Wieczorek’s final lap

By JORDAN HANSEN
jordan-hansen@uiowa.edu

Sometime after 5 p.m. today, a 68-year-old coach will walk out of the coaches’ offices in Carver-Hawkeye Arena and past the Dan Gable statue one last time as a part of the Iowa Athletics Department.
In his arms, he’ll carry the last physical remnants of a career that saw him start as a star distance runner and ended today with his retirement after spending 30 years coaching cross-country, along with track and field at Iowa.
In his mind, Larry Wieczorek will carry a whole lot more.

One must go back to the mid-1960s to really understand the man. Coached by the legendary Francis X. Cretzmeyer, the Iowa cross-country and track star was at the peak of his athletics career.
Wieczorek’s individual accolades certainly stand out; he was a four-time All-American with six individual Big Ten titles during his time as a Hawkeye athlete. But in his mind, it was the team success that meant the most.

“It is possible, but not easy,” said Roger Jensen, Iowa City deputy fire chief, about getting a permit.
Applicants need to provide details of the site they intend to use, demonstration of insurance, and descriptions of the planned pyrotechnics. Additionally, the certification of the pyro-technician who will run the show is required.

After Monday’s severe weather, several cities in eastern Iowa have been on high alert because of rising floodwaters.
On Tuesday, Gov. Terry Branstad issued a proclamation of disaster emergency for Johnson County in response to flooding and severe weather.
As of 11 p.m. Wednesday, the Coralville Reservoir water level stood at 702.94 feet, a rise of 2.16 feet in the previous 24 hours. Officials project the water level to exceed the spillway’s 712-foot height as soon as July 9 or July 10, according to a Johnson County Emergency Management press release.
In 2008, the Reservoir went over the spillway by slightly more than 5 feet at the peak of the flood (June 15). As the Reservoir level rises, officials will raise water levels on the Iowa River. As of 11 p.m. Wednesday, the river was at 22.06 feet in Iowa City flood stage is 22 feet.
Iowa City officials have currently closed North Dubuque Street from Fos-
Northern California fire spreads

**A Northern California wildfire has burned 3,800 acres.**

**BLOTTET**

**Anthony Elliott, 12, Willow, Iowa, was charged Wednesday with a disorderly house.**

The restaurant will move to a new and larger location in the coming months at an undetermined date. The restaurant, which put heavy emphasis on gluten, dairy, and sugar-free options, is expected to open by the end of 2017.

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**Victim of full may pursue legal redress**

Litigation is pending against the University of Iowa about a botched appendectomy performed on a UI student who suffered nerve damage that has disrupted daily life.

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**HUG NATION**

**Victoria Watson stands in the Ped Mall on Wednesday offering free hugs to passersby as part of International Free Hugs Month. The campaign was started by a man only known by the pseudonym “Team Rain.”**

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**A "Best Buy" designation requires schools to have high academic performance, a high percentage of student-loan default rates, and a high quality of student-to-teacher ratios.**

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**by Rebecca Martin**
Pumpkins, flowers, edible herbs, kale, and cauliflower are just a few of the many different vegetable being grown at Iowa City’s Earth Source Gardens. The website for the Iowa City’s East Side’s New Pioneer Food Co-op, along with Harvest Farm & Preserve, started the garden in 2009. It is part of a five-year educational program to look at the different type of foods, with the first year focusing solely on vegetables.

Every year is dedicated to a new food group to educate both children and adults, with this year focusing on milk and cheese. “The community garden began with one acre and then expanded to two and is currently completely full,” said Theresa Carbrey, the president of the board of directors of the Iowa Valley Food Co-op, along with Harvest Farm & Preserve. Carbery, who formerly housed the co-op’s former administration documents and shredded paper copies.

Johnson County officials are applying for funding to improve a building at the Iowa City’s East Side’s Johnson County Crisis Center’s Food Bank.

Johnson County officials went into place on July 1, 2014. (The Daily Iowan/Xinran Gu)
Column: The attraction of similarity

Johanna Johnson-Johnson will have another decision to make this election season. As report- ers for the Des Moines Register, the Iowa City, Iowa, City Council voted 7-0 to include the op- tion for an increase in sales tax. The 1% percent increase, up from the current rate of 6 percent, would raise $2.5 million for the City. This amount of funds will be used for public safety and other essential city services. It is important to remember the impact of tax increases on those who rely on city services.

Guests: The 2012 election must be a win for both parties. The city council must be re-elected and voted in order to continue to provide services to the residents. The council has shown that they are committed to providing necessary services and ensuring the safety of the city.

Readers' Letters: Readers are encouraged to submit letters to the editor. Letters must be submitted no later than 9 a.m. on the day of publication. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length and should include the writer's name and address. Letters will be edited for grammar and style.

Opinion: The Daily Iowan is a student-run newspaper that is committed to providing a platform for all voices within the University of Iowa community. The Daily Iowan is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) and adheres to its code of ethics. The Daily Iowan is a student publication that is independent of the university and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Editorial: Raising sales tax a good idea for Johnson County

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The campground’s pyrotechnician has been able to put on a safe show for the approximately 400 campers each year, and they’ve yet to be disappointed, she said.

Sleepy Hollow is only one of the many public fireworks displays throughout Johnson County that take place each year.

The three-day-long annual Iowa City Jazz Festival will end with a fireworks display on Saturday. Following Corvallis’s 4th of July fireworks display on Friday, Fourth of July displays are also shown each year at Lake Macbride State Park, Hills, and Lone Tree.

Officials advise parents to be careful when letting their children play with fireworks and related items.

According to the report, the major cause of all estimated injuries in 2013 was the use of consumer-initiated fireworks. Those items accounted for a staggering 40 percent of all estimated injuries in 2013. The report said.

Linda Fobian of Iowa City said she puts on a private annual display for friends and family. When her family’s raft was washed away in the 2008 flood, she and her husband moved the show to their home.

She said it has never been hard for her to get a permit for her show from Johnson County officials, and she is confident in the way safety is handled. “So far we’ve never had an issue with any problems or fires,” Fobian said.

Floodwaters in Johnson County are the only four states that moderate displays in professional areas are banned, aside from professional displays.

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Power problems vex North Side business

A North Side power grid is sparking some reactions from citizens around the neighborhood.

By PAUL OSGERBY

Recent inclement weather has resulted in numerous power outages around the Iowa City area, but some local business owners say one specific electric substation has had an abnormally bad reputation.

The North Side Market–place power grid, approximately situated from East Market to Church Streets, seems to experience many outages and fluctuating energy than other neighborhoods, some local business owners said.

“We thought that the fluctuating power is associated with the old mid of the MidAmerican Electric substation’s location on North Linn Street, adjacent to Brix Cheese Shop & Wine Bar, 209 N. Linn St.

That substation continually experiences transmission, and distribution center issues in order to monitor if a grid needs an upgrade or update.

Comer declined to discuss the number of power outages in the area as well as any information regarding future updates to the substation and power grid.

MidAmerican accepts individual concerns to analyze and work in order to look for upgrades and service reliability, she said. The process looks for ways to fix local issues before addressing an entire power grid.

On June 18, the energy provider reported that lightning struck a large tree, and the collision resulted in a power outage affecting much of the North Side area and surrounding the area.

Electricity was out for nearly four hours and a half-hours recurring outages have left some business owners concerned about the power grid.

“We have had to turn to an off-site power source,” said Nathan Stramer, a co-owner of Oasis Food & Drink at its current location, 208 N. Linn St., for 10 years. The problem with this power grid is that it’s very unstable.

He said that during outages, it is imperative to keep refrigeration doors closed to maintain freshness. Oasis also has a catering van that can be used as an additional source in maintaining cool temperatures for the food.

“I want to be able to run up to a flashlight and bring them down — that during stormy situations, it’s better to carry candles,” said Nadia Syfert, the owner of the Haunted Bookstore, 213 N. Gilbert St.

“After a fire broke out at Hamburg Inn No. 2 on May 18, Oasis and other businesses in the area lost power when a transformer blew,” Stramer said.

Once lost $1,000 of food during a power outage, and in an outage two years ago, it lost $5,000, Stramer said.

On June 26, the energy provider reported 2,294 customers during the height of the power outage. MidAmerican reported 2,904 customers experienced a blackout.

“It wasn’t too bad, but we could see the energy surging,” Stramer said. “The flickering across the street looked like a ghost train.”

Several area business owners say they are somewhat prepared for power outages.\n
The business unit in maintaining cool temperatures, during the event of a power outage, we’re all running and grabbing candles for each other.”

 Though there are frequent power outages for many different reasons, Syfert said she is pleased with the neighborhood and its atmosphere. She said that she believes the neighborhood has worked together in order to address the continuing issue.

“I want to be able to run up with a flashlight and bring them down — that during stormy situations, it’s better to carry candles,” she said.

In the event of a power outage, we’re all running and grabbing candles for each other.”
Cub bat wake up in Boston

By KEN POWTAK
Associated Press

Rusney Castillo homered and drove in 5 runs, and the Boston Red Sox bested the struggling Chicago Cubs on Wednesday night with a 10-6 victory over the North Siders.

Despite their recent struggles, the Red Sox have won seven of their last 10 games, improving to 52-39 on the season and snapping a nine-game losing streak against their crosstown rivals.

The Red Sox, who lost for the second time in three games against the crosstown rivals since winning three straight in June 2008, won for the sixth time in seven head-to-head matchups against Chicago, which snapped its winning streak at seven games away from Wrigley Field and post-season berth. Associated Press

Boston had been winless in its last two series, but the team's offense appeared to snap out of its slump in Wednesday night's game.

White Sox starter Chris Sale (6-5) was charged with the loss after allowing six runs and seven hits in five innings.

The Cubs' offense continued to struggle, scoring 13 runs in the ninth inning to pull the game back to a 10-9 deficit. The Red Sox responded with a pair of runs in the bottom of the inning to extend their lead to 12-9.

In the 10th inning, the Red Sox increased their lead to 14-10, but the Cubs scored three runs in the 11th to cut the deficit to 14-13. However, the Red Sox held on for the 14-13 victory.

Boston Red Sox starter Brandon Workman allowed six runs and seven hits in five innings, but the team's offense was able to keep pace with the Cubs' struggling offense, scoring 13 runs in the ninth inning to pull the game back to a 10-9 deficit.

The win was the Red Sox's seventh in 10 games against the Cubs, who have lost five of their last six games against Boston.

With the win, the Red Sox improved to 52-39 on the season and moved to within 2.5 games of first place in the AL East.

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Thoughts I’ve had while watching the Fourth of July fireworks:

• Ohhhhhhh.
• Double ohhhhhh.
• Oooooooh.
• I should get that spot on my calendar.
• Oooooooh.
• Ahhhhhhh.
• Ahhhhhhh.
• Ahhhhhhh.
• Oooooooh.
• I’ve never had kids.
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• Well, it looks like I need to set my alarm.
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bel said, "When I finally made it to the race, I was so happy that I just screamed, got up, and carried him around.

"We celebrated by jumping on the shoulders of our teammates and our fans. It was a day to remember.

g move. They are the things that really stick out in your life … it was a day to remember.

Throughout his time competing in Iowa City, he decided that he loved the sport enough to make it his career. After graduating from Iowa with a B.S. degree in physical education, he then earned a master's degree in the same subject from Northwestern University, which turned him into a full-time track coach for 12 years. Things stayed this way for a decade.

"Sometimes you do not start your college coaching career coaching distance runners but rather throwers. It was not an accident, and his flexibility in coaching a number of different events eventually became a hallmark of his career. During this time, he coached Chris Gomez, Iowa's first-ever Big Ten outdoor shot put champion in 1997. Gambold was a two-sport athlete and went on to become a third-round pick of the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 1987 NFL draft.

The two remain close and fondly remember the day in the fall of 1997 when they won a Big Ten title together. "We had talked about it for several years prior, how it would be something you would hold to forever," Gambold said. "We finally realized that we had made it to the promised land.

"The best part was after the race during the celebration of the victory. His wife, Julie, ran out and gave him a hug as those tears of joy streamed down his weathered face. We celebrated by jumping and cheering about the team. "The best part was after the race during the celebration of the victory. His wife, Julie, ran out and gave him a hug as those tears of joy streamed down his weathered face. We celebrated by jumping and cheering about the team.

"The thing that I think of most is the relationship with the university. He loved the athletes that he coached and the student-athletes' shoulders as he talked about his life … it was never formal; he'd just pull you aside.

"One of his coaching philosophies was to make an athlete-driven program that put them first over the rest of the athletics program. His goal was to make the track, field, and cross-country athletes feel as if they were part of the team. He would often be found talking to athletes about their love and take on opportunities to get to know each and every athlete.
Stokes commits to Fairleigh-Dickinson

Former Iowa men's basketball player Dayton Stokes announced on Twitter Wednesday that he will be committing to Fairleigh-Dickinson to test his eligibility. Stokes opened up early this summer to talk to 10 schools and received 15 scholarship offers.

"Really happy to announce that I will be committing to Fairleigh dickinson," Stokes wrote.

White invited to LeBron James camp

Iowa forward Aaron White has been invited to attend the LeBron James Skills Academy in Las Vegas from July 9-12. This invitation comes after he was part of a Big Ten All-Star team in the Kevin Durant Skills Academy in Waterfall on June 27.

White was recently invited to attend the Dominican Ball Camp (The Daily Iowan/Callie Mitchell)

RECAP

Joe Johnston’s team wins a nail-biter against Randy Larsson’s squad.

By WILL MCDAVID
william-mcdavid@uiowa.edu

Wednesday was the first time Randy Larsson’s first two draft picks — Melissa Dixon and Charity Mohon — shared the court. But that, even with 63 points from Dixon, wasn’t enough to get a win over Joe Johnston’s squad, which won 98-91.

Dixon and Company got out to a hot start, converting on early 3-point attempts and using that lead to push their team in the right direction. Johnston’s five starters each scored in double figures and that’s what we try to do as a team."

By NICK STEFFEN
nicholas-a-steffen@uiowa.edu

True to her gritty form, Disterhoft started the game strong, scoring 19 points in the first half, including 11 in the opening frame, whether she was a decoy and distributor, as a primary scorer or a defensive fulcrum. By acting as a primary scorer, Larsson’s squad confidently attacked the paint and forced Doolittle to the perimeter for a switch to crowd the paint and force Doolittle to the perimeter for a switch.

The initial success of Johnston’s plan, Johnston made timely coaching adjustments, transitioning his center from the role of primary scorer to an offensive fulcrum. By setting a 3-point arc, Larsson’s squad established an offensive surge. Johnston’s player on the Knights’ roster.

The 6-7 forward scored 15 points during three seasons in Iowa City.

Larsson, who was recently invited to attend the Kevin Durant Skills Academy, this invitation comes after he was part of a Big Ten All-Star team in the Kevin Durant Skills Academy in Waterfall on June 27.

White has scored 1,301 career points during three seasons as a V-hawk and grabbed 28 rebounds while playing for the Black and Gold. He received a scholarship prior to his senior year of high school in the United States in Las Vegas from July 9-12.

White invited to the LeBron James Skills Academy. This invitation comes after he was part of a Big Ten All-Star team in the Kevin Durant Skills Academy in Waterfall on June 27.

White was recently invited to attend the Dominican Ball Camp.

PRIME TIME LEAGUE

Dave Bouchard of Dowling Tonight is in the southeast corner of the Black and Gold dugout in Carver-Hawkeye on Dec. 31, 2013 (The Daily Iowan/Callie Mitchell)

Iowa forward Aaron White scores 38 points in her team’s win Wednesday night.

By NICK STEFFEN
nicholas-a-steffen@uiowa.edu

True to her gritty form, Dixon started the game strong, scoring 19 points in the first half, most in the first 10 minutes.

Disterhoft’s aggressiveness on offense helped her team in good scoring positions in the opening frame, whether she was driving the ball through the lane or kicking it out to a teammate for the field goal.

Near the end of the first half, however, Unick’s team and Disterhoft began to slow down, which allowed McCool’s team to push back and bring the score to 44-30 at halftime. But Disterhoft stilled any thoughts of a comeback with a series of baskets in transition on offense helping her hot shooting night alive, she went on to score 22 points before nine minutes had elapsed.

Dickerson arrives to aid White

Trey Dickerson is scheduled to make his Prime Time League debut today in Waterloo.

By KYE MANN
kye-mann@uiowa.edu

With two weeks down in the Prime Time League, perhaps one of the most anticipated faces in recent Iowa men’s basketball history is finally committed to playing during the league’s trip to Waterloo.

Because junior-college transfer point guard Trey Dickerson arrived in Iowa City on June 27, he has missed the season thus far for coach Ben Howland in Laramie. Dickerson has played in one game for the Cowboys this season.

Dickerson arrived to aid White

Trey Dickerson arrives to aid White

Trey Dickerson is scheduled to make his Prime Time League debut today in Waterloo.
This Independence Day weekend marks the return of Iowa City’s Jazz Festival, kicking this year’s Summer of the Arts up a notch. Now in its 23rd year, Iowa City’s annual free Jazz Festival is expected to be larger than ever before, boasting new stages as well as local food and art stands. Downtown will house the main stage. More than 20 ensembles are scheduled to perform, an eclectic mix of artists that blends performances by both veteran and youth musicians. Performances will begin at 5 p.m. today and continue through Saturday, culminating with a fireworks show at 9:30 p.m.

“We really wanted to make a cohesive festival,” said Don Thompson, the head of Jazz Fest’s musical-booking committee, who, when not working on the festival, is an attorney for Bradley and Riley. “This year, it’s a little different, going with a Thursday through Saturday format for the first time. Thursday is very youth-oriented, while Friday is more of a transitional day to Saturday, which is our busiest day.”

Jazz Fest’s media attention

Jazz Fest has indeed become much busier since its inception in 1991. It has grown from 1,000 people watching a single stage on a single day to a three-day extravaganza with an anticipated attendance of approximately 30,000 people.

After being named one of Downbeat magazine’s “Top 10 Festivals in the Nation” in 1996, the event received attention from National Public Radio’s program “JazzSet,” which recorded the festival for a national audience in 2000. This kind of promotion attracted jazz lovers from around the country.

“I’ve talked to people who have made the trip from Omaha, and even Dallas, Texas, to go to this festival,” said Dennis Green, the general manager of the jazz station KCCK-FM, as well as the festival’s MC. “They drove up from Dallas, and after the weekend was over, they told me they would never miss Jazz Fest again.”

KCCK will broadcast a live stream of the festival, consisting of performances on both the main and side stages. Live music, artist profiles, interviews, and scheduling updates will be part of the three-day broadcast.

The hope is to expand the music to the listening public, attracting people who have never been interested in jazz to get to know some of the artists and their stories.

“We’re excited about our broadcast, but to really experience the music, you have to get see it live,” Green said. “We’re starting a little later in the evening this year, not only to beat the heat but also because we’re hoping to get people on their way back from work to stop and look around.”

Illustration by Derek Laughlin

On the web Get updates about local arts & entertainment events on Twitter @DailyIowanArts.  

On the air Tune in to KRUI 89.7 FM at 4 p.m. on Thursdays to hear about this weekend in arts & entertainment.  

Events calendar Want your event to be printed in The Daily Iowan and included in our online calendar? To submit a listing visit dailyiowan.com/pages/calendarsubmit.
Count 1: Adding a Thousand to Three

Count 2: The Death of Cade Yaeger?

Count 4: Do You Know How Many Chickens Will Be Killed?


Count 7: On the Fourth of July, 1776, It Was...
Jazz Festival Continues From Front

Four days of music are packed into the annual 4th Fest, a citywide festival dedicated to celebrating the Fourth of July through a myriad of events and activities. A free concert featuring the Coralville Summer Band starts at 6:30 p.m. at Mays Park, a parade at 10 a.m. Friday, and a fireworks display at 9 p.m. That’s the schedule for the Friday portion of 4th Fest. New in the middle of it all are a number of events assembled by a dedicated group of community members, including Paula Bakey, co-chair of the 4th Fest Committee. She oversees a number of subcommittees but not without relative ease.

“Every year, the 4th Fest Committee holds a Basket Auction, in which business owners from in and around Coralville and Iowa City donate gifts that are then sold by attendees of the auction. The donated gifts range from hotel rooms to upclose birdhouses. This year, the average price for a basket was $120.”

Today’s concert in Morrison Park opens with the band Bealestone at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 4th Fest network group with a surprise act, then Jefferson Starship (not to be confused with Jefferson Airplane, from which Jefferson Starship separated and which sometimes could be seen on stage for as little as $200 from tonight’s headliners.) By 9 p.m., the Jefferson Starship band will be greeted with great attendance.

“We really do get good turnouts,” she said. “Even the one year it rained, we had Kansas, and we had people of all ages come out for it. Even teenagers would think they want to be else-...”

The crowd looks on as stars like Dandelion Stompers, 12:30 p.m., Local Stage; Culinary Row and Beverage Garden, noon, Downtown; and North Corridor All-Star Jazz Band, 3 p.m., Main Stage.

Economic and cultural impact of Jazz Fest

Summer is usually a pretty lackluster time of year for Iowa City: most of the undergraduate students have gone home for the summer, and the heat tends to make everything even less engaging. However, Jazz Fest has filled that in recent years.

Recognizing the economic and cultural impact of the festival, the University of Iowa and Cedar Rapids area businesses have become the major financial backers for the event.

“We really have a good time,” Bakey said. “The festival and the university are working together, and they’re really great community effort.”

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THURSDAY, JULY 3
4pm  
Culinary Row  
Beverage Garden  
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Artist Booths  
FUN Zone  
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MAIN STAGE:  sponsored by Chicken of the Sea
5pm  
United Jazz Ensemble  
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank
7pm  
Jared Gold Trio  
Sponsored by Bradley & Shelly PC
9pm  
The Pedrito Martinez Group  
Sponsored by Bradley & Shelly PC

SIDE STAGES:
6:30/8:30pm:  
The Andrew DiRuzza Quintet  
College Stage - sponsored by Oldani Restaurant Community
Smith Studio Jazz  
Youth Stage - sponsored by OraDent Restorative Community
George Jazz Trio  
Local Stage

FRIDAY, JULY 4
12pm  
Culinary Row  
Beverage Garden  
Featuring products from Cedar Ridge Winery & TC Distilling  
Artist Booths  
FUN Zone  
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank

MAIN STAGE:  sponsored by Chicken of the Sea
9pm  
The North Corridor All-Star Jazz Band  
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank  
≥18 years old.  
4pm  
Nordic Connect  
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank  
≥18 years old.  
7pm  
Elaine Charles Creole Soul  
Sponsored by MidWestOne Bank  
≥18 years old.  
9pm  
Joe Lovano Us Five  
≥18 years old.

SIDE STAGES:
2:30/4:30pm:  
Grake Shalogn  
College Stage - sponsored by Oldani Restaurant Community
BP & The Spats  
Youth Stage - sponsored by OraDent Restorative Community
Steve Gismore Group  
Local Stage

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6:30 PM
The Mike Conrad Small Group
College Stage - sponsored by Clinton Street Social Club

East-West Controversy
North Stage - sponsored by Gaelic Retirement Community
James Dreier and Riffmocca
Local Stage

SATURDAY, JULY 5

12 pm
Culinary Row
Beverage Garden
Featuring Negroni from Crowe Stage Winery & 70 Distilling

Artist Booths
FUN Zone
sponsored by MidwestOne Bank

MAIN STAGE: sponsored by Chick-fil-A

2 pm
The Commons Collective

4 pm
Melissa Aldana & Crash Trio

6 pm
Anat Cohen Quartet

8 pm
Tom Harrell Colors of a Dream
with Johnathan Blake, Wayne Escoffery, Ognina Digregorio, Jake Snow, and Esperanza Spalding

CITY OF IOWA CITY

12:30 PM
Dan D'Imonte and Bad Asssets
North Stage - sponsored by Gaelic Retirement Community

1:30 PM
The Scott Barnum Group
College Stage - sponsored by Clinton Street Social Club

Ze Emilio and Brazil '14
Local Stage - sponsored by Mahahon's Pro Shop

5:30 PM
The Tritio
College Stage - sponsored by Clinton Street Social Club

Silver Swing Band
North Stage - sponsored by Gaelic Retirement Community

The Dan Padley Group
Local Stage - sponsored by Mahahon's Pro Shop

9:30 PM
FIREWORKS
Tom Harrell Colors of a Dream
with Johnathan Blake, Wayne Escoffery, Ugonna Onwugbufor, Jalaln Shaw, & Esperanza Spalding
Joe Lavano Us Five
The Pedrito Martinez Group
Anat Cohen Quartet
Etienne Charles Creole Soul
Ingrid Jensen’s Nordic Connect
Jared Gold Trio
Melissa Aldana & Cash Trio
Commons Collective
North Corridor All-Star Jazz Band
United Jazz Ensemble

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Bad drone, bad; go to the corner
By MATTHEW BYRD
matthew-e-byrd@uiowa.edu
1.5 out of 5 Stars
If you had to design an American political issue that was both fraught with difficult moral questions and didn’t fall neatly into comfortable partisan divisions, you couldn’t do much better than U.S. drone strikes in foreign countries. Proponents will say it’s necessary to fight a new type of war, one waged against individual belligerents rather than standing armies. It’s less costly, both in terms of money and lives.

Its critics, however, will tell you it tends to kill more people unlucky enough to be standing in the wrong place at the wrong time near the wrong people. America becomes the imperialist bad guy, the one who killed the kid down the street. Anti-American sentiment runs high, support for terrorist groups grows, and our “counter-terrorism” efforts become anything but.

Drones, the iTunes/VOD release from director Rick Rosenthal, attempts to take this political and moral issue and turn it into a cohesive narrative. It seeks not only to entertain but to perhaps shed a different light on the issue, maybe even take a stance that makes us confront it in a way we hadn’t before. Some great pieces of art have arisen from taking this approach.

This film is not one of them. It’s a great premise: Stuck inside a trailer at a Nevada Air Force Base, there’s Sue (Eloise Mumford), the boxy/pilot daughter of an Air Force colonel — which her partner, Jack (Matt O’Leary) won’t let her forget in between lascivious remarks that act as his version of flirting. They fly drones over Afghanistan, looking for targets designated by the Pentagon as terrorists. Most days, they drop a missile, hit the bar, and drink away whatever regret may exist inside them.

Today’s different though. The man they’re ordered to kill is at a birthday party with his family, which includes some geezers and a few young children. Sue isn’t willing to send a missile into a house full of innocent civilians. Jack has no such reservations. There’s doubt over the suspect’s guilt. The film consists of fights, physical and intellectual, over whether to strike or not.

With so much natural drama in this situation, it’s baffling why Rosenthal and screenwriter Matt Witten decided to up the stakes to absurd heights. The last 30 minutes of the film are just filled with melodramatic revelations that wouldn’t be out of place on a subpar daytime soap. Instead of having, what I guess is, the intended effect of increasing the tension, Drones is robbed of any semblance of realism, both tonally and thematically. By artificially upping the ante, the suspense disappears. This melodrama also has the effect of reducing the situation to the simplest, black-and-white situation that anyone who knows anything about drone warfare knows has never happened, which in turn robs the film of any poignancy.

When you want your film to be a statement on drone warfare, it helps to find out how drone warfare actually plays out. Even more egregious is the dialogue. The first half of the film is stuffed with unnatural, cringe-worthy banter between Sue and Jack that’s supposed to humanize them but instead just induces eye rolls. Then it devolves into the most trite, obvious monologues about the rights and wrongs of drone warfare, nothing anybody who’s picked up a newspaper or had a brain wave in the past year hasn’t heard before.

Drones clearly falls on the anti-drone side of the spectrum. It wants us to see drone warfare as a moral failing of U.S. foreign policy that has to be stopped. That’s fine, I tend to agree. It’s just a shame that it’s so bad.
**Nightowl**

**WHO-0**

**FOOD**

**THURSDAY**

- 457 S. Gilbert
  City 337-9090
  - $4.50 - 2 Slices & Pop
  - $12.99 Large Deep Dish

**FRIDAY**

- 136 S. Dubuque St.
  City 337-9090
  - $6 Breakfast Burrito
  - $6 Grilled Cheese & Soup

**SATURDAY**

- 517 S. Riverside Dr.
  City 337-6677
  - $2 OFF Any Specialty Pizza
  - $7.50 Eggs Nova Scotia
  - $7 Grilled Ahi Tuna

**Downtown IC, 114 S. Clinton**

- **Pepperjazz Grill**
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  - $5 2 Pizza Slices

**ENTERTAINMENT**

- **Coral Ridge 10**
  - **SYCAMORE 12**
  - **NOVEMBER 12**

**karaoke night**

- **Othello**
  - **Complete Works of Shakespeare**

**Jazzfest**

- **Jazzfest Opens 4pm ArtMarket, Culinary Row, Beverage Garden**

**BAR**

- **Burger Baskets**
  - **Big Beers**

- **3 Domestic $3 Vodka Drinks Until 8pm**

- **2.50 Margs & 3 Tail Boys All Day**

- **3.19 Oz. Dom. Mugs & 7-close**

**Burger Baskets**

- **Big Beers**

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- **2.50 Margs & 3 Tail Boys All Day**

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**Mill**

- **24 Jax **

- **Mill**
  - **All Day**
  - **3 Watermelon Marg & Meltdown Marg**

- **All Day**
  - **3 Wells & Barden Drafts**
  - **First Hour 4-8**
  - **2 Margs $1 Saloon Tues. 2pm-7pm**

- **Craft Tailboyls**
  - **2 Domestic Tailboyls**
  - **$3 Weels/$3 Bombs**

- **3.50 Pints of Fat Tire**

- **TVs GALORE! COME CELEBRATE THE HAWKS!**

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**FIRE & FLAMES**

- **$7.99 Philly or French Dip**
  - **$9.99 Domestic Pitchers 8-close**
  - **$2 U Call It**

**PINT NIGHT**

- **$1 U Call It**

- **$2 U Call It**

- **$7.99 Philly or French Dip**

- **$9.99 Domestic Pitchers 8-close**

- **$2 U Call It**

- **$2 Big Beers Keystone Light**

- **$7.99 Fish & Chips**

- **Happy Hour 3-7pm**
  - **$2 Craft Pints & Absolute Vodka**

- **$3.50 Pints of Fat Tire**

- **TVs GALORE! COME CELEBRATE THE HAWKS!**

- **Happy Hour 3-7pm**
  - **2.50 Bottles of Corona**