- Wednesday:** Freshman of the year
- Thursday:** Coach of the year
- Friday:** Story of the year

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

NBA playoffs MVP?

Stephen Curry

The emergence of Stephen Curry in the NBA playoffs is nothing to sleep on. Curry has put Golden State in prime position for a shot at the Western Conference Finals. After big-man David Lee went down in the first round, it only seemed inevitable that the Warriors would fall to the higher-seeded Denver Nuggets. However, Curry's immaculate play has carried this under-manned Golden State team.

Curry is averaging 25 points, 8.3 assists, and 4.2 rebounds per game — all improvements over his regular-season numbers. He is also having an impact on the defensive end, averaging 1.8 steals per game. The key for Curry has been his incredible shooting from behind the 3-point line. He has made a playoff-leading 39 3-point field goals, 16 more than the second highest — Curry's teammate Klay Thompson. Sure, he has fired up a ton of 3s, 91 to be exact, but he is still shooting a very respectable 43 percent from behind the arc.

Curry's point total in the playoffs is just behind Kevin Durant and Carmelo Anthony, two of the more prolific scorers in the league. Curry, though, has shot fewer times than either Durant or Anthony. Possibly the biggest reason the Warriors have been so successful is Curry's incredible plus/minus ratio. When he is on the floor, the Warriors have outscored their opponents by an amazing 92 points. That mark is the best in this year's playoffs by any player.

The most amazing part of all this is that Curry has been hobbled by a twisted ankle. Who knows what he would do if he were completely healthy. He has yet to score under 15 points in a game this postseason, which includes a 44-point outburst

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