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A pending legislative proposal suggests increasing the state motor fuel tax by 10 cents per gallon to aid repair of roads and bridges. Similar proposals have been shot down in recent years; if passed, this would be the first time the state tax has increased since 1989.

A poll recently conducted by the Des Moines Register shows nearly two-thirds of Iowans oppose the tax increase.

“Politics is often a point of friction,” said Roy Owens, a senior fellow at the Catie Institute. “[If it won]…law schools would be looking over their shoulders a lot … more when they decide to hire.”

If passed, the tax would rise incrementally over the course of three years, beginning July 1.

The increase is estimated to cost the average motorist an additional $5 to $6 per gallon.

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PROPOSED GAS-TAX HIKE

By Reid Chandler

A steal-bill to be taken up by the House Transportation Committee sometime this month is facing opposition, even of state lawmakers say it would provide necessary funding to repair roads and bridges in the state.

House Study Bill 514 was signed by all five sub-committee members, made up of four Democrats and one Republican, and it now awaits review by the House Transportation Committee, which is expected to look at it this month.

“Our roads and infrastructure are in need of repair, and the costs are not getting any cheaper,” Rep. Sally Stutsman, D-Riverside, said. “We’re seeing them? The people who buy gas.”

want roads, you’ve got to pay for them. Who is us-

ing them? The people who buy gas.”

“You get what you pay for,” local resident Carl Spiker said. “You get what you pay for.”

The proposal would increase the current state tax on fuel by 3 cents on July 1. Three more cents would start July 1, 2015, and a final 4 cents would start July 1, 2016. Currently, Iowa’s state tax on gas sits at 22 cents per gallon.

Iowa’s Department of Transportation announced it is running on a $215 million deficit to fund these necessary repairs.

“More than a quarter of Iowa bridges are in need of repair and 20 percent of its bridges are classified as deficient. In Johnson County alone, out of the 381 bridges, 42 are structurally deficient, 25 are functionally obsolete, and 67 are defective. The Iowa Department of Transportation announced it is running on a $215 million deficit to fund necessary repairs.

“Every time it goes up, it takes something out of my refrigerator.”

Des Moines Register

“Nobody wants another tax,” she said. “That’s the political will isn’t there.”

And with the poll numbers against them, the House Transportation Committee is unsure how either chamber, or the governor, will receive the proposal.


“I am disabled and on a fixed income,” she said.

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### Schools may get more funds

**The Daily Iowan**

**Volume 145**

**DAILY IOWAN**

**Monday, February 10, 2014**

**DES MOINES, IOWA**

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**NEWS**

**Corrections**

**Contests**

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**Oversized items from which to purchase:**

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By ALISON KOHN

CITATION

Iowa's public school districts are on track to get a raise this fiscal year. The appropriation budget for the upcoming fiscal year grants school districts an increase in state aid. A clarification may be made.

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The number of people who have used heroin in the past 12 months rose from 373,000 in 2007 to 669,000 in 2012.

By IAN MURPHY

Heroin use and distribution are on the rise in eastern Iowa, according to numerous local law enforcement officials.

Iowa City police Sgt. Virki Lallis, and University of Iowa police Associate Director Bill Searls said their departments have noticed an increase in heroin use in Johnson County recently.

“It’s up and down,” Searls said. “Right now, it’s up.”

The number of people who have used heroin in the past 12 months rose from 373,000 in 2007 to 669,000 in 2012, according to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

“Most of our heroin is coming from Chicago,” Stepleton said. “Right now, we have no accepted medical use for heroin.”

By BRADY MCCOMBS

SALT LAKE CITY — A coalition of religious organizations is urging the court to uphold same-sex marriage bans in Utah and Oklahoma, saying marriages between a man and woman are sanctioned, while a woman and a woman is sanctioned by God as the right and best setting for bearing and raising children, “We believe that children, families, society, and our nation thrive and best when husband-wife marriage is upheld and strengthened as a thoroughly, primary social institution.”

“Public universities are best for children, families, and society, and a woman is sanctioned by God as the right and best setting for bearing and raising children,” the coalition said in a brief, which was signed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

By BRET HARRELL

The number of people who have used heroin in the past 12 months rose from 373,000 in 2007 to 669,000 in 2012, according to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

“The next one could be someone who was turned down because they thought they were too ill-informed or not LGBT-friendly,” he said.

“It’s possible, in theory, for the court to award Wagner, he said. “But if she wins, what she wins is another trial, and more judicial resources that may exist in Johnson County.”

The victory would be another trial for Wagner, who was dismissed from her lawsuit. The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the decision of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

The coalition struck back at the opinion of the court, saying that it is “outrageously false” and “misleading.”

However, even if the opinion is overturned, the case is not over. The court has the power to decide whether the case will continue or be dismissed.

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Local physicians reach out to Mexico

A group of Iowa health-care officials embark on a mission trip to Mexico.

**By Abigail Meier**

This Valentine’s Day, local health officials will trade candy hearts for surgical tools. Nicholas Von Bergen, a University of Iowa clinical assistant professor heading the Pediatric Arrhythmia Outreach Fund, leads the outreach program funded by medical missions each year to Mexico to provide care and resources to patients with abnormal heart rhythms.

“The medical mission trip has been going on for some time, and it has allowed our group to create relationships in the areas of high need,” Von Bergen said. “These trips are good for the heart and soul, it is valuable to see the support of the people we are helping.”

Sunday marked the day Von Bergen and the team of health officials from the UI and the Des Moines area left the United States for Campeche, Mexico, where the team will examine patients who may have potential heart problems. After nearly 20 years, Von Bergen said, the outreach health-care team has been able to grow in resources and ability to reach out to more and more patients each year. From Sunday until Feb. 15, the group will work with cardiologists in Mexico to examine patients and give them the necessary treatments they often do not receive.

“Areas of Mexico do not have the financial or medical resources to get the appropriate diagnosis and treatment,” Von Bergen said. “And children may go undetected if they have a major heart disease.”

The trip is organized and performed by a large number of people from UI Pediatric Cardiology, which provides physicians, experts, and the needed equipment, while Blank Children’s Hospital in Des Moines brings roughly 30 children back to Iowa every year for needed surgeries.

“M. Santiago Restrepo, a UI pediatric cardiologist fellow who has been on the trip for the last few years, said the trip’s goal is to provide medical expertise and adequate treatment,” Restrepo said. “The trip can sometimes eliminate problems when children are born with heart defects, and they need immediate surgery. The Mexican doctors are not able to safely conduct the surgery as the outreach program brings the children and family members to the United States for treatment.”

“The trip is also possible by the help from the local health providers and group of mothers who coordinate the services, provide food, lodging, and translation,” Restrepo said. “Their hospitality is as big as their hearts.”

He said some of the patients are chosen for intervention surgery, and electrophysiology treatment, and others are evaluated on a yearly basis.

“When we go, we provide instructions to the local doctors about each case, so that they can continue managing them,” Restrepo said. “In cases where there are defects that require surgery, we decide the time for the repair according to the effects on the heart function or other organs.”

Stephen Mooradian, a pediatrician at the Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, has also participated in the trips since 2001.

“By going down there, we learn about significant heart disease that enables us to develop better knowledge to help kids in the states as well,” Mooradian said. “The trip emotionally helps those who are less fortunate and helps people who need our help.”

**contributed**

By Abigail Meier

abigail-meier@uiowa.edu
Iowa tennis hosted Night at the Net on Feb. 8.

The event was open to children ages 6 and up, as well as adults of all skill levels. Night at the Net was a time of laid-back fun for the women’s team and, perhaps more importantly, a chance to interact with the tennis community.

With a near equal turnout for adults and children at the event, all had the chance to showcase their abilities with the Hawkeyes – a perfect opportunity for the players to interact with the fans who follow them religiously.

“The majority of our fans are tennis players,” Dougherty said. “Getting to mix it up with them and spend time with them … for them to get to know our athletes personally is important.”

More and more people in the area are playing tennis, and our visibility has increased significantly.”

This was the first year the event was held at the Hawkeye Tennis & Recreation Complex. The facility is top-notch and boasts eight courts indoors with 12 more outside. In 2009, it won the Iowa Tennis Association Facility of the Year Award. In addition, it received the U.S. Tennis Association Missouri Valley Facility of the Year Award.

The inclement winter weather didn’t seem to deter the Iowa tennis fans. With such a massive increase in popularity, the enrollment was up exponentially from last year despite all the snow.

“Topsy-turvy in Russia”

Australia’s Matt Graham competes in the men’s moguls final at the 2014 Winter Olympics on Monday in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia. Following are other medalists: (Associated Press/Sergei Grits)
Columns

All Cooked Up

Controversial chef and TV personality Anthony Bourdain died in a hotel room in France this week. Bourdai...
A partial list of things I should probably tell every prospective girlfriend:

• “This might not work” is about as optimistic as it gets.
• I have a woodwind’s body.
• It’s in my basement.
• “I'll fit one flaw as a person, it's that I'm too...”
• I have most of the money, but what I do
• Unless you want sex.

Knowledge without justice ought to be called cunning rather than wisdom.

Plato

Aries (March 21-April 19): You will face opposition if you aren’t willing to compromise. Don’t let a situational turn into a major argument. Focus on personal change, not trying to change others. Plan your actions and choose your words wisely.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You shouldn’t have to go far to find a little excitement. Check out what’s going on in your community, and take part in events that interest you. The more time you spend volunteering or helping others, the happier you will be.

Gemini (May 21-June 21): You are going to be a part of a team or project. It is important to concentrate on completing your work and taking care of important responsibilities. Proving your value is not a reason to do something you don’t want to do.

Cancer (June 22-July 22): Make your plans, and get the ball rolling. Do your research, and find out exactly what’s required of you in order to reach your goals. A friend you encounter will be interested in getting involved in a project you want to pursue.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Do not gossip or get involved in office politics. Focus on what you need to get done. Protect your reputation, and refrain from making unwise promises. It’s important to follow through with your plans to avoid looking wishy-washy.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don’t give in to the temptation to make things more complicated than they need to be. Focus on the task at hand, and get it done properly. Give your reputation, and refrain from making unrealistic promises.

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Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Choose whatever direction or project you feel will bring you the greatest creative space and the most adventure. If you procrastinate, you will cost yourself dearly when it comes to advancement. Take the initiative, especially when money is at stake.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put money matters, contracts, and settlements within your budget. Home or personal improvements will add value to your project you want to pursue.

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Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of legal, contractual, or financial matters swiftly. Leaving room to let a negative issue escalate will lead to undue stress. Make changes at home that better suit your likes and lifestyle.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your intuition will help you decide whom can be trusted and whom to avoid. A work matter or business partnership will cost you dearly when it comes to advancement. Take the initiative, especially when money is at stake.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Put money matters, contracts, and settlements within your budget. Home or personal improvements will add value to your project you want to pursue.

If you enjoy what you are doing, it will be much easier to get ahead. Give your personal life a boost with a little romance.

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First year of Iowa

Bluder initially applied for head coach at Iowa in 1999, when C. Vivian Stringer left for Rutgers University. But that job went to longtime assistant coach Jan Jensen.

Five more years passed before the opportunity presented itself again.

“I never thought I would be in the running for this job, so I was excited when the phone call finally came,” Bluder said. “I didn’t have to follow a legacy, but I was still excited. It gave me five more years to work with Lisa Dorsett, who left Iowa in 2001 on her own accord.

When Iowa came knocking, Bluder was ready.

She was given a four-year contract that she believes that it would be to her advantage to stay with Iowa as long as possible, including the extension that she would have had three years into her contract.

“You don’t ever dream of being someplace this long,” she said.

Following Stringer’s departure, Iowa was one of the top programs in the nation, fielding a team that won the 1999-2000 Big Ten regular-season title. In her first season, Bluder led the Hawkeyes to a second-place Big Ten finish. The team made their first NCAA tournament appearance in 2001, and was eliminated in the round of 32, losing to the eventual national champion Connecticut Huskies.

“We really want to do is win championships but also prepare tomorrow’s women, who are going to go make the world even better. That’s totally our mission,” said Bluder.

The beginning of a partnership

In Bluder’s 14 seasons as the head coach at Iowa, the Hawkeyes have had a consistent core of players. It’s a formula that has worked for the Hawkeyes in the past, but Bluder says that it’s not the only way to build a successful program.

“I really believe that it’s important to have a mixture of young and experienced players,” she said. “You need to have a mix of both to be successful.”

That trust went a long way, and it’s something that Stringer has always been known for.

“Jenni is a wonderful teacher and just really full of life,” Lillis Baranczyk said.

Baranczyk — one of Bluder’s assistants — was with the team during Stringer’s time, and she was one of the people who helped to prepare the team for the Big Ten Tournament.

Once the players bought into Bluder’s coaching style, the team improved significantly.

“Jenni Fitzgerald.

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MEN’S HOOPS CLIMB IN POLL

The Hawkeyes moved to No. 16 in the Associated Press Top 25 poll. Iowa head coach Fran McCaffery was named Big Ten Coach of the Week.

IOWA TO TAKE ON MISSOURI-Kansas City

The Hawkeyes will host Missouri-Kansas City this weekend. The Hawks are 4-3-0 this season, and the Kangaroos are 2-4-0. Iowa leads the series, 3-1-0, but the last meeting was 1996.

The IU women’s basketball team will host Wisconsin-Milwaukee on Monday. Iowa defeated Wisconsin-Milwaukee, 88-49, on Dec. 5.

By JACOB SHEFFER

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Bluders sets hawk record

With her win over Northwestern, head coach Lisa Bluder passed the legendary C. Ve- scio Stanger and former men’s coach Tom Davis as the Iowa women’s basketball coach with the most wins. Bluder has coached her team to 275 wins and counting, but for time spent patrolling the sidelines is more than any Iowa women.

When Lisa Bluder begins coaching women’s basketball, she thought she’d try it for one year. That seems strange, because Bluder is now the Iowa women’s basketball coach with the most wins, and she has been a fig- ure on the sidelines for three teams over the course of 30 seasons. What’s even stranger is how Bluder first came to coaching.

In 1984, Bluder, who had recently graduated with the most wins in Hawkeye history, was offered the job. The bad news was that it pays $2,400 for the year. And he said, “That’s all right, let’s try it and go for it.”

Bluder negotiated for $100 more per year, but that was enough to tape ankles.

The one job Bluder vividly remembers not having to do was tape ankles.

She still loved it, but never did she imagine taking care of almost every aspect of the basket- ball program.

The truth is, this game is just a game.

The pay wasn’t the only difficult aspect. When she agreed to coach, she was also agreeing to take care of almost every aspect of the basket- ball program.

For the next year, she hired officials, scheduled facilities, repainted the floor, washed uniforms, and spearheaded the team’s fundraising—which consisted of selling Homemade shirts and cheese-and-sausage packets.

The one job Bluder vividly remembers not having to do was tape ankles.


She added, “But do everything you love.”

Iowa Hawkeye center Bethany Doolittle protects the lane after the game against Northwestern at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Monday. Iowa defeated Northwestern, 88-49. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

When I came here 14 years ago, I was just thankful that Dr. (Christine) Grant gave me a five-year contract and that I was going to be around for five years,” Bluder said. “That’s all I really thought about at the time, and I was very thankful for it.”

Melissa Dixon led the way in scoring for the Hawkeyes against North- western, pouring in 24 points on 6-of-9 shooting from downtown. She also finished with 15 rebounds and 4 assists, while Bethany Doolittle chipped in 14 points.

Iowa State leads the Big 12 in terms of wins and points, but has been ranked lower than Iowa.

Hawks tame feisty ’Cats

By MATT CABEL

The play’s the thing

The women’s basketball set an open fundraising— which included selling Homemade shirts and cheese-and-sausage packets.

The one job Bluder vividly remembers not having to do was tape ankles.

“I am an openly proud gay man” is a big deal when put into a historical context. The NFL draft and season will be under a microscope in 2014. The league’s stance on tolerance has been on trial for years.

But the real story here lies in Co- lumbia, Mo.

Hawk coach Lisa Bluder celebrates a basket in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Monday. Iowa defeated Northwestern, 88-49. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

Iowa head coach Lisa Bluder enters the record books after the game against Northwestern at Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Monday. Iowa defeated Northwestern, 88-49. (The Daily Iowan/Tessa Hursh)

Iowa has yet to lose to a Big Ten team this season. Iowa has won 11 of its 12 conference games.

“I was in Samford Stadium when Michael Sam changed the country’s perception of the 2013 Missouri foot- ball team on a balmy October day in Athens, Ga.

Up 20-10 just before the half against No. 7 Georgia, the anonymous foot- ball American nationally accepted an announcement family and bided 20 yards for a score. 27-7. The upset of the season to that point in the books. An SEC stadium, silenced.

It was a football play. And the other 92,745 people in attendance with me didn’t think any- thing more of it.

The truth is, this game is just a game.

A Sun’s announcement that he is “an openly proud gay man” is a big deal when put into a historical context. The NFL draft and season will be under a microscope in 2014. The league’s stance on tolerance has been on trial for years.

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