

'IT'S GREAT TO RETURN TO THE GAMES THAT CONTINUE TO BE GREAT EVEN BEYOND THEIR RESPECTIVE GENERATIONS.'

Game Geeks will host the first Iowa City Fight Club, a retro fighting-game tournament, this weekend. 80 Hours.

The Daily Iowan

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2014

THE INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868

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A campaign vet



A crowd listens to Mariannette Miller-Meeks speak at the Iowa City Cancer Treatment Center on Wednesday. Miller-Meeks is touring various cities to speak about her platform after announcing on Monday that she would run for Congress. (The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)

Mariannette Miller-Meeks begins her third run for Congress since 2008.

By CHRIS HIGGINS
christopher-higgins@uiowa.edu

The campaign trail is nothing new for her.

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, an eye doctor and a former director of the Iowa Department of Public Health, is seeking Iowa's 2nd Congressional District seat as a Republican for the third time. She previously ran against Rep. Dave Loebsack, D-Iowa, in 2008 and 2010.

She spoke at the Iowa City Cancer Treatment Center on Wednesday, which was on the first day of a tour to announce her candidacy.

"I think what's most important is that

people try," Miller-Meeks said. "So, if you are not pleased where the government has gone, and you think there's a mess in Washington, D.C., and things have gotten worse since the last time you ran or you tried, then I think you have an obligation and responsibility to try to change that. The worst thing is not trying."

Miller-Meeks resigned from her post at the Public Health Department to run for office. She is running largely in response to her negative feelings about the Affordable Care Act.

"Looking at the Affordable Care Act, there are ways we can change it, modify it, and/or, if possible, repeal it, but you have to gain the Senate, but at least, let's

make it work for people," Miller-Meeks said.

She also described Washington as a "dysfunctional mess" and said the government needs more accountability.

Tim Hagle, a University of Iowa political science associate professor, noted two major differences in the 2014 race compared with the 2010 campaign: first, the heightened presence of the Affordable Care Act in the news. Hagle said Miller-Meeks could use her experience running the Public Health Department to her advantage, a post she held following the 2010 election until January.

SEE CAMPAIGN, 3A

UISG to aid websites

The University of Iowa Student Government plans to fund student organization websites.

By MEGAN DEPPE
megan-deppe@uiowa.edu

Student organizations across the University of Iowa can continue moving into the technological age with assistance from the UI Student Government, IMU Marketing and Design, and the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership.

The UISG voted on Tuesday to approve long-term funding for recognized student organizations' websites, a project that has been in the works for more than two years. Several current members of UISG had campaigned with this project in mind.

At the meeting, UISG Chief Financial Officer Drew Turner said the upfront costs of the program, which would include creating templates, marketing, and training materials, would cost UISG no more than \$7,000. The definite price will be decided within the next few weeks. Turner said the platform budget was more than \$8,000.

"This was an idea that we talked about during the campaign, and we received a lot of positive feedback," said UISG President Katherine Valde. "I'm really thrilled to see this project finally come to fruition."

Jay Brown, the executive assistant to the UISG president and the head of the project, said that over the next year, both UISG and the Executive Council for Graduate and Professional Students will bring in organizations to receive funding for their websites.

Brown said that originally, organizations had to fund the creation and upkeep of a website out of their own

SEE UISG, 3A

Counties seek funds for connecting trails

Johnson, Linn, and Black Hawk Counties seek state funding for bike-trail connections.

By ABIGAIL MEIER
abigail-meier@uiowa.edu

Johnson County residents could potentially see a connection between major bike trails with two other counties extending from Cedar Falls through Cedar Rapids.

Johnson, Linn, and Black Hawk County officials asked the state for \$8.2 million to help connect a network of trails to help create recreation, tourism, economic development, and workforce development.

Johnson County Supervisor Terrence Neuzil said segments of the trails have been developing for almost 10 years. He presented the project to the House-Senate transportation, infrastructure, and capital appropriations subcommittee on Tuesday.

"Johnson County has concentrated on creating more than 80 miles in trails from Iowa City, Coralville, and North Liberty, and this project now



starts to connect into rural areas of Cedar Rapids and Cedar Falls area," Neuzil said. "This could be a major economic development, and this is a pretty massive undertaking, but it's something we know will be a huge

SEE TRAIL, 3A

District tests tablets

A tablet pilot program is proceeding in Iowa City schools.

By LILY ABROMEIT
lily-abromeit@uiowa.edu

Paper and pencil have been replaced with touchscreens and iPads in some local classrooms as part of a tablet pilot program.

The program, implemented earlier this year in Iowa City, allows a group of teachers to use tablets in the classroom to gauge different learning tools, something officials said is a major step toward a more technology-based future.

"[The whole idea is] to compare different products to see if one works better than the other, so [the district has] that information as we go forward and make plans to have tablets in the district," said Iowa City School Board President Sally Hoelscher. "Another thing to come out of it is teachers will get valuable information on what works."

David Dude, the district's chief operating officer, said the district is testing four kinds of tablets: the Microsoft Surface, iPad, Kuno, and LearnPad. Teachers received tablets after winter break and will keep them until the end of the school year. The program is testing devices in two to four classrooms in elementary, junior high, and high schools and is meant "to determine a district standard

for tablets."

Costs have not been determined for future implementation of tablets in the district.

Sarah Farnsworth, a sixth-grade teacher at Van Allen Elementary, said she has already learned many pros and cons of the system in the short two weeks she has been working with the Microsoft Surface tablets.

"Just working out those things [such as] 'this doesn't work; what other things can I use on this tablet instead?'" she said. "This pilot program is working on smoothing out ... kinks so that someday when other teachers use them, they don't have to encounter those problems."

Farnsworth said some of the problems come when trying to sync the tablets, access to the app store, as well as making the traditional curriculum Internet accessible.

"The opportunities are endless," she said. "I'm hoping that I can give suggestions in the future to how to effectively manage a classroom set of tablets."

The tablets bring a certain level of engagement to the classroom, said Hoelscher, and the program is important to narrow down the choices to the best op-

SEE TABLETS, 3A

WEATHER

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PROTESTS IN PHOENIX



Anthony Musa (left) and Brianna Pantillione join nearly 250 gay-rights supporters protesting Senate Bill 1062 at the Arizona Capitol on Feb. 21 in Phoenix. The protesters demanded that Gov. Jan Brewer veto legislation that would allow business owners to refuse to serve gays by citing their religious beliefs. The governor vetoed the bill Wednesday. (Associated Press/Ross D. Franklin)

Arizona governor vetoes controversial bill

By **BOB CHRISTIE**
Associated Press

PHOENIX — Gov. Jan Brewer on Wednesday vetoed a Republican bill that set off a national debate over gay rights, religion, and discrimination and subjected Arizona to blistering criticism from major corporations and political leaders from both parties.

Loud cheers erupted outside the Capitol building immediately after Brewer made her announcement. “My agenda is to sign into law legislation that advances Arizona,” Brewer said at a news conference. “I call them like I see them despite the tears or the boos from the crowd. After weighing all the arguments, I have vetoed Senate Bill 1062 moments ago.”

The governor said she gave the legislation careful deliberation in talking to her lawyers, citizens, and lawmakers on both sides of the debate.

But Brewer said the bill “could divide Arizona in ways we could not even imagine and no one would ever want.” The bill was broadly worded and could result in unintended negative consequences, she said.

The bill backed by Republicans in the Legislature was designed to give added protection from lawsuits to people who assert their religious beliefs in refusing service to gays. But opponents called it an open attack on gays that invited discrimination.

The bill thrust Arizona

into the national spotlight last week after both chambers of the state Legislature approved it. As the days passed, more and more groups, politicians, and average citizens weighed in against Senate Bill 1062. Many took to social media to criticize the bill, calling it an attack on gay and lesbian rights.

Prominent Phoenix business groups said it would be another black eye for the state that saw a national backlash over its 2010 immigration-crackdown law, SB 1070, and warned that businesses looking to expand into the state may not do so if bill became law.

Companies such as Apple Inc. and American Airlines and politicians including GOP Sen. John McCain and former Republican presidential nominee were among those who urged Brewer to veto the legislation.

Brewer was under intense pressure to veto the bill, including from three Republicans who had voted for the bill last week. They said in a letter to Brewer that while the intent of their vote “was to create a shield for all citizens’ religious liberties, the bill has been mischaracterized by its opponents as a sword for religious intolerance.”

SB 1062 allows people to claim their religious beliefs as a defense against claims of discrimination. Backers cite a New Mexico Supreme Court decision that allowed a gay couple to sue a photographer who

refused to document their wedding, even though the law that allowed that suit doesn’t exist in Arizona.

Republican Sen. Steve Yarbrough called his proposal a First Amendment issue during a Senate debate.

“This bill is not about allowing discrimination,” Yarbrough said. “This bill is about preventing discrimination against people who are clearly living out their faith.”

Democrats said it was a veiled attempt to legally discriminate against gay people and could allow people to break nearly any law and cite religious freedom as a defense.

“The heart of this bill would allow for discrimination versus gays and lesbians,” said Sen. Steve Gallardo, D-Phoenix. “You can’t argue the fact that bill will invite discrimination. That’s the point of this bill. It is.”

The bill is similar to a proposal last year brought by Yarbrough but vetoed by Brewer, a Republican. That legislation also would have allowed people or religious groups to sue if they believed they might be subject to a government regulation that infringed on their religious rights. Yarbrough stripped that provision from the bill in the hopes Brewer will embrace the new version.

Civil-liberties and secular groups countered that Yarbrough and the Center for Arizona Policy, a powerful social conservative group that backs anti-abortion and conser-

vative Christian legislation in the state and is opposed to gay marriage, had sought to minimize concerns that last year’s bill had far-reaching and hidden implications.

Yarbrough called those worries “unrealistic and unsupported hypotheticals” and said criminal laws will continue to be prosecuted by the courts.

The Center for Arizona Policy argues the law is needed to protect against increasingly activist federal courts and simply clarifies existing state law. “We see a growing hostility toward religion,” said Josh Kredit, legal counsel for the group.

Similar religious-protection legislation has been introduced in Ohio, Mississippi, Idaho, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Oklahoma, but Arizona’s plan is the only one that has been passed by a state Legislature. The efforts are stalled in Idaho, Ohio, and Kansas.

The push in Arizona comes as an increasing number of conservative states grapple with ways to counter the growing legality of gay marriage. Arizona’s voters approved a ban on gay marriage as a state constitutional amendment in 2008. It is one of 29 states with such constitutional prohibitions, according to the National Conference of State Legis-

latures. Federal judges have recently struck down those bans in Utah, Oklahoma and Virginia, but those decisions are under appeal.

The statement did not say whether the 79 are leaving voluntarily.

Lt. Col. Alayne Conway, an Army spokeswoman, said examples of soldier infractions found in the review included sexual assault, child abuse, and drunken driving. It was unclear whether those had happened during their military service or before.

“We will continue working to better ensure we select the very best people for these posts, and that the chain of command knows what is expected of them, and how important this work is to the Army,” Col. David Patterson, another Army spokesman, said in a statement.

— by Associated Press

METRO

Area man charged with criminal mischief

A North Liberty man has been accused of damaging the roof of a car.

Bud Kauffman, 29, was charged on Dec. 29 with second-degree criminal mischief.

According to a North Liberty police complaint, Kauffman allegedly intentionally damaged the unoccupied vehicle by running up over the hood and stomping on the roof of the passenger compartment. The damage exceeded \$1,000 but did not exceed \$10,000 the complaint said.

An investigating officer photographed and collected a palm print from the hood of the vehicle. The palm print was sent to

the Division of Criminal Investigations crime lab along with Kauffman’s comparison prints. The report states that the print photographed on the hood of the vehicle and the Kauffman’s palm print were the same, the complaint said.

Second-degree criminal mischief is a Class-D felony.

— by Alison Keim

Army removes 588 troops from sensitive jobs

WASHINGTON — The Army removed 588 soldiers from sensitive jobs such as sexual-assault counselors and recruiters after finding they had committed infractions such as sexual as-

sault, child abuse, and drunken driving, officials said Wednesday.

The move resulted from orders by Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel last year that all the services review the qualifications of people holding those jobs as part of an effort to stem a rising number of sexual assaults in the military.

The Army said it reviewed the qualifications and records of 20,000 soldiers and found 588 unsuitable for their jobs as recruiters, drill sergeants, training-school instructors, and staff of sexual-assault prevention and response programs. The Army said in a statement that 79 soldiers are leaving the service, and “others could face further actions from their commands.”

unknown, was charged on Monday with criminal trespass and third-degree harassment.

James Temeyer, 22, 1019 Fifth Ave., was charged on Tuesday with possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of marijuana.

BLOTTER

Amanda Brown, 33, West Branch, was charged on Wednesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license.

Dana Cockerham, 57, 404 B Jaysville Lane, was charged on Wednesday with assault on a police officer.

Willie Hilson, 56, address unknown, was charged on Wednesday with criminal trespass.

James Lavada, 41, Coralville, was charged on Wednesday with driving with a suspend/canceled license.

Mariah Keller, 18, 1413 Dolen Place, was charged on Tuesday with domestic assault with injury.

Kelly Pringle, 43, Oxford, Iowa, was charged on Tuesday with driving with a suspended/canceled license. **Joseph Polito**, 31, address

The Daily Iowan

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BREAKING NEWS

Phone: (319) 335-6063
Email: daily-iowan@uiowa.edu
Fax: 335-6297

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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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NOTICE OF BOND SALE

Time and Place of Sale: Sealed bids or electronic bids for the sale of bonds of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa ("Board"), will be received in the Kirkwood Room (Room 257) of the Iowa Memorial Union, The State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, until 10:00 o'clock A.M. on March 12, 2014. The bids will then be publicly opened and referred for action to the meeting of the Board as stated below.

Sale and Award: The sale and award of the bonds will be held at a meeting of the Board on the above date.

The Bonds. The bonds to be offered are the following:

PARKING SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS, SERIES S.U.I. 2014 in the amount of \$19,950,000* to be dated April 1, 2014 (the "Bonds").

*ADJUSTMENTS TO PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS AFTER DETERMINATION OF BEST BID. The aggregate principal amount of the Bonds, and each scheduled maturity thereof, are subject to increase or reduction by the Board or its designee after the determination of the Successful Bidder. The Board may increase or decrease each maturity in increments of \$5,000 but the total amount to be issued will not exceed \$20,250,000. Such adjustments, if necessary, shall be in the sole discretion of the Board or its designee in a manner satisfactory to the Board in its sole discretion.

Manner of Bidding: Open bids will not be received. No bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above. Bids will be received in any of the following methods:

- **Sealed Bidding:** Sealed bids may be submitted and will be received in the Kirkwood Room (Room 257) of the Iowa Memorial Union, The State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.
- **Electronic Internet Bidding:** Electronic Internet bids will be received in the Kirkwood Room (Room 257) of the Iowa Memorial Union, The State University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. The bids must be submitted through the **PARITY**® competitive bidding system.
- **Electronic Facsimile Bidding:** Electronic facsimile bids will be received at fax number: 651-223-3046. Electronic facsimile bids will be sealed and treated as sealed bids.

Official Statement: The Issuer has issued an Official Statement of information pertaining to the Bonds to be offered, including a statement of the Terms of Offering and an Official Bid Form, which is incorporated by reference as a part of this notice. The Official Statement may be obtained by request addressed to the Financial Advisor to the Board, Springsted Incorporated, 380 Jackson Street, Suite 300, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55101. Telephone: (651) 223-3000, or at its website at www.springsted.com; or to the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, 11260 Aurora Avenue, Urbandale, Iowa 50322. Telephone: (515) 281-3934.

Terms of Offering: All bids must be in conformity with and the sale must be in accord with the Terms of Offering as set forth in the Official Statement.

Legal Opinion: Bonds will be sold subject to the opinion of Ahlers & Cronney, P.C., attorneys of Des Moines, Iowa, as to the legality, and their opinion will be furnished together with the printed bonds without cost to the purchaser and all bids will be so conditioned. Except to the extent necessary to issue their opinion as to the legality of the bonds, the attorneys will not examine or review or express any opinion with respect to the accuracy or completeness of documents, materials or statements made or furnished in connection with the sale, issuance or marketing of the bonds.

Rights Reserved: The right is reserved to reject any or all bids, and to waive any irregularities as deemed to be in the best interests of the public.

By order of the Board of Regents, State of Iowa.

/s/ Robert Donley
Executive Director

(End of Notice)

CAMPAIGN
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Second, Iowa's second district lost Democrat-leaning Linn County and gained Republican-leaning Scott County in the 2012 election following redistricting.

Before Miller-Meeks can compete directly with Loeb-sack, she must defeat Rep. Mark Lofgren, R-Muscatine, in June's Republican primary.

Hagle said Miller-Meeks will "initially have to explain why she's the better competitor to be the Republican nominee" given the results of her previous two campaigns.

Miller-Meeks said the primary race is "very beneficial" for her campaign.

"The good thing about primaries is that it really

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INITIATIVE

helps you for the general election," she said. "You have to get your county support in line. You have to get it arranged. You have to get those people who are going to help you reach out to door-knock. It really helps to fine-tune the issues and the solutions you have to those issues."

Hagle said Lofgren has not had much traction so far in the race, and his new-found competition could give him more attention.

The Daily Iowan was unable to reach Lofgren by time of publication.

The Loeb-sack campaign is not concerned about Miller-Meeks' entry into the



Mariannette Miller-Meeks speaks about her platform at the Iowa City Cancer Treatment Center on Wednesday. Miller-Meeks is touring various cities after announcing on Monday that she would run for Congress. (The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)

race. "Her] tea-party views will play well with extreme

members of her party," said Nick Clarksen, Loeb-sack campaign political director.

He said members of the 2nd District will "realize how reckless she is."

TABLETS
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

tion. Hoelscher said no mat-

ter which tablet is selected, there is always a concern that the increase in technology could cause distraction in the classroom.

"I think there's always a possibility [of distraction]

when dealing with technology, so I imagine this is something that will be discussed at the end of the pilot program as well," she said.

Farnsworth said al-

though sometimes maintaining student attention with the tablets can be difficult, she is finding solutions and thinks the overall outcome outweighs the difficulties.

"We've been trying to be very proactive about that ... they had to sign an agreement to say they would only use it for educational purposes, [but] sometimes I have to give

reminders," she said. "But in general, we've just really been trying to be proactive so the kids know what to use the tablet for ... [and] it's amazing just to have access."

UISG
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

pockets, which "led to very 1990-esque websites."

"I'm honestly ecstatic that this project is going through," Brown said. "We're bringing the University of Iowa into the 21st century."

The motion discussed at the past meeting highlighted that the UISG has the resources and ability to create a formal system for student organizations to obtain websites, and Turner confirmed that the group has the funds.

The \$7,000 will help cover everything that students need to make websites, including help sections and

videos. Student organizations would not be required to pay for their website under this initiative.

"That's the point of the initiative," Turner said. "It's free for the organizations."

Brown said that only 100 organizations would be accepted for this year, and UISG would continue bringing in more over the

next few years.

Organizations this year may apply for the project up until March 28. Brown said when the organizations are chosen, UISG will pay \$100 to help "walk student organizations through the creation process" of the website.

"We're focusing on making the process as easy as possible for the student or-

ganizations," Brown said.

Brown said a couple of student organizations have been selected by IMU Marketing and Design to test the program over the summer, but the director could not be reached for comment.

Jesse Kreitzer, the director of the Bijou Film Board, said his group would be interested in applying for the

project. Since it partners with FilmScene, Kreitzer said that the two organizations have been focusing on the downtown cinema, and the website would be a good way to direct students.

"We were planning on revamping the website," Kreitzer said. "Of course, it would be a hub for our board."

TRAILS
CONTINUED FROM FRONT

draw for eastern Iowa."

The route would extend from Cedar Valley Nature Trail in Cedar Falls to Iowa City's Hoover Nature Trail, as well as to Solon and West Branch toward Muscatine.

The trail segment from Solon to Ely, which is 5.2 miles, would include six bridges and would cost \$3.58 million, for which the Johnson County Conservation Department has committed \$1 million. Linn County requested a total of \$2.4 million, and Black Hawk County requested \$3 million in funding from the state.

Mary Copper, the vice president of Bicyclists of Iowa City, said the project would be a huge benefit to that organization and other bicyclists in Johnson County. Copper said the group is made up of more than 400 bicyclists in Johnson County, and riders have traveled across Iowa to use longer trails — trips often costing a lot in travel expenses. She said the group often uses the trail from Hiawatha to Cedar Rapids.

"I think it would be beneficial because if we had a trail from Cedar Rapids to Iowa City, we wouldn't need to pack and load all of our supplies and bikes on trailers to use the bike trails," Copper said. "Biking is so big in this community, and I think a trail like this would be highly utilized."

Sen. Matt McCoy, D-Des Moines, said he wants the committee to think "long-term" for the project funding.

"The committee needs to think long-term to fund the trails for the long haul," he said. "We need to use our vision to look for ways to try to generate more matching grants throughout the state."

McCoy said he believes it is a doable project, but it's going to take legislators time to invest in the whole trail system and look more into the expenses.

Sen. David Johnson, R-Ocheyedan, said some Iowans are questioning the cost and whether the state should create more trails instead of working on county roads and bridges.

"Some people aren't aware some of that money is specifically targeted for modes of transportation, and the money that flows through the state of Iowa for modes of transportation can be targeted specifically for trails," Johnson said.

Although there is a portion delegated to trails from specific transportation funds, area officials said there is still more work to be done in Johnson County.

Johnson County Supervisor Rod Sullivan said he believes the county has been doing pretty well with keeping up with the commitments it has made in creating trails, but he believes more work can be done.

"Well, I'll be honest —

I think a lot of the state money has been stuck in Polk County for way too

long," Sullivan said. "I think a lot of people in eastern Iowa can bene-

fit from this, and I think this should send a few of those projects our way."

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OPINIONS

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— FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

COLUMN

Is the world burning?



Brianne Richson
brianne-richson@uiowa.edu

Is it just me or is the world burning? That might be a dramatic way to look at it, but it seems as though everywhere I turn (actually, everywhere I click or scroll) people are protesting, and their grievances are being met with increasing violence and political backlash. I am talking in part about Venezuela, a country in a state of wreckage and unrest for the past two weeks.

The coverage on the situation in Venezuela has been surprisingly minimal, in my opinion. Obviously, there's a difference between the amount of material a print front page can cover and the amount of content a website can splash onto its various tabs and pull-down menus. The disadvantage of the convenience of technology-based news is that it is often the consumer's responsibility to catch the story and read it before it's washed away by the next wave of stories, or to seek out the story if it is not readily tagged and arranged in a way which screams "IMPORTANT."

The harsh reality is that journalism remains a business. If the situation in Venezuela is being gipped in coverage in favor of other news items such as the similar situation in Ukraine or the arrest of a major Mexican drug lord, that is the decision of news providers, in part because of what they perceive as important for the public to hear but also because of what they think the public wants to hear.

What is interesting about the disparity in coverage between Venezuela and Ukraine is that economic unrest plays a major role in the people's outrage. Inflation currently runs rampant in both countries. With our

country's own economic crisis not far in our rear-view mirrors, we should know how much angst this creates in a population.

But imagine not being able to do or say anything about that angst. The Venezuelan government even tried to shut down Twitter ... talk about an infringement on human rights.

I'll admit that I could (should) be better at keeping up with and educating myself on global happenings. Today more than ever, it's easy to convince yourself that you are in fact "informed"; scan the *New York Times*, make CNN your homepage, you're good. But as a consumer, it is important to be conscious of what you're consuming and also to demand that which you may not be getting.

More than 10 people have been killed since demonstrations began on Feb. 12, in addition to accounts of demonstrators being abused and threatened when taken into detention. Furthermore, journalists have been attacked and detained for simply trying to document the ensuing chaos.

From the Boston Tea Party to John Lennon and Yoko Ono's weeklong "bed-in" in protest of the Vietnam War to Occupy Wall Street, protests have a long and varied history. There has always been something beautiful and stubbornly hopeful about them; even when it seems impossible and light years in the future, protesters believe in the idea of change.

It might be difficult for present-day Americans to fathom the right to protest being quelled by violence, but we are historically not very far removed from such a time in our own country. It has been nearly 44 years since shots rang out at Kent State University in Ohio, killing four unarmed students. So, if you haven't heard about Venezuela yet, look into it. As a news consumer, it's your duty to care.

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THE DAILY IOWAN is a multifaceted news-media organization that provides fair and accurate coverage of events and issues pertaining to the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Johnson County, and the state of Iowa.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be sent via email to daily.iowan.letters@gmail.com (as text, not as attachments). Each letter must be signed and include an address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. The *DI* will publish only one letter per author per month. Letters will be chosen for publication by the editors according to space considerations. No advertisements or mass mailings, please.

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EDITORIAL

Decriminalize pot in Iowa City

Last year, the mid-sized city of Portland, Maine, posed a question to its residents: Should adults found possessing marijuana be punished under the law? Portland's 66,214 residents answered with a resounding no, voting 67 to 33 percent to decriminalize cannabis.

It's a question that has been asked in cities and states across the country, with many adopting the same types of policies as Portland. Now, at least one city councilor in Iowa City is considering a similar plan.

"It's clearly an issue nationwide," said City Councilor Jim Throgmorton. "I think we definitely should be looking into it."

The issue was brought before the council after it received correspondence urging the councilors to consider changing marijuana-policing policies because of the racial disparity in marijuana arrests.

"The evidence is clear that African Americans are arrested more frequently for possession of marijuana," Throgmorton said. "The main thing I think we need to at least look into carefully is whether there would be benefits associated with instructing the police not to arrest people merely for possession of marijuana or smoking marijuana."

Throgmorton's progressive positions have often put him at odds with the council. But after an ACLU national report released last year found a black person in Iowa is more than 8 times as likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than a white person, making Iowa the most disparate on these arrests in the nation, it's apparent that the time has come for a change in our policing.

When compared with the national average of blacks being 3.7 times as likely to be arrested for possession, the injustice in Iowa's justice system is indisputable.

Sensible decriminalization of marijuana on a local level would help to alleviate this. Portland's law allows up to 2.5 ounces of marijuana with the stipulation that pot cannot be smoked in parks, school grounds, and certain other areas.

Beyond the issues of racial injustice and discrimination, this type of policy is practical. Police can't possibly catch most marijuana offenders. But by prioritizing schools and parks for enforcement, they can ensure that these areas are kept drug-free.

There's another benefit to decriminalization that's especially relevant to Iowa City: less crowding in the jail. Officials have argued the caseload for Johnson County has increased over the years, leading to not one but two ballot initiatives over two years to build new facilities, both of which failed to get the necessary votes.

In November 2012, Johnson County residents failed to pass a proposed bond referendum that would put \$46.8 million into the construction of a new, 243-bed facility with six courtrooms. While 56 percent voted in approval, it failed to pass the 60 percent required supermajority.

In May 2013, an updated \$43.5 million bond referendum reduced the number of beds and courtroom space from the earlier proposal. Once again, votes fell short of the supermajority, coming in at just 54 percent.

While marijuana decriminalization won't solve the jail overcrowding issue on its own, it certainly can't hurt. In 2011, there were 363 arrests for marijuana possession. There were 237 in 2012 and 272 in 2013. Getting these offenders out of the justice system is an important step to take if officials want voters to take another look at new jail facilities.

Decriminalization is not legalization. Offenders still face tickets and other punitive measures. But given that decriminalization can mitigate racial disparities in arrests and reduce the burden on our justice system, we urge the City Council to act on marijuana decriminalization and join the many other municipalities and 16 states that have done the same.

YOUR TURN

Should Iowa City decriminalize marijuana possession? Weigh in at dailyiowan.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's not in our nature; it's time for zero-tolerance

The stance taken by President Sally Mason originally in the Feb. 20 issue of *The Daily Iowan* spoke volumes about the complacency felt by the university concerning sexual assaults. Mason's statement concerning stopping sexual assaults — "That's probably not a realistic goal given human nature" — paints the bigger picture that describes a grotesque perspective of the culture that has developed on campus. The timely warning emails sent by the university when sexual assaults are reported are filled with victim-blaming senti-

ments, which suggest that drinking alcohol or walking home alone after dark should be avoided if one wishes to avoid assault. In saying that it is not a "realistic goal" to end sexual assaults on campus, Mason gives perpetrators a free pass. It's time for the university to take the same zero-tolerance stance on sexual assaults that it does on issues regarding academic dishonesty, underage drinking, and illegal drug use on campus.

Statistics compiled by the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault show 1 in 4 college women will be the victims of sexual assault during their academic careers. At least 80 percent of sexual assaults are committed by acquaintances of the victim.

The horror felt by the victims of sexual assault is very real, and statistics cannot begin to describe the lifelong trauma that haunts them afterward. It is alarming that the number of assaults may be much higher given that many are not reported at all. Those unwilling to come forward often do not because of a culture that blames victims rather than empathizing, implementing zero-tolerance policies, and promoting reform at the macro-level. The anti-sexual-violence organization RAINN shows that 97 percent of rapists will never spend a day in jail.

Mason has since clarified her stance on the topic of sexual assaults via the official University of Iowa Facebook account, where her

rhetoric reflected a more hardline stance that is needed for change. Ultimately, actions speak louder than words. We, as the University of Iowa College Republicans, support any initiative, program, or public-safety measure that will ensure the safety of all students. We call upon Mason and the administration at the University of Iowa to listen to the voices of students who passionately believe that reform is necessary.

To sign a petition to demand the university to take a zero-tolerance stance on sexual assaults, visit notinmynature.com.

Keith Evanson, vice chairman of the University of Iowa College Republicans

COLUMN

An open letter to Jordan Davis



L.C. Graf
lindsay-graf-juarez@uiowa.edu

When you were 13, you learned that the world was not fair. You learned and memorized all those social codes about listening instead of talking. When you were 13, you learned that the people around you could not always protect you and that the people who never smiled back from the other side of the cash register were not just grumpy, or tired, or sick, but they were sad and angry in their hearts. When you were 13, you learned about violence.

And when you were 16, you forgot. Or maybe you didn't, and instead of forgetting, you decided to be optimistic, and maybe you thought that because you lived a good life, you wouldn't experience so much disappointment. When you were 16, you

had friends and homework and went home to a three-story house in a cul-de-sac and would eat so much food that your mother would always complain. When you were 16, you were strong and you would speak for yourself and you would take action and you tried your very best.

The list of things you had:

1. Nice watch that your grandmother gave you
 2. New laptop that you were supposed to use for homework but instead used for YouTube videos
 3. Four pairs of dress shoes because your mother wanted you to know how to be a gentleman
 4. Too many hoodies, hats, and video games for anyone to keep count of
 5. Embarrassing photos of when you were just a "shy little kid"
- When you were 16 you did not realize that a year later, all of these things would be packed away as your parents cried, or stared blankly, or waited for you to come

back. But you will not come back. You will not have an 18th birthday party.

But on your 18th birthday, you would have jokingly at first, resisted your mom's urge to kiss your cheeks into oblivion. If you were 18, you would have tried to play the lottery at your graduation. If you were 18, your college application would make you itch, and waiting for that big fat envelope to come in the mail would drive you insane. If you were 18, you'd try to persuade your mom to let you decorate your cap and gown (she more than likely would have said no).

By the time you turned 21, maybe you would have felt like you were 35. Your mother's bid against cancer could have gotten you more involved in science. You would have tried to find the cure. More than likely, you would have given up on science and gone into fundraising and helping the people around you now because that's what you always did. You helped your friends and family first, in whatever way, as soon as possible.

Any research you did in college would have gotten you into graduate school or maybe landed you a job closer to home. A good job, a job that your dad will always tell his friends about.

I don't know. I don't know what you would have done, or who you were.

And I'm sorry. I don't know if you ever got embarrassingly sick on the highest roller coaster in the country or if you ever took a trip with just you and your friends down to the beach. Did you ever skip a week of school just to sleep? Did you know what it was like to pull off an all-nighter and get an A on that test? How many movies did you not see? How many flavors of ice cream did you not get to taste? I take all of these things for granted. But these are things that I remember the most.

You were very strong. You were very smart. You were just like me, the boys across the hall, the ones down the street. But you were only 17.

WOMEN

CONTINUED FROM 6A

Playing after a third surgery in three years is almost unheard of. Head coach Lisa Bluder said that she gave Taylor "every opportunity to bail out."

And yet, there's Taylor, cutting down the lane, catching a pass from point guard Sam Logic for a lay-up on a fast break. There's Taylor, starting every game two years in a row. There's Taylor, still playing the game she loves, when others would have quit.

"They spent a lot of money on me and my body — those ACL surgeries aren't cheap," Taylor said. "I appreciate that she gave me that option, and that made me feel good and made me want to come back — not only for myself, but for her and the program."

Now she averages almost 11 points per game, the most in her career, after missing a total of 53 games dealing with her injuries. Her experiences alone qualify her as a leader, but so do her consistent scoring numbers.

"Any human person would have to get down after going through three of those [ACL surgeries]," Bluder said. "And then, just mentally coming back, and not having it in the back of your mind, 'Is it going to happen again? Am I really meant to play college basketball?' Having those kind of thoughts



Iowa guard Theairra Taylor drives toward the basket against Penn State in Carver-Hawkeye on Jan. 5. (The Daily Iowan/Callie Mitchell)

is natural, and I think she had to spend a lot of time overcoming those thoughts and battling them, and winning that battle, which she's done."

The team and the fans have the chance to recognize Taylor for her commitment and resilience during the tonight's Senior Night matchup against Ohio State. Bluder described the evening as an "emotional tug."

"She deserves great recognition," Bluder said. "For what she's done for our program, being here for five years, being the example that she is, going through the knee surgeries, continuing to stay positive ... I just really want to send her out on a good note ... giving her the opportunity to say thank you, giving her the opportunity to be recognized by

everybody."

And yet, Taylor remains as humble and shy as ever. While the coaches and fan base are thanking her, she wants to thank them for supporting her.

"For believing in me when I didn't believe in myself," Taylor said. "After every game when I was injured, fans would approach me all the time telling me things that frankly, I needed to hear."

Her own bobble head, which was given out earlier this season, sits among her collection of previous seniors, but she doesn't dwell much on it. The entire Ohio State matchup is dedicated to her, but she's not dwelling on it. She's more concerned with thanking the fans.

"She doesn't like attention too much, and that's just kind of how

she is," Logic said. "She deserves it, but she really doesn't want too much of it. But no one else deserves her own day more than her."

Logic noted the calmness Taylor shows in everything she does. Maybe that calmness is how she came back from three devastating injuries. And that calmness will be present as she plays her last regular-season home game. But don't expect the lone senior to have a big head: She wants a win, not glory.

"She's been through everything, been through worse than what we've been through," Logic said. "In that sense, you just know she's going to give everything she can for this team doing whatever she can offensively, defensively, leadership wise. She's the heart of this team."

Hawks honing their games

By ALEC CLASEN
alec-clasen@uiowa.edu

For the Iowa women's tennis team, a long week of practice, devoid of matches, isn't an unwelcome period of boring routine.

A week of straight practice is a time for the Hawkeyes to polish their play in preparation to dominate their next opponent while also recuperating.

"It was a combination of recovery in a sense that we could pull back the reins on some of the bodies that were a little bit more beat up," said head coach Katie Dougherty.

Without the anticipation of an immediate match, most teams would settle in to a week of practice in a run-of-the-mill, even-keel fashion. The Hawkeyes, however, planned to use it to their advantage.

"We always have things we need to work on to prepare for the next match," said freshman Aimee Tarun.

For the Hawks, no two practices are ever really the same. A fresh plan on the to-do list helps to keep players actively engaged and on their toes.

"The coaches do a pretty good job of having every day be something a little bit different," said junior Shelby Talcott. The Hawkeyes take pride in their practice opportunities. For them, this isn't a time to just show up. It is a time for them to improve and to accomplish the goals they have for that week.

"We'll work on movement for doubles or hitting your spots for singles ... within a week, we get everything that we need to work on done," Talcott said.

No member of the squad leaves the practice court free of sweat. For the players, bettering themselves is a goal every time the team gathers. Every day is another day to build upon the foundation they laid the previous day.

"We're going to work on something that we need to improve on from the week before," Dougherty said. For this team the expectations are high. The coaching staff expects 100 percent effort 100 percent of the time.

On different days of the week the team meets in sections, with different players practicing at different times throughout the day.

These days offer a different opportunity with more personalized instruction from coaches, compared with a full-roster practice.

"When we do small groups ... we get to tailor the practice a little bit more to the groups we have," Dougherty said. "They do individual hits outside of practice; that's when we work on very specific things with each player."

With conference play rapidly approaching, the Hawkeyes hope to continue their effort and work ethic. With usually two matches a week in the Big Ten schedule, full weeks to prepare like this past one are a welcome break.

SWIM

CONTINUED FROM 6A

real shocks for us."

Iowa will look to use this familiarity to its advantage.

"We know exactly how they're going to race," senior Manuel Belzer said. "We know who they're going to put on relays and who will be in what events, so that will be a big advantage for us."

While the Black and Gold swam one of the toughest dual-meet schedules in the country this year, they have been out of action since their Senior Night almost three weeks ago.

A three-week waiting period between competitions would drive most athletes crazy; however, Noser and the Hawks say they are grateful for the extra prep time.

They have taken advantage of every moment in practice, trying to match their intensity level to that of a championship race.

"Things have gotten pretty heated in practice," Noser said. "Just from resting you get that extra

energy, so people get pretty anxious and pretty riled up at practice. We're all anxious, though. It's been since the senior meet that we've swam, so we're all ready to get out there."

Belzer knows that, despite the lag time in between meets, he and his team feel more prepared than ever before.

"From a racing standpoint, I'd say we're definitely more prepared and focused," he said. "But it should be fun. Even though we've lost a lot of dual meets this season, we real-

ly have nothing to lose."

Preparation is key for the Hawkeyes, and they'll need all they can get.

Besides their victory over Michigan State back on Oct. 18, the Hawks lost every other Big Ten dual meet this season, including a heartbreaker against Northwestern that came down to the last race of the night.

Still, Belzer and the team feel no added pressure going into the championships this weekend.

"I think because we lost, we can go in there

without any pressure on us," he said. Like I said before, we have nothing to lose."

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KATZ SEMI-BULLISH ON HAWKEYES

The Daily Iowan caught up with ESPN.com's senior writer and college basketball reporter Andy Katz to talk Twitter bans, the NCAA Tournament and Iowa's current Big Ten slide.

DI: Devyn Marble has had a fantastic season, but is he a legitimate Big Ten Player of the Year candidate if Iowa continues to slide?

Andy Katz: He is, although I will tell you I don't think he'll win it unless Iowa goes on a legitimate run here. I don't think the loss to Minnesota helps him. I think right now, you can make the argument, that if you can't settle on Gary Harris or someone like that, that the guy who is coming on strong right now who may have a legit shot to win it is Terran Petteway at Nebraska.



Andy Katz
ESPN.com writer

DI: Most Iowa fans will be quick to point out that there are not a lot of bad losses on their résumé, but there also are not a lot of signature wins, either. Obviously, every team in the NCAA Tournament will be talented. What are the best and worst case scenarios for Iowa come March?

Katz: They have the potential to get to the Elite 8, but I'm going to say Sweet 16 based on the fact that, for whatever reason, they haven't strung together significant wins in a row. It's been sort of an Achilles heel for them. They have strung together a couple of good wins, but not a number of them in a row, and obviously, to get to the Elite 8, that means you have won three of those kind of games in a row. I think they are going to be in that seed area where they are going to have to win evenly matched games.

DI: Iowa has struggled in close games this season, especially against teams ranked in the top 25. Would you attribute that to this team never being on this kind of stage before? Or is Fran McCaffery being outcoached.

Katz: I wouldn't say he's being outcoached. He did make mistakes in the way in which he handled himself in a couple of instances; I don't think that's debatable. Their ability to close out has been mental, and they don't have a lot of time to correct it, but it is correctable. They are talented, and with a senior and veteran-led squad could win four games in the tournament. They obviously have to do a better job here sooner rather than later. They could be one of those teams that makes the run to the Final Four that's outside of the top 10.

DI: Obviously, the icy relationship between Iowa fans and players make news recently. Considering Iowa's lack of success for the better part of the past decade, would you say fans in Iowa City are overreacting?

Katz: Unfortunately, the new norm is where everyone takes shots at you. We all get it. We all have to deal with it in some form, some more than others. You have to learn to have thicker skin and just ignore it and not respond. Even if they are including your name in something, really the only people who are seeing it is you and people who are following you. It's not like it's out there for everyone to see. You have to remember that and check that at the door and not be so reactionary.

DI: There is quite the logjam at the top of the Big Ten. How do you see the conference's tournament playing out?

Katz: Iowa is more than capable of winning the Big Ten Tournament, and if they do that, they will get a higher seed. As for Michigan State right now, I'm not on that bandwagon of "everything will be fine" because they haven't practiced together. I do think if they are healthy and have time together, then yes, they can win a national championship. Wisconsin might be my favorite to win the Big Ten Tournament because of their ability to not get rattled. They were down again Wednesday night against Indiana, and they just sort of found a way. They find a way to win, and the way they play will serve them well in terms of being very even and consistent in a three-day tournament.

Trying to respark magic

Let's try this again: Iowa will travel to Bloomington for its rescheduled game against Tom Crean's Indiana Hoosiers.

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

After suffering its first losses in succession in 2013-14 to Wisconsin and Minnesota, the Iowa men's basketball team will travel to Bloomington, Ind., to take on Indiana (15-12, 5-9 Big Ten).

Tonight's matchup wasn't originally scheduled; the two squads were forced to postpone their first attempt to play on Feb. 18 because of falling debris in Assembly Hall.

Since the postponement, Indiana has beaten Northwestern and lost to Wisconsin, while Iowa has dropped two games in a row for the first time all year.

"We got to get back to doing what we do," senior guard Devyn Marble said following the team's 95-89 loss to Minnesota Tuesday night. "We're not defending the way we've previously been defending in these past two games."

Part of Iowa's recent slip could be attributed to the absence of senior forward Melsahn Basabe, who is averaging 8.1 points, 6.5 rebounds, and 1.0 block in conference play this season. Basabe, a Glen Cove, N.Y., native, has been kept out of Iowa's last two games because of an illness.

"No excuses on our part, but Melsahn is one of our top players," junior forward Aaron White said in a release. "To have him not be able to go because of sickness is tough. Other guys have to step up, and we didn't have enough guys step up [against Minnesota]."

In Basabe's absence, Hawkeye frontcourt players Adam Woodbury, Gabriel Olaseni, and Zach McCabe have shot just a collective 41 percent from the field.

In addition to that, the trio has grabbed just 18 rebounds combined over the past two games, even with the uptick in available boards thanks to the Basabe's illness. This season, Woodbury, Olaseni, and McCabe have combined to average over 12 rebounds per game this season.

Although Iowa is at its lowest point of the season thus far, it will take on a team that's a mess of sorts Thursday night. Indiana has dropped four of its last five games, which has all but ruined its NCAA Tournament hopes.

"We've just got to get ready to play," Indiana head coach Tom Crean told Rivals.com following the Hoosier's loss to Wisconsin on Tuesday night. "It's going to be two teams that are coming off of a loss, and they're going to be really hungry to win. We're looking forward to getting home."

In games decided by single digits, Iowa is just 4-8 this season, which has many wondering if Iowa's talent — both in the eye test and in its per game metrics — is missing something or is deceiving in some way.



Iowa forward Melsahn Basabe drives to the basket against Indiana forward Christian Watford in Carver-Hawkeye Arena on Feb. 19, 2012. Basabe has been out with an illness the past two games; he is scheduled to return March 2. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

But with two more games scheduled this week, the Hawkeyes have a chance to erase the uncertainty that now surrounds them in quick fashion.

What may be unfortunate for Indiana is the fact that the Black and Gold haven't been this hungry to get back on the court all season.

"It's a quick turnaround, but that's the beauty of basketball," sophomore guard Mike Gesell said. "You have an off night

[against Minnesota], and you get another chance to prove yourself right away. We just have to remain positive and not let [the loss] affect us Thursday."

Men's basketball at Indiana

When: 8 p.m. today
Where: Assembly Hall
Where to watch: ESPN

Taylor all the way back



Iowa's Theaira Taylor shoots a 3-pointer against Penn State in Carver-Hawkeye on Feb. 14, 2013. Taylor has torn her ACL three times since she became a Hawkeye. (The Daily Iowan/File Photo)

By **MATT CABEL**
matthew-cabel@uiowa.edu

They call her "Grandma." Her knees creak and ache like one, after all, and she's an "old" fifth-year senior — the lone member of the Iowa women's basketball team's graduating class, at that.

"I ignore [them] now,"

Iowa senior guard Theaira Taylor said about her knees. "They're on a whole different planet."

Taylor is two years removed from her third ACL reconstruction surgery. There's always doubt about a player returning to glory after one surgery and the rehab that comes with it. There's even more that

comes with going through the process a second time.

SEE WOMEN, 5A

Women's basketball vs. Ohio State

When: 6 p.m. today
Where: Carver-Hawkeye
Where to watch: Big Ten Network

BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Ready, set, swim

By **RYAN RODRIGUEZ**
ryan-rodriguez@uiowa.edu

For the last three weeks, the Iowa men's swimming and diving team has played the waiting game.

Out of action since their home win against Western Illinois on Feb. 7, the Hawkeyes have had almost three weeks to focus solely on preparing themselves for the upcoming championship season.

Thankfully for them, the wait is over. The Hawkeyes completed their first day of competition with 44 points while sitting in 7th place.

"It's certainly the most prepared this team has been for any meet this year," head coach Marc Long said. "They're ready to swim fast, and they're hungry to win."

The Hawks had a somewhat disappointing showing at the Big Ten championships last year, placing seventh. However, senior Kyle Noser feels the team is more prepared than ever, and the Hawkeyes have learned from their mistakes all year long.

"I think we're definitely more prepared than ever before," he said. "We've raced every team in the Big Ten besides Penn State this year at least once, so there shouldn't be any

SEE SWIM, 5A

GAME ON

By **JUSTUS FLAIR**
justus-flair@uiowa.edu

Everyone knows the first rule of fight club is you don't talk about fight club. Yet *Fight Club* is being advertised all around Iowa City.

A new business, Game Geeks, 114½ E. College St., will host the first Iowa City Fight Club, a retro fighting-game tournament, at 6 p.m. Friday in Room 14 at the store. On the day of the event, Cody Pirko, the Game Geeks owner, will pick a random, relatively little-known game for the Grand Prize bracket and whoever wins will walk away with an "old-school" arcade cabinet.

Game Geeks deals exclusively with retro gaming — Super Street Fighter, Killer Instincts, and Super Smash Brothers will be featured at the event.

"I think it's great to return to the games that continue to be great even beyond their respective generations and really stand the test the time," said Pat Took, a competitive gamer. "Like in all forms of art, there are certain elements that go in and out of style, and a lot of today's games are lacking a certain flavor that a lot of people miss."

If the turnout so far is any indication, people in Iowa City certainly miss these games.

"We play Smash tournaments once a month, and those have been pretty successful," Pirko said. "We're hoping that carries over here for a big tournament."

The tournament will seem big to many involved, considering Iowa City gaming events first began in Took's home.

"I am the creator of Iowa Smash, a group aimed at organizing,

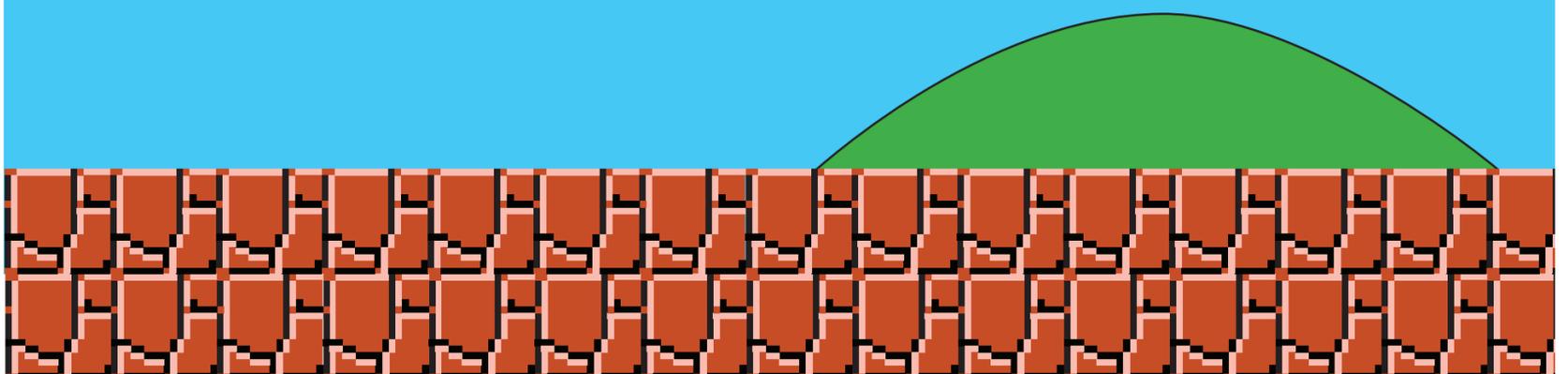
SEE FIGHTING, 6B

Iowa City Fight Club

Where: Game Geeks, 114½ E. College

When: 6 p.m. Friday

Admission: \$10 per game bracket, additional \$10 to enter Grand Prize Bracket



On the web

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On the air

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2014 OSCAR AWARDS

Oscar up



By Emma McClatchey
emma-mcclatchey@uiowa.edu

The Academy Awards are upon us again and, as usual, some in America are preparing as if it's a national holiday. But this year's Oscars might be worth all the pomp and circumstance — 2013 was a fabulous year for movies, from biographies to futuristic films. My favorites might not make the winner's circle, but here's how I see the year's premier pictures stacking up.

American Hustle: Earning the approval of 93 percent of critics on Rotten Tomatoes, but only 78 percent of average viewers, *American Hustle* is arguably the most overrated film of 2013. David O. Russell's '70s heist comedy is fun to look at and fit with a stunning cast, but it never truly delivers on its wit, twists, and romance. 2.5/5 stars

Captain Phillips: This hijacking adventure surprised me more than any other film on the list, offering up suspense and soul in equal measure. Not only does *Captain Phillips* give its "villains" a human voice, but the Somali pirates are some of the most stirring characters of 2013. 4.5/5 stars

Dallas Buyers Club: Matthew McConaughey is an HIV-positive rodeo cowboy with a heart of gold, and as his awards haul hints, the performance is brilliant. Pair McConaughey with a colorful and committed Jared Leto, and you have a captivating snapshot of the '80s AIDS epidemic. 4/5 stars

Gravity: There is a handful of action/thriller clichés here, but committed performances, stunning special effects, and Alfonso Cuarón's adventurous

but restrained direction make *Gravity* — to borrow Sandra Bullock's line — "terrifyingly beautiful." 3/5 stars

Her: Thought-provoking above all else, *Her* feels like a 21st-century story that was just waiting to be told — and thankfully Spike Jonze, Joaquin Phoenix, and Scarlett Johansson were the first to do it. I was left wondering whether Judgment Day will more likely be provoked by terminators or hyper-emotional operating systems. 4/5 stars

Nebraska: Black and white but not nearly as flat as its titular state, *Nebraska* takes a seemingly pedestrian road-trip story line and infuses it with relatable antics and indie charm. My Midwestern heart went out to this dysfunctional small-town family. 3.5/5 stars

Philomena: The feel-good picture of the year, *Philomena* features the woman the long-lost Irish mother you wish you had. Judi Dench keeps the film on the edge of the quaint deep end, and its themes — of religion, family, journalistic integrity — are rarely heavy-handed. 4/5 stars

12 Years A Slave: This adaptation of Solomon Northup's 1853 memoir is perhaps the most "important" film of the year, both as a historical record of American slavery and an artistic achievement. *12 Years* will most certainly end up on history-class syllabi, destined to move high-schoolers for decades to come. 5/5 stars

The Wolf of Wall Street: It's excessive in almost every sense of the word — from its 180-minute running time to its 544 f-bombs — but Martin Scorsese works the superfluity to his favor, and Leonardo DiCaprio and Jonah Hill are magnetic in their career-best performances. 4/5 stars

Actor Awards

As competitive as the Best Picture category will be this year, securing a best actor/actress award may be even tougher. Here are the performances that stirred me the most.

Best Actor: Leonardo DiCaprio (*The Wolf of Wall Street*) He has some tough competition, but I believe DiCaprio has sealed his first-ever Oscar win as the sexually deviant, coke-snorting, money-grubbing — yet somehow sympathetic — Jordan Belfort. As beautiful as he is, DiCaprio isn't afraid to get dirty for a role, and this visceral performance was clear evidence.

Best Actress: Cate Blanchett (*Blue Jasmine*) In Woody Allen's latest film — loosely based on *A Streetcar Named Desire* — the spoiled yet sensitive Cate Blanchett could give Vivien Leigh a run for her money. Blanchett's American accent might not be flawless, but Jasmine has a spark in her eye that grows in strength and depth throughout the film.

Best Supporting Actor: Jared Leto (*Dallas Buyers Club*): His dropping down to a mere 114 pounds may have been extreme, but it speaks to the level of dedication Leto showed to his character Rayon, a transsexual woman suffering from HIV/AIDS. Leto embodies the deeply flawed Rayon to a T — both with and without her characteristic makeup.

Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Lawrence (*American Hustle*): Though I was surprisingly disappointed by *American Hustle* as a whole, Lawrence's sparks of sharp humor, vulnerability, and distinct, likable characterization saved the film for me — and was by far the most memorable component.

The word on the wire

By ISAAC HAMLET
isaac-hamlet@uiowa.edu

Upon hearing the word "monologue," it would not be unseemly for one to conjure images of overly dressed actors waltzing about on stage, throwing about "thee" and "thy," managing to finish just as they plummet to the floor, dead. Yet the medium still flourishes in modern plays and film.

These isolated moments of dialogue from a single character may seem ultimately inconsequential at times, but they are often as plotted with as much care as the rest of the work.

"A monologue is a very different animal than a play," said Jessica Wilson, one of the many actors appearing in Riverside Theater's *Walking the Wire*. "When you're in a play with other actors, you feed off their energy. With a monologue, it's just the

actor and the audience."

Walking the Wire is an annual event dedicated to allowing playwrights from across the country to display their ability in crafting such dialogue. The event will open at Riverside Theater, 213 N. Gilbert St., at 7:30 p.m. Friday and will continue through March 9 with performances at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Friday, Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday performances. Admission ranges from \$15 to \$30.

Twelve monologues are in the show, all sharing the theme — merge.

"We're free to interpret the theme however we want," said Janet Schlapkohl, a playwright featured at *Walking the Wire* in years past. "Mine's about a young man conquering social skills whose been merged with regular education."

The playwright and the actor generally meet one

another in preparation to discuss the needs of the role.

"[One of my pieces], 'Recalculating,' was written by Gwendolyn Rice from Wisconsin," said performer Kristen Behrendt. "I was lucky enough to perform one of her pieces last year. It is very helpful to have access to the playwright, and I feel lucky to have her as a resource."

Ultimately, when the actor takes the stage, the piece relies on the talents of a single person to convey the writer's idea to the audience in the best way he or she can.

"My favorite part of performing in *Walking the Wire* is the surprise of it all," Behrendt said. "[Each monologue] is really like a complete one-person play. That's what I look forward to. Just standing there, and telling a story, and going for a ride with the audience."

weekend events

MOVIES OPENING THIS WEEKEND



Non-Stop

This action-thriller stars the unbeatable Liam Neeson as U.S. Air Marshal Bill Marks during a transatlantic flight from New York City to London. When Marks receives a series of text messages demanding that the airline transfer \$150 million to an off-shore account, he must find a way to stop the culprit before a new passenger dies every 20 minutes.

FILMSCENE



Hollywood Live

Watch the Academy Awards Live on the big screen at the Englert Theater, 221 E. Washington St. Participants are invited to not only watch the show, but enjoy movie-theme food, a cash bar, and compete for prizes. Festivities begin at 6 p.m. and the live presentation starts at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$10 to \$50.

CAB



Thor: The Dark World

Marvel's Thor is back for an adventure as he battles to save Earth and the Nine Realms from a shadowy enemy. Thor will fight to restore the cosmos and save all of mankind before the vengeful Malekith turns the universe into complete darkness. Showtimes: 8 & 11 p.m. today and Friday; 5, 8, & 11 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. March 2

DRINK OF THE WEEK



Dreamsicle

Primary Alcohol: Pinnacle Whipped Vodka

Taste: Paradise in a glass. The creamy whipped paired with the grenadine and orange juice reminds me of how close to spring break we are. Like a softer version of a daiquiri, the whipped flavor starts off a little strange, but after a couple sips, the congruence of flavors sets in, and all is right in the world. **Appearance:** Peach-colored in appearance, orange consumes the body of the drink but is filled with a light red/pink coloring. Usually garnished with an orange slice. My experience came from the friendly staff at Summit, who smiled and didn't even make fun of me ordering this obviously summertime or "female-focused" drink. **Advice:** Have some water with it, not because it's too strong, but the sugars might upset your stomach a little. At least after a few, but one or two is just delightful.

— by Ben Verhille

Today 2.27

MUSIC

- Jazz Rep Ensemble and Johnson County Landmark, 6 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- Jack Lion, 8 p.m., Blue Moose, 211 Iowa
- School of Music Presents: Jeongmin Song, piano, 8 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- Soap, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn

FILM

- Omar, 6 p.m., FilmScene, 118 E. College
- The Broken Circle Breakdown, 8:15 p.m., FilmScene

WORDS

- "Live from Prairie Lights," Nicole Helget, fiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque

LECTURES

- Lecture by Brian Ulrich, visiting artist in photography, 6 p.m., 116 Art Building West
- UI Museum of Art Smart-Talk, "Museums, Repatriation, and Cultural Policy in the United States," 7:30 p.m., 240 Art Building West

DANCE

- Dancers in Company, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place

Friday 2.28

MUSIC

- For Today, 4 p.m., Blue Moose
- UI School of Music Presents: Peter Simpson, bassoon, 6 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- Black and Blue Ball, 7 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- School of Music Presents: Jupiter Quartet, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- Filibusta, 8 p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington
- Velcro Moxie, Soul Phlegm, Nalani Proctor, Flannel Season, 9 p.m., Blue Moose

FILM

- Like Father, Like Son, 4 & 8:30 p.m., FilmScene
- Omar, 6:30 p.m., FilmScene

- Do the Right Thing, Bijou After Hours, 11 p.m., Film Scene

THEATER

- National Theater Live, *Coriolanus*, 7 p.m., Englert, 221 E. Washington
- The Matchmaker, 7:30 p.m., Iowa City Community Theater, 4265 Oak Crest Hill Road S.E.
- Walking the Wire: Merge, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theater, 213 N. Gilbert

DANCE

- Dancers in Company, 8 p.m., Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS

- Fight Club, 4 p.m., Game Geeks, 114 1/2 College

Saturday 3.1

MUSIC

- 50 Years of Harmony, Old Capitol Chorus, 2 p.m., Englert Theater
- School of Music Presents: Joshua Bynum, trombone, 4 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- School of Music Presents: Joshua Bynum, trombone master class, 5:30 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- A Night at the Jazz Showcase, 5 p.m., City High, 1900 Morningside
- UI School of Music Presents: Allison Offerman, oboe, 8 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- Summercamp Battle of the Bands, 9 p.m., Yacht Club
- Notixx, 10 p.m., Gabe's

THEATER

- The Matchmaker, 7:30 p.m., Iowa City Community Theater
- Walking the Wire: Merge, 7:30 p.m., Riverside Theater
- Quiet, Witches, Theater Workshop Production, 8 p.m., Theater Building Theater B

DANCE

- Dancers in Company, 8 p.m., Space/Place

MISCELLANEOUS

- Winter Farmer's Market, 10 a.m., Sycamore Mall

FILM

- Omar, 1:45 & 6:30 p.m., FilmScene
- Like Father, Like Son, 4 & 8:30 p.m., FilmScene
- Do the Right Thing, Bijou After Hours, 11 p.m., Film Scene

Sunday 3.2

MUSIC

- Piano Sundays, Alan Huckleberry, 1:30 p.m., Old Capitol Senate Chamber
- UI School of Music Presents: Chamber Orchestra, 3 p.m., Riverside Recital Hall
- Mann at the Mill, 4 p.m., Mill

THEATER

- Walking the Wire: Merge, 2 p.m., Riverside Theater

WORDS

- John Hadley Book Signing, 1 p.m., Prairie Lights

MISCELLANEOUS

- Winter Farmers' Market, 11 a.m., Johnson County 4-H Fairgrounds
- Iowa City Scrabble Club, 2 p.m., Wedge, 136 S. Dubuque
- Hollywood Live, 6 p.m., Englert

Go to dailyiowan.com for more news

Telling the untold in an abandoned psych facility

One upcoming play is more concerned with the audience listening than watching.

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

The lights are dim, and there is a haze of fog floating over the stage. In one corner, a bath tub is covered in shrubbery, and near the back is a tree branch. It is unclear if the settings of nature have only begun to encroach on a hospital, slowly preparing to swallow it whole.

A young girl's voice cries out in the darkness, "Spirits. Spirits." She is looking for answers only the storytelling witches can give.

On Friday, Theater Workshop Production *Quiet, Witches* will premiere at 8 p.m. in the Theater Building's Theater B. The show will run through Saturday; admission is free.

Director of the show Nina Morrison said over time, the term "witch" has been used to describe people society doesn't understand. Throughout history, those considered to be witches faced persecution, and suppression. Even in America, some have been misunderstood and silenced behind the doors of what are now abandoned psychiatric hospitals. The plot of *Quiet, Witches* capitalizes on this idea.

"When mental intuitions were established, it became an easy way to dispatch with women who were behaving in a way that was considered scandalous or in any way distasteful by those in power," Morrison said.

The show takes place on the grounds of an abandoned psychiatric institution in Washington, D.C. Nine witches, who have long been facilitators of untold stories of the misunderstood in the world, are trapped in the grounds of the hospital. They have the stories of the tormented patients in their heads and cannot move on until they find the right people to share them with. The play picks up when four girls from the area are drawn to the hospital for different reasons and encounter the witches.

Alex Rinehart, who plays Calliope, one of the witches, said the idea is the stories will be shared not with just the girls but that the girls will share them with others, and the world will learn from those who are different, rather than shun them.

"I don't want to sound cheesy, but I think equality for all people and try-



Keyla McClure stands onstage during a rehearsal of *Quiet, Witches* in the Theatre Building on Tuesday. The play concerns four girls who find an abandoned psychiatric institution. (The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)

'As theater artists and as storytellers, I feel like it's so important that we are always looking for the stories that aren't being told.'

— Samantha Collier, UI grad student

ing to understand other people's perspectives and where other people are coming from can really help prevent other issues," she said.

Morrison said the show is meant to not only tell others to listen but also encourage those who feel like they don't fit in to tell their stories. The four girls who encounter the witches deal with their own struggles that cause them to feel marginalized in society.

UI graduate student Samantha Collier, the author of *Quiet, Witches*, said she was inspired to write the play after taking a tour of the abandoned campus of St. Elizabeth's Government Hospital for the Insane, in Washington, D.C. She said after learning about some of the "horrific" treatments that were practiced — such as shock therapy and lobotomies — she wanted to tell the stories of these patients.

"As theater artists and



Witches surround four girls during a rehearsal of *Quiet, Witches* in the Theatre Building on Tuesday. The show will run Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in Theatre B. (The Daily Iowan/Alyssa Hitchcock)

Quiet, Witches

When: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday
Where: Theater Building Theatre B
Admission: Free, but tickets are available at the door

as storytellers, I feel like it's so important that we are always looking for the stories that aren't being told," she said. "We're not only reflecting the world as we see it, but we're imaging the worlds as it could be."

GO TO **DAILYIOWAN.COM** TO VIEW A SLIDE SHOW FROM A REHEARSAL OF *QUIET, WITCHES*.

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Local chorus still in tune 50 years later

By JENNIFER HOCH
jennifer-hoch@uiowa.edu

Around 50 years ago, a group of men joined to create a barbershop chorus — the Iowa City Melody Hawks. Now, that group, which has changed its name to the Old Capitol Chorus, will celebrate a 50th anniversary of tradition, brotherhood, and music.

The chorus will perform at 2 and 7 p.m. on Saturday at the Englert Theater, 221 E. Washington St. Admission is \$8 for youth, \$18 for general admission.

The tightly knit men who participate in weekly rehearsals are broken down into four sections, “tenor,” “lead,” “baritone,” and “bass,” as they cohesively incorporate their individual talents as a group that has become a tradition.

JP Marshall, a lead in the chorus, has been with the chapter for more than 30 years, calling himself a “barber brat,” a term he gave himself because of his father’s membership in

the chorus before his own. Marshall said the members of the group are his close friends and the brotherhood of the chorus is incredible.

“The chorus’ heritage is really strong,” Marshall said. “When I was born, my father was singing some of these same tunes, so this anniversary is historically exciting for me. There’s a lot of excitement around the show to celebrate our heritage, as well as how far we’ve come.”

Previous directors Lyndon Crist, Jim Berry Jim Ingrahm, and Larry Monson will participate in Saturday’s event by directing a song of their choice, in memory of Larry Knipfer. Current director Chad Knipfer said that although the group is coming up on 50 years, the members are beginning to start anew.

“We have a lot of energy and are heading in a direction of continued growth,” Knipfer said. “I believe we’re starting to attract some really talented guys from the community.”

The Old Capitol Cho-

Old Capitol Chorus

When: 2 & 7 p.m. Saturday
Where: Englert, 221 E. Washington
Admission: \$8 youth, \$18 general public

rus is continually growing, inviting members of the community to come to participate as a guest in its weekly Thursday practices at 7:30 p.m. at the Robert A. Lee Community Center, 220 S. Gilbert St. Practices are open, and auditions are not necessary.

Director of the Englert Theater Andre Perry said he was excited about the chorus’s anniversary, as well as its ongoing relationship with the Englert.

“It’s awesome that there’s a community group that’s been able to keep this going for such a long time,” Perry said. “We’re proud to be able to work with them and be the space in which they would want to celebrate their 50th year.”

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WHO-O-O

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

FOOD

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 457 S. Gilbert Iowa City 337-9090 | \$4.50 - 2 Slices & Pop \$12.99 Large Deep Dish 319-337-9090 Delivery or Carry Out | \$4.50 - 2 Slices & Pop \$12.99 Large Deep Dish 319-337-9090 Delivery or Carry Out | \$4.50 - 2 Slices & Pop \$12.99 Large Deep Dish 319-337-9090 Delivery or Carry Out |
| 136 S. Dubuque St. (next to the fountain) 351-9400 | \$6 Breakfast Burrito 7am-close \$6 Grilled Cheese & Soup 10:30am-11pm | \$7.50 Eggs Nova Scotia 7am-close \$7 Grilled Ahi Tuna 10am-10:30pm | \$6 French Toast 7am-close \$5 2 Pizza Slices 10:30am-10pm |
| 517 S. Riverside Dr. Iowa City 337-6677 | \$2 OFF Any Specialty Pizza Delivery Charges Apply | Order any Special from this Week - Get Breadstix or Salad for \$5 Delivery Charges Apply | Order any Special from this Week - Get Breadstix or Salad for \$5 Delivery Charges Apply |

ENTERTAINMENT

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD DIVISION OF STUDENT LIFE | KARAOKE NIGHT Currier MPR • 10pm THOR: THE DARK WORLD Iowa Theatre, IMU • 8 & 11pm PHILOMENA Illinois Room, IMU • 8 & 11pm | THOR: THE DARK WORLD Iowa Theatre, IMU • 8 & 11pm PHILOMENA Illinois Room, IMU • 8 & 11pm | THOR: THE DARK WORLD Iowa Theatre, IMU • 5, 8 & 11pm PHILOMENA Illinois Room, IMU • 5, 8 & 11pm |
| 118 E. College St. on the Ped Mall www.icfilmscene.org | OMAR • 6PM THE BROKEN CIRCLE BREAKDOWN • 8:15PM | OMAR • 6:30PM LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON • 4 & 8:30PM DO THE RIGHT THING • 11PM | OMAR • 1:45 & 6:30PM LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON • 4 & 8:30PM DO THE RIGHT THING • 11PM |
| 3184 Hwy 22 • Riverside, IA • 319.648.1234 | Kindle Fire HD Giveaway Sign Up for E-Club to Win Drawing Held Tomorrow! www.riversidecasinoandresort.com | RICK K & THE ALLNIGHTERS 60s, 70s & 80s Dance Music • 8:30pm FREE at the Show Lounge | Lucky Leprechaun Starts Tomorrow Up to \$55,000 in Cash & Free Play See Resort Club for Details |
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BARS

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 22 S Clinton St | 5-10pm - 1/2 Price Burgers 9-cl - \$2 Big Domestic, \$2 Shots, \$3 Big Wells | 9-close \$1 You Call It | 9-cl - \$2.50 Long Islands \$2.50 Flavored Vodkas \$2.50 Bombs |
| 118 E. Washington • 337-4703 | Lunch: \$5 Burger Basket, Grilled Cheese/Tomato Soup KARAOKE NIGHT | BURGER BASKETS BIG BEERS | BURGER BASKETS BIG BEERS |
| 125 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City | MUG CLUB \$4 Mugs and \$1 Refills Wells, Keystone or Busch Light, Long Islands \$2 Dom. Pints & Call Refills | FAC \$3 U-Call-It and Keystone Light/Busch Light Pitchers \$4 Wings & Burger Baskets | \$3 Domestic \$3 Vodka Drinks Until 8pm |
| 122 Wright St. 351-9416 | \$2.50 Dom. Bottles • All Day \$3 Tall Boys • 4-6 \$2.75 Dom. Bottles & Wells • 4-6 \$4.25 Jager Bombs • 7-close | \$3 19oz. Dom. Mugs • All Day \$3 Tall Boys • 4-6 \$2.75 Dom. Bottles & Wells • 4-6 \$4.25 All Bombs • 7-close | \$2.50 Wells & \$3 Tall Boys All Day \$3 19oz. Dom. Mugs • 7-close |

Metal and Christian



FOR TODAY
FIGHT THE SILENCE

When one thinks of the Christian music genre, five guys wearing mostly black and labeling themselves as a "metal band" does not usually come to mind. But For Today is a metal band that incorporates many elements of Christianity in its music. The band will play at 4:30 p.m. Saturday at Blue Moose, 211 Iowa Ave. Admission ranges from \$18 to \$20. For Today has released five albums; its most recent album, *Fight the Silence*, was released on Feb. 4. In addition to that, the band has been a part of several tours, most notably the 2012 Warped Tour. Recently, the band has had to re-

group to complete an upcoming tour; the drummer embarked on a trip to South America to do missionary work, and the band's rhythm guitarist left in 2013 to attend a Bible college. For Today was able to release an EP in April 2013 to signify its return, which contained a DVD of the band and its entire history. The group then proceeded to produce *Fight the Silence*. The release of *Fight the Silence* was met with positive reviews and was charted on *Billboard's* top 40 in the country and No. 2 in the Christian music category. — by Mckenna Paulus

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Night Owl

| WHO-O-O | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|
| BARS | | | |
| 210 N. Linn St. next to Hamburg Inn | \$5.75 Domestic Pitchers \$2.50 Domestic Pints | \$4.25 All Bomb Drinks \$3.75 Shot Wheel \$3 Domestic Steins | \$2.50 Domestic Pints \$2.50 Well Drinks \$3 Tall Boys |
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| IRISH PUB 11 S. Dubuque • 338-6860 | 9pm - Close: \$2.50 Domestic Pints \$3 Three Olive Drinks | 9pm - Close: \$3 Domestic Pints \$3 Jameson Shots | 9pm - Close: \$3 Domestic Pints \$3 Jameson Shots |
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FIGHTING

CONTINUED FROM 1B

teaching, and promoting competitive Super Smash Brothers,” Took said. “I just started the group last year after not finding any community in the Iowa area for these games, and now we have a solid 90 members and are organizing events across Iowa.”

As the group grew, Took’s house seemed smaller and smaller, so when Pirko contacted him about setting up events at Game Geeks, Took was more than willing.

“[Game Geeks] has a lot more space than my house,” he said. “My role [in Fight Club] is to try hard to organize the group to come out and play in these events and recruit new people. My group tries to work with [Pirko] to host events that work well for the group.”

What’s working for

the group recently is the game Super Smash Brothers: Melee.

“Back in January, my friends and I started to play Super Smash Brothers: Melee and Project M again because we had watched the new Smash Brothers documentary,” said Mike Robinson, a gamer who will attend Fight Club. “I saw an ad for [Fight Club] on Facebook and got really excited that something I had read about and seen was going to be happening in an area around me, and I started getting all of my friends involved. I think the tournament is an awesome chance for Iowa City to gain publicity in the Smash community and, hopefully, get new people involved.”

New and growing, the gaming community of Iowa City needs a headquarters, and many are hoping Game Geeks can take on that role.

“I really enjoy the community here in Iowa City, and I have met a lot of great people who

love playing games,” Took said. “However, so far, there hasn’t been a place for the many gamers across the city to meet up, make friends, and show off their skills. Hopefully, Game Geeks can make that happen and create a strong community for Iowa City gamers.”

The university students make an excellent population for an organization such as this to thrive.

“I think Iowa City is an amazing place for this because it not only has a large number of people, but it gives the tournament the opportunity to be exposed to thousands of students who may not have known they wanted to play or even kids who have played their whole lives and never had a competitive outlet for their abilities,” Robinson said.

Retro games especially help create a sense of community, because they require gamers to meet in person.

“A lot of retro games lack an online feature, which requires you to have to find people in your area to meet in person to play with,” Took said. “While to many that may seem like a drawback, in my opinion, it’s one of the great things about them. With the Internet being the force that it is, we don’t often have a reason to go out and meet people in our community, and I think that’s sad. I have met some of my best friends here in Iowa City through playing these games and organizing events, and I wouldn’t trade that for anything.”

Bonding over games may seem odd, but Kyle Moody, a University of Iowa graduate fellow in

the School of Journalism and Mass Communication who focuses on video games and online communities, said it makes perfect sense.

“Put simply, interaction in games is a form of communication,” Moody said. “In this form of participation, people forming bonds as a way of playing video games together is no different from others forming friendships through sports, music, dance, or other participatory media and cultures. When interacting with others in a shared space, and when sharing the same experiences of in-game activity, it is common for players to form a bond due to the shared experience.”

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7:00

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12:20, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15

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10:10, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50

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12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05

FROZEN 2D (PG)
11:00, 1:30, 6:30

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4:00, 9:00

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7:00

POMPEII (PG-13) ✓
10:40, 2:40, 5:10, 10:10

POMPEII 3D (PG-13) ✓
12:10, 7:40

ROBOCOP (PG-13) ✓
10:55, 1:40, 4:25, 7:10

SON OF GOD (PG-13) ✓
10:00

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT
7:50, 10:10

THE LEGO MOVIE (PG) ✓
11:00, 12:00, 12:30, 2:25, 2:55, 4:50, 5:20, 7:15, 9:40

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10:40, 1:25, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

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DAILY BREAK

the ledge

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



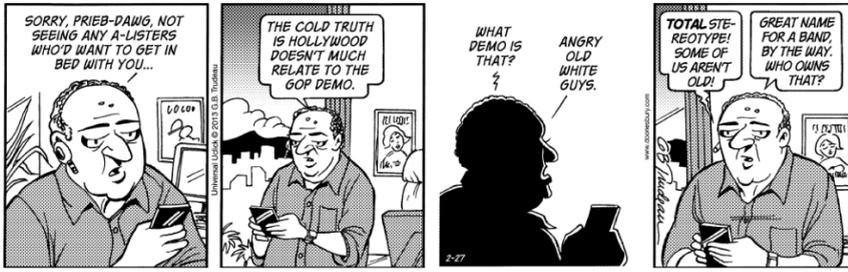
I'm so white ...

- When I go for a swim, people ask me to wear a shirt. Not so I don't burn, but so they don't.
- My SPF number is "Bathrobe."
- Goth kids ask me for tips on foundation.
- When I blush, cars screech to a halt in confusion.
- I make my bed sheets jealous.
- When I go outside after being indoors too long, the Sun squints.
- My wedding dress could be my birthday suit.
- Whenever I walk down a hallway, Christians instinctively run toward me.
- Flowers bend toward me on shady days.
- My neighbors keep submitting my condo to be on "Ghost Hunters."
- I never have to worry if there's still coke on my nostrils.
- I've been banned from interrogations by the Geneva Conventions.
- Powder was a wildly inaccurate portrayal of my life.
- My veins are on Google Maps.
- What you call the tropics I call the "no-fly zone."
- They call my condition "melanone."
- I wait for a quarter moon to tan.
- I'm often mistaken for Pat Boone.

Andrew R. Juhl thanks Mallory Smith, Roxy Running, Dana Christopher, Erik S. Johnson, and Duane Larson for contributing to today's Ledge.

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



DILBERT

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEV



today's events

- **String Quartet Residency Program**, Jupiter Quartet master class, 11 a.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall
- **Pharmacology Graduate Student Workshop**, "Isoprenoids and Androgen-dependence in Prostate Cancer," Jacqueline Reilly, 12:30 p.m., Bowen Spivey Auditorium
- **Black Health Legends National Exhibit Reception**, 3 p.m., College of Public Health Atrium
- **Hardin Open Workshop**, PubMed Express, 3 p.m. Hardin Library Information Commons East
- **History of Medicine Society Lecture**, "William Stewart Halsted, Father of American Surgery: a retrospective," Nicholas P. Rossi, Cardiothoracic Surgery, 5:30 p.m., Hardin Library
- **Classics Department Lecture**, "Scent and Sensibilities: The Status of Tanners in the Roman Mediterranean," Sarah Bond, Marquette, 5:30 p.m., 101 Biology Building East
- **Lecture by Brian Ulrich**, visiting artist in photography, 6 p.m., 116 Art Building West
- **"Live from Prairie Lights"**, Nicole Helget, fiction, 7 p.m., Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque
- **Museum of Art SmartTalk**, "Museums, Repatriation, and Cultural Policy in the United States," 7:30 p.m., 240 Art Building West
- **Dancers in Company**, 8 p.m., North Hall Space/Place
- **School of Music Presents: Jeongmin Song**, piano, 8 p.m., University Capitol Center Recital Hall

SUBMIT AN EVENT

Want to see your special event appear here? Simply submit the details at: dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.html

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level: 1 2 3 4

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| | | | 1 | 5 | | | | |
| 6 | 2 | | | 3 | | 9 | 8 | |
| | 1 | | | | 4 | | | |
| 8 | | | 2 | | | | 6 | |
| 1 | 4 | | | | 5 | 3 | | |
| 7 | | | | 5 | | | 8 | |
| | 7 | | | | 6 | | | |
| 6 | 4 | | 5 | | | 8 | 2 | |
| | | | 9 | 2 | | | | |

SOLUTION TO WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE 2/27/14

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 9 |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 2 |
| 5 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 3 |
| 2 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 5 |
| 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 8 |
| 7 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 9 | 4 |

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

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- 8-9 a.m. Morning Drive
- 10 a.m.-Noon Instru-Mental Madness
- Noon-2 p.m. Sports Block
- 5 p.m. KRUI
- 6-8 p.m. The Fuzz Fix
- 8-10 p.m. Eclectic Anesthetic
- 10 p.m.-Midnight The Chrysanthemum Sound System

mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0123

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pudding flavor
 - 4 Rapper Lil ___
 - 7 Take on
 - 13 Sea goddess who rescued Odysseus
 - 14 "Mit," across the Rhine
 - 16 Mixture of cement
 - 17 "Deliver Us From ___" (2003 film)
 - 18 Actress Rogers
 - 19 Less loose
 - 20 Member of a boy band with nine top 10 hits
 - 23 Supply line cutter
 - 24 Fatigue
 - 25 Triple-platinum Sinatra album
 - 26 Boundary river
 - 27 Western actor
 - 29 Move like goo
 - 33 Invitation info
 - 34 Top-heavy
- DOWN**
- 1 Buffs
 - 2 Flip
 - 3 "Beat it!"
 - 4 Pack tightly
 - 5 Poet who wrote "If you want to be loved, be lovable"
 - 6 Little ___ (early comic character)
 - 7 ___ crow flies
 - 8 Weather warning
 - 9 Beach bag item
 - 10 ___ Minor
 - 11 Black-and-white horse?
 - 12 "The ___ Affair" (Jasper Fforde novel)
 - 15 Building unit
 - 21 Puffed cereal
 - 22 Angel food cake requirement
 - 23 Represses, as bad memories
 - 27 "___ Bop" (1984 hit)
 - 28 Royal messengers
 - 30 ___ Clean
 - 31 Actress/model Kravitz
 - 32 Rescue letters
 - 33 "Huh?"
 - 34 It might be under a tank
 - 35 Barnyard cry
 - 36 Snack brand represented by Sterling Cooper on "Mad Men"



PUZZLE BY MICHAEL HAWKINS

- 37 Houston sch.
- 38 Cooler part
- 39 Set-off chunks of text
- 40 Fin
- 45 Its name may be written with an ampersand
- 46 Make plain
- 47 Food item
- 48 Smidgen
- 50 Less inept
- 51 The Graces in Raphael's "The Three Graces," e.g.
- 52 Smug look
- 53 One of the Argonauts
- 54 Deal
- 55 Sufficient, for Shakespeare
- 56 Obstruction
- 57 Zeno's home
- 58 Thunder

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LOBS HIST THESE
ACRE INTO ABATE
STAN GUAM LETUS
HANDCHRISTIAN
ANDERSEN RAMONA
TESLA BUS FIX
EVICTED CAKE
HANSELANDGRETEL
ONES LESSEES
SKA TEN LAMER
THROWS PANORAMA
BROTHERSGRIMM
ABEAR ATTY ITIS
TJETO NEON TATE
BREW KROC ZITS

horoscopes

Thursday, February 27, 2014 by Eugenia Last

- ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Sharing is fine, but only if you receive something of equal value in return. Resentment will set in if you have been taken for granted. Protect your possessions, and refrain from donating. It's time to put your needs first.
- TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Keep your conversations light and free from gossip. Don't make promises that will end up causing emotional stress. Acquiring knowledge will open doors to new friendships. Changes must be made for the right reasons in order to bring the best results.
- GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Don't let laziness or a lack of realism stand between you and your success. Stick to what you do best, and focus on getting ahead; you will reach your goal. The motives behind someone's assistance may be questionable.
- CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You'll have to be imaginative and prepared to wheel and deal in order to get things done on time and to your satisfaction. Simplicity, directness, and affordability should all be incorporated into whatever you decide to pursue.
- LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Whether money is owed to you or by you, it's time to pay up. Set a budget or payment plan that is doable for you or the person who owes you. A partnership will falter if equality isn't maintained.
- VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Socialize with people who have something to offer. Put greater emphasis on the way you present and promote who you are, how you look, and what you have to offer. Love is on the rise, and romance will brighten your personal life.
- LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Participation will make the difference. You can sit back and wait, or you can be forward and go after what you want. Don't let a lazy attitude or demanding people be the reason you remain stationary. The pressure is on to get cracking.
- SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It's important to ask for a straight answer when dealing with emotional matters. Don't confuse issues by making excuses or letting others get away with something that will ultimately end up being your responsibility. Take action.
- SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Address issues that have been hanging over your head. Be proactive and precise, and you will get to the bottom of a situation that needs proper attention. Make a good decision, move, or change in your life.
- CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Weed out confusion by taking care of business pertaining to your past. Whether it is an investment that needs to be altered or a friendship that is dragging you down, the time to act is now. Protect your position and your rights.
- AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look, see, and do. Don't wait to be told or for someone else to take over. Size up your situation, and do something about it. Whether you are concerned with a health, financial, or legal issue, now is the time to act.
- PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): An unpredictable attitude will confuse the people around you. You may know what you are striving to achieve, but someone looking out for you may not be able to see the method behind the measures you are taking. Share your thoughts.

Things don't have to change the world to be important. — Steve Jobs