

The Daily Iowan

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2014 THE INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COMMUNITY SINCE 1868 DAILYIOWAN.COM 50¢

Fading to what?



UI junior Stacey Murray sits in the middle of Main Street in Hopkinton, Iowa, on Sunday. Murray's hometown is Hopkinton. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

By **STACEY MURRAY**
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Bette Wilson saw the warning signs. The 88-year-old knew her tiny town was fading. The population of Hopkinton, Iowa – incorporated in 1875 by a Dubuque transplant – had been dwindling for years, and storefronts had been shutting their doors in tandem. Lenox College closed in 1944. The shop where Bette bought the hat she wore to her own wedding closed. Three grocery stores closed. She was born there. Her father, Clarence Hageman, moved to Hopkinton after World War I and married her mother. She has spent 85 of her 88 years living in this small town in north-eastern Iowa. The closings go on. A movie theater. A drug store. A bowling alley. All just memories. Bette, my childhood neighbor, was 66 when I was born at the tailend of 1993. Our memories of our withering Main Street and the people who walked along it intersect for many years. I watched the grocery store close — the one where I bought

my Juicy Fruit gum for 25 cents. The hair salon two doors down that kept a crate of battered toys for kids patiently waiting for their mothers' perms to set. The restaurant in which my brother served a brief stint as a waiter. And every time I pack up my two-door Chevy Cobalt to come back to Iowa City after a holiday or a relaxing weekend at home, I feel a twinge of regret or guilt — it's hard to discern. It's more than homesickness. Hopkinton and all of the 600 people who live there feel like a part of me. My personality was sculpted from the life I had there. It's hard to verbalize my visceral affection for this village-sized town. Hopkinton and small-town Iowa is more my heritage than my hometown.

SEE PAGE 7

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New restaurant gives it a ride

Ride, a new bicycling-theme restaurant in Iowa City, had a successful first week.

By **BEN MARKS**
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One week ago today, Ride, currently Iowa City's only bicycling-theme restaurant, opened its doors, and co-owner Tom "Roc" Kemmerer says that, so far business is thriving. "We've been very busy," he said over the sounds of dishes, conversation, and a bustling kitchen. "It's been well-received. We've also gotten some nice buzz on the Facebook page and Yelp." Located at 630 Iowa Ave., Ride was busy even before the noon rush, full of patrons enthusiastic about the atmosphere and food. "We loved it here," said patron Kerry Evans, along



The bar at Ride is seen on Tuesday. The bike-theme restaurant is located at the intersection of Dodge Street and Iowa Avenue; it opened in the beginning of December. (The Daily Iowan/Valerie Burke)

SEE RIDE, 3

Council OKs new shelter funding

By **NICK MOFFITT**
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Chronically homeless individuals in Iowa City may now have a place to sleep this winter. The Iowa City City Council on Tuesday voted 7-0 to allow the City Manager's Office to spend up to \$20,000 on a temporary homeless shelter in Iowa City. "This is the right thing to do, period," Mayor Matt Hayek said during the meeting.



Hayek
Mayor

SEE CITY COUNCIL, 3

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YOGA FOR FINALS



UI students participate in free yoga in the IMU on Tuesday. The IMU offers snacks, massage sessions, yoga sessions, and late-night study areas during finals week. (The Daily Iowan/Peter Kim)

UI eyes summer Friday classes

The University of Iowa will now give teachers the option of having Friday classes during the summer.

By **ALYSSA GUZMAN**
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Some professors now have an option to teach an extra day this summer.

The University of Iowa Office of the Registrar is allowing teachers to extend their classes to Monday through Friday rather than last summer's Monday through Thursday schedule.

Last summer, courses were only offered four weekdays because faculty and administrators were under the impression that Friday classes in the summer would be unappealing to students.

"The idea was we wouldn't have class on Friday because more students would probably come to summer school if we only had school Monday through Thursday," said Larry Lockwood, a UI assistant provost in the Registrar's Office. "[It changed because] the deans felt students needed more time to complete their work."

Specifically, teachers who such teach courses as chemistry, physics, and languages have requested to teach on Fridays.

Lockwood said some of the departments have too much material to compress into a four-day school week.

UI freshman Ben Hicklin thinks the change will be beneficial to learning more intensive material.

"Yeah, it takes away from

Vitullo said he believes the move could have a negative effect on students who work over the summer or are just trying to gain a few extra course hours.

Lockwood said the Registrar's Office is simply complying with the requests of certain colleges.

"We don't make the rules," Lockwood said. "We just support the system

teaching an archeological field class, said he and the students will go to the Coralville Reservoir to dig five days a week.

Enloe, who has taught the course for the past three years, said he has always taught his class on Fridays as an exception to the rule, but he thinks other courses will benefit from the extra day.

"I think there's some courses that if you try to take everything Monday through Thursday, you'll have really tight, jammed-up

'Yeah, it takes away from your Friday, but it gives you more time to learn the information and get a better education.'

— Ben Hicklin, freshman

your Friday, but it gives you more time to learn the information and get a better education," he said.

Other students, however, are hesitant about the change.

"It would be bad for people trying to gain residency in Iowa because having Friday classes would make it harder to schedule work hours," UI sophomore Bobby Vitullo said. "It would also take time away from studying."

and manage what the colleges want."

The majority of courses, however, will be held Monday through Thursday.

"It will just depend on the teacher to see if they want to teach [on Fridays]," Lockwood said. "It's not mandatory that [there will be courses] on Fridays, it's only by exception."

Anthropology Professor James Enloe, who will

hours," Enloe said. Enloe said he not only believes it will be beneficial for course material but also for the well-being of students.

"In the summer, there are short sessions, meaning the class lasts twice as long," he said. "It takes a big bite out of the students' week already. If you spread [the courses] out to Friday, it'll take away from the students' stress."

CORRECTION

In the Dec. 16 story, "Iowa closer to passenger to Chicago," *The Daily Iowan* incorrectly reported the Federal Railroad Administration and the Iowa Department of Transportation came to an agreement last week; that agreement was made in September. In addition, the story referred to the new phase accomplishing 30 percent of the funding; it actually accomplishes 30 percent of the engineering. It also stated that \$53 million of \$72 million estimated was granted, but in actuality, the Federal Railroad Administration granted \$6.2 million of \$125 million. The *DI* regrets the errors.

METRO

Man charged with forgery fraud

Authorities have accused an Iowa City man of stealing from his place of employment.

Zachary MacMillan, 19, was charged Nov. 16 with forgery fraud of an Iowa lottery ticket.

According to online court documents, the store management found many inconsistencies in the book keeping of lottery-ticket sales for the evening of Nov. 16.

Once the store's surveillance video was viewed, MacMillan, the sole employee that night, was allegedly seen periodically taking lottery tickets from the dispenser and redeeming the winning tickets.

MacMillan reportedly redeemed \$225.

MacMillan allegedly admitted to taking the tickets, claiming that he was "just trying to pass the time" because he was "really bored" during his shift.

Forgery fraud of an Iowa lottery is a Class-D felony.

— by Alyssa Guzman

Quiznos to close

The Quiznos in the Old Capitol Town Center will close next week.

Owner Ed Mertens said the store would close for a multitude of reasons, the biggest of which was declining business.

Other reasons Mertens cited for the closure was an expiring lease, the 2014 bankruptcy filing of Quiznos, and his reaching retirement age.

The store's last day open for business will be Dec. 22.

Council sets hearing on Harrison Street parking

The Iowa City City Council voted 7-0 to set a public hearing on a lease-purchase agreement between the city and A&M Development.

The agreement is for the construction of a 600-plus-space parking facility on Harrison Street between Clinton and Dubuque Streets.

The lease will be through a third-party financial institution that will be decided when the parking

ramp is completed in 2016.

Bids are under current evaluation from city staff.

Rezoning Herbert Hoover Highway approved

The City Council voted, 6-1, with Councilor Jim Throgmorton voting no, to adopt the rezoning of 4701 Herbert Hoover Highway.

The resolution would rezone 39.6 acres of property from interim development single-family residential to low-density single-family residential zone for 32.34 acres and low-density multi-family for 7.26 acres.

Throgmorton said during the meeting he voted no because the rezoning potentially would not help the Iowa City School District accomplish its diversity goals.

The ordinance comes after a 6-1 approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission at its Oct. 16 meeting. The commission did state that proper sewer and water service to the property as well as a pedestrian access route would need to be added.

Approval would allow development

of single-family detached and attached dwellings as well as multi-family dwellings in the rezoned area.

Numerous rezonings passed near Benton Street

The City Council voted 7-0 to adopt an ordinance that would rezone approximately half an acre of property from community commercial zone to Riverfront Crossings west riverfront zone at 708 S. Riverside Drive.

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the rezoning 7-0 at its Oct. 16 meeting conditionally regarding dedication of right-of-way along South Riverside Drive for pedestrian improvements.

Approval of the rezoning would put the site in compliance with the Riverfront Crossings Master Plan.

The council also voted 7-0 to pass and adopt the vacating old Benton Street right of way adjacent to 708 S. Riverside Drive.

Approval will allow the property to be redeveloped in compliance with the Riverfront Crossings Master Plan.

— by Nick Moffitt

The Daily Iowan

Volume 147

BREAKING NEWS

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CORRECTIONS

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RIDE

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

with husband David Evans. "The food and coffee were great. It certainly had a Southern bent to it, which we haven't seen here before."

While offering a traditional breakfast, lunch, and dinner menu, Kemmerer said Ride's food has both Southern and Spanish influences.

In addition, he said, most of the restaurant's bread, produce, coffee, meats, beer, and paper supplies come from local sources.

"We put a very, very big focus on local suppliers," he said.

The Evanses, who had pork-roast sandwiches, said that although they are fans of breakfast, they had arrived too late to get it.

"We'll certainly be back to try the breakfast menu," Kerry Evans said.

Manager Marissa Hough said the restaurant is still adjusting and little changes and discoveries are being made along the way, such as raising

and lowering the hanging lights, learning what place settings work.

"There's been some crazy moments, but I think we're working out everything," she said. "Everyone's pitched in to work together and stay calm, and cool, and collected."

Kemmerer, who also co-

'We're all cyclists, and so there's a personal interest there. We also like to see people riding their bikes ... and driving their cars a little less, for environmental, conservation, and health reasons.'

— Tom "Roc" Kemmerer, co-owner

owns Short's East Side, 521 Westbury Drive, and Stella, 1006 Melrose Ave., operates the restaurant along with brothers Kevin and Derek Perez.

Ride is not the first restaurant Kemmerer has helped open, and he said opening Stella had many similarities to Ride's and that helped him know the effort and time needed.

However, with bikes along with brothers Kevin and Derek Perez. Ride is not the first restaurant Kemmerer has helped open, and he said opening Stella had many similarities to Ride's and that helped him know the effort and time needed.

Kemmerer's other restaurants.

"We're all cyclists, and so there's a personal interest there," he said. "We also like to see people riding their bikes ... and driving their cars a little less, for environmental, conservation, and health reasons."

Kemmerer said another — albeit not completely altruistic — reason he promoted biking was the restaurant's small 14-spot parking lot. And then he laughed.

As the weeks go on, Kemmerer said Ride's look will continue to evolve as they tweak the menu, put up more artwork, and ready the outside patio for spring.

Patron Paul Mokrzycki said he really liked the eatery's location, atmosphere, and menu.

"I'm very happy to see what they've done with the place," he said. "And as a vegetarian, there are a lot of options for me, which I appreciate."

Mokrzycki and the group he was with unanimously agreed they would come back.

"It's one of the first things we said when we sat down," he said.

CITY COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The shelter would provide a place for 20 to 25 people on average from 5 p.m. until 8 a.m. the next day, said Crissy Canganeli, the executive director of Shelter House.

The new shelter would be located at the former location of Aldi's, 1534 S. Gilbert St.

The shelter, according to the emergency-funding request submitted to the city by Canganeli, will act as an emergency shelter for individuals who are homeless or chronically homeless.

Canganeli made it clear that this would be a pilot program that would not be extended but would only be for the winter months.

The proposed cash-expense budget for the temporary shelter is around \$68,000 but will be amended, as the shelter will only be open for January and February instead of three months.

To cover the rest of the expenses, requests have been sent to the Johnson County Board of Supervisors, the city of Coralville, and United Way. The community foundation of Johnson County has committed \$5,000 to the project.

Now that the council has approved the funding,

Canganeli said, it might get the ball rolling on more funding.

"I think it will certainly help them in their decision-making process that this has committed, and we have a significant partner in this now," Canganeli said.

Hayek said it's a positive step that Iowa City isn't the only entity being asked for money.

"Far too often, Iowa City is seen as the only one capable of funding like this," he said. "Homelessness and housing are the product of and have an impact on the broader area."

The request states the shelter would be supervised at all times by two employees. There would be 40 sets of sleeping mats and bedding.

A petition was signed by 37 members of the business community around the area of the shelter because of concerns that property values would decrease and loitering would increase.

But, councilors said that housing the chronically homeless is important.

"This is not hard to vote for," Councilor Terry Dickens said during the meeting. "[The funding is] to target a specific population for only a few months."

Councilor Kingsley Botchway II said he would like to see business owners collaborate more with projects like this.

"For those business owners that are here, this is an awesome opportunity to open up dialogue with the people working with the homeless," he said during the meeting.

Assistant City Manager Geoff Fruin said those who would sleep in City Hall or the police lobby prompted the shelter plans because there was not proper security or oversight of those people.

"What led us to this point is months of talk with the Local Homeless Collaboration Board," he said. "This isn't a long-term solution in their minds, but this is the best short-term solution that group developed."

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COGS blasts student fees, transparency

The UI graduate-student union publishes concerns about mandatory fees.

By **CHRIS HIGGINS**
 christopher-higgins@uiowa.edu

In a 19-page paper released Tuesday, the University of Iowa Campaign to Organize Graduate Students laid out its opposition to rising student fees at the university.

The paper, "Tuition By Another Name: Student Fees Lack Transparency and Contribute to the Student Debt Crisis," lays out COGS officials' issues with the appropriateness, or lack thereof, of what fee revenues are spent on and questions whether they were within the original scope of mandatory fees.

Mandatory fees for the 2014-15 school year are expected to be \$1,426 for undergraduates and \$1,480 for graduates, more than double from a decade ago.

The Board of Regents' universities made the transition by the 2004-05 school year.

"[Then-UI President Mary Sue] Coleman argued that by starting fees, that would leave more money for education, and then fees would go to student-related services and programs," said COGS chief campus steward Melissa Zimdars. "The argument was that it would be more transparent ... what's happened now is that it's not transparent or accountable at all, and there's very little input into the amount of fees that we pay."

Regent Communications Director Sheila Koppin wrote in an email she would begin

working on a response today.

The *Daily Iowan* was unable to speak with regent officials Tuesday evening.

In 1999, several regents and UI Student Government members expressed concern over heavily rising fees once the split from tuition was made.

The COGS paper de-

'Despite what other institutions do about fee waivers or fee payments, remission of certain types, according to information I have available to me we are about the middle-of-the-pack in terms of how much students pay for fees.'

— John Keller, graduate college dean

scribes the recent tuition freeze for in-state undergraduate students by the state Board of Regents as "disingenuous."

"The cost of education is still increasing, but they can claim politically that tuition is frozen, because most people don't know about the additional fees they have to pay," Zimdars said.

UI Vice President for

Strategic Communication Joe Brennan declined to comment because the regents decide tuition and fee costs, not the university.

The regents approved a \$25 fee increase on undergraduate students at the UI and a \$45 increase on graduate students for the next school year.

COGS members believe graduate student-fees should be reimbursed, and they proposed the idea in their 2015-17 contract proposal. The regents' counterproposal did not include reimbursement, to the displeasure of COGS.

Negotiations are ongoing.

The publication noted 22 universities that reimburse graduate-student fees, either partially or wholly.

"Despite what other institutions do about fee waivers or fee payments, remission of certain types, according to information I have available to me we are about the middle-of-the-pack in terms of how much students pay for fees," said Graduate College Dean John Keller.

He said only two Big Ten universities — Michigan State University and Penn State University — do not have graduate-student fees.

Keller also noted a technology fee for graduate students is waived.

COGS officials requested information about where fees are allocated and have taken issue with what has been provided so far, calling it "extremely vague."

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HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1 (PG-13) 1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55	HORRIBLE BOSSES 2 (R) 11:50, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10
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OPINIONS

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— FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

The person, not the demographic



Christopher Cervantes
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Despite my fair share of moody, teenage belly-aching, I realize that I am very fortunate for a variety of reasons. I think that one of the best aspects of my background is that I know so many strong women. My mother, grandmothers, aunts, and many others influenced my life with their unwavering and dutiful ethics, as well as their bountiful stores of wisdom. I guess that's why it's impossible for me to comprehend sexism or any argument that is justified because of a person's sex.

Given that, I get really annoyed when I hear people crusading on the Internet and the streets, claiming it to be unfair that there has yet to be a woman in the White House.

Don't get me wrong, I have no problem with a woman holding the highest office in the land, but I do have a problem with everyone's reasoning about why we should have such a social breakthrough. That's because the majority of the justifications are along the lines of "it is about time."

Surely there must be more to it than that. There must be more to this political hierarchy than making sure a prospective commander in chief fits in the "it's about time we had a (insert demographic here) president."

This brings me to a female politico who has been highly publicized over the decades for her work both as a first lady as well as her own thriving political career.

Is there anyone out there who thinks I am *not* talking about Hillary Rodham Clinton?

Rodham Clinton is, I believe, a rather inter-

esting case. I remember her attempt to run for the presidency, when I was a preteen. Throughout those agonizing months, I saw the Democrats argue among themselves over whether to support then-Sen. Barack Obama or Rodham Clinton. Throughout this time, that same annoying phrase would pop up like a ragweed infestation.

"It is about time ..."

Frankly, I'm still surprised Obama beat her out.

I get the appeal. He was charming, personable, and he and his family looked so happy together. I suspect that, in comparison, Rodham Clinton must have looked less approachable in comparison. What she had to offer though, was far more impressive.

In comparison, she severely outweighed Obama in experience. Not only did she spend more years as a senator than her rival turned ally, but her rather controversial residency in the White House has hardened her so that she was better equipped to handle the media swarm and the inevitable criticisms that come with job.

Now, because this is Iowa, there is already talk about the 2016 presidential election. Rodham Clinton has all of these awesome qualifications; I am just baffled when I hear that people want her to run just because she is a woman. Personally, I hope she runs, but my reason is because I want to see what she can offer the executive branch.

If Rodham Clinton or any woman decides to run, that's great. If she is qualified and seems like a good fit for the Oval Office, then vote for her. If there is an opposing candidate that is *more* qualified, then don't. When the day comes that America has a Madam President, a day that is in no way an impossibility, then let it be because she is the leader we truly need.

EDITORIAL

In the wake of the Peshawar massacre

The town of Peshawar, Pakistan, suffered an atrocity Tuesday morning. According to Reuters, 141 Pakistanis have been confirmed dead, almost all of them children. The total number of casualties is as yet unknown. The Taliban carried out the attack.

This sort of abhorrent and horrifying destruction of human life forces the world to ask itself, "To what end will the destruction of one terrorist organization bring?" As immediate as the threat of ISIS is, there is an even larger problem looming in the distance. How will the world respond to South Asia and the Middle East once it emerges from its current chaos? What is next?

While short-term action may be necessary to stem the flow of blood, we believe diplomacy is the only long-term answer. What does that mean for the United States specifically? It is hard to say if in the coming decades South Asia and the Middle East will look the same as they do today. What can be said is mostly a reflection on the lessons of the past. Staunchly supporting one group to oppose another has often led to weapons and resources ending up in the wrong hands, and that has increased animosity and distrust between the United States and the people of the Islamic world.

Perhaps a more balanced approach is required. Imagine, the United States in the role of the broker of peace and communication rather than being a party heavily invested and involved. U.S. leadership will still be required in such a world. But ideally, our guns and troops would not.

One can only assume that fighting terrorism, more of an idea than a specific force, incurs civilian casualties,

sparking further resentment and terrorism. Non-military economic action may begin to help the protracted problem of instability in that part of the world. When people are in a stable environment with a chance at opportunity, they are less likely to take up arms and give their lives to radicalism.

Of course, being an occasional mediator rather than a heavy player in South Asia and the Middle East assumes many things, including the stability of oil prices and a cooperative Israel. In terms of oil dependency, the United States has been involved in the area to secure the stability of the worldwide oil supply, which has been threatened by ISIS and other groups recently.

Israel, being a U.S. ally, is a far more complicated situation. It is unfortunate that Israel is seen as a sort of Western military stake in the Middle East by the Arab world. One could argue, though, that it is how we treat Israel that defines its image. Regardless, the cultural tension in the region doesn't seem to have an end, especially with a two-state solution (Israel and Palestine) seeming further away than ever. All we can do is continue to keep up the pressure on both sides.

The *Daily Iowan* Editorial Board believes that the problems of the area extend far beyond ISIS, and that beyond authorizing force against the group, we should be considering a strategy to address the root causes that foster terrorism via groups like ISIS and the Taliban in the first place. In time, this could lead to less animosity and more cooperation in the area and with the rest of the world.

COLUMN

'Torture' report raise questions



Michael Korobov
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The U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence released a controversial report on Dec. 9 on the CIA's interrogation program between 2001 and 2006. Since its inception in 2009, the report took five years and \$40 million to put together. While the national debate on what constitutes torture has been raging in the country for quite some time, this report provides startling new information.

According to the new report, the CIA misled government officials, used harsher techniques, and targeted more detainees than previously believed. On top of this, the report challenges the effectiveness of these

methods in obtaining credible information.

The report's claims are controversial; some have expressed outrage over the findings, while CIA officials have insisted that the report contains inaccuracies or cherry-picks facts. If the intelligent report is indeed accurate, it would certainly paint a disturbing picture of the techniques used to interrogate terrorist suspects during that time.

Some of the most disturbing information revealed involves a terrorist's eye being injured so badly that it had to be surgically removed. There were also detainees who died because of hypothermia. One official was accused of playing Russian roulette with a detainee. The report alleges that no CIA agents were disciplined because of these abuses.

Understandably, many legislators, especially Democratic ones, expressed concern about

the report's findings. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., has been an outspoken critic of the CIA's techniques. Many times she has referred to them as "torture." Pelosi has contended that in the past, she was "never" informed of the enhanced-interrogation techniques.

However, what would it signify if government lawmakers were indeed aware of the details of these programs the entire time? Should they be held equally responsible?

Former CIA National Clandestine Service head Jose Rodriguez was in charge during the program that the report covers. This week, on Chris Wallace's show on Fox, Rodriguez alleged that both Senate and House Intelligence Committees "knew every one of our enhanced interrogations." He also claims that they did not find any faults with

them during this time. Speaking specifically about congressional leaders, he elaborated that "all of these people knew exactly what we were doing."

Whether Rodriguez's remarks are credible is another concern. He clearly has quite a bit to gain as this news would serve to protect his name. He was also found to have eliminated approximately 100 videos of the interrogations in 2005. At this point, there are many conflicting reports, and it is difficult to determine who is being truthful.

That being said, if Rodriguez's comments along with the report are accurate, it would mean that the American people's frustrations are misdirected. They should instead demand an explanation from the congressional leaders that were supposed to be the watchdogs of the CIA during this time.

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GUEST OPINIONS that exceed 300 words in length must be arranged with the Opinions editor at least three days prior to the desired date of publication. Guest opinions are selected in accordance with word length, subject relevance, and space considerations.

READER COMMENTS that may appear below were originally posted on dailyiowan.com in response to published material. They will be chosen for print publication when they are deemed to be well-written and to forward public discussion. They may be edited for length and style.

COLUMN

The new racism in the nation



Paul Osgerby
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President Obama's planned controversial executive action granting amnesty for millions of illegal immigrants has caused quite the stir in political discourse lately, especially for conservatives. Now with a Republican-led Congress looming in the new year, those politicians are preparing the ammo to fire back at the president to disallow the policy to get through the legislative branch.

In the wake of another predicted Democrat versus Republican standoff, the issue of race and ethnicity in the United States enters a new saga. Actually, it's not so new.

More, it's just less structural than before.

Xeno-racism is a sociological concept that identifies racist behavior and action as an inherent fear toward a foreign people because of their social or economic impact on one's home nation. It's not color-coded or focused on colonial ethnic hierarchies like old racism but rather geared primarily toward migrants seeking political asylum or economic opportunity.

In the case of the United States, xeno-racism is targeting predominantly Mexican immigrants as a consequence of Obama's plan for reforming immigration. It demonizes a group of people as less-advantaged, illegal citizens usurping welfare from American taxpayer dollars. This fear is then extended to represent the larger whole of a race to generate further distrust.

The xenophobia of a

particular race doesn't just apply to Mexican migrants. In the aftermath of 9/11, any Middle Eastern person in the United States was subject to being linked, unjustly, to terrorist agenda by white America. As a result, an entire race felt perpetually interrogated through institutionalized racism.

This is the new racism in America — more subversive than its previous, structural counterpart.

However, it's quite oxymoronic for a nation built by foreigners displacing the native people (and still celebrates a holiday in commemoration) to then subjugate immigrants, whether illegal or not, to racist behavior based on social or economic status.

Countries in Europe, such as the United Kingdom, don't act much differently. Particularly focused on dislocated individuals following the

collapse of communism or individuals seeking war refugee, groups of people are labeled as bogus citizens, living on government welfare while contributing little to nothing through taxes.

The bottom line is that xeno-racism targets the impoverished strangers of a nation. In their new country, "The Other" seeks economic or political opportunity only to face the familiar demonization of racism. Skin color is less emphasized, focusing on the cultural identity.

Racism is alive and well today, despite talking heads claiming we live in a post-racial society. The new racism resides in the underbelly of political discourse. Next time a politician or pundit attacks Obama's planned immigration reform, question if there is institutionalized racism subtly lingering in the dialogue.

BOX SCORE

CONTINUED FROM 10

shooting, pulled down 13 rebounds, blocked 8 shots, turned the ball over once, and recorded 13 fouls.

A game-by-game breakdown for each player (Woodbury's stats listed first, followed by Olassen's):

- Texas: 29 minutes, 10 points (4-of-7 from

the floor), 7 rebounds, 2 turnovers, 2 fouls. 13 minutes, 0 points (0-of-3), 2 rebounds, 2 blocks, 0 turnovers, 4 fouls.

- Syracuse: 28 minutes, 12 points (5-of-8), 5 rebounds, 2 turnovers, 4 fouls. 11 minutes, 2 points (0-of-2), 4 rebounds, 2 blocks, and 2 fouls.

- North Carolina: 24 minutes, 11 points (5-of-7), 7 rebounds, 1 turnover, 4 fouls. 16 minutes, 7

points (2-of-4), 5 rebounds, 1 block, and 4 fouls.

- Iowa State: 22 minutes, 6 points (2-of-7), 6 rebounds, 1 block, 2 turnovers, 2 fouls. 14 minutes, 5 points (2-of-3), 2 rebounds, 3 blocks, 1 turnover, and 3 fouls.

Follow @dannypayne on Twitter for news, updates, and analysis about the Iowa men's basketball team.

GYMNASTICS

CONTINUED FROM 10

low us to train with less of a risk of injury."

The decreased risk of injury is crucial — now, the teams can safely practice thousands of dismounts for any event.

The facilities will also include additional event equipment, such as new high bars and balance beams.

Overall, the expansion and renovation provides a more thorough and safe area for both teams to train and should give them a boost in recruiting as well.

Both Reive and Libby helped architects with design in order to fit in the added and existing equipment.

The teams will both practice in the main gym of the Field House until the project is completed.

'The skill level is increasing everyday, and we need a facility to accomodate that.'

— Larissa Libby, head coach

Senior men's captain Lance Alberhasky has gone his whole college career in the old facility, and for his final semester will have a boost in resources and space to train.

"I'm super-excited to be able to experience

the new facilities before I graduate," Alberhasky said. "It will help the future of Iowa gymnastics tremendously."

For Libby, the upgrade will mark the end of a long run with the old facility.

"It's been my home for the past 14 years, so it's kind of weird," Libby said. "But we made it work, and I'm grateful for this new commitment from the administration."

Follow @CharlsGreen on Twitter for news, updates, and analysis about the Iowa men's gymnastics team.

TENNIS

CONTINUED FROM 10

For the program, this practice is nothing new. Silverstein recalled what it meant for him to get to know the members of the Hawkeyes last year when he was still in high school. Although Wilson had him sold on the program, the players had him sold on the team.

"When [senior Matt] Hagan and others talked to me, I knew they were a group I wanted to spend the next few years with," Silverstein said. "Now, we're practically family."

Iowa came into the fall with three freshmen, having graduated six seniors, and it faced the challenge of rebuilding team chemistry lost from years past.

The building began in the summer, when Hagan was traveling in Europe. His last two days there were his to do with what he chose; he decided to meet up with incoming freshman Lefteris Theodorou in Athens, Greece.

"I didn't really know him that well before," Hagan said. "So getting that bond going before school and practice started was an awesome experience."

It didn't take a trip to Europe for other Hawkeyes to pitch in. Arizona native and junior Dominic Patrick stayed in Iowa City over the summer to build his relationship with interim coach Ross Wilson and emerge as a leader for his new teammates to follow.

"I came into the season knowing what kind of work ethic he expected from his players,"

'Now that I'm here, we spend a lot of time on and off the court together, and it's helped us become really close. I love my teammates.'

— Josh Silverstein, freshman

Patrick said. "It allows Ross to work with the young guys more and me to show the intensity for them to follow."

The difficulty for the youngsters lies in the transition to the college game. While in high school, the top players compete in a more individually based environment. But come college, it's about what each individual can do for the team.

Whatever vibes Hagan, Patrick, and other Hawkeyes left on the freshmen appear to be promising. Jake Jacoby and Silverstein looked like a formidable doubles pair in numerous tournaments, and both made strides in singles as well.

Theodorou was limited by mononucleosis and a minor shoulder injury, but showed enough potential to likely be a contributor in singles, doubles, or both come dual play in the spring.

Now, Silverstein and his fellow freshmen are trying to follow the lead of the team's veterans.

"After my recruiting visit last year, the guys and I stayed in touch," Silverstein said. "Now that I'm here, we spend a lot of time on and off the court together, and it's helped us become really close. I love my teammates."

After finishing with a singles semifinal run at the Big Ten Singles/Doubles tournament last month, Silverstein has learned important aspects of playing at the Division I level compared with his previous experiences.

"It's all about trust," Silverstein said. "If one of the older guys tells me something, I know they have my best interest in mind, and I know that because we're so close."

Follow @CharlsGreen on Twitter for news, updates, and analysis about the Iowa men's tennis team.

Hawk women's swimmers 'scrappy'

The Iowa women's swimming and diving team has been impressive this season.



Iowa swimmer Pamela Breitrack competes in the 400 individual medley in the Campus Recreation & Wellness Center during the Hawkeye Invitational on Dec. 6. Breitrack finished second in the first heat with a time of 4:25.57. (The Daily Iowan/John Theulen)

By SHELBLY STITES

shelby-stites@uiowa.edu

The Iowa women's swimming team is built from a variety of swimmers. Some are just entering the pool. Some are taking their final lap. And some are recognized on a world scale.

Sophomore Emma Sougstad earned a No. 44 ranking at the 2014 Summer Nationals. This recognition has led her to school records and NCAA qualification times throughout the season.

Sougstad has been a part of the 200-freestyle relay throughout her college career thus far, and during the finals at the Hawkeye Invitational on Dec. 5, she swam to a school record of 1:31.3 with her teammates.

"I feel like everyone just came together as a team, and we preformed so well," Sougstad said. "We just fed off of each other, and it showed in the water."

The quartet of junior Olivia Kabacinski, freshmen Meghan Lavelle and Mckenna Scheitlin, and Sougstad beat the previous mark,

set in 2012, by .38 of a second.

Lavelle proved herself in the Hawkeye Invitational by competing in the 50 freestyle, 200 backstroke, and 200 intermediate medley. Her two disqualifications were learning opportunities.

Scheitlin joined Lavelle in the 50 freestyle, finishing 12th overall.

Sougstad has seen the potential from this group of swimmers since the season-opener in October.

"It is really exciting because we all just came together and raced," Sougstad said, complimenting her 200-freestyle relay team after the Hawkeyes' opening double dual on Oct 3. "I think it has a really good shot at making NCAAs."

Two months later, the band of swimmers have reached some of its goals as the Hawks continue to prepare for the opportunity to compete at NCAAs by qualifying for the B cut in the remaining months of the season.

"I know they have more in the tank for the end of the season," Long said. "I

think their times will keep getting faster and faster as the season goes on."

Long still sees some things that need to be worked out among this group of swimmers. These improvements can only lead to faster times.

"We are going to prepare by training hard and swimming fast," Kabacinski said after her record-breaking Day Two of the Hawkeye Invitational. "Our goal was to make it to the postseason, and now, we have to prepare for that."

The swimmers are 1.13 seconds behind the B qualifying time, which would enable them the opportunity to swim for a chance to compete at Greensboro, North Carolina, for the NCAA championships.

But with three months until March, the Hawkeyes have a lot to prove before the postseason approaches.

"We are a scrappy team, and we are here to win," Sougstad said.

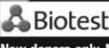
Follow @shelbystites on Twitter for news, updates, and analysis about the Iowa women's swimming and diving team.

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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.



What Women Want:

- A Turner in the streets, a Hooch in the sheets.
- A Spengler in the streets, a Venkmann in the sheets.
- A Smokey in the streets, a Bandit in the sheets.
- A Sid in the streets, a Caesar in the sheets.
- A Ron in the streets, a Harry in the sheets.
- A Professor X in the streets, a Magneto in the sheets.
- A Laverne in the streets, a Shirley in the sheets.
- A Hayden Christian in the streets, a James Earl Jones in the sheets.
- A Picard in the streets, a Kirk in the sheets.
- A Harold in the streets, a Kumar in the sheets.
- A Hank in the streets, a Dean in the sheets.
- A Bert in the streets, an Ernie in the sheets.
- A Simon in the streets, a Simon in the sheets.
- A Bed & Bath in the streets, a Beyond in the sheets.
- A Scrooge in the streets, a Scrooge-after-the-ghosts-visit in the sheets.
- A Chico in the streets, The Man in the sheets.

Andrew R. Juhl thanks AT, KW, MS, DM, KCL, and ML for assistomg with today's Ledge.

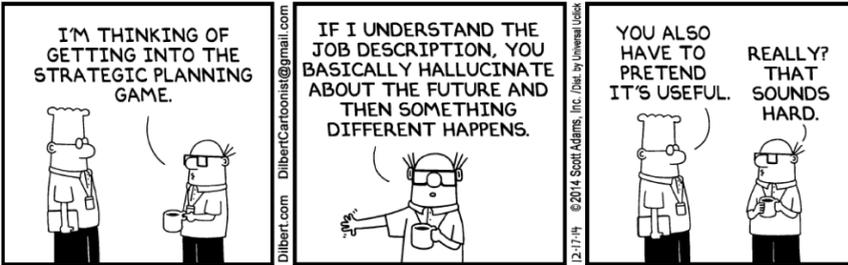
Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



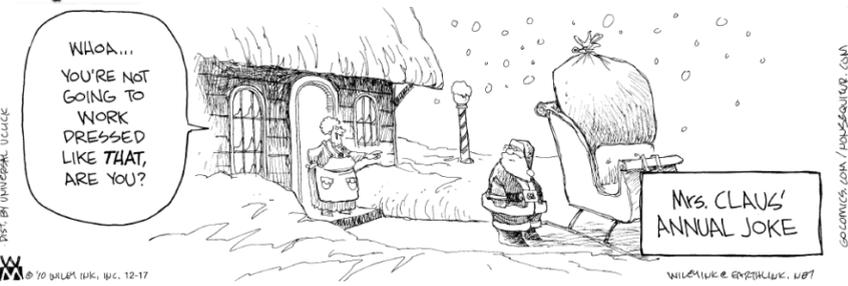
DILBERT

by Scott Adams



'NON SEQUITUR

BY VIEV



today's events

- **Finals@IMU**, Carbs & Caffeine Breakfast, 6:30 a.m., IMU first floor
- **Finals@IMU**, A.M. Yoga, 11 a.m., 179 IMU
- **Finals@IMU**, Free Popcorn, noon, IMU first floor
- **Finals@IMU**, Healthy Snacks, 2 p.m., IMU
- **Supervisor-elect Mike Carberry Q&A**, plus Flash in a Pan, 7 p.m., Mill, 120 E. Burlington
- **Finals@IMU, Massages**, 8 p.m.-midnight, IMU first floor
- **Finals@IMU**, P.M. Yoga, 179 IMU
- **Toys 4 Tots, Fate of the Nation**, Committee 17, and Jacob Nutt, 9 p.m., Gabe's, 330 E. Washington
- **Finals@IMU**, Snacks, 10 p.m., IMU Hub
- **Jam Session & Mug Night**, 10 p.m., Yacht Club, 13 S. Linn
- **Finals@IMU**, Coffee, 11 p.m., IMU first floor

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

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

SOLUTION TO TUESDAY'S PUZZLE 12/17/14

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



- 8-9 a.m. Morning Drive
- 10-11 p.m. Sould Self Satisfaction
- Noon-2 p.m. Sports Block
- 2-4 p.m. Gotta Go to Space
- 5 p.m. KRUI News
- 6-7 p.m. Yew Piney Mountain
- 7-8 p.m. Live from Prairie Lights
- 8-10 p.m. Community Infrared
- 10 p.m.-Midnight Theater of the Mind

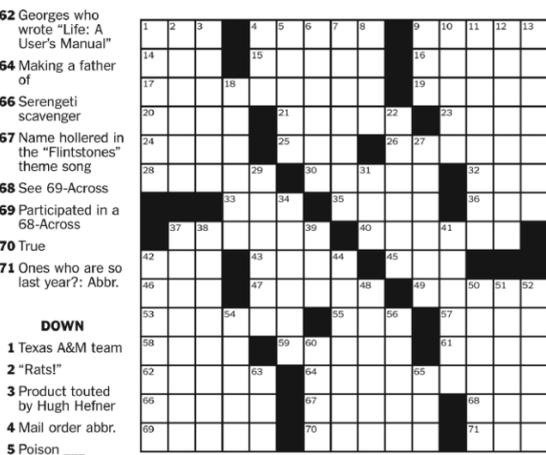
mc ginsberg.com

OBJECTS OF ART

The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 1112

- ACROSS**
- 1 Now or never: Abbr.
 - 4 Sounds from test cheaters, maybe
 - 9 Bris officiant
 - 14 Moo goo ___ pan
 - 15 Erect
 - 16 Have ___ to pick
 - 17 Nanette's nana
 - 19 Parachute parts
 - 20 Clergyman who wrote "What is originality? Undetected plagiarism!"
 - 21 "Bonnie ___!"
 - 23 Those, to José
 - 24 Geographical name that's another geographical name backward
 - 25 One of two N.T. books
 - 26 Leave in the lurch
 - 28 German town
 - 30 World headquarters of LG Electronics
 - 32 Civil War initials.
 - 33 Wee bit
 - 35 Numerical prefix
 - 36 ___ Lingus
 - 37 & 40 Repeat offender? ... or something found, literally, in four rows in this puzzle
 - 42 ___ Paulo
 - 43 Like one for the ages
 - 45 Racket
 - 46 Airport approximation, for short
 - 47 Shade of brown
 - 49 Mexican cigar brand
 - 53 Less likely to be G-rated
 - 55 Car starter?
 - 57 Vitamin amts.
 - 58 Upright, informally
 - 59 "His/her" alternative
 - 61 Bone near the funny bone



DOWN

- 1 Texas A&M team
- 2 "Rats!"
- 3 Product touted by Hugh Hefner
- 4 Mail order abbr.
- 5 Poison ___
- 6 They tend to be fast typists
- 7 Flush
- 8 Graf ___ (ill-fated German cruiser)
- 9 Buddy
- 10 Small section of an orchestra
- 11 Transportation in Disneyland's Main Street, U.S.A.
- 12 Backed
- 13 Cigarette ad claim
- 18 Must
- 22 Drew out
- 27 Draw out
- 29 Start to a baseball song

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ETC	OKAY	ATHENS
SOO	INCA	FIASCO
CUPASOUP	TRITON	
APPLETV	BEAK	
REEL	SUPERDUPER	
PERCH	ELIDE	ERE
	AOL	ANA
	TRAP	
SUPPORT	GROUPS	
TARS	VIE	KEN
LSD	VEGAS	RAIMI
CHUPACHUPS	ONAN	
	ACHT	LOUISCK
MAITAI	DOUBLEUP	
SHTETL	ESSE	ALA
GASSED	CHAR	MAD

PUZZLE BY DANIEL LANDMAN

- 31 "The Star-Spangled Banner" preposition
- 34 Send away for good
- 37 React, just barely
- 38 Baseball Hall-of-Famer mistakenly listed in "The Chanukah Song" as a Jew
- 39 Actor Cage, informally
- 41 Minimal baseball lead
- 42 High-ranking angels
- 44 "Ta-ta!"
- 48 With bitterness
- 50 Does improv
- 51 Way
- 52 Plains Indians
- 54 Chaiken who co-created "The L Word"
- 56 Stangy commercial suffix
- 60 Laugh uproariously
- 63 No great catch
- 65 Confident finish?

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horoscopes

Wednesday, December 17, 2014 by Eugenia Last

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Move forward with caution. Don't rely on others to feed you information or to help you make the right choice. Emotions will get in your way if you share your feelings with people who can influence future prospects. Focus on completion.
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You will learn valuable information if you listen to someone you respect or an expert in a field that interests you. Don't disagree with peers. Size up the situation, and continue using your own methods. Love is highlighted.
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Protect what you have. Don't invest in what someone else suggests. An impulsive purchase or decision will go well over budget. Stick close to home, and work on preparing your environment for the turn of the year.
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Take a unique approach when dealing with partners, children, or people you care about. Your dedication and sense of justice and fair play will be good enough. Don't feel you have to pay for someone's mistakes. Love is on the rise.
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You may crave a change of scenery, but don't leave someone out who is counting on you for emotional support. Problems will arise if you let uncertainty affect an important decision you need to make. Overspending will lead to added stress.
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Do something nice for the people you care about. Offer your time, help, or suggestions, but don't overspend trying to buy love and affection. It's not about the gifts you purchase, it's your time and help that should win favors.
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Be careful what you say. A change in the dynamics of a relationship will leave you in emotional turmoil. Do whatever it takes to live up to your promises, but enforce moderation to avoid a financial setback. Be creative, not frivolous.
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Load up your schedule, and start checking off your to-do list. Taking on a challenge and using unique means to come up with a good plan that will please someone you love will lead to financial uncertainty. Stick to a budget.
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Good fortune is heading your way, but the temptation to be a spendthrift will be overpowering. You can make changes without breaking the bank. Focus on doing as much of the legwork as possible to cut your overhead. Be reasonable.
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** You'll be emotional today. Talks will leave you in a quandary. A change of plans will be upsetting if you feel you are losing control over a situation. It's OK to sit back and let others fend for themselves.
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Stick to what you know, and focus on putting your work behind you before the year ends. Emotional matters will escalate if you or someone close to you has overspent. An opportunity to change your vocation will help smooth things over.
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Ask, and you shall receive. Give and take, do what you say, and hold others accountable for the offers made. This can be a winning situation if you stick to practical and doable plans. Love is highlighted.

I have noticed even people who claim everything is predestined and that we can do nothing to change it look before they cross the road.

— Stephen Hawking

POLITICS



UI student Mason Beezley fills up a car with gas on Tuesday at a Kum & Go on East Burlington Street. The price of gas is currently \$2.43 a gallon. (The Daily Iowan/John Theulen)

GAS TAX DISCOURSE

Legislators say a gas-tax increase is dependent upon bipartisan support.

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

Iowa lawmakers on both sides of the aisle say raising money for road and bridge repairs is important, but the politics involved in doing so may leave this potential 2015 legislative goal stuck in a pothole.

The road-use tax fund, generated by taxes on gasoline at the pump and other means, is the primary sources of funds for repairs on Iowa's roads and bridges. As rates sit in Iowa, gasoline without ethanol is taxed at 21 cents per gallon. Gasoline with an ethanol blend is taxed at 19 cents per gallon. Diesel sits at 22.5 cents per gallon. This is on top of the federal fuel tax, 18.4 cents per gallon for gasoline and 24.4 cents per gallon for diesel.

According to a report from TRIP, a national nonprofit transportation research group, 42 percent of Iowa's major roads and highways managed on a local or state level are in poor or mediocre condition. Yet, the Iowa Department of Transportation reports the state had an annual \$215 million shortfall in funds for road and bridge repairs, stifling the state's ability to address the problem.

In light of such statistics, the Iowa Legislature has debated raising the gas tax for years. Despite the apparent need, increasing the tax has been a relatively unpopular idea and has proved to be a bad move politically.

"Anytime you raise taxes, it's basically radioactive from a political perspective ..." said Rep. Gary Worthan, R-Storm Lake.

Stuart Anderson, the director of planning, programming, and modal division of the Iowa DOT,

said a 10-cent increase would generate the necessary \$215 million, but that would address only the state's most crucial needs, not all of them.

If the average Iowan drives 12,000 miles a year and gets 25 miles to the gallon, he or she will buy 480 gallons of gas in a year. If they buy an ethanol blend of gas that is taxed at 19 cents per gallon, they would pay \$91.20 in Iowa gas taxes annually.

Using the same formula, a 10-cent increase in the state tax would result in the average Iowan paying roughly \$139 annually. This, however, does not account for the federal tax. The same formula shows Americans pay approximately \$88.32 annually in federal fuel taxes.

If legislators raised the Iowa gas tax, it would be the first time since 1989. But, as in past years, when the proposal came up in the 2014 session, it quickly hit political blockades.

"I think the biggest reason it failed last year was it was an election year — that's the long and the short of it," Rep. Steven Olson, R-DeWitt, said, noting that there are members of both parties for and against the action.

Many in the Legislature are depending on Gov. Terry Branstad's leadership on the issue. Heading into 2015, he has neither endorsed nor opposed an increase in the gas tax; rather, he said, the gas tax is not the only option he is considering to raise funds for road and bridge repairs. He has indicated that he plans to meet with leaders from all four legislative caucuses in the near future to discuss the state's options.

"The governor is interested in having a conversation with leaders from both parties of the legislature to explore ways Iowa can ensure our roads

and bridges are adequately funded," Branstad communications director Jimmy Centers wrote in an email. "The governor wants to look at a variety of funding methods to further strengthen Iowa's road-use tax fund."

A *Des Moines Register* Iowa Poll from March found that 58 percent of Iowans opposed an increase in the gas tax. Until Branstad's position is clearer, Sen. Rich Taylor, D-Mount Pleasant, said no one would want to champion a bill with little public support if there is a chance it may be vetoed.

"Until the governor takes a stance on one side or the other on the issue, I don't think he's going to get any of the leadership in either the Senate or the House to stick their neck out," Taylor said.

For the measure to pass in the upcoming session, legislators say it must also have strong bipartisan support so that neither party can use it as a future campaign attack.

"If there's a good bipartisan effort in the Legislature ... and the governor says he will sign a gas tax increase then you'll see a bill go forward," Sen. Joe Bolkom, D-Iowa City.

Earlier this year when the Legislature considered the gas tax, prices were upwards of \$3.30 a gallon. Today, prices have dropped by nearly a dollar. David Yepsen, the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, said now may be the perfect time to raise the gas tax.

"... No. 1, gasoline prices are falling. You could raise the tax a dime a gallon and no one would notice it," he said. "No. 2, we just had the election, and it's a long time before the next one."



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Iowans oppose

An Iowa Poll from March found that 58 percent of Iowans opposed an increase in the gas tax.

Diesel taxed at **22.5¢** per gallon
Ethanol taxed at **19¢** per gallon



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The **Daily Iowan Ethics and Politics Initiative** is funded by a private donor and will appear weekly in print this semester. The team's mission is to understand, interpret, analyze and report on topics, trends and personalities that shape politics in Iowa and the United States, and to recognize the importance of a strong ethical foundation in its pursuits. Check out dailyiowanepi.com for exclusive content.

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Ernst names chief-of-staff, communications director

Sen.-elect Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, has begun the process of staffing her office, hiring a chief-of-staff and communications director in the last week.

Ernst's office announced on Tuesday the hiring of Lisa Goeas as chief-of-staff. Goeas previously worked as vice president for political and grass-roots operations for the National Federation of Independent Business. And Goeas is no stranger to the Senate — she previously served as deputy chief-of-staff to Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas in the U.S. Senate for six years.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve Sen.-elect Ernst and the people of Iowa," Goeas said in a statement. "I look forward to making sure Iowans' voices,



Ernst
U.S. senator-elect

values, and beliefs are heard loud and clear in Washington."

On Dec. 8, Ernst's camp also announced the hiring of Brook Hougese as communications director.

Hougese's work includes a stint as press secretary at the National Republican Senatorial Committee. She worked as communications director for Rep. Adam Kinzinger, R-Ill., and led various campaign operations for Reps. Geoff Davis, R-Ky., and Peter Roskam, R-Ill. Additionally, Jon Kohan — a member of Ernst's campaign team — will continue with Ernst's camp as deputy chief-of-staff, serving under Goeas.

Ernst will begin her first term in the U.S. Senate in January after defeating Rep. Bruce Braley, 52 percent to 44 percent on Election Day. Though the race had been close for much of the election cycle, Ernst came away with the win. The Red Oak, Iowa native will be the first woman from Iowa to serve in Congress. Ernst replaces retiring Sen. Tom Harkin.

— by Kristen East

Grassley to kick off 35th 99-county tour

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, will start the New Year by kicking off his 35th-annual 99-county tour of Iowa.

Four town meetings will be held on Jan. 3 and Jan. 5, 2015, in Allison, Waverly, Grundy Center, and Marshalltown. Grassley has completed the tour of Iowa's 99 counties every year since he was first elected to the U.S. Senate in 1980.

"Representative government is a two-way street. I'm one half of the process, and the people of Iowa are the other half. You can't have representative government without dialogue between elected officials and the people we represent," Grassley said in a statement. "I appreciate the opportunity to hold town meetings, answer questions, and take comments."

Earlier this year, Grassley, 81, confirmed that he would run for re-election in 2016.



Grassley
U.S. senator

— by Kristen East

There will come a time, after the ink dries on my diploma, when I'm ready to start a more permanent life. It won't be in Hopkinton, the place where my parents live, my grandfather started his business, the librarians knew me by name as a little girl with perpetually knotted hair and an affinity for Junie B. Jones.

Hopkinton, like dozens of small towns in Iowa and the Midwest, needs an influx of business owners and families who will send their kids to the local schools. But there are serious doubts whether such a panacea will ever arrive. So some will stay; I will leave.

And without some change — the weak breath of life currently hovering through Hopkinton will slow until it some day stops entirely.

Other towns around the state and region are suffering from similar fates. Hopkinton is one of the many small towns in Iowa continuing to shrink in size. According to a report from the Department of Economics at Iowa State University, more than 60 percent of cities in Iowa lost population since 2010. Iowa towns with fewer than 500 residents lost 3 percent of their combined population in a matter of a few years.

Yet survival is possible — particularly if one of those small towns is close enough to a city.

Some small towns are growing — but only if they are located in counties with a metropolitan status, meaning they are close enough to a city to thrive. Hopkinton, for instance, falls into the category of towns with a population between 500 and 2,499, but it is not located in a metropolitan-status county. For towns in a metropolitan-status county, the population grew by 2 percent over the past three years. If not, the population declined by 1.1 percent.

While the fate of Hopkinton looks pretty dismal, other small towns are drumming up new ways to survive.

Those who study the demise of small towns agree that the unofficial benchmarks of a viable town include the existence of a school, a post office, and a grocery store.

"From what I've observed, you can kind of see when a community is going down the drain," said Jeff Reynolds of the Nebraskan Center for Rural Affairs in Lyons, Nebraska. "To me, when a community loses its grocery store, its last eating establishment, where people go to have coffee ... when that's gone, you know you're in trouble."

But our post office remains open, a small victory for Hopkinton residents.

"It's probably not a big deal for the younger set — but it's a symbol that you're still viable," Reynolds said. "You're still on the map when you have a post office."

So some city folk might ask: What's the lure to living in a small community where everything closes at 9 and honestly there's not much, if anything, to do? The answer is perhaps more simple than many people may think: social capital.

Professor Terry Besser, a sociologist at Iowa State University, is leading a study that began in 1994 to track the quality in life in 99 of Iowa's small towns. The study focuses on social capital — the relationships among people — that is intrinsic to many small communities.

Besser and her team surveyed residents of these small towns in 1994, 2004, and again this year. In fact, My parents received a copy of the survey in the mail.

The results are the epitome of what a stereotypical small town is like. According to the 2004 study, nearly one-half of people in Hopkinton felt comfortable leaving their doors unlocked. Fifty-six percent said living in my hometown is like living with close friends, and 60 percent trust local teenagers.

And those things ring true. For me, distrust is a conditioned response. Upon arriving in Iowa City, I had never pulled the keys out of the ignition to my car. In the summers of my childhood, my brothers, cousins, and friends could order lunch from a restaurant downtown — the Showroom — and our parents would pick up the tab the next time they stopped by.

"Social capital" may sound like a plus, but it just isn't enough to entice the number of young people who grow up in a small town and leave once they are able.

Honestly, it pains me to say this because I'm one of those young people. The residents of Hopkinton are a sort of extended family. When I graduated high school, random residents would slip laminated photos of me from local newspapers under the door to our garage. At my graduation party, various residents of Hopkinton I had seen in church or in the local mini mart or walking down Main Street in the previous 18 years mentioned I had made them proud.

I love my hometown. But it's so hard to imagine a Hopkinton where I could stay. Where will I work? Where will I live? What could the town provide me as I strive to build a career and a new life?

When the study was released in 2004 — when I was 10 years old — 25 percent of people in Hopkinton shopped in town for

their daily needs; that was down from 41 percent in 1994.

"...There are so few of them, relatively speaking, it's draining on individual resources because there isn't a broad population," Besser said. "They have difficulty maintaining infrastructure they need — health care, schooling ... it almost becomes a downward spiral."

And when rating local services, nearly 90 percent considered the public schools to be "good" or "very good," but the jobs, shopping, and recreation/entertainment received a single-digit percent of commendable reviews.

This study comes as no surprise. It's a statistical representation of what people in Hopkinton already know.

"There just isn't much here," Bette said, with clutched hands, sitting at her round dining-room table.

Liesl Eathington, an assistant scientist

several initiatives focused on developing rural areas in the state, works with the Rural Enterprise Assistance Project to aid small businesses as means of economic development for rural Nebraska.

He points out most small towns can't recruit or maintain factories, so the next step is to pump resources into small, local businesses that can support an agricultural industry.

The center provides loans, counseling, and business planning to entrepreneurs.

"We're not the magic bullet," he said. "We're a means to an end, but in the world of small business, we can play a big part in helping the community succeed."

Iowa has similar agencies working throughout the state, including the Iowa Economic Development Agency, the Iowa Farm Bureau, and the Iowa Department of Agriculture.

There are some communities that

Rural areas can provide business owners some advantages — the cost of land is typically lower — but the farther a business is from its supplies or customers, the more expensive the inputs. And even obtaining those inputs means a strong infrastructure must be in place — something Iowa leaders have been trying to address.

Several experts have noted that some communities have capitalized on the growing Latino population as a means of survival.

According to the Iowa Data Center, Iowa saw a 104.7 percent increase in the Latino population between 2000 and 2013, for a total of 86,333 people. The state predicts the Latino population will account for 12.4 percent of the state's population by 2040, up from 5.5 percent in 2013.

In Schyler, Nebraska, at the 2000 census, roughly 2,400 Latinos out of more than 5,000 people called the town their home. By 2010, that number jumped to more than 4,000, making the Latino population the majority. Reynolds said the center worked with Latino entrepreneurs to revamp the business climate.

Iowa has seen similar increases.

Sioux Center, a town of just more than 7,000 residents in northwestern Iowa, had just 280 people of Latino origin in the 2000 census, and it jumped to 920 in 10 years — an influx Besser said helped the town's growth, along with its energy initiatives that pumped money back into the economy.

Yet government agencies see more weak spots that need addressing — such as infrastructure.

"I think it's more complicated than saying we need more jobs in rural places; that's an element," said Bill Menner, the state director of USDA rural development. "We need housing, we need to have clean water, we need to have available health care, and strong institutions. It's an all-of-the-above approach."

But the question most often raised to me when I talk about this subject is obvious — why should anyone care? Honestly I hear this from a number of friends who come from bigger cities. They just don't see what need these towns fill.

The answer, my friends, may be surprising: food security.

"If we let small towns compete evenly, they're always going to lose," Menner said. "There needs to be a special rural set-aside, and it's all about food security."

Because the private sector may not choose to invest in small towns, the government, such as Menner's section of the federal agency, often choose to get involved.

Rural development is a small piece of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's job, but it exists because Congress believes there was a role for the government to support small towns and rural places — simply put, those small towns support agricultural producers.

Need I remind you that agriculture in Iowa employs one in five Iowans, and the total value of agriculture production increased nearly 51 percent from 2007 to 2012, according to the 2014 Iowa Ag Economic Contribution Study by the Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers. Each year, Iowa farmers produce 2.1 billion bushels of corn and 525 million bushels of soybeans.

It's not a crisis yet. Some areas of Iowa show promise — small towns can survive in the current economic climate. But there is reason to worry.

"I'm not suggesting we're on the forefront of a wave of ghost towns, but what I'm saying is that very small communities get older and without new residents coming in, without new jobs and available housing, those places will struggle to survive," Menner said.

The decline of small-town America feels more personal for me than the buzzwords surrounding the issue. Talk of rural development and labor markets seems like an ill-fitting sweater on the community I grew up in — the town that rallied around my family in our toughest personal times and seemed like the resilient Iowans we all — regardless of population — strive to be.

I hope someone or something — as cliché as it sounds — can save the best thing that ever happened to me — the place that taught me about acceptance, community, and humility. I do.

And as my conversation with my old friend Bette waned, she said something that caught my attention.

It was something I hadn't heard much throughout my life.

She had heard a rumor — an unconfirmed whisper — that could, admittedly be untrue.

From what she's heard, some out-of-towner, some stranger to Hopkinton, bought a boarded-up restaurant.

And he wants to reopen it.



‘ I’m not suggesting we’re on the forefront of a wave of ghost towns, but what I’m saying is that very small communities get older and without new residents coming in, without new jobs and available housing, those places will struggle to survive. ’

— Bill Menner, state director of USDA



Top: Hopkinton resident Bette Wilson sits at her table in Hopkinton, Iowa, on Sunday. Wilson is 88 years old and has lived in Hopkinton for 85 of those years. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert) Middle left: The closed sign hangs in the window of the Not So Tiny House Mission Store in Hopkinton, Iowa, on Sunday. The Mission Store took over the space after the grocery store in Hopkinton closed. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert) Middle right: One of the buildings that used to make up Lenox College sits empty in Hopkinton, Iowa, on Sunday. Lenox College closed in 1944; its facilities are now the Delaware County Historical Museum Complex. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert) Bottom: A Season's Greetings sign hangs in Hopkinton, Iowa, on Sunday. Hopkinton's population has been decreasing since the 1970s, when it had a population of 800 people. (The Daily Iowan/Margaret Kispert)

in economics at ISU, disseminates Census Bureau data for the university and the general public.

She said Iowa small towns have undergone this trend since the beginning of the state's history, and the decline in population accelerated in the farm crisis of the 1980s — a period of agricultural recession in which low crop prices forced farmers into other jobs — typically in neighboring cities.

The way agriculture is done, she said, has also played a part in the population shifts. With fewer families farming the same amount of land, the local communities have fewer customers to support their business.

"It's not something economists or politicians are doing wrong," Eathington said. "It's a very natural phenomenon."

But this death of small towns isn't just a story of the state — it's happening throughout the Midwest.

Reynolds of the Center for Rural Affairs, an organization based in Nebraska with

thrive, but leaders in rural development don't quite agree on the best ways to foster economic development in an aging population. But they agree something could be done.

Peter Orazem, a professor of economics at Iowa State University who has researched rural labor markets, said perhaps the focus should be providing rural communities with commuting opportunities — that if jobs can't be brought to small-town Iowa, putting them within driving distance could be the next best thing.

It's more reasonable for Iowans than their Nebraskan counterparts. The economic epicenters in Iowa are reasonably well distributed — Dubuque, Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, Des Moines, Sioux City, Davenport, and Council Bluffs are scattered throughout the state, unlike Nebraska, which faces the obstacle of having its two-largest cities within 60 miles of each other near the eastern border.

It comes down to basic facts of economics.

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Stanzi signs with Houston practice squad

The Houston Texans signed former Iowa quarterback Ricky Stanzi to their practice squad Tuesday.

The ex-Hawkeye signal caller is now on his third NFL team after a two-year stint in Kansas City and spending last season in Jacksonville.

He was a fifth-round pick in the 2011 NFL draft; he went 26-9 in his Iowa career.



Stanzi
former Hawkeye

— by Ian Murphy

Scherff named AP All-American

Iowa left tackle Brandon Scherff was named to the Associated Press All-American team on Tuesday, adding to his collection of awards this season.

Scherff is Kirk Ferentz's sixth first-team All-American and joins Robert Gallery and Eric Steinbach as the only other linemen to be named to the first team during Ferentz's tenure.

Running back Shonn Greene, tight end Dallas Clark, and kicker Nate Kaeding are the other three players awarded AP first-team All-American honors under Ferentz.

Scherff was awarded the Outland Trophy for the nation's best interior lineman Dec. 11.

— by Ian Murphy



Iowa offensive lineman Brandon Scherff blocks Minnesota defensive end Michael Amaefula in TCF Bank Stadium on Nov. 8. (The Daily Iowan/Rachael Westergard)

SCOREBOARD

NHL
Chicago 5, Minnesota 3
Toronto 6, Anaheim 2
Montreal 4, Carolina 1
Columbus 1, Detroit 0
Florida 2, Washington 1
Nashville 3, Boston 2
Winnipeg 5, Buffalo 1
St. Louis 5, Los Angeles 2
NY Rangers 5, Calgary 2
Arizona 2, Edmonton 1
Tampa Bay 3, Philadelphia 1

NBA
Washington 109, Minnesota 95
Miami 95, Brooklyn 91
Memphis 105, Golden State 98
New Orleans 119, Utah 111
Oklahoma City, Sacramento (late)

NCAAM
Arizona 101, Oakland 64
Texas 106, Lipscomb 61
Wichita State 53, Alabama 52
Oklahoma 85, Oral Roberts 53
North Carolina 79, UNC Greensboro 56

NCAAW
Oregon State 70, North Carolina 55
Tennessee 54, Wichita State 51
Syracuse 70, Canisius 37
Michigan State 77, Alcorn State 41

UPCOMING HAWKEYE SCHEDULE

Men's basketball vs. Northern Iowa, Des Moines, 6:36 p.m. Saturday

Womens basketball vs. Drake, Des Moines, 2 p.m. Dec. 21



THE BOX SCORE

Numbers on Woodbury, Olaseni



Iowa center Gabe Olaseni lays the ball up on Dec. 12 in Carver-Hawkeye against Iowa State. Olaseni finished the game shooting 2-of-3, but the Hawkeyes lost to the Cyclones, 90-75. (The Daily Iowan/Joshua Housing)

While Gabe Olaseni's overall numbers are better, Adam Woodbury has out-performed his teammate in big games this season.

By DANNY PAYNE
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When Iowa played Iowa State last weekend, many fans in Carver-Hawkeye Arena became upset when they realized Gabe Olaseni had been on the floor for only six minutes in the first half.

Granted, Iowa had a good amount of success against the Cyclones before the break, and head coach Fran McCaffery has shown a tendency to shorten his rotation in big games this season.

But still, as has become a theme over the past few seasons, some of those Hawkeye fans called for more time for Olaseni. Through 11 games this season, Adam Woodbury has played 235 minutes, and Olaseni has racked up 191.

One of the most basic metrics is points per game, and the two are fairly similar, with Woodbury averaging 8.8 per game to Olaseni's 8.45. They're also similar in turnovers and fouls committed, and Olaseni has the advantage in field-goal percentage at 59.3 to Woodbury's 52.9.

Their use percentages, which estimate the number of plays each one is involved in

when they're on the floor, are fairly similar, too. According to *College Basketball Reference*, Olaseni is used in 21.5 percent of plays, while his teammate is in 20.4 percent.

One more thing to preface this with before diving into disparity is the fact Woodbury has played 47 more minutes than Olaseni in Iowa's "big" games (read: Texas, Syracuse, North Carolina, and Iowa State) this season.

Defensive rating — Olaseni 79.7, Woodbury 85.4

As the *DI* detailed in the Dec. 11, 2013, edition of "The Box Score," Olaseni has a leg up in this statistic, which estimates the points the player allows per 100 possessions. Olaseni's offensive rating is 123.9, and Woodbury's sits at 101.3.

That defensive rating is partially because of Olaseni's ability to stop shots from getting to the rim.

Blocks — Olaseni 28, Woodbury 4

Unless he or someone else tops it, Olaseni's monstrous block on Abdel Nader in the first

half of the Iowa State game is going to go down as the block of the year for the Hawkeyes.

With the high number of shots the London native has swatted this year, it's not too far out of the question for that scenario to happen. His 28 rejections rank second in the Big Ten behind Purdue's A.J. Hammons.

Woodbury, on the other hand, has obviously struggled in this category.

In Iowa's biggest four games

As mentioned above, Iowa has played four big games this season. The Hawkeyes are 1-3 in those contests, with the only win coming on the road at North Carolina. Whether it was by McCaffery's design or not, that was the most balanced game in terms of minutes each has played this season. Woodbury got 23 minutes to Olaseni's 17.

In these contests, Woodbury, the starter, has out-performed his counterpart. He's totaled 103 minutes, 39 points (16-of-29 from the floor), 25 rebounds, 1 block, 7 turnovers, and 12 fouls.

Olaseni, on the other hand, has played for 54 minutes, scored 14 points on 4-of-12

SEE BOX SCORE, 5

Gymnasts' gym to expand

Men's and women's gymnastics will receive a competitive boost from facility renovations and expansion.

By CHARLIE GREEN
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After more than a year of planning, the Iowa Athletics Department approved a renovation and expansion of the practice facility, located in the Field House. The project is scheduled to be complete in February 2015.

The renovations will create twice the amount of space for both the men's and women's teams to practice and also provide more pits to train for landings.

"Gymnastics has come a long way," women's head coach Larissa Libby said. "The skill level is increasing every day, and we need a facility to accommodate that."

With two teams and two coaching staffs working in one space, the expansion was much needed. Now, the programs will have more than 20,000 square feet (Libby estimated the former total to be 9,000-10,000 square feet) to work with, providing a spacious environment for a demanding style of training.

Before, Libby and men's head coach JD Reive would strategically plan around



Iowa gymnasts practice in the Field House North Gym on Dec. 5. The gymnastics practice facility is expanding, and work should be completed in February. (The Daily Iowan/Rachael Westergard)

each other's practices to accommodate the lack of space. Often, one team would have to start training earlier or later than was ideal, especially on such events as the vault and the floor exercise, in which both men and women compete.

Now, both teams can comfortably practice during a time slot that best suits the academic interests of the student-athletes.

"With more room, we can be more efficient," Reive said.

"And we can get more done in less time."

As valuable as the space is, Reive views the addition of foam pits, as well more Resi-pits, as crucial to the team's training. Usual landing mats will still be used to simulate competition, but Resi and foam pits are valuable tools for repetition of routines in practice.

"Pits are essential for dismounts," Reive said. "Especially foam pits, which al-

SEE GYMNASTICS, 5

Bonding propels men's tennis

Several members of the Iowa men's tennis team will use winter break to reach out to potential Hawkeyes.

By CHARLIE GREEN
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Members of the Iowa men's tennis team are not only planning on using winter break to train, they also want to get in touch with potential recruits.

For freshman Josh Silverstein, having a close relationship with his teammates creates a positive environment on and off the court.

"You don't want to be on a great team with people you don't like," Silverstein said. "And you don't want to be on a bad team with people you do like. Luckily, I have the best of both worlds."

To keep this balance going, he plans on reaching out via Facebook to a number of high-schoolers who have showed interest during interim head coach Ross Wilson's recruiting trip in Florida.

SEE TENNIS, 5